Volume XX, Number 48 3rd Waning of Nayon 1374 ME Thursday, 7 June, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Investigation Committee formed

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Government
Notification No. 43/2012
2nd Waning of Nayon, 1374 ME
(6 June, 2012)

Formation of Investigation Committee

1. The Government is now marching towards a new democratic society making political and economic reforms in the country. At the same time, it is also educating the people step by step to observe the democratic practices.
2. There occurred organized lawless and anarchic acts that can harm peace, stability and rule of law in Rakhine State in May and June, 2012. The investigation committee comprising the following persons was formed to expose the truth and take legal actions:
   (a) Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint Chairman
   (b) Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win Vice-Chairman
   (c) U San Shwe Maung Rakhine State Law Officer
   (d) Police Col Myo Swe Win Commander of Rakhine State Police

   (e) U Kyaw Khin Director, Head of Rakhine State Jail Group
   (f) U Aung Myo Kyaw Deputy Director, Rakhine State Bureau of Special Investigation
   (g) U Lin Ko Ko Sittway District Deputy Commissioner
   (h) U Yan Lin Aung Kyaukpyu District Deputy Commissioner
   (i) U Oo Tin Wai Thandwe District Deputy Commissioner
   (j) Police Lt-Col Hsan Lwin Commander of Sittway District Police Force
   (k) Police Lt-Col San Shwe Maung Commander of Kyaukpyu District Police Force

2. The Investigation Committee is to probe into the incident in connection with the following matters:
   (a) the cause of the incident
   (b) instigation to cause the incident
   (c) leaders of the organized crime
   (d) offenders
   (e) legal actions after the case
   (f) the Investigation Committee’s opinion and suggestions
   (g) the Investigation Committee’s reviews and legal actions after the case

3. The Investigation Committee must submit the report directly to the President by 30 June, 2012 after making necessary investigation into the case in line with Penal Code and Evidence Act.

By order,

Tin Myo Kyi Secretary
Union Government

Union Hotels and Tourism Minister visits Mandalay Swan Hotel

NAV Pyi Taw, 6 June—The number of inbound tourists to Myanmar has been on significant increase in comparison with previous years as the country is again under the spotlight following the new government’s political and economic reforms and move toward greater transparency. No doubt, eco tours and ancient cultural heritage sites are also the main contributor to growing number of tourists.

For the overall convenience of globetrotters from their arrival to departure, the Hotels and Tourism Ministry is pursuing four objectives—convenience of tourists in arrival and departure, systematization of transportation, classy service of hotels and restaurants, further development and sustainability of tourist destinations.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan visited Mandalay Swan Hotel, a partner of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay yesterday. The Union Minister as he inspected the reception counter, bedrooms, dining hall, wedding hall, swimming pool and sanitation measures, called for first-class standard of bedrooms, bathrooms and toilets, excellent service of staff, customer-is-king attitude of each staff and standardization of room rates. Mandalay Swan Hotel has 99 double bedrooms plus wedding hall, meeting hall, dining hall, swimming pool and fitness center and it is a three-star hotel.—MNA

Asia witnesses partial lunar eclipse

A participant peers through a telescope to view a partial lunar eclipse in Jakarta.

Rhode Island’s Olivia Culpo crowned Miss USA

Miss Rhode Island Olivia Culpo (C) is crowned Miss America 2012 at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas on 3 June, 2012.

Sweden clinches pre-Euro friendly win over Serbia

Sweden’s Ola Toivonen (C) scores a goal during a friendly football match against Serbia at the Rasunda Stadium in Stockholm.
**PERSPECTIVES**

*Thursday, 7 June, 2012*

**Keep the environment safe and sound**

Myanmar, once a lesser-known and xenophobic nation, has become renown to the rest of the world since its new government made dramatic changes in its policy. Consequently, the number of incoming tourists is increasing day by day. Meanwhile, as the ASEAN meeting which Myanmar is going to chair is in the offing preparation for the auspicious event is in full swing.

In Yangon, the financial hub of Myanmar, the Yangon City Development Committee is busy renovating the sidewalks, roads and bridges while beautifying the city with might and main just to bring back its glory and grandeur once again. Yet, there are many things left to do:

It’s awful to see stray dogs roaming about downtown. Sometimes, they chase children to maul them. Noisy barking and howling of the canines can be heard throughout the night. The streets of the city become the breeding farm for them. They become nuisance for general public. It is quite detrimental to health too as rabies spread through them.

Some people put dog collars around the necks of these animals. Actually, taking all the responsibilities of them is much essential than putting leather straps on them. Those willing to domesticate and keep such dogs as pets should do so in accord with the rules and regulations prescribed by the authorities.

In the past, the city saw clean and calm streets and peaceful nights. No dogs were seen on the roads. No children had to run for fear of stray dogs. The municipal corporation of Yangon City manoeuvred eradication of stray dogs from time to time to keep the environment safe and sound.

Well! if the stray dogs’ issue really concerns us, why don’t we follow the procedures of our predecessors?

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**International IDEA donates books on democracy to Hluttaw**

MNA

International IDEA donated books on Hluttaws, democracy and laws to Hluttaw through Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo, at the Hluttaw Committee building here, this morning.

It was attended by member of Legal Affairs and Special Case Assessment Commission U Than Tun, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee U T Khun Myat, secretary and members.

After that, the delegation had a cordial discussion with the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman, secretary and members on legal affairs.

Yesterday, the delegation also cordially discussed Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Public Accounts Committee U Thurein Zaw, Secretary of Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin.

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**Union Minister on inspection tour of SPEI, stadium, football academy in Mandalay**

MNA

The Union minister visited the modern stadium being built by Max Myanmar Group of Companies in Chanmyathazi Township.

In meeting with the principal and officials at Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) being conducted by Myanmar Football Federation with the assistance of FIFA, the Union minister urged the trainers and trainers to uplift their proficiency.

Yesterday morning, he attended the opening of 25th bank branch of AyeMyawady Bank Ltd in Kywehsegan ward on Yangon-Mandalay Highway and opened it.

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**C-in-C (Navy) leaves for Pakistan**

MNA

C-in-C (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun left Yangon this morning for Pakistan to pay a goodwill visit at the invitation of Pakistan’s Chief of Naval Staff Admiral M Asif Samdali.

They were seen off by Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen HasrOo, Commander of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Headquarters Commodore Maung Oo, Commander of 25th Army Air Base Brig-Gen Thein Naing, senior military officers, Pakistani Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Amjad Majid Abbasi at Yangon International Airport.

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**Basic Librarian Multiplier Knowledge shared to librarians**

MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

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Suicide bombers kill 22 civilians at Afghan market

KANDAHAR, 6 June—Three suicide attackers blew themselves up in the largest city in southern Afghanistan on Wednesday, killing 22 people and wounding at least 50 others in a dusty marketplace that was turned into a gruesome scene of blood and bodies.

Also in the east, NATO said two service members were killed in a helicopter crash. The coalition did not disclose any other information about the crash, but a senior US defense official at the Pentagon said two American pilots were killed in the crash in Ghazni Province. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to disclose details of the crash, said there was no indication of enemy activity in the area at the time. Taleban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed in an e-mail that the insurgents shot down the helicopter.

Taleban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi claimed responsibility for the attack in Kandahar, the capital of Kandahar Province and the spiritual birthplace of the insurgency. In the past two years, tens of thousands of US-led coalition troops have flooded Taleban strongholds in the south, and have largely succeeded in boosting security there.

Afghan victims of a suicide attack are seen on stretchers at a hospital in Kandahar, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 6 June, 2012. —Reuters

China, Kazakhstan vow to enhance strategic partnership

BEIJING, 6 June—Chinese President Hu Jintao and President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev on Wednesday vowed to enhance the strategic partnership between the two nations as they held talks in Beijing. “Biding neighbourly friendship and comprehensive strategic cooperation between China and Kazakhstan is in the fundamental interests of the two nations and has won the most extensive support by the people of the two nations,” said the two leaders. The Chinese president said China attaches great importance to developing the comprehensive strategic partnership with Kazakhstan.

Hu suggested that the two nations should strengthen their mutual trust with more bilateral interactions and political dialogues, strategically expand consensus and support each other on major issues of common concern in order to safeguard their strategic security situation and development. Economically, Hu said the two sides should deepen energy cooperation and initiate cooperation in new areas, including nuclear energy, solar energy and wind energy, at early dates. China and Kazakhstan should also expand their mutual investment and step up sub-national cooperation, Hu added.

During their talks, Hu said the two nations should continue to make joint efforts to fight the “three evil forces” of terrorism, separation and extremism and combat drug trafficking and other cross-border organized crimes more effectively. Moreover, Hu suggested the two nations boost cultural and people-to-people exchanges and strengthen their coordination in international affairs.

Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) hosts a welcoming ceremony in honour of his Kazakh counterpart Nursultan Nazarbayev in Beijing, capital of China, on 6 June, 2012. Nazarbayev arrived in Beijing on Tuesday afternoon to visit China and attend the Beijing summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 7 June, 2012

Iran hopeful on atomic talks if “rights” respected

VIENNA, 6 June—If the world recognizes Iran’s “nuclear rights”, negotiations aimed at easing a standoff with the West later this month could have a positive outcome, an adviser to Iran’s supreme leader was quoted as saying on Tuesday. "If Iran’s reasonable demands are met, we will proceed with a positive attitude," Ali Akbar Velayati, an aide to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, as saying. "Under the persistent threat of military strikes by Israel and ever-tightening economic sanctions from the West, Iran returned to nuclear talks that had stalled in early 2011. Diplomats say Iranian negotiators were more forthcoming at talks in Baghdad last month than in previous negotiations, and believe the supreme leader has given them a firmer hand to explore a deal.

