

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XX, Number 48

3rd Waning of Nayon 1374 ME

Thursday, 7 June, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union | * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity | * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Investigation Committee formed

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Union Government

Notification No. 43/2012

2nd Waning of Nayon, 1374 ME

(6 June, 2012)

Formation of Investigation Committee

1. The Government is now marching towards a new democratic society making political and economic reforms in the country. At the same time, it is also educating the people step by step to observe the democratic practices.
2. There occurred organized lawless and anarchic acts that can harm peace, stability and rule of law in Rakhine State in May and June, 2012. The investigation committee comprising the following persons was formed to expose the truth and take legal actions.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| (a) Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint | Chairman |
| Deputy Minister | |
| Ministry of Home Affairs | |
| (b) Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win | Vice-Chairman |
| Vice-Chief of Myanmar | |
| Police Force | |
| (c) U San Shwe Maung | member |
| Rakhine State Law Officer | |
| (d) Police Col Myo Swe Win | member |
| Commander of Rakhine State | |
| Police Force | |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| (e) U Kyaw Khin | member |
| Director, Head of Rakhine | |
| State Jail Group | |
| (f) U Aung Myo Kyaw | member |
| Deputy Director | |
| Rakhine State Bureau of Special | |
| Investigation | |
| (g) U Lin Ko Ko | member |
| Sittway District Deputy | |
| Commissioner | |
| (h) U Yan Lin Aung | member |
| Kyaukpada District Deputy | |
| Commissioner | |
| (i) U Oo Tun Wai | member |
| Thandwe District Deputy | |
| Commissioner | |
| (j) Police Lt-Col Hsan Lwin | member |
| Commander of Sittway | |
| District Police Force | |
| (k) Police Lt-Col San Shwe Maung | member |

Commander of Kyaukpada District Police Force

(l) Police Lt-Col Kyaw Tint member

Commander of Thandwe District Police Force

(m) U Khin Maung Hla member

Sittway District Law Officer

(n) U Saw Mra member

Kyaukpada District Law Officer

(o) Daw Hla Kyi member

Thandwe District Law Officer

(p) U Zaw Thein Secretary

Rakhine State Commissioner

3. The Investigation Committee is to probe into the incident in connection with the following matters.

- the cause of the incident
- instigation to cause the incident
- leaders of the organized crime
- offenders
- legal actions after the case
- the Investigation Committee's opinion and
- the Investigation Committee's reviews and suggestions

4. The Investigation Committee must submit the report directly to the President by 30 June, 2012 after making necessary investigation into the case in line with Penal Code and Evidence Act.

By order,

Tin Myo Kyi

Secretary

Union Government

Union Hotels and Tourism Minister visits Mandalay Swan Hotel

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The number of inbound tourists to Myanmar has been on significant increase in comparison with previous years as the country is again under the spotlight following the new government's political and economic reforms and move toward greater transparency. No doubt, eco tours and ancient cultural heritage sites are also the main contributor to growing number of tourists.

For the overall convenience of globetrotters from their arrival to departure, the Hotels and Tourism Ministry is pursuing four objectives—convenience of tourists in arrival and departure, systematization of transportation, classy service of hotels and restaurants, further development and sustainability of tourist destinations.

Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan visited Mandalay Swan



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan visits Mandalay Swan Hotel running in partnership with Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay.—MNA

Hotel, a partner of Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Services in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay yesterday. The Union Minister as he inspected the reception counter, bedrooms, dining

hall, wedding hall, swimming pool and sanitation measures, called for first-class standard of bedrooms, bathrooms and toilets, excellent service of staff, customer-is-king attitude of each staff and

standardization of room rates.

Mandalay Swan Hotel has 99 double bedrooms plus wedding hall, meeting hall, dining hall, swimming pool and fitness center and it is a three-star hotel.—MNA

Asia witnesses partial lunar eclipse



A participant peers through a telescope to view a partial lunar eclipse in Jakarta.



PAGE 11

Rhode Island's Olivia Culpo crowned Miss USA



Miss Rhode Island Olivia Culpo (C) is crowned Miss America 2012 at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas on 3 June, 2012.

PAGE 12

Sweden's Ola Toivonen (C) scores a goal during a friendly football match against Serbia at the Rasunda Stadium in Stockholm.

Sweden clinches pre-Euro friendly win over Serbia



PAGE 14

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 7 June, 2012

Keep the environment safe and sound

Myanmar, once a lesser-known and xenophobic nation, has become renown to the rest of the world since its new government made dramatic changes in its policy. Consequently, the number of incoming tourists is increasing day by day. Meanwhile, as the ASEAN meeting which Myanmar is going to chair is in the offing preparation for the auspicious event is in full swing.

