YANGON, 12 June—Visiting Vietnamese delegation led by Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Deputy Prime Minister Mr Hoang Trung Hai, attended the opening of Viglacera showroom and resident rep office on Gyobyu Street, near Aungsan Stadium, in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, here this morning.

The deputy prime minister spoke on the occasion and formally opened the showroom and the resident rep office together with Union Commerce Minister U Win Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe. The deputy prime minister then looked the Vietnam-made interior decoration materials round the showroom.

The delegation then attended the Myanmar-Vietnam Business Exchange at Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minyekyawswa Street in Lanmadaw Township.

Union Minister U Win Myint gave a speech on the occasion and RUMFCCI President U Win Aung extended greetings. Director Mr Le Dao Nguyen of Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) and Association of Vietnamese Investors in (See page 8)

Sinkhan-Katha Road of Katha-Bhamo Road Project to link Sagaing Region and Kachin State

By Kayan Soe Myint

Public Works under the Ministry of Construction in cooperation with 13 companies is building Katha-Bhamo Road, which is 65 miles long from Katha to Sinkhan, dividing it into two sections: the 25 miles and six furlongs long section from Katha to Chaungwa, and the 39 miles and two furlongs long section from Chaungwa and Sinkhan.

We happened to visit Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) on 5 April. Initially, Katha-Bhamo Project was to build a railroad. Due to the emergence of Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan), the government also built a road apart from the railroad for the convenience of residents. The 25 miles and six furlongs long section from Katha to Chaungwa goes through Pawmamyaing, Mehin, Naru, Khatetchaung, Minle, Hena, Wetsauk, Moetahgyi, Suubokgone, Namhsan and Thamandauk, and the 39 miles and two furlongs long section from Chaungwa and Sinkhan, through Kyaukkyi, Kyauktalone, Teinsun, Si-thaw, Si-ngan, Nankhok, Moesitchaung, Int-oun, Myogon, Naungpin and Sitkaing. (See page 9)
**PERSPECTIVES**

Monday, 13 June, 2011

**Improved domestic aviation services**

Diplomatic and economic relations between Myanmar and the international community are improving, as testified by the nation’s reforms in various sectors. The international airlines that use the Myanmar’s airspace and local and international airlines that deal with local airports play an important role in the process.

Myanmar joined the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) on 7 August 1948. It respects the provisions and appendices of the convention.

Yangon International Airport deals with 2.7 million passengers a year. It will be upgraded to an international standard one that can handle 3.8 million passengers a year, and so will local civil aviation services.

In the process, it is needed to take all necessary measures systematically for advancement in services, airport buildings, management, security and relations with passengers.

Services are to be carried out in line with the rules and regulations to avert unnecessary delays to win greater customer satisfaction. With better services, local airports will cope with a growing number of passengers and they are hopeful of contributing towards the nation’s economic growth.

**534 culprits seized in 346 drug related cases in May**

**Nay Pha Taw, 12 June**—A total of 346 drug-related cases were exposed across the nation in May 2011. The seizures in the cases were 339.585 kilos of opium in 55 cases, 16.0395 kilos of heroin in 105 cases, 26.4479 kilos of opium oil in six cases, 37.9255 kilos of low-grade opium in 28 cases, 13.0155 kilos of marijuana in 31 cases, 410,935 stimulant tablets in 81 cases, 6.645 kilos of opium speciosa in eight cases, 380 ampoules of morphone in one case, 0.15 kilo of Ice in one case, 0.185 litre of opium liquid in two cases, 840,000 sudo-morphine in one case, and 17 cases of failure to register.

Action was taken against 534 persons—430 men and 104 women—under the law. —MNA

**Outstanding townships, schools, students honoured**

**Nay Pha Taw, 12 June**—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung yesterday morning attended the ceremony to honour outstanding townships, schools and students in the 2010-2011 academic year at the city hall in Pathein.

The Chief Minister presented the first prize to Danubyu Township, the second to Ingaup Township and the third to Zalun Township, the first to Kyaungywa BEHS in Maubin Township, the second to Pathein BEHS No. 2 and the third to Mezaligon BEHS in Ingaup Township and one-tical gold medall to eight students who passed the exam with flying colours.

Region ministers, the secretary of Region Government, the commander of Region Police Force and the rector of Pathein University awarded 53 outstanding students who passed the exam with distinctions. —MNA

**Chief Minister looks into development of Maungtaw District**

**Nay Pha Taw, 12 June**—Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin of Rakhine State on 6 June morning inspected construction of the bridge at the entrance to Maungtaw.

After visiting Basic Education High School and Women’s Vocational School in Maungtaw, the Chief Minister met departmental personnel and townswelders at the hall of township and presented school uniforms to students of Maungtaw BEHS No. 1.

At the hall of General Administration Department in Taunggyo Letwe Sub-Township, he met officials.

He looked into Station Hospital in Kyenichaung Village and construction of two-storey building at Ngakhuya BEHS.

On 7 June, the Chief Minister gave instructions to local people in Buthidaung and then visited Buthidaung Myoma Market. —MNA

**Union Forestry Minister tours teak plantations in Bago, Yangon Regions**

**Nay Pha Taw, 12 June—Chairman of Environmental Conservation Committee Union**

**Minister for Forestry U Win Tun on 6 June visited Union Forestry Union Win Tun visits Shwekyuntaw Forest Reserve in Thгон Township. —MNA**

**Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat gives oral polio vaccine to a child under five. —MNA**

**2nd Shan State Region-wise NIDs launched in Taunggyi**

**Nay Pha Taw, 12 June—The 2nd Shan State Region-wise National Immunization Days was launched at the hall of Kyaunggyisu Ward in Taunggyi yesterday.**

**Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat and party gave oral polio vaccine to children under five at the office of Myoma Ward Administrator and that of Yeayegwin Ward Administrator. —MNA**

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**Union Minister for Forestry U Win Tun visits Shwekyuntaw Forest Reserve in Thgon Township. —MNA**

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

**Lepankhon quality teak nursery on Bago mountain range crossing road.**

He viewed conservation of 30000 acres area of Bontaung forest reserve and special teak plantations.

The Union Minister looked into thriving teak plantations in Ottwin Township. He presented exercise books to students at Affiliated Basic Education Primary School in Kyunseikhin Village.

On 7 June, he visited teak plantations in Thegon, Minhla, Thayawady and Taikkyi townships and then met local people. —MNA

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For Afghan civilians, May was grim milestone

KABUL, 12 June—May was the deadliest month for Afghan civilians since the United Nations started tracking deaths in 2007, according to a report released Saturday. The carnage continued, with bombs killing 21 people nationwide — including a family on a religious pilgrimage and a child lured by a suicide attacker pushing an ice cream cart. Violence has been on the rise as the Taliban and other militias try to regain territory lost in the fall and winter to the US-led coalition in southern Afghanistan. The militias have stepped up suicide attacks and bombings that are more likely to affect civilians.

Fighting always picks up in the spring after the opium poppy crop is harvested in the south and the snow melts elsewhere in the mountainous country, allowing militants to move more freely. But attacks have intensified as militants try to undermine confidence in the Afghan government, which wants to show it is ready to take over security as the US begins to withdraw some forces.

