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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Portuguese President

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Portuguese Republic which falls on 10 June 2010.—MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Portuguese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June—U Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Jose Socrates Carvalho Pinto De Sousa, Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Portuguese Republic which falls on 10 June 2010.—MNA

Kyaukse Township facilitated with 25-bed hospital, basic education high school

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye attended the opening ceremonies of the 25-bed People’s hospital and No. (4) Basic Education High School (Phyaukseikpin Factories Group Region) in Phyaukseikpin Village, Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Division, this morning. Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, and the superintending manager of Hsin Min Cement Plant of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd formally opened the hospital.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the health facility, and inspected it.

The 160’ x 60’ hospital is situated in Phyaukseikpin (Chaungzon region) in Kyaukse Township, Kyaukse District.

Four economic objectives

- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad

Four political objectives

- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four social objectives

- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye attends opening ceremony of new building of No. (4) Basic Education High School in Phyaukseikpin Village, Kyaukse Township.

MNA

Photo shows 25-bed People’s Hospital in Phyaukseikpin Village, Kyaukse Township.

MNA

(See page 8)
GMS countries to conserve natural resources

Prime Minister U Thein Sein attended the working luncheon hosted by Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum and the Seminar on ‘Making the Mekong: Regional Growth and Leadership’ at the Plenary Hall of Inter-Continental Asiana Saigon Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City on 6 June.

Mekong Region is rich in natural resources along with its huge land area, water resources and mountain ranges. The natural resources are exploited and used in implementing programmes for national development. Some types of natural resources can be replenished, whereas some are non-renewable.

The Prime Minister in his discussions said that to maintain the sustainability of the environment, development objectives of the GMS countries and conservation of the environment should be harmonized, pointing out that economic development endeavours should not be deteriorating the environment.

Myanmar’s economy is still agro-based and it is maintaining the sustainability of the agriculture sector that comprises agriculture, livestock and fisheries and forest areas. Her net sown acreage makes up 67.3 per cent of the total arable land, which shows that she has vast arable land to expand.

In the livestock and fishery sector, studies, have been undertaken to fix the annual allowable catch for the sustainability of livestock and fishery resources. In the forestry sector, the nation has calculated the annual allowable cuts so as to maintain the sustainability of forests. The nation has greening projects at the national level and re-generation programmes are also being formulated and implemented.

Once depleted, some of the natural resources vanish forever. Environment impact of development or amount of resources needed for implementation of development projects and usable amount should be judged wisely. Therefore, natural resources-rich Mekong countries have to continue to conserve the natural resources for their sustainable development.

A&I Minister inspects completion of Ngawun River across canal in Laymyethna Township

YANGON, 10 June—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo inspected the maintenance of Ayeyawady-Hinthada embankment, Hinthada bank embankment and measures for prevention against flood in a motorcade on 6 June.

After hearing reports on work progress and follow-up task for prevention against bank erosion of Ngawun River being implemented by Irrigation Department in Laymyethna Township of Hinthada district, the minister looked into dredging of canal across the river in order to change water course and repairing of bank by Water Resources Utilization Department near Htupayon Pagoda on the west bank of the river.

The canal, which has 2200 feet in length, 12 feet in depth and 72 feet in width, can relieve the erosion of west bank of Ngawun River.

Contracts inked for purchase of steel truss for Ayeyawady Bridges (Pakokku) and (Nyaungdon).—CONSTRUCTION

Construction Minister U Khin Maung Myint attends signing ceremony for purchase of steel truss for Ayeyawady Bridges (Pakokku) and (Nyaungdon).—CONSTRUCTION

FM felicitates Portuguese counterpart

NAV Pyi Taw, 10 June—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Luis Amado, Minister of State and Foreign Affairs of the Portuguese Republic, on the occasion of the National Day of the Portuguese Republic, which falls on 10 June 2010.

According to the contracts, a total of 30 spans of steel trusses for Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) will be bought 15 from China CAMC Engineering Co Ltd, 9 from Northern International (Holding) Co Ltd, and six from Hubei Huazhou International Co Ltd, and a total of 20 spans of steel trusses for Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon), 10 each from Tsilien Group Co Ltd and China Railway Balance Bridge Group Co Ltd.
Pentagon admits “tough week” as casualty mounts in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 10 June—As foreign troops in Afghanistan suffer heavy losses this week, the US Defence Department spokesman admitted on Wednesday NATO forces are facing “tough week” in that country.

“The fact of the matter is that we have taken casualties and we’ve taken quite a few this week. It’s been a tough week,” said Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman. A total of 23 foreign troops were killed in Afghanistan in escalating violence since Monday, including four US soldiers who died as their helicopter was shot down by militants in Helmand Province earlier Wednesday.

Ten NATO service members were killed in attacks on Monday, the bloodiest day for US and NATO forces in two years. The toll includes seven Americans, two Australians and a French soldier. Eight were killed on Tuesday, and one British soldier was killed on Wednesday apart from the four US soldiers.

Independent count said up to Wednesday, 249 foreign troops have been killed in Afghanistan this year. The Pentagon attributed the reason of high casualties to increased troops level. Whitman said now there are more foreign forces in Afghanistan than at any other time, “so the level of activity is high,” and “obviously the opportunities for hostile contact have gone up.”

There now are about 94,000 US service members in Afghanistan with 48,000 allies. The number of US troops in Afghanistan will grow to about 98,000 by September. The number of NATO and other allied troops also will increase.—Internet

NATO helicopter goes down in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, 10 June—NATO says a helicopter has gone down in southern Afghanistan and there is no immediate word on casualties.

Spokesman Sgt Kevin Bell said the aircraft went down on Wednesday in Helmand Province but that few other details were available.

A spokesman for the provincial government, Dawood Ahmadi, said the aircraft went down in Sangin District after taking ground fire.—Internet

Pentagon says convoy attack not to impact operation in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 10 June—US Defence Department said on Wednesday an attack on US convoy in Pakistan that destroyed about 60 trucks won’t impact the overall operation in Afghanistan. Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said the attack destroyed only a small fraction of supplies transported into Afghanistan for US and its allies’ forces.

“Fifty or 60 containers is not a small attack by any means, but you look at that in terms of its impact on our overall operations, it’s not going to have an effect,” he said.

A NATO supply convoy was attacked near Pakistan’s capital city of Islamabad late Tuesday night.

The attack killed eight Pakistani nationals and wounded another 6. Some 60 trucks were destroyed.

