President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Belarusian President

*Nav Pyi Taw, 3 July—* U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Alexander Lukashenko, President of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Belarusian Prime Minister

*Nav Pyi Taw, 3 July—* U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Myasnikovich, Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2012.—MNA

Ministry of Sports holds 20-kilometre walking race

*Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—* The Ministry of Sports is holding Inter-Region/State Champion Challenge Cup (2012) with 28 sports events with the aim of achieving success in the XXVII SEA Games, of turning out athletes of international standard, and of emerging of new generation sportsmen. As the third batch, it held the 20-kilometre walking race in front of the marathon event control office this morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan.

Next, the Union minister met with sportsmen and stressed the need for marathoners to try hard to secure prizes to winners in walking and marathon events.

MNA

Spain routs Italy 4-0 in Euro 2012 soccer championship

Spain’s players celebrate with trophy after defeating Italy to win Euro 2012 final soccer match at the Olympic Stadium in Kiev, on 1 July.

Woods moves past Nicklaus with AT&T National win

Internet

Blake beats Bolt again to secure Jamaican sprint double

Yohan Blake (C) crosses the finish line during their men’s 200 meters final at the Jamaican Olympic trials in Kingston city on 1 July, 2012.
PERSPECTIVES
Tuesday, 3 July, 2012

Real men don’t buy girls

Today the country celebrates Myanmar Women’s Day. To make the most of it, we should consider how our community could outlaw gender discrimination and how far our women empowerment measures have reached as this gender group is tagged as the vulnerable population. A number of non-governmental organizations and government organized non-governmental organizations have tasked themselves with helping the women who constituted above half of the country’s population. They, hand in hand with government institutions, have succeeded somewhat in the fight against human trafficking. Despite illegal status of prostitution in Myanmar, massage parlours and beer pubs act as the black market for the flesh trade. It is unusual in Myanmar where strict moral disciplines rule daily life of the people that such immoral practice is growing. Provided that we could offer decent jobs and incomes to the girls working in the industry, we could save many reluctant weaker gender from falling into the industry. Frequent crackdown on the industry is not a panacea for the problem even if it is essential. We need to create more job opportunities that offer decent salaries to the female workforce. And, last not least, we also need to distance ourselves away from the industry as even our modest involvement could ruin lives of many girls who were not offered decent living.

Union Mines Minister visits rehydration salts workshop

Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htuk visited rehydration salts workshop of Myanmar Salt and Marine Products Enterprise in Taikkyi Township on 30 June. He held meeting with personnel and inspected repairing of production equipment and storage of raw materials. He inspected the functions of warehouse branch No.3 Mining Enterprise on Yangon-Insein Road and attended to the needs. —MNA

Union Foreign Minister felicitates Belarusian counterpart

Nav Pyi Taw, 3 July—U Wisu Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Sergei Martynov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus which falls on 3 July 2012.—MNA

SCG sharing the dream in Myanmar presents scholarships

Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—Siam Cement Group granted scholarships to outstanding students under “SCG sharing the dream in Myanmar 2012” at International Business Centre, Hluttaw Township this morning, with a speech by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe. The Chief Minister speaking on the occasion said the sustainable development of nation depends on youths of future generation. The Chief Minister warned the students there not to abuse drugs and to avoid indulgence. The programme of the SCG would promote the friendship between Myanmar and Thailand, expressed the region chief minister thanking the SCG for its contribution to educational performance of Myanmar youths. Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pisum Suwanjata and SCG Cement Group Chairman Mr Pramote Techasputkaj made speeches.

The region minister, the Thai ambassador, the region social affairs minister and the SCG chairman presented scholarships and stationery.

The programme is the first of its kind SCG in Myanmar in commemoration of its 99th anniversary. The group has selected 99 students who are ambitious and wishing to continue education from Yangon and Mawlamyine for its programme, among which 50 are from Yangon.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe presents scholarship award to a student.—MNA

Kyaue Township plants saplings as rainy season activity

Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—Kyaue Township Forest Department and Myanmar Elephant Cement Plant jointly held the rainy season tree growing ceremony 2012 around the cement plant in Taungtaw region of Than Village in Kyaue Township yesterday morning. Director of Mandalay Region Forest Department U Aung Than Win reported on growing of trees in the region and Managing Director of the cement plant U Aung Win Khaoing explained purpose of holding the ceremony.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint presented saplings to three cements. The Chief Minister and party viewed cultivation of saplings at the designated places. They planted about 2000 saplings. The Forest Department has distributed 3.2 million saplings to district and township nurseries for growing them in the rainy season.

MNA

Furniture, stationery donated to BEPS in South Okkalapa Township

Yangon, 2 July—A ceremony to present furniture, stationery, school uniforms and cash donation was held at No 15 Basic Education Primary School in South Okkalapa Township on 7 June, with an address by Township Administrator U Khin Maung Htoo.

Yangon Region Hluttaw representatives U Aung Kyaw Moe and U Myo Min Aung, Township Assistant Education Officer U Ye Htut Aung, Headmistress Daw Khin Sein Oo, Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Tin and Chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Thida Aung presented furniture, stationery, school uniforms and cash assistance to schoolchildren.

MNA
**Northeast India floods kill 79, displace 2 million**

Flooding as heavy rains destroyed thousands of flimsy homes, blocked roads and swamped fields.

"So far 79 people have died in separate incidents of boat capsizing or have drowned while trying to escape the gushing waters and also in landslides," state authorities said in a statement.

The statement added that an estimated 2.2 million people had been displaced, with thousands of homes wrecked and more than 500,000 people being sheltered in relief camps.

"We have opened makeshift relief camps for the displaced, while many more were forced to take shelter on raised platforms and in tarpaulin tents," Assam's chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma told AFP.

Officials said more than 70 percent of the Kaziranga National Park, famous for its tigers, one-horned rhinos and elephants, was submerged under water.

"The animals are trying to move to safer areas," park warden Sanjib Hota told AFP.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and the Egytian president visited Assam on Monday to take an aerial survey and inspect relief work.

In the adjoining states of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, monsoon rains caused widespread flooding but there were no reported deaths.

**Ireland’s monthly death toll hits 131 in June: official figures**

**Baghdad, 2 July—**The monthly death toll among Iraqis from violence in June reached 131 Iraqis, while a UN official media-based tally gave much higher figures to the month’s toll. Official figures compiled by the Iraqi ministries of interior, defense and health showed that a total of 131 people have been killed by the violence across the country in June, including 85 civilians and 46 security members.

The latest official toll is almost the same that of May, when the authorities put the death toll at 132, including 90 civilians and 42 security members. They also showed that a total of 269 people were wounded in June, including 111 civilians and 158 security members.

Meanwhile, data by Xinhua based on security and medical sources, showed different figures for June’s death toll which has exceeded 300 victims among both civilians and security members.

Only one of the month’s deadliest attacks that occurred on 13 June, during which up to 78 people were killed and some 300 wounded by a wave of coordinated bombings and gunfire struck the Iraqi cities, mainly targeted Shiite pilgrims and human rights activists during the days of one of major Shiite religious rituals, said Xinhua.

**Mexico’s old rulers claim presidential election win**

**Mexico City, 2 July—**The party that ruled Mexico for most of the 20th century claimed victory in a presidential election on Sunday as a senior election official said the party’s candidate, Enrique Pena Nieto, held an irreversable lead over his rivals.

The telegenic candidate of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) had about 38 percent support and a lead of at least six percentage points over his nearest rival, according to an official “quick count” by election authorities.

A series of exit polls also gave Pena Nieto a clear victory.

The election completed a dramatic comeback for the PRI, which ran Mexico as a virtual one-party state for 71 years before it was finally ousted in a 2000 election.

“Mexicans have given our party another chance. We are going to honor it with results,” Pena Nieto told supporters in the capital shortly after the quick count was announced.

“THe result is irreversible,” Benito Nacif, one of the Federal Electoral Institute’s board members, told Reuters.

Departing President Felipe Calderon of the conservative National Action Party, or PAN, congratulated Pena Nieto on his victory, but the second-placed leftist challenger Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador refused to concede defeat.

“The last word has not yet been spoken,” he told supporters.

Lopez Obrador could choose to challenge the election, as he did six years ago when he narrowly lost to Calderon and launched months of protests against alleged fraud.

He has said in recent weeks that this election campaign was plagued with irregularities, raising concerns that he might again call his supporters onto the streets.

Josefa Vazquez Mota of the PAN trailed in third place in Sunday’s election with no more than 26 percent of the vote, the official quick count said.

**Attacks on Kenyan churches kill 17**

Paramedics attend to a woman wounded during an attack on the African Inland Church in Kenya’s northern town of Garissa on 1 July, 2012.—Reuters

Kenyan police say seven attackers had hurled grenades into the Catholic Church and the African Inland Church (AIC) and then opened fire with assault rifles.

