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More than 6,000 Bengali families in Rakhine State participate in census

YANGON, 24 April — Bengalis in Rakhine State who contacted respective local census offices to be registered as Bengalis and included in the census number more than 6,000 families so far, according to the Immigration and National Registration Department.

Some in Rakhine State had voiced opposition to being labeled as Bengalis when the country's first nation-wide census in 31 years was conducted from 30 March to 10 April, refusing to participate in the national head count.

"(But) over 6,000 families, mostly from Buthidaung, Maungtaw and Sittway townships, have been registered because they accepted themselves as Bengalis in the national census," an official of the Immigration and Population Ministry said.

If they note their nationality as that they mentioned in the previous census, the ministry will extend the census-taking until the end of May, according to the ministry.

Enumerators take census at Manweingyi Village, Mansi Township in Bhamo District.—MWD

"We have conducted the census for the development of the country. So, they can note their nationality or skip it on the census form," Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi said.

Bengalis in Myanmar called themselves Bengalis in previous censuses taken in 1931, 1973 and 1983, and also registered themselves as Bengalis when the current government collected data in Rakhine State in May, 2012.

More than 90 percent of the national census has been taken and the whole process will be completed at the end of May as the remaining 10 percent of the data from far-flung areas is still being collected, according to the ministry.

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Villagers from Thameegalay Village resettled in new housing

YANGON, 24 April — Displaced villagers from Thameegalay Village in Hlegu Township have moved to newly established housing provided by the Union Solidarity and Development Party.

The USDP have provided resettlement comprising 20ftx50ft plots on 11.12 acres of land near the Village of Wayargon.

Nearly 170 families who moved to the housing area in early March have been resettled and so far 45 houses have been constructed in the area bought by the USDP at the cost of over K 24 million, according to the party.

The remaining houses are under construction and are expected to be completed in early May. At the resettlement, 20-foot wide streets paved with granite and power supply facilities have been constructed, according to the Ministry of Electric Power.

The villagers were evicted from their village in early February as it was located in the compound of Yemon Station, a military cantonment, and they were then sheltering at Aungtheikdi Monastery in Alaini Village in Bago Township before they were resettled. —*MNA*

Photo shows progress in construction of houses for families of Thameegalay Village.—MNA

Goodwill Visit of Three Indian Navy Ships to Myanmar from 27 to 30 April

YANGON, 24 April—Three Indian Navy Ships (INS) comprising 1 Training Squadron of the Indian Navy will pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar from 27 to 30 April this year. The ships will be berthed at MITT, Yangon. The 1 Training Squadron comprises INS Gharial, INS Sujata and Coast Guard Ship Varuna. 125 officer cadets from the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard are embarked onboard the ships. The Training Squadron has visited Singapore and Phuket prior arriving at Yangon. Such goodwill visits provide an opportunity for the young officer cadets to plan for and undertake long ocean passage and understand firsthand the varied nuances involved in sailing across the seas. They also get to understand the maritime environment and practice the skills that they have previously learnt in the Academy.

During the visit to Yangon the Commanding Officers will meet and interact with high ranking officials in the state administration and military. It is also planned to conduct a Free Medical Camp at Thanlyin District Hospital, in Yangon Region, on 29 April 14. Besides some Community Social Activities will also be undertaken. The Indian Naval Band, embarked onboard the ships, will perform at the National Theatre on 29 April 14. The concert is entitled 'HARMONY AND FRIENDSHIP ACROSS THE SEAS' and is open to all.

NLM

Union Parliament speaker prefers constitutional amendment to new one

Union Parliament Speaker and People's Parliament Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann discusses amendment of constitution.—MNA

YANGON, 24 April—Union Parliament Speaker and People's Parliament Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann on Thursday said he advocates amendment of 2008 Constitution rather than enacting a new one.

Thura U Shwe Mann met members of development committees, management committees and local dignitaries from the townships at the Shinsawpu Hall of southern Yangon district.

He said: "I support amendment of 2008 State Constitution rather than creating a new one. Therefore, we need to abide by the existing Cnstitution. There would be some difficulties in creating a new one. Constitutional amendments also happened in many foreign countries, and we need to do this process in accordance with the principles."

The speaker said he would agree to amendments if they are aimed at the welfare of the state.

He also acknowledged that the 2008 State Constitution could result in the implementation of a multi-party democratic system and market economic system for the development of the state.

Amendment of the Union Election Law paved the way for the National League for Democracy party to contest by-elections in 2012.

Thura U Shwe Mann admitted it is difficult for a ruling party to transfer power smoothly in some countries on the world and some countries were plunged into chaos by clashes between the power-holders and their opponents.

He continued that Myanmar held the 2010 General Election to avoid such serious problems.

The speaker then called for national unity and national reconciliation to attain pace and rule of law in the country.

He also quoted the president's desire of "Clean government, Good governance" and people-centred programmes.

At the meeting, the chief minister of Yangon Region, U Myint Swe, also explained government activities.

MNA

H&T Ministry, JICA hold talks on tourism development in Bagan

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and a Japanese expert team held discussions on conducting a pre-feasibility study for a Project for Establishment of the Pilot Model for Tourism Development in Bagan in Nay Pyi Taw on Thursday.

During the meeting, Atsushi Saito, who led the expert team, gave an account of the pre-feasibility study for the technical cooperation project for improvement of tourism infrastructure, human resources development and heritage and environmental conservation.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung said officials of the ministry will work closely with the JICA experts in conducting studies in the three areas.

The ministry and JICA on 10 April signed a record of discussion for the Project that aims to further develop the tourism industry in Myanmar through technical cooperation between Myanmar and Japan.

MNA

Contact persons for camps of outstanding youths

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—The all-round outstanding student camps will be kept open in Ngwehsaung, Inlay and Bagan from 28 April to 1 May.

The camp training, contests, selection and excursion programmes will be conducted for outstanding Red Cross members at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) in Yangon from 23 April to 1 May.

The get-together of scout youths will be held in PyinOoLwin from 28 April to 2 May.

They will gather at the combined camp in Nay Pyi Taw to attend the outstanding youth meeting and to make excursion tours.

Media wishing to cover the news of outstanding youth camps are to contact U Aung Myint (Camp Head of Ngwehsaung), Director of No 1 Basic Education Department, Tel: 095661148; Director U Chit Swe (Head of Inlay Camp) of No 2 BED, Tel: 095213555, Director Dr Soe Myint Tun (Head of Bagan Camp), Tel: 092003236 and Director U Khin Maung Myint, Tel: 09444003945, President of Myanmar Red Cross Society Prof Dr Tha Hla Shwe, Tel: 098553292; Director U Myint Sein, Tel: 098553276 and General Secretary U Khin Maung Hla: 098553293, Director-General U Min Zaw of No 3 BED, Tel: 098305111, Deputy Director-General U Kyaw Swa Thwin, Tel: 092000005; Director (Rtd) U Tin Hlaing, Tel: 095000962 and Adviser to PyinOoLwin Scout Camp Supervisory Committee U Aye Kyaing, Tel: 098500479; Deputy Director-General U Zaw Win of No 2 BED and Head of Nay Pyi Taw Combined Camp; Tel: 098306733 and Director U Myint Zaw, Deputy Head of Nay Pyi Taw Combined Camp, Tel: 0943124194.—*MNA*

Camp for outstanding young RCS members open

YANGON, 24 April—A youth camp for outstanding young members of the Myanmar Red Cross Society was opened on Thursday at Transit Centre in Yangon.

The youth camp programme for outstanding Red Cross Society members is aimed at rewarding voluntary services to the public and further motivate those who are going to do work in emergency relief and the humanitarian sector.

At the opening ceremony, Yangon Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein and President of the Myanmar Red Cross Society Dr Tha Hla Shwe noted the importance of the contributions by those people who took part in rehabilitation work in the aftermath of natural disasters.

Young RCS members under the age of 21 are participating in this year's youth camp. Since 1971, the youth camp has opened every year.

MNA

Photo shows outstanding Red Cross members in group photo.—MNA

Mobile library brings reading materials to traffic police

YANGON, 24 April— As part of efforts to raise reading habits among the people, the Information and Public Relations Department brought aesthetic and general knowledge books to Traffic Police Corps No.2 on Wednesday in Pazundaung Township in Yangon. Many mobile libraries are starting out across the country, arranged by the government.—*Shwe Taing Lwin*

Fire fighting skills demonstrated in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—Members of the Fire Services Department in Dekkhinathiri Township demonstrated their fire-fighting skills on Tuesday with the aim of ensuring public safety.

The public also participated after learning ways to put out fires and how to use fire extinguishers and other accessories.

Ko Ko Yupa

Cooking oil refiners say illegal imports of edible oils are damaging their businesses

MONYWA, 25 April— Cooking oil refiners in central Myanmar are blaming a down swing in their businesses on illegal imports of edible oils.

One cooking oil refiner said that although his business has been operating for nearly two decades with little profit, and sometimes at a loss, the expectation had always been the industry would turn prosperous as demand increased.

But increased demand appears to be mostly being filled by illegal imports.

A local oil refiner in central Myanmar added: "Edible oils are being illegally imported and most of them are unhygienic, causing some health problems. Therefore, we want officials to ban the import of substandard edible oils."

Another refiner said the government adopted a policy in 2011 to export oil crops to encourage cultivation, but this has resulted in an increase in the prices of these crops.

He also said 90 per cent of Myanmar people have no chance to consume pure domestic cooking oils because of the market saturation by substandard imports.—*Myo Win Tun (Monywa)*

Traffic accidents, illegal bus stops rising in Insein Tsp

YANGON, 24 April— Traffic accidents and illegal bus stops are rising in Insein Township in Yangon Region as drivers from Bago-based bus lines are illegally parking and picking up passengers at the corner of Sawbwagyikon Park and Insein Road near the traffic light at the Sawbwagyikon Junction.

"Traffic police officers frequently make surprise checks on these-bus lines, but they still do not obey the traffic rules. Passengers and drivers of Yangon-Insein bus line in the township are facing difficulties because of that," one passenger said.

Kyemon-699

Agricultural talks given in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—As part of efforts for development of rural people, officials of Pobbathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw provided an educative talk on agriculture to the locals at a monastery in the township on Tuesday.

The township authorities also met with locals to try to help fill their needs.

Min Min Latt (Mann Tekkatho)

Planning duty assigned to township officials in Kalay District

KALAY, 24 April— Township management committee chairpersons were assigned planning duties for 2014-15 FY on Thursday by the chairman of the Kalay District Management Committee in Sagaing Region.

"There are many projects for people-centered development of the nation that may bring sector-wide development of the country in the future. In FY 2013-14, Kalay Township has implemented 103.1 per cent of its annual plans; Kalewa Township 97.1 per cent; and Mingin Township, 102.6 per cent in line with the economic policies of the State," U Maung Htoo, chairman of the District Management Committee, said.—*Lin Latt Kyel Sin*

Connecting road to be constructed in Pobbathiri Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April — In order to push forward the socio-economic development of villagers, authorities in Nay Pyi Taw have said that a connecting road and a bridge will be built for villages in Pobbathri Township.

