Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint views breeding of milch cows in Pobbathiri Township.—MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Icelander counterpart, PM

Union L & F Minister meets milch cow breeders in Pobbathiri, Zabuthiri Tsp

Seafood exports from Myanmar are going to grow significantly this year, as European Union removed its trade restrictions imposed on Myanmar, according to Van der Pijl, business developer and consultant for the Netherlands-based socio-economic research firm.

A plan to be implemented by EU to import farmed seafood products from Myanmar would help Myanmar to ensure boosting seafood products export.

Buyers from the EU, the U.S. and other countries are looking to the country to fulfill global short supplies of wild shrimp and other wild and farmed species such as tilapia. Myanmar produced an impressive 4.1 million tons of wild and farmed species in 2011 and is expected to produce 4.5 million tons of seafood products in 2012, according to the report.

Most of the companies that have EU approval of seafood export to Japan.

Bangladesh and Myanmar have produced Black Tiger and Pacific white shrimp which fetch a good price in the Japanese market, and the EU will be a good market as well.

However, the farmed seafood sector is struggling to be revitalized while its products are in good demand. The infrastructure of the farmed shrimp sector in Myanmar is badly affected by the natural disasters and there will be a need of financial support from international donors for its rehabilitation, said Pijl.

Myanmar Alinn: 16-6-2013

Byline: Maung Thitsa

Photo: Tin Soe (Myanmar Alinn)

Myanmar seafood exports to go up

Union SWRR Minister meets UNFPA Resident Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Kyin received UNFPA Resident Representative Ms. Janet Jackson and party at Maykhalar Hall of the ministry, here, on 14 June morning.

They cordially discussed knowledge dissemination for gender equality being jointly carried out by SWRR Ministry and UNFPA, reproductive health and submission of a report on capacity-building for women by Myanmar in 2014.

MNA
### Agriculture

**Monsoon season cultivation starts in Ayadaw**

By farmers, agricultural works start in rural areas when the monsoon season comes.

“Had a bumper harvest of pulses and beans as the area had a good rainfall last year and crops were provided with natural and chemical fertilizers. It is difficult to forecast whether the area will have an annual high rainfall or not. Now I am growing groundnuts, sesame and pigeon peas,” says a farmer who is busy ploughing his field in monsoon season. *Kyemon-Ayadaw Tint Wai*

### Crime

**Yamethin fish farm stabbing: Three dead and one injured**

YAMETHIN, 16 June — One worker was hospitalized and three others were stabbed to death at fish farm No 104 in company block of Paunglaung area in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region at about 2.30 am on 12 June.

A young man was taken into police custody in relation to the stabbing three fish farm workers to death and wounding of one who were under knife attack while they fell asleep at a hut.

U Thein Lwin, 50, Zaw Zaw Han, 33, Maung Thein, 20, awoke to a shout from Yan Naing Tun, 18, who also fell asleep together with them.

At that time the light was off. Lin Lin, 18, stabbed U Thein Lwin in the upper part of the chest, Zaw Zaw Han in the left side of the chest and Maung Thein in the left breast with a knife one after another.

The three victims died of a single stab wound to their chest on the spot. Then Lin Lin tried to attack Yan Naing Tun who fled the scene and shouted for help after being stabbed in his left arm. The injured was given medical treatment at Yamethin hospital.

Lin Lin is believed to have stabbed three men to death and knifed one has been charged with murder at Tukon police station. *Kyemon-113*

### Traffic rules enforcement

**Yangon to see punitive actions against undisciplined vehicles**

**YANGON, 16 June** — It is high time to carry out a thorough inspection of all passenger vehicles and to make necessary arrangements for the convenience and safety of passengers on board the vehicles of the bus lines under the supervision of Yangon Region All Bus-line Control Committee (Central) in the rainy season.

Road accidents and rollover crashes may occur due to weak foundation of road shoulders and big holes on some narrow roads in Yangon while overhead bridges are under construction. Lubricants and fuel oil spilled on the roads and mud which are partly covered on roads are also contributing factors to road crashes.

The onus is on all of drivers and conductors not to drive fast switching on the headlights during the heavy rains and make a dash stop while driving.

As directives have been released by Yangon Region government to take punitive actions against undisciplined vehicles in Yangon while the traffic rules, officials concerned are urged to supervise and monitor traffic rules enforcement. *Kyemon-701*

### Development

**Yadayinga Theinga Bridge to be commissioned into service soon**

In relation to the ongoing progress of development, the facility framed with three feet wide two-lane motorway is flanked by three feet wide sidewalks.

### Cooperative

**Upgrading of cooperative societies based on microfinance scheme stressed**

NAI PYI TAW, 16 June — Ceremonies to provide microfinance to members and villages for rural region development and socio-economic improvement took place separately in Pale Township of Sagaing Region on 9-10 June.

Agricultural loans were presented to 86 members in Inkan village of the township, cash assistance for construction of village libraries in Yayshin and Lokethar villages, publications for village libraries in four villages and stationery for primary schools in Inkan and Kaingtwin village were handed over to responsible persons.

In his addresses at the ceremonies, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan stressed the importance of the role of parents to encourage their children to broaden their horizons. He called for participation of members for sustainable development of microfinance scheme in accord with the prescribed methods so that the visions will be realized.

It is required to upgrade the cooperative societies in five models to assist the country to develop her economy based on microfinance scheme, he added. He vowed to provide cooperative societies with capital by the ministry for their upgrading process and urged members to repay the loans in instalments.

MNA

### Fire

**Swa sees more transformers**

**YEDASHE, 16 June** — With the aim of ensuring supply of electricity with full voltage, reducing possible dangers of electricity and minimizing the unit loss of electricity, the Ministry of Electric Power is installing more transformers at Htaukyantkwin village in Swa of Yedashe township.

According to the engineer in-charge of Electrical Engineer’s Office in Swa, replacement of KVA transformers is not only good for supply of electricity with full voltage to the users but can help protect against loss of electricity. — *Kyemon-578*

**Insein fire reduces four houses to ashes**

YANGON, 16 June — A fire broke out in East Ywama ward of Insein Township, here, yesterday evening.

The fire is said to have started from an overheated inverter while it was loading a battery with electric power at the house of U Pho Cho, 72, on Dhammayon lane No 1, in the township at about 4.55 pm.

Fire crew accompanied by 19 fire trucks and four administrative vehicles rushed there and put out the fire which died down at about 5.30 pm.

The fire engulfed four houses and left Daw Khin May, 93, injured.

She was taken to Insein hospital for treatment. A total of seven households with 29 fire victims are being accommodated at the Insein Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative’s office in the ward. *Kyemon-037*
World Bank, UN join hands in conflict zones but face hurdles

A UN peacekeeper escorts UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim (R) during their joint trip to Goma, in the Democratic Republic of Congo’s war-torn east, on 23 May, 2013. 

GOMA, 16 June—When the heads of the World Bank and the United Nations flew into the violence-wracked African city of Goma on a cloudy day last month, it was the first time the giants of international development had joined forces in the struggle to help the world’s most fragrile regions.

World Bank President Jim Yong Kim and UN Secretary-General Ban Korea, pledged to continue their trip.

“We’re going there because our belief is that peace, security and economic development are intertwined,” Kim said in Kinshasa. “We’re going with a very specific purpose in mind: there must be a peace dividend.”

The organizations admit the effort to work together faces hurdles. Both have vast, unwieldy bureaucracies that have historically competed with each other, and the bank had been wary of loaning to fragile states with shaky governments and murky histories.

Further, development analysts warn that no one has yet figured out a surefire way to bring lasting development to countries caught in cycles of violence. But with half the world’s poorest people set to live in conflict-torn regions by 2018, the institutions can ill afford to do nothing, the World Bank and analysts say.—Reuters

Police raid on Istanbul park triggers night of rioting

ISTANBUL, 16 June—Thousands of people took to the streets of Istanbul overnight on Sunday, erecting barricades and starting bonfires, after riot police firing tear gas and water cannon stormed a park at the centre of two weeks of anti-government protest.

Lines of police backed by armoured vehicles sealed off Taksim Square in the centre of the city as officers raided the adjoining Gezi Park late on Saturday, where protesters had been camped in a ramshackle settlement of tents. Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan had warned hours earlier that security forces would clear the square, the centre of more than two weeks of fierce anti-government protests that spread to cities across the country, unless the demonstrators withdrew before a ruling party rally inlet Istanbul on Sunday.

