**True patriotism**

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

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**President U Thein Sein felicitates His Majesty King of Norway**

NAO PYI TAW, 17 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty King Harald V of Norway, on the occasion of the Constitution Day of Norway, which falls on 17 May 2012. —MNA

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**President U Thein Sein felicitates Norwegian Prime Minister**

NAO PYI TAW, 17 May—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to H.E Mr Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway, on the occasion of the Constitution Day of Norway, which falls on 17 May 2012. —MNA

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**President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Turkish Ambassador**

NAO PYI TAW, 16 May—Mr Murat Yavuz Ates, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here, at 10.30 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Aye Thaw of the Protocol Department. —MNA

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**President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Thai Ambassador**

NAO PYI TAW, 16 May—Mr Pisanu Suvanajata, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Aye Thaw of the Protocol Department. —MNA

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**President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and Ambassador Mr Pisanu Suvanajata of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar pose for documentary photo.** —MNA
Press Council to come into existence soon serving as genuine Fourth Estate

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan meets officials of preparation committees for formation of Myanmar Writers Association, Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association, Myanmar Journalists Association and Myanmar Publishers and Booksellers Association.—MNA

YANGON, 16 May—Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan met the personnel of the preparation committee for formation of Myanmar Writers Association, Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association, the preparation committee for formation of Myanmar Journalists Association, and the preparation committee for formation of Myanmar Publishers and Booksellers Association on 13 May and the personnel of Myanmar Journalists Union and Myanmar Journalists Network at the meeting hall of Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road here on 14 May.

Speaking on the occasions, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said he believed that efforts for the establishment of writers and journalism organizations lie in interests of the people engaged in literature and journalism fields and thrust for the emergence of competent and genuine Fourth Estate, for which the Information Ministry will cooperate fully with all the associations. The ministry itself is focusing on training media into the competent and genuine Fourth Estate under changing era and system. Since the ratification of the 2008 Constitution, the ministry has taken a series of reforms in anticipation of the press operating under the constitution.

Meanwhile, it is drafting print media law, gradually but systematically releasing the grip over press in order that journalists can practice in harmony with that law after its ratification. In a week or later, all the novels will be allowed to go publishing under check-after-publish system. Meanwhile, it’s making amendments and coordination so that law may come into existence. As the law will include prescriptions about the formation of press council, the ministry will establish original Press Council first as the preparation to grease the wheels when the law has come into existence. After the formation the press council, all genres of publications will be allowed to go press under check-after-publish system and the press council will be responsible for all of such processes.

Next, participating personnel of literature and journalism associations elaborated on objectives, future plans and progress of the associations concerned, followed by discussions on nomination of press council members, obligations and authority of the council, and enforcement of journalism ethics.

On behalf of the preparation committee for formation of Myanmar Writers Association U Tin Htun (Ledwintha Saw Chit) discussed that the basic principle for formation of MWA was approved at the emergency meeting of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association on 24 March, 2012 and the preparation committee was taking actions under the approved basic principles. It was planned to reform MWA on 16 June.

U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lammadaw) discussed that the preparation committee for formation of MWA during the MWJA emergency meeting had decided to reconstitute township writers and journalists association by 15 May and so far 192 township MWJAs had been established. CEOs of the MWA would be chosen through direct voting system at the conference due to be held on 16 June. He said he believed that Myanmar Writers Association would promote the interests of Myanmar literature and the nation under the constitution.

On behalf of the preparation committee for formation of Myanmar Journalists Association, committee secretary U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Sethmu Tekkahto) discussed that measures were being taken to found an independent Myanmar Journalists Association following the decision of the MWJA emergency meeting. The preparation committee formed with 41 members was focusing to form the association as an appropriate and acceptable association, holding regular meetings. The set of rules for the MJA was being drafted as the constitution more modern and contributed by all the journalists. It is hoped to form an independent journalists association in the beginning of July. He said he believed that the MJA would emerge as a politically neutral association of the genuine Fourth Estate serving the interests of the State and its people as aspirated.

U Khin Maung Lay (Phoe Thawkkayar) discussed that the MJA would devote more to the interests of the State and people than the press with uprightness. Personnel of the press council needed to strict to righteousness without bias. The definition of the journalists, it was also required to inculcate them with journalism code of ethics nurturing to become a responsible association. The MJA was formed by journalists who share the same belief that the journalism was the responsibility of each journalist all that is needed for dignity of the press and serving interests the nation and its people. It was aimed both for freedom of expression and protection of the majority, which is believed to expand the publishing network. The works of printers and publishers were different from each other in nature despite the related procedures. So, it was decided to form as a separate association and the preparation committee was writing the rules for formation of the association.

Next, committee secretary U Myint Tun discussed that concerning the conglomeration with Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association, they had to first listen to the voices of publishers and book sellers. It was planned to form Publishers and Book Sellers Association as separate one due to the wishes of the majority, which is believed to expand the publishing network. The works of printers and publishers were different from each other in nature despite the related procedures. So, it was decided to form as a separate association and the preparation committee was writing the rules for formation of the association.

Daw Aye Aye Win (AP News Agency) on behalf of the Myanmar Journalists Union discussed that the intention of the MJI and that of the Union Minister were the same. The MJI aimed to maintain the expression freedom of the journalists, and to protect the rights of journalists following the flourishing of press freedom. While it needed to protect the journalists, it was also required to inculcate them with journalism code of ethics nurturing to become a responsible association. The MJI was formed by journalists who share the same belief that the journalism was the responsibility of each journalist all that is needed for dignity of the press and serving interests the nation and its people. It was aimed both for freedom of expression and protection of the majority, which is believed to expand the publishing network. The works of printers and publishers were different from each other in nature despite the related procedures. So, it was decided to form as a separate association and the preparation committee was writing the rules for formation of the association.

U Zaw Htun, on behalf of the Myanmar Journalists Network, discussed that the majority of the local journalists, the Fourth Estate, was the youth. So, there was weakness in professionalism, expertise, intelligence, and ethics and thus the network was initiated to fill such gaps. The network was aimed to serve the interests of the whole nation through media development. The first plenary meeting of the network was held at Yuna Hotel on 2 May when basic principles for network formation were agreed. The decision-making of the network would be made by all the members apart from the committee. The network still needed to register to stand as a legal organization.

In his concluding remarks, the Union Minister suggested overall consideration of SWOT analysis of the past and objective conditions of the present as the most suitable solution, pledging for full cooperation by his ministry.—MNA

Newly recorded maximum temperature in Chauk

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May—The maximum temperature (46.9°C (115.3 °F)) of Chauk on (15-5-2012) was newly recorded maximum temperature during (28) years for the month of May. The old recorded maximum was (46.3°C (115.3 °F) on 11 May, 1973). This temperature was measured at Dawei Enhanced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA
**Florida mother kills her four children, then herself**

MIAMI, 16 May—A mother shot and killed her four children before turning a gun on herself in a small town in Florida on Tuesday, authorities said. The shooting happened at a house in Port St John, in Brevard County, about 15 miles from NASA’s Kennedy Space Centre.