Pakistan’s Taleban deny twin blasts that killed 39

PESHAWAR, 12 June—Pakistan’s Taleban on Sunday denied responsibility for twin bomb blasts that ripped through a crowded market in the northwestern city of Peshawar, killing 39 people and injuring dozens.

The attack, one of the deadliest in a series to hit Pakistan since US Navy SEALs killed Osama bin Laden in May, devastated the Khyber Super Market district which includes a hotel, shops and student accommodation.

A small initial blast at around 11.30 pm local time Saturday drew onlookers and emergency services before a second more powerful blast, believed to be from a suicide strike, detonated and was heard for miles around.

“Death toll has risen to 39 in the blasts as four wounded people died in hospital,” senior local police official Ijaz Khan told AFP. He said the explosions were just four minutes apart.—Internet

Pakistanis, who were injured in an explosion lay in a hospital beds in Peshawar, Pakistan, on 12 June, 2011. INTERNET

Iran F-14 fighter jets operating despite US sanctions

TEHERAN, 12 June—Top Iranian Air Force commander Aziz Nasirzadeh said Saturday the F-14 fighter jets of Iran’s Air Force continue to operate despite Washington’s sanctions and restrictions, the English language satellite Press TV reported.

“Although there exist restrictions and sanctions on Iran regarding the procurement and equipment in all sectors, these sanctions are double as severe when it comes to F-14 fighter jets because the aircraft was only used in the US and Iran,” said Nasirzadeh.

“Today, technicians at the Republic of Iran’s Air Force do reverse engineering, and all parts required by this kind of fighter jet are made or upgraded inside the country and installed on the aircraft,” he said.

Upgraded and improved, F-14 fighter jets in Iran are used for training and conduct tactical drills on a regular basis, said the commander. MNA / Xinhua

Colombian helicopter crash kills nine police officers

BOGOTA, 12 June—At least nine Colombian police officers were killed and three others wounded on Saturday morning when a helicopter carrying them crashed in the northeastern Province of Casanare, the National Police said.

The aircraft crashed into a mountainous area because of an apparent mechanical problem just a few minutes after taking off from the town of Salinas, said the police. The officers were being transported to another place as part of a routine police personnel change, they added. MNA / Xinhua

Family, activist among 11 killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 12 June—Twin car bombings in the northern Iraq, and separate attacks on the homes of a schoolteacher and a left at least 11 people dead on Saturday, government officials said.

Violence is raking Iraq as the Shiite-led government and other political factions are debating a request for some American forces to remain in the country beyond the 31 Dec deadline for all US troops to withdraw after more than eight years.

While violence is well below what it had been during intense Shiite-Sunni sectarian fighting in 2006 and 2007, militants are again stepping up deadly attacks. That has led to concerns about what happens when the 47,000 remaining US troops are withdrawn.

Police and hospital officials in the northern city of Mosul said two car bombs exploded in quick succession, killing six people. At least one of the bombs seemed aimed at a police patrol.

Mosul is Iraq’s third largest city, 225 miles (360 kilometres) northwest of Baghdad. It has been one of the most stubborn, militant strongholds.

Warnings of “perfect storm” as fire nears New Mexico

RESERVE, (New Mexico), 12 June—More than 1,000 firefighters converged on this village in the Gila National Forest on Saturday as a massive wildfire that scorched eastern Arizona moved to a quarter mile from the New Mexico border.

With the winds picking up, temperatures rising and humidity low, the National Weather Service issued a Red Flag Warning for this sparsely populated corner of the state, indicating grave fire danger.

“Everything is ripe for a perfect storm,” Fire Information Officer Sean Johnson told Reuters.

“There’s not enough hose and water to put out a fire in these conditions.”

Firefighters raced to set controlled fires, designed to deny the advancing wall of flames the fuel it needs, “so we can manage the fire instead of the fire managing us,” Johnson said.

INTERNET

Internet

INTERNET
Apple’s next-gen MacBook Airs are in production

NEW YORK, 12 June—You might want to hold off on buying an Apple MacBook Air, a new one could be just around the corner.

Apple has reportedly placed an order with its Asian manufacturers for 380,000 next-generation MacBook Airs, equipped with Intel’s newest Sandy Bridge processors, according to Concord Securities analyst Ming-Chi Kuo in a note obtained by AppleInsider.

Kuo said 55 percent of these new models will be 11.6-inch models and the rest will be 13.3-inch models. In addition, Kuo said Apple has scaled back production of current models, announced back in October 2010, to 80,000.

Kuo has been saying since April that Apple will launch its next MacBook Air in June or July. At the same time he said he expected the popular notebook would be equipped with Sandy Bridge processors and high-speed Thunderbolt transfer technologies. In early May, Taper Newspapers Digitimes cited sources saying the same. By late May, a Japanese blog reported that Apple was testing MacBook Airs with an A5 chip inside, the same chip used in the iPad 2 (though Steve Jobs has said once that Apple has no interest in building a netbook).

With the launch last week of iCloud and a download-only Mac OS X Lion, many are speculating that Apple will turn the MacBook Air into its next primary machine. Furthermore, as Tim Bajarian extracted from Intel’s keynote speech at Computex this month, ultra-thin laptops may be the next big trend; Intel’s followup from Sandy Bridge is a low-voltage, high-speed processors codenamed “Ivy Bridge”.

Even though the technology inside current MacBook Airs is incredibly outdated compared to its MacBook Pro brethren, the premium-priced notebooks have been a boon for Apple. In March, Kuo (again) told AppleInsider that Apple shipped about 1.1 million of the 13- and 15-inch MacBook Air laptops in the last three months of 2010, making it Apple’s most successful Mac product launch.

For more, see PCMag’s reviews of the MacBook Air 13.3-inch and MacBook Air 11.6-inch unveiled last October. But note that in April, Apple quietly began replacing the solid state drives (SSD) in the smaller MacBook Air models with faster ones.

Les Paul Google doodle gets standalone site

WASHINGTON, 12 June—Music fans, rejoice! The popularity of the playable Les Paul Google doodle has prompted the search engine to create a standalone site where users can play to their hearts’ content.

“There are some of the great tunes you’ve created, we had to give the #LesPaul doodle a permanent home. Keep on rocking!” Google tweeted Friday night.

You can find the site at google.com/logos/2011/lespaul.html. Play the logo just as you did on the Google.com homepage; US users can record and share their masterpieces.

The Thursday doodle, in honour of musician and electric guitar pioneer Les Paul, features the strings of a guitar in the shape of the Google logo. That logo is actually playable—strum it with your mouse and it plays a song. The concept is arguably now one of the search giant’s most popular homepage creations. The company even left it up an additional day in the US due to popular demand.

Here in the PCMag offices, the newsroom was filled with the sounds of amateur musicians-crafting their own masterpieces all day Thursday. We eventually asked Chris Phillips, PCMag’s creative director and an actual musician, to play us a real song and he mapped out directions for using the doodle to play the Beatles’ “Here Comes the Sun.”

Dog dips’ created on Itchen Navigation

HAMPSTEAD (England), 12 June—Designated “dog dips” have been created to give dogs access to the historic English canal channel known as the Itchen Navigation, officials say. A wildlife trust has been concerned about the environmental damage being done to the waterway by dogs trampling vegetation, eroding the bank and disturbing wildlife as they get in and out of the water, the BBC reported Saturday.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust put in “dog dips” at Shawford and Allbrook in hopes of minimizing the problem.