According to officials, the earthen road will link the villages of Ywataw (South), Chaung Sauk, Satkon and Kyan Phosu, and is funded by the regional development fund with K 5 million.

A 30 ft long and 20 ft wide concrete bridge will also be constructed, with the project paid for by donors U Kya Mya and wife Daw Cho and local people helping with the construction. Officials said they are striving for completion of the construction work before the end of April, with locals allowed to fully use the road as soon as work has been finished.

NLM-003

Photo shows work on construction of a bridge in Pobbathari Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.
NLM-003

Removal of fuel handling machine inside Fukushima No 3 pool starts

Tokyo, 24 April — The operator of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant said on Wednesday it has started work to remove a 35-ton fuel handling machine that has dropped inside the spent fuel pool of the No 3 unit.

The work, which is expected to be completed by early June, is necessary before moving on to the operation of fuel removal from the pool. The machine is the largest debris remaining in the pool inside the No 3 reactor building that has been damaged by a hydrogen explosion.

Cooling of the water inside the pool has been suspended to make sure that oil from the machine will not flow into the cooling system. Cooling is to be conducted only during weekends, when the work will be halted.

Plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co said the temperature of the water filling the pool will be kept sufficiently below the operational limit of 65 C.

TEPCO has been removing rubble inside the No 3 spent fuel pool since December last year.

In the wake of the Fukushima nuclear crisis, triggered by a huge earthquake and tsunami in March 2011, the Nos. 1 to 3 reactors suffered fuel meltdowns. The buildings housing the Nos 1, 3 and 4 reactors were also damaged by hydrogen explosions.

Kyodo News

Obama, Abe promote accords, avoid rift drawing on Hague success

US President Barack Obama (L) and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe hold a joint press conference after their talks at the State Guest House in Tokyo on 24 April, 2014.—(Kyodo News)

Tokyo, 24 April—US President Barack Obama adopted a similar tactic in a summit with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to that used last month in The Hague, demonstrating agreement on already shared goals and shelving thorny issues.

Cementing a firm alliance with Japan as well as South Korea, which he will visit after Tokyo, is a primary purpose of his four-nation trip to East and Southeast Asia amid a lack of prospects for remarkable fresh policy achievements at each stop, US officials and pundits said earlier.

Obama also said the United States and Japan are "united" along with South Korea in seeking the denuclearization of North Korea peacefully, and Washington and Tokyo are "closer" to agreement on sticky issues in negotiations related to a Pacific free trade pact, which US officials say is a key part of Obama's policy of "rebalancing" to the Asia-Pacific region.

Japan and the United States have differences over market access under the envisioned Trans-Pacific Partnership initiative but both governments have shared the goal of reaching a TPP deal early, together with the 10 other countries involved, since Japan joined the negotiations last year.

Obama brokered a meeting with Abe and South Korean President Park Geun Hye in the Netherlands in late March on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit in preparation for his trip to Tokyo and Seoul a month later.

The three leaders succeeded in promoting their close alliance, at least on the surface, in dealing with North Korea's nuclear ambitions, while stopping short of touching on contentious issues such as Tokyo-Seoul frictions related to Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula.

In the trilateral talks, Abe and Park agreed to reactivate dialogue at various levels, leading officials of Japan and South Korea to hold talks on the long-standing issue of Korean women who were forced to work in wartime Japanese military brothels.

Japanese and South Korean government officials also joined trilateral meetings with the United States on security topics, including Pyongyang's nuclear program, after the three-way summit in the Netherlands.

Kyodo News

Russia, China block Central African Republic blacklist at UN

Central African Republic president Francois Bozize speaks during a news conference at the presidential palace in Bangui on 8 Jan, 2013. **Reuters**

United Nations, 24 April—Russia and China have blocked a proposal by the United States and France to impose UN sanctions on Central African Republic's former President Francois Bozize and two other people linked to the conflict there, diplomats told *Reuters* on Wednesday.

The proposal to sanction Bozize, in particular, was due to his "engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of CAR," according to an eight-page letter to the UN Security Council's sanctions committee on Central African Republic, which was obtained by *Reuters*.

The sanctioning of Bozize, who was ousted by predominantly Muslim Seleka rebels in March 2013, and two other individuals was to have taken effect on Tuesday, but first Russia and then China raised last-minute objections, diplomats said. It was the first attempt to blacklist anyone linked to the conflict since a UN sanctions regime was set up in December.

"The Russians and Chinese have a placed a hold on the proposed designations," a diplomat on the 15-member Security Council told *Reuters* on condition of anonymity. "We don't know whether it's dead or if their concerns can be dealt with."

If agreement is not reached to lift a hold, it can leave proposed sanctions in limbo indefinitely. The Security Council sanctions committees work on the basis of unanimity.

France had originally wanted to sanction more individuals, but settled on three names for a joint US-French proposal that Washington's rigorous vetting process could accept, envoys said.

Russia's UN mission spokesman declined to comment. A spokesman for Beijing's mission in New York said in an email: "We would reaffirm that it is China's principled stance to be opposed to resorting to sanctions. Sanctions are not conducive to the proper settlement of problems."

A Western diplomat, however, said he was optimistic that Russia and China would ultimately be persuaded to back the designations as they have in the cases of Iran and North Korea.

Russia told the sanctions committee in a written explanation of its objections that "the listing of Bozize may lead to negative consequences, which would hardly contribute to the main goal of reaching settlement in the Central African Republic - inter-religious reconciliation."

"It remains to be answered why France and the United States, while proposing to list Francois Bozize, who was unconstitutionally removed from power, overlooked Michel Djotodia, the former transitional president and Seleka leader, who masterminded the forcible takeover of power in March 2013," said the letter, which was read to *Reuters* by a third diplomat.

Diplomats said China simply needed more time to consider the proposal.

Inter-communal violence has gripped Central African Republic since late 2012 when a battle for power degenerated into fighting between Muslims and Christians that has since forced about 1 million people from their homes.

Almost 200,000 people have fled the impoverished landlocked country since December with a further 160,000 expected to leave this year. The United Nations has warned that the situation could spiral into genocide.—*Reuters*

Men fleeing sectarian violence from the capital Bangui pray on the road during a break in a convoy escorted by French peacekeepers as they head towards Bambari on 20 April, 2014.— **Reuters**

Hamas, Abbas's PLO announce reconciliation agreement

Azzam Al-Ahmed (L), a senior Fatah official and head of the Hamas government Ismail Haniyeh (C) and deputy speaker of Palestinian Parliament Ahmed Bahar attend a meeting in Gaza City on 22 April, 2014.—REUTERS

GAZA/RAMALLAH, 24 April — The Gaza-based Islamist group Hamas and President Mahmoud Abbas's Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) announced a unity pact on Wednesday, deepening a crisis in US-brokered peace talks with Israel.

The move, coming after a long line of failed efforts to reconcile after seven years of internal bickering, envisions a unity government within five weeks and national elections six months later.

"This is the good news we tell our people: the era of division is over," Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh said to loud applause at a Palestinian news conference also attended by representatives of the PLO.

Israel said after the announcement that Abbas had chosen Hamas over peace, and cancelled a session of US-brokered talks with the Palestinians that had been scheduled for Wednesday night in Jerusalem.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement that Abbas "chose Hamas and not peace. Whoever chooses Hamas does not want peace."

Israeli Channel 2 TV said Netanyahu would convene an emergency session of his security cabinet on Thursday to discuss his response.

Washington said it was disappointed by the deal which State Department spokesman Jen Psaki said "could seriously complicate our efforts — not just our efforts but the efforts of the parties to extend their negotiations."

Along with the United States and the European Union, Israel views Hamas as a terrorist organization and says Abbas' efforts to unify with the group show he is not serious about extending the troubled negotiations.

The talks, aimed at ending its decades-old conflict with the Palestinians and establishing a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, are scheduled to end on 29 April.

Palestinians have long hoped for a healing of the political rift between the PLO and militant Hamas, which won a Palestinian election in 2006 and seized control of the Gaza Strip from forces loyal to Western-backed Abbas in 2007. But reconciliation dreams have been dashed repeatedly in the past. Since 2011, Hamas and Fatah have failed to implement an Egyptian-brokered unity deal because of disputes over power-sharing and the handling of the conflict with Israel.

Hamas has battled Israel, which it refuses to recognize, while Abbas's Fatah party has remained in control of the Palestinian Authority in the occupied West Bank and pursued years of fruitless talks with Israel.

Abbas said the pact would not interfere with peace efforts.

"There's no contradiction at all between unity and talks, and we're committed to establishing a just peace based on a two-state solution," he said in a statement following the deal.—*Reuters*

East Ukraine militants confrim they are detaining US reporter

SLAVIANSK, 24 April — Pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine on Wednesday confirmed they are detaining a US journalist working with Vice News.

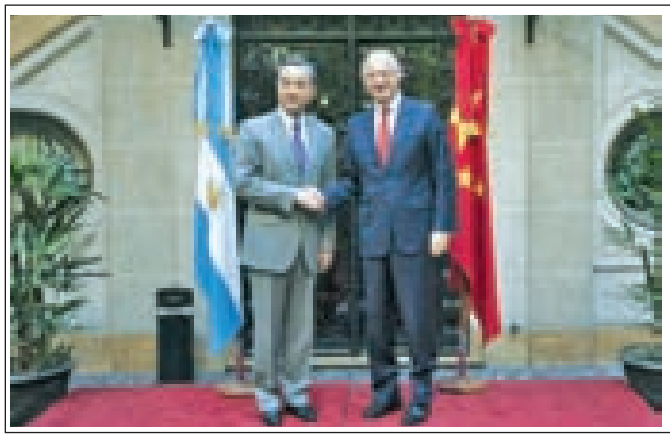
The self-declared separatist mayor of Slaviansk told reporters the journalist, Simon Ostrovsky, had been detained for reporting what he said was false information that was "destabilising for us" but that he was being treated well.

Mayor Vyacheslav Ponomaryov attempted to joke about the situation.

"There's nothing wrong with Ostrovsky. He is with us, he is feeling well and in a clean place. He is not a hostage but our guest. We only gave him a place of residence."

Gunmen detained Ostrovsky on Monday night along with other reporters who have since been released.

Vice News has said on its website that it is in contact with the US State Department and other government authorities to work toward securing the safety of its journalist.—*Reuters*



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (L) shakes hands with Argentinian Foreign Minister Hector Timerman at the Palace of San Martin, headquarters of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 23 April, 2014.
XINHUA

Pakistan fighter jets target militant hideouts near Afghan border

ISLAMABAD, 24 April — Pakistani fighter jets pounded suspected militant hideouts near the Afghan border on Thursday in response to a spate of attacks around the country, the army said, in the first aerial operation against Taleban insurgents in two months.

