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Sunday, 28 June, 2009

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

8th Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee commences

YANGON, 27 June—The Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee started at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township here this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Magway Maha Visutayama Taikthit Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Ratha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika Bhaddanta

Kumara, member Sayadaws, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department U Myo Kyaw and officials.

Next, the meeting chairman Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara delivered Saraniya Ovadakatha.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung supplicated religious affairs.

Joint-Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha

Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Eindasiri presented a brief account of the second period's work progress of the Sixth State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (First Branch). Sayadaws briefed on account of sector-wise religious matters in the second period.

At the afternoon session, members of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee held discussions on Vinichaya, religious and academic affairs and the first day session of the meeting came to a close.—MNA

Wegyi Dam contributing to agricultural and regional development

Article by Win Naing (Kyemon) , Photos by Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)

Bago Division (West) is situated between Bago Yoma and the Ayeyawady River. Towns with government offices are mainly located by Yangon-Pyay Road. The division has a lot of plains with enough arable farmlands with fertile soil.

The region grew only monsoon paddy and

seasonal crops in the past. Thanks to the dams and reservoirs, the division has now been in a position to cultivate all crops including monsoon and summer paddy, thereby contributing towards local self-sufficiency in food plus surpluses.

For strengthening cultivation capacity of Bago

Division (West), a network of dams has been built and among them are Wegyi Dam located in Paungde Township.

Wegyi Dam is situated on Wegyi Creek, about one mile up from Phaungai Village to the
(See page 7)



Wegyi Dam benefiting farmlands in Paungde and Wetzok townships, Bago Division (West).



PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 28 June, 2009

Boost production of quality agro-based foodstuff

The Myanmar Agro-Based Food Processors and Exporters Association is organizing the First Myanmar Foodstuff Exhibition-2009 at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Yangon from 26 to 28 June.

The exhibition is aimed at staging international standard domestic agro-based foodstuff at a single place, introducing locally-produced agro-based foodstuff to the people, promoting the economic relations between businessmen and helping them gain greater market shares, and helping improve the quality of domestic foodstuff by providing opportunities for producers to observe advanced food processing methods and advantages of use of modern equipment.

The foodstuff industry boosts not only local industrial development but also export of goods.

Myanmar is gifted with a variety of natural resources and it produces agricultural produce and marine products in abundance. That generates good opportunities for entrepreneurs to gain a foothold in the international market.

The Myanmar Agro-Based Food Processors and Exporters Association is making significant contributions to improving the quality of local agro-based foodstuff to international level.

Progress of Myanmar agro-based foodstuff called for improvement of the quality of agro-based foodstuff, harmonizing the processes of distributing and exporting foodstuff, and disseminating advanced methods of producing foodstuff to producers.

So, more foodstuff exhibitions should be organized to help the nation enjoy further industrial development and earn greater foreign exchange.

B.Sc (Forestry) students of Yangon University from 1967 to 1973 hold respects paying ceremony to old teachers at Hninzigon Home for the Aged in Yangon on 26 June morning.

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

Yangon Division DAC awards winners

YANGON, 27 June—Those from Yangon Division who won prizes in short story, article, song, cartoon, painting, poster, computer art, computer digital poster and photo contests at central and to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking were awarded at the Drug Elimination Museum here yesterday, with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint.

The chairman of Yangon Division Committee for Drug Abuse Control read out the message sent by

Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

The commander, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Secretary of CCDAC Chief of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi and officials presented prizes to the winners.

The commander and party viewed the prizewinning works and documentary photos of activities of anti-narcotics associations.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Win Myint delivers an address at prizes presentation ceremony of computer digital poster and photo contests mark IDADAIT.— MNA

Outstanding students from Bogale Township honoured

YANGON, 27 June — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Bogale Tint Aung addressed a prize awarding ceremony to outstanding students from Bogale Township, who passed the matriculation examination with distinctions, at Bogale Education Collage on 23 June.

The minister presented the gold medals and honorary award to three students who passed the exam with six distinctions and responsible persons awarded others.

Next, he awarded the schools with the highest pass rate and the schools that trained six-distinction winners. Then well-wishers made cash donations to the educational fund of the Township and schools.

Those who undertook construction of new

schools handed over documents related to 30 new school buildings constructed with the state budgets and 20 school buildings by well-wishers to division education officer U Myo Swe.

The minister inspected the site chosen for construction of Bogale City Hall that houses 500 people.

In the evening, he visited Kyainchaunggyi Village Dispensary in Bogale Township and low-cost housing and progress in construction of storm-resistant schools and left necessary instructions.

Next, he visited the 16-bed station hospital, Basic Education High School and allocation of low-cost houses for the people of Satsan village.

MNA



Seinle Shwepyithar Journal latest issue in circulation

YANGON, 27 June—No. 15, Volume VI of Seinle Shwepyithar Journal featuring works of various genres, came out yesterday.

Copies of the issue are on sale at Sarpay Beikman bookshop on Merchant Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Printing and Publishing Enterprise on Theinbyu Road, Botahtaung Township, and the bookshop of the News and Periodicals Enterprise. Manuscripts may be sent to No (8), Second Floor of Park Tower at junction of Dhammazedi Road and Bagayar Road, Myenigon, Sangyong Township, Yangon, (Ph: 538302).—MNA



Two men look at a toppled 13-storey apartment building that buried one worker in Shanghai on 27 June, 2009. The worker trapped in the toppled apartment building in Shanghai was pulled out dead, said rescuers on Saturday, Xinhua News Agency reported.—INTERNET

Israel reduces control of four West Bank towns

JERUSALEM, 27 June — Bowing to pressure from Washington, Israel granted US-trained Palestinian security forces greater autonomy in four main West Bank towns, Israeli and Palestinian defence officials said on Thursday.

The ability of Palestinian security forces to maintain law and order is key to Mideast peacemaking because Israel needs to be convinced that a future Palestinian state won't threaten its security.

Israel already has turned over limited security control to Palestinians in three other West Bank towns, but the military said that forces in Qalqiliya, Bethlehem, Jericho and Ramallah would be the first to operate around the clock without Israeli clearance.

In a statement, the Israeli military said Palestinian security forces "will be able to extend their hours of operation" in the towns but emphasized that Israeli forces would continue to operate in the West Bank "in order to thwart terrorist operations."

The move stops short of a full withdrawal from these towns.

The Israeli military doesn't routinely patrol West Bank towns and cities, but frequently conducts nighttime and occasional daytime arrest raids.

Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad said the step does not go far enough. "What is required a full cessation of military raids into Palestinian areas," he told reporters in Ramallah.—Internet

Hamas leader welcomes Obama's new Mideast approach

DAMASCUS, 27 June — The top Hamas leader on Thursday welcomed what he said is "new language" by President Barack Obama toward the Islamic militant group — part of Hamas' cautious outreach to Washington in recent weeks. In a televised speech, Hamas chief Khaled Mashaal avoided any mention of the recent turmoil in Iran, even though the Islamic militant group is backed by the Teheran regime.

Earlier on Thursday, Iran's hardline president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad,

accused Obama of meddling because of growing US criticism of Iran's clampdown on opposition protesters. Iran's other militant ally, the Lebanese Hezbollah group, has sided with Iran's ruling clerics.

Hamas has been trying to reach out to the Obama administration in hopes of breaking out of its international isolation and prying open the borders of blockaded Hamas-ruled Gaza.

Internet



Adult and baby alpacas are pictured during the inauguration of an alpacas shelter at Ticlio, 15,610 ft (4,758 metres) above sea level in the Andean region of Lima on 26 June, 2009. In recent years more than 12,000 shelters had been built to protect some 100,000 alpacas from the cold waves and rains in the Peruvian Andes, the Peruvian Agriculture Ministry said in a statement.—INTERNET

NATO-Russia foreign ministers to open meeting

CORFU, 27 June — The foreign ministers of NATO and Russia are set to resume formal military ties when they meet on Saturday for the first time since last year's war between Russia and Georgia. Relations between the alliance and the Russian military were frozen in the aftermath of that conflict. Although political ties have thawed considerably over the past five months, there have been no formal military contacts since the war.

Saturday's meeting between Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and his counterparts from NATO's 28 member nations comes as President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev prepare to hold a summit next month. Officials said the talks in Corfu will reflect the trend toward improved relations.

"We expect the meeting to go well, there will be no surprises," Igor Semenenko, counselor at the Russian mission to NATO said.—Internet

Plane lands safely in Md after smoke report

LINTHICUM, 27 June—Officials say a Southwest flight from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to Philadelphia landed safely at Baltimore's airport after flight attendants saw smoke in the cabin.

A spokesman for Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport says the plane landed safely about 10 pm on Friday. Spokesman Jonathan Dean says airport fire and rescue crews met the plane as a precaution.

Southwest spokesman Paul Flanigan says Flight 3858 was carrying 125 passengers. He says flight attendants reported smoke in the rear cabin.—Internet

Brazil sees high-level UN meeting as historic opportunity for change

UNITED NATIONS, 27 June — Brazil said here on Friday the ongoing high-level UN conference is "an historic opportunity for change," and the world must listen to the voices from the developing countries, which "bear no responsibility for the current crisis."

The statement came as Ambassador Celso Amorim of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry was speaking at the high-level conclave, which entered its third day on Friday.

"This Conference is an historic opportunity for change," he said. "It has brought the UN membership closer together to strengthen, improve and reform global economic governance."

"The fact that we have been able to agree on balanced and ambitious outcome document is a testament to the vitality of the UN," he said. "It has disproved many of the sceptics."

"This conference should not be a final point. Nor should it be an end in itself," he said. "It is incumbent upon us, UN Members, to ensure that it is the beginning of a process by means of which the whole of mankind, and not just a few, take ownership of their own destiny."

Internet

12 killed in shootout in central Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 27 June — A shootout between police and suspected cartel hit men in central Mexico on Friday left at least 12 people dead and one police officer wounded, officials said.