Talks are due to resume on 18 to 19 June in Moscow. "By accepting Iran’s right to use peaceful nuclear energy, the forthcoming talks in Moscow should reach a favourable result," Velayati said. Washington said Iran must make the first move. “We have long said we recognize Iran’s right as a signatory to the NPT to peaceful uses of nuclear energy, but only after it comes into compliance with its international obligations,” State Department spokesman Mark Toner said.

People look at the planet Venus transiting across the sun over Amman on 6 June, 2012. Venus made its slow transit across the face of the sun on Tuesday, the last such passage that will be visible from Earth for 105 years. —AP

Iranian abbots urge immediate talks with US

Tehran, 6 June—The Iranian abbots have called on the US to open immediate nuclear talks, saying a “dual track” of international negotiations and sanctions would only lead to “entirely negative consequences.”

Iran has given them a freer hand to explore a deal, Tehran says. "Under the persistent threat of military strikes by Israel and ever-tightening economic sanctions from the West, Iran returned to nuclear talks that had stalled in early 2011. Diplomats say Iranian negotiators were more forthcoming at talks in Baghdad last month than in previous negotiations, and believe the supreme leader has given them a firmer hand to explore a deal.

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Iran hopes to improve relations with EU

Tehran, 6 June—A senior Iranian official said on Tuesday that the West would benefit from improved relations with Tehran, and that the US could also profit from better exchanges. "The West has been pleased that recent negotiations with Iran were positive, and we hope to continue them," Ali Hosseini, the head of the government’s international relations department, said.

He added that Iran was ready to negotiate "on a positive note", saying it had made serious offers in the past. "Iran has made significant offers in the past and we believe that the West could benefit from these offers," Hosseini said. Iran has long been negotiating with the US on a range of issues, including its nuclear programme and its alleged support for terrorism. The US has been seeking to get Iran to agree to a freeze on its nuclear programme, while Tehran has been seeking to achieve a deal that would allow it to continue its nuclear programme.

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Flame exploits Windows bug to attack PCs

BOSTON, 6 June—Microsoft Corp (MSFT O) warned that a bug in Windows allowed PCs across the Middle East to become infected with the Flame virus and released a software fix to fight the espionage tool that surfaced last week.

Security experts said they were both surprised and impressed by the approach that the attackers had used, which was to disguise Flame as a legitimate program built by Microsoft. “I woke up to this news and I couldn’t believe it. I had to ask, ‘Am I reading this right?’” said Alexander Lukeneder from the national Schwenbogen of Russian security firm Kaspersky Lab, one of the researchers who helped discover the Flame virus.

Experts described the method as “elegant” and they believed it had likely been used to deliver other cyber weapons yet to be identified. “It would be logical to assume that they would have used it somewhere else at the same time,” Mikko Hypponen, chief researcher for security software maker F-Secure.

If other types of cyber weapons were indeed delivered to victim PCs using the same approach as Flame, then they will likely be exposed very quickly now that Microsoft has identified the problem, said Adams Meyers, director of intelligence for security firm CrowdStrike.

Cyber weapons that bear the fake Microsoft code will either stop working or lose some of their camoufouge, said Ryan Smith, chief research scientist with security firm Accuvant. A spokeswoman for Microsoft declined to comment on whether other viruses had exploited the same flaw in Windows or if the company’s security team was looking for similar bugs in the operating system.

Flame’s code included what is known as a digital certificate, which falsely identified it as a piece of system known as terminal services licensing, or TS licensing, that is designed to authorize business customers to use advanced features of Windows.

A bug in TS licensing allowed the hackers to use it to create fake certificates that identified Flame as being from Microsoft. Mike Meyers, director of security software from Microsoft.

The creators of the virus obtained that certificate by manipulating a component of the Windows operating

The Austrian National History Museum scientists have re-created the appearance of a fossil which they believe to be the ancestor of the modern-day squid and octopus — discovered last year.

The Austrian National History Museum team used 3D scanning technology to unearth the fossil of ‘Dissimilites intermedius’ a new species that was discovered in sediment, which formed at the bottom of the ocean during the Cretaceous period — on a surface that 128 million years later would lie at the top of the Dolomite mountains in the Alps. The scientists said that the computer tomography had allowed them to see far more than they would ever have been able to with the naked eye, with the creature was exposed a layer at a time.

The team, led by Alexander Lukender from the geological/paleontology section, also discovered the body was covered with spines each between three and 4mm long

“The fossil is of a previously unknown creature, which is atypical of Ammonite,” the Daily Mail quoted a museum spokesman as saying.

“Computer tomography and a complicated 3D reconstruction programme were used to help reconstruct not only the appearance of the fossil found in the Dolomites a year earlier, but also to work out how it moved by the position of the impressions left by its limbs,” the spokesman added.

The video of the swimming creature seen now for the first time in 128million years is on display at the Natural History Museum together with photos of the 13cm-long creature. Details of study have been published in the specialist magazine ‘Acta Palaeontologica Polonica’.

Retired spy telescopes to go to NASA

WASHINGTON, 6 June—The US government’s secret space programme has decided to give NASA two telescopes even more powerful than the Hubble Space Telescope, officials said today.

The telescopes were designed for surveillance use for the National Reconnaissance Office were no longer needed for spy missions and are available to be made available to the space agency to study the heavens, the Washington Post reported on Monday.

NASA officials acknowledged they were without a programme to launch any telescope at the moment, and it would be 2020 before even one of the two gifted telescopes could be on its way into orbit.

Still, the unexpected gift could give NASA’s space science programme an opportunity to resurrect a plan to launch a new telescope to study the mysterious “dark energy” causing the universe’s expansion to accelerate, a proposal given top priority in the latest “decadal survey” of goals in astronomy and astrophysics.

Snails clear seaweed to keep coral reefs beautiful

SYDNEY, 6 June—Tiny snails keep coral reefs and seashores stunningly beautiful by getting rid of the ugly seaweed that might otherwise crowd them, a study says.

“What may surprise many people is that we found the strongest impacts of all were snails controlling seaweeds on rocky shores,” said Alastair Poore, associate professor at the University of New South Wales Evolution and Ecology Research Centre, who led the international study.

“If other types of viruses, Reavey said. “We continue to investigate this issue and will take any appropriate actions to help protect customers,” Reavey said in the blog post.

New of the Flame virus, which surfaced a week ago, generated headlines around the world as researchers said that technical evidence suggests it was built on behalf of the same approach as the Stuxnet worm that attacked Iran’s nuclear programme in 2010. Researchers are still gathering information about the virus. —Reuters

Snails clear seaweed to keep coral reefs beautiful

“Icons like the Great Barrier Reef would look very different otherwise: the corals and rocks are usually free of seaweed, but that’s only because animals eat all the plants as soon as they grow,” Poore said in an email.

“We continue to investigate this issue and will take any appropriate actions to help protect customers,” Reavey said in the blog post. “New of the Flame virus, which surfaced a week ago, generated headlines around the world as researchers said that technical evidence suggests it was built on behalf of the same approach as the Stuxnet worm that attacked Iran’s nuclear programme in 2010. Researchers are still gathering information about the virus. —Reuters

Twitter co-founder publishes life lessons in ‘old media’

NEW YORK, 6 June—Twitter co-founder Biz Stone is planning to dish up some life lessons that will need more than 140-character bursts.

Stone, 38, is working on a book about creativity called “Things a Little Bird Told Me,” that will relate stories from his life and career and encourage others to be think outside the box.

“ Tried to find my own path over a very wide array of individuals at different stages in their lives,” Stone said in a statement. “I’m excited to create a physical artifact to share the lessons I’ve learned.”

Grand Central’s executive editor Ben Greenberg said the book would “reveal how his creativity works and will help readers apply those principles to their own lives.”

Twitter co-founder Biz Stone attends the “World Economy and Future Forum” hosted by broadcaster MBN in Seoul on 3 March, 2011. —Reuters

Stone co-founded Twitter with Evan Williams and Jack Dorsey in 2006, creating a micro-blogging service that allows users to send messages of up to 140 characters and which now has some 140 million active users.

Stone also helped to create and launch social networking site Xanga, blog publishing service blogger, and most recently, The Obvious Corporation, which aims to help people work together to make the world smarter and healthier.

Australia central bank cuts rates to 3.5 pct

Australia's banks are bracing for a rate cut after the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) decision was widely expected, though some had hoped for an even bigger cut given the darkening global outlook.

"The Board judged that, with modest domestic growth and a weaker and more uncertain international environment, the outlook for inflation afforded scope for a more accommodative monetary policy," RBA Governor Glenn Stevens said in a statement after the central bank's monthly meeting.

The move was the second easing in as many months and follows grim economic data around the world, from US payrolls to Chinese manufacturing. Australia's AS1.4 trillion economy is heavily dependent on foreign demand for its exports, particularly those in the resources sector.

Australia's banks are expected to pass on only part of the latest easing to mortgage rates. Rates are now the lowest since December 2009, but still above those in the United States, Japan and Europe, which are one reason investors are pricing in as much as 100 basis points of further cuts within a year.

That would take rates below the record lows of 3 percent plumbed during the worst of the global financial crisis. Any easing will be welcomed by the Labour government, which is trailing badly in the polls yet is determined to tighten fiscal policy to return its budget to surplus years, if not decades, before most other rich economies. Australian households are highly sensitive to mortgage rates as they have three home loans, most of which are variable. Mortgage rates are around AS1.2 billion, or 1.5 times household disposable income, and paying this annual interest on it takes almost a tenth of those earnings. A reduction of 25 basis points of variable mortgage rates saves an average borrower around AS540 a year.

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India-US defence talks to focus on China, Afghanistan

NEW DELHI, June 6—US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta helds talks on Wednesday with his Indian counterpart, which are likely to be dominated by NATO’s planned exit from Afghanistan and China’s growing power. Panetta’s two-day visit to New Delhi is part of a tour of the region that has stressed Washington’s strategic shift to Asia, with US officials portraying India as an anchor for the new approach.

