President U Thein Sein receives Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister and party

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a goodwill delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai, special envoy of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at the hall of the President Office, here, at 3.40 pm today.

Also present at the call together with President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein were Vice-President Thihha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, Union Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Hla Min, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development and for Livestock and Fisheries U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htk, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Director-General U Min Zaw of the President Office and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai and party were accompanied by Vietnamese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Chu Cong Phung and embassy officials.—MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein cordially greets Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai.—MNA

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
* Strengthening of national solidarity
* Building and strengthening of discipline-flourishing democracy system
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Building of modern industrialized nation through the agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investment from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

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
* Flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation
Towards better rail service

With advancement in technology, means of transport have been improved significantly. However, rail transportation remains unchanged providing reliable services.

At present, new railroads have been built and are under construction for enhancement of trade and economic sectors of the nation. The national railway network is being built with connection among the existing railroads. As new railroads have been constructed in regions and states where railroads had been built before, local people gain easy access to other regions and states.

Thanks to Yangon-Mawlamyine-Ye-Dawei-Myeik-Kawthoung road has been built in Taninthayi Region so as to connect the areas along its route. The completed railroad is stretching from Mawlamyine of Mon State to Dawei of Taninthayi Region. At present, over 132 miles long new railroad is under construction from Dawei to Myeik.

Dawei-Thayetchaung railroad section on Dawei-Myeik railroad construction project was commissioned into service on 4 June. The 19 miles long railroad section contributes to better transport for the local people.

Due to extended construction of motor road and railroad, Taninthayi Region is enjoying fruits of smooth transport. On completion of Dawei-Myeik railroad, people can travel to various regions throughout the nation by train.

New railroad network is extended on the west bank of Ayeyawady River due to concerted efforts of Myanma Railways. The completed railroad sections are giving rail transport service to the local people. Some railroad projects including Dawei-Myeik section are under construction. Earlier the railroad are opened, better the passengers and commodities can be transported.

Union Minister for Transport receives Japanese guests

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received Mr. Masayuki Mizuno and Mr. Masahiro Miyazaki of Mitsubishi Corporation in Japan at his office here today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein, Director-General of the Transport Department U Win Pe, Director-General (attached) of the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems U Hla Myint Thein and responsible personnel. MNA

Union Information and Culture Minister attends opening of U Wun and Alin Saytaman libraries in Sagaing Region

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan presses a button to open “U Wun” Library.—MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan unveils the signboard of the library and then viewed publications displayed and greeted the people pursuing knowledge in the library. Also on 7 June, the Union Minister together with the Region Education Minister and officials concerned attended opening ceremony of Alin Saytaman Library in Alebon Village of Pale Township. The officials concerned opened the library. Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan uncovered the signboard of the library and encouraged the bookworms absorbed in knowledge.—MNA

Workshop on Conservation of Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary

MOHNYIN, 9 June—The Consultation Workshop for Conservation of Indawgyi Lake Wildlife Sanctuary was held at Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary in Mohnyin on 29 May.

Administrator of Mohnyin Township U Kyaw Myint Hlaing spoke. Wildlife Sanctuary Administrator U Thein Lwin explained status and threats of the sanctuary and Inlay Lake Sanctuary Administrator U Sein Tun lessons for Inlay Lake Sanctuary.

District level officials participated in sector-wise discussions, Principal Dr Kyi Shwin of Mohnyin Degree College reviewed role of experts in collecting information and Chairman of Friends of Wildlife U Myint Aung concept for partnership.—NLM
Military says US soldier killed in southern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 9 June—The US military says an American soldier has been killed during operations in southern Iraq. The soldier died Wednesday, but was not identified because family had not been notified.

Other details also were withheld. The death brings to 4,450 the number of American service members who have died in Iraq since the war began in 2003, according to an Associated Press count. Five other American soldiers died earlier this week in a rocket attack on a base in Baghdad.

Shiite Muslim militias have stepped up attacks on US forces with the approach of the year-end withdrawal of all American troops.

21 bodies found with warning notes in western Mexico

MORELIA, 9 June—At least 21 bodies have been found strewn in the streets just outside the western Mexican City of Morelia, and in every case the perpetrators left a warning note, the state prosecutor told AFP.

The bodies, all males between the ages of 25 and 30, were found in different areas just outside the city limits of Morelia, in Michoacan State, said state prosecutor Jesus Montejano.

Taking the unusual step of releasing the contents of the warning notes, Montejano said the message was: “Because society asked for it, this is going to happen to those who continue to rob houses, kidnappers and rapists.”

Police said some of the bodies were found piled together, their faces covered by tape, in areas around the city, and some showed signs of torture.

Michoacan State is the base of the notorious drug cartel La Familia, which is known for its religious zeal, notably justifying the beheadings of 12 policemen last June as being the work of “divine violence”.

Nine killed, five injured after gunmen attack wedding party in E Afghanistan

JALALABAD, 9 June—Nine civilians were killed and five others injured Wednesday night as unidentified gun men attacked a wedding party in the country’s Nangarhar Province 120 km east of capital City Kabul, spokesman for local government said Thursday.

“A number of armed men raided a house and opened fire where a wedding party was underway in Dur Baba District late Wednesday night. As a result nine civilians were killed and five others injured,” Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the official against Taleban militants. Some locals say it was a rocket attack.

However, the Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.

It is the second attack on Afghan civilians since last weekend. In the previous attack, 11 civilians were killed in Logar Province 60 km south of capital kabul on Sunday night.—Xinhua

A rescue worker looks inside a vehicle which was hit by a bomb blast in Matni town, near Peshawar on 9 June, 2011. A bomb went off in a market near the northwestern city of Peshawar, killing four people and wounding three, said hospital officials on Thursday. The explosive was planted in garbage on a roadside, police said. —INTERNET

Militant attack in Pakistan’s northwest kills at least 20

MIANSHAI, 9 June—Around 150 militants armed with rockets attacked a security checkpoint in Pakistan’s Waziristan on Thursday, killing eight soldiers, intelligence officials said, as tensions rise in the border region.

Twelve militants were killed in retaliatory firing by security forces. The assault took place in Dur Baba District late Wednesday night. A number of armed men raided a house and opened fire where a wedding party was underway in Dur Baba District late Wednesday night. As a result nine civilians were killed and five others injured,” Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the ICRC.

However, the Taleban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.

It is the second attack on Afghan civilians since last weekend. In the previous attack, 11 civilians were killed in Logar Province 60 km south of capital kabul on Sunday night.—Xinhua

The attack took place in Makeen, an area on the border between North and Waziristan, which was once a stronghold of Tehrik-e-Taleban Pakistan (TTP), the main alliance of Pakistan’s homegrown militant groups involved in suicide and bomb attacks across the country.

