President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Governor-General, Prime Minister of Canada

Union A&I Minister oversees rice research farmlands, thriving groundnut plantations

Conservation of urban heritages in Yangon

President U Thein Sein’s radio message on air

Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe
Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)
Government targets today’s youth to be good and able citizens

YANGON, 30 June — While building Yangon into a modern city, repair, upgrading and construction of new markets in the municipal area of the city of Yangon are among the tasks being supervised by Yangon City Development Committee. It is learnt that major upgrading of Bogyoke Aung San Market which is listed as one of Heritage Buildings in Yangon is included.

The Bogyoke Aung San Market was built in 1926. It was called Scot market in pre-wartime period, Bo Yan Naing market during the Japanese occupation of Myanmar and the market was named Bogyoke Aung San Market after gaining independence. The 87-year-old landmark building with various names is going to be upgraded without harming its original forms. Partly damage of some buildings in the market and leaked roofs need major repair. Central building, buildings in east wing and west wing, upstairs shop and all shops on the front will be included in major repair.

The Bogyoke Aung San Market comprises 10 buildings with 1033 shops. A total of K 300 million from the funds of YCDC will be spent on repair works. The Engineering Department of YCDC will take the responsibility of upgrading task and no repair charges will be collected from shopkeepers.

Likewise, construction of new Bogyoke Aung San Market (open air market) which is situated on the other side of the road will be carried out. While Yangon City Development Company (YCDC) will take the funds of YCDC will be collected. The temporary market will be built by a company under the supervision of YCDC. Officials concerned guaranteed to relocate the shops on the ground floor of the new market that will be built by Shwedagon Development Company, says U Soe Win, chairman of new Bogyoke market development committee.

It was learnt that YCDC and Shwedagon Development Company were presented certificates of honour and prizes.

Asia Highway linking Kawthoung-Myeik with Myawady-Tamu-Impalh to emerge in 2018

While foreign investors eye economic opportunities of the country, plans are underway for an Asian Highway that links between Kawthoung and Myeik, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Yagon, Mawlamyine, Dawei, Myeik, Mawtaung and Parachut (Pakyut) to be commissioned into service in 2018.

Arrangements are being made by Yangon Taxi Air Bus to operate an Air Bus service between Myeik and Impalh. Yangon service would contribute to a tripartite economic development of Myanmar, Thailand and India.

Kyemon-D Soe & Dana Thekkky

Sunday, 14th July, 2013

School Environment Day

Let all basic education schools participate in activity

Ministry of Education

NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
Obama sees no threat in China rivalry for Africa business

US President Barack Obama participates in a town hall-style meeting with young African leaders at the University of Johannesburg Soweto, on 29 June, 2013.—Reuters

N Korea wants end to “hostile” US policy, draft ARF statement says

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 30 June—North Korea is urging the United States and other countries to immediately end their “hostile” policies against Pyongyang, blaming such policies as the root cause of tensions on the Korean Peninsula, a draft statement of a regional security bloc showed on Saturday.

The proposed chairman’s statement of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum is different from the initial version. The draft statement containing the North Korean assertion has been sent to the ASEAN members and dialogue partners ahead of the ARF in Brunei next Tuesday.

According to the latest draft, ARF members singled out North Korea and voiced concern over the current situation on the Korean Peninsula.

North Korea, meanwhile, says it reaffirms its continued efforts to achieve peace and stability on the peninsula.

Tensions have stemmed from North Korean threats of war and retaliation over the South Korea-US joint military drill and United Nations sanctions for Pyongyang’s third nuclear test in February. But North Korea recently has apparently shifted to being more willing to have a dialogue with the United States and South Korea. Attention has been focused on whether Pyongyang will make contact with either of the countries in Brunei.

Japan, US eye technology to measure melted fuel in Fukushima plant

Tokyo, 30 June—Japan and the United States have begun joint research on the development of technologies that can measure the amount of uranium and plutonium contained in melted fuel at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant, Japanese and US officials involved in the project said on Saturday.

Under Japan’s safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency, Japan is obliged to report to the IAEA the quantity of nuclear substances in the nuclear fuel at power plants to show that none of it is converted for use in arms.

Japan aims to begin monitoring of the substances by the early 2020s in line with the government timetable for scrapping reactors, said the officials from Japan Atomic Energy Agency and US Department of Energy that are chiefly responsible for the project.

The agency called it the “world’s first” to come up with a method of measurement since technical issues had prevented such an attempt in the case of the 1979 Three Mile Island accident in the United States.

In February, technical experts held their first meeting at the JAEA’s head office in Tokaimura, Ibaraki Prefecture. The US side was represented by 14 experts including those from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Los Alamos National Laboratory.

A rough outline of the road map of developing such technologies has been drawn up and several technologies applicable to the Fukushima Daiichi plant will be chosen in fiscal 2013, the officials said.

Experts from both nations will also develop a technology in fiscal 2014 and fiscal 2015 that can measure the gamma and neutron rays coming out from melted fuel removed from the containment vessels and placed inside a special container, they said.

Egypt protests set for showdown, violence feared

Volunteers from the opposition movement, carrying a crossed-out picture of President Mohamed Mursi and banners reading “Get out”, stroll through a campaign for a major protest during the day, in Alexandria on 30 June, 2013.—Reuters

Argentina’s President Cristina Fernandez makes a speech during the event of presentation of candidates for the Primaries, Open, Simultaneous and Obligatory elections (PASO, for its acronym in Spanish) which will take place on 11 August, in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 29 June, 2013.—XINHUA

When it comes to investment flows, however, the picture is different. Data for 2007-2011 suggest US foreign investment flows to the region were larger than China’s, the GAO said.

“China’s role as an investor, aid donor and financier is not outsized,” Johns Hopkins University China scholar Deborah Brautigam wrote recently.

“Although Western countries fret about China’s growing role in Africa, the United States alone disbursed more official finance to African countries than China did in 2010.”

Still, China’s influence looks large over the continent, partly because it has been so aggressive in its courtship.

Beijing and Washington should be partners in Africa to foster development and peace, said an official Chinese commentary after Obama’s made his re- marks.

In contrast, Chinese presidents and vice presidents have visited 30 African countries over the same period, said Mwangi Kimenyi, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

There is also a sense that the United States may be resting on its laurels.

“There hasn’t really been a presence of US companies since 1994, advancing the new opportunities,” Haroon Bhorat, a professor at the University of Cape Town said recently, speaking of South Africa. “So, you’ve seen new emerging markets entering into other emerging markets like South Africa and taking advantage of economic opportunities in a way where the US, already with a foothold, arguably hasn’t done enough.”

Reuters

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Reuters
Adobe to buy digital marketing software company for $600 million

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 June—Adobe Systems Incorporated said it had agreed to acquire privately held Neoline, which operates a software platform for managing digital marketing campaigns over multiple platforms, for $600 million in cash.

The maker of Photoshop and Acrobat software said the move would “bring critical cross-channel campaign management capabilities to the Adobe Marketing Cloud.”

Adobe Marketing Cloud is a set of tools encompassing analytics, social, advertising, targeting, and web experience management solutions.

Neoline, whose clients include Barnes & Noble and Bridgestone Tires, operates a software platform for automation and execution of campaigns across the Web, email, social, mobile, call center, direct mail and point of sale.

Adobe said the acquisition, expected to close next month, will not materially affect its revenue forecast and adjusted financial results for the current fiscal year.

Neoline CEO Stéphane Deboche will continue to lead the former Neoline team as part of Adobe’s digital marketing business.

