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Construction Minister inspects bridges, roads in Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected construction of bridges in Mandalay Division on 13 and 14 June.

The minister went to Latpanhla Bridge construction project on Mandalay-Madaya-Mogok Road on 13 June and fulfilled the requirements of the project.

Afterwards, the minister proceeded to KyaukOh bailey bridge on the road and called for the maintenance of the bridge. Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected Meza Bridge on Mandalay-Shwebo-Myitkyina Road on 14 June and maintenance of the bridges and roadworks along the road. He also met with engineers and staff of Public Works in Katha. —MNA

Kayin State in position to provide tertiary education for the youth

Article: Kyaw Zeya Myint; Photos: Htay Aung (Kyemon)

Kayin State is located in the southeastern part of Myanmar and is adjacent to a number of plains, mountain ranges and forests.

In successive periods, Kayin State lagged behind other regions in development due to lack of peace and stability. In contrast, the region has now developed a lot, following the restoration of peace and stability. Rapid improvement in the higher education has helped scale up the development of Kayin State.

The government is now working hard to improve the infrastructures in various sectors, covering all states and divisions. In particular, it places greater emphasis on progress of border areas, home to diverse national races. With the concept that at the heart of human resource development lies education, the government has been opening a large number of basic

education schools, universities, technological universities, and universities for computer studies across the nation to promote the nation's education.

As a result of the long-term plan, in Kayin State, the number of high, middle and primary education schools has so far increased to 1305, that of the students, to more than 200,000, and that of the teachers, to more than 7000. Moreover, the government has opened an arts and science university and an education college. So, the number of higher education student has surged over 50 times in the state.

Apart from producing intellectuals, the government is implementing plans to bring about a growing number of intelligentsia. For instance, it established a government technological university and a government university of computer studies (See page 7)

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation



University of Computer Studies (Hpa-an) in Kayin State designed for development of human resources.



PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 19 June, 2009

Save lives with pure and healthy blood

Blood and blood products are essential items in medical treatment. Blood is the life of humans. To donate blood is to save lives. Therefore, giving blood or making all the necessary contributions for the increase in the number of blood donors is a noble deed.

The process of blood transfusion in medical treatment was introduced in Myanmar in 1939 and a blood bank was established at Yangon General Hospital. In 1962, it was reconstituted as National Blood Bank and in 2003 as National Blood Unit according to the Blood and Blood Products Law.

To ensure that donated blood is safe for medical treatment by means of blood transfusion, National Blood Unit tests blood donors for HIV virus and other viruses and makes sure that syringes and other necessary utensils are sterilized.

Hospitals in Yangon need about 3,500 units per month and eighty-five per cent of it is donated by individual well-wishers and social organizations. Monthly and yearly increase in the number of blood donors contributes a lot to treatment by means of blood transfusion.

It is important that patients who need to be given blood transfusion receive sufficient amount of safe blood in time. For this, blood donors must have the required red blood cell count and be HIV, hepatitis B and C negative.

Due to the efforts of various social organizations and government departments, the number of blood donors has been on the increase. Regular blood donors are important for creating a healthy environment. If health care is regularly provided to blood donors and if they also live a healthy lifestyle, they will be able to save many lives with their pure and healthy blood.



Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein presents exercise books and pencils to a teacher.—MNA

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Duya Station BEHS gets new building

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June — The new school building of Duya Station Basic Education High School was opened in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Division on 15 June morning,

attended by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.

Chairman of Hinthada Township Peace and Development Council U Aung Kyaw Naing and Township Education

Officer Daw Ohn Nwet formally opened Nwethaki building.

The minister viewed learning of school children and cordially conversed with distinction winning students at the building

At the opening ceremony of the school building, the minister gave a speech. Division Education Officer U Khin Maung Yi reported on efforts made for opening the new school building. The School Board of Trustees handed over documents related to the building to the township education officer. The minister presented 120 sets of textbooks to Headmistress Daw Than Than Htay.

At Hlelanthit Village BEPS, the minister presented cash for the funds of the school to an official. Then a member of the School Board of Trustees spoke words of thanks.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo presents text books to a teacher at the opening ceremony of new school building for Duya Station BEHS.

MNA

Minister tours Taninthayi Division

YANGON, 18 June — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein called for efforts on regional development and local food sufficiency in meeting with departmental concerned and local people from Pulaw and Palauk Townships at Shap Pone Village Dhammayon in Pulaw Township in Taninthayi Division on 15 June. The minister then donated exercise books and pencils to basic education schools in village-tract.

On 16 June, the minister met with departmental officials and townsenders at the hall in Myeik, and donated exercise books and pencils to basic education schools.

MNA

Second round of Baron's "Commands Respect" Amateur Golf Challenge 2009 held



YANGON, 18 June — The Baron's "Commands Respect" Amateur Golf Challenge 2009, organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and mainly sponsored by Myanmar Brewery Ltd, kicked off at Yangon Golf Club yesterday morning.

Managing Director Peter Ong of Myanmar Brewery Ltd and MGF Executive U Ko Ko Lay teed off the tournament.

A total of 24 golfers who were qualified in the golf events in Mandalay and Yangon took part in the first round of the tournament and went to Nay Pyi Taw.

This morning, the second round of 24 qualified golfers continued at City Golf Course in Nay Pyi Taw.

In the event, Maung Maung Oo stood first, Tin Lin Ko second, Min Thura Aung third, Aung Kyaw Thu fourth, Naing Ye Lin fifth, Lin The sixth, Aung Sithu seventh, Nanda Win eighth, Than Naing Oo ninth, Soe Moe Aung

tenth, Myo Myint Aung eleventh, Myo Zaw Aung 12th, Thiha Aung 13th, Maung Me 14th, Soe Min Min Oo 15th, Myo Tun (Shwemantaung) 16th, Khin Maung Aye 17th, Yan Naing Phyo 18th, Zin Min Thu 19th and Kyaw Kyaw 20th.

More golf tournaments will take place at PyinOoLwin Golf Course in PyinOoLwin, Yedagun-taung Golf Course in Mandalay, Bagan Golf Course in Bagan, Thiri Khittaya Golf Course in Pyay and Punhlaing Golf Resort in Yangon.

MNA

Tobacco Kills



Deaths of women and children in Iraq

London, 18 June—Using the extensive and detailed database of Iraq Body Count (IBC), the researchers analyzed 14,196 events in which 60,481 civilians were violently killed during the first five years of the conflict in Iraq.

For overall combined causes of civilian death from weapons in the dataset — ranging from gunfire, to improvised explosive devices used in roadside bombs, to precision-guided missiles — the average number killed per event was 4. However, the researchers found that when air-launched bombs or combined air and ground attacks caused civilian deaths, the average number killed was 17, similar to the average number in events where civilians were killed by suicide bombers travelling on foot (16 deaths

per event).

The researchers were also able to analyze the demographic characteristics of noncombatants who fell victim to different forms of violence. Execution after abduction or capture was the single most common form of death overall, with by far most of its victims (95%) being male. Nearly a third of execution victims were described as bearing marks of torture, evidence that they had suffered “a particularly appalling form of violent death.”

For Iraqi females, and children, events involving air attacks and mortar fire were the most dangerous. In air attacks causing civilian deaths, 46% of victims of known gender were female, and 39% of victims of known age were children. —*Internet*



Iraqi women pass by a destroyed minibus after a bomb exploded in the Shaab neighborhood in Baghdad, Iraq, Monday, June 15, 2009.—INTERNET

Three NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 18 June — Three soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed in Afghanistan, a press release of the alliance said on Wednesday.

“Three International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service members were killed as a result of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) strike today in southern Afghanistan,” the press release added.

However, it did not reveal the nationality of the victims and the exact place of the incident, adding it is ISAF policy not to release the nationality of any casualty prior to the relevant national authority doing so.

Internet

An injured Afghan child from the Bala Baluk, district of Afghanistan, on a bed at the hospital in Farah Province of Afghanistan.
INTERNET



Roadside bombing wounds three Afghan troopers in E Afghanistan

KHOST, 18 June—Three Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers were wounded as their van hit a roadside bomb here in Khost Province of eastern Afghanistan on Wednesday, provincial administration spokesman Kochai Nasiri said. Nasiri told *Xinhua* that the bombing took place in Nadirshahkot district at around noon time, in which three ANA soldiers’ sustained injuries and their van was damaged.

He blamed the enemies of Afghanistan, a term used by Afghan officials against Taliban militants, for the incident.