Pakistan army launched a major offensive in South Waziristan in 2009, driving TTP fighters out of their bases in the restive region.

Many TTP leaders, including its chief Hakimullah Mehsud, were believed to have fled into North Waziristan.—Reuters

Passenger jet makes emergency landing in Russian city

Moscow, 9 June—A Boeing-737 passenger jet with 64 people onboard made an emergency landing in Russia’s southern City of Rostov-on-Don on Thursday morning, according to local media reports.

Citing a spokeswoman from Russia’s Donavia Airlines based in Rostov-on-Don, RIA Novosti said none of the people onboard, 58 passengers and six crew members, were injured during the emergency landing.

“The plane took off from Rostov Airport for Moscow at 6:30 am Moscow time (0230 GMT) but later made an emergency landing because of the asymmetric flaps retraction,” the spokeswoman was quoted as saying.

After the landing, passengers flew to Moscow on another company’s aircraft, she added.

File picture shows police manning a checkpoint in Monterrey, Mexico.—INTERNET

Afghans try to carry a wrapped victim of bomb attack in Jalalabad, Nangarhar Province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan recently. —INTERNET

INTERNET
Toxin found in endangered Hawaiian seals

WASHINGTON, 9 June—A dangerous toxin known to affect humans was identified for the first time in a marine mammal species, a critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal, researchers say.

Researchers from National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration have discovered the potent and highly-debilitating toxin ciguatoxin in the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, a first-of-its-kind chemical finding prompting investigations of other marine mammals in the state, a NOAA release said Wednesday.

Ciguatoxin is produced by marine algae common on coral reefs and accumulates in fish species consumed by humans, causing a disease called ciguatera with symptoms resembling chronic fatigue syndrome.

The NOAA study showed that Hawaiian monk seals, whose population is estimated at just 1100-1200 animals and falling, are exposed to significant levels of these ciguatoxins. Monk seals were sampled throughout the Hawaiian Islands and the samples were shipped to NOAA’s National Centres for Coastal Ocean Science laboratory in Charleston, SC, for toxin analyses. “Based upon this study, we believe that ciguatoxin exposure is common in the monk seal population,” said Charles Littnan, study co-author and scientist with NOAA’s Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Centre. “This study is an important first step. However, we still need to understand more clearly how widespread exposure is and more importantly what role it may be playing in the decline of the species.”

Mars mission faces hurdles before launch

LOS ANGELES, 9 June—NASA’s next-generation rover to the surface of Mars, which is already overbudget and behind schedule, faces significant hurdles as it races to the launch pad for a November lift off, an internal audit released Wednesday found.

The space agency insisted the remaining work to be done will not result in yet another launch slip. “At this point in time, we are fully on schedule,” said Dave Lavery, the project’s programme executive at NASA headquarters.

The mobile Mars Science Laboratory is intended to be the most sophisticated rover sent to the Martian surface. From the outset, the mission managed by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory has been plagued by development woes that have put it behind schedule and driven up costs. The total cost of the mission has ballooned to $2.5 billion from $1.6 billion.

NASA’s inspector general faulted project managers for routinely underestimating costs and calculated that an extra $44 million to the development budget may be needed to avoid another delay or cancellation.

The latest price tag “may be insufficient to ensure timely completion of the project in light of the historical pattern of cost increases and the amount of work that remains to be completed,” the report said.

Japan’s next gizmo: brainwave-controlled cat ears

TOKYO, 9 June—A team of Japanese inventors have come up with a new device that blends the country’s fascination with cuteness and its penchant for experimental high-tech brainwave-controlled cat ears. The fluffy headwear reads users’ brain activity, meaning the ears perk up when they concentrate and then flop down again to lay flat against the head when users enter a relaxed state of mind, say its developers. The gizmo is called “Necomimi” — a play on the Japanese words for cat and ear, but the first two syllables are also short for “neurocommunication”, said Neurowear’s Kana Nakano. “Because the sensors must be attached to the head, we tried to come up with something cute and catchy.”

Next-generation Internet addresses tested

WASHINGTON, 9 June—A worldwide test was underway on Wednesday of the next generation of Internet addresses designed to replace the dwindling pool of unique identifiers in the original system.

Hundreds of companies, organizations and institutions around the world are taking part in “World IPv6 Day,” including Internet giants such as Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Yahoo!

Internet Protocol version 6 is the new system of unique identifying numbers for websites, computers and other Internet-connected gadgets and is replacing the original addressing system, IPv4, which is nearing exhaustion. IPv6 provides more than four billion times more addresses than IPv4 — more addresses, for example, than there are grains of sand on Earth.

The number of available IPv4 addresses will run out later this year and the transition to IPv6 is needed to keep pace with the explosive growth in Internet use. US networking company Cisco forecast in a report released this month that the number of devices connected to the Internet will top more than 15 billion by the year 2015, more than double the world’s population.

HTC Flyer tablet mates with slippery pen

NEW YORK, 9 June—Is it better to have loved and lost, than to have never loved at all? That’s the question posed by a new tablet computer that takes aim at one of the deficiencies of the iPad that it’s difficult to write on with a stylus or pen.

The HTC Flyer is a $500 tablet with a 7-inch screen. At a glance, it’s not much different from the other tablets that are scrambling to compete with Apple Inc.’s iPad. The iPad and all its copycats are designed to sense the touch of a finger. The screen layer that does this looks for big, blunt, electrically conductive objects such as fingers. It doesn’t sense small, sharp objects like pens. That’s why third-party styluses for the iPad are blunt rubbery sticks. They’re essentially imitation fingers. They’re not very good for drawing, but some people find them better than nothing. The Flyer has the same finger-sensing screen layer. But it backs this up with a second one, which looks for the movement of a specially designed, battery-powered pen. The pen moves fluidly over the screen, with a relatively sharp (but non-scratchy) point.
Cost of AIDS drugs to keep falling

UNITED NATIONS, 9 June—The cost of drugs used to keep AIDS at bay will keep falling because of the huge demand from millions of sufferers desperate for the life-line, experts said at the United Nations on Tuesday. But nations still wrangled ahead of a major three day AIDS summit over how many people will get treatment in coming years.

The summit of about 30 presidents and government leaders must set the future direction of global AIDS policies. Pop stars such as Alicia Keys and Annie Lennox joined pressure groups in demanding rich nations pay the money needed to treat millions more sufferers.

The market economy will drive down the prices of the retrovirals used to keep millions alive now, according to Morolake Odetoyinbo, a board member of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria from Nigeria. The cost “can only keep falling because they are trying to get more people on treatment, which means there is a bigger demand and that big demand will drive down the prices,” she told AFP.

