President U Thein Sein receives President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie SE MM at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here at 10:00 am today.

Present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thein and U Soe Maung, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Nyunt Tin and departmental heads. President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie SE MM was accompanied by Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on further strengthening cooperation between the two parliaments, promotion of bilateral cooperation between the parliaments and governments of ASEAN countries, further cooperating in all sectors, investments of private and government companies of Indonesia in Myanmar, mutually holding joint-commission meetings and the invitation of the Indonesian President to the Myanmar President to attend Bali Democracy Forum to be held by the end of 2012.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends Rio+20 opening session and first day plenary meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended opening session and first day plenary meeting of United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) at Plenary Hall of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro in the Federative Republic of Brazil on 20 June morning.

The opening session was attended by Heads of State/Government, ministers and high-ranking officials, representatives, UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and members, representatives of UN agencies, international organizations, NGOs, regional organizations and social organizations and press from 179 countries, with the attendance of over 16000.

The Myanmar delegation that accompanied Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint, Myanmar Permanent Representative to UN U Than Swe, Director-General U Sann Lwin of Planning and Statistics (See page 8).

MNA
Human resources of higher quality

Myanmar’s drastic reforms on the second wave of reform strategy are going through so fast that some people, especially government employees, are struggling to keep pace with them. The capability of the civil servants have long been questioned but louder as the society is more and more open.

The government in office is committed to improving living standards of the government staff while building their capacity. Its vow is improving living standards of the government employees, are struggling to keep pace with the recent pay rise and blatant attempts for human resources development, especially of the government mechanism.

Despite serious efforts being exerted by the leaders from on high, there are still the service personnel who are displaying the old behaviours. The incumbent government sees the corruption as an enemy for its poverty alleviation tasks and is making efforts to say no to this evil legacy of years of the ineffective mechanism.

Each and every government staff is like pinion of the administration mechanism. It is everyone’s knowledge that if one pinion fails to operate properly, the mechanism will somewhat suffer malfunction.

Here, human resource management becomes obviously important for every institution. However the human resource development measures are superior, the organization would not benefit as much as possible if with no proper HR. The introduction of professional practices within the departments could improve competency of the staff. Stimulus packages are also required to develop their skills.

For the government staff, they need to improve their skills to become professionals in their fields. For the organizations, they need to prepare themselves to overcome the headache to how to keep these professionals.

The government departments need to conduct more capacity building courses for their staff and inculcate them with the sense of accountability to the people.

PERSPECTIVES
Saturday, 30 June, 2012

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw receives President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint held a meeting with President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie. SE. MM and party at the hall of Amyotha Hluttaw of the Hluttaw Building here this noon.

Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker U Mya Neyin, chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and officials of Hluttaw office. Indonesian Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono accompanied the Indonesian delegation.

During the meeting, Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie. SE. MM claimed that the further relations between the two Hlutaws are strenuously promoted, expressing congratulation Myanmar on its path to transition into democracy, achievement on making legislations of the Hlutaws, a legislative body, believing that Myanmar would successfully serve ASEAN Chairman in 2014, and AIPA would cooperate in that process.

Afterwards, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw explained extension of sector of AIPA in ASEAN countries, matters related to AIPA’s participation in achieving objectives of ASEAN in 2015 and in implementation of UN millennium goals, and present progression of legislations being made by the Hlutaws in Myanmar...MNA

Union Transport Minister receives Vice-Chairman of Bangkok Airways

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received a delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Bangkok Airways of Thailand Mr Anawat Leelawatwatana at the ministry, here, this morning.

The Vice-Chairman of Bangkok Airways reported on airlines tasks, airport facilities, airport services and health care services being undertaken by Bangkok Airways. Next, they exchanged views on airport management at Yangon, TadaU, Thandwe, NyaungU and Heho airports in Myanmar, upgrading of these facilities to international airports, and opportunity to operate airport and its related tasks.

Bangkok Airways Company is undertaking management at three airports in Thailand, airport services at 18 domestic airports in Thailand, ground services, commodity transport and aircraft meal services. The company plans to contact the related ministries for putting its investments in similar services at the airports of Myanmar...MNA

Blood donation hails Myanmar Women’s Day

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Hailing Myanmar Women’s Day that falls on 3 July, collective blood donation ceremony was held in Pathein General Hospital yesterday morning.

Patron of Region Women’s Affairs Organization wife of the Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister Daw Khin Htay Myint viewed and encouraged those who donated blood.

She also donated K 0.2 million to the medical fund of the hospital through the medical superintendent who donated blood.

She also donated K 50,000 to a nine years old patient and donated cash and refreshments to patients.

She also visited contents in commemoration of Myanmar Women’s Day in Pathéin...MNA

Workshop on survival of libraries launched

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—A workshop on survival of libraries took place at Yangon City Library in Thida town in Pimaynan Township here yesterday morning.

At the event, District Staff Officer U Huan Lwin Oo gave clarification on continued existence of libraries, and Patron of Yangon City Library Committee U Myint Swe and librarian U Myint Zaw presented matters related to working process of the library.

Awards, village administrators of Nathpute, Pawssankhaw, Kyeein, Kyunkon, Maygpyinkinw and Payawasan villages and chairpersons of village libraries participated in the workshop presenting discussions about tasks to be carried out in near future for keeping libraries’ continued existence, which were clarified by District deputy heads of department Daw Aye Aye Khathing and Daw Mya San Yi...MNA
EU to mobilize 120 b euros for growth, pact may face reservation from Spain, Italy

Barroso attend a Press conference during the EU summit in Brussels to further boost the financing of the entire growth pact if they cannot secure short-term measures, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said on Thursday.

Van Rompuy told a press conference following intensive talks of all EU leaders. During a two-day summit in Brussels to further tackle the eurozone’s sovereign debt crisis, EU leaders are scheduled to agree upon a larger compact for long-term economic revival, but they have not reached the final agreement yet, Van Rompuy said.

In a statement delivered from the White House, Obama said the decision is a “victory” for people across the United States. “Whatever the politics, today’s decision was a victory for people all over this country whose lives are more secure because of this law and the Supreme Court’s decision to uphold it,” said Obama.

He continued to list the benefits to the American people once the Affordable Care Act, signed into law in 2010, goes into effect in 2014, saying people wouldn’t face bankruptcy because of illness, and people with pre-existing medical conditions will not be discriminated against and people will be able to afford quality healthcare. Obama said his new time-table to implement the law and improve it, saying “the highest court in the land has now spoken. We will continue to implement this law and we’ll work together to improve on it wherever we can.”

He warned that the country cannot afford to “re-fight the political battles two years ago or go back to the way things were,” and “it’s time for us to move forward.”

But Republicans are clearly in no mood to cede the battle in an election year. Mitt Romney, the presumptive Republican candidate, said after the ruling that although the Supreme Court upheld the reform “constitutionally, he would still repeal it once elected into the White House, claiming it would blow up deficit and kill American jobs.”

Obama hails Supreme Court decision to uphold healthcare overhaul

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China hails space mission’s success as crew returns to Earth

Chinese astronauts Jing Haipeng (C), Liu Wang (L) and Liu Yang, China’s first female astronaut, salute in front of the re-entry capsule of China’s Shenzhou 9 spacecraft in Siziwang Banner, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region on 29 June, 2012. —Reuters

BEIJING, 29 June — China’s Shenzhou 9 spacecraft returned to Earth on Friday, ending a mission that put the country’s first woman in space and completed a manned docking test critical to its goal of building a space station by 2020.

The spacecraft’s gumdrop-shaped return capsule descended to Earth by parachute and touched down shortly after 10 am (0200 GMT) in China’s northwestern Inner Mongolia region with its three-member crew, including female astronaut Liu Yang.