In talks on Tuesday with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Panetta underscored the link India plays between East and West Asia and how the United States views India as a net provider of security from the Indian Ocean to Afghanistan and beyond, his press secretary George Little said. Panetta will meet Defence Minister AK Antony on Wednesday before giving a policy speech at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.

In his talks with Antony, Panetta was expected to discuss NATO’s planned withdrawal of combat forces from Afghanistan by the end of 2014 as well as an expanding arms trade and joint military training between the two countries. Indian officials are worried the departures of troops from the US-led force could leave a dangerous vacuum in Afghanistan, and question in the Kabul government and its fledging army will be able to fend off Taliban insurgents.

US officials said Panetta was encouraging India to play a more active role in Afghanistan, despite Paki stan’s deep suspicion of its arch-foe’s motives in the conflict.

Earlier on his nine-day tour through Asia, Panetta unveiled plans to shift the majority of the US naval fleet to the Pacific by 2020, a symbolic step meant to signal US determination to preserve its influence in the face of a rising China. Beijing Monday the US naval plan was “unintelligible” and called on Washington to respect its interests in the region.

Factory orders post surprise fall in April

WASHINGTON, June 6—New orders for factory goods fell in April for the third time in four months, as demand slipped for everything from cars and machinery to computers, the latest worrisome sign for the economy. The Commerce Department said on Monday orders for new industrial goods dropped 0.6 percent during the month. The government also revised its estimate for new orders in March to show a steeper decline. Economists had forecast orders rising 0.2 percent in April.

The report showed broad weaknesses in a sector that has carried the economic recovery, adding to a growing body of soft economic data in the United States. “Obviously it’s a slow-down in the economy,” said Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisers in Holland, Pennsylvania. The Labour Department on Friday reported that job creation slowed in May for the fourth straight month. Also that day, the Institute for Supply Management said the pace of growth in manufacturing slowed modestly in May, although the ISM’s own gauge of new orders rose to its highest in over a year.

The Commerce Department report showed new orders for motor vehicles and parts fell 0.5 percent in April. An increase in new orders for civilian aircraft wiped out the overall transportation sector.

A man walks past the Hewlett Packard logo at its French headquarters in Issy Les Moulineaux, western Paris, in this 16 Sept, 2009 file photograph. — Reuters

HP says Oracle violated contract, seeks billions

SAX JUNO, (California), 6 June — Oracle Corp violated a clear contract with Hewlett-Packard Co when it decided it would no longer make new versions of its database software compatible with HP’s Itanium-based servers, a lawyer for HP said in court.

As the two firms continued on Monday in opening state-memos in a bitter lawsuit over Oracle’s decision to end support for Itanium, an Oracle attorney countered that Oracle had never agreed to give up its business flexibility in the “brief, breezy” contract language cited by HP.

Oracle decided to stop developing software for use with Itanium last year, saying Intel made it clear that the chip was nearing the end of its life and was shifting its focus to its x86 micro-processor. But HP said it had an agreement with Oracle that support for Itanium would continue, without which the equipment using the chip would become obsolete. HP said that commitment was affirmed when it settled an earlier lawsuit over Oracle’s “hiring of ousted HP chief executive Mark Hurd.

APL, 6 June Three children were killed and six fishermen were missing after typhoon Mawar brought heavy rains and rough waters to parts of the Philippines, the civil defence office said on Monday.

Two ships were carried off by an overflowing river in the western island of Panay while a seven-year-old boy drowned in a river east of Manila, the office’s deputy director, Florentino Sison, said.

A search is continuing for six fishermen on three separate boats who went missing after setting off before the storm hit, he added.

Three dead, six missing as typhoon passes Philippines

MANILA, 6 June—Three children were killed and six fishermen were missing after typhoon Mawar brought heavy rains and rough waters to parts of the Philippines, the civil defence office said on Monday.

Two ships were carried off by an overflowing river in the western island of Panay while a seven-year-old boy drowned in a river east of Manila, the office’s deputy director, Florentino Sison, said.

A search is continuing for six fishermen on three separate boats who went missing after setting off before the storm hit, he added.

Israel asks Arab visitors to open e-mails to search

Jerusalem, 6 June—When Sandra Tamarri arrived at Israel’s international airport, she received an unusual request: A security agent pushed a computer screen in front of her, connected to Gmail and told her to “log in.” The agent, suspecting Tamarri was involved in pro-Palestinian activism, wanted to inspect her private email account for incriminating evidence.

The 42-year-old American of Palestinian descent refused and was swiftly expelled from the country.

Tamarri’s experience is not unique. In a cyber-age twist on Israel’s vaunted history of airport security, the country has begun to force incoming travellers deemed suspicious to open personal email accounts for inspection, visitors say.

Targeting mainly Muslims or Arabs, the practice appears to be aimed at rooting out visitors who have histories of pro-Palestinian activism, and in recent weeks, has led to the expulsion of at least three American women. It remains unclear how widespread the practice is. However, asked about Tamarri’s claims, the Shin Bet security agency confirmed she had been interrogated and said its agents acted in accordance with the law.

Israel has a long history of using ethnic profiling, calling it a necessary evil resulting from its bitter experience with terrorist attacks. Arab travelers and anyone else seen as a risk are often subjected to intense questioning and invasive inspections, including strip searches.

The security procedures appear to be getting stricter. Recent searches of journalists at official events have been invasive enough to create a series of mini-uprairs and walkouts—a situation that has dovetailed with increasing criticism from the government is trying to stifle dissent.
The Sasana Flag
(The sacred flag of Buddhists)

Hoisting of the Sasana Flag is considered to be an auspicious sacred rite by Myanmar Buddhists. But, it is often found that the Sasana Flag is incorrectly hoisted at wrong place due to the ignorance of some people. Buddhists are ready to obey the rules and regulations of hoisting the Sasana Flag if they are properly instructed. Therefore, some important points and rules of the Sasana Flag are stated and presented here.

In Myanmar, the term, “Buddha Sasana” is more unusual than the term “Buddhist”. Consequently, the Buddha Sasana Council was organized and founded in order to hold the Sixth Buddhist Council in Yangon. The six-coloured Flag was used as an official Sasana Flag for the first time in Myanmar.

The Flag Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders, which was successfully held at the Maha Pasana Cave (Great Cave) on Kab Aye Hilltop, Yangon, 1980, passed and adopted the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha Organization of the Union of Myanmar, the Sasana Flag, which consists of the six illuminations of Divine Effulgence, is prescribed in detail in the chapter (10) of the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha Organization.

Methods of hoisting and using the Flag

The Sasana Flag has to be hoisted according to the following procedures:
1. When hoisting the Sasana Flag, the deep blue part of the flag must be at the flag sides of the hoister.
2. The deep blue strip of the Flag must be permanently at the very top of the five-mixed coloured portion of the flag (see the diagram).
3. In hoisting the flag, it must be elevated quickly to the top of the mast, and should be lowered slowly.
4. The Flag must be hoisted from dawn to sunset. But, the Flag can be hoisted the whole night after special important and grand occasions.
5. When hoisting the Sasana Flag on the stage, it must be put in horizontal position on an elevated part of the background of the stage. And, the flag must be in the right position.
6. When hoisting the Sasana Flag together with other flags, it must be at the centre and in a higher position.
7. When hoisting the Sasana Flag at the auditorium, it must be on the right side and in front of the preacher.
8. When hoisting the Sasana Flag together with other flags at the auditorium, the Sasana Flag must be placed at the left side of the preacher.
9. When hoisting the Sasana flag on big vehicles, the flag must be firmly hoisted at the front part of the roof and if the vehicle is a small one, the flag must be hoisted at the front right of the vehicle.
10. The Sasana Flag must be hoisted on the vehicles only when in procession carrying the Bodhi tree, the sacred umbrellas of the Pagoda, the Venerable Sayadaws, the successful candidates of Sangha and the Dhamma preachers. But, the Sasana flag must be respectfully folded on the vehicles when the procession of the above personsages and sacred things concludes (is over).
11. When hoisting the Sasana Flag, it must be in horizontal position. It must never be in an upside down position. When hanging small pieces of Sasana paper flags, they must always be in vertical position.
12. The Sasana Organizations and other Buddhist religious associations must obey the above instructions concerning the Sasana flag and use it systematically at the religious meetings and ceremonies.
13. The different levels of the Sangha Organizations of the Union of Myanmar are compulsorily instructed to hoist or hang or stick the Sasana Flag during official meetings.

Points to note

It is necessary to take note of the following points concerning the Sasana flag to ensure due respect to the dignity of the flag. Points to note are as follows:-
(a) The Sasana Flag is not allowed to be hoisted on the pilgrimage vehicle even if there are monks in it.
(b) Without sound religious reason, the Sasana Flag cannot be hoisted at the road sides, junctions, vehicle gates, aircrafts, jetties, markets, stations and other places.
(c) No one must show disrespect to the Sasana flag.
(d) The Sasana flag is not allowed to be torn, stained, or destroyed in any way.
(e) No department is allowed to use the Sasana flag as the over-hanging covering of a pavilion.
(f) The Sasana flag is not allowed to be used as wrapper, trademarks, advertisements or designs on billboards.
(g) Wall posters and pamphlets are not allowed to be stuck or hung on the post on which the Sasana flag is being hoisted.
(h) When handling the Sasana flag, it is not allowed to be wrapped or fastened.
(i) When using the Sasana flag, it must not touch the ground, the surface of water, the floor of things which are under the flag.
(j) At all times, the Sasana flag must never be used as ground-covers, mats or carpets.
(k) Above the Sasana flag, no other flags must be hoisted.
(l) The Sasana flag, can be hoisted at the consecration ceremonies of images, holy monuments and statues as a sacred symbol. But, the images, the monuments and the statues must not be covered with the flag.
(m) The Sasana flag must never be thrown away for whatever reason. If the flag becomes torn, soiled and useless, it must be burnt respectfully.