Seven dead as gunmen torch NATO trucks in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 10 June—Gunmen attacked military vehicles and goods destined for NATO in Afghanistan, torching up to 60 trailers and killing seven people in an unprecedented assault near Islamabad, police said on Wednesday. The overnight attack was the first on NATO supplies so close to the Pakistani capital and entailed one of the biggest losses on the convoys, whose presence is bitterly opposed by Taleban and Al-Qaeda-linked extremists.

A dozen gunmen stormed the depot on the outskirts of Islamabad en route to the northwestern city of Peshawar and towards the NATO supply route into Afghanistan, where 130,000 US-led foreign troops are fighting the Taleban.

Although militants have routinely attacked supplies for US and NATO-led foreign forces travelling through Pakistan, the audacious assault will raise questions about insecurity on the doorstep of the heavily-guarded capital.—Xinhua

Explosion rocks S Afghanistan killing 40, injuring 77

KANDAHAR, 10 June—An explosion rattled a wedding party late on Wednesday in southern Afghanistan’s restive province of Kandahar, killing at least 40 people and injuring 77 others, a local government official said.

Haj Anas, a senior official with Kandahar’s provincial government, told Xinhua that the bombing happened around 10 pm local time in Arghandab District outside Kandahar City, the provincial capital.

The groom and 10 children were among those injured, said the official, adding that the casualties could be higher.

No one has so far claimed responsibility for the incident.

Kandahar Province, branded as the hotbed of violence recently. The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) earlier announced that it launch a major offensive on the Taleban in the province this month.

Xinhua

An Afghan boy lies on a bed in a local hospital after a suicide attack last night in Kandahar on 10 June, 2010.—INTERNET

A doctor stands by the beds of people wounded after a huge explosion at wedding ceremony in Kandahar. —INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET
Individual brain cells can ID objects as dissimilar as cars and dogs

New research in monkeys shows that single brain cells can identify objects as dissimilar as a car and a dog.—INTERNET

SAITAMA, 10 June—Researchers at MIT’s Picower Institute for Learning and Memory found that single brain cells, if confronted with a difficult task, can identify objects as dissimilar as sports cars and dogs.

Researchers have never been sure exactly how specialized cells in the brain can be. Do different neurons each contribute to unique thoughts or can some neurons be cognitive “generalists” and participate in multiple thoughts? To answer this, MIT researchers examined the prefrontal cortex, the brain’s executive in charge of decision-making and planning.

In previous studies, Earl K. Miller, Picower Professor of Neuroscience, found that individual neurons in monkeys’ brains can become tuned to the concept of “cat” and others to the concept of “dog.”

This time, Miller and colleagues Jason Cromer and Jefferson Roy recorded activity in the monkeys’ brains as the animals switched back and forth between distinguishing cats vs. dogs and sports cars vs. sedans. Although they found individual neurons that were more attuned to car images and others to animal images, to their surprise, there were many neurons active in both categories. In fact, these “multitasking” neurons were best at making correct identifications in both categories.

Dolphins use diplomacy in their communication, biologists find

MADRID, 10 June—A Spanish researcher and a Paraguayan scientist have presented the most complete y (9 June , 2010)and detailed European study into the repertoire of sounds used by bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) to communicate. The study reveals the complexity and our lack of understanding about the communication of these marine mammals.

Until now, the scientific community had thought that whistles were the main sounds made by these mammals, and were unaware of the importance and use of burst-pulsed sounds. Researchers from the Bottlenose Dolphin Research Institute (BDRI), based in Sardinia (Italy) have now shown that these sounds are vital to the animals’ social life and mirror their behaviour.

“Burst-pulsed sounds are used in the life of bottlenose dolphins to socialise and maintain their position in the social hierarchy in order to prevent physical conflict, and this also represents a significant energy saving,” Bruno Díaz, lead author of the study and a researcher at the BDRI, which he also manages, said.

Over 1,000 new products to debut at Asia’s No.1 consumer electronics fair

BEIJING, 10 June—More than 1,000 new electronics products will be on display at the China International Consumer Electronics Show (SINOCES) between July 8 and 11 in the east China coastal city of Qingdao, organizers said on Wednesday.

Up to 500 consumer electronics manufacturers, including international IT giants Microsoft, Intel, and Canon, will participate in the largest technology trade event in Asia. The increased participation by vendors represents a 10 percent increase over last year.

With the theme of “Convergence and Innovation”, participants will have the opportunity to sit in on 30 forums focusing on topics such as the sustainability of consumer electronics and 3G telecommunications developments.

The fair will also draw 700 buyers from around the world, an increase of 20 percent over past years, and include e-commerce websites such as eBay.com and Alibaba.com.

Accounting for 13 percent of the entire global consumer electronics industry, China has grown into the world’s largest electronics manufacturing base and the second largest consumer market for electronics products.—Xinhua

Over 100,000 iPad owners’ e-mail addresses exposed

BEIJING, 10 June—A security bug in AT&T’s Web site had exposed more than 100,000 iPad users’ e-mail addresses, US media reported on Wednesday.

A group of hackers, known as Goatee Security, who had uncovered flaws in browsers Firefox and Safari, had successfully downloaded the information from AT&T’s Web site.

A report published by Gawker on Wednesday said that it was “the most exclusive e-mail list on the planet.” E-mail addresses of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel and other powerful figures in finance, media and politics are also included in the list.

AT&T, the sole US provider of wireless service for the popular Apple Inc. tablets, said it had fixed the security problem by Tuesday.

The company also said it would inform all the customers whose email addresses and iPad IDs may have been obtained.—Xinhua

China calls for persistent efforts in tackling environment challenges

GENEVA, 10 June—The Chinese ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva on Wednesday called for persistent international efforts in dealing with environment challenges such as climate change and the shortage of energy and natural resources.

“Finding appropriate solutions to address these challenges is our shared long-term goal ... we must work together to find common solutions to these common problems,” said He Yafei at a briefing to Geneva-based diplomats and journalists on the next meeting of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in the Swiss city of Geneva.

Visitors watch 3D images inside a black box through special glasses at the SONY showroom in Tokyo in January 2010. The upcoming FIFA World Cup games will for the first time be filmed in 3D and broadcast in selected public viewing areas across the world, technology company Sony said on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Science
Drinking coffee may reduce risk of diabetes

Los Angeles, 10 June—The American Chemical Society (ACS) presented new findings on Wednesday to prove that drinking coffee may reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes. The ACS said the study, conducted by researchers at Nagoya University in Japan, was based on animal tests.

The scientists fed either water or coffee to a group of laboratory mice commonly used to study diabetes. Coffee consumption prevented the development of high-blood sugar and also improved insulin sensitivity in the mice, thereby reducing the risk of diabetes.