“We have our Istanbul rally tomorrow. I say it clearly: Taksim Square must be evacuated, otherwise the country’s security forces know how to evacuate it,” he told tens of thousands of flag-waving supporters at a rally in Ankara. Protesters took to the streets in several neighbourhhods across Istanbul following the raid on Gezi Park, ripping up metal fences, paving stones and advertising hoardings to build barricades and lighting bonfires in trash of the streets. Some whole days of protest were called, “Tayyip, resign.”

Local television footage showed groups of demonstrators blocking a main highway to Ataturk airport on the western edge of the city, while to the east, several hundred walked towards a main bridge crossing the Bosphorus waterway towards Taksim. Thousands more chanted, “Tayyip, resign.”

Meanwhile, two car bombs exploded in two areas in Nasriyah, some 375 south of Baghdad, killing two people and wounding 35 others, a local police source told Xinhua.

In central Iraq, a car bomb hit the city of Azzayiah, some 70 km southeast of Baghdad, killing a civilian and wounding ten.

Separately, a car bomb was detonated in the industrial area in the city of Kut, 170 km southwest of Baghdad, wounding 14, the source said.

Another car bomb went off in the town of Mahmoudiyah, some 30 km south of Baghdad, killing one and wounding five others, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Elsewhere, two civilians were killed and 18 wounded when a car bomb went off at a popular vegetable marketplace in the holy Shiite city of Najaf, some 160 km south of Baghdad, a local police source said.

In the town of Mdadain, some 30 km southwest of Baghdad, a car bomb and a roadside bomb hit a police patrol in the two, killing a policeman and wounding seven others, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

Two more car bombs ripped through the town of Mahawil, some 70 km south of Baghdad, at least wounding six people.

At least 20 killed in spate of car bombings in Iraq

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Deadly Colorado wildfire mostly contained

DENVER, 16 June—Crews battling a deadly wildfire that is the most destructive on record in Colorado have contained more than half of the 15,500-acre (6,275-hectare) blaze that has incinerated nearly 300 homes outside Colorado Springs, authorities said on Saturday.

Cooler temperatures, calmer winds and a rainstorm that moved over the burn area on Friday allowed fire managers to increase the containment of the fire to 55 percent from 30 percent the day before.

But the number of homes confirmed destroyed by the so-called Black Forest Fire jumped to 483 on Saturday, compared with a count of about 420 homes on Friday, the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office said on its website.

The tally increased as assessment crews combed through areas that had cooled, El Paso County Sherifferry Maketa told reportert earlier in the day.

Maketa said the bulk of the homes were lost in the first 24 hours of the blaze, and voiced optimism the threat from the fire was diminishing.

“I think we’re getting the upper hand,” Maketa said, adding that when he toured the area, it “looked like a nuclear bomb went off.”

Fueled by tinder-dry vegetation and fanned by high winds, the blaze erupted on Tuesday in a wooded area northeast of Colorado Springs.

Flames roared out of control for two days, charring a 24-square-mile (62-square-km) swath through rolling hills on the outskirts of Colorado’s second-largest city.

Two people were found dead inside the garage of a home that was reduced to ashes when flames ripped through the area. The sheriff said the cause of the fire was under investigation, but he believed it was caused by humans, because there were no lightning strikes in the area that could have sparked the blaze.—Reuters

US puts jets in Jordan, fuels Russian fear of Syria no-fly zone

BEIRUT, 16 June—The United States said on Saturday it would keep F-16 fighters and Patriot missiles in Jordan as an insurance policy against a possible attack by Damascus. But Russia, an ally of Damascus, accused the United States of attempting to impose a no-fly zone over parts of Syria, but denied the US plan and said it was an attempt to divide the country.

Washington, which has long called for President Bashar al-Assad’s departure and Russia’s active participation in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, said it was working with Jordan on the possibility they could be used to enforce a no-fly zone inside Syria.

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Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Friday Washington was considering a limited no-fly zone over parts of Syria, but denied the US plan and said it was an attempt to divide the country.

Russia, an ally of Damascus and a major opponent of outside military intervention in Syria, has said any attempt to impose a no-fly zone using F-16s and Patriots from Jordan would be illegal.

“You don’t have to be a great expert to understand that this will violate international law,” Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said.

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EU quizzes telecom firms, handset makers on Google's Android

Brussels, 16 June—European Union antitrust regulators are asking mobile telecom operators and handset makers if their Android deals with Google block rivals in mobile telephony, a move that could lead to a second investigation into the company.

Google is already seeking to settle a three-year probe into complaints it squeezed out online search rivals.

The Internet search company has offered concessions including labelling its products in search results and providing links to competitors' sites. EU Competition Commissioner Joaquín Almunia has said he will likely ask for more.

The European Union’s Competition Commission has launched a new competition probe into Google’s Android mobile operating system.

The probe will focus on whether Android favours Google’s search service over rival search engines and whether it forces phone manufacturers to use Google’s search and apps.

EU Competition Commissioner Joaquín Almunia said he would decide by the end of the year after a second round of consultations with mobile operators and manufacturers.

The EU competition authority also wanted to know if there were restrictions on Android devices that did not meet Google’s compatibility requirements.

Regulators asked if Google-branded Android devices could be shipped with mobile services that compete with the Internet search engine’s own mobile services.

Google spokesman Al Verney said: “Android is an open platform that fosters competition. Handset makers, carriers and consumers can decide how to use Android, including which applications they want to use.”

Google to launch new Nexus 7 tablet in July for $229

WASHINGTON, 16 June—Google managed to make a big splash in the tablet market with the launch of its Nexus 7 tablet last year. It was expected that the company will be unveiling its successor at this year’s Google I/O but that did not happen.

A recent report by CNET claims that Google is very close to launching its next generation of Nexus 7 tablet. The website has got this bit of information from market research company IHS.

The report also illustrates that Japan Display and AUO have been roped to manufacture the display second-generation Nexus 7. In addition to this, Quinta is the company that is making the tablet itself. Another news report by DigiTimes claims that this Nexus 7 tablet will indeed start retailing in the month of July.

This report adds that Google will price the 16GB version of Nexus 7 successor for $229. The report adds that the price of this tablet has been deliberately kept higher than its predecessor so that the company is not competing directory with the low-end tablet makers.

The other rumoured specifications of the forthcoming 7-inch tablet from Google include a 1920x1200 display, with a pixel density of 323 pixels per inch. It is expected that this tablet will be powered by Qualcomm’s Snapdragon processor rather than the NVIDIA Tegra 3 processor on-board its predecessor. This tablet from Google is likely to compete head-on with next generation iPad mini and Kindle Fire HD tablets from Apple and Amazon.

Samsung Galaxy Mega 6.3 up for pre-orders at Rs 30,990

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 June—Samsung’s recently launched jumbo screen phone, Galaxy Mega 6.3 is now up for pre-order on e-commerce websites, listed at a price of Rs 30,990.

The phone has been listed on Flipkart and Infibeam. While Flipkart mentions that the tablet will be available by the fifth week of June, Infibeam says that it will launch on 22 June.

Flipkart is also offering zero processing fee if you buy the phone on EMI. It comes with a 1 year warranty.

The Samsung Galaxy Mega 6.3 sports a 6.3-inch 720p (1280 x 720) display that features the same camera as that of Galaxy Mega 5.8. It is powered by a dual-core processor clocked at 1.7GHz.

The Galaxy Mega has 1.5GB of RAM, Bluetooth 4.0, Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n and A-GPS. The phone comes with a 3,200 mAh battery and runs Android 4.2 Jelly Bean. The phone comes with 16GB internal storage capacity and has a microSD card for expanding the storage up to 64GB.

The phone was launched at an MRPI of Rs 31,490. Along with the Mega 6.3, Samsung had also launched the Galaxy Mega 5.8 smartphone, which is available for Rs 24,990 on both commerce websites.

The Galaxy Mega smartphones offer split screen capability for a variety of applications including email, messages, ‘MyFiles’, ‘S Memo,’ ‘S Planner’, amongst others.

The devices will also feature the much touted ‘Air View’ feature, that lets users preview information in emails, photos in Gallery, and speed dial contacts without opening them.—PTI

Microsoft mocks Apple’s iPad in yet another television commercial

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 June—Microsoft has mocked Apple’s iPad yet again in a new TV commercial. This time the competition is between the Apple iPad and the Windows RT based Dell XPS 10 tablet.