Beijing has hailed the nearly two-week mission as a technical breakthrough for the country’s growing space programme. The launch, landing and docking exercises with the experimental Tiangong 1 space lab module were broadcast live on state television and met with an outpouring of national pride.

Moments after the capsule landed with a thud in the barren pasture lands, ground crew rushed to open the hatch.

The official Xinhua news agency reported the astronauts as saying: “We have returned, and we feel good.” An hour later, mission commander Jing Haipeng smiled and waved as he emerged from the capsule in his white space suit. Fellow astronauts Liu Wang and Li Yang followed to loud applause.

US exempts China, Singapore from Iran sanctions

WASHINGTON, 29 June — US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday announced Washington’s decision to exempt China and Singapore from sanctions over imports of Iranian oil, citing their “significant” reduction of purchase.

“Today I have made the determination that two additional countries, China and Singapore, have significantly reduced their volume of crude oil purchases from Iran,” the top US envoy said in a written statement. She said as a result, financial institutions in the two Asian countries will be eligible for exemptions from US sanctions for a renewable period of 180 days.

Under the National Defence Authorization Act (NDAA) signed by US President Barack Obama late last year, foreign financial institutions, whose governments still purchase Iranian crude oil as of 28 June, will be denied access to the US financial market. “Today marks an important milestone in the implementation of the NDAA and US sanctions toward Iran,” Clinton remarked.

“Following the president’s determinations on 30 March and 11 June on the availability of non-Iranian supplies of oil, as of today, any foreign financial institution based in a country that has not received an NDAA exemption is subject to US sanctions if it knowingly conducts a significant transaction with the Central Bank of Iran for the sale or purchase of petroleum or petroleum products to or from Iran.”

A total of 20 economies, including Japan, India, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Taipei (China) and 10 European countries, have got the US waiver. —Xinhua
Weather alerts coming soon to smartphone near you

Millions of smartphone users will soon begin receiving text messages about severe weather from a sophisticated government system that can send a blanket warning to mobile devices in the path of a dangerous storm.

The National Weather Service’s new Wireless Emergency Alerts system offers a new way to warn Americans about menacing weather, even if they are nowhere near a television, radio or storm siren. As of Thursday, the system will notify people about approaching tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards and other threats. When a warning is issued for a specific county, a message of no more than 90 characters will cause late-model smartphones in that area to sound a special tone and vibrate. Users do not have to sign up for the service or pay for the text message. And people who prefer not to get the warnings can opt out of the system. “These alerts will make sure people are aware of any impending danger and provide them with the information needed so they can be safe until the threat is over,” said Amy Stoery, spokeswoman for CTIA-The Wireless Association, an industry trade group that helped set up the system. The system does not yet work with all smartphones or in all areas. It is part of a broader alert network the Federal Emergency Management Agency launched in April that can also send public-safety warnings from the president and participating state and local governments. But the weather service estimates that more than 90 percent of the messages will be about storms.

New York Times launches Chinese-language website

Tokyo, 29 June—The New York Times has launched a Chinese-language website, hoping to gain readership from the country’s promising internet market. The free site, which went live in China on Thursday, mainly offers translations of the English version. The major US newspaper publisher says the site is targeted at China’s growing number of educated, affluent and global citizens. The New York Times has been suffering from falling advertising revenues due to the Internet and the faltering economy. Among other major US media, the Wall Street Journal already has a Chinese-language site, while Bloomberg also provides services in Chinese.

The latest move by the New York Times underscores the importance of the Chinese market for the US media’s business strategy.

Acer launches slim notebooks

Kolkata, 29 June—Leading PC maker Acer India launched five new series of slim notebooks and two platforms of ultrabooks here on Wednesday. Released in five series—S, M, V3, V5 and E—under its ‘Aspire’ brand, Acer targeted 30 models to meet various customers need.

Chief Marketing Officer, Acer India S Rajendran said, “Being true to our new brand tagline ‘Explore Beyond Limits’, the new range of notebooks will allow users to discover experience new age computing. With this Aspire range, we will comfortably address the requirements of both the premium and the value conscious customer.” The unique selling point of the notebooks is the slim and sleek design similar to that of the ultrabooks, said Rajendra. He claimed that the products are build keeping advanced image sensor and LAN-VGA comboport.

Automatic computer controlled vehicle for 2020s

Tokyo, 29 June—Japan’s government and automakers are considering introducing a computer-controlled vehicle system in the early 2020s. The transport ministry and automakers held their first meeting on Wednesday to discuss the future introduction of a computer-controlled driving system.

The development of automatic systems is already underway in the Japanese auto industry. It includes the use of several cameras to capture movements of people as well as other vehicles, and the automatic application of brakes to avoid crashes.

To further advance these technologies, wireless communication is being tested that can inform the computer in a vehicle of the movements of other vehicles ahead of them so it can automatically control the steering wheel and the gas pedal.

The panel is aiming to apply these computer controlled systems to vehicles driving on expressways in the early 2020s. It also plans to study how liabilities in traffic accidents are decided upon and compile a report in March next year.

Electrified roads could power cars

Tokyo, 29 June—Japanese scientists have shown they can successfully transmit electrical energy through rubber tires. The researchers hope this may spur the creation of electric vehicles that can be recharged as they’re driven on specially adapted roads.

The group, led by Professor Takashi Ohira at the Graduate School of Toyohashi University of Technology, showed its breakthrough to the media on Wednesday. In the demonstration, a set of tires was placed on top of an aluminum board. When high frequency electricity was sent through the board, a light bulb wired between the 2 tires lit up. The scientists say although rubber tires normally work as insulators, they can conduct extra high frequency electrical energy — about a million times higher than that of regular electric power. They say small scale experiments showed very little power is lost during such transmission. Electric-powered vehicles run on batteries that need to be recharged each time power runs out. But the researchers say cars of the future could be driven on electrified roads, and could go on running while recharging themselves.

Ohira said the group will improve the technology with the aim of creating eco-friendly electric cars able to run continuously.

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Automobile industry's business strategy

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Children’s Hospital compared autism from typical children activity of the brain can not be enough”, senior Force euros ($1.25 billion) “will management. officials said on Thursday of its Aulnay plant, union in preparation for the closure PSA Peugeot Citroen (PEUP Struggling French automaker making the remark at the launch automaker Chrysler Group, providing a time frame. executive Sergio Marchionne Romeo in the United States (FIA.MI) will relaunch the Alfa executive Aubrey (COP N), replaced Chief Executive Chesapeake Energy Corp (2238 HK) (601238 SS) will based on his length of compensation was cut 20 percent in May after criticism from investors. Directornow receive an annual stock award of $250,000 and a cash retainer of $100,000.

The researchers found 33 EEG patterns linked to autism.—Inte The researchers found 33 EEG patterns linked to autism.—Internet

The researchers found 33 EEG patterns linked to autism.—Internet a potential diagnostic test for autism found raw electroencephalogram data from 430 children with autism and 544 control subjects, ages 2-12. The study, published in the journal BMC. Medicine found those with autism had consistent EEG patterns indicating altered connectivity between brain regions — generally, reduced connectivity as compared with the control group. While altered connectivity occurred throughout the brain in children with autism, the left-hemisphere language areas stood out, showing reduced connectivity as compared with neurotypical children, consistent with neuroimaging research, the researchers said. Duffy and Als focused on children with “classic” autism who had been referred for EEGs by neurologists, psychiatrists or developmental pediatricians to rule out seizure disorders and those with Asperger’s syndrome, Fragile X or Rett syndrome. “We studied the typical autistic child seeing a behavioral specialist, a parent who children typically don’t cooperate well with EEGs and the baby is very hard to study,” Duffy said in a statement. “No one has extensively studied large samples of these children with EEGs, in part because of the difficulty of getting reliable EEG recordings from them.”