Coffee also caused a cascade of other beneficial changes in the fatty liver and inflammatory adipocytokines related to a reduced diabetes risk.

Secondhand smoke may cause mental problems

Beijing, 10 June—A new research showed that non-smokers who have passive smoking were 50 percent more likely to get mental problems than those absolute non-smokers, according to news reports on Wednesday.

The research led by Dr Mark Hamer of University College London pointed out that non-smokers being exposed to smoking are seen everywhere. Dr Hamer and his colleagues studied more than 5,000 non-smokers and more than 2,500 smokers with none of them having mental illness prior to the study. But by the end of the study, an amount of 14.3 percent of them showed evidence of psychological distress.

The results indicated non-smokers were 62 percent more likely to report mental problems than those unexposed to secondhand smoke, and the risk for smokers was more than two times higher than non-smokers.

Early school start times raise risk of teen car crashes

Washington, 10 June—Starting the school day earlier may lead to more car accidents involving teenagers, new research suggests.

The study, which looked at schools in two cities in Virginia with different start times, found an association between earlier classes and more crashes among sleep-deprived students.

“Teens need over nine hours sleep a night, and it looks like a large number of teens don’t get sufficient sleep...part of that relates to the time that high schools begin,” said study author Dr Robert Vorona, an associate professor of internal medicine in the Division of Sleep Medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Va.

The findings were to be presented on Wednesday at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Sleep Societies, in San Antonio.

“There are data that demonstrate that lack of sleep has negative consequences for teens,” he said. “And some data show that younger drivers are more likely to have crashes when they have inadequate sleep.”

Children of older dads face higher risk of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma

Los Angeles, 10 June—Children born to older fathers face greater risk of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, a new study suggests. The study, based on data of 110,999 California women, found that those born to fathers older than 40 had a 59 percent greater risk of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma than those born to fathers younger than 25.

The study, released Wednesday on the Web site of American Journal of Epidemiology, is one of the first researches to examine the link between parents’ age and their adult children’s risk of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, a cancer of the blood and immune system.

As men get old, they may accumulate mutations in their reproductive cells, which increases the risk of abnormalities being passed on to children, according to study conducted by researchers at the City of Hope research and treatment center in Duarte, Los Angeles.

The findings add to the growing evidence that a father’s age may have a significant effect on a child’s health, said study author Yani Lu, a researcher with the centre.

Cancer wins may be bigger than they seem

Chicago, 10 June—Doctors reported gains against nearly every form of cancer at a conference that ended this week. Yet when Will Thomas heard about an advance against prostate cancer, he wanted to know just one thing: “Is it a cure?”

“I see billions and billions done on research, and it’s all for treatment,” said the Alabama man who has several friends with the disease. “When will they cure it?”

Many people share his frustration. The top achievements reported at the American Society of Clinical Oncology added an average of just two to six months of life. One pricey drug made headlines merely for delaying the time until ovarian cancer got worse.

Progress has always been slow for cancer treatment. New therapies are tested on people who are so sick and out of options that any extension of life is considered a success. A cure is not usually possible. But some of the victories reported this week against breast and prostate cancer, leukemia and the deadly skin cancer called melanoma may be larger than they appear. These trends offer reason for optimism.

Newer drugs seem to be making a bigger difference for small, specific groups of patients, as companies develop treatments that more precisely target genes behind subtypes of cancer.

Internet
China’s May exports up 48.5% 

BEIJING, 10 June—China’s exports surged by 48.5 percent year on year in May, while the imports climbed 48.3 percent, the General Administration of Customs (GAC) announced on Thursday. The growth rate for exports was 18.1 percentage points up from the figure for April, and the import growth rate dipped slightly from 49.7 percent reported in April.

Exports totalled 131.76 billion US dollars in May, said a statement on the GAC website, adding imports topped 112.23 billion US dollars.

Total foreign trade value rose 48.4 percent from a year earlier to 243.99 billion US dollars in May. The figure was even 10.2 percent higher than May 2008 before the global financial crisis began, the statement said.

Exports were up 9.2 percent from May in 2008 and imports grew 11.4 percent. From January to May, the total value of foreign trade rose 44.1 percent year on year to 1.1 trillion US dollars.

Exports were up 33.2 percent to 567.74 billion US dollars and imports rose 57.5 percent to 532.35 billion US dollars, said the statement. The trade surplus fell 59.9 percent to 35.39 billion US dollars in the first five months.

Nepali gov’t working on price policy to control market prices 

KATHMANDU, 10 June—The Nepali government is working on a price policy to control market prices and ensure easy availability of daily essentials at reasonable prices, local media reported on Thursday.

According to The Rising Nepal daily, even though the Consumer Rights Protection Act 1998 has mentioned the possibility of formulating policies related to quality, price and supply of consumer goods and services, it has not been done despite the occurrence of irregularities like hoarding and unnatural price hikes.

“As this crucial policy has always remained out of focus, we are working to get it endorsed before the end of the next fiscal year,” said Anik Thakur, director general of the Department of Commerce.

“Besides, for controlling the market, it will also clearly indicate the duty of the central government and district level government bodies working for consumer rights protection.”—Xinhua

Mexico reports falling prices in May, slowing yearly inflation 

MEXICO CITY, 10 June—Mexico’s retail prices fell by 0.63 percent in May from April, the steepest monthly drop on record, according to data published by the Bank of Mexico on Wednesday.

The drop was due in part to curbs on state-controlled electricity prices, which are always slashed ahead of northern Mexico’s summer, the peak periods for residents’ energy consumption to cool homes and workplaces.

The hottest Mexican cities, all in the north, are experiencing temperatures of around 45 degrees Celsius, more than 15 degrees higher than Mexico City, said the National Meteorology Service on Wednesday. The inflation rate dropped slightly due to falling fruit and vegetable prices. Onion prices fell by close to 45 percent, while tomato prices fell by more than 18 percent and potato prices by close to 9 percent, according to the Bank of Mexico.—Xinhua

New jobs data proves Australia’s strengthening economy 

CANBERRA, 10 June—Australia’s latest job figures showing a drop in the unemployment rate to 5.2 percent was evidence of a strengthening economy that successfully avoided a recession, Australian federal Treasurer Wayne Swan said on Thursday.

The unemployment rate fell to 5.2 percent in May, returning to a level last seen in January, as 36,400 workers gained full-time employment, new data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics showed on Thursday. The seasonally adjusted fall in unemployment compared to a rate of 5.4 percent in both March and April.