The ad features a Siri voice over just like Microsoft’s previous commercial that compared the iPad with the Asus VivoTab PC. Surely, Microsoft is taking competition seriously and is using humour to make that point.

The commercial begins with Microsoft taking on the iPad’s home screen and it’s no zoom out limitation. The commercial has a user use a pinch out gesture on the iPad only to have Siri say, “I am sorry, I don’t zoom out like that.” and mumble “Ouch” in protest. The Dell XPS 10 on the other hand, easily zooms out to view the entire start screen on the tablet.

The next take is on the lack of an SD card slot on the iPad. Just as a user unsuccessfully tries to insert a microSD card at various places on the iPad, the commercial has Siri say “You can’t put an SD card there. Or there. Or there.”

The Dell tablet on the other hand easily puts the card on and displays the photographs on the SD card. The multiscreen feature on Windows RT 8 that lets you perform two tasks at once has been touted as a strength time and again.

In the commercial, as the Windows tablet splits its screen to watch a movie and browse the calendar simultaneously, Siri appreciates the coolness of the feature by saying, “You can do two things at once. That’s cool.”

Finally the prices of the two tablets are revealed with the 32GB iPad priced at $599 and the 32GB Dell XPS 10 Windows RT Tablet coming with a limited offer price of $399. Siri’s response to the price comparison is, “That’s not cool.” Watch the commercial to decide whether you think the advert is cool or not.

Microsoft perhaps seems to be on a mocking marathon when it comes to its rivals. The Windows tablets with the Siri voice overs are a great dig at the most popular tablet in the market. Also, the company’s commercial for Nokia Lumia 920 with a ‘Don’t fight. Switch’ message, is also an interesting way to suggest that amidst the Android and iOS rivalry it might be wise to just ‘switch’ to the Windows Phone.—PTI

Androıd mascots are lined up in the demonstration area at the Google I/O Developers Conference in the Moscone Centre in San Francisco, California, on 10 May, 2011.—Reuters

Respondents have until 26 July to reply to the list of 82 questions, which could determine whether the Commission will open a new investigation into the world’s most popular Internet search engine. —Reuters
**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Amplats workers end underground protest at South African mine**

JOHANNESBURG, 16 June—Amplats’ Yellowknife Platinum (AMLJ) said on Saturday operations at its Thembelani mine in South Africa were back to normal after a “group of employees” on Friday prevented 2,400 workers from going above ground.

“The situation at the mine is normal, people came above ground yesterday evening,” Amplats spokes-

woman Mpumi Sithole said.

The industrial action followed the dismissal of four union shop stewards for “inappropriate behaviour”.

**Mitsubishi Motors eyes new Indonesian plant**

TOKYO, 16 June— Mitsubishi Motors Corp (7211.T) is considering boosting output capacity in Indonesia and building a new plant there to capitalize on brisk demand in emerging Asian economies.

“It is true that we are considering strengthening our operations in Indonesia, but nothing has been decided as of now,” a company spokesman said on Saturday.

A Nikkei business daily report said the automaker, along with trader Mitsu-

bishi Chip (MOSX.T) and local partners, plans to build a new Indonesia plant by around March 2017, with investment totaling at about 100 billion yen ($1.28 billion) in the first quarter of 2013, hitting a record high according to new data released on Fri-

day by the Bank of Japan.

In annual terms the Spanish public debt in-

creased by 19.09 percent in the first quarter of 2012, while on a quarterly basis the country’s public deficit increased by 4.4 per-

cent since the last quarter of 2011, when it had reached 883.848 billion euros. The three levels of the Spanish administration central, regional and local) experienced increases in their public debt. The debt of the Span-

ish central administration rose from previous 655.365 billion euros of the first quarter of 2012 to 796.817 billion euros of the first quarter of 2013 (76.2 per-

cent of Spain’s GDP). The debt of the regi-

gional governments (Com-

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Finally, the debt of Spain’s local administrations stood at 41.4 percent of GDP in the first quarter, 42.795 billion euros, which meant a 16.1 percent increase after having decreased for the last two consecutive quarters.

**Spain’s Rajoy calls on ECB to create bank lending scheme for smaller companies**

MADRID, 16 June— Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy on Saturday called on the European Central Bank to create a cheap funding scheme for small businesses, announcing that he would like the ECB to act like other central banks, to do as the Bank of England has done—giving cheap loans to financial institutions so that these financial entities can lend at cheaper rates to small and medium-sized companies,” Rajoy said at an event in northern Spain. Small companies in southern Europe are having to pay higher rates for financing than those in other EU countries, a problem exacerbated by a prolonged recession in Spain.

**Venezuela considers taking bottles from babies’ mouths**

Caracas, 16 June—Venezuela’s Congress will discuss legislation next week that would prohibit bottle feeding of infants to try to encourage breast feeding and reduce the use of baby formula, said a lawmaker of the ruling Socialist Party.

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zon said the proposal would “prohibit all types of baby bottles” as a way to improve children’s health.

“We want to increase the love (between mother and child) because this has been lost as a result of these transnational companies selling formula,” Monzon said.

He said on state television on Thursday that the Law for the Promotion and Support for Breast-Feeding, passed in 2007, did not establish any sanctions for using formula. However, she did not say what the sanctions might be if the proposed change to prohibit bottle feeding is passed by Congress, where the Socialist Party has a majority.

Monzon said, however, that exceptions would be allowed, such as in the case of the death of a mother, or for women with limited breast milk production, as determined by the health ministry.

She did not respond to phone calls seeking details, including how long babies would be breast-fed.

Madrid, 16 June—

The Spanish public debt climbed to 88.2 percent of the country’s gross domest-

ic product (GDP) to total of 722.828 billion euros (1.28 billion US dollars) in the first quarter of 2013, hit-

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She did not respond to phone calls seeking details, including how long babies would be breast-fed.
**Attacks on university women, hospital leave 21 dead in Pakistan**

At least 21 people, including 11 female university students, are dead and dozens are wounded after an explosion inside a student bus and an attack on a hospital in Pakistan's Quetta on Saturday afternoon, hospital and other officials said. The incident began when a bomb exploded as students at Sardar Bahadar Khan Women's University were getting on the bus in the university compound on Brewery Road in the capital of Baluchistan Province.

Hospital officials said several of the wounded students were brought to hospital in critical condition. Then, a second bomb went off at the Bolan Medical Complex in Quetta as the injured from the first explosion were being given emergency medical care. Armed men then took positions inside and on the rooftop of the hospital and were firing on people trying to leave or enter the hospital building. The explosion in the hospital took place when senior administration and city police officials had already rushed to the hospital and it was thronged with relatives of the students killing or injured in the earlier bomb attack on the bus.

Later reports said female students and seven others, including doctors and nurses, were killed in the explosion inside the operating theatre of the Bolan Medical Complex. Khalid Hussain, a doctor still locked inside the hospital, told the ARY News Channel that several of the wounded students who were receiving medical aid in the operating were killed by the explosion reportedly set off by a suicide bomber.

**Why the World Cup cannot save Brazil's tourism industry**

The World Cup is due to start on Saturday but a scathing report from the World Tourism Organisation has warned that Brazil's economy is in such poor shape that the tournament will not boost the country's struggling tourism industry.

The report, published by the World Tourism Organisation, said that while the World Cup is expected to bring in $10 billion in revenue, it will not be enough to offset the nearly $100 billion in investments made ahead of the tournament.

The report also said that the country's tourism industry was in a state of crisis, with many hotels and restaurants struggling to make ends meet.

The report warned that without significant improvements in the economy, the World Cup will not be able to save Brazil's tourism industry.

**COLombian police rescue two kidnapped Spanish tourists**

BOGOTA, 16 June.—Colombian police early on Saturday rescued two Spanish tourists who were kidnapped by armed men near the town of Santa Marta.

The police said that the couple had been held for two days by a group of men who had been following them in a car.

They were taken to a remote area of the country where they were kept until the police were able to rescue them.

The couple told the police that they had been held captive for two days and that they had been forced to stay in the same place.

