Government speeds up national development strategy reforms for flourishing of social environment where people can do well apart from rise in GDP figures

Government builds Myanmar society where equality and harmony flourish by reinforcing social protection amidst rapid reforms

Nay Pyi Taw, 25 June—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein delivered an address at the opening ceremony of Social Protection Conference held at Grand Ballroom of Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone, here, at 8.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Union Ministers, Hluttaw Committee members, deputy ministers, region and state ministers, departmental heads, representatives of UNICEF (Myanmar), experts from international community, representatives of NGOs, guests and officials.

On the occasion, the President said:

Today’s Social Protection Conference is a national level meeting. We hope this conference will produce sound results that can be linked with reform strategy for national development.

In fact, the word “Social Protection” has a broader meaning and to realize it the international organizations including the UN, other organizations such as NGOs, and internal and external humanitarian organizations have an important role in social protection coverage. Because of the inequalities stemming from class disparity and income distribution gap, the vulnerable in our country are facing difficulties.

It is now implementing the strategy. Our country’s poverty rate is still high when compared with regional counterparts, and all-round socio-economic development of low-income people is our priority task. As microeconomic level socio-economic development has relations with stable and sound macro economy, we are implementing macroeconomic reform strategy as a second priority. The basic need of every citizen is comprehensive health care as well as income security or in other words job security. This requirement calls for opportunities such as the access to education and social security. The government has been enacting new laws, amending the existing ones and revoking out-of-date laws as necessary to promote rights of workers and farmers and holding workshops on the establishment of a universal health insurance system for low-income rural people. We are in the process of enacting a law to fix minimum wage for workers to enjoy basic social rights they deserve.

Government has already speeded up our national development strategy reforms for flourishing of a social environment where people can do well apart from rise in GDP figures. During the past few weeks, we have explained in detail the means to implement the Second Wave Reform Strategy. We firmly believe we can collectively build a Myanmar society where equality and harmony flourish by reinforcing social protection amidst the rapid reforms.

(See page 8)
Coordinating meeting with UN Agencies and NGOs focuses on fulfillment to needs of locals in Rakhine State

NAV PYI TAW, 25 June—A coordinating meeting between UN Agencies and international non-governmental organizations on assistance programme to locals who lost their houses and properties due to the recent unrest in Rakhine State, was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Border Affairs this morning. It was attended by Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and for Labour U Aung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win, UN Resident Coordinator and Representative Mr. Ashok Nigam and officials from UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, UNOCHA and resident representatives of Malteser International, ACF and officials concerned. Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay gave explanations on loss of villages in the recent unrest and asked the agencies for their fulfillment to the needs of the temporary relief camps. Union Minister U Aung Kyi presented the need for construction of tents at the relief camps. Afterwards, UN Resident Coordinator and Representative Mr. Ashok Nigam presented matters related to the tasks being carried out for the state as a priority and making more donations, UNHCR representative on plans to be carried out for the victims who were displaced to the relief camps, WFP representative on ongoing tasks or continuing-tasks for supply of foods to the victims, UNICEF Representative on plans to construct a new school building and plans on supply of refreshments and medical care, UNOCHA Representative on medical needs and water supply, Malteser International Representative on preventing against infectious disease, and official of ACF on plans for supply of purified drinking water.

After hearing the reports, Union Minister Lt-Gen Thein Htay gave a concluding remark citing that the agencies should fulfill the needs as much as possible. It is sure that the agencies are going to supply needs of the victims of Rakhine State.

Myanmar cotton and silkware costume show, hairstyle show, entertainment held in Myeik

NAV PYI TAW, 25 June—Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day 2012, Myanmar cotton and silkware show, hairstyle show and entertainment, organized by Myeik District Women’s Affairs Organization, was held at Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik yesterday evening. Chairperson Daw Phyu Phyu Win of Myeik District WAO delivered an address. Next, youngest girls sang the song, hailing Myanmar Women’s Day. The basic education students entertained with songs, Myanmar cultural and Myanmar traditional dances. Then, Myeik University students performed local made Myanmar cotton and silkware costume show. Afterwards, Myeik Township WAO presented hairstyle show of Myanmar women.

Magway Region monsoon tree planting ceremony (second week) held

NAV PYI TAW, 25 June—Magway Region monsoon tree planting ceremony (second week) was held at Magway Technological University yesterday morning. The principal of Technological University, department officials, social organizations cultivated Gangaw trees. Next, region ministers, level departmental personnel, guests and students planted trees.

Today’s monsoon tree planting ceremony (second week) grew 1500 saplings.
**Muslim Brotherhood’s Morsi wins Egyptian presidency**

CARLSBAD, 25 June — Egypt’s Muslim Brotherhood’s candidate Mohamed Morsi has won the presidential election, head of Egypt’s Higher Presidential Election Commission (HPEC) Farouq Sultan announced on Sunday afternoon.

Morsi, now chairman of the Brotherhood’s Freedom and Justice Party, got 51.73 percent of all the votes in the run-off round, defeating his rival Ahmed Shafiq, who got 48.27 percent. According to the commission, Morsi won 13.23 million votes, while Shafiq got 12.35 million.

The eligible voters were 51 million, while the turnout was 51.8 percent, or 26.3 million, said Sultan.

Invalid votes were 834,252, he said, adding that the results in 13 sub-committees were cancelled after the commission reviewed the records of the submitted appeals. On his Twitter account, Morsi hailed the Army, police and Egypt’s lofty judiciary.

“An appreciative and respectful greeting to the integral, honest and fair Egypt’s judiciary and brave Army and police officers who protected the democratic process with honesty and congratulations for all Egyptians,” Morsi said. After hearing the news of Morsi’s victory, members of his campaign stood silent for one minute to mourn the death during last year’s torrent.

“We thank all the Egyptians, to them we are grateful to win the presidency and also our thanks are extended to Egyptian Army, judiciary and police,” said Ahmed Abdel Aaty, a senior judiciary and police, “and also our thanks are during last year’s turmoil.

Egyptians,” Morsi said. After receiving congratulations for all Egyptians, the president for all Egyptians.

**Turkey asks for int’l supports following Syria’s downsing of Turkish jet**

ANKARA, 25 June — Turkey has stepped up efforts to appeal article 4 of the NATO charter after Syria shot down its military aircraft, which triggered regional tension in the past few days.

“Our plane was shot down in international airspace, 13 nautical miles from Syria,” Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu told TRT television on Sunday, dismissing Syria’s claim that the plane was flying just 1 km off the Syrian coast when it was shot down. The Syrian state-run SANA news agency said on Friday that the plane was inside Syrian airspace when it was shot down.

“The plane unintentionally violated Syrian airspace, but returned to the Turkish airspace immediately upon the warning of Turkish radars,” the minister said. “Syria have created the impression that they felt like it was an act of aggression and they shot it down... From our perspective, that’s not the case,” Davutoglu said, stressing the plane was unarmed, not sending hostile signals, flying on a training mission and undertaking a national radar system test. The minister also dismissed Syria’s allegation that it only considered the aircraft as “an unidentified” at first and established its Turkish origin later.