A spokesperson for the Brevard County Sheriff’s office identified the victims as four children aged 12, 13, 15 and 17. They were shot by their 33-year-old mother, Tonya Thomas, who then turned the gun on herself, Tod Goodyear said.

All were shot with what appeared to be a handgun, he said. Goodyear said a neighbour called police before dawn on Tuesday to report gunfire. When police arrived they found a fatally injured 17-year-old girl in the front yard of the house, which is in a quiet neighbourhood of single family residences. More shots were heard inside the house as a SWAT team arrived and entered through a back entrance, he said.

A neighbour told police that three of the children had banged on his door shortly before 5 am, Goodyear said. “One of them may have been shot and was bleeding, so the neighbour got a towel for the child,” he said.

Tonya Thomas then appeared at the neighbour’s door and ordered the children to return home, he said, adding: “They did. They turned around and walked back to the house.”

It was the worst multiple homicide Goodyear could recall in Brevard County since a shooting in 1987 claimed six lives, including two of those of two police officers. Goodyear said police had been called to the house on several occasions in the past and the 15-year-old child, a boy, was arrested last month for domestic violence against his mother.

Thomas’s husband, the father of all of the children, moved out of the house a few months ago, he added. “It’s hard to take in. This is a pretty peaceful place, normally,” he said.

Tuesday’s incident was the second deadly shooting in Port St John in the past week. Brevard County was the scene of six homicides in 2011, Goodyear said.

**Explosion kills three, injures eight in Bogota**

BOGOTA, 16 May—An explosion in Bogota on Tuesday killed three people and injured eight others, including former Interior Minister Fernando Londono, in the capital city’s financial district, Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said.

Londono, the alleged target of the attack, sustained a chest injury, but his condition is stable, Santos said. Speaking from the presidential headquarters of Casa de Narino, Santos announced that “an attempt was made on the life of Fernando Londono,” who currently heads a radio programme—Xinhua.

Holland's first day in power was marked by a downpour as he rode by open-top car through Paris to mark his investiture, and lightning that hit his presidential jet, forcing him to make a U-turn en route to Germany and switch to a smaller Falcon jet.

After a handover with predecessor Nicolas Sarkozy, Hollande began his five-year term with a bang, naming a new German-savvy prime minister in addition to swearing-in ceremonies before rushing off to meet German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

**Hollande gets stormy welcome to power**

PARIS, 16 May—Francois Hollande was greeted by a thunderstorm in Paris and storm clouds gathering over the euro zone as France’s first Socialist president in 17 years was sworn in on Tuesday before flying to Berlin to plead his case for less austerity in Europe.

WASHINGTON, 16 May—Pakistan and the United States appeared on the verge of clinching an agreement to reopen ground supply lines into Afghanistan, a US official said, as Islamabad confirmed its president will attend a summit of NATO leaders this weekend in Chicago.

Reopening the supply route would be a major breakthrough in ties between Washington and Islamabad. Strained relations have fuelled speculation Pakistan might be excluded from NATO talks on Afghanistan’s future.

Pakistan closed down the supply lines for the Afghan war effort following the NATO air strike in November that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers. President Asif Ali Zardari will attend the 20 to 21 May summit.

“This meeting will underline the strong commitment of the international community to the people of Afghanistan and to its future,” NATO spokesman Omana Langeau said in a statement on Tuesday.

**Fuel tankers and trucks move on their way to supply NATO forces after the reopening of a road at the southwest Pakistan-Afghanistan border crossing in Chaman on 14 January, 2009.—REUTERS**

A wounded lady leaves the zone where a bomb exploded in a crowded street in Bogota, capital of Colombia, on 15 May, 2012. Two people were killed in a bomb explosion in a crowded street in Bogota, capital of Colombia, on Tuesday, President Juan Manuel Santos said.—Xinhua

Many, 16 May—Gunmen detonated grenades outside a night club in the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa on Tuesday, killing one person and injuring several others in the latest attack since Kenya sent troops into Somalia to crush Islamist militants.

Nairobi has said it will not allow Shabaab militants, who merged with al-Qaeda earlier this year, to remain in the east African country. A pool of blood marked the entrance to the club, and spent cartridges and grenade shells were strewn near its gate. Some cars nearby were riddled with shrapnel marks.

Police said the attackers tried to force their way into the club, but were barred at the gate by guards. They then shot at random and hurled the explosive devices.

Two of the guards were among those injured, and police said one of them, a woman, died of her wounds in hospital. The Kenya Red Cross said on its Twitter feed that the woman had died of a gunshot wound to the chest. Police could not immediately confirm the cause of death.

“There is one dead and five others injured. We believe the dead person, a lady, was one of the guards at the gate,” Ambrose Muniyasia, the region’s top criminal investigation officer who was at the scene told Reuters. “From the evidence so far, we believe there were three grenade explosions.”

**US, Pakistan on verge of reopening supply lines**

**Canada mother kills her four children, then herself**

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Tuesday’s incident was the second deadly shooting in Port St John in the past week. Brevard County was the scene of six homicides in 2011, Goodyear said.

**Pyroclastic cloud from Eyjafjallajokull volcano erupts into atmosphere on May 15, 2010.—REUTERS**

**A man, injured in a suspected grenade attack, receives treatment at the Coast General Hospital in the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa on 15 May, 2012.—REUTERS**

**One killed in grenade blast in Kenyan coastal city**

Nairobi, 16 May—Pakistani soldiers. That strike fuelled speculation Pakistan might be excluded from NATO talks on Afghanistan’s future.

The talks were reported to be less about concrete questions regarding Iran’s nuclear facilities, and more about the terms on which the inspectors should be able to work. Western countries have long suspected Iran of seeking nuclear weapons capabilities, an allegation strongly denied by Iranian officials who insist the country’s nuclear programme is purely for energy needs and medical research.—Xinhua

**Iran, IAEA to resume talks next week after two-day negotiations**

VIENNA, 16 May—the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said on Tuesday that its representatives will meet again with Iranian officials over nuclear issues after ending their two-day talks. The negotiations were held behind closed doors in Iran’s permanent representative office in Vienna and the absence of reporters.

During these two days, the IAEA and Iran discussed a number of options to take the agency’s verification process forward in a structured way, IAEA Deputy Director General Herman Nackaerts told reporters after the meetings. “The primary focus of our discussions was how to clarify issues related to possible military dimensions of Iran’s nuclear programme. We had a good exchange of views and we will meet again on Monday,” Nackaerts said in a statement. On Monday, the IAEA called on Iran to allow inspectors access to sites, people and documents the agency seeks to address concerns that the country might have been working on nuclear weapons. The talks were reported to be less about concrete questions regarding Iran’s nuclear facilities, and more about the terms on which the inspectors should be able to work. Western countries have long suspected Iran of seeking nuclear weapons capabilities, an allegation strongly denied by Iranian officials who insist the country’s nuclear programme is purely for energy needs and medical research.—Xinhua

**France’s new President Francois Hollande (R) shakes hands with supporters on the Champs Elysees Avenue after the handover ceremony in Paris on 15 May, 2012.—REUTERS**

**France’s new President Francois Hollande (R) shakes hands with supporters on the Champs Elysees Avenue after the handover ceremony in Paris on 15 May, 2012.—REUTERS**
Climate change will challenge mammals

The percentage of mammal species unable to keep pace with climate change in the Americas ranges from zero and low (blue) to a high of nearly 40 percent (light orange).