The police said that they were investigating the case and that they would be working to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

**Spanish citizens Angel Fernandez Sanchez gesture to the media next to Maria Concepcion Maralaska after their arrival at the Catam airport in Bogota on 15 June, 2013.—Reuters**

*Image*
**Local News**

**Anti-human trafficking knowledge shared in Tachilek**

**Tachilek, 16 June—**
Under the supervision of District Anti-Human Trafficking Committee, Tachilek Township Anti-Human Trafficking Police Squad and Shwe Tawgi Tourism Service jointly shared knowledge on human trafficking at the Dhammayone Monastery in Parlyan (1) Ward in Tachilek on 12 June. It was attended by 120 motorcyclists from No 60 Taxi Gate. At the talks, Police Captain Yin Yin Aye of Anti-Human Trafficking Police Squad explained the meaning and panyelty of human trafficker and smuggler and the government’s currently endeavors in anti-human trafficking task and preventive measures on trafficking in person.

She also invited those present’s participation as taxi drivers are partnerships to implement special plan 2012 and urged them to cooperate with Anti-Human Trafficking Police Squad.

Then, those attendees were distributed pamphlets on knowledge about human trafficking by officials.

*Kyemon-Myatmon (Tachilek)*

**Pre-SEA Games activities billboard erected in Mogok a few months away from XXVII SEA Games to be hosted for the first time in Myanmar.— MMAL-Township IPRD**

**School milk campaign launched in Mandalay**

**Mandalay, 16 June—**Mandalay Region Government launched milk campaign in Basic Education Schools at No (32) Basic Education Primary School on 13 June. The chief minister of Mandalay Region delivered an address at the campaign.

The chief minister and officials then fed milk to the schoolchildren.

The region government sponsored the free milk campaign in 10 basic education schools and Myanmar Fisheries Federation (Mandalay Region) in three schools on 13 March. Under aegis of Mandalay Region Government, Tetra Laval Co Ltd and M.K Co Ltd will feed 17500 schoolchildren from 79 schools in July.

*MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

**Tree planting ceremonies held in Sagaing Region**

**Tree planting ceremonies held in Sagaing Region**

A tree planting ceremony is in progress in Sagaing Region. Tree planting ceremonies were held in townships in Sagaing Region on 5 June.

**Kaolin, 16 June—**Jointly organized by Shwebo, Katha, Mawlaik, Hkamti District Forest Departments in Sagaing Region, tree planting ceremonies were held simultaneously in Taze, Katha, Kaolin, Pinlebu, Bamauk, Indaw and Homalin Townships on 5 June to mark World Environment Day 2013.

A round 17000 attendance of district/township departmental personnel and the local people turned up at the ceremony.

A total of 8167 saplings of teak, ironwood, Eucalyptus and Mahogany were planted.

*MMAL-Township IPRD*

**Tributary in Mandalay dredged for proper drainage**

**Pathingyi, 16 June—**Mandalay Canal is 40 miles long constructed since 1902, stretching from the original dam to Amarapura.

The idea was to link Aung Pinle lake, Nanda Lake, Zaungkalaw Lake and Tamokesoe Lake with Ayeyawady River to irrigate more than 100,000 farmlands along the canal.

The canal passes through Madaya Township, Pathingyi Township and Amarapura Township. Dinsa, Mingala and Parantaw tributaries were also dug to prevent inundation.

Human encroachments in years have formed ghettos in the former farmland areas, suffering the flood each year due to the tributaries which are not functioning well. Mandalay Region Irrigation Department is dredging Mingala tributary for proper drainage.

*MMAL-Aung Kyaw Tun (Pathingyi)*

**Tributary in Mandalay dredged for proper drainage**

**Old staff quarters in Yangon collapses**

**Yangon, 16 June—**A dilapidated wooden staff quarters of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications Office in Kyimyindine Township in Yangon West District in Yangon Region collapsed in 14 June evening, hurting no one.

The 80 years old building is regarded as the dangerous one by Yangon City Development Committee and no one lived there.

Township authorities including the commander of Township Fire Brigade and officials of Township Development Affairs Committee visited the scene and investigated the collapse.

*MMAL-Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindine)*

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**Yaunggaw village in Myitkyina Tsp taps stream**

**Myitkyina, 16 June—**The launch of water supply from the programme tapping the natural stream funded by the Sawlaw Development Affairs Committee was held in Yaunggaw village on 5 June morning. Township Administrator U Kyaw Zeya, Township Police Commander Police Major Win Myint, the executive officer of Township Development Affairs Committee and engineer in-charge U Nu Aung formally launched the water supply.

It was attended by township officials, village tract administrators, members of political parties and local people.

*MMAL-Township IPRD*

**MPs visit Yazagyo people’s hospital construction site**

**Kalyan, 16 June—**Aung Hlutaw Representative U Thein Hlaing and Pyithu Hlutaw Representative U Tin Hlaing, accompanied by village authorities, visited the construction site of Yazagyo station hospital on 8 June.

The construction started since 2011 on 8-acre land has only completed its foundation, according to the local people.

The station hospital could cover more than 29000 population in Yazagyo, Nankyinhaung, Kanygi, Khontha and Sawwayshin villages. The construction is stalled due to the lack of fund, requiring K 100 million to complete.

MPs said they had requested fund for the construction project in 2013-2014 fiscal year.

*MMAL-Shin Nay Min*
Public Service Media under Democratic Reform-6

Banya Aung

Situation in Asian region
Asian region has lagged behind in development of Public Service Media except India, South Korea and Japan where PSMS have developed while Europe has seen sustainable development in PSMS. So, Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcast Development, AIBD has strived for emergence of PSMS in the region since early 1990.

However, the director of AIBD confirmed that there are many challenges of ensuring development of PSMS in in Asia and Pacific region due to priority given to economic sector, public finance limitation, opposition of influential private media, misunderstanding on the nature of PSMS, and lack of human resources and political willingness. Nonetheless, countries in the region acknowledged the need to introduce a type of PSMS aiming at ensuring implementation of media pluralism, anti-media monopoly and free flow of information to all citizens.

So, a meeting of Information Ministers of Asia-Pacific Region held on 27 May 2004 endorsed the Bangkok Declaration that encourages to implement PSMS in order to gain benefits of informing the public, improving freedom of expression, contributing towards free flow of information and ensuring mass participation.

The Bangkok Declaration includes points to be adhered to guarantee financial and editorial freedom in PSMS and to share information to all citizens and methods of providing funds to PSMS.

Indonesia was a pioneer of implementing PSMS among ASEAN countries including Myanmar. When it initiated reform process in 1998, state-owned television and radio broadcasting centre were transformed into PSMS. According to a report of Mapping Media Policy in Indonesia compiled by Centre for Innovation Policy and Governance with the help of Ford Foundation in March 2012, only media with profit motive extremely developed and media monopoly occurred as Indonesia failed to systematically manage the media sector.

The report revealed that Indonesian PSMS lacked the competence to manage themselves as the organization had many problems and it is inappropriate that media freedom is used for seeking economic profit, not for the sake of the people. The report also pointed out that media services should be run in a separate way as they are different from other economic entities. In real situation, it is found that not only newspapers, journals and magazines and private television and radio broadcasting centres, but also all media services including popular Internet media websites are owned by 12 media groups.

In Thailand, Thai Independence Television, TITV was transformed into the public service broadcasting by law in 2008. It is found that Thai PSB has gained recognition at home and abroad for its qualified services even though it was transformed into PSB just in 2008.

The Philippines has not yet achieved success for establishing PSMS despite its efforts since 2007. Amy Daquilanea-Tanoy, Associate Professor, Broadcasting, of the University of the Philippines Visayas, pointed out that the reason why the Philippines did not succeed in it was political unwillingness of the government and the parliament, the opposition of private commercial media firms in their own interests and lack of thorough public knowledge on PSMS.

While PSMS introduced to ASEAN member countries, Myanmar has brought the PSMB bill to the parliament. The bill has become a subject of debate and it deserves to be debated from different points of views and ideologies as other EMSs are trying hard to end Myanmar’s isolation, make the country stronger, and build a new institution which has not yet established in Myanmar. Therefore, to be suitable for the situation of Myanmar, the PSMB bill is drafted based on PSMS in European countries which started and gained recognition of their PSMS from international community.

However, it is found that most criticisms of the bill come from personal feelings, doubts and private interests, not meeting with international media standard. In fact, criticisms of the PSMB bill which is the first ever institution of Myanmar, should come from international standards to bring benefits to all stakeholders rather than from personal feelings and past experiences. It is hoped that the information included in this article would help the bill to a certain extent to be looked at objectively.