Internet

The company’s four new directors and Dunham who were named on Thursday will receive cash compensation this year on a pro-rated basis, the filing said. —Reuters

Internet

New Chesapeake chair gets stock valued at $750,000

Chesapeake Energy Corporation’s 50 acre campus is seen in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on 17 April, 2012. Reuters

The company’s four new directors and Dunham who were named on Thursday will receive cash compensation this year on a pro-rated basis, the filing said. —Reuters

Internet

A pacemaker is implanted in the upper chest to help regulate an irregular heartbeat. Once you have the device, you should avoid “close and prolonged contact” with electronics and appliances that emit magnetic fields, the US National Heart Lung and Blood Institute says. Ask your doctor to inspect your pacemaker regularly. Have the pacemaker’s battery checked regularly. Let any medical professional whose services you use know that you have a pacemaker.

Exercise key in fight against Alzheimer’s

Washington, 29 June—In a new study, researchers have revealed the benefits of exercise in combating Alzheimer’s disease. Most common cause of dementia, Alzheimer’s disease results in the loss of cognitive faculty. In the majority of cases, Alzheimer’s occurs after age 65, and factors such as diet and exercise appear to play a role in its development, with high-fat diets as a risk factor. The research led by Ayse Kinoshita at the Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine in Japan compared the effects of diet control, voluntary exercise and diet control plus exercise in an Alzheimer’s disease mouse model.

The results showed that exercise was more beneficial than diet control in reducing β-amyloid deposition, which is a defining characteristic of Alzheimer’s disease, and restoring memory loss induced by a high-fat diet in these mice. Moreover, Kinoshita’s team found that the effect of diet control plus exercise was not significantly different than exercise alone. The researchers attribute the positive effects of exercise to increased degradation of β-amyloid deposits in the brain.

Based on the results in this research exercise should be given priority to prevent Alzheimer’s disease,” Kinoshita said.

Internet

Health Tip: Living with a pacemaker

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Egypt's new president to take oath before court.

CAIRO, 29 June — Egypt's Islamist President-elect Mohamed Mursi will give a speech, according to the presidency statement.

The Muslim Brotherhood had wanted Mursi sworn-in before parliament, in line with past practice, but an army-backed court dissolved the Islamist-dominated lower house earlier this month.

The generals said the same court should hear Mursi take his oath of office. Mursi held talks about the oath-taking on Thursday with the Muslim Brotherhood's general guide Mohamed Badie and prominent public and legal figures and politicians at the presidential palace. Following the meetings, a presidential spokesman issued a statement that mentioned only Mursi's plans to address the nation on Friday from Tahrir Square where hundreds of protesters have been camped out for weeks to press the military council to swiftly transfer all powers to civilian rulers.

Later, a senior judge in the Supreme Constitutional Court told the state news agency MENA that Mursi would take the oath in front of a panel of Judges from the Supreme Constitutional Court on Saturday. The army council that has ruled Egypt since pushing former President Hosni Mubarak aside to calm a popular uprising last year has promised to hand back control by 1 July. Yet the military has demonstrated that it intends to keep its hands firmly on the real levers of power.

Council approves UK’s biggest solar plant

LONDON, 29 June — A southern English council this week approved Britain’s biggest solar power project, an 8-megawatt plant with nearly 28,000 panels turning sunlight into power in a sign that the UK’s solar market is growing, despite continuing uncertainty about subsidy cuts.

The project near South Brent in Devon is expected to start producing electricity by the end of August, its developer TGC Renewables said, and can produce power for around 2,500 homes. Britain’s renewable electricity production rose to around 11 percent of total power generation in the first quarter of this year, up from 7.7 percent in the same quarter last year, but solar plants contributed only a fraction of that. Britain’s solar sector has been hit by government plans to cut feed-in-tariffs (FITs) sooner than expected, raising the costs for some investors by surprise and denting the number of new installations.

An earlier-than-expected cut in tariffs initially announced for December 2011 caused a steep fall in new projects, with nearly 30,000 new plants registered one week ahead of the cut and just 812 projects following the week.

Southwest to try out live TV on 5 planes

DALLAS, 29 June — Southwest Airlines plans to sell live television service on five planes and expand it to more aircraft by mid-July. The airline said on Thursday that it would offer seven sports and news channels for passengers to watch on their own devices. Southwest said it will test prices from $3 to $8 during a trial period. Passengers will need a Wi-Fi-enabled device such as a smartphone, tablet or laptop.

Live TV will be offered separately from wireless Internet access and customers won’t have to buy Internet access to watch TV. The Southwest channels: NBC Sports, MLB (Major League Baseball), NFL, National Geographic, MSNBC, Fox News and Fox Business News. Southwest hired Row 4 to provide the service, which the airline plans to expand to 20 planes by mid-July.

Southwest said that if the service is successful, it will be added to all the airline’s Wi-Fi-enabled planes by the end of the year. The airline has about 50 Boeing 737 jets including about 250 with Wi-Fi. It plans to outfit 70 percent of its fleet by the end of 2013.

Airlines have been expanding in-flight entertainment options such as Internet access to distinguish themselves from other airlines that often sell tickets for about the same price. JetBlue Airways and Virgin America have offered live TV programming on month back screens for several years at no extra fee.

They provide 36 and 18 channels, respectively. Frontier Airlines sells 25 channels of live satellite TV on its larger planes for $6, with elite-level frequent fliers getting it free. United charges $6 for flights under two hours and $8 for longer ones but hasn’t outfitted its entire fleet. Separately, Delta Air Lines said on Thursday that it will offer Internet access on international flights beginning early next year. Delta’s entire domestic fleet is already outfitted for Wi-Fi, but airlines have been slower to add the service on overseas routes partly because they need satellites to get a signal over the middle of the ocean, not the land-based transmission signals often used within the US. — Internet

Mexico offers reward for airport killer police

MEXICO CITY, 29 June — Mexican federal police on Thursday offered a reward of $5 million pesos ($370,000) to help capture two officers accused of drug trafficking and shooting dead three other policemen inside the capital’s international airport.

The wanted officers had gone into the airport bathroom to receive cocaine from a Colombian traveller before the three policemen tried to arrest them on Monday, said Luis Cardenas, division head of the federal police.

The officers opened fire and the alleged assassins killed another policeman who is also on the run, Cardenas said, calling them “traitors.” The shooting happened in front of food courts and panicked travelers threw themselves to the ground.

The incident is a major embarrassment for the government of President Felipe Calderon, who has put the federal police at the heart of a five- and-a-half-year-long offensive against drug gangs.

More than 55,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence in Mexico during that time.

On Sunday, Mexicans will vote for a new president to succeed Calderon, who is limited to one term in office.

Most opinion polls predict Enrique Pena Nieto, the candidate of the opposition Institutional Revolutionary Party or PRI, will win the election by a wide margin.

Oil truck leak kills nine in S China

GUANGZHOU, 29 June — At least nine people were killed after an explosion caused by a leak of an oil tank truck on early Friday in south China’s Guangdong Province, local authorities said.

Nine bodies have been retrieved after the accident, which occurred at 5:15 am on an expressway in the provincial capital of Guangzhou, said a spokesman with the city’s public security bureau.

