Every State actor focuses on exploiting foreign assistance for national development and regional development no matter what move is behind the assistance.

Government has targeted to treble current per capita income of people.

Plans that would be economical and benefit state and people are to be chosen when ministries and Region/State governments get loans for development.

NAVPYITAW, 20 June—President U Thein Sein delivered an address at the first meeting of Foreign Aids Management Central Committee at the meeting hall of the President Office at 9 am today.

At first, President U Thein Sein delivered an address.

He said that today’s meeting was the first meeting of the Foreign Aids Management Working Committee constituted with ministries and the National Economy and Social Advisory Council with economists and social scholars. The establishment was divided into two parts to open two tracks for systematically managing bilateral and multilateral aids and assistance from UN agencies, INGOs and Civil Society through different modes and different channels, he added. If the nine UN agencies and 53 INGOs currently operating in Myanmar would provide direct assistance down to township and village level, it would not be able to systematically manage national development and equitable development of regions. Therefore, the committee was established to deal with that, he noted.

Likewise on the global stage, he said that every State actor focused on exploiting the foreign assistance for its national development and regional development no matter what move was behind the assistance.

It was estimated to achieve an annual GDP increase of 7.7 per cent and 1.7-fold annual increase of per capita GDP in national development goal.

The government had targeted to treble the current per capita income of the people.

He called for efforts to triple the economic growth within five years combining manpower, capital and technology. Reviewing current expenditure and investment funds, it could be seen that the budget of the State (government’s budget) was limited, it needed to get more grants and loans from foreign countries and also the rapid increase of local and foreign investments.

Only the amount of current investment fund was doubled, could job opportunities and incomes increase and the nation could achieve the target of triple growth, noted the President.

With budget deficit and local and foreign investments still not flooding into the country, it would surely need the assistance of international organizations if the nation was to bring down the poverty rate of people from 26 to 16 percent in other words to meet the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations, he said.

As the first step of its reform strategy, the government had prioritized political system shift and national reconciliation process, which achieved prominent results, winning the trust of the international community followed by increased proposals for assistance to the country. Now, efforts would be focused on national economic growth, and socio-economic improvement of the people as the second step of the reform strategy.

In response to the phase-by-phase reforms of the government, international organizations wishing to assist the country had asked the government to make clear the priority sector and priority areas by clarifying national development plan and reform strategy and organizing donors’ meetings and also urged to organize donors’ meetings at the convenient time.

Some had suggested that the nation should not allow international organizations which offered assistance with different motives to countries in process of initial reforms like Myanmar to do as they like but Myanmar must take the driver’s seat acting on the development plan, reform strategy and socio-economic indicators of the regions and the State.

(See page 8)
Don’t neglect EIA, SIA and HIA

Do not neglect EIA, SIA and HIA. We should not neglect EIA, SIA and HIA. We must take advantages of EIA, SIA and HIA into consideration. Due to that, it would cause environmental damages. For that reason, we must take advantages of EIA, SIA and HIA into consideration. We can learn so many lessons from other developed countries. We can learn so many lessons from other developed countries. Myanmar has a chance of becoming a developed country with the agency of FDI. We can learn so many lessons from other developed countries.

At the same time, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) generates positive effects as well as negative effects. The country could have positive effects such as technological transfers, mass production and employment opportunities. At the same time, the establishment of heavy industries would cause environmental damages. Due to that, allowing the establishment of industries should be granted only after taking Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA) into consideration.

It is said that FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries. FDI has positive effects, for instance, international investment can promote the development of the countries.

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The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Chinese, US presidents meet on bilateral ties

LOS ANGELES, 20 June — Chinese President Hu Jintao met his US counterpart Barack Obama on Tuesday in Los Cabos, Mexico, on bilateral relations and major regional and global issues of common concern. Hu, during the meeting, said, “This is our 12th meeting. We had very good talks in Seoul this March.” Over the past three months, working teams from both countries have carefully implemented the consensus reached between Chinese and US leaders and made new progress in building a cooperative partnership, he said.

US-Russia joint missile defence is only way forward: Putin

Russia’s President Vladimir Putin speaks during a news conference on the second day of the G20 Summit in Los Cabos on 19 June, 2012. — Reuters

LOS ANGELES, 20 June — Russian President Vladimir Putin reiterated Moscow’s strong opposition to the US missile defence system on Tuesday, saying that President Barack Obama’s re-election would not end the dispute and insisting on joint development of the shield.

“Think that the missile defence issue will not be solved regardless of whether Obama is elected or not,” he told reporters at the end of Group of 20 (G20) summit in Mexico. “I think that something can radically change only in the case if the US agrees with our proposal which says that Russia, Europe and US were equal participants of this process,” Putin said.

Moscow says the interceptors that the United States and NATO are deploying as part of the system will be able to destroy Russian warheads in flight by about 2018, upsetting the post-Cold War balance of power. Putin maintained that the missile defence system — which is to be deployed in four phases by about 2020 — is intended to counter a potential threat from Iran and poses no risk to Russia. — Reuters

Chinese astronauts in space receive first e-mail from Earth

BEIJING, 20 June — Astronauts in the orbiting lab module Tiangong-1 received their first e-mail from Earth on Tuesday afternoon, the Beijing Aerospace Control Centre (BACC) confirmed.

The e-mail containing photos, text and videos was sent through a special communication channel between the control centre and the lab module, a statement from the centre said.

Through this communication channel, astronauts can maintain instant contact with Earth, which facilitates their work and contributes to the quality of their spare time, the statement said.

The three astronauts, including the country’s first female in space, entered the cabin of the Tiangong-1 on Monday afternoon, becoming the first group of Chinese to enter an orbiter in space, shortly after a successful automatic docking procedure between the orbiter and the Shenzhou-9 spacecraft.

Deng Yibing, chief engineer of the astronaut training centre, told Xinhua that the astronauts had been busy checking the facilities and doing experiments over the past day.

The environment inside the orbiter has been quite comfortable, with the temperature at 22 to 23 degrees Celsius and the humidity at 40 percent, Deng said.

Although they experience 16 sunrises and sunsets every 24 hours as the orbiter circles Earth every 90 minutes, astronauts wake up and rest in line with Earth time.

They got up at 6 a.m. Beijing Time today and will go to bed in the evening,” Deng said.

One will remain on duty while the others sleep, and the three will take turns sleeping, he said. — Xinhua

Asian immigrants to US surpass Hispanics for first time

New York, 20 June — Asians have surpassed Hispanics as the largest group of new immigrants to the United States, according to a new study from the Pew Research Centre. The study, called “The Rise of Asian Americans” and released on Tuesday, reveals that Asian-Americans also have the highest income, are the best educated and are the fastest-growing racial group in America. About 430,000 Asian-Americans—or 36 percent of all new immigrants—arrived in the United States in 2010, according to US census data.

About 170,000, or 31 percent, were Hispanic.

The wave of incoming Asians pushed the total number of Asian-Americans to record 18.2 million, or 5.8 percent of the total US population, according to the census data.

By comparison, non-Hispanic whites (197.5 million) account for 63.3 of the US population, while Hispanics (32 million) and non-Hispanic blacks (38.3 million) account for 16.7 percent and 12 percent, respectively. The influx of Asians reflects a slowdown in illegal immigration while American employers increase their demand for high-skilled workers,” the Associated Press said.

“The educational credentials of these recent [Asian] arrivals are striking,” the report said. Sixty-one percent of 25-to-64-year-old Asian immigrants come with at least a bachelor’s degree—more than double non-Asian immigrants, making the recent Asian arrivals “the most highly educated cohort of immigrants in US history.” — Internet

Iran, world powers fail to reach Moscow breakthrough

MOSCOW, 20 June — Iran and world powers on Tuesday failed to narrow differences over the Iranian nuclear drive after bruising talks in Moscow held amid threats of a crippling oil embargo or even military action against Teheran.

However the Iranian negotiating team and the world powers led by EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton succeeded in keeping talks alive by agreeing a process for future meetings. The United States and Israel have repeatedly refused to rule out air strikes on Iran against its nuclear programme, which the West suspects is a cover for a bid for nuclear weapons, and the Moscow meeting was seen as a crucial last test for the viability of talks.

Irán’s chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili speaks at a Press conference in Moscow.