“We hope the dog dips will reduce bank erosion and make the Navigation an even better place for wildlife,” Ali Morse, Itchen Navigation project manager for the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, told the BBC.

Opened in 1710 as a commercial barge waterway, the Itchen Navigation is now a wildlife area noted for its water vole, otter, salmon and kingfisher populations.
Validity of baseline concussion tests questioned

NEW YORK, 12 June—Baseline concussion tests for athletes may do more harm than good in some cases, an expert warns.

Baseline concussion testing provides a baseline score of an athlete’s cognitive abilities, such as reaction time, working memory and attention span.

Athletes who suffer a concussion retake the test, and if there is a large decrease in the score, they are typically banned from play until their score improves.

But the tests, which are mandatory for hundreds of thousands of amateur and professional athletes in the United States, have a high “false negative” rate, according to Christopher Randolph, a neuropsychologist at Loyola University Health System.

A false negative result means the test shows an athlete has recovered from a concussion when they’re actually still experiencing effects from the injury.

As a result, an athlete might be allowed to return to play before it’s safe.

Randolph analyzed the scientific literature and could not find a prospective, controlled study of the current version of the most common baseline concussion test, called ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing).

Athletes take the 20-minute test on a computer.

“There is no evidence to suggest that the use of baseline testing alters any risk from sport-related concussion, nor is there even a good rationale as to how such tests might influence outcome,” Randolph wrote in an article published in a recent issue of the journal Current Sports Medicine Reports.

Instead of relying on baseline concussion tests, medical staff on sports teams “may be better advised to rely upon their own clinical judgment, in conjunction with a validated symptom checklist, in making return-to-play decisions,” for athletes who have suffered a concussion, Randolph suggested.

GM Volt to be sold nationwide

Cleveland, 12 June—A judge in Ohio said Ford Motor Co owed commercial truck dealerships $2 billion, uphold- ing a February ruling in a new class-action suit.

In February, a jury awarded $4.5 million to Westgate Ford, a Youngstown, Ohio, dealership.

As a class-action suit, Judge Peter Corrigan of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court in Cleveland used the same formula from the first case to award $800 million in damages plus $1.2 billion in interest, The New York Times reported Saturday.

The suit involved about 3,100 dealerships and about 475,000 trucks from 1987 to 1998.

The suit hinges on Ford’s discount programme for selling commercial trucks, a category that includes bulldozers and tractor-trailers.

Ford set the prices too high for customers, then awarded dealerships discounts so they could make a profit, the Times said.

Ford said it “caused no harm to our dealers,” and would appeal the ruling.

But attorney James Lowe said Ford was playing a game.

“The dealers who called to get these special discounts thought they were getting a deal, but they weren’t. No dealer knew what any other dealer was paying,” he said.
Mysterious mountain lion killed in Connecticut

BOSTON, 12 June—A mountain lion was killed just 70 miles from New York City early on Saturday morning and officials were trying to determine if it was the same big cat spotted a week ago roaming the posh suburb of Greenwich, Connecticut.

The 140-pound mountain lion was hit by a small SUV on a highway in Milton, Connecticut early Saturday morning, and died from its injuries.

The driver was unhurt, officials said.

With no native mountain lion population in the state, “it’s possible and even likely” it is the same enormous cat with a long tail spotted last weekend in the New York City suburb some 30 miles away, said Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Dennis Sc-hain.

The large cat was transferred to a state environmental facility where authorities will use the photos, paw prints and other evidence collected near the three Greenwich sightings to determine if it is the same animal.

Traveling between the two cities would be a jog for this large cat known to roam extensively, even up to a couple hundred miles in a day, said Schain.

A dead mountain lion is seen in Milford, Connecticut, early 11 June, 2011.—INTERNET

Fatah agrees on forming new government

RAMALLAH, 12 June—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah Party on Saturday endorsed a vision on forming a unity government in accordance with the reconciliation deal signed with Hamas movement.

Nabil Abu Râneh, Fatah spokesman, told reporters in the aftermath of a Fatah Central Committee meeting held in Ramallah and chaired by Abbas that the committee debated the formation of the government with Hamas movement.

On Tuesday, leaders of the two rival groups will head to Cairo to agree on forming a unity government of independent and technocrat government, in accordance with Cairo reconciliation agreement signed on 4 May.

Jamal Mheisen, a member of the committee, told Xinhua that the committee “endorsed a general vision concerning the formation of the government, but it hasn’t yet decided on the nominated ministers and prime minister.”

Mheisen declined to reveal the names of the nominees in the new government that his government has chosen.—Xinhua

Fatal Va bus crash shines light on driver fatigue

BOWLING GREEN, 12 June—Energy drinks, coffee and even talking on his cell phone weren’t enough to keep bus driver Kin Yiu Cheung awake after a night on the road.

About an hour before dawn, nearly seven hours into his shift, Cheung dozed off as his bus carrying 59 passengers barreled northward on Interstate 95 in Virginia on 31 May, according to court documents.

The bus veered off the highway. When Cheung tried to swerve back onto the road, the bus hit an embankment and overturned, Ukraine 25 of 2008, according to the wreck a “tragic accident.”

In this 31 May, 2011 file photo rescue personnel work on bus that overturned in Bowling Green, Va. Prosecutors have charged Cheung, 37, of Flushing, NY, with four counts of involuntary manslaughter.

Mexican judge gives 60 years to killer of top cop

MEXICO CITY, 12 June—A judge sentenced a man to 60 years in prison for the 2008 murder of Mexico’s acting federal police chief Edgar Milian Gomez, federal prosecutors said Saturday.

Alejandro Ramirez Baez was convicted of homicide and possessing restricted weapons, the Federal Attorney General’s Office said in a statement.

A second man was sentenced to one year in prison for illegal arms possession. Both were found to be part of a cell of the powerful Sinaloa Cartel, the statement said.

Millan, one of the highest ranking police officials killed by drug cartels in recent years, was attacked in his Mexico City home in May 2008.

The Sinaloa cartel had been a key target of operations led by Millan prior to his death.

Iran to host second nuclear disarmament conference

TEHERAN, 12 June—Iran’s Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad-Mahdi Akhoundzadeh said Saturday that Teheran will open the second International Nuclear Disarmament Conference on Sunday, the local English language satellite Press TV reported.

The two-day conference is to bring together delegates from different nations across the world, including the United States, ambassadors and representatives from international bodies such as the UN and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), according to the report.

A casino parking lot is flooded in Council Bluffs, Iowa, 9 June, 2011.—INTERNET

Hundreds fill sandbags to stay ahead of US floods

A casino parking lot is flooded in Council Bluffs, Iowa, 9 June, 2011.—INTERNET

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Tennessee killer sentenced to death

MEMPHIS, 12 June—A jury in Memphis Saturday night decided a Tennessee man should die for killing and dismembering the mother of his three children.

The (Memphis) Commercial Appeal reported the seven-woman, five-man jury took just under 2 hours to reach its decision to sentence James Hawkins, a 33-year-old warehouse worker with a previous prison record, to death.