Guanajuato state Attorney General Carlos Zamarripa said police and soldiers were checking a report of armed men at a building in the town of Apaseo el Alto when assailants opened fire and lobbed grenades at them. All the 12 dead were gunmen, Zamarripa said. Twelve suspects were detained.

Gov Juan Manuel Oliva said one police officer was wounded in the

shootout in Guanajuato.

The group was allegedly working for the Zetas, a gang of assassins tied to the Gulf cartel.

Mexico is suffering a wave of gang violence that has killed more than 10,800 people since President Felipe Calderon took office in December 2006 and launched a military-led crackdown on drug traffickers.

In the northern state of Sonora, assailants opened fire on a car carrying a congressional candidate for Calderon's National Action Party, or PAN, killing two people who were with the candidate, party officials said on Friday.—Internet

A soldier guards a bullet-riddled car after a shootout between federal police and unknown gunmen in the town of Apaseo el Alto, Mexico, on 26 June, 2009.

INTERNET



Gazprom: Deals near with Azerbaijan

MOSCOW, 27 June—Gazprom, the world's largest natural gas producer, said on Friday it hoped to sign key deals in Azerbaijan next week, raising the possibility that Russia will secure Azeri gas to feed pipelines to Europe.

"We enjoy good relations with Azerbaijan," chief executive Alexei Miller said at a shareholders' meeting at the company's Moscow headquarters. "And we hope that during next week's trip to Baku we will reach important agreements."

State-run Gazprom has sought in recent years to corner the Central Asian gas supply, and reached

preliminary agreement in March to buy Azerbaijani gas from 2010.

According to Miller, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev will oversee the signing of a deal in Baku next week which would allow Russia to buy Azerbaijan's gas "as soon as 1 Jan, 2010."

Miller said Russia and Azerbaijan are discussing "relatively small amounts" of gas so far, but Russia could start buying more in the future.

"We have very good trumps compared to any potential buyer of Azerbaijan gas," he said in a televised news conference after the company's shareholders meeting.—*Internet*

Food, energy demands to skyrocket

MADISON, 27 June—Food and energy demand will soar in the coming years because of population growth, says a US report that urges more investment in global agriculture.

The report, by Deutsche Bank and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, says the population growth will sharply increase demand for food, fiber and fuel.

"We are at a crossroads in terms of our investments in agriculture and what we will need to do to feed the world's population by 2050," wrote report co-author David Zaks, a researcher at the institute.

In the next four decades, the world's population is expected to mushroom from 6.5 billion to 9 billion, and a gap is already developing between agricultural production and demand, the report said.

Internet



Softbank corps' Chief Executive Masayoshi Son, left, and actress Aya Ueto wave to customers awaiting the mobile carrier's shop to open for the first day sales of iPhone 3G S in Tokyo, Japan, on 26 June, 2009.—INTERNET

Brazil ends search for passenger bodies, wreckage of flight AF 447

BRASILIA, 27 June—After 26 days of operations in the Atlantic Ocean, the Brazilian army announced on Friday that they have ended their search for passenger bodies and wreckage of flight AF 447.

At a press conference held in Recife, northeastern Brazil, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Munhoz, spokesperson of the Brazilian army, said that no more bodies had been found for nine days and there is no possibility of finding more survivors of the accident.

In total, the Brazilian army found bodies of 51 passengers, of whom 14 have been identified.

Besides, according to Munhoz, more than 600 wrecks — from structural components of the aircraft to baggages — were collected during the searches.

An Air France Airbus A330 plane plunged into the Atlantic some 1,200 km off the Brazilian coastline on a flight from Rio de Janeiro to Paris on 1 June. All 228 people of 32 nationalities on board died.—*Internet*



Debris from the missing Air France flight 447 being recovered from the Atlantic Ocean arrive at the Recife's port.—INTERNET



The skyline of Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province, is overcast by clouds, on 26 June, 2009 as tropical storm Nangka approaches.—INTERNET

Tropical storm Nangka makes landfall in south China's Guangdong

GUANGZHOU, 27 June—The fourth tropical storm this year, Nangka, made landfall at 10:30 pm Friday in Huizhou City in south China's Guangdong Province, local authorities said.

The storm brought heavy rains at its eye. More rains are expected in the next two days in coastal areas as Nangka is moving northward, according to the provincial meteorological administration.

But there was no wind at the eye in Huidong

County. Shops and taxis ran as normal after the landing of the storm.

The State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters urged local departments to monitor the situation closely and promptly relocate residents along the storm's route.

More than 2,700 fishermen and 1,036 boats in Huidong were recalled

to port as of 3 pm Friday, officials said.

Local officials strengthened monitoring and prepared relief materials in case of landslides and mud-rock flows triggered by the heavy rains.

Officials said they would also take the chance to store water in reservoirs for draught relief after the storm passed.—*Internet*

Two trains collide in Madrid

MADRID, 27 June—Two local trains collided in the Madrid railway station of Aluche on Friday morning, with 57 people injured.

Eleven people, including a pregnant woman, were taken to hospital, although none of their lives are thought to be in danger.

The accident happened in the early morning rush hour when one train reversed into another which was waiting at the Aluche station in the south of the Spanish capital.

The Medical service said that everyone was able to leave the accident scene by foot, but 57 people needed treatment, the majority were suffering from minor injuries.

Internet

Slower winds mean pollution, crop damage

AMES, 27 June — Declining wind speeds could damage crops, increase pollution and raise temperatures in cities, Iowa State University researchers say.

Wind speeds across the country have decreased an average of 0.5 percent to 1 percent each year since 1973, with the biggest declines in the

East, the Northeast and the Great Lakes, the study said. The study, to be published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research — Atmospheres*, confirmed the researchers' previously reported findings that lower wind speeds could reduce potential wind-generated electricity.

But slower winds also could mean higher

temperatures in fields and, thus, less-productive crops, which depend on wind for cooling, said Gene Takle, an Iowa State professor of geological and atmospheric sciences and agronomy.

Takle said slower winds also could cause more crops to be covered in dew, making them susceptible to fungus and plant disease.—*Internet*



The AirPower 09 airshow opens in Zeltweg in the Austrian bundesland of Steiermark, on 26 June, 2009. Spectators can watch aerobatics performances as well as exhibitions during the AirPower 09 airshow which takes place from 26 to 27 June.—XINHUA

China software sector reports 23.3% rise in revenue in first five months

BEIJING, 27 June — China's software sector generated 329.14 billion yuan (48.19 billion US dollars) in revenue in the first five months of 2009, up 23.3 percent year on year, the Ministry of Industry and Information

Technology said in a report.

The growth rate was down 5.7 percentage points compared with the same period last year as a result of the financial crisis, the report said.

Sales of software

products surged 24.2 percent to 115.22 billion yuan, accounting for 35 percent of the total software industry revenue, said the report.

The income of software and technology services hit 65.93 billion yuan, up 28.2 percent. Revenues of embedded system software hit 61.02 billion yuan, up 20.9 percent.

Xinhua

Singapore visitor arrivals drop 13% in May

SINGAPORE, 27 June— Visitor arrivals to Singapore fell 13 percent in May over the same period last year, official figures showed on Friday.

A total of 730,000 tourists visited Singapore in May. The country's tourism sector saw sharper declines in visitor arrivals from markets such as China and Japan which can be attributed in part to the global outbreak of A/H1N1 flu, the Singa-

pore Tourism Board (STB) said.

In May, Singapore gazetted hotels were estimated to generate 112 million Singapore dollars (about 77 million US dollars) in room revenue, a decrease of 37.7 percent over May 2008.

Average occupancy rate was at 69 percent for May 2009, posting a 12.2 percentage point decrease over May 2008.

Xinhua

24,550 hectares of national park in Indonesia damaged

JAKARTA, 27 June —At least 24,550 hectares of land in the Halimun Salak Mountain National Park located in the border between Banten and West Java Provinces are in damaged condition due to illegal mining and logging, *Kompas* daily quoted an official as saying on Saturday.

According to Bambang Supriyanton, the head of the national park, the park is located in Lebak regency of Banten Province and West Java's Sukabumi and Bogor regencies. "Of the total, 24,550 hectares or 21.7 percent are found in ruined condition. In fact, 8,550 of them are in severe damaged conditions that need intensive rehabilitation," said Bambang.

Bambang said that the condition was due to illegal mining and logging. In 2008, his office handled 11 cases of deforestation, consisted of eight illegal logging and three illegal mining.—Xinhua

Ecuador, Venezuela start joint gas exploration in Gulf of Guayaquil

QUITO, 27 June—Ecuador and Venezuela on Friday started their joint exploration for natural gas in the Gulf of Guayaquil, a large body of water in the Pacific Ocean in western South America.

The exploration, which is expected to last 90 days, will be done by Venezuela's state-owned

oil firm Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA), said the company's Ecuadorian counterpart Petroecuador.

Under a plan, the PDVSA will drill a well of 3 km in depth in Puna Island, which is off the coast of southern Ecuador at the head of the Gulf of Guayaquil.

The investment for the

exploration, totaling 32 million US dollars, will be covered by the PDVSA, which has a strategic alliance with Petroecuador in hydrocarbon projects in both countries.

Petroecuador said oil might also be found during the exploration as seismic research indicates.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency



A parachuter performs style jumping at the opening ceremony of an invitational skydiving competition in Kaifeng, central China's Henan Province, on 25 June, 2009. More than 40 parachuting athletes take part in the competition.—XINHUA

Angola, Russia sign \$327 mln telecom satellite contract

LUANDA, 27 June—Angola and Russia signed here on Friday a contract for the building, launching and operating an Angolan telecom satellite AngoSat.

The signing of the 327 million US dollars worth contract is widely regarded as a big success of visiting Russian President Dimitri Medvedev who arrived here on

Friday for an official visit.

According to Angola's official ANGOP news agency, it will take 39 months to finish the production of AngoSat and the Russian government will provide Angola all necessary technical means, training of Angolans in space technology for satellite management.

Xinhua

Top rock climbers to compete in 2009 World climbing championship

XINING, 27 June—A total of 319 athletes from 45 countries and regions have signed in for the 2009 World Climbing Championship three days before it kicks off in northwest China's Qinghai Province on June 20th.