The operation came despite efforts by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government to engage the Taleban in talks to end years of fighting with an insurgency seeking to topple the democratically elected government in the capital Islamabad.

"Terrorist hideouts were engaged by fighter jets in Khyber agency early (in the) morning today," the army's press wing said in a text message sent to media.

It said it was a response to a number of recent attacks against police and civilians in Islamabad and Peshawar, a volatile Pakistani city near the Khyber tribal agency.

A senior military official in Peshawar said the operation, which started early on Thursday, was still under way.

"After the jets, Pakistan army ground forces also launched operations in the area," he said.—*Reuters*

Afghan troops kill eight Taleban including two commanders in southern province

KABUL, 24 April — Units of Afghan national army raided Taleban hideouts and killed eight insurgents, including two commanders in the southern Ghazni Province on Thursday, an army spokesman Nazif Sultani said. "Units of the national army launched cleanup operations in Andar district of Ghazni Province early today morning and so far eight rebels, including two Taleban commanders, Mullah Mansoor and Azizullah, have been killed and five others injured," Sultani told *Xinhua*, adding the elimination of the two commanders is a major setback to the Taleban militants in the southern region.

Andar has been regarded as the stronghold of Taleban militants in Ghazni Province. Taleban militants have yet to make comment.

Meanwhile, Sultani said that the operations will continue till the district is cleaned up from the insurgents.

Xinhua

Photo taken on 23 April, 2014 shows a "mobile bookstore" in Sofia, Bulgaria. People set up a bookstore in a bus to mark the World Book Day in Sofia. The World Book Day is commemorated on 23 April, aiming to promote reading, boost the editorial industry and protect the intellectual property in copyrights.—XINHUA

UN chief demands Security Council action on Syria

UNITED NATIONS, 24 April — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon demanded on Wednesday that the Security Council take action in Syria on violations of international law as he reported to the body that none of the warring parties was adhering to UN demands for aid access.

In his second monthly report to the 15-member council on the implementation of a resolution demanding great humanitarian aid access in Syria, Ban said "none of the parties to the conflict have adhered to the demands of the Council."

"The Security Council must take action to deal with these flagrant violations of the basic principles of international law," he wrote in the 21-page report. He did not specify what measures the council should take.

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon talks to the media at the EU Commission headquarters in Brussels on 2 April, 2014.—REUTERS

Two months after the 15-member council achieved rare unity to unanimously approve a resolution demanding rapid, safe and unhindered aid access, including across borders, Ban said the situation "remains an extremely challenging environment in which to work."

In that resolution, the Security Council expressed "its intent to take further steps in the case of non-compliance" with the resolution. But diplomats said Russia was unlikely to agree to any action, such as sanctions, if Syria's government was found to be at fault.

Ban issued a similar report last month. Earlier on Wednesday, UN humanitarian chief Valerie Amos told *Reuters* in Geneva that hopes for a political deal to end Syria's war were fading and it was getting harder every day to send aid to millions of trapped and displaced civilians.

Last month, the United States and European delegations said that Ban's reporting had shown the government was largely responsible for the lack of aid access, which the government denies. The Western powers said any problems caused by rebel groups were the work of Islamist fighters linked to al-Qaeda. The situation is getting worse, Ban said.

"Thousands of people are not getting the medical care, including life-saving medicines, that they need," he reported. "Medical supplies, including life-saving medicines and vaccines, and equipment for the wounded and the sick are commodities privileged throughout the Geneva Conventions.

"Denying these is arbitrary and unjustified, and a clear violation of international humanitarian law," he said. "Yet, medicines are routinely denied to those who need them, including tens of thousands of women, children, and elderly."

Ban said that nearly 3.5 million people were largely without access to essential goods and services due to the Syrian civil war, which is now in its fourth year.

The Security Council is due to discuss the report next week. Russia, supported by China, has shielded its ally Syria on the Security Council during the war. They had previously vetoed three resolutions that would have condemned Syria's government and threatened it with possible sanctions. The United Nations has asked for more cross-border access, particularly from Jordan and Turkey, to deliver aid. But Ban said cross-border aid access remains a problem.

Reuters

At least 60 killed in DR Congo train crash

KINSHASA, 24 April — At least 60 people were killed and some 60 others were injured when a freight train derailed in the southeast region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) on Tuesday, national train service officials told *Xinhua* on Wednesday.

The accident occurred when the train was running fast before turning around a bend close to the Katongola bridge, which is near the station at Katongola, a town in the southern Katanga Province.

The train was trave lling from Kamina, a town in Katanga Province, to Mwene-Ditu in the province of Kasai-Oriental, one of the richest diamond producing regions in the world.

The ill-fated train carried hundreds of passengers, many of whom reportedly to have been atop the train to steal a ride.

A survivor said when the accident happened, he felt strong trembling of the train and was then pushed out of the carriage by a tremendous force at the moment of the train's overturning.

Xinhua

Two policemen, militant killed in Egypt

CAIRO, 24 April — An Egyptian policeman and a militant were killed when security forces raided a hideout used by radical Islamists near Alexandria on Wednesday, and a senior officer was killed near Cairo when a bomb blew up his car, the Interior Ministry said. Militant violence has spiralled since last July, when the army toppled elected head of state Mohamed Mursi and the authorities launched a fierce crackdown on his supporters in the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamist sympathisers.

The attacks underline lingering instability in Egypt ahead of a presidential election in May that Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, the former army chief who deposed Mursi, is expected to win. The prime minister said the state was in "a fierce war" on terror.

The hideout targeted by police at dawn on Wednesday was used by Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, or Supporters of Jerusalem, the group behind some of the deadliest attacks of the last nine months, the Interior Ministry said.

The militants had opened fire on the security forces as they arrived at the hideout in Borg El Arab, some 45 km (28 miles) south-west of Alexandria.

The police officer killed in the raid was named as First Lieutenant Ahmed Saad and the dead militant as Hassan Abdel Aal, a 25-year old from the Nile Delta province of Dakahlia.

Two other militants were detained, the ministry spokesman, Hany Abdel Latif, said in a televised statement. Footage broadcast on state TV appeared to show the body of a militant on the ground. The militants were "among the dangerous elements of the terrorist group Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which was planning to target police and military facilities and the security forces", the ministry said. The police seized weapons including explosive belts, automatic weapons, hand grenades and ammunition. Around 500 people have been killed in attacks since last July, mostly policemen and soldiers. The threat has been compounded by a flow of weapons from neighbouring Libya.—*Reuters*

A damaged car of Brigadier General Ahmed Zaki, who was killed in an explosion outside his home, is pictured in 6th of October City, 32 km (20 miles) outside Cairo on 23 April, 2014.—REUTERS

Gunmen raid checkpoint in Yemen, 2 policemen killed

ADEN, 24 April — Two policemen were killed early Thursday when suspected al-Qaeda gunmen raided a security outpost in Yemen's southeastern province of Hadramout, a military official told *Xinhua*.

"The police forces repelled the al-Qaida attack which took place in Hadramout's city of Shibam, but two police personnel were killed in the exchange of fire with the attackers," the military source said on condition of anonymity.

Another security source in Hadramout confirmed the incident, saying that "the al-Qaeda attackers fired two rocket-propelled grenades toward a key police checkpoint in Shibam city."

Yemeni security officials said the terrorist attacks were an angry reaction to the multiple US drone strikes on Sunday on militant hideouts in the country's southern regions. On Wednesday, Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi announced that "recent counter-terrorism operations targeted and killed over 60 al-Qaeda linked militants including a number of high value targets in Abyan and Shabwa provinces."

Xinhua

Bolivian president calls on LatAm youths to offer development proposals

LA PAZ, 24 April — Bolivian President Evo Morales on Wednesday called on the youths of Latin American countries to participate in affairs concerning policy formulation that could help the development of the region.

Speaking at the opening of the two-day Latin American Youth Summit in Santa Cruz, eastern Bolivia, Morales said the summit could be a source of ideas and proposals for the upcoming Group of 77+China Summit, to be held in the same city on 14 June and 15 June.

The summit also serves as an opportunity to promote common regional values, said the president.

Of some 23 issues on the agenda for the G77+China Summit, seven have been selected by the young delegates for debate, including South-South cooperation, poverty eradication, migration and unemployment, and sustainable development. The summit has drawn about 3,000 youths from the entire Latin America, including delegations from different indigenous communities in Bolivia.—*Xinhua*

HEALTH & BUSINESS

Apple expands buybacks by $30 billion, OKs 7-for-1 stock split

Apple's iPad devices are displayed at its store in Tokyo on 18 Jan, 2013.—Reuters

San Francisco, 24 April — Apple Inc has approved another $30 billion in share buybacks till the end of 2015 and authorized a rarely seen seven-for-one stock split, addressing calls to share more of its cash hoard while broadening the stock's appeal to individual investors.

The company also approved a roughly 8 percent increase in its quarterly dividend to $3.29 per share.

Activist investor Carl Icahn, who had famously called on the iPhone maker to boost its buyback program, tweeted his approval of the move on Wednesday.

Shares of the company, which have remain mired around the $500 to $550 range since the start of the year, jumped 7 percent to $561.51 in after-hours trade.

On Wednesday, Apple reported sales of 43.7 million iPhones in the quarter ended March, far outpacing the roughly 38 million that Wall Street had predicted.

That drove a 4.6 percent rise in revenue to $45.6 billion — a record for any non-holiday quarter —and beating Wall Street's projections for about $43.5 billion.

But whether Apple can again produce a revolutionary new product remains the central question in investors' and Silicon Valley executives' minds. The smartphone market is maturing and rivals like Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and Google Inc are taking chunks out of its mobile-device market share.

Many hope that the next iPhone, which sources have said will sport a larger screen with new display technology, will provide a timely lift to the company's bottom line come September, when Apple usually introduces the latest version of its core product.

Speculation persists that the company will take the lead in wearable devices with a smartwatch or other gadget, given that Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook has spoken about "new product categories" for 2014.

For now, the company's momentum in China and emerging markets has been the topic of much discussion in investor circles. On Wednesday, Chief Financial Officer Luca Maestri told *Reuters* the jump in iPhone sales was "very broad-based," but singled out greater China and Japan, where business got a boost from the recent inclusion of NTT Docomo and China Mobile as carrier partners.

Overall revenue from greater China, which includes Hong Kong and Taiwan, climbed 13 percent to $9.29 billion in the quarter. Japanese sales rose 26 percent to $3.96 billion.

Reuters

Herbalife punished 600 distributors for medical claims

San Francisco, (California), 24 April — Herbalife, a weight loss and nutrition company being investigated for allegations of running a pyramid scheme, disciplined hundreds of distributors last year for making unsubstantiated medical claims about its products, ABC News reported on Wednesday.