Turkey has intercepted radio communications from the Syrian side, which suggested they knew it was a Turkish plane, the Turkish minister said. “We have both radar info and Syria’s radio communications,” Davutoglu said, adding there was no warning from Syria before it shot down the plane. — Xinhua

**Israel, India ink cooperation agreement to boost tourism**

JERUSALEM, 25 June — Indian and Israeli tourism ministers on Sunday signed a memorandum of understanding to further boost bilateral ties in tourism, with Israel opening a tourism office in Mumbai and increasing the number of El Al flights to the Asian country. During a Press conference in Jerusalem, Israeli Tourism Minister Stas Misezhnikov and his Indian counterpart, Minister Subodh Kant Sahai, announced that the main goal of this agreement is to increase tourism to and from Israel, India by half in the next three years. With over 40,000 Indian visitors per year to Israel, and equal number of Israeli citizens traveling to India, both ministers said they saw an opportunity to expand the tourism market between the two countries.

“About 50,000 Indians go to every country and the same number of Indians visit Israel. We want to double this number in three years through mutual cooperation,” Misezhnikov said during the conference. And to double the number, Israel will open a new tourism office in Mumbai and will construct 200,000 new hotel rooms as well as increase the number of El Al flights, the Israeli air carrier, from three times a week to one per day. “We are also looking into opening new El Al destinations, such as Kolkata and New Delhi, and to convince other air carriers to open more routes between our countries,” Misezhnikov said. — Xinhua

**News Analysis: Putin’s visit to Israel more symbolic than strategic**

JERUSALEM, 25 June — Iran’s nuclear programme will be at the top of the agenda in Israeli officials meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin, who will arrive in Israel on Monday for a day’s official visit. With close business ties with Iran and as a regional power, Putin is expected to further improve ties between the two countries.

However, analysts told Xinhua that all the main issues to be discussed at the head-of-state-level meetings have already been dealt with in lower level preparatory meetings held months ago, and no drastic changes are likely. “I don’t think that there will be any very serious political discussions during this one-day visit; mainly it will be a ceremonial visit,” Dr Baruch Gur-Gurevitch of the University of Haifa told Xinhua on Sunday. “There will be a short meeting in which some political matters will be discussed. In general there will be a bit on Syria and a bit on Iran but it won’t be a very important political visit,” he added.

The situation in Syria, which continues to look more and more like a civil war, is of lesser interest to Israel, although Israel and Russia share a concern the conflicts in the country might spread and affect other nations in the region. — Xinhua

**Greek PM to miss EU summit due to eye surgery**

ATHENS, 25 June — Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras will not attend the forthcoming critical EU summit in Brussels on 28 June, as doctors advised him against air travel following an urgent eye surgery he underwent on Saturday. According to doctors by an Athens hospital, high altitude pressure could endanger the Premier’s eyesight following his right-eye retina detachment.

Foreign Minister Dimitris Avramopoulos will represent Greece at the summit, according to a Greek government spokesman announcement. Avramopoulos will be accompanied by outgoing Finance Minister Vorgos Zannias, Alternate Finance Minister Christos Staikouras and Development Minister Costis Hatzidakis. Incoming Finance Minister Vassilis Rapanos will also miss the summit, since he is still hospitalized following a faint episode and stomach disorder on Friday. Conservative New Democracy party leader Samaras heads a three-party pro-bailout coalition government which was formed on Thursday following 17 June general elections. — Xinhua

**Iraq’s Sadr demands reforms for support of PM**

BAGHDAD, 25 June — Cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, head of a powerful Shi’ite movement in Iraq, on Sunday called for more political reforms, saying he would back a no-confidence vote against the prime minister if they were not made. Sadr, a Shi’ite cleric who led uprisings against the US presence before American forces withdrew last December, is now an influential player in government after his bloc’s support of Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki helped secure his position.

“Our main demand and the last demand is reforms,” Sadr told journalists during a rare news conference at his family home in the Shi’ite holy city of Najaf, southern Iraq. “I said and I am still saying that there is a promise from me to the other blocs if the votes for (a no-confidence motion) reach 124, my 40 votes are with them. ’He did not elaborate on what kind of political reforms he would like to see and said he would only support a no-confidence vote provided it did not prove harmful to Iraqis. — Xinhua

**Taliban fighters attend a surrender ceremony in Kunduz Province, north of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 24 June, 2012. About 6 Taliban fighters gave up fighting and joined the government-initiated peace process in Afghanistan’s Kunduz Province on Sunday, the spokesman of the provincial government said.—Xinhua**

**Students and parents participate in the consultation session for college enrollment in Tianjin, north China, on 24 June, 2012. Tianjin University, Nankai University and all other learning institutions in Tianjin will hold campus open day since Sunday to receive students and parents who are concerned of college enrollment.—Xinhua**
Spacewalk to work on ISS scheduled

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 June—Facebook Inc (FB O) has begun showing ads on its Zynica Inc’s (ZNGA O) website, the first time the company has distributed ads beyond the borders of its own website and raising the possibility that Facebook could eventually launch an online advertising network.

“People may now see ads on the face of Zynica and other sites that it distributes ads on other sites,” said Tucker Bounds. He said that Facebook does not share information about people or advertisers with Zynica and that Facebook’s advertisers do not have any new “targeting criteria.”

Asked if Facebook was planning to create a full-blown online network that distributes ads on other sites, Bounds said “we are only showing ads on Zynica right now.” Zynica was not immediately available for comment.

Shares of Facebook, the world’s No. 1 social network, were up 4.4 percent to $33.25 in mid-afternoon trading on Friday. Facebook’s stock has been under pressure since its initial public offering last month, due in part to concerns about the company’s slowing revenue growth.

Facebook made most of its $3.77 billion revenue last year from ads that appear on its site.

An ad network could significantly increase the reach of Facebook ads, offering an important new source of revenue growth.

“This would allow them to pretty much hack into the brain,” said Low in a story about the project. He describes the research into biomarkers as an attempt to provide “a window into the brain.”

“We’re building technology that will allow humanity to have access to the human brain for the first time,” he said. “The emergence of such biomarkers opens the possibility to link intended movements to a library of words and convert them into speech, thus providing motor neuron sufferers with communication tools more dependent on the brain than on the body.”

UNSG’s Message on the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

26 June, 2012

Drug abuse and illicit trafficking continue to have a profoundly negative impact on development and stability across the world.

The billions of dollars generated from illicit drugs fuel terrorism activities and abet other crimes such as human trafficking and the smuggling of arms and people.

Illicit drugs and related criminal networks undermine the rule of law. And the impunity with which they go about their business causes tremendous fear and sows disillusion with governance at all levels.

Central America, for example, faces rising levels of violence fuelled by transnational organized crime and drug trafficking. The region is now home to the highest homicide rates in the world.

Development in Afghanistan is being hindered by the highest rates of opiate prevalence in the world. In parts of Myanmar, farmers are trapped by food insecurity compelling them to grow poppies as a cash crop.

The challenge is also greatly testing West and Central Africa, which lies along one of the main drug trafficking routes to Europe. With often weak and legal financial institutions, countries in the region are highly vulnerable.

Moreover, transit countries are no longer simply links in the chain of supply; they have become points of arrival. About half of the cocaine trafficked through West and Central Africa now remains in the region. Such changing patterns of drug consumption jeopardize hard won gains in sustainable development and good governance.

The drug, crime and corruption conventions of the United Nations form a solid basis for global solutions to these challenges. Together, these instruments offer a balanced approach to halt trafficking, promote viable alternative livelihoods and offer drug users their health and human rights.