According to the event's organizing committee, the event is to be

staged outside Europe for the first time and it will be the "highest" one as the host city Xining, provincial capital of Qinghai, has an altitude of 2,260 meters above sea level.

The 2009 world climbing championship comprises the categories of lead, boulder, speed and overall, both for men and women.—Xinhua



An Indian farmer shows the damaged banana crop in Badarkha village of Dholka Taluka, some 35 km from Ahmedabad, on 25 June, 2009. Searing heat wave continued to scorch the plains of north India with temperatures of its capital remained above 42 degrees Celsius for days. According to meteorological officials, the extreme heat conditions would probably persist for a period of time due to delayed monsoon.—XINHUA

Egypt to reopen crossing to Gaza

CAIRO, 27 June — Egypt plans to again temporarily open its Rafah border crossing with the Gaza Strip, allowing some Palestinians to leave the blockaded territory. It is exactly six months since the start of Israel's military offensive in Gaza.

Relations with the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas which controls it remain extremely tense. The crossing—set to open for the next three days—is Gaza's main route to the outside world.

Orange ambulances, taxis and extra security forces have been making their way to the border in preparation for the latest opening of the Rafah crossing.

Among those who have been given per-

mission to pass through are students and Palestinians needing medical treatment. Officials attending the latest round of Palestinian unity talks will also make their way to Cairo.

Despite considerable criticism in the Arab world, the Egyptian government has kept Rafah largely shut since the Hamas takeover of Gaza in June 2007. However it is continuing to play a significant diplomatic role.

This includes acting as a go-between for Israel and Hamas.

In recent days there has been increased speculation about a possible deal to exchange captured Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit for Palestinian prisoners.—Internet



The crossing has been mostly closed since June 2007.—INTERNET

Eight earthquakes hit New Zealand's central North Island

WELLINGTON, 27 June — Eight earthquakes shook New Zealand's central North Island over a 12-hour period on Saturday, causing no casualties or damage, the GNS Science said.

The quakes began at 1:01 am (13:01 GMT Friday), with a tremor measuring 4.3 on the Richter scale, 10 km north-west of Turangi, at a depth of 3 km.

Six further quakes shook the same location with the last at 10:54 am, according to New Zealand's Institute of Geological and Nuclear Science (GNS Science). All were at a depth of 5 km or less.

At 12:40 pm, an earthquake struck within 5 km of Turangi, measuring 3.4 on the Richter scale.

GNS Science spokesperson Arthur Jolly said the region has been active for several weeks and the swarm is not unusual, but the quakes would have been felt because they were shallow.—Internet

Auckland flights canceled due to fog

WELLINGTON, 27 June — Fog disrupted domestic flights at Auckland Airport on Saturday with at least 14 out-bound flights canceled and 10 flights unable to land.

Flights on larger aircraft, to and from Wellington and Christchurch, have continued as normal.

An airport spokesperson said late on Saturday morning that the low-visibility status had been lifted, though the airport's website is warning of continuing delays on flights.

Flights have resumed in and out of Auckland airport on Saturday afternoon.

Met Service spokesperson Oliver Druce said the fog, which has affected much of the North Island, may last all day in some places.

He said conditions needed to move the fog — strong wind and rain — will arrive on Sunday.—Internet

China bars use of virtual money for real goods trading

BEIJING, 27 June — China has unveiled the first official regulation, banning the use of virtual currency in trade of real goods and services to limit its possible impact on the nation's real financial system.

The government also spells out the definition of the virtual currency for the first time, which includes prepaid cards of the virtual

game, but excludes any outfit such as costume and weapon in the game, according to a joint circular issued by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Commerce on Friday. "The virtual currency, which is in exchange with real money at a certain exchange rate, will only be allowed to trade in virtual goods and services provided by

its issuer, not real goods and services," it said.

China has the world's largest population of Internet users, with 298 million people online by the end of last year.

Media reports showed the virtual money trade topped several billion yuan last year after rising around 20 per cent annually.

MNA/Xinhua

NEWS ALBUM



A man walks over a plank bridge between the towers of the cathedral in Bremen, northern Germany. The bridge is installed 65 meters from the ground. During the German Protestant Church Congress, visitors can cross it.

Customs uncovers 250 smuggled tortoises

Ukrainian customs said officers had seized 250 tortoises that a passenger had tried to smuggle across the former Soviet republic's eastern border aboard a sleeper train. "While officers were conducting a check aboard the Tashkent-Kharkiv train, a citizen of Uzbekistan was found to have hidden 250 tortoises behind a panel in the toilet and between berths two and three," it said in a statement.

The statement said the tortoises, valued at the equivalent of \$2,300, had been confiscated.

'Hero' dog saves family from burning home

A woman visiting her parents in New Jersey credited her 7-month-old dog with saving the lives of her family in a house fire.

Nicole Kowalewski, 29, said she had brought her young bulldog Rocky back to her family's Delran home and she was awakened at 2 am by the puppy's whimpering, the *Burlington County (NJ) Times* reported Monday.

"I had him in the bed with me and he started whimpering and it's not like a bulldog. It's in their breed to just sleep and snore and cuddle, that's it," she said.

Kowalewski said she took Riley outside to try to calm him down, but he started barking after she brought him inside and circled the door leading to the garage.

Facebook, Twitter and peers for sale—privately

Scott Painter makes his living betting on startup companies, having played a role in launching 29 of them over the years. But with the bad economy choking initial public offerings and acquisitions, Painter is now backing an idea that makes it easier for insiders like him to sell shares in their companies even before they go public.

SharesPost, which was founded by Painter's business partner, Greg Brogger, launched publicly in June. Through the SharesPost Web site, Painter is trying to sell shares in several companies he helped found, including car pricing startup TrueCar.com. He also wants to buy shares in companies that are far from an IPO, like short-messaging site Twitter and business-networking site LinkedIn.

Ventriloquist can imitate 50 different bird sounds

Xu Mingfu, 53, likes to imitate birds and he's trying to eat like one too.

Xu first learned ventriloquism five years ago in Beijing. Ever since, he's been spending three hours each day to practice the chirping sounds of various birds.

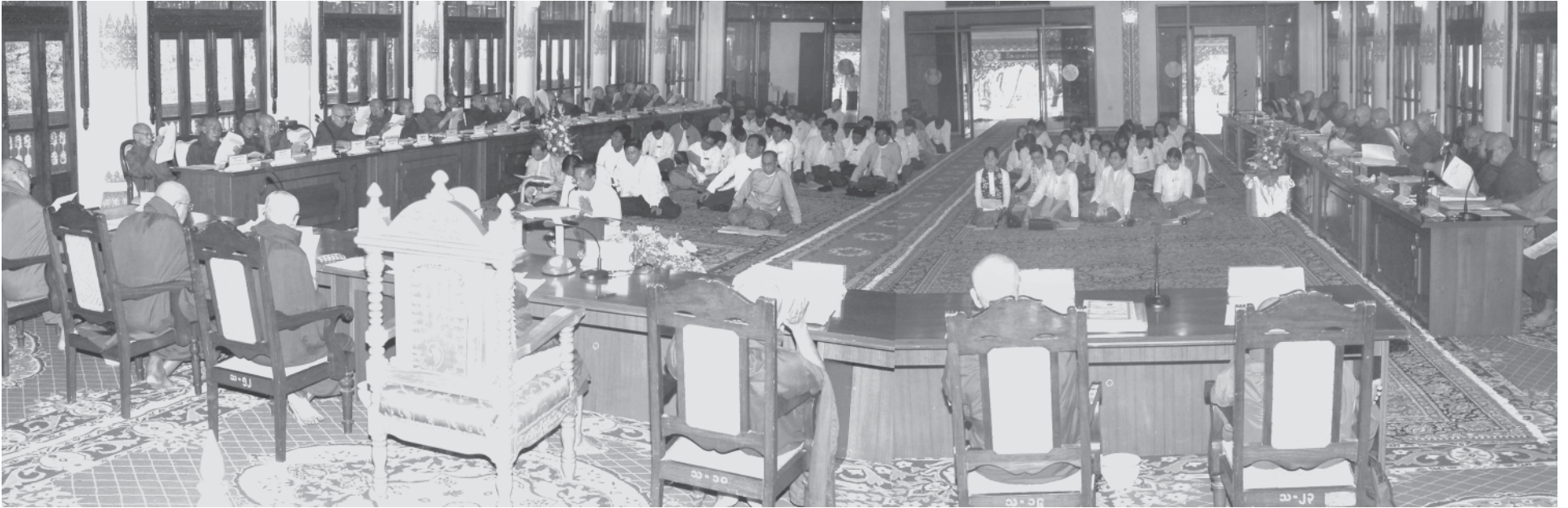
Now, he is able to tweet like 50 different birds. He stopped eating meat in order to keep his voice pure, he said.

He said he likes to amuse people.



Performers walk on stilts during Spring Festival celebrations in Beijing. Cirque du Soleil aimed to reclaim its Guinness world record for the most number of people simultaneously walking on stilts, to mark its silver anniversary.

A waxy monkey frog (*Phyllomedusa sauvagii*), which lives in the dry Gran Chaco regions of Argentina, Paraguay and Bolivia, sits atop vegetation in a display at the American Museum of Natural History's "A Chorus of Colors" live frog exhibit in New York City. More than 200 live frogs from around the world are on display at the museum.



Eighth Plenary Meeting of Sixth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin Hall on Kaba Aye Hill. (News on page 1)—MNA

Wegyi Dam contributing to agricultural and regional development

(from page 1)

northeast of Paungde. The dam is 4170 feet long and 115 feet high. Its catchment area is 202 square miles and water storage capacity 252000 acre feet. It is of earthen type. Construction of the dam started in 1998-1999 fiscal year and it was opened on 22 August 1999. The dam was built with the aim of benefiting 45000 acres of farmlands.

