Sri Lankan goodwill delegation concludes visit

YANGON, 16 June—The Sri Lankan goodwill delegation led by President Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa and Madam Shiranthi Rajapaksa accompanied by Minister for Sports Brig-Thura Aye Myint and wife, Myanmar Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka U Ohn Thwin and wife, Sri Lankan Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Newton Gunaratna and wife paid respects and offered robes to Lecturer and Admin Sayadaws and members of the Sangha of State Pariyatti Sasana University led by State Pariyatti Sasana and Admin Sayadaws and University (Yangon) and International Theravada University (Yangon) and State Pariyatti Sasana and Admin Sayadaws and University (Yangon) on 10th Waning of Nayon 1371 ME Wednesday, 17 June, 2009

Thiri Mingala Gaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township here at 9.30 a.m. today.

Next, the visiting Sri Lankan President and wife left here by special flight at 10.55 a.m. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and wife, the Minister for Sports and wife, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thet Lin and wife, the Myanmar Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and wife, the Sri Lankan Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar and wife and officials.

The visiting Sri Lankan President and wife and party paid homage to Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday evening. MNA

President of Sri Lanka Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa and Madam Shiranthi Rajapaksa view white elephants at Yadana White Elephant Garden on Min Dhamma Hill. — MNA

What limits the size of birds?

SEATTLE, 16 June—Why aren’t birds larger? Fifteen-kilogram swans hold the current upper size record for flying birds, although the extinct Argentavis of the Miocene Epoch in Argentina is estimated to have weighed 70 kilograms, the size of an average human. In a forthcoming article in PLoS Biology, Siervart Rohwer, and his colleagues at the Burke Museum at the University of Washington, provide evidence that maximum body size in birds is constrained by the amount of time it takes to replace the flight feathers during molt.

As bird size increases, feather growth rate fails to keep up with feather length until, eventually, feathers wear out before they can be replaced.

This fundamental relationship requires basic changes in the molt strategy as size increases, ultimately limiting the size of flying birds.

Gene evolution process discovered

LEEDS, 16 June—One of the mechanisms governing how our physical features and behavioural traits have evolved over centuries has been discovered by researchers at the University of Leeds.

Darwin proposed that such traits are passed from a parent to their offspring, with natural selection favouring those that give the greatest advantage for survival, but did not have a scientific explanation for this process.

In new research the Leeds team reports that a protein known as REST controls the process by which proteins are made, following the instructions encoded in genes. It also reveals that while REST regulates a core set of genes in all vertebrates, it has also evolved to work with a greater number of genes specific to mammals, in particular in the brain—potentially playing a leading role in the evolution of our intelligence.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Wednesday, 17 June, 2009**

Act according to health education announcements

There are various types of flu such as avian flu and swine flu and now there has been a new type of human flu caused by A/H1N1, a new strain of flu virus. It can be transmitted from human to human quickly.

According to the WHO, there have been 28,774 people infected with this pandemic disease in 74 countries and, out of them, a total of 144 have died up to now. The Ministry of Health has been taking preventive measures to ensure that the disease cannot spread to Myanmar. It is also issuing announcements and educating people.

The symptoms of the human flu are fever, a runny nose, cough, a sore throat, aches and pains, headaches, and loss of appetite. If it is serious, it can cause high fever, bad cough, tiredness, difficult breathing, unconsciousness and restlessness. In such a case, immediate health care is recommended.

As the latest strain of flu can spread from person to person very quickly, precaution is never superfluous. It is necessary to take care of personal hygiene, to cover the face with a handkerchief when coughing and sneezing, to wash the hands thoroughly with soap and to take a good night's sleep. In addition, going to crowded places, drinking a lot, using drugs and visiting the house of an infected person or hospitals unnecessarily should be avoided.

It is also necessary to sterilize stairs, lifts, walls, furniture and utensils and to make sure that there is good ventilation and sanitation at schools, offices, hospitals, orphanages and homes for the aged.

As there have been outbreaks of the flu pandemic in some countries, we would like to call on the entire people of Myanmar to act according to the announcements issued by the Ministry of Health to prevent the outbreak or spread of the disease.

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**Work coordination meeting of Myanmar Insurance held**

**NA VP TAW, 16 June—**A work coordination meeting for 2008-2009 financial year of Myanmar Insurance (Head office) and State/Division/District offices under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue was held at the meeting hall of Myanmar Insurance (Head Office) on Merchant Street here on 15 June.

Managing Director U Thein Lwin of Myanmar Insurance made an opening speech on the occasion and those in-charge from State/Division/ District offices presented the outstanding offices and agents. During 2008-2009 financial year, the Myanmar Insurance (Head Office) and State/Division/District offices earned over K14,000 million.—MNA

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**Forestry Minister and Kayah State Chairman inspect regional development tasks**

**Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung meeting with local people in Lobarkho Village in Dimawhso Township. — MNA**

NAV PSI TAW, 16 June—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Win Myint met with local people at Lobarkho Village Basic Education Middle School in Dimawhso Township on 13 June.

The minister delivered an address and donated cash for construction of new school building.

In the afternoon, the minister, the chairman and officials inspected the construction of Daungkha BEMS in the township and fulfilled the requirements.

**New issue of Yangon Travels Journal in circulation**

**Yangon, 16 June—**Yangon Travels Journal Volume (II), No. (6) with works of a variety topics came out today.

It is designed to help reduce the number of traffic accidents, give traffic education to bus owners and conductors, and ensure smooth dealing between bus conductors and passengers.

Copies of the issue are available at bookshops and branches of private bus lines. Manuscripts may be sent to and advertisements may be put at No (474), Thainbyu Road, in front of Kantawkalay Post Office, Phoeinay Ward, Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon, (Tel: 381858).—MNA

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**Over 9600 acres of poppy in Shan State (North) wiped out**

**NA VP TAW, 16 June—**A total of 163.29 acres (66.08 hectares) of poppy in Lashio, Hsenwi, Mongyan, Namtu, Mongton, Namhkam and Kukai Townships in Shan State (North) were destroyed from 1 to 11 June. So far, 9607.75 acres of poppy in States and Divisions have been destroyed during this year’s poppy cultivation season.