A 35-year-old churchgoer said 11 people were wounded, including a four-year-old girl, after three CREATE ISAF soldiers were wounded in the attacks in Garissa, the north Kenya town in which Garissa, the north Kenya town in which more than 60 people were wounded in the attacks, the news agency said.

"This is the worst single attack since October when our troops went into Somalia," national police spokesman Eric Kiraithe told Reuters. "It is the worst in terms of the numbers killed, the manner of execution, the anger behind it and the anguish it has aroused as well as the national impact it has had."

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attacks in Garissa, a largely Muslim town of 150,000 with a significant ethnic Somali population.

Police said they expected al Shabaab sympathizers or bandits may have been behind the raids, but it was too early to say.

Separately, in Somalia, al Shabaab declined to comment. White House spokesman Jay Carney said the United States "strongly condemned" the attacks at a time of transition in the country.

Kenya is due to hold an election next March.

Regional deputy police chief Philip Nekol told Reuters from Garissa that seven attackers had hurled grenades into the Catholic Church and the African Inland Church (AIC) and then opened fire with assault rifles.
‘Stunted’ pot plants cannot reach full potential

The MRI scans show how barley (left) and sugar beet (right) plants arrange their roots. Internet

Falling lizards use tail for mid-air twist, inspiring lizard-like ‘RightingBot’

New York, 2 July — Lizards, just like cats, have a knack for turning right side up and landing on their feet when they fall. But how do they do it? Unlike cats, which throw their bodies onto the side to bend their torsos to turn upright, lizards swing their large tails in a way to rotate their body back up, according to a recent study that will be presented at the Society for Experimental Biology meeting on 29th June in Salzburg, Austria. A lizard-inspired robot called ‘RightingBot’, replicates the feat.

This work, carried out by Aridjan Jessufi, Robert Full and colleagues at the University of California, Berkeley, explains how captured animals can turn themselves right side up while falling through the air. It could also help scientists to design robots for better stability. “It is not immediately obvious which mechanism an animal will use to accomplish aerial righting and recover from falling in an upside-down posture. Depending on body size, morphology and mass distribution there are multiple strategies for animals to execute this behavior,” said Aridjan Jessufi, lead author of the study.

Space exploration: staring into the dark

London, 2 July — The European Space Agency— of which, for the time being, the UK remains a fully engaged member—has quietly cleared for takeoff a space mission to address the biggest question of all: what is the universe made of? Galaxies, stars, black holes, asteroids, planets and people together add up to only a trifling 4% of all that there is. The remaining 96% is mysterious and very dark. The agency’s Euclid is an optical and infrared space telescope that will be launched in 2020, to spend six years a million miles beyond Earth, measuring with subtle techniques and exquisite precision the geometry, distribution and acceleration of billions of galaxies across distances that extend 10bn light years back in time.

Modern observational science began when Galileo turned a rudimentary pair of lenses on the moon and Jupiter. The paradox is that each great advance since then has successively also exposed even bigger questions about the firmament above and the consciousness around us. It was only in the 1960s that radio astronomers confirmed that space-time, radiation and atomic matter all had their origins in a big bang less than 20bn years ago. But even now, people have begun to puzzle about the behaviour of the galaxies: none of them seemed to have anything like the gravitational mass implied by their shape and structure.

That was the point at which physicists began to propose a mysterious component of the universe called dark matter. This strange stuff does not shine or glow, does not bounce off anything or announce its existence in any recognized way.

New brain scanner helps paralysed people spell words

London, 2 July — A new brain scanner has been developed to help people who are completely paralysed speak by enabling them to spell words using their thoughts. It uses functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to help patients choose between 27 characters — the alphabet and a blank space — using a headset. The device produces a different pattern of blood flow in the brain, and the device interprets these patterns. The British Neurological Association called the research “exciting”. The study appears in Current Biology journal of Cell Press. fMRI is normally used to track brain activity by measuring blood flow.

The new technology is based on earlier applications of the technique, which involves free-letter spelling to allow people to answer the equivalent of multiple-choice questions with just a few possible answers. British neuroscientist Adrian Owen, for instance, used fMRI to help one man believed to have been in a vegetative state for five years to answer “yes” and “no” questions by interpreting his brain activity. But the new scanner uses the pattern of blood flow from the alphabet and the blank space.

Survey finds more US teens hide online activity from parents

New York, 2 July — More and more teenagers are hiding their online activity from their parents, according to a US survey of 1,000 internet behavior released recently. The survey, sponsored by the online security company McAfee, found that 70 percent of teens had hidden their online behavior from their parents in 2012, up from 45 percent of teens in 2010, when McAfee conducted the same survey.

“There’s a lot more to do on the Internet today, which ultimately means there’s a lot more to hide,” said McAfee spokesman John Siciliano. McAfee spokesmen cited the explosion of social media and the wider availability of ad-supported pornography as two factors that have led teens to hide their online habits. The increased popularity of phones with internet capabilities also means that teens have more opportunities to hide their online habits, he added. “They have internet access wherever they are at this point,” Siciliano said.

The survey found that 43 percent of teens have accessed simulated violence online, 36 percent have read about sex online, and 32 percent went online to see nude photos or pornography...

Italian regulator threatens Apple with new fines

Milan, 2 July — Italy’s competition regulator is threatening Apple Inc with further fines of up to 300,000 euros ($381,000) if it does not offer local customers a free one-year guarantee for up to 300,000 euros, the source close to the watchdog said on Sunday. In Italy, consumers who buy electronic products and other durable goods have the right to get two years of free assistance, irrespective of other warranties offered by a manufacturer.

The AGCM, the competition and market authority has already imposed fines of 500,000 euros on Apple, which offers a paid technical support service, for failing to tell consumers about its right to free assistance. But months after the publication of the request, the source said, the company currently offers a free one-year guarantee scheme, which can be extended to two years on payment of a fee. “The antitrust (authority) has opened a procedure of non-compliance against Apple, complaining about two unlawful practices,” the source told Reuters. “If they do not comply, they risk fines for up to 300,000 euros,” the source said.
China banks took 29 pct of 2011 global profit

LONDON, 2 July — Chinese lenders accounted for almost a third of global bank profit last year, up from 4 percent in 2007, as they grabbed market share given up by struggling European peers, according to The Banker magazine’s annual rankings.

Three Chinese banks topped the profit table, led by Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) for the second successive year, with pre-tax earnings of $43.2 billion, according to The Banker.

ICBC was followed by China Construction Bank which delivered a $34.8 billion profit, and Bank of China with earnings of $26.8 billion.

JPMorgan was fourth with a profit of $26.7 billion, while HSBC was the most profitable European bank, with earnings of $21.9 billion.

Bank of America topped the magazine’s Top 1,000 list for the second year, which uses Tier 1 capital as a measure of a bank’s ability to lend on a large scale and endure shocks.

JPMorgan was second in that table, with four Chinese banks in the top 10 for the first time — ICBC ranked third, CCB was sixth, Bank of China ninth and Agricultural Bank of China 10th.

National Bank of Greece reported the biggest loss last year — $17.4 billion, followed by Belgian group Dexia.

Euro zone banks accounted for 6 percent of global profit last year, compared to 46 percent five years ago and their 45 percent share of global assets, the Banker estimated.

In contrast, Chinese banks accounted for 29.3 percent of global profit last year, the magazine said. It said the Tier 1 capital of Bank of America was $15.9 billion at the end of 2011, slightly down from a year before but $9 billion more than JPMorgan.

Bank of America also topped The Banker’s first Top 1,000 list 42 years ago, when it was based on assets rather than capital.

Asian stocks inch higher on Europe optimism

SINGAPORE, 2 July — Asian stock markets edged higher Monday amid continued optimism over Europe’s moves to ease its debt crisis and economic malaise.

Japan’s Nikkei 225 index rose 0.2 percent to 9,020.93 and South Korea’s Kospi gained 0.2 percent to 1,857.26.

Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 index added 0.1 percent to 4,140.

China’s Shanghai Composite index added 1.1 percent to 4,140.

South Korea’s Kospi gained 0.2 percent to 9,020.93 and Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 index added 0.1 percent to 4,140.

Breathalyzer tests compulsory on all vehicles in France

PARIS, 2 July — All vehicles travelling on French roads must carry a chemical or electronic breathalyzer test beginning Sunday, under new rules aimed at reducing alcohol-driven accidents.

“Alcohol has been the main cause of mortality on roads since 2006,” according to road security authorities.

About a third of fatalities on French roads is due to drink driving, a rate that far surpasses the 7 percent recorded in Britain or 10 percent in Germany.

According to a survey published Sunday, just over half of respondents said they have yet to equip their vehicles with breathalyser tests. Those who fail to do so risk a fine of 11 euros ($14) from 1 Nov, 2012, when the penalty comes into force.

