President U Thein Sein sends messages of felicitations to Croatian President, Prime Minister

NAV PYI TAW, 25 June—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Ivo Josipovic, President of the Republic of Croatia and His Excellency Mr. Zoran Milanovic, Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

Thanks to Industrial Zone Project, Kyaukpyu region could see development

NAV PYI TAW, 24 June—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a Chinese delegation led by Member of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China Mr. Yang Jiechi at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

In extending greetings, the Chinese State Councilor said that further cementing Sino-Myanmar relations and bilateral cooperation was in progress. He acknowledged great strides made by successive leaders and the people in cementing bilateral relations and stressed the need to value the mutual friendship. He highlighted the President’s efforts for progress in bilateral friendship and cooperation in culture.

“Peace talks between Myanmar government and KIA group held in the country had brought about better outcomes and China was glad to see it. China had always respected sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar, he added. He vowed to co-operate with Myanmar for development of China-Myanmar border regions as well as economic development.

He continued that peace talks between Myanmar government and the KIA group held in the country had brought about better outcomes and China was glad to see it. China had always respected sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar, he added. He vowed to co-operate with Myanmar for development of China-Myanmar border regions as well as economic development.

He said that he hoped for sooner implementation of Kyaukpyu Industrial Zone Project and China wanted to take part in the tasks of ensuring development of the south-west part of Myanmar. He made an offer to help Myanmar in its XXVII SEA Games. He expressed his belief that SEA Games would be successful.

President U Thein Sein for his part said that there were daily relations between the people of two neighbouring states as the two countries shared 2000 kilometers long border; that background history of the two nations showed that they had tremendous cooperation; that implementation of bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership had started during his trip to China in 2011; that the country had seen sweeping reform processes after the new government took office; and that it was needed to take lessons from China where peace and stability and economic development could be realized during a 30-year period; that the majority of the population is rural people whose livelihoods rely on agriculture sector. He expressed thanks for Chinese contribution to disbursement of loans for development of agriculture sector.

The President continued that thanks to Kyaukpyu Industrial Zone Project, the region could see development. He expressed thanks for the Chinese offer for opening and closing ceremonies of SEA Games and for assisting in Myanmar’s ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014 and donation of three Buddha tooth relics to Myanmar to be displayed in Yangon and Mandalay for public obeisance.

Next, they held comprehensive discussions on matters related to development of the sectors of health, ensuring peace and stability in border regions of the two countries and cementing bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership. Also present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Aung Kyi, U Soe Thame, U Win Shein and Dr. Kan Zaw and departmental heads. The visiting Chinese State Councilor was accompanied by the vice-ministers, the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yang Houlan and high-ranking officials. — MNA
35-year-old man of extraordinary height found at Hton Pauk Chai Village in Natmauk Township

**New ATR 72-600 airplane for AIR KBZ lands at Yangon Airport**

**Nay Pyi Taw FC, Ayeyawady FC draw 3-3**

**Myanmar holds Malaysia (B) team to a draw in front of home crowd**

**Kyaukpaudaung Township sees daily traffic rule enforcement**
Tokyo, 24 June—The government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe welcomed on Monday the ruling party’s landslide victory in the Tokyo metropolitan assembly election the previous day as a sign of support for his economic policies ahead of the upper house poll next month.

“We couldn’t have had a better result,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a Press conference. “We are grateful for the high recognition the Abe administration has received in the run-up to the House of Councillors’ election,” the top government spokesman added.

The Liberal Democratic Party, headed by Abe, and its junior coalition partner, the New Komeito party, secured an overall majority in the 127-seat assembly in the capital in Sunday’s election with all 82 candidates they fielded winning.

Suga said he believed the result was due largely to Abe’s policies to revive the moribund economy — dubbed “Abenomics’”— and that the ruling coalition would campaign for the 21 July upper house election by promising to end nearly two decades of deflation with the policies.

The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, which tumbled to fourth place from being the largest party in the Tokyo assembly, pledged continued efforts to bounce back in the upcoming election.

DPJ President Banri Kaieda and Secretary General Goshi Hosono, meeting at the party’s headquarters in Tokyo, confirmed that the DPJ will fight the election without any change to the current leadership.

“It is a tough outcome, and we accept it humbly,” said former DPJ chief Katsuma Okada in Tsu, Mie Prefecture. Asked how things would turn out in the election for the upper house, which is currently controlled by the DPJ, Okada said, “People are starting to doubt that Abenomics will make everything better.”

The Japan Restoration Party was another loser in the Tokyo election, dropping from three seats to two despite stirring high expectations at one point.

Gov’t encouraged by Tokyo election victory before upper house poll

EU risks upsetting Turkey with threat to call off talks

Malaysia declares emergency as air pollution thickens

Snowden heads to Venezuela via Moscow, Havana

EU risks upsetting Turkey with threat to call off talks

Turkey’s EU membership bid, partly because of its stance on dark pasts and human rights records, is facing a backlash.

The European Union is on the verge of scrapping a new round of membership talks with Turkey, a move that would further undermine Ankara’s already slim hopes of joining the bloc anytime soon and damage its relations with Brussels.

Germany, the EU’s biggest economic power, is blocking efforts to revive Turkey’s EU membership bid, partly because of its stance on dark pasts and human rights records, is facing a backlash.

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Samsung Galaxy Core gets a price in India, shipping 1 July

NEW DELHI, 24 June—Samsung has announced Galaxy Core in May and last week it was listed on company’s website without a price or shipping date. Now, we know both.

Samsung Galaxy Core is available for pre-bookings at Rs. 15,350 and will ship starting on 1 July. The white color is listed on the Samsung India online store already, with the Blue color listed as ‘forthcoming’. Third-party websites like Flipkart and Inibee are also listing the phone for Rs. 15,199 and Rs. 15,200 and indicate the MRP as Rs. 15,690.

The Galaxy Core is a dual-SIM smartphone that sports a 4.3-inch screen with a 480x800 resolution. Powered by a 1.2GHz dual-core processor, the smartphone has 1GB of RAM and runs Android 4.1 Jelly Bean and features Samsung’s TouchWiz interface layer on top. The smartphone sports a 5-megapixel rear camera and a VGA front-facing camera. It also offers 8GB of internal storage which can be expanded through a microSD card. It also offers Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 3.0 and GPS and connectivity options. The phone comes with an 1800mAh battery.

Samsung’s flagship Galaxy S4, Samsung Galaxy Core comes with FM Radio functionality. The phone offers smart dual-SIM functionality. When the user is looking at one SIM card even when they’re utilising the second SIM. Samsung Galaxy Core offers new smart features borrowed from some of its high-end sibling including Smart Stay that recognises when a user is looking at the phone, and saves battery life when a user looks away by dimming the screen and powering down using advanced facial recognition, Smart Alert that alerts the user to missed calls and messages when the device is picked up, Motion UI that activates common functions when a user is looking at the device, Motion UI that allows unlocking the phone, the phone comes with FM Radio functionality, and offers new smart features borrowed from some of its high-end sibling including Smart Stay that recognises when a user is looking at the phone, and saves battery life when a user looks away by dimming the screen and powering down using advanced facial recognition, Smart Alert that alerts the user to missed calls and messages when the device is picked up.