INTERNET

“…remains clear that there are significant gaps between the substance of the two positions,” Ashton told reporters in a late night news conference after nine hours of talks on the second and final day. There had been “tough and frank” exchanges with the delegation led by new Iranian nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, said Ashton, who represented the world powers known as “P5+1”—permanent UN Security Council members Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States, plus Germany. — Internet

Six European defence ministers agree on military cooperation

VIENNA, 20 June — Defence ministers of six small European nations agreed to be represented in Brussels “with one voice,” Austrian Defence Minister Norbert Darabos said on Tuesday. That was an agreement made so far during the talks over their military presence in Afghanistan, Darabos said in a statement from Beijing.

The two sides have continuously boost mutual trust and cooperation, Darabos said. All nations involved in the talks agreed that the nature of threats in Europe had changed. Armies and tank contingents were things of the past, and terrorism and cyber attacks were among the current challenges, Darabos said. — Xinhua

The New Light of Myanmar Thursday, 21 June, 2012 3
Breeding programme to help endangered kiwis

WELLINGTON, 20 June—Scientists say a project will see one of the world’s most endangered bird species repopulate a part of New Zealand’s North Island after an absence of centuries.

The Department of Conservation said 20 young rowi, a species of New Zealand’s unique kiwi, will be taken to Mana Island near Wellington with the aim of establishing a new colony outside the bird’s South Island sanctuary, Xinhua News Agency reported on Monday.

The eggs were taken from a forest in Okarito in the south of the South Island to protect them from predators, and are to be hatched and reared in other parts of the South Island before a New Zealand air force helicopter carries them to Mana Island, officials said.

“We expect that the absence of predator pressure, better breeding conditions and less competition for territories will ensure that the Mana Island rowi produce a high number of chicks that can eventually become part of the home population in Okarito,” Conservation Department ranger Ian Graham said in a statement. The department intends to eventually move the Mana Island rowi back to the South Island when they mature, officials said.

All five species of the flightless bird, New Zealand’s national bird, are endangered, scientists said.

The department estimates their numbers have decreased from millions two centuries ago to just 70,000 today.

The decline is blamed on introduced predators such as cats, dogs and stoats, as well as habitat loss, officials said.—Internet

Umbrella charges cellphone, boosts signal

LONDON, 20 June—British cellphone carrier Vodafone says its Booster Brolly umbrella will allow users to charge their phones while also improving cellular reception.

Developed by Kenneth Tong, a lecturer in antennas and microwave technology at University College London, it features a dozen 2-ohm solar panels hand-stitched into the umbrella to charge a cellphone, GigaOm.com reported.

The umbrella has aluminum struts to improve conductivity and a small high-gain antenna with signal repeater to improve reception for a cellphone clipped to the umbrella’s central carbon fiber pole.

When clipped to the umbrella the cellphone can be charged, communicate with an improved signal and offer hands-free usage.

Vodafone is reportedly offering the Booster Brolly at a number of festival events in Britain this summer.—Internet

Kodak sues Apple, claiming interference in patent sales

LONDON, 20 June—Photography pioneer Eastman Kodak Co sued Apple Inc to stop it from interfering with plans to sell a large patent portfolio, a significant part of its bankruptcy restructuring.

In a lawsuit filed on Monday in US bankruptcy court in Manhattan, Kodak said Apple, the largest US company by market value, wrongly claims to own 10 patents arising from work that the companies did together in the early 1990s. Privately held FlashPoint Technology Inc also claims ownership through an assignment from Apple, which spun off in 1996, and is also a defendant, Kodak said.

The patents include technology that helps cameras and owners preview photographs on LCD screens. They are part of Kodak’s digital-capture portfolio, which the company said includes more than 100 patents for devices such as digital cameras, smartphones and tablets, and has generated more than $5 billion in revenues since 2001.

Kodak said Apple is the largest infringer of patents in that portfolio, and also a potential purchaser of those patents.

“Apple’s strategy has been to use its substantial cash position to delay any possible payment of royalties to Kodak” and interfere with the sale, Kodak said. “Apple and FlashPoint are seeking to benefit from Kodak’s difficult financial position, which will be exacerbated if the debitors cannot obtain fair value for the patents.”

Lawyers for Apple and FlashPoint did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Tuesday.

In a 1 June court filing, Apple said the dispute involves “an array of complex non-bankruptcy issues” that should be addressed in federal district court rather than bankruptcy court, and that Kodak was seeking an unfair “rush to judgment.”

Kodak owns about 10,700 patents overall and has hired Lazard to help market the digital-capture portfolio and a digital-imaging portfolio, which includes more than 20 possible buyers.

Patent sales are needed under terms of a $950 million loan that Kodak obtained to keep operating while in bankruptcy.

Last week, Kodak said it is expected to auction the patents in early August, with a winning bidder announced by 13 August.


Apple is based in Cupertino, California, and FlashPoint is headquartered in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

The case is Eastman Kodak Co v Apple Inc et al. US Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York, No 12-ap-01720. The main bankruptcy case is Re Eastman Kodak Co et al. in the same court, No 12-2020.

Ancient warming turned Antarctica green

LOS ANGELES, 20 June—Ancient global warming allowed the greening of Antarctica and substantial vegetation sprouted on the frozen continent 15 million years ago, researchers say.

Ancient Antarctica was warmer and wetter than previously suspected — enough to support vegetation, including stunted trees, along its edges — researchers from the University of Southern California, Louisiana State University and NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory reported on Sunday.

Sums of temperatures along the Antarctic coast 15 million to 20 million years ago warmer than they are today, reaching about 45 degrees Fahrenheit with more precipitation, they said.

Scientists began to suspect high-latitude temperatures were warmer than previously believed when US researcher Sophie Warny discovered large quantities of pollen and algae in sediment cores taken around Antarctica.

“Deep sea cores are ideal to look for clues of past vegetation as the fossils deposited are protected from ice-sheet advances, but these are technically very difficult to acquire in the Antarctic and require international collaboration,” Warny said.

Fossils of plant life in Antarctica have been found by, scientists say, because of the movement of the massive ice sheets covering the landmass and scours away the evidence. “Ice cores can only go back about 1 million years,” Sarah Jenkins, USprofessor of earth sciences, said. “Sediment cores allow us to go into ‘deep time’. The increased temperatures occurred during a period of global warming in the middle Miocene epoch that coincided with increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, researchers said.—Internet

Mars rover tested in Chile desert

PARIS, 20 June—A fully autonomous vehicle designed as a planetary rover has been successfully tested at Chile’s Mars-like Atacama Desert, scientists say.

The recent test of the Seeker full-scale rover is a step toward creating unmanned rovers that can navigate their own way on alien planets, the European Space Agency reported from its Paris Headquarters.

A multidisciplinary team worked at the site in Chile, it said. “Their challenge was to demonstrate how a planetary rover — programmed with state-of-the-art software for autonomous navigation and making decisions — could traverse 6 kilometres (3.75 miles) in a Mars-like environment and come back where it started,” ESA’s Gianfranco Visentin said.

Since it takes radio signals up to 40 minutes to make the trip to Mars and back, Mars rovers cannot be “driven” directly from Earth, researchers said, and instead must be given instructions to carry out autonomously.

“ESA’s ExoMars rover, due to launch Mars in 2018, will have state-of-the-art autonomy,” Visentin said.

“Lacking GPS on Mars, the rover can only determine how far it has moved relative to its starting point, but the errors in ‘dead reckoning’ build up into risky uncertainties.”

Seeker uses its stereo vision to map its surroundings, assess how far it had moved and plan its route, making sure to avoid obstacles, researchers said.

“We managed 5.1 kilometres (3.1 miles), somewhat short of our 6-kilometre (3.7-mile) goal, but an excellent result considering the variety of terrain crossed, changes in lighting conditions experienced and most of all the fact that it was ESA’s first large-scale rover test — though definitely not our last,” Visentin said.—Internet

This artist’s rendition created from a photograph of Antarctica shows what Antarctica possibly looked like during the middle Miocene epoch, based on pollen and algae. Xinhua Internet
Health Tip: Focus on a healthy family

Striving for a healthy family life can help you and your loved ones stay physically and emotionally healthier.