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**Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko being welcomed by Ambassador of United Kingdom Mr. Mark Canning at the reception to mark the Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 16 June 2009. — MNA**

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**People’s Desire**

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

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Yekaterinburg on the sidelines of the ninth annual summits and our neighbours and we’ll deal with them when meeting with his Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai. “We’ll do everything possible to help Afghans kill five Taleban militants in North Afghanistan will try to help Afghanistan build political system

MOSCOW, 16 June—Russia will exert its best in helping Afghanistan set up an effective political system, said Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Monday when meeting with his Afghan counterpart Hamid Karzai. “We’ll do everything possible to help Afghanistan build its effective political system and promote its further development,” the Itar-Tass news agency quoted Medvedev as saying in the Russian city of Yekaterinburg on the sidelines of the ninth annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The SCO comprises Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, while Iran, Mongolia, India and Pakistan are observers at the bloc. Karzai was invited to the summit as a guest.

“There are problems that pose a threat to our countries and our neighbours and we’ll deal with them jointly,” said Medvedev.— Itar-Tass

Russia will try to help Afghanistan build political system

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“There are problems that pose a threat to our countries and our neighbours and we’ll deal with them jointly,” said Medvedev.— Itar-Tass

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,313

WASHINGTON, 16 June—As of Monday, 15 June 2009, at least 4,313 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes nine military civilians killed as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.— Internet

US officers look at the pool of blood on a spot where one of attackers on a Sunni lawmaker Harith al-Obaidi was killed in Baghdad, Iraq, on 12 June, 2009.— Internet

Afghan troops kill five Taleban militants in North Afghanistan

KABUL, 16 June—A cleanup operation conducted by Afghan security forces on Monday claimed the lives of five Taleban militants including their commander in Afghanistan’s northern province of Kunduz, a senior police officer said Tuesday. “Afghan police and army backed by troops from Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) of Germany, conducted an operation in Gul Tiapa area, northwestern of Kunduz City, resultantly Shaikh Abdul and his four followers were killed,” a deputy provincial police Chief Abdul Rahman Haqtash told Xinhua.

Haqtash said that three more Taleban fighters’ sustained injuries in the firefight lasted for four hours. Shaikh Abdul was notorious for organizing attacks against interests of Afghans and NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) troops in Kunduz, he added. Germany has more than 3,800 soldiers under the command of NATO-led ISAF in northern provinces of the country.— Internet

Afghan troops kill five Taleban militants in North Afghanistan

London, 16 June—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown delivered a statement to the House of Commons on Iraq on Monday, mapping out plans for an independent inquiry into Iraq war. Brown said evidence concerning the Iraq war “will be heard in private.” The independent committee will publish its findings in “as full a form as possible,” he said, adding that these findings will then be debated in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

He said that in these debates as well as from the report itself that “we can draw full upon the lessons learnt in Iraq.” The inquiry will take into account evidence submitted to previous inquiries, Brown said. He said that he was asking members of the committee to explain the scope, width and breadth of their work to opposition leaders and the chairs of the relevant parliamentary committees.

In order that the committee is as objective and non-partisan as possible, the membership of the committee will consist entirely of non-partisan public figures acknowledged to be experts and leaders in their fields and there will be no representatives of political parties from any side of the House, Brown said.— Internet

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UN Secretary-General’s message on World Day to Combat Desertification

17 June, 2009

The following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s message on the World Day to Combat Desertification, to be observed today.

Desertification and land degradation affect one third of the Earth’s surface, threatening the livelihoods, well-being and development of as many as 1 billion people. Faced with long periods of drought, famine and deepening poverty, many have only one option: flight from the land. There are already an estimated 24 million environmentally induced migrants. That number could rise to 200 million by 2050.

This year’s observance of the World Day to Combat Desertification highlights the growing threat to national and regional stability posed by desertification. Nearly one third of the world’s cropland has become unproductive and been abandoned in the past 40 years. Almost three quarters of rangelands show various symptoms of desertification. Climate change is a contributing factor, but not the only one. In particular, we must reconsider our agricultural practices and how we manage our water resources. Agriculture and the raising of livestock account for 70 per cent of freshwater use and as much as 80 per cent of deforestation. Growing demand for crops for animal feed and biofuels will put further pressure on these scarce resources if not managed sustainably.

Current global consumption and production patterns are unsustainable. The consequences will include further global food crises, such as we saw in 2008, and continued desertification, land degradation and periods of drought. As usual, the poor will be the first victims and the last to recover.

The recently concluded seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development stressed that desertification and land degradation are global problems that require a global response. In December, world leaders can provide such a response when they meet in Copenhagen to seal a deal on climate change. A comprehensive and equitable agreement to slow down global warming must also help developing countries to adapt to the impacts that are already under way. In particular, it must provide adequate and predictable financing to support improved land management, more efficient water use and sustainable agriculture.

On this World Day to Combat Desertification, let us recognize the security risks of letting desertification advance unchecked. Let us also recognize that by combating climate change we can help forestall desertification advance unchecked. Let us also recognize the security risks of letting desertification advance unchecked. Let us also recognize the security risks of desertification advance unchecked.

Two killed in shooting near Virginia shopping mall

WASHINGTON, 16 June—Two men were shot dead near a shopping mall in Prince William, Virginia, a Washington suburban county, on Monday morning, police said.

One man was found dead near a bus terminal and another corpse was found in a wooded area along the nearby highway Interstate-95.

Both locations are near to the Potomac Mills shopping mall, Prince William County police told reporters.

A vehicle was also found with bullet holes, but it was unclear whether it belonged to the victims or whether they were in the car when they were shot.

Police have identified the victims and the suspect, but their names have not been released.

Police officers are hunting for the suspect, who is believed to have a gun and is described as 40-year-old black male wearing dark clothes.—INTERNET

China, Nigeria state firms find oil in Niger Delta

ABUJA, 16 June—China’s state oil firm SIPEC and Nigerian Petroleum Development Company (NPDC) have discovered crude oil from Niger Delta region of the west African nation, an official statement said.

SIPEC, a subsidiary of China Petroleum Corporation, and NPDC, the exploration and production arm of the state-run Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), jointly discovered crude in the Oil Mining Lease (OML) 64, also known as Kakaku-I well, the statement said.

NNPC said in the statement that the well was drilled to a total depth of 11,150 feet and encountered six major hydrocarbon intervals, three out of which are bearing oil.

“Initial test on the well indicates that the oil is similar to most oil discovered in Nigeria, that is sweet light crude. Production from the well ranges between 1,284 and 3,110 barrels per day and zero water content,” said the statement.

Production from the well will begin after field appraisal, it said.—INTERNET

Earthquake hits north of Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA, 16 June—An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter scale shook on Monday the Caribbean region of Honduras, causing no casualties or property damage.

The tremor occurred at 10:00 am local time and was felt in Roatan and Utila localities, both islands off the northern Honduran coast.

The epicenter was located in the sea 56 km northeast of Roatan, with a depth of 6.1 km, a spokesman for the Permanent Commission of Contingencies (Copecco) said.