Seattle, 16 May—Nearly 10 percent of the Western Hemisphere’s mammals won’t be able to move quickly enough to outpace climate change and reach safe havens, researchers say.

In certain regions that figure could go as high as 40 percent, scientists at the University of Washington reported on Monday.

Researchers have identified areas suitable for mammals likely to be displaced as climate change makes their current habitats inhospitable, then unlivable, but a new study considers whether mammals will actually be able to move to those areas before they are overrun by climate change.

“We underestimate the vulnerability of mammals to climate change when we look at projections of areas with suitable climate but we don’t also include the ability of mammals to move, or disperse, to the new areas,” Carrie Schloss, a research analyst in environmental and forest sciences, said.

The analysis looked at 493 mammals in the Western Hemisphere ranging from a mouse that weighs 1,800 pounds to a shrew that weighs less than a dime.

The researchers took into account human-made obstacles such as cities and crop lands that animals would encounter in moving in response to climate change.

“I think it’s important to point out that in the past when climates have changed — between glacial and interglacial periods when species ranges contracted and expanded — the landscape wasn’t covered with agricultural fields, four-lane highways and parking lots, so species could move much more freely across the landscape,” co-author Josh Lawler said.

‘Dip Chip’ can warn of toxins in water

Tel Aviv, 16 May—Israeli scientists say they’ve developed a biosensor they’ve dubbed a “Dip Chip” that can quickly test water quality in the field for the presence of toxins.

The Dip Chip contains microbes designed to exhibit a biological reaction to toxic chemicals, emitting the biological responses of microbes whose biological response to toxic chemicals.

The Dip Chip water tester.—INTERNET

UNSG’s Message on World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

17 May 2012

“Women and Girls in ICT”

ICTs play a catalytic role in creating opportunities for people in every walk of life, especially for those among us who are vulnerable and disadvantaged, while providing the framework for long-term sustainable development.

This year, on World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, we are determined to harness the full potential of ICTs for the benefit of women and girls by eliminating gender disparities and empowering them to meet their goals and aspirations. The theme of this year’s WTIDS, “Women and Girls in ICT”, aims to ensure that this significant, female half of the world’s population will march forward as equals.

Women are the backbone of our societies. They are the pillars of strength in every family and community. Yet gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched. Women and girls are denied access to basic health care and education and to equal opportunities at work. They face segregation in economic, political and social decision-making and often suffer violence and discrimination.

This situation is unacceptable and we must address it with all the means available to us.

Gender equality is a basic human right enshrined in the UN Charter, and it is one of the core objectives of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). ICTs are tools that can help accelerate progress towards achieving this target, and it is for this reason that ITU Council proposed that we focus our efforts this year on women and girls, using the power of ICTs to provide new digital opportunities to end discrimination and empower women and girls to achieve their rightful place as equals in the world. This effort with ICTs must begin not only from the cradle, but from antenatal health care, reaching out to the remotest communities through telemedicine and other means — with every mother, every girl and every woman guaranteed her birthright.

Increase in hatchery salmon brings concern

Portland, 16 May—Salmon raised in man-made hatcheries can harm wild salmon through competition for food and habitat, a finding with worldwide implications, researchers report.

The new chips are based on genetically modified microbes whose biological response to toxic chemicals.

When perfected for commercial applications, the chip might be easily plugged into a mobile device such as a smartphone to determine whether mammals will compete with wild fish for food and habitat in the ocean as well as in the rivers where they spawn, the Oregon-based Wild Salmon Centre reported on Monday.

“The genetic effects of mixing hatchery fish with wild populations have been well-documented,” researcher David Noakes of Oregon State University said. “But until now the ecological effects were largely hypothetical. Now we know the problems are real and warrant more attention from fisheries managers.” The findings raise questions about whether the ocean can supply enough food to support future increases in hatchery fish while still sustaining the productivity of wild salmon, experts said.

“This isn’t just an isolated issue,” Pete Rand, a biologist at the Wild Salmon Centre, said. “What we’re seeing here in one example after example is growing scientific evidence that hatchery fish can actually edge out wild populations.”

Losing wild fish would mean losing the genetic diversity that allows salmon species to adapt to changing conditions, researchers said, while hatchery fish lack the diversity that provides insurance against fisheries collapses.

There is no substitute for wild salmon. They must be our first priority,” Guido Rahr, president of the Wild Salmon Centre, said. “Wild salmon are an important part of local culture and a cornerstone of economic health for fishing communities.”
Sugar can make you dumb, US scientists warn

LOS ANGELES, 16 May—Eating too much sugar can eat away at your brainpower, according to US scientists who published a study on Tuesday showing how a steady diet of high-fructose corn syrup sapped lab rats' memories.

Researchers at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) fed two groups of rats a solution containing high-fructose corn syrup—a common ingredient in processed foods—as drinking water for six weeks. One group of rats was supplemented with brain-boosting omega-3 fatty acids in the form of flaxseed oil and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), while the other group was not.

Before the sugar drinks began, the rats were enrolled in a five-day training session in a complicated maze. After six weeks on the sweet solution, the rats were then placed back in the maze to see how well they fared.

“The DHA-deprived animals were slower, and their brains showed a decline in synaptic activity,” said Fernando Gomez-Pinilla, chief of neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. “Their brain cells had trouble signaling each other, disrupting the rats’ ability to think clearly and recall the route they’d learned six weeks earlier.”

A closer look at the rat brains revealed that those who were not fed DHA supplements had also developed signs of resistance to insulin, a hormone that controls blood sugar and regulates brain function. “Because insulin can penetrate the blood-brain barrier, the hormone may signal neurons to trigger reactions that disrupt learning and cause memory loss,” Gomez-Pinilla said.

In other words, eating too much fructose could interfere with insulin’s ability to regulate how cells use and store sugar, which is necessary for processing thoughts and emotions.

“Insulin is important in the body for controlling blood sugar, but it may play a different role in the brain, where insulin appears to disturb memory and learning,” Gomez-Pinilla said. “Our study suggests that a high-fructose diet harms the brain as well as the body. This is something new.”

High-fructose corn syrup is commonly found in soda, condiments, applesauce, baby food and other processed snacks. The average American consumes more than 40 pounds (18 kilograms) of high-fructose corn syrup per year, according to the US Department of Agriculture.

While the study did not say what the equivalent might be for a human to consume as much high-fructose corn syrup as the rats did, researchers said it provides some evidence that metabolic syndrome can affect the mind as well as the body.

“Our findings illustrate that what you eat affects how you think,” said Gomez-Pinilla.