The number of people employed in May rose by a seasonally adjusted 26,900, reflecting a jump in full-time employment that was partly offset by a fall in part-time workers.

“These are great figures for Australia,” Swan told Fairfax Radio Network in Perth, adding he had told a recent G20 meeting in South Korea that Australia’s unemployment rate was evidence of a strong economy and the success last year of avoiding the global recession.—Xinhua

Films, TV industry pushing NJ to keep tax credit 

SEACacus, 10 June—With a television series’ dismantled set as a backdrop, a procession of actors, producers and directors made their case Wednesday for New Jersey to extend its tax credit for production companies, an incentive that could be cut from the state budget by the end of the month.

Representatives from “Mercy” and “Law and Order: Special Victims Unit” urged Republican Gov. Chris Christie to reconsider ending the 20 percent tax credit the state has offered since 2006 to lure movie and TV production companies to the state. Both TV series are filmed largely in New Jersey.

Other productions to film in New Jersey in recent years include TV drama “The Sopranos” and feature films such as “The Wrestler” starring Mickey Rourke as a professional wrestler past his prime and “Julie and Julia” starring Meryl Streep as cooking legend Julia Childs.

Telecom operators to invest 11 bln yuan in Shanghai 

BEIJING, 10 June—Three major Chinese telecom operators, China Telecom, China Mobile and China Unicom, will invest 11 billion yuan (1.6 billion US dollars) in Shanghai this year, so as to help develop the city into an information hub for the Asia-Pacific region.

Last year, investment in Shanghai’s information and telecom sector stood at more than 14 million yuan, up 13 percent. The sector garnered 40.3 billion yuan in annual revenue.

Workers assemble refrigerators in the town of Oihara, close to Tokyo. The country’s annualised economic growth in the January-March period was revised higher to 5.0 percent from an initial estimate of 4.9 percent, beating expectations, official data has shown.—INTERNET

Vehicles manufactured by Japanese auto giant Honda are prepared for loading at Narashino port in Chiba prefecture in suburban Tokyo. The country’s annualised economic growth in the January-March period was revised higher to 5.0 percent from an initial estimate of 4.9 percent, official data has shown.—INTERNET
Singapore top students prefer local scholarships

SINGAPORE, 10 June—Singapore top students prefer scholarships by local universities, an annual survey by JobsFactory found.

According to the survey of close to 3,000 students, the National University of Singapore (NUS) undergraduate scholarship is the most popular scholarship, local TV broadcaster Channel NewsAsia reported on Thursday.

Other than the NUS undergraduate scholarship, two other NUS scholarships - the merit scholarship and the faculty scholarship - take up three places among the top five scholarships of choice for top students.

The Nanyang Scholarship offered by Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is in 5th place. The only scholarship within the top five that is not offered by a local university is the FIREfly scholarship in 3rd place, which is offered by government agencies under the Singapore’s Ministry of Trade and Industry.

The broadcaster said local scholarships are popular for two reasons. Firstly, these scholarships usually do not come with a bond, allowing scholars to have the freedom to decide their own career paths and employers upon graduation. Secondly, they are tenable for most courses of study and students appreciate this flexibility.—Xinhua

Indian trader robbed, killed in S Philippines

DAVAO CITY, 10 June—Unidentified robbers shot and killed an Indian trader in a southern Philippine city on Wednesday, police said on Thursday.

The attack on Satinder Singh in a busy street in the Mindanao city of Panabo underscored the risk faced by foreign nationals doing business in the country’s south, where Muslim and leftist rebels and armed thugs roam freely in a region awash with more than a million unlicensed guns, police said.

Singh, a resident of Koronadal City, also in Mindanao, and owner of a lending company that catered to small entrepreneurs, was collecting money from vendors in the city’s market when attacked by armed men at around 12 pm. Superintendent Alexander Serrano, city police chief, told Xinhua Serrano said the suspects took the victim’s collection amounting to 26,000 pesos (565 US dollars) and his motorcycle before speeding off in an unknown direction. Police said they are looking into robbery as the motive of the killing.

The attack in Panabo came less than a month after armed thieves also shot and killed two Indian moneylenders in Trento town, Agusan del Sur province, some 130 kilometers north of Panabo. Xinhua

French gov’t to sell state properties

BESANQON, 10 June—The French government has announced a sell-off of 1,700 state-owned properties. It’s in a bid to make some money and help cut the country’s massive debt.

This is the first time the government has laid out such ambitious sell-off plans.

Francois Baroin, French Budget Minister, said, “Our ambition is to have less real estate, that is more adapted to the mission of the state, more economical in terms of public funds, with buildings that are of better quality and that are properly taken care of, and more appropriate in terms of ecological needs.”

The properties for sale include chateauxs, barracks and Parisian mansions. The French government is trying to reduce some of the country’s 1.49 trillion Euro debt.

The Minister says all sales will be transparent with 20 percent of proceeds going directly to debt payments. The rest will go to new government investments. State property sales in the past four years have brought in 3 billion Euros for France.—Internet

S Korea launches space rocket, contact lost

SEOUL, 10 June—South Korea launched a locally assembled space rocket, but contact with the rocket was lost only a few minutes into the takeoff.

The two-stage satellite-carrier Naro-1, or the Korea Space Launch Vehicle-1 (KSLV-1), lifted off from the Naro Space Center in South Jeolla Province, about 485 kilometers south of Seoul, at 5:01 pm local time.

Despite the loss of contact with the ground controllers, whether the launch is successful or not has yet to be determined.

The launch of the rocket, developed with the help of Russian experts, came a day after a technical problem delayed the initially planned blast-off. Xinhua

Nikkei closes 1.1 pct higher

TOKYO, 10 June—Tokyo stocks closed higher Thursday with the key Nikkei index up 1.10 percent.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 Average gained 103.52 points to 9,542.65. The broader Topix index was up 6.42 points, or 0.75 percent, to 856.79.

Trading volume on the main section shrunk to 1.685.29 million shares from 2,040.05 million on Wednesday.

On the first section advancing shares beat declining ones 967 to 542. —Xinhua

10 killed, 13 injured in road mishap in southern India

NEW DELHI, 10 June—Ten people were killed while 13 others sustained injuries in a road mishap Wednesday night in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, a senior police official said on Thursday.

“The mishap happened when the tractor in which the victims were travelling was hit by a speeding truck after its driver lost control of the vehicle in the state’s East Godavari district. Some 40 people, all of a marriage party, were travelling in the tractor when the mishap took place, killing 10 people on the spot. The injured have been admitted to a local hospital,” the official said.