The micro-blogging website has now addressed this issue with an update in the form of Vine for Android version 1.2.0. The other major improvements that this update has brought are:

* New upload manager for unsubmitted posts
* Improvements to settings
* Improvements to camera loading time and support for more devices
* Speed improvements overall
* Bug fixes and UI improvements

The biggest improvement in speed seems to be in the camera, which now loads faster than before.

Twitter had launched Vine app for iOS in January 2013. Vine lets users record six-second videos, which can then be seamlessly embedded within the tweets.

The version of Vine had got a minor update last week as well. This update added search, mentions, hashtags, and Facebook-sharing.

On 20 June, Vine co-founders Dom Hofman and Rus Yusupov had posted videos to give a glimpse of changes that might be included in future Vine updates is the option to reuse older video clips. Currently, users need to capture a fresh video clip every time they are looking to upload something to Vine.

Recently, Facebook added Vine-like features to its popular photo-sharing app Instagram. Instead of restricting users to 6 seconds, like Vine does, Instagram lets users share 15-second videos.

*PTI

**New Light of Myanmar**

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

Nokia Asha 210 with dedicated WhatsApp button now up for pre-orders at Rs 4,499

ESPOO, 30 June—Nokia Asha 210 is now up for pre-orders with online retailer Flipkart for Rs 4,499. The phone was unveiled back in April as the first phone in the world with a dedicated WhatsApp button.

Nokia Asha 210 is a dual-SIM phone that comes with a QWERTY keyboard, Wi-Fi connectivity and a free WhatsApp subscription for life. It features a 2.4-inches QVGA (240x320 pixels) display, a 2-megapixel camera, 32MB RAM, and 64MB internal storage, expandable by up to 32GB via microSD card.

Asha 210 comes with Nokia Xpress Browser which, according to Nokia, reduces data consumption by up to 90 percent.

The phone also features Nokia Nearby, a web app that lets people discover points of interest such as restaurants, shopping and ATM machines close to their location. Other pre-installed apps include YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and of course, WhatsApp. The built-in email client comes with support for popular services such as Gmail. Nokia Asha 210 comes with Bluetooth and FM radio but no 3G connectivity.

*Reuters*

Little Kirobo to become 1st robot space talker

The first human-robot conversation in space will take place later this year aboard the International Space Station.

The chat will be between Kirobo, one of two humanoid communication robots developed under Japan’s Kibo Robot Project, and Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata after he arrives at the station sometime in November or December.

*Xinhua*

**‘Anti-social’** app to help you avoid friends

MUMBAI, 30 June—A new smartphone app that can inform you where your friends are and suggest best possible routes to avoid them has been developed by a US student.

The app named “Hell Is Other People” utilises FourSquare a location-based social networking website for mobile devices—to track check-ins made by friends to determine the best routes and areas to avoid them.

The experimental anti-social media app was created by Scott Garner, a graduate student at New York University, “ABC News” reported. The Web app is simple to use. First, a person connects his or her FourSquare account through “Hell Is Other People.” Then, the Web app conjures up an avoidance map. The map contains orange and green points. Orange points indicate check-ins by other users, and green points represent “optimally distanced safe zones,” as suggested by the app.

James George, NYU adjunct faculty member, said his final assignment required students to create a system that enabled individuals to behave in a certain way.

“I thought it was an amazing interpretation of that idea,” George said.

“I think Scott was resistant to doing such projects throughout the class. He was like ‘No, I do not want to rely on other people. He was able to turn that personal anxiety and channel it into the concept of this piece,” he said. The thought of an “anti-social media” app may seem ironic, but Garner said the initiative isn’t as ridiculous as it seems, the report said.

“In some ways, social media and on-line media are kind of anti-social in that you are interacting in a virtual space. Some people retreat to Facebook in place of personal interaction. It’s something I am trying to explore,” he said. —PTI

Vine app for Android updated with front-facing camera support

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 June—Twitter had rolled out Vine app for Android earlier this month. However, this app had a major drawback as it could not access the front-facing camera of an Android smartphone. However, the iOS version of the Vine app came with front camera support from the very start.

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Based on one of these Vine videos, it appears that the company is looking at revamping the design. The new design will let users see larger, full-screen videos.

Another interesting addition that may come with future Vine updates is the option to reuse older video clips. Currently, users need to capture a fresh video clip every time they are looking to upload something to Vine.

Recently, Facebook added Vine-like features to its popular photo-sharing app Instagram. Instead of restricting users to 6 seconds, like Vine does, Instagram lets users share 15-second videos.

*PTI*
WASHINGTON, 30 June—The Obama administration on Friday made it final that employees of religiously affiliated, nonprofit institutions would receive insurance coverage for birth control amid mounting legal challenges to a rule in the recent healthcare law.

The White House announced in early 2012 an arrangement that allows universities, hospitals and other religious entities to avoid paying for birth control directly for contraceptives. Instead, insurance companies would provide the coverage and foot the bill under the law.

The rule requires an institution’s health insurer or third-party insurance administrator to notify employees about birth control benefits and provide beneficiaries with direct payments that cover the cost of contraceptive services.

The announcement was made by the US Department of Health and Human Services. It puts into effect a requirement that has been beset by more than a year of talk between administration officials and religious employers.

The US Roman Catholic bishops and other denominations oppose contraception on religious grounds and have protested against the requirement as have conservatives.

“Today’s announcement reinforces our commitment to respect the concerns of houses of worship and other non-profit religious organizations that object to contraceptive coverage,” said Kathleen Sebelius, HHS Secretary.

The rule formally takes effect on 1 August. Thanks but the administration gave nonprofit employers an additional five months to adjust to the new regulations by having it apply to plan years beginning on or after 1 January. Other employers have been required to make contraceptives coverage available to their workers since last August.

Women’s advocates applauded the regulations as a milestone that could have profound impact on the education and economic opportunities of women, including college students.

Hormone therapy, calcium may lower fracture risk

NEW YORK, 30 June—Women on hormone therapy and calcium and vitamin D tablets after menopause were less likely to fracture their hips than those taking hormones or supplements, in a new study.

“We always tell women to take calcium and vitamin D,” said Dr Michele Curtis, a women’s health researcher from the University of Texas Health Science Centre at Houston.

“At the end of the day what this study really says is, what you thought was a good thing to do really is a good thing to do.”

Because of the known risks of hormone therapy, one of the study’s authors said women should not take it solely to ward off fractures— but if they’re taking hormones for other reasons, it might be a good idea to add calcium.

Although many women take calcium and vitamin D for bone health, evidence has been mixed on how much supplements really help over and above what women get through their diets.

In February, the government-backed US Preventive Services Task Force said there were no benefits but some risk for post-menopausal women taking low-dose vitamin D and calcium. The group recommended against supplement use to prevent broken bones.

For the new study, Jean Wactawski-Wende from the University at Buffalo and her colleagues compared seven years’ worth of fracture data for women in their 50s, 60s and 70s participating in the Women’s Health Initiative (WHI) study. In one arm of the trial, participants were randomly assigned to take either hormone therapy or a drug-free placebo. In another, they took 1,000 milligrams of calcium and 400 IU of vitamin D or placebo tablets each day. About 16,000 women were part of both the hormone and vitamin trials, including 4,000 randomized to both hormone therapy—either estrogen alone or estrogen and progesterone—and calcium and vitamin D. In total, 214 women had a hip fracture during the study. The researchers found that women assigned to the hormone therapy and vitamin groups were about half as likely to have a fracture as those in the placebo groups.

During an average one-year period, they calculated that 11 out of 10,000 women taking both hormones and calcium and vitamin D would suffer a hip fracture, compared to 22 per 10,000 using neither. However, the combination treatment had no effect on women’s bone mineral density—a reflection of osteoporosis and fracture risk, Wactawski-Wende and her team reported in the journal Menopause. Some previous studies have suggested that vitamin D may protect against fractures less by strengthening bones than by improving muscle strength and thereby reducing falls, but others have not found the same effect.

