President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Republic of India

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Mr Gautam Mukhopadhaya, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here, at 11am today. Also present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.—MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Chilean Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Mr Luis Fernando Danus Charpentier, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Chile to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace, here, at 11:30 am today. Also present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Thurain Thant Zin of the Protocol Department.—MNA

Commerce Ministry conducts advanced, basic courses on Intl’s trading

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Ministry of Commerce conducted courses on international trading at the training school for trade of the ministry here today. The advanced course No. 2 and the basic course No. 3 were opened with an opening address by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint. The training school was established in April, 2012, to conduct training courses for trading as part of efforts for improving the trading skills of the businessmen while the ministry has also carried out reforms and relaxed its rules and regulations. At the opening ceremony, Economist Dr Aung Tun Thet gave talks on Private Sector Development in Myanmar.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (21-6-2013)

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COLOURFUL PAPERS FOR COLOURFUL MYANMAR

I have been a veteran subscriber of three dailies: The Myanma Alinn, The Mirror and The New Light of Myanmar for nearly two decades.

Maung Hlaing

Page-8
Man found dead in Maesai creek in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 21 June — A man was found dead in an apartment in one of a three-roomed bathroom of men’s patient ward in the compound of Tachilek hospital in Tachilek of Shan State (East) yesterday, Tachilek police station said.

According to police, they were informed of the death of the man by Dr Bo Hein of the hospital. The 37-year-old man who was identified by U Maung Maung of Meiktila and neither a patient nor a caregiver apparently hanged himself with a more than four feet long red coloured nylon string which is commonly used for wrapping the package tied on the beam of the toilet door. The victim of the apparent suicide was discovered dead with no external injuries except a bruise on his neck caused by the impact of the string.

Tachilek police station opened a case and investigation is ongoing.

Kyemon-Miint Mo
(Tachilek)

Man discovered hanged in hospital toilet in Tachilek

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Kyemon-Miint Mo
(Tachilek)

Bayintnaung Flyover construction project gaining momentum

YANGON, 21 June — As a drive for ensuring Yangon with city characteristics, roads are being expanded and upgraded under projects. Although Yangon has seen upgrading road works, increased number of vehicles is causing traffic congestions in urban areas.

Aimed at reducing traffic jams and ensuring speedy transport on Yangon roads, Hledan overpass construction, Bayintnaung flyover construction project and Shwe gon dine overpass construction project started with the agreement of Union government, and Hledan overpass was commissioned into service on 30 May.

Now, Bayintnaung flyover is under construction and gaining momentum. It will be a facility that carries one road over another. The first bridge of the facility that carries a four-lane motorway will be on Bayintnaung road. The overpass will be 1427 feet and three inches in length and it can withstand 60-ton loads. Construction works of the flyover started shortly after a stake-driving ceremony on 5 June 2012.

An official of the project said that it was set to complete construction works at the end of this year.

Upon completion, the flyover could enable Yangonites to enjoy smooth and secure transport and contribute towards a swift flow of commodities from various parts of the country to Bayintnaung brokerage firms.

Kyemon-Soe Nge & Khin Maung Win

Damaged roads near Bayintnaung junction given temporary repair works

YANGON, 21 June — Roads in downtown area of Yangon were damaged due to the torrential downpours during this year’s rainy season. Heavy rains swamped the roads and rainwater left in the holes of roads caused damage to the roads.

High traffic volume of trucks and containers to Bayintnaung brokerage firms made more damage to roads near Bayintnaung junction where construction of Bayintnaung flyover is in progress.

Soe Nge (Kyemon)

No one hurt in Lanmadaw car crash

YANGON, 21 June — A road crash involved three vehicles erupted at the corner of Strand Road and Kyongyi Street in Lanmadaw Township, here, at about 8.30 am yesterday.

Adipadi (Yellow) passenger bus driven by Hlaing Win Aung ploughed into the back of a stationary saloon, Probox, with U Aung Naing in the driver’s seat which was waiting for the green light at Strand Road and Kyongyi Street while driver lost control. Then the bus hit another saloon, Harrier, driving on the opposite lane again.

The road accident left no one hurt, but caused rear windscreen and rear lights of Probox and left door of Harrier damaged.

Lanmadaw Township traffic police charged the passenger bus driver with reckless driving. — Kyemon-Tin Maung Oo (Ahlom)

Three family members die after having toad, mushroom dinner

LOIKAW, 21 June — Three family members died on a same day after having a main dish of toad and a side dish of mushroom for their dinner at a house in Kokway village in Dolasaw village-tract of Pruhsso Township in Loikaw District in Kayah State on 15 June evening.

The eldest daughter of the family was declared dead at home and U Yaw Ko and his younger daughter were pronounced dead again after severely falling sick. Only one son was left in the family as he did not have the dishes.

Kyemon-Pruhsso IPRD
Japanese and South Korean officials have decided to negotiate with North Korea to achieve denuclearization.

**WORLD**

**Tokyo, 21 June—**Japan, US and South Korea will hold a trilateral meeting on Thursday to discuss the issues related to North Korea policy. Cho Tae Yong, South Korea’s special representative for Korean Peninsula peace and security affairs, shares hands before their meeting on 21 June, 2013. The senior working-level talks were held on North Korea’s nuclear programmes.

**Kyodo News**

North Korea “must use not only words but also actions to demonstrate that it is going in the direction of denuclearization,” Shin-Su Lee said after meeting with his US and South Korean counterparts in Washington. The senior officials discussed the actions that the three countries will ask North Korea to take, according to Sung-Yeon, who heads the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau at the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

**Reuters**

**Tokyo, 21 June**—An election worker and a policeman were killed and three others wounded in an attack against a vote-counting centre in western Iraq on Thursday, police said.

A suicide bomber blew himself up on Thursday evening in Anbar’s provincial capital of Ramadi, some 100 km west of the capital Baghdad, killing an employee of the Iraqi Independent High Electoral Commission and a policeman and wounding three people, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Iraq held provincial elections on Thursday in Anbar and Nineveh, the two Sunni-dominated provinces where elections were previously delayed for security concerns.

**Xinhua**

Up to 2.8 million eligible voters flocked to 716 polling centres in the two provinces to elect their leaders out of 637 candidates in Nineveh and 548 in Anbar, who contest Nineveh’s 39 provincial council seats and Anbar’s 30 seats.

The polls were carried out under tight security measures, as Iraqi security forces spread into the cities of the provinces of Anbar in western Iraq and Nineveh in the north.

**Xinhua**

**Tokyo, 21 June**—The two nuclear reactors currently in operation in Japan have no serious safety problems in light of new safety regulations to be introduced in July, regulators said in a draft assessment report released on Thursday.

The assessment, if finalized by the Nuclear Regulation Authority, will enable the Nos 3 and 4 reactors at Kansai Electric Power Co’s Oi plant in Fukui Prefecture to remain online through September, when they will be taken offline for mandatory routine checks.