All Buddhists will have to be of salient points in using the Sasana flag to ensure the dignity of the emblem. We wish to express our desire to maintain the dignity and sacredness of the Sasana flag by urging all Buddhists to follow the correct procedures and to avoid even the slightest unseemly manner and behaviors towards the sacred emblem. ***
Union Health Minister meets UNFPA, Hitachi Medical Corporation guests

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Ther Khin received a delegation led by General Manager Mr Nobus Oshima of Hitachi Medical Corporation of Japan and party; and UNFPA resident representative Mr Mohamed Abdul-Ahad, at his office this morning respectively.

At the call with Japanese guests, they discussed promoting health care standards, giving trainings to health staff and medical experts, especially to X-ray specialists and staff and maintenance of X-Ray machines. The Union Minister had a discussion with the UNFPA delegation on ongoing and future cooperation, collecting of health data in compiling census, availability of medicines and medical equipments for reproductive health and capacity building and promoting the skills of staff. It was also attended by Deputy Ministers Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Dr Win Myint, departmental heads and official.—MNA

Australian delegation views old building in Yangon

YANGON, 6 June—A delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia Mr Bob Carr viewed Ministers Office on Theinbyu Street, Musmeh Yeshua Synagogue Jew Temple on 26th street in Pabedan Township and the old buildings on Pansodan street, Yangon Region this morning. The Australian Minister received Chairperson of National League for Democracy Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at her residence on University Avenue at 4.30 pm. They met local and foreign media men and responded to the questions.—MNA

Chin State Police Force grants stipends to members’ offspring

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Office of Commander of Chin State Police Force provided offspring of the police force members with stipends on 28 May. Commander of Chin State Police Force Police Col Kyi Lin explained purpose of granting stipends. The stipends provided to 306 primary school, 220 middle school students and 26 high school students amounted to K 2,120,100. Stationery were also presented at the ceremony.—MNA

ASEAN human rights declaration (draft) completed

YANGON, 6 June—The 6th meeting of the ASEAN human rights declaration drafting body of ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights concluded at Parkroyal Hotel here today. During the four-day meeting which started on 3 June, ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (draft) was completed and it will be reported to the 45th ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Cambodia in July. After the meeting, U Kyaw Tint Swe, a representative of Myanmar for ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, Ms Siprapha Perchearamee, a representative of Thailand, Mr Refendi Djayham, a representative of Indonesia and Ms Rosario G Malano, a representative of the Philippines met the press.—MNA

Union Science and Technology Minister visits universities, training school in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aung Min met rectors, professors, principal and instructors of Technological University (Myitkyina), University of Computer Studies (Myitkyina) and Government Technical High School (Myitkyina) at University of Computer Studies (Myitkyina) in Kayin State on 3 June.

The Union Minister heard reports on administrative and academic matters presented by the rectors and principal and attended to the needs. The Union Minister then inspected staff quarters, lecture halls, labs and workshops of the Technological University and Technical High School. On 4 June, the Union Minister together with Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan inspected University of Computer Studies. MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister calls for production of 30 million surplus baskets of rice

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win attended the coordination meeting on region rice production development and export promotion at the region government office yesterday.

The region chief minister called for systematic cultivation of high yield paddy with modern agricultural methods, cooperation of businessmen in government’s efforts for provision of capital to the farmers, minimization of wastage during harvest, maintaining of regular rice market, and production of 30million baskets of rice more in 2012-2013 fiscal year in Bago Region.

The Director of Bago Region MAS made discussions, followed by agricultural companies in the region and attended.—MNA

Fifth meeting of Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft), Farmland Rules (draft) Drawing Committee held

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The 5th meeting of Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft) and Farmland Rules (draft) drawing Committee was held at Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry, here, this morning. It was attended by Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw, members and departmental heads.

In his speech, Deputy Minister U Ohn Than said that Farmland Rules (draft) have been submitted to the President Office, the GovernmentOffice and Union Attorney-General Office. At present, the Union Attorney-General Office continues drafting it. Respective departments are urged to discuss it on a wider scale, the suggestions can be sent to the Committee Secretary by letter.

After that, Director-General U Myint Swe of Settlement and Land Records Department elaborated on chapters and sections of the Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft). Afterwards, the committee members discussed their respective sectors, and Deputy Minister U Ohn Than made an concluding speech. MNA

Workshop and Conference on Responsible Tourism opened

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The opening session of Workshop and Conference on Responsible Tourism was held at Thangha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Bay Aung, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, departmental heads, President U Yan Win and officials of Myanmar Tourism Federation, high level officials from related ministries.

Deputy Minister U Bay Aung said in his address that the conference would facilitate development of sustainable and responsible tourism industry in Myanmar. Tourism industry enjoyed a boost following development measures of the government, political and economic reforms and cultural attractions. The responsible tourism is for creating better places to visit and to live. The government and private sector are working in cooperation to complete Responsible Tourism Policy (draft) and more consultations will be made. All those present were urged to actively cooperate in drafting the policy.

The Myanmar Tourism Federation Chairman U Yan Win and Mr Ludwig Westrap and Prof Mr Harold Jhon Goodwin of Harvard University discussed nine objectives of Myanmar’s responsible tourism and details.—MNA

Falam marks WED, plants trees

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Deputy Commissioner U Soe Tin of Falam District and the township administrators and departmental personnel, members of social organizations and 800 local people celebrated World Environment Day of which the theme is “Green Economy-Does it include you?” yesterday by planting 2140 trees near Zabuthiri Pagoda in Tamu Monastery in Falam ward in Falam.—MNA
Books, publications donated to village libraries

MACHANBAY, 6 June—A ceremony to donate books and publications to village libraries was held at the hall of Township Information and Public Relations Department in Machanbay Township of Patao District in Kayin State on 1 June morning.

Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Nyan Zay Pho Thang made a speech. Chairman of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Ingyin Khin Zaw explained the purpose of the donation.

Next, the chairperson handed 45 copies of books and publications worth K 22500 to the head of Township Information and Public Relations Department.—Myanma Alin

CASH ASSISTANCE GIVEN: A ceremony to provide cash assistance to offspring of police members of Muse District Police Force was held at the office of the Commander of District Police Force on 30 May. Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Tin Shoew presents teaching aid to a student. DISTRICT POLICE FORCE

Myanmar Libraries

Fundation invites cash, book donations

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broaden the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-23342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Tun Tun Win of District General Administration Department, Township Education Officer Daw Than Sein, Headmistress Daw Khin Maye and Canadian Mr John Aung formally opened the new school building.

Township Education Officer Daw Than Sein explained matters related to the new building.

Wellwisher Canadian Mr John handed over the documents related to the school to the Ministry of Education.

On behalf of the wellwisher, U Muang Maung Gyi explained the purpose of the donations.

New school building opened in NyangU Township

NYANGU, 6 June—A ceremony to open the new building was held at Basic Education High School (Branch) in NyangU Township in Mandalay Region on 24 May morning.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner U Kan Win handed over the letters of assignments to Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thakh. After that the township administrator assigned duties of agriculture officials of Myoma Station, Birik Station, Kyagun Station, Thaybyugon Station and Pyinsalu Sub-Township.

DISTRICT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Duties assigned in Labutta District

LABUTTA, 6 June—A ceremony to assign duties to respective departments for implementation of the plans in Labutta District of Ayeyawady Region in 2012-2013 was held at Wany Nadi Hall in Labutta on 1 June afternoon.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner U Kan Win handed over the letters of assignments to Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thakh. After that the township administrator assigned duties of agriculture officials of Myoma Station, Birik Station, Kyagun Station, Thaybyugon Station and Pyinsalu Sub-Township.

Traditional Artists and Artisans Associations reconstituted

YANGON, 6 June—The reconstitution of Kyimyindine Township Traditional Artists and Artisans Association was held at Ponnayaw Pakara Dhammayon in Kyimyindine Township of Yangon West District on 24 May morning.

While the preparatory meeting of the new central executive committee was held at Mingala Hall at No 15 on 31 May.

Cash assistance provided to students of staff

Cash assistance provided to students

Bahan Township General Administration Department

CASH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: Cash assistance was given to students of township Police Force in Pakokku Township for 2012-2013 academic year. On 5 June, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Hla Aung presented K 738,000 to the students at the hall of the township police station.—Myanma Alin

LATEST NEWS

Cash assistance provided to students

PYAPON, 6 June—Alinyaung Education Service Committee of Pyapon provided cash assistance, school text books, stationery and uniform to students from the KG to matriculation for the sixth time at Nyeinchan Mingala Hall at No 15 on Shwenatku Pagoda Road in Pyapon on 27 May.

Chairman of the Committee U Aung Win (Reporer), townselder U Wunna Shwe, U Myo Win and U Hla Myo Tin made speeches.

Dr U Than Win (Associate Professor of Myanmar Department) gave a talk on important role of education sector.

Later, officials presented school uniforms, text books, stationery and cash assistance to 225 students individually.

Myanma Alin

Noteworthy amount rainfalls benefit agriculture tasks

YESAGYO, 6 June—The noteworthy amount of rainfalls in Yesagyo of Magway Region was 3.35 inches that there rained from 6.30 am to 10 pm on 4 June.

There are three hydrological stations in the township. The stations put the noteworthy amount of rainfalls on record. They were 3.35 inches in Yesagyo, 0.75 inch in Gwagyo Village-tract and 1.20 inches in Sitha Village. As a result, the rains benefited monsoon groundnut and sesame, green gram and pigeon pea plantations.

Pe Tun Zaw (Yesagyo)

Hole-in-one scored at Pathein Golf Club

PATHEIN, 6 June—U Win Ko (Merchant) scored an ace at 160-yard-distance hole No 10 with the use of Taylarmade R .5 iron from No 7 at Pathein Golf Club in Ayeyawady Region on 26 May.