Europe eyes private sector role in Greek debt deal

BERLIN, 9 June—The euro zone edged closer on Wednesday to a compromise on a second Greek bailout package under which private creditors would be asked to swap their sovereign debt holdings for bonds with longer maturities. Several euro zone bankers, including the head of French heavy weight Credit Agricole (CAGR.PA), said they would support a plan under which private creditors compromise on a second Greek bailout package under which private creditors would be asked to swap their sovereign debt holdings for bonds with longer maturities.

Troubled Swedish carmaker Saab said Wednesday it stopped production due to a lack of spare parts only two weeks after resuming making cars following a seven-week halt.

The productions line was disrupted and will remain over seven weeks because of a lack of spare parts, Saab said Wednesday it stopped production due to a lack of spare parts only two weeks after resuming making cars following a seven-week halt.

A pharmacist shows anti-retroviral drugs in 2006.—INTERNET

Odetoyinbo, founder of the Positive Action for Treatment Access group in Nigeria, stressed that it was imperative to reduce the cost of treatment to get more people onto the life-saving drugs.

There are an estimated 34 million people living with AIDS and more than nine million are still not getting treatment, according to UN statistics. About 6.6 million people are getting drugs and the rest do not know they have AIDS.

“Cost is unfortunately the overriding factor in terms of whether indeed we will be getting the remaining nine million people on treatment who need it today in order to live,” Lynch said.

Scientists show heart can repair itself, with help

LONDON, 9 June—British scientists have managed to transform a type of stem-cell like cell in adult mouse hearts into functioning heart muscle in research proving that the heart has dormant repair cells that can be reactivated.

Although the research has yet to be translated into humans and is in its very early stages, the results suggest that in the future, a drug could be developed to prompt and prime hearts damaged by cardiac arrest into repairing themselves.

“I could envisage a patient known to be at risk of a heart attack taking an oral tablet which would prime their heart so that if they had a heart attack the damage could be repaired,” said Paul Riley of University College London, who led the study.

Major advances in medical science in recent years have helped cut the number of people who die from heart attacks, but the damage an attack causes — when heart cells die as they become starved of oxygen — is currently permanent.

Car sales stuck in low gear as sales tumble

BEIJING, 9 June—China’s automobile market continued to slow down with further negative month-on-month passenger vehicle sales growth in May, sparking concern that it may have difficulty reaching its previous sales target of 20 million vehicles this year.

In May, sales of cars, sport utility vehicles (SUV), multipurpose vehicles (MPV) and minivans dropped by 6.1 percent from the previous month to 1.01 million units, according to statistics released by the China Passenger Car Association (CPCA) on Wednesday.

Year-on-year, China’s total car sales edged up by 0.3 percent. Cui Dongshu, deputy secretary-general of the National Passenger Car Information Exchange Association, said China’s automobile market is cooling after the expiration of the government’s two-year period of incentives, including a reduced purchase tax and subsidies to trade-ins.

“Souring gas prices and parking fees, purchasing restrictions in big cities and the earthquake in Japan have deepened the downturn,” said Dai Da, secretary-general of CPCA.—Xinhua

Internet

Parks, museums, people — key to longevity

LOS ANGELES, 9 June—US researchers say seniors need to go beyond diet and exercise and seek a well-rounded life if they want to live a long time and have a good quality of life.

Lead investigator Florence Clark of University of Southern California says during six-month periods, licensed occupational therapists assisted more than 200 men and women age 60 and older in developing sustainably healthy lifestyles and attempting to improve overall quality of life.

“What is critical is that, as we age, we continue to be engaged in life through a sustainable mix of productive, social, and spiritual activities. This goal of prevention and wellness is really a key to healthcare reform, and results in cost savings to society,” Clark, president of the American Occupational Therapy Association, says in a statement.

“The emphasis now is prevention, there are non-pharmacologic interventions that work...” The Well Elderly 2 trial, conducted from 2004 to 2009, had the occupational therapists develop effective and longer-lasting strategies to improve physical health of the study participants.

Troubled Swedish carmaker Saab said Wednesday it stopped production due to a lack of spare parts only two weeks after resuming making cars following a seven-week halt.

internet

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The European Central Bank, which has argued loudly against any form of debt restructuring, may also be warming to the idea of private sector involvement if a cut in the principal of Greece’s debt helps to avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher fiscal targets and avoid a harsher
Kuwait bans vegetable, fruit imports from Germany, Spain

KUWAIT CITY, 9 June—Kuwait on Wednesday imposed a ban on imports of vegetables and fruits from Germany and Spain amid fears of the deadly E coli outbreak in Europe.

The official KUNA news agency reported the country will beef up surveillance starting from Thursday at airports and seaports to detect any infection cases among arrivals.

The country also established a panel made up of health, agriculture and environment officials to oversee the issue.

On Saturday, Qatar also stopped imports of cucumber, tomato and lettuce from Germany and Spain.

Until Wednesday, 25 deaths have been reported while the infection cases have increased more than 2,600 in 12 countries around the world.

An Indian Roifed turtle is displayed during a Press Conference at the Customs Department in Bangkok last week. Thai customs seized 451 turtles and gharials worth more than 1,000,000 bahts (33,333 USD) at Bangkok Airport in a shipment arriving from Bangladesh. —INTERNET

Elephants kill man, injure others in south India

NEW DELHI, 9 June—News reports say two wild elephants have killed a man and injured other people on a rampage in southern India.

New Delhi Television news channel aired footage Wednesday showing the body of a man at the feet of one of the animals in the city of Mysore in Karnataka State. An elephant also kicked a cow.

Press Trust of India later reported that one pachyderm was trapped inside a farm and the other was tranquilized. It said several people were injured but no details were available.

Hundreds of people die in India annually when wild animals wander into cities as their habitats shrink and they have to range farther for food, its parks face massive encroachment from people who live and forage in the forests or graze cattle there. —Internet

A wild elephant attacks a vehicle on a street in Mysore, in the southern Indian state of Karnataka, on 8 June, 2011. INTERNET

Indians with asthma line up to swallow live fish

HYDERABAD, 9 June—Thousands of people seeking relief from asthma gathered in southern India on Wednesday to swallow live sardines smeared with secret herbs that they believe will cure them.

People travel every June from across India to Hyderabad for the treatment offered free by one family on a day chosen by astrologers.

The Goud family says it received the secret formula from a Hindu saint about 170 years ago, but refuses doctors’ requests to reveal it.