Moreover, Taliban’s purported spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid in chat with media form undisclosed location, claimed his men killed over eight ANA soldiers by a remote control bomb.—*Internet*

Killing of US soldier casts light on Mosul police

MOSUL, 18 June — A police investigation of two of their own in the killing of an American soldier and his interpreter is seen as a test of Mosul’s police force — the weakest link among Iraqi security forces about to take the lead in protecting the country’s most violent city.

This city of 1.6 million people has long distrusted its police — particularly after thousands of officers fled their posts in November 2004, leaving the Americans and Kurdish fighters to fight Sunni militants who rose up here after being driven out of Fallujah.

Internet

Iraqi security forces kill two suicide bombers west of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 18 June — Iraqi security forces shot dead two suicide bombers during a raid on militants’ hideouts in west of Baghdad, the Iraqi military said on Wednesday.

Early in the morning, Iraqi security forces surrounded the Uwaisat district in Abu Ghraib area, some 20 km west of the city, Baghdad operations command said in a statement. During the operation, the troops were attacked by a suicide bomber who tried to blow up his explosive-belt, but they shot him dead along with another militants wearing explosive-belt, the statement said.—*Internet*

Taleban assassinate oil department official in N Afghanistan

KABUL, 18 June — In a recent Taleban attack against government interest, the director of Oil and Gas Department of Shir Khan Port in Kunduz Province of northern Afghanistan was assassinated Wednesday morning, said a provincial administration spokesman.

“The incident took place in Durahi Archi area while Mohammad Najeb Jamil, director of Oil and Gas Department, was heading to his office from home this morning when attackers opened fire at his car killing him and injuring two others,” Mahbobullah Sayedi told *Xinhua*.

He added that the incident is under investigation and no one has been arrested yet.

Moreover, Taleban’s purported spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid in talks with media form undisclosed location claimed his men killed the director and two others in his car.—*Internet*



Residents transport an injured person to hospital in Mogadishu. At least 26 people have been killed by fresh fighting in Mogadishu, half of them when a mortar shell hit a mosque as worshippers left after evening prayers.
INTERNET

Wall Street differs on Obama's financial regulatory reform plan

NEW YORK, 18 June—As the Obama Administration released its proposal to make the most sweeping changes in bank regulation in 75 years, Wall Street differed on the effect of the overhaul plan.

"We applaud the Obama Administration's proposal to overhaul the financial regulatory structure as a critical step toward restoring trust in capital markets," said Duncan L. Niederauer,

chief executive officer of NYSE Euronext Wednesday.

The administration's proposal, which released Wednesday, comes after a year of shocks on Wall Street and a credit crunch that contributed to the worst US recession in half a century.

"Regulatory reform must protect investors, close regulatory gaps and enhance market transparency, while at the same

time continuing to encourage the spirit of innovation that has fueled decades of economic growth, produced new products and services and created jobs," said Niederauer.

"Our regulatory system is vastly outdated, and we are encouraged by the Administration's enthusiasm for reform and welcome the opportunity to contribute to this truly important initiative," said the CEO.—Internet



A labourer works at the Zimbabwe National sports stadium in Harare, on 17 June, 2009. The 60,000 seater stadium is currently under renovations in preparation for the soccer World Cup 2010 to be held in neighbouring South Africa in June next year.—INTERNET

Michelin to cut 2,800 jobs over next three years

PARIS, 18 June—French tire manufacturer Michelin announced on Wednesday that it would cut 2,800 jobs over the next three years.

According to a source, Michelin, based in Clermont-Ferrand, central France, will cut jobs through early retirement and voluntary redundancies.

The restructure also includes a more than 100 million euros (139 million dollars) fund which will be invested at Michelin's research and development centre in Clermont-Ferrand.

Additionally, the company said it will also close one of its plants in Noyelles-les-Seclin, north France.

Internet



A mini-bus station is seen under construction in Soweto. Pretoria and Johannesburg are each hosting Confed matches, but the two cities lie 60 kilometres (35 miles) apart and are linked only by a traffic-clogged highway that regularly turns the trip into a drawn-out journey.—INTERNET

Japanese Gov't confirms signs of economic recovery

TOKYO, 18 June—Japanese government confirmed signs of economic recovery Wednesday in a monthly report, echoing the central bank's similar assessment the previous day.

"While the economy is

in a difficult situation, signs of a pickup are seen in some areas," the Cabinet Office said in its June report.

It said the prospects for the economy amid the harsh employment situation are "likely to remain

severe for the time being", but it is likely to pick up due to improvements in economic conditions overseas.

It also said the government hoped that its stimulus measures will help the recovery.

The Bank of Japan also upgraded its evaluation Tuesday for the second straight month, saying in its June report that the economy had "begun to stop worsening."

Internet

China Eastern Airlines to buy 20 A320s

BEIJING, 18 June — China Eastern Airlines Corp signed a deal in Paris Tuesday to buy 20 A320 passenger jets from Airbus to meet potential demand increase in its domestic market, said the company's statement released on Thursday.

Total cost is around 9.9 billion yuan (1.45 billion US dollars), and the aircraft would be delivered between 2011 and 2013, according to the statement.

The purchase would be paid in US dollars mainly with loans from commercial banks.

The deal is expected to increase the company's airline capacity by 5.44 percent from last year, and help optimize its domestic airline network and sharpen its competitiveness in medium- and short-haul passenger market, said the statement.—Internet

FedEx posts bigger loss with a gloomy outlook

NEW YORK, 18 June—FedEx, the nation's second largest package shipper, lost more money in the last quarter, as consumers and businesses downsized shipments and the company took over \$1 billion in one-time charges.

Memphis, Tenn.-based FedEx Corp also said Wednesday that it expects a rough ride for some time.

"The operating environment for our first two quarters in fiscal 2010 is expected to be extremely difficult," executive vice president and chief financial officer Alan B. Graf Jr. said.

In April, the company's Atlanta-based rival UPS Inc said its first-quarter profit plunged 55 percent. It offered a disappointing second-quarter outlook.

FedEx lost \$876 million, or \$2.82 per share in the three month period ending in May. the company lost \$241 million, or 78 cents per share, a year ago. Excluding one-time charges, earnings were 64 cents per share in the recent quarter.—Internet

Boeing gets first Paris Air Show order, for two jets

LE BOURGET, 18 June—Boeing Co finally joined the orders race on the third day of the Paris Air Show, but its \$153 million order Wednesday for two single-aisle planes paled beside the \$6.25 billion already chalked up by European rival Airbus.

Yet even Airbus' numbers were diminutive compared to sales in past years. Airlines and governments strapped for cash and credit appeared to have come to the world's biggest air show as tourists instead of buyers this year, admiring the high-tech hardware but hiding their checkbooks.

With commercial orders scarce, American defence contractors elbowed into the troubled market for European military transport planes at the world's biggest air show. The salon at Le Bourget has also been haunted by unresolved questions about the crash of Air France Flight 447.—Internet



Pedestrians pass through central Sydney. Job seekers in Australia face a tougher time finding work if they have non-English sounding names, with Chinese and Middle Eastern applicants facing the worst discrimination, a study has found.—INTERNET



British unemployment rate up to 7.2% in three months to April

LONDON, 18 June—The unemployment rate in Britain increased to 7.2 percent in the three months to April this year, up by 0.7 percentage points from the three months to January 2009, the Office for National Statistics reported on Wednesday.

The jobless rate of 7.2 percent in the three months to April was also 1.9 percentage points higher than the jobless level in the same period a year earlier.

The report said the unemployment in Britain was 2.26 million in the three months to April 2009, up 232,000 from the three months to January of this year and 605,000 from the same three months a year earlier.

The unemployment in the country will carry on rising long after the recession ends although there were fresh signs that the British economic outlook may be brightening, The Economist said earlier this month.—Xinhua

People make preparation for the airborne planting of tree in Ruyang County, central China's Henan Province, on 16 June, 2009. The related department has afforested over 890,000 mu of land through airborne planting since 1979, and plans to afforest another over 40,000 mu of land this year.—XINHUA

Mexico launches tourism campaign in US, Canada

MEXICO CITY, 18 June—Mexico's Tourism Ministry on Wednesday launched a campaign to encourage North American tourists to the country following a slump in tourist arrivals due to the A/H1N1 flu outbreak.

During the first two weeks of the campaign, the slogan "Believe It" will be used in 12 US cities and six Canadian ones to convince tourists scared off by the flu that the emergency is now over.

From week three to week seven, the campaign will feature the slogan "Welcome Back!" and in the final weeks it will use the slogan "Mexico, it's time to go!"

Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Russian Su-24 crashes in Murmansk region

MOSCOW, 18 June—A Sukhoi Su-24 attack aircraft has crashed in Russia's Murmansk region, while both pilots ejected and survived, the *Interfax* news agency reported on Wednesday.

"The Su-24 fell on the Monchegorsk airfield during a planned flight at 14:55 pm Moscow time (1055 GMT)," said Vladimir Drik, aide to the Russian Air Force commander.

There were no victims or damage on the ground, he added.

He also said that a special commission of representatives from Russian Defence Ministry and the Air Force's command have rushed to the scene.—Xinhua

Britain plans to embed its World Expo pavilion with seeds

BEIJING, 18 June—The United Kingdom will embed more than 60,000 seeds, which can be planted after the World Expo 2010, into the structure of its pavilion to urge people to protect natural species from extinction.

The UK Expo team has signed a contract with the Expo organizer to participate in Expo Online. The country also updated its Expo pavilion design, which will be an open gift box "from Britain to the Chinese people".

The seeds will be put inside 60,000 needle-like protrusions covering the surface of the 6,000-square-meter pavilion. The seeds will be well-protected and will not grow during the 184-day event, Carma Elliot, British consul general in Shanghai, was quoted as saying by Thursday's *Shanghai Daily*.

The seeds demonstrate the concept of sustainability, the diversity of nature and urge people to protect the environment

for future generations, Elliot said.

The idea promotes the Millennium Seed Bank Project, an international conservation project launched by the country's Royal Botanic Gardens in 2000. It is designed to provide an insurance policy against the extinction of plants in the wild by storing seeds for future use. The project aims to collect seeds from 24,000 species of plants by 2010.

Xinhua

Students of Sangping Middle School of Wenchuan County, southwest China's Sichuan Province, wave goodbye to people seeing them off at the Guangzhou Railway Station in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, on 17 June, 2009.—XINHUA



Mexico to propose San Luis Potosi as UNESCO World Heritage Site

MEXICO CITY, 18 June—Mexico will propose that silver mines in San Luis Potosi become a World Heritage Site at a UNESCO meeting scheduled for 22-30 June in Spanish city Sevilla, a culture official said on Wednesday.

San Luis Potosi, capital of the central state of the same name, forms part of a cultural route linked to Almaden and Idria, mining cities in Spain and Slovenia which supplied the mercury shipped to the America and used to extract silver in the 15th century.

In an interview with *Xinhua*, Alejandro Alcaraz Torrez, director of World Culture at the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), said the route was chosen "because of the cultural exchange implied in the flow of money, trade and knowledge between the three cities."

The cultural route is a concept that the World Heritage Committee, an affiliated agency of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), has been promoting since the early 1990s, when Spain's Santiago de Compostela Culture Route became the first of its kind named as a World Heritage Site.

Over the same period, UNESCO has been trying to add a great variety of cultural sites to the World Heritage Site list, seeking more modern industrial landmarks and cultural routes from Latin America, Africa and Asia, Alcaraz said.—Xinhua

Vietnam confirms 139 cases of cholera since April

HANOI, 18 June—Vietnam's Ministry of Health on Wednesday said the country confirmed 19 more cases of cholera in the past ten days, raising the total number of cholera patients to 139 so far since April, local newspaper the *New Hanoi* reported Thursday.

The newly-confirmed 19 cases are in the northern province of Bac Ninh, said the ministry.

Among the 16 municipalities and localities having cholera patients, eight has reported no more cases of the disease in the past 14 days.

Meanwhile, Deputy Minister of Health Trinh Quang Huan said the country might have new cholera cases in the coming days because the current weather conditions would make it easier for the disease to spread.

Huan asked authorities of municipalities and localities to closely monitor the community, timely set a limit to the area where there are new patients, and promote activities to raise people's awareness of the disease.—Xinhua

A farmer works in the field in Ulsan, southeastern South Korea, on 17 June, 2009. A drought hit Ulsan recently and affected its agriculture. XINHUA



Autopsies suggest Air France jet broke up in sky

SAO PAULO, 18 June—Autopsies have revealed fractures in the legs, hips and arms of Air France disaster victims, injuries that — along with the large pieces of wreckage pulled from the Atlantic — strongly suggest the plane broke up in the air, experts said Wednesday.

With more than 400 bits of debris recovered from the ocean's surface, the top French investigator expressed optimism about discovering what brought down Flight 447, but he also called the conditions — far from land in

very deep waters — “one of the worst situations ever known in an accident investigation.”

French investigators are beginning to form “an image that is progressively less fuzzy,” Paul-Louis Arslanian, who runs the French air accident investigation agency BEA, told a news conference outside Paris.

“We are in a situation that is a bit more favorable than the first days,” Arslanian said. “We can say there is a little less uncertainty, so there is a little more optimism. ...

(but) it is premature for the time being to say what happened.”

A spokesman for Brazilian medical examiners told *The Associated Press* on Wednesday that fractures were found in autopsies on an undisclosed number of the 50 bodies recovered so far. The official spoke on condition he not be named due to department rules.—*Internet*



In this photo released by Brazil's Navy, a Brazilian Navy diver stands on a piece of debris of the Air France Flight 447 in the Atlantic Ocean, on 17 June, 2009.—INTERNET

Midwest storms cause flooding, spawn tornadoes

DREXEL, 18 June—Storms that spread across the central US brought heavy rains, wind and at least two tornadoes, renewing flooding concerns in already soggy areas and leaving thousands of people without power.

No serious injuries were reported from the two storm systems that hit the central part of the US on Monday and early Tuesday.

In Minnesota, an apparent tornado struck the town of Austin, uprooting trees, knocking down power lines and at least one person was reported with minor injuries. The National Weather Service said the storm sent debris

flying, flipped cars on their sides and sent trees through roofs.

Power was out in much of the city, including at KAAL-TV, which broadcast from a dark newsroom while anchors were handed papers to read.—*Internet*



Lightning strikes behind a windmill on a farm near Baldwin City, Kan, on 15 June, 2009.—INTERNET

Beijing raises two alarms for thunderstorm

BEIJING, 18 June—Beijing's meteorological station released two alarms Tuesday on a heavy rain at noon.

The sky turned dark when a drizzle became downpours accompanied by thunder and lightning at about 11 am.

The Municipal Meteorological Station raised the thunder and lightning alarm to the level of rainstorm at noon, when average rainfall in the downtown area reached 11 millimetres, said Guo Hu, head of the station.

The average precipitation in the city was 7 mm as of noon.

Street lights turned on and vehicles were crawling amid heavy rainfalls with their headlights on.

The thunderstorm abated at about 2 pm but showers are expected at night in the downtown area and more rains are possible in the next couple of days, according to weather forecast.—*Internet*

NEWS ALBUM

Stamp recovered after 40 years is sold

A unique US stamp stolen in 1967 and recovered almost 40 years later has sold at auction for more than \$400,000, the auctioneer said Sunday.

Dr Arthur KM Woo, a prominent collector, bought the “Ice House Cover,” Scott Trepel, president of Robert A Siegel Auctions in New York, said in a statement.

The item was auctioned on Saturday.

The “Ice House Cover” is an envelope bearing a 90-cent Abraham Lincoln stamp. It gets its name because it was mailed in 1873 from a Boston ice company to its ice house in Calcutta.

The envelope was discovered in India by a US collector. In 1967, it was stolen from J David Baker, an Indianapolis collector, by a team of thieves targeting members of the American Philatelic Society.

The FBI recovered most of Baker's collection in 1974, but the “Ice House Cover” remained missing.

A giant panda plays with an ice block to cool itself at the Wuhan Zoo in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province.

Digital switchover saves man's life

The switch from analog to digital television may have saved the life of a World War II veteran in Memphis when lightning knocked down a tree in his yard.

Robert Monsarrat, 86, told the Memphis Commercial Appeal he was watching “Oprah Winfrey” in his kitchen instead of his bedroom on Friday because the only television that gets a digital signal is in the kitchen. The storm brought a large red oak down on the house.

“I was curled up in the fetal position under the rubble when they dug me out,” he said. Monsarrat escaped without serious injuries. The story would likely have had a very different ending if he had received the digital converter box for the set in his bedroom, which was destroyed by the tree.



Honeybees use calcium for memory storage

French scientists say they've determined calcium is involved in long-term memory formation in honeybees.

Researchers from France's National Center for Scientific Research, the French Calcium Research Network and the University of Toulouse found calcium acts as a switch between the bees' short- and long-term storage of learned information.