The American Academy of Family Physicians offers this advice:

- As a parent, you’re the best role model for your kids. Make sure you set a good example by eating a healthy diet, exercising regularly and finding balance in your life.
- Get your kids involved in making healthy changes that affect the family.
- Make time to play with your kids to relax, unwind, get some exercise and have fun.
- Maintain a happy, positive attitude.—INTERNET

Night work may boost women’s breast cancer risk

Factors like genetic mutation, a late first pregnancy or hormonal treatment, Pascal Guenel, director of French health research body INSERM, told AFP.

But into context, a study led by the INSERM-led team said an association between night work with breast cancer “was mainly observed in women working during overnight shifts, those who worked at night for 4.5 or more years and less than three nights per week on average.”

The association was stronger in women who worked at night before their fist full-term pregnancy than in women who started working at night later in life.

The scientists said more study was needed to determine the reasons.

Hypotheses include deregulation of “body clock” genes, internal desynchronisation and sleep deprivation altering the immune system.

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The study was conducted in France among 1,232 women diagnosed with breast cancer between 2005 and 2007.

Japan posts another trade deficit in May

Tokyo, 20 June—Japan’s trade deficit rose again in May due to increasing imports of fuel as the country’s nuclear power plants sit idle.

The Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report on Wednesday that the deficit exceeded 11 billion dollars. It was the third straight monthly deficit and the largest deficit for the month of May since data became available in 1979.

Exports rose 10 percent in yen terms from a year earlier, to over 66 billion dollars. That’s due largely to an increase in shipments of autos to the US.

But imports also rose more than 9 percent, to over 77 billion dollars, due to a rise in imports of liquefied natural gas for thermal power generation. High prices of crude oil were also a factor.

Trade with Europe dipped into negative territory for the first time since 1979. This comes as the eurozone debt crisis dampened demand for semiconductors and other electronic components.

The Finance Ministry says boosting exports will be the key to achieving a trade surplus, as imports will likely continue to rise. Officials will monitor the impact of the European debt crisis on China and the US, which are Japan’s major trade partners.

Airline stocks surge on lower fuel tax hopes

Mumbai, 20 June—Shares in Indian airlines surged on TV reports the civil aviation ministry will meet with finance ministry counterparts to discuss lowering aviation turbine fuel taxes, raising hopes of an announcement, traders said.

The civil aviation ministry had proposed earlier to slash state taxes on jet fuel, which would help bring down costs for ailing local airlines that are reeling under a debt load of $20 billion and annual losses of around $2 billion.

Kingfisher Airlines surged 6.6 percent, while Jet Airways (JET NS) surged 4.6 percent. Spicejet rose 3.8 percent.

Tokyo’s Nikkei share average opens up 0.96 pct

Tokyo, 20 June—Tokyo Stock Exchange employees monitor the market at the bourse in Tokyo on 18 June. Japan’s benchmark Nikkei average opened up 0.96 percent at 8,739.10 on Wednesday, while the broader Topix gained 1.04 percent to 742.35.—Reuters

Coca-Cola not to blame for US obesity

New York, 20 June—Coca-Cola CEO Muhtar Kent insists his company is not responsible for the rise in US obesity despite New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s recent moves to limit the consumption of sugary drinks.

“Is this an important, complicated societal issue that we all have to work together to provide a solution,” Kent told the Wall Street Journal in an interview published late Monday.

“Tat’s why we are working with government, business and civil society to have active lifestyle programs in every country we operate by 2015,” he said.

His remarks came just weeks after the health-conscious Bloomberg proposed a ban on super-sized soft drinks that would restrict the sale to 16-ounce servings, more than an average can but far less than the bucket-sized beverages offered at cafes, service stations and sporting events.

Kent said Coca-Cola has diversified from its namesake, offering a wide range of healthy teas, juices, sports drinks and other products.

“We’ve gone from being a single-beverage, single-brand company to now 500-plus brands, 3,000 products. Eight hundred of these products we’ve introduced in the last four or five years are calorie-free or low-calorie.”

“It is, I believe, incorrect and unjust to put the blame on any single ingredient, any single product, any single category of food,” he said.

Bloomberg said the proposed ban was needed to confront the “epidemic” of obesity in the United States, which contributes to rising health costs.

Critics have derided the proposed ban as a “nanny state” overreach of government power where they have also faulted the mayor for seeking to restrict certain unhealthy habits — like smoking and sugary drinks while the city hosts eat-athons like the annual Coney Island hotdog competition.

The proposed measure would target fast-food and other restaurants, delis, and places of public entertainment like stadiums. It would not cover drinks sold in supermarkets or any diet, fruit, dairy or alcoholic drinks.—INTERNET
GUNMEN ATTACK TUNISIAN CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI

BERNIN, 20 June — A group of armed gunmen stormed the Tunisian consulate in the Libyan city of Benghaz on Monday to protest against an art exhibition which features an anti-Islam film, witnesses said.

Mr. Amal al-Gehani, a retired security guard who works inside the building, said that the attackers insulted Islam and one of them said it was not the civilized way to protest against an art piece — the Tunisian government called to organize an art exhibition which features an anti-Islam film, witnesses said. Mr. Gehani said the attackers were afraid of being identified by police after news reports said the Islamic extremist group had taken control of Benghaz.

Search operation steps up for missing Russian plane

SINGAPORE, 20 June — Russian rescuers have taken steps to locate the whereabouts of a missing An-2 plane with 13 people onboard in the Ural mountains, the Emergency Ministry said on Monday.

The plane, carrying 13 people, including fishermen, tourists and other volunteers, has been lost in a massive search operation for the plane, which went missing in the central Russian Region of Sverdlovsk last Monday.

The six planes were also involved in the operation covering an area of about 100 km around a small airfield near a town named Serov, where the light plane An-2 of which was lost with a pilot and a dozen of allegedly dead drunk revelers aboard.

Top 10 destination cities in Asia-Pacific region to up 15.3 pct

SINGAPORE, 20 June — Top 10 destination cities in Asia-Pacific region is estimated to attract 77.6 million visitors via air travel in 2012, up 9.5 percent on year, while their cross-border spending will increase 15.1 percent on year, according to MasterCard Global Destinations Cities Index released on Tuesday.

Bangkok, ranks third globally, tops the Asia Pacific region’s cities by visitor arrivals with 12.2 million inbound passengers and 19.3 billion US dollars are expected to be spent in 2012. Singapore came in fourth globally in terms of visitor arrivals, with 12.7 billion US dollars in cross-border spending, an increase of 12.7 percent compared with last year.

Tourist expenditure in Asia-Pacific region to up 15.3 pct

The report also shows that cross-border spending will rise 9.5 percent to attract 77.6 million visitors via air travel in 2012, up 9.5 percent on year, while their cross-border spending will increase 15.1 percent on year, according to MasterCard Global Destinations Cities Index released on Tuesday.

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Myanmar edges out host Thai U-22 with 3-1 at Yaza Mingala Stadium in Bangkok of Thailand at 7 pm local time on 17 June. Among the spectators were President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw, club owners of MNL and officials. Myanmar U-22 was constituted with Captain Kyaw Zeyar Win, Kyaw Ko, Kyaw Zin Phyo, Kyi Lin and Thein Than Win as key players.

In the first minutes, the host Thai team gave pressures to the Myanmar team and opened the leading goal at 23rd minute. In the second half, Myanmar team was substituted with Nanda Kyaw, Naing Lin Oo and Nanda Lin Kyaw Chi so as to speed up the tempo. At 59th minute, Myanmar scored an equalizer through a penalty for Kyaw Zeyar Win kicked by Kyaw Ko Ko. After equalizing the match, tempo of the players rose up as well as their competition became rough. Myanmar scored the winning goals at 86th minute and at injured time. On 19 June, Myanmar will meet with Maldives.

Long staple cotton thriving in Meiktila Township

MEIKTILA, 20 June—Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton are thriving in Kokkokon Village of Meiktila Township. The local farmers are taking care of their plantations not to be loss and wastage.

*Kokkokon Village located in area of Kokkokon Village-tract grows the largest amount of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton plants. The departments concerned provide agricultural loans to the local farmers. So they are eager to grow cotton. In the harvesting period, the departments concerned take cotton instead of loans. After selling cotton to the departments to meet the loans, the local farmers have opportunity to sell their products to others. The departments bought cotton at market prices. The departments concerned inspect quality of cotton and choose higher quality goods. In the previous year, cotton could be sold at K 1200 per viss. This year, the previous year’s price will be better,” said a farmer of Kyaukka Village.

Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton plantations are thriving in Kokkokon Village and its environs Kokkokon, Nyaunggaing, Thabyebin, Taunggauk and Okhnebok.

School uniforms presented to students

NAMU, 20 June—Namu Township Development Affairs Committee provided school uniforms to offsprings of vendors on 10 June so as to contribute towards poverty alleviation.

Executive Officer U Hla Min presented school uniforms to 13 students. —Myanma Alin

Price of automobile falls

MANDALAY, 20 June—As those wishing to import vehicles are allowed to open accounts at Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank as of 14 May 2012, price of automobiles declines to K 6-K 8 million per car in the domestic market, according to the Pyi Kyi Myethshin car dealers station on 60th street. Thanks to the new policy, the people can enjoy the opportunity to buy motor cars at about K 10 million. That is why the car showrooms in Mandalay face difficulties.

The prices of cars at Mygyi Myethshin car dealers station unprecedentedly decline. The cars manufactured from industrial zones are lack of buyers and the productions were suspended.

Cash donations invited to free clinic in Thongwa

THONGWA, 20 June—The free clinic sponsored by wellwishers of Thongwa Township from Yangon South District has been opened in the compound of Sition Monastery on every Saturday and Sunday since 2007.

Seven volunteer doctors give health care services to about 200 patients monthly in rotation. At present, wellwishers donated cash and kind to the clinic, and now, the donations to the clinic amounts to over K 30 million.

Those wishing to donate cash to the free clinic may contact Dr Myint Thein (Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs), Tel: 09-86024271, Dr Khin Saw (Thongwa), Tel: 5009195 and U Kyin Toe (Yangon), Tel: 095123074.

Price of land plots doubles its value from wards to Hsa Ward due to extension of roads. The land plots were sold at K 60 million.

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Roads in Mandalay upgraded in fiscal years

MANDALAY, 20 June—The Road and Bridge Development Committee is upgrading roads in the city in fiscal years.

Beginning 4 June, 8030 section of Theikpan Road between 62nd and 78th streets is being upgraded to 31 feet each wide two-way facility with asphalt concrete.

Engineers supervise the upgrading tasks to meet the set standards. The stadium of international level is under construction to host women’s football matches in the XXVII SEA Games. The ringroads such as 73rd and 68th streets, Ngwawal and Ngwawaw road are being upgraded to six-way asphalt concrete facilities.

The prices of land plots doubles its value from wards and Hsa Ward due to extension of roads. The land plots with measurement of 40x60 feet fetches K 120 million.

CASH AND BOOKS DONATED: A ceremony to donate cash and books to construction of Alinthit Monastery on 17 June.

ASSISTANT PROVIDED: A ceremony to provide cash assistance for offspring of staff of Monghsat Township Development Administration Department, on 20 June.

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Every State actor focuses on exploiting...

(continued from page 1)

only then can we effectively work for the interests of the nation and its people. So, we will make systematic management establishing the central committee, work committee and the National Economy and Social Affairs Think Tank.

So, I would like to urge the Union ministries, region/state governments, and self-administered zone/region:
- not to accept the direct assistance from foreign embassies, UN agencies and international organizations, INGOs but to contact through focal ministries in line with procedures,
- to coordinate priority sector and priority area with each other if there are projects you would like to implement with outside assistance so as to find a balance,
- to provide necessary reports on whether or not the assistance provided are effective,
- regarding Mutual Accountability, we will have to take responsibility after coordination between Union Ministries and Region/State governments have been made. And donor country/organizations on their part, need to have mutual accountability so as to carry out their works effectively.

Section 55, Sub-section (1) under Section-4 of duties and rights of Union Government of Union Government Law states that resolutions on local and foreign loans, economical aids, investments and cooperation can be passed. Sub-section (b) (ii) of Section 103 of the Submission of Budget Bill of the Constitution, says that matters on debts for which the Union is liable and expenses relating to the debts, and other expenses relating to the loans taken out by the Union are to be substituted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. So, Union Ministries and Region/State governments are to put foreign loans in drafting plans and budgets and submit it to the Union Government. And then the Union Government will notify Pyidaungsu Hluttaw by sending the message.

In conclusion, I would like to urge that Union Ministries are to systematically draw Sectoral Development of the sectors that they are liable and reform strategy and to seek help after making mutual coordination of priority sectors at Donors’ Meetings.

Matters on which region or township would be prioritized only after making coordination with Region/State governments
- Plans that would be economical and benefit the state and people are to be chosen when the ministries and Region/State governments get loans for development of sectors.
- Region/State governments and self-administered division/zone are to make attempt for foreign assistance and choose priority sectors and priority sectors after making coordination with Union Ministries according to development plan and poverty alleviation programme.
- Foreign Aid Management Working Committee is to make coordination between Union Ministries and Region/State governments and hold coordination meeting between donors’ countries/organization.
- National Economy and Social Advisory Council is to bridge and make coordination between International Assistance Management Working Committee and respective ministries on assistance to be provided by Civil Society and INGOs. The Council is to lend a helping hand to give advises to the Government and holding of Donors’ Meetings.

To sum up, I urge the Union Ministries, Region/State governments and self-administered division/zone as well as International Assistance Organizations to make mutual cooperation between them trustfully.

After that, Secretary of the Central Committee Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein reported on matters related to management tasks for foreign aids.

Region and State Chief Ministers submitted reports on plans to prioritize taking foreign aids for regional projects.
The Union ministers also reported on prioritized plans for taking foreign assistance for development of respective sectors.

After that, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun briefed the President on period for break-even, period for repayment of the loans, plans of Union ministries to pay back the loans and financial rules and regulations.
Chairs of Self-Administered Division/Zone discussed regional matters.
The President coordinated with the Union Ministries to fulfill the requirements of the Chairmen of Self-Administered Division/Zone.

Afterwards, Chairman of Central Cooperative Ltd and of Cooperative Bank U Khin Maung Aye reported on rural development and poverty alleviation, establishment of micro-credit bank and cooperative tasks.

Later, President U Thein Sein delivered a concluding remark.
The President said as an elected government it has the duty to materialize the public interest, hopes and aspirations. The number of individual wishes is large for 60 million people. But the majority has the desire to see national peace and socio-economic development of all the national races. The aspiration of the majority is the aim of the government. National peace and socio-economic development are relying on one another. Socio-economic development can be ensured only if there is national development. Likewise socio-economic development can bring national development.

Due to ideological differences, there were disagreements, hatred, irreconcilable splits throughout history. Consequently, there were frequent mass strikes, violence, killings and political instability. The government must mitigate such political instabilities. As there are both unity and diversity in politics, there are agreements as well as disagreements. Cooperative efforts should be made to serve the people through unity and it is hoped that those agreements should be turned into agreements through patience and coordination. The government will have to make prudent efforts to change situations through convergence through reconciliation.

The problem of ethnic armed insurgency launching armed opposition against the government due to racism and localism appeared at the time the nation regained independence, and is existing till today. Making peace with these armed groups is a must for national peace and stability. The past successive governments also made endeavours to restore peace meeting success as well as failures. Anyhow, the problem has become legacy for the government in office.

Accordingly, the government must strive for making peace with national race armed groups and turning frail peace into permanent peace that lasts long in restoring national peace and stability. Within months after it took office, the government officially invited them to make peace through contacts and dealings. The government has reached some accord and understanding with 10 of the 11 groups. It could even sign some agreements with certain groups.

The immediate effect is that armed conflicts have almost ceased in the respective regions. Locals of the regions have started to enjoy peace and security. As there are no more battles the military almost has no casualties and no more mine victims.

Mine destructions have decreased to a certain degree in Kachin State in the northern Myanmar, but skirmishes still remain. The government’s peace-making delegation has already met with KIA twice. Because of the demands for another meeting, peace-making through unity and hoagreements should be turned into agreements through patience and coordination. The government will have to make prudent efforts to change situations through convergence through reconciliation.

The second public desire is socio-economic development. Increase in per capita income is not the sole requirement. Health, education, transport, accommodation, food and safety of the people under the law too are requirements. There are two aims – to grow more crops and to set up an industrialized nation – for socio-economic development.