The network said the company disclosed the internal figures after an ABC News investigation found what it called "numerous examples of distributors boasting to potential customers that the company's products helped treat maladies ranging from diabetes to heart disease."

A Herbalife logo is shown on a poster at a clinic in the Mission District in San Francisco, California on 29 April, 2013.— Reuters

In one case, an ABC reporter posing as a customer caught a Staten Island, New York, distributor on a hidden camera saying a woman overcame a brain tumor after using Herbalife products, the network said.

Asked by ABC in a televised report if Herbalife cured brain tumors, Herbalife President Des Walsh said: "Absolutely not. Frankly, I am appalled to hear you say this because what is happening there is a complete and absolute violation of our rules."

Asked if such incidents happened often, Walsh replied: "I do not believe so." "These instances ... are absolute aberrations... This is not the Herbalife I know," he told the network.

ABC said that since the interview, Herbalife had told the network it disciplined almost 600 distributors last year for making such claims and stripped 12 of their distributorships.

A company spokesman said in a statement to *Reuters* that as noted in the ABC News report Herbalife "is explicit with its members that products are not intended to diagnose, treat, prevent or cure any disease or medical condition, and under no circumstances should there be any statements, advertising or implications to the contrary."—*Reuters*

FDA moves to ban sales of e-cigarettes to minors

New York, 24 April — The US Food and Drug Administration proposed measures on Thursday that would ban the sale of e-cigarettes to consumers younger than 18, but would not restrict flavored products, online sales or TV advertising, likely disappointing some public health advocates.

Electronic cigarette advocates lobbied against restrictions on flavors and advertising, saying they would stifle innovation. Critics argue flavors such as strawberry and butterscotch appeal to youngsters, while unrestricted advertising threatens to make the products glamorous and could act as a gateway to traditional cigarettes. If finalized, the long-awaited proposal would subject the $2 billion e-cigarette industry to federal regulation for the first time. A law passed in 2009 gave the FDA authority to regulate cigarettes, smokeless tobacco and roll-your-own tobacco and stipulated the agency could extend its jurisdiction to other nicotine products after issuing a rule to that effect.

Customers puff on e-cigarettes at the Henley Vaporium in New York City on 18 Dec, 2013.
Reuters

FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg said at a briefing that the proposal represented the first "foundational" step towards a broader set of potential regulations that would establish quality standards and include restrictions on flavoring and marketing. The current proposal "lays the foundation for many more actions and activities," she said. In the short term, the rules would prohibit companies from distributing free e-cigarette samples, forbid vending machine sales except in adult-only venues and prohibit sales to minors. Companies would be required to warn that nicotine is addictive, but no other health warnings would be required. The addiction warning would have to be added no later than two years after the rule is finalized. They would not be able to make health claims in any advertising. The proposal is subject to a public comment period of 75 days.

If finalized, companies would be required to submit new and existing products to the FDA for approval. They would have two years to submit their applications from the time the rule goes into effect. Companies may continue selling their products and introducing new products, pending the FDA's review.

Reuters

Aspirin's benefit in preventing colon cancer depends on DNA

New York, 24 April — Cancer is the first disease where physicians have personalized treatment, matching a tumour's genetics to the appropriate chemotherapy, and now it may be the first in which prevention, too, can be personalized.

Two decades after scientists discovered that aspirin might reduce the risk of colorectal cancer, a new study finds that it has that benefit almost exclusively in people with genes that produce high levels of a particular enzyme. Those whose DNA produces low levels of the enzyme benefit hardly at all, scientists reported on Wednesday in the journal *Science Translational Medicine.*

"If you have low levels of (the enzyme), taking aspirin to reduce your colon cancer risk is probably not helping you," said Dr Sanford Markowitz, professor of cancer genetics at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine in Cleveland and co-leader of the study. "But people with higher levels are getting a bang for the buck: The combination of high enzyme levels plus taking aspirin really seems to be the key to measurably reducing colon cancer risk." Identifying who can cut their risk of colorectal cancer, which the American Cancer Society projects will kill 50,000 people in the United States this year, by taking aspirin is especially important because the drug poses a significant risk of ulcers and gastrointestinal bleeding, which can be fatal. Because the gastrointestinal dangers are too great to justify the uncertain benefits, the US Preventive Services Task Force, which advises the government, recommends against the use of aspirin to prevent colorectal cancer in the general population.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 25 April, 2014

Heat and the danger of paralysis

By Aung Khin

Experts regard May 23 as "A Major Killer Heat Awareness Day". It is an alert to raise awareness of the risks of extreme heat. When the day temperatures are scorching, life-threatening diseases, including heat stroke, hypertension, paralysis and intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH) can occur.

Rising atmospheric temperature can trigger an increase in body temperature. Such variation is termed as 'real feel temperature'. When the body temperature exceeds the normal level of 54 degrees centigrade (130 degrees Fahrenheit), the World Health Organization (WHO) regards it as a dangerous level which can cause paralysis and intracerebral hemorrhage.

Meteorologists forecast such extreme heat may occur from mid-April to May which is the early monsoon period in Myanmar. During that season, people may experience hot wind and an increase in humidity, which can lead to death.

During that time, those who are suffering from hypertension should change their lifestyle. They may be at risk of paralysis and intracerebral hemorrhage. They should eat a sensible diet. The atmospheric temperature can be regarded as a 'silent killer' during the mentioned period. Therefore, people should lead a healthy lifestyle. It is the best to avoid direct sunlight between 10 am and 4 pm, and to stay in shady places. Awareness and mindfulness are of vital importance during extreme heat.

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.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred the following heads of service organizations from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
1. Daw Khin Hsan Oo Director-General Union Auditor-General's Office	Director-General Department of Administrative, Training and Research Union Auditor-General's Office
2. Dr Aung Thu Rector Toungoo University Ministry of Education	Rector Yangon University Ministry of Education
3. Dr Maung Thin Rector Meiktila University Ministry of Education	Rector Mandalay University Ministry of Education
4. Dr Tin Tun Rector Yangon University Ministry of Education	Rector Toungoo University Ministry of Education

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
1. Daw Maw Maw	Director-General Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2. Dr Thein Tun	Rector Cooperative University (Thanlyin) Cooperative Department Ministry of Cooperatives
3. Professor Dr Daw Theing Hlaing	Rector University of Medical Technology (Mandalay) Medical Science Department Ministry of Health
4. Professor Dr Shwe Toe	Rector University of Dental Medicine (Mandalay) Medical Science Department Ministry of Health

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following person as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
1. U Khin Mung Tint Director Directorate of Industries Ministry of Industry	Managing Director Myanma Textile Industries Ministry of Industry
2. U Thant Zin Director No.1 Heavy Industries Enterprise Ministry of Industry	Director-General Industrial Cooperation and Inspection Department Ministry of Industry
3. Daw Naing Thet Oo Deputy Director-General (Inspection) Union Auditor-General's Office	Director-General Inspection Department Union Auditor-General's Office

Discussion on 'Hate Speech' held in Yangon

YANGON, 24 April—Discussions on Hate Speech were held at the Sky Star Hotel in Yangon on Thursday in an event jointly organized by the Ministry of Information and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

Director-General U Ye Tint of the Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information delivered the opening speech at the occasion.

Senior Lecturer Dr. Venkatlyer, media law consultant of FES, clarified international laws, definitions and possible difficulties regarding the term 'hate speech'.

Dr. Venkatlyer also answered questions.

The discussion was attended by officials from the Ministry of Information, as well as the members of the Myanmar Writers' Association, the Myanmar Publishers and Distributors Association, the Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association, the Myanmar Press Council (Interim), the Myanmar Journalists Union, the Myanmar Journalist Network, and people from the National Management College, Journalism Course, UNESCO, FES and the news media.

The Bonn-based foundation was established in 1925 as the political legacy of Friedrich Ebert, Germany's first democratically elected president. It is the largest and oldest of the German party-associated foundations.

MNA

Media need to register for ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—The 23rd ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw from 19 to 23 May.

Local and foreign correspondents who wish to cover the meeting are to click the registration link for the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting (ALMM) of Upcoming Events at the home page www.asean2014.gov.mm to fill in the media registration form. Registration must be made not later than 10 May. Media accreditation cards will be issued at MICC on 19 May.

Foreign correspondents are to apply for visas at respective Myanmar embassies to cover the meeting. Please call 067-430119, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, for further information about the meeting and 067-412126 at the News and Periodicals Enterprise about news coverage by locally based foreign news agencies and local media.

MNA

Media registration for XXIV ASEAN Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 24 April—The XXIV ASEAN Summit will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 and 11 May.

Local and foreign correspondents who wish to cover the ASEAN Summit are to click the registration link for the 24th ASEAN Summit of Upcoming Events at the Home Page of www.asean2014.gov.mm to fill in the Media Registration Form. The registration must be taken not later than 30 April. The media accreditation cards will be issued at MICC on 9 May.

Foreign correspondents are to apply for visas to cover the Summit at respective Myanmar embassies. Please dial 067-412227 and 412057 at the ASEAN Affairs Department for further information about the summit and 067-412125 and 412126 at the News and Periodicals Enterprise about news coverage by locally based foreign news agencies and local media.

MNA

Social Welfare Association in Mohnyin receives hearse and ambulance

MOHNYIN, 24 April—The Myitta Mon Buddhist Social Welfare Association of Mohnyin received an ambulance and a hearse from local donors on Tuesday at the Zeya Thukha Waso monastery, officials said. The association, established in 2007, has cremated over 1,200 people free of charge and is hoping to help more local people with the donations, Chairman of Association U Soe Win said.

At the donation ceremony, Daw Nann Yi family from Aung Thabyae (1) Ward of Mohnyin donated a hearse, and U Kyaw Khaing Win and Daw Soe Soe Lwin family donated an ambulance.—*NLM-001*

A hearse and an ambulance donated to Myitta Mon Buddhist Social Welfare Association in Mohnyin.

Ayeyawady Region gov't gives scholarships to university students

PYAPON, 23 April—Ayeyawady Region government on Wednesday gave scholarships to university students in Pyapon Township, officials said.

18 students received scholarships under the 'U Tin Maung Scholarship Programme', and 13 students under the 'Pyinnya Parami Scholarship Programme'.

At the ceremony held at the meeting hall of district officer U Nyi Nyi Linn, the administrator of the Pyapon township general administration department, said: "University students in Pyapon Township can apply for scholarships under these programmes. They may also contact our department for this process."

One parent of a university student said: "My daughter is attending medical university. This scholarship will cover the cost of her education to a certain extent. I also encourage other students to apply for this scholarship."

The number of students who apply for scholarships has been low, officials said.

Chan Tha

Myanmar to step up efforts to fight narcotic drugs

HOMALIN, 24 April—"I wish Homalin to be a drug free zone," said Chief of Police Staff Police Brig-Gen Win Khaung of Myanmar Police Force Headquarters at a meeting between three committees at the meeting hall of General Administration Department in Homalin Township, Sagaing Region on 22 April.