In the golf sport, he played together with U Aung Win Myint, Dr Sai Maung Maung, U Than Win (Sandle Stone Trading) and U Nay Myo Aung.—Myanma Alin

Cash assistance provided to students

DISTRICT PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Education

CASH ASSISTANCE GIVEN: A ceremony to provide cash assistance for students of staff members from Bahan Township General Administration Department was held at its office on 31 May. Township Administrator U Zaw Win Hla Aung gave cash assistance for students.—Township IPRD

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 7 June, 2012

Education
Myanmar youths start training for AFF U-22 qualifiers

YANGON, 6 June—As Asian Football Confederation (AFC) will organize the qualifiers of the AFF U-22 Championship to be hosted in Myanmar, the Myanmar youth team is making preparations for taking part in the championship in the G group, as of 5 June evening.

The Myanmar youth team is constituted with 28 tentatively selected players under training of Chief Coach Mr Pak Hsaung Hua (Republic of Korea). Moreover, the team is under training of Manager U Than Toe Aung, Assistant Manager U Sue Moe Kyaw, Chief Coach Mr Pak, Coaches U Tin Myint Aung, Assistant Coaches U Zaw Win Tun and U Aung Aung Tun, Physical Trainer Mr Hla Htun and Goalkeeping Coach U Myo Chit.

The players are Goalkeeper Pyae Phyo Aung (Southern), Kyaw Zin Phyo (Magway), Myo Min Latt (Zeya Shwemwary), Defenders Ye Zaw Htet Aung, Ye Win Aung, Hein Thiha Zaw (Yadanabon), Zaw Min Tun (Magway), Nyi Nyi Aung (Hanthawaddy), Aung Hein Kyaw (Zeya Shwemwary), Yan Aung Win (Yangon), Midfielders Kyaw Zin Win, Hein Than Win (Kambawza), Myo Zaw Oo, Thant Zin Win, Nanda Lin Kyaw (Magway), Nanda Lin Kyaw, Phyo Ko Ko Thein, Naing Lin Oo, Thiha Zaw (Ayeayawady), Zaw Lin (Nay Pi Taw), Kyin (Yangon), Thet Paing Oo, Naing Bo Lin (Zeya Shwemwary), Nyo Nyo Win (Manaw Myaw) and Htet Win (Min Soe (Rekkhaphura), Forwards Kyaw Ko Ko (Zeya Shwemwary), Kaung Si Thu (Yangon) and Thet Naing (Yadanabon).

As preparations, Myanmar U-22 Team will play against the tentatively selected national team at Youth Training Centre in Thawmawma on 9 June. The former team will play tune-up matches in Thailand on 15 June to compete with Thai U-22 team on 17 June, Maldives U-22 team on 19 June.

Myanmar is included in the same group of South Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, China (Taipei) and the Philippines. Myanmar will play against the Philippines on 23 June, Vietnam on 25 June, South Korea on 28 June, China (Taipei) on 30 June and Malaysia on 3 July.

By Chit Ko Ko

Leikthay Village-tract gets new administrative office

PYU, 6 June—A ceremony to open the new office of Leikthay Village-tract Administrator in Pyu Township of Bago Region was held at the new office on 2 June morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Than Aung made a speech. Village-tract Administrator U Myint Oo explained matters related to opening the new office.

Later, Township Administrator U Than Aung, Village-tract Administrator U Myint Oo and Village elder U Myint Aung formally opened the new office.

Leikthay Village-tract gets new administrative office

District for 2012-2013 academic year. She presented over K 200,000 to the students from police stations. Likewise, 112 dozens of exercise books, 500 pieces of ball-pens, text books and pack-sacks worth K 220,000 to the students from six townships including the office of the district police force.

Myanmar youths start training for AFF U-22 qualifiers

CASH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: A ceremony to provide cash assistance for students of staff members was held at Thanlaw Township General Administration Department in Yangon East District on 31 May.

TREES PLANTED AT HOME FOR THE AGED

BAGO, 6 June—As a gesture of hailing the International Day of Cooperatives 2012, staff of Bago Region and Township Cooperative Departments and members of the Board of Directors and staff of cooperative societies donated meals and clothes to 28 older persons at Thabyegon Home for the Aged in Mazi Ward of Bago and planted trees in the compound of the home on 1 June.

It was attended by Bago Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Kyaw Myint and Region Minister for Forestry and Mines U Kyaw Htay.

They paid respects to the aged and grew the saplings.—Myanmar Alin

District News

MYANMAR, 6 June—As part of efforts to alleviate poverty through cooperative technique, Mon Myat Micro-credit Cooperative Society Ltd disbursed loans to students of high, middle and primary schools so as to purchase bicycles through installment system before opening the school in Myinmu Township.

The ceremony was held at the office of Township General Administration Department on 3 June morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Thein Zaw and Chairman of Mon Myat Micro-credit Cooperative Society Ltd made speeches. U Aung Kyaw Win of Toe Tet Aung Trading and Managing Director U Soe Tint explained matters related to disbursement of loans for buying bicycles recently.

Next, the Township Administrator presented K 20,000 each to 109 members of the society and the chairman of the cooperative society bicycles to 58 members of the society.

Cash assistance given to offspring of staff members

KYAIN-SEIKKYI, 6 June—Phayathinzhu Sub-Township General Administration Department of Kyain-seikkyi Township in Kayin State provided cash assistance to 12 students, offspring of the staff members for 2012-2013 academic year, at the sub-township General Administration Department on 3 June morning.

Administrator of Sub-Township U Thein Tun presented K 189,000 as cash assistance to children of staff members.—Myanmar Alin
Asia witnesses partial lunar eclipse

BEIJING, 6 June — China witnesses a partial lunar eclipse on Sunday, the event visible to many as the event unfolded. While Australia and the east of Japan watched the Earth slide between the Earth and the moon, the west of Japan watched the moon pass between the Earth and the sun. This partial eclipse was visible to many in Asia, including in South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines.

Chinese ancient books sell for 34.2 m USD

BEIJING, 6 June — A collection of 1,292 ancient books from Guoyunlou has been auctioned for 216 million yuan (34.2 million US dollars) in Beijing, the auction house said on Monday.

The collection, which was a strong support for residents of the storey-building in Southwest Nigeria’s Lagos State on Sunday, authorities with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) told Xinhua on Monday. Spokesperson of the agency Yunus Yashua officially confirmed the fire, with the NEMA spokesman later in the day.

According to him, the body of a woman clutching her baby was among the corpses recovered on Monday.

“Residents were seen to be residents of the storey-building that was burned,” he added. The NEMA spokesperson said the search and rescue operation was brought to a close at about 7 pm on Monday, disclosing that the work will continue in the crash site on Tuesday.

A rescue worker who declined to be named also said that 10 unidentified children were among the bodies so far recovered from the crash site.

The Dana Air plane, which reportedly took off from Nigeria’s capital city Abuja, crashed in a residential area in the Lagos metropolis on Sunday, killing 153 persons and causing extensive damage to the nearby building. The plane crashed into a two-storey building in Southwest Nigeria’s Lagos State on Sunday.

The crash-landed in Ghana, killing a Nigerian Allied Cargo passengers and causing extensive damage to the nearby building. The plane crashed into a two-storey building in Southwest Nigeria’s Lagos State on Sunday.

China witnessed a partial lunar eclipse on Sunday, the event visible to many as the event unfolded. While Australia and the east of Japan watched the Earth slide between the Earth and the moon, the west of Japan watched the moon pass between the Earth and the sun. This partial eclipse was visible to many in Asia, including in South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines.

Chinese ancient books sell for 34.2 m USD

BEIJING, 6 June — Ancient Chinese books have been auctioned for 216 million yuan (34.2 million US dollars) in Beijing, the auction house said on Monday.

A collection of 1,292 ancient books from Guoyunlou, a library belonging to the Guo family in Suzhou of east China’s Jiangsu Province, was sold to a private buyer at the 2012 Beijing Council Spring Auction on Monday night.

The auction began at 9:35 pm and started with a bidding price of 180 million yuan. A buyer finalized the bidding at the price of 188 million yuan. The total cost is 216 million yuan including commission fees. The deal will be finally realized after the buyer pays all the expenses within the required period of time, according to the auction rules.

After six generations, in about 150 years of heritage since the reign of Emperor Daoguang in the Qing Dynasty (1828-1849), Guoyunlou’s collection has reached more than 800 kinds including block-printed editions from the Song Dynasty (960-1279) and Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), fine writing and old copies as well as inscriptions from the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Three quarters of the Guoyunlou collection were bought by the Nanyang Library nearly 900s, while the remaining 1292books of 179 titles are still kept by some private collectors.

The remaining 1,292 books were bought by a private buyer at an auction in 2005 at the price of 23.1 million yuan.

The encyclopedia of Splendid Valley of Flowers, the only existing and well-preserved collection of some lost ancient books, said Fan Jingzhong, a professor from the China Academy of Art.

US study finds ginseng fights fatigue in cancer patients

WASHINGTON, 6 June — High doses of American ginseng, the herb, over two months have reduced cancer-related fatigue in patients more effectively than a placebo, according to a study presented on Monday at the annual meeting of American Society of Clinical Oncology. Researchers studied 340 patients who had completed cancer treatment or were being treated for cancer at one of 40 community medical centres in the United States.

Sixty percent of patients studied had breast cancer. Each day, participants received a placebo or 2,000 milligrams of ginseng administered in capsules containing pure, ground American ginseng root.

According to the study, the pure ginseng provided only a slight improvement in fatigue symptoms in four weeks, but in eight weeks, it offered cancer patients significant improvement in general exhaustion, such as feelings of being “pooped,” “worn out,” “fatigued,” “sluggish,” “run-down,” or “tired,” when compared to the control group with placebo.