Road accident rate in India is among the highest in the world with some 100,000 people killed each year on the road at least, according to official estimates. Xinhua
Kyaukse Township facilitated with 25-bed hospital,...

(from page 1)

Next, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye and party attended the opening of the school.
The commander, the director-general of No (2) Basic Education Department, and the superintending manager of Hsin Min Cement Plant formally opened the school.
Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the school.
At the ceremony to hand over the facilities held at the school, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye delivered a speech, saying that in compliance with the guidance of the Head of State, the two facilities were built for the convenience of local people. He called for bringing about highly-educated and healthy youths.
The commander also gave an address. The documents related to the hospital were handed over to the Ministry of Health, and that to the school, to the Ministry of Education. Sun Brand lanterns produced by the Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd were donated to the school.

Motorcycle license registration extended to 30 June

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June — The State has issued licenses for illegally imported motorcycles with some taxes from 1 December 2009 to 31 January 2010, in order to ensure road safety. The license registration period has been extended to 30 June 2010 for the convenience of the public. Starting from 1 July 2010, unlicensed motorcycles will be impounded in accord with the law. If an owner of impounded motorcycle submits application to retrieve his or her motorbike and pays the price and taxes, the State will issue license, according to the Road Transport Administration Department of the Ministry of Rail Transportation.—MNA

ICT Foundation course to be opened

YANGON, 10 June — ICT Foundation course will be opened soon at Gusto Computer Training School at No. 26 on 14th Street (Lower) in Lannadaw Township. The course comprises Microsoft Office Module, Basic Programming Module, Database Module, Graphic Design Module and Networking Module. The three-month course runs on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The number of trainees is limited to 15. Interested persons may register by 21 June the latest. Dial 224496 or 09-8628806 for further details.—MNA
Measures to beautify Yangon City discussed

Lt-Gen Myint Swe addresses meeting of Leading Committee for Beautifying and Upgrading Yangon City.

YANGON, 10 June—TMW Enterprise Ltd, sole agent of Sony electronics, will hold the Sony Expo at Tatmadaw Convention Hall, here, from 18 to 20 June. With regard to the expo, TMW Enterprise Ltd held a press conference at Parkroyal Hotel, here, this afternoon.

TMW will put on display the latest models and applications of TV, DVD, cameras, household goods and business use electronic products manufactured by Sony at the expo.

The sale centre will be kept open at the expo for customers holding official guarantee cards.

Sony Expo 2010 18-20 June

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Temperature expected to rise in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 10 June—The scorching heat has been affecting normal life across the country, especially in southern Nepal’s Terai region, for the last few days. Even the capital Kathmandu Valley has been experiencing hotter days over a week.

The Kathmanduites were affected when the temperature soared up to 33.6-degree Celsius on Wednesday.

Shree Kanta Maharjan, Observer of Hydrology and Metrology Division at Tribhuvan International Airport, said that the minimum temperature was recorded 20-degree Celsius on Wednesday. The division expected further rise in the mercury on Thursday. The temperature of Thursday is expected to rise up to 34-35 degree Celsius, said Maharjan.

He said that the maximum temperature of Tuesday was 33-degree Celsius and the minimum temperature was 18.2-degree Celsius. Maharjan said, There is no sign of the arrival of monsoon for a few days as no rainfall will occur on Thursday.

First batch of stranded Filipinos in Kuwait repatriated this week

MANILA, 10 June—The first batch of stranded Filipino domestic helpers were repatriated to the Philippines this week after spending several months in cramped government shelters in Kuwait, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) announced on Wednesday.

Most of these Filipinos, who have run away from their abusive employers, were stranded for more than a year and can not go back to the Philippines due to lack of exit visas from the Kuwaiti government. The repatriation cost will be shouldered by Kuwaiti authorities.

The DFA said 200 more are expected to arrive in the coming weeks.

The DFA’s Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers’ Affairs (OUMWA) said the first batch of household service workers, totaling 67, arrived on 6 and 7 June.

A team from OUMWA, led by Officer in Charge Enrico Fos and representatives from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) welcomed and assisted the Filipino workers upon their arrival at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Fos said the repatriation for the remaining two batches, consisting of 78 and 129 household service workers, is being finalized.

Rail workers proceed with the construction of the 3-km railway bridge in Nanhu town, the starting point of a railway over the Lop Nur, a former lake that is known as “the sea of death”, in Hami, northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 9 June, 2010.—Xinhua

Four dead after truck hits toilet block in NW China

LANZHOU, 10 June—Four people died and two were injured on Wednesday when a truck ran into a public toilet block in northwest China’s Gansu Province, local authorities said on Thursday.

The driver lost control of the truck due to a brake failure and hit the block on a corner of an intersection in Chengguan District, in the provincial capital of Lanzhou, killing four people instantly, said Luo Junmin, spokesman for the municipal traffic police.—Xinhua

Magnitude-6.2 earthquake hits Vanuatu

NEW YORK, 10 June—A Magnitude-6.2 earthquake hit Vanuatu on Thursday without immediate report of any casualties and property damages, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS) on Wednesday.

The quake struck at 10:23 am local time (2323 GMT) on Thursday, 152 km southeast from Port Vila, Vanuatu at a depth of 33 km. According to Maharjan, Kathmandu experienced a record high temperature in May this year as it grew to 34.6-degree Celsius.—Xinhua

Moderate quake hits Philippines

HONG KONG, 10 June—A magnitude-5.0 earthquake hit Mindanao, the Philippines, around 02:13 GMT on Thursday, said the US Geological Survey (USGS).

The epicenter was monitored at 7.256 degrees north latitude and 126.840 degrees east longitude with a depth of 60.8 km.—Xinhua

Moderate quake hits Japan

HONG KONG, 10 June—A magnitude-5.1 earthquake hit off the East Coast of Honshu, Japan, around 03:10 GMT on Thursday, said the US Geological Survey (USGS).

The epicentre was monitored at 33.0 degrees north latitude and 142.586 degrees east longitude with the depth of 10 km.—Xinhua

Four dead after truck hits toilet block in NW China

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The driver lost control of the truck due to a brake failure and hit the block on a corner of an intersection in Chengguan District, in the provincial capital of Lanzhou, killing four people instantly, said Luo Junmin, spokesman for the municipal traffic police.—Xinhua

Passenger train recalled in eastern India due to Naxal threat

NEW DELHI, 10 June—Indian railway authorities recalled early Thursday a passenger train from Howrah near Kolkata, West Bengal in eastern India, to Mumbai after receiving reports that extreme left-wing Naxal rebels had planned to sabotage railway tracks, said police.