An Indian Roofed turtle is displayed during a Press Conference at the Customs Department in Bangkok last week. Thai customs seized 451 turtles and gharials worth more than 1,000,000 bahts (33,333 USD) at Bangkok Airport in a shipment arriving from Bangladesh. —INTERNET

Karnataka State. An elephant also kicked a cow.

“Prakruti Bhai, 57, from India’s Maharashtra state uses an inhaler as she waits to receive the ‘fish medicine’ in Hyderabad, India on 7 June, 2011. —INTERNET

India testfires nuke-capable Prithvi II missile

NEW DELHI, 9 June—India Thursday test-fired its homegrown nuclear-capable Prithvi II missile in the eastern state of Orissa, said highly placed sources. —Xinhua

Vietnam, S Korea agree to boost bilateral relations to new level

HANOI, 9 June—South Korea and Vietnam both agree to boost the bilateral relations to strategic partnership, said South Korean Ambassador to Vietnam Ha Chan-Ho at a Press Conference Wednesday.

South Korea and Vietnam have set up cooperation strategy during the 2011-2015 period, focusing on sustainable growth, environment and green growth, human resource training, infrastructure upgrading, rural development, enhancement of institutional competence and healthcare, said Ha.

Regarding to South Korean businesses in Vietnam, has said that their activities are always connected with social responsibility and for economic development in Vietnam. In 2010, although facing with economic difficulties, they organized 32 charity events, mostly in education, social and medical charity works.

By the end of 2010, South Korea is Vietnam’s second biggest Official Development Assistance (ODA) donor, with approved loans of over 1.2 billion US dollars. It is expected to provide another 215 million US dollars to several projects in Vietnam this year.

South Korea and Vietnam have established diplomatic relationship for 19 years, and both sides are preparing for the 20th anniversary in 2012.

Indonesia to buy presidential jet from Boeing at $58 mln

JAKARTA, 9 June—Indonesia will soon have a presidential jet valued at $58 million US dollars following negotiation with the United States aircraft maker Boeing, the country’s largest news portal detikcom quoted an official as saying on Wednesday. “We have managed to negotiate the price to $58 million dollars from $62 million dollars,” said Minister for State Secretary Sudi Silalahi in a parliamentary hearing.

According to Silalahi, he already wrote to Finance Minister Agus Martowardojo about the purchase plan of Boeing Business Jet 2. “He signed his agreement on 27 Dec, 2010,” he said. —Xinhua
Union Foreign Affairs Minister arrives back after participating in ASEM 10th Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Hungary

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June — Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived back here via Bangkok by air this morning after attending the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) 10th Foreign Ministers’ Meeting held in Budapest and Godollo, Hungary, by Foreign Ministers and representatives from 48 ASEM members. At the Working Lunch, the ASEM Foreign Ministers exchanged views on regional issues including developments in Europe, Asia, Middle-East and the Arab World. Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin delivered a speech to the Parliament on 30th March, President U Thein Sein outlined many aspects of the government’s future tasks and gavel policy guidance. The speech was well received by the people of Myanmar and also welcomed by the international community. With regard to nation building and national reconciliation, high on the priority of the new government’s agenda are national unity and economic and social development of the people. The government will create sound economic foundations, based on transparent and predictable market economy, to promote socio-economic life of all the national races and upgrade the standard of education and health. The government shall also promote and protect human rights in accordance with the Constitution. There are some individuals and organizations inside and outside the country that do not accept the State’s Seven-Step Road Map and the Constitution. If they have genuine desire to serve the interest of the State and the people, they should participate in the political process of the state, stand for the elections, and take part in the deliberation of the affairs of the State in the Parliaments as elected representatives of the people. Parliament is the only appropriate venue to discuss the future of the nation. The door is always open for those who are willing to participate in the political process in accordance with the Constitution.

With regard to Myanmar’s relationship with the European Union, EU has imposed various types of unilateral sanctions against Myanmar on the pretext of lack of human rights and democracy since 1990. All these restrictions and sanctions under the EU Common Position on Myanmar have been renewed or extended annually since 2004. These sanctions deprived the people of Myanmar of their fundamental human rights including the rights to develop. On our part, we are committed to improving our relationship with all countries including member countries of EU. It is my sincere and earnest hope that we will be able to work together with the EU for the larger interest of our peoples based on objectivity, mutual understanding and equality.

The Union Minister also participated in the 1st and 2nd Plenary Sessions where the ASEM Foreign Ministers exchanged views on Non-traditional Security Challenges and Global Issues respectively.

In the evening, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin attended the Gala Dinner hosted by the Hungarian Foreign Minister in honour of ASEM Foreign Ministers and delegates at the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest.

In the morning of 7 June 2011, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin attended 3rd and 4th Plenary Sessions where the ASEM Foreign Ministers exchanged views on recovering from economic and financial crisis, overview of the 3 pillars of ASEM Cooperation, ASEM and the civil society. At the end of the 4th Plenary Session, Hungarian Foreign Minister delivered closing remarks.

On the side-lines of the meeting in Hungary, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin held separate bilateral meetings with Luxembourg Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr. Jean Asselborn, Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Takeaki Matsumoto, Australian Foreign Minister Mr. Kevin Rudd, Slovenian Foreign Minister Mr. Samuel Zbogar, Finnish Under Secretary of State Mr. Jaakko Laajava and Austrian former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and former Commissioner of EU for Agriculture and Rural Development and Fisheries Dr. Franz Fischler and exchanged views on promotion of bilateral relations and on issues of mutual interests.—MNA

Meeting between Union Minister for Foreign Affairs
U Wunna Maung Lwin and Luxembourg Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr. Jean Asselborn in progress.—MNA
Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo… (from page 16)

cooperation for mutual interests.

After the talks, the signing of MoU took place. In the presence of Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and the Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Than and Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Finance Mr Nguyen Cong Nghiep signed the MoU on cooperation between the two finance ministries, and Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye and Deputy Vietnamese Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Hoang Van Thang, the MoU on the meat sector. Then, they exchanged the documents.

In the evening, Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo hosted a dinner in honour of the Vietnamese goodwill delegation in Myat Tawwin Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Union Defence Minister receives Vietnamese delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—A goodwill delegation led by Deputy Minister of National Defence Lt-Gen Nguyen Chi-Vinh called on Union Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Hla Min, at the minister’s office here this evening. Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers of Defence Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt and Captain Aung Thaw and officials from the Ministry of Defence.

British Ambassador calls on Union Minister for Border Affairs & Myanmar Industrial Development

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Union Minister for Border Affairs and Myanmar Industrial Development Maj-Gen Thein Htay received Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Myanmar Mr. Andrew Heyn at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of Ministry of Defence here this afternoon. Responsible personnel of the Ministry of Border Affairs are also present at the meeting.