In Yangon, the financial hub of Myanmar, the Yangon City Development Committee is busy renovating the sidewalks, roads and bridges while beautifying the city with might and main just to bring back its glory and grandeur once again. Yet, there are many things left to do.

It's awful to see stray dogs roaming about downtown. Sometimes, they chase young children to maul them. Noisy barking and howling of the canines can be heard throughout the night. The streets of the city become the breeding farm for them. They become nuisance for general public. It is quite detrimental to health too as rabies spread through them.

Some people put dog collars around the necks of these animals. Actually, taking all the responsibilities of them is much essential than putting leather straps on them. Those willing to domesticate and keep such dogs as pets should do so in accord with the rules and regulations prescribed by the authorities.

In the past, the city saw clean and calm streets and peaceful nights. No dogs were seen on the roads. No children had to run for fear of dogs. The municipal corporation of Yangon City manoeuvred eradication of stray dogs from time to time to keep the environment safe and sound.

Well ! if the stray dogs' issue really concerns us, why don't we follow the procedures of our predecessors?

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint looks into maintenance of bridge on his inspection tour of bridges and road works along Patheingyi Road in Magway Region.

MNA



Basic Librarian Multiplier Knowledge shared to librarians

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The Basic Librarian Multiplier Course No. 1/2012, organized by Dawei District Information and Public Relations Department of Taninthayi Region was opened at the hall of the District IPRD in Dawei on 5 June morning.

Assistant Director Daw Ni Ni Cho of Taninthayi Region Information and Public Relations Department made a speech. Staff Officer U Soe Nyunt Shwe of District Information and

Public Relations Department explained the purpose of opening the multiplier course.

The course comprised formation of library, management, compilation works, maintenance of literary materials and durability of rural villages.

The training course lasted two days on 5 and 6 June. It was attended by 40 librarians from villages of Dawei Township.—MNA

Union Minister on inspection tour of SPEI, stadium, football academy in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports and for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan yesterday morning met the trainees who will attend the sports plus education training course for 2012-2013 academic year at Sports and Physical Education Institute (Mandalay) in Chanmyathazi Township.

After providing cash assistance to trainers and trainees, the Union minister inspected the institute.

At the meeting hall, he met officials of the Ministry of Sports, the principal and sports trainers and stressed the need to train the students to become qualified persons both in sports and education.

The Union minister visited the modern stadium being built by Max Myanmar Group of Companies in Chanmyathazi Township.

In meeting with the principal and officials at Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) being conducted by Myanmar Football Federation with the assistance of FIFA, the Union minister urged the trainees and trainers to uplift their proficiency.

Yesterday morning, he attended the opening of 25th bank branch of Ayeyawady Bank Ltd in Kywehsega ward on Yangon-Mandalay Highway and opened it.

MNA

C-in-C (Navy) leaves for Pakistan



Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation led by Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun being seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials.—MNA

MNA

International IDEA donates books on democracy to Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—A delegation from International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) donated books on Hluttaws, democracy and laws to Hluttaw through Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo, at the Hluttaw Committee building, here, this morning.

It was attended by member of Legal Affairs and Special Case Assessment Commission U Than Tun, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee U T Khun Myat, secretary

and members.

After that, the delegation had a cordial discussion with the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman, secretary and members on legal affairs.

Yesterday, the delegation also cordially discussed Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Public Accounts Committee U Thurein Zaw, Secretary of Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister inspects road/bridge works on Patheingyi Road

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint inspected repairing of Man Creek-crossing Bridge and condition of Mezali Suspension Bridge on Patheingyi road in Magway Region today.

The deputy minister then inspected the finishing touches of Paung Creek Bridge, progress of roadworks being undertaken by Yangon Crown Co, extension of Thayu Creek-crossing Bridge, approach road to Salin Creek-crossing Bridge being constructed by YTE Co, and roadworks by Zeya Co and condition of Shwe Creek-crossing Bridge along the road.

At the construction site of Shwe Creek-crossing Bridge, the deputy minister met engineer-in-charge of the bridge construction and personnel and gave instructions on preparations for opening of the bridge. He also inspected the site chosen for construction of Shwe Creek-crossing Bridge No.2 and Pakokku bypass.—MNA

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

China, Kazakhstan vow to enhance strategic partnership

BEIJING, 6 June—Chinese President Hu Jintao and President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev on Wednesday vowed to enhance the strategic partnership between the two nations as they held talks in Beijing. “Boosting neighbourly friendship and comprehensive strategic cooperation between China and Kazakhstan is in the fundamental interests of the two nations and has won the most extensive support by the people of the two nations,” Hu said during the talks. The Chinese president said that China attaches importance to developing the comprehensive strategic partnership with Kazakhstan.