Wegyi Dam is irrigating 28 village-tracts in Paungde and Watpok townships for growing not only summer paddy but also monsoon paddy. For villages with difficulty in irrigating, they are being supplied with water under the system of blocking creeks and ditches.

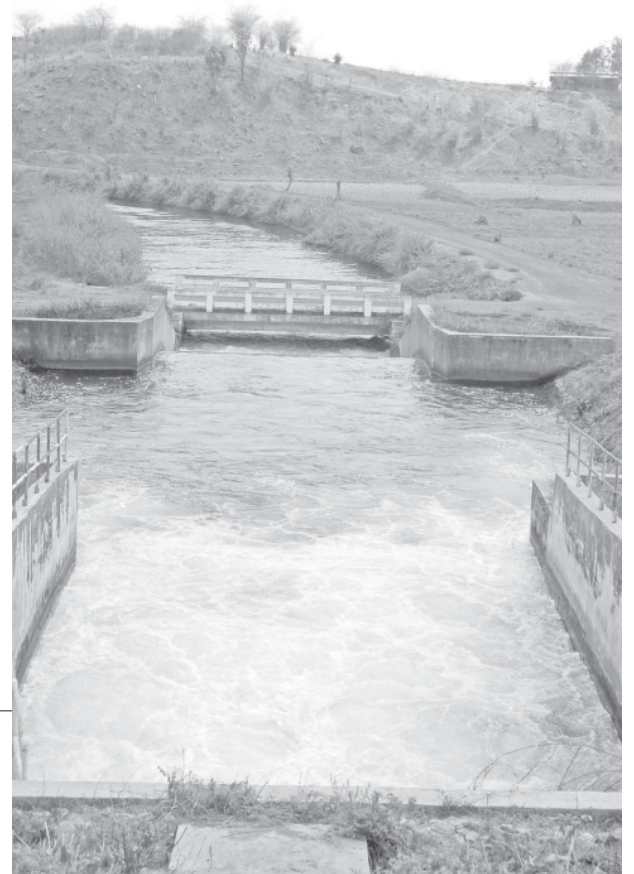
With the emergence of Wegyi Dam, Paungde Township has been able to cultivate monsoon and summer

**Article by: Win Naing (Kyemon)
Photos by: Khin Maung Win
(Kyemon)**

paddy as well as edible oil crops, vegetables and kitchen crops under mixed and double cropping. It was able to grow 89483 acres of monsoon paddy and 38709 acres of summer paddy exceeding the target. As for rice sufficiency, there have been 282.33 percent of rice sufficiency and 170 percent of edible oil sufficiency. Therefore, the division is developing with local food sufficiency plus food surpluses.

Kyemon: 27-6-2009

(Translation: ST)



Summer paddy thrives thanks to the irrigation water from Wegyi Dam.

The 4.82-mile-long main canal of Wegyi Dam.



Mr Gambari concludes visit

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Mr Ibrahim A. Gambari, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, arrived at Yangon by air on 26 June and proceeded to Nay Pyi Taw.

In Nay Pyi Taw, he called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win on 26 and 27 June, and held discussions about the programme for the visit of His Excellency Mr Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary General, to Myanmar.

Director-General U Thant Kyaw and Deputy Director General U Nyunt Swe of the International Organizations and Economic Department and Mr Erwan Pouchous, Political Officer of the Political Department of the United Nations were present at the meetings.

Mr Gambari left Nay Pyi Taw for Yangon this afternoon and departed by air from Myanmar in the evening.—MNA

Commander attends opening ceremony of Commander's shield football tournament

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin attended the ceremony to open Commander's shield football tournament held at the Paunglaung sport ground at 3 p.m. on 22 June.

Also present on the occasion were wife of the commander, staff officers of the command, commanders of regiments and units, guests, players, families and fans.

The Commander made a speech and watched the opening match.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin watches opening football match of Commander's shield football tournament at Paunglaung Sport ground in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA



MWVO member Labour Minister U Aung Kyi delivers an address at cash assistance presentation providing ceremony to school children of war veterans and disabled servicemen.—MNA

Cash provided for school children, disabled servicemen

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—The Organizing Committee of Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township War Veterans Organization held a ceremony to provide cash assistance to schoolchildren of war veterans and disabled servicemen at its office here today.

Member of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Leader of Nay Pyi Taw Organizing

Work Group Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi made further clarification to the four objectives and five tasks of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization, and the instructions given by the chairman of MWVO Central Organizing Committee at Meeting 1/2009 of the

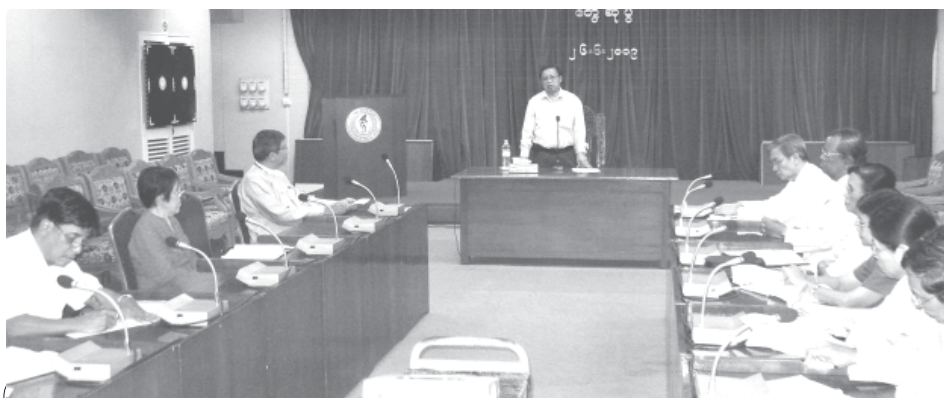
committee.

At the ceremony, K 530,500 was provided for 116 schoolchildren, and K 300,000 to 30 disabled servicemen. Well-wishers donated cash to the township WVO, clothes to disabled war veterans, and exercise books to schoolchildren.—MNA

Traditional medicine proves successful for MDR-TB

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe had a meeting with traditional medicine researchers at the Department of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar) in Yangon yesterday.

In his speech, the deputy minister said that traditional medicines for six major diseases: malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes, diarrhoea and dysentery are produced on a large scale, and now the combined therapy with traditional medicine has proved successful to cure



Health Deputy Minister Dr Paing Soe gives a speech to traditional medicine researchers.—HEALTH

MDR-TB.

Director (Research) Dr Thaw Zin, Dr Khin Chit, Pathologist Dr Ti Ti and TB Specialist Dr Than Lwin of the DMR (Lower Myanmar) reported on success achieved in

research on traditional medicine to cure MDR-TB. The researchers replied to the questions

asked by the attendees. The deputy minister gave concluding remarks.

MNA

UMFCCI General Secretary Dr Maung Maung Lay, CEC members and entrepreneurs hold discussions with Sri Lankan guests.—MNA

UMFCCI meets Sri Lankan guests

YANGON, 27 June—General Secretary Dr. Maung Maung Lay of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Joint-Secretary U Myint Soe, CEC members U Tun Aung and U Myo Thant and invited entrepreneurs met with Sri Lankan Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr. Newton Gunaratna, Vice-Chairman Mr. Juzar Adamly of Sri Lanka Gems & Jewellery Association and Mr. Akram Mansoor of Organizing Committee at the federation here on 24 June.

They discussed matters related to participation of Myanma entrepreneurs in the 19th Sri Lanka International Gems & Jewellery Exhibition to be held in Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka from 3 to 6 September and promoting of trade cooperation between the two countries.—MNA





Traditional costumes show held to mark Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 27 June—A traditional costumes show to mark Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July, organized by Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization under the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, took place at National Theatre on Pyay Road, here, this afternoon.

Also present at the show were President and CEC members of MWAFF, members of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization, special guests, students and others. At the show, actresses and models demonstrated the traditional costumes and vocalists sang songs.

Next, the Chairperson of Yangon Division WAO presented a bouquet to the President of MWAFF and CEC members.

Afterwards, the President of MWAFF presented K 1 million to honour Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization.—MNA



The President of MWAFF presents K 1 million to Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization to mark Myanmar Women's Day.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing delivers address at ceremony to present cash awards to outstanding students for 2009-2010 academic year.—MNA

H&T Ministry holds prize presentation ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—A ceremony to present cash awards for (2009-2010) academic year and prizes to outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination (2009) was held at the ministry here this morning. Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing spoke on the occasion.

First, the minister presented cash awards for (2009-2010) to officials concerned from the respective departments and awarded six-distinction winners in 2009. Next, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu presented prizes to the outstanding students and the ceremony came to a close. A total of 15 outstanding students were awarded.—MNA

Ministry of Information grows trees

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—A tree planting ceremony for the fourth week of the 2009 rainy season took place in the compound of the Ministry of Information here this morning.

Personnel of Myanmar Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw Press of Printing and Publishing Enterprise, News and Periodicals Enterprise (Nay Pyi Taw) participated in the ceremony.

A total of 1375 saplings of star-flower (Minusops), the oil Eugenia tree, margosa tree, Mezali tree and Padauk tree, 300 saplings in the ministry, 325 saplings in MRTV, 350 saplings in Publication and Nay Pyi Taw Printing House, 350 saplings in NPE (Nay Pyi Taw Press) were grown.

MNA



Staff of Ministry of Information grow trees.—MNA

Sports Minister presents sports gear in Sagaing, Mandalay



Sports Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents sports gear to a personnel concerned.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented sports gear for Sagaing Education University, Sagaing Education College and Sagaing Technological College

through personnel concerned at Sagaing Education University on 23 June and Rector U Yin Win Maung of Sagaing Education University spoke words of thanks.