Our efforts to promote development and fight drugs and crime will be more effective if they are rooted in partnerships with the young, civil society, governments and the international community. Working together, we can alleviate the suffering of millions and break the hold of drugs and crime on countries, communities and families.

‘Brain-hacking’ technology sought

LONDON, 25 June—Stanford University researchers say they are working on a device that would allow them to “pretty much hack” into the brain of British genius Stephen Hawking.

Professor Philip Low and his colleagues at Stanford in California have been working with the disabled British theoretical physicist to develop technology that would enable him to communicate with Hawking through brain waves. The Daily Telegraph reported on Sunday.

“We’d like to find a way to bypass his body, pretty much hack his brain,” said Low, who invented the iBrain, which detects brain waves and communicates with him via computer.

Hawking, 70, has motor neuron disease that robbed him of his ability to speak nearly 30 years ago. He uses a computer to communicate, and his condition is deteriorating.

The British newspaper said the researchers will provide an update on their work at a conference in Cambridge next month, and may demonstrate the technology on Hawking. Low describes the research into biomarkers as an attempt to provide “a window into the brain.”

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Pasta made from green banana flour offers tasty for gluten-free eaters

**Pasta: South Africans went with the global trend which said that pasta was their favourite food.**

Researchers compared a standard whole-wheat pasta preparation made from whole wheat flour and whole eggs with one made from green banana flour, egg whites, water, and gums. The researchers noted that the pasta, important because gluten removal typically reduces some proteins responsible for sensory characteristics of pasta products.

The egg whites and gum result in pasta that is less sticky than typical gluten-free pastas, and promote firmness, elasticity, moisture, and uniformity. The modified pasta decreased fat content by over 89 percent. This reduction is particularly important to patients with celiac disease, because many gluten-free products compensate for the removal of gluten with high levels of lipid content.

Vitiologists who did not have celiac disease and 25 celiac disease patients compared the pastas. In both groups, the modified pasta was better accepted than the standard pasta in aroma, flavor, texture, and overall quality, indicating that the product and eggs could be commercialized to a wider market than just those with celiac disease.

The modified pasta had a high quantity of resistant starch, which may help control glycemic indexes, cholesterol, intestinal regularity, and fermentation by intestinal bacteria.

“Considering that untreated celiac disease promotes cancer in intestinal cells and a highly inflammatory mucosal status, developing gluten-free products with bioactive compounds such as the ones present in green banana flour is important for celiac disease patients,” said Dr Zandonadi.

“Patients will benefit from ingesting a product with a better nutritional profile made from an ingredient that is produced and consumed throughout the world,” she added.

Their research has been published in the *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.*

**Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health**

**Stress is good for your immune system**

WASHINGTON, 25 June—Stress is bad for you—you’ve heard it a thousand times. But it can be good for your immune system, says a study.

Short-term stress, the fight-or-flight response, a mobilisation of bodily resources lasting minutes or hours in response to immediate threats — stimulates immune activity, said Firdaus Dhabhar, associate professor of psychiatry and behavioural sciences and member of the Stanford University Institute for Immunity, Transplantation, and Infection.

And that’s a good thing. The immune system is crucial for wound healing and preventing or fighting infection, and both wounds and infections are common risks during chases, escapes and combat, the *Journal of Psychoneuroendocrinology* reported.

Working with colleagues at Stanford and two other universities, Dhabhar showed that subjecting lab rats to mild stress caused a massive mobilization of several key types of immune cells into the bloodstream and then onto the skin and other tissues, according to a university statement.

This large-scale migration of immune cells, which took place over two hours, was comparable to the mustering of troops in acris, Dhabhar said. He and colleagues had previously shown that a similar immune-cell redistribution in patients experiencing the short-term stress of surgery predicts enhanced postoperative recovery.

Investigators were able to show that the massive redistribution of immune cells throughout the body was orchestrated by three major stress hormones released by the adrenal glands, in different amounts and at different times in response to a stress-inducing event. These hormones are the brain ‘call-to-arms’ to the rest of the body, Dhabhar said.

“Mother Nature gave us the fight-or-flight stress response to help us, not to kill us,” said Dhabhar, who has been conducting experiments for well over a decade on the effects of the major stress hormones on the immune system.

The findings paint a clearer picture of exactly how the mind influences immune activity.

“An impala’s immune system has no way of knowing that a lion is lurking in the grass and is about to pounce, but its brain does,” Dhabhar added.

**BMW, Toyota eye close partnership**

BERLIN, 25 June—Bayerische Motoren Werke and Toyota Motor Corp are planning to expand cooperation beyond green car technology and diesel engines, *Der Spiegel* magazine reported on Sunday, without citing any sources.

The German premium car maker agreed with the Japanese manufacturer last December to supply diesel engines to Toyota from 2014 in Europe and collaborate on lithium-ion battery research for electric cars.

Both companies have since been exploring other fields for cooperation and have now agreed several projects, Der Spiegel said without being more specific.

BMW Chief Executive Norbert Reithoffer and Toyota President Akio Toyoda will announce details in the near future, the magazine said.

A spokesman for Munich-based BMW declined to comment on the report. Last week, BMW’s joint venture to make hybrid car components with French auto maker PSA Peugeot Citroen was thrown into doubt by the prospect of deepening ties between PSA and Indian automotive rival Opel, a division of General Motors.—*Reuters*

GM is recalling 475,000 Chevy Cruze models due to the risk of an engine fire.—*Reuters*

More than 400K

**Chevy Cruzes recalled**

DETROIT, 25 June—General Motors on Friday recalled 413,418 Chevrolet Cruzes for a problem with the engine shield under the vehicle.

GM said a modification to the shield will keep liquids from becoming trapped in the engine compartment where they could start a fire. The recall affects 2011-12 model year vehicles built from September 2010 to May 2012 at Lordstown, Ohio.

Separately, GM will inspect all welds in the rear compartment of the recalled vehicles to make sure they were properly applied. The company said there could be weight problems in about 249 cars that may affect the fuel tank strap secondary brackets attachment to the floor and a sub-assembly to the rear floor pan.

GM said it is unaware of any crashes or injuries related to either problem. Only vehicles sold in the United States and Canada, and a few hundred exported to Israel, are affected.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began investigating the issue following two engine compartment fires. GM said the modification will take about 30 minutes and be performed at Chevrolet dealerships free of charge. Owners will begin receiving letters 11 July. **Reuter**

**Fructose may help improve blood sugar control in diabetics**

WASHINGTON, 25 June—Fructose may not be as bad for us as previously thought and it may even provide some benefit, a new study has suggested.

“Over the last decade, there have been connections made between fructose intake and rates of obesity,” Dr John Sievenpiper, a senior author of the study, said.

“However, this research suggests that the problem is likely one of overconsumption, not fructose,” Dr Sievenpiper said.

The study reviewed 18 trials with 209 participants who had Type 1 and 2 diabetes and found fructose significantly improved their blood sugar control.

The improvement was equivalent to what can be achieved with an oral antidiabetic drug. Even more promising, Dr Sievenpiper said, is that the researchers saw benefit even without adverse effects on body weight, blood pressure, uric acid (gout) or cholesterol.

Fructose, which is naturally found in fruit, vegetables and honey, is a simple sugar that together with glucose forms sucrose, the basis of table sugar. It is also found in high-fructose corn syrup, the most common sweetener in commercially prepared foods.