Drivers are split over the measure. “I find it absurd to be booked for that. But it’s the law,” said Francoise Vallin, a senior manager in the Toulouse-based group. “We also want guarantees that there will be more employment in France for the intermediate sections,” she added.

Airbus builds large aircraft sections in its four founding nations — Britain, France, Germany and Spain. These are shipped, trucked or flown by Beluga, its giant blue jumbo which transported newsapers, to final assembly lines in Toulouse, France or Hamburg, Germany.
**People return to charred cities after Colorado wildfires**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, 2 July—**Residents began returning to charred areas of Colorado Springs on Saturday after a destructive wildfire in Colorado's history forced tens of thousands of people from their homes and left the landscape a blackened wasteland.

Bears and burglars posed further danger to home owners who headed back to towns and cities after the fire, which killed two people. The so-called Waldo Canyon Fire has scorched 17,659 acres, burned 346 homes and devastated communities around Colorado Springs, the state's second-largest city, since it began eight days ago. Governor John Hickenlooper said he believed the worst was over and almost all of the blazes around Colorado were under control.

"Now we're beginning to look at how do we rebuild and begin the recovery. But we also know that Mother Nature can be pretty fickle out there, so we're keeping ourselves very alert," Hickenlooper told CNN's "State of the Union."

Two more homes were looted overnight in the Colorado Springs area for a total of 24 during the disaster that forced an estimated 32,000 residents to evacuate, authorities said.

To maintain order, 163 National Guard troops were on the ground under orders from President Barack Obama, who toured the area on Friday.

**Bombs kill four, judge shot as Iraq attacks grind on**

**BAGHDAD, 2 July—**Bombers killed four people in two Iraqi cities and gunmen assassinated a judge, officials said on Sunday, as US officials ramped up attacks six months after the last US troops withdrew.

Three coordinated bomb attacks within minutes of each other Sunday morning that struck the central city of Tikrit, 130 kilometers (80 miles) north of Baghdad, a provincial official said. A civilian walking by was killed and two others were wounded.

In this 29 June, 2012, file photo, Zainab was shot by a sniper as she returned home from work. She was wounded in the leg and had blood all over her shirt.

**Bombs kill four, judge shot as Iraq attacks grind on**

A helicopter hovers over a hilltop after dropping water to combat the Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado Springs, Colorado on 1 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Many of those allowed to stay home remained without power. Colorado Springs residents from the Mountain Shadows neighbourhood, where many homes were destroyed, were being allowed back to view their properties during the day on Sunday, but were being required to clear the area by 6 p.m. Mandatory evacuation orders were being lifted for some other parts of the city effective on Sunday night and by evening dozens of vehicles could be seen winding their way up roads that had been closed for days.

About 3,000 residents remained forced out of their homes on Sunday afternoon, officials said, adding that among areas that were reopening to the public were the Pike's Peak highway and Garden of the Gods park.—Reuters

**US state of Texas faces doctor, nurse shortages**

**HOUSTON, 2 July—**The southern US state of Texas is in need of 71,000 more family physicians by the year 2020, said a local media report Sunday.

The forecasts were carried in The Fort Worth Star-Telegram, the local newspaper.

The US Supreme Court ruled Thursday that President Obama's healthcare overhaul, including its "individual mandate" requirement that most Americans obtain health insurance by 2014 or face a penalty, is constitutional. The Supreme Court's decision to uphold the core part of President Barack Obama's healthcare overhaul could give millions of uninsured Texans access to healthcare, but that access will mean little if there are insufficient medical personnel to deliver healthcare, said the newsreport, claiming that the shortages of doctors and nurses are a problem for Texas and the country as a whole.

The law, which reaches full strength in 2019, shifts the healthcare focus toward prevention, making primary-care workers even more important as it highlights workforce deficiencies, said the report.

Texas, which has struggled in the past decade to increase working primary-care doctors and nurses, has met roadblocks, including few residency slots available for first-year medical school graduates and the low amount of money that doctors are reimbursed by Medicare and Medicaid, according to the newspaper.

**Arctic drilling creeps forward now, and in 5 years**

**ANCHORAGE, 2 July—**In choppy water under blue sky off Bellingham, Wash, a Shell Oil crew on Monday lowered a "capping stack" 200 feet in the water and put it through maneuver with underwater robots connected by cable to operators on the surface, a test that fulfilled one of the final steps required for permission to drill exploratory wells in Arctic waters.

The capping stack looks like a giant spark plug and is designed to kill an undersea oil well blowout by providing a metal-to-metal seal on a malfunctioning blowout preventer.

Shell is sending the capping stack, skimmers, boom and a containment dome on board a Fortila accompanying drill ships to Alaska's northern shores as part of a spill response plan that has the blessing of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

Shell expects final approvals within weeks and drilling by late this month.

But environmental groups contend the government has it wrong.

"Despite relieves put in place of the Deepwater Horizon blowout in the Gulf of Mexico, their basic objections remain. Shell has vastly overstated its ability to respond to a worst-case scenario spill in open water," said attorney Holly Harris of Earth Justice, and no oil company has demonstrated its ability to clean up a spill that lingers into the Arctic's eight months of sea ice.

A spill will threaten whales, polar bears, ice seals and walruses, plus the Alaska Native subsistence communities that depend on the ocean's bounty, according to environmental groups.

The federal government requires a spill response plan to show how the drilling company will clean up a worst-case discharge in adverse weather. Shell's worst case for drilling in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas is a spill of 25,000 barrels per day.

Environmental groups have seized on the phrase that for planning the onshore response, "the worst case discharge scenario assumes that 10 percent of the 25,000 barrels per day discharge escapes the primary offshore recovery effort at the blowout."

Said Harris, "If you base a spill plan on the assumption that 90 percent of it is going to be recovered in the open water, and only, quote, 10 percent of the daily discharge is going to escape those cleanup efforts, then you don't have to have as many spill response assets near shore protecting things like coastlines, lagoons and the near-shore environment."

**30 insurgents killed in Afghanistan**

**KABUL, 2 July—**Up to 30 Taleban insurgents have been killed and 14 others arrested in operations carried out by Afghan forces and NATO-led coalition troops in different provinces in the past 24 hours, the Afghan Interior Ministry said on Monday.

"Afghan National Police (ANP), Afghan army and NATO-led coalition troops launched four joint cleanup operations in Kabul, Helmand, Wardak and Ghazni provinces, killing 30 armed Taleban insurgents and detaining 14 others over the past 24 hours," the ministry said in a statement providing daily operational updates.

Two other insurgents have been injured during the above raids, the statement added, without saying if there were any casualties on the side of security forces.

"The ANP also discovered and confiscated 12 AK-47 guns, two rocket launchers, three PK-M machine guns, 12 different types of mines, seven hand grenades, 2,010 kilograms of opium, six magazines, one vehicle and a motorcycle during the above raids," the statement added.

According to figures released by Interior Ministry, more than 1,420 insurgents have been killed and over 1,950 others detained since the beginning of this year.

**In this photo taken 25 June, 2012 near Bellingham, Wash., released by Shell Alaska, members of Shell’s well delivery group, along with representatives from the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement witnessed the deployment of the capping stack that will join Shell's Alaska drilling fleet. The device looks like a giant spark plug. —INTERNET**
Endowed with bountiful biodiversity and mineral resources Myanmar has many traditions of nature and man interaction. Added to these nature’s gifts are the belief systems of which Buddhism dominates, are the catalysts that cause creation of several religious objects since the days of yore. Bells of different sizes and weights were made and are being made, are the producers of religious music as well as the announcers of the performance of noble deeds and are being made, are the producers of religious music as well as the announcers of the performance of noble deeds.

The Dhammazedi Bell: a landmark in Myanmar campanology

Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja, Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nunt

The Dhammazedi Bell is located in the city of Yangoon, Myanmar's capital. It is a landmark in Myanmar campanology and is considered one of the most important religious objects in the country. The Bell was cast in 1571 AD by King Dhammazedi, who was known for his patronage of the arts and crafts and his belief in the importance of religious music.

The Dhammazedi Bell

The Dhammazedi Bell is the largest bell in Myanmar, with a diameter of 10.8 meters and a weight of 53 tons. It is housed in a bell tower, which is also known as the Dhammazedi Bell Tower. The bell is made of brass and is decorated with intricate designs.

The Dhammazedi Bell is a symbol of the spiritual and cultural heritage of Myanmar. It is a testament to the country’s rich history and the strength of its Buddhist traditions. The bell is a place of pilgrimage for Buddhists and is visited by thousands of people each year.

Bank erosion causes trouble to villagers

YANGON, 2 July—Chindwin river passing through Yesagyo Township of Pakokku District overflows its nearby villages. Floods from the river flow along Shiteintan Village of Yangoon TownshipInformation and Public Relations Department on 30 June.