The minister also presented sports gear for

Yadanapon University and Mandalay Education College through personnel concerned at Mandalay Yadanapon University in Mandalay the same day and inspected sports training hall and sports pitch in Mandalay.—MNA



Project for Greening 30-mile Radius of Yangon moves into high gear

Article, photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

(from page 16)

Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe told to the Myanma Alin that the water surplus from the reservoirs and the dams to be constructed soon in the eastern part of Bago Yoma mountain range would be channeled into 37.70-mile-long Bago-Sittoung Canal linking the Bago River and the Sittoung River, and then to the Kayan Creek in Yangon Division

first phase, the water surplus of 117,000 acre feet from Kawliya, Baidah and Bawni dams would be channeled into Bago-Sittoung Canal through Nagapauk Sluice Gate and Pagaingda Sluice Gate; that in the second phase, about 32,000 acre feet from Wagadok Dam would be channeled into Bago-Sittoung Canal through Moeyungyi Lake; that in the third phase, the stored water of three dams under con-



U Kyaw Soe
(Assistant Director,
Construction-6)

townships included in the eastern part of the project area; and that Tarwa, Paingkyon, Shwehlay

the outer canal, 8.52 miles long; that six of the seven bridges had been constructed across the canals

protected from seawater floods, freshwater is stored in the rainy season and is



The canal is now filled with rainwater.

through another canal; that the areas on the east bank of the Bago River are plains standing at an overage altitude of only 13 feet, so it was impossible to construct dams there; that so the water to be supplied to the eastern bank of the Bago River was channeled into the Bago-Sittoung Canal; and that 10,000 acres of farmland in Bago Division and 55,000 acres of farmland in Yangon Division needed more than 300,000 acre feet of water for agricultural purpose.

He added that in the

struction and to be constructed: Salu, Shwelaung and Zamayi (Kodukwe) would be added to the water surplus of 15,000 acre feet of Zaungtu Dam, and would be channeled into Bago-Sittoung Canal; and that so average annual inflow water to Bago-Sittoung Canal would be 370,700 acre feet and that was far more than enough to meet the demand of 300,000 acre feet of water needed for the Project for Greening 30-mile Radius of Yangon (East).

As to how to supply water from Bago-Sittoung Channel to the

eastern part of the project area, he said that they were digging the 28.41 miles long canal linking with Bagan-Nyaungbin Diversion Gate across the channel near Thanatpin, and the programme had been completed by about 90 per cent; that the water from the new canal would be channeled into the Kayan Creek for supply of water; that and the water from the new canal would be channeled into the Baw Creek through Bagantaung, Hla Balu and Kyontu sluice gates and the water would be supplied to Thongwa, Thanlyin and Kyauktan



An excavator at work at Thakala-Kayan section.

and Kayan sluices had been constructed along the Bago River to protect the areas from saltwater floods and store the freshwater.

Staff Office U Aung Kyi of Construction-6 said that the 28.41-mile earthen canal had been dug since 2003-2004; that on completion, the inner canal would be 19.89 miles long between Bagan-Nyaungbin Village to Thakala, and

along with a control structure; and that the whole project was due to be completed by 2009-2010.

Now, along the canal and the Kayan Creek are many fish farms. Previously, local farmers had to transplant paddy saplings two to three times in the same season due to floods. In contrast, now thanks to the canal, to transplant saplings one time is enough to grow paddy, the farmlands are

supplied to the farmlands in summer.

Now, the whole eastern part of the project area is lush and green all-year round with monsoon paddy fields in the rainy season and with summer paddy and other crop plots in the dry season.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
24-6-2009



Bagan-Nyaungbin Diversion Gate is seen from Bago-Sittoung Canal.



Wellwishers donate cash to mark Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 27 June—A ceremony to donate cash to mark Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 June, 2009 was held at the hall of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation in Bahan Township, here, this morning. It was

attended by CEC members of MWAFF and wellwishers.

All together 21 wellwishers donated K 33,800,000 to the federation. CEC members of MWAFF Daw Ni Ni Win, Daw Khin Mi Mi, Daw Mya Theingi and Dr Daw Myint Kyi received the donations and presented certificates of honour to the wellwishers.

Next, CEC member of MWAFF Dr Daw Myint Kyi spoke words of thanks.—MNA

CEC member Daw Mya Theingi accepts cash donation from a wellwisher to mark Myanmar Women's Day.—MNA



Australian surfer attacked by shark

SYDNEY, 27 June—A surfer was attacked by a shark off a deserted Australian beach on Saturday, prompting calls for patrols during the winter season.

The man suffered a small laceration to his leg and was taken to hospital with shock after being bitten during a morning surf at Seven Mile Beach, south of Sydney, emergency officials said.

“We believe he was in a stable condition and may have been helped to shore by fellow surfers,” an ambulance service spokesman said.

The beach was closed and unpatrolled because it was the winter off-season, but a lifesaving official said the incident had prompted him to request future surveillance, including use of shark-spotting aircraft.

“I’ve activated our surf lifesaving team duty officer down there (to) see what they can do, and work with police to make sure they maintain some safety in the area,” he told Australian Associated Press.

There was a spate of shark attacks in the harbour city during the southern hemisphere summer earlier this year, including the savaging of a navy diver near the iconic Opera House.

A surfer lost his hand in an attack just 36 hours later at Bondi Beach.

According to records, 194 people have been killed in shark strikes in Australia over the past two centuries, but researchers are quick to point out that more people die from bee stings and lightning strikes.—Internet



Hospital and museum employees wheel the mummy of the Royal Prince, Count of Thebes, one of four Egyptian mummies belonging to New York’s Brooklyn Museum, to a CT Scan at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, N.Y., on Tuesday, 23 June, 2009. Researchers hope to gain further knowledge about their identities, cause of death, and ancient funerary practices from the mummies that range in age from more than 3,000 years old to just over 1700 years old. —INTERNET



Newlyweds are pictured in Ireland in 2002. Too much time spent on the Internet is causing increasing friction between couples in Ireland, a marriage counselling service said on Friday. —INTERNET

Sony eyes cellphone/game gear hybrid - Nikkei

TOKYO, 27 June—Sony Corp is considering developing a cellphone-game gear hybrid in a bid to better compete with Apple Inc’s highly popular iPod and iPhone, the Nikkei business daily said on Saturday.

The Japanese electronics and entertainment conglomerate launched its first Walkman three decades ago, dominating the portable music player market, but it has been running far behind the iPod and iPhone in recent years.

Sony plans to set up a project team as early as July to develop a new product that combines functions of its portable game player and Sony Ericsson’s mobile phones, the Nikkei said.

Sony Ericsson is a cellphone joint venture between Sony and Sweden’s Ericsson.

A growing number of game-makers including Capcom Co Ltd and Square Enix Holdings are now offering software for the iPod and iPhone to take advantage of the Apple products’ popularity, posing a threat to Sony’s PlayStation Portable and Nintendo Co Ltd’s DS.

A Sony spokesman declined to comment on the report.—Internet

Global crunch unlikely to affect WC2010 tourists

JOHANNESBURG, 27 June—The global economic crisis is unlikely to affect projections of 480,000 World Cup tourists who are expected to spend one billion dollars in South Africa next year, a FIFA briefing heard on Saturday.

Africa’s first World Cup is expected to contribute 55.7 billion rand (five billion euro) to South Africa’s economy, 19.3 billion rand in taxes and create 415,400 jobs in pre-recession figures that researchers say still apply.

“We are still confident that we know what we’ve done is fairly

conservative,” said Gillian Saunders of consulting firm Grant Thornton ahead of on Sunday’s final of the 2010 curtainraiser Confederations Cup.

The firm estimates that 483,257 foreign tourists—including fans, teams, and media—will spend 8.5 billion rand during the month-long tournament to be played in nine host cities.

“Soccer or football travellers are fairly fanatical. They’ve made plans a number of years in advance to come to an event like this and they tend not to change their mind,” said Saunders.

Internet

Zimbabwe PM rules out reviving worthless local currency

JOHANNESBURG, 27 June—Zimbabwe Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai on Saturday ruled out reviving in the short term the worthless local currency scrapped earlier this year to beat world record inflation.

But his comments clashed with veteran leader Robert Mugabe’s assertions to the contrary a day earlier, highlighting the uneasy relationship between the two former arch-foes currently sharing power in a unity government.

“For economic reasons, there is no way

you can resort to the Zimbabwean dollar currency in a situation of low production,” Tsvangirai told a news conference in Johannesburg.

“You have to increase your productivity levels from the current 10 percent to about 50-60 percent, otherwise you slide back to... inflation,” he said.

“It is impracticable to talk about even resorting to a currency which is worthless at this stage.

“There are no plans yet. There are discussions” to revive the Zimbabwe

dollar, which was once on a par with the British pound but is now arguably the world’s most useless currency.—Internet

Hundreds see Philippine inmates perform Jackson tribute

PHILIPPINES, 26 June—More than 1,500 Philippine inmates at a maximum security prison on Saturday performed a Michael Jackson tribute

for the public with a dance routine that has become a global Internet hit.

Hundreds of spectators arrived at the jail to see the convicts,

including murderers and drug-traffickers, put on the show two days after the music icon collapsed and died. One by one the performers, wearing their prison-issue saffron uniforms, filed into the fenced-off exercise yard at Cebu Provincial Detention and Rehabilitation Center, where officials had hung a picture of the star.

The event began with a prayer for Jackson before singing and dancing to his hit “We Are the World”, which he co-wrote with Lionel Richie to raise funds for famine victims in Ethiopia.—Internet



Frogs Raja (left) and Rani are married with full Hindu rituals in a ceremony to usher in the delayed monsoon rains, near Futala Basti in the city of Nagpur, some 860 kilometres (530 miles) east of the Maharashtra state capital Mumbai. Tradition dictates that if frogs are married off with full Vedic or Hindu rituals, the rain god is pleased and the heavens will open within days. —INTERNET

India's older population to quadruple by 2050

WASHINGTON, 27 June —India's older population is projected to quadruple by mid-century, while that of the world is expected to triple, the US Census Bureau has said. In its latest report, the Census Bureau said the world's 65-and-older population is projected to increase from 516 million in 2009 to 1.53 billion in 2050. The older population of the US is projected to double by that time.

"Although China and India are the world's most populous countries, their older populations do not represent large percentages of their total populations today," the report said. However, these countries do have

the largest number of older people, 109 million and 62 million, respectively. Both countries are projected to undergo more rapid ageing, and by 2050, will have about 350 million and 240 million people 65 and older, respectively, the US census Bureau said.