Hawkins, convicted of first-degree murder Friday, exhibited no emotion when as Judge Chris Craft read his punishment aloud. No date was set for his execution.

Hawkins had told police his 12-year-old daughter had killed Charlene Gaither, 28, on 9 Feb, 2008, at their Memphis apartment and he had dismembered and disposed of her stabbed and strangled body to protect the girl.

But all three of his daughters testified against him and the one daughter, now 15, testified he had sexually abused her. “I got some justice for my child, for my baby,” Gaither’s father Louis Irvin said after the punishment was announced.

Bill Gates in China push against secondhand smoke

BEIJING, 12 June—Microsoft founder and philanthropist Bill Gates is visiting China to raise awareness of the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Gates appeared at a news conference in Beijing on Saturday alongside Chinese Internet executive Robin Li and Vice Health Minister Huang Jiefu to encourage nonsmokers to stand up for their right to a smoke-free environment.

According to government statistics, smoking is linked to the deaths of at least 1 million people in China every year, making it one of the greatest health threats the country faces. Nearly 30 percent of adults in China smoke — about 300 million people, a number roughly equal to the entire US population. The risks of secondhand smoke include increased asthma attacks, ear and respiratory infections, and cancer.—Internet

Chile volcano ash grounds Australia, NZ flights

WELLINGTON, 12 June—Thousands of passengers in Australia and New Zealand were affected when airlines suspended flights Sunday as an ash cloud from an erupting volcano in southern Chile spread, threatening to damage engines.

Australia’s national carrier, Qantas Airways, said all the airline’s flights in and out of the southeastern city of Melbourne would be grounded.

Qantas also canceled 22 flights to and from New Zealand and the Australian island-state of Tasmania, as well as eight flights within New Zealand’s South Island, as the dust cloud from Chile’s erupting Cordon Caulle volcano spread across the atmosphere. About 8000 people would be affected by the cancellations, a Qantas spokeswoman said.

Virgin Australia later announced it was suspending 34 domestic flights and one international one from Melbourne on Sunday evening.

“We have been closely monitoring the situation all day,” Virgin’s Sean Donohue said in a statement. “Safety is always our number one priority.”

Australian budget carrier Jetstar said it canceled domestic flights to New Zealand’s South Island airports.

National carrier Air New Zealand did not cancel or delay any flights but has adjusted flight routes and altitudes to ensure aircraft remain clear of any dust, company spokeswoman Tracy Mills said. The drifting clouds of fine grit can severely damage airplane engines.—Internet

Arsenic scare prompts evacuation in Australia

SYDNEY, 12 June—Australian officials on Sunday urged residents and visitors to a remote outback cattle station to leave, after a number were found to have high levels of arsenic in their blood.

The Northern Territory coroner has declared Mount Bundy Station, 130 kilometres (80 miles) south of Darwin, a restricted area and called for the 140 residents to be evacuated.

“The evacuation was a precautionary measure to ensure people’s safety and limit any further people from being potentially exposed to the arsenic source,” Darwin Police Commander Kym Davies said.

A 17-year-old boy from Mount Bundy Station died in May, and while no official cause of death has been identified, arsenic poisoning is thought to have contributed to the death.

Eight other long-term residents of the station have been found to have elevated levels of arsenic in their system, police said, adding that the cattle station would remain closed until the arsenic source was found.

“Prolonged exposure is usually needed to record elevated levels of arsenic,” said Northern Territory Chief Health Officer Doctor Barbara Paterson. “All of the eight people who have recorded elevated arsenic levels have received medical attention and will be offered follow-up attention.”

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MNA/AFP/CNA

Forum to discuss desertification, business opportunities in China

BEIJING, 12 June—More than 500 scholars, entrepreneurs and officials from both home and abroad are expected to convene in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region next month to discuss the prevention of desertification and seek opportunities for emerging industries in the region, organizers said.

The Kubuqi International Desert Forum is scheduled to run from 8 to 10 July at a scenic area located in the Kubuqi Desert, one of China’s largest deserts, said Wang Wenbiao, secretary-general of the forum’s organizing committee.

Attendees will include officials from the Chinese government, leaders and representatives from the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as experts, academics and entrepreneurs, Wang said.

He said the forum will offer a platform for Chinese and foreign experts to share ideas concerning innovations in desertification-related technology, regional poverty alleviation, climate change and tourism related to desertification.

According to the organizing committee, desertified areas around the globe expand by about 50,000 to 70,000 square km each year, with desertified areas totaling 38 million square km, or one-fourth of the Earth’s total land area.

“Desertification has become a global issue, threatening more than 1 billion people in 110 countries and leading to annual economic losses worth 42 billion US dollars,” Wang said.

China is highly vulnerable to desertification, as about one-third of China’s total land area is already desertified, according to the country’s forestry authorities.

Photo illustration. Australian officials on Sunday urged residents and visitors to a remote outback cattle station to leave, after a number were found to have high levels of arsenic in their blood.

Arsenic scare prompts evacuation in Australia

Arsenic in their system is usually needed to record elevated levels of arsenic,” said Northern Territory Chief Health Officer Doctor Barbara Paterson. “All of the eight people who have recorded elevated arsenic levels have received medical attention and will be offered follow-up attention.”

MNA/AFP/CNA

Photo illustration. Australian officials on Sunday urged residents and visitors to a remote outback cattle station to leave, after a number were found to have high levels of arsenic in their blood.

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MNA/AFP/CNA
Vietnamese Delegation... (from page 1)

Myanmar (AVIM) elaborated on business activities. Joint-Secretary of RUMFCCI U Moe Kyaw explained businesses and investment potentials in Myanmar.

RUMFCCI President U Win Aung and AVIM President Mr Tran Bac Ha signed MoU on cooperation. This was followed by signing of the MoUs between Bac Viet Steel Group (Vietnam) and Golden Wealth (Myanmar), and between Universal Link Services Co Ltd and Golden Import Export Consultancy & Trade Promotion Co Ltd. Next, entrepreneurs from Myanmar and Vietnam discussed cooperation based on specialized industries. The delegation left here for home this evening.—MNA

F&R Ministry awards outstanding students, trainees and athletes

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun presents prize to a student who passed matriculation examination with six distinctions.—MNA

NAV PYI TAW, 12 June—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun addressed the prize presentation ceremony to outstanding students, trainees and athletes at Ministry of Finance and Revenue here this morning, saying the ceremony was held to praise those deserved honour.

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win, Deputy Minister U Win Than, deputy governor of Central Bank of Myanmar, managing directors and directors-general of the department and enterprises and their wives presented prizes to outstanding students, trainees and athletes.

The Union minister and the deputy minister presented learning aids for students of the ministry through officials.—MNA

Loan disbursed to needy people in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

NAV PYI TAW, 12 June—Union Minister for Cooperatives U Ohn Myint, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Than Tun and officials, met with blue collars, motor cycle Taxi drivers, vendors, shopkeepers and local people in Kyetaung village, Aungzeya model village, Theikchaung village, Yayzin village and Nyaungbingyiu village in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. The Union Minister formed co-operative credit society for getting more income and disbursed loan on 60-day repayment system.—MNA

Negligence accounts for 81.16% of fires

YANGON, 12 June—In May, Myanmar saw 69 fires—56 due to negligence, 2 natural fires, six due to wire shocks, three arsons and two due to thunderbolt. The fires engulfed 73 houses, leaving 84 homeless, seven dead and two injured. Fires due to negligence account for 81.16 per cent.