Square roots? Scientists say plants are good at math

They can even compensate for an unexpected early night.

“Today’s plants do complex arithmetic calculations to make sure they have enough food to get them through the night,” new research published in journal *Life* shows.

Scientists at Britain’s John Innes Centre said plants adjust their rate of starch consumption to prevent starvation during the night when they are unable to feed themselves with energy from the sun.

Excavation to reveal ancient N China capital

SHENZHUANG, 24 June — Archaeologists have started a three-month excavation project in north China’s Hebei Province, which they expect to discover an ancient state capital dating back more than 3,000 years.

The excavation project is taking place in the village of Caijiafen. The State Administration of Cultural Heritage approved the excavation in April.

Archaeologists and historians believe the area to be excavated served as the capital of the Guzhu state, a vassal state of the Shang Dynasty (1600 BC to 1046 BC), according to Xie Fei, an expert from the Hebei Provincial Cultural Heritage Bureau.

While the excavation will help to unveil the history and culture of the ancient state, Xie said.

Spring buds are silhouetted against the rising full moon in Washington, on 19 March, 2013. **Reuters**

Australian radio telescope spys on galaxies in the raw

Canberra, 24 June—One of Australia’s radio telescopes has detected the raw material for making the first stars in galaxies that formed when the Universe was just three billion years old, less than a quarter of its current age, a Press release by the country’s top research body said on Monday.

“Opening the way to studying how these early galaxies make their first stars,” the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) said.

The telescope is CSIRO’s Australia Telescope Compact Array tel-escope near Narrabri, New South Wales. “It is one of very few telescopes in the world that can do such difficult work, because it is both extremely sensitive and can receive radio waves of the right wavelengths,” said CSIRO astronomer Professor Ron Ekers.

The raw material for making stars is cold molecular hydrogen gas, H2. It can’t be detected directly but its presence is revealed by a "tracer" gas, carbon monoxide (CO), which emits radio waves.

In one project, astronomer Dr Bjorn Emmonts (CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science) and his colleagues used the Compact Array to study a massive, distant conglomerate of galaxies — ones that lie between the H2 in the distant galaxies and the H2 in the local galaxies that formed the early Universe. These galaxies are among the first galaxies to form, known as "proto- galaxies," which are the building blocks of the universe.

"Our ongoing investment in the Spidweb is well-founded," said Boeing Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Ray Conner.

Analysts said the booming orders for long-haul aircraft came as the global economy shows signs of recovery, while the demand by some airlines are growing as they look to renew their fleets.

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As Asia embraces casinos, India hedges its bets

Legal gambling in the increasingly wealthy country of 1.2 billion is limited to state lotteries, horse racing and a handful of off-shore. Most gambling in India, from penny-stake games at street corners and card parties in affluent homes to wagers on the possible outcome of the cricket underworld numbers games, is illegal and goes untaxed. “People are playing on the fringes,” Budhwani said. “People are playing in their houses.” said Budhwani, 33, a luggage retailer from the city of Hyderabad who had booked his holiday to the Goa, a tourist destination and one of two Indian states

scientists warn against complacency on deadly H7N9 bird flu

London, 24 June—A new and deadly strain of bird flu has been confirmed in China since February but seems to have petered out in recent months could reappear later this year when the warm season comes to an end — and could spread internationally, scientists said on Monday. At the International Conference on avian influenza held in Hong Kong, researchers in China and Hong Kong found only one human case of the H7N9 bird flu strain has been identified since early May. In the preceding months, the virus, which has been unusual in its ability to spread to humans, had been identified since 8 May, in human beings has been confirmed case of H7N9 bird flu strain has been identified since 8 May, the team found that H5N1 could spread beyond China in February but seems to have petered out in recent months could reappear later this year when the warm season comes to an end — and could spread internationally, scientists said on Monday.

China's central bank reiterates prudent monetary policy

BEIJING, 24 June—China’s central bank said on Sunday that the country will continue to implement the prudent monetary policy in a timely manner while fine-tuning it at proper time. It also vowed to enhance liquidity management and keep a stable and moderate growth in its credit supply as well as social financing. The People’s Bank of China (PBOC) in a statement issued on Saturday meeting of its monetary policy commission. This came after a statement published in The Lancet medical journal. But they added: "If H7N9 follows a similar pattern to H5N1, the epidemic could reappear in the autumn." H5N1 is another deadly strain of bird flu, which emerged in 2003 and has since spread around the world. Latest WHO data shows H5N1 has killed 375 of the 630 people confirmed in as infected in the past 10 years. Many H5N1 cases have been in Egypt, Indonesia and Vietnam.

Public health officials agree on priority actions to control MERS-CoV

GENEVA, 24 June—Public health officials meeting in Cairo agreed that strengthening countries’ abilities to control, detect, and treat cases of new coronavirus infections is needed to stem the growing outbreak of the disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) said Monday. More than 100 public health experts from all countries in the Middle East and North Africa and Europe which have confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and from throughout WHO’s East Mediterranean Region (EMR) met from Thursday to Saturday. They agreed that there is a list of priority actions which need to be agreed internationally and implemented nationally, accord- ing to the WHO. These areas are surveillance, mass gatherings preparation, clinical management of cases, labora- tory diagnostics, infection control, communication, and International Health Regulations (2005) reporting, the WHO said.

China-Britain currency swap agreement to boost market confidence

LONDON, 24 June—The agreement of a sterling/renminbi (RMB or Chinese yuan) swap arrangement between the Bank of England (BoE) and the People’s Bank of China (PBoC) is a very positive step that high- lights the importance of the internationalisation of the RMB to London, Policy Chambers of the City of London Corporation Mark Boleat said on Sunday. The agreement will give greater confidence to market participants, boost the already strong growth of London’s RMB business volumes and support mutu- tually beneficial trade and in- vestment between our two countries, said Boleat. Both countries’ central banks have signed an agreement to establish a reciprocal 3-year sterling/renminbi currency swap line, with the maximum value of 200 billion Chinese yuan/20 bil- lion pounds, according to an announcement on the BoE’s website on Saturday night. Boleat told Xinhua that the agreement gives con- fidence to the market for its official support and for the RMB to be traded in London as the other major cur- rencies are in the future,” Boleat said.

Referring to the RMB pool held in London, Boleat said the capital pool in Lon- don is still quite small, as the RMB deposit, invest- ment and bond issuance has not grown as rapidly as the trade financing vehicles. “But I am sure in longer term, we would see a much bigger pool of RMB, not just in London, we are going to see many more investments whether directly into china, or into fund dominated in RMB,” added Boleat.