“Eating a high-fructose diet over the long term alters your brain’s ability to learn and remember information. But more than 5,000 people or organizations submitted comments on the draft plan.

The president’s proposed fiscal year 2013 budget provides a $100 million increase for efforts to combat Alzheimer’s disease—$80 million for research, $42 million to improve public awareness, $4 million to support provider education programs, $10.5 million to invest in caregiver support and $1.3 million to improve data collection.

“These actions are the cornerstone of an historic effort to fight Alzheimer’s disease,” Sebelius said in a statement. “This is a national plan—not a federal one, because reducing the burden of Alzheimer’s will require the active engagement of both the public and private sectors.”

Far behind rivals, Ford tries to play catch-up in China

CHONGQING, 16 May—Frank Chuang proudly surveys his immaculate new car plant as part-assembled versions of the Ford (FN) Focus travel down the production line.

Glancing at the small cars in the massive manufacturing complex in the city of Chongqing in southwestern China, the 32-year-old Ford veteran is satisfied with the way production has ramped up since the plant opened in February.

“This is just the starting point,” Chuang, the 58-year-old head of manufacturing at Ford’s China joint venture, said in an interview last month. “At this moment, I’m very proud.

The plant will need to be a success if Ford is to get a better foothold in the world’s biggest car market, where it badly lags rivals such as General Motors Co (GM) and Volkswagen AG (VWAG.p.DE), which together produced the six top-selling cars in the country in 2011. Ford—which was late getting into China—had just 2.8 percent of the 18.5 million vehicle market that year, against GM’s 14 percent and VW’s 12 percent.

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“Our findings illustrate that what you eat affects how you think,” said Gomez-Pinilla.

“Eating a high-fructose diet over the long term alters your brain’s ability to learn and remember information. But
Fischer wins Nebraska Senate GOP primary

LINCOLN, 16 May—State Sen Deb Fischer was headed for an easy victory over state Attorney General Jon Bruning on Tuesday in the Nebraska US Senate primary, returns indicated.

With 97 percent of the state’s precincts reporting, the Nebraska Secretary of State’s office said Fischer — who had been endorsed by 2008 Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin — had 41.96 percent of Republican votes cast, to 35.59 percent for Bruning.

The winner will face off against former US Sen Bob Kerrey in the general election in November.

Kerrey was headed for an easy victory in the Democratic primary Tuesday, with 79 percent of the votes cast. The winner will succeed Sen Ben Nelson, a Democrat who is retiring after his current term.

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney was an easy winner in the Nebraska primary, while President Barack Obama got 99 percent of the votes cast in the state’s Democratic primary.

Thirty-five delegates to the Republican nomination convention in August in Tampa, Fla, were at stake in Nebraska. — Internet

Great white shark attacks kayak

SAN LUIS OBISPO, 16 May—A California man said he may have survived an encounter with a great white shark because the fish attacked his kayak instead of him.

Joey Nocchi, 30, of Paso Robles was fishing with two friends on Saturday afternoon off Montaña Beach when he felt something bumping against the kayak, The (San Luis Obispo) Tribune reported.

“She got from underneath and started coming up out of the water,” Nocchi said. “The shark rolled the whole kayak over, rolled me out of it, and he went over the top of it. He swam across me — his tail touched me.” Nocchi said his friends told him later the shark looked like it was out of control. He was scared he immediately climbed on the back of the turned-over kayak, only to be warned by Matt Kerschke of Los Osos that he was not safe.

“The shark knows I made a mistake,” he said his friend told him. “You’ll have to get off, turn the kayak over, and get back in. I’m going to get the paddle, and you want in the kayak when I get back.”

Occhi said he took that advice. When the three examined the kayak later they found a bite about 20 inches by 22 inches. They said the shark appeared to be 12 to 14 feet long.

He said he plans to stay out of kayaks for a while, fishing from the shore instead. — Internet

Army evaluating General Dynamics systems

WHITE SANDS, 16 May—The US Army is conducting operational evaluations of high-speed communications equipment developed by General Dynamics C4 Systems.

The evaluations of the JTRS HSM Manpack and Rifleman Radios and the Firefighter Information Network-Tactical network are taking place through the end of May at the Network Integration Exercise 12.2 at White Sands Missile Range, NM.

“The HSM (handheld, manpack, small form fit) Manpack and Rifleman Radios are the only tactical radios that have been ‘systems under test’ at the NIE 12.2 events,” said General Dynamics C4 President Chris Marrilli.

“Thismeansthatdetailed performance data, such as message completion rate, has been gathered and analyzed by independent observers while soldiers stress test the system.”

“This rigorous testing often reveals operational issues that are not evident in field/operator evaluations, which can then be addressed before products are deployed to the field.”

The AN/PRC-155 JTRS HSM Manpack radio provides line-of-sight, high-bandwidth waveforms for on-the-move voice, sensor, data and position-location capabilities. It is nearly 5 pounds per channel lighter and with twice the communications and networking capabilities of some single-channel manpack radios, the company said. It is also interoperable with radios that US forces are currently using.

The military’s IEMS programme is to develop and produce affordable networked tactical radios systems that meet the requirements of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Special Operations Forces. — Internet

Police in N Ireland kept human tissue

BELFAST, 16 May—Police in Northern Ireland kept body parts and tissue samples from crime victims without telling the families involved, officials said on Tuesday.

The practice was followed in at least 67 cases between 1960 and 2005, the Belfast Telegraph reported. About 40 of the cases involved people killed by sectarian violence during the Troubles.

A national audit ordered by the Human Tissues Authority is under way in Britain. Hampshire Police and City of London Police were reported last week to have undertaken a similar audit.

Some of the material involved reportedly includes bones and skulls. The Police Service of Northern Ireland, successor to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said officers were getting in touch with the families.

“Specially trained Family Liaison Officers are now visiting those families affected to inform them and to discuss with them what their options are now,” a PSNI statement said. “We know that this will be an incredibly difficult time for those families involved and we will provide all the possible support we can to them.” — Internet

EU strafes Somali pirate village

MAGADISHU, 16 May—An attack by a European Union helicopter destroyed several pirate skiffs at a base in Somalia without injuring anyone, officials said on Tuesday.

Lt Cmdr Jacqueline Sherriff, a spokeswoman for the EU anti-piracy force, said that planes had been conducting surveillance for some time around the village of Xanadheere, The New York Times reported. She said the helicopter attack, which used small arms fire to stop the fiberglass skiffs used in raids on shipping, lasted for a couple of minutes.

“This is a fantastic opportunity,” she said. “What we want to do is make life more difficult for these guys.”

The attack was the first under a new EU policy allowing attacks on land bases but only from the air. Until March, European naval forces had been allowed to attack pirates only at sea.

Somali-based pirates have seized hundreds of ships in the past few years, sometimes capturing vessels 2,000 miles away from their bases. They generally hold ships and crews for ransom.