In all the trials they reviewed, participants were fed diets where fructose was incorporated or sprinkled on to test foods such as bread or coffee. The diets with fructose had the same amount of calories as the ones without.

“Attention needs to go back where it belongs, which is on the concept of moderation,” said Adrian Cosma, the lead author of the paper and a research assistant with Dr Sievenpiper. “We’re seeing that there may be benefit if fructose wasn’t significantly consumed in such large amounts,” Cosma said. “All negative attention on fructose-related harm draws further away from the issue of eating too many calories,” Cosma added.

**The Toyota logo is pictured on a Toyota car in Tokyo on 9 May, 2012.**

**The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 26 June, 2012 5**
Today is the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Every country in the world holds commemorative ceremonies. At the same time, I strongly believe that Regional Committee for Drug Abuse Control will hold ceremonies and activities on eradication of narcotic drugs across the country on extensive scale. In addition, ceremonies to destroy seized precursor chemicals and paraphernalia including narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, are being held in Yangon, Mandalay and Taunggyi.

Successful governments in Myanmar have addressed narcotic drug problems, based on their own capacity. A comprehensive 15-year National Plan (1999-2000 to 2013 to 2014) was laid down. Setting eradication of narcotic drugs as national duty, the two strategies namely development of the life of national races and totally eradication of narcotic drugs, have been implemented through three tactics—supply eradication, demand eradication and law enforcement.

This year is the third year of third five-year plan. Total eradication of poppy cultivation is being implemented in cooperation with international organizations after three-year development plan in poppy cultivation areas has been laid down.

Myanmar government signed MoU with neighbouring countries, regional countries and sub-region countries as it needs to make cooperation in eradication of narcotic drug with the global countries. Thanks to cooperation between international law enforcement agencies, drug trafficking gangs involved in transnational crimes could be arrested and punitive actions against them taken.

With the cooperation of local people, the government has intensified its efforts to destroy poppy plantation and control narcotic drug traffickers. As a result, the government has taken action against 3,991 people from 2,617 drug-related cases in 2011.

The government is making strenuous efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs. While farmers, schools, social organizations and religious organizations can make preventive measures against narcotic drugs. Likewise, economic organizations could support the efforts by opening vocational training courses. Cooperation with civil society would make the country drug-free by 2014.

Various kinds of narcotic drugs and stimulant tablets have been a threat to the people even though drug abuse control is being undertaken across the world. Drug trafficking, once viewed largely as a social and criminal problem, has transformed in recent years into a major threat to the health and security of people and regions.

The theme of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking for this year is “Global Action for Healthy Communities without Drugs”. This reflects action and cooperation to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse. Use of narcotic drugs can lead to HIV/AIDS epidemic, and youth could fall before reaching their goals. People all are to prevent and control the danger of narcotic drugs in unison. Let us take this opportunity to urge all to continue to make strenuous efforts by joining hands to become a healthy community free of drug abuse.

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**Bomb scare at Johannesburg airport turns out to be empty threat**

**Johannesburg, 25 June**

No explosives had been found in an abandoned bag which prompted the evacuation in terminal buildings at the Lanseria Airport west of Johannesburg, South Africa, airport authorities said on Saturday.

The article found in the bag was harmless, the airport’s spokesperson Johan Opperman said. All operations and services would resume after everything was cleared, Opperman said. Meanwhile, Gauteng police Captain Katlego Mogale said the bag contained a “white substance” which has been sent to the laboratory for testing.

Mogale said cigarettes, dried dates and clothing were also found in the bag. The bag set off a bomb scare that led to the evacuation of all passengers and staff earlier in the day. Incumbent flights were disrupted and outgoing flights were delayed due to the bomb scare.—Xinhua

**Robber who fled Ore tripped up by Facebook posts**

**Portland, 25 June** — James Tindell skipped out of state this spring rather than attend drug treatment and follow other conditions he accepted to avoid prison after pleading guilty to robbery in 2010. But rather do everything possible to avoid detection, he used Facebook to taunt his probation officer and write angry messages about the Multnomah County judge who sentenced him, The Oregonian reported.

“Catch me if you can.” Later, he signed a rant about the judicial system: “the 1 who got away.” Tindell apparently didn’t realize who might be reading his Facebook page, with such posts as, “I’m in Alabama.” He also posted apparently didn’t realize who might be reading his Facebook page.

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“You turned in some good periods of performance. And then, for whatever reason, you decided that you had had enough, and you just took off and you never looked back.” Tindell, in tears, pleaded for leniency. Bloch cut him off.

“Sir, you could have stayed here and done treatment. You decided to run away. So how could you now be asking for me to give you another chance to avoid prison?” Crying, Tindell admitted, “I messed up.” Bloch sentenced him to 2 ½ years in prison and ordered him to reimburse the state $2,600.

—Xinhua

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**Visitors watch the “Alexander von Humboldt” II sail ship at the Windjammer Parade of tall ships on 23 June, 2012 in Kiel, Germany. The parade, which features approximately 100 tall ships and traditional large sailing ships, is the highlight of the Kieler Woche annual sailing festival, which this year is celebrating its 130th anniversary and runs from 16-24 June. —INTERNET**

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**Will Duanwu festival still be celebrated by Vietnamese youngsters?**

**Hanoi, 25 June** — “Do not get out of the bed. Eat it first. It will kill all insects inside your body, said my mother while giving me a bowl of fermented sticky rice right after I woke up in the morning today, the Duanwu festival,” Nguyen Mai Lan, 20, a Vietnamese girl told Xinhua reporter in capital Hanoi on Saturday. Duanwu festival, as known as the “Killing inner insects Festival” in Vietnam, is celebrated every year on the fifth of the lunar month, the transition between spring and summer.

The name “Killing inner insects Festival” derives from the fact that farmers, on this day, get rid of all worms to start growing their crops for the new season. Furthermore, the day of changing weather from spring to summer is the time easy to get pathogen. My mother made the fermented sticky rice few days before the festival. Not so many people do it nowadays.

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**Bomb scare at Johannesburg airport turns out to be empty threat**

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**Robber who fled Ore tripped up by Facebook posts**

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**Torrential rains leave 16 dead in China**

**Nanning, 25 June** — At least 16 people have been confirmed dead after torrential rains battered southern and northern regions of China over the past three days, local authorities said on Sunday. Flooded triggers by rainstorms have killed six people, affected the lives of more than 450,000 people, destroyed some 1,000 houses and inundated almost 17,000 hectares of cropland in the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous regions, a government spokesman said.

Direct economic losses were estimated at 128 million yuan (20.3 million US dollars), the spokesman said, adding local authorities have launched relief operations. Local meteorological authorities forecast that more heavy rainfalls will hit parts of Guangxi on Monday. Around 8 pm on Saturday, rainstorm-triggered floods also affected three counties in the Yunnan province, in southwest China, said authorities with the city government of Yunnan.

As of 8:40 pm on Sunday, eight people have been confirmed killed in the floods, which have also cut the road communication and power supply in some regions, said the authorities.Strong downpours also battered east China’s Jiangxi Province from Friday, leaving over 734,000 people in disaster zones. The provincial flood prevention and control headquarters said local governments have relocated about 26,890 people to avoid flood risks. By 8 pm on Sunday, ten major rivers in Jiangxi had risen above the warning levels, said the headquarters.—Xinhua
Myanmar media delegation visits Sweden, Norway and Denmark

Myanmar media delegation led by Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win arrived back here on 23 June, after paying visit to European countries, at the invitation of Sweden Radio Media Development Organization and Norway-based Democratic Voice of Burma.