(Conclusion)

Correction

Please read “newspaper readers has dropped by 13% in North America, 24.8% in West Europe and 27.4% in East Europe, while there is an 9.8% increase in Asia” in third paragraph of fourth column in the article under the heading “Public Service Media under Democratic Reform-5” that appeared on page 8 of this daily issued on 16-6-2013.—NLM

Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe formally opened the 77-foot-in-length and 8-foot-in-width road which was upgraded to a concrete one at a cost of over K 9.3 million.

Stater the ceremony, the Union minister visited the sites chosen to build a new school building and a 16-bed hospital for Dabein.

Union FM felicitates Iceland counterpart

NAV Pyi Taw, 17 June—U Wunna 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 Gunnar Bragi Sveinsson, Minister of Foreign Affairs and External Trade of the Republic of Iceland, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Iceland, which falls on 17 June, 2013.

MNA

24/7 electricity supply resumed

NAV Pyi Taw, 16 June—Electricity Supply Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power is resuming 24/7 electricity supply to the industrial zones, factories and public in the regions including Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay regions through national grid starting from 14 June.

MNA

Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe visits the hospital in Dabein of Hlegu Township.—MNA

Yangon, 16 June—Well-wishers donated exercise books worth K 4.42 million to school children from 14 schools in Dabein, Yangon Region, yesterday. The ceremony to donate books to the schools was held in conjunction with a ceremony to open an upgrade road to the Basic Education High School in Dabein.

MNA

Road to BEHS in Dabein upgraded, exercise books donated to 14 schools

Banya Aung

Public Service Media under Democratic Reform-6

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MNA
Lamp-posts erected in downtown Ayadaw

**Ayadaw, 16 June**—With the aim of enabling the local people to have access to electrification, the township electrical engineer and skilled electricians erected and installed lamp-posts and power lines in No 2 Ingyinhla Ward of Ayadaw of Myonwa District on 13 June. Ingyinhla Ward 2 was a village located two miles from the urban area. Due to growing population, the village is close to the No 2 region and it then became an urban area. To have town characteristics, the Government provided 40 lamp-posts and cable power lines to the area with the fund of the local people.

**Myonwa, 16 June**—A ceremony to present flood resistant paddy strains to farmers by International Rice Research Institute was held at the hall of Central Agricultural Research Farm in Myonwa District on 13 June morning. Deputy Commissioner U Tun Min Zaw made a speech. Head of District Agriculture Department U Myint Aye and the in-charge of the farm explained matters related to the flood resistant paddy strains. Officials presented 80 baskets of paddy seeds to Myonwa Township, 40 baskets to Einme Township, 40 baskets to Wakema Township, totaling 160 to farmers through officials. Some parts of Myonwa District are flooded. Therefore, the farmers face difficulty to grow paddy and loss of cultivated paddy plantations. The new paddy strain can resist the flooded areas.

**Monghsat, 16 June**—Organized by Township Forest Department of Monghsat District in Shan State, the communal tree growing ceremony in commemoration of the World Environment Day took place near Bayintnaung Golf Course beside Monghsat-Monghkok Road on 8 June morning. Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Kyaw Ohn of District General Administration Department made a speech.

Next, the deputy commissioner, Township Administrator U Aye Naing and departmental personnel, the head of Township Forest Department and staff, members of Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross and Fire Brigade together with local national races totaling over 270 participated growing of 540 teak saplings at the designated places.

**Loilem, 16 June**—With the assistance of Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Khin Maung Thi and Shan State Hluttaw Representatives U Khin Degull and U Sai Ba Oo, a 20-member medical team including specialists and nurses led by Dr Aung Soe from Loilem Hospital (200-bed) gave free health care services to locals at Panglong Hospital in Panglong Sub-Township in Loilem Township on 13 June.

First, the Pyithu Hluttaw representative and Shan State Hluttaw representatives donated over K 500,000 for the fund to give medical treatment to locals at the meeting hall of Panglong Hospital through officials. Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Khin Maung Thi made clarification on free medical treatment. Then, the specialists, assistant doctors and nurses gave free medical services to local people. A total of 378 patients received free medical services by the specialists team. Arrangements are being made to continue free health care services to locals from Loilem and its surrounding areas.

**Kyemon, 16 June**—International Rice Research Institute distributes flood resistant paddy strains. IRRI distributes flood resistant paddy strains to farmers. The school uniforms, exercise books and cash assistance K 426,300 were donated by the Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Khin Maung Thi and Shan State Hluttaw Representatives U Khin Degull and U Sai Ba Oo. A 20-member medical team including specialists and nurses led by Dr Aung Soe from Loilem Hospital (200-bed) gave free health care services to locals at Panglong Hospital in Panglong Sub-Township in Loilem Township on 13 June.

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**DRAIN DREDGED**

**DaikU Township Development Affairs Committee of Bago Region is dredging drains for proper flow of water with the concerted efforts of workers from Township DAC in wards of DaikU on 15 June.** Engineer in-charge of the township DAC U Tin Soe Naing and Kyangsu Ward administrator supervise sanitation and dredging works.—Kyemon-Nay Lin

**District Police Force**

**Kyaukse, 16 June**—A ceremony to grant stipend for students of staff from Kyaukse District Police Force was held at the meeting hall of District Police Force Office on 12 June, with an address by Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Hi Zar Ouk.

The school uniforms, exercise books and cash assistance K 426,300 were presented to 38 students who are from primary to university levels.

**COMMANDER OF KYAUKE DISTRICT POLICE FORCE POLICE**

Lt-Col Hi Zar Ouk

presents stipends to student of members of District Police Force.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**Monghsat marks World Environment Day**

Rounds of ammunition found in Bago

**Bago, 16 June**—U Zaw Moe of Taungthu Village in the area of No 1 police station in Bago Township of Bago Region found old rounds of ammunition in two feet depth he dug for construction of the brick water tank in front of his house.

He informed No 1 police station in Bago of his findings. Therefore, Police Captain Hla Thein fo No 1 Police Station, SIP Nay Tun Aung, SIP Myat Thaw and policemen inspected 301 rounds of ammunition.

The police officials make arrangements for handing over the bullets to the local military battalion.
US spy agency paper says fewer than 300 phone numbers closely scrutinized

WASHINGTON, 16 June — The US government only searched for detailed information on fewer than 300 specific phone numbers among the millions of raw phone records collected by the National Security Agency (NSA) in 2012, according to a government paper obtained by Reuters on Saturday.

The unclassified paper was circulated on Saturday within the government by US intelligence agencies and apparently is an attempt by spy agencies and the Obama administration to rebut accusations that it overreached in investigating potential militant plots.

The administration has said that even though the NSA, according to top-secret documents made public by former agency contractor Edward Snowden, collects massive amounts of data on message traffic from both US based telephone and internet companies, such data collection is legal, subject to tight controls and does not intrude on the privacy of ordinary Americans.

An unedited aerial handout photo shows the National Security Agency (NSA) headquarters building in Fort Meade, Maryland.—Reuters

The paper circulated on Saturday said that data from the NSA phone and email collections programmes not only led US investigators to the ringleader of a plot to attack New York’s subway system in 2009, but also to one of his co-conspirators in the United States.

It also mentions an NSA programme that collects “metadata”—raw information that does not identify individual telephone subscribers—from major US phone companies showing all calls made by those companies’ subscribers to phones within the United States and overseas.

The decree law reduces some of the harshest penalties available to a much-hated tax collection agency, Equitalia, and streamlines the legal process for civil disputes. “These are all measures that are needed to restart the country’s economy,” Letta said after a cabinet meeting that lasted more than five hours.

They include a “significant impulse for many public works projects”, he said. The decree frees up nearly 3 billion euros for public works projects this year, which will create 30,000 temporary construction jobs, the Public Works Ministry said in a statement. The funds will be redirected from other projects that were not going to be able to spend the money this year, Public Works Minister Maurizio Lups said.

About 600 million euros will go to improvements in the national rail network, 300 million euros for maintaining tunnels and bridges, 300 million euros for improving school buildings, and 100 million euros for projects in small communities.

Electricity bills will be reduced by a total of 550 million euros in part by reducing the tax to fund renewable energy providers, Industry Minister Flavio Zanoni said, without saying how much this would cost producers.