The country needs growth in cultivation and production to ensure food security for the growing population. As the global population is rising significantly, every country is prioritizing its food security. The country is producing enough food for 60 million. But preparatory

(See page 9)
Every State actor focuses on exploiting ... (from page 8) measures should be taken for food sufficiency for 100 million people. So, agricultural reforms are a must to cultivate and produce more. The following must be adopted: Change of mindset, having the will to ensure abundant supply of food and clothing not only at present, but also for the posterity; to transform cultivation fields in different shapes into acre plots through correct data; production roads must be built, and all tributary canals must reach the fields; mechanized farming must be introduced. Agricultural produce cartels must be set up to use tractors and harvesters to reduce cost and wastage. To apply scientific modern tributary canals must reach the fields; shapes into acre plots through correct data; present, but also for the posterity; to supply of food and clothing not only at are a must to cultivate and produce more. Measures should be taken for food sufficiency for Labour and for Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi Taninthayi Region Chief Minister NAY PYI TAW, 20 June— Foreign factories, cold storages, canning factories, tire factories, lubricant factories. The third is heavy industries and industrial zones housing car assembling works, parts factories, and metal smelters. The fourth is IT and telecommunication industries, Telecommunication must reach the rural. There must be training schools producing hard labor, skilled labor and technicians. Domestic investment is not enough to establish such factories and training schools, requiring foreign grants, aids and loans. More investments are needed in Myanmar. So, we invited grants, aids, small-intermediate loans and investments for development of our country. We have laid down policies to ensure these things do not (a) harm our national interest, (b) harm the image of our country, (c) tarnish the sovereignty of our country, and (d) damage the environment. The nation is striving to bring economic sanctions, freezing assets and export bans imposed by western countries which could hinder foreign aids and investment to an end from every aspect. There are also success stories. We have to revise the country's investment law, monetary policy, banking system, land use, jobsite safety laws to adapt to the changing environment. Every step in reform strategy must be carried out systematically as in other developing countries to harmonize with the political and economic reforms our government is initiating. The Union ministers and the region/ state chief ministers presented priorities lists of sectors and areas in need of foreign aids at today’s meeting. As five-year plan, development plans and steps of the reform strategy were discussed yesterday, the Union ministers and the region/state governments would be informed of strengths and weaknesses for sector-wise and region-wise development as well as priorities for five-year development. In picking out prioritized sectors and areas to get foreign aids depending on development plan and reform strategy, (1) sectoral priorities from the economic point of view are agricultural development, industrial development and rural development and urbanization; (2) priorities from the point of view of foreign aids sectors of short-term five-year project from the point of view of Gross Domestic Product and services are forestry, agriculture and energy; (3) priorities from the point of view of region and states, from the point of view of region-wise development plan are Kayah State, Shan State and Ayeyawady Region; (4) priorities, which are also areas with high poverty indexes from the point of view of poverty index are Chin State, Kayah State and Kayin State; (5) priorities from the point of view of socio-economic requirements of the people are electricity sector development, communications sector development and financial sector development; and (6) priorities from the point of view of national reconciliation are Kachin, Shan, Kayin, Mon, Chin and Rakhine States. It must designate prioritized sectors and areas, negotiate with donor countries and organizations, supervise the use of foreign aids constantly and survey two million workers in Thailand have been given the necessary evidences. The registration of the children is granted to extend their stay period up to December 2012. The evidences are to be issued to employees in time. All the tasks are to be based on national outlook through people center strategy and all inclusive strategy, joining hands with the partner organizations. First five working groups of Myanmar has discharged duties in Thailand for four months so as to cover the discharged workers. Therefore, they will be substituted with 40 personnel. The five-day refresh course for care programme to Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand has been conducted for five working groups at Myanmar Passport Issuance Office (Yankin) and Ministry of Labour in Nay Pyi Taw. The training course comprises citizenship scrutiny, issuance of temporary Myanmar passport, procedures of issuing foreign employee IDs, rules and regulations, information for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, care for migrant workers, prevention against human trafficking, financial statement, labour laws, rules and current task.
Thai entrepreneurs to meet with Myanmar entrepreneurs

YANGON, 20 June—Under the arrangement of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Economic Counsellor Office (Yangon) of Thai Embassy in Myanmar, a total of 55 Thai entrepreneurs led by Mr. Panyungskul Chartiatsupol, Chairman of Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) will meet Myanmar entrepreneurs at the UMFCCI Office Tower in Lanmadaw Township from 10 am to 12 noon tomorrow.

Naung Oo

Medical servicemen provide health care services to people at relief camp in Sittway

NAV PYI TAW, 20 June—Servicemen from the Directorate of Medical Services of the Commander-in-Chief’s Office and medical servicemen of the local medical battalion in Sittway gave health care services to the people at the relief camp in Sittway on 19 and 20 June.

At 9 am yesterday, the medical services provided medical check-up to the people at the relief camp in Shwezetky Monastery in Kyauknet Road of Sittway and presented necessary health care services to them. The medical servicemen broadened the horizon of the people at the relief camp in Thechaung Village and gave talks on prevention against fever and dysentery and distributed pamphlets on health knowledge.

Today, the members of the medical services provided health care services to the people at the relief camp in the precinct of Buddhahawm Monastery in North Model Village of Sittway and gave health knowledge to them.

MNA

Books, publications donated to library in Twantay Township

YANGON, 20 June—The book donation was held at Thatha Shweppy Library in Pathi (East) Village of Pathi Village-tract in Twantay Township on 27 May morning.

After the Township Administrator had delivered a speech, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Than Zaw, Head of Township IPRD U Thet Oo explained durability of the library meeting five-point standard and increase of books.

After that, Myanmar Libraries Foundation donated 150 books, Chairperson of Town’s Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Zargyi Lin Myint K 10,000 and 50 books, wellwisher U Saw Naung-Daw Yin Yin Shwe family K 5000. The librarian accepted the donations.

The library was built at a cost of K 500,000 by MLP and K 2 million by U Saw Naung-Daw Yin Yin Shwe of Pathi Village.

The library building was opened by Township Administrator U Than Zaw Han, Head of Township IPRD U Thet Oo, Chairperson of Township WAO Daw Zargyi Win Myint and Village Administrator U Saw Naung.—Township IPRD

Myanma Alin

Lashio plans to grow over 200,000 saplings

LASHIO, 20 June—The rainy season tree growing ceremony for 2012 was held in Lashio on 5 June in commemoration of the World Environment Day. Three teak saplings and 20 hardwood plants were distributed to each houses of Lashio. Thus, a total of 36,600 hardwood plants, 300 Eucalyptus plants and 9000 teak saplings were grown along the communication road.

Moreover, a total of 176,100 saplings were distributed to regiments and units, departments, schools and social organizations.

Ma Ma-Lashio

Cash assistance given to farmers in Pyawbwe Township

PYAWBWE, 20 June—A ceremony to present cash assistance for lost of farmlands and crops of farmers located in the area of Natka Dam was held at the hall of Basic Education Primary School in Kaupsa Village of Pyawbwe Township on 15 June.

The dam is aimed at irrigating 1200 acres of farmlands in Pyawbwe Township of Mandalay Region. At first, Mandalay Region Hluttaw representative U Tin Oo of Pyawbwe Township gave a speech. Assistant Director of Irrigation Department explained completion of land preparation work and providing of cash assistance.

At the ceremony, officials presented K 20,688 million for 103.44 acres of farmlands to 92 farmers with the rate of K 200,000 per acre.

On 16 May, the cash assistance K 17 million for 85 acres of farmlands have been provided to 47 farmers in Kyi Village of the township.—Myanma Alin

School uniforms provided to students

School uniforms provided to students of vendors

DEBAY, 20 June—Dedaye Township Development Affairs Committee gave school uniforms to offspring of vendors of No 1 Myanmar Market for 2012-2013 academic year, at the office of the Township DAC on 9 June morning.

At the ceremony, Executive Officer U Aung Zaw Lin of Township DAC explained the purpose of providing the school uniforms. Officials presented school uniforms worth K 242,000 to 35 students.—Township GAD

DSCC ISSUED: At Sabie Hall of No 5 Basic Education High School in Mayangon Township on 15 June, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Kyaw Nyunt, Deputy Director of Yangon West District Immigration and National Registration Department U Yin Hlwe and party supervise issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to the local people.—Myanma Alin

LASHIO PLANS: Tree growing ceremony held in Kyaukme Township

KYAUKME, 20 June—In commemoration of the World Environment Day, Kyaukme District and Township Forest Department held the tree growing ceremony near Mongtin Village of Kyaukme Township on 5 June.