The 2261 Mumbai-Howrah Duronto Express was recalled to Tatanagar due to Naxal threat.

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The 2261 Mumbai-Howrah Duronto Express was recalled to Tatanagar due to Naxal threat.
**Ecuadore, Peru to set up “bilaterial embassies”**

LIMA, 10 June—Ecuadorian and Peruvian leaders agreed here on Wednesday to create “bilaterial embassies” for the first time in the history of the two countries.

Under one of the five agreements inked by visiting Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa and his Peruvian counterpart Alan Garcia, Ecuador will represent Peru in Sweden and Peru will represent Ecuador in Algeria.

Both sides also agreed to take steps to boost cross-border trade.

“Today we receive Mr. Correa with brotherhood and deep affection and with him the immortal spirit of the Ecuadorian people, because we understand how important the integration and the recovery of the lost time,” Garcia said at a welcome ceremony for Correa, who arrived here earlier in the day for a two-day visit.

“Ecuador and Peru mark a milestone in the world history to contribute to the deep integration, after years of clashes that never will happen again ... Ecuador and Peru are at the best moment of their bilateral ties,” said Correa.

For decades, relations between the two countries had been plagued by border problems, which were solved by a peace agreement in 1998.

**Prince Diana dress fetches £192,000**

The black taffeta dress worn by Princess Diana at her first official appearance as Prince Charles’ fiance in 1981 has been sold for £192,000 pounds.

The dress, which had been estimated to fetch between 30-50,000 pounds, was designed for the then 19-year-old by former couple Elizabeth Emanuel and David Emanuel, who later created Diana’s wedding dress.

Offered for sale by Kerry Taylor Auctions in London in a “Passion for Fashion” auction, it was bought by a fashion museum in Chile on Tuesday.


**Calif’s man gets prison for smuggling songbirds**

Sentenced on Monday to four months in prison.

Sony Dong, 46, of Garden Grove, was also ordered to pay $4,000 in restitution to federal authorities who are caring for the birds.

Dong came under investigation in December 2008 when customs inspectors at Los Angeles International Airport found an abandoned piece of luggage that contained 18 birds, five of which were dead, and determined that he had checked it while boarding a flight to Vietnam.

In April 2009, customs officials determined that Dong was scheduled to fly from Vietnam and arrive at LAX. They conducted an inspection and saw bird droppings on his socks and feathers peeking out from under his pants.

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**Tom Cruise to act “Tropic Thunder”**

Grossman in new movie

BEIJING, 10 June—Paramount Pictures and MTV Films said Wednesday that they were developing a movie based on Tom Cruise’s role from the 2008 film “Tropic Thunder.”

Cruise would star in and produce the movie along with “Tropic” co-star and director Ben Stiller Red Hour Films. Cruise would portray Les Grossman, a supporting character in the film “Tropic Thunder.”

Perhaps as a publicity strategies to lift market expectation for the movie, Stiller noted in a statement, “Les Grossman’s life story is an inspiring tale of the classic human struggle to achieve greatness against all odds — I am honored to be working with him.”

**Bus low-emission zones planned in HK**

HONG KONG, 10 June—Hong Kong’s Acting Secretary for the Environment Kitty Poon said Wednesday that the government is studying the feasibility of forming pilot low-emission zones targeting franchised buses.

Poon told legislators on Wednesday franchised buses account for a high proportion of vehicular flow along Yee Wo Street, Causeway Bay. As such, pilot studies on franchised buses can effectively test whether low-emission zones can significantly improve roadside air quality,” she said.

“The implementation of the pilot low emission zones may be delayed if the pilot scheme covers all vehicles at the same time, as we will need to resolve complicated legal and traffic management issues, and consult the transport trades.”—Xinhua

**Oregon man runs 102 miles barefoot**

Todd Ragsdale enjoyed a peppermint mineral foot soak while relaxing at home Monday. It was well deserved after running a world-record distance without shoes over the weekend. Between 8 am on Saturday and 8 am on Sunday, the 41-year-old logged 102 miles barefoot — 431 laps on the South Medford High School track.

Ragsdale made his run in the Relay For Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

The run left Ragsdale’s feet bruised, blistered and swollen, but he said it was well worth it.

**Two students present their environment-friendly creations made of castoffs at a fashion show in Shanghai University, Shanghai, on 9 June, 2010. —Xinhua**
Short people at higher risk of heart problems

LONDON, 10 June—Short people have a 50 per cent higher risk of having a heart problem or dying from one than tall people, a new study says, though weight, blood pressure and smoking habits remain more important factors.

Previous studies have suggested a link between height and heart problems like angina, heart attacks and angioplasties. This is the first major review of such studies, including research from around the world, confirming the relationship.

Researchers in Finland looked at 52 previous papers with data on height and heart problems in more than 3 million men and women. Experts did not consider patients’ heights objectively, but within the context of a particular country’s population. They found the shortest people in the population were one and a half times more likely to have heart problems or die from them than the tallest people.

Wild ponies tamed by The Archers

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, 10 June—Four wild ponies used to roaming free on moorland are being trained to work with humans thanks to The Archers, a rescue centre has said. The Dartmoor Hill ponies arrived at the Brinsley Animal Rescue centre in Nottinghamshire last week having lived a solitary existence on the Devon moors. George, Merry, Monty and a fourth yet-to-be-named pony had matted hair, swollen stomachs and were frightened of any contact with humans when they were found.

Now thanks to the Radio 4 soap opera set in Ambridge, they have cottoned on to the idea that behaving well will earn them a treat of fresh grass. As well as listening to the exploits of Brian and Jennifer Aldridge, and hearing the goings-on with laptops, mobile phones, and cash from the other room, police and victims said. "It was just two minutes but it felt like two hours. It was the scariest thing that has ever happened to me," he said. The thieves, still at large, also made off with laptops, mobile phones, and cash from the other victims. "We don’t have any suspects at this stage," said police spokesman Leon Engelbrecht.

World Cup snapper robbed at gunpoint

EDINBURGH, 10 June—A World Cup photographer was held at gunpoint on Thursday during a pre-dawn burglary at a lodge used by journalists covering Portugal and Spain games, raising concerns about security in the host country.

The two robbers brandishing at least one handgun made their way undetected through two rooms where journalists were sleeping before ransacking a Portuguese photographer in a third room, police and victims said. Antonio Simoes, the photographer, was awakened by the burglars and held at gunpoint while they made off with his camera, cash and credit cards.