“By modulating the intracellular calcium concentration in the insects' brains, we've been able to demonstrate that, during olfactory conditioning, (calcium) is both a necessary and a sufficient signal for the formation of protein-dependent long-term memory.”

The research is reported in the journal BMC Biology.

Stilt-walkers participate in Cirque du Soleil's attempt at a Guinness world record for most people simultaneously walking on stilts in Montreal, on 16 June, 2009. The Cirque marked its 25th anniversary by organizing stilt-walking events in various cities to try to reclaim the Guinness world record for most people simultaneously walking on stilts.



A group of Mexicans are unfurling a pair of pants which is 60.1 metres long on Sunday in an effort to break the Guinness World Record for longest pants.



Kayin State in position to provide tertiary education for the youth

Article: *Kyaw Zeya Myint*; Photos: *Htay Aung (Kyemon)*

(from page 1)

equipped with more than 100 faculty members in Hpa-an, the capital of Kayin State. Up to now, the two educational institutions have produced 2,409 graduates and are nurturing 904 youths.

The two universities were at college level previously, and the government upgraded them to universities on 20 January 2007.

Thanks to the goodwill the government shows for Kayin State, the region is seeing a growing number

of intellectuals and intelligentsia and is in a position to make impressive contribution to the building of a modern nation.

Translation: **MS**

Kyemon: 17-6-2009



Technological University (Hpa-an) in Kayin State.

Commander looks into academic matters of Hsinmyeeswe Village BEHS

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June—Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min on 10 June inspected Basic Education High School in Hsinmyeeswe Village of Thegon Township.

Officials reported on academic matters and tasks for uplift of education standard.

The commander viewed collective harvesting of summer paddy in Kanhnahsint Village-tract, harvesting of summer paddy and cultivation of monsoon

paddy in Paungde and Kyudawkan Village-tract.—MNA

Magway computer university grows trees

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June—Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe attended the tree-planting ceremony on the campus of Magway University of Computer Studies on 12 June.

He planted a sapling and viewed the growing of shade trees by those present.

He inspected Daungnaychaung Bridge Project, progress in repairing Pinchaung Bridge, and Yenangyoung Microwave Station.—MNA

Chaungtha Village gets primary education school

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June—The inauguration of Basic Education Primary School in Chaungtha Village, Patheingyi Township, took

place at the school on 11 June. Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Swe formally opened the stone plaque of the school and inspected it.

The well-wisher explained the purpose of his donation, following the speech of the commander.

The commander and officials concerned presented cash donations to the district education officer. The commander visited Chaungtha Village

BEHS, the rubber farm near Patheingyi-Chaungtha Road, and Shawpya Village BEMS.

On 12 June, he attended the ploughing of the fields and scattering of fertilizer to grow monsoon paddy at Shweyaungpya Village, and Takaw Village BEMS (branch).

The commander presented cash donations to Shwe Ein Yadana Home for the Aged at Anaukkon Village, and visited Yaythoe Village BEMS and Nyaungwaing Village BEMS.—MNA

Talks on Current Perspectives in Liver Transplantation on 21 June

YANGON, 18 June —Liver Transplant Surgeon Dr. A.S. Soni of Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in New Delhi, India will visit Myanmar on 20 and 21 June in order to exchange technicalities with the liver specialists and surgeons.

Dr A.S. Soni will give talks on Current Perspectives in Liver Transplantation at Traders Hotel on 21 June. Those who want to attend the Talks may contact U Yakut (Ph: 0920 34951) and Daw Shwe Zin Tun (Ph: 0951 02472) to enlist.

Dr A.S. Soni is a leading surgeon of Liver Transplant Department set up in Sir Ganga Ram. He is saving the lives of the patients who are being threatened death with liver complaints caused by various reasons with the use of liver transplant therapy.

Dr A.S. Soni had performed 200 liver transplant surgeries. A total of 20 Myanmar patients have been provided with liver transplant surgeries so far.—MNA



Police Captain Myint Aung giving talks on traffic rules to faculty members and students at Yangon Cooperative Degree College in Thanlyin Township on 17, June.—MNA





Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut delivers a speech at the coordination meeting of Shan State (North) Police Force on 12 June.

MNA

World Population Day commemorative contests held

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June—Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe viewed the World Population Day commemorative poster and essay contests at No. (3) Basic Education High School in Monywa on 14 June.

He inspected tasks to keep the town clean, the digging of a sewage drainage ditch, and progress in constructing the sluice gate.

Next, he inspected the nursery of Bodhi Tahtaung Forest Reserve, Bodhi Tahtaung-Kyaukka Shweguni shortcut, inter-village road from Kyaukka Shweguni Thazi Hsedawmyin Pagoda, and Thazi Dam.—MNA

IBTC introduces new products

YANGON, 18 June—International Beverages Trading Co Ltd introduced its new products at Traders Hotel, here, this evening.

Managing Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of IBTC & Group of Companies spoke on the occasion.

The production process of the new product was explained, and those present were served with dinner. The lucky draw programme followed.

Experienced technicians produce the new quality product

meeting set standards with the use of imported raw materials. The reasonable price of product was fixed systematically. The company distributes three sizes of product to the market.

MNA



Managing Director U Aung Moe Kyaw of IBTC & Group of Companies delivering an address at new products introducing ceremony of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd.

MNA

Commander attends opening of Commander's Shield Football Tourney

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June—A ceremony to open the grand stand of Wethali Football Ground was held in conjunction with the opening ceremony of Western Command Commander's Shield Football Tournament at the sports ground on 6 June afternoon.

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western

Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye formally opened the grand stand. Next, the commander, wife and party watched the football match.

On 8 June, the commander attended the collective ploughing ceremony for growing monsoon paddy in Kyamathauk Village of Sittway Township.

At No. 4 Basic Education High School, the commander viewed

the works in the painting, cartoon and poster competitions to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

The commander inspected proper flow of water at the drains at Myoma Development Market, along the Strand Road and the main outlet at No. 1 Jetty and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Social welfare officers appointed

YANGON, 18 June—Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held a ceremony to appoint Yangon Division social welfare officers in conjunction with duty assignment at University of Nursing, here, this afternoon.

Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman of Yangon Division Child Right Committee U Khin Maung Tun and director of Social Welfare Department U Sein Win gave addresses at the ceremony.

The secretary presented appointment of letters to 71 social welfare officers through group leaders from Yangon East District, Yangon West District, Yangon South District and Yangon North District.

MNA



Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman of Yangon Division Child Right Committee U Khin Maung Tun presents appointment of letters to an official.—MNA

Government-Business Relations in South East Asia talk on 20 June

YANGON, 18 June—Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing will give a talk "Government-Business Relations in South East Asia" under the joint arrangements by the Myanmar Fishery Federation and the Myanmar Prawns

Entrepreneurs Association and sponsorship of TOYO Battery at MFF on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township here at 2 pm on 20 June.

Anyone interested may attend the talk.

MNA



Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Mandalay



Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe viewing tree growing of servicemen and their families.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June— Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and wife attended the rainy season tree growing ceremony of the Central Command held in the compound of the Central Command on 6 June. The commander, wife, and officials concerned grew the trees and viewed the tree

growing of service men and their families. It was also attended by staff officers, commandants of regiment and units, servicemen and their families.

MNA

Myanmar Human Rights Group issues statement

NAY PYI TAW, 18 June— Myanmar Human Rights Group issued a statement today.

The statement is as follows:-

1. Myanmar authorities have been putting American citizen Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her two aides on trial for their offences in accordance with international standards and domestic laws.

2. While doing as such, it is regretful to learn that five UN human rights Special Rapporteurs issued a statement misleadingly on 16 June 2009.

3. Court proceedings regarding the trial for American citizen Mr. John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her two aides are being conducted only in accordance with legal rules and procedures, and the accused have been permitted to hire lawyers of their choice and to call relevant witnesses in order for them to enjoy the

right to defend themselves.

4. Even though their cases have been handled by the Special Court for security reason, reporting in the newspapers on court proceedings, permitting United States Consul and a locally recruited staff to observe court proceedings and observers, diplomats and reporters to observe every major court proceedings testify to the prevalence of transparency of the administration of justice.

5. The politicization under the pretext of human rights of the action being taken against those offenders in accordance with the existing laws of the State is unacceptable, and the statement by those Special Rapporteurs is hereby rejected.

Myanmar Human Rights Group

Commander meets athletes of Yangon Command sports teams

YANGON, 18 June— Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint met with table tennis (men's and women's), Judo, gymnastics and karate-do athletes representing Yangon Command who will take part in the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Sports Competitions 2009 at the hall of Yangon Command Headquarters this morning.