From 2009 to 2050, the world's 85 and older population is projected to increase more than fivefold, from 40 million to 219 million. Because women generally live longer than men, they account for slightly more than half of the older population and represent nearly two-thirds of the 85 and older population.

MNA/PTI

Nepali central zoo opens own veterinary hospital

KATHMANDU, 27 June — A veterinary hospital has been established on the national zoo premises for the better and systematic treatment of 109 zoo animal species in the capital Kathmandu, the myrepublica.com reported on Saturday.

The hospital is constructed with the financial help of a British philanthropist associated with British Marwell Zoo, Peter Bricher, and the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC).

It costs 1.8 million Nepali rupees (some 23,376 US dollars) to construct the hospital, half of which was aid by Bricher.

"The main objective of the establishment of the hospital is for treatment of injured and diseased animals of the zoo and we are succeeding in our target," said Sarita Jnawali, project manager of the zoo.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ expert says smokers could lose 15 years of life

WELLINGTON, 27 June — The New Zealand Medical Association (NZMA) warned on Saturday that smoking could cut your life short by 15 years.

NZMA Acting Chairman Paul Ockelford said an international study on mortality from smoking estimates that worldwide, long-term smokers who die from a smoking-related illness, die an average of 15 years early.

"What is often forgotten is the impact these deaths have on the people left behind. If you continue to smoke, your grandchildren might never get to know you, and you'll miss seeing them grow up," he said.

"People work hard all their lives and deserve a long retirement. Smoking

could rob you of that retirement, and mean you don't get to make the contribution to society or to your culture that you would have," he added.

Ockelford said doctors see the aftermath of smoking deaths and how much suffering it causes families. "The best thing you can do for you and your family is quit smoking."

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia revokes business license of 27 airline operators

JAKARTA, 27 June — Indonesia's Transportation Ministry revoked business license of 27 airline carriers due to their vacuum activity in the last 12 months, *Kompas* daily quoted an official as saying on Saturday. Inadequate capital and no more intention to operate are the operators' reasons are behind the vacuum, the ministry's Director

General of Air Transportation Herry Bhakti said.

Previously, the ministry had sent letters to 38 air transporters, asking them to renew their business licenses. Eleven of them committed to operate and fulfilled requirements by providing business plan, among others.

MNA/Xinhua

US plays greater leadership in climate change issue

WASHINGTON, 27 June — US President Barack Obama said Friday that he would like to see the United States play a greater leadership in climate change issue.

At a White House news conference after meeting with German Chancellor

Angela Merkel, Obama said some European nations have moved faster than the United States to combat global warming.

"Europe, in many ways over the last several years, has moved more rapidly than the United States on addressing this issue,"

Obama said. Obama said the United States had to work with industrialized countries like Germany and with the world's emerging economies, to get an international framework in place to deal with global warming.

MNA/Xinhua

Illinois man sentenced for neglect death of son

PEORIA (Illinois), 27 June — The father of a starved five-month-old US boy who died after his skin was eaten away by bacteria from a soiled diaper was sentenced in Illinois on Thursday to 100 years in prison for neglect.

"I don't believe that someone who would let a five-month-old rot to death deserves" an explanation for the harsh sentence, Peoria County Circuit Judge James Shadid said in ordering James Sargent to prison. Sargent, 24, read a 15-page statement in court about society's impending demise without mentioning his son, Benjamin, whose body was found by authorities in February 2008. Sargent was convicted in April of murder in the boy's death.

The baby's last meal likely came three to four days before his death from bacteria that had dissolved part of his skin and seeped into his body. — MNA/Reuters



Pabst competes in the World's Ugliest Dog Contest at the Sonoma-Marin Fair on 26 June, 2009, in Petaluma, Calif. The toothy 4-year-old Boxer mix won top honors. —INTERNET



Sand sculptures of Michael Jackson, a guitar and his fedora hat, made by Sudarshan Pattnaik are seen at the golden sea beach for the fans to pay floral tribute to the 'King of Pop' at Puri, India, on 26 June, 2009. The 50-year-old musical superstar died on Thursday, just as he was preparing for what would be a series of 50 concerts starting 13 July at London's famed O2 arena. —INTERNET

Indian film, music industry in "shock" over M Jackson's death

MUMBAI, 27 June — Members of India's film and music industry on Friday came forward to pay tributes to Michael Jackson and said it will be difficult to fill the void created by the death of the pop icon who was a source of inspiration to millions.

Bollywood's 'disco dancer' Mithun Chakraborty told PTI of the 50-year-old legend who "moonwalked" to the heart of millions of fans across the globe: "I am definitely saddened by the news. He might be physically gone but he will

always remain in the hearts of millions of fans through his music.

"You can guess the depth of my feeling about him going by the fact that I named my son after him. (Mithun's son is named Mimoh after the first names of Jackson and legendary boxer Mohammad Ali). He was my inspiration and I idolised him. I was looking forward to his comeback concert in London."

Bollywood choreographer Farah Khan revered the star as her

guru. "I officially had no training in dance and whatever I learnt was from watching Michael Jackson videos, especially 'Thriller' over and over again. I consider him as my guru.

"I got the news in Los Angeles where I came to meet Shah Rukh (who is shooting for Karan Johar's 'My Name Is Khan'). It has not sunk in yet. It is still to sink in that he is no more," said Farah. Ghazal maestro Jagjit Singh termed Jackson's death as a big loss to the music industry. —MNA/PTI



Light goes out on solar mission

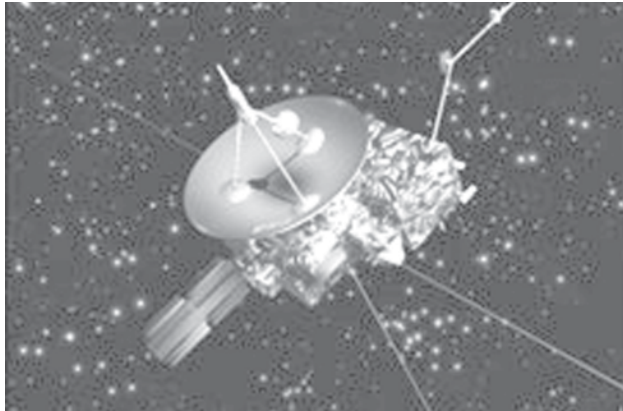
LONDON, 27 June — After more than 18 years studying the Sun, the plug is finally being pulled on the ailing spacecraft Ulysses. Final communication with the joint European-US satellite will take place on 30 June. The long-serving craft, launched in October 1990, has already served four times its expected design life.

The Esa-Nasa mission was the first to survey the environment in space above and below the poles of the Sun. Data from the craft, published last year, also suggested that the solar wind - the stream of

charged particles billowing away from the Sun - is at its weakest for 50 years.

"We expected the spacecraft to cease functioning much earlier," said Paolo Ferri of the European Space Agency

(Esa). "Although it is always hard to take the decision to terminate a mission, we have to accept that the satellite is running out of resources and a controlled switch-off is the best ending." —Internet



Engineers expect contact to be lost with Ulysses very soon.—INTERNET

Swiss adventurer unveils solar-powered plane for global flight

GENEVA, 27 June — Swiss adventurer Bertrand Piccard on Friday unveiled the prototype of his Solar Impulse airplane, with which he later plans to make the first ever sun-powered global flight, the official Swissinfo.ch news website reported.

"Yesterday it was a dream. Today it is a plane. Tomorrow it will be an ambassador of renewable energy," Piccard said at a special ceremony held near Zurich to unveil the aircraft, which has taken six years to design and build.

The sleek Solar Impulse has a huge wingspan, the equivalent of a Boeing 747, but weighs less than the average car, according to the report.

More than 12,000 solar cells are mounted onto the wing, supplying energy to four electric motors. During the day the cells will also charge polymer lithium batteries, allowing the aircraft to fly at night. The prototype should soon start its test flights. A first complete night flight is planned for 2010.

Based on the results of

these test flights, a new plane will be constructed for the big worldwide launch, scheduled for 2012.

The total budget for the project is about 107 million Swiss francs (some 99 million US dollars). Project partners include watchmaker Omega, Deutsche Bank, etc.

Piccard, 51, is famous for co-piloting the first non-stop hot air balloon flight around the world in 1999. In addition to his aeronautical activities, he also trained as a psychiatrist.—Internet

'Stoned wallabies make crop circles'

LONDON, 27 June — Australian wallabies are eating opium poppies and creating crop circles as they hop around "as high as a kite", a government official has said.

Lara Giddings, the attorney general for the island state of Tasmania, said the kangaroo-like marsupials were getting into poppy fields grown for medicine. She was reporting to a parliamentary hearing on security for poppy crops. Australia supplies about 50% of the world's legally-grown opium used to make morphine and other painkillers.

"The one interesting bit that I found recently in one of my briefs on the poppy industry was that

we have a problem with wallabies entering poppy fields, getting as high as a kite and going around in circles," Lara Giddings told the hearing. "Then they crash," she added. "We see crop circles in the poppy industry from wallabies that are high." —Internet



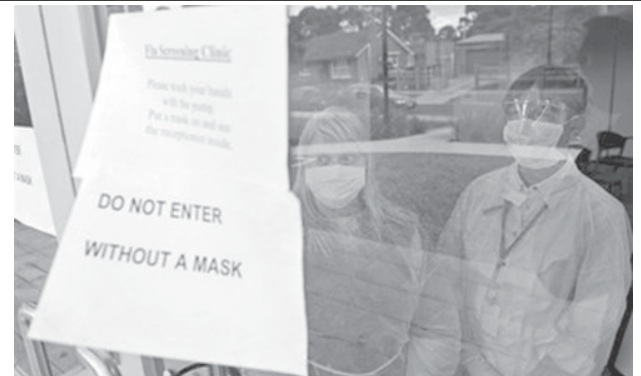
Wallabies have been observed acting strangely in poppy fields.—INTERNET

Australia reports fifth swine flu-related death

SYDNEY, 27 June — A young woman with underlying health problems has become Australia's fifth swine flu-related death, according to authorities.