ThyssenKrupp mulls selling part of European steel business

FRANKFURT, 30 June—ThyssenKrupp (TKAG.DE), Germany’s biggest steelmaker, is examining the possibility of selling part of its European steel business to an investor, Rheinische Post newspaper said on its website on Saturday, citing unnamed supervisory board sources. A company spokesman declined comment to Reuters and pointed to previous statements by Chief Executive Heinrich Hiesinger that Thyssen had no plans to divest European steel operations.

ThyssenKrupp, reeling from losses at its Steel Americas unit as it is trying to sell, cannot rule out a capital increase in the next six to nine months, its Chief Executive Heinrich Hiesinger said in May.

ThyssenKrupp, formed from the 2008 merger of steelmakers ThyssenKrupp AG and Hoesch AG, has a 25.3 percent stake in Thyssen and has been a guardian of its independence but analysts said it was unlikely to take part in a capital increase. There had been speculation that if the Krupp Foundation lost its blocking minority, Thyssen could become a takeover target.

Seven foods make you younger

1. Pear
2. Tremella
3. Lily
4. Sugarcane
5. Coix Seed
6. Milk
7. Chinese yam

Additional information:

Hormone therapy, calcium may lower fracture risk

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President Xi promises to shake off GDP obsession in promoting officials

When promoting officials, the CPC organization departments should consider integrity as a priority and then capability, he said. “The Party’s cadres should be firm followers of Communist ideal, true believers of Marxism and devoted fighters for the socialism with Chinese characteristics,” he said.

They must serve the people heart and soul, exercise their power carefully and resist corruption, he said. A CPC official’s integrity will not grow with the years of service and promotion of his post but with persistent efforts to discipline himself and study Marxist classics and theories of the socialism with Chinese characteristics, he said.

To select and promote good officials, the Party needs an efficient and reasonable system, Xi said.

More efforts should be made to improve the transparency of promotion and promote an upright style in the recommendation and assessment of officials, he said, adding that the promotion of officials should not be decided by simple headcount of votes. The President also stressed the training and promotion of young Party officials and pledged that more opportunities will be offered to young promising candidates.

Xi urged to punish disciplinary violations and corruption during official selection procedures. Buying and selling official positions as well as canvassing must be punished without any appeasement, Xi said.

Organization departments across the country should stick to justice and honesty, which is the leading principle for improving their work styles, said Xi.

Officials should be treated fairly and reviewed equally. Those good at currying favour with others and falsifying their work without doing any concrete jobs should be punished, Xi said.

New Light of Myanmar

UN General Assembly chief to visit Hiroshima in August

NEW YORK, 30 June—Vuk Jeremic, president of the UN General Assembly, plans to attend the annual peace memorial ceremony in Hiroshima on 6 August, he told Kyodo News on Thursday.

“I’m honored,” Jeremic said of his visit to the two Japanese cities hit by US nuclear bombs in August 1945. He added that an annual visit by a UN secretary general or a general assembly president to the bombed sites should be “fixed.”

Jeremic from Serbia will also hold talks with senior government officials in Tokyo during his stay in Japan.

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KOICA donates teaching aids to kindergarten

Yangon, 30 June—A ceremony to donate teaching aids worth USD 29,500 for children in Nosu Hin Hlaing and Bahan Township of Yangon Region was held on 27 June. Mr Shin Man Shik, resident director of Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), a South Korean aid organization, handed over computer sets and accessories, equipment for playgrounds, TV and CCTV for six classrooms and communications devices and related documents to U Tin Zaw Moe, deputy director of Yangon Region Social Welfare Department. The deputy director returned a certificate of honour and headmistress Daw Lwin Lwin Nwe spoke words of thanks. Kids then performed songs and dances.

MMAAL-Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

Myinmu

KOICA donates teaching aids to kindergarten

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More fun for tourists

Well over three million! It’s a large number of people, and they would be our guests coming in from all over the world, strolling around our places of historical significance, natural wonders, impressive ancient edifices, and closely studying our diverse cultures in 2013.

But when compared with the number of visitors to other Southeast Asian countries such as Thailand and Malaysia, this figure of three million is still low, because the latter hosted 25 million visitors earning a hefty amount of USD 24.7 billion in 2011 while the Kingdom could pocket US$ 23 billion from 19.23 million guests the same year.

As for us three million is a target for the period only two years from now, and to host this number we need much better infrastructure, facilities and services both in accommodation and transport for their full convenience and satisfaction which are the cornerstone of our reputation. Bad accommodation, transport and services will tarnish our reputation, deterring the long-term growth of the tourism industry. Accordingly, it is extremely important for ensuring the convenience and satisfaction of our visitors as the leisure industry depends much on reputation.

Another important factor here is the extra services to earn extra income from the visitors as the revenue of the industry in some cases does not depend on the numbers alone. It depends on how much they spent in the country.

The more they spend the more we get.

In consequence, we must have shops especially stores that sell souvenirs and local gourmet foods adapted to international taste, special cultural and entertainment shows and programs at places like museums, short, swift and convenient trips to surrounding places of a main destination, home-stay and temple-stay programs that entice visitors to spend more and give an impression that they got more fun than they initially anticipated.

Child protection course concludes in Dawei

DAWEI, 30 June—The child protection course organized by Taninthayi Region Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, concluded at the office of the department, here, on 27 June and Head of Taninthayi Region Social Welfare Department Daw Khin Nwe Tun gave a conclusion remark.

A total of 23 trainees of four Ward Administrative offices from Dawei Township, members of Women’s Affairs Organization, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and the head and committee members of five Philanthropic houses from Dawei and Yebyaw Township attended the 4-day course.

Kyeno-Poe Shwe Thun (Dawei)

Earlier this month, leading government, industry and civil society leaders concluded a 4-day workshop in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar for the 22nd World Economic Forum on East Asia. With Myanmar poised to take over as Chair of ASEAN in 2014 leading up to the charted 2015 realization of the ASEAN Economic Community, the gathering marked a new milestone in Myanmar’s political and regional leadership.

One key issue was not squarely addressed.

Child protection course concludes in Dawei

As Chair of ASEAN, Myanmar would be well served to address the illegal wildlife trade. It is not only an environmental issue, but has economic, security, and health implications. This year, United Nations called Illegal Wildlife Trafficking a serious transnational criminal activity because it has fueled and funded conflicts, terrorism, and other illicit activity.

Myanmar should focus on this issue, or its omission will have grave costs.

Myanmar has some of the world’s great biodiversity. Its Northern Forest Complex is home to elephants, bears, leopards, and hundreds of species of birds. At the heart of the forest lies an 8,500 square mile tract the Myanmar’s Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary — which is the world’s largest tiger reserve, a place biologically critical in a world where only about 3000 wild tigers remain. Myanmar also has the most elephants in Southeast Asia.

To protect this biodiversity, Myanmar has an elaborate system of forest laws, which pre-date the military government, and a new government commitment to ban all timber exports starting next year. In 1994, Myanmar also enacted the Protection of Wildlife and Plant Life, and Conservation of Natural Areas Law, which forbids the possession, sale or export of endangered animals or their parts, making such acts punishable by a fine of 30,000MMK - 50,000MMK and / or imprisonment of up to 7 years.


However, reports suggest significant trade in leopards, Asiatic bears, sun bears, tigers, leopards, to monitor the illegal wildlife trade, found that widespread distribution of big cat parts occurred through markets in Mongolia, near the China border and Tachileik, on the Thai border. According to TRAFFIC, in just a 12 day period, researchers found, parts from at least 215 bears being openly traded in Myanmar border markets near China and Thailand. Thus despite its wildlife laws, enforcement is at most ad-hoc; and of low priority in areas where armed groups control.