Mandalay Region witnessed most fires, followed by Yangon Region and Mon State. Eleven of the 16 fires that took place in Mandalay Region were due to negligence.

The Fire Service Department is raising public awareness about fire through various means, but many of the people do not use fire with care, thus causing fire outbreaks.

MNA
Union EP-2 Minister, families donate exercise books, stationery

YANGON, 12 June—Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe and family together with entrepreneurs donated exercise books and stationery to Basic Education High School in Hlegu Township yesterday morning.

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye spoke on the occasion. The Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 explained purpose of the donation.


Also present on the occasion were Yangon Region Minister for Industry, Energy, Electric Power and Construction UKyaw Soe and officials. Today’s donations for 43,789 students from 189 basic education schools in Hlegu Township amounted to K45 million.

MNA

Union Minister for Agriculture …

(from page 16) light tractors, power-tillers, paddy transplanters, paddy reapers and combine harvesters both theoretically and practically. He added that trainees will have to apply the experiences and knowledge they have acquired from the course to contribute towards their regions' transformation of conventional into mechanized farming. He disclosed that the ministry will try its best for development of the nation's agricultural sector and improving the living conditions for rural people.

He viewed maintenance of farm machinery and studies by the trainees.

MNA

Sinkhan-Katha Road of Katha-Bhamo Road …

(from page 1) Katha-Sinkhan Road is a new one. So far, the laying of gravels has completed by over 90 per cent, and the tarring of the road, for about 15 miles. The building of 245 culvert boxes and 10 bridges along the road has finished over 90 per cent. Deputi Superintendent Engineer U Khin Maung Swe leading eight companies to build the 39 miles and two furlongs long section said that the project was launched in November last year; that on completion, the tarred road would be 12 feet wide on the 40 feet wide earth road area; that they also had to cut down the trees and plants along the route as it was a new one; that to complete the section, they had to remove and fill low areas with earth for 350 million cubic feet; that they had evened the route and the process of tarring had started on Katha side.

Deputy Superintend- ing Engineer U Htay Aung leading five companies to build the 25 miles and six furlongs long section said that two special project implementation groups were formed in October 2009, and they were instructed to build the section from Katha side; that they launched the tasks in November the same year; that up to that time, the groundwork and the laying of paving stones had been completed cent per cent; and the tarring of the section, for more than 10 miles.

Upon completion, the Katha-Sinkhan Road will be linked with Mandalay-Tagaung-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road through Ayeyawady Bridge (Sinkhan) and with Mandalay-Shwebo-Myitkyina Road on the west bank of the Ayeyawady River.

Translation: MS

Tree-planting activities in Monywa

NAY PYI TAW, 12 June—Monsoon-tree planting activities were launched in Ayadaw Township of Monywa District on 9 June, attended by Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye.

The chief minister then met township-level departmental personnel, members of social organizations and locals at Thiri Yadana Hall in Ayadaw. He attended the monsoon-tree planting activities in Ywahtagy Village of Watlet Township and Shwebo Degree College.

The chief minister inspected the planned site for construction of 230 KV (60) MPA power station and production of steel trusses at Silver Star Construction Workshop. He met district and township-level departmental officials, senior citizens and members of social organizations and visited People’s Hospital in Shwebo.

On 10 June, the chief minister attended the tree-planting ceremony at 100-bed Kanbalu People’s Hospital and comforted the patients.

MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye waters a Gangav tree at monsoon tree-planting ceremony in Ayadaw Township of Monywa District in Sagaing Region. Tree-planting activities were launched in Ayadaw, Watlet and Kanbalu Townships in Sagaing Region on 9 and 10 June.—MNA

Billiard and snooker contest on 25-26 June

NAY PYI TAW, 12 June—To mark Olympic Day 2011, billiard and snooker contest will be held on a grand scale at training hall of Myanmar Billiard and Snookar Federation in Aungsan stadium on 25-26 June. Handsome prizes will be awarded. The contest organized by MBSF includes 100 UP Best of 5 round robin and single snooker contest. Those wishing to take part in the contest may register at MBSF.

MNA

Photo shows a gravel section of Sinkhan-Katha Road Project.
**Four killed, nine injured in night of shootings in Chicago**

CHICAGO, 12 June—Four people were killed and at least nine wounded in 10 shootings overnight on Chicago’s South and West Sides.

The night of violence began with a shooting at 9:24 pm Friday (0224 GMT Saturday) and the incidents continued until 2:15 am Saturday (0715 GMT Saturday), reported the Chicago Tribune, based on police announcements.

No one has been arrested for any of the shootings so far. Area detectives are investigating.

**Four people found shot to death in North Carolina**

BOSTON, 12 June—Police found four people shot to death on Saturday in Research Triangle Park off Highway 54 in Durham, North Carolina, local officials said.

Three women were found shot to death inside a car, a green Honda Accord, while a man was found dead just outside the vehicle, said Lt. Stanley Harris, a spokesman for the Durham County sheriff’s office.

Police responded early on Saturday to a call that came in just before midnight on Friday, Harris said. The investigation is ongoing and the bodies are at the medical examiner’s office, he said. No other information was currently being released. Research Triangle Park is a 7,000-acre technology, science and business park, home to more than 170 global companies, according to its website.—Reuters

**Indian nuclear plants pose no health hazard**

NEW DELHI, 12 June—India’s state-owned Nuclear Power Corporation Saturday said that the operation of nuclear power plants in the country poses no health hazard to the surrounding population.

“The operation of nuclear power plants poses no health hazard to the surrounding population. Indeed the radiation dose to the public at all nuclear power plants over the years has been a very small fraction of the limit stipulated by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board,” said the company in a statement to the media.

“There has been no measurable increase in the rate of cancers in the population as a result of operation of nuclear power plants,” the company said.

The statement came in the wake of doubts which were expressed in a section of media over the radiation level at Kaiga nuclear power plant, which recently saw a fire alarm go off due to a technical snag in a power generating unit.

Kaiga generating station is a nuclear power generating station situated at Kaiga, near the river Kali, in Uttar Kannada District of Karnataka, southern India. The plant has been in operation since March 2000 and is operated by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India.—Xinhua

**Four injured in dessert fire at Florida restaurant**

Palm Harbor, 12 June—Fire officials say a bananas foster dessert caught fire at a Florida restaurant and four people were burned, including a woman who had severe injuries.

Officials with Palm Harbor Fire Rescue say the 151 alcohol poured into the dessert ignited Saturday night and splashed onto four customers. A 25-year-old woman was taken to a hospital with first- and second-degree burns. A 56-year-old woman also was taken to a hospital with respiratory burns.

Two other people were burned but refused medical treatment.

The injuries happened at the Ozona Blue Grill in the Palm Harbor suburb, northwest of Tampa. A website for the restaurant says it serves seafood and steaks with an Asian twist.

**Sydney’s Royal Botanic Gardens celebrates 195 years**

SYDNEY, 12 June—The Queen’s Birthday holiday on Monday marks the 195th birthday celebrations of Sydney’s beautiful Royal Botanic Gardens close to the iconic building Opera House.