The northern departments of Atlantica, Colon and Cortes were also affected by the earthquake.—INTERNET

People play at a coast in Algiers, capital of Algeria, on 14 June, 2009. A total of 54 coast of the city have been opened to the public.—XINHUA

Russia hosts key security summit

YEKATERINBURG, 16 June—Russia hosted the second day of a key security summit seen as a counter to US power with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, making his first foreign trip since his re-election, in attendance.

Ahmadinejad arrived early on Tuesday to attend the high-profile get-together dominated by Russia and China, being hosted by the Kremlin in the Urals Mountains deep inside Russia.

The summit organizers broadcast live footage showing a widely-smiling Ahmadinejad, wearing a dark suit but not tie, shaking hands with a beaming Medvedev before the leaders went into the second day of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit.

The summit organizers also showed footage of a relaxed and smiling Iranian leader coming down the stairs of his plane as he was being met by a host of journalists and officials at a local airport.

Whether Ahmadinejad, who has a habit of stealing the limelight at international events, would turn up at the summit had become a source of intrigue after he postponed his planned arrival on Monday following unrest over his election victory.—INTERNET

Four killed in US family murder-suicide

WASHINGTON, 16 June—In an apparent murder-suicide, a couple and their two children were found dead on Monday at their home in Seminole County, the US state of Florida, local authorities said.

The County Sheriff’s Office told reporters it appears three of the family members were killed by the other member, who later committed suicide.

The couple, John and Cynthia Wood, had two children — Aubrey, 12, and Dillon, 10.

Although the nature of the case is not finally determined, officials said John Wood apparently shot his entire family because there was a gun found beside his body. Police said it might never be known what exactly led to the tragedy, but there seems to be a sign of financial difficulty with the family.

When a cleaning woman entered the family’s home by noon, she found the bodies and reported to the police.—INTERNET
Chinese arms on show in Paris

BEIJING, 16 June—A series of China-made planes and missiles have gone on display at this year’s Paris Air Show.

The air show comes amid tough times for the recession-hit airline industry and in light of unanswered questions over the crashed Air France jetliner.

China’s latest J-15 jet trainer and air-to-air missiles are among the exhibits displayed by the Aviation Industry Corporation of China, the country’s major air-

line manufacturer.

The 48th Paris Air Show opened on Monday at Le Bourget Airport, north of Paris. It will last until Sunday. The century-old exhibition is one of the most influ-

ential air shows in the world.

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It is this belief, he main-
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four African countries.

The majority of Sinosteel’s staff in its

three African subsidiaries

are locals, although it does

still employ a number of

Chinese managers at each

of its sites. This follows a

policy the company

adopted in 2004 that saw

it pledge to develop the

management skills of the

local workforces at all of

its plants.

A typical beneficiary of

this policy is Adolf

Munyai, now legal affairs

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joint venture between

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Province of South Africa.

Munyai joined ASA

Metals Pty in 2005 and his

first assignment was to

develop the chrome iron

reclamation project plant

in the Maroga commu-
nity.—Xinhua

Indonesian robot team

wins in San Francisco

JAKARTA, 16 June—Indonesian robot team from

University of Computer Indonesia (UNIKOM)

grabbled gold medal in the International Robo Games

held in 12-14 June, 2009 in San Francisco of the United

States, the private news portal detik.com reported on

Tuesday.

The General Consulate of Indonesian Republic in

San Francisco, in its press release said that the victory

was grabbed by performance of Robot DU-114 which

got the fastest time of searching fire source and extin-

cuished it by automatic water syringe.

Meanwhile, Robot NEXT-116 made by other

UNIKOM student Strevenus Akbar did not get any

medals. However, it was the only robot having eight

wheels or chains as moving tool. The

Fire Fighting Autonomous Robot amidst other robots

got the fastest time of searching fire source and extin-

cuished it by automatic water syringe.

Xinhua

Colombia, Italy fund hospital-vessel for poor families

BOGOTA, 16 June—Col-

ombian President Alvaro

Uribe and delegates from

Italy inaugurated on Mon-

day a hospital-vessel to

assist poor families in

Buenaventura Port in the

Pacific Ocean.

The programme is

funded by Colombian and

Italian non-governmental

organizations.

It is a social health

company.”—Uribe said at

the ceremony. The vessel

will start traveling on 27

June.

The vessel was also

funded by “Colombia

wants to see you,” a foun-

dation soccer player Ivan

Coroboa established with

15 million US dollars.

Medical services, in-

cluding pediatrics, sur-

gery, gynecology, psy-

chology and odontology,

will be provided on the

vessel to some 2,500 peo-

ple from Buenaventura

and nearby towns, most of

whom are of Afro-Colom-

bian origins.

The vessels will have

the written label of “Life

without drug, a global ef-

fort,” to take the message

to residents in the region,

through which drug traf-

fickers smuggle cocaine
to Central America.

Xinhua

Chile, Russia agree to
deepen commercial ties

SANTIAGO, 16 June—More than 100 officials and

businessmen from Chile and Russia met in Russia on

Monday to deepen the bilateral commercial ties be-

tween the two countries.

According to reports reaching here from Moscow,

the event entitled “Chilean-Russian Economic Com-

mercial Days,” was organized by the Chilean Direc-
tion on International Economic Affairs (Direcon), the

Chilean National Society of Agriculture (SNA) and the

Russian Chamber of Commerce.

The Association of Sectorial Unions from the Agro-

food Complex of Russia and the SNA signed a letter

of intent on cooperation.

Businessmen and representatives from trade unions

of both countries also held different business meet-

ings.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Sinosteel backs local community for global growth

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Visitors view the environment-friendly car at the China International Energy Saving and Environmental Protection Exhibition 2009 in Beijing, capital of China, on 14 June, 2009.—Xinhua
Nigerian rebels threaten FIFA junior World Cup

Lagos, 16 June—Armed militants in Nigeria’s Niger Delta on Monday declared attacks against facilities run by US oil giant Chevron and warned FIFA against letting the country host the under-17 World Cup tournament.
The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) in an email statement also threatened to extend its operations beyond Delta State to others in the oil-rich but volatile southern region.
MEND said they had started a huge fire that destroyed Abiteye flow station and blown up other Chevron facilities there early Monday.
“Hurricane Piper Alpha hit the Abiteye flow station operated by Chevron today which resulted in a massive fire outbreak that is consuming the entire facility,” it said in the statement.
MEND vowed to move “into the neighbouring states of Bayelsa and Rivers before passing through the remaining states of Ondo, Edo and Akwa Ibom then finally head off-shore.”
The group also took “this opportunity to advise FIFA to have a rethink about Nigeria hosting the under-17 World Cup tournament at this time, as the safety of international players and visitors cannot be guaranteed due to the current unrest.”