Insein Township

Patron of the association U Kyaw Hla (journalist) made a speech. Insein Township Writers Association Chairmain U Aye Shwe (Aye Shwe-Ketumadi) recounted his experiences from the First Conference of Myanmar Writers Association.

Maubin Township Cooperative Syndicate holds AGM

MAUBIN, 2 July—Maubin Township Cooperative Syndicate held the annual general meeting for 2011-2012 fiscal year at its office on 24 June.

It was attended by Staff Officer U Thein Naing of Township Cooperative Department and commissioner members, Chairman of Township Cooperative Syndicate U Soe Myint and members of the Board of Directors, audit team and representatives of basic cooperative society. Chairman of the syndicate U Soe Myint and Staff Officer U Thein Naing made speeches. Managing Director U Than Tun read the financial report, and leader of the audit team Daw Le Yin Aye the auditing report. Those present took part in the discussions.

Health knowledge given in Insein Township

YANGON, July—Yangon North District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee organized the talks on health knowledge and the cash donation ceremony at TB Hospital in Aung San Ward of Insein Township on 28 June. Chairperson of Yangon North District MCWSC Daw Sein Soe made a speech. Next, Dr. Khin Aye Myint gave knowledge on TB disease. After that, the Chairperson of District MCWSC and party donated K 200,000 to the hospital through Medical Superintendent Dr. Daw Thanda Hsim. Later, they presented refreshments worth K 320,000 to patients.
Course on good governance in political transition conducted

**Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min addressing the opening of Good Governance in Political Transition.**

NAV MYAW, 2 July—Course on Good Governance in Political Transition of the Ministry of Rail Transportation was opened at the meeting hall of the ministry this morning. Making a speech on the occasion, Union Minister U Aung Min said that efforts are to be made to enlist the strength of the people in State building and Nation building, adding serious steps should be taken in that regard. As service personnel play a pivotal role in the process, they are to make strenuous efforts to realize the objectives.

The course will cover the role of the people, especially the role of women in peace making, the State building, the Nation building, the role of the State constitution, the Civil Military relations, experiences of ASEAN nations as to State building, Nation building, political economies and national races politics which are instrumental in political transition, he noted. Also present on the occasion were Union ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, trainees, course instructors and others.

**Myanmar-Japan Joint Seminar held**

**Those present pose for documentary photo at Joint Seminar of Project for Capacity Development of Business Personnel jointly held by UMFCCI and JICA.**

NAV MYAW, 2 July—Jointly organized by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federations of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), a Joint Seminar of the Project for Capacity Development of Business Personnel was held at UMFCCI office tower, on Min Ye Kyun Swa Road in Lannmadaw Township, here, this morning. At the workshop, Vice-President of UMFCCI U Thaung Tin and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Takashi Saito extended greetings. Next Director General Ms Kyoko Kuwajima of JICA explained facts about the workshop. During the workshop, Advisor to development of private sector of JICA Mr Khaing Nwe discussed factors to promote quality and clean in work place.

**Signboard to mark Myanmar Women’s Day put up in Monywa**

**Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min addressing the opening of Good Governance in Political Transition.**

NAV MYAW, 2 July—A ceremony to put up signboard to mark the Myanmar Women’s Day was held in front of the city hall in Monywa of Sagaing Region on 29 June morning. At the ceremony, Patron of the Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw San San Yi and Chairperson of Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Nwe cut the ribbon to open the signboard.

**Mohmyin Township Administrator U Sai San Win awards championship trophy to Oktin ward team which beats Naka ward team 1-0 in final match on 29 June.**

**Myanmar National Human Rights Commission welcomes signing of Plan of Action for Prevention against Recruitment of the Under-Aged Children for Military Service**

NAV MYAW, 2 July—The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission issued a statement today. The full text of the statement is as follows:-

**The Statement of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission**


2. The Committee on Prevention of the Recruitment of the Under-Aged Children for Military Service was established in 2004 to prevent the recruitment of the under-aged children. In this regard, the Committee had also established the Working Group on Monitoring and Reporting and the Working Group on Reintegration and Rehabilitation and has been engaged in cooperation with the United Nations Agencies in Myanmar.

3. It is known that, with the objective of making its actions transparent, the Committee had frequently made arrangements for the chiefs and representatives of the United Nations Agencies, the Embassies and the Offices of the Military Attachés in Yangon to visit the recruitment and training centers.

4. The commission believes that the signing of a Plan of Action in carrying out the activities for preventing the recruitment of the under-aged children for military service in Myanmar is tantamount to the manifestation of the political will of the Government to effectively cooperate with the United Nations.

5. Since the prevention of the recruitment of the under-aged children for military service is a task that enhances the images of the country in the United Nations as well as in the international community, the Commission hopes that the Plan of Action will be successfully implemented by the organizations concerned, including the United Nations.

**Distinction winners honoured in Myanmar Tsp**

NAV MYAW, 2 July—Honouring ceremony for outstanding students in 2011-2012 matriculation examination was held at Aungzeya Hall of Myanaung Township, here, yesterday.

Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay and Ayeawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung made speeches.

Next the Union Minister presented prizes to schoolheads from the best pass rate awards winning schools and stipends for the number of war veterans. The Region Chief Minister and officials gave prizes to outstanding students.

In 2011-2012 academic year, Myanmar Township brought 171 distinction winners. The Union Minister inspected dredging of lake in Myo Shwekyun Pazarai School in Monywa and pressed the bottom to open the stone inscription. He then planted a commemorative sapling.

Next he attended the donation ceremony of books and stationery in Yoskon Dhammayon in the compound of Parahita School.

The Union minister donated stationery for 140 students to the Chairman of Township Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaw.

**Duties assigned in Falam Township**

NAV MYAW, 2 July—A ceremony to assign duties of projects for 2012-2013 fiscal year was held at the meeting hall of Township General Administration Department in Falam of Chin State on 29 June morning.

At the ceremony, Falam Township Administrator U Myo Naing assigned those in-charges in respective sectors with duties of projects.

**Statement of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission**

The course will cover the role of the people, especially the role of women in peace making, the State building, the Nation building, the role of the State constitution, the Civil Military relations, experiences of ASEAN nations as to State building, Nation building, political economies and national races politics which are instrumental in political transition, he noted. Also present on the occasion were Union ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, trainees, course instructors and others.

The course will cover the role of the people, especially the role of women in peace making, the State building, the Nation building, the role of the State constitution, the Civil Military relations, experiences of ASEAN nations as to State building, Nation building, political economies and national races politics which are instrumental in political transition, he noted. Also present on the occasion were Union ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, trainees, course instructors and others.
Plan to facilitate school, dispensary to Pannel Village of Tachilek Township

TACHILEK, 2 July—Arrangements are being made to build schools and dispensaries for development of education and health services for the rural people in Pannel Village of Tachilek Township.

Shan State Lahu National Race Minister U Sha Mway Lashen, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Wilson Moe, State Hluttaw representative Daw Tin May Tun and departmental officials made field trip to Pannel Village of Monghe Village-tract and met local people. They explained plans to carry out development tasks of the village to them. The Lahu National Race Minister of the State discussed the plan to upgrade self-reliant Basic Education Primary School to the State-owned BEPS and to build the rural dispensary for the local national races and replied to queries raised by the local people.

After that, the Lahu National Race Minister and party inspected the site for construction of the BEPS. They chose the land there both the school building and the sports ground can be constructed. Later, the Amyotha Hluttaw representative donated 500 bags of cement for construction of the new school building.—Myanma Alin

Citizenship cards presented to students

YELLOW, 2 July—Staff of Bahan Township Immigration and National Registration Department issued citizenship scrutiny cards to eligible citizens at Basic Education High School No 2 in Bahan Township on 27 June afternoon.

The head of Yangon Region Immigration and National Registration Department presented citizenship scrutiny cards to the students. —Township Immigration

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Mongphyat

MONGPHYAT, 2 July—The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held at the place in Zaydan Ward of Mongphyat Township on 25 June morning.

At the ceremony, Col Ko Lay of local station and Deputy Commissioner U Soe Lin of District General Administration Department presented saplings to regiments and units, departmental personnel and social organizations. Next, the Hluttaw representatives, local regiments and units, district and township level departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people participated in tree growing ceremony. They planted 100 saplings on the occasion.—Myanma Alin

Outstanding students in matriculation examination honoured in Dedaye

DEDAYE, 2 July—Dedaye Township Pass Rate Raising Committee and Old Student Education Supporting Committee jointly organized the ceremony to present prizes to outstanding students in matriculation examination 2011-2012 academic year at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 17 June.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Tin Shwe made a speech. Next, officials presented prizes to outstanding students, stipends to needy students and top pass rate award to the respective school and medicines and cash assistance to retired teachers of above 75 years old. —Township GAD

New concrete bridge put into service in Naungtaya Sub-Township

NAUNGTAYA, 2 July—A ceremony to commission Phayabyu concrete bridge into service was held on 20 June morning on Naungtaya Sub-Township in Taunggyi District of Shan State (South). On the occasion, Sub-Township Administrator U Khun Kyaw Moe made a speech. Townselder U Khin Thein reported on construction of the bridge. The bridge is of reinforced concrete and it is 50 feet long, 18 feet wide and 30 feet high. —Myanma Alin

Sanitation carried out for proper flow of drains

YELLOW, 2 July—With the aim of ensuring proper flow of water at drains, local people and members of social organizations carried out dredging of drains, silt and sanitation work at No 6 Park in Ward 18 of Shwepyitha Township on 30 June.

Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Win of Shwepyitha Township and Township Administrator U Aung Moe Oo inspected sanitation works and attended to the needs. The tasks to be proper flow of water at drains are carried out in Shwepyitha Township as mass activity every Saturday. —Myanma Alin

School uniforms provided to students in Mongphyat

MONGPHYAT, 2 July—Mongphyat Township Development Affairs Committee presented school uniforms to students of vendors at Bayintnaung Hall of Mongphyat on 27 June.

Executive Officer U Win Naing Oo of Township Development Affairs Committee presented uniforms to the students. —Myanma Alin

DISTRIBUTION NEWS

Outstanding students honoured in Twantay

YELLOW, 2 July—A ceremony to honour outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination for 2011-2012 academic year with flying colours was held at the administrative office of East Ohbo Ward in Twantay Township on 24 June evening.

Region Hluttaw representative Dr Ohn Kywe, Ward Administrator U Than Aye and officials presented prizes to the outstanding students.—Myanma Alin

Alms, day meals offered to over 100 members of the Sangha

PATHINE, 2 July—Speaker of Ayeayawaddy Region Hluttaw Thayay Sithu U Hsan Hsint, wife Daw Khin Ma Lay and family together with well-wishers donated day meals to the Chairman Sayadaw of Kyonpaya Township Sangha Nayaka Committee and 110 members of the Sangha from the monasteries at Pyinuphay Phaygyi Monastery in Kyonpaya Township of Pathein District recently.

Moreover, they served over 200,000 people with lunch. Likewise, they donated meals to over 100,000 at the monastery in Kyaukhaung Village of Yeikyi Township. —Myanma Alin

Executive committee of Kokkine Swimming Club meets

YELLOW, 2 July—The annual general meeting of Kokkine Swimming Club for 2011-2012 fiscal year was held at its hall on Saya San Road in Bahan Township yesterday morning. At first, Patron of Kokkine Swimming Club U Kyi Nyunt made a speech. Secretary of the Executive Committee U Cho Maung Tin Shwe made a speech. Next, the new executive committee was elected. They elected U Han Tun Maung (Sein Hlyan) as Chairman, U Cho Maung as Secretary and new executives for 2012-2013 fiscal year.

After that, the new chairman made a speech and Patron U Kyi Nyunt made a concluding remark. Kokkine Swimming Club was established in 1904. —Nyi Nyi Soe Nyunt

CITIZENSHIP CARDS

Mongphyat Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Pabedan Village of State Hluttaw representative Daw Tin May Tun and wardselder U Khin Tun Thein were among those who attended the ceremony.

Moreover, they served over 200,000 people with lunch. Likewise, they donated meals to over 100,000 at the monastery in Kyaukhaung Village of Yeikyi Township. —Myanma Alin

Kokkine Swimming Club was established in 1904. —Nyi Nyi Soe Nyunt

Citizenship cards presented to students

YELLOW, 2 July—Staff of Bahan Township Immigration and National Registration Department issued citizenship scrutiny cards to students of No 2 Basic Education High School on Shwebontha Street on 25 June morning as part of efforts to implement Moe Pwint-3 Plan.

Pabedan Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Aung Hsan, departmental officials and ward administrators provided necessary assistance to the work process of staff members.—Township INRD

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 3 July, 2012
Monghsat grows saplings as environmental conservation

Monghsat, 2 July—The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held near Sassaw village on 23 June.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Tin Aung presented saplings to the head of the Township Forest Department, staff, and members of social organizations. They planted over 500 saplings on the occasion.

Township Forest

Outstanding students honoured in Insein Township

Yangon, 2 July—An educative talk to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at the Insein Township Police Station on 26 June.

According to the agenda, Township Administrator U Tin Win read the message sent by the Union Minister for Home Affairs and Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association U Tha Tun at the 2012 International Day against Trafficking in Dynmausay, here, on 26 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Tin Win presented K 5.065 million as cash assistance to 145 students.

Talks on threat of narcotic drugs given in Tamway

Yangon, 2 July—An educative talk to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at the Insein Township Police Station on 26 June.

According to the agenda, Township Administrator U Tin Win read the message sent by the Union Minister for Home Affairs and Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association U Tha Tun at the 2012 International Day against Trafficking in Dynmausay, here, on 26 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Tin Win presented K 5.065 million as cash assistance to 145 students.

Trees planted in DaikU as rainy season activities

DaikU, 2 July—As part of the rainy season tree growing ceremony, the Township Forest Department held the rainy season tree growing ceremony 2012 at junction of Ooyeine-Ookhintaung mile post No 72/4 of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway on 24 June morning. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Kyaw Swa Aung and Staff Officer U Tin Naing Kywe of the Township Forest Department, staff, and members of social organizations, organized the future dangers of narcotic drugs. After awarding the prize winning students, Chairman of the Township ANA U Hla Tin explained the future tasks.

Marketable Seintalon mango plantations extended

Yedasse, 2 July—Seintalon mango plantations are being grown at the lands of forest reserve along the both sides of expressway passing Yedasse Township of Bago Region. To be able to extend the plantations of Seintalon mango, land preparations are being made by reclaiming the lands.

Seintalon mango fruits are being exported to China via Mase. Due to high demand, the cultivation of plants are being extended.

Awards honored students in matriculation examination

Myingyan, 2 July—Awards were given to the students who have passed the matriculation examination with flying colours.

Students in Myeik get knowledge on traffic rules

Myeik, 2 July—Head of the Myeik District Directorate of Road Administration gave a talk on traffic rules to about 500 students of Basic Education High School No 3 in Myeik of Tanintharyi Region recently.

Cash donated to Myanmar Fire Brigade

Yangon, 2 July—In the reception and book launching to mark the birthday ceremony of film actor Moe Yan Zun was held at Padamya Hall of Central Hotel, here, on 25 June. At the ceremony, actor Moe Yan Zun explained that he will donate proceeds from sales of his owned created book to people of Rakhine State and explained the purpose of donations to Myanmar Fire Brigade.

Next, the actor presented K 500,000 to five members of Fire Brigade who died in action of fighting fire in explosions in Mingala Taungnyunt Township through Head of Yangon Region Fire Services Department U Kyi Win.

Equestrian Contest marks 90th birthday ceremony of film actor Moe Yan Zun

Myanma Alin

A ceremony to assign duties of responsible persons of local station and departments concerned, officials of Township General Administration Department and head of Township Forest Department participated in the celebration season.

Awards honored students in matriculation examination

Myingyan, 2 July—Awards were given to the students who have passed the matriculation examination with flying colours and presented stipends to the students for 2012-2013 academic year at the hall of Insein Township General Administration Department on 30 June morning.

Region Minister for Transport U Aung Khin made a speech. After that, officials presented K 870,000 to 13 outstanding students and K 5.065 million as cash assistance to 145 students.

DUTIES ASSIGNED: A ceremony to assign duties of projects for 2012-2013 fiscal year was held at the hall of Kyaukkhawt Township General Administration Department on 26 June. Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Zeya presents letters of assignment to ward 9 administrator U Than Sein.
Forest fires continue to hang over Spanish cities

WASHINGTON, 2 July—Two forest fires in the Spanish region of Valencia on Sunday continued to flamel sore, burning an area of 45,000 hectares, said local government.

The fires which broke out on Thursday in the regions of Cortes de Pallás and Andilla, in the east coast of Spain, have affected 18 municipalities, and six villages have had to be evacuated.

Despite the lower temperatures and some rains and showers, the fires continue to advance, said authorities. Around 2,000 firefighters have been mobilized to extinguish the fires, with the support of 30 aircraft and helicopters.

Of the 2,000 firefighters, 1,100 are working in the area of Cortes de Pallás, where 30,000 hectares have been burned since the emergency began, while 1,500 hectares have been devastated around Andilla.

Spain’s Military Emergency Unit also deployed some 900 members to collaborate in the firefighting task and the Unit confirms this is the largest fire to have affected the area in the past 20 years, with changeable winds and high temperatures complicating their work.

Spain has been suffering from wildfires following a dry spring and recent high temperatures, which are expected to climb to over 30 degrees centigrade by the middle of the coming week.

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France lowers 2012 growth forecast ahead of budget revision

PARIS, 2 July—France will lower its economic growth forecasts for this year aspart of revised budget the government will present later this week to meet its public deficit targets, Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici said on Sunday.