During the celebration, children and their parents will be treated to kids activities and a free concert in the gardens.

On Sunday, a group of children gathered at the botanic garden for a pre-celebration.

Brett Summerell, acting executive director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, said this year’s theme was to educate the future custodians of the gardens.

**China floods death toll hits 94, with 78 missing**

BEIJING, 12 June—China’s flood control office says the death toll from heavy rains lashing central and southern China has risen to at least 94, with 78 people missing.

The State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters said on its website Sunday that torrential rains over the last week had triggered floods and landslides in 13 provinces, impacting 8.48 million people and destroying 1.15 million acres (465,000 hectares) of crops, Water Resources Minister Chen Lei was quoted as saying the scope and intensity of the rains had caused grave casualties and damage to property.

**Yakut people attend a ceremony to mark the start of their New Year celebration in Moscow, capital of Russia, on 11 Jun, 2011. Yakut New Year is usually celebrated on the day of the summer solstice each year.**

INTERNET

Bikers take part in a parade during the 12th International Harley-Davidson Festival in Alsoors, some 120km west of Budapest, Hungary, on 11 June, 2011.—XINHUA

**A man named Wu Yaowen paints at an exhibition for the handicapped people to show their job talents in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 11 June, 2011. The exhibition introduced to the visitors the achievements of the vocational training for the handicapped people nation-wide and the working talents of the handicapped people.**

INTERNET

**Construction workers on a building site in Singapore. Social workers in Singapore are reporting a rise in the number of foreign workers who approach them for help with cases ranging from wage disputes to assault.**

INTERNET
Solar-powered plane’s Paris flight abandoned

The solar powered airplane Solar Impulse takes off from Brussels Airport, in Zaventem. Swiss solar-powered aircraft Solar Impulse landed in Brussels Saturday after the pilot aborted a flight to Paris following a series of technical problems, his team said.—INTERNET

BRUSSELS, 12 June—Swiss solar-powered aircraft Solar Impulse landed in Brussels Saturday after the pilot aborted a flight to Paris following a series of technical problems, his team said. The plane took off Saturday in cloudy conditions for its second international flight from Brussels for Paris but pilot Andre Borschberg turned back for the Belgian capital after a series of glitches.

Heavy rain and strong winds had already prevented it from taking off at 0230 GMT as scheduled. The project’s ground control team reported that Borschberg had problems retraction the landing gear. “We tried but we couldn’t make it,” said Raymond Clerc, the head of the mission control team, in comments posted at http://www.solarm impulse.com/blog/, the mission’s website. Internet

New York’s Central Park gives musicians the boot

NEW YORK, 12 June—Few instruments can be gentler than the harp, but authorities in New York’s Central Park have branded street musicians like harpist Meta Epstein a public disturbance and want them driven out.

A new campaign to enforce eight “quiet zones,” including in some of the city’s most hallowed spots for street performers, is turning virtuosos like Epstein into outlaws.

After years of being left in peace to perform her baroque repertoire on the beautiful, golden instrument, Epstein, 59, says she’s suddenly being treated as a menace.

Park police, she said, accused her of destroying the grass where she sat and ordered her to move on.

“They say we’re responsible for the bare patch but then you see people everywhere playing soccer with boots and cleats,” she said in bewilderment.

Warner trims staff as DVD sales slump

Hollywood, 12 June—Warner Bros. confirmed it has laid off 50 people at its Burbank studio in response to sinking DVD sales. The cuts represented 1 percent of the company’s US workforce, but the cuts were to low interest rates and financial institutions’ efforts to competitively expand their lending.

Disney, Paramount Pictures and 20th Century Fox are also making staff reductions totaling nearly 300 positions.

The newspaper said the industry as a whole saw sales of DVDs, Blu-ray discs and digital movies dip 18 percent in the first quarter of 2011. Internet

China offers loans to boost small, medium enterprises in Africa

BEIJING, 12 June—China has signed contracts valued at 220 million US dollars with African countries, offering loans from a special fund to support 13 projects of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Africa, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOC) said Thursday. Besides the contracting funds, the China Development Bank (CDB), the undertaker for the special loans, has pledged support for 19 projects with commitment loans totaling 483 million US dollars, according to MOC.

The special loans to African SMEs have created 5,000 jobs and facilitated foreign trade of more than 40 million US dollars in African countries, said MOC.

China has granted 561 million US dollars of loans to 34 SME projects in 23 countries in northern, southeastern and central-western Africa since the Chinese government pledged that its financial institutions would set up a 1-billion-US-dollar special loan to support Africa’s SMEs during the ministerial meeting of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum held in Egypt in 2009. Internet

Surging household debts emerge as biggest threat to S Korean economy

SEOUL, 12 June—South Korea’s household debts have recently surged to a fresh record-high, emerging as the biggest threat to the country’s economic recovery.

Rising household debts can boost private consumption in the short term, but they may end up hurting economic growth due to increasing burden for interest payments.

Outstanding household credit, including loans from banks and non-banking financial institutions as well as credit card spending, grew 8.4 percent on-year to 801.4 trillion won (739.98 billion US dollars) in the first quarter, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

That was the fastest quarterly growth in credit since a 9.1 percent on-year expansion in the fourth quarter of 2008, and an identical number with the fourth quarter of last year. Household credit topped 800 trillion won mark for the first time.

The accelerating growth in credit was attributable to low interest rates and financial institutions’ efforts to competitively expand their lending.

Xinhua

Melting snow poses threat to western US

BEIJING, 12 June—An unusually cold spring has created record-breaking snowpacks in the US. The melting snow in Utah’s mountain ranges threaten to push huge amounts of water into large parts of western United States.

Large areas of packed snow that cap mountains in Utah are a boon for skiers, but could spell disaster for residents living at the foothills.

The snowcaps, that can only be reached by snow vehicles, are expected to melt in the summer months.

Experts worry that melting snowpacks pose a quiet but deadly threat to several states in the West.
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND REVENUE
INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT
INCOME TAX DIRECTORATE
NOTICE FOR FILING OF RETURN OF INCOME

1. All taxpayers under the Income Tax Law including, Company, Partnership, Joint-venture, and Co-operative society, Collective farms. Individuals excluding head of salary. Associations formed by individual or by existing law, those whose income exceeds Kyats 30001 during the income year- from 1st April to 31st March 2011, shall, properly filled-in and signed according to the Income Tax Regulations, file the return of income to the Township Revenue Office and Companics Circle Tax Office, by persons or by registered mail. A receipt will be issued by the respective offices concerned in the case of return is filed in person.

2. The person whose income exceeds Kyats 30001 under the head of salary during the income year is not required to file the return of income. However, the employer should furnish the Annual Salary Statement to the relevant Township Revenue Office.

3. Government Economic Enterprise shall furnish its return of income within 30 days from the date of completion of Annual Financial Statement for the income year to the relevant Township Revenue Office.

4. Return of income with attachment:

(a) Financial Report, including the particular forms conducted in the account concerned the business of the Taxpayer as prescribed Income Tax Regulations, is needed to submit with the return of income.

(b) The Last Date of Reporting: 30 June 2011 (It will be accepted until 6:00 pm on that day).