“As of the end of June, we think...the situation will not create serious safety problems immediately,” the NRA said in the draft report that evaluated the current status of the reactors.

But the NRA noted that some requirements have not been fully satisfied and criticized Kansai Electric for its attitude in exchanges with the regulators during the latest assessment process.

There were some areas in which Kansai Electric proposed countermeasures bit by bit as if to find the minimum possible standard. Such an approach is likely to be an obstacle in efficiently proceeding with (reactor safety) assessment once the new regulations are implemented,” the draft report said. Reactors that are currently offline will have to be checked by the NRA to determine whether they meet the new safety regulations and can be restarted. The NRA is expected to start accepting applications for the safety screening from 8 July.

But the NRA decided to conduct a special assessment on the safety of the Oi plant’s Nos. 3 and 4 units before the regulations take effect, given that they are the only operating reactors in Japan.

The new regulations, which reflect the lessons learned from the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster, require utilities to take specific measures to protect their atomic plants from tsunami and to prevent and minimize the consequences of severe accidents.

As for emergency command centres that the utilities must establish to handle severe accidents, Kansai Electric decided to use a meeting room next to a central control room for the Nos 1 and 2 reactors at the Oi plant. —Kyodo News

**A general view of the Taleban Afghanistan Political Office in Doha on 18 June 2013.—REUTERS**

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Mobile device boom no threat to movie theatre growth: Imax CEO

Scientists believe this programme that will give its security agencies and even income tax officials the ability to tap directly into e-mails and phone calls without oversight by courts or parliament, several sources said. The expanded surveillance in the world’s most populous democracy, which the government says will help safeguard national security, has alarmed privacy advocates at a time when allegations of massive US digital snooping beyond American shores has set off a global furor.

“If India doesn’t want they can exist side by side,” Special effects-driven movies, in particular, “cannot be adequately captured” on a mobile device, Gelfond said.

“You need to go to a theatre to appreciate them. If you are going to leave home you want a dramatically different experience than in the home.”

Imax also designs and manufactures theatre systems and then sells or leases them under revenue-sharing arrangements. It has more than 738 theatres in 53 countries.

Its fourth-quarter 2012 profit soared as gross box office revenue from its digital media remastering business rose 56 percent to $152 million, and its theatre network grew. Remastering adapts a movie shot for normal theatres for giant Imax screens.

A close up of one of two IMAX cameras is seen at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington on 4 April, 2012.—Reuters

PARIS, 21 June—The European Space Agency signed final contracts with cooperation to an ESA-Thales Alenia Space Italy for work on a pair of missions to assess if the planet Mars has or ever had life, officials said at the Paris Airshow this week.

Until last year, the ExoMars programme was a joint project between ESA and the US space agency NASA. But NASA dropped out, citing budget problems. The Russian space agency Roscosmos stepped in to provide two Proton rockets to send an orbiting atmospheric probe and a lander to Mars in January 2016, and a follow-on rover in August 2018 that will drill below the planet’s surface to look for life.

The benefits are obvious for scientists. “A doctor once said that having 3D images on a computer to plan a surgery is great, but to print the parts, to handle and examine them in clear detail is life-changing,” said a representative of the European Space Agency Roscosmos.

With Russian help, Europe prepares to search for life on Mars

Hacking threat and tougher data laws promise insurance boom

Yet the US growth only came after legislation a decade after insurers first started offering policies to cover so-called “cyber risk.”

“If I was to compare the UK and European market now with the US market, we are where they were back in 2004 to 5,” said Stephen Wares, specialist in cyber risk at insurance broker Marsh.

In the United States, laws forcing companies of ten at considerable cost to inform people if their private details had been compromised, led to a boom in cyber cover starting in around 2005, Wares said.

Now European lawmakers are promising bigger fines for companies that lose data, just as hackers step up illicit mining for sensitive information, driving a market for insuring against mounting financial risks.

Australian scientists uses 3D printer to create super-sized bugs

Scientists believe this technology will soon enable them to determine characteristics, such as gender, and examine surface characteristics which are otherwise difficult due to the minute size, the CSIRO was quoted by the Australian Associated Press as saying. What CSIRO has done is take bugs from Canberra’s Australian National Insect Collection—an Aladdin’s cave of creepy crawlies— and used 3D technology to create a computer-aided design of the hardest bugs in the lab, the report said adding “The bugs are then re-created in replica form, up to 50 times their original size in titanium, using a 3D printer. At the moment, the bugs are being 3D printed in house.”

The report further said that in future CSIRO was hoping to replicate the creatures’ anatomy down to the most minute feature. The benefits are obvious for scientists. “A doctor once said that having 3D images on a computer to plan a surgery is great, but to print the parts, to handle and examine them in clear detail is life-changing,” said a representative of the European Space Agency Roscosmos.

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The lander primarily serves to test the thin Martian atmosphere for telltale gases associated with biological activity. It also will serve as the key communications relay for the 2018 rover.

The lander primarily is intended to test the technology needed to land on Mars, a notoriously difficult task that has bedeviled nearly all of Russia’s previous efforts and has given NASA trouble as well. The United States currently has two operational rovers on Mars, Curiosity and Opportunity. After pulling out of the ExoMars program, NASA said it would send a second Cydonia-type rover to Mars in 2020.

The rest of the ExoMars budget will be spent on the 2018 rover, a mission that will make the first direct search for life since NASA’s 1976-era Viking landers.—Reuters
No illegal ingredients detected in medicine: drug watchdog

BEIJING, 21 June—The China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) on Wednesday said no illegal ingredients have so far been detected in a product, after warnings from a Hong Kong health authority that it may contain dangerous substances.

Initial tests showed that illegal additives of phenacetin and aminophenazone have not been found in the same batch of the drug that was identified by Hong Kong’s Department of Health on Tuesday, said the CFDA. The oral drug, or “Vitamin C Yinquao” tablet, one of the most commonly used cold medicines in China, is produced by Shenzhen Tongan Pharmaceutical Company, based in south China.

Laboratory tests on the product found the presence of two undeclared and banned western medicines, phenacetin and aminophenazone, according to statement released by Hong Kong’s Information Services Department on Tuesday.

However, the ingredients listed on the bottle, including vitamin C, paracetamol and chlorpheniramine maleate, were not detected, the statement said.

The CFDA contacted Hong Kong’s health authority to find out more about the drug on Wednesday and asked the company to suspend its sale. Further tests are being carried out on other batches of the drug, and relevant information will be released as soon as possible, according to the CFDA. The CFDA said “harsh measures” will be imposed on the manufacturer if illegal practices are found.—Xinhua

Eating red meat over time poses higher Type 2 diabetes risk

BEIJING, 21 June—Eating red meat over time is associated with a higher chance of developing Type 2 diabetes, according to a study in JAMA Internal Medicine on Monday.