Deputy Commissioner U Khin Maung Lay of District General Administration Department, Assistant Director of District Forest Department U Zaw Oo, Chairperson of District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Lwin Lwin Maw and party, Township Administrator U Kyaw Naing, Staff Officer U Win Aung of Township Forest Department and staff, departmental personnel, social organization members and local people participated in the cultivation of 500 saplings.

After that, the deputy commissioner, the assistant director of District Forest Department and the township administrator awarded the prize winning students in the essay contest to mark the World Environment Day.

Myanma Alin

COOKERY COURSE HELD: Shan traditional meal cookery course, jointly conducted by Yangon South District and Township Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, was held at the pre-primary school of the township association in Thanlyin Township. On 8 June, Chairperson of District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Ohnma Nyo Tin and party view activities of the course.—Township MCMW

DISTRICT NEWS
Long-grumbling Alaska volcano has explosive ash burst

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, 20 June — A remote Aleutian volcano that has been restless for the past year rumbled to life on Tuesday, shooting a thin cloud of ash several miles into the sky, which could pose a slight hazard to aircraft, Alaska scientists said. Cleveland Volcano, a 5,676-foot (1,730 metre) peak on an uninhabited island 940 miles southwest of Anchorage, had an explosive eruption at about 2:05 pm local time, the Alaska Volcano Observatory reported. A pilot flying in the area estimated that the ash cloud rose to 35,000 feet above sea level, reported the observatory, which is a joint federal-state organization that monitors Alaska’s numerous active volcanoes.

China’s manned submersible reaches 6,965 metres under sea

Aboard Xiangyanghong 09, 20 June — China’s manned deep-sea submersible, the Jiaolong, reached a depth of 6,965 metres below sea level on Tuesday during its second dive into the Mariana Trench, surpassing a fresh national record set earlier in the day. The vessel sat on the sea bed and started working at that depth.

This was the second second-bottom for Tuesday’s dive. The previous one reached a depth of 6,908 metres below sea level, where sea drivers collected water samples and placed markers.

An aerial photograph shows the Cleveland Volcano during the time a small lava flow, or dome, was accumulating in the summit crater as the 660 foot wide summit crater of the Cleveland volcano condense cloud in this 8 Aug, 2011 file photo. — Reuters

Anxiously, the Jiaolong, which had been in a standby mode waiting for orders, was soon deployed into the trench. By Tuesday afternoon, the Jiaolong had reached a depth of 6,965 metres below sea level in the first dive, well surpassing the previous record of 5,188 metres made last July. The Jiaolong will attempt four more dives, aiming to move deeper and deeper to pursue the goal of reaching 7,000 metres below the sea level between mid-June and early July. The Xiangyanghong 09, the vessel’s oceanographic mother ship, reached the designated dive zone in the Mariana Trench on 11 June.

The Xiangyanghong 09, the mother ship of China’s manned deep-sea submersible, the Jiaolong, sails in the sea after the Jiaolong completed a successful dive at the Marian Trench, on 19 June, 2012. Xinhua

Three men in Afghan police uniforms kill NATO soldier

KABUL, 20 June — Three men in Afghan police uniforms killed a soldier with the US-led NATO coalition on Monday, said, in the latest so-called “green-on-blue” attack. The three attackers fled after the killing, NATO’s Internationa l Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a statement, and are being sought.

Monday’s attack is the first time men in Afghan police uniforms have killed NATO soldiers since two Afghan police officers killed two British soldiers in southern Helmand province in May.

An increasing number of Afghan troops have started using weapons against NATO soldiers who are helping Kabul fight a decade-long insurgency by hardline Taliban Islamists. Some of the assaults are claimed by the Taliban, who say they have infiltrated the ranks of Afghan security forces, but many are attributed to cultural differences and antagonism between the allied forces.

ISAF has taken several security measures in response to the shootings, including assigning “guardian angels” soldiers who watch over their comrades as they sleep. NATO has around 130,000 soldiers fighting alongside some 350,000 Afghan security personnel against the Taliban-led insurgency, but they are due to pull out of the country in 2014. The Western coalition is to hand over security in the war-torn country to local forces by mid-2013 and will play a support role up to the final withdrawal by the end of 2014. — Internet

Israeli police stage drill ahead of Ulpana outpost evacuation

JERUSALEM, 20 June — Israeli Police held a large-scale exercise on Monday simulating the evacuation of the Ulpana outpost in the West Bank, which the authorities fear may turn violent due to the settlers’ refusal to leave the area. The five buildings that make up the outpost are slated for demolition on Sunday, July 1. July, after the High Court of Justice ruled that the outpost was illegally built on private Palestinian land.

Security forces are training for possible confrontations, as many may have to deal with groups of right-wing settlers that would try to foil the demolitions, Ha’aretz daily reported.

The 30 families that live in the outpost are gearing up for a fight, building perimeter barricades, and collecting tires, wooden boards, metal bars, sacks of cement and other implements, all meant to stave off police and soldiers who will arrive to carry out the illegal structures. Activists from the settler movement gave out leaflets this week with tips on how to protect the evictions, including infiltrating army bases to convince troops not to take part in the operation.

Police opened fire on them. As many as 100 police officers killed two individuals in Afghan police uniforms since two Afghan police officers killed two British soldiers in southern Helmand province in May. An increasing number of Afghan troops have started using weapons against NATO soldiers who are helping Kabul fight a decade-long insurgency by hardline Taliban Islamists. Some of the assaults are claimed by the Taliban, who say they have infiltrated the ranks of Afghan security forces, but many are attributed to cultural differences and antagonism between the allied forces.

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Activists from the settler movement gave out leaflets this week with tips on how to protect the evictions, including infiltrating army bases to convince troops not to take part in the operation. Ulpana’s evacuees are slated to be transferred to temporary housing on a defunct army base about one kilometer away, where about 40 so-called “caravilla” portable homes are being installed. Monday’s drill is the biggest since the Gaza disengagement operation in 2005, when thousands of policemen and soldiers pulled some 9,000 residents out of several dozen towns in the coastal strip. — Xinhua

A rescue diver communicates with a diver at the Shiqiaohe Reservoir in Pu’an County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 18 June, 2012. A minivan carrying 15 passengers fell into the Shiqiaohe Reservoir at about 2:35 pm on 17 June. One person has been confirmed dead and eight others remaining missing. — Xinhua

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Three men in Afghan police uniforms kill NATO soldier

KABUL, 20 June — Three men in Afghan police uniforms killed a soldier with the US-led NATO coalition on Monday, said, in the latest so-called “green-on-blue” attack. The three attackers fled after the killing, NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a statement, and are being sought.

Monday’s attack is the first time men in Afghan police uniforms have killed NATO soldiers since two Afghan police officers killed two British soldiers in southern Helmand province in May. An increasing number of Afghan troops have started using weapons against NATO soldiers who are helping Kabul fight a decade-long insurgency by hardline Taliban Islamists. Some of the assaults are claimed by the Taliban, who say they have infiltrated the ranks of Afghan security forces, but many are attributed to cultural differences and antagonism between the allied forces.

ISAF has taken several security measures in response to the shootings, including assigning “guardian angels” soldiers who watch over their comrades as they sleep. NATO has around 130,000 soldiers fighting alongside some 350,000 Afghan security personnel against the Taliban-led insurgency, but they are due to pull out of the country in 2014. The Western coalition is to hand over security in the war-torn country to local forces by mid-2013 and will play a support role up to the final withdrawal by the end of 2014. — Internet

Activists from the settler movement gave out leaflets this week with tips on how to protect the evictions, including infiltrating army bases to convince troops not to take part in the operation. Ulpana’s evacuees are slated to be transferred to temporary housing on a defunct army base about one kilometer away, where about 40 so-called “caravilla” portable homes are being installed. Monday’s drill is the biggest since the Gaza disengagement operation in 2005, when thousands of policemen and soldiers pulled some 9,000 residents out of several dozen towns in the coastal strip. — Xinhua

A rescue diver communicates with a diver at the Shiqiaohe Reservoir in Pu’an County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, on 18 June, 2012. A minivan carrying 15 passengers fell into the Shiqiaohe Reservoir at about 2:35 pm on 17 June. One person has been confirmed dead and eight others remaining missing. — Xinhua
Three killed, 35 injured as school bus hit by bomb in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 20 June — At least three people were killed and 35 others injured when a roadside planted bomb hit a university school bus in Pakistan’s southwest city of Quetta on Monday morning.