Homalin is rich in natural resources such as gold mining, so it became a new market for drug smugglers and many of the locals have fallen prey to drugs. He claimed Bengalis are entering Myanmar through India via Moreh and Tamu and the departments concerned are required to take necessary action against them in cooperation with each other.

Those present discussed matters related to exposing drug cases with added momentum in collaboration with officials from four districts to make Homalin a drug-free area.

Toe Toe Win

MHF TURNS OUT COACHES AND UMPIRES: ***U Saw Lu Lu Htaw, Vice-President of the Myanmar Hockey Federation (MHF) speaking at the opening ceremony of the Hockey Coaching Course and Umpiring Course at Theinbyu Turf Hockey Pitch on Thursday morning. Fifteen trainees will attend the coaching courses, with 15 more attending the umpiring course from 24 to 30 April.***

THAN SWE (PABEDAN)

Kan Ya Min bus line to extend Shwebo-Monywa route

MONYWA, 24 April—Kan Ya Min bus line will run along the Monywa-Shwebo route. Three buses per day will run the route after construction of the Homepaka bridge is completed, said the bus line Chairman U Kyaw Soe Moe.

The bus line wants the Monywa-Shwebo route as the villages of Monywa-Thazi-Naungyiai-Aoneshitgyi-Mugangyi-Seikkhun-Shwebo are facing transport difficulties.

Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

More than 1,000 acres of confiscated farmland returned to owners in Budalin

BUDALIN, 24 April—A ceremony to return more than 1,000 acres of confiscated farmland to the owners took place at the meeting hall of General Administration Department in Budalin Township, Sagaing Region on 22 April.

The farmlands used by the armed forces were returned to the owners, an official from the township farmland management committee said. The confiscated lands are in Okpo Village, Hsinkyoe Field, Kunohn Village and Ywathitgyi Village in Budalin Township.—*Toe Toe Win*

Undertakings of Great Hawkham Public Co Ltd clarified in Muse

MUSE, 24 April—Great Hawkham Public Co Ltd that is carrying out regional development tasks in Muse, headquartered in Kaunghmulwe Ward in Muse, Shan State (North) held a ceremony to clarify various projects being operated by the company at Hsin Shweli Hall in Muse on 20 April.

First, the chair of the meeting made an opening speech and legal advisory group gave suggestions and Managing Director U Sai Ohn Myint clarified ongoing works of the company through projector. Great Hawkham Public Co Ltd is currently engaging in construction works in central economic zone project being implemented by New Star Light Co, feasibility study in Nantpaw Creek Hydropower Project, social activities and making contributions for new generation. The company is comprised of 18000 stock shares and the price of one share is K 100,000. At the meeting attended by Township Administrator U Ko Ko Zaw and departmental officials, members of BOD, share holders and observers, National Parliament Representative U Sai Win Maung and People's Parliament Representative U Sai Pho Aung took part in the discussions.

Thein Zaw (Shweli Oo)

Yadana Win bus line association to extend number of small vehicles

MONYWA, 24 April—The Yadana Win bus line association is arranging for more small vehicles to operate in the coming academic year so local people and students can enjoy smoother transportation in Monywa.

"The association has already collected eight small vehicles so far," said Yadana Win bus line Chairman U Thein Tin. The bus line will operate from Monywa bus terminal to Ahlon (Sitpin), Kangyi (North-West Command Headquarters), Monywa University, Monywa Government Technological University and downtown areas. The bus line will also run chartered vehicles.

The vehicles that will operate in downtown areas must stop at the designated place. The driver must also avoid speeding and acting in rude ways that upset the passengers. The authorities will take action against drivers that break the prescribed disciplines of the bus line, U Thein Tin warned.

Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

Thai opposition leader seeks compromise to avert bloodshed

BANGKOK, 24 April — Alarmed by the prospect of bloodshed in Thailand as a six-month political crisis nears a critical juncture, former Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva has called for talks between the government and its foes, urging compromise to restore stability.

The 49-year-old leader of Thailand's main opposition Democrat Party has joined street demonstrations in Bangkok aiming to force out Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, and his party boycotted a 2 February election, which was nullified by a court in March after widespread disruption.

But now Abhisit appears to be putting some distance between himself and the protesters.

Violence is threatening to increase, he told foreign media in an interview late on Wednesday. "Given the accumulated frustration and loss of opportunity for the country, it's really time that people begin to speak up for the middle ground."

"I think there are many people who want to see common ground emerging. My intention, this week, is to say that: isn't it time we all accept the reality that neither side can get its way, and even if it did, it couldn't bring long-lasting stability."

The protests, which attracted more than 200,000 people at their height, have dwindled but hard-core demonstrators say they will continue to harass the government and disrupt any new election until Yingluck's government is toppled.

Abhisit's comments were met with skepticism by the government.

"What the Democrat Party says it will do and what it does are not the same thing," said Sunisa Lertpakawat, a deputy government spokeswoman.

"If he's sincere, why didn't he join Tuesday's talks aimed at discussing a date for the next election?" she added, referring to a meeting arranged by the Election Commission that was attended by nearly 60 parties. Abhisit stayed away, citing security concerns.

Yingluck's opponents have taken to the courts to remove her, alleging abuse of power and other infractions, and in response her "red shirt" supporters say they, too, will take to the streets if she is removed by what they say are politicized judges. Verdicts in some of these cases could come in May.

Thailand has been in crisis since Yingluck's brother, then premier Thaksin Shinawatra, was ousted in a 2006 military coup.

On the one side are Bangkok's middle class, the royalist establishment and many people in the south, a Democrat stronghold, who say the Shinawatra family is corrupt and authoritarian.

*Thailand's opposition leader and former Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva smiles during an interview with foreign media at his Democrat Party headquarters in Bangkok on 23 April, 2014.—*REUTERS

On the other side are supporters of Yingluck and Thaksin, strong in the north and northeast, who idolize Thaksin as the first leader to pay attention to the millions living outside Bangkok.

Protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban, a deputy prime minister under Abhisit until 2011, has said it could be two years or more before the country can go to the polls again.

That is a daunting prospect for a country that has spent months under a caretaker government with diminished spending and policymaking powers.

Reuters

Russia says it will respond if Ukraine interests attacked

*A pro-Russian armed man holds on to his weapon as he stands guard near the state security service building in Slaviansk, on 23 April, 2014.—*REUTERS

KIEV, 24 April — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov accused the United States of being behind the political upheaval in Ukraine and said Moscow would respond if its interests came under attack.

Lavrov's comments came a day after US Vice President Joe Biden was in the Ukrainian capital with promises of support for the pro-Western government, and a warning to Russia not to interfere in Ukraine.

The crisis in Ukraine, now in its fourth month, has dragged Russia's relations with the West to their lowest since the Cold War. In the east, pro-Russian armed separatists have seized about a dozen public buildings and are defying Kiev's authority. A further escalation could lead to damaging economic sanctions, and raises the risk of a disruption to the Russian gas supplies on which Europe depends.

NATO says Russia has built up a force of about 40,000 troop in its border with Ukraine. Moscow says some are stationed there permanently, while others have been deployed as a precaution to protect Russia from the instability in Ukraine. In Moscow, Lavrov said Moscow would respond if its interests, or the interests of Russian citizens, were attacked.

"Russian citizens being attacked is an attack against the Russian Federation," he said according to excerpts of an interview with the Russia Today news channel.

"There is no reason not to believe that the Americans are running the show," RT quoted him as saying.

Washington said that suggestion was "ludicrous", while NATO's deputy secretary general, Alexander Vershbow, said Russia must de-escalate the situation and avoid "inflammatory rhetoric and misrepresentations of the situation inside Ukraine".

Russia justified its intervention in Crimea earlier this year by saying it had to defend Russians living there. In eastern Ukraine some people hold Russian passports.

Ukraine called on Moscow to pull troops back from the border, saying it feared pro-Russian separatists could use their proximity to provoke a Russian invasion.

Reuters

*An armoured personnel carrier is seen near a barricade around the state security service building in Slaviansk, on 23 April, 2014.—*REUTERS

Tokyo governor leaves for Beijing

TOKYO, 24 April — Tokyo Gov Yoichi Masuzoe left for a three-day visit to Beijing on Thursday morning with a view to strengthening ties between the two capitals. Masuzoe was invited by the Beijing city government and is scheduled to meet with Mayor Wang Anshun, with Beijing's hosting of the 2008 Olympics expected to be a major topic at the talks as Tokyo will host the event in 2020.

The two leaders are also likely to exchange views on measures to counter serious air pollution in China.

Before his departure from Haneda airport, Masuzoe said exchanges between Tokyo and Beijing will help improve relations between the two countries.

Masuzoe plans to visit Olympic-related facilities in Beijing and give a speech on Chinese history in Capital Normal University. Masuzoe is the first Tokyo governor to visit Beijing since August 2008 when Shintaro Ishihara, who was governor between 1999 and 2012, visited the Chinese capital to attend the opening ceremony of the Olympics. He is also the first Tokyo governor to visit Beijing at the invitation of the city government since Yukio Aoshima in 1996.—*Kyodo News*

Mumbai goes to polls in India's general elections

NEW DELHI, 24 April — Mumbai on Thursday went to polls, along with 11 Indian states and one central government- controlled territory, in the sixth of the nine-phase general elections which began on 7 April.

"Voting began at 7 am (local time) for 117 Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament) seats across 11 states, including Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra and its capital Mumbai, and in the Union Territory of Puducherry. So far, polling has been successful except it was stopped for sometime at a booth in Indian-controlled Kashmir due to firing," a senior electoral official said.

Local TV channels beamed footage of Bollywood actors queuing up at booths to cast their ballots in Mumbai since morning. The polls will end on 12 May, with results due to be announced on 16 May.

Opinion polls have suggested that the country's main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party will form the next government, with Narendra Modi as the prime minister, while the ruling Congress party, led by Rahul Gandhi, has been facing its worst ever defeat due to its inability to tackle corruption and inflation.—*Xinhua*

Spacewalkers to replace failed computer outside space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 24 April — Two US astronauts floated outside the *International Space Station* on Wednesday to replace a failed computer that serves as a backup to critical control systems, including the outpost's solar panel wings.

Flight engineers Rick Mastracchio and Steve Swanson left the station's Quest airlock just after 10 am EDT (1400 GMT) for what was expected to be a 2-1/2-hour spacewalk. They carried with them a spare computer to be installed in the central section of the station's exterior power truss.

"It looks like a great day to take a walk in space," Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen radioed to the crew from NASA's Mission Control in Houston.

NASA scheduled the abbreviated outing — most US spacewalks last more than six hours — after the computer failed on 11 April.

The device, which is about the size of a small microwave oven, is one of two that control several critical systems outside the station, including rotating the solar panel wings to track the sun and positioning a mobile base for the station's robotic crane.