About 10 injured people have been hospitalized, he said. The fire caused by the blast was brought under control around 8:30 am, according to firefighters. Rescue efforts are underway.—Xinhua

Mexico's President-elect Mohamed Mursi (L) shakes hand with Egyptian political Dr Abdel Gell Mostafa at the presidential palace in Cairo on 27 June, 2012.—Reuters

The Muslim Brotherhood’s President-elect Mohamed Mursi (L) shakes hand with Egyptian political Dr Abdel Gell Mostafa at the presidential palace in Cairo on 27 June, 2012.—Reuters

New $2.4b terminal opening at Las Vegas airport

LAS VEGAS, 29 June — Officials in Las Vegas marked the opening of a $2.4 billion terminal built to handle overseas and domestic flights at McCarran International Airport. A ceremony greeted the arrival of a flight from London when it arrived Wednesday afternoon, and another greeted an inaugural Copa Airlines flight from Panama City.

Sixteen international carriers are set to use seven of the 14 new gates at McCarran’s new Terminal 3. Seven gates will handle US flights. Airport officials say T3 will help spread the flow of the 114,000 travellers who pass through the airport daily.

But they say travellers will have to get used to checking which terminal their flights are using. The new “E Gates” have self-serve check-in kiosks, streamlined security and automated baggage-handling. The terminal also has an eight-story parking structure.

Released Indian fishermen react as they travel in a bus towards the Wagah border in eastern Pakistan’s Lahore on 28 June, 2012. Pakistan on Wednesday released 311 Indian fishermen detained for crossing into its waters in recent months, officials said.—Xinhua

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Nine bodies have been retrieved after the accident, which occurred at 5:15 am on an expressway in the provincial capital of Guangzhou, said a spokesman with the city’s public security bureau.

About 10 injured people have been hospitalized, he said. The fire caused by the blast was brought under control around 8:30 am, according to firefighters. Rescue efforts are underway.—Xinhua

Mexico offers reward for airport killer police

MEXICO CITY, 29 June — Mexican federal police on Thursday offered a reward of $5 million pesos ($370,000) to help capture two officers accused of drug trafficking and shooting dead three other policemen inside the capital’s international airport.

The wanted officers had gone into the airport bathroom to receive cocaine from a Colombian traveller before the three policemen tried to arrest them on Monday, said Luis Cardenas, division head of the federal police.

The officers opened fire and the alleged assassins killed another policeman who is also on the run, Cardenas said, calling them “traitors.” The shooting happened in front of food courts and panicked travelers threw themselves to the ground.

The incident is a major embarrassment for the government of President Felipe Calderon, who has put the federal police at the heart of a five- and-a-half-year-long offensive against drug gangs.

More than 55,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence in Mexico during that time.

On Sunday, Mexicans will vote for a new president to succeed Calderon, who is limited to one term in office.

Most opinion polls predict Enrique Pena Nieto, the candidate of the opposition Institutional Revolutionary Party or PRI, will win the election by a wide margin.

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Constitutional Tribunal of the Union shows love for mother earth

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Constitutional Tribunal of the Union held monsoon tree planting ceremony at its office this morning. Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe planted a teak sapling. The ceremony was attended by members of the tribunal, the director-general, deputy directors-general, directors, staff and members of Myanmar Police Force. A total of 500 teak saplings were planted at today’s ceremony.  

Attorney-General of the Union receives economic entrepreneurship association of USA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Union Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin received an entrepreneur delegation led by Chairman of Myanmar-Chinese Friendship Association of New York of the US Mr William Su at Credentials hall of the Attorney-General of the Union, this afternoon. They had a discussion on economic laws and international legal affairs being practised in Myanmar.

K 50000 per acre disbursed to farmers in Mandalay Region

MANDALAY, 29 June—As part of efforts for fulfilling requirements of local farmers in monsoon paddy cultivation period in 2012, Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank will disburse loans as K 50000 per acre to the farmers. In so doing, the bank will disburse loans to those who have fully repaid their loans of last year. The bank disbursed K 172.7 million for 3454 acres of farmland to 894 farmers of seven townships and eight village-tracts in Mandalay Region in 2011 monsoon paddy cultivation season.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann receives President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie. SE MM at Zabethuri hall of Hluttaw Complex this morning. Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees, secretary, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, officials of Hluttaw Office.

At the call, they discussed cooperation in Hluttaw affairs between Myanmar and Indonesia, promoting bilateral ties and cooperation. —MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister meets Belgium guest

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win received a delegation led by CEO & Managing Director Mr Thierry Bogaert of de V Gen Co., Ltd of the Kingdom of Belgium at region government office, yesterday morning and discussed matters of investment opportunities in Bago Region. —MNA

New locations for train ticket booths announced

YANGON, 29 June—The ticket booths for ordinary classes will be changed for 1-up mail train and 9-up Yangon-Shwepyung train and 701-up Yangon-Hlayhlaw-in and 13-up Yangon-Bago local train. The changes of location for ticket booths will start on 1 July. The ordinary-class ticket booths of 1-up mail train and 9-up Yangon-Shwepyung train will be located at No 2 portico of Yangon Railways Station, and 701-up Yangon-Hlayhlaw-in and 13-up Yangon-Bago local train at No 1 portico, according to Myanmar Railways.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT DONATED: A ceremony to donate stationery to Basic Education Primary School No 24 by No 1 ward administrative office and wellwishers was held at the ward office in Hline Township on 25 June. Ward administrator U Win Naing presents stationery to students. —Myanmar Alin

SCHOOL UNIFORMS PROVIDED TO STUDENTS: A ceremony to present school uniforms to offspring of vendors from Myoma Market was held at the market in Yakawa Township on 26 June. Officials of Township Development Affairs Committee presented 47 sets of school uniforms worth K 282,000 to 476 students. —Myanmar Alin

TREES PLANTED: Rainy season tree growing ceremony was held at Basic Education Middle School No. 9 in Insein Township on 27 June. Township Administrator U Tin Naing Soe, Chairman of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Tin Tin Oo, departmental officials, students and officials of Forest Department participate in tree growing ceremony. —Myanmar Alin

DISTRICT NEWS

BEAMS BRANCH OPENED IN HTIGYAING TOWNSHIP

HTIGYAING, 29 June—The opening ceremony of Basic Education Middle School (Branch) was held in Inaung Village of Htigyaing Township on 20 June morning. Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Tun Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Tin Naing Soe and Region Hluttaw representative U San Maung formally opened the school. The Amyotha Hluttaw representative made a speech. Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Aye Myint and wellwishers presented exercise books and stationery to Headmistress Daw Khin Thida.

School uniforms provided to students

YAKAWA, 29 June—A ceremony to present school uniforms to offspring of vendors from Myoma Market was held at the market in Yaksawk Township on 26 June. Officials of Township Development Affairs Committee presented 47 sets of school uniforms worth K 282,000 to 476 students. —Myanmar Alin

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BEAMS branch opened in Htigyaing Township

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Mandalay Region plans to disburse 39432 million loans in rainy season of this year Thida Ko Ko (Mandalay)
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends...

(from page 1)

Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Director-General U Win Naing of International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Pro-Rector Dr San Win of University of Forestry.

Brazilian President Ms Dilma Rousseff was elected as the President of the conference.

President of the conference Brazilian President Ms Dilma Rousseff, UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon, President of 66th UN General Assembly Mr Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser and Secretary-General of the conference Mr Sha Zukang delivered opening speeches. They said the world leaders are urged to minimize weaknesses in implementing obligations under UN resolutions. Sustainable is first priority and needs leadership. The role of UN General Assembly is important in implementing resolutions adopted by the conference. The achievement of sustainable development goals rests largely on governments, major institutions and all the representatives who were at the conference.

President of UN Economic and Social Council Mr Milos Koterec proposed to adopt obligations for birth rights for new generations by nine major groups women, children and young men, local people, NGOs, regional authority, scientists and farmers; to document damages of nuclear energy and mineral mines; to establish a high-level commission for young men; to recognize rights for food, water and health; to embrace the cultural outlook in sustainable development; to emphasize administration requirements for ecological living and to recognize achievements of Earth Summit.