MNA



Yangon Command Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint delivers address in meeting with athletes.—MNA



Executive Vice President & Managing Director Dr Su-Yeong Yang from Daewoo International Corporation (Myanmar E & P) presents related documents of new building of Specialist Hospital (Mingaladon) to Director-General Dr Win Myint.

MNA

New building handed over to Specialist Hospital (Mingaladon)

YANGON, 18 June— SHWE Consortium handed over a new building to Specialist Hospital (Mingaladon) of the Department of Health under the Ministry of Health and donated medicines at the hospital this morning.

Executive Vice President & Managing

Director of Daewoo International Corporation (Myanmar E & P) of SHWE Consortium Dr Su-Yeong Yang explained the purpose of the donation.

Director-General of DOH Dr Win Myint expressed thanks, and accepted the documents from Dr Su-Yeong Yang.

The handing over of a

new ward donated by AZG (Medicine Sans Frontiers Holland) was held at Aung San TB Hospital later in the morning.

Head of Mission of AZG (MSF) Mr. Luke Arenol presented the documents to the director-general.

MNA

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

Loilem, a lovely township amongst lush, green mountain ranges

Article: Win Kyaw; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)



An operation room of Loilem General Hospital (200-bed).



A natural beauty of the road to Loilem in Shan State (South).

(from page 16)

He added that the township had Panglong University, Technological University (Panglong), University of Computer Studies (Panglong), four basic education high schools, two basic education middle schools, 86 basic education primary schools, along with affiliated high and middle education schools, post-primary and affiliated primary schools.



U Soe Myint Win, Chairman of Loilem Township Peace and Development Council.

Loilem Township had a 200-bed general hospital, a 16-bed hospital, a rural health care centre, six rural health care centres, and one TB, malaria and leprosy con-



Digital auto exchange of the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications in Loilem Township.

trol centre, he said.

We also visited

the 200-bed general hospital in Loilem Town-

ship. The hospital has a sufficient number of specialists, doctors and nurses. It provides health care to local people. It is equipped with modern laboratory apparatuses and X-ray room. Medical Superintendent Dr Myo Aung, specialists, doctors and nurses occasionally make field trips to nearby villages to give health care to local people. The medical facility was inaugurated on 11

February 2003.

Despite having only a few plains, but a large number of mountains and ravines, Loilem Township manages to utilize its geographical features to improve the agriculture, education, health care and economy of local people.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin:

17-6-2009



Local people can visit Myakantha Lake for recreation and relaxation.



Guatemala turns to DNA to help solve war crimes

GUATEMALA CITY, 18 June—Guatemala opened its first DNA testing lab on Wednesday hoping that genetic fingerprinting will help solve decades-old civil war crimes as well as more recent murders.

Guatemala's Forensic Anthropology Foundation opened the 1.5 million US dollars laboratory funded by international donations to identify victims excavated from hundreds of mass graves from the 1960-1996 civil war. More than a quarter million people — mostly

Mayan villagers — were killed or disappeared during the civil war that pitted successive right-wing governments against leftist guerillas.

A UN-backed truth Commission found that Guatemalan security forces committed more than 90 per cent of the killings but only a few officials have been tried for war crimes.

"This work will allow the families of the victims to answer the questions we have: what happened in Guatemala, who was

responsible, and how can we bring them to justice?" said Julio Solorzano, desperate to find out what happened to his mother who disappeared in December 1980 after being picked up by military police.

Solorzano gave his own DNA sample with an oral swab which will go into a database of victims' family members to be matched with samples from thousands of bodies exhumed by anthropologists.

MNA/Reuters



An partially submerged abandoned boat is seen in Miami Bay, Florida 9 June, 2009. According to a report from the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission published in local media, there were 750 abandoned boats in the state in 2005 and that number has now increased to about 1500 as a result of the bad economy and hurricanes.—INTERNET

US asks Spain to take 4 Guantanamo inmates

MADRID, 18 June—The United States has asked Spain to take four inmates from the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and Madrid will study the request case by case, Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos said on Wednesday.

"We will study each case one by one and respond once we understand the implications of the decision and in what way we can help the United States close Guantanamo," Moratinos told a news conference. "There may be more cases presented in the future" he said. Senior US State Department official Daniel Fried had been due to meet Spanish

officials in Madrid to discuss possible relocation of detainees from Guantanamo. Spanish and US Embassy officials said.

Newspaper EL Pais reported that Spain was prepared to take between three and five inmates but that Spanish authorities want to discuss who would pay for security for any such detainees.

The men in question would probably be Syrian and Tunisian citizens, would not necessarily have any prior links to Spain and would probably have freedom of movement within the country, the newspaper reported.

MNA/Reuters



A 47 million year old primate fossil known as "Ida" is seen at New York's Museum of Natural History 19 May, 2009, at a news conference where the find was unveiled. —INTERNET

China, Russia should further promote strategic partnership of coop

Moscow, 18 June—Visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao said here on Wednesday the China-Russia strategic partnership of cooperation is bound to have a better future so long as the two sides seize the opportunity and join hands in deepening it.

Hu made the remarks during talks with his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev. Hu recalled the development of Sino-Russian relations in the past 60 years, especially the achievements made since the two countries set up their strategic partnership of cooperation in 1996.

"The China-Russia strategic partnership of cooperation has become a model for relationships between big countries and neighbours," Hu said made a four-point summarization of the experiences gained in the past 60 years of the bilateral diplomatic ties. First, only with mutual trust and sincere treatment can bilateral political relations be continuously promoted.

Second, only with mutual respect, equality and reciprocity can common prosperity be realized through substantial cooperation. Third, only with mutual understanding and support and mutual backing on issues concerning each other's core interests can the fundamental interests of each other be effectively safeguarded.—MNA/Xinhua



More must be done to combat the lucrative trade in malicious software, which threatens sensitive government networks and personal data, the head of the US National Cybersecurity Center warned on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Thailand's total number of A/H1N1 patients rises to 405

BANGKOK, 18 June —Thailand on Wednesday reported 95 more A/H1N1 virus cases, bringing the country's total number to 405, Doctor Prat Boonyawong-virot Permanent secretary of the public Health Ministry announced here on Wednesday. Of the total number of the new cases, some 88 are students, with four others are adults, and another three cases are those who had just returned from foreign trips, said Doctor Prat.

MNA/Xinhua

OECD, FAO report warns of food insecurity

ROME, 18 June—The agriculture sector is showing more resilience to the global economic crisis than other industries as food is a basic necessity, but the risks of a sharp rise in food price still remains, according to a new report by the OECD and FAO released on Wednesday.

The OECD-FAO report, titled Agricultural Outlook 2009-2018, says that falls in agricultural prices and in the production and consumption of farm goods are likely to be moderate as long as the economic recovery begins within two to three years.

As the economic recovery comes, the report believes that renewed food demand growth from developing countries and the emerging biofuel markets are the key drivers supporting agricultural commodity prices and markets over the medium term. Meanwhile, the report warns that an extreme price surging similar to the rise in 2008 cannot be ruled out in coming years, particularly as commodity prices have become increasingly linked to oil and energy costs and environmental experts warn of more erratic weather conditions.

Food prices have come down from the record peaks of early 2008 but they remain high in many poor countries. The report predicts that over the coming decade prices for all farm commodities except beef and pig meat are unlikely to fall back to their average levels before the 2007-08 peaks. In the meantime, although agricultural production, consumption and trade are expected to increase in developing countries, food insecurity and hunger is a growing problem for the world's poor.

MNA/Xinhua

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Dated. 19 June, 2009.

**People crowd to get
onto a bus in London,
as a 48 hour tube strike
by London Under-
ground workers causes
widespread travel
disruption in the city.**

INTERNET

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

IFB NO. 1 (T) CONST-MOGE/ EXP (2009-2010) CAP

FAX NO-067 411125/411178

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. Sealed Bids are invited by the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw for the supply of
 - (1) 24" LSAW API 5 L GRADE X 65 3 LPE Coated Steel Line Pipe (PSL 2) (61) Miles
 - (2) 24" LSAW API 5 L GRADE X 65 3 LPE and Concrete coated Line Pipe (4,000) Feet
 - (3) 24" LSAW API 5 L GRADE X 65 Line Pipe (Bare) (2,000) Feet
 - (4) 24" Factory Made 6 D Radius induction hot Bends (with bevel ends for butt weld) (182) Nos
2. Commencing from 18th June, 2009 a complete set of bidding documents shall be available at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE, NO. 44, COMPLEX, NAY PYI TAW, MYANMAR during office hour by payment to the order of Myanma Foreign Trade Bank attesting remittance of US\$ 100.00 in favour of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (or) FEC 100.00 to the above office for each set of document.
3. Bids shall be accepted only from the Bidders who officially purchased the bidding document.
4. The Bids received shall be opened in the presence of Representatives of bidders at 13:00 hours on 2nd July, 2009 at the office of Ministry of Energy, No.6 Complex, NAY PYI TAW, Myanmar.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
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Dated: 19 June 2009

**Drive with
care**

Interpol compiling Somali piracy suspect database

NAIROBI, 18 June—Interpol is compiling a database of fingerprints, photographs and other personal information on Somali pirate suspects to help fight piracy at sea, the agency said Wednesday.