Diabetes is a disease in which a person’s blood sugar, known as glucose, is too high. In Type 2 diabetes, the body does not make enough of the hormone insulin or ignores the presence of insulin, which is necessary to process glucose into energy used by cells in the body.

When glucose builds up, it can lead to diabetes-related health issues like high blood pressure, mental health troubles, hearing loss and eye, foot and skin complications.

Researchers from the National University of Singapore tracked people who had eaten red meat over four years and found that those who didn’t change their red meat intake over the study periods were linked with a 48 percent increased risk of developing the disease.

On the other hand, people reducing red meat consumption during the entire follow-up period were associated to a 14 percent lower risk for diabetes. The researchers also analyzed red meat and processed red meat separately, and found the association was greater for processed meat as the high level of saturated fatty acid in the processed meat was one of the main culprits behind the link to diabetes risk. “Our results confirm the robustness of the association between red meat and T2DM (Type 2 Diabetes) and add further evidence that limiting red meat consumption over time confers benefits for T2DM prevention,” wrote the authors, who were led by Dr An Pan, a researcher at the National University of Singapore.—Xinhua

Prostate terminology bewilders many inner-city men

NEW YORK, 21 June—Many inner-city men don’t understand basic terms having to do with the prostate, according to a new survey, which could make it difficult for them to decide on treatment options for related cancers.

“The risk to benefit ratio of prostate cancer screening and treatment depend a lot on patient preferences, so it is critical that patients can understand the trade-offs that are involved,” said Dr Stacey Loeb, a urologist at NYU Langone Medical Centre in New York.

“This is particularly true for high-risk groups such as African Americans, who are known to be at higher risk for aggressive prostate cancer,” Loeb, who was not involved in the study, told Reuters Health.

Another study this year indicated that the educational materials and websites doctors direct patients to are still too difficult for many patients to understand (see Reuters Health story of May 20, 2013 here: reut.rs/l1cXHeQ).

Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men in the US, killing about 30,000 men each year according to the Centers for Disease Control. It’s not always aggressive, however, meaning that men may be subjected to surgery or radiation, and side effects, without necessarily extending their lives.

Researchers distributed “pop quiz” surveys on common terms related to urinary, bowel and sexual functions at two clinics for low-income patients.—Reuters
One million march across Brazil in biggest protests yet

RIU DE JANEIRO/BRAZIL, June 21—An estimated 1 million people took to the streets in cities across Brazil on Thursday as the country’s biggest protests in two decades intensified despite gov- ernment concessions meant to quell the demonstrations.

Undeterred by the re- versal of transport fare hikes that sparked the protests, and promises of better pub- lic services, demonstrators marched around two inter- national soccer matches and in locales as diverse as the Amazon capital of Manaus and the prosperous southern city of Florianopolis.

While the protests re- mained mostly peaceful, the growing number of partic- ipants led to occasional outbursts of violence and vandalism in some cities. In central Rio de Janeiro, where 300,000 people marched, police afterwards chased looters and dispersed people crowding into surrounding areas.

“Twenty cents was just the start,” read signs held by many converging along the Avenida Paulista, the broad avenue in central São Paulo, referring to the bus fare re- ductions. Police there said 110,000 people lined the arteries. In the capital, Brasilia, tens of thousands of protest- ers marched around the landmark modernist buildings that house Congress and the Supreme Court and briefly set fire to the outside of the Foreign Ministry. Police said about 80 of the protesters, some with homemade explo- sives, made it into the min- istry building before they were repelled.

In Ribeirão Preto, near São Paulo, a 20-year-old demonstrator died after a driver plowed a jeep into a crowd. Brazilian media re- ported hundreds of minor inju- ries across the country, including a Rio television re- porter who recounted being hit by a rubber bullet fired by police.

The swelling tide of protests prompted President Dilma Rousseff to cancel a trip next week to Japan, her office said.

Police afterwards chased looters and dispersed people crowding into surrounding areas.

Corporate tax should be lowered on par with major economies: Amari

TYHOOON weakens, heavy rain still continues

TYOKE, 21 June—Typhoon Leepi weakened to an extratropical depression over waters west of the Ky- ushu region on Friday morning, but the weather agency continued to warn of heavy rain in western Japan.

The Japan Meteorologi- cal Agency said the extratropical depression was mov- ing east-northeast at a speed of 30 kilometres per hour over waters west of Kyushu at 9am.

In the village of Umai, Kochi Prefecture, rainfall reached 354.5 millimeters in 24 hours through early Friday, more than half of the average monthly amount of rainfall in June, the agency said.

Some areas may be hit by up to 60 millimetres rainfall hourly through Friday evening, the agency said, urging caution against strong winds, high waves, tornadoes as well as thunder.

The 24-hour precipita- tion through 6am Saturday is forecast to reach up to 200 millimeters in Shikoku, up to 150 millimeters in Kyushu, and up to 120 millimeters in Kinki centering on Osaka—Kyodo News
Young Myanmar golfer wins junior golf championship for two straight years

YANGON, 21 June—Myanmar golfer Yin May Myo emerged champion of Girl Class 3 event in the 11th Mercedes Benz Junior Golf Championship for two successive years in Burapha Golf & Resort in Thailand on 12-14 June.

The event was participated by 140 athletes from 12 countries such as Japan, India, China, China (Taipei), Thailand, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia and Myanmar.

Myanmar team was led by Vice-President of Myanmar Golf Federation U Min Thein and Joint General Secretary of MGF U Myo Tun.

Myanmar fielded 14 players—eight boys and six girls.

May Oo Khaing of Myanmar stood third in Girl Class 4, Thin Wai Khaing won the most progressive player in Girl Class 1, Zin Min Thu stood third in Boy Class B4 and Thihat Hayd stood fourth in Boy Class B4.

The Myanmar team was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials of Myanmar Golf Federation, relatives and Air Bagan staff on 15 June.

Industrial crops course conducted

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—The opening ceremony of the course conducted by Industrial Crops Development Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was held at the ministry’s training school in Bago on 10 June.

The course aimed at uplifting proficiency of township staff will be conducted on 10-28 June.

Mandalay stadium construction nearing completion

Mandalay, 21 June—As Myanmar is getting ready stadiums and venues for hosting the XXVII SEA Games in December, 2013, in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay, Max Myanmar Company is putting finishing touches to the football stadium and gymnasium in Mandalay.

HRD

Truck plunges off Yangon-Mandalay highway

MEIKTILA, 21 June—A truck plunged off Yangon-Mandalay highway in Meiktila as it left the central Myanmar town with high speed.

The truck that left Mandalay and destined for Mawlamyine was driven by U Htay and conductor Myat Min Zaw.

The police has filed a lawsuit against the driver of the truck.

Yayong Region WAO organizes literary talks

YANGON, 21 June—Yayong Region Women’s Affairs Organization organized a literary talk at Thiri Yadana Hall of No (4) Basic Education High School in Ahlon in Yangon in commemoration of Myanmar Women’s Day which falls on 3 July.