Heads of State/Government and representative from 58 countries including Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Tajikistan, Zimbhwo, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Algeria, Tuvulu, Nepal, Barbados, Bhutan, Djibouti, New Zealand, Paraguay, St Vincent and Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Republic of Korea, Iran, France, Chile, Argentina, Congo, Hungary and Spain; Prime Ministers of China, Ethiopia, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands; and President of the European Union attended the conference.

The Vice-President posed for documentary photo with the Heads of State/Government, the UNSG and representatives who were attending the conference at Arenaadhaburar Hall in Rio de Janeiro in the evening.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham backs from UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

YANGON, 29 June—After attending the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham arrived back here by air at 4.10 pm today. The Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, region ministers, departmental heads, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua, Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Jose Carlos de Fonseca Junior and embassy officials.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint and departmental heads, left Yangon by air on 18 June afternoon to attend the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro of the Federative Republic of Brazil and arrived Chengi International Airport in Singapore at 9:10 pm local time. They were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Tin Oo Lwin and party.

On arrival at Paris of France through French Airlines, the Vice-President and party were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador to France U Kyaw Swa Min and wife at Churfl de Gaulle International Airport in Paris.

The Vice-President arrived at Rio de Janeiro of the Federative Republic of Brazil via Paris by French airlines at 5 pm local time on 19 June. The Vice-President and party were welcomed at the airport by Charge d’Affaires ai of Brazil Embassy in Brazil Daw Aye Aye San and Liaison Officer Mr Leonardo of Brazil.

Later, the Vice-President and party went to Porto Bay Hotel in Rio de Janeiro by car.

MNA

Tree growing ceremony marks Myanmar Women’s Day

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—As a gesture of hailing Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July, Mon State Women’s Affairs Organization and Mawlamyine Township Forest Department jointly organized the tree growing ceremony in front of Patiynt Drhamna Beikman in Myaynoung Ward of Mawlamyine on 23 June. It was attended by the Chief Minister of Mon State, the Speaker of State Hlutaw, the Chief Justice of the State High Court, the Advocate-General of the State, the Auditor-General of the State, state ministers, departmental officials and members of social associations totalling 673.

At the ceremony, the State Chief Minister and party planted 550 saplings. —MNA

Informal primary education launched in Bago Region

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win yesterday morning attended the opening of informal primary education for 2012-2013 academic year at the town hall in Bago.

In his address, he stressed the need for people to join hands with the government in undertaking informal primary school works.

The Myanmar Education for All Coordinator and the Region Education Officer reported on plans to open informal primary education courses in Bago Region. Wellwishers donated cash and kind for the plan. Officials presented prizes to the outstanding children at informal primary school and middle school level in 2011-2012 academic year. —MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and those present pose for documentary photo. MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Talks on traffic rules were yesterday, attended by headmistress, teachers and students numbering 354. In the afternoon, at Training School (Yangon) of Union Auditor General Office, from 8 am to 5 pm of 7 and 8 July.

On completion, the power plant will generate 152 million megawatt and the power station, concrete and steel construction tasks for the power station, concrete and steel are underway in Myanmar. The Union minister cordially greeted the Australian PM. On 21 June morning, the Vice-President attended Future Cities We Want-Linking and Spreading Sustainable Future Cities event organized by Japan at T-9 Hall of Riocentro Building.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the organizers for their excellent arrangements for this conference. I am convinced that through our deliberations here, the conference will be able to achieve our desired outcome for this long overdue sustainable development.

Thank you.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends Rio+20 side events

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attended side events while attending the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) at Plenary Hall of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro in the Federative Republic of Brazil.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham views displays on sustainable development. MNA

Union EP-1 Minister inspects progress of Nancho Hydropower Project

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min this morning looked into progress of Nancho Hydropower Project on Nancho Creek, 16 miles east of Pyinmaw.

On completion, the power plant of the project installed with two 20-megawatt generators will generate 152 million kilowatt hours yearly and it will be completed in 2013. The Union minister viewed installation of steel pipelines along the gutter to be linked with power intake tunnel No. 1 and No. 2, concrete works at power intake tunnel No. 2, construction of water control tank, side spillway channel and the site for switch yard. He also inspected construction tasks for installation of generator at Unit 1 and Unit 2 in building the power station, concrete works at anchor block at the place for penstock steel pipelines and left necessary instructions.—MNA

Talks on “International Auditing Practices” given

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—“International Auditing Practices” at Training School (Yangon) of Union Auditor General Office, from 8 am to 5 pm of 7 and 8 July.

The certified accountants will get recommendation for CPE hour. Those interested may attend the talks and contact at No.1/9 on Thakhin Mya Garden Road, first floor of the auditor-general’s office training school with registration fees of K 16000 not later than 5 July, dial Ph 214563 for further details. MNA

Saplings planted, fingerlings released at Science and Technology Ministry

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—A ceremony to grow trees as part of monsoon activities in 2012 and release fingerlings, organized by Ministry of Science and Technology, was held at the ministry today.

After growing a teak sapling, Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Naing Maung Maung will give a talk on Saplings planted, fingerlings released at Science and Technology Ministry. (from page 16)

Myanmar believes Green Economy...
NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Huy Aung received American entrepreneurs delegation led by Chairman Mr. William Su of Myanmar Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin receives Vice General Manager Mr Zhou Yuxiang of China Sinopharm International Corporation.

Nav Pyi Taw, 29 June—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received a delegation led by Vice General Manager Mr Zhou Yuxiang of China Sinopharm International Corporation at his office, here yesterday.

They held a discussion on provision of opportunities for building general hospital, women’s and children’s hospital, people’s hospital, upgrading and extending of hospitals, disease diagnosis, providing of modern apparatus for treatment, matters of manufacturing and importing of vaccines and training doctors and scholars.—MNA

Union Health Minister receives China Sinopharm International Corporation

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Nav Pyi Taw,29 June—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint hosted a dinner in honour of delegation led by President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and Speaker of House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie, SE,MM at his residence yesterday evening.

The dinner was also attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyin, chairmen of Amyotha Hluttaw committees, and departmental officials.

The visiting president of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and speaker of Indonesian House of Representatives was accompanied by high-level officials.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker hosts dinner to Indonesian delegation

Nav Pyi Taw, 29 June—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint warmly welcomes AIPA President Indonesian House of Representatives Speaker Dr Marzuki Alie SE MM at the dinner.

Further studies in the United States.

Similarly, the deputy minister met with Executive Production Managers Mr. Thierry Graff and Mr. Gerard Chesnel of TF1 channel based in France at the ministry today.

The guests discussed matters related to aspiration for making videos of beauty spots in Myanmar, especially Myeik Archipelago in December, 2012. They expressed their desires to do so in Bagan and Inlay Lake where are Myanmar amazing places if favoured. The copies of those videos would be freely presented to the ministry.—AIPA

Human stem cells reverse diabetes in mice

VANCOUVER, 29 June — A new research has shown that human stem cell transplants can successfully restore insulin production and reverse diabetes in mice for the first time. The study, conducted by scientists from University of British Columbia (UBC) and the New Jersey-based BetaLogics, a division of Janssen Research & Development, LLC, could pave the way for a breakthrough treatment for the disease.

After the stem cell transplant, the diabetic mice were weaned off insulin, a procedure designed to mimic human clinical conditions, according to the study published online Wednesday in the journal Diabetes Three to four months later, the mice were able to maintain healthy blood sugar levels even when being fed large quantities of sugar.