The 26-year-old, from the west coast city of Perth, died late Friday in intensive care, where she was being treated for a serious medical condition, said Western Australia's chief health officer Tarun Weeramanthri.

"We know that people with existing medical conditions are more vulnerable to the serious effects of the disease," he said. All five people who have died in Australia after contracting swine flu were suffering from underlying conditions, and authorities have been careful not to attribute their deaths directly to the A(H1N1) virus.—Internet



Nurses are seen waiting for people to arrive at a swine flu clinic in Melbourne. According to Western Australia's chief health officer Tarun Weeramanthri, a 26-year-old woman, from the west coast city of Perth, died late on Friday in intensive care from swine-flu related symptoms, where she was being treated for a serious medical condition.—INTERNET

Canada's confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases surge to 7,775

OTTAWA, 27 June — The total number of confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases in Canada has risen to 7,775, with 1043 new cases added during the past two days, health au-

thorities said Friday.

Two more persons have died of the virus, bringing the total victims of the flu in Canada to 21, the Public Health Agency of Canada said. The agency said in a note that the total deaths number is actually 22, as Manitoba Province just announced one new death but has not reported it.—Internet

L America reports 255 new cases of A/H1N1 flu, four more deaths

MEXICO CITY, 27 June — Four more deaths from A/H1N1 flu and 255 new cases were confirmed in Latin America on Friday.

The Chilean health authorities confirmed four new H1N1 flu-related deaths, bringing the country's death toll to 12. Chile has so far confirmed 5,186 cases of the novel flu. Brazil's Health Ministry confirmed 70 new cases of A/H1N1 flu in the country, raising the total number of the infected to 522.

Costa Rican Health Minister Maria Luisa Avila reported one new case, bringing the total to 210 in her country.—Internet

More than thousand new A/H1N1 cases confirmed in Europe

STOCKHOLM, 27 June — A European health agency said Friday that 1,075 new A/H1N1 flu cases were reported in European countries within the last 24 hours.

Of the new cases, 996 were confirmed in Britain, 33 in Germany, eight in Cyprus, six in Netherlands, four respectively in Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Romania and Sweden, three in Ireland, two respectively in Belgium, Portugal and Slovakia, one respectively in Lithuania and Finland, the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) said in its daily situation report.

The total number of confirmed cases of the A/H1N1 flu virus in the EU (European Union) and EFTA (European Free Trade Association) countries rose to 6022, with 541 cases in Spain and 4250 in Britain, 191 in France and 366 in Germany, the ECDC said.—Internet



A stingray leaps out of the water as it is hunted by a killer whale, whose fin can be seen below the ray, just off St Heliers beach in Auckland, New Zealand, on 24 June, 2009.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Federer, Serena cruise to 4th round



Roger Federer of Switzerland returns the ball to Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany during the men's singles third round match at 2009 Wimbledon Tennis Championships in Wimbledon of London, on 26 June, 2009. —INTERNET

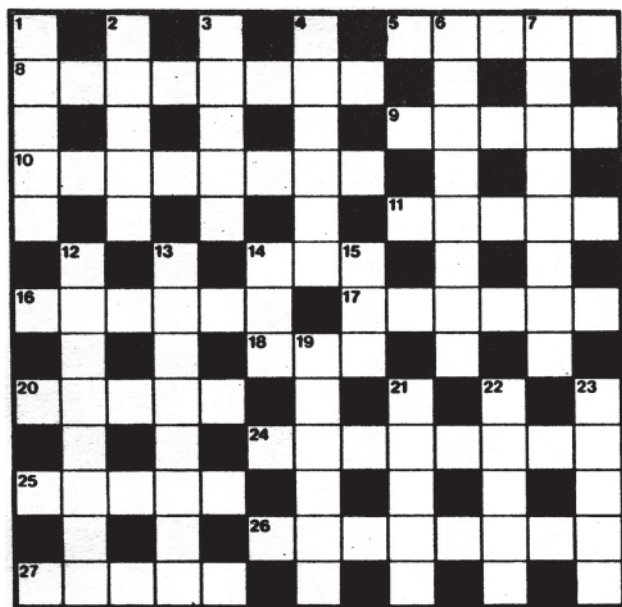
BEIJING, 27 June—Roger Federer lost a set for the first time this week but advanced to the second week at Wimbledon by beating Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-3, 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-1.

Federer was a break up in the fourth set before losing his focus, and two errant forehands cost him the tiebreaker. That merely extended his Centre Court workout by half an hour, and he earned a berth in the fourth round Monday against a familiar foe — Robin Soderling.

Federer beat the Swede in the French Open final this month to complete a career grand slam and win his 14th major title, tying Pete Sampras' record. Now Federer, who has a 10-0 record against Soderling, seeks his sixth Wimbledon title. Federer played with the new retractable roof open for a fifth consecutive day, despite rain in the forecast.

Serena Williams walked onto Court 2 for her match six minutes late; otherwise she remained right on schedule at Wimbledon. The two-time champion advanced to the fourth round by beating Roberta Vinci 6-3, 6-4. —Internet

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

5 Seize forcibly
8 Speeches
9 Corner
10 Scattered
11 Vigorous
14 Ocean
16 Commend
17 Disc
18 Watery
20 Anew
24 Gift
25 Condition
26 Mishap
27 Trap

DOWN

1 Signalling code
2 Truncheon
3 Ultimate
4 Dissimilar
6 Disclaim
7 Royalist (anag.)
12 Scare
13 Clergyman
14 Stitch
15 Skill
19 Result
21 Danger
22 Skinflint
23 Semi-precious stone

Jiyai Shin leads Wegmans LPGA

ROCHESTER, 27 June—South Korean star Jiyai Shin, seeking her fifth win in 11 months, shot a 4-under 68 on Friday to vault into a three-stroke lead at the storm-plagued Wegmans LPGA. "I really am happy with my putter — it's really good," the 21-year-old Shin said after moving to 11-under 133, a record low at the demanding Locust Hill course in suburban Rochester. "I would like to keep this feeling through tomorrow and the final round."

Play was interrupted by thunderstorms for nearly five hours, then called off at 8:37 pm as darkness fell. In all, 71 players will complete their second round Saturday morning, including Tiger Woods' niece, Cheyenne, who was battling to make the cut.

Morgan Pressel was in second place at 8 under through 13 holes. That was one better than Kristy McPherson on the same hole, Michelle Wie through 10 holes and Stacy Lewis through 14 holes. First-round leader Sandra Gal of Germany, blaming fatigue for a string of wayward tee shots on the back nine, shot a 1-over 73 to drop to 7 under. —Internet

Real make Ronaldo the world's highest-paid player



Real Madrid have officially signed Cristiano Ronaldo, on a six-year deal worth 93 million euros, the Spanish giants announced on Friday. INTERNET

MADRID, 27 June—Real Madrid have officially signed Cristiano Ronaldo on a six-year deal worth 93 million euros, the Spanish giants announced Friday. Former Manchester United forward Ronaldo is set to earn 13 million euros a year with Real, thus becoming the world's highest-paid footballer.

A statement on the official website of Real Madrid said: "Real Madrid CF and Manchester United have signed the definitive agreement for the transfer of Cristiano Ronaldo to the Spanish club on 1 July." The player will stay at Real Madrid for six seasons. —Internet

Deportivo defender Felipe eyes Barcelona move

MADRID, 27 June—Deportivo la Coruna left back Felipe Luis said on Friday that he wants to join Spanish and European Champions Football Club Barcelona. Barcelona is in the market for a new left back after veteran defender Sylvinho left the club at the end of the season and 24-year-old Felipe is thought to be top of the club's shopping list.

Felipe has been with Deportivo la Coruna for the last two seasons and has also played for Dutch side Ajax and Real Madrid's B-team. However, speaking to Spanish radio station Onda FM on Friday, he made it clear where he wants to play his football next season.

Internet

Marseille striker Cisse signs for Panathinaikos

ATHENS, 27 June—Athens side Panathinaikos announced Friday that French international striker Djibril Cisse has signed a four-year contract with the Greek club. Panathinaikos did not reveal financial



Athens side Panathinaikos announced on Friday that French international striker Djibril Cisse has signed a four-year contract with the Greek club. INTERNET

details of the deal with Marseille but press reports here said that it is the most expensive transfer in the country's football history.

The reports said that Cisse's transfer will cost Panathinaikos a total of 20 million euros, including 8 million euros to Marseille, and 2.5 million euros a year to the 28-year-old player plus bonuses.

Cisse arrived with his family Thursday on Panathinaikos president Nicholas Pateras' private jet from Manchester and was greeted by about 3,000 of the club's supporters at the airport.

Internet

Spain plotting another winning streak, says Torres

RUSTENBURG, 27 June—Liverpool hitman Fernando Torres has warned that Spain plan to start building another lengthy winning streak, starting on Sunday against South Africa.

The European champions saw their 15-match unbeaten record brought to an end by the United States in the Confederations Cup semi-finals and Torres said they

would bounce back in the third-place playoff on Sunday. —Internet



Spain international striker Fernando Torres

Sugiyama says this could be my last Wimbledon

LONDON, 27 June—Japanese veteran Ai Sugiyama has admitted this could be her last Wimbledon. The 33-year-old, who made her All England Club debut in 1993, says she is now playing for the sheer fun of it — and could be on her 17th and final visit.

Though the Japanese number one is finding it harder to stay in peak fitness, she is still having the time of her life on the tennis court — and her performances this year have motivated her to carry on.

"It's my 17th time at Wimbledon,

which is half my life!" the world number 38 told AFP. "Some players like (Britain's) Laura Robson or young players were not even born when I was playing. But I always enjoy playing here at Wimbledon, and that's what I'm playing for." —Internet

Toure extends contract with Barca for one more year

MADRID, 27 June—Cote d'Ivoire midfielder Yaya Toure has extended his contract with Barcelona by one more year, said the Spanish Primera Liga and European champions on Friday. The new deal will keep the 26-year-old tied to the club until June 30, 2012, while his "release clause" is now set at 100 million euros.