Why is this a problem?

From other countries we know that wildlife crime destroys biodiversity and the services that healthy ecosystems provide. Illegal wildlife trade and enforcement governments direct revenue from sales of state managed natural resources and avoids indirect revenue from taxes on private sector exports. It prevents local communities obtaining sustainable local livelihoods, and worst of all, poachers receiving but a fraction of the value end-users pay.

It can undermine national security because insurgent groups often support their activities via sales of contraband that includes wildlife. It also poses serious threats to health as the transport of wildlife products can spread disease.

These challenges are not unique to Myanmar but occur across South-east Asia. Thailand and Vietnam, for example, came under scrutiny in March this year at the 16th CITES meeting in Bangkok. Thailand was criticized for failing to properly regulate its wildlife trade, found that rhino horn was sold to the visitors during events will be held.

Thus, as Myanmar assumes the ASEAN chairmanship in 2014 and plays a key role in leading the ten-member group towards the ASEAN Economic Community, it should consider the challenges that greater openness can bring, and should steer ASEAN to adopt a similar approach to wildlife laws and enforcement.

Myanmar’s Leadership Needed on ASEAN Illegal Wildlife Trade MoU signing ceremony for...

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Myanmar poised to take an important role to lead the ten-member group towards the ASEAN Economic Community.

Myanmar’s Leadership Needed on ASEAN Illegal Wildlife Trade MoU signing ceremony for...

Moe Thuza Soe

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with greater openness, escalating regional demand from China and other ASEAN countries, the domestic trade and enforcement of the ASEAN Economic Community, the situation is likely to accelerate. Under moves toward economic integration, any increase in demand for national laws or enforcement will see wildlife criminals moving to exploit the weakest nations in the bloc. To address the similar vulnerability, the European Union established a common CITES framework that encompasses all of its member states when it was first formed. ASEAN would benefit by adopting a similarly consistent approach to wildlife laws and enforcement.

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The more they spend the more we get.

In consequence, we must have shops especially stores that sell souvenirs and local gourmet foods adapted to international taste, special cultural and entertainment shows and programs at places like museums, short, swift and convenient trips to surrounding places of a main destination, home-stay and temple-stay programs that entice visitors to spend more and give an impression that they got more fun than they initially anticipated.

Child protection course concludes in Dawei

DAWEI, 30 June—The child protection course organized by Taninthayi Region Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, concluded at the office of the department, here, on 27 June and Head of Taninthayi Region Social Welfare Department Daw Khin Nwe Tun gave a conclusion remark.

A total of 23 trainees of four Ward Administrative offices from Dawei Township, members of Women’s Affairs Organization, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and the head and committee members of five Philanthropic houses from Dawei and Yebyaw Township attended the 4-day course.

Kyeno-Poe Shwe Thun (Dawei)
**MYANMAR-JAPAN LEGAL RESEARCH CENTER TO BE OPENED AT YANGON UNIVERSITY**

**NAI PYI TAW, 30 June—** Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye received a Japanese delegation led by the President of the University of Nagoya at his office, here, on 28 June.

During the meeting, they discussed signing of an agreement on educational cooperation and an MoU on knowledge exchange between the Department of Law at Yangon University and the University of Nagoya of Japan to open Myanmar-Japan Legal Research Center at Yangon University.

The agreement and MoU include exchange of students, professors, researchers, staff, issuing publications, exchange of knowledge about researches on legal affairs and others, doing researches together, conducting more seminars and paper-reading sessions, enhancement of Myanmar-Japan legal affairs on the campus of Yangon University, making cooperation in implementing a new Myanmar-Japan Legal Research Center and making other cooperations depending on both sides agreement.—MNA

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION CARRIED OUT IN HTAMANTHI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

**NAI PYI TAW, 30 June—**

For the local people who reside near Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary to understand the important of ecosystem of flora and fauna and law for protection of wildlife and conservation of natural environments, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Forest Department jointly shared knowledge about biodiversity conservation in Hawhsai, Yawmwe, Yepeha, Hoommalok and Namthstein Chauwngya Sakhan Villages which are close to gold mining area outside Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary from 14 to 26 June.

It was attended by 430 local people. It is learnt that not only local people but also those from other areas who are facing natural environmental conservation issues are actively taking part in Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary tasks.—Kyemon

**TREE PLANTING HALS MYANMAR WOMEN’S DAY**

**DAWEI, 30 June—**

The monsoon tree growing in honour of Myanmar Women’s Day was held near ancient Hsutaungpyae Pagoda in Zalun Village of Dawei Township yesterday.

Chief Minister of Taninthayi Region U Myat Ko presented saplings to members of social organizations and departmental officials.

The Chief Minister and Chairperson of Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin San plant Gangaw saplings (Mesua ferrea). The Chief Minister and officials viewed round growing of saplings by the people.

Together with the Deputy Speaker of the Region Hlutaw, the region ministers, the chief justice of region High Court, the region advocate-general, the auditor-general of the region, departmental officials and local people, the Chief Minister planted 1500 saplings of various species at the ceremony.

Kyemon-Kyaw Kyaw Latt

**ILLEGAL TIMBER SEIZED IN STATES AND REGIONS**

**NAI PYI TAW, 30 June—**

The staff from Forest Department in Kengtung of Shan State (East) seized 6.6582 tons of ownerless illegal teak, hardwood, pine and sawn timber logs in Kengtung, Mongton, Mongshelt and Mongphyat Townships on 2, 6, 9 and 13 June.

Likewise, while making a surprise check to seize illegal timber and forest products, the staff of Forest Department in Yangon Region on 6 June found uploading change of 1.7682 tons of illegal hardwood sawn timber logs from vehicle No 9Ka/5010 to vehicle No 5Ka/4350 at the corner of Kyansittha and Mandalay Streets in Hlmawma Township. Four culprits including two drivers, one bus conductor and one timber owner have been charged under the law.

Moreover, the staff from Forest Department in Pyay District in Bago Region searched illegal timber and forest products and seized 12,214 tons of illegal timber logs and one chain saw in villages in Padang Township and Kyawngyu and Thyetan forest reserves on 21 and 22 June. Three owners are under investigation in connection with seizing 27,825 tons of illegal firewood.

A combined team of the staff from Forest Department, Township GAD and Myanmar Police Force seized 10,982 tons of illegal timber and three vehicles near Soseli River, north of Maungon Ale Village in Mabein Township in Lashio District of Shan State (North) on 21 June.

Kyemon-Myo Min Thura

**CRIME**

**DANGER OF DRUG, CHILD LAW, TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT TALKED IN PYAWBWE**

**PYAWBWE, 30 June—**

Talks on danger of narcotic drugs, child law and traffic rules was held at Basic Education High School No. 2 in Pyawbwe on 28 June morning. Commander of No. 8 Police Battalions Group Police Col Aung Myat Moe and officials gave lectures on danger of drugs, legal affairs on child and traffic rules enforcement.

It was attended by Headmistress Daw Aye Aye Thin, teachers and students totalling 1632.

Kyemon-U Min Min Htwe
Obama to unveil broad African electrical power initiative

JOHANNESBURG, 30 June—Pointing to Africa’s crippling lack of electrical power, President Barack Obama is due to announce on Sunday a $7 billion initiative over five years to double access to power in sub-Saharan Africa.

“We see this as the next phase in our development strategy and a real focal point in the president’s agenda going forward,” deputy national security adviser Ben Rhodes told reporters travelling with the president. Obama is midway through a three-country tour of Africa and is due to give what aides bill as his fullest description of his vision for the US relationship with the continent on Sunday.