“We are very excited by these findings, but additional research is needed before this approach can be tested clinically later,” said Timothy Kieffer, one of the 13 authors and researchers during its fifth dive into the Mariana Trench. The Jiaolong got three water samples, two sediment samples and one organism sample, placed a marker, and made several experiments on the seabed floor 7,062 metres deep from the sea surface. —XINHUA

The Taleban does not disclose the nationalities of the victim under the ISAF policy. The Taleban insurgents, who have been waging a decade-long insurgency, announced on 2 May that they would launch a spring offensive starting from 3 May to target Afghan forces as well as US and NATO troops across the country.—XINHUA

Two NATO soldiers killed in eastern Afghan blast

KABUL, 29 June — Two NATO soldiers were killed in a blast in eastern Afghanistan on Wednesday, the military alliance said in a statement on Thursday morning.

“Two International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service members died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in eastern Afghanistan yesterday,” the NATO-led ISAF said in the statement.

The brief statement did not disclose the nationalities of the victim under the ISAF policy. The Taleban insurgents, who have been waging a decade-long insurgency, announced on 2 May that they would launch a spring offensive starting from 3 May to target Afghan forces as well as US and NATO troops across the country.—XINHUA

Visitors watch waterfall of the Xiaolangdi Reservoir in Jiyuan, central China’s Henan Province, on 27 June, 2012. The water discharging operation of the reservoir created a grand waterfall on the Yellow River which attracted many tourists.

XINHUA

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Russia must have funds to tackle new economic crisis: Putin

BRUSSELS, 29 June — French President Francois Hollande on early Friday morning confirmed an earlier report that one of his top military advisers had been initially detained in connection with the November 2015 attack on Charlie Hebdo in Paris, which left 17 people dead.

Hollande confirmed Italian-Spanish threats to block growth pact

President Herman Van Rompuy said late Thursday at a Press conference that EU leaders had not yet agreed on the wider growth pact.

EU leaders attending the ongoing two-day summit had referred the issue to a parallel meeting of Eurogroup Working Group (EWG) of deputy finance ministers, who were expected to discuss the issue the whole night, the two sources told Xinhua. Despite remarkable austerity measures and structural reforms carried out by the two countries, Italy and Spain remain under high financing pressure. On Thursday, Italy paid the most to sell 10-year bond since December, selling the notes to yield 6.19 percent, while Spanish 10-year yields reached 6.34 percent.

UK banks face new scandal; Barclays boss in peril

LONDON, 29 June — Britain will expose on Friday a second scandal involving the country’s banks in as many days, as Barclays boss Bob Diamond clings to his job after regulators slapped a record fine on the lender for rigging interest rates.

The Financial Services Authority will announce it has found evidence that banks mis-sold products to protect small businesses against a rise in interest rates, a person familiar with the matter said.

With public, political and business outrage at bankers’ behavior deepening, the industry is likely to draw compensation claims that could cost it billions of pounds, legal experts say. A string of mis-selling cases has rocked the financial services industry for over two decades and banks are already likely to pay upwards of 9 billion pounds ($14 billion) in compensation for mis-selling loan insurance.

While many of Banks are likely to be drawn into the latest mis-selling scandal, Diamond has found himself first in the firing line after US and British authorities fined Barclays $450 million on June 4 for rigging the more than 6.7 trillion pound London interbank offer rate (Libor).

Prime Minister David Cameron said Diamond—who was running Barclays capital when the compensation for mis-selling claims was announced in 2008—had to answer why he did not have a “big questions to answer.” Britain also called in the fraud squad to investigate possible crimes.

United Technologies sent military copter tech to China

WASHINGTON, 29 June — United Technologies Corp on Thursday admitted selling China software that helped Beijing develop its first modern military attack helicopter, one of hundreds of export control violations over nearly two decades.

At a federal court hearing in Bridgeport, Connecticut, United Technologies and its two subsidiaries, Pratt & Whitney Canada and Hamilton Sundstrand Corp, agreed to pay more than $75 million to the US government to settle criminal and administrative charges related to the violations.

As part of the settlement, Pratt & Whitney Canada pleaded guilty to two federal criminal charges — violating a US export control law and making false statements. Federal prosecutors said the company knew that its export of modified software to China would allow Beijing to test and develop its new military helicopter, called the Z-10, using 16 engines that had been legally exported as commercial items.

They described the company harmed national security while trying to gain access to China’s lucrative civilian helicopter market.

“PW-UTC exported controlled technology to China, knowing it would be used in the development of a military attack helicopter in violation of the US arms embargo with China,” said US Attorney David Feith of Connecticut.

“PW-UTC took what it described internally as a ‘calculated risk,’ because it wanted to become the exclusive supplier for a civil helicopter market, and it had projected revenues of up to $2 billion,” Fein said.

The case comes amid growing US concerns about China’s military expansion and the country’s electronic espionage. Federal authorities have brought five major cases since last February, involving everything from drone technology to radiation-hardened computers used in satellite electronics.

Iraq bomb attacks kill 21, wound scores

BAGHDAD, 29 June — Bombs in and around Baghdad killed at least 21 people and wounded over 100 on Thursday, health and interior ministry sources said, the latest attacks in a bloody month that has stoked fears Iraq could return to civil war.

Tensions have been high in the country since the US troops left in December, with ongoing political crises between Iraq’s majority Shi’ite, Sunni and Kurdish factions further aggravating concerns.

In the deadliest incident, at least eight people were killed and 30 wounded when a bomb in a parked taxi exploded in front of a Baghdad market in the mainly Shi’ite Muslim District of Washish, police said.

There were bodies scattered everywhere. Glass and vegetables covered the whole place,” said police officer Ahmed Nouri, who was on patrol nearby when the bomb detonated.”

I feel like my clothes are completely covered in blood and the smell of it is in my nose,” he said. Most of the victims were women setting up their produce in the early hours before shoppers arrived, he said.

“In some places you cannot tell the blood from the (pulverized) vegetables,” Nouri said.

Violence in Iraq has fallen since the peak of sectarian fighting in 2006-07 following the 2003 US-led invasion but insurgents remain capable of lethal attacks.

Almost 200 people have been killed so far in June in Baghdad and one in a rise in attacks targeting mainly Shi’ite pilgrims and shrines.

The worst incident occurred on 13 June when bombers targeted Shi’ite pilgrims, killing more than 70 people in one of the bloodiest days since US forces withdrew.

Residents inspect the site of a bomb attack in the town of Taji, about 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, on 28 June, 2012. A separate car bomb attack in Taji, a town 20 km (12 miles) north of the capital, killed four and wounded 20 in the early hours of the morning, police said. — Reuters

US soldier killed in shooting at Army base

WASHINGTON, 29 June — A US soldier was killed and two others, including the shooter, were wounded in an incident on Thursday at the Fort Bragg Army base, North Carolina.

The shooting took place during a 25TH battlefield Surveillance Brigade unit safety briefing, when a soldier shot another member of the unit and then turned the weapon on himself, the Pentagon’s US Army Forces Command service reported.

The shooter was injured and is in custody. A third soldier, who was in the area was also slightly wounded in the shooting, the report said. “This is a tragedy for our community. We don’t yet know the reason for the incident, but we are currently investigating,” Fort Bragg, said in a report.

President Barack Obama said on Thursday that he had ordered the Army Criminal, Investigation Command are conducting an investigation into the incident, the report said. Fort Bragg, established in 1918, is a famous US Army base, where the US Army Forces Command and the US Army Reserve Command are located. — Xinhua

Russia must have funds to tackle new economic crisis: Putin

MOSCOW, 29 June — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday urged the government to take into account any scenario of the world economic development and reserve funds in tackling a possible new crisis.