Replacing the computer is "pretty straightforward," astronaut and former space station crewmember Chris Cassidy said in an interview last week on NASA Television. "We anticipate it to go quickly, but as with anything in space operations ... you never know what's going to be thrown at you," Cassidy said.

Except for emergency repairs, such as the computer replacement, NASA spacewalks remain suspended while engineers continue to assess the spacesuit failure last year that caused the helmet worn by Italian astronaut Luca Parmitano to fill with water, nearly drowning him.

The leak was later traced to a blocked filter. NASA flew new parts to the station for astronauts to make spacesuit repairs. Before two emergency spacewalks in December to fix the station's cooling system, astronauts also outfitted their helmets with absorbent pads and snorkels for breathing if the leak reoccurred.

Those spacewalks were completed with no problems. Mastracchio, who is making his ninth spacewalk, and Swanson, on his fifth, also included the snorkels and pads in their helmets for Wednesday's outing.

A new spacesuit was among the cargo aboard the Space Exploration Technologies' Dragon capsule that reached the station on Sunday.

NASA expects to resume routine spacewalks for maintenance and less-pressing repairs in July.

The station, a $100 billion project of 15 nations, is a permanently staffed research laboratory that flies about 260 miles above Earth.

Reuters

Facebook first-quarter revenue grows 72 percent on rising mobile ads

***The loading screen of the Facebook application on a mobile phone is seen in this photo illustration taken in Lavigny on 16 May, 2012.*— REUTERS**

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 April — Facebook Inc's mobile advertising business accelerated in the first three months of the year, helping the Internet social networking company top Wall Street's financial targets.

Shares of Facebook were up nearly 3 percent at $63.05 in after-hours trading on Wednesday.

Facebook said that mobile ads represented 59 percent of its ad revenue in the first quarter, up from 30 percent in the year-ago period. Facebook's overall revenue grew 72 percent year-on-year to $2.5 billion in the first quarter, above the $2.36 billion expected by analysts polled by Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. "They've got the right products for what advertisers are looking for and that's manifesting itself in the results you're seeing," said JMP Securities analyst Ronald Josey.

Facebook's newsfeed ads, which inject paid marketing messages straight into a user's stream of news and content, have ignited Facebook's revenue growth and bolstered its stock price during the past year. The ads are ideally suited for the smaller-sized screens of smartphones and other mobile devices.

The world's No1 Internet social network said its total number of monthly active users reached 1.28 billion as of 31, March with 1.01 billion of those users accessing its service on mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets.

Facebook's users spent more time on its service, with roughly 62.7 percent of its monthly users accessing the site every day, compared to 59.9 percent in the year-ago period.

Facebook also announced that Finance Chief David Ebersman is resigning to pursue an unspecified opportunity in the healthcare industry, where he worked before joining Facebook in 2009. Ebersman, who will remain with the company through September, will be replaced by David Wehner, Facebook's vice president of corporate finance and business planning.—*Reuters*

Monkeys found able to do math

BEIJING, 24 April — Monkeys are found able to do math, according to a study in the latest Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on Wednesday.

Three rhesus macaques were able to add the two symbols and compare that number to a single symbol within four months, according to Margaret, a neurobiologist from Harvard Medical School.

Besides, Livingstone and her colleagues taught these three monkeys numbers zero through nine and letters with values zero through 25.

They also found monkeys had trouble understanding the symbols when the numbers were close in value, thus in needs further research to determine how monkeys estimate the value of numbers.—*Xinhua*

US regulators to propose new net neutrality rules in May

WASHINGTON, 24 April — US regulators are expected to vote on May 15 on a new set of so-called "net neutrality" rules aimed at making certain that broadband providers do not slow down or block consumers' access to legal Internet content.

The rules from the Federal Communications Commission, which released its framework in February, are expected to ensure network operators disclose how they manage Internet traffic and do not block any content on the Web.

The proposed rules are also expected to allow Internet providers to negotiate agreements with content providers on delivery of traffic to users as long as the deals they strike are "commercially reasonable," according to an FCC spokesman.

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler has also said he planned to review the practices adopted by Internet providers on a case-by-case basis.

The rules will propose "that broadband providers would be required to offer a baseline level of service to their subscribers, along with the ability to enter into individual negotiations with content providers," an FCC spokesman said.

Exactly what the baseline level of service and commercially reasonable standard are going to be or how the FCC would resolve disputes will be established after the FCC collects public comment on the proposed rules, according to the spokesman.

Wheeler on Wednesday said he plans to share his proposed rules with other commissioners on Thursday, who may seek changes before the agency votes on 15 May to formally propose the rules and seek public comment.

Consumer advocates criticized the FCC potentially allowing "commercially reasonable" negotiations with content providers, concerned that it could lead to deals that would offer a "fast lane" to content providers who pay up for better traffic delivery to the user.—*Reuters*

US FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler testifies before the House Communications and Technology panel on Capitol Hill in Washington on 12 Dec, 2013.
REUTERS

Weak chip sales to aero, defence clients hurt Xilinx

BEIJING, 24 April — Chipmaker Xilinx Inc (XLNX.O) forecast current-quarter revenue largely below analysts' average estimate, saying it expects sales from its aerospace, defence and wired telecom customers to be flat.

Shares of Xilinx, which also reported weaker-than-expected profit for the quarter ended 29 March, were down 5 percent in extended trade.

Xilinx said it expected first-quarter revenue to stay flat or rise up to 4 percent sequentially. This works out to revenue of $617.8 million-$642.5 million for the quarter ending June.

Analysts on average were expecting revenue of $638.4 million, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

The company, which gets nearly half its revenue from telecom customers, expects fourth-quarter gross margins of about 68 percent. Xilinx's chips are used by the US Air Force and the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), as well as by investors who make high-frequency trades.

High-frequency trading refers to trades based on complex computer-based algorithms that guide decisions on what stocks to buy or sell.

Xilinx's net income rose to $156 million, or 53 cents per share, in the fourth quarter, compared with $130.6 million, or 47 cents per diluted share, a year earlier. Analysts on average expected earnings of 55 cents per share on revenue of $612.1 million.

The company, which counts Sweden-based Ericsson (ERICb.ST) and Hong Kong-based ZTE Corp (0763.HK) among its major customers, said revenue rose 16 percent $617.8 million.

Reuters

Australia rules out link between debris and Malaysian plane

PERTH, 24 April — Authorities ruled out any link between debris picked up on an Australian beach and a missing Malaysian jetliner on Thursday as a tropical cyclone again threatened to hamper a 26-nation air, surface and underwater search of the Indian Ocean.

The debris, found on Wednesday on a beach at the southern tip of Western Australia state, was seen as the first lead since 4 April when authorities detected what they believed was a signal from the black box of Malaysia Airlines flight MH370, which disappeared on 8 March with 239 people on board.

But it took Australian authorities less than a day to analyze detailed photographs of the beached debris, no description of which was given, and dismiss the possibility that it may be linked to the plane.

"We're not seeing anything in this that would lead us to believe that it is from a Boeing aircraft," Australian Transport Safety Bureau commissioner Martin Dolan the Australian Broadcasting Corp.

Crew aboard the Australian Defence Vessel Ocean Shield move the US Navy's Bluefin-21 autonomous underwater vehicle into position for deployment in the southern Indian Ocean to look for the missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370, 14 April, 2014 in this handout picture released by the US Navy.—REUTERS

That puts the focus of the search, the most expensive in aviation history, back on US Navy undersea drone *Bluefin-21*, which will soon finish scouring a 10 square kms (6.2 square mile) stretch of seabed where the acoustic pings were located.

Authorities have said if *Bluefin-21* fails to find a trace of the plane in its initial target search area, some 2,000 kms (1,200 miles) northwest of the Western Australian city of Perth, it will be redeployed to new areas, still to be determined.—*Reuters*

1st capsule hotel at Narita Airport to open in July

CHIBA, 24 April — The first capsule hotel at Narita Airport will open on 20 July to serve passengers of early morning flights, the airport operator said on Thursday.

The "nine hours Narita Airport" lodging is located on the basement level of the airport's car parking complex with direct access to Terminal 2, according to Narita International Airport Corp.

The accommodation will have 71 capsules for men and 58 for women available around the clock every day.

The rate starts at 3,900 yen for an overnight stay. Some flights of low-cost carriers depart the airport at around 6 am, too early for passengers to take a train from Tokyo.

An increasing number of passengers stay overnight at the airport terminal to catch those flights.

Kyodo News

China court releases Japanese ship after 28.5 mln USD payment

SHANGHAI, 24 April — A maritime court in Shanghai on Thursday released a Japanese ship after its owner paid 2.9 billion Japanese yen (28.5 million US dollars) in delayed rent and losses to a Chinese firm.

The ship, named *BAOSTEEL EMOTION* and owned by Japanese shipping firm Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL), was seized on Saturday at a port in east China's Zhejiang Province.

The Shanghai Maritime Court Thursday said Mitsui OSK Lines has fulfilled the obligations in a legally effective verdict in a civil case and paid 2.92 billion Japanese yen in delayed rent and losses. The court handed down a ruling at 8:30 am ordering a lift on the ship's detention.—*Xinhua*

Green groups urge US to drop solar trade case against India

WASHINGTON, 24 April — Environmental groups urged the United States on Wednesday to drop a challenge to India's massive solar programme and said the World Trade Organization case would only hurt the growth of renewable energy resources.

The United States is taking action at the WTO over the domestic content requirements in India's programme, which aims to ease chronic energy shortages in Asia's third-largest economy.

US Trade Representative Michael Froman has said making Indian solar developers use locally made equipment discriminates against US producers, in breach of WTO rules, and could hinder the spread of solar power globally by making equipment more expensive.

But green groups including the Sierra Club, Greenpeace USA and Friends of the Earth US said supporting the US industry should not come at the expense of India's push to cut fossil fuels and build a viable domestic renewables industry, which would in turn help global efforts to tackle climate change.

"The US should not compromise the long-term growth of the solar market just so that it can achieve limited near-term gain," a coalition of 15 groups wrote in a letter to Froman.

Reuters

A man cleans panels installed at a solar plant at Meerwada village of Guna district in Madhya Pradesh on 18 June, 2012. —REUTERS

Four killed in Pakistan's Karachi suicide blast

People inspect the blast site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 24 April, 2014. At least four people were killed and 15 others injured when a bomb targeting a police officer exploded outside a shop in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi on Thursday morning, local media reported.—XINHUA

ISLAMABAD, 24 April —At least four people were killed and 15 others injured when a bomb targeting a police officer exploded outside a shop in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi on Thursday morning, local media reported.