Union EP-1 Minister receives Vice-President of China Three Gorges Corporation (CTGC)

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Vice-President Mr Bi Ya Xiong of China Three Gorges Corporation (CTGC) from the People’s Republic of China and party called on Union Minister for Electric Power No.1 U Zaw Min, at the minister’s office here this morning. The meeting mainly focused on hydro power project being implemented by the Ministry in cooperation with the CTGC.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Myint Zaw, Directors-General, Managing Directors and officials from the Enterprises and Departments, Director Mr Yuan Zhi Mao and party from CTGC. Chairman U Nay Aung of International Group of Entrepreneurs Company Limited and officials.
NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—The Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committees continued the legal paper reading session at the Hluttaw Office, here, this morning.

It was attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, chairmen, secretaries and members of Bill Committees, Public Accounts Committees, Hluttaw Rights Committees, Government Guarantee, Pledges and Undertakings Veterans Committees, rectors and lecturers of universities.

The morning session was presided over by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa who spoke on the occasion. Professor/Dean Dr Khin Mar Yi of Law Department of Yangon University read the paper “on Protection of Trademark Rights”, Professor Dr Myint Thu Myaing of Law Department of Yangon East University “on Protection of Authors’ Rights under Copyright” and Professor/Dean of Law Department of Mandalay University Dr Nu Nu Yi “on Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in the Context of Traditional Medicine Knowledge.”

In the afternoon session provided over by Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein and attended by Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, Professor Dr May Htar of Law Department of Yangon University submitted paper “on Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships”, Professor Dr Tin Hay Ei of Law Department of Mandalay University “on Legal Control on Industrial Hazardous Waste” and Lecturer Daw Nan Khin Htwe of Law Department of Yadanaabon University “on Peace-Making, Peace Keeping Operations of the United Nations and the Role of the Secretary-General.”

They replied to queries raised by those present.

The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw spoke words of thanks and presented gifts to the resource persons.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint presents gift to a resource person of legal paper reading session of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committees.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Special envoy of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam Mr Hoang Trung Hai called on Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing at his office, here, at 11 am today.

Their discussions focused on further strengthening of Myanmar-Vietnam relations, cooperation in agriculture and livestock breeding sectors between ministries and private sectors of two countries, and development of investment.

They exchanged views on enhancement of long-term benefit in agriculture and livestock breeding sectors between the two countries, and collaborative efforts for raw materials and finished products through product sharing contract in the agro-based industrial sector in line with the Foreign Investment Laws of the nation.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw, departmental heads and officials.

The Vietnamese guests were accompanied by Vietnamese Minister of Construction Mr Nguyen Hong Quan, deputy ministers, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Chu Cong Phung and officials.

Vietnamese Deputy PM meets Union Minister for A&I.—MNA

120 police receive driving skills

YANGON, 9 June — A total of 120 other ranks of Myanmar Police Force received driving skills during the four-week driving course.

The course No. 1/2011 was concluded at Thiriuyang Driving Training School in Dagon Myothit (North) Township yesterday. —MNA
Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces and wife visit Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—A goodwill delegation led by Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Songkitti Jaggabatara and wife yesterday evening left Nay Pyi Taw for Mandalay by special aircraft of Royal Thai Armed Forces.

They were welcomed at Mandalay International Airport by Commander of Central Command Brig-Gen Ye Aung, wife and senior military officers.

The goodwill delegation paid homage to Hsutaungpyai Buddha Image on Mandalay Hill and enjoyed sunset and scenic beauty of Mandalay.

The Commander and wife hosted a dinner to Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces, wife and party at Sedona Hotel in Mandalay in the evening. This morning, they visited downtown Mandalay.—MNA

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Hoang Trung Hai being welcomed by officials at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA

Myanmar attends 17th UN Human Rights Council conference

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on Myanmar was under discussion on 8 June at the 17th UN Human Rights Council conference that runs in Geneva, Switzerland, from 30 May to 17 June.

The Myanmar delegation led by leader Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin and Charge d'Affaires ai, Ambassador to Myanmar Office U Ye Myint Aung attended it.

The Union attorney-general discussed human rights situations in Myanmar and presented the Myanmar government’s stance over remaining 46 suggestions of world countries that are yet to be assessed over human rights situations in Myanmar at the UPR meeting held in January 2011. Representatives of the 11 countries presented their opinions and expressed their support for the review for approval. In his speech, the Myanmar delegation leader thanked the countries for discussions. He said that the Myanmar government has taken office for only 69 days, but it is implementing tasks both theoretically and practically for promotion and protection of human rights with great interest. Myanmar takes heed of cooperation with international communities like the UN, he said. Myanmar is enjoying development, so it called for lifting of the west’s economic sanctions against the nation at the ASEAN meeting on 16 January 2011, he said, adding that therefore, it is time for the international community to lift the economic sanctions in recognition of positive changes in Myanmar. He noted that only Myanmar people will shape the future of the nation themselves.

The permanent Thai ambassador to Human Rights Council decided to approve unanimously as there was no country that opposed the UPR over Myanmar.

Human rights situations of world countries have been discussed under UPR of UN Human Rights Council since 2008. Human rights situations of 160 countries have been evaluated so far. —MNA

Train consignees encourage school education

NAY PYI TAW, 8 June—Train consignees donated exercise books and cash to schoolchildren of staff of the Myanmar Railways at the office of the managing director in Nay Pyi Taw Station this morning.

Managing Director U Thein Swe accepted the donations worth K 17.4 million.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 June—A goodwill delegation led by Special Envoy of the Vietnamese Prime Minister Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam arrived here by special flight this morning.

The goodwill delegation led by Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, departmental heads and Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Chu Cong Phung, Military Attaché Sr. Colonel Nguyen Van Vui and embassy staff.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win inspected the Sub Power Station near Kamanat Village in Bago yesterday.

During the visit, he inspected the control room, 230-KV Switch Yard and power supply from the power station and stressed the need for security, obeying strict rules and regulations, safety of pylons and full supply of electricity to the people. —MNA

Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win visits Kamanat Sub-power Station in Bago.—MNA

Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Songkitti Jaggabatara and wife enjoy sunset during their visit to Mandalay Hill.

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win inspected the Sub Power Station near Kamanat Village in Bago yesterday.

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Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win visits Kamanat Sub-power Station in Bago.—MNA

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Arizona wildfire swallows over 600 square miles

Show Low (Arizona), 9 June—A monster wildfire believed started by careless campers roared unchecked through eastern Arizona for an 11th day on Wednesday, leaving 600 square miles blackened and forcing thousands of edgy residents hole up in two towns to flee.