“We must have tools and options to immediately respond, so I ask to draft into the next year’s budget enough reserves to implement anti-crisis measures, if the need occurs,” Putin said in his budget address to the government and the Federal Assembly.

The president also listed seven major problems which hindered the country’s economic development among which was Russia’s heavy dependence on global prices of raw materials. Thus, Putin said, the government should envisage a possible budget adjustment in case of lower oil prices.

“When developing a draft federal budget for 2013 and a planning period of 2014-2015, the government should take into account the possibility of an unfavorable development of foreign economic situations to Russia,” Putin said. The government should plan its spending on the basis of an average oil price in past five years, he said.

Meanwhile, Putin demanded the budget to take into account Russia’s accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

“The budget must foresee measures facilitating the adaptation of our economy to the outcomes of the WTO accession conditions,” Putin said.

Regarding investment climate, Putin said, it depended on the government’s economic policies, budget measures and stability of taxation system. He also instructed that the state’s budget policy must encourage private initiatives, increase business activity and enhance national business competitiveness.— Xinhua

Residents inspect the site of a bomb attack in the town of Taji, about 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, on 28 June, 2012. A separate car bomb attack in Taji, a town 20 km (12 miles) north of the capital, killed four and wounded 20 in the early hours of the morning, police said. — Reuters

People inspect the site of an explosion in southern Baghdad, 29 June, 2012. At least 21 people were killed and more than 100 wounded in two bomb attacks in and around Baghdad. — Reuters

An explosion in southern Baghdad, 29 June, 2012. At least 21 people were killed and more than 100 wounded in two bomb attacks in and around Baghdad. — Reuters
Puerto Rico creates nature reserve in north coast

San Juan, 29 June—Puerto Rico has set aside a north coast that developers have long coveted as a nature reserve. 42 percent of its land and the pristine beachfront property along Puerto Rico’s north coast that developers have long coveted is now a nature reserve. The new reserve, designated a nature reserve designation prohibits construction of large resorts, but allows for ecotourism-related activities, including construction of hotels with a maximum of 70 rooms.

In this June 28, 2008 file photo, cyclists stand on a beach in the Northeast Ecological Corridor Reserve in the municipality of Luquillo in Puerto Rico. The swath of pristine beachfront property along Puerto Rico’s north coast that developers have long coveted is now a nature reserve, ending a bitter and lengthy battle between the government and local environmentalists.

The new reserve makes Puerto Rico has the Northeast Ecological Corridor, located just north of El Yunque rainforest, a popular tourist attraction. The reserve is also considered one of the prime nesting sites for the endangered leatherback turtle. Environmentalists now aim to protect another 1,011 acres (409 hectares) of privately owned land within the corridor on which developers are still allowed to build projects such as resorts, commercial centers and residences, said coalition member and environmental scientist Luis Jorge Rivero.

The local planning board is still studying a proposal to build a mall on one of those private properties, although Riverosaid construction would violate the new law that calls for the preservation and conservation of land within the corridor, even if it is not designated a nature reserve.

The coalition also will seek to reincorporate another 290 acres (117 hectares) that were previously protected when former Gov. Anibal Acevedo Vila established the Northeast Ecological Corridor in April 2008. Fortuno had removed that protection in 2009.

Puerto Rico has dedicated only 8 percent of its land to preservation and conservation, while the Dominican Republic protects 42 percent of its land and the US Virgin Islands 54 percent. According to conservation bills signed by the governor.

Hackers target Japanese govt websites

Tokyo, 29 June—Japanese government websites have been targeted by hackers. An international hacking group, Anonymous, had earlier threatened to attack official sites. The Finance Ministry says it shut down part of its website on Tuesday after the content was tampered with.

The altered page carried a photo of an overseas protest rally and a superimposed message opposing the restart of a nuclear power plant in Japan. A statement by Anonymous also appeared on the site.

Internet users had difficulty accessing the Supreme Court website for more than an hour. The website of a local land ministry bureau was also altered.

Anonymous has claimed responsibility for these 2 cases. Users had difficulty accessing the websites of Japan’s main governing Democratic Party and the largest opposition Liberal Democratic Party.

The hackers’ group released a statement on Monday protesting Japan’s new copyright protection law and threatened to attack government websites.

The law calls for penalties for people who knowingly download pirated music or movie files. Violators could face fines or up to 2 years in prison.—NHK

Cafeteria blast injures 13 in NE China

Harbin, 29 June—A blast ripped through a cafeteria on Wednesday morning, injuring 13 people—two of them critically— in northeast China’s Heilongjiang province, local authorities said.

The explosion occurred at 6:50 am at a cafeteria in Phoenix Town community of Shuangcheng city, said an official with the official with the local public security bureau.

So far, 13 people have been confirmed injured. Two of them were in critical condition and transferred to a hospital in the provincial capital Harbin, said the official.

Altogether 39 people went to an emergency medical centre for health checks.

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Middleboro, Mass., a piece and give the town of megaphone now as an open meeting this month, was passed 183-50 at a town Middleboro bylaw, which led the crowd in repeating Kokesh, 30, a Marine veteran, who use profanities in public. City to protest a bylaw gathered in a Massachusetts rules language. For any fines would have had to have been issued under a 1968 bylaw, which requires a court appearance for obscene language. “We disagree with the idea that the government should be regulating our speech in this way because it’s an individual and family manner,” said Middleboro resident Debbie Lafond, 38, who was accompanied at the demonstration by her 4-year-old son. “Why can they regulate this, what’s next?” Police said they did not receive any complaints about Monday’s protest. They said the bylaw is still in the process of being approved by the state attorney general, so any fines would have had to have been issued under a 1968 bylaw, which requires a court appearance for obscene language.

## Mob hit man’s jewels headed for auction

A Texas auction house announced it is selling more than 250 items, including diamonds that once belonged to notorious Chicago mob hit man Frank Calabrese Sr. Bob Sheehan, owner of the auction firm Gaston & Sheehan, said items include loose diamonds, gold necklaces, gold coins, expensive watches and other items will be auctioned on www.txauction.com on 10 to 24 July to go toward paying the $4.4 million Calabrese, 75, owes the government in restitution and fines, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

## Jessica Biel was nervous about punching Kate Beckinsale

LOS ANGELES, 29 June—Actress Jessica Biel says she did not want to punch her “Total Recall” co-star Kate Beckinsale while shooting the movie. The actress was worried because Beckinsale’s husband and director Len Wisemen was present on the sets of the 1990’s sci-fi remake, reports contactmusic.com. “I was so fearful of hitting her. I was thinking, ‘Please don’t let me hit this woman in the face! Her husband is watching!’ And then I hit her,” Biel told Empire magazine. Beckinsale said: “I like the fact that there’s this fight between Jessica and I and it doesn’t end up that some one’s sleeve is ripped off, or some one’s bra is out. This was as it if it was two guys — and yet it was us kind of madly apologising to each other.”

## Noise pollution upsets Kate Moss

LONDON, 29 June—Model Kate Moss is distressed due to the noise created by construction workers near her mansion. “The noise is constant. She just can’t block it out,” tmz.com quoted a friend as saying.

## No retirement for now: Woody Allen

PARIS, 29 June—He is one of Hollywood’s legendary filmmakers, but Woody Allen feels he is yet to make a great movie and has no plans to quit the industry anytime soon. “I’m 76 now so I don’t think that’s going to happen, but I keep trying,” contactmusic.com quoted Allen as saying.

## Chris Hemsworth hopes to win appreciation for acting

HOW CAMERON is going to helm all three movies at once, the amount of time it will take. “I just show up,” Contactmusic quoted her as telling the publication. Sigourney’s comments come after the 57-year-old—who has directed ‘Titanic’, ‘The Terminator’ and ‘Aliens’—previously admitted that she only plans to make ‘Avatar’ films for the rest of his career.