Express TV said that Inspector Shafique Tanoli, who got suspended by police chief early last month due to some allegations against him, was sitting in a shop with his relatives when a suicide bomber blew up himself outside it. Tanoli, who conducted many successful operations against militants and extortion mafia, was also targeted last year in the same area which is located a few yards away from his residence. The killed people included Tanoli, his uncle, cousin and a passerby. Police found head and limbs of the bomber who seemed to be a 30 to 35 year old man. The injured people have been shifted to a nearby hospital.

The shop was completely destroyed in the blast, trapping several people inside, who were recovered and shifted to the hospital by rescue teams.

The blast happened at about 8:50 am (local time) near vegetable market area of Karachi, the capital city of the country's south Sindh Province.—*Xinhua*

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

Invitation to Open Tender

1. Opened Tenders are invited by Myanmar Radio and Television, Ministry of Information, for the following machinery to be purchased in foreign currency (USD);

(a)	50 KW SW Radio Transmitter	1 Set
(b)	DVB-TZ Set-top Box	100,000 Nos.
(c)	Pocket Radio (2 Band, FM & MW)	50,000 Nos.
(d)	Pocket Radio (9 Band, FM, MW & SW)	50,000 Nos.

2. Opened Tender Forms are available from (9-4-2014) till (8-5-2014) daily between (9:30 AM to 4:30 PM) at Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkone).

3. Opened Tenders are to be submitted in the presence of the tender members on the (9-5-2014) between (9:30 AM to 4:30 PM) at Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkone). Those tenders exceeding the closing date will not be taken into consideration.

4. Rules regarding the opened tender forms; list of machinery and details are available at the following address.

Machinery Purchasing Committee
Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw
Ministry of Information
Phone: 067-79483,067-79135,067-79411

TRADEMARK CAUTION

HOCHIKI CORPORATION, a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 2-10-43, KAMIOSAKI, SHINAGAWA-KU, TOKYO, JAPAN is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

HOCHIKI

(4/9776/2014) (31.1.2014)

(4/9777/2014) (31.1.2014)

In respect of "Automatic fire extinguisher systems; sprinkler systems for fire protection; fire extinguishers; fire hose nozzles; fire alarms; gas alarms; anti-theft warning apparatus; protective helmets; fireproof garments; dust masks; life saving apparatus and equipment; gloves for protection against accidents; telecommunication machines and apparatus; electronic machines, apparatus and their parts; electronic publications; power distribution or control machines and apparatus; measuring or testing machines and instruments; electric or magnetic meters and testers; electric locking mechanism; management systems of persons entering or leaving room recorded with computer programs for management of persons entering or leaving room by card reader system, noncontact card reader system or numeric keypad system; monitoring equipment for security purpose; emergency supervisory equipment for elevator; electric door openers" in **Class 9**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **HOCHIKI CORPORATION**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
#1505-1508-1509, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 25 April 2014 ulm@kcyangon.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO (1430)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CTP FORTUNE VOY NO (1430) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

NOTICE TO SLEEPING MEMBERS OF CITY GOLF RESORT FOR PAYMENT OF MONTHLY FEES

1. Permission for Sleeping Membership has no longer been granted to members of the City Golf Resort, Yangon City Development Committee since (15-11-2011), and accordingly all Sleeping Membership has become null and void. Therefore it has been given notice in the English/ Myanmar newspapers for the first time that the prescribed outstanding Monthly Fees be paid by (28-2-2014) at the latest.

2. However we have found out that some of the Sleeping Members still fail to pay their Monthly Fees until (22-4-2014), and so they are intimated to come and clear their outstanding dues by (30-6-2014) at the latest. If failed to do so, it is once again notified that their membership shall be totally terminated in accordance with the Rules of the City Golf Resort.

General Manager
City Golf Resort

TRADEMARK CAUTION

ERA Franchise Systems LLC, (formerly known as **ERA Franchise Systems, Inc.**), a company incorporated in Delaware, U.S.A. and having its registered office at 1 Campus Drive, Parsippany New Jersey 07054, U.S.A. is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

ERA

Myanmar Reg. No. 4/22/2000 (7 January 2000)

ERA

Myanmar Reg. No. 4/23/2000 (10 January 2000)

In respect of "Prints and publications; all included in **International Class 16**" and "Real estate brokerage services, real estate relocation services, mortgage brokerage services, related financial services; all included in **International Class 36**"

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **ERA Franchise Systems LLC**
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
#1505-1508-1509, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 25 April 2014
ulm@kcyangon.com

TRADEMARK CAUTION

KYORIN Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan and having its registered office at 6, Kanda Surugadai 4-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

Kyorin

Reg. No. 4/4674/2010 (14 July 2010)

URITOS

Reg. No. 4/9575/2009 (30 November 2009)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations; sanitary preparations for medical purposes; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides, herbicides" in **International Class 5**.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, *Advocate*
For **KYORIN Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.**,
C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.**,
#1505-1508-1509, 15th Floor,
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
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ulm@kcyangon.com
Dated 25 April 2014

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO (042)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO (042) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 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 HANJIN SHIPPING LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (096)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (096) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 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 ORINET OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Job Vacancy (For Local Services Only)
Wanted-Sales Engineer
Graduate Diploma in Engineering (Mechanical, Chemical or Electrical) Must be english speaking 2 or 3 years experience in marketing. Contact Tropical Biotechnology Ltd.
Ph: 556954, 0949264948
Email-ashokmurarka@gmail.com

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Allcor Inc., a company organized under the laws of the State of Michigan, United States of America and having its principal office at 7575 Fulton Street East, Ada, Michigan 49355, U.S.A is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trade mark:-

ALLANO

Reg No. 4/12566/2013
Used in respect of -Hand & body lotion; moisturizer stick. (Int'l Class 3)
Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.
Ong Minn U, Advocate
May Phyo Kin, H.G.P
For Allcor Inc.
Myanmar Global Law Firm
Ph: 09732220023
Dated: 25 April 2014

Earthquake shakes British Columbia; no injuries reported

SEATTLE, 24 April—An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.6 rattled the coast of British Columbia's Vancouver Island on Wednesday evening and was felt by hundreds of people in dozens of cities in Canada and the United States, the US Geological Survey said.

There were no reports of injuries or damage and no tsunami warning was in effect, the National Tsunami Warning Centre said.

The quake, at a depth of 7.1 miles, struck at 8:10 pm local time (0310 GMT). It was 58.4 miles south of Port Hardy, Canada, which is about 300 miles northwest of Seattle.—*Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WESTERN TOSCA VOY NO (1432E)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WESTERN TOSCA VOY NO (1432E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 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 HENGXIN SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PAULA VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAULA VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (2) 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 SAL HEAXY LIFT GMBH, GERMANY

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV QING FENG LING VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING FENG LING VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 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 BRIGHT SAIL SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV JAI KRISHNA VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JAI KRISHNA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING CO LTD.

Phone No: 2301191/2301178/2301177

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NASICO VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NASICO VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV THORCO CHALLENGER VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV THORCO CHALLENGER VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.4.2014 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 TASNEEM INT'L

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS

MAINTENANCE AND ENSURE CONNECTIVITY OF OPTICAL FIBER CABLE (OFC) LAID BETWEEN YANGON AND MANDALAY

INVITATION TO TENDER

In line with the National Development Plan, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been identifying the economic potentials to contribute to the country's economic development. As our endeavors for national development, Myanma Railways (MR) is committed to establish potential Rail Concerned Businesses.

Myanma Railways has built 630 Km long Backbone Optical Fiber Cable by using fiber ITU G-652 from Yangon to Mandalay. There are 86 railway stations and average distance for railway station is about 8 Km.

Myanma Railways now invites Tenders from reputable local, international or joint venture tenderers to undertake works for Maintenance and Ensure Connectivity of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) laid between Yangon and Mandalay.

Tender Document and Background information of the above said works could be obtained from the address stated below. Enquiries can be made by contacting +95 9 8300073, +95 67 77070.

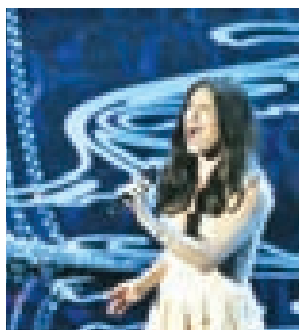
The Tender in original and duplicate copies shall be submitted to the Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theindyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, Phone: +95 1 291685 or 291684 not later than 3.00pm, on Tuesday 27 May 2014. The Tenderer must also submit an electronic copy of the Tender in a CD ROM. No submission by email shall be entertained.

Managing Director
Myanma Railways
Ministry of Rail Transportation

'Frozen' soundtrack notches biggest sales week, tops Billboard

LOS ANGELES, 24 April — The soundtrack for Disney's hit film "Frozen" notched its 11th nonconsecutive week at the top spot of the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday, earning its best sales week and becoming the animated-film soundtrack with the longest run at the top of the charts.

"Frozen," which features the Oscar-winning song "Let It Go," sold 259,000 copies last week, boosted by Easter holiday shopping, bringing its total US sales to 2.3 million since its release in November 2013.



Idina Menzel performs nominated original song "Let it Go'' by Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez, for the film "Frozen'' at the 86th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 2 March , 2014. **REUTERS**

"Frozen" also ousted Disney's 1994 "The Lion King" as the animated-film soundtrack with the longest run; "Lion" had held the top spot on the Billboard 200 chart for 10 weeks.

Reuters

***Justin Timberlake poses with his multiple Moonman awards during the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards in New York on 25 Aug, 2013.*— REUTERS**

MTV Video Music Awards to return to Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 24 April — The annual MTV Video Music Awards, one of the music industry's top televised showcases, will return to Los Angeles this summer from New York City, the US cable channel said on Wednesday.

The show, popular among MTV's young viewers prized by advertisers, will take place on 24 August, the day before TV's Emmy Awards, at the Forum in Inglewood, California, about eight miles southwest of downtown Los Angeles.

The Video Music Awards, which hand out "Moonman" statuettes of an astronaut planting an MTV flag, can be crucial exposure for singers and bands and is best known for its unscripted and often provocative moments.

At last year's show in Brooklyn, singer Miley Cyrus' sexually explicit "twerk" dance overshadowed the awards ceremony and dominated news headlines the following week.

And just as last year's show helped unveil the new Barclays Centre in Brooklyn, this year's show will also help relaunch Madison Square Garden Co's recently renovated Forum, an arena which had been bypassed by major events since the Staples Center opened in downtown Los Angeles in 1998.

The Video Music Awards began in 1984 and helped propel the young cable channel, now owned by Viacom Inc, as a player in the entertainment industry.

A host for this year's show has not yet been announced, and MTV may go without one, similar to last year.

Reuters

GENERAL

‘Grandfather’ Phelps plays down Rio prospects

Michael Phelps swims laps his first official practice session for the Arena Grand Prix swim meet at Skyline Aquatic Centre.—Reuters

Phoenix, 24 April — Michael Phelps is playing down expectations about his return to competitive swimming but the most decorated Olympian of all time, with a mind-boggling 18 gold medals, is finding it tough to sell himself as an underdog.