Brazilian police seize 12 tons of marijuana

Rio de Janeiro, 16 June—The Brazilian Federal Police announced on Monday it seized a shipment of over 12 tons of marijuana in a small town in the country’s southern state of Para.
It was the largest amount of drug seized in Brazil this year, and one of the largest ever registered in the country, officers said. The drug was seized late on Sunday in the town of Guaira at a checking point near the Airton Senna Bridge, which connects the states of Para and Mato Grosso do Sul. The area is close to the Paraguayan border.
The marijuana was being transported in a truck in the disguise of wood shipment. The officers decided to check the truck because the driver was very nervous and kept contradicting himself.
The truck driver, a 50-year-old man, said the drug was to be transported to Sao Paulo.—MNA/Xinhua

Turkmens launch $1.5 b resort

Turkmenbash, 16 June—The president of this normally reclusive nation staged lavish ceremonies for foreign guests and media on Monday to launch a new $1.5 billion resort on the desert shore of the Caspian Sea in a city named after his eccentric and autocratic predecessor.
Gurbanguli Berdymukhamedov stood on the porch of one of three gleaming white luxury hotels just completed here, and told thousands of guests that the development would help his energy-rich country diversify its economy.
He also said the development represented a chance to attract investors to his Central Asian desert nation of five million.
Last week, Berdymukhamedov said he wants to expand the country’s relations to the United States and the West.
“For us there are no near or far countries, large or small companies, there are only honest and reliable partners,” he said.—Internet

US airlines asked to gather more data of passengers

Washington, 16 June—US authorities are requiring all US airlines to gather more personal data of the passengers, including full names, dates of birth and genders, officials said.
Airlines operating domestic flights must comply with the new rule early next year and those operating international flights by the end of next year, officials were quoted as saying by the St Louis Post-Dispatch on Monday.
Currently, passengers in the United States don’t have to give their dates of birth or genders to the airlines when buying tickets.
The new rule known as Secure Flight, aims to increase safety and reduce the frequency of misidentifying passengers with those named on suspected terrorist lists, according to Carrie Harmon, a spokeswoman for the Transportation Safety Administration.

Turkmen President Gurbanguli Berdymukhamedov, center, in the capital of his country, Ashgabat, which is named after his eccentric and autocratic predecessor.

Wild Turkey crashes through window of Wis home

A Wisconsin woman and her 5-year-old daughter got a fowl visitor when an unwelcome wild turkey crashed through a bedroom window.
Heidi Herrera said she was watching television with her daughter when the bird quickly charged into the living room of their home in the eastern Wisconsin town of Mishicot. Herrera got her daughter and their pet Chihuahua to safety in another bedroom.
The mother then ventured out and found the turkey in the kitchen. When she walked toward it, the bird ran out the open front door and down the street, leaving behind feathers, blood and glass scattered throughout the house.
Integrated farming system benefiting rural people

We saw farmers at green paddy fields with mountain ranges in the background. They were working at paddy plantations with the use of agricultural equipment. That scene was an encouraging sign for food sufficiency of the nation.

With the assistance of Head of Shan State (South) Information and Public Relations Department Daw May May Ni, the news team of the Myanmar Alin Daily that left Taunggyi recently arrived at the integrated farm of farmer U Aik Sam of Bawdithad Village in Tilaw Village-tract of Nyaungshwe Township.

We learned that the integrated farm is an agriculture system combined with agriculture and livestock breeding farms.

On arrival at the integrated farm, we saw the preparations being made for the ceremony to introduce the integrated farm. In an interview, Nyaungshwe Township Manager U Sao Swam Waing of Myanmar Agriculture Service said, “Fish is being bred in this paddy plantation. Shweyinaye paddy strain yields 110 baskets of paddy per acre. The farm is located on 9.85 acres of land. A total of 50,000 tilapia and Hamilton's carp species are being bred at the farm. We catch fish once a year. We have a separate hatching pond.”

At the integrated farm, we saw farm animals and chrysanthemum flower plantations, vegetable patches, onion and garlic plantations. Moreover, we observed a tank where natural bio-solution is being produced from waste of earthworms.

We learned that bio-solution and waste of earthworm are used in agriculture works.

In addition, we witnessed growing of straw mushrooms at the farm. The straws from making mushrooms can be used as fertilizers.

We noticed that nothing was wasted at the integrated farm and wastes of animals and these items benefit one another. If the local farmers undertake the integrated farming works, they will reap rich benefits.

On our way back, we gazed at the scenic beauty of mountain ranges, green plantations and rural housings under the cloudy sky, and I thought that the integrated farm system would enhance the livelihood of rural people.

Translation: TTA

Myanma Alin: 13-6-2009

Nyaungshwe Township Manager U Sao Swam Waing of Myanmar Agriculture Service.
Minister for Industry-2 inspects truck and LED bulb production

NAV PVT TAW, 16 June—Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein inspected the LED bulbs production at LED bulb production workshop on Mindhamma road and instructed responsible persons to produce high quality products, run the machines at full capacity and sell at fair prices in compliance with local market demand. MNA

Selected candidates for further studies to be qualified ones, says Health Minister

NAV PVT TAW, 16 June—Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint said that the selected candidates for further studies must be qualified ones with a sense of cherishing the motherland and serving the public interest. The minister reported on work progress for human resource development in hospitals, and Director-General of the Department of Medical Research (Central Myanmar) Dr Tun Naing Oo, on examinations for improvement of medical science. The minister fulfilled the requirements. The minister also held a meeting with service personnel at the Food and Drugs Administration Division under the Department of Health.—MNA

MKF organizes Karatedo Referee Seminar

YANGON, 16 June—The opening of Karatedo Referee Seminar for the 14th State/Division Karatedo Competitions, organized by Myanmar Karatedo Federation under the leadership of the Ministry of Sports, was held at Grand Ballroom (3) of Parkroyal Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here yesterday afternoon. MKF President Dr Win Zaw made an opening address.