5. Penalty for failure
A penalty not exceeding ten percent of the tax shall, in addition to the tax payable, be imposed for defaults.

6. Getting the form of return and Annual Salary Statement
Available free of charge at the relevant Township Revenue Office or Companies Circle Tax Office (CTTO) or http://www.inmyanmar.gov.mm.

7. Inquiry
Further information can be obtained from Township Revenue Office and Companies Circle Tax Office. 
Thaein Naing Director Income Tax Directorate

Over 600 people, including 103 children, poisoned by lead in east China

HANGZHOU, 12 June—More than 600 people, including 103 children, have been found to be suffering from lead poisoning in east China’s Zhejiang Province, according to local health authorities.

Workers at 25 family-run tinfoil processing workshops in the township of Xiangyuanxiao, located in the province’s Shaoshing County, have been found to have high levels of lead in their blood, according to results from a preliminary medical test. Several of the workers’ children also have high levels of lead, according to the results.

Results from the test showed that 26 adults and 103 children are suffering from severe lead poisoning, said a spokesman with the county’s health bureau. Severe lead poisoning is defined as having more than 600 micrograms of lead per liter of blood for an adult and more than 250 micrograms for a child, said the spokesman. The 129 poisoning victims are undergoing treatment at a local hospital, the spokesman said, adding that those confirmed to be suffering from severe lead poisoning will be treated for free.

Another 494 people have been found to be suffering from moderate lead poisoning, which is defined as having 400 to 600 micrograms of lead per liter of blood, the spokesman said. Lead is commonly used in tinfoil processing. Workers and their families, including children, are frequently exposed to lead materials in the family-run workshops in Xiangyuanxiao. However, China has not yet formulated standards for the use of lead in tinfoil processing. —Xinhua

All work, no play makes phis ed a dull bore, experts say

BEIJING, 12 June—Experts are calling for the reform of physical education in elementary and secondary schools, which has been criticized for failing to stir students’ interest and relying on unreceptive methods.

“China started reforming the basic education curriculum as early as 2001. Many out-of-date teaching concepts have been replaced over the past decade,” said Ji Liu, president of the College of Physical Education and Health at the Shanghai-based East China Normal University. Ji is also the group leader for the national primary and middle school physical education curriculum design.

“But the state of affairs with physical education is unsatisfactory in terms of teaching content, methods, students’ learning awareness, and the physical evaluation system.” In Western countries, students can choose to be involved through their schools in a sport that interests them, and the whole teaching environment is relaxed, free and cheerful. —Xinhua

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Guinness names Filipino as world’s shortest man

A Guinness World Records representative has declared the son of a poor Filipino locksmith who measured 23.5 inches (60 centimeters) tall as the world’s shortest man.

Guinness official Craig Glenday says Junrey Balawing, who turned 18 on Sunday, broke the record of Khagendra Thapa Magar of Nepal, who is 26.4 inches (67 centimeters) tall. The announcement drew a loud applause from Balawing’s parents and townmates in Zamboanga del Norte’s remote Sindangan township in the southern Philippines, who showered the new celebrity with a feast, a cake, balloons and cash gifts. Balawing thanked the crowd and posed for pictures.

Australian penny sells for more than $1.5m

An Australian coin dealer said the economy has not damaged the investment coin market, allowing her to sell a 1930 penny for more than $1.5 million.

Belinda Downie of Coinworks said the coin, one of six proof pennies minted in 1930, was sold to an unidentified buyer for an amount she would only identify as more than $1.5 million, the Sydney Morning Herald reported Friday.

“These proof pennies were never intended for circulation but instead created as museum pieces,” Downie said. “It’s a totally separate process. These are produced in an artistic environment from hand-selected blanks.”

Downie said the market for rare coins has remained strong due to the high demand and low supply.

Two mountain peaks going cheap in Austria

Are you the outdoors type, a die-hard hill walker with cash to spare? Then you won’t want to miss out on the chance to buy your very own mountain peaks in the Austrian Alps.

Two 2,000-metre (6,500-feet) mountain peaks in eastern Tyrol — the “Grosse Kinigat” and the “Rosskopf” — are up for sale for just 121,000 euros ($175,800) for the pair.

On its website, Austria’s federal real estate company, the Bundesimmobilienkonsortium or BIG, proudly boasts that the two peaks offer the “most stunning views of the Carnic Alps and are popular destinations for mountain climbers and hikers.”

Nevertheless, the decision to put them up for sale has angered locals.

“It’s a mystery to me why they’re wanting to sell the peaks right now,” the mayor of the tiny village of Kartitsch, Josef Assulechner, told the Austrian news agency APA.

“In Greece, they’re selling off islands. In Austria, it’s the mountains,” he fumed.

Aussulechner insisted the village of Kartitsch has right of first refusal, but could only afford to pay a symbolic price of “a couple of thousand of euros”.

S Korea’s Pororo penguin takes flight worldwide

Seoul, 12 June—South Korean animation Choi Jong-Ii knew he had a hit on his hands when Pororo the penguin hopped onto TV screens back in 2003.

Choi’s previous creations had failed to grab the undivided attention of his six-year-old son and his son’s friends.

That all changed when the mischievous but affectionate blue and white penguin, sporting aviator glasses and a flying helmet, made his debut.

“The kids’ eyes were glued to the TV...they never touched other toys as long as Pororo was on,” Choi told AFP in an interview.

Pororo, whose dream is to fly, has taken off big-time since then. In South Korea he has been dubbed the “children’s president” and his image appears on everything from cellphones to chopsticks. Icons, which Choi started in 2001 with six employees, has grown into one of the nation’s biggest animation studios with two subsidiaries and 160 workers.

Oprah to appear at cable TV trade show

Chicago, 12 June—Oprah Winfrey and Paris Hilton headline the list of celebrities appearing next week at a trade show for the cable television industry in Chicago.

The Cable Show, 2011 at McCormick Place takes place June 14-16 and gives cable executives a chance to look over the latest technology for the industry as well as moving on from her long-running daytime talk show, will talk about her new OWN network in an on-site interview with Paula Zahn on Thursday.

The Chicago Tribune said Saturday other celebrities promoting their new series at The Cable Show include Kelsey Grammer and Fred Armisen.

Japan 3-D pop avatar a real-world hit

Tokyo, 12 June—Japanese teenage pop sensation Miku Hatsune has millions of smitten fans, a string of top hits and an image entirely unblemished by drug use, scandals or celebrity meltdowns.

She doesn’t demand six-figure recording contracts, always shows up on time, never throws tantrums and won’t break a sweat during a two-hour live show in a concert hall packed with thousands of adoring followers.

Too good to be true? Yes and no. Miku Hatsune is a 3-D computer animation. The collaborative brainchild of software developers, a manga comic artist and a vast digital fan community, the virtual singer from outer space has become one of the hottest stars on the J-pop scene. Next month she’s giving her debut US concert, the “Mikuniopols” show on 2 July at the Anime Expo 2011 in Los Angeles.

Miku may not, technically, be real, but that didn’t stop several thousand fans, most of them young men, from flocking to her latest live gig in Tokyo, where the android star enthralled her audience from an onstage screen.
Panama shock USA, reach CONCACAF Gold Cup quarters

TAMPA, 12 June — Panama have ended the United States’ 26-game unbeaten run in group play at the Gold Cup, downing the US 2-1 to book a quarter-final berth in the regional football championship. Luis Tejeda scored in the 19th minute and Gabriel Gomez converted a penalty.