The talk was attended by members of Region Women’s Affairs Organization, wives of region ministers, members of district and township WAOs, members of township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, writers, guests and 495 attendance of teachers and students.

Patron of Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thet Htay delivered an opening speech at the talk.

Writer Chit Naing (Psychology) gave talks under the title “Hands that sway craddle” and writer Ma Sandar under the title “Courage of women”.

Drought

Mongpyat farmers concerned over possible drought

Mongpyat, 21 June—Farmers in Mongpyat Township in Eastern Shan State are in fear of drought as the town has yet to see any sign of rain this season.

The township’s farmers have put 26498 acres under monsoon paddy.

As rainfall in May recorded only 3.95 inches in 10 days, about 60 percent decline from the rainfall of the same period of the previous year 10.3 inches, the farmers found it difficult to irrigate their farms.

Township Agriculture Department is urging the farmers to collectively grow paddy where the irrigation water is available.

Government and social organizations donate cash and kind to fire victims in Insein Township in Yangon Region.
COLOURFUL PAPERS FOR OURFUL MYANMAR

Maung Hlaing

According to the Central Supervisory Committee for Registration and Distribution of Printers and Publishers, 24 private dailies in Myanmar version and two in English version, totalling 26 dailies have been granted. Being a veteran reader of the dailies, I cordially welcome them. As the private dailies are now building up their strength, the State-owned newspapers are changing their news presentation styles. They will change themselves from personal orientation to public interest orientation to win public trust as the genuine fourth estate. Whatever it may be, the increasing private dailies will surely make hopefully the newly-hatched graduates of B.A. Journalism Course conducted by the Ministry of Education. Our ardent wish is to nurture the new generation of mediare or journal- ists, as our forefathers did in their time, to make sure that they can be entrusted with the tasks of continued public service media.

Colourful papers will nurture the new generation capable of standing up to meet the challenges in our future media world.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOUNDERS TO BE TRANSPARENT AND STRAIGHTFORWARD: UNION MINISTER

I have been a veteran subscriber of three dailies: The Myanmar Alinn, The Mirror and The New Light of Myanmar for nearly two decades. As I have great attachment to the papers, I have no mind to sell out all the old dailies thereby piling up here and there in my home.

As the heaps of the old newspapers take up too much room, my better half shoots a sideways glance at me whenever she does cleaning work. Whenever she asks me to get rid of them, I am all smiles in a flattering manner not to bully me. (Please don’t think I’m a hen-pecked husband.) When I was in office, my absolute ultimatum was issued, saying “Anyone who sells out the old newspapers without my knowledge will severely be punished!” This way I love the papers. I read and value them simply because they have promoted my life.

Nearly five decades ago, there were only two English dailies: The Working People’s Daily and The Alinn. The most interesting sections that attracted us were “Letters to the editor” in the Working People’s Daily and “People’s Forum”, or “Frank views and free comments” in the Guardian. Ordinaril- y, these sections were set apart for the reading public who wanted to express their grievances, public nuisances, something they suffered and etc. through the editor. However, most of my contemporaries might have the memoirs that we used these columns to express our ideas or opinions on teaching or learning of English, comments on education system or policy, ways and means on health care services, poor management conducted by some government departments and so on.

In those days, most of the young people including the writer of this article read these columns and learned through self-study. The English dailies enabled the young readers to read and learn much and after all they inspired them to contribute letters to the editor. The informative articles attracted us to visit the English Literary world.

In reality, as the papers published not only news but also essays, stories, articles and letters, they contributed to the education standard of the people, especially to the learning of English. They played such an important role that many of us might go without tea, but not without newspapers.

Times have passed and systems have changed. Your editorials and articles had to contribute only to the govern- ment policies and reading public began to be fed up with stereotyped news stories and articles. Steadily, the reading public began to give cold shoulder to the papers. (If for one, as your paper was an apple in my eyes; I could maintain the momentum of reading and contributing to your paper.)

Now, time has changed once again. Your perspectives come to point out the re- quirements to be fulfilled and some weak points of some government depart- ments. May I quote what you said in the Perspec- tives of 18 October, 2012 as it is: “The editorial board of the NLM with pride would love to in- form our subscribers that we are transforming our paper into public service media. We hope to espe- cially focus on neglected social groups from now on. We will represent the people...”

What I mean is the change in your trend of presentation that may make the reading public take concentration on your papers.

As a matter of fact, we cannot stay away from the papers. It has become so much a part of our lives that reading the papers is the daily affair. Many people do after getting out of bed in the morning. We grab for the papers even before our eyes are fully opened. Although there are laws such as wars, killings, accidents, unending conflicts in the Middle East, etc. fill the papers each day, we are eager to know the latest events.

We the editorial board of the NLM with pride would love to inform our subscribers that we are transforming our paper into public service media. We hope to especially focus on neglected social groups from now on. We will represent the people...”

Nav Pyi Taw, 21 June—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye called on private schools for the 2013-2014 academic year for having transparency and honesty.

During the meeting, Dr Mya Aye urged them to abide by the laws, rules and regulations in running private schools. So far 159 private schools have been established after the new government had given green light to private school founders. Moreover, he said that a short-term teachership training courses were conducted for primary and middle school teachers in Yangon and Mandalay regions. The founders of private schools need to be transparent and hardworking, the Union Minister added.

Deputy Ministers Dr Ba Shwe and U Aye Kyu responded to the questions raised by the founders of private schools.

The Union Minister also met Resident Representative of HCA Mr Kohei ISA at the same venue at 10.30 am and discussed progress in upgrading basic education curriculum and promoting teachership skills.—MNA
Essay contest hails Myanmar Women’s Day

Dawei, 21 June—Essay contest to hail Myanmar Women’s Day organized by Taninthayi Region Women’s Affairs Organization was held at No.1 Basic Education High School, here, on 18 June and Chairperson Daw Khin Hsan and members of Taninthayi Region WAO visited the students who are participating in the contest.

Suspects involved in swords, knives seizure in Meiktila arrested

Meiktila, 21 June—Police seized 25 swords and five knives during a search operation of a bus in Meiktila on 13 June.

Action on a tip-off that swords from Mindan Village in Pyaywbe Township would be sent to Latpan Village in Singaing Township, a team led by Police Inspector Kyi Shein of Meiktila District Criminal Unit, conducted a search operation and discovered the swords and knives from U Win Myint, 52, on a bus of Tawbin Bus line running between Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay. During the investigation, U Win Myint confessed that this transportation is the third time, and he transported 20 swords in the first time and 25 swords in the second time to Latpan and Khunlu villages in Singaing Township.

HRD
Milk feeding ceremony held in Tachilek

Tachilek, 21 June—Under the arrangement of Tachilek District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, milk feeding ceremony for the primary students to improve their health and intelligence was held at Tahlok Basic Education Post-Primary School on 18 June.