Mr. Lim Chee Jim, Chairman of Asia Karatedo Federation (AKF) Referee Council, extended greetings. Altogether 12 trainees of MKF, five of the Ministry of Forestry, four of Yangon Division Police Force, two each from the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation, Mandalay, Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, one each from Sports and Physical Education Department, Nyi-nuy-yay Club (Mandalay Division), AryonU (Mandalay Division), Shan State (East), Defence Services (Navy), Triangle Region Command and Yangon Command and 15 selected players who are undergoing training for XXV SEA Games totalling 51 attended the seminar. MNA

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint makes speech in meeting with rectors and heads of departments at Yangon University of Medicine-1.—HEALTH

Seminar between Myanmar and Sri Lanka held

YANGON, 16 June—A seminar on economic matters between Myanmar and Sri Lanka was held at Sedona Hotel here yesterday evening. Afterwards, Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka H.E Mr Rohitha Bogollagama made speeches. Responsible persons replied to the queries raised by the entrepreneurs. MNA

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun makes speech at a seminar on economic matters between Myanmar and Sri Lanka.—MNA

Rules, regulations for restaurants, boarding houses in Mandalay to be tightened

NAV PVT TAW, 16 June—Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han held a meeting with the proprietors of restaurants, cold drink shops and boarding houses in Mandalay municipal area, at Mandalay City Hall on 1 June. The mayor in his speech said that the meeting was intended to tighten the rules and regulations promulgated for restaurants, soft drink shops and boarding houses; that the committee occasionally makes field trips and issues licences for various businesses; and that action is to be taken against the restaurants and boarding houses that fail to adhere to the rules and regulations. He urged entrepreneurs to participate in the process to keep Mandalay peaceful and clean. Local authorities reported on field trips to give licences for strong drinks and law enforcement measures. Registrars and pro-rectors of Mandalay University of Medicine, and Mandalay University presented facts about licensed restaurants and boarding houses in the municipal area. The proprietors raised queries and held discussions about their businesses. The mayor gave concluding remarks.—MNA
Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo called on heads of the respective work committees for prevention of the human influenza pandemic from states and divisions to raise awareness against the pandemic in states and divisions.

At the meeting, heads of states and divisions health departments reported on their experiences in preventing the disease. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the minister.

Awareness against human influenza pandemic to be raised in states/divisions

The minister also viewed the trees being planted around staff quarters.

Upgrading of Nay Pyi Taw National Herb Garden Work Committee meets

On works being carried out on buildings and roads and water and electricity supply.

The chairman of work committee and those present held discussions and the minister made concluding remarks.

Nay Pyi Taw National Herb Garden was built with the aim of enabling enthusiastic from abroad and at home and heads of other countries to visit. A total of 20,871 plants of 353 kinds of herbs were grown at the garden.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint awards shield to Yangon Division Team that wins championship shield of 13th Taekwondo competition.

Literary discussion held

At the meeting, heads of states and divisions health departments reported on their experiences in preventing the disease. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the minister.

Industry-2 Ministry holds 2nd rainy season tree planting ceremony

A total of 10,405 saplings were planted at first and 2nd rainy season tree planting ceremonies.

Next, the deputy minister also viewed the trees being planted around staff quarters.

Minister Col Thein Nyunt delivers address at coordination meeting on upgrading Nay Pyi Taw Herb Garden.

MOC Chairman attends prize-presentation ceremony of ISD Taekwondo competition (2009)
Mongtin Village on brink of transition to urban area

**Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)**

Farmer U Kyaw Oo, Narmon Village. Shan traditional drums are showed off at the house of U Tha Aung of Narmon Village.

A scene of Mongtin Village which is on the verge of transition to an urban area.

(FROM PAGE 16) As a result of the strenuous efforts the government has been making since 1988 to restore peace, border areas now are enjoying stability and peace and witnessing projects for regional development. In addition, local people of border areas are enjoying the taste of cumulative development in health, care, education and social affairs thanks to the plans for improving their socio-economic life.

Under the arrangements made by the chairman of Kyaukme District Peace and Development Council, our media group from the Myanma Alin Daily visited Mongtin Village on Kyaukme-Mogok Road.

In the past, local people of the region stayed in a state of panic due to uneasy peace. Since the Tatmadaw’s assumption of State duties, the people of Mongtin Village-tract including Mongtin Village have enjoyed security and the projects for regional development have picked up momentum.

Mongtin Village has seen peace and stability, and is in a transitional stage to an urban area due to the development programmes. The village is situated on Kyaukme-Mogok Road, six miles from Kyaukme. It is merely a village, but has many fine buildings and houses astride Kyaukme-Mogok Road.

“Our village is constituted with more than 1000 houses, and has 90 exchange phones. The main business of our region is agricultural farming. The common crops we grow are monsoon paddy, soya bean and summer paddy”, said Chairman of the village Peace and Development Council U Soe Maung.

In 2007-2008, U Tha Aung of Narmon Village of Mongtin Village-tract won first prize for highest per acre yield of summer paddy in Shan State (North) with 289.53 baskets of Hsinshweli strain paddy, and U Kyaw Oo of the same village, with 289.33 baskets of Hsinshweli strain paddy.

U Tha Aung said, “In our region in the past, we had to take security duty on our own holding a rifle just after it was getting dark, let alone growing paddy like this. “So, we could not take enough time to sleep at nights. However, now, peace has been restored, and we can boost paddy production.”

Mongtin Village-tract is made up of 10 villages: Narmon, Wailone, Mahinlan, Peinkha, Waibu, Lwe Awe, Manhsan, Mongtin, Namhsat and Pinthi. Now, Mongtin Village is like a town. There is a plan to equip the village with auto telephones. In the village, 15 houses have a satellite receiver each. All the houses in the village have at least a motorcycle each. The major crops of the village are summer and monsoon paddy, soya bean and corn. With extensive cultivation of crops, the village will be able to enjoy greater economic development and higher living standard.

**Computer system for dementia patients**

Oslo, 16 June — The labour force in the health services is shrinking, there are more and more old people, and a very high proportion of them are plagued by deteriorating short- and long-term memory. All this has created a need for computer-based solutions that will enable elderly people to live safely in their own homes, but at the same time, the technology needed to take special care of them is expensive. On top of this, different standards for home sensors create problems.

This situation formed the backdrop for the EU’s decision a couple of years ago to launch a series of projects to make it simpler for industry to develop new equipment in this field. One of these projects was called Mpower, and its aim was to create a computer platform that could be used for various purposes and meet a wide range of needs among its target group.

What is being tested out in Norway today is a simple communication system based on a computer screen, aimed at elderly people who live at home but whose memory is failing.

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What is being tested out in Norway today is a simple communication system based on a computer screen, aimed at elderly people who live at home but whose memory is failing.

These ladies have tested the system and enjoyed the experience.
Somali rebel attack outside Mogadishu kills six

Mogadishu, 16 June—Somalia’s al-Shabaab rebels attacked a government-held checkpoint outside Mogadishu on Tuesday, with six fighters dying in the battle, residents said.