Egypt introduces Alexandria smoking ban

CAIRO, 10 June—Egypt, the biggest Arab consumer of cigarettes, is beginning an attempt to ban smoking in public places. Alexandria is to be Egypt's first no smoking city, beginning with a ban on lighting up in government buildings. Egyptians smoke some 19 billion cigarettes each year, prompting concerns for public health.

And Egypt is a nation of smokers with traditional shisha water pipes found in many coffee shops, and persuading Egyptians to quit will be a challenge. It is common to find people puffing at cigarettes on the train, in office, even in hospitals. Now in Alexandria that is set to change. The local authorities first plan to enforce an existing law—one that is usually flouted—prohibiting smoking in government buildings.

Stowaway survives Austria-UK flight

LONDON, 10 June—A stowaway had himself in the landing gear of a jet and survived a one-and-a-half hour flight to Heathrow Airport from Austria, it has emerged. The unnamed 20-year-old Romanian would have withstood freezing temperatures and a lack of oxygen to reach London from Vienna Airport, experts said.

Austrian police said he told British
Autism linked to genetic errors

Beijing, 10 June—A research published in Nature reveals on Wednesday that autism is linked to genetic errors.

An international team of researchers, led by Dr. Joachim Hallmayer of the Stanford Autism Centre at Packard Children’s Hospital, studied the genetic data of 1,000 autistics.

The group discovered that there was an array of inherited and genetic differences which were more common among people with autism than among the general population.

The study also found that dozens of genetic errors were linked to five to ten percent of autism cases.

Those errors—caused by missing or duplicated pieces of DNA—are believed to interfere with the brain’s messaging system.

Autism is one of most severe health problems of the 21st century. In California, from 1987 to 1998, the number of children getting services for autism tripled. Then between 1998 and 2002 the number doubled.

Several researchers are quoted as saying that this study may lead to development of new tests or treatments for autism.

However, the promise of a quick-and-easy test treatment or cure in the near future seems impossible given the unique set of genetic differences of each autistics.

20 evacuated after bus catches fire in rain

Beijing, 10 June—Twenty passengers were evacuated Wednesday from a bus that suddenly caught on fire amid heavy rain in Lishui, eastern China’s Zhejiang Province. There is a tradition of making hollow noodles by hand in the county’s Yiguan Town, where some craftsmen can make a dough into hollow threads as long as 200 meters by repeatedly stretching and folding it. —INTERNET

A fire damages a bus in Lishui, eastern China’s Zhejiang Province, on Wednesday, 9 June, 2010.

INTERNET

Contemporary porcelain on display at Shanghai Expo

Beijing, 10 June—At the Shanghai Expo Cultural Centre, a collection of some of the finest contemporary Chinese porcelain pieces will be on show. They are created by artists from the China’s porcelain capital “Jingdezhen.”

The exhibition will feature more than 200 pieces of porcelain created by seventy one master class artists. They include all kinds of porcelain artifacts from paintings on porcelain to porcelain vases.

And they come in various themes, ranging from landscape and portraits, to wildlife and still life. The exhibition will run until the end of June. Then the pieces will go up for an auction at a Shanghai auction house.—Xinhua

A woman makes hollow noodles on June 9, 2010, in Tangyin County of central China’s Henan Province. There is a tradition of making hollow noodles by hand in the county’s Yiguan Town, where some craftsmen can make a dough into hollow threads as long as 200 meters by repeatedly stretching and folding it. —INTERNET

At the fair, students will be provided tips and advice for the national and international level education according to their interests.

The fair will also raise the level confidence among the aspiring students and show them the way of higher education, said Rajendra Baral, General Secretary of ECAN at the press conference.

A fire damages a bus in Lishui, eastern China’s Zhejiang Province, on Wednesday, 9 June, 2010.

INTERNET

Education fair to be held in Nepali capital

Kathmandu, 10 June—The Educational Consultancy Association of Nepal (ECAN) is set to organize ECAN Higher Education and Career Fair—2010 in coordination of Directorate of Education Nepal on 10-13 June in the capital Kathmandu.

At the fair, students will be provided tips and advice for the national and international level education according to their interests.

The fair will also raise the level confidence among the aspiring students and show them the way of higher education, said Rajendra Baral, General Secretary of ECAN at the press conference.

Seventeen schools and educational institutes will set up their stalls in the fair.

At the fair, national, international educational institutions, education counselors and German Embassy, British Council, Alliance of France will set up their stalls and provide counseling to the students.

Around 100 of universities and colleges of India will take part at the fair.

Xinhua

Mexican troops kill eight gunmen in clash

Mexico City, 10 June—Mexican troops fought gunmen suspected of working for a drug cartel on Wednesday and killed at least eight of them, the military said. Five troops were also injured in the clash, which took place in the southwestern city of Colima, 737 km from the capital, the Mexican navy said in a statement.

Six Mexican citizens and two Colombian citizens were among those killed.

The troops were on a patrol at the time and were attacked by the gunmen first, it said.

Weapons were also seized in the clash, the navy said, including a grenade launcher, eight grenades, nine long guns and five short guns, 26 chargers, four vehicles and certain communication equipments.

Xinhua
**World Cup 2010**

**England can win it, says Joe Cole**

**LONDON, 10 June—**

Joe Cole has become the first England player to break ranks and explicitly state Fabio Capello’s side are good enough to win a first World Cup in 44 years.

The midfielder was one of the few players to excel at the finals four years ago. Yet, while 11 of the squad who underachieved in Germany have been retained by Fabio Capello, Capello pointed to genuine reasons for optimism this time around.

England can win it, says Joe Cole

Joe Cole gets his point across – that he is confident England can win the World Cup – with a smile. —Internet

**Nadál speeds to Queen’s win**

**LONDON, 10 June—**

Rafael Nadal began his preparations for Wimbledon with a routine victory over Marcos Daniel in the second round of the AEGON Championship. The Spaniard showed no signs of a French Open hangover as he sped to a 6-2, 6-2 success at the Queen’s Club.

Preview matches on host South Africa and Mexico; France and Uruguay

**YANGON, 10 June—**

World ranking 83 South Africa and world ranking 17 Mexico will play in their debut of the 2010 World Cup in Soccer City Stadium in South Africa on 11 June.