“After eight weeks, we saw a 20-point improvement in fatigue in cancer patients, measured on a 100-point, standardized fatigue scale,” said Debra Barion of the Mayo Clinic Cancer Centre based in the US State of Minnesota, adding that the herb had no apparent side effects.

Ginseng has long been used in traditional Chinese medicine as a natural energy booster. Until this study, its effects had not been tested extensively against the debilitating fatigue that occurs in up to 90 percent of cancer patients.

China-Pakistan military ties to strengthen

BEIJING, 6 June — Chinese Defence Minister Liang Guanglie on Monday met with visiting Pakistani Chief of Air Staff Marshal Tahir Rafique Butt to discuss bilateral military ties. Liang, who is on a three-day official visit to Pakistan, said both countries are developing a strategic partnership in various fields, benefiting the two peoples.

Their coordination in international and regional issues effectively helped defend common interests of both sides. The Defence Minister said the two countries’ Armed Forces maintained close relations, which was a strong support for bilateral ties. The armed forces had solid friendship, regular high-level exchanges and fruitful cooperation, Liang said, adding that he hoped both sides to cherish the momentum, continue to develop the relations and deepen pragmatic cooperation between the two peoples, especially their air forces.

Nigeria suspends airline company’s operation over plane crash

LAGOS, 6 June — The Nigerian government on Tuesday suspended the operations of Dana Airline whose aircraft carrying 153 persons crashed into a two-storey building in southwestern Lagos State on Sunday. Minister of aviation Stella Oduah told reporters that the airline has been suspended indefinitely for operational safety reasons, pending the outcome of investigations into the accident which occurred at the death of about 193 persons including foreign nationals.

Owners of the commercial plane said earlier Tuesday that an investigation into the cause of the accident got underway immediately (after the air crash), under the guidance of the National Aviation Authority (NAA), which is being assisted by investigators from the US National Safety Transportation Board (NTSB). Dana Air is cooperating fully and assisting the investigators in ‘every possible way’, the airline company said.

Internet

137 bodies recovered from Nigerian plane crash site: rescue officials

JAKARTA, 6 June — A total of 137 bodies have so far been recovered from the site of the passenger plane which crashed into a two-storey building in Southwest Nigeria’s Lagos State on Sunday, authorities with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) told Xinhua on Monday. Spokesperson of the agency Yunus Yashua officially confirmed the fire, with the NEMA spokesman later in the day.

According to him, the body of a woman clutching her baby was among the corpses recovered on Monday.

“They were suspected to be residents of the storey-building that was burned,” he added. The NEMA spokesperson said search and rescue operation was brought to a close at about 7 pm on Monday, disclosing that the work will continue in the crash site on Tuesday.

A rescue worker who declined to be named also said that 10 unidentified children were among the bodies so far recovered from the crash site.

The Dana Air plane, which reportedly took off from Nigeria’s capital city Abuja, crashed in a residential area in the Lagos metropolis on Sunday, killing 153 persons and causing extensive damage to the nearby building. The plane crashed into a two-storey building in Southwest Nigeria’s Lagos State on Sunday.

Ginseng fights fatigue in cancer patients, US study finds — Xinhua

Photo taken on 5 June, 2012 shows an inundated car in water in Yumen City, northwest China’s Gansu Province. A torrential downpour hit the city during the midnight, bringing a record high of 69.2 millimetre precipitation within several hours. — Xinhua

Over 60 pangolins seized in S Thailand

BANGKOK, 6 June — Crime suppression police in the southern province of Songkhla on Sunday rescued 62 endangered pangolins from a wildlife smuggler.

A 33-year-old suspect was arrested after the police was tipped off that pangolins would be illegally smuggled from Thailand’s neighbouring Malaysia. The police stopped a suspected saloon and found 62 pangolins hidden in the vehicle.

The smuggling and sale of pangolins is prohibited under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES. — MNA/Xinhua

In Japan about 20 people gathered at an observation point to view the eclipse in Tokyo and Kuala Lumpur. — Xinhua

INTERNET

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Thursday, 7 June, 2012

As the Earth slid between the Earth and the sun, the west of Japan watched the moon pass between the Earth and the sun. This partial eclipse was visible to many in Asia, including in South Korea, Japan, and the Philippines.
**BID ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has signed the Exchange of Notes with the Government of Japan on December 04, 2009 and the Grant Agreement with Japan International Cooperation Agency on December 23, 2009 concerning the Japan’s Grant Aid for the Project for Construction of Primary School-cum-Cyclone Shelter.

Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) acts as the procurement agent for and on behalf of the Department of Basic Education No. 1, the Ministry of Education for procuring products and services under this grant. JICS now invites the Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the construction of four (4) primary cyclone shelters in Labutta Township in Ayeyawaddy Region. Further information is available on JICS’s website (http://www.jics.or.jp/jics/index.html).

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**Rhode Island’s Olivia Culpo crowned Miss USA**

*LAS VEGAS, 6 June — Olivia Culpo of Rhode Island was named Miss USA on Sunday after saying it would be fair for transgendered contestants to win the pageant, giving her a crown that she will wear when representing the United States at the Miss Universe pageant later this year. Culpo, 20, competed in the traditional swimsuit and evening gown competitions at the Las Vegas pageant, but also answered a question—tweeted in from an audience member—about an issue that earlier this year vexed the organizers of the Miss Universe pageant in Canada when a transgendered woman wanted to compete. Culpo was asked if it was fair that a transgender woman would win Miss USA over a natural born woman, and she answered, “I do think that would be fair, but I can understand that people would have a little apprehensive to take that road.” She went on to say that there are “so many people out there who have a need to change for a happier life. I do accept that because I believe it is a free country.” The audience reaction seemed mixed initially but quickly turned to cheers and Culpo gave two thumbs ups. Later, when the winner’s crown was placed on Culpo’s head, tears came to her eyes as she accepted the congratulations from her fellow contestants and walked the stage as the new Miss USA in a flowing, purple evening gown that was among the few splashes of color in a competition that featured several white dresses.

Culpo, of Cranston, Rhode Island, is a graduate of Boston University. Her parents were both musicians, and she began playing the cello in the second grade. She has played at the Boston Symphony Hall and Carnegie Hall in New York City, and she continues to perform. Miss Maryland, Nana Meriwether, was the runner-up, and contestants from Ohio, Nevada, and Georgia rounded out the top five finalists. Miss Congeniality went to Miss Iowa, Rebecca Hodge, and the most photogenic award went to Miss Oregon, Alaina Bergsma.

The Miss Universe pageant will be held in December, but a location has yet to be named.

Earlier this year, Jenna Talackova, who underwent gender-reassignment surgery at age 19, and holds legal documents affirming her identity as a woman, was initially kicked out of the competition in the Miss Canada division, but was later reinstated by the Miss Universe organization’s owner, Donald Trump. Talackova now 23, went on to compete in last month’s Miss Canada pageant but did not win.—*Reuters*

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**Storms cut power to thousands in Australia’s New South Wales**

*SYDNEY, 6 June—About 1,500 homes around Australia’s New South Wales (NSW) were still powerless after a wild storm hit the state on Tuesday, local media reported on Wednesday. Torrential rain and winds topping 127 kilometres an hour tore roofs off and downed trees and powerlines around the NSW coast on Tuesday afternoon, leaving more than 25,000 homes and businesses in Sydney and on the Central Coast without power on Tuesday night. About 1,000 homes remain without power in Sydney on Wednesday morning, with about the same number blocked out south of the city in communities such as Kangaroo Valley and Berry, according to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) reports. The region of Sutherland Shire in Sydney’s south has been hit worst by the wild storm, with the State Emergency Service receiving around 1,000 calls for help over the past 24 hours.*

*Xinhua*

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**Air tanker crash kills two at Utah wildfire site**

*RENO, Nev., 6 June—An air tanker dropping retardant on a remote wildfire along the Utah-Nevada line crashed Sunday afternoon, killing both crew members, authorities said. The pilots were fighting the 5,000-acre White Rock Fire, which began burning Friday night after a lightning strike in eastern Nevada. The fire spread across the Utah and Nevada border, but most of the blaze remained in Nevada, about 150 miles northeast of Las Vegas.*

*The cause of the 1:45 p.m. MDT crash in the Hamblin Valley area of western Utah was unknown, Bureau of Land Management officials said. A helicopter crew saw the crash and called ground crews that “it didn’t look good,” Iron County, Utah, sheriff’s Detective Sgt Jody Edwards told The Salt Lake Tribune.*

*BLM ground crews and helicopter crew members worked for a time to help the fire back from the wreckage. Sheriffs’ deputies drove and hiked for more than an hour to reach the site and confirm that the pilots had died, Edwards said. The fire later over-whelmed the crash site, Edwards said.*

*The pilots were flying a P-2V tanker that is owned by Neptune Aviation Services of Missoula, Mont. The victims’ names weren’t immediately released.*

*A medical examiner was helping authorities recover the bodies as of Monday morning, with about the same number blocked out south of the city in communities such as Kangaroo Valley and Berry, according to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) reports. The region of Sutherland Shire in Sydney’s south has been hit worst by the wild storm, with the State Emergency Service receiving around 1,000 calls for help over the past 24 hours.*

*Xinhua*

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**Economic pain takes toll on US earnings forecasts**

*NEW YORK, 6 June—Expectations for US corporate earnings are deflating fast as the euro zone crisis deepens and economic data around the world disappoints. Standard & Poor’s 500 earnings for the second quarter are now forecast to grow 7.4 percent, down from an early January forecast of 10.1 percent, according to Thomson Reuters data. But remove profits-generating chipmaker Intel (AAPL O) and the financial sector, GSFP, which has weak year-over-year comparisons, from the numbers and the forecast looks much worse. After those exclusions, the rest of the index is expected to report a 0.9 percent drop in second-quarter profits. Most S&P 500 sectors have seen estimates fall since January, with energy, materials and utilities all expected to report declines from a year ago, while telecommunications and healthcare profits are barely rising.—*Reuters*
Elmo seeks to be Olympic torchbearer

"Sesame Street" Muppet Elmo has kicked off a campaign to be one of the torchbearers in the run-up to this summer’s Olympic Games in London. Elmo released a video online and an announcement on his Facebook page explaining his desire to run with the torch as it makes its way to the opening ceremonies of the Games. NBC’s "Today" show reported, "He loves the fun of being an athlete," "Sesame Street" executive producer Carol-Lynn Parente told Today.com. "He’s learned lots of things on Sesame Street about exercise being good for you." Parente said Elmo would not accidentally leave the torch with a stranger, as he does in his campaign video.