Letta, now in his second month as head of an uneasy right-left coalition government, is seeking to spur growth without increasing the budget deficit, which is under the European Union’s 3 percent of GDP ceiling.

Earlier on Saturday, Letta assured European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso that Italy would stick to its goal to keep the deficit at 2.9 percent of output this year.—Reuters

Regional leaders weigh in on Zimbabwe’s poll date

MAPUTO, 16 June— Southern African leaders on Saturday urged Zimbabwe to consider delaying the general elections set for 31 July by the country’s veteran leader Robert Mugabe, citing the need to prepare “peaceful, credible, free and fair elections”.

The 15-member Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), which mediated the Zimbabwean political crisis during the 2008 elections, convened a special summit on Saturday in Mozambican capital Maputo, attended by Mugabe and Zimbabwean Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai as well as leaders from other SADC states including South African President Jacob Zuma, the facilitator of the Zimbabwe political dialogue.

After one day’s closed-door session, the regional bloc’s secretary general Tomaz Salomao told reporters that the summit “agreed on the need of the government of Zimbabwe to engage the constitutional court to request more time beyond the 31 July deadline.”

Meanwhile, Zuma was urged to “make more efforts” to ensure the country’s major political parties to undertake immediate measures to create conducive environment for holding peaceful, credible, free and fair elections, Salomao said.

The Constitutional Court of Zimbabwe earlier this month ruled that the country’s harmonized elections, which combine presidential, parliamentary, and council polls on the same day, should be held no later than 31 July.

President Mugabe on Thursday proclaimed the election day on 31 July, a decision denounced by his arch-rival Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai, arguing that little time is left for crucial reforms to ensure a credible vote.

In response to the call of the SADC summit, Mugabe spoke through state media that it remains to be seen if the Constitutional Court will grant the relief. “Perhaps we should appeal to the court to examine the reason for the argument … for giving the people a little longer time,” Mugabe said.

Italian PM announces package to fund public works, cut red tape

Rome, 16 June— Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta on Saturday announced a package of measures to fund public works projects and cut red tape in a bid to pull the euro zone’s third-largest economy out of recession while respecting European budget limits.

Letta said the government would meet again on Wednesday and Friday to introduce further measures to simplify bureaucracy, loosen hiring rules and fight youth unemployment.

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Over 530,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 16 June— The United Nations Higher Council for Refugees said on Sunday that the number of Syrians who fled their war-torn country to Lebanon has exceeded 530,000 after an increase of 19,000 in a week.

In its latest report on Syrian refugees, the UN agency said more than 455,000 Syrian refugees have registered with UN offices in Lebanon while over 75,000 others are waiting for their registration process to complete.

The registered refugees are benefiting from aid provided by the UN, the Lebanese government and various nongovernmental aid agencies, according to the report.

The report added 167,900 Syrian refugees have been registered in north Lebanon; 156,500 in the eastern Bekaa region; 77,500 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon and 53,600 in south Lebanon.

Lebanon has called on the international community to help bear its burden of hosting the Syrian refugees, who are expected to exceed 1 million by the end of the year.

Earlier this month, Lebanese President Michel Sleiman sounded the alarm on Lebanon’s incapacity of dealing with the rampant spate of displaced Syrians coming into the country. UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Gutieres said last month that the number of refugees in Lebanon had surpassed 25 percent of its population and that they were inflicting a huge burden on the government and people of Lebanon.—Xinhua

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Xinhua
Mr. Rajapaksa, who visited the former rebel stronghold of Kilinochchi on Saturday, said that at the election the public will get an opportunity and independence to select the representatives who will bring further development to the region.

“We are in the process of restoring everything that was destroyed during the past 30 years. You all need protect them. Development has been four years. Look at the difference. Your region is developing very fast. It should be developed more,” he said.

Communal politics is very dangerous and that the country doesn’t need narrow political ideals, according to the president who urged people not to believe false publicity, noting that he believes the people will make a decision that won’t ruin their children’s future. Having declared open a renewed section of a highway connecting the north and south of the country, known as the A-9 road, and a new airstrip in Irannamadu, a short distance from Kilinochchi, which was used by the rebels during the war, Rajapaksa said that during the past four years, the region has seen many new facilities in a number of sectors including housing, road development, power, education, health, trade and banking.

The Sri Lankan army defeated the rebels in May 2009 and since then the war-affected north has been developed with local and foreign assistance.

Aboard Xiangyang No. 9, June 16—The crew of China’s manned deep-sea submersible Jiaolong has finished preparing underwater supplies ahead of the mission’s first diving operation, scientists said on Saturday.

The supplies prepared aboard the Xiangyang No. 9 oceanographic vessel carrying Jiaolong include daily and emergency materials, said Tang Jialing, one of the divers on the mission.

Early on Thursday morning, Jiaolong reached a cold spring operation area where the water depth is no more than 1,000 meters amid high waves and strong gales. The adverse weather forced the sub to move on from the area, but scientists nevertheless installed and tested research devices.

On Saturday, the mission’s crew members prepared enough oxygen supplies for the sub in normal and emergency conditions, as well as enough back-up oxygen to last 60 hours.

They also finished preparing food, drinking water and other necessary supplies including cameras, urinals and comput- ers designed to be resistant to moisture, salt spray and fungus.

It is expected that Jiaolong will now return to the cold spring area. The time of its diving operations will be decided based on sea conditions.—Xinhua

Rate of births from donor eggs trebles in 3 years in Japan

Rate of births from donor eggs trebles in 3 years in Japan

The percentage of births from donor eggs more than trebled in Japan in 2012 from three years earlier, a government survey showed Saturday.

The rate rose to 0.051 percent in 2012 from 0.015 percent in 2009, having increased each year, according to the survey by a study group of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

The survey found that donor eggs were involved in 117 births from among the 163 hospitals that responded to the survey about babies delivered between January 2009 and September 2012.

The questionnaire was sent to 302 medical institutions nationwide by the research group led by Keio University professor Yasunori Yoshimura. “Our survey suggests 300 to 400 babies are born from donor eggs each year in Japan,” Yoshimura said.

The average age of women who received donor eggs was 45.2. Of the 117 births from donor eggs, 65 cases used eggs donated from the United States, 18 from Taiwan, seven from Japan, four from South Korea and one each from Taipei, Malaysia and Russia.

Women aged 45-49 accounted for the largest number—46—of women giving birth from donor eggs.

Four women were 55 or older.

Some 68 percent experienced pregnancy complications such as hypertension among those who attempted to have babies by using donor eggs.

Debate is expected to intensify in Japan about the health risks faced by older women becoming pregnant and over the establishment of rules regarding donating and receiving eggs, observers say.—Kyodo News

All eyes on 37th session of World Heritage Committee in Cambodia

Winning the right to host the World Heritage Committee (WHC) will begin on Sunday at Cambodian capital’s Peace Palace with the participation of around 1,300 delegates from more than 120 countries, said a media statement released by host Cambodia.

Cambodia is the fourth Asian country, which was elected as host country of the 37th WHC session from June 16-27, 2013, the statement said on Wednesday.

The session will be opened at the Peace Palace in Phnom Penh in the evening of June 16 by Prime Minister Hun Sen and closed in Sihanoukville Cultural City on 27 June by Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet Minister Sok An.

Besides the local media, some 350 foreign journalists have registered to cover the 12-day event.

Phay Siphan, Spokesman for Cambodia’s Council of Ministers, said it is a pride for Cambodia to host such a significant meeting and it would be an opportunity to show the world the richness of Cambodia’s culture and civilization.

Cambodia has nearly 1,000 ancient temples and is the country with the oldest culture in Southeast Asia,” he told Xinhua on Saturday. “The session will be the chance to tell the world that Cambodia is rich in culture and civilization and is putting its efforts to protect and conserve those ancient temples for tourists and next generations.”

According to the statement, the upcoming session would identify, on the basis of nominations dossiers submitted by States Parties, cultural and natural properties of Outstanding Universal Value which are to be listed.

It would also review the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and decide which properties need to be placed in the World Heritage List in Danger or be removed from the World Heritage List.

In addition, it would examine international assistance requests managed by the World Heritage Fund.

At least four killed in NE China chemical plant explosion

At least four people were killed in a chemical plant explosion in northeast China’s Liaoning Province on Saturday evening, local authorities said.