A two-year insurgency led by the Islamist group which Western security services say is al-Qaeda’s proxy in Somalia has killed 18,000 civilians, made 1 million people homeless, drawn in foreign jihadists, and enabled piracy to flourish offshore.

“Heavy fighting took place ... al-Shabaab men have ambushed a checkpoint here controlled by government soldiers. I saw six people dead in the battle,” said a resident of Galgalalo village, about 15 km (9 miles) northeast of the capital.

In the latest cycle of 18 years of violence, al-Shabaab and another militant group, Hizbul Islam, are fighting the administration of President Sheikh Sharif Ahmed and an allied moderate Islamist group Ahlu Sunna Waljamaaca.

The insurgents control large swathes of south Somalia and parts of the capital, with some districts changing hands regularly in heavy fighting during recent weeks.

An al-Shabaab spokesman, Sheikh Ali Hussein Raghe, confirmed Tuesday’s attack and vowed more would follow. “The Mujahideen have confiscated three battle-wagons from the enemy. We shall keep on attacking to eradicate illegal checkpoints,” Galgalalo is on a strategic road linking Mogadishu to the north coast.

Government officials were not immediately available for comment on Tuesday’s violence.—Internet

Italian police arrest dozens in anti-Mafia raid

Rome, 16 June—Italian police said on Tuesday they had arrested 13 people suspected of helping a top Mafia fugitive hide, communicate with other mobsters and conduct his business.

Investigators said that with Tuesday’s arrests they are closing in on Matteo Messina Denaro, a fugitive who is among a handful of mobsters vying to take over the Sicilian Mafia. Most of the arrests were carried out in Trapani, a city in Western Sicily that is the power base of Messina Denaro.

The World Health Organization last week declared a pandemic for A/H1N1 influenza. As of Tuesday, 76 countries officially reported 35,928 cases of A/H1N1 flu infection, including 163 deaths.—Internet

Harry Potter publisher denies plagiarism claim


The book, published in 2000, was the fourth installment of the hugely successful boy wizard Harry Potter series that has sold more than 400 million copies worldwide and has been turned into a multi-billion-dollar film franchise.

Philippine A/H1N1 flu cases near 250

Manila, 16 June—The number of confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases in the Philippines has mushroomed to nearly 250, the country’s Department of Health said Tuesday.

The department said it confirmed 54 new cases Tuesday, bringing the number of A/H1N1 infections to 247, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. reported.

Also on Tuesday, Lagro Elementary School in Quezon City suspended classes for 10 days after being notified of two confirmed cases of A/H1N1 flu, formerly called swine flu, the broadcaster said. Nine schools in the Philippines have reported confirmed cases.—Internet

May housing construction jumps by 17.2 percent

Washington, 16 June—Construction of new homes jumped in May by the largest amount in three months, an encouraging sign that the nation’s deep housing recession was beginning to bottom out.

The Commerce Department said on Tuesday that construction of new homes and apartments jumped 17.2 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 532,000 units. That was better than the 500,000-unit pace that economists had expected and came after construction fell in April to a record low of 454,000 units.

In another encouraging sign, applications for building permits, seen as a good indicator of future activity, rose 4 percent in May to an annual rate of 518,000 units.

Cop finds $100 bills blowing in wind

HARRISBURG, 16 June—A New Jersey man was left wondering where his $3,000 cash had gone after a job in Pennsylvania. Turns out, the answer was blowing in the wind.

A Harrisburg-area police officer gearing up to catch speeders early Saturday spotted several $100 bills fluttering in the breeze along the road. Camp Hill police Officer Lane Pryor then found a folder containing the rest of the cash and contact information for the man who lost it.

Pryor tracked down the man, Jose Castilao, and returned the money.

Castilao had been on his way home on Friday night after working an event at a Harrisburg-area country club when he realized the folder with his payment was missing.

Camp Hill’s police chief says the officer’s handling of the windfall speaks well of him.—Internet

A man walks by a stock price indicator at a securities firm in Tokyo. Nikkei 225 index ends Tuesday’s morning session down 196.00 points, or 2.0 percent, at 9,843.67.—Internet

A billboard promotes a newly-open shopping mall in Beijing on June 12. China has ordered local governments to favour domestic companies when carrying out projects that are part of a massive anti-crisis stimulus package, state media has reported.—Internet

An al-Shabaab spokesman, Sheikh Ali Hussein Raghe, confirmed Tuesday’s attack and vowed more would follow. “The Mujahideen have confiscated three battle-wagons from the enemy. We shall keep on attacking to eradicate illegal checkpoints,” Galgalalo is on a strategic road linking Mogadishu to the north coast.

Government officials were not immediately available for comment on Tuesday’s violence.—Internet
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SANG THAI QUARTZ VOY NO (11)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SANG THAI QUARTZ VOY NO (11) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.6.2009 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 up 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: SANG THAI SHIPPING CO., LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV CONSULAR VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CONSULAR VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel arrived on 15.6.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 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 up 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: PACIFIC TIMOR SHIPPING AGENCY PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.
FDA asks for warning on some asthma drugs

WASHINGTON, 16 June—The US Food and Drug Administration has asked manufacturers to include a precaution in the labeling of some asthma drugs called leukotriene modifiers.

The federal agency said the labeling should advise patients that some neuropsychiatric events have been reported by people taking montelukast (Singulair), zafirlukast (Accolate) and zileuton (Zylo and Zylo CR).

“Leukotrienes are chemicals the body releases in response to an inflammatory stimulus, such as when a person breathes in an allergen,” the FDA said in a statement. “Montelukast and zafirlukast are leukotriene receptor antagonists that work by blocking leukotrienes. Zileuton is a leukotriene synthesis inhibitor, which works by stopping the formation of certain substances that cause swelling, tightening and mucus production in the airways.”

The FDA said reported neuropsychiatric events include agitation, aggression, anxiety, depression, insomnia, irritability, restlessness, suicidal thinking and behavior — including suicide — and tremors.

Why smoking may increase heart risk

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—US researchers suggest nicotine may be a reason smoking increases the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles and Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, California, said the studies in animals found nicotine promotes insulin resistance — a prediabetic condition where blood-sugar levels are above normal.

Other studies show people with prediabetes are at greater risk of developing stroke, heart attack and other cardiovascular diseases.

The researchers studied the effects of twice-daily injections of nicotine on 24 adult mice during a two-week period.