The blaze, ranked as Arizona’s second-largest forest fire on record, prompted the complete evacuation of the two mountain communities near the New Mexico border. Springerville and Eagar, home to some 8,000 people combined, were evacuated late in the day. As many as 2,000 people, most of them in Eagar, had been chased from the area over the past two days, but officials had allowed most residents to stay put while keeping them on standby for possible further evacuations.

The order to clear out came shortly before 5 pm local time, accompanied by a terse Twitter message advising residents: “(the) Apache County Sheriff’s Office has ordered a full evacuation of Springerville and Eagar, effective now.” “We’re hoping a number of people have already left; that will make this a lot easier,” Sergeant Richard Guinn, a sheriff’s spokesman, told Reuters. [Reuters]

Three dead as chest-high floods sweep Philippines

MANILA, 9 June—At least three people are dead in chest-deep floods that have swept across parts of the Philippines.

Days of incessant rain have shut down schools and disrupted travel. In all, nearly 200,000 people have been affected. Among the dead are two teenagers who drowned in the North Cotabato Province.

The national disaster council says five Provinces in the southern Philippines have reported rising floodwaters after the rain caused rivers to overflow. At least 135 villages and 19 municipalities have been affected.

The rains have closed schools, including in the capital, Manila. Many flights were canceled on Thursday. More chaos could be on the way, with forecasters predicting that a low pressure area west of Manila could become a storm.

Lightning strike in Mississippi lands 77 cadets in hospital

JACKSON, 9 June—A lightning strike at a southern Mississippi military base sent 77 cadets to a hospital on Wednesday. The cadets, enrolled in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, were admitted after a bolt struck during a severe thunderstorm about 2 pm, a base spokeswoman said.

Two cadets were transported by ambulance and the rest by bus, and all were “very responsive and in stable condition,” Mississippi Army National Guard Major Deidre Musgrave told Reuters. She said they were taken to the hospital for precautionary evaluation, but could not give any information about the injuries sustained.

The cadets are stationed for two weeks at Camp Shelby, where a simulated forward operating base prepares them for the conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan, Musgrave said. [Reuters]

Cyclone may hit Pakistan Thursday

ISLAMABAD, 9 June—A tropical cyclone in the Arabian Sea may hit Pakistan’s coastal areas by Thursday evening and cause heavy rain, the meteorological department said.

An advisory issued by department said a “well-marked low pressure area in the eastern Arabian Sea had intensified into a depression (strong weather system) Wednesday”, Dawn News reported.

The cyclone may hit the Provinces of Balochistan and Sindh, the report said. The department warned that sea conditions would become rough Friday, and advised fishermen to return to the coast before Friday.

The fishermen were advised not to venture out till Monday.

In June last year, cyclone Phet roared past Karachi before it hit the coast of Thatta District. It left a trail of destruction, particularly along the Makran coast.

1st hurricane of season forms in eastern Pacific

ACAPULCO, 9 June—Hurricane Adrian formed in the eastern Pacific on Wednesday, making it the first of the 2011 season.

As a precaution, the Mexican government issued a tropical storm watch for the Pacific coast from northwest to Punta San Telmo. But officials discontinued the watch a few hours later.

Forecasters at the US National Hurricane Centre said the storm’s centre was expected to remain offshore, although a shift could bring tropical storm conditions to the coast.

The Guerrero State government said thunderstorms and hail might hit about 20 coastal towns, where about 2 million people live.

Late Wednesday, Adrian’s maximum sustained winds were about 80 mph (130 kph) and it was expected to get stronger.

The centre of the storm was about 275 miles (440 kilometres) south of the beach resort of Zihuateno and moving northwest near 8 mph (13 kph). [Internet]

Photo released on 8 June, 2011, shows the scene of “lightning hit city” in Belgrade, capital of Serbia. [INTERNET]
London 2012 offers first look at Olympic Torch design

LONDON, 9 June—Prototype of London 2012 Olympic Torch was unveiled on Wednesday. The 8,000 perforated circles in the design represent the 8,000 people who will carry the Olympic torch. The London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) showcased prototypes of the London 2012 Olympic torch.

The torch stands 800mm high and weighs 800g. The triangular form was inspired by the three Olympic values of respect, excellence and friendship, and the three words that make the Olympic motto — faster, higher, stronger; the fact the UK has hosted the Olympic Games three times — in 1908, 1948 and 2012; the vision for the London 2012 Olympic Games to combine three strands of work — sport, education and culture. It’s made up of four key pieces — an inner and an outer aluminium alloy skin perforated by 8,000 circles that are held in place by a cast top piece and base. — Xinhua

Four Chinese workers kidnapped in southern Colombia

BOGOTA, 9 June—Four Chinese workers were kidnapped by the rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the southern Caqueta Province on Wednesday afternoon, the Chinese embassy said.

The four Chinese from the local Emerald company, an affiliate of China’s state-owned Sinochem in Colombia, and their Colombian driver were taken hostage at about 2:30 pm local time (1930 GMT) near the San Vicente de Caguata city when they were traveling in a rural area, according to the embassy.

A local TV reported that eight FARC militants forced the Chinese out of their SUV at gunpoint before taking them into the jungles. The driver was released later by the FARC members. Edilberto Endo, secretary of the Caqueta provincial government, said the Colombian military was searching for the four abducted Chinese. — Xinhua

23 killed in road mishap in southern India

NEW DELHI, 9 June—At least 23 people were charred to death in a tragic road mishap in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu late Tuesday night, said police Wednesday. The mishap happened when the bus in which the victims were traveling skidded off a bridge, turned turtle and caught fire near Kaveripakkam, after the driver lost control of the speeding vehicle. While 23 people were burnt alive, one managed to escape and has been admitted to a local hospital with minor injuries.

On the same day and in the same state, at least 10 Malaysian tourists were injured in a road mishap, according to police.

The mishap happened when the van in which the 10 tourists, including five women, were travelling rammed against a bridge at Parthibanur in the state’s Ramanathapuram District after the driver lost control of the speeding vehicle. The tourists were returning from Rameswaram and were on their way to the temple town of Madurai when the incident happened. All the injured have been admitted to a local hospital. Road accident rate in India is among the highest in the world, with at least 100,000 killed on the road each year. — Xinhua

Seized cigarettes by Hong Kong Customs not resold

HONG KONG, 9 June—All illicit cigarettes seized by the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department are destroyed and cannot be retrieved for reuse, the city’s Acting Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury Julia Leung said Wednesday. Leung told local lawmakers Wednesday that confiscated cigarettes have not been sold since 1999. They are forfeited upon court order, or on the condition no legal claim is made, according to the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance.