Toure's contract was set to expire on June 30, 2011 and his original buyout clause was 60 million euros, according to Barcelona's website. —Internet



Japanese veteran Ai Sugiyama



U Khin Maung Than (87-years)

(7th Course (retd) Capt BC-6411)

Son of U Phyat + Daw Ngwe Hlaing, Son in law of U Kun Lone + Daw Ahmar, beloved husband of Daw Khin May Ohn of 25 (D), Thiriminglar Yeiktha, Yankin Township, Yangon, Father of Daw Wai Wai Than, Mr. Ignatius Shannon and U Kyaw Kyaw Than, brother of Capt Thein Win+Daw Khin Khin Htar, uncle of Capt Tine Htut, Daw Myint Myint Sein, grandfather of Zachary and Blaine, expired on 24-6-2009 (Wednesday), Cremation at Yeway Cemetery on 30-6-2009 (Tuesday) at (3:00) pm. (Cars will leave at (1:30) pm from the above residence.)



US Venus Williams returns a ball to Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro during their match at the 2009 Wimbledon championships in London. Williams avenged one of the most embarrassing defeats of her career as the defending champion swept into the last 16 at Wimbledon with a 6-0, 6-4 victory over Navarro.—Internet

Venus into last Wimbledon last 16

LONDON, 27 June— Defending champion Venus Williams moved into the Wimbledon last 16 on Saturday with a 6-0, 6-4 win over Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro.

She now plays Serbia's Ana Ivanovic for a place in the quarter-finals.—Internet

MRTV-3

Programme Schedule
(28-6-2009) (Sunday)

Transmissions

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

Times

Local Transmission

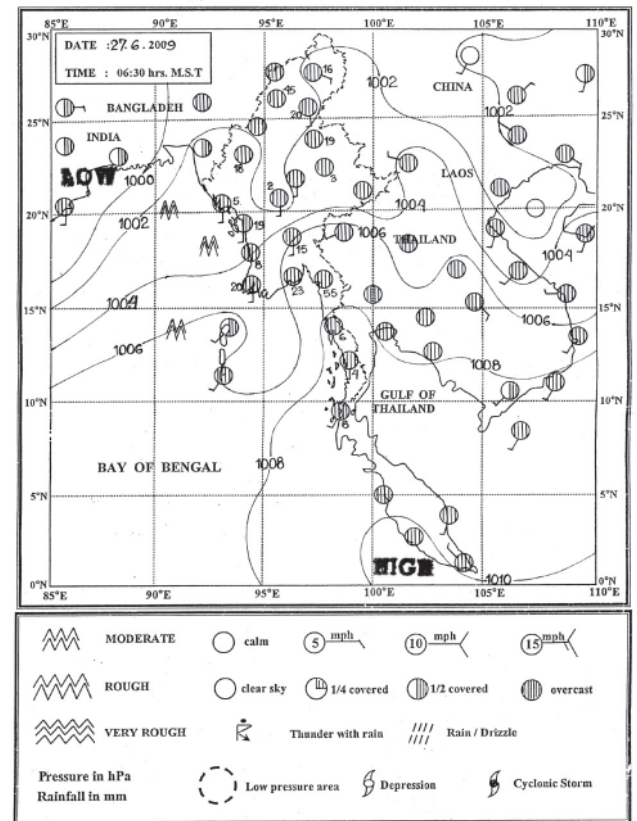
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * The Memorable Fish Releasing Festival
- * Mandalay's Grand Walls and Moat...
- * Music Icon "Academy Pianist Hla Htut"
- * Towards Lasting Paukphaw Friendship
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
- * A Souvenir of Patheine
- * The Art of playing Cane Ball
- * Myaing Hay Wun Elephant Camp
- * Silk-ware from Amarapura
- * Beautiful Sculptures for Sale
- * Cow Decoration Items
- * Thanakha Joss-sticks from Yesagyo
- * Myanmar Movies Impact "Preg, Preg, Preg"
- * Products made from Myanma Water Hyacinth
- * Nan Pan Market Day
- * The Memorable Fish Releasing Festival
- * Mandalay's Grand Walls and Moat...
- * Scenic Beauties and Sentiment (Innlay)
- * Music Icon "Academy Pianist Hla Htut"
- * Towards Lasting Paukphaw Friendship
- * Conserve and Improve Natural Scenic Beauties
- * Myanma Bamboo Xylophone (or) Pattala
- * Myanma Traditional Snacks
- * Plaeasant Taunggyi (Part-I)
- * Travelogue "Mawlamyine"
- * Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv 3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 27 June, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan and Chin States, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions, and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Mon State and isolated heavyfall in Kayin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Paung (4.13) inches, Thaton (3.78) inches, Hpa-an (3.19) inches, Kalay (2.76) inches, Kyaikkhame (2.40) inches, Mawlamyine (2.24) inches, Bhamo, Hkamti and Bilin (2.16) inches.

Maximum temperature on 26-6-2009 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 27-6-2009 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 27-6-2009 was 96%. Total sun shine hour on 26-6-2009 was Nil.

Rainfall on 27-6-2009 was (0.82) inch at Mingaladon, (0.90) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.51) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (34.72) inches at Mingaladon, (39.92) inches at Kaba-Aye and (45.35) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from West at (11:30) hours MST on 26-6-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 28th June 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated to scattered in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Chin States, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 28-6-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-6-2009: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-6-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Sunday, 28 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 & Sweet Song

7:55 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

6. "ကျော်သွားမှာလား... ဖော်စားမှာလား"

8:30 am

7. သီးနှံစိုက်စွမ်းအား မြင့်မားစေမှုထောက်ကူပြုမည့် မဒန်းရေလှောင်တံ

8:40 am

8. International News

8:50 am

9. Musical Programme

11:00 am

10. Martial Song

11:10 am

11. Musical Programme

11:20 am

12. Round up of the week's International News

11:30 am

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဟာသကမ္ဘာ" (အပိုင်း-၆)

12:20 pm

1. Golf Magazine (TV)

12:40 pm

2. "မီးရထားစီးခရီးသွားကြသူများ" (နေအောင်၊ မေသန္တာဦး၊ ဇင်ဇင်ဇော်မြင့်၊ သဇင်)

နန်းဆုရတီစိုး

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-စင်ရော်မောင်မောင်)

2:05 pm

3. Dance of National Races

2:15 pm

4. "ထူးချွန်ထင်ရှား မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီး" (အပိုင်း-၂)

2:35 pm

5. International News

3:45 pm

6. Myanmar National League MNL Cup (2009)

ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက် ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ဥသယုန်တိုက် FC နှင့် ရတနာပုံ FC)

5:45 pm

7. Musical Programme

6:00 pm

8. Evening News

6:30 pm

9. Weather Report

6:35 pm

10. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "Pocket Dragon Adventure"

6:55 pm

11. တစ်မျက်နှာတစ်ကွက်စာ "အင်တာနက်" (ကင်ကောင်၊ လုလု၊ မီးမီးသုခ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကျော်နှင်းဆီ)

7:10 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပေါ်ပြူလာအချစ်" (အပိုင်း-၆)

8:00 pm

13. News
14. International News
15. Weather Report
16. ကာတွန်းအစီအစဉ် "ခိုင်ခိုင်ဆာမိသားစုစွန့်စားခန်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါတယ်" (အပိုင်း-၂၃)



Project for Greening 30-mile Radius of Yangon moves into high gear

Article, photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

The Project for Greening 30-mile Radius of Yangon being undertaken by related ministries and departments is ongoing at high momentum. The fundamental requirement of the project is irrigation water. In order to fulfil the requirement, the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of

Agriculture and Irrigation is applying three of the five ways it has laid down for supply of water to the farmlands of the eastern part of the project area.

Inspired by the information during our recent trip to Nagabauk Sluice Gate in Waw Township, Bago Division, that many programmes were in full

swing for greening 30-mile radius of Yangon Division, we conducted an interview with Assistant Director U Kyaw Soe and Staff Officer U Aung Kyi from Construction-6 under the Irrigation Department.

(See page 10)



Thongwa Sluice Gate designed to contribute towards Project for Greening 30-mile Radius of Yangon.

Girl found infected with New Influenza A (H1N1)

Ministry of Health copes with the case with great care to prevent possible spread of the disease

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—A 13-year-old girl together with her family paid a visit to Singapore on 21 June. They arrived back at Yangon International Airport by flight No 3K 585 of Singapore Airlines at 1.30 pm yesterday. When medical staff took her body temperature at the airport, the result of the medical check-up showed no fever found. Some time after getting home, she was studying with her friends at the private tuition. At the time, the female private teacher noticed that the girl had a long cough. So, in coordination with her parents, she hospitalized the girl at 9 pm yesterday.

She was kept in a private room of Yangon General Hospital. After giving her a medical check-up, the National Health Laboratory today confirmed that she is infected with New Influenza A (H1N1).

Now, the patient is under intensive care at the private room. The Ministry of Health is keeping all

persons who have come into contact with her: her family members, her classmates, private class teacher and her family members, and does not let them go out and is giving health care to them in order to prevent possible spread and take the outbreak of the disease under control. In addition, all the 91 passengers, who flew together with her, and the staff members (foreign arrival) of Yangon International Airport are kept under surveillance. There will soon be a news report as to whether they are also infected with the virus or not.

That is the first human case in Myanmar. Senior officials of the Ministry of Health are taking preventive measures against possible outbreak of New Influenza A (H1N1).

Authorities concerned have urged the people to take part in the preventive measures taken to make sure that Myanmar will not see spread of New Influenza A (H1N1).—MNA

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

Thaton	3.78 inches
Paung	4.13 Inches
Hpa-an	3.19 inches
Kalay	2.76 inches
Kyaikkhami	2.40 inches
Mawlamyine	2.24 inches
Bhamo	2.16 inches
Hkamti	2.16 inches
Bilin	2.16 inches