The information can be accessed by any of the agency's 187 member countries.

"Without systematically collecting photographs, fingerprints and DNA profiles of arrested pirates and comparing them internationally, it is simply not possible to establish their true identity or to make connections which would otherwise be missed," Interpol's Executive Director of Police Services, Jean-Michel Louboutin, said in a statement released Wednesday at the agency's headquarters in Lyon, France.

Despite international patrols, piracy has exploded in the Gulf of Aden and around Somalia's 1,900-mile (3,060-kilometre) coastline — the longest in Africa.

Pirates are able to operate freely because Somalia has had no effective central government in nearly 20 years. Nearly every public institution has crumbled, and the weak, UN-backed government is fighting an Islamic insurgency.

Internet

Fallopian tubes offer new stem cell source

SAO PAULO, 18 June—Brazilian scientists say human tissues normally discarded after surgical procedures could be a rich source of stem cells for regenerative medicine.

University of Sao Paulo researchers said they have demonstrated for the first time that human fallopian tubes are abundant in mesenchymal stem cells, which have the potential of becoming a variety of cell types.

Researchers Mayana Zatz, who led the study, Tatiana Jazedje and a team from the university's Human Genome Research Center isolated and assessed the differentiation potential of mesenchymal stem cells from discarded human fallopian tubes.

The team found human fallopian tube mesenchymal stem cells could be easily isolated and expanded in vitro and are able to differentiate into muscle, fat, cartilage and bone cell lines.

"In addition to providing an additional potential source for regenerative medicine, these findings might contribute to reproductive science as a whole," Jazedje said. "Moreover, the use of human tissue fragments that are usually discarded in surgical procedures does not pose ethical problems."—Internet

Japan lifts ban on child organ transplants

TOKYO, 18 June— Japan's lower house voted to scrap a ban on child organ donations, paving the way for patients aged under 15 to receive life-saving transplants here for the first time.

Current law bans organ transplants by children, a situation which activists say has claimed thousands of lives and forced many families to send children in need of transplants on costly overseas trips for surgery.

Under Japanese law, transplants have been rare even for adults because tough rules require donors to give prior written consent to having their organs harvested when they are brain dead, while their families must also agree.

The amended bill would scrap the age limit and the need for prior consent, unless the person explicitly opposed having their organs used, but it would still require family members of the children to agree.

The bill was approved by 263 to 167 votes and sent to the opposition controlled upper house. If it is rejected in the upper chamber, a two thirds majority in the lower house could turn it into law anyway.

The major political parties had told their legislators to vote according to their conscience. Only the Japanese Communist Party abstained, claiming that deliberations had not been sufficient. The bill would also recognize patients who are brain dead as legally dead, long a controversial topic in Japan where many religious groups say a person is only deceased once their heart and lungs have stopped.—Internet

5.1 magnitude earthquake hits New Zealand's Rotorua

WELLINGTON, 18 June—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale struck New Zealand North Island's resort city of Rotorua on Thursday, the GNS Sciences said.

The quake occurred at 05:57 am New Zealand local time (17:57 GMT Wednesday), the New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences reported.

The quake's epicenter was located within 5 km of Rotorua at a depth of 170 km. There were no immediate reports of injury or damage.

Internet





Cancer cells separated from normal cells

EVANSTON, 18 June—US scientists have created a method that can direct and separate cancer cells from normal cells, suggesting a new method of treating metastasis.

Northwestern University researchers said the vast majority of cancer deaths are due to metastasis, the spread of cancer cells throughout the body. Scientists are hoping to learn to control the movements of such danger-

ous cells.

The Northwestern University researchers have demonstrated a simple method that can direct and separate cancer cells from normal cells. Based on that method, they have proposed that cancer cells possibly could be sequestered permanently in a sort of “cancer trap” made of implantable and biodegradable materials.

“We have demonstrated a principle that offers an

unconventional way to fight metastasis, a very different approach from other methods, such as chemotherapy,” said Associate Professor Bartosz Grzybowski, the study’s senior author.

“These are fundamental studies so the method needs to be optimized, but the idea has promise for a new approach to cancer therapy.” Details of the research appear online in the journal *Nature Physics*.

Internet



A technician puts a bottle of H1N1 flu virus into a transfer cabinet during preparations to produce vaccines for the flu virus at a lab in Wuhan, Hubei province on 17 June, 2009.—INTERNET

Evidence found of lightning on Mars

ANN ARBOR, 18 June—US scientists say they have detected the first direct evidence of lightning occurring on Mars. University of Michigan researchers said they found signs of electrical discharges during dust storms on the red planet. The bolts were dry lightning, Professor Chris Ruf said.

“What we saw on Mars was a series of huge and sudden electrical discharges caused by a large dust storm,” Ruf said.

“Clearly, there was no rain associated with the electrical discharges on Mars. However, the implied possibilities are exciting.” Electric activity in Martian dust storms has important implications for Mars science, the researchers said.

“It affects atmospheric chemistry, habitability and preparations for human exploration.

Internet



A firefighter tries to extinguish a burning peat-land on the outskirts of Palembang, South Sumatra province on 15 June, 2009.

INTERNET

Brain volume may predict Alzheimer’s disease

SAN DIEGO, 18 June — US scientists say an automated measure of brain volume may help predict progression to Alzheimer’s disease.

The procedure — volumetric magnetic resonance imaging — measures the “memory centers” of the brain and compares them to expected size. The study, published in *Alzheimer’s Disease and Associated Disorders*, examined the fully automated volume measures of 269 patients with mild cognitive impairment over a six-month interval.

Dr. Michael Rafii of the University

of California in San Diego says baseline volume measurements of different parts of the brain — hippocampus, amygdala and temporal horn — were evaluated as predictors of cognitive change and patients with smaller volumes of the hippocampus and amygdala showed more rapid clinical decline.

“Our goal was to find neuroimaging measures of change that reflected more than merely a person’s advancing age, but instead correlated tightly with how a person’s cognitive status worsens over time,” Rafii, the study co-author, said in a statement.—Internet

Statins may not lower pneumonia risk

SEATTLE, 18 June — A Seattle researcher refutes the claim that statin drugs may lower the risk of pneumonia. Dr Sascha Dublin of the Group Health Center for Health Studies in Seattle found that pneumonia risk was, if

anything, slightly higher — 26 percent — in people using a statin than in those not using the cholesterol-lowering drugs, such as Lipitor.

“As a doctor, I’m a fan of statins for what they’ve been proven to do — lowering cholesterol and risk of heart disease and stroke in people who’ve had either disease or are at risk for them,” Dublin said in a statement.

Dublin says the discrepancy between this study involving more than of more than 3,000 Group Health patients and earlier ones may be due to healthy-user bias. “In other words, compared to people who don’t take statins, those who do may be healthier and have healthier habits that lower their risks of unrelated diseases such as pneumonia,” Dublin said.—Internet

Engineers work on the the Endeavour’s external fuel tank. NASA was on course to finish repairs to launch the shuttle Endeavour on Wednesday after its scheduled mission to the space station last week was postponed because of a gas leak.—INTERNET



Factbox: A/H1N1 flu cases in Asia-Pacific region

HONG KONG, 18 June — The following is the latest confirmed cases of Influenza A/H1N1 in the Asia-Pacific region on Wednesday:

Japan: 620; Australia: 2,026; South Korea: 70; China: 494 (264 in mainland, 172 in Hong Kong, 58 in Taiwan); New Zealand: 127; the Philippines: 311; Thailand: 405; Malaysia 23; India: 35; Singapore: 66; Vietnam: 28; French Polynesia: 1; Sri Lanka 1; Samoa: 1.—Internet

Venezuela confirms 7 new cases of A/H1N1 flu

CARACAS, 18 June — Venezuelan health authorities reported seven new cases of A/H1N1 influenza on Wednesday, raising the total number of confirmed cases in the country to 52.