Between 2002 and April this year, the department has forfeited 993 million cigarettes, of which 85 percent have been destroyed without any auctions. Destruction of the remainder is pending. The department disposes of cigarettes at landfills, upon Environmental Protection Department approval. — Xinhua

Diving bell spiders use bubble webs “like gills”

LONDON, 9 June—Diving bell spiders only need to come up for air once a day, according to researchers. The spiders are named for their sub aqua webs which they fill with air in order to breathe under water. Scientists studying the European arachnids measured oxygen levels inside and around an air bubble web. They found that the bubble acts like a gill, extracting dissolved oxygen from the water and dispersing carbon dioxide.

The study is published in the Journal of Experimental Biology. Argyroneta aquatica live in ponds, pools and slowly-moving streams across Europe and northern Asia. They are the only spiders that live their entire lives underwater: mating, laying eggs and catching prey from their webs. The silk webs are constructed amongst vegetation beneath the surface of the water.

To fill the “diving-bell” webs with air so they can breathe, the spiders use fine hairs on their abdomen to transport bubbles from above the water surface. Scientists previously debated whether the spiders had to return to the surface regularly to replenish their air supply. — Internet
A cosplayer performs at 2011 Xi’an Cartoon Fair in Xi’an, capital of northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, on 4 June, 2011. Cosplayers from over 100 Comic Societies participated in the cosplay show.

A cosplayer speaks on stage at the 5th annual Spike TV’s Guys Choice awards in Culver City, California on 4 June, 2011. ZHINHU

A Utah man has been cited on a charge of disorderly conduct after paying for a disputed medical bill with 2,500 pennies. The Deseret News of Salt Lake City reports Jason West went to Basin Clinic in Vernal on 27 May to prepare to dispute an outstanding $25 bill. Assistant Vernal Police Chief Keith Campbell says that after asking staff members whether they accepted cash, West dumped 2,500 pennies on the counter and demanded that staff count them. Campbell says the incident upset staff because pennies were strewn about the counter and floor, and West’s action served “no legitimate purpose.”

Police later issued the 38-year-old West a citation for disorderly conduct. That carries a fine of as much as $140. On 14,000 pennies.

Fishburne closes ‘CSI’ case, exits series

LOS ANGELES, 9 June—Laurence Fishburne is closing the file on his “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation” career. The actor won’t be back on the CBS crime drama this fall, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Tuesday because CBS had yet to announce Fishburne’s departure. Fishburne joined the “CSI” cast as Dr Raymond Langston midway through the 2008-09 season. He stepped in to replace departing star William Petersen.

The person says CBS and the show’s producers are taking Fishburne’s departure in stride, aware that his movie career made a long TV tenure unlikely.

Aerosmith returning to studio for long-delayed album

LOS ANGELES, 9 June—Now that Steven Tyler has finished his successful first season as a judge on “American Idol,” he is returning to his day job with Aerosmith. The singer and his four bandmates plan to reunite next month with veteran producer Jack Douglas to kick-start work on their long-delayed album, guitarist Joe Perry said on Tuesday.

“Whole band has plans to go into the studio with Jack Douglas second week of July to work on new AERO CD,” Perry said on Twitter.

The album will be recorded in the Massachusetts studio the band built six years ago expressly to work with Douglas, Perry said last month. The band, sans Perry who had a prior commitment, held an eight-day writing session earlier this year. Aerosmith has not released an album of new material since 2001’s “Just Push Play.” Attempts to record a follow-up have been interrupted by internecine strife and a litany of health problems affecting most of its members.

Conn city: People using new fountain as toilet

Officials in New London, Conn, turned off the water at the city’s new waterfront fountain over the weekend, because people have been using it as a toilet.

The fountain was activated last month and features a sculpture of a whale’s tail with water spilling over it, which visitors are encouraged to run through.

City Councilor Michael Buscetto III tells The Day of New London that since the fountain opened, police have responded to calls of people urinating, defecating and showering in the fountain water. He said some people who have cut themselves have also used the fountain to rinse off blood.

City Manager Denise Rose says police are developing a plan to better keep an eye on the area.

Aerosmith returns to studio for long-delayed album

“I whole band has plans to go into the studio with Jack Douglas second week of July to work on new AERO CD,” Joe Perry said on Twitter. Fishburne’s credits include “The Matrix” films, and he’s in the upcoming “Contagion” with Matt Damon.

Richard Gere to visit Buddhist sites in S Korea

SEOUL, 9 June—Hollywood star Richard Gere plans to visit South Korea this month to promote his photo exhibition and tour Buddhist temples, a religious official said Wednesday.

Gere plans to tour Bulguksa temple in the ancient capital of Gyeongju, 370 km (230 miles) southeast of Seoul, and take part in an overnight stay at the city’s largest Buddhist heritage site, said a spokesman for the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism. “We are still in talks with Mr Gere to hammer out details... the final itinerary will be announced next week,” he told AFP. Gere, a Buddhist, will also visit Seoul to promote an exhibition of photos he took in Tibet and at other Buddhist-related sites, the spokesman said.

Chosun Ilbo newspaper reported Gere will arrive in South Korea on 20 June and meet leaders of the Jogye order, the nation’s largest Buddhist sect.
**SPORTS**

**Martin takes Dauphine third stage, Wiggins in lead**

**Grenoble, 9 June—**Germany’s Tony Martin of the HTC-Highroad team took the third stage of the Criterium du Dauphine, a 42.5km time-trial in Grenoble on Wednesday. Martin finished 11 seconds ahead of Britain’s Bradley Wiggins of Team Sky who takes the overall lead, over a minute ahead of the Australian Cadel Evans (BMC). Heavy rain had left parts of the course wet and slippery, but the demanding conditions failed to stop Martin.

The 26-year-old, who also won the time trials in Paris-Nice in March and the Tour of the Basque Country in April, ripped up the circuit at an average of 46kph, just edging out the Briton. Martin said: “I’m happy, I did a good time. This is a great test for the Tour de France, for my actual condition as well as for this race. The weather was tricky, you had to take care. “In the Tour de France I’m aiming for a top ten overall finish.”

**Kawaga for sale to United, insists Dortmund**

**Berlin, 9 June—**German champions Borussia Dortmund have insisted Japan star Shinji Kagawa is not for sale, despite reports he is on the radar of Premier League giants Manchester United. According to reports in the Japanese media on Monday, Sir Alex Ferguson’s United are planning to send scouts to follow the 22-year-old attacking midfielder at Dortmund games next season.

But Borussia insist Kagawa will be back in the Bundesliga next season following a four-month lay-off with a broken foot suffered in January’s Asian Cup and general manager Michael Zorc says the winger is unsellable. “It’s not a topic for us. Kagawa is not for sale,” Zorc told German daily Bild.