“Our results in mice show that nicotine administration leads to body weight loss and decreased food intake,” study researcher Theodore Friedman of Charles Drew University said in a statement. “Mice exposed to nicotine have less fat. In spite of this, mice have abnormal glucose tolerance and are insulin resistant.”

Three more US states report first death of A/H1N1 flu

HOUSTON, 16 June—Three more states in the US on Monday reported their first death of A/H1N1 flu.

In Boston, director of the city public health commission Barbara Ferrer said at a news conference that a woman in her 30s is the first A/H1N1 flu-related death in the state of Massachusetts, where confirmed cases of A/H1N1 flu reached 1,153 last Thursday.

State and city health officials said the woman died on Sunday but had other health problems but they are not sure if they directly contributed to her death.

“We believe very much that this is a reminder that flu can be serious,” said John Auerbach, the state commissioner of department of public health, quoted by local reports.—INTERNET

New Zealand’s confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 rise to 100

WELLINGTON, 16 June—The number of confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 in New Zealand rose to 100 on Tuesday, a sign that the flu epidemic was escalating rapidly.

Three new cases confirmed in South Island’s Canterbury region late Monday night brought the national total of confirmed cases to 100, the Ministry of Health said on Tuesday.

Three schools and two early childhood centers were now closed as the flu continued to spread through the community.

Students at three Christchurch and four Auckland schools have come down with the virus. The Ministry of Education said on Tuesday there were at least three other schools which have cases of the virus but are remaining open.—INTERNET

Low-fat diet may help avoid liver cancer

PHILADELPHIA, 16 June—Low-fat diet helps genetically predisposed animals avoid liver cancer, US researchers found.

In a study comparing two strains of mice—one susceptible to developing cancer and the other not—researchers found that a high-fat diet predisposed the cancer-susceptible strain to liver cancer.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Case Western Reserve University found that by switching to a low-fat diet early in the experiment, the same high-risk mice avoided the cancer malignancy.

The switched mice were lean rather than obese and had healthy livers at the end of the study.—INTERNET

Dairy farms use less land, feed and water

ITHACA, 16 June—A US study finds dairy genetics, nutrition, herd management and animal welfare improvements have resulted in a streamlined milk production system.

Cornell University researchers found today’s modern milk production system has a smaller carbon footprint for US dairy farms compared to mid-20th century farming practices.

“As US and global populations continue to increase, it is critical to adopt management practices and technologies to produce sufficient high-quality food from a limited resource supply, while minimizing effects upon the environment,” said Jude Capper, the study’s lead author, said.

The study showed the carbon footprint for a gallon of milk produced in 2007 was only 37 percent of that produced in 1944.

Improved efficiency has enabled the US dairy industry to produce 186 billion pounds of milk from 9.2 million cows in 2007, compared with only 117 billion pounds of milk from 25.6 million cows in 1944.

Thailand’s total number of A/H1N1 flu virus patients rises to 310

BANGKOK, 16 June—Thailand on Tuesday reported 109 more A/H1N1 virus cases, bringing the country’s total number to 310, Deputy Public Health Minister Manit Nopamornsri announced here on Tuesday.

Despite of the rising number of the A/H1N1 virus patients, Manit said the public not to panic.

The rising number of A/H1N1 flu cases was not unusual since other countries also encountered the same problem, said Doctor Prat Boonyavongviroj, permanent secretary of the Health Ministry.

Meanwhile, Doctor Prat said the new virus could pose higher risk to children under five years old, pregnant women, elders with an age of over 65 years old, and people with low immunity, or those with chronic diseases such as lung, heart and kidney diseases.—INTERNET

A heavy thunder storm hits Beijing on Tuesday morning, causing darkness in the city during the daytime.—INTERNET
**SPORTS**

**Mourinho wants Carvalho and Deco**

Rome, 16 June—Inter Milan coach Jose Mourinho is eager to sign Portuguese duo Ricardo Carvalho and Deco from Chelsea.—INTERNET

Chelsea players Deco (L) plays with Ricardo Carvalho during a training session at Stamford Bridge in London, 2008. Inter Milan coach Jose Mourinho is eager to sign Portuguese duo Ricardo Carvalho and Deco from Chelsea.—INTERNET

Carvalho and we have started talks,” Massimo Moratti told La Gazzetta dello Sport newspaper.

“We want to sign the two of them and I’m delighted to have seen that the two players want to come here. “We still haven’t got the nod from Chelsea but I think we’ll manage to find that quickly.”—INTERNET

**Aussie striker Kennedy linked to Nagoya**

Sydney, 16 June—Towering Australian striker Josh Kennedy said Monday his management was negotiating with Japanese J-League club Nagoya Grampus with a view to a possible transfer from his German Bundesliga club.

Kennedy, 26, who is expected to lead the Australian attack in their final Asian World Cup qualifier against Japan in Melbourne on Wednesday, is looking to move from Karlsruher SC, where he has had limited playing opportunities.

“My manager has spoken to them (Nagoya),” Kennedy told reporters. “Nothing is official at the moment, so we’ll see what happens in the next few weeks and we’ll stay in touch.—INTERNET

**Italy’s America connection ends hopes of 10-man USA**

Pretoria, 16 June—World champions Italy joined Brazil at the top of Group B after coming from behind to beat 10-man United States 3-1 in an electric Confederations Cup encounter here on Monday.

Landon Donovan put the States into a first half lead only for the Azzurri to hit back after the break with goals from New York-born substitute Giuseppe Rossi and Daniele De Rossi.

USA coach Bob Bradley naturally pointed to Ricardo Clark’s red card eight minutes before half-time as a turning point.—INTERNET

**Kaka rescues Brazil in 4-3 Confed Cup thriller**

BLOOMSBURG, 16 June—Real Madrid’s new signing Kaka rescued Brazil with a last-gasp penalty to hand the defending champions a controversial 4-3 win over Egypt in the Confederations Cup on Monday.

Brazil were leading 3-1 with first-half strikes from Kaka, Luis Fabiano and Juan cancelling out Mohamed Zidan’s effort before Egypt drew level with two second-half goals inside a minute.

The game looked destined for a draw until substitute Ahmed Al-Mahamadi deliberately handled the ball on the Egyptian goal-line and was sent off, leaving Kaka to coolly convert from the spot in the 91st minute.

The penalty decision by English referee Howard Webb did not go down well with Egypt, who filed a complaint with FIFA after the match.—INTERNET

**Wolves sign Serb Milijas**

LONDON, 16 June—Newly-promoted English Premiership club Wolverhampton have signed Serbia midfielder Nenad Milijas on a four-year deal.