At the ceremony, Deputy Staff Officer Dr Kyaw Kyaw Swe of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department explained the advantages of milk feeding.

Free WiFi Internet access at Myingyan IPRD

Free WiFi there whenever the electricity is on. People of all ages are surfing free Internet through their laptops and mobile.

Preparations for body building contest inspected

Yangon, 21 June—General Secretary of World Body-Building and Physiques Sports Federation Mr Paul Chu was accompanied by officials from Myanmar Physiques Sports Federation, inspected preparations for holding of men’s body-building contest for the XXVII SEA Games at Myanma Convention Centre (MCC) on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township, here, on 17 June.

President of Myanmar Physiques Sports Federation Wunna Kyaw Htin U Hla Myint, General Secretary U Kyaw Than and officials explained preparations for opening and closing ceremonies of the contest in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw at the same time, decoration of stage and facilities for referees and body-builders, accommodation for body-builders and guests and transport facilities.

They viewed training of Myanmar selected body-builders from 50-kilo to 90-kilo classes for the coming SEA Games.

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Outstanding youth’s experience recounted in Monywa

Monywa, 21 June—A ceremony to receive experience of outstanding youth took place at the hall of No.2 Basic Education High School in Monywa in Sagaing Region on 18 June. It was attended by Headmaster U Kyaw Htaw, teachers and students.

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They viewed training of Myanmar selected body-builders from 50-kilo to 90-kilo classes for the coming SEA Games.
Venezuelan anti-corruption drive snares senior tax official

CARACAS, 21 June—Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro announced the arrest of a senior tax official on Thursday in the latest move in what he says is a concerted effort to stamp out corruption in the South American OPEC nation.

Maduro said the local director of the SENIAT tax authority in the coastal city of La Guaira had been caught by state intelligence agents with more than four million bolivars in cash (about $635,000 at the official exchange rate).

“We raided the luxury apartment in eastern Caracas where this bandit was doing business. He was caught in the act with his accomplices,” said Maduro, who won a presidential election in April after the death of his mentor, Hugo Chavez. “He was walking around freely, personally taking bribes ... I call on everyone, the revolutionaries, the honest people, to support me in the fight against corruption.”

So far, Maduro’s new drive against graft has snared several senior officials from state companies, organizations and government ministries. None have been heavyweight leaders of the leftist “Chavismo” movement forged by his late mentor. That has prompted opposition leaders such as Henrique Capriles, who lost April’s election to Maduro, to accuse his administration of only going after smaller, less politically connected targets. “Our country is governed by a cartel which has a boss, or various bosses, who use Venezuelans’ resources like a network of extortion,” Capriles said in an interview with local media.—Reuters

US agents make Mexican drug, money laundering arrests in Texas

MCCALLEN, (Texas), 21 June—Federal agents arrested 25 people on Thursday in a drug and money laundering probe targeting a prison gang with ties to a Mexican drug cartel that allegedly smuggled drugs across south Texas.

The FBI and US Drug Enforcement Administration said the four-year probe into the Texas Mexican Mafia netted 25 members and associates of the prison gang during operations primarily in Laredo, Texas, the busiest port land along the US-Mexico border. Two indictments in the case charge the gang’s Laredo chapter with heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine trafficking, as well as money laundering. Agents say the drugs were moved through south Texas and were distributed in San Antonio, Austin and Corpus Christi. Cash from the drug trafficking was then sent to the gang’s associates in Mexico, which were not identified by authorities.

“These arrests today should send a clear message to the Texas Mexican Mafia, and other suspected criminal organizations, that law enforcement will not tolerate their violent and drug-trafficking activities in our community,” said Armando Fernandez, special agent in charge of the FBI’s San Antonio Division, said in a news release from the US Attorney’s office in Houston. Federal and state authorities have said Mexican drug cartels like the Zetas — founded in the late 1990s by Mexican paramilitary deserters in Nuevo Laredo, across the Rio Grande from Laredo — regularly use gangs like the Texas Mexican Mafia to carry out its drug trafficking activities in the United States.—Reuters

Senate immigration deal would double number of US border agents

WASHINGTON, 21 June—Federal agents on the US-Mexican border would double to about 40,000 under a deal reached on Thursday in the Democratic-led Senate to draw more Republicans to a landmark immigration bill headed toward anticipated passage.

Some questioned the costs and benefits of up to $50 billion in the extra border security, which also will include high-tech surveillance equipment such as manned and unmanned aerial vehicles, radar and seismic devices.

But concerns were overshadowed by the deal’s main goal: win votes for an overhaul of US immigration law that will open a pathway to citizenship for up to 11 million undocumented immigrants.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid was expected to set a test vote for as early as Monday in a bid to have the deal added to the White House-backed bill in the form of an amendment.

A senior Democratic aide predicted the amendment would get upward of 60 votes in the 100-member chamber, more than enough to clear any procedural roadblocks.

A vote on passage of the bill is expected before the Senate departs at the end of next week for its Fourth of July holiday recess. Backers are aiming for at least 70 votes on passage to increase pressure on the more resistant Republican-led House of Representatives to give the bill final congressional approval.

Republican John McCain, a member of the “Gang of Eight” senators who wrote the bipartisan bill, voiced doubt about the high cost of additional border security.

“I don’t know if it’s totally well spent,” he said.—Reuters

Iraq, Lebanon alarmed at spreading Syria war

BAGHDAD/BEIRUT, 21 June—Both Iraq and Lebanon have suffered growing violence at home as the Syrian conflict turns increasingly into a proxy war along confessional lines.

After two years of fighting that has killed more than 93,000 people, Syria’s turmoil is dragging its neighbours into a deadly confrontation between Shia Iran supporting President Bashar al-Assad and Sunni Arab Gulf nations backing the Syrian rebels. The insurgents have suffered a series of setbacks on the battlefield and are besieged in the outskirts of Damascus facing a slow but steady advance by Assad’s forces, which have begun to regain the upper hand.

In a sign of the destabilisation being wrought by the war, the United Nations cultural agency UNESCO put the six World Heritage Sites in Syria on its danger list of imperiled monuments on Thursday, urging internationa...
Philippines needs $47 million for disaster, conflict-ridden areas

MANILA, 21 June—The Philippines needs $47 million for the rehabilitation of communities affected by a major typhoon that hit the southern island of Mindanao last year, UN officials said on Thursday.

Mindanao also needs to receive financial aid to deal with poverty and decades-long conflicts between separatists and government forces, the world body said, following a tour of the area that wrapped up on Thursday.

The delegates presented on Thursday their findings to the Philippines government, foreign diplomats and donor countries, with the United Nations pledging to make the situation in Mindanao known to the international community.

According to David Carden, head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Philippines, the $47 million will be used to cover basic needs and shelter for around 530,000 affected people.