The country’s national audit office is expected to reveal a shortfall of about 80 billion euros ($10.15 billion) on Monday when it publishes the results of an official review of public finances that new President Francois Hollande ordered.

In an interview with Le Figaro newspaper, Moscovici said the government would forecast a 0.7 percent growth for this year from 0.7 percent when its revised budget is presented on the cabinet on Wednesday.

“As for 2013, everybody knows that we won’t reach 1.7 percent. (So) betting on a range between 1 percent to 1.3 percent seems more credible,” he said.

Without citing sources, the newspaper said the government would need to fill a gap of between 7.5 billion and 8 billion euros to meet its deficit target of 4.5 percent of gross domestic product this year from 5.2 percent in 2011.

“We will have to adjust immediately the 2012 budget because the one put together by the last government would not enable us to reach the 4.5 percent deficit by year-end,” Moscovici said.

“The audit office should confirm that certain measures to be taken, in the range of 15 billion euros, will not be financed.” Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault will outline the government’s strategy for restoring the health of the public finances in a speech on Tuesday.

The government source confirmed to Reuters last week the budget revisions would contain about 7.5 billion euros in new tax measures, including an increase in wealth tax, the abolition of a tax exemption for overtime, and new levies on banks, oil product stocks and company dividends.

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Apple pays $60 m for iPad trademark in China

GUANGZHOU, 2 July— Apple Inc has agreed to pay 60 million US dollars to Proview technology (Shenzhen) to settle the dispute over the iPad trademark, the Higher People’s Court of Guangdong Province announced Monday.

Apple has transferred the money to the account designated by the Guangdong higher court, and the Intermediate Court of Shenzhen on Monday notified the State Administration for Industry and Commerce to transfer iPad’s trademark to Apple, the higher court said.

The court said the settlement agreement went into effect on 25 June.

Proview Shenzhen, a Shenzhen-based maker of computer screens and LED lights, claimed it had the rights to use the iPad trademark in a number of countries and regions as early as 2000.

Though Apple bought the rights to use the iPad trademark from Proview Taipei in 2009, Proview says it reserves the right to use the trademark it registered on the Chinese mainland in 2001.

The two sides have since been embroiled in a drawn-out legal battle. Guangdong’s higher court heard the case in February as Apple and its proxy for the trademark ruling by Shenzhen intermediate court in favour of Proview.

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“Green Fleet” sails, meets stiff headwinds in Congress

WASHINGTON, 2 July— A US Navy oiler slipped away from a fuel depot on the Puget Sound in Washington state one recent day, headed toward the central Pacific and into the storm over the Pentagon’s controversial green fuels initiative.

In its tanks, the USNS Henry J. Kaiser carried nearly 900,000 gallons of biofuel blended with petroleum to power the cruisers, destroyers and fighter jets of what the Navy has taken to calling the “Great Green Fleet,” the first carrier strike group to be powered largely by alternative fuels.

Conventionally powered ships and aircraft in the strike group will burn the blend in an operational setting for the first time this month during the 20-nation Rim of the Pacific exercise, the largest annual international maritime warfare maneuvers.

The six-week exercise began on Friday.

The Pentagon hopes it can prove the Navy looks as impressive burning fuel squeezed from seeds, algae and chicken fat as it does using petroleum.

But the demonstration, years in the making, may be a Pyrrhic victory.

Some Republican lawmakers have seized on the fuel’s $26-a-gallon price, compared to $3.60 for conventional fuel.

They paint the program as a waste of precious funds at a time when the US government’s budget remains severely strained, the Pentagon is facing cuts and energy companies are finding big quantities of oil and gas in the United States.

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New Zealand to put Pacific case for strong UN treaty on illegal arms trade

WELLINGTON, 2 July— New Zealand will present a Pacific-wide appeal for a comprehensive United Nations treaty to stop the illegal arms trade, the government announced on Monday. As current Pacific Islands Forum Chair, New Zealand would present the common regional position on the treaty during negotiations at the United Nations in New York this week, Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully said in a statement.

These weapons often end up in the hands of terrorists, criminals and human rights abusers,” McCully said. “Illegally traded arms have a devastating impact on the security and development prospects of communities worldwide. This is of serious concern to the New Zealand government, and why we have been a leading advocate of a strong and comprehensive Arms Trade Treaty.”

New Zealand was one of more than 150 governments supporting better regulation of the global trade in conventional weapons loosely defined as anything from bullets to battleships, he said. The Arms Trade Treaty negotiations stem from a 2009 UN resolution.—Xinhua

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Pedestrians walk past an Apple store advertising the iPad. The US technology giant has paid $60 million to a Chinese firm to settle a long-running dispute over the iPad trademark in China, a court said on Monday.—INTERNET

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The US House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) pauses at a news conference on President Barack Obama’s signature healthcare law on Capitol Hill in Washington 28 June, 2012.—REUTERS

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US House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) pauses at a news conference on President Barack Obama’s signature healthcare law on Capitol Hill in Washington 28 June, 2012.—REUTERS

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A member of the US Navy watches the USS Roosevelt as it passes the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour, while arriving for the 25th annual Fleet Week celebration in New York, on 23 May, 2012.—REUTERS

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French Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici leaves a news conference at the Bercy ministry building in Paris on 13 June, 2012.—REUTERS
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SN HARMONY VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SN HARMONY VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD.

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (101)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (101) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV POSITIVE STAR VOY NO (73)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV POSITIVE STAR VOY NO (73) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Missing Wimbledon hawk returned

A surgeon from the Tianjin Medical University General Hospital conducts a minimally invasive operation on a cataract patient in north China’s Tianjin Municipality, on 29 June, 2012. The hospital’s application of a minimally invasive technique in cataract surgeries has made patients’ recovery less risky.

NINNA

A US gymnast Kayla Ross performs on the floor at the US Olympic gymnastics trials in San Jose, California on 26 June, 2012. Reuters

Rufus’ Twitter account, written by his owners, said: “We can confirm the news is true RUFUS HAS BEEN FOUND safe and well and reunited with family!! Thank you so much for your support #FindRufus”. "Visitors to the world’s most famous tennis tournament often stop to have their picture taken with the four-and-a-half year old, which was reared by the family-run business Avian Environmental Consultants.

Internet

Chinese police patrol a street in Urumqi, the capital of the restive Xinjiang region. Chinese authorities say crew and passengers travelling on a plane that had just taken off from a restive city in China’s far-western Xinjiang region have thwarted a hijack attempt by six Uighurs.
**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV TU SON VOY NO(-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **MV TU SON VOY NO(-)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**AGENT FOR:** M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

**Phone No:** 256924/256914

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV HOANG ANH 05 VOY NO(-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **MV HOANG ANH 05 VOY NO(-)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(1) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**AGENT FOR:** M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD

**Phone No:** 256924/256914

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO(1226)**

Consignees of cargo carried on **MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO(1226)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**AGENT FOR:** M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

**Phone No:** 256908/378316/37679

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**Botsawana worker trapped in collapsed diamond mine hopeful of being found Sunday**

**Gaborone, 2 July—**A worker trapped during a series of wall collapse in Jwaneng diamond mine in south-central Botswana, is expected to be found on Sunday as the collapse stopped by Saturday morning and rescue team steps up in moving soil.

In an interview with Xinhua on Saturday, Debswana’s spokesperson Easter Kasamba-Senai said the mine walls were still collapsing at a minimum until Saturday morning, and after the collapse was stopped, “the Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources gave us a go ahead to carry on with the rescue mission.”

“Of current the rescue mission is a moving soil and we expect to be done by tomorrow morning,” she said, “hopefully we will find the remaining person we are searching for alive.”

Operations at the world’s richest diamond mine by value was currently halted following the collapse of the mine walls in the early morning of Friday trapping inside 16 workers who were on night duty.

Rescue workers got to work immediately to try and rescue the trapped miners and managed to reach 1 of them while the remaining miner was still trapped by Saturday.

Senai said the 16th worker still trapped was a truck driver whose truck was buried with heaps of soil while driving out of the mine, and the cause of the collapse was still yet to be established.

The 25-year old cast mine located 120 km west of the capital Gaborone employs over 2,000 people. The mine is currently operating at a depth over 300 metres and expected to reach 624 metres by 2017. This is the second diamond mine accident in June in Botswana.

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**Russian in plane crash killing delayed in Germany**

**Berlin, 2 July—**A Russian man who was convicted of killing an air traffic controller he blamed for a plane crash in which his wife and children died was held for several hours as he tried to enter Germany to mark the accident’s anniversary.

Vitaly Kaloyev was convicted in Switzerland in 2005 and released in 2007 after German Federal police spokesman Albert Poeschke said he arrived at Munich airport Saturday morning but was held because he was barred from entering Switzerland. Germany and Switzerland belong to Europe’s passport-free travel zone.