Milijas, 26, signed from Red Star Belgrade for three million euros, according to Serbian daily Blic, and his contract is subject to getting a work permit. “We’re really thrilled to have started our summer recruitment with Nenad Milijas,” said Wolves chief executive Jez Moxey.

Milijas, the player of the year in the Serbian league last season, is considered a dead-ball specialist, and has used those skills to build up an impressive goal-scoring record from midfield.

**Martinez deal agreed by Swansea and Wigan**

London, 16 June—Wigan will finally get to unveil former player Roberto Martinez as their new manager after a row with the Spaniard’s club, Swansea, over a compensation package was resolved late on Monday.

Martinez is now expected to be unveiled as Steve Bruce’s successor at the JJB Stadium on Tuesday.

Premier League side Wigan had hoped to make the announcement last week however it was halted because of a row over the cost of taking the Spaniard’s backroom staff from Swansea.

The 35-year-old Martinez replaces Bruce after he left the club to take over at Sunderland.

Martinez guided Swansea to the League One title last year and then finished within two places of the Championship play-offs last season.—INTERNET

**No offers for Aguero, Forlan: Atletico president**

Madrid, 16 June—Atletico Madrid’s president said on Monday he has received no offers for Argentine star Sergio “Kun” Aguero, pictured in May 2009, a reported target of Chelsea, or Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan.—INTERNET

Atletico Madrid’s president’s said Monday he has received no offers for Argentine star Sergio “Kun” Aguero, a reported target of Chelsea, or Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan.—INTERNET

“Kun” Aguero, pictured in May 2009, a reported target of Chelsea, or Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan.—INTERNET

has come to us,” said Enrique Cerezo. “We have no offers for our players. “We don’t want to sell, the idea is to make a great team,” he said.

British media reports last week said Chelsea had launched a 45-million-pound (53-million-euro) bid to sign the 21-year-old Aguero, who scored 17 goals last season to help Atletico claim a place in the Champions League.—INTERNET

**Stars mingle with the long shots at US Open**

FARMINGDALE, 16 June—Tiger Woods held the putter with only his left hand as he rapped a 60-foot putt across the practice green. Then he hit another putt with his right hand, a third putt with both hands in conventional style. He asked for the wedge to try a variety of shots out of sticky grass, searching for the best approach. Woods knows all the tricks.

This is his 15th straight year playing in the US Open, and his third attempt this decade at joining an elite group as back-to-back champions in the so-called toughest test in golf.

Woods is the overwhelming favourite at Bethpage Black, where he won by three shots in 2002 as the only player to finish under par. The challenge figures to come from a familiar cast, whether it’s Padraig Harrington or Phil Mickelson, Geoff Ogilvy or Jim Furyk.

Scott Lewis chips onto the 12th green in preparation for the US Open Golf Championship at Bethpage State Park’s Black Course in Farmingdale, New York, on 15 June, 2009. —INTERNET

Tiger Woods watches his drive off the 9th tee during a practice round of the US Open golf championship in Bethpage, New York, on 15 June, 2009. At rear left is Wood’s swing coach Hank Haney.—INTERNET
Nigerian gunmen kill footballer after title win

YENAGOA (Nigeria), 16 June—The captain of Bayelsa United was killed by armed robbers hours after he helped his team win Nigeria’s premier league, a club official said on Monday. Abiel Tabor, 24, was shot late on Sunday near the town of Oleh, in southern Nigeria’s Delta state, when he tried to drive away from the gunmen.

Tabor was travelling with his younger brother and two others to visit his family after Bayelsa clinched the title with a 2-2 draw against Warri Wolves. “We were told he was killed by the armed robbers close to Warri,” said Bayelsa’s assistant chairman Dbi Ayah.

Violent crime has surged in the Niger Delta since the oil industry three years ago.—INTERNET

Job seekers browse vacancy notices at a job fair in Manila on 12 June. Unemployment in the Philippines fell to 7.5 percent in April from 8.0 percent a year earlier, according to recently released jobs data.—MNA/Reuters

WEATHER

Tuesday, 16 June, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin, Mon States and Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Kayin State, Yangon and Ayeyawady Division and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Longlon (6.34) inches, Ye (3.23) inches, Machanbaw (2.99) inches, Dawei (2.80) inches and Theinzayat and Kawkareik (2.17) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 15-6-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 16-6-2009 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16-6-2009 was 79%. Total sun shine hours on 15-6-2009 was (2.2) hours approx.

Rainfall on 16-6-2009 was (Tr) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (0.12) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (29.41) inches at Mingaladon, (35.12) inches at Kaba-Aye and (40.55) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from West at (16:45) hours MST on 15-6-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 17th June 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon and Kayin States, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States, scattered in Shan State, Upper Sagain and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Mon State and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally moderate monsoon

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-6-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-6-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Mongtin Village on brink of transition to urban area

Article: Myint Maung Soe; Photos: Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)

Mongtin Village in Kyaukme Township, Shan State (North), is enjoying cumulative development. (See page 10)

Is sky limit for wind power?

SCIENCE DAILY, 16 June—In the future, will wind power tapped by high-flying kites light up New York? A new study by scientists at the Carnegie Institution and California State University identifies New York as a prime location for exploiting high-altitude winds, which globally contain enough energy to meet world demand 100 times over. The researchers found that the regions best suited for harvesting this energy match with population centers in the eastern U.S. and East Asia, but fluctuating wind strength still presents a challenge for exploiting this energy source on a large scale.

Using 28 years of data from the National Center for Environmental Prediction and the Department of Energy, Ken Caldeira of the Carnegie Institution’s Department of Global Ecology and Cristina Archer of California State University, Chico, compiled the first-ever global survey of wind energy available at high altitudes in the atmosphere.

Deforestation causes ‘boom-and-bust’ development in Amazon

BRASILIA, 16 June—Clearing the Amazon rainforest increases Brazilian communities’ wealth and quality of life, but these improvements are short-lived, according to new research published today (12 June) in Science.

The study, by an international team including researchers at the University of Cambridge and Imperial College London, shows that levels of development revert back to well below national average levels when the loggers and land clearers move on.

Since 2000, 155 thousand square kilometres of rainforest in the Brazilian Amazon have been cut down for timber, burnt, or cleared for agricultural use. Forest clearance rates have averaged more than 1.8 million hectares per year (roughly the area of Kuwait), and the deforestation frontier is advancing into the forest at a rate of more than four football fields every minute.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

Longlon
6.34 inches

Yay
3.23 inches

Machanbaw
2.99 inches

Dawei
2.80 inches

Theinzayat
2.17 inches

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Internet

An average of 1.8 million hectares of forest are lost annually in the Brazilian Amazon.