Steps toward political stability in Somalia and efforts by the EU, United States and other countries to prevent seizes or recapture ships, have slowed the pirates down recently. But the pirates are thought to be holding 17 ships and 300 hostages. — Internet

Great white shark took a bite out of a kayak but the kayaker managed to escape. — Internet

Britain to spend less on military hardware

LONDON, 16 May—Cuts in British military spending needed to balance the budget mean the country may have to curtail some ambitions, the head of the armed forces said on Monday.

Gen Sir David Richards, the chief of the defence staff, stood with Defence Secretary Philip Hammond as he announced the cuts, The Independent reported. Hammond said giving up some planned spending, including unmanned drones, a third new aircraft carrier and six of 12 new destroyers, would allow the department to fill a $60 billion shortfall in its budget in a decade.

The Ministry of Defence also plans to cut the number of soldiers from 102,000 to 82,000 and to reduce the size of the Royal Air Force from 44,000 to 39,000.

Richards said the cutsbacks will have an effect.

“It could be that some of the methods that we’d rather hoped or aspired to do in the future are no longer obtainable;” Richards said.

Hammond said there had been a “woeful” lack of control in spending in the past and blamed the previous Labour government for digging a “black hole” under the military, the Mirror reported. Richards was more diplomatic, suggesting that politicians, officials and the military had “worked in a spirit of optimism rather than realism.”

“We were all guilty to a degree;” he added. — Internet

China’s aircraft carrier has returned to Dalian Harbor after 9 days of sea trial. It arrived on Tuesday. — Xinhua
On a first tour of cultural rich Myanmar by air, entering airspace to Yangon, the esteemed visitor will be exposed to wonderful sight of the Shwedagon Pagoda. Situated on a rised hill 168 feet above sea level it is visible from afar, whether travelling by road, from sea or rivers. The legends of the legends grew, attributable to certain pagodas, heightening the images were built through the centuries as the most sublime pagodas as places of worship. Thus many pagodas and images ofInle Phaung Daw Oo, and the sacred Sagaing Hills, laden Maha Muni image of Mandalay, the Five Golden Ranges. Imposing pagodas such as Shit-Thaung Pagoda, the impose such a feat of devotion considering the immense work of merit is believed to be so richly rewarded as building and donating a pagoda no matter how large or small, for no work of merit is believed a pagoda of glittering gold, glass mosaic or snow-white coat, Verily no hill is so high, no valley so deep, no forest so dense, in no other country can you find such manifestation of pagodas. The present day visitors will surely notice healing powers. The present day visitors will surely notice

The pagodas, images and icons are but physical and metaphysical essence goes farther beyond. It is a refuge to ancients.

The pagodas, images and icons are but physical and metaphysical essence goes farther beyond. It is a refuge to ancients.

PAGODAS, MYTH AND MYSTIQUE

BY BATHAN

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63rd Meeting of Committee on Science and Technology kicks off

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 May—The 63rd Meeting of Committee on Science and Technology was opened at Myanmar International Convention Centre in Zabathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn; Khin, deputy ministers from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Brunei and Malaysia; delegates of ASEAN countries, senior officers of the Ministry of Science and Technology and officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister said that as science and technology and creativity play a key role in progress and prosperity of the region, Myanmar is meeting will be beneficial to Competitive Sustainable ad Inclusive ASEAN. Promotion of cooperation with partner countries will uplift creativity of the region and contribute to sustainable development of the region, he said.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister said that as science and technology and creativity play a key role in progress and prosperity of the region, Myanmar is

Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint addresses opening session of 63rd Meeting of Committee on Science and Technology.—MNA

accelerating its endeavours on development of science and technology and innovative measures through ASEAN Science and Technology Committee. He expressed his firm belief that the discussions from the ASEAN countries at the MICC.

The meeting will be held up to 18 May. The meetings of eight subject-wise subcommittees and two advisory boards were held on 14 and 15 May, attended by 172 delegates of ASEAN countries.

On 18 May, the ASEAN-China, ASEAN- EU, the ASEAN-Japan and the ASEAN-US Plenary Meetings will be held there.—MNA

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs

(From page 16)

strengthening of friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and Singapore. At 12.15 pm, the Union Minister paid a courtesy call on Mr K Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law of the Republic of Singapore. At the meeting, the two ministers exchanged their views on matters relating to strengthening the existing friendship and cooperation and also on implementation of technical cooperation programmes between Myanmar and Singapore on economic development, human resource development and public administration of Myanmar. The Union Minister also briefed his counterpart on the implementation of democratization and the efforts on national reconsolidation of Myanmar.

Later, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law of Singapore hosted a luncheon in honour of the visiting Myanmar delegation led by the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs.

After the luncheon, the Myanmar delegation was briefed on the functions of Public Affairs Directorate and Diplomatic Academy by respective department heads of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore.

During the visit, the Union Minister inspected the Myanmar Embassy in Singapore yesterday afternoon and met the staff members of the Embassy.

Union Health Minister receives UNICEF Director

Nay Pyi Taw, 15 May—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received Director Mr Daniel Toole of East Asia and Pacific Regional Office of UNICEF based in Bangkok and UNICEF Resident Representative Mr Ramesh Shrestha at his office this afternoon.

They discussed healthcare services being provided in cooperation with UNICEF, reviewing and assessment of health projects and collection of health data, malaria control, ways to be sought to solve the problem of malnutrition immunity, systematic breastfeeding, assistance plans for artificial limbs and future tasks.

Also present at the call were Health Department Director-General Dr Tun Naing Oo, Medical Science Department Director-General Dr Than Zaw Myint and officials. —MNA

China-Myanmar Paukphaw Friendship Concert held

Yangon, 16 May—China-Myanmar Paukphaw Friendship Concert was staged in National Theatre in Dagon Township here yesterday evening.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Hlay, delegation led by Member of Parliament U Htay Oo, Region Hluttaw Speaker Hsan Oo, Region ministers and their wives, Chinese Ambassadors to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and embassy officials and guests enjoyed the concert.

Chinese artists troupe performed Chinese traditional songs, dances, circuit and magic and students of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) entertained the spectators with Myanmar traditional Maha Chingyan dances.

The CPC Central Politburo member and the USDP Secretary-General Mr Wang Gang and delegation members enjoy China-Myanmar Paukphaw Friendship Concert.—MNA

Director-General hold talks

Yangon, 16 May—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min Win, U Aung Lwin and U Tun Aung and CEC members received Director-General of Southeast Asia Regional Department of ASEAN Development Bank Mr Kaung Seng and party at the Federation here on 12 May.

They mainly focused on opening of courses on human resources development and capacity building, on job training in modern technology of economic development in Myanmar, sustainable development of private sector and tourism industry, and provision of aids by the federation to hold Green Economic Growth Forum in November 2012.—MNA

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Application for registration as political party submitted

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 May—The Union Election Commission scrutinizes and passes applications for registration as of political parties. Asio Chin National Party submitted an application for registration as political party to the UEC today.—MNA

Dy CPT Minister receives Executive Director of First Pacific Company

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 May—Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telecommunications U Tin Lwin received Executive Director Mr Edward Tortorici of First Pacific Company and party of the Philippines at his office today.