The delegation left here for Copenhagen of Denmark at 7.45 pm on 8 June and arrived in Stockholm of Sweden at 10.25 am LST on 9 June.

Myanmar Women’s Day
3rd July

Supervisory committee of Pre-primary Teachership Course
No. 22 held

NAV PRT TAW, 25 June—A supervisory committee of Pre-primary Teachership Course No. 22 held a meeting at Myanmar Education Research Bureau, here, this morning. The course will be conducted at No. 426 on Pyay Road in Kamayut Township from 9 July to 1 August, said the deputy director-general of Myanmar Education Research Bureau. Next he stressed the need to timely complete tasks of supervisory committee.—MNA

Myanmar Women’s Day

Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe received Mr Hiroki Kunii, state’s prosecutor of the International Cooperation Division, Research and Training Department of Ministry of Justice of Japan, Ms Natsuko Wakai, international cooperation training officer, and party at the tribunal here this afternoon.

They cordially discussed prospects of cooperation in legal affairs of the two countries. Also present at the call were members of the tribunal U Soe Thin, U Khin Tun, U Hsan Myint, U Myint Kyaw, and Director-General U Bo Bo Ying.—MNA

Constitutional Tribunal of Union, Japan
Ministry of Justice to cooperate in legal affairs

Chairman of Constitutional Tribunal of Union U Thein Soe receives state’s prosecutor Mr Hiroki Kunii of Ministry of Justice of Japan and international cooperation training officer Ms Natsuko Wakai.

Myanmar women swimmers earn bronze medal

YANGON, 25 June—Myanmar women swimmers secured a bronze medal as third prize in the 1st ASEAN Swimming Championship 2012 in the Republic of Singapore from 13 to 18 June.

Myanmar women swimmers—Kay Zin Win, Nan Kham Myat Kyi, Thant Thant Su San and Thiri Nanda—gained the bronze medal in Team Free Routing event in Synchronized Swimming.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.
Government speeds up national development...

(From page 1)

But, let me say frankly, the task is formidable for a developing country like us. We need a lot of assistance from international organizations and NGOs. Unless there is energetic cooperation, integrated and all inclusive Myanmar social protection system could not be built firmly as we aspire. In all seriousness, I would like to invite scholars, UN agencies and international organizations here to join hands with us. I would like to request you to fill the gaps for the vulnerable, children and the aged. I would like you to help them find greener pasture and pleasure of life and to resurrect the hopes of the jobless and low-income people. Our people are also the members of global family. The disabled, malnourished children, HIV/AIDS patients needing treatment, and the unemployed youth are also the part of global family like citizens from other countries. Our country lacks a lot in social protection. However, due to various reasons, we have been neglected by international organizations denying our rights. Our government has opened the door to international community. So, you all should welcome our move with constructive view and cooperate with us, I request. Our open-door policy is for the sake of all of our people. We hope you would give assistance as soon as you possibly can to our people, particularly the vulnerable who are in desperate need of social protection. Our government’s focus on economic performance is mainly intended to fulfill these needs. We are obliged for our people. This is the concept of our government. Social security and social protection need a great deal of financial resources like social financing apart from the goodwill of the government. We are taking steps to draft and enact laws to make sure the unemployed have more job opportunities and the workers effective social and security protection. Social protection plans would not progress well without the solid support of legal regulation. We hope to acquire legal advices reflecting our country’s objective conditions from this conference. I would like to suggest the formation of national high-level institution in order that social protection works progress report, further requirements, policy and strategy formulation, assessment of the effectiveness of works during project periods and policy review and so on can be monitored in long-term. Scholars from international community, representatives from international organizations, donors and representatives of donor organizations at home and abroad can join the association. Strategy adopted by the organization must be assessed and review of the practical implementation must be informed to the policymakers and the public. In conclusion, I would like to urge the conference to map out strategies and work programmes for social protection of our country. We would much appreciate if you would kindly suggest programmes that can go in harmony with ongoing rural development and poverty reduction scheme of our government. With this I conclude my speech hoping you would bring strategic and practical plans for the sake of our people.

After that, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi extended greetings. He said that while facing challenges of labours and social welfare policy changes, economic and social development of the State will be implemented. New Social Security Bill has been submitted to the Hluttaw for creating more effective rights for the employees to enjoy retirement pension and for implementing the social security housing project. Moreover, the conference is being convened for participating in the new social protection programme so as to raise social protection for the people.

The noblest aim of the conference will contribute towards much to vocational tasks of the people and creation of opportunities for income, employment, education and health sectors. It will include care for children and disabled persons and response to suddenly-hit natural disasters. The discussions from the conference will benefit social protection tasks for the people.

Next, UNICEF resident representative Dr. Ramesh Shresha extended greetings. After the opening ceremony, President U Thein Sein, the Union ministers and guests posed for a documentary photo. The President and guests cordially greeted those present.

The agenda of the conference will continue on 26 June.

Afterwards, Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and party stayed at Lao Plaza Hotel.

MNA

Myanmar delegation led by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint arrives in Vientiane, Laos PDR

NAV PyTaw, 25 June— At the invitation of President of National Assembly H.E. Madame Panpyithan, a Myanmar delegation led by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint left Yangon for Laos at 4 pm on 16 June, and arrived at Wattay International Airport in Vientiane at 10 pm.

The Myanmar delegation was accompanied by Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives Chairman of National Race Committee and member of the Bill Committee U Hsai Puang Nup, member of the Public Accounts Committee U Baran Shaung, member of the Hluttaw Rights Committee and member of National Race Affairs Committee U Hsan Yel, member of the Hluttaw Rights Committee and member of the Minerals and Resources Committee U Saw Taw Phe, member of the Monetary and Revenue Committee and member of the Economic and Commercial Affairs Committee U Ha Shein Bwe, member of Economic and Commercial Affairs Committee and the Public Complaints and Appeals Committee U Hsui Win, member of the Education, Health and Cultural Committee Dr Hla Thein and officials concerned.

On his arrival, Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and his entourage were warmly welcomed by Chairman Dr. Koke Akamonry of Foreign Affairs Committee of National Assembly, Mr. Viseith Savengsuxsa, Vice President of the National Assembly, and officials of the Assembly Office, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Kyaw Soe Win, Military Attaché to Laos Brig-Gen Win Maung and officials from the Myanmar embassy.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and party being welcomed by Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Dr. Koke Akamonry and officials at Wattay International Airport in Vientiane, MNA.

26 June 2012
Myanmar parliamentary delegation visits Vientiane

**NAY PYI TAW**, 25 June—Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, on their goodwill visit in Laos, at the invitation of National Assembly of Laos Madame Pany Yathotous, visited Hor Prakeo Temple, Sisaket Temple and That Luang Pagoda in Vientiane on 17 June.

The speaker and party then visited Tha-Lath Dam in Xiangkhoang Province where they were hosted with luncheon by the province governor and province MPs.