The estimated cost of the damage is around 37 billion pesos (around $902.5 million), although $47 million, $21 million will be spent on Bopha-affected areas, with $26 million allocated to projects in conflict-ridden areas in central and western Mindanao.

Around $39.7 million in donations were spent on relief projects immediately after Bopha struck and an additional $1 million was allotted to central and western Mindanao, where hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced due to ongoing clan feuds and rebel insurgencies, the United Nations said.

Emphasizing the need for more financial aid, Rashid Khalikov, director of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs based in Geneva, said, “The requirements are still there, as I mentioned, in the areas of shelter, food, feeding in the schools, education, social, and psychological rehabilitation.”

Luiza Carvalho, resident coordinator of the United Nations for the Philippines, said although relief assistance for Bopha-affected areas will be phased out in September, more funds are needed for rehabilitation. The Philippines is hit by around 20 typhoons every year, with relief organizations urging the government to be better prepared for typhoons.

1 Nepal manuscripts added to UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register

KATHMANDU, 21 June—Nepali manuscripts, the Siwagatavasamsa and the Siwagatavasamsa that are, respectively, the earliest surviving tantric manuscript and the oldest document in the field of Ayurveda were added this week to UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register, the UNESCO Office in Kathmandu said local reports said on Thursday.

The Memory of the World Register is a list recognizing documentary heritage of outstanding value. The two documents are the first inscriptions from Nepal in the register. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization added in a statement, “I congratulate Nepal for the inscriptions of two manuscripts in the Memory of the World Register. I am confident that their inclusion in the Register contributes to creating greater awareness of the need to preserve Nepal’s memory held in the country’s archives and libraries,” Axel Plathe, UNESCO representative in Nepal, said.

The Siwagatavasamsa, UNESCO said, has had a great influence in shaping other tantras in the region.

“The tantrism has had impact on many major Asian religions and even influence Islam practiced in India. The Western world has been influenced by tantrism through the practice of yoga, which has roots in tantrism (Bhutas) as well as through the New Age groups in America,” the statement reads.

The 1,134-year-old ‘Siwagatavasamsa’ has roots in tantrism and the ‘Siwagatavasamsa’ is considered the oldest document in the field of Ayurveda medicine and was a big inspiration that became South Asia’s main medical system and also profoundly influenced cultures surrounding the region such as Tibet, Central Asia, China, South East Asia and the Middle East.

No of prenatal tests using amniocentesis rising

TOKYO, 21 June—The number of prenatal tests for diagnosing chromosomal abnormalities using amniocentesis in Japan reached around 20,000 in 2012, up 4,000 from the previous year and doubling from 10 years earlier, reflecting an increase in late childbearing, a survey showed Friday.

The number of serum marker tests for mothers to check for the possibility of chromosomal abnormalities, including Down syndrome, also rose, coming to over 22,000, the highest since 1998 when comparable data became available, the survey by the National Center for Child Health and Development showed.

“We need to discuss prenatal diagnosis more closely, as the numbers of these tests will continue rising,” said Haruhiko Sago, senior official at the centre.

The number of diagnoses by amniocentesis stayed at around 10,000 to 11,000 from 1998 to 2006, but started rising gradually from 2007 to reach 19,937 in 2012, compared with 9,926 in 2002, the research showed. Serum marker tests are used to screen pregnant women for the possibility of chromosomal abnormalities. If they are suspected, amniocentesis tests are conducted to confirm the diagnosis. They have an accuracy rate of almost 100 percent.

On the increase in prenatal tests, Tomoko Yonezua, a member of a group of physically handicapped women, said the practice could result in playing judge over who should be born and who should not.

Singapore haze crisis intensifies, pollutant index hits record 400

SINGAPORE, 21 June—Singapore continued to grapple with its worst environmental crisis on Friday with the Pollutant Standards Index hitting a record 400, well above the 300 level considered hazardous to health.

The National Environment Agency’s website showed the PSI has been climbing steadily from 158 at 9 am Friday to 256 at 11 am and 400 at 11 am.

The PSI hit 371 on Thursday, but there was some respite on Thursday evening when it dropped to around 100. The current smog crisis, blamed on forest fires started by farmers and plantation owners using slash and burn ground clearing in neighbouring Indonesia, is already worse than the 1997 Southeast Asian smog haze crisis, which caused billions of dollars in damage and lost productivity in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines, as well as in Indonesia.

Singapore has been urging Indonesia to take urgent measures to extinguish the forest fires and take action against plantation owners who started the fires to clear land.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said at a Press conference on Thursday that the Singapore government has set up an inter-ministerial committee to tackle the haze crisis.

He warned the smog crisis could stretch for weeks until the dry season ends in Indonesia’s Sumatra.

Singapore hazy skies

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Birds stand on the bird island in the Yamdrok Lake in Nagazre County of Shannan Prefecture, southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 20 June, 2013. One of Tibet’s three largest sacred lakes, the Yamdrok Lake, about 100 kilometres south of the region’s capital Lhasa, is surrounded by snow-covered mountains. —Xinhua

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Announcement
The XXVII SEA Games will be hosted in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung from 11 to 22 December, 2013.
Sponsorship Management Consultant duties have been assigned to Dentsu Sport Asia Pte Ltd and JK Group Consultant Management Co., Ltd. Thus, local and foreign companies wishing to sponsor the SEA Games may contact Dentsu Sport Asia Pte Ltd and JK Group Consultant Management Co., Ltd for their cooperation.

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The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Information
Myanma Radio and Television
Nay Pyi Taw
Invitation to open tender to construct building
1.
Open tenders are invited from Myanmar entrepreneurs for following construction tasks at re-transmission stations of Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information in Hinthada, Manhero and Mongyu 105th-Mile (105 mile).
Sr.
Location
Work name
Quantity
1.
Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana
Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana
(Thapyaytaung)
(Thapyaytaung)
(Thapyaytaung)
120x25x12 ft
60x30x10 ft
20x10x8 ft
2 Lots
60-person-
capacity
60-person-
capacity
60-person-
capacity
2.0
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
The place where open tender document will be sold and submitted is Myanmar Radio and Television for respective works and open tenders are to be submitted along with the copy of receipt. If more than one tender is submitted, deposits for the works must be paid before submitting the open tender.
For further information about full text of the announcement, detailed rules, price of tender form and deposit, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mrtv and www.moi.gov.mm/mrtv:zg.
Detailed information are available at the maintenance section, Ph-067 79377 and Purchasing section, Ph 067 79135.
Myanmar Radio and Television

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. Second best time is now.
Jennifer Lopez’s musical career honoured with Walk of Fame star

Los Angeles, 21 June—In front of a screaming crowd of fans, singer and actress Jennifer Lopez was honoured for her musical accomplishments on Thurs- day when she received the 2,500th star on the Holly- wood Walk of Fame.