Both teams faced in their three friendly matches in 1993, 2000 and 2005. Mexico won two matches and one failure but South Africa had one win and two defeats. South Africa has embraced excellent results in recent three friendly matches ahead of the World Cup with the victory over Columbia 2-1, Guatemala 5-0 and Denmark 2-1. Mexico had two wins over Gambia 5-1, Italy 2-1 and one loss to Holland 1-2 and its results are also amaze. Due to the home advantage, it is supposed that South Africa can win or draw but failure against the opponent Mexico. Their head-to-head position is as follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head-to-Head Position</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-10-1993</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>4-0</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-6-2000</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>4-2</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-7-2005</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>0-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Italy not too old to win, says Marcello Lippi**

**Rome, 10 June—**

Marcello Lippi has hit out at critics who have claimed his Italy team are too old to win the World Cup. The head coach is unhappy with the scepticism over his squad – even in Italy – and has asked for the team to be given a chance to prove themselves. ‘Yes, we have old players but with age comes charisma and the experience of playing in big games. I think we have the right mix of young and old players,’ Lippi said. ‘We have nine players from 2006 – that’s less than 50%. I’ve never seen any team that wins the World Cup show up four years later with 23 new players.’

While Lippi has kept the 36-year-old Fabio Cannavaro and 33-year-olds Gianluca Zambrotta and Mauro Camoranesi, he has also brought along three 23-year-old defenders – Salvatore Bocchetti, Leonardo Bonucci and Domenico Criscito.

The average age of the squad is 28 years and nine months. ‘Whenever a World Cup comes around everyone wants to get in their say,’ said Lippi. ‘Last time everyone joined in as we moved along but this time we’re not going to allow anyone to jump on the bandwagon.’ Single players don’t win World Cups. Let’s be clear. There are no longer any superstars in Italy and it’s not like anyone I left home would alter the skill aspect,” said Lippi. —Internet

**Manchester City midfielder Patrick Vieira**

Vieira to stay with City

**MANCHESTER, 10 June—**

Manchester City midfielder Patrick Vieira has signed a new deal to keep him at the club for a further year. Vieira moved to Eastlands from Inter Milan during the January transfer window, having previously played under Roberto Mancini in Italy.

He initially put pen to paper on a short-term deal until the end of the season but an option was included for City to retain him for another 12 months. The Frenchman’s vast experience proved important as City pushed for European qualification but he struggled at times with his form and fitness.

**Joe Cole and Michael Ballack to leave Chelsea**

**LONDON, 10 June—**

Chelsea have confirmed that Joe Cole and Michael Ballack are to leave the club on free transfers this summer.

Cole, 28, will depart at the start of July after the Premier League champions reportedly said they would not offer the England midfielder a fresh deal. German midfield Ballack, 33, who has been with Chelsea since 2006, will also not have his contract renewed.

Chelsea also said right-back Juliano Belletti will be leaving when his deal expires at the end of this month.

**Everton sign Portuguese striker Joao Silva**

**LONDON, 10 June—**

Everton have signed Joao Silva on a three-year deal from Portuguese second division side Desportivo Das Aves for an undisclosed fee. A statement on Everton’s website said officials had flown to Portugal to conclude the transfer. Last season Silva, 20, was the second top scorer in the Liga Vitalis.

The 6ft 2in forward scored 14 goals in 32 appearances for Ave last season, his first campaign since graduating to the professional ranks at the club. Silva has played for his country’s under-20 side and is highly rated in his homeland. He will now move to Merseyside before linking up with the Everton squad when they reconvene at the start of July for the pre-season tour to Australia. —Internet

**Inter to appoint Benitez as manager**

**MILAN, 10 June—**

European champions Inter Milan have announced that former Liverpool boss Rafael Benitez has agreed to become their new manager.

The Spaniard will replace Jose Mourinho, who quit to join Real Madrid after leading them to the treble of Italian league, cup and European Champions League.

“We have reached an agreement and we have sorted out the final details, which weren’t important things,” Inter president Massimo Moratti told the club’s official

**Rafael Nadal won the Championships League with Liverpool in 2005 but the team struggled last season.**

Web site on Tuesday. “All that is needed now is a countersignature.”

Internet

**NLM**
**Iranian helicopter crashes, killing four people**

**Tehran, 9 June**—An Iranian training helicopter crashed on Wednesday morning near capital Tehran, killing four people, local satellite Press TV reported.

A training helicopter belonging to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) crashed in northern-central Iran, in Semnan Province, while on a training mission, killing four people on board, the report said.

The helicopter belonged to IRGC’s Aerospace Unit. Press TV said IRGC website said that the helicopter crashed due to technical problems without elaborating.—Xinhua

### Weather

**Thursday, 10 June, 2010**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, Weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin, Rakhine and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Mon States, upper Sagaing Division, widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway and L قول (1.6) inches each, Zalun (2.13) inches, Shwegyin (1.69) inches and Nyaunggbin (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 9-6-2010 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 10-6-2010 was 77°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 10-6-2010 was 100%. Total sun shine hours on 9-6-2010 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 10-6-2010 was (1.19) inches at Mingladon, (1.14) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.11) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (19.02) inches at Mingladon, (19.17) inches at Kaba-Aye and (18.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (3) mph from Southeast at (16:30) hours MST on 9-6-2010.

*Bay Influence:* Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and moderate to strong in the Bay of Bengal.

*Forecast valid until evening of the 11th June, 2010:* Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Chin, Kayah and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

*State of the sea:* Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35)m.p.h.

*Outlook for subsequent two days:* Moderate to strong monsoon. *Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 11-6-2010:* Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

*Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-6-2010:* One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

*Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-6-2010:* Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

World’s oldest leather shoe found in Armenia

The world’s oldest leather shoe found in a cave in Armenia...

SCIENCE DAILY, 10 June—A perfectly preserved shoe, 1,000 years older than the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt and 400 years older than Stonehenge in the UK, has been found in a cave in Armenia.

The 5,500 year old shoe, the oldest leather shoe in the world, was discovered by a team of international archaeologists and their findings will publish on 9 June in the online scientific journal PLoS ONE.

The cow-hide shoe dates back to ~3,500 BC (the Chalcolithic period) and is in perfect condition. It was made of a single piece of leather and was shaped to fit the wearer’s foot.—Internet

Yenwe Diversion Weir: a facility to develop Sittoung Basin

Article & Photos: Khin Maung Than (Sethmu)

Nowadays, the government is building dams, diversion weirs and sluice gates one after another with a view to producing paddy and other crops and greening the regions. Yenwe Multi-purpose Dam Project was undertaken as part of the drive for implementing the Sittoung Basin Development Plan.

Yenwe Dam Project covered the embankment of the dam, the diversion weir, the power station and the irrigated area. Yenwe Multi-purpose Dam Project is located 2.5 miles west of Myochaung Village in (See page 9)

Photo shows the front view of Yenwe Diversion Weir.