At the call, both sides had a cordial discussion on bilateral cooperation in mobile sector and promotion of cooperation in telecommunication technology. Also present at the call were Director-General U Khin Maung Thet of Directorate of Telecommunications, Head of Office U San Slew Aung and responsible persons.

Police Code of Conduct Test held in Yamethin

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 May—The Police Code of Conduct and writing test for policemen of Yamethin District Police Force were held at Basic Education Primary School in Yamethin on 5 May.

Altogether 50 officers and other ranks participated in two tests. The tests were supervised by Commander of Yamethin District Police Force Police Lt-Col Kyaw Teza and party.—MNA
Union Information and Culture Minister addresses Pakokku Literary Award, Scholarship, Pakokku Library Book Award Presentation Ceremony

YANGON, 16 May—Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivered an address and presented awards at Pakokku U Ohn Pe-established Pakokku Literary Award, Scholarship and Pakokku Library Book Award Presentation Ceremony for 2011 at Chatrium Hotel here yesterday morning.

The ceremony was also attended by Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Yangon Region minister, departmental heads and officials of the Information Ministry, officials of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Fund Management Committee, Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Selection Board and Pakokku U Ohn Pe Scholarship Supervisory Committee, award winners, donors and guests.

The Union Minister said in his address Literary Award Presentation Ceremonies established by Pakokku U Ohn Pe will be held alternatively in Pakokku and Yangon from now on. For this time it is held in Yangon. Donors and wellwishers are thanked for their contributions to raising fund after “Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award” was renamed as “Pakokku U Ohn Pe-established Pakokku Literary Award” since the previous year.

In addition to annually presented National Literary Award and Sarpy Beikman Literary Award, other private literary awards like Sayawon Tin Shwe Literary Award, Thuta Swesone Literary Award and Tun Foundation Literary Award are presented for welfare of the men of letters. One more new award presented this year is “National Press Award”, a good news for media men.

In previous National Literary Award presentation ceremony on 29-12-2011, a book about Myanmar’s culture and arts in English, in addition to publications in Myanmar language, was awarded. English manuscript will also be selected for a prize of the highest marks yearly in five academic subjects.

Aung Than Oo, Director-General of No (1) Basic Education Department U Thein Lwin, Chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Selection Board and Pakokku U Ohn Pe Scholarship Supervisory Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Lwin, have gained the highest marks yearly in five matriculation level, two outstanding students from the University of Culture, and 15 outstanding students who obtained the highest marks yearly in five academic subjects were also presented scholarship out of the funds.

The literary award presentation ceremony held today is a sine qua non for human resources development and development of education sector. It is also a ceremony which encourages the endeavours of the government for flourishing of literature and education. In other words, it is a ceremony in which all the people should take pride for combination of efforts of the State and the people of Myanmar society. Hence, the literati who are present on the occasion are urged to do their bit in safeguarding the fine traditions of serving national interest, strive for flourishing of national literature, and improvement of the socio-economic status of the people.

Next, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan presented prizes to Pakokku U Ohn Pe Life-time Achievement Literary Award winner Literati U Maung Maung Khin (Tektakho Maung Maung Khin), Collected Poem First Prize winner Mye Latt Min Lwin, Collected Poem Second Prize winner Maung Lu Myaing (Pinebu), Collected Poem Third Prize winner Maung Ni Hmaing (Kyautkan), Novel First Prize Winner Pethein Aung Than Oo, Novel Second Prize winner Nu Myaw and Novel Third Prize winner Khin La Pyae Wan.

Afterwards, Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein presented prizes to Collected Story second prize winner Nanand Khin (Thakalama), Collected Story third prize winner Kyunsinmyaw Saw Khet, Treatise First prize winner Maung Maung Chit Oo (Monywa), Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe to Research Paper first prize winner Dr Yin Yin Tun, Research Paper second prize winner Maung Kyaw Kyaw (Kwinkanak), Chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee U Tin Swe to Khin Maung Myint-Sagyaing who won Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Book award for 2011. Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Fund Management Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Tun (Khin Maung Tun-Lannamadaw), Member Dr Thet Lwin, Chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Selection Board Sithu U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintna Saw Chat), Director-General Education Planning and Training Department U Bo Win, Director-General of No 1) Basic Education Department U Kyaw Thu and Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Ye Tin presented scholarships and outstanding prizes in particular subject. Chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee U Tin Swe, on behalf of late Pakokku U Ohn Pe, explained purpose of presentation of the prizes and Pakokku Life-time Achievement Literary Award winner U Maung Maung Khin (Tektakho Maung Maung Khin), on behalf of award winners, spoke words of thanks.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, the chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Fund Management Committee and the chairman of Pakokku U Ohn Pe Library Committee accepted cash donations to the fund and returned certificates of honours. The donations amounted to Ks 6.3 million in total.

The Union Minister cordially greeted those present at the ceremony and posed for documentary photo.—MNA

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan poses with those present and award winners at Pakokku U Ohn Pe-established Pakokku Literary Award, Scholarship and Pakokku Library Book Award Presentation Ceremony 2011.—MNA
Member of Central Politburo of CPC and party conclude visit

YANGON, 16 May—The visiting Chinese delegation led by Member of Central Politburo of the Communist Party of China and Vice-Chairman of National Committee of People’s Political Consultative Conference Mr Wang Gang left here by air this morning. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by CEC members of Union Solidarity and Development Party U Aung Thein Lin and U Aung Tun and members, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and embassy officials. MNA

Cash donated for social welfare works

YANGON, 16 May—Director David Yang of China (Taipei)-based Global Culture and Holistic Living Project and party donated K 1 million to Funeral Services Association (Yangon) in North Okkalapa Township here yesterday as the contribution to the progress of social and religious works across Myanmar. A responsible person of the association accepted the donation and presented the donor with certificate of honour. —NLM

UMFCCI Vice-Presidents meet Italy delegation

Mandala, 16 May—Mandala City Development Committee is providing funeral transport services free of charge as of 1 May.

The vehicles of funeral services are being parked at Mandalay General Hospital and Factories and Vehicles Department of Mandalay City.

Mandalay to host women’s football tournament in SEA Games

Mawlamyine opens self-reliant rural library

Mawlamyine, 16 May—Mawlamyine Rural Library was opened in Katthahmyin Village of Katthahmyin Htiseik Yekaw Village-tract in Mawlamyine Township on 5 May morning. Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Thida Aung, Village-tract Administrator U Win Myint and Library Committee Chairman U Aung Kyi formally opened the library.

Next, Township Information and Public Relations Department donated 100 books and journals and U Hoke Kyaing and family of Mawlamyinegyun 585 books and journals.

Chairman of the library committee U Aung Kyi accepted the donations.

The 20 square feet library was built at a cost of K 6 million by the local people. —Myanma Alinn
Hinthada Township constitutes writers association

HINTHADA, 16 May—The formation of Hinthada Township Writers Association was held at the meeting room of Township General Administration Department on 30 April morning.

Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Zaw Moe Aung chaired the election commission together with members Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Aye Aye Mar and writer U Myo Myint Thein (Myo Thiri).