WHO said on Saturday in its latest disease outbreak update that the Ministry of Health in Saudi Arabia has announced an additional four laboratory-confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, in- cluding three female health care workers who cared for two previously confirmed MERS-CoV cases. Globally, from Sep- tember 2012 to date, WHO has been informed of 68 laboratory-confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, including 38 deaths, it said. Xinhua
Canada’s oil capital Calgary could be without power for months after floods

CALGARY, 24 June—Power outages in the Cana- dian oil capital of Calgary could last for weeks or even months, city authori- ties said on Sunday, after record-breaking floods that killed three people and forced more than 100,000 to flee their homes swept across southern Alberta.

Some Calgary resi- dents were able to return to sodden homes as river levels slowly dropped and some mandatory evacua- tions orders were lifted.

The grounds of the Calgary Stampede remain under water after they were flooded in Calgary, Alberta on 22 June, 2013. —Reuters

Fifteen killed in Montenegro bus crash, 31 injured

PODGORICA, 24 June—Fifteen people were killed and 31 injured when a pas- senger bus with Romanian licence plates fell into a deep river gorge in central Montenegro on Sunday, of- ficials said.

Police said the bus had swerved off the Zdrijelo Bridge and plunged onto a rocky outcrop in the gorge of the Moraca River, about 50 km (30 miles) north of the capital Podgorica.

“This is a major trag- edy for us. Fifteen people out of 46 passengers died in a bus accident. Medical crews are fighting for the lives of others,” the Roma- nian ambassador to Mon- tenegro, Mihail Florovici, told Vesti TV.

He did not say wheth- er the dead were Roma- nian. Montenegro’s inte- rior ministry earlier said 13 people died. A Reuters photographer on the scene said the wreckage of the bus was lying on its side on an outcrop about 30 metres (90 feet) down in the gorge, where police and rescuers were seen trying to retrieve dead and injured passengers.

Police cordoned off the area and the main road linking Podgorica with the north of the country. —Reuters

A view shows the Grlo bridge over river Moraca in central Montenegro, on 23 June, 2013.—Reuters

Gold mine collapse kills five in northwestern Colombia

BOGOTA, 24 June—At least 5 miners were killed and five others injured af- ter an illegal gold mine collapsed on Sunday in Colombia’s northwestern Antioquia region, where rescue works are still look- ing for trapped workers, of- ficials said.

Cesar Hernandez, di- rector of Antioquia’s Pre- vention and Disaster Office, said the incident occurred in a rural area of Zaragoza township. Four injured miners were taken to local hospitals while another one was transferred to a more complex medical center in Caucaia municipality in the northeast.

“The dead and the in- jured people are ‘barequero- os’ (informal miners) who had no formal employment relationship with the mine. They had an agreement with the mine owner to work at certain times,” Her- nandez told local media.

According to Her- nandez, the authorities are conducting an investigation to identify the cause of the mine collapse. Mean- while, Colombia’s National Confederation of Miners claimed that the mine was illegal, although it was in process to legalize their ac- tivity.—Xinhua

Boat with illegal migrants on fire off Crete island, eight injured

ATHENS, 24 June—A boat carrying illegal mi- grants to Greece caught fire off the southern Aegean Sea island of Crete on Sunday, resulting in the injury of eight persons, according to Greek Coast Guard offici- als. The small vessel was spotted by Coast Guard speedboats while sailing at about 12 nautical miles off the city of Ierapetra.

For yet unclear reasons, fire had broken out in its engine. According to early information there were 20 men and three women on board. The nationalities of the undocumented immi- grants have not been clari- fied. They have all been transferred to the city of Heraklion, where the eight injured received first aid.

Most have suffered mild burns, with the exception of one person who is in more severe condition, according to hospital sources. Tens of thousands of people try to illegally enter Greece each year and then continue their journey to other European countries, and several lose their lives in sea tragedies. —Xinhua

Mandela in critical condition: S African government

CAPE TOWN, 24 June—Former South African President Nelson Mandela is in “critical” condition at a hospital in Pretoria, the South African presidency said on Sunday.

President Jacob Zuma visited the hospital Sunday night and doctors informed him that Mandela, 94, had become critically ill over the past 24 hours.

The country’s first black president and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate was hospitalized on 8 June due to a lung infection.

“The doctors are doing everything possible to get his condition to improve and we are ensuring that Madiba is well- looked after and is comfort- able,” Zuma said in a state- ment, using the clan name by which the anti-apartheid leader is widely known in South Africa. Zuma ap- pealed to the country and the world to pray for Mandela, his family and the medical team attending to him. —Kyodo News

Tuesday, 25 June, 2013
**Education Ministry doubles basic education stipends**

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—Education Ministry has doubled the amount of stipends for the needy and outstanding students this academic year.

The scholarships were granted to outstanding students who have difficulties to continue their studies since 2013-2014 academic year.

The monthly stipends for middle school students was increased to K 20,000 from K 10,000 in the previous year and that for high school students to K 30,000 from K 15,000 in the previous year.

The ministry provided K 5000 to each primary school student, K 6000 to each middle school student and K 8000 to each high school student.

The stipends that started the previous year will continue to be provided this academic year. A total of 414 scholarship awards were presented to the middle school students and the number will be increased to 1416 this year. A total of 826 high school students will receive the scholarships this year, an increase from 412 in the previous year.

**Stationery donated to monastic education school**

KAWLIN, 24 June—A ceremony to provide stationery to No (2) Monastic Basic Education Primary School in Kawlin of Sagaing Region was held at the school on 19 June.

The ceremony was attended by Headmaster of the school Sayadaw BB Adanta Sunanda, teachers and chairman of the board of directors of Kawlin Township Development Affairs Committee Market Cooperative Society U Kyi, and vice-chairman U Nay Win and donors.

The chairman delivered a speech at the ceremony.

The donors presented cash assistance for the teachers and stationery for students.

**Schools in Lewe Tsp upgraded**

LEWE, 24 June—Basic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in Lewe Township were upgraded on 17 June.

The ceremonies on 17 June which marked the upgrading of Dalanchun, Aungmyeya, Thipokbin and Kantha schools were attended by Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Myint Swe, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Hmat Gyi, Deputy Director-General of No (2) Basic Education Department U Zaw Win, Director of Nay Pyi Taw Education Department U Myint Zaw, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and villagers.

Thipokbin and Kantha Basic Education High Schools (branches) were upgraded to full-fledged high schools, Dalanchun middle school (branch) to the middle school.

**Humanitarian aids distribution discussed**

MANDALAY, 24 June—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint met Deputy Head Ms Carrie Howard of UNOCHA (Myanmar) at Mandalay Region Government Office on 18 June.

The meeting was also attended by Region Road Transport Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Region Planning and Economy Minister U Aung Zan, and Region Government Secretary U Oin Lwin.

The meeting focused on cooperation between UNOCHA and the region government for distribution of humanitarian aids.

**Cooperative society formed in Mandalay**

MANDALAY, 24 June—A cooperatives society of finished wood producers in Mandalay on 20 June. The meeting to form the society with 15 members was held in Aungmyethazan Township Cooperative Department office.

**Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club meets**

Yangon, 24 June—Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar held its 24th Annual Meeting in Parkroyal Hotel here on 22 June morning.