Woman finds egg inside of egg

A Texas woman who cracked open a giant egg laid by one of her hens said the yolk was so big that it had to be removed. Cookie Smith of Abilene said she was surprised when one of her three hens laid the egg, which she said is about 3 inches longer than a normal egg and weighs about three times as much as the eggs she usually brings in. She was further shocked when she cracked open the “super egg” and another complete egg was inside along with the white and yolk, the Abilene Reporter-News reported.

A video created by Britain’s National History Museum at Tring says such a “double egg” is a somewhat rare occurrence and is caused by “unusual contractions” force a developing egg back into the bird’s ovary, where it is surrounded by another egg. Smith said she and her husband have decided not to eat the contents of either egg.

Fire sprinkler dampens wedding party

A Georgia bride said her wedding was tainted when a hotel sprinkler system went off, soaking her and her bridesmaids in a black substance. "I can’t believe how bad this is," bride-to-be Kathy Harris said and her bridesmaids were getting ready in a room at the Westin Hotel in College Park and the triggered sprinkler system caused five members of her bridal party to be hospitalized, mainly due to breathing problems, WSB-TV, Atlanta, reported. "Before we got ready to leave the room, we heard a big boom," Harris said. "I felt like my life was going to end right then and there." Harris said her ceremony continued with only two of the expected eight bridesmaids in attendance.

School auctions basketball court floor

The University of Colorado-Boulder is auctioning off the portable floor of the basketball court with a starting price of $5,000. The university, which is selling the Robbins “All-Star Plus” maple basketball floor on auction site HigherEdSurplus.com, said it’s too foot is in fair to good shape and has been sanded and stripped down once since being purchased in 1996, KMKG-TV, Denver, reported. The auction stipulates the winner must “remove, load and transport the flooring” and it is being sold “AS IS WHERE IS with NO warranty or refunds.” The auction, which started June 1 and ends on June 15, had no bidders as of June afternoon.

George Clooney to be honoured at Carousel of Hope gala

BEVERLY HILLS, 6 June — Actor and philanthropist George Clooney is to be honoured at The Carousel of Hope gala in Beverly Hills, Calif, for his humanitarian work, organizers said.

The 20 Oct event is a biannual benefit for the Barbara Davis Centre for Childhood Diabetes, a care and research centre for type 1 diabetes. Clooney will be presented with the Brass Ring Award for his “outstanding artistic achievements and unprecedented humanitarian undertakings,” organizers said.

Athera Franklin and Kenny “Babyface” Edmonds have been booked to perform at the event. —Internet

Debra Winger to make Broadway debut

New York, 6 June — Debra Winger is to make her Broadway debut in David Mamet’s new play "The Anarchist," this fall, producers announced on Tuesday. Previews are to begin on 13 Nov and opening night is set for 2 Dec, said producers Jeffrey Richards, Jerry Frankel, and Howard and Janet Kagan.

Winger’s previous stage credits include “How I Learned to Drive” and “Ivanov” at the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Mass. Best known for her work in the films "Urban Cowboy," "Terms of Endearment," "An Officer and a Gentleman," "Shadowlands" and "Forget Paris," Winger will star with two-time Tony Award winner Patti Lupone in "The Anarchist," a two-character play. —Internet

Singer Sheryl Crow and her son Wyatt attend the premiere of the animated motion picture comedy "Cars 2," at the El Capitan Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 18 June, 2011. —Internet

Michelle Williams performs alongside Sesame Street’s Elmo.

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George Clooney attends the 12th White House Correspondents Association Dinner held at the Washington Hilton on 28 April, 2012 in Washington, DC. —Internet

Debra Winger arrives on the red carpet before the screening of the film "Therese Desqueyroux" during the closing ceremony of the 65th annual Cannes International Film Festival in Cannes, France on 27 May, 2012. —INTERNET

Mads Mikkelson arrives on the red carpet before the screening of the film "Therese Desqueyroux" during the closing ceremony of the 65th annual Cannes International Film Festival in Cannes, France on 27 May, 2012.—INTERNET

Mads Mikkelson's film credits include "The Hunt," "Casino Royale" and "The Three Musketeers."—INTERNET

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Actor Brad Pitt

Brad Pitt to produce Marilyn Monroe biopic

LONDON, 6 June — Actor Brad Pitt has given nod to produce long-delayed Marilyn Monroe movie.

Naomi Watts was attached to play the iconic bombshell in biopic Blonde, directed by Andrew Dominik, reports contactmusic.com. Now Pitt, who previously worked with Dominik on "The Assassination of Jesse James," will produce the film through his Plan B production company. "We’re going to get this one done," said the 48-year-old. —Internet

Mikkelsen to play serial killer Lector

LOUISIANA, 6 June — NBC has cast Danish actor Mads Mikkelson as the titular psychiatrist-serial killer in its upcoming drama series "Hannibal Lector," The Hollywood Reporter said.

The 13-episode series is based on Thomas Harris' novels, which have spawned multiple movies, TV series and research centre for type 1 diabetes. Mikkelson will play the role of Dr Hannibal Lecter, in the small-screen version of the story.

Will Graham, an FBI profiler and Lecter’s nemesis, in the TV show. Mikkelson’s film credits include "The Hunt," "Casino Royale" and "The Three Musketeers."—INTERNET

Sheryl Crow has benign brain tumour

LAS VEGAS, 6 June — American singer-songwriter Sheryl Crow says she has been diagnosed with a benign brain tumour after forgetting the lyrics to some of her hits while performing.

“I worried about my memory so much that I went and got an MRI. And I found out I have a brain tumour,” Crow, 50, told the Las Vegas Review-Journal. “And I was, like: ‘See? I knew there was something wrong,’” she said. “I haven’t really talked about it.

In November, I found out I have a brain tumor. But it’s benign, so I don’t have to perform.” —Internet

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Mads Mikkelson arrives on the red carpet before the screening of the film “Therese Desqueyroux” during the closing ceremony of the 65th annual Cannes International Film Festival in Cannes, France on 27 May, 2012.—INTERNET
Sweden clinches pre-Euro friendly win over Serbia

STOCKHOLM, 6 June — Sweden beat Serbia 2-1 in their final pre-Euro friendly on Wednesday, securing an encouraging victory which nonetheless raised questions about whether the team’s defence is up to scratch ahead of Euro 2012.—INTERNET

Stosur sizes up Errani at French Open

PARIS, 6 June — Australia’s Samantha Stosur is expecting a heavyweight French Open semi-final challenge from pint-sized Italian Sara Errani and won’t be fooled by the slight figure on the other side of the net. Sixth-seeded Stosur, the US Open champion and runner-up in Paris in 2010, starts Thursday’s semi-final against 21st seed Errani as overwhelming favourite, holding a 5-0 career lead over the Italian. But Errani has punched above her weight at Roland Garros, reaching a major Grand Slam semi-final, knocking out former champions Ana Ivanovic and Svetlana Kuznetsova along the way. Stosur, at 1.72m and 65kg, goes into the match with a far-left corner to produce Sweden’s winning goal.

But Serbia equalised just four minutes later after a moment of disaster by midfielder Andrija Stojcevic. Several Svendsen gave Serbia a free kick that led to a cross which Neven Subotic headed in near post. Sweden’s attackers picked up the tempo in the second-half. But despite the win, the hosts looked shaky and uncertain, nowhere near the smooth-playing and united team seen during training camp, raising as to whether coach Erik Hamren would be able to iron out the wrinkles before the Euros start.

Stosur, at 1.72m and 65kg, goes into the match with the way. Stosur, at 1.72m and 1.83m, champions Ana Ivanovic and final, knocking out former French Open semi-finalist and runner-up Sara Errani and won’t be fooled by the slight figure on the other side of the net.

England stars in clash of European Elite

London, 6 June — England manager Roy Hodgson (L) looks on during the international friendly football match against Belgium at Wembley Stadium in London, England on 2 June.—INTERNET

Hodgson’s side are due to fly to their Polish training base in Krakow on Wednesday and Hodgson, who is expecting a heavyweight challenge from pint-sized French Open semi-finalist and runner-up Sara Errani, said: “I have a plan B in the back of my head.”

Belgian Hazard excited by Chelsea future

London, 6 June — Belgium forward Eden Hazard says he cannot wait to get his Chelsea career going after signing for the Barclays Premier League side. The exciting 21-year-old completed his transfer to the French club Lille on Monday after huge speculation over his future during the past few weeks. Hazard passed a medical and agreed personal terms with Chelsea and he will now join up with his new team-mates in July when they begin pre-season training.