In the evening, President of the National Assembly of Laos hosted dinner to Myanmar delegation at Lao Plaza Hotel. — MNA

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**Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw visits the Plain of Jars in Xiangkhoang Province of Lao PDR**

**NAY PYI TAW**, 25 June—Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and delegation members left Vientiane of Lao PDR for Xiangkhoang Province at 8.20am local time on 19 June by special flight. They were welcomed by members of National Assembly of Xiangkhoang Province.

The Governor of Xiangkhoang Province and party called on the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and explained endeavours for development of the province.

Next, the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and party visited The Plain of Jars in Xiangkhoang Province at 3 pm.

In the evening, the Governor of Xiangkhoang Province hosted a dinner to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at Phuviengham Resort.

On 20 June morning, the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and party visited Xiangkhoang Province and left for Vientiane by special aircraft in the afternoon.

At 8.05 pm local time, the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and party left Wattay International Airport for Vietnam. They were seen off at the airport by the Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of Laos and officials of the Assembly Office, Myanmar Ambassador to Laos U Kyaw Soe Win and staff of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché Office. — MNA

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**Israel to invest in Myanmar’s dry zone development**

**NAY PYI TAW**, 25 June—Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yaron Mayer and party paid a call on Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing at the ministry here this morning to discuss cooperation for agricultural development.

Their discussion focused on potentials for bilateral cooperation and know-how transfer, technical cooperation and investments for development of the dry zone in central Myanmar.

Next, representative of Mekerot and Israel’s National Water Company explained to the interlocutors the experiences of Israel in the area of agriculture and irrigation and how Israel is working with Mekerot and other national partners for technology transfer and other capacity international investment experiences.

Present at the call were deputy ministers U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw, director-general of the ministry and representatives of Mekerot and Israel’s National Water Company.

The Israeli Ambassador and party observed samples of Myanmar agricultural produce Palethwe hybrid paddy rice, hybrid corn, beans and pulses and edible oil crops. — MNA
Union Minister looks into private banks in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun inspected Kanbwawta Bank Ltd (Nay Pyi Taw Branch), Myanmar Industrial Development Bank, United Amarla Bank, Myanmar Oriental Bank, Tun Foundation Bank and Finsa Private Bank, here, this afternoon.

Abbot Training Courses conclude in Pathein

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—The Abbot Training Courses No. 12 and No. 13 of the training school presented certificates to trainee monks.

Cash and kind donated to local people in Rakhine State

YANGON, 25 June—Cash and kind were donated to local people in Rakhine State who lost their property and possessions in a series of events in the State at the donation ceremony at the Makhtalaral hall of Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township here, this morning.

Drilling of CDT-12 oil well begins with assistance to locals

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—Goldpetrol Co running in partnership with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy has been undertaking improved petroleum recovery works at inland oilfield No IOR-2 and MOGE-1 in Chauk and Yenangyoung towns and the company is preparing to explore oil and gas out of reservoir rocks over 10,000 feet deep in the ground. As well No. CDT-12 will be dug down to 12,800 feet in the ground, a ceremony to mark the start of drilling process was held near Mola Village, Chauk Township yesterday morning.

Unification of drilling services course No. 3 and Institute of Banking Services of Myanmar Bank Association

The chairman of the Management Board of the training school presented certificates to trainee monks.

The deputy minister also inspected construction of detached houses in Water Front Vila Housing Project, Kwema Housing Project in No. 10 Ward of Thakayta Township and progress of Ayeyawady Housing Project and Yadana Housing Project in Dagon (Seikkan) Township.

DHHAMMAYON OPENED: Thamma Thamymbudo Dhammyan of Army Officer Training Course No 40 was opened in conjunction with the merit-sharing ceremony at International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Yangon recently. Pro-Rector (Admir) Dr Thant Zin Naing, Chairman of Waradahta Dattacinya Tooth Relic Pagoda Board of Trustees U Nyunt Wai and Col Hla Myint Kyaw (Ret) formally open the Dhammyan.—MYANMA ALIN
Summer paddy threshed, winnowed in Yamethin

YAMETHIN, 25 June—Local farmers in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region are busy with threshing and winnowing summer paddy. Some farmers grow Palethwe and Hsinthukha paddy strains on the plots of Kyenigan irrigated areas.

Books, publications donated to village library

MAWLYAUNGYIN, 25 June—A ceremony to donate books to Meethaupan Library was held in Kanyintabin Village of Nwayegyaw Nyaunglan Village-tract in Mawlamyineygun Township of Monywa District on 10 June morning. At the ceremony, wellwishers U Thein Naing-Daw Oo Kyin family, and U Win Kyi-Daw Kyin Win donated 1663 books, magazines and journals to librarian Daw Ni Ni Win.

Taunggyi university faculty members, students hear traffic rules

TAUNGGYI, 25 June—A talk on traffic rules was given at Technological University in Taunggyi of Shan State (South) on 12 June. In-charge of the traffic police force Police Captain Maung Maung Win explained traffic accidents, Inspector-III Zaw Ko Ko Pe of Directorate of Road Administration salient points for motorcyclists and pedestrians.

Palethwe model plot harvested in Paukkhaung Township

PAUKKHAUNG, 25 June—A ceremony to harvest model plot of summer Palethwe hybrid paddy was held on 3.00 acres of farmland of farmer U Myo Aung in Yatthit Village of Paukkhaung Township of Pyay District on 18 June morning. It was attended by Paukkhaung Township Pyithu Hlutaw representative U Aye Han, Head of District Agriculture Department U See Naing, Township Administrator U Kyaw Kyaw Kyaw Maung, members of Township Agricultural Supervisory Committee and local farmers.

This year, fine weather and supply of water contributed to production of Hsinthukha paddy at 135 baskets per acre and Palethwe paddy 165 baskets per acre. As summer paddy was harvested in rainy season, the farmers immediately used machinery for winnowing paddy and then stored paddy. After that, they continued farming works for nurturing of paddy saplings and ploughing works.

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Shwegyin

SHWEGYIN, 25 June—In commemoration of the World Environment Day, the rainy season tree growing ceremony was held near Bo Saw Aung Park in Gangawwaing Ward of Shwegyin on 15 June morning. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Khin Thein Maung, Head of Township Forest Department U Sai San Thein, departmental personnel and members of social organizations distributed saplings to the local people. After that, they planted over 700 saplings.

Collection of tax educated in Kalay Township

KALAY, 25 June—A talk on collection of commercial tax and income tax in advance from passenger and cargo transport was held by Kalay Township Internal Revenue Department at Nayrinaza Hall in Kalay on 21 June.

Eradication of narcotic drugs talked in Kawkareik

KAWKAREIK, 25 June—A talk to mark International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at No. 2 Basic Education High School in Kawkareik on 14 June. At first, the deputy commissioner gave a speech. Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Tin Tun Aung talked about history of narcotic drugs, in-charge of Kawkareik Township Anti-Drug Squad IP Myo Win combating drug abuse and illegal trafficking, Township Judge U Saw San Nyo and Law Officer U Go Yin penalties for drug cases and IP Zaw Tin Kyaw of District Police Force matters related to narcotic drugs.

School uniforms presented to students in Kengtung Township

KENGTUNG, 25 June—A ceremony to present school uniforms to offspring of vendors from Myoma Market in Kengtung and slow-moving vehicle drivers was held at the hall of Kengtung Township Development Affairs Committee on 10 June. Executive Officer U Kyaw Moe Tun of the committee presented one set of school uniforms to 49 students.