Chairman U Tin Maung Aye delivered a speech and Secretary U Han Htway Aung submitted a financial statement which was approved by those present at the meeting.

New executives were then elected for 2013-2014 fiscal year.

U Hla Htway (Nikkei Shimbun) was elected as patron, U Aung Hla Tun of Reuters as chairman, Mr Zhang Yunfei of Xinhua and Daw Aye Aye Win of AP as vice-chairs, U Thisar Hla Htway of TBS as secretary, U Han Htway Aung and Daw Hla Hla Htway of AFP as joint-secretaries, Daw Mo Myint of NHK and Daw Hsint Hsint Aung of NTN as financial supervisors, Daw Ei Ei Tin of Fuji TV and Dr Zaw Than of Sankei Shimbun and U Thaiba Thway of International Relations Officer.

The meeting was attended by members of the club.
Long live the Dhamma!

It was over 2500 years ago that the Buddha began His virtuous mission of preaching the Four Noble Truths the main vehicle carrying man and women till reaching Nirvana where all human sufferings end.

And when the Buddha attained Nirvana, He assigned His disciple monks the noble duty of disseminating His Teachings or in other words the Dhamma or the Sasana. From that time on and till now, Buddhist monks have been discharging this duty well.

In addition, the Buddhist monks are also carrying out the task of protecting, promoting, propagating and perpetuating the Sasana dynamically with the participation of all walks of life of Buddhist people.

In Myanmar, almost all the Buddhist monks are strictly observing the Vinaya or the discipline and rules while on their continuous mission of teaching the Dhamma. In fact, the people’s insight into the Dhamma is the foundation of preserving and safeguarding the Sasana.

Without the thorough Dhamma knowledge people cannot understand the real essence and the graciousness of Buddhism. Superficial knowledge on Buddhism is dangerous as it may cause misunderstanding sometimes even inviting harmful consequences.

Buddhist monks all over the country on their part are conducting public dissemination of the Dhamma or giving practical vipassana lessons and practices at their monasteries, religious centres, large or small congregations, donation ceremonies or pagoda festivals in ever corner.

As these monks are the venerable completely devoted their entire lives to the work of disseminating public knowledge on the Dhamma apart from safeguarding and preserving the Sasana, ordinary people, organizations and the government are providing all the requisites as a way of facilitating and supporting their mission.

Obviously, monks are the core in spreading Dhamma and preserving the Sasana to ever remain intact, and the lay persons including business institutions and the government are the main devotees always supporting them. The Sasana will live as long as this practice goes on.

UNION FM felicitates Croatian Counterpart

Navy Pyi Taw, 25 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 Dr. Vesna Pusic, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

Jade lots sold through competitive bidding system

Navy Pyi Taw, 24 June—The tenth day of Golden Jubilee Myanmar Gems Emporium was held at Mani Yadana Jade Hall, here, this morning. The Mani Yadana Jade Hall was packed with local and foreign gem merchants who bought jade lots through the competitive bidding system.

So far, a total of 8259 jade lots of 9657 have been sold out through the open tender. A total of 346 jade lots will be sold through the competitive bidding system at a rate of 80 lots per day.

Patron of Myanmar Gems Emporium Organizing Central Committee Union Minister for Mines Dr. Myint Aung accompanied by Chairman of the Committee Deputy Minister U Than Tun Aung and responsible persons visited the Jade Hall this afternoon.

Jade lots will be sold through the competitive bidding system till 27 June.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Navy Pyi Taw
Announcement No. 17/2013
1st Waning of Nayon, 1375 ME (24 June, 2013)

Six Defence Services Personnel
Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives
substituted

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute six Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted six Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives stated hereunder in Announcement No. 2/2011 dated 20-1-2011, Announcement No. 23/2012 dated 22-4-2012, Announcement No. 42/2012 dated 16-10-2012 and Announcement No. 2720/2012 dated 11-3-2013 of the commission with personnel shown against them.

1. BC 24196
   Lt-Col Moe Lwin
   Major Myo Min Thant
   BC 33565

2. BC 27002
   Lt-Col Thant Zaw Oo
   Major Maung Maung Nyein
   BC 31274

3. BC 21317
   Lt-Col Than Kyaw Soe
   Major Khin Maung Cho
   BC 33130

4. BC 23990
   Lt-Col Zaw Moe Lwin
   Major Soe Moe
   BC 33445

5. BC 26019
   Lt-Col Kyaw Soe Oo
   Major Win Naing
   BC 25168

6. BC 28298
   Major Zaw Min Oo
   Captain Kyaw Myat Soe
   BC 46977

By order,

Member

Union Election Commission

NLM

Union FM sends felicitations to Slovenian Counterpart

Navy Pyi Taw, 25 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. Karl Erjavec, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Slovenia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

New Light of Myanmar

NATIONAL
Natural disaster prevention talks in Kungyangon Tsp

YANGON, 24 June—A ceremony to share knowledge about township-level natural disaster preventive measures organized by Save the Children and Aroyone Group was held at Thiri Yadana Hall of No.1 Basic Education High School in Kungyangon Township on 15 June.

At the talks, Township Administrator U Kyaw Zeya Linn gave an opening speech and Assistant Director Daw Nyein Nyein Naing of Meteorology and Hydrology Department and Staff Officer Daw Swe Swe Win of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement disseminated knowledge on preventive measures against natural disaster.

Then, local people raised questions and township-level departmental officials replied to them. The students of BEHS No.1 presented the drill on preventive measures against natural disaster with the use of power point and children of Htinpon Village performed the one play acts for sharing knowledge of disaster risk reduction activities.

Kylene Sein Toe
(Kungyangon)

Volunteers donate stationery, nutritious snacks in Mawlu

MAWLU, 24 June—A ceremony to donate stationery and nutritious snacks by One Candle Volunteers Group was held at Basic Education Middle School in Tamway Township. One Candle Volunteers Group (Ayechamyitta Group) was held at No.3 Basic Education Middle School in Tamway Township on 19 June.

The ceremony was attended by townswanders of Nakhwinkyin Village, teachers and members of the team. Then, volunteer group members explained the purpose of donation. The group donated one dozen each of exercise books and pencils, one eraser, one ruler and snacks to 68 students for 2013-2014 academic year and chalk boxes, dusters, red pens and filters worth K 170,100 to the teachers.

The group donated stationery and nutritious snacks to 15 BEPSs last year and four BEPSs this year. Plans are underway to make similar donations to more schools and the main sponsor of the group is Mandalaygazette.com.

Coordination meeting between township administrator and supportive committee for township/ward development held in Thingangyun

YANGON, 24 June—The formation of township/ward development supportive committee and a coordination meeting between the township administrator and committee members was held at the township meeting hall in Thingangyun Township, here, on 19 June.

The committee members were introduced individually to the township administrator, officials, ward administrators and townswanders. Then, Township Administrator U Kyaw Lwin explained works to be done. Committee Chairman U Khin Wai delivered a speech and committee members asked what they wanted to know and the township administrator made clarification.

The members of the committees formed by the government for development of their areas have to meet once a month to collect suggestions and are to report work progress not later than the second day of the first week.