Hu suggested that the two nations should strengthen their mutual trust with more bilateral interactions and political dialogues, strategically expand consensus and support each other on major issues of common concern in order to safeguard their strategic



Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) hosts a welcoming ceremony in honour of his Kazakh counterpart Nursultan Nazarbayev in Beijing, capital of China, on 6 June, 2012. Nazarbayev arrived in Beijing on Tuesday afternoon to visit China and attend the Beijing summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

XINHUA

security situation and development. Economically, Hu said the two sides should deepen energy

cooperation and initiate cooperation in new areas, including nuclear energy, solar energy and wind energy, at early dates. China and Kazakhstan should also expand their mutual investment and step up sub-national cooperation, Hu added.

During their talks, Hu said the two nations should make more joint efforts to fight the “three evil forces” of terrorism, separatism and extremism and combat drug trafficking and other cross-border organized crime more effectively. Moreover, Hu suggested the two nations boost cultural and people-to-people exchanges and strengthen their coordination in international affairs.

Echoing Hu’s suggestions on bilateral cooperation, Nazarbayev said the Kazakh side is satisfied with the bilateral economic cooperation, and will continue to carry out petroleum and gas projects and explore new key areas of cooperation in agriculture, technology and biomedicine, among other areas.

Xinhua

G7 pledges to closely monitor eurozone debt crisis

WASHINGTON, 6 June—Top economic officials from the Group of Seven (G7) major industrialized countries on Tuesday pledged to continue to closely monitor the development of the eurozone debt crisis, as the escalating crisis keeps weighing on global financial markets. The G7 finance ministers and central bank

governors, at a conference call, “reviewed developments in the global economy and financial markets and the policy response under consideration, including the progress towards financial and fiscal union in Europe,” the US Treasury said in a statement on Tuesday.

They agreed to monitor developments closely ahead of the G20 summit in Los Cabos, Mexico, according to the statement issued after the conference call. Leaders of the Group of Eight (G8) last month stressed the importance of a strong and cohesive eurozone for global stability and recovery, as they discussed global economic issues at Camp David in the United States. However, the G7 nations on Tuesday failed to announce concrete measures to cope with the ongoing banking crisis in Spain and potential risk from Greece’s exit from the currency bloc.—Xinhua

opposes its development of nuclear weapons. “We must acknowledge that Iran has the right to a civilian nuclear programme, but we do not want Iran to possess nuclear weapons,” Patrushev said. Iran has maintained that its nuclear programme is purely for peaceful purposes, but the United States and its major Western allies suspect that Teheran is seeking to develop a nuclear weapon.—Xinhua

A worker cleans the windows of an apartment block on a haze day, in central Beijing, on 6 June, 2012. A senior Chinese official demanded on Tuesday that foreign embassies stop issuing air pollution readings, saying it was against the law and diplomatic conventions, in pointed criticism of a closely watched US embassy index. —REUTERS



Russian official warns against military strike on Iran

Moscow, 6 June—The secretary of the Russian Security Council, Nikolai Patrushev, warned on Tuesday against a possible military strike on Iran, saying it will only lead to “entirely negative consequences.” “When it is said that a strike can be made (on Iran), as, for instance, Israel says, it is necessary to consider the consequences. And the consequences will be entirely negative, for Israel and for many neighbouring

countries,” Patrushev told the Rossiya-24 TV channel.

He called on the international community to continue the dialogue with Iran, in a bid to avoid military confrontation. “It is wrong to conclude that all opportunities and all the existing potential have been exhausted. Negotiations should continue,” Patrushev said. Meanwhile, the official said that Russia recognizes Iran’s right to develop its civil nuclear programme, but

Suicide bombers kill 22 civilians at Afghan market

KANDAHAR, 6 June—Three suicide attackers blew themselves up in the largest city in southern Afghanistan on Wednesday, killing 22 people and wounding at least 50 others in a dusty marketplace that was turned into a gruesome scene of blood and bodies.

Also in the east, NATO said two service members were killed in a helicopter crash. The coalition did not disclose any other information about the crash, but a senior US defense official at the Pentagon said two American pilots were killed in the crash in Ghazni Province. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to disclose details of the crash, said there was no indication of enemy activity in the area at the time. Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid claimed in an e-mail that the insurgents shot down the helicopter.

Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi claimed responsibility for the attack in Kandahar, the capital of Kandahar Province and the spiritual birthplace of the insurgency. In the past two years, tens of thousands of US-led coalition troops have flooded Taliban strongholds in the south, and have largely succeeded in boosting security there.

Internet



Afghan victims of a suicide attack are seen on stretchers at a hospital in Kandahar, south of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 6 June, 2012. —INTERNET

Iran hopeful on atomic talks if “rights” respected

VIENNA, 6 June—If the world recognizes Iran’s “nuclear rights”, negotiations aimed at easing a standoff with the West later this month could have a positive outcome, an adviser to Iran’s supreme leader was quoted as saying on Tuesday. But Washington said Iran had to move first to make its nuclear work compatible with international law and demanded it let UN inspectors into a military site that the West believes has been used for weapons-related nuclear research.

Iran has been under UN sanctions for years due to questions over its uranium enrichment — a process that yields fuel for power stations, Iran’s stated goal, but also for bombs, if done to a much higher level.

Teheran says that as a member of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) it can develop a full nuclear fuel cycle, and, if this is recognized, talks with the permanent members of the UN Security Council — Britain, France, Russia, China, the United States — and Germany (the P5+1) can succeed.

“I hope the P5+1 group recognizes Iran’s

inalienable nuclear right within the framework of the NPT and refrains from sitting on the sidelines,” the official IRNA news agency quoted Ali Akbar Velayati, an aide to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, as saying. Under the persistent threat of military strikes by Israel and ever tighter economic sanctions from the West, Iran returned to nuclear talks that had stalled in early 2011. Diplomats say Iranian negotiators were more forthcoming at talks in Baghdad last month than in previous negotiations, and believe the supreme leader has given them a freer hand to explore a deal.

Talks are due to resume on 18 to 19 June in Moscow. “By accepting Iran’s right to use peaceful nuclear energy, the forthcoming talks in Moscow should reach a favourable result,” Velayati said. Washington said Iran must make the first move. “We have long said we recognize Iran’s right as a signatory to the NPT to the peaceful use of nuclear energy, but only after it comes into compliance with its international nuclear obligations,” State Department spokesman Mark Toner said.

Reuters



People look at the planet Venus transiting across the sun over Amman on 6 June, 2012. Venus made a slow transit across the face of the sun on Tuesday, the last such passing that will be visible from Earth for 105 years. —REUTERS

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Flame exploits Windows bug to attack PCs

BOSTON, 6 June—Microsoft Corp (MSFT O) warned that a bug in Windows allowed PCs across the Middle East to become infected with the Flame virus and released a software fix to fight the espionage tool that surfaced last week.

Security experts said they were both surprised and impressed by the approach that the attackers had used, which was to disguise Flame as a legitimate program built by Microsoft.

"I woke up to this news and I couldn't believe it. I had to ask, 'Am I reading this right?'" said Roel Schouwenberg of Russian security firm Kaspersky Lab, one of the researchers who helped discover the Flame virus.

Experts described the method as "elegant" and they believed it had likely been used to deliver other cyber weapons yet to be identified.

"It would be logical to assume that they would have used it somewhere else at the

same time, Mikko Hypponen, chief research officer for security software maker F-Secure.

If other types of cyber weapons were indeed delivered to victim PCs using the same approach as Flame, then they will likely be exposed very quickly now that Microsoft has identified the problem, said Adam Meyers, director of intelligence for security firm CrowdStrike.

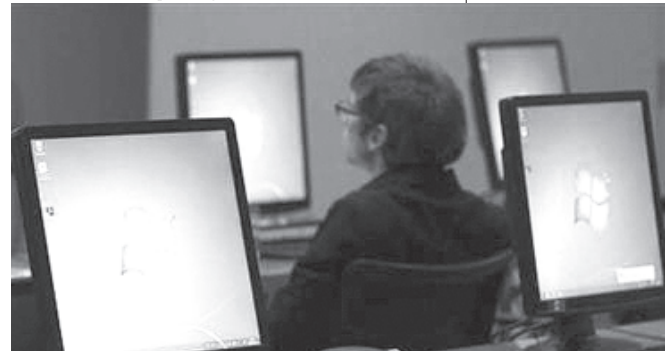
Cyber weapons that bear the fake Microsoft code will either stop working or lose some of their camouflage, said Ryan Smith, chief research scientist with security