Six of the new cases were people who have contacts with already infected patients, Collective Health Networks Vice Minister Nancy Perez told state-owned Bolivarian News Agency.

Venezuela confirmed its first case on May 28, a 28-year-old patient who had traveled to Panama.

Among the confirmed cases, 30 percent patients were directly infected by their sick relatives, while the rest are people who had traveled in the United States, Panama, Colombia, Argentina and Brazil.

Internet

Nicaragua confirms 11 new cases of A/H1N1 flu

MANAGUA, 18 June — Nicaraguan health authorities confirmed on Wednesday 11 new cases of A/H1N1 flu, bringing the country’s total infections to 134.

Nicaraguan Health Minister Guillermo Gonzalez said on Wednesday that most of the cases in the country were from the western zone of Managua, the national capital, where the country’s first case was detected.

Gonzalez said that among the 11 new cases, one was detected in Leon department, in the country’s west. Gonzalez said that most of the 134 patients have recovered, which means that they are in good health and no longer represent an infection risk for other people.—Internet

SPORTS



General view of Centre Court during the launch of the new retractable roof at Wimbledon's All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, on 17 May. —INTERNET

Wimbledon bracing for sound and fury

LONDON, 18 June — First it was Monica, then Maria, now it's Michelle, the latest big noise in women's tennis who will have Britain's tabloids dusting off the Wimbledon 'gruntometers' next week. Michelle Larcher de Brito, just 16, made such a din with her on-court screaming at the French Open that her opponent complained to the umpire, condemning the Portuguese girl's repeated noise-making as "unpleasant".



Michelle Larcher de Brito.

Now the International Tennis Federation is believed to be considering outlawing such distractions as "noise hindrance" under its code of conduct. Nine-time Wimbledon champion Martina Navratilova believes the scream queens are gaining an unfair advantage. "Grunting, screeching, shrieking - I call it cheating and it's got to stop," she said. —INTERNET

Bahrain seal World Cup play-off with Uzbekistan win

MANAMA, 18 June — Hosts Bahrain kept their World Cup dream alive by beating Uzbekistan 1-0 in a lively but scrappy Group A encounter here on Wednesday.

It left Bahrain to finish third in the group, thus sealing a playoff place. Bahrain will now face Saudi Arabia, who finished third in Group B. —INTERNET



Bahrain's Abdullah Ismail Omar (C) intercepts a pass between Uzbekistan's Sahob Juraev (L) and his teammate Islom Tuhtahujayev during their group A Asian zone 2010 World Cup qualifying football match in Manama. —INTERNET

Nadal gets top seeding at Wimbledon

LONDON, 18 June — Defending champion Rafael Nadal will be the top seed in the men's singles at Wimbledon this year ahead of French Open champion Roger Federer, seeded second, and Queen's champion Andy Murray, who will be the third seed.



World number one Rafael Nadal.

World number one Dinara Safina is top seed in the women's singles ahead of second seeded Serena Williams, the reigning Australian Open champion.

Nadal hopes to feature when Wimbledon gets under way on Monday despite missing Queen's with knee tendinitis.

Internet

Villa goal sends Spain into Confed Cup semis

BLOEMFONTEIN, 18 June — A rampant Spain remain on track to equal Brazil's record unbeaten streak after extending their own unbeaten run to 34 games by beating Iraq 1-0 at the Confederations Cup.

A goal by Valencia striker David Villa, at the centre of transfer speculation with Manchester United and Barcelona reportedly interested, was enough to break down a tough Iraqi defence. It put them into the semi-finals and moved the European champions even closer to equalling the 35-match unbeaten run by Brazil between 1993 and 1996.

It also ensured their place in the record books by matching the 14 straight victories held by Australia, Brazil and France. In the semis Spain will either play Italy, or Brazil. —INTERNET



Supporters celebrate Spanish team's victory after their Fifa Confederations Cup match vs Iraq, on 17 June, at the Free State stadium in Bloemfontein. —INTERNET

UEFA bans Drogba 4 matches for referee outburst

NYON, 18 June — UEFA has suspended Chelsea striker Didier Drogba for four matches because of his outburst toward the referee after his team was eliminated in the semifinals of the Champions League.

European soccer's governing body also suspended defender Jose Bosingwa three matches for making offensive comments about Norwegian referee Tom Henning Øvrebø.

UEFA says on Wednesday that Drogba's ban was six matches, with the last two deferred over a probationary period of two years. Bosingwa's suspension was four matches, with one deferred.

Chelsea was ordered to pay \$138,400 for the improper conduct of its players and fans. The 6 May match ended in a 1-1 draw, sending Barcelona into the final on away goals. —INTERNET

Benitez rues Liverpool's Euro fixtures headache

LIVERPOOL, 18 June — Rafa Benitez was left cursing the Premier League fixture computer after Liverpool were handed a Champions League headache by the schedule for the 2009-10 English season.



Liverpool's Spanish manager Rafael Benitez, pictured, who has been left cursing the Premier League fixture computer after his squad were handed a Champions League headache by the schedule for the 2009-10.

INTERNET

Benitez's side face a series of three tough away fixtures and two testing home matches immediately after each of the Champions League group stage matches, while their Premier League rivals have several more low-key fixtures. The possibility of travelling across Europe for a crucial fixture in the continent's top club competition and then returning to England for another daunting domestic game will infuriate Benitez. —INTERNET

Two-goal hero Cahill the toast of the Aussies

SYDNEY, 18 June — Australia have sent a statement of intent to the rest of the football world ahead of the 2010 World Cup after Tim Cahill's brace ensured top spot in their group, coach Pim Verbeek said.

The irrepressible Everton midfielder scored two second-half goals as Australia came from behind to beat Japan 2-1 and finish five points clear of their opponents. —INTERNET



Australia's Tim Cahill (right) shoots for the goal as Japanese defender Uchida Atsuto attempts to block him during their 2010 World Cup Asian qualifying football match in Melbourne, on 17 June. —INTERNET

Oliver Kahn launches reality TV show in China



Oliver Kahn, former goalkeeper of the German national football team, is pictured during an interview in Shanghai, on 28 May.

INTERNET

BEIJING, 18 June — Legendary German footballer Oliver Kahn is to launch a reality TV show in China in a bid to find the nation's best young goalkeeper, according to state media.

Nicknamed "King Kahn" for his presence on the pitch and voted the world's best goalkeeper three times, Kahn will start off with a group of young keepers aged between 17 and 24 in his 10-part series, the China Daily reported.

Internet



Singapore's non-oil domestic exports drop 12% in May

SINGAPORE, 18 June—Singapore's key non-oil domestic exports (NODX) declined by 12 per cent in May, following the 19 per cent decrease in the previous month, official data showed on Wednesday.

International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore), the country's trade-promotion agency, said in its monthly report that the decline was due to lower electronic and non-electronic exports.

On a year-on-year basis, electronic NODX contracted by 22 per cent in May, after the 26 per cent decline in the previous month. The decrease was largely due to lower domestic exports of parts of integrated circuits, personal computers and disk drives.

Non-electronic NODX decreased by 5.6 per cent in May, following the 15 per cent decline in the previous month. The contraction in non-electronic NODX was led by reduced domestic exports of petrochemicals, primary chemicals and specialized machinery.—MNA/Xinhua



A Komodo dragon walks on a beach on Komodo island, Indonesia. Attacks on humans by Komodo dragons — said to number at around 2,500 in the wild — are rare, but seem to have increased in recent years. Komodo dragons have a fearsome reputation worldwide because their shark-like teeth and poisonous saliva can kill a person within days of a bite.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (19-6-2009) (Friday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