The president has chosen historically resonant locations for the address, and is due to speak at the University of Cape Town after touring the prison on Robben Island. Robert F Kennedy’s 1966 speech at the university linked the struggles against apartheid and the US civil rights movement and was seen as giving encouragement to the movement, while Robben Island is where anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 18 of his 27 years in jail.

The president will cite South Africa’s long struggle to defeat apartheid and the US civil rights movement’s success in overcoming racial inequality as models of movements that brought about change in the face of daunting obstacles, aides said.

He will call on young Africans to summon similar energy to complete the work of those movements and to firmly establish economic growth, democratic government, and stable societies across the continent.

Obama has faulted for lacking a grand programme to benefit Africa like the HIV/AIDS initiative launched by President George W Bush or the broad reductions of trade barriers achieved by President Bill Clinton.

Syrian army, backed by jets, launches assault on Homs

BEIRUT, 30 June—Syrian President Bashar al-Assad’s forces launched a major offensive on Saturday against rebels in Homs, a centre of the two-year-old uprising, in their latest drive to secure an axis connecting Damascus to the Mediterranean.

Activists said jets and mortars had pounded rebel-held areas of the city that have been under siege by Assad’s troops for a year, and soldiers fought battles with rebel fighters in several districts.

“Government forces are trying to storm (Homs) from three fronts,” said an activist using the name Abu Mohammad.

There were no immediate details of casualties but video footage uploaded by activists showed heavy explosions and white clouds of smoke rising from what they said were rebel districts. Loud, concentrated rounds of gunfire could also be heard.

Oneclip showed thick black smoke rising from a mosque identified as the 13th-century Khalid ibn al-Walid mosque, on the edge of the Khalidiya neighbourhood.

Syrian state media said the army was “achieving great progress” in Khalidiyah but the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an anti-Assad monitoring group, said there were reports that rebels had destroyed an army tank as troops tried to penetrate the Old City in the centre of Homs.

The attack on Homs follows a steady military gains by Assad’s forces, backed by Lebanese Hezbollah militiants, in villages in Homs Province and towns close to the Lebanese border.

Three weeks ago Hezbollah spearheaded Assad’s recapture of the border town of Qusair, a former rebel bridgehead for smuggling in guns and fighters.

High-temperature records fall as western US bakes

TUCSON, (Arizona), 30 June—Dozens of people were treated for heat-related ailments, and cities and towns across the western United States took emergency measures to help residents cool off, as the region sweltered on Saturday in dangerous triple-digit temperatures.

At least one heat-related death was reported by authorities in Las Vegas, where a man in his 80s was found dead inside a house that had no air-conditioning. The victim suffered from other medical issues, but paramedics suspect heat was a contributing factor in his death, said Las Vegas Fire and Rescue spokesman Tim Szymanski.

“It’s not unusual for people with medical conditions, their problems worsens when it gets really hot,” he said.

Extreme heat enveloped most of California and Nevada and parts of southern Arizona, with a large high-pressure system trapping hot air across the area, National Weather Service meteorologist Todd Lerics said. “It involves pretty much the entire West Coast at this point,” Lerics said, adding that the stifling conditions, which began in some areas on Thursday afternoon, would likely continue through the weekend andlinger into next week.

Triple-digit temperatures extended as far east as Texas, with Corpus Christi shattering its all-time high with a reading of 107 Fahrenheit (42 Celsius).

In Utah, Salt Lake City hit 105°F (41°C) at the airport, a record high for the date.

In Los Angeles County, many people have been hospitalized or treated for dehydration, exhaustion and heat stroke, county Fire Department spokesman Keith Mora said. At an outdoor concert in Las Vegas on Friday, 34 people were taken to the hospital after succumbing to the heat, and another 170 suffered nausea and heat rash.

An elderly man who had been driving through Las Vegas with no air-conditioning was found suffering from heat stroke and was hospitalized in serious condition after he pulled off a highway and called for help, Szymbanski said.

Precautions were taken for athletes and animals alike.— Reuters

Petrocaribe leaders agree to focus efforts on boosting trade

MANAGUA, 30 June—Delegations from over a dozen countries that are members of the Venezuela-led oil alliance Petrocaribe agreed on Saturday to adopt a framework for promoting trade within the bloc.

At the close of the eighth-annual Petrocaribe summit hosted by Nicaragua’s President Daniel Ortega Morales also attended the summit, as did Cuban Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel and Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino.—Reuters

Thousands march in Istanbul in solidarity with Kurds

ISTANBUL, 30 June—Thousands of people marched to Istanbul’s Taksim Square on Saturday chanting slogans against Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad as a government decree prevented him from entering the square by riot police.

There were no immediate details of casualties but paramedics suspect heat stroke and heat exhaustion, authorities in Las Vegas, Arizona, said.

In Los Angeles County, many people have been hospitalized or treated for dehydration, exhaustion and heat stroke, county Fire Department spokesman Keith Mora said. At an outdoor concert in Las Vegas on Friday, 34 people were taken to the hospital after succumbing to the heat, and another 170 suffered nausea and heat rash. An elderly man who had been driving through Las Vegas with no air-conditioning was found suffering from heat stroke and was hospitalized in serious condition after he pulled off a highway and called for help, Szymbanski said.

Precautions were taken for athletes and animals alike.— Reuters

A general view shows buildings damaged by what activists said was shelling by forces loyal to Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad in the Al-Khalidiya neighbourhood of Homs on 28 June.—Reuters

Besides Ortega and Maduro, Bolivian President Evo Morales also attended the summit, as did Cuban Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel and Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino.—Reuters
Most LDP candidates favour revision of Constitution

Tokyo, 30 June—Most of those who plan to run in the 21 July House of Councillors election on the governing Liberal Democratic Party’s ticket favour revision of the 1946 Constitution as sought by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the party leader, a Kyodo News poll shows.

Of those who plan to run on the LDP ticket, 97.1 percent said the Constitution should be revised. None of the LDP’s candidates said the national charter should not be revised.

The poll also found that 63.6 percent of those who plan to run on the ticket of the New Komeito party, the LDP’s coalition partner backed by the lay Buddhist organization Soka Gakkai, think the Constitution should be revised, compared with 27.3 percent who replied in the opposite.

In contrast, only 23.4 percent of the candidates who plan to run from the DPJ favoured revision of the Constitution. In a set of election promises for the upcoming poll, the DPJ promised to consider a “future-oriented constitution.”

The survey covered 406 expected candidates in the election from all parties as of 24 June, of whom 374 responded.

The respondents comprised 70 who plan to run from the LDP, 62 from the Japanese Communist Party, 47 from the main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, 42 from the Japan Restoration Party, 30 from the Your Party, 11 from the New Komeito party, eight from the Social Democratic Party, seven each from the People’s Life Party and the Green Wind party, 73 from minor parties, and 17 independents.

Of those who favored constitutional revision, 64.7 percent of the LDP’s expected candidates called for strengthening of the prime minister’s powers in the event of an emergency, and 63.2 percent called for writing Japan’s right of collective defence into the Constitution. Multiple answers were allowed for the question.

All of the New Komeito party’s expected candidates called for clearly enshrining new human rights, such as environmental rights. Among other parties, all of those who plan to run on the Japan Restoration Party’s ticket replied that they favour revision of the Constitution.

None of the responses among the expected candidates from the JCP, SDP and the Green Wind party support constitutional revision, while 71.4 percent of the expected candidates of the People’s Life Party are opposed to revisions.