Kylene

Repaving of Myoma road in Pakokku

PAKOKKU, 24 June—Tun Nyo Lu construction company has been carrying out the repaving of Myoma road from People’s Hospital in Pakokku to Hsinchaung Village in Yesagyo Township as of 17 June. “Paving of gravel in Pandaingchone road section has been completed. Repaving of 40-ft-wide road is under way with the manpower of 50 workers,” Engineer U Ye Myint from the company said—Kylene-Aung

(Mun Tekkatho)

Free private school launched in Natmauk

NATMAUK, 24 June—The opening of Zarnimyay Monastery in Natmauk on 19 June. After giving admonition by Township Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman U Hla Shein and U Thein Myint from consultant committee explained the purpose of free private school.

Sayadaw U Wyanma, Headmistress Daw Myint Myint Maw of No.1 Basic Education High School, Assistant Region Education Officer (Retd) and school administrative committee chairman U Hla Shein and U Thein Myint from consultant committee explained the purpose of free private school.

Then, Chairman of Natmauk Township Association (Yangon) and retired Managing Director U Han Zaw of Public Works donated K 100,000, U Kyaung Doe, K 20,000 and U Thein Myint, U Hla Shein and Daw Myint Myint Kyi, exercise books for the school. A total of 110 matriculation students will be taught at the school from Monday to Sunday. The opening day of the school coincided with the 68th birthday of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, townswanders said—Kylene-Patibua

(Natmauk)
Erdogan defends riot police tactics in Turkey protests

ISTANBUL, 24 June—Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan piled ridicule on activists behind weeks of protests against his government during a rally on Sunday and defended riot police who fired water cannon at crowds in Istanbul a day earlier.

Looking out over a sea of Turkish flags waved by his AK Party faithful in the eastern city of Erzurum, Erdogan praised his supporters and the general public for opposing what he called a plot against his country.

“People saw this game from the start and frustrated it. They (the protesters) thought the people would say nothing. They said we will burn and destroy and do what we want but the people will do nothing,” he said.

Sunday’s mass rally was the fifth which Erdogan has called since protests began in Istanbul in an unprecedented challenge to his 10-year rule.

The unrest was triggered when police used force against campaigners opposed to plans to develop Istanbul’s Gezi Park, but they quickly turned into a broader show of anger at what critics call Erdogan’s growing authoritarianism.

The protests have underlined divisions in Turkish society between religious conservatives who form the bedrock of Erdogan’s support and more liberal Turks who have swelled the ranks of demonstrators.

He ending his speech by throwing red carnations to the roughly 15,000-strong crowd in the AK Party stronghold.

The AK Party rallies are focused on boosting party support ahead of municipal elections scheduled for next March and Erdogan said voters would then give their verdict on the weeks of unrest.

Tokyo, 24 June—Japan and the European Union began their second round of free trade negotiations in Tokyo on 24 June, 2013, with both sides seeking to discuss elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to promote trade and growth. The first round of talks was held in Brussels in April.—Kyodo News

2nd Japan-EU trade talks begin with non-tariff barriers in focus

Over 553,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 24 June—The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said on Sunday that the number of Syrians who fled their war-torn country to Lebanon has exceeded 553,000, an increase of 23,000 in the past week.

The UNHCR’s weekly report said there are currently over 473,000 Syrian refugees who have been registered with the agency, while more than 80,000 others are waiting to complete their registration process.

The registered refugees are benefiting from aid provided by the UN, the Lebanese government and various non-governmental aid agencies, said the report.

Among the registered, some 72,300 are in northen Lebanon, 160, 500 in the eastern Bekaa valley, 83,000 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, and 57,600 in southern Lebanon.

Lebanon has called on the UN Security Council and international donors to help it sustain the burden of the influx of Syrian refugees whose number may hit one million by the end of this year.—Xinhua

Cuban vice president reaffirmer. strong ties between Cuba, Laos

VENTIANE, 24 June—Cuban First Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez completed a two-day visit to Laos on Sunday during which he reaffirmed his government’s commitment in furthering the strong relationship and cooperation between Laos and Cuba, according to a Laotian government press release.

Bermudez, the first vice president of both the Council of Ministers and the Council of State, held a bilateral meeting with his Laotian counterpart Vice President Bounnhang Vorachit in Vientiane capital of Laos during his visit. In the meeting the two exchanged ideas on regional and international issues of mutual interest, the release said.

Bermudez also met with Lao President Choummaly Sayasone to convey Cuban President Raul Castro’s invitation to him to make an official visit to Cuba at a suitable time.

According to the Press release, Vorachit and Bermudez both expressed a strong desire to beef up their countries’ traditional relationship and close cooperation.

Vorachit thanked Bermudez and the government of Cuba for their great assistance to Laos in the past, and their present assistance in national defence and development.

The Communist Party of Cuba was an important supporter of the Lao Communist Party during the Lao Civil War. More recently, Cuba has cooperated in helping Laos to develop its agriculture, human resources, sports and health sectors.

Last year, the Cuban government donated nearly 200 tons of sugar to Laos to help malnourished youth in the country’s rural areas.

The Lao Foreign Ministry described Bermudez’s visit as “one of the important events in Laos-Cuba relations” that has developed traditionally friendly relations to “a new height” for the mutual benefit of both.

Bermudez expressed his pleasure for having the opportunity to visit Laos, one of South East Asia’s least developed nations, to see the ongoing development of the country and the people of Laos.—Xinhua

Japan and the European Union begin their second round of free trade negotiations in Tokyo on 24 June, 2013, with both sides seeking to discuss elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to promote trade and growth. The first round of talks was held in Brussels in April.—Kyodo News

Hundreds of crocodiles had reportedly escaped from a crocodile farm in Gaozhou City, Guangdong Province. The farmer claimed that there were not the crocodiles reported. Xinhua

Erdogan defends riot police tactics in Turkey protests

Cairo, 24 June—Egypt’s defence minister said the army is obliged to interfere to prevent the country from sliding into a dark tunnel of conflicts, internal fighting and sectarian strife, official news agency MENA reported on Sunday.

“We still have one week left, in which a lot can be done,” Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi said, urging all political forces to achieve real reconciliation for the sake of Egypt ahead of the planned mass protest on 30 June to call for ousting President Mohamed Morsi and an early presidential election.

The armed forces “will not remain silent while the country is sliding into an uncontrollable struggle,” the minister said.

“There is a state of division in society and the continuation of it is a danger to the Egyptian state and there must be consensus among all,” Sisi said, adding that the division would harm national security.

“We are completely responsible for protecting the people’s will,” Sisi reiterated.

38 Taleban rebels killed in Afghanistan within day

KABUL, 24 June—Thirty-eight Taleban militants have been killed during separate military operations across Afghanistan, said the country’s Interior Ministry on Sunday.

“Afghan National Police (ANP), army and the NATO-led coalition forces conducted several joint cleanup operations in Nanargar, Parwan, Kandahar, Zabul, Uruzgan, Wardak, Logar, Ghazni and Helmand provinces over the past 24 hours. As a result 38 armed Taleban were killed, four wounded and six other armed Taleban were arrested,” the ministry said in a press statement.