“Seeing the way all the performers in the movie were involved in the fight for their characters,” Allen said. “I work with a guy once who would chant, ‘I’m beautiful and I have a secret,’ ” she said. — Internet

## Hollywood’s legendary filmmaker Woody Allen

TO ROME WITH LOVE’, yet another movie expected to garner critical acclaim. However, Allen doesn’t feel the same, and claims that he is yet to make a great movie. “I would like to make a movie that I could show unashamedly at a film festival,” he said.

## Rihanna rescued from hotel fire

LONDON, 29 June—Pop star Rihanna and 300 other guests were rescued from a hotel here after a fire broke out in a lift shaft. Femalefirst.co.uk said the 24-year-old tweeted a picture of herself on Wednesday bundled up in the back of a taxi in a grey hoodie and sunglasses and captioned: “Roamin da streets since 6 am!” She also posted a snapshot of a fire engine outside the Corinithia Hotel.

## Man takes aim at laughter world record

An Indian “laughter therapist” said he wants to set a world record by having 25,000 laugh in unison in the same place. Kamlesh Masalawala, who described himself as a full-time “laughter therapist,” said he has taught the merits of laughing to more than 700,000 people and he now wants to use his skills to break the record of 10,000 people laughing together in the Netherlands, The Times of India reported. Masalawala said he wants to gather 25,000 of his students in Surat to laugh together and break the Guinness World Record. The laughter teacher said several local schools have agreed to participate in his attempt, which he is hoping to schedule before the Diwali festival begins in mid-October.

## James Cameron to film 3 ‘Avatar’ sequels back-to-back

WASHINGTON, 29 June—James Cameron is to shoot three sequels of his blockbuster movie ‘Avatar’ at the same time. Actress Sigourney Weaver, who is due to reprise her role as Dr. Grace James Cameron to film 3 ‘Avatar’ sequels back-to-back

## About 60 protest swearing rules

About 60 people gathered in a Massachusetts city to protest a bylaw allowing police to fine people who use profanities in public. Protest organizer Adam Kokesh, 30, a Marine veteran, led the crowd in repeating curses and flashing their middle fingers to protest the Middleboro bylaw, which was passed 183-50 at a town meeting this month, The (New Bedford) Standard-Times reported. “I’d like to open up this megaphone now as an open mic to let anybody who wants to take the stage join me here and give the town of Middleboro, Mass, a piece of their [expletive] mind,” Kokesh told the crowd.

## Montana town up for auction

Wednesday night’s auction for the town of Pray, Mont, will own the buildings as well as receive title insurance for the town. The auctioneer said the town includes a residence, a community centre and a general store. United Country Shobe Auction & Realty said the winner of the town of Pray, Montana.

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**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**
(30-6-12 09:30 am  -  1-7-12 09:30 am) MST
- News
- Champion Challenge Cup (Bodybuilding)
- 2012 & Mr. Crusher & Miss Quench
- News
- Youth of the Future “Photographer”
- News
- Math Challenge Enhancement Workshop
- News
- Journey To Unimaginable Spots (Episode-10)
- News
- Education Malaysia Exposition 2012
- News
- India and Myanmar A Partnership for Progress and Regional Development
- AIB Bank First of many Firsts
- News
- News Tid-Bits (Part-I)
- News
- News Tid-Bits (Part-II)
- Myanmar Movie “Due to this True Haired”

**MYANMAR TV**
(30-6-12)(Saturday)
7:00 am
1. Parita By Venerable Mingon Sayadaw
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
3. Nice and Sweet Song
4. Health Programme 8:00 am
5. Documentary 8:20 am
6. Poem Garden 11:25 am
7. Game For Children 12:15 pm
8. TV Drama Series 2:45 pm
9. One Village & One Product 4:20 pm
10. Cultural Dances 4:30 pm
11. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Physics) 4:50 pm
12. Beautiful “ASEAN” 6:35 pm
13. Celebrity and Dinner 7:00 pm
14. TV Drama Series 8:00 pm
15. News 8:45 pm
17. Cartoon Series 10:40 pm
18. TV Drama Series

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Weather forecast for 30th June, 2012**

**Crossword Puzzle**

**Across**
1. Hot drink
2. Large grayly South American plain
10. "Dang!"
16. 100 cents
17. King or queen, e.g.
18. Gave a fig
19. Exec’s note
20. Communities within a town
23. Costa del
24. Parenthood, essentially
25. Senior petty officer responsible for discipline (3 wds, byphenated)
32. and cheese
33. Hokkaido native
34. Flood
36. Biscotti flavoring
39. "Dear old" guy
40. Gawk
41. Assign to, as blame

**Down**
1. Neon, e.g.
2. Curb, with "in"
3. Exude
4. Rock similar to granite
5. Spiral-shaped cavity of the inner ear
6. Kuwaiti, e.g.
7. Catalan painter Joan
8. Equal
9. Behind the times (2 wds)
10. Believer in social equality
11. Felt bad about
12. Kind of dealer
13. ___ bad*

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**Press conference focuses on development Myanmar gold industry**

**NAY PYI TAW, 29 June**—A press conference on establishment of a public company for development of Myanmar gold industry was held at Chatrium Hotel on Thanlwin Street in Yangon on 27 June morning. Paung U Kyaw Myint and Vice-President U Tun Aung of UMFFCCI made speeches. Managing Director U Kyaw Win explained biographies of Myanmar citizen entrepreneurs, consultant of finance and statistics U Sein Win systematic allocation of capital investment and stock shares and systematic keeping of accounts for sales of shares to the public. Chairman U Khin Maung Han production of gold and other minerals that plays an important role in financial sector of the State, production and trading of quality products through advanced technology.

Myanmar Alin

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and not only a few, but all of us are responsible to do our part. Only by working together can we achieve sustainable development, which refers to securing economic growth as a new development policy, contributing to poverty eradication, improving human welfare, and creating new opportunities and decent jobs. We recognize that sustainability of materials and natural resources is easier said than done, and it should be noted that some of these may never be reversible. Global warming, climate change and sea level rise are to follow, and as a consequence, crop-yield decline and loss of biodiversity are taking place too, at an alarming rate and speed.

Myanmar believes in Green Economy and Green Growth as a new development policy, contributing to poverty eradication, improving human welfare, creating new opportunities and decent jobs. The world population stands at 7 billion today and will reach 9 billion by the year 2050. The combination of the global population increase with associated natural disasters and the material consumption rise will surely have significant implications to our finite planet. As both continue in the upward trend, negative impacts such as global warming, climate change and sea level rise are to follow, and as a consequence, crop-yield decline and loss of biodiversity are taking place too, at an alarming rate and speed. It should be noted that some of these may never be reversible. Myanmar believes in Green Economy and Green Growth as a new development policy, contributing to poverty eradication, improving human welfare and creating new opportunities and decent jobs for all, while maintaining the healthy cycle of the ecosystems.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (29-6-2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bilin</td>
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The Vice-President was cordially greeted by Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and Heads of State/Government. (Full text of the Vice-President is reported separately.)

Next, Vice-Presidents of Burundi and Vanuatu, Prime Ministers of India, Lebanon, Turkey and Australia, Deputy Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, Laos, Vietnam, Kuwait and Kajikistan, ministers of various countries and representatives made speeches.

The Vice-President also attended the fifth Plenary Meeting of the Third Day Session of the conference on 22 June. Heads of State/Government and representatives of 72 countries delivered speech.

In the evening, the respective groups submitted the advanced roundtable meeting conference and the evidence committee presented the report and seeking approval from the representatives for agreements submitted by the third preliminary meeting.

Next, the conference came to an end.