The explosion happened at about 6:40 pm in Fushun District, Dalian City. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Photo shows buildings containing the No 3 reactor (R) of Health, Labour and Welfare in Japan. The Nuclear Regulation Authority conducted an on-site inspection the same day at the nuclear plant to assess if the reactor is developing very fast. It was destroyed during the operation to the region.
UAE lenders seek to lure SMEs community

DUBAI, 16 June — Amid fierce competition in retail banking, local and foreign lenders in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) increasingly lure the growing community of small and medium-sized enterprises, while entrepreneurs still complain about multiple headwinds.

With the UAE economy booming, the 23 local banks and 28 foreign banks present, on almost weekly basis, new solutions for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which according to the ministry of economy, account for over 90 percent of all businesses in the Gulf Arab country, a major oil supplier.

Earlier last week, Dubai’s biggest lender operating in line with Islamic law or Shar’iah Emirates Islamic Bank, known as EIB, launched a finance for new products for SMEs wishing to purchase machinery, equipment and company cars. There are some 230,000 SMEs licensed in the UAE which has about 8 million residents.

A month ago, the UAE’s biggest lender by assets Emirates NBD introduced RISE, an e-platform in cyberspace that provides SME business owners in the UAE an organized channel to learn, connect and grow their businesses. Ajman Bank, an Islamic financial institution from the same-named UAE sheikhdom, established Mahra (Arabic for filly), a segment which is solely run by women bankers exclusive for female customers, especially women entrepreneurs.

China’s mobile game market booms in Q1

BEIJING, 16 June—China’s mobile game market reached a value of 2.16 billion yuan (352.3 million USdollars) in the first quarter of 2013, a major tech and Internet information provider has said.

The figure represents a 30.26-percent increase compared with the volume in the last quarter of 2012, according to the results of a seasonal survey released by Analysys International on Friday. The booming market is largely attributable to the growth of mobile network gaming, gaming which requires an Internet connection.

This has the most potential for driving the overall mobile game market along with the 75.28 million new smartphones sold in the Chinese market in the first quarter of 2013, said Xue Yongfeng, an analyst with the firm.

In the first quarter, mobile network games contributed about 1.14 billion yuan, a 53.17-percent increase compared with the last quarter of 2012, to the whole mobile game market.

Ecuador approves controversial Communications Law

QUITO, 16 June—Ecuadorian National Assembly approved on Friday with a large majority a controversial Communications Law that seeks to regulate the country’s media.

The 127-article law was passed by 108 to 26 votes in the parliament after four years of stagnation.

“We are guaranteeing the right to freedom of speech and opinion. We are preventing previous censorship. We are beginning to change the history of communications,” said Malu Cuenca, the ruling party lawmaker who sponsored the bill.

The right-wing opposition and journalists who consider the law as a “Gag Rule” criticized that the law will allow the government to control media and limit free speech, said Maraio Andino, the ruling party lawmaker who sponsored the bill.

The law also gives priority to the national production, bans monopoly on the media, recognizes the rights of journalists and requires that 10 percent of the private advertising received by media will be invested in local or regional media to strengthen them.

Most importantly, the law allows to establish a regulatory body to restrict violent, sexual or discriminative content and to sanction and fine violators and it also bans “media lynching.”

According to the new law, media should refrain from spreading information in an indirect way or by third person, or discrediting a natural or legal person.

Since 2007, when President Correa assumed power, he has had strong disagreements with right-wing private press, which he refers as “factual power, corrupt, profit-seeker and mediocre,” due to distorted information on him.—Xinhua

2013-2017. The programme will include specific measures to be implemented in various areas of cooperation,” said during talks with Chinese Ambassador to Ukraine Zhang Xiyun on the sidelines of the international business conference.—Xinhua

Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro (C) poses with young men during the proclamation of the Law for Disarmament and Control of Weapons and Ammunitions, in Punta de Mulaos, in the state of Vargas, Venezuela, on 15 June, 2013. Xinhua

Ukraine aims to enhance strategic partnership with China

Kiev, 16 June—Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Maiko said here on Friday that his country aims to deepen its strategic partnership and cooperation with China.

“This year we plan to sign a programme of enhancing the strategic partnership between Ukraine and the People’s Republic of China during
Paris Jackson never got over her father’s death

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—Late pop legend Michael Jackson’s daughter Paris, who is in hospital after an alleged suicide attempt, hasn’t properly mourned the death of her father, and she is perhaps yet to over-come the tragedy of his death. If a source is to be believed, one of the reasons behind Paris’ cry for help is that she has never properly mourned the passing of her father, who died from acute Propofol intoxication in 2009. Paris is currently receiving psychological help at UCLA Medical Centre and is said to have developed an obsession with the comments that people leave on social media sites about Michael Jackson, reports femalefirst.co.uk. A source said that Paris is a “rebel” and she was almost expelled from school after punching a student who “talked smack about her father”. Paris had also come close to her birth mother Debbie Rowe before the incident. It is said that once Paris is discharged from the medical center, the duo will spend six to eight weeks together.—PTI

Victoria Beckham: I design for modern, stylish woman

LONDON, 16 June—Singer-turned-fashion designer Victoria Beckham has said her designs are for women, who appreciate quality and luxury. “I design for a chic, modern and stylish woman, who appreciates quality and luxury, as well as having the confidence to make what she wears her own,” femalefirst.co.uk quoted Victoria as saying.

Not just clothes, but Victoria has diversified into accessory designing as well. “Bags and accessories are a natural complement to my clothing lines. I want to offer beautifully crafted pieces for every part of a woman’s wardrobe,” said the former Spice Girl. Posh made her design debut in 2004, when she collaborated with denim label Rock and Republic. Two years later, she launched denim line dVb style. In 2008, she introduced her signature label, Victoria Beckham.—PTI

Dated Cheryl Cole, claims choreographer

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—Choreographer Derek Hough has revealed that he had a brief relationship with singer Cheryl Cole in 2010. Derek appeared in Cheryl’s 2010 song Parachute video and the duo was rumoured to be dating, but neither of them confirmed the news that time. “We dated for a while. I don’t speak about my time with her because I think often in this culture people take advantage of their friendships,” eonline.com quoted Derek as saying. Derek has always valued Cheryl’s performance and insists that they are still friends.

“I’ve never spoken about her because her friendship is important to me. We are still friends, we are still very close,” he said. Cheryl is currently dating choreographer Tre Holloway.—PTI

Arnold Schwarzenegger to return as Terminator

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger is set to star in Terminator 5 and he is reportedly “very happy” about it as well as looking forward to the experience. The 65-year-old will reprise his most iconic role as the killer cyborg for the first time since 2003 film Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines, reports contactmusic.com.

During an appearance at the 21st Century Financial Education Summit in Australia, Schwarzenegger is reported to have said: “I’m very happy that the studios want me to be in Terminator 5 and to star as the Terminator, which we start shooting in January. I feel very proud of that. I feel very happy and I’m looking forward to (it).” The star did not make an appearance in the series’ fourth installment, Terminator Salvation, because he was working as the Governor of California at the time.—PTI

Miley Cyrus’ parents divorcing?

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—Singer Miley Cyrus’ father Billy Ray has reportedly filed for divorce from wife Tish after being married to her for 20 years. “This is a personal matter and we are doing what is in the best interest of our family. We ask that you respect our privacy at this time,” eonline.com quoted Billy as saying.

Billy, 51, had first filed the divorce two-and-a-half years ago but withdrew his petition in March 2011 after an apparent reconciliation. Tish, who has also filed her own divorce petition here citing irreconcilable differences as the reason, said: “This is a personal matter and we are working to find a resolution that is in the best interest of our family. We ask that you respect our privacy at this time.” Billy and Tish tied the knot in 1993 and are parents to sons Braison, Noah and Trace, and daughters Miley and Brandi. Trace and Brandi were Tish’s kids from a previous marriage, both of whom Cyrus adopted. He also has a son, Christopher, from a previous relationship.—PTI

Singer Miley Cyrus
Selfish players cause big trouble, says Mourinho

LONDON, 16 June—Jose Mourinho has rejected the notion Roman Abramovich interfered in team affairs in his first spell as Chelsea manager and also denied the Russian owner went over his head to land big-money buy Andriy Shevchenko in 2004.