On Wednesday, the 28-year-old fronted a packed media conference on the eve of his eagerly-awaited comeback at a US swimming Grand Prix meet in Mesa, Arizona.He arrived unshaven, a little plumper than normal and with no swimsuit sponsor, and with the news that he had already pulled out of Thursday’s 100 metres freestyle heats to concentrate on the 100m butterfly and Friday’s 50m freestyle.

“I haven’t signed any contracts, no one’s making me do this. I’m doing this because I want to,” he explained.”

“I’m loving just being back in the water and in a group. I’m even more relaxed than I ever was before. I’m smiling a lot, I’m happier, I’m joking a lot.“I really am the grandfather of your group now. I’m the old man.”

“But for a man who had spent his life demolishing records and setting the gold standard for Olympic success, it is a routine few are buying. Phelps did not reach Olympic immortality through a devil-may-care approach to his sport.

Under the surface, he is the fiercest competitor swimming has ever seen. In a sport where medals are decided by tiny fractions, he has an insatiable quest to always get his hand on the wall first. Phelps already knew that after winning eight gold medals in Beijing the only forward for him was down, so he began the process in London, which he vowed would be his swansong.

He cut back to seven events, winning four golds, and plans to trim that back even further in the future, though neither he nor his long-time coach Bob Bowman would elaborate on which events he would stick with. “I always have goals and things that I want to achieve and I have things that I want to achieve now,” he said. “Bob and I can do anything that we put our minds to. “That’s what we’ve done in the past so I’m looking forward to wherever this road takes me and I guess the journey will start tomorrow.”

While Phelps evaded questions about his chances of winning more gold in Rio, he did break away from his mantra that he is just doing it all for fun. Rio is still more than two years ago but the timing of his return to competition this week is the first real clue that he has his heart set on adding to his golden stockpile in Brazil.

Even below his best, Phelps would be a strong contender to add to his tally just on the strength of the US relay teams. He has swum in each of the three relay events at the past three Olympics, collecting seven golds from the team races.

The key lead-up event before Rio is next year’s world championships in Russia, where Phelps would be able to measure his progress against his main rivals for Rio and decide his Olympic programme. But the selection process to make the US team for the world championships is more complicated than usual and will start at this year’s national titles in August, which will double as the trials for the Pan Pacific championships in Australia.

The performances of swimmers at that meet will then largely determine who gets picked for the world championships.And despite everything he has achieved, Phelps has yet to qualify for the US nationals because he has not swum in the official qualifying period, which commenced after he retired.“I obviously knew that if I really wanted to compete at a really high level then I have to do it this summer,” he said.

Reuters

People visit a business centre transformed from the Expo Axis, the landmark structure of 2010 Shanghai Expo, in Shanghai, east China, on 23 April, 2014. The one-kilometre-long Expo Axis, standing in the center route in the Expo site as the main entrance of the site, provides a commerce area of over 100,000 square metres.—Xinhua

South Korean crew member says “we were ordered” to leave sinking ferry

Seoul, 24 April — A member of crew of a South Korean ferry that sank last week said on Thursday she and her colleagues were “under command” to abandon ship.

The Sewol, weighing almost 7,000 tons, sank on a routine trip from the port of Incheon, near Seoul, to the southern holiday island of Jeju. Investigations are focused on human error and mechanical failure.

The unidentified crew member, speaking briefly to reporters on the way from court back into detention, was speaking behind a surgical mask and wearing a baseball cap with a jacket hood.

More than 300 people, most of them students and teachers from the same school, are dead or missing presumed dead in the 16 April disaster. As the ferry began sinking, the crew told the children to stay in their cabins.—*Reuters*

Family members of a missing passenger onboard the capsized Sewol ferry walk past yellow ribbons wishing for the return of the missing passengers board on the ship at a port where many family members wait for news from the search and rescue team in Jindo on 24 April, 2014.—Reuters

Nigerian troops arrest terrorists in northern state operation

Lagos, 24 April — The Nigerian military said on Wednesday that a group of terrorists, operating under the guise of herdsmen at a camp in northern Taraba state, had been arrested.

One of the armed men admitted being a combatant for the terrorist group in Borno and was recently brought to the town of Wukari in furtherance of their mission, Major General Chris Olukolade, spokesperson of the Defence Headquarters (DHQ), said in a statement obtained by *Xinhua*.

It said other members of the group were killed during an encounter with the military at a check point at Gindin Dorowa, a suburb of Wukari. Olukolade said assorted arms and ammunition were seized, adding other members of the group were sighted in air surveillance and later trailed to their camp where they engaged the troops in a battle.

The insurgents were clad in the usual pattern of dress of their counterparts operating in Borno and Yobe states.

The spokesman said the curfew imposed on Wukari and its environs would be relaxed but the troops would continue their patrols in the area with a house-to-house search.

According to him, arrests were made around the Lake Chad islands, including a boat operator who ferried terrorists across the lake. Some of the suspects confessed being suppliers of hard drugs to the Boko Haram group in the area.

Nigeria has been rocked by a series of attacks, including a bombing at a crowded bus station in the capital of Abuja last week that left at least 75 people dead.

Abubakar Shekau, leader of Boko Haram which has been responsible for major killings in Nigeria since 2009, said in a video message that the network was behind the bomb attack.

“We are the ones who carried out the attack in Abuja,” he said.

Proved to be the biggest security challenge in the West African country, Boko Haram seeks to enshrine the Islamic Sharia law into the constitution and declares war against Western education.

Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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Liverpool seek to land knockout blow on Chelsea

LONDON, 24 April — Liverpool can eliminate one of their two rivals from the Premier League title race by beating Chelsea on Sunday and the way the dice is rolling for them they might even have one hand on the trophy by the end of the weekend.

If Brendan Rodgers's side overcome second-placed Chelsea at Anfield and notch a 12th consecutive league win it would knock Jose Mourinho's side out of the reckoning and should Manchester City then fail to beat Crystal Palace a little later a first title for 24 years would be almost assured.

'If' is a notoriously fickle word in the often unpredictable Premier League, but Liverpool have built up a seemingly inexhaustible head of steam and with Chelsea having one eye on next week's Champions League semi-final against Atletico Madrid the omens look good for the Anfield club. What is more, City are up against a Palace side on a five-game winning spin that has lifted the threat of relegation — a run that includes wins over Chelsea and Everton.

With Chelsea having drawn 0-0 in Madrid on Tuesday but suffering injuries to keeper Petr Cech and skipper John Terry, Mourinho has made no secret of the fact that the Champions League has now taken precedence over the domestic title scrap. While the Portuguese, known for his mind games, has not actually conceded the title, he has said he wants to send out a weakened side at Anfield on Sunday despite knowing victory there would put them within touching distance of Liverpool with two games remaining. "I know what I would do, but I'm not the club. I have to speak with the club," Mourinho said after the Atletico draw. "I would play with the players that are not going to play Wednesday."

*Chelsea's Frank Lampard acknowledges crowd at end of his team's Champion's League semi-final first leg match against Atletico Madrid at Vicente Calderon stadium in Madrid, on 22 April , 2014. —*REUTERS

Having been deprived of striker Samuel Eto'o and Eden Hazard for the first leg in Madrid, Mourinho would be loathed to risk them against Liverpool and with Cech and Terry sidelined his starting line-up will likely have an unfamiliar look on Sunday.

Whatever distractions Chelsea have, however, Liverpool will be acutely aware that they have a poor record against the west London club with Mourinho in charge.The Portuguese has won six and lost just once in eight league meetings with Liverpool.

Reuters

*Champion Kiko Martinez of Spain (L) celebrates after beating Hozumi Hasegawa of Japan by TKO in the seventh round of their IBF Superbantam Championship boxing match at Osaka-jo Hall in Osaka on 23 April , 2014.—*KYODO NEWS

Hasegawa beaten by champ Martinez in IBF super bantam fight

OSAKA, 24 April — Challenger Hozumi Hasegawa missed out on becoming only the second Japanese boxer after Koki Kameda to win world titles in three different divisions on Wednesday, when he was beaten by IBF super bantamweight champion Kiko Martinez of Spain.

The 33-year-old Hasegawa lost by technical knockout after his bout was stopped 80 seconds into the seventh round, when he was knocked to the canvas for the second time at Osaka-Jo Hall.

Martinez had the 13th-ranked Hasegawa on the ropes and sent him down with a flurry of punches in the second round before the Spaniard finished him off in the seventh. *—Kyodo News*

Ancelotti happy as Real thrive without much from Ronaldo, Bale

MADRID, 24 April — Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti praised his team for beating holders Bayern Munich in Wednesday's Champions League semi-final, first leg without their two biggest names taking a leading role.

Cristiano Ronaldo, top scorer in this season's competition, struggled after returning from injury and record signing Gareth Bale only played the final 20 minutes following a bout of flu.

Karim Benzema scored the winner in the 19th minute at the Bernabeu, setting Real up nicely ahead of Tuesday's second leg in Munich as they seek a first appearance in the final since they won their ninth European crown in 2002.

"Without Bale and with Cristiano at 50 percent it is not easy to play so well," Ancelotti told a news conference.

The Italian, in his first season in charge, said it had been agreed Ronaldo would only play part of the match after missing the last four games with knee and thigh muscle problems and he was replaced by Bale in the 73rd minute.

"We did not want to run any risks and tire out the muscle," Ancelotti said.

"Cristiano played well. He wasn't at 100 percent but he sacrificed himself a lot and on Tuesday he will be better, just like Bale.

"We are happy to have him (Ronaldo) back. He worked very hard to help the team."

Ancelotti said Real had a "small advantage" ahead of the trip to Munich as they chase an elusive 10th European title.

"The result was a good one. We have to know that we will suffer (in Munich) but we will give our all just like today," he said.

The winners will play Atletico or Chelsea, who drew 0-0 at the Calderon in Madrid on Tuesday, in the final in Lisbon on 24 May.*—Reuters*

*Real Madrid's Sergio Ramos challenges Bayern Munich's Thomas Muller during their Champions League semi-final first leg soccer match at Santiago-Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 23 April, 2014.—*REUTERS

Struggling Nuremberg sack coach Gertjan Verbeek

BERLIN, 24 April— Relegation threatened Nuremberg parted company with coach Gertjan Verbeek with three rounds to spare in the Bundesliga campaign, the "Club" announced on Wednesday.

Verbeek and his assistant coach Raymond Libregts have been released from all their duties with immediate effect, while youth coach Roger Prinzen and Marek Mintal have been announced as the caretakers for the remaining three matches of the season.

"Roger knows the team very well and he has already proven that he quickly can help the team in a difficult situation," Nuremberg' s sporting director Martin Bader said in an official statement.

The Dutchman Gertan Verbeek joined the club in October 2013 but reaped only one victory out of the last nine games. Martin Bader is convinced "that this decision will release new energy."

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