Lopez, a New York City-native born to Puerto Ri- can parents, gave an emotional speech to the crowd who were there to see her receive the terrazzo and brass star along Hollywood Boulevard, saying she was overwhelmed.

“This all feels, I don’t know, kind of surreal, but so real. It’s awesome,” Lopez said, fighting back tears as she received her star in front of the W Hotel in Holly- wood.

Lopez, 43, who be- gan her career acting in the 1986 film “My Little Girl” and gained recog- nition for her portrayal of late singer Selena in the 1997 biopic “Selena,” has built a multi- faceted career as an actress, singer, fashion designer and reality televi- sion judge on Fox’s talent show “American Idol.”

Lopez has sold more than 70 million albums worldwide in a recording career that began in 1990 with the critically acclaimed debut album “On the Six.” She is set to release her eighth studio album this fall. Among those attend- ing the ceremony on Thurs- day were Lopez’s boyfriend, 26-year-old dancer Casper Smart; rapper Pitbull, who has collaborated with Lopez on numerous dance-pop hit songs including “On the Floor”; actress Jane Fonda; and former “American Idol” producer Nigel Lythgoe.

Reuters

Daniel Radcliffe wants to play a Bond villain

London, 21 June—Former Harry Potter actor Daniel Radcliffe thinks he doesn’t have the charm to play British Secret Ser- vice agent James Bond on screen and will be happy if he is offered to play a villain in the movie franchise.

The 23-year-old said he would try his hand at playing one of Bond’s nem- eses in the future projects, reported Contactmusic.

“I would make a much better villain than Bond— I am not nearly strapping enough to play Bond,” he said.

Radcliffe also thinks he’ll never make a movie hero like John McClane from the Die Hard fris- nanchise, played by Bruce Willis. “I am never going to be cast to play a Bruce Willis character in a Die Hard.”

PTI

Signs on as Iron Man for next two “Avengers”

Los Angeles, 21 June—Actor Robert Downey Jr, who has gained huge box-office success with his portrayal of Iron Man, has signed on to star as the superhero in the next two installments of the “Avengers,” Marvel Studios said on Thursday.

Downey, 48, was one of the main stars of the 2012 all-star superhero film “The Avengers,” which united Iron Man, The Hulk, Captain America, Thor and the Black Widow.

“The Avengers,” made by Walt Disney Co’s Mar- vel Studios, became the third highest-grossing film of all time, with $1.5 bil- lion at the worldwide box office.

Downey is expected to be joined by Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo and Scarlett Jo- hansson in reprising their superhero roles for “The Avengers 2.”

“The Avengers 2” set release for release on May 1, 2015, will be directed by Joss Whedon. Marvel said the film would reunite the superheroes from the first film, as well as introducing Marvel characters never seen in film before.

The three “Iron Man” films starring Downey from 2008 to 2013, have grossed more than $2.4 bil- lion at the worldwide box office.

“Iron Man 3” released last month has become the highest-grossing film of the year, with $1.2 billion in global ticket sales, and the fifth highest-grossing film of all time, Marvel said in a statement.

Reuters
Investor puts faith in Wenger’s experience

Arsenal’s manager Arsene Wenger walks on the pitchside before his side’s match against Newcastle in their English Premier League soccer match at St James’ Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, England, on 19 May, 2013. —Reuters

St. Petersburg, (Russia), 21 June—Arsene Wenger’s experience as Arsenal manager will give the club an edge next season when English Premier League rivals have new men at the top, a major investor in the club said on Thursday.

Farhad Moshir also said Arsenal would start to benefit from a 30-million-pound deal with Puma, echoing media reports that the German sportswear company was set to replace Nike as the club’s kit supplier.

“Arsene Wenger was the reason we invested and he is very much the reason why we continue to support the club,” Moshiri told Reuters in an interview.

Moshiri, who with Uzbek-born business partner Ali sheri Us manov owns almost 30 percent of Ar senal, said Wenger’s longevity would be an advantage when champions Manchester United and rivals Manchester City and Chelsea are all under new management.

“He remains the one with deep experience in the top four, and that provides a significant edge for the club,” the Iranian-born Moshiri added.

Wenger, who joined Arsenal in 1996, is the longest-serving Premier League manager after Manchester United’s Alex Ferguson retired in May. Former Everton manager David Moyes has replaced Ferguson, Chilean Manuel Pellegrini has taken charge of Manchester City and Jose Mourinho has returned for a second spell at Chelsea.

Moshiri said he believed that Arsenal, without a trophy since 2005, could now step up their investment after absorbing the costs of a move to a new stadium. “They managed to stay in the top four with very strict finances and without some of the biggest players. Now they have the foundation to move on,” he said.

“Chief Executive” Ivan Gazidis has secured a major win in the contract with Puma, for 30 million pounds a year, he added in an interview at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum. “That is a significant win for Arsenal. That shows Puma’s confidence in London and, through, and Arsenal,” he added.

Puma and Arsenal have declined to comment on reports of a kit supply deal that would begin in 2014.

Arsenal are majority owned by US sports entrepreneur Stan Kroenke. Us manov and Moshiri do not have board representation despite their substantial shareholding.

“Mr Usmanov is an avid Arsenal fan, he enjoys watching the games and he has probably the best box at Arsenal,” Moshiri said.

“Should they invite us, or consult us, we are there to help.” —Reuters

Hoffman eyeing redemption after hot start at Travellers

Charley Hoffman of the US tees off on the second hole during the third round of the 2013 US Open golf championships at the Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, on 15 June, 2013. —Reuters


Hoffman, looking to atone for last year’s collapse when he squandered a two-shot lead with two holes to play, turned a steady start of five straight pars into a sensational nine-under back nine of 28. “If I felt focused and then that happened and I couldn’t help a smile come over my face and it truly was a sweeter moment than I thought it would be,” Hoffman, the 2010 champion and a runner-up here last year, entertained the crowd with seven birdies and an eagle but also had two early bogeys.

“The 2011 Masters champion’s round was highlighted by a stunning nine-under off the tee on the par-four 15th to just six-feet and a subsequent eagle putt. Defending champion Leishman shot 68 and was among eight players in a tie for 10th.

Bolt, Powell cruise to semi-finals at Jamaican trials

Kingston, 21 June—World record holder and Olympic champion Usain Bolt made easy progress into Friday’s semi-finals of the men’s 100 metres at the Jamaican trials for the world championships.

Bolt got off to a decent start and took control of heat one by the 40-metre mark before cruising across the finish line in 10.00 seconds. Asafa Powell, who had previously failed to complete a competitive race all season because of hamstring problems, entered the semi-finals with the second fastest time after winning heat four in 10.02 seconds.

“Happy to complete my first race in a year,” Powell, who had been battling hamstring problems, told Reuters after completing his first competitive race of the season. “It was quite easy.”

World champion Yohan Blake, who has a wild-card entry to the Aug 10-18 world championships in Moscow, is not competing in the Jamaican trials.