The LDP’s proposal to relax requirements to initiate a constitutional revision to a majority of each house from the current two-thirds as stipulated in Article 96, 59.1 percent support constitutional revision, while 54.3 percent are opposed to the LDP’s proposal to relax requirements to initiate a constitutional revision to a majority of each house from the current two-thirds as stipulated in Article 96.

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Philippines on alert as tropical storm “Rumbia” lands

MANILA, 30 June—The Philippine government has alerted all concerned departments as Tropical Storm “Rumbia” (local name Gorio) made a landfall over central Province of Bicol and the adjacent areas on Saturday.

The storm may result in 10,000 killed in monsoon floods in N India

NEW DELHI, 30 June—More than 10,000 people may have died in the monsoon floods which swept through the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand, washing away towns and roads two weeks ago, the speaker of the State Assembly said on Saturday.

“Now one can give the exact death count but after travelling to different disaster affected areas and information gathered from victims and other locals of the area I could say that death toll is around 10,000,” the speaker,Govind Singh Kunjwal told the media.

Meanwhile, authorities have been folding up evacuation camps in many parts of the state even as some 4,000 people are still said to be stranded in the mountains. The state was hit by floods on 16 June.

Indonesia says forest fire more under control

Bandar Seri Begawan, 30 June—The rampant forest fire in Indonesia’s Sumatra island, which led to the thick haze in neighbouring Singapore and Malaysia, is now more under control, Indonesia Foreign Ministers Marty Natalegawa said on Saturday.

“It’s becoming more and more positive. As of now, the affected area is down to around 4,081 hectares, whereas previously it was as high as 16,300 hectares. So there has been a substantial reduction in terms of the area affected,” Marty told a joint Press conference with Malaysian Foreign Minister Anifah Aman and Singaporean Foreign Minister K Shanmugam on the haze.

The foreign ministers are in Brunei for the ASEAN foreign ministers’ meeting and related meetings.

Marty said the number of hotspots has been fluctuating but now down to seven from the peak of 265 previously.

“There is an increase of efforts from on the ground and from the air in terms of cloud seeding, water bombing and friendly weather... things are becoming more under control, but we must continue with the efforts because this is a commitment by the Indonesian government to ensure that we address the problem in a comprehensive way,” he said.

The smoke, largely attributable to forest fire from Indonesia, has driven air pollution to dangerous levels in Singapore and parts of Malaysia, causing a spate of words. Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono apologized to the two neighbours later, with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong saying it was gracious of him to apologize.

The three countries have agreed to bring forward the ministerial meeting on transboundary haze to July from August.

The air quality has improved in Singapore and Malaysia, partly thanks to the increase of rain.

Marty said the informal meeting on haze with his Malaysian and Singaporean counterparts was “very frank and candid, and very constructive.”

“We had not only exchanged information on the latest developments but also on how to take the matter forward, in terms of prevention, in terms of mitigation, if the situation were to occur again,” he said.

But the three ministers declined to comment on the details of their closed-door discussion.

Meanwhile, Marty said his country may need more time to put out the fire.

“We are dealing with isn’t simply forest fire or burning trees,” he said. “We are also dealing with burning peat, 10 or 15 meters underground.”

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Kyodo News

Xinhua

Xinhua/Asian News

Xinhua/Asian News

Kyodo News

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US bugged EU offices, computer networks — German magazine

BERLIN, 30 June—The United States has bugged European Union offices and gained access to EU internal computer networks, according to secret documents cited in a German magazine on Saturday, the latest in a series of exposures of alleged US spy programmes.

Der Spiegel quoted from a alleged US spy programmes. A spokesman for the US National Security Agency (NSA) document that it said said that former NSA contractor Edward Snowden had taken with him, and the weekly’s journalists had seen in part. The document outlines how the NSA bugged offices and spied on EU internal computer networks in Washington and at the United Nations, not only listening to conversations and phone calls but also gaining access to documents and emails.

The document explicitly called the EU a “target”. A spokesman for the Office of the US Director of National Intelligence had no comment on the Der Spiegel story. Martin Schulz, the president of the European Parliament, said that if the report was correct, it would have a “severe impact” on relations between the EU and the United States.—Reuters

US bugged EU offices, computer networks — German magazine

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

1. The Ministry of Energy invites all the Foreign and Local Investors to submit a Proposal to Supply Natural Gas (Regasified LNG) required for Gas Turbine Power Plants in Yangon Region at the point of connection to existing Gas Pipe Grid of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise in terms of DDP (Yangon).

Quantity: 150 to 200 MMSCF per day. Start March 2014 and later on 500 to 600 MMSCF per day for 5 to 10 years.

Contact Address: 1) Chief Engineer’s Office, YANGON CITY ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD, MINISTRY OF ELECTRIC POWER, NO. 197, 199 LOWER KEEFYSMINDY ROAD, AYHLONE TOWNSHIP, YANGON, MYANMAR PHONE: 95 1214641 Ministry of Electric Power

Tender Closing Date & Time - Tender Document shall be available during office hours Commencing from 1st July 2013 at the Material Planning Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

Proposal for Aviation Fuel Business

1. It is announced that both local firms and foreign firms who are able to incessantly import and sell the aviation fuel that meets the internationally recognized specifications, can submit the proposals to the following address: Ministry of Energy, Office Building No.(6) Nay Pyi Taw

2. For more details please contact the following phone numbers during office hours: 067-411135, 067-411053, 067-411136.

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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ministry of Energy

MINISTRY OF ELECTRIC POWER

Invitation of open Proposal

1. The Ministry of Electric Power invites all the Foreign and Local Investors to submit a Proposal to Supply Natural Gas (Regasified LNG) required for Gas Turbine Power Plants in Yangon Region at the point of connection to existing Gas Pipe Grid of Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise in terms of DDP (Yangon);

Natural Gas

Methodology : Supply of Gas (LNG transformed to Gas with the aid of Floating Storage and Regasification Unit-FSRU) Quantity : 150 to 200 MMSCF per day. Start March 2014 and later on 500 to 600 MMSCF per day for 5 to 10 years.

2. Both the Technical and Commercial Proposal shall be submitted not later than at 12:00 noon on 31st July 2013.

3. For detailed information and Technical Specification related to Natural Gas, please contact the following addresses during office hours;

Contact Address : 1) Chief Engineer’s Office, YANGON CITY ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BOARD, MINISTRY OF ELECTRIC POWER, NO. 197, 199 LOWER KEEFYSMINDY ROAD, AYHLONE TOWNSHIP, YANGON, MYANMAR PHONE: 95 1214641 Ministry of Electric Power

Shadow of soldier’s death fingers as Britain toasts troops

LONDON, 30 June—Tens of thousands of Britons celebrated the work of the military on Saturday in the fifth annual Armed Forces Day, with one of the largest events being held near the site in London where a soldier was murdered in broad daylight.

Lee Rigby, a 25-year-old veteran of the Afghan war, was killed last month outside Woolwich barracks in east London. Two men will stand trial in November.

The Woolwich barracks hosted a marching band and military display at the start of celebrations expected to draw around 20,000 people over the weekend. Fearing possible violence, police banned a planned march there by the English Defence League (EDL), a far-right group that has led an anti-Muslim backlash against Rigby’s killing.—Reuters
Cameron Diaz to make musical debut with Annie remake?

Los Angeles, 30 June—Actress Cameron Diaz will be reportedly making her musical debut with Annie remake.

Actress Sandra Bullock was reportedly approached twice to play the brutal orphanage headmistress Miss Hannigan, but she refused.

Diaz, 40, is said to have accepted the role and will star opposite nine-year-old Quvenzhane Wallis, reports usmagazine.com. Actor Jamie Foxx is expected to play Daddy Warbucks in the film, which is being directed by Will Gluck.

Annie is slated for release on 25 Dec, 2014.