Attendees elected five executives for organizing the township association.

The five executives secretly elected U Ko Ko Gyi as Chairman, Daw Khin Saw Win as Treasurer, executives U Myint Aung and U Than Oo.

Myanma Alin

Stake driven for construction of school building in Shwepyitha Township

YANGON, 16 May—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of new building at Basic Education Primary School was held at the place at the junction of Yepyar and Daw Phwa Shin Roads in Ward 18 of Shwepyitha Township on 12 May morning.

At the ceremony, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Win, township level officials, townsmen and construction committee members drove stakes for the building.

The Region Hluttaw representative presented K 2 million for the first time to Treasurer U Thein Kyi of the committee for laying cornerstones. The building will be 120x30 feet RC six-classroom facility.

Myanma Alin

250 boys initiated into novice hood in Dedaye

DEDAYE, 16 May—Altogether 250 boys who became orphans in aftermath of Storm Nrgis was novitiated and became orphans in aftermath of Storm Nrgis was novitiated.

The ceremony was held at the hall of Administration Department Township General District was held at the hall of Administration Department Township General District.

Crime Reduction Talked: A talk on crime free week staged by police

YANGON, 16 May—Talks on crime free week given in Thingangyun Township on 9 May. Ward Administrator U Aye Ko gave an address on crime free week in the township.

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Myanma Alin

Development of Cooperative Talked: The talk on development of cooperative tasks was held at the hall of Sanpya Theingon Village Administrative Office in Yamethin Township on 10 May. Staff Officer U Zaw Lin of Township Cooperative Department replies to the talk on development of cooperative tasks at the hall of Yamethin Township on 10 May. Staff Officer U Zaw Lin of Township Cooperative Department.

Self-reliant earthen road constructed in Yedashe Township

YEDASHE, 16 May—The self-reliant earthen road was constructed for ensuring convenient transport of Kyauzaung Village and Aye Thukha Village in Thagara overflowed annually by Sittoung River in rainy season in Yedashe Township of Bago Region.

Local people of Kyauzaung Village faced difficulties in traveling due to overflow of Sittoung River in rainy season. Thus, local people constructed a half mile long earthen road between Kyauzaung and Aye Thukha villages.

The newly-built earthen road is higher than the highest water level of overflow from Sittoung River.

That is why the road will serve better transport for the local people, said villagers.

Myanmar
Dog, nappy and football found in Aussie crocodile

Estuarine crocodiles, better known as saltwater crocs or salties, are common in Australia’s tropical Northern Territory, and Rangers who recently shot a croc that was terrorising pets in northern Australia found a dog, a football and a pair of shorts in its stomach. —INTERNET

Police had recently notified authorities that a crocodile had eaten at least one dog and was living at others on a beach near the community of Galwinku. The Northern Territory News said rangers who went to the area on Tuesday saw the 3.5 metre (11 feet 6 inches) crocodile grab a dog by the leg, so they shot the reptile.

As well as finding the remains of a dog in its stomach, they discovered a variety of other items.

While it might make a comical headline, it is disturbing to see the volume of rubbish in a wild animal, said the newspaper, which routinely runs crocodile stories on its front page.

Saltwater crocodiles, which can grow up to seven metres long and weigh more than a tonne, are a common feature of Australia’s tropical north and kill an average of two people a year. —INTERNET

Vietnam’s 2nd satellite successfully launched into orbit

HANOI, 16 May— Vietnam’s second satellite, the VINASAT-2, was released from the launch pad aboard an Ariane 5 rocket at 22:13 GMT Tuesday from Guiana Space Centre at the European Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, Vietnamese state-run news agency reported. Witnessing the launching ceremony broadcast live at the Vietnam Posts and Telecommunications Group (VNPT), Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung said the successful launch of VINASAT-2 is an important step to build Vietnam stronger in the field of information technology, according to the report.

Together with VINASAT-1 which launched in 2008, VINASAT-2 will help ensure the safe and stable provision of services, intensify the safety of the national telecoms network, and expand the provision of telecom, audio-visual and internet services across the country. It will also support national socio-economic development, natural disaster mitigation, and national defence and security. —INTERNET

Report says Texas executed an innocent man

WASHINGTON, 16 May— US President Barack Obama on Tuesday spoke with Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti over the phone on the upcoming NATO summit in Chicago, White House said in a statement. Obama thanked Monti for Italy’s “many significant contributions” to NATO, said the White House adding that both discussed the transition process for Afghanistan, and the sustainment of the Afghan security forces.

During the phone call, the two leaders also discussed the ongoing eurozone crisis and agreed on the need to intensify efforts to “promote growth and job creation,” according to the White House. Obama looks forward to discussing these issues with Monti during the upcoming G8 summit at Camp David in Maryland over the weekend, the White House noted. As part the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), Italy currently contributes around 3,800 troops in Afghanistan.

The decade-old war in Afghanistan will dominate the NATO summit in Chicago slated for 20 to 21 May.

Carlos DeLuna before and after his arrest. —INTERNET

DeLuna, 27, when he was executed, was described to the article’s researchers by acquaintances as “childlike” and a “fool.” He had convictions for auto theft and attempted rape.

He had sharply differing descriptions of the robber, with a gas station customer reporting seeing a skinny man who was unhandsome and had a mustache and a nearby couple saying they spotted a neatly groomed man wearing a white shirt and dress pants. Hernandez normally dressed sloppily and had a mustache. The night of the robbery, DeLuna had worn a white shirt.

Hernandez has said he saw Lopez and Hernandez struggling through the windows of the gas station minutes after Hernandez had made a purchase there. Witnesses at the station identified DeLuna as the culprit when police took him back to the station in a patrol car. But the only witness who saw Lopez struggling with the robber told journal authors he was only 70 percent sure of the identification and if police had not told him DeLuna had been caught nearby, he would have been only 50 percent sure.

Lopez bled profusely after being sliced an artery but DeLuna’s body and clothing contained no trace of blood, the article said.

Steve Schiwetz, who was lead prosecutor at DeLuna’s trial, said he had not read the journal article but disputed its conclusions stated by a reporter. “These guys are crusaders,” Schiwetz said. “What can I say?”

Schiwetz, now in private practice, dismissed DeLuna’s original court defence and said he had rehearsals for several assertions in the article, the Chicago Sun-Times said.

Hernandez has confessed his guilt to a sheriff’s deputy — a claim the journal researchers disputed.

BANG SRIMUANG VOY NO (107)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANG SRIMUANG VOY NO (107) should be notified to the agents that a report found a dog, a pair of shorts, and a football will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY. Backfilling work started in the 3.5 metre (11 feet 6 inches) crocodile as they were caught near the gas station. Two people are killed.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

In a comical headline, it is disturbing to see the volume of rubbish in a wild animal, said the newspaper, which routinely runs crocodile stories on its front page.

As well as finding the remains of a dog in its stomach, they discovered a variety of other items.