**Wenger signs Finnish Under-21 defender**

**London, 9 June—**Highly-rated Finnish Under-21 defender Carl Jenkinson became Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger’s first signing of the close season on Wednesday when he joined from League One side Charlton for an undisclosed fee.

**Nadal sees off Aussie qualifier**

**Eden at Queen’s**

**London, 9 June—**Rafael Nadal had no problems making the switch from clay to grass courts as the French Open champion beat Australian qualifier Matthew Ebden 6-4, 6-4 at Queen’s on Wednesday. Nadal was last seen four days ago swathed in a Spanish flag as he celebrated his record-equaling sixth French Open title after another victory over his old rival Roger Federer. There was little time to savour that latest success on the crushed earth of Roland Garros however and, after a quick trip to EuroDisney, Nadal has set his sights on successfully defending his Wimbledon crown.

**Rafael Nadal**

**Uruguay avenge World Cup defeat against Dutch**

**Montevideo, 9 June—**Uruguay gained a measure of revenge for last year’s World Cup semi-final defeat by Holland as they beat the Dutch 4-3 on penalties after their friendly finished 1-1 here on Wednesday. Uruguay’s Liverpool striker Luis Suarez opened the scoring eight minutes from time but the Dutch levelled a minute into time added on as Suarez’s clubmate Dirk Kuyt popped up to head home.

However, the Dutch messed up in the penalty shootout out as Robin van Persie and Eljero Elia missed their penalties and their Euro 2012 hopes were sealed when, after Alvaro Pereira made no mistake to give them victory. It ended the ‘Orange’s’ old beaten run since losing to Spain in the World Cup final and gave Uruguay a boost just three weeks away from the start of the Copa America, which they will keep with Argentina hold the record of victories with 14.

2-time world Super Featherweight Hernandez dies

**Mission Viejo, 9 June—**Two-time world super featherweight champion Genaro Hernandez has died of a rare cancer. He was 45. Hernandez’s wife, Liliana Hernandez, said he died on Tuesday at his home in a hospital in Los Angeles and began his professional boxing career in 1984. He was WBA super featherweight champion from 1991-94 and WBC super featherweight champion from 1997-98.
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kayah State, fairly widespread in Bago and Ayeayawady Regions. Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfall in Rakhine State and isolated heavyfall in Upper Sagraing Region. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Airport) (1.18) inches, Kyauktaw (5.59) inches, Kalaya (3.98) inches, Taungup and MranukU (3.62) inches, Thanlwe (3.35) inches, Mawntgaw (3.15) inches, Taungoo (2.80) inches and Homalin (2.75) inches.

Nay Pyi Taw

Maximum temperature on 8-6-2011 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 9-6-2011 was 76°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-6-2011 was (92%). Rainfall on 9-6-2011 was (0.47) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 8-6-2011 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 9-6-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 9-6-2011 was (79%). Rainfall on 9-6-2011 was (1.18) inches. Rainfall on 9-6-2011 was (0.47) inch at Nay Pyi Taw, (0.07) inch at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (0.12) inch at Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (15.16) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (25.31) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (13.35) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (15) mph from Southeast (12:40) hours MST on 9-6-2011. Bay Inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST on today, the low pressure area over Northeast Bay still persists. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and vigorous elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 10th June 2011: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Lower Sagraing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Upper Sagraing Region, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the Sea:

Occasional squalls with rough seas will be expected off and along rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (45) mph. Sea will be moderate to rough elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in Upper Myanmar appears possible. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 10th June 2011: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10th June 2011: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10th June 2011: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Oversea Transmission

Asleep in Jesus

U Tual Khaw Mang (Sukte)
B.A., B.L., Advocate

Director (Rtd) General Administration Dept
Aged (76) years

Eldest son of (U Thawng Za Khup Pang) Agreement Signatory Daw Tel Za Khai, Son in Law of (Zeya Kyaw Win Lt. Col Lian Cin Zum Daw Cing Za Ngai), beloved husband of (Daw Cing Ngo Niuang) of Saizang village, Tiddim Township, Northern Chin State, brother of Daw Man Za Go-U Suu Khan, (Daw Mang Do Cing-Maj Taul Khan Pau). (Lt. Col. Lian Khan Thang-Daw Khan Hnin Aye). Daw Lian Khan Yong- Lt. Col Taul Do Dal (Rtd), U Nang Cin Pau-Daw Cin Do Niang (Township Audit Officer) and beloved father of Daw Kazi Za Dim, U Pum Za Khai, Daw Ngul Lian Cing- U Cin Kho Kham, Daw Cing Ngte Cin- U Thang Lian Thawng. U Khup Khan Kham- Daw Dim Lian Cing, U Zam Lian Dal- Daw Ngaein Kim and grandfather of Cin Lian Thung. U Khup Khan Kham. U Thawthkhaung, Cing Sian Lun, Niaung Sian Kim, Daniel Yum San Khan, Yung Zam Kim, Niaung Sian San. Dal Sum Mang, Niaung Sian Dim. Mang Sian Khup. Mang Sian Zam. Niaung Sian Lun. passed away and asleep in Jesus on 7-6-2011 at 20:30 Hrs in Tiddim Township. Funeral services will be held at Tiddim 12:00 noon on 12 June 2011, after that his corpse will be carried and entombed at Saizang village.

Beloved Family

Obituary

Daw Hawabi (84), wife of late Y.A. Mookerdum of Smart & Mookerdum (The Myanmar Book Shop, est. 1897), passed away peacefully at her home in Yangon on Monday, 6 June, 2011. Mourned by her children Sara, Salma, Nargis, Robert, Richard, Feroxy, Fizal (Ahmed), and Philip, 15 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Rest in peace, Mother dearest.

The Mookerdum Family

Photo taken on 9 June, 2011 shows the exposition booths at the 25th Hong Kong International Travel Expo in south China’s Hong Kong. INTERNETS
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

VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo discusses bilateral cooperation with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 9 June—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo conferred with visiting Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai, the special envoy of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at the President Office here this afternoon.

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo was accompanied by Union Ministers of Agriculture and Irrigation, Finance and Revenue, Construction, National Planning and Economic Development, Commerce, and Mines, deputy ministers of Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Livestock and Fisheries, Transport and Industry-1 and heads of department; and the Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister, by members of the goodwill delegation, and Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Cha Cong Phung. In his address, Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo explained foreign policy of Myanmar. He welcomed the Vietnamese delegation and expressed thanks for Vietnam’s support for Myanmar in international and regional issues.

The two sides compared notes for promoting bilateral cooperation.

(See page 8)