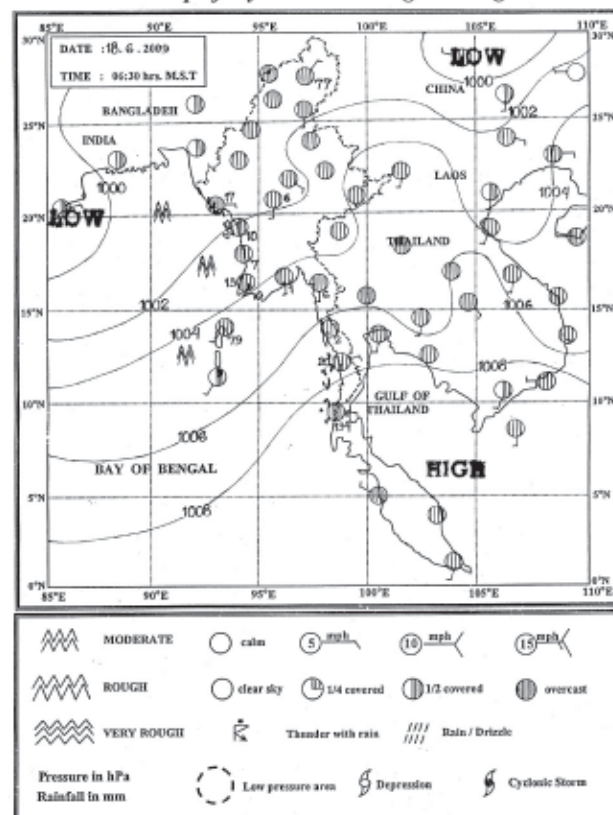
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * The Beauty of Zwegabin and Livelihood of Kayin National
- * Use dam water effectively and grow high- yield quality crops
- * The World of Mro Nationals
- * Pleasant Inkyin Park
- * Myanmar's Medicinal Orchid
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * Unforgettable Customs of the Chins
- * Myanmar Jaggery
- * Making of Traditional Lacquerware
- * Plaster Toys
- * Tea Industry
- * Hukaung Valley Rattan Survery (Part-IV)
- * The Heritage of Kyin (or) Wrestling
- * Pleasurable Myanma Marionette Show
- * The Beauty of Zwegabin and Livelihood of Kayin National
- * The World of Mro Nationals
- * Pleasant Inkyin Park
- * Myanmar's Medicinal Orchid
- * Yoke Sone Monastery of Lae Kai Ancient City
- * Mounzann Maywae
- * A Clean and Green Brewery
- * Myanmar Traditional Snack "Dawei Ngamoun" (Fish Crispies)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 18 June, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah and Kayin States, Upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kachin State and Lower Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Kachin State, isolated heavyfall in lower Sagaing, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were NayPyiTaw (0.40) inch, Kawthong (5.79) inches, Coco Island (3.23) inches, Machanbaw (3.15) inches, Putao (3.11) inches, Ye (2.60) inches and Shwebo (2.01) inches.

Maximum temperature on 17-6-2009 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 18-6-2009 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 18-6-2009 was 85%. Total sun shine hours on 17-6-2009 was (0.4) hour approx.

Rainfall on 18-6-2009 was (0.04) inch at Mingaladon, (0.08) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.71) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (29.80) inches at Mingaladon, (35.55) inches at Kaba-Aye and (41.46) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (11:30) hours MST on 17-6-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 19th June 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kayah State, Lower Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan, Chin and Kachin States, Upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Mon State, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 19-6-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 19-6-2009: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 19-6-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Friday, 19 June
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. လူပုဂ္ဂိုလ်ပြင်စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်

8:05 am

6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

7. Musical programme

8:25 am

8. “ကုသမနွေးတိတိဘေး”

8:40 am

9. International News

8:50 am

10. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:15 pm

3. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား

4:30 pm

4. Song of National Races

4:35pm

5. မုတုသွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်

4:45 pm

6. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာ ရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (စီးပွားစီမံအထူးပြု) (စီးပွားရေးပညာ)

5:00 pm

7. Songs for Uphold National Spirit

5:05 pm

8. စက်မှုကုန်ကြမ်းသီးနှံ ရာဘာ (အပိုင်း-၂)

5:15 pm

9. နားဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ

5:25 pm

10. Songs Of Yester Years

5:35 pm

11. မနိုင်သောအနွှ်း

5:50pm

12. Musical Programme

6:00 pm

13. Evening News

6:30 pm

14. Weather Report

6:40 pm

15. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရွှင်

7:15 pm

16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “နားခိုရာရင်ခွင်” (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

8:00 pm

17. News

18. International News

19. Weather Report

20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မေတ္တာလမ်းဆုံ” (အပိုင်း-၃၃)

21. သီချင်းချစ်သူ



Loilem, a lovely township amongst lush, green mountain ranges

Article: Win Kyaw; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)



Loilem General Hospital (200-bed) in Shan State (South).

It was a cold, pleasant morning, and the car with our team from the Myanma Alin on board was running at high speed along Taunggyi-Loilem Road. We were on tenterhooks as on the right side of the road was the steep wall of the mountain and on the left side of the road, a deep ravine. We enjoyed the natural beauty of forests and mountain ranges from the car along the zigzag uphill road.

Standing at an altitude of 4,447 feet, Loilem, 58 miles from Taunggyi, is in Loilem District, Shan State (South). It shares border with Keikha Township in the north, Namsang in the

east, Maukmai Township in the south, and Hopang Township in the north. It has moist monsoon. Almost of its area of 229.94 square miles is occupied by heights and gorges, and its mountain ranges lie from north to south. It has only a few plains.

When asked about the progress of Loilem Township, Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Soe Myint Win said, "Our township is constituted with four wards, 11 village-tracts and 135 villages and has a population of 78,553. In this season, we grow 4,724 acres of paddy. We also grow edibles such as groundnut, sesame, niger and

oil mustard.

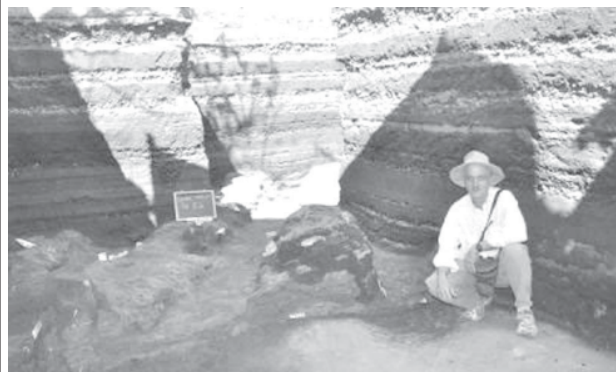
"As major crops, we grow 1,069 acres of soya bean, 1,917 acres of tea, 890 acres of corn, and 458 acres of onion and garlic.

"We are pursuing a project for our township to become a tea garden. In that regard, 199 farmers from 10 village-tracts have reclaimed 185 acres of lands to grow tea. And related departments will grow 63 acres of tea. In addition, we have assigned duties on Panglong to grow 737 more acres of tea."

(See page 10)

Maya intensively cultivated manioc 1,400 years ago

SAN SALVADOR, 18 June—A University of Colorado at Boulder team has uncovered an ancient and previously unknown Maya agricultural system—a large manioc field intensively cultivated as a staple crop that was buried and exquisitely preserved under a blanket of ash by a volcanic eruption in present-day El Salvador 1,400 years ago.



CU-Boulder anthropology Professor Payson Sheets and his team uncovered a manioc field one-third the size of football field buried under 10 feet of ash by the eruption of a volcano about 1,400 years ago that blanketed the Mayan farming village of Ceren in El Salvador.

Evidence shows the manioc field—at least one-third the size of a football field—was harvested just days before the eruption of the Loma Caldera volcano near San Salvador in roughly A.D. 600, said CU-Boulder anthropology Professor Payson Sheets, who is directing excavations at the ancient village of Ceren. The cultivated field of manioc was discovered adjacent to Ceren, which was buried under 17 feet of ash and is considered the best preserved ancient farming village in all of Latin America.

The ancient planting beds of the carbohydrate-rich tuber are the first and only evidence of an intensive manioc cultivation system at any New World archaeology site, said Sheets. While two isolated portions of the manioc field were discovered in 2007 following radar work and limited excavation, 18 large test pits dug in spring 2009—each measuring about 10 feet by 10 feet—allowed the archaeologists to estimate the size of the field and assess the related agricultural activity that went on there.

Sheets said manioc pollen has been found at archaeological sites in Belize, Mexico and Panama, but it is not known whether it was cultivated as a major crop or was just remnants of a few garden plants. "This is the first time we have been able to see how ancient Maya grew and harvested manioc," said Sheets, who discovered Ceren in 1978.—Internet

Paediatric Emergencies: An Illustrated Guide talk on 27 June

YANGON, 18 June—The Paediatric Education Department of the Myanmar Medical Association will give a talk on Paediatric Emergencies: An Illustrated Guide at Yangon Child Hospital from 9 am to noon on 27 June.

Any interested doctors and medical students may attend the talk.

MNA

Discussion on revival of noni

YANGON, 18 June—Myanmar Noni Family Club will organize discussions on "revival of noni" at IHBC hall on Bo Aung Kyaw Street here at 1 pm on 20 June. Anyone interested may attend the discussions.

MNA