Channel to Kyenie Lake dredged for proper flow

YAMETHIN, 25 June—Kynei Lake is irrigating 6500 acres of farmlands in Yamethin.

In the past, overflow of the lake flooded its surrounding areas such as Hsegyi, Nyaunganaing and Thinbangon villages, inundated Yamethin-Theingon road and destroyed basic education primary school and farmlands. Thus, the water inlet channel, 3000 feet long and 200 feet wide, to the lake was dredged for proper flow of water with the use of heavy machinery and the sluice gate was repaired.

District news

TREES GROWN: In commemoration of the World Environment Day 2012, the collective tree growing ceremony was held in the compound of Toe Myitta veterans organization in Maubin on 5 June.

KYEETHIN

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 26 June, 2012 11
CANCER KIDS NUMBERS IN FIJI KEEP INCREASING: EXPERTS

SUVA, 25 June — Fiji Cancer Society President Nirmala Nambia said on Sunday that at least 40 children are diagnosed with cancer annually in the island nation with a population of over 800,000 people.

Just from January to date there have been 10 new cases recorded, which are just the ones that are reported to the Ministry of Health, says the expert. She told the media that Leukemia was still the leading cancer for children in Fiji.

Fiji’s CWM Hospital recorded 23 brain tumor cases, 19 acute lympho-blastic leukemia cases, 14 acute myelogenous leukemia cases and 11 lymphoma cases between 2005 and last year.

“Blood cancer or leukemia is the most common form of cancer among children all over the world,” said Immanuel, adding “other cancers that affect children include brain tumors, lymphoma and soft tissue sarcoma.”

Immanuel held that brain tumor was very challenging because patients had to be evacuated abroad for treatment.

The treatment and recovery process is long and takes up to three years. Chemotherapy was available and confirmed that there is an increase in the number of children suffering from cancer and treating them remains a big challenge. Immanuel said doctors and patients faced huge challenges before and during treatment.

“[The challenge] is that the treatment and recovery process is long and takes up to three years.” Chemotherapy was available and more favorable compared to five or 10 years ago, says the doctor.

Fiji’s CWMH Hospital recorded 23 brain tumor cases, 19 acute lympho-blastic leukemia cases, 14 acute myelogenous leukemia cases and 11 lymphoma cases between 2005 and last year.

“Blood cancer or leukemia is the most common form of cancer among children all over the world,” said Immanuel, adding “other cancers that affect children include brain tumors, lymphoma and soft tissue sarcoma.”

Immanuel held that brain tumor was very challenging because patients had to be evacuated abroad for treatment while renal cancer was treatable as there was 80 percent to 90 percent survival rate.

Six divers missing off Malaysian island

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 June — Search teams were on Sunday looking for six scuba divers who went missing a day earlier off a Malaysian island resort after apparently running out of air, a maritime official said.

The group, including a diver from Singapore, one from China and four Malaysians, disappeared after going diving off Tioman island on Malaysia’s east coast on Saturday, according to an official with the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency. Only one person was involved in the group, whose members were aged between 25 and 33 and which included two women, resurfaced after the dive, he said. Three boats and eight navy divers are involved in the search.

Malaysia’s east coast islands, famed for their corals and marine life, are a popular dive destination. Accidents are rare.

People visit an AWACS aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence airport to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence aircraft of NATO at the Florence 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Mail service suspended due to crows

Canada Post said it has suspended mail delivery to the neighbourhood due to birds dive-bombing a letter carrier. The postal service delivered a notice Tuesday to about 30 residents of Ralph Avenue, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, explaining mail delivery has been suspended due to crows dive-bombing the neighborhood’s letter carrier, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reported. “Due to the ongoing safety concern caused by the aggressive crows attacking your letter carrier, all mail delivery is temporarily suspended until Canada Post and the city of Winnipeg can determine a solution,” the notice read. Canada Post said the residents can pick up their mail from the depot. Resident Len Chapko said the birds in question are nesting in a tree in front of his house and have been attacking him when he goes outside. “He come so close, he raised the hair on the back of my head. So I looked up and the neighbours are laughing because he came after me?” Chapko said.

Swedish moves to curb strawberry fraud

Sweden’s authorities said strawberry sellers are trying to stop foreign strawberries from being passed off as Swedish, in an attempt to stop foreign strawberries from being passed off as Swedish. The couple of months of e-mails both the public has seen, the whole wedding thing. We went so overboard on that. And the way it turned out and everything.” Contactmusic.com quoted him as telling Oprah Winfrey on her show Oprah’s Next Chapter.

Bruce Jenner regrets sharing Kim Kardashian’s wedding with world

The 62-year-old socialite, who is married to Kris Jenner, admitted that Kim’s iJim’s i... marriage to the NBA star would have been kept under wraps. “The only thing I wish I could take back is that the public has seen, the whole wedding thing. We went so overboard on that. And the way it turned out and everything.” Contactmusic.com quoted him as telling Oprah Winfrey on her show Oprah’s Next Chapter.

Jennifer Lopez treated for back pain and robbery in Argentina

Jennifer Lopez, who is in Argentina as part of her ‘Dance Again’ tour, was robbed just hours after she left a clinic when she was being treated for a stabbing pain in her lower back. According to local papers, the thief took personal items from the 42-year-old singer’s dressing room, while she performed at the GEBA stadium in Buenos Aires on Thursday. The stolen goods included a computer, a camera and a bag with personal documents including IDs and passports. Complicating matters, Lopez’s manager Benny Medina, who has also been robbed, has not been able to leave the country since he has lost all forms of identification. According to Spanish network Univision, the ‘On The Floor’ singer injured her lower back and had to be taken to a clinic. Lopez later took to Twitter to talk about the incident, revealing that her kids had something to do with the hospital scare.

Gellar awarded for zoo contributions

LOS ANGELES, 25 June — The Los Angeles Zoo has given actress Sarah Michelle Gellar an award for contributions to her four-legged friends at the Beastly Ball, zoo officials said. Gellar said her 2-year-old daughter, Charlotte Grace, gave her a new appreciation for the zoo, the Los Angeles Times reported on Friday. “I used to come here all the time even before I had children, but now being able to see the animals through my daughter’s eyes is incredible,” she said.

It’s important to help the community any way you can,” Gellar said in response to receiving the second Tom Mankiewicz Leadership Award. “The zoo really does a lot to rehabilitate the animals and provide them a safe environment.” The award, which was first given to rocker Slash last year, is presented to a member of the entertainment community who has established meaningful programmes contributing to the world’s natural or civic environment, the Times said.

Also on hand at the 24th annual Beauty Ball 16 June were actresses Betty White and Pauley Perrette of “NCIS” fame.

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It was a 2-2 draw—Milan was still the champion of the tournament. After extra time, the game was decided by penalties. Pirlo, Mutti, and Montolivo scored for Italy, while Balotelli and Cassano missed for the Azzurri. The final score was 3-2 in favor of the Italians.

In the final, Spain faced Croatia. The match was held in London, England. The Spanish team, led by their star player, Rafael Nadal, was favored to win. However, the Croats put up a strong fight. The match went into extra time, but neither team could score. The game was decided by penalties, with Spain emerging victorious.