Kaloyev was let into Germany Saturday afternoon on papers valid only for that country. On 1 July, 2002, a plane operated by Russia’s Bashkirian Airlines collided with a DHL jet over Swiss-controlled airspace over southern Germany.

The crash killed 71 people.—Internet

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**Bristol-Myers to buy Amylin for about $5.3 billion**

**New York, 2 July —**Bristol-Myers Squibb Co will buy biotechnology company Amylin Pharmaceuticals Inc for about $5.3 billion in cash, helping Bristol-Myers extend its portfolio of diabetes treatments with the addition of drugs Byetta and Bydureon. Bristol-Myers said late on Friday it had also reached a follow-on deal with UK-based AstraZeneca Plc to collaborate on developing Amylin’s products once the buyout is completed, expanding upon an existing partnership between the two pharmaceutical makers in diabetes treatments.

AstraZeneca will pay $3.4 billion in cash for these rights. Bristol-Myers and AstraZeneca already collaborate on several diabetes treatments including Onglyza, and aim to strengthen their position in a growing, multibillion-dollar market. More than 360 million people worldwide have diabetes, with the overwhelming majority suffering from type 2 diabetes, a condition partly attributable to the rise in obesity in many countries. In a statement, Bristol-Myers Chief Executive Lamberto Andreotti described the deals as a unique way to build on its relationship with AstraZeneca, which “demonstrates Bristol-Myers Squibb’s innovative and targeted approach to partnerships and business development.”

The boards of directors at Amylin, Bristol and AstraZeneca have approved the two transactions, the companies said. Amylin began approaching potential buyers in April after rejecting a previous $3.5 billion offer from Bristol-Myers, and facing pressure from activist investor Carl Icahn.

In all, five pharmaceutical giants including AstraZeneca, Novartis AG and Sanofi SA were in the running for Amylin before the matter told Reuters this week.—Reuters

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**Nigerian police detonate two bombs in restive northern state**

**Jos, Nigeria, 2 July—**Two bombs planted by suspected terrorists were hacked to death on Saturday in Jos, capital of Nigeria’s central north Plateau State, police authorities have said.

State police spokesperson Alphonsus Aligwe confirmed this to reporters, saying the bombs were planted in a bridge linking Goli-Hoss and Riyen, some 40kilometers from Jos, capital of the restive northern state.

“Following a tip-off, a police anti-bomb squad went to the scene and were able to detonate and evacuate the bombs,” he said.

Emmanuel said detonation of the bombs was done without any damage to the bridge and that no casualty was recorded during the operation.

The police spokesman said no arrest had been made in connection with the incident but that investigation had commenced.

He said the situation in the area and the state at large had been very calm and urged all law-abiding citizens to go about their lawful activities without fear as the police and other security agencies were on top of the situation.—Xinhua

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**Citizens wearing veils ride bicycles in downtown Zhengzhou, capital of central China’s Henan Province, on 1 July, 2012. Zhengzhou suffered a lasting soaring weather in recent days, with the highest temperature hitting 36 degrees Celsius on Sunday.—Xinhua

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**Algeria, 2 July—**Algerian officials say a dead man three more were wounded when an explosive-laden car was driven into their command post in the southern city of Oum el Bouaghi that had been issued by the military did not say whether the driver died in Friday’s pre-dawn attack, which partially collapsed the post, or if the driver was caught or fled.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack in the city, some 800 kilometres (500 miles) south of Algiers.

A similar attack in March wounded 23 people at a command post in Tamanrasset, near the border with southern Mali, again claimed by the Islamist extremist group MUJAO, which is among rebel factions that have taken over northern Mali.—Internet

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**Bastille, 2 July—**AstraZeneca will pay about $5.3 billion in cash for Amylin, a biotech company it had bought in 2007 for about $5.3 billion in cash, helping Bristol-Myers extend its portfolio of diabetes treatments with the addition of drugs Byetta and Bydureon. Bristol-Myers said late on Friday it had also reached a follow-on deal with UK-based AstraZeneca Plc to collaborate on developing Amylin’s products once the buyout is completed, expanding upon an existing partnership between the two pharmaceutical makers in diabetes treatments.

AstraZeneca will pay $3.4 billion in cash for these rights. Bristol-Myers and AstraZeneca already collaborate on several diabetes treatments including Onglyza, and aim to strengthen their position in a growing, multibillion-dollar market. More than 360 million people worldwide have diabetes, with the overwhelming majority suffering from type 2 diabetes, a condition partly attributable to the rise in obesity in many countries. In a statement, Bristol-Myers Chief Executive Lamberto Andreotti described the deals as a unique way to build on its relationship with AstraZeneca, which “demonstrates Bristol-Myers Squibb’s innovative and targeted approach to partnerships and business development.”

The boards of directors at Amylin, Bristol and AstraZeneca have approved the two transactions, the companies said. Amylin began approaching potential buyers in April after rejecting a previous $3.5 billion offer from Bristol-Myers, and facing pressure from activist investor Carl Icahn.

In all, five pharmaceutical giants including AstraZeneca, Novartis AG and Sanofi SA were in the running for Amylin before the matter told Reuters this week.—Reuters
Jack," Woods told reporters... won and obviously passed two-under-par 69 to finish at when he shot a final round of... when he captured Tiger Woods overtook Jack and Juan Mata gave the world books after goals from David... margin in a World Cup or Spain took their place among... Alvaro Arbeloa during... holds the trophy after... Olympic stadium in... winning the AT&T... Tiger Woods of the US... on Sunday. The victory gave... to score in the modern age. Starting without a recognized striker because David Villa was unfit for the tournament and Torres' form has been erratic, Del Bosque... put his faith in midfield magicians like Cesc Fabregas, Andres Iniesta, Xavi, Xabi Alonso and the incomparable Sergio Busquets. They created the chances for themselves and they knew how to take them too.

Spain's second goal came from left back Jordi Alba, who burst through a static defense like a midfielder, picking up the ball from Xavi’s pass like Usain Bolt collecting a baton in a relay before slotting home. Four-time world champions Italy were in danger of losing from as early as the 14th minute when Spain took the lead through a rare header from the diminutive Silva. Italy responded before half-time with a volley from Balotelli having an off night, the task looked beyond them. Their midfield playmaker Andrea Pirlo, so impressive in the earlier rounds, was also eclipsed and looked on in tears as Spain collected the trophy at the end Cruelly for Italy, their plight was not helped when their third substitute Thiago Motta limped off with a hamstring injury soon after making his debut. Spain then had to see out the final minutes with just 10 men for the last 30 minutes. Italy had more possession than Spain in the opening half but when they did have a sniff of goal, Iker Casillas maintained his astonishing record of not conceding a goal in the knockout stage of a tournament for the 10th successive match. The Spain goalkeeper also reached another milestone with a record 106th win for his country. The only other team to claim three successive major titles was Argentina who lifted the Copa America in 1945, 1946 and 1947 when the tournament was held annually However, that feat pales into insignificance compared to Spain’s achievement thus is the pace and the demands of the modern game. Somewhere Spain have not only been able to cope with those demands but have risen way above them.— Reuters

**Tiger Woods of the US holds the title after winning the AT&T National golf tournament at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland on 1 July, 2012.—Reuters**

**Italian’s Daniele De Rossi (R) challenges Spain’s Alvaro Arbeloa during their Euro 2012 final soccer match at the Olympic stadium in Kiev, on 1 July, 2012. —Reuters**

**40.— Reuters**

**Woods moves past Nicklaus with AT&T National win**

BRITISHISLES, 2 July — Tiger Woods took his place among the game’s greats by thrashing Italy 4-0 to retain their European title on Sunday, the biggest victory margin in a World Cup at Euro final — and all without a recognized striker. Their success rewrote the tactical handbook and the record books after goals from David Silva, Jordi Alba and later substitutes Fernando Torres and Juan Mata gave the world champions an ultimately easy victory over an Italian team down to 10 men through injury for the last half-hour. "It was a great match for our players, they controlled the game," Spain coach Vicente Del Bosque told reporters. "But there is not one football, the important thing is to score goals. We have strikers but we decided to play to play with players who were better with our style." Italy coach Cesare Prandelli added: "They made history and deservedly—they have a lot of players who are tried and tested at this level and even though they don’t play with a classic striker they certainly cause you plenty of problems." While Spain’s brilliant performance brought them a fully deserved success, what they achieved needs to be placed in some historical perspective, if only because their tiki-taka short-passing style has been criticized during the tournament. Spain have become the first national side to win three major tournaments in the modern era after their Euro 2008 success and World Cup victory two years ago and have equaled Great Britain’s all-time record of three European titles. Sunday’s win also beat the victory margin Helmut Schön’s West Germany side recorded for a Euro final with their 3-6 win over the Soviet Union in 1972. Two years later Schön led West Germany to a World Cup triumph, a unique double success for a coach until Del Bosque matched it on Sunday. Torres became the first player to score in two Euro finals and, together with his Chelsea club mate and fellow scoring substitute Mata, became one of a handful of players to win the Champions League and European Championship in the same season. Other records were eclipsed too as the Spaniards refined what it takes to be successful at the elite level of the game in the modern age.