They also found and seized weapons, the statement said, without saying if there were any casualties on the side of security forces.

The Taleban insurgent group, which has been waging an insurgency of more than one decade, has yet to make comments.—Xinhua

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Fishing vessel stranded by tsunami to be dismantled

TOKYO, 24 June—A 139-ton fishing vessel, washed several hundred metres inland in Kesennuma, Miyagi Prefecture, by the March 2011 tsunami, will be dismantled despite the municipal government’s plan to keep it as a memorial of the disaster, a senior city official said on Sunday.

The fishery company that owns the Kytotoku Maru No 18 has entrusted dismantlement of the vessel to a nonprofit organization, saying many local residents oppose preserving it, according to the official.

The NPO based in Muroran, Hokkaido, is involved in projects to dismantle and reclaim ships. It has not yet been decided when the NPO will start wrecking the vessel.

The city government still hopes to preserve the vessel and will conduct a questionnaire survey in July to ask all households whether they want to keep it or not, the official said. Kyodo News

Philippine authorities probing oil spill in Manila

MANILA, 24 June—The Philippine government is closely monitoring the oil leak near the Pasig River in Manila, a government official said on Sunday, dismissing any concerns over the safety of President Benigno Aquino III or those in the Presidential Palace.

“We are monitoring the incident, but so far no reason to be concerned,” Presidential Security Group (PSG) Commander Brigadier General Ramon Mateo Dizon said on Sunday.

The official residence of President Aquino III is located along the Pasig River inside the PSG Compound in Malacañang Complex, the Presidential Palace. Deputy President Spokeswoman Abigail Valle said in a radio interview on Sunday that the Manila local government is on top of the situation and had immediately attended to the incident including those who felt ill after the incident.

The Manila government has been exerting efforts to swiftly remove the oil spill in Pasig River, Valle added. Xinhu

Chinese, Australian tourists drive record visitor numbers in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 24 June—Rising numbers of tourists from China and Australia pushed the number of visitors to New Zealand up 9 percent year on year last month to a record for a May month, the government statistics agency announced on Monday.

“The latest visitor number was the highest ever for a May month,” Statistics New Zealand population statistics manager Andrea Blackburn said in a statement. “Arrival figures jumped to 153,000, after sitting at around 141,000 for the last six months.”

The increase was mainly due to more visitors from Australia (up 8,000) and China (up 3,900). Visitor arrivals from China had doubled in the past two years, from 8,600 in May 2011 to 16,800 in May this year, said a comment on the visitors from China numbered only 300.

In the year ended May, New Zealand had 2.628 million visitors, up less than 1 percent from the previous year. Tourism New Zealand said the monthly increase in arrivals translated to an extra $22 million a day for May.

“When we look at the first five months of 2013 we see a considerable upwards shift in arrivals, with total arrivals up 5.8 percent against the same period last year and holiday arrivals up 9.4 percent,” Tourism New Zealand acting chief executive Justin Watson said in a statement.

Monuments, sites of N Korea’s Kaesong added to World Heritage List

PINSON PENSI, 24 June—The World Heritage Committee of UNESCO on Sunday decided to inscribe historic monuments and sites of North Korea’s ancient city of Kaesong on the agency’s prestigious World Heritage List.

The decision was made by the 21-member committee under the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization’s ongoing 37th session held in the Cambodian capital. The approval was widely expected as registration of the property, located west of the city at the centre of the Korean Peninsula, had been recommended by the International Council on Monuments and Sites, a UNESCO advisory panel known as ICOMOS.

Kaesong, the capital of Korea’s Koryo Dynasty (918-1392), becomes North Korea’s second World Heritage site after the Complex of Koguryo Tombs, which was listed in 2004.

An official attending the meeting said in a speech that the listing is a “matter of great pride for all Korean peoples.” Another official raised the North Korean flag and glibly shouted “Mansu!” (Hurray!). The property consists of 12 separate property components, including sections of the Kaesong City Walls, Sonjuk Bridge, and Kaesong Namdae Gate.

In its evaluation, ICOMOS praised it as embodying “the political, cultural, philosophical and spiritual values of the capital of the unified Koryo state as it transitioned from Buddhist to Confucian philosophy.” Kyodo News

At least 8,000 killed in flood in N India

NEW DELHI, 24 June—At least 8,000 people have been killed by flash floods in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand last week, said a government official on Sunday. “At least 5,000 people must have been killed in the deluge that inflicted heavy damage on vast tracts of land especially in Kedarnath valley,” disaster management minister Yashpal Arya told the media.

Rescuers and the military have rescued all the pilgrims stranded in the Kedarnath valley, Hindu temple town which was the epicentre of the flood, described as Himalayan tsunami, which took by surprise local people and authorities last week. The meteorological department has warned of more rains in the region from Monday. Some 19,000 people still remained stranded in three areas of the state, said Press Trust of India.

New Zealand

People visit the Amber Fort near Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan, India, on 14 June, 2013. The 37th session of UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee (WHC) on 21 June inscribed the Hill Forts of Rajasthan cultural property in India on the World Heritage List. The serial site includes forts of Amber, Chittogarh, Kumbhalgarh, Ramthambore, Jaipsimar and Garson in the districts of Jaipur, Chittorarh, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Jaipsimar and Jhalawar respectively. According to the UNESCO’s document, the Hill Forts of Rajasthan are serial property formed by seven sites in the northwestern state of Rajasthan in India, each strategically built and located on the oldest mountain range of the Aravalis or the Vindhyan range in the region and, each as a representative of the medieval defence settlements of the Rajput warrior caste. Xinhu
The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Information
Myanmar Radio and Television
Nay Pyi Taw
Invitation to open tender to construct building
1. Open tenders are invited from Myanmar entrepreneurs to construct buildings at Myanmar Radio and Television of Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw Pyimana (Thapyaytaung).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Work name</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw, Pyimana</td>
<td>one-storey 120x25x12 ft 60-person-capacity RCC building with water and power supply</td>
<td>2 Lots (Thapyaytaung)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw, Pyimana</td>
<td>one-storey 60x30x10 ft 60-person-capacity mess hall of Brick Masonry Building with water and power supply</td>
<td>1 Lot (Thapyaytaung)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw, Pyimana</td>
<td>8-unit 20x10x8 ft Common WC Brick 1 Lot Masonry Building</td>
<td>(Thapyaytaung)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The open tender forms and rules are sold out during office hours from 20-6-2013 to 19-7-2013. Open tender forms are to be submitted not later than at 16.00hr on 20-7-2013 and the tenders will be opened the same day.

3. Those wishing to submit the open tender are to pay deposit to 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.

4. The place where open tender document will be sold and submitted is Myanmar Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon).

5. 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.

6. Detailed information are available at the maintenance section, Ph 067 79377 and Purchasing section, Ph 067 79135.

Myanmar Radio and Television

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Information
Myanmar Radio and Television
Nay Pyi Taw
Invitation to open tender to construct building
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Re-transmittion Station (30’ x 20’ x 12’) building (Brick Masonary)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Generator House (10’ x 10’ x 9’) building Brick Nagging</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(40’ x 20’ x 9’) two-unit staff quarters Brick Mansory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>(200’ x 200’ x 6’) fencing with concrete post and barbed wire (including gate)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sinking of brick tube-well (3’ x 30’) in depth and repairing work of brick water tank (4-0’ x 3’-0 x3’-6”)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Erection of five lamp-posts for electric wiring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Laying 1m x 1m x 1m x 8’ eight concrete foundations for tower foundation work</td>
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Myanmar Radio and Television

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DELIGHT VOY NO (166)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (166) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(6) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AUTAI VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AUTAI VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(4) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S SEA NET SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Lhasa attracts over one m tourists

LHASA, 24 June—More than 1.18 million tourists visited southwest China’s Lhasa City, capital of Tibet Autonomous Region, between January and May, the local tourism bureau said on Monday.

Statistics from the bureau said that the number of visitors represented an increase of 35.9 percent year on year, while tourism revenue reached 1.03 billion yuan (166.7 million US dollars), up 49.4 percent from the same period in 2012.

Many tourists arrived in the city before travelling to other places of the region, while some visitors chose Qamdo or Nyingchi prefectures as their first destination in Tibet.

At least four killed in bomb attacks in northern Iraq

KIRKUK, 24 June—At least four people were killed in car bomb attacks in northern Iraq on Sunday, police said.

In one attack, a suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into the entrance of a police headquarters in the town of al-Riyadh located in west of the city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, killing three policemen and wounding 14 others with the police chief of the headquarters included, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, two car bombs went off in a quick succession at a residential Shiite Turkoman area in the city of Tuz-Kharmato, some 200 km north of Baghdad, killing one person and wounding 27, a local police source anonymously told Xinhua.

People dressed in traditional costumes take part in a folk custom parade in Geneva, Switzerland, on 21 June. 2013, as a part of the three-day Geneva Music Festival which started from 21 June.

Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GOLD MENUM VOY NO (122)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV GOLD MENUM VOY NO (122) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

PHONE: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (321)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (321) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

PHONE: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (042)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (042) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

PHONE: 256908/378316/376797

Katy Perry: Russell Brand divorced me via text message
LONDON, 24 June—Pop star Katy Perry has revealed that her former husband Russell Brand told her that their marriage was over through a text message.

The 28-year-old singer said she has not heard from the funnyman since he messaged her more than a year ago to say their 14-month marriage was over, reported Sun online.

“His a very smart man, a magical man and I was in love with him when I married him. Let’s just say I haven’t heard from him since he texted me saying he was divorcing me on December 31, 2011,” she said.

Although Perry accepts her hectic touring schedule was partly responsible for the failure of her marriage, she cryptically hinted there were more reasons for the split.

“I felt a lot of responsibility for it ending, but then I found out the real truth, which I can’t necessarily disclose because I keep it locked in my safe for a rainy day. I let go and I was like, ‘This isn’t because of me; this is beyond me.’ So I have moved on from that,” she added.

The couple divorced last year. Since the split, Perry dated musician John Mayer but confirmed their on-and-off relationship is finally over. She is currently being linked with Twilight heartthrob Robert Pattinson.—PTI

Jennifer Lopez signs film on Chilean miners
LOS ANGELES, 24 June—Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez is the latest addition to the cast of The 33, a film based on the story of survival of the miners trapped for more than two months after a mine collapse in northern Chile.

JLo joins the cast led by Spanish actor Antonio Banderas, who plays Mario Sepulveda, the charismatic miner who earned the nickname “Super Mario” during the saga, reports The Hollywood Reporter.

Filming will begin this fall in Chile under the direction of Patricia Riggen.

Also making up part of the cast will be actors Martin Sheen and Brazil’s Rodrigo Santoro.

The script, written by Mikko Alanne and Jose Rivera, revolves around the incidents that took place in the San Jose mine, where the miners spent 70 days some 700 metres underground before their rescue in October 2010.

The script was written in collaboration with the miners themselves and includes details never before made public about their first 17 days below ground, before they managed to contact someone on the surface.—PTI

Tom Cruise excited about Top Gun 2
A sequel to Top Gun has been touted for nearly 30 years, while work has recently commenced on getting the project made.

This progress was halted in August 2012 by the death of Top Gun director Tony Scott, leading to speculation that the movie might be scrapped entirely, reported Digital Spy.

Top Gun producer Bruckheimer recently confirmed that work had resumed on the sequel.

“We’re at a point right now where everybody wants to make it. For a while it was Tom was excited about it but the studio didn’t want to commit or the studio was excited and Tom didn’t want to do it. And that’s been going on for 30 years. And now we’re at a point where the studio is excited and Tom is excited.” Bruckheimer said.

“A lot of that has to do with Tony Scott’s vision. He had a really exciting vision and he got everybody excited about it. That enthusiasm has carried forward,” he added.

Bruckheimer also confirmed that Jack Reacher scribe Christopher McQuarrie is no longer working on the screenplay, as he is now focusing on Mission: Impossible 5.

The original Top Gun made more than USD 356 million at the worldwide box office in 1986 and cemented Cruise as one of Hollywood’s biggest stars.

Selena Gomez, Ed Sheeran more than just friends?
LOS ANGELES, 24 June—Singers Selena Gomez and Ed Sheeran are said to be showing a lot of interest in one another, and have reportedly “hooked up.”

Gomez, who was earlier dating Justin Bieber, instantly hit it off well with Sheeran after getting introduced by common friend singer Taylor Swift, reports thesun.co.uk.

“They are hooking up. They are friends with an open mind. He’s sweet and sensitive and a lot deeper than Justin,” a source said.

Gomez famously ended her two-year-old relationship with the Baby hitmaker Bieber in January this year.

Sheeran was also linked up with Swift’s car-rier, but later, he denied the reports, calling her “a very good friend.”—PTI

Ed Sheeran and Singers Selena Gomez
Duke gets first PGA win in playoff over Stroud

Ken Duke holds his trophy after winning the Travelers Championship golf tournament in Cromwell, Connecticut, on 23 June, 2013.—Reuters

Both players parred the 18th in the first hole of sudden-death before returning to the 18th tee for what turned out to be the decider at the TPC River Highlands course. Duke became the oldest first-time winner on the tour since Ed Dougherty, who was 47 when he won the 1995 Deposit Guaranty Classic. Stroud forced the playoff by chipping in from across the green for birdie after sending his approach shot long after blasting a drive of some 340 yards. “I’m glad I gave myself a chance in the playoffs,” said Stroud, who was also chasing his maiden victory. “I wish that I would’ve won. Obviously, we all want to win. I gave it everything I had.”