Safarova in stunning Copenhagen fightback

BERLIN, 12 June — German midfielder Marcell Jansen’s agent on Saturday refused rumours his client is set to quit Hamburg for German league rivals Wolfsburg before next season. The 25-year-old Jansen flew to the United States on Friday along with Manchester City’s Jerome Boateng to work with Germany’s fitness coaches Marc Verstegen and Shad Forsythe, who are based in the US. But the former Bayern Munich star’s agent insists Jansen, who can play in defence or midfield, will return to Germany as a Hamburg player.

Yani Tseng takes LPGA Tour lead

SPRINGFIELD, 12 June — Top-ranked Yani Tseng shot her second straight 6-under on 66 Saturday to take a three-stroke lead over Mindy Kim in the LPGA State Farm Classic Tseng reached 17 under, birdieing all four of Panther Creek’s par 5s in her bogey-free round. She won the season-opening LPGA Thailand for her sixth tour title in four years, Kim, the leader after the first two rounds, bogeyed the final hole for a 69.

Hamburg’s defender Marcell Jansen (front) is not leaving Hamburg for German league rivals Wolfsburg before next season, his agent has said, denying rumours. — INTERNET

Le Guen named as new Oman coach

VANCOUVER, 12 June — Junior Dos Santos Blooded Shane Carwin to win a dominant decision at UFC 131 on Saturday night, earning a shot at heavyweight champion Cain Velasquez. Twenty-two of their 26 combined fights had ended in the first round so no one was expecting a marathon. And Dos Santos (13-1) almost finished Carwin in the first, with a barrage of unanswered blows. But Carwin (12-2) stayed up and the Brazilian made him pay, using his superior striking to batter Carwin’s face. The judges scored it 30-27, 30-27, 30-26 for Dos Santos, who already is looking forward to his next fight. “Cain, I’m coming for you,” he said. “I’m excited,” said Velasquez, who entered the cage after the fight. — INTERNET

Junior Dos Santos, right, of Brazil, hits Shane Carwin, of Greeley, Colo., during their main event heavyweight mixed martial arts bout at UFC 131, on Saturday, in Vancouver, British Columbia. — INTERNET

Answers to yesterday’s Crosswords Puzzle

1. N E C K S
2. P L E A S E
3. C O R O P I B N
4. A R C A
5. N O I S E
6. T E G K R O D R
7. A R I D W I L L I N G
8. V R E S U N Y
10. D R E S S E R P O S T
11. D A T A R C A
13. O L A S E C
14. B R E N D A P A T C H

Czech Republic’s Lucie Safarova

COPENHAGEN, 12 June — Czech Republic’s Lucie Safarova recovered from 6-1, 4-0 down to defeat Croatia’s Petra Martic 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 and reach the Copenhagen WTA final on Saturday. Martic won 10 of the first 11 games but fourth-seeded Safarova, who had bounced back from one-set deficits in all her other matches this week, did it again. "I’m excited to be in another final, and it brings me even more happiness when I’ve come through such a tough semifinal," Safarova said.

World number one Caroline Wozniacki followed Safarova into the final in much simpler fashion, dispatching German qualifier Mona Barthel in 62 minutes, 6-1, 6-2. “I felt really good out there today,” Wozniacki said. “I’m really pleased to be in the final, my seventh final of the year.” Safarova won her only previous meeting against Wozniacki, a 6-4, 6-4 decision in the early rounds of the clay court event in Stuttgart last year. — INTERNET

Le Guen named as new Oman coach

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INTERNET
Man City ponder £34m move for Sanchez

LONDON, 12 June—Manchester City are set to make an offer for Udinese’s Chile forward Alexis Sanchez that could be worth £34 million ($55 million), according to a report in Britain’s Sunday Times.

It said City executives were due to fly out to Italy on Monday and were ready to improve an offer of £22.1 million ($35.8 million) for the 22-year-old which has already been turned down by the Serie A side.

The paper added City might have to go as high as AE34 million to sign the striker.

Sanchez impressed at last year’s World Cup and followed up by scoring 12 league goals as Udinese’s side.

Which has already been turned down by the Serie A Times make an offer for Udinese’s Chile forward Alexis Sanchez impressed at last year’s World Cup and widely in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavyfalls in Taninthi Region and Rakhine State and isolated heavyfalls in Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (6.22) inches, Mankaung (3.94) inches, Launglon (3.74) inches, Myeik (3.38) inches, Mawlamyine (3.07) inches and Tamu (2.68) inches.

Nay Pi Taw

Maximum temperature on 11-6-2011 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 12-6-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-6-2011 was (93%). Rainfall on 12-6-2011 was (Tr).

Nay Pi Taw (Airport)

Maximum temperature on 11-6-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 12-6-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 12-6-2011 was (84%). Rainfall on 12-6-2011 was (Nil). Rainfall on 12-6-2011 was (Tr) at Nay Pi Taw. (0.08 inch) at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (Nil) at Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (15.94) inches at Nay Pi Taw, (26.30) inches at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (13.39) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pi Taw was (5) mph from Southeast at (09:30) hours MST on 12-6-2011.

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

Forecast valid until evening of the 13th June 2011: Rain or thunderstorms will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions. Kayah State, fairly widespread in the Bago Region, Shan and Chin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthi Regions. Rakhine and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the Sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuations of decreases of rain are likely in Central Myanmar Areas.

Forecast for Nay Pi Taw and neighbouring area for 13th June 2011: One or two rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13th June 2011: One or two rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13th June 2011: Isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in Mandalay Region, scattered in Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayah State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Taninthi Region and Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (6.22) inches, Mankaung (3.94) inches, Launglon (3.74) inches, Myeik (3.38) inches, Mawlamyine (3.07) inches and Tamu (2.68) inches.

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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
Democratic 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

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation tours farmlands in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

NAY PYI TAW, 12 June—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing this morning inspected the 1.35-acre model paddy field in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning and called on those responsible to provide seeds of high-yield strain paddy and good cultivation methods for farmers by the present paddy season.

The paddy strain is cost-effective and its per acre yield can hit more than 250 baskets.

On his inspection tour of the 324-acre pre-monsoon Ngwechi-6 strain long staple cotton farm in Hsegyi Village, Yamethin Township, the Union minister called for production for cotton strains with better quality as cotton is highly saleable in the international market. He also rendered assistance to ease the difficulties farmers are facing. Per acre yield of the long staple cotton is expected to be over 1000 viss.

He inspected Yezin Hybrid-1 strain sunflower plantation of farmer U Zaw Min Tun in Nyaung-aing Village and called for organizing local farmers to choose the hybrid sunflower strain whose output is over 200 viss an acre.

He inspected Meiktila Lake in Meiktila, supporting irrigation water to Minhla and Nyaungyan lakes.

He held a meeting with 41 trainees from 17 villages of eight village-tracts in Dukkanathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area attending Farm Machinery Driving Course (2/2011). He said that during the course term, the trainees will be taught how to drive and maintain various types of heavy and

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall
(12-6-2011)

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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