Adele gets a new tattoo

Los Angeles, 30 June—Singer Adele has had the word ‘Paradise’ tattooed on her left hand.

She has got herself inked by renowned tattooist Bang Bang, reports contactmusic.com.

Bang Bang posted a photograph of the Grammy Award winner flaunting the new body art, on social networking site Facebook, with the caption: “The lovely Adele came in to get tattooed today.”

The Skyfall hitmaker already has the letter ‘A’ inked behind her right ear. It is said to be a mark of tribute to her baby boy Angelo, whom she gave birth to last year.

Justin Bieber wants to get married

The 19-year-old Baby hitmaker said he does not believe in love but wants to start a family, reported Us magazine.

“My grandparents Bruce and Diane Dale (are my relationship role models). They love each other so much, after so many years! When I’m their age, I want to be as in love with my wife as my grandfather is with his,” he said.

Bieber split with long-time girlfriend Selena Gomez, 20, early this year though the pair reunited several times in the following months.

In May, the pair were spotted exchanging a friendly hug and a kiss at the Billboard Music Awards after Bieber took home two awards for the night.

“As long as people are kind to each other during a breakup, there is no reason they can’t be friends. A lot of people give me relationship advice. Be patient and listen. I’m still growing. I’m trying to be a better person every day,” he added.

Reuters

Kate Moss prefers natural look at music festivals

London, 30 June—British supermodel Kate Moss doesn’t like to go overboard with make-up during music festivals and sports a natural look at such events.

“My festival look is always natural, never too much make-up. For my hair, I use a bit of salt spray to create that kind of tousled look, to bring the beach to the festival,” femalefirst.co.uk quoted Moss as saying.

The supermodel is a regular at music festivals such as Glastonbury.

“I’ll be wearing the normal little hot pants and Wellingtons this festival season. But, if I can get away with a heel then I will,” she said.
Ruthless Djokovic and Williams march on

LONDON, 30 June—Novak Djokovic continued to match title rival Andy Murray stride for stride with a nonchalant storm into the last 16 as the leading seeds flourished in the Wimbledon sunshine on Saturday.

The Serbian world number one neutralized Frenchman Jeremy Chardy with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 victory in 86 minutes and, like Murray, has now won all nine sets he has played.

American Serena Williams, bidding to equal Roger Federer’s 17 grand slam titles by successfully defending her crown, has also been blemish-free and offered no concessions to 42-year-old Kimiko Date-Krumm under the Centre Court roof.

The women’s top seed was scheduled last on Court One but with other matches dragging on she was switched across to Centre where she dispatched the Japanese veteran 6-2, 6-0 in an hour.

While Djokovic and Murray have been in perfect harmony, elsewhere the opening week has been a turbulent one with a head-splintering spate of shocks, injuries and withdrawals.

Surprises were thinner on the ground on Day Six with men’s fourth seed David Fer-
rer coming closest to falling through the trapdoor after battling back to beat unorthodox Ukrainian Alexandr Dolgopolov in five sets to reach the fourth round.

The 31-year-old was joined by 2010 runner-up Tomas Berdych, the Czech seventh seed, who beat giant South African Kevin Anderson for the ninth time in a row, and Argentine number eight seed Juan Martin del Potro who put an end to a career-long February on Saturday.

As in the men’s draw, only six of the top 16 women have reached Monday’s fourth round which would feature a total of nine players aged 30 or over—equaling a professional era record at Wimbledon.

Australian 14th seed Samantha Stosur was the main casualty in the women’s singles on Saturday, losing to Germany’s Sabine Lisicki, but there was better news for fellow Australian Bernard Tomic as the 20-year-old continued to shake-off his bad-boy image by knocking out Dutchman Robin Haase.

Japan’s Kei Nishikori also fell short, the 12th seed losing a long match to Italy’s Andrea Seppi who has now won his last seven matches that have gone the five-set distance.

Women’s fourth seed Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland, last year’s runner-up, ended the run of American teenager Madison Keys in a hard-fought three-setter, while sixth-seeded Chinese Li Na and former champion Petra Kvitova, the Czech eighth seed, remained in contention after also being taken the distance.

The queue at the medical room has shrunk since Wipeout Wednesday when seven players withdrew or retired but Dutchman Igor Sijsling quit mid-match against Ivan Dodig on Saturday to take the total to a tournament record-equalling 13.

Brazil’s Dodig, who is up against Ferrer next, has reached the fourth round despite finishing only one match.

Djokovic was the definition of efficiency against Chardy, who had never dropped a set in a six previous meetings. The 26-year-old Serb made only three unforced errors and cruched surgical winners for fun in a sobering display for British fans dreaming of Murray holding the trophy aloft next Sunday.—Reuters

Victory would regain lost credibility, says Scolari

RIO DE JANEIRO, 30 June—“Spain are a fantastic team, but they have their flaws and they can be defeated.”

“I think what would be so important for us is with a victory we would regain a lot of credibility and respect from our own fans in Brazil.”

In defeating Italy 7-6 on penalties in Thursday’s semi-final, Spain extended their world record unbeaten stretch in competitive matches to 29 games.

Their last competitive defeat was at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa when they were stunned 1-0 by Switzerland in their opening group match.

“Perhaps at the moment Spain are superior to us,” Scolari said. “They have more or less had the same side for five or six years now, and they have won two European titles and a World Cup so they may have an advantage.”

Brazil, though, have shown glimpses of past glo-
dy during this competition.

Asked what message a Brazil win over Spain would send to the rest of the world just a year before the World Cup finals are staged in the country, Scolari enthused: “A very clear message that we are on the right path for the title in 2014. “We would show to the world we are among the group of teams who can win the World Cup, but even if we don’t win on Sunday as can happen in a football match, I still think we have done a lot this month and now we want to

prove it to the Brazilian crowds who have been fantastic and supported us so much.”

Scolari guided Brazil to their fifth World Cup final success over Germany in Yokohama on 30 June, 2002, and, although he said he did not live in the past or know the dates of all his successes, he would naturally be delighted for another win on the same date.

“The past is the past, it has gone, you have to live for today, but it would be fantastic to win on a special date like that, but more importantly, I believe we have the players who can do it.”—Reuters

Brazíl’s Neymar and coach Luiz Felipe Scolari take part in a training session at Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro on 29 June, 2013. Brazil will play against Spain in their Confederations Cup final soccer match on Sunday.

Resilient Ferrer outlasts

Dolgopolov to make last 16

LONDON, 30 June—Fourth seed David Ferrer came through a punishing five-set test against Alexandr Dolgopolov to move into the last 16 in the evening
gloam at Wimbledon on Saturday.

Ferrer eventually ground down the 26th seed

Ukrainian 6-7(6) 7-6(2), 2-6, 6-1, 6-2 in three hours 12 minutes.

It was a very hard match,” this year’s French Open finalist Ferrer said. “I tried to fight a lot and to be focused in the right moments and eventually I won.”

There were only been 12 five-set matches in the first two rounds of the men’s singles at Wimbledon, which was the few-
est at the grasscourt grand slam in the Open era.

Ferrer’s famed staying power came into its own as he got on top in the fourth set and ended the resistance of Dolgopolov to set up a fourth round match against Croatia’s Ivan Dodig. —Reuters

Ledecky breaks Evans’ 1500 freestyle record at US Nationals

NEW YORK, 30 June—Katie Ledecky broke Janet Evans’ 25-year-old meet record to claim the women’s 1500 metres freestyle at the US National Championships on Saturday, and becoming the second fastest American of all time in the event.

Ledecky finished in 1:57.15 and was ahead of compatriot Kate Ziegler’s 2007 world record of 1:54.54 through 800 me-
tres before backing off, still beating second place getter Chloe Sutton by more than 20 seconds.