The tournament had been a huge success, with fans from around the world coming to watch the matches. The UEFA Euro 2012 tournament will go down in history as one of the greatest European football events ever.
Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR TV
(26-6-2012) (Tuesday)
7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
7:40 am
3. Nice and Sweet Song
7:50 am
4. Health Programme
8:10 am
5. Distance Of National Races
8:45 pm
6. Musical Programme
9:15 pm
7. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
4:25 pm
8. One Village & One Product
4:35 pm
9. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
4:45 pm
10. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures)
First-Year (Myanmar)
5:10 pm
11. Teleplay (Health)
5:30 pm
12. Songs for International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
5:40 pm
13. Sweet Melody
7:00 pm
14. TV Drama Series
8:00 pm
15. News
16. Bakery World
17. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Weather forecast for 26th June, 2012

At least 32 killed in bus accident in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 25 June—At least 32 people were killed in Mexico on Sunday after the bus they were travelling in turned over on a wet road in the southwestern state of Guerrero, a Red Cross official said.

At least seven people were injured and believed to be in a serious condition, the official said. “In the area where it happened it’s raining very hard,” he added.

The official said most of the people inside the passenger bus were wearing T-shirts emblazoned with the logo of Mexico’s Labour Party (PT), a small grouping in Congress supporting leftist presidential hopeful Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

Other emergency crews were dispatched to where the accident took place about 2½ hours drive southwest of Mexico City.

Guerrero state police department had no immediate comment. Mexico holds a presidential election on 1 July.

Bus crashes and other road accidents are common on Mexico’s main roads, causing hundreds of deaths a year.

In April, at least 43 people were killed when a cargo truck crashed into a bus on a highway in the Gulf state of Veracruz, in one of the worst accidents the country has suffered in recent times.—Reuters

Owen urges England coaching revamp after Euro agony

LONDON, 25 June—Former England striker Michael Owen has called for an overhaul of the country’s coaching on Monday after another major tournament campaign ended in disappointment.

England bowed out of Euro 2012 in Kiev on Sunday with their sixth penalty shoot-out defeat in seven attempts after a 0-0 draw in the group stage, leading to a 0-1 defeat in extra-time.

But unlike previous disappointments, there was universal recognition on Monday that England had got exactly what they deserved from the encounter and that the technically superior Italians were worthy victors.

The match statistics later underscored Italy’s superiority in all departments, with the Azzurri enjoying 64 percent possession to England’s 34 percent, with 35 goal attempts to England’s nine.

England’s failure to maintain possession was also reflected in the telling passing statistics, with Italy recording 85 passes to England’s paltry 320.

Owen said the only way England could hope to be competitive in future was to change coaching at grassroots level.

“Easy for people to say ‘until we keep possession better we will never win anything’. We are not as good atposers at doing that,” Owen wrote on Twitter.

“We played to our strengths but are just not quite good enough. We were hoping to ‘do a Chelsea’ referring to the tactics they adopted to win the Champions League last season. ‘If you are not the best team then you have to find an alternative way to win. The other option is to forget results for a while and start from scratch playing a different style.”—Internet

Briton dies after jumping from Eiffel Tower

LONDON, 25 June—A British man has committed suicide by climbing up the Eiffel Tower in Paris and jumping to his death, officials said on Monday. Police spotted the man climbing the structure of the tower around 11:30 pm (2130 GMT) on Sunday. They evacuated the tower, scaled off the area and tried to negotiate with him.

Firefighters tried to talk the British man down from the tower but failed and he jumped from its second and third levels, a height of between 125 and 310 metres (410 to 1,017 feet), said Frederic Grosjean, deputy spokesman for the Paris firefighters’ brigade.

Suicides by jumping from the tower “happen frequently enough, but it is rare for someone to be able to climb so high”, a police source said.

Firefighters intervened again on Monday when a woman aged about 30 also attempted to jump from the tower. She was talked out of the suicide and lifted by helicopter from the structure.

Reached by AFP, Eiffel Tower management refused to comment on the number of suicides at the site every year, saying only: “It is always too many.”—Internet

A British man has committed suicide by climbing up the Eiffel Tower in Paris and jumping to his death, officials said on Monday. Internet

This photo shows the site of a passenger bus crash in the southwestern state of Guerrero on 24 June, 2012.

REUTERS

Weather forecast for 26th June, 2012

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint calls on Laotian President

**NAV PYI TAW, 25 June**—The Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar called on Laotian President Mr Choummaly Sayasone at Presidential Palace Ho Kham at 3.30 pm local time on 20 June.

At the call, the Speaker explained friendly relation between the two countries, bilateral relations and internal political development in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Moreover, he expressed his delight that President U Thein Sein on his recent visit to Laos met with the Laotian President and further promoted existing bilateral relationship between Myanmar and Laos. He said that his trip followed the visit of the President. Under the arrangements of the both Presidents, he said that parliaments of both countries built better relationship. He expressed thanks for warmly welcome in Laos with systematic arrangements for the trip.—**MNA**

Closer cooperation brings more fruitful results both to governments and parliaments of Laos and Myanmar

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**Closer cooperation brings more fruitful results both to governments and parliaments of Laos and Myanmar**

**Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint meets President of the National Assembly of Laos Madame Pany Yhthotous at the hall of National Assembly.**

**NAV P YI TAW, 25 June**—Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint paid a call on President of the National Assembly of Laos Madame Pany Yhthotous at the hall of National Assembly on 18 June morning. The Myanmar delegation and President of the Lao PDR national assembly committees held talks at the meeting hall of the assembly.

In his speech, the national assembly president extended her thanks to Myanmar delegation for their visit to Laos, expressing her hope that the discussions between the two parliaments during the visit would bring fruitful results both for governments and parliaments of two nations. She then explained long-term and short-term plans, economic, social, health and foreign relations affairs of Laos. She then expressed thanks for Myanmar hosting ASEAN chair in 2014 and experiencing internal political developments. She then explained long-term and short-term plans, economic, social, health and foreign relations affairs of Laos. She then invited the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and Myanmar parliamentary regular sessions in coming July, pledging efforts for closer relations between the two parliaments.

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The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and party then paid a floral tribute at unknown soldiers mausoleum. **(See page 9)**

**Supreme Court of Union hears six civil miscellaneous cases (writs)**

**NAV P YI TAW, 25 June**—The tribunal of the Supreme Court of the Union comprising Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo and judges of Supreme Court of the Union U Soe Nyunt and U Mya Thein heard six civil miscellaneous cases at Room No. 1 of the Supreme Court of the Union this morning. **MNA**

**Talks on traffic rules given in Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Tsp**

**NAV P YI TAW, 25 June**—Under the programme of reducing traffic accidents of the Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Supervisory Committee, Commander of No. 1 Traffic Rules Command of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police Force Police Captain Win Aung gave talks on traffic rules to drivers, pedestrians and slow vehicles users, and answered queries raised by those present who received pamphlets at Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Township on 22 June morning. **MNA**

**Djokovic feeling confident for Wimbledon defence**

This combo made from 2009, left, 2008, centre, and 2011 file photos shows from left: Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic after winning at Wimbledon. As Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer step back on the grass at Wimbledon, each has reason to believe he’ll be hoisting the trophy overhead in two weeks’ time.

**Owen urges England coaching revamp after Euro agony**

Gianluigi Buffon saves Ashley Cole’s attempt in the penalty shootout between England and Italy after their goalless Euro 2012 quarter-final. **(See page 9)**

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**PAGE 15**