The other top qualifiers are Kemar Bailey-Cole, who recovered from a poor start to take heat two in 10.04, while Sheldon Mitchell won heat three in 10.11. The Jamaican woman, minus Olympic champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who has a wild-card entry, will begin competing for spots on Jamaica’s team to Moscow on Friday. —Reuters

Wambach becomes all-time leading scorer in women’s game

New York, 21 June—United States striker Abby Wambach became the all-time top scorer in women's international soccer when she scored four first-half goals in a friendly against South Korea on Thursday to take her tally to 160.

The record was previously held by American Mia Hamm, who scored 185 goals in 275 games before retiring in 2004. American Sydney Leroux had scored her 159th goal before cruising across the line in 10.11.

Neither team were able to impose themselves during their Confederations Cup Group B soccer match against Nigeria at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador on Friday. 21 June, 2013. —Reuters

Salvador, (Brazil), 21 June—Diego Forlan celebrated his 100th cap with a goal at the start of the second half to secure Uruguay a 2-1 win over Nigeria and all but guarantee their place in next week’s Confederations Cup semi-finals. The result continued Uruguay’s undefeated record against African opponents in 12 encounters and left them hot favourites to join Spain in the last four.

Nigeria must now beat the reigning world champions and hope Uruguay falter against Comcast in Tunis. Both teams lined up attacking formations with Nigeria playing a conventional 4-3-3 and Uruguay playing Suarez, Forlan and Cavani together for the first time in the tournament.

Neither team were able to impose themselves for long periods, however, and there were few clear cut chances in an often lacklustre match. It was Uruguay who took the lead in the 19th minute when captain Diego Lugano was on hand to bundle a low cross from Forlan into the net.

Nigeria slowly came into the game and they equalised in the 57th minute when John Obi Mikel controlled a Brown Ideye pass to side-foot the ball into the top of the net from 12 yards. Uruguay went ahead again in the 51st minute and it was a move that involved all three of their front men. Luis Suarez broke from midfield, fed Edinson Cavani outside the box and he passed to Diego Forlan who hammered the ball into the roof of the net from an angle. —Reuters

Uruguay’s Diego Forlan celebrates after scoring a goal during their Confederations Cup Group B soccer match against Nigeria at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador, June 21, 2013. —Reuters

Bolivia, (Brazil), 21 June—Diego Forlan fired Uruguay to brink of Confederations semis

Forlan's fires Uruguay to brink of Confederations semis

Uruguay’s Diego Forlan celebrates after scoring a goal during their Confederations Cup Group B soccer match against Nigeria at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador, June 21, 2013. —Reuters

Reuters
UNESCO inscribes China’s Xinjiang Tianshan natural site on World Heritage List

PRIOE PSENL, 21 June—The 37th session of UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee (WHC) on Friday inscribed northwest China’s Xinjiang Tianshan natural site on the World Heritage List, the session’s chairman announced.

“Let me congratulate China on behalf of the entire committee for the inscription of the Xinjiang Tianshan natural property on the World Heritage List,” Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Sok An, chairman of the 37th WHC session said during the plenary session.

This natural property for our future generations.”

Huang, who is here attending WHC session, said China was looking forward to further strengthening cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and other heritage centres to explore the potential for the site.

China’s National Commission for UNESCO nominated the Xinjiang Tianshan natural site as world natural heritage to UNESCO on 29 Jan, 2010.

Xinhua

Torres hits four as merciless Spain crush Tahiti 10-0

RIO DE JANEIRO, 21 June—Spain won by a landslide as expected but tiny Tahiti emerged with their reputations enhanced and their dignity intact despite their 10-0 loss to the world and European champions in the Confederations Cup on Thursday. Fernando Torres scored double figures for the third time in their history.

The outcome of one of the most unlikely matches to take place in a senior FIFA competition was never in doubt and even Tahiti coach Eddy Etata said before the game his side’s chances of winning were “quite impossible”.

Despite the Group B hammering, Tahiti played some attractive attacking football against a second-string Spain side that still contained some of the biggest names in European soccer including Sergio Ramos and Pepe Reina.

“Often inferior teams look to break up the game and get aggressive, they play without spirit or hope. Standards aside, Tahiti showed a great example of how to go about playing football,” Torres told Spain’s Telecinco television after a record Confederations Cup victory.

“We have tried to show respect in every sense. We tried to play well, to play simple football, and to score goals and these goals will be important for the next stage.”

Tahiti’s first meeting with European opposition was more of an occasion than a match in many respects, and the fans created a superb atmosphere in the newly refurbished Maracana, the venue for next year’s World Cup final. They cheered every Tahiti pass and tackle and roundly booted Spain.

Two of the loudest cheers were for two fine saves made by 20-year-old Tahiti goalkeeper Mikael Roche midway through the second half with his side already 7-0 down.—Reuters

Houston unveils summer boat show

HOUSTON, 21 June—An annual boat event was unveiled in the muggy US city of Houston on Thursday, possibly bringing some water fun to residents here who are dying for some cool-down entertainment.

The 26th annual summer boat show, the largest of its kind in southern US, is being held in Reliant centre in downtown Houston, the largest city of Texas.

The event offers a vast selection of boats ranging from kayaks to yachts, from the latest high-tech fishing rigs to high-performance water sports machines.

An estimated number of 250 boats are currently displayed in the spacious centre, whose scale is not big compared with the January winter show. Some dealers told Xinhua they are now busy minding their sales as summer is the peak season.

Dave Foulkrod, operations manager of Nautic Group, a major marine company based in Texas, said sales this year can be expected to boom.

“All the dealers in the state of Texas are seeing an improving market. For boat dealers in the Houston area, they really have seen an improvement in business,” he said.

Xinhua
138th Anniversary of Kayinni National Day held

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 June — A delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Kayah State Peace-making Work Committee and Union Minister U Than Thay, Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut and Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min and members Union Minister U Than Htay, Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut from the Commander-in-Chief’s Office (Army), the Commander of Eastern Command, the deputy attorney-general and officials concerned from Myanmar Peace Center. Vice-Chairman Khu U Yal of KNPP was accompanied by the delegation members and national races representatives from various parts of the country.

Afterwards, Union Ministers U Aung Min and U Than Thay, Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut suppressed on religious affairs and peace-making process in Kayah State to Kayah State Sangha Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Pyinnyathami and the member Sayadaws. They proceeded to the Catholic Church in Naungyah Ward, where they explained progress of the peace-making process to Bishop Sotero Phamo.

US, Jordan troops hold desert war games

US, Jordan troops hold desert war games

Mani Yadana Jade Hall packed with gem merchants at Golden Jubilee Myanma Gems Emporium — MNA

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"The US troops will start departing Jordan on 25 June," Major General Robert G Catalanotti of the US Army Central Command told AFP. — NLM