**Spain routes Italy 4-0 in Euro 2012 soccer championship**

EUGENE, 2 July — Wallace Spearmon surged down the finishing straight to win the US Olympic trials 200m in a quick but wind-adjusted 19.92 seconds on Sunday. The victory gave Spearmon, who missed out on a medal at the Beijing Olympics, a chance for the first time in his career and to do it at 36, I feel one will come soon. number four believes the next last major victory, the world... six years since his earlier this season, and while... the NW Arkansas title... Miyazato missed a 15-foot... one group later when Mika Miyazato missed a 15-foot birdie putt on No 18 sent Miyazato to 12 under for the tournament, and her victory at Pinec... one come soon. "I remember there was a time when people were saying I could never win again. That was, I think, what, four months ago and here we are," he said. "It was just a matter of time. We could see the pieces coming together." (Coach) Sean ( Foley) and I were working and we see what’s coming, and we can see the consistency, and it’s just a matter of time. This was an American and playing partner Bo Van Pelt closed with a 71 to finish alone in second, one shot ahead of Australian Adam Scott, who charged up the leaderboard with a final round 67.— Reuters

**Spaarnen eases to trials victory in depleted 200m**

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

**Wallace Spearmon Jr (C) crosses the finish line to win the men’s 200m meters final ahead of Shawn Crawford (L) and Isiah Young at the U.S.—Reuters**

**Spaarnen eases to trials victory in depleted 200m**
Blake beats Bolt again to secure Jamaican sprint double

KINGSTON, (Jamaica), 2 July — Yohan Blake set himself up as the man to beat in London with a stunning 200 meters victory, beating world record holder Usain Bolt for a second time in three days to bring the Jamaican Olympic trials to an explosive conclusion on Sunday.

Blake, who shocked Bolt with an emphatic win in the 100m on Friday, followed it up with an even more impressive performance in the 200m, catching the triple Olympic gold medallist down the stretch before holding him off in the closing metres.

The winner clocked a time of 19.80 seconds, to a massive roar from a frenzied crowd at the National Stadium. Bolt secured his Olympic spot by taking second in 19.83, grinning as he received the silver medal from a frenzied crowd at the National Stadium. Bolt secured his Olympic spot by taking second in 19.83, grinning as he received the silver medal from a frenzied crowd at the National Stadium.

Blake beat Bolt, who looked a bit out of sorts, down the stretch, breaking their 200m rivalry for another win.

Ward earned the third spot on the Jamaican team, taking third in 20.03. Bolt ended the race lying flat on his back and applauding his Jamaican rival, who has not claimed a single individual title at the Olympic level.

Blake said he shifted up the gears, they prepared and when Spain came up, things got more intense.

It was a hard-fought match, but the younger generation was showing their mettle.

For many of our squad, it was their first final so that’s why it’s a huge disappointment,” he said.

“Gianluigi Buffon, who led Spain to their first European title in 2008, broke new ground by becoming the first team to win the back-to-back European championships.

Bosque didn’t forget to show his praise for his predecessor Luis Aragones, who led Spain to their first European crown since 1964 at the EURO 2008 finals.

“After Vienna, Luis was the man, he was the man who made Spain the best in the world,” the coach said.

The expected classic final lost its charm and competitiveness with 30 minutes left when the third substitute Thiago Motta played only about four minutes and was injured, forcing Italy to play with one man less.

“Italy had a great tournament but had that injury to Metta. And the game effectively ended then. They had one less day of rest. They played a good tournament,” said the coach.

Nyaunglebin, 2 July — As monsoon activity, the rainy season tree growing ceremony 2012 was held at Basic Education High School No 2 in Nyaunglebin Township on 28 June.

Head of Nyaunglebin Township Forest Department U Kyaw Win Sein, Township Administrator U Tinhan Soe and departmental officials, teachers, students and staff of Forest Department grew 120 saplings on the occasion.

Weather forecast for 3rd July, 2012

**Humbred Italy praise best team in the world**

Kay, 2 July — Italy captain Gianluigi Buffon spoke of his disappointment at having missed out the Euro 2012 title but said he could only congratulate winners Spain.

The world champions were a cut above on the day and romped to a 4-0 thrashing that was accentuated by the playing the last half hour of a man down after Thiago Motta limped off on coach Cesare Prandelli had already exhausted his substitutions.

By then Italy were already two goals down and reduced to virtual spectators, according to midfielder Daniele De Rossi. But for Buffon there was no shame in losing to the best.

“Maybe in the Confederations Cup against Brazil (it was similar), we lost 3-0 and were never in the game, but this is a little different. It was a final,” Italy had drawn 1-1 with Spain in their opening group game of the tournament in a match that could have gone either way.

But by the time they arrived at the final, they were always playing a day after their opponents and therefore had 24 hours less to prepare. And when Spain shifted up the gears, they couldn’t respond. — Internet

**Del Bosque hails “a great era for Spanish football”**

Kay, 2 July — Spain’s coach Vicente del Bosque highly praised his side who stood on top of Europe by beating the 10-man Italy 4-0 in the final on Sunday night.

“This is a great era for Spanish football,” said the experienced coach, who won history as the only second coach to win the World Cup and European championship.

“We played well, got the first goal and though Italy responded well we reacted with a second.”

“Our success is historic but we have to be looking to the future and qualifying for Brazil,” added the 61-year-old.

David Silva’s header, Jordi Alba’s cool finish, Fernando Torres and Juan Mata’s goal relay in the last 10 minutes ensured the reigning world and European champions to become the first team in football history to clinch three major titles in a row.

“This is a great generation of players. They have roots and know how to play because they come from a country that knows how to,” said the coach. Spain also broke new ground by becoming the first team to win the back-to-back European championships.

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Cash, kind supplied to local people in Rakhine State

The teams will be set up under the guidance of the Commander of the auxiliary fire brigade company. Medical servicemen of the army and the Rakhine State Government can also be supplied to provide services daily to the local people at the relief camps of Rakhine State.

Well-wishers donate cash and clothes for local people of Rakhine State through officials.

Amnesty granted

Nav Pyi Taw, 3 July—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in accordance with Section 204 (a) of the State constitution granted a general amnesty for 46 prisoners—37 men and 9 women—with a view to ensuring the stability of the State and making eternal peace, national reconciliation, enabling all to participate in political process; on humanitarian grounds; and turning them into citizens who could participate in nation-building endeavours in whatever way they can after realizing the magnanimity of the State; and deported 34 foreigner prisoners with a view to maintaining mutual friendship and friendly ties between the two countries and on social grounds starting from the Fullmoon Day of First Waso 1374 ME (3 July 2012) under Section 401 (1) of Code of Criminal Procedure.—MNA

World has 5 mn test tube people: estimate

Cash, medicines donated for people in Rakhine State

Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—People in Rakhine State have lost their property and houses recently because of situations that occurred in the State. For the sake of saving their lives, a cash and medicine donation ceremony was held in the hall of Rakhine State Hluttaw yesterday morning, attended by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin and region ministers, regional departmental personnel, the Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization and artists. At the ceremony, Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Development Lie-Gen Thein Huy and his wife donated K 50,000 and Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win and wife K 100,000 for sufferers in Rakhine State. Rakhine State Development Affairs Committee Director U Aung Kyaw Min accepted the donations. The artistes of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization also donated K 90 million and medicines worth K 50 million to the Rakhine State Chief Minister. Next, Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization U Zin Waing explained the purposes of donations and Chairman of Financial Subcommission of Rakhine State Government U Soe Aye spoke words of thanks.—MNA

Medical servicemen of Directorate of Medical Service care for local people

Medical servicemen provide health care services to local people at relief camps in Sittway.

Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—At 10 am today, the medical servicemen of Directorate of Medical Service of the Commander-in-Chief(Army)’s Office and those from local medical battalion in Sittway provided medical services daily to local people at the relief camps of Rakhine State.

Midwifery Course opened in Thayet District

Nav Pyi Taw, 2 July—With the assistance of Magway Region Government, the midwifery course No. 1/2012 was opened at the meeting hall of Thayet District General Administration Department this morning. Deputy Commissioner U Mya Aye of District GAD made a speech. Medical Superintendent of the District People’s Hospital Dr Kyi Kyi Aye explained the purpose of opening the course. Magway Region Hluttaw representative Daw Yin Yin Hla, Chairperson of District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Hla Hla Hla and Chairperson of Township MCA Daw Tin Aye Myint presented the official letter. A total of 20 trainees from villages of Thayet Township are attending the six-month course.—MNA