A local TV channel Geo quoted hospital sources as saying at least 12 out of the injured people were in critical condition and the death toll may further rise.

According to Geo sources in Quetta and local media reports, the blast took place at about 8:20 am local time when a bus carrying 52 students from Balochistan IT University was passing along the Quetta-Spinboldak road.

The blast killed three and injured 35 students, hospital sources said.

“Police have not made any arrest, but witnesses told local media that a man wearing a black t-shirt was seen near the site of the blast,” Geo reported.

The police have appealed to people to come forward with any information.

New Zealand economic recovery to be slower, longer than expected

WELLINGTON, 20 June — New Zealand’s economic recovery is expected to be slower and to take longer than previously thought due to weak global demand and the worsening European debt crisis, according to the country’s economists.

The economic growth rate of 1.2 percent in the year ending March this year and by 3.1 percent in the year to March 2014, the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) announced on Monday in its Consensus Forecasts.

The Consensus Forecasts, which gives the average forecasts from seven major banks, the NZIER, the Treasury and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ), said the results reflected the “subdued domestic economy and large global risks.””Global demand is aemic and the European debt crisis is going to be slower. This is creating uncertainty and a weak demand, which means business cannot raise prices much, so inflation is low,” “said a report.

Police have not made any arrest, but witnesses told local media that a man wearing a black t-shirt was seen near the site of the blast.

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Europe needs comprehensive plan to bolster growth: IMF

WASHINGTON, 20 June — Europe needs a comprehensive plan to revive its economic growth in a bid to help break the vicious cycle that has kept many countries stuck in a simpering crisis, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Monday. Allan said in a paper.

“Unprecedented actions have been taken by European countries and institutions to deal with severe economic and financial stresses plaguing the region,” the paper entitled “Fostering Growth in Europe” said, adding that the pan-European level, risks and contagion have been contained by steps of strengthening of the firewall, comprehensive European Central Bank liquidity support and a new fiscal compact.

However, without a clear path for recovery of employment and economic growth, which was tepid even before the crisis, it was hard to see fiscal revenues recovering, the IMF said.

With fixed fiscal ratios declining, the weakened financial sector regaining bank vulnerability,” the paper said.

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Cars on both sides of road strike gator

Motorists in Florida said an approximately 12-foot long alligator struck vehicles on both sides of Interstate 2 before dying at the side of the road.

Bruce and Esther Foley said they were traveling at 70 mph in their new Scion on Interstate 275 on 16 June, when they saw a truck run over the tail of an alligator that then made a mad dash for their own passenger-side door, the Tampa Bay (Fla.) Times reported.

“Like a battering ram,” said Bruce Foley, 41, who was driving the car.

Foley said he pulled over and saw the gator collide with at least one more vehicle before succumbing to the traffic.

Verna Christopherson, 79, who was headed home to St Petersburg with her son, Mark, said both her car and the reptile launched a few feet into the air after the impact.

There were no serious injuries reported.

Trapper Vernon Yates, who was not called to the incident, estimated the 12-foot reptile could have weighed 1,000 pounds and may have been an older male out searching for a mate.

Officials said the gator died at the side of the road.

Without Michael, Jacksons prepare to tour

Burbank, 20 June—Guided by a thumping bass line from their backing band, the Jackson brothers strode forward to a row of four microphones, thrusting their pelvises along the way, before launching into “Can’t Let Her Get Away,” a song their superstar sibling released on his “Dangerous” album. If they had affro and matching powder blue suits, it might feel like 1997 again.

It doesn’t. They’re casually sporting sunglasses, workout gear and a few more pounds than when they, along with the future King of Pop, were simply known as the Jackson 5. (Also, “Can’t Let Her Get Away” was released in 1991 after the group retired).

Nearly three years since Michael died while preparing for his comeback tour, four of his brothers — Marlon, Jermaine, Tito and Jackie — are preparing for their own return to the stage.

“Both brothers don’t know this, but I’ve broken down several times and cried during rehearsals,” said Jermaine during a recent rehearsal break on a soundstage in Burbank, Calif. “I’m so used to Michael being on the right and then Marlon, Jackie, and on and on. It’s just something we never get used to.”

Actor Nick Stahl attends the premiere of his film “Sleepwalking” at the Eccles Theater during the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah on 22 Jun, 2008.

Internet

Man sues state over deer attack

A California man is suing the state Department of Fish and Game, claiming a “misanaged” wild deer attacked him, a court document shows. Thadeusz Wyrzykowski of Bolinas said in his lawsuit that he suffered injuries from falling into a window after deer jumped into his fenced yard last spring and “attacked me (twice) on a narrow path.”

Atc heking for unspecified damages, he wrote in his filing that the wildlife department’s “misanaged laboriously negligent in its animal’s claims & duties.”

A case management conference was scheduled for 19 Oct in Marin Superior Court, the Marin Independent Journal reported on 18 June. The newspaper said Wyrzykowski filed another handwritten lawsuit in federal court last year against the Marin County Assessor-Recorder’s Office over the county’s efforts to collect overdue property taxes from him, in which he described himself as an “independent dignity ambassador” and “creator/scholar/artist.” Deputy County Counsel Edward Kierman called that suit full of “nonsensical, irrelevant non sequitors” and “legally meaningless and pointless facts.”

That suit was dismissed, the newspaper noted.

Vampire Hunter’ shown on aircraft carrier

Los Angeles, 20 June—Actors Benjamann Walker and Tracy Letts attend a preview screening of “Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter” aboard a Navy aircraft carrier in the Middle East.

The horror flick imagines the 16th president of the United States as an exiled, 19th Century Fox said.

“The crew of the USS Abraham Lincoln was very happy that Twentieth Century Fox and Navy Entertainment hosted the movie’s cast and crew out to the ship. We had a great time watching the movie, meeting the cast and more importantly showing them why we are out here supporting operations in the 5th Fleet area of responsibility. From watching flight ops to signing autographs, the [Navy] crew had a fun time getting to know the cast and crew,” Lt. Cmdr Steven Curry, USS Abraham Lincoln public affairs officer for the USS Abraham Lincoln, said in a statement on Thursday.

Internet

Cloney, Heslov producing ‘August’

LOS ANGELES, 20 June—Guided by a thumping bass line from their backing band, the Jackson brothers strode forward to a row of four microphones, thrusting their pelvises along the way, before launching into “Can’t Let Her Get Away,” a song their superstar sibling released on his “Dangerous” album. If they had affro and matching powder blue suits, it might feel like 1997 again.

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With the upcoming screen adaptation of the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play “August: Osage County” by Tracy Letts, Academy Award winners Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts star as mother and daughter in a family saga that will be directed by John Wells from Letts’ screenplay.

“George and I are gifted producers, with great taste and instincts, and a work ethic that is second to none,” TCF chief Harvey Weinstein said in a statement. “I was personally wanted them on board as their talent is a perfect fit for a film of this artistic caliber. We are delighted to welcome them to the ‘August: Osage County’ team, and feel very lucky to have them.”

Internet

Superman license plates drop ‘birthplace’

Ohio officials said they are seeking alternate slogans for a Superman-themed license plate that DC Comics did not want to say “Birthplace of Superman.” State Rep Bill Patmon, D-Cleveland, said officials wanted a Superman plate to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Man of Steel, but DC Comics and Warner Communications objected to the “birthplace” slogan because it might cause confusion about the fictional character’s origins on the planet Krypton. The Cleveland Plain Dealer reported on 18 June that the Siegel and Shuster Society, which was created to honor the Superman’s Cleveland creators, Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, said they come up with a list of alternate slogans for the license plates. “DC and Warner Brothers have been cooperative,” Steve Siegel, son of Michael Siegel, said. “When we talked to their parent company, Warner Communications, there was some discomfort over saying ‘birthplace,’ so we said we could fix that easily.”