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Photo taken on 15 May, 2012 shows a flying machine used to take aerial photos of the cave-in disaster areas in Liuzhou City, south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Backfilling work started in Liuzhou on Tuesday after experts said it is right time to backfill the pits caused by cave-ins, based on repeated surveys. A geology disaster, which affected a total of 40,000 square meters of ground in Mahe village of Liuzhou on 10 May, damaged 94 houses, including 40,000 square meters of ground in Maohe village of Liuzhou on 10 May, damaged 94 houses, including
**Judge orders suspect to write book reports**

A San Francisco man accused of trying to sell a grenade launcher was ordered released on bond on the condition he read each day and write book reports. Otis Mobley Jr., 23, was indicted last month alongside cousin Khusar Mobley, 18, and Dmarce Hutcherson, 19, on charges of conspiracy to commit thefts, robbery, assault on a federal officer, robbery and a weapons violation, the San Francisco Chronicle reported. Prosecutors said the men arranged to sell a grenade launcher to an undercover agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. "We are actually a ruse for a planned robbery," the suspect said. The men pulled guns on the undercover agent and attempted to rob him, but fellow agents joined him and Hutcherson was shot and wounded by an agent.

**Shoplifter had the boat, stole the fish**

A security agent in Florida said a alleged shoplifter walked out of a supermarket with an order of fish down his pants and left in a car pulling a boat. It may never be known if the culprit was a fisherman compensating for striking out on the water, but he was wearing a T-shirt with a fish on the back and escaped with $44 worth of food and $12 worth of shrimp, the security agent said. "It was completely different from my last album. I'm going to be doing my new single with LMFAO. I'm so excited. The music is turning out so great and I can't wait to release it this summer," aceshowbiz.com quoted Hilton as saying. Hilton plans to shoot her music video later this month. She is likely to perform on the pop at the Pop Musical Festival in Sao Paulo, on 23 June. The second man has not filed any formal legal claims and dismissing his sexual assault claims and reminding him to be better. You teach me to "be true to myself and the ones I love for you goes beyond what I can say. Happy, Happy Mama’s Day," she wrote.
**International Sports**

**Half of 2014 World Cup stadiums a concern: FIFA consultant**

**London, 16 May**—A match programme for the 1999 FA Cup Final between Manchester United and Bristol City fetched a world-record price of £32,850 ($53,600) at a public auction on Tuesday—Internet

A match programme for the 1995 FA Cup final between Manchester United and Bristol City fetched a world-record price of £23,500 ($37,600) at a public auction on Tuesday—Internet

**Di Matteo ready for toughest Champions League test**

**London, 16 May**—Roberto Di Matteo is bracing for the toughest managerial challenge of his career as he attempts to lead an injury and suspension-hit Chelsea to Champions League glory over Bayern Munich.

Just 10 weeks after taking over at Stamford Bridge following the sacking of Andre Villas-Boas, Di Matteo has already overseen a string of notable performances including an unforgettable semi-final win over Barcelona. But the Italian believes that orchestrating a win over Bayern on their home ground on Saturday would represent his greatest triumph as he attempts to pull together a Chelsea side disjointed by injuries and suspensions.

Chelsea will be without suspended captain John Terry and fullback Branislav Ivanovic as well as inspirational midfielder Ramires and Raul Meireles. Di Matteo is also sweating on the fitness of defenders Gary Cahill and David Luiz along with midfielder Florent Malouda. Given the circumstances, Di Matteo agreed he faced the most challenging tactical assignment of his career. “With all the problems that we have it’s mainly causing us headaches,” the 41-year-old said.

Despite overseeing a re-build to Chelsea’s fortunes, which included an FA Cup victory as well as their passage as the Champions League Final, Di Matteo has yet to give any assurances about his long-term future at Chelsea. Chelsea say no decision on a long-term Villas-Boas will be taken until the season has ended, and Di Matteo insists he is happy to wait.
Cuban men’s volleyball team to play FIVB World League in Japan

HAVANA, 16 May—The Cuban men’s volleyball team traveled to Japan on Tuesday for a shot at a place in the finals of the world’s top volleyball tournament, the International Federation’s (FIVB) World League. The Cuban team is slated to play against the locals on the opening day of the tournament in Berlin June 8, California (US), securing a ticket to the Olympics. The squad using smartphones with global positioning system capabilities could transform the way government agencies monitor one of the state’s most precious resources. The Floating Sensor Network project is intended to test a network of mobile sensors that can be deployed rapidly to provide real-time, high-resolution data in hard-to-map waterways, UC Berkeley reported.

News

Sonar images of an underwater volcano.—Internet

The Floating Sensor Network project is intended to test a network of mobile sensors that can be deployed rapidly to provide real-time, high-resolution data in hard-to-map waterways, UC Berkeley reported.

School-based disaster risk reduction opens in Tachileik

TACHILEIK, 16 May—Jointly organized by Myanmar Red Cross Society and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the school-based disaster risk reduction (leading talkers) was opened at the hall of Basic Education High School in Tachileik on 14 May morning.

The Floating Sensor Network project is intended to test a network of mobile sensors that can be deployed rapidly to provide real-time, high-resolution data in hard-to-map waterways, UC Berkeley reported.

Major eruptions of Monowai volcano near Monowai, New Zealand, in the Pacific Ocean. The last eruption of the volcano's summit had been observed in 1999. Researchers from Oxford University said they recorded a remarkable rise in sea-floor volcanic activity that has raised another area by 260 inches and.

Violent life of undersea volcano studied

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Four Red Cross Brigade members attended the one-week course.—Myanma Alin

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President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Pakistani Ambassador

President U Thein Sein receives Ambassador of the State of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Mr Amjad Majid Abbasi at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Football clubs of Mandalay Region meet

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May—The coordination meeting of football clubs from Mandalay Region that will take part in the Inter-Region/State Challenge Cup Tournament to be held in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 June was held at the hall of Mandalay Region Sports and Physical Education Department yesterday morning.

Deputy Director Mandalay Region SPED U Wai Zin gave instructions on systematic formation of the football clubs to keep abreast of other clubs in the tournament.

MNA

Self-reliant hydropower station launched in Loikaw Township

NAY PYI TAW, 16 May—The self-reliant small-scale hydropower station was launched in Dawtahay Village of Hseinha Village-tract in Loikaw Township on 12 May morning.

The power station was built at a cost of over K 18.9 million contributed by local people and power lines and some parts provided by Electricity Supply Enterprise.

The power station can supply 15 megawatts to 105 houses.—MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Pakistani Ambassador

President U Thein Sein receives Ambassador of the State of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Mr Amjad Majid Abbasi at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs back from Singapore

Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin meets Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong.—MNA

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs back from Singapore

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Significant Day Temperatures (16-5-2012)

Chauk (46°C)
Minbu (46°C)
Kalewa (44°C)
Monywa (44°C)
Myingyan (44°C)
NyaungU (44°C)
Magway (44°C)

Sugar can make you dumb, US scientists warn

Eating too much sugar can eat away at your brainpower, according to US scientists.

Djokovic returns to form with Tomic win in Rome

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