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**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(7-6-12 09:30 am – 8-6-12 09:30 am) MST
- News
- Connecting to the World Through TELN
- News
- 12 sign ascendants in June 2012
- News
- A Seminar on Medical Education
- News
- Taste of Myanmar
- Myanmar noodle Salad
- ASEAN PEOPLE’S VOICE
- News
- Environmental Conservation from the Myanmar Cultural Perspective
- News
- Music Programme
- News
- Who can match theirウンガース Musical and Fashion
- News
- Amarapura, Origin of "Myanmar Movie"
- Myanmar Movie
- "Matchmaking Wealth"

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**Red card for Euro 2012 jerseys**

The two EURO2012 mascots wearing Ukraine (right) and Poland’s national jerseys pose at the Legia stadium in Warsaw, 2011. — Internet

**Warsaw, 6 June**

Official jerseys for the upcoming Euro 2012 have been handed a red card by a consumer group even before the tournament kicks off for being tainted with lead, nickel and other toxic substances.

The European Consumer Organisation, BEUC called a “chemical foul play” this week after testing nine official tournament shirts.

“All were found to have worrying levels of chemical content,” it said in a statement.

One of its members players down the warning, however. A spokesman for Herbalique consumer group Test Achat, Jean-Philippe Ducart said “there’s no need to dramatise.”

Referring to the quantities found, he told AFP that “there’s nothing illegal, even though special attention is needed for vulnerable groups such as children.”

BEUC said lead, a heavy metal, was found in six of nine tested-shirts than Spain, Germany, Ukraine, Russia, France and Italy. Players from Portugal and the Netherlands will play in shirts containing nickel, it said. Jerseys from host nation Poland “should be banned outright from shops” for containing a compound to prevent the smell of sweat — organotin — that can be toxic to the nervous system. — Internet

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**Flame makes symbolic Irish Republic visit**

LONDON, 6 June – The Olympic flame lit up the Republic of Ireland on Wednesday on its only visit outside Britain en route to the 2012 London Games, in a symbolic gesture of reconciliation between the two states.

Ireland’s President Michael D Higgins received the flame, which is making a 10-week, 8,000-mile (12,875-kilometre) relay ahead of the Games that started on 27 July in Dublin following a handover at the border.

The flame was transferred across the border between 1992 Olympic council chairman Clemens Toennies will happen quickly,” Schalke — Internet

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**Schalkel-target Van der Vaart aims to stay at Spurs**

Van der Vaart already has a Bundesliga experience of having spent three seasons with Hamburg before he joined Real Madrid in August 2008 and was then snapped up by Spurs in 2010.

“Van der Vaart is a very good player, and there are also other considerations, but it does not look as if anything will happen quickly,” Schalke chairman Clemens Toennies has said. — Internet

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**NATO airstrike kills ‘at least 15 Afghan civilians’**

KABUL, 6 June—At least 15 civilians, including women and children, were killed in a NATO airstrike on a home in Afghanistan’s Logar Province south of Kabul, Afghan officials said on Wednesday.

NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said “multiple insurgents” were killed in the airstrike, which was ordered after troops came under fire from insurgents.

But deputy provincial police chief Rain Khan Sadoq watched with a crowd of local onlookers as McCullough lit Carruth’s torch with his own.

“It is a truly historic day for Ireland,” said Ring. “Today we bring the Olympic spirit into the heart of our capital city, in front of a global audience. The flame crossed the border as part of its five-day journey around Northern Ireland as a token of closer ties between Britain and the Republic of Ireland following Queen Elizabeth II’s landmark visit there last year.

The trip comes a day after Britain wrapped up four days of celebrations for the sovereign’s diamond jubilee, marking her 60 years on the throne.

The flame was taken around Dublin ahead of its return to Northern Ireland to visit Newry and Lisburn before finishing in Belfast.

The Dublin relay started at Croke Park stadium — the home of Ireland’s traditional Gaelic games — before passing some of the capital’s most historic sites.

It was also to be greeted by Prime Minister Enda Kenny.

Dublin’s 40 torchbearers included former Ireland rugby winger Denis Hickie, and pop duo Jedward, who represented Ireland at last month’s Eurovision song contest. — Internet

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**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Weather forecast for 7th June, 2012**

**Map of Afghanistan locating Logar Province.**

Abdulrahimzai told AFP: “18 civilians including women and children are dead,” adding that seven Taliban insurgents were also killed.

Provincial government spokesman Din Mohammad Darvish said “around 15 civilians are dead” after the attack in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

An AFP correspondent said he saw at least 15 bodies that had been loaded into five vehicles and driven by villagers to the provincial capital of Pol-i-Alam. He said he saw four children among the bodies, one as young as a year old and the oldest about 10 years old.

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**Temperature (°C/°F) For Tomorrow**

- **Upper Sagaing:** 31/88 24/75 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Ayeyawady:** 29/84 24/75 Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Kayin:** 29/84 22/72 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Mandalay:** 37/99 26/79 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Magway:** 37/99 24/75 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Eastern Shan:** 35/95 23/73 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Mon:** 36/98 25/79 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Rangun:** 36/98 26/80 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Shan:** 36/98 23/73 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **North West:** 35/95 22/72 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **North Central:** 37/99 24/75 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **North Eastern:** 37/99 22/72 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Bago:** 37/99 24/75 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Burmese Rakhine:** 37/99 26/79 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Chin:** 37/99 24/75 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Kachin:** 37/99 23/73 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Kakku:** 37/99 22/72 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Mon State:** 37/99 26/79 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **Naypyidaw:** 37/99 25/80 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
- **North West:** 35/95 22/72 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)
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- **Naypyidaw:** 37/99 25/80 Scattered rain or thundershowers (80%)

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China, Kazakhstan vow to enhance strategic partnership

Djokovic, Federer survive five-set epic to meet in French Open semis

Belgian Hazard excited by Chelsea future

Flame makes symbolic Irish Republic visit

Random Chess winners awarded

Yangon, 6 June —Winners of the Random Chess contest conducted by Myanmar Chess Federation under the arrangement of Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports at the Aung San Stadium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township yesterday.

Officials of the Myanmar Chess Federation and Sports and Physical Education Department awarded the winners of the contest. Zwe Thura Aung won a consolation prize, Htay Maung presented trophies to Kyaw Lin Naing and Myint Han (Forestry) the third prize.

Union I & P Minister receives UNFPA Resident Representative

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 June —Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Mohamed Abdel Ahad called on Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi at the latter’s office here today.

During the meeting, they discussed over tasks for taking a national census in 2014, programmes to be assisted by UNFPA in taking the census, plans for conducting workshops and training courses, preparations for holding a ceremony to mark the World Population Day in July and future tasks of the central census commission.

Also present at the call were Director-General of the Immigration and National Registration Department U Maung Maung Than, Director-General of the Population Department U Myint Kyaw and officials concerned.— MNA

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi receives Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Mohamed Abdel Ahad.— MNA

MMCWA donates note books, stationery to schools in Nay Pyi Taw

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 June —As part of 2012-2013 academic year school enrollment day, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association donated note books and stationery to BEPS (Thazi) in Zeyathiri Township, BEPS Letpanhka in Zabathiri Township, BEPS (Pauktaw) in Bobbatthiri Township, BEPS No.21 in Ottarathiri Township, BEHS No. 19 in Dekkhinathiri Township and BEPS (Thanetpinseik) in Pyinnmana Township on 4 June.

CEC members of MMCWA, chairpersons and members of Nay Pyi Taw and township Maternal and Child Welfare Organizations, assistant district education officer, personnel of the Education Ministry and community elders partook in the action.

MNA

School Enrollment Day observed in Kyaikto

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 June —The ceremony to mark the School Enrollment Day for 2012-2013 academic year was observed at Basic Education High School No 1 in Kyaikto Township on 31 May morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myint Lwin and Mon State Education Officer U Min Tun Tin delivered addresses. Township Education Officer U Myint Oo explained the education matters.

Wellwishers donated books and cash to officials. They then provided stationery to needy students.

Also present on the occasion were Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi Tun, township level departmental officials, responsible persons of NGOs and students.

MNA

Geoengineering could disrupt rainfall patterns

Volcanic eruptions, such as the one of the Karymsky volcano (Russia) in 2004, release sulphur dioxide to the atmosphere, which has a cooling effect. Geoengineering an ‘artificial volcano’ to mimic this release has been proposed as a solution to global warming.—Internet

The researchers studied how models of Earth’s climate could be altered by introducing a volcanic cloud into the atmosphere. They concluded that such a scheme could lead to a significant cooling of the planet.

“A geoengineering solution, known also as ‘climate engineering,’ could result in undesirable effects for Earth and humanity. In particular, the work by the team of German, Norwegian, French, and UK scientists shows that disruption of global and regional rainfall patterns is likely in a geoengineered climate.”

“Climate engineering cannot be seen as a substitute for a policy pathway of mitigating climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions,” they conclude in the paper.

Geoengineering an ‘artificial volcano’ to mimic this release has been proposed as a solution to global warming.—Internet

Sharapova moves to French Open semifinals

PARK, June —Whether she’s enjoying a cafe lunch, shopping on the Champs-Elysées or notchting another victory on the soft red clay, Maria Sharapova sure enjoys these trips to the French Open.

“What girl doesn’t love Paris?” she said.

Two more wins and she’ll love it even more.

Sharapova moved another step closer to filling in the last piece of the career Grand Slam, defeating Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 6-2, 6-3 on Wednesday to reach the semifinals at Roland Garros. Second-seeded Sharapova rolled through her 23rd-seeded opponent in 74 minutes, a much different scene than the three-set win over Klara Zakopalova in the fourth round that took more than three hours.

“I’m happy with the way I improved in this match,” Sharapova said.

Her next opponent will be fourth-seeded Petra Kvitova, the Wimbledon champion who ended 142nd-ranked qualifier Yaroslava Shvedova’s upset-filled run with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 victory. Sharapova leads their all-time series 3-2, including a win on clay earlier this year in Stuttgart.

Later Wednesday, in the men’s quarterfinals, No. 2 Rafael Nadal played No. 12 Nicolas Almagro and No. 4 Andy Murray faced No. 6 David Ferrer.

In the women’s draw, Kvitova reached the semifinals for the third time over the past four Grand Slams.

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