Internet

Moss, Arkapaw together?

Sydney, 20 June—Actress Elizabeth Moss has gone public with her relationship with Australian cinematographer Adam Arkapaw.

The two reportedly met through common friends and came to Sydney after a brief vacation. They were spotted together at the recently held Sydney Film Festival, where Moss was a surprise guest.

“They looked very much an item and very happy,” nypost.com quoted a source as saying.

Moss separated from her ex-husband actor Fred Armisen in 2011.

Internet

Justin Bieber hires chauffeur for Gomez

Los Angeles, 20 June—Teen sensation Justin Bieber hired a helicopter for girlfriend Selena Gomez so that they could enjoy some quality time together in Toronto. The couple was in the city to attend MuchMusic Video Awards and both of them took sometime out from the Trumpet City to go on a romantic ride.

Bieber, 18, rented a chopper Saturday to take Gomez, 19, over the falls and to Stratford, Ontario. Their sky-high rendezvous was “a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was "a sky-high rendezvous was “a beautiful romantic night. The couple were very excited to be together at the recently held Sydney Film Festival, where Moss was a surprise guest.

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Internet
England, France complete heavyweight last eight

Kiev, 20 June — England and France took the last places in a heavyweight final eight at Euro 2012 on Tuesday, with Ukraine joining co-hosts Poland on the sidelines after a 1-0 loss to the English.

Shevchenko to retire from international football

Donetsk, 20 June — Ukraine striker Andriy Shevchenko announced he will retire from international football after his country’s elimination from Euro 2012 with a 1-0 defeat by England on Tuesday. Shevchenko, the finest player Ukraine has produced since independence from the Soviet Union, told reporters he intends to say farewell in a friendly game before making any decision to leave the national team duty.

UEFA hails Ukraine, Poland Euro 2012 success

Kiev, 20 June — UEFA President Michel Platini expressed his satisfaction with the arrangements of Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine.

Lambert: Fans key to Villas success

London, 20 June — New Aston Villa boss Paul Lambert says the club’s fans are the key to success in the new Barclays Premier League season.

Wimbledon champ Kvitova ousted, Roddick advances

Eastbourne, (England), 20 June — Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova was among the top three women’s seeds to fall in the first round of the Eastbourne Championships.

Internet

International Sports

Eugene, (Oregon), 20 June — Watching American Ashton Eaton compete to set a new world record during the world indoor athletics championships at the Anokey Athletics Arena in Istanbul on 24 March, 2012. — Reuters

American Eaton ready to chase decathlon record

Eugene, (Oregon), 20 June — Watching American Ashton Eaton compete to set a new world record during the world indoor athletics championships at the Anokey Athletics Arena in Istanbul on 24 March, 2012. — Reuters

Paul Lambert enjoyed a successful first Barclays Premier League season with Norwich City. Internet

Internet
Nepal launches drones to combat poachers

KATHMANDU, 20 June—Conservationists in Nepal are to send drone aircraft into the skies in the battle to save the Himalayan nation’s endangered tigers and rhinos from poachers.

WWF Nepal said it had successfully tested two unmanned “conservation drones” earlier this month in Chitwan National Park, in Nepal’s southern plains, the home of a number of the world’s rarest animals. The remote-controlled aircraft, being used for the first time in Nepal, would monitor the animals and poachers via cameras and GPS to capture images and video, the organisation said in a statement earlier this week.

The aircraft, with a two-metre (6.5-foot) wing span and a range of 25 kilometres (15.5 miles), can stay in the air for 45 minutes, flying at an altitude of up to 200 metres.

“WWF Nepal has been introducing new science and technology to aid ongoing conservation efforts in Nepal. The conservation drones are the latest addition,” said Anil Myint and farmers participated in the discussions.

Win and staff, Zalaung Village-tract Administrator U Tun Win and staff, Zalaung Village-trace Administrator U Tun Myint and farmers participated in the discussions.

The Anglo-Australian mining giant Rio Tinto has been confirmed as the top seed in this year’s men’s singles at the AllEngland Club, while French Open winner Maria Sharapova is the top seed in the women’s singles.

Serbian’s Djokovic, the current world number one, was beaten by Rafael Nadal in the French Open final earlier this month, but he retains the top seeding ahead of the second seeded Sharapova.

Djokovic’s defeat to Nadal in Paris marked the end of a run of three successive grand slam final victories over the world number two, which started when he won Wimbledon for the first time last year.

Six-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer is seeded third as he seeks to win a grand slam for the first time since the 2010 Australian Open.

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Djokovic, Sharapova top seeds at Wimbledon

LONDON, 20 June—Defending Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic has been confirmed as the top seed in this year’s men’s singles at the AllEngland Club, while French Open winner Maria Sharapova is the top seed in the women’s singles.

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Chief Justice of the Union receives Director of Research and Right to Development Division of OHCHR

NAVPyTaw, 20 June—Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo received a delegation led by Director Ms Marcia Kran of Research and Right to Development Division of the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Right (OHCHR) at the hall of Union Supreme Court this morning. Also present at the call were Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union U Tha Hay, U Soe Nyunt, U Mya Thein, U Myint Han and officials.—MNA

Union Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo receives Director Ms Marcia Kran of Research and Right to Development Division of OHCHR.—MNA

Union Education Minister calls for focusing on Myanmar history lessons

NAYPYIDAW, 20 June—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye made a speech today at the concluding of a workshop on promotion of education sector at the Ministry of Education here this morning. The Union Minister called for focusing on disciplined citizens with good moral standard. He thanked the scholars for their pearls of wisdom to the workshop. The Union Minister cordially greeted retired scholars and doyen faculty members.

Cash and foodstuffs donated for Rakhine State dwellers

YANGON, 20 June—The local residents in Rakhine State have lost properties on account of present situation in their State. That’s why, well-wishers are continuously providing cash and foodstuffs to relieve their sufferings. Today morning, a ceremony to provide cash and foodstuffs to those was held at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township.

At the ceremony, Col Aung Myint (Rtd) + Daw Ohnmar family in Yangon donated K 2.5 million, Skills Development Foundation K 1 million, Amyotha Hlutaw Representative U Aung Nyin of Magway Region Constituency-2 and wife Daw San San Lwin family and U Aung Kyaw Soe (Kyephyu Rice Mill-Taikkyi) K 100,000 each, U Maung Maung Than and Daw Khin Win Yi family K 500,000, U Myo Win Hlaing (Director) of Myamna Ahwa 1000 dozens of exercise books worth K 3 million, U Thein Aung and wife Daw Khin Khin Thein family K 100,000, U Khin Maung Than + Daw Myat Yadanar family K 30,000, Ko Khin Maung Thet + Ma Aye Aye Lwin family K 100,000, Daw Khin Lay Mar family K 50,000, UKyaw Kyaw and well-wisher family three packages of clothes, U Tin Htut + Daw Naing Myint family K 100,000, Chairman U Hla Maung of Pulses, Maize and Sesame Merchant Association of Muse, Ko Min Min (U Hla Hlaing and Sons Co., Ltd), Ko Sein Win (Maung Sein Win and Brothers Co., Ltd) and Ko Naing Win (Myinton Co., Ltd) K 0.5 million each, U Than Htay Oo (Shwe Se Tun Co., Ltd) and U Khin Maung Aye of ICTC School K 0.3 million each, Ko Kyaw Khin (Shwe Hnya Co., Ltd) and Daw Yin Kyu Hwan of Kyemen Co., Ltd K 0.2 million each, Merchant Ko Thet Soe, Ko Kin and Ko Bo (Phyo Maik Thar Tea House) of Kyarparan Co., Ltd K 100,000 each, U Kyaw Zwa, Daw Khin Khin Htay family seven packages of clothes, dishes and 15 foodstuffs in total to Director-General U Tin Moe of Fire Services Department and officials. They gave certificates of honour to them and spoke words of thanks. So far, K 134,387,376 has been donated.—MNA

Public Notice

1. Ministry of Health is enforcing National Food Law to ensure the people the quality and safe food.
2. Processed rancid oils are found among cooking oils illegally exported through Shan State (North).
3. Ministry of Health would like to warn that these oils are not legally exported.

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Umbrella charges cellphone, boosts signal

England, France complete heavyweight last eight