Mourinho said he was in complete control of all playing matters between 2004-07 and also gave an account of the scenes activity that led to the signing of AC Milan striker Shevchenko for 30 million pounds.

“The owner never, never during my time did he try to interfere in the basic things of the manager,” the 50-year-old Portuguese told reporters.

“The basic things are training sessions, team selection, profile of the players you want to bring.”

Abramovich never interfered in team affairs - Mourinho

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“The basic things are training sessions, team selection, profile of the players you want to bring.”

Mickelson with one-shot lead at US Open

ARBONNE, (Pennsylvania), 16 June—Phil Mickelson moved a step closer to one of his biggest goals, a US Open title, as he emerged from a see-saw third round battle at Merion to take a one-shot lead into Sunday’s final round.

Mickelson rolled in a nine-foot birdie putt at the 254-yard 17th hole to leapfrog playing partner Luke Donald, who slipped out of the lead with a bogey on the mammoth par-three.

Four-times major winner Mickelson, who would add a missing line to his impressive resume with an Open victory as he celebrates his 43rd birthday and Father’s Day with his dad watching him play at Merion. “I’ve had opportunities in years past, and it has been so fun, even though it’s been heart breaking to come so close a number of times and let it slide,” Mickelson said.—Reuters
Chalk Art under foot as pen shows its appeal in Pasadena California

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—To those over 600 artists, nothing is more exciting than painting on the cement ground of the whole street block with chalk: they are creating their art pieces under foot with imagination and creativity.

More than 600 chalk artists from all over the country came to Pasadena, a city in California where the famous annual New Year Rose Parade takes place, to spend the weekend creating artworks in every imaginable style in the tradition of the Italian “magnanori” street painters.

This year’s highlights include “Animation Alley,” featuring animators and graphic designers; the “Eyeball,” featuring animators and cartoonists; and “Going to the West” on Saturday morning.

Zin said this is his fifth year here, adding that as an immigrant from China, he wants to show Americans the rich Chinese culture with his chalk.

“Visitors would always come to me and ask me what the painting tells, and I would tell them the story I learned when I was a child,” Zin said.—Xinhua

Murray tames fired-up Tsonga to reach Queen’s final

LONDON, 16 June—Neither a revved up Jo-Wilfried Tsonga nor the awful British weather could prevent Andy Murray from reaching the US Open championship final.

The 3d seed Queen’s Club final on Sunday was about the world’s top two hand-to-hand combat from a set down to win 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Local favorite Murray now faces champion Marin Cilic in Sunday’s final after the fifth-seeded Croat triumphed 6-4, 6-6, 6-2 against Lleyton Hewitt who was bidding to roll back the years by winning a fifth Queen’s title.

Margaret Court kept the players off court twice battling back from a set down to win 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 against world number one Roger Federer on the way.

“I am very happy,” the Scot told reporters. “I said yesterday you don’t always come into this tournament with high expectations but you haven’t had that long to prepare and it’s always a tough draw here.

“With the situation I was in, this week has gone well. I have had a good win today against a top player and, providing I get some good practice next week and don’t take my eye off the ball and just be content, I have had a good week here.”

Cilic finally overcame unseeded Australian Hewitt in a match that began on Court One but was shunted to the second round with Cilic proved an awkward opponent.

The Croat’s steely nerve served him high off the skiddy turf, pushing Hewitt out of his comfort zone, and his low slice prevented the veteran attacking with his usual gusto.

Yet after losing the first set, Hewitt scraped his way back into the match in the second.

While some of the old dynamism has gone, the fiery competitive streak that led the Australian to world number one and two grand slam titles in his heyday was still on show as he frequently queried calls and pointed accusing fingers at linesmen.

Temper flared in the second set when Cilic felt Hewitt’s persistent jibes were beginning to have some influence.

The normal placid Croat shouted “he’s putting pressure on your calls” when umpire James Keothavong overruled a linesman in Hewitt’s favor.

Cilic kept his head and then piled on some pressure of his own, racing away with the deciding set.

The fifth seed has an 8-1 losing record to Murray including a straight-sets defeat at Wimbledon last year.

“He plays well here,” Murray said. “He’s a guy panicked under pressure, his attacks are always a tough draw here.

With rain forecast for Monday finish is looming but the court switch still frustrated Hewitt.

“It was all weird,” he said. “I think the ATP Tour guys panicked under pressure.

“I think he has to take a lot of the blame because there has not been another drop of rain since.”

The 32-year-old Hewitt was attempting to become the oldest player to win at Queen’s but Cilic proved an awkward opponent.

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While some of the old dynamism has gone, the fiery competitive streak
Mass participation is needed in dam construction

NAI PYI TAW, 16 June — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing went on a tour of a 400-acre honey orange plantation in PyinOoLwin Township of Mandalay Region yesterday.

Next, the Union minister heard reports on growing methods and observed fruit processing.

On his arrival at a chosen site for Chaunggyi Dam construction Project in Nawngkio Township of Shan State (North), the Union minister went to Chaunggyi waterfalls together with experts.

Then the Union minister accompanied by Shan State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Sai Sa Lu, local farmers and engineers visited watershed area near the chose site.

In meeting with local people at the briefing hall, the Union minister elaborated on the dam construction project and follow-up tasks and development of agricultural sector being implemented by the Union government.

He said that the implementation of the project would be of great benefit to local people in growing more crops in the township, thereby generating more incomes and improving their living standard. Moreover, regional development tasks could be realized as waterfall would produce hydropower, contributing towards full supply of electricity in nearby villages.

He called for mass participation in the project, underestimating the goodwill of the government.

Upon completion, the dam will benefit nearly 10000 acres of crops including paddy in the nearby villages. — MNA

Golden Jubilee Myanmar Gems Emporium continues for second day

NAI PYI TAW, 16 June — The Golden Jubilee Myanmar Gems Emporium organized by Myanmar Gems Emporium Organizing Central Committee continued for the second day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall, here, this morning.

Local and foreign gem merchants observed jade lots to be sold through tender and competitive bidding system displayed around the hall.

They also viewed gem lots displayed at the jewellery market on the first floor of the hall.

The jewellery ornament fashion show continued for the second day at Jade Hall. The merchants took photos on Myanmar traditional costumes and jewellery ornaments of the participants damsels.

The shops of jewellery and ornaments were packed with visitors and enthusiasts.

This morning, the merchants of 17 companies from Japan, Singapore, India, Thailand, Korea and Hong Kong purchased 76 of 78 pearl lots through tender. The remaining pearl lots will be sold through competitive bidding as of tomorrow and jade and gems lots on 18 June.

Eastern hilly area of Pyinmana Township gets inter-village road

NAI PYI TAW, 16 June — A ceremony to inaugurate Ye Pyay-Mya-Taung-Myalin-Myathab-Labetaung inter-village earthen road was held at Myalin Village on eastern hilly area of Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

At first, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than explained the efforts of the council for better transportation in the township.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Kyaw Myint explained the construction of the road.

The Nay Pyi Taw Council member, Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Myo Aung said that the construction project would be of great benefit to local people in growing more crops in the township, thereby generating more incomes and improving their living standard.

Byline: Po Thaw Zin

AIR KBZ adds one more ATR 72-600 aircraft to its fleet

Myanmar is an amazing country with a lot of beautiful scenic places. So it has become a tourist attraction spot. With a surge of tourist arrivals, the country’s smokeless industry has developed. So AIR KBZ, a private-owned domestic airline, purchased a new aircraft to operate more domestic flights in the country.

AIR KBZ Chairman Daw Nan Lai Kham and responsible persons received documents related to a new ATR 72-600 aircraft handed over by CEO Mr. Filippo of ATR Company in Toulouse of France on 31 June. It is planned to run more domestic flights with the use of six aircrafts — two ATR 72-600 aircrafts including the newly-arrived aircraft and four ATR 72-500s.

Plans are underway to resume flights to Monywa and Homalin.

Depending on the need of air travellers and increasing demand for domestic flights by more arrivals of tourists, AIR KBZ has a plan to add two more passenger airplanes to its fleet prior to the open season of 2014 for the convenience of globetrotters in the country.

AIR KBZ Chairperson Daw Nan Lai Kham said that the new aircraft would arrive a week later. It is learnt that the airline’s serve to other destinations in the company.

For more information, airline tickets of AIR KBZ airline are available at Reservation Ph: 01 373766.

Kyemon (15-6-13)

Trs: YM