Duke fired a final-round of four-under-par 66 and Stroud posted 67 to tie on 12-under-par 268. Duke took advantage of a lucky bounce at the par-four 10th, when he pulled his approach shot into the trees left of the green but the ball rattled around and bounced out onto the green to set up his five-foot birdie putt. “I got an unbelievable break on 10,” acknowledged Duke, who had only one top 10 this season from 18 starts—a tie for eighth in the 1995 Deposit Guaranty Classic.
Ankara, 24 June— About 2.5 million protestors have taken to the streets across Turkey since the unrest initially erupted on 31 May over government plans to redevelop Gezi Park in Istanbul’s Taksim Square, daily Milliyet reported on Sunday.

Only in two cities, Bayburt and Bingol, people did not attend the protests; while 79 cities witnessed mass demonstrations, with the majority in Istanbul and the capital Ankara, the report quoted the Interior Ministry’s record as saying. At least five people were killed during the protests, as some 4,000 were injured, including some 600 policemen, and about 4,900 protestors detained. Civil disobedience protests occurred after the violent clashes faded away, said the report. A total of 58 public buildings and 337 private businesses were damaged, while 240 police vehicles, 214 private cars, 90 municipality buses and 45 ambulances were left in bad conditions, the report said, adding that the total damages were estimated at over 70 million US dollars. The protests began as a peaceful sit-in, but soon snowballed into nationwide anti-government movement due to harsh police crackdowns.—Xinhua

Israeli cabinet approves exporting 40 percent of natural gas

Jerusalem, 24 June— The Israeli cabinet approved on Sunday the decision to export 40 percent of Israel’s natural gas, according to a statement by the Prime Minister’s Office.

Israel will then, according to the decision, keep 60 percent of its estimated gas reserves, which means approximately $40 billion cubic metres (BCM) of natural gas for Israeli market in the next few decades. In 2012, the Israeli economy consumed seven billion BCM of natural gas. The decision to export natural gas will, in the meantime, satisfy exploration companies seeking access to the global market.

Government’s projections show that the sum of money from royalties could amount to 60 billion US dollars in the next twenty years. “The State of Israel has received a gift from nature — gas in vast quantities,” Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said during the Sunday cabinet meeting, referring to the substantial natural gas reservoirs discovered off the shores of Israel in the past several years. “Thanks to the decision we made today, every Israeli citizen will enjoy this gift. We will lower the cost of living in the electricity sector via this gas, that will flow into the Israeli economy and invest in the public welfare with the profits from the gas exports,” he said. But there is also public criticism over the move.

On the one hand, the figure of 40 percent is lower than the 53 percent that the Tzemach Committee, an inter-ministerial committee recommending the government’s gas policy has recommended to release for export. A higher rate of export serves the interests of gas and energy exploration companies, who operated a strong lobby in order to increase the quota for export. On the other, Israeli environment activists insisted the country needed to retain the natural gas and use it for its needs before exporting it to other countries. Xinhua

Referee admits to mistake with Italy goal

Rio de Janeiro, 24 June — A referee has admitted to making a mistake in awarding Italy’s second goal during their 4-2 defeat to Brazil at the Confederations Cup, FIFA said on Sunday.

Giorgio Chiellini’s goal was allowed to stand even though referee Ravshan Irmatov of Uzbekistan confirmed the whistle being blown before Italy’s second goal was scored during their Confederations Cup Group A soccer match at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador on 22 June, 2013. Reuters

Brazil’s goalkeeper Julio Cesar (2nd L) complains to referee Ravshan Irmatov of Uzbekistan (L) about the whistle being blown before Italy’s second goal was scored during their Confederations Cup Group A soccer match at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador on 22 June, 2013. Reuters

The so-called college entrance examination is equal to bac general in France, which started on 17 June this year. According to a French teacher, the hard exam will trip up many students each year. Xinhua

2.5 mln people partook in anti-gov’t protests across Turkey

May over government plans for its needs before exporting it to other countries. Xinhua

R489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
Handing over ceremony of Buddha Tooth Relic and Golden Chamber held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—The consecration ceremony for Buddha Tooth Relic donated by the People’s Republic of China in progress at Uppatasanti Pagoda, here, was held in conjunction with the handing over of golden chamber at the pagoda, here, this afternoon.

First, the congregation led by Sayadaw Abhidajja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Paññasiri of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha and Venerable Shi Chang Zang of Buddha Tooth Relic Temple in China consecrated the Buddha Tooth Relic in Myanmar and Chinese languages. The congregation received Five Precepts from the SCWCS Sayadaw and the monks recited Parittas.

Next, Ven Shi Chang Zang explained the purpose of donation and handed over the Tooth Relics and chamber to the Pagoda Board of Trustees. The Pagoda Board of Trustees presented Dhamma gifts to the Chinese monks and party and Member of Pagoda Board of Trustees U Tun Kyi spoke words of thanks.

Then, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Dr Maung Maung Hay held over K 12.8 million donated by the wellwishers to the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

New Light of Myanmar Tuesday, 25 June, 2013

Diagnostic Workshop on Agriculture Sector held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June — Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar Development Resource Institute (MDRI), Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESD), USAID and Michigan University of the US, Diagnostic Workshop on Agriculture Sector was held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

It was attended by Union Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw and departmental heads, US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell, experts from MDRI, CESD, USAID and Michigan University and guests.

In his address, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing said that cooperation would be made between the ministry and USAID, welcoming its assistance to agriculture sector in Myanmar. He expressed his belief that it could thereby contribute towards better government-to-government connectivity as well as people-to-people connectivity.

Next, the US Ambassador extended greetings and those present watched a video clip of activities on agriculture sector development across the nation.

Then, Prof Dr Steve Haggbag, Prof Dr Ducan Boughton and Professor Dr Thomas Reardon of Michigan University and Director Dr Zaw Oo of MDRI-CESD spoke on the occasion and the Union ministers made clarifications on work progress and requirements to be fulfilled in cooperation with USAID.

In the afternoon session, agriculturists of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd, Myanmar Wanbao Company and responsible personnel with transparency and in accordance with the international standard to promote the local people’s socio-economy including matters related to health, education and job opportunities, said U Hla Tun, Deputy Minister of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental Manage-ment Plan (EMP) and Occupational Health & Safety Advisory Services (OHSAS).

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing together with foreign experts and board of the members of MDRI-CESD visited the meeting.

Lapadaungtaung Copper Mine Investigation Report Implementation Committee holds coord meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June —The committee on implementation of Lapadaungtaung Copper Mine Investigation Report would step up efforts for promoting socio-economy and creating more job opportunities for the local people.

During the coordination meeting of the committee at the President’s Office and Chairman of the Committee U Hla Tun delivering address at the meeting.

Second, Ministry of Mines, regional government, Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd, Myanmar Wanbao Company and responsible personnel with transparency and in accordance with the international standard to promote the local people’s socio-economy including matters related to health, education and job opportunities, said U Hla Tun, Deputy Minister of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental Manage-ment Plan (EMP) and Occupational Health & Safety Advisory Services (OHSAS).

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Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and party visit farm machinery warehouse of Alliance Star Company.—MNA

Lapadaungtaung Copper Mine Investigation Report Implementation Committee holds coord meeting

MNA