It was also the fastest time of the year and capped a great meeting, which dou-
bled as selection trials for the Barcelona world championships from 28 July 4 August, for Ledecky who also won the 400 and 800 freestyle ti-
tles.

“It was a very hard match with it,” the 16-year-old told reporters. “It was a swim I was looking forward to all week. I just wanted to go out with a bang.”

“I just wanted to swim a controlled swim, feel good medley, also in the fastest time of the year at 1:55.44. Ledecky was ahead of world record pace but faded in the back half much to his disap-
pointment. “That’s the story of this meet for me—going out fast and holding on for dear life,” he said. —Reuters

Hamilton rewards British fans with pole

SILVERSTONE, England, 30 June—Lewis Hamilton stormed to pole position for his home British Formula One Grand Prix on Saturday with German team mate Nico Rosberg qualifying alongside him in an all-Mercedes front row.

The 2008 world champion, chasing his first win for Mercedes after leaving McLaren last year, started the session with a wave for the crowd from the pit wall and ended it with the fans saluting him. “Storming job there, Lewis, storming job,” the team told him over the radio.

The pole was the 28th of Hamilton’s career and Mer-
cedes’ fifth in eight races.

“The crowd do make a huge difference...I came here with an extra boost of energy. I just want to pay them back,” said Hamilton, who also qualified on pole at Silverstone in his debut 2007 season and won in 2008. —Reuters

Olympic champion Ryan Lochte claimed the men’s 200m individual medley final.
Heavy rain to hit north China, Sichuan

Beijing, 30 June—China’s meteorological authority forecast on Sunday that heavy rain will hit some regions in the north and Sichuan Province in the southwest from Sunday to Tuesday.

The National Meteorological Centre (NMC) said heavy rain or rainstorms will hit the central and eastern part of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and some regions in north China and northeast China.

Some of those regions may also see downpours, thunderstorms or hail, the centre said.

“China’s meteorological authority forecast on Sunday that heavy rain will hit some regions in the north and Sichuan Province in the southwest from Sunday to Tuesday.”

The NMC also said that the Rumbia, the sixth tropical storm to hit China this year, will enter the eastern part of South China Sea around midday Sunday, and then head towards Guangdong and Hainan provinces as its force strengthens.

Park heads towards US Open title

New York, 30 June—South Korean golfer Inbee Park fired a one-under par, nine off the pace at one-under in a tie for fourth. (Friday) so the chance to win the first three major championships will not only claim a fourth major in a season. Mildred (Babe) Didrikson Zaharias won all three majors played in 1950, the Tittieholders Championship, the Women’s Western Open and the US Women’s Open.

“Just not to think about it... I try to just think that’s not a big deal,” Park told reporters.

“If I want to do it so much, it’s just so tough and it puts too much pressure on you. I try not to think about it so much. I’m just going to try to do the same thing that I did for the last three days. It will be a big day, but it’s just a round of golf, and I just try not to think about it so much. I just try to concentrate on the putting and the putting on the golf course.”

Park would be just the fourth woman to win three majors in a calendar year, joining Zaharias, Mickey Wright (1961) and Pat Bradley (1986).

“While Zaharias won the first three majors of the year in the professional era of men’s golf and prior to that only Bob Jones has won what is considered the grand slam. Jones won the US and British Amateurs and US and British Opens in 1930.”

UN lifts sanctions on Iraq

Beijing, 30 June—Iraq is celebrating what it calls a historical achievement, after the United Nations voted on Thursday to lift its long-standing sanctions against the country.

“The UN Security Council has voted to remove Iraq from Chapter 7 of the UN Charter, unanimously agreeing to lift the UN sanctions imposed on Baghdad following the 1990 invasion of Kuwait by the executed dictator Saddam Hussein. On Thursday, the 15-member body agreed that the issue of missing Kuwaiti people, property and archives should be handled under Chapter 6, instead of Chapter 7.”

Chapter 6 of the UN Charter urges peaceful resolution of any conflict between the countries, while Chapter 7 authorizes the Security Council to impose economic sanctions on countries that do not meet its demands. The decision is regarded as a major political upgrade for Iraq as it struggles to restore its international status a decade after the US-led invasion toppled Saddam in 2003.

In his speech the Iraqi Prime Minister stressed the importance of this achievement as a chance to make further efforts to solve the internal political disputes.

“It has been released from the international sanctions which have been imposed as results for the irresponsible behaviors of the old suppressive regime towards the old suppressed community and its people,” Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al Maliki said.

The Iraqi officials have defended the removal of Iraq from chapter seven as a historical resolution for the country. Political observers praised the efforts of the Iraqi officials in this regard and said that the Iraqi people are today rewarded for their patience and sacrifice.

The US has voted to put Iraq under chapter seven after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990.”
Three ancient Pyu cities to be included in World Heritage List

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu met staff of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department and officials at Archaeology Technological Training School (Pyay) in Hmawza Village-tract of Pyay Township yesterday morning.

In his address, the Union minister said that strenuous efforts are being made to enlist three ancient Pyu cities namely Hanlin, Vishnu and Sri Khestra to the World Heritage List. Members of the World Heritage Central Body will inspect the ancient Pyu cities whether these cities are in line with nomination dossier and systematic management. Thus, he stressed the need to keep maps and survey works in Sri Khestra city systematically. He urged all to participate in preservation of cultural heritage in the respective zones.

Officials submitted reports on systematic garbage system around the ancient city, illegal extraction of soil and discussions with local people. Later, the Union minister met teachers and students at the training school (Pyay).—MNA

Weather Forecast for 1st Dekad (10-days) of July 2013

Bay of Bengal Condition
A low pressure area may form over the North Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Rainy Condition and Rainy Days
Rainy conditions are likely to be above normal in Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and about normal in the remaining Regions and States.

MoU signing ceremony for main sponsor in 27th SEA Games held

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—To be named as official main sponsor of 27th SEA Games, the MoU signing ceremony between Kanbawza Group Co Ltd and Dentsu & JK Co Ltd, organizer of 27th SEA Games, took place at Parkroyal Hotel, this afternoon, with an address by Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Maung Maung Thein.

MoU signing for official main sponsor in 27th SEA Games in progress.—MNA

Lagunpyin project to add 4 million gallons of water per day to supply water to Yangon

Higher population density along with increase in settlement of internal migrants in Yangon has led to demands for basic needs of their living standard. To supply clean water to them, Yangon City Development Committee launched the Lagunpyin Water Supply Project.

“Lagunpyin Water Supply Project is aimed at supplying drinking water to the people in Yangon municipal area, especially to those who are experiencing scarcity of safe drinking water and have not accessed to safe drinking water,” said U Thet Lwin, Assistant Head of the Engineering Department (Water and Sanitation) of YCDC.

The project is located at the corner of No.2 Road and the Ring Road near the Ma So Creek in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. It is built on 50.37 acres of land.

The project would purify the water in the Labunpyin Dam at the border of Hlegu Township and Bago Township and would pipe the drinking water to the people.

“On completion, Lagunpyin project is expected to purify about 40 million gallons of water per day and would supply 30 million gallons to the people and 10 million gallons to Thilawa Industrial Zone,” said U Thet Lwin.

The people in Dagon Myothit (East), (South), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Yuzana Garden City, Thingangyun, Thakayta and Dawbon townships and water-scarcity areas would share the 30 million gallons of water.

Ground work of the project started on 5 May, 2013. The project is being implemented by YCDC and it is scheduled to be completed in two years. —MNA

Union FM felicitates Canadian Counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitation to the Right Honourable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, on the occasion of the National Day of Canada which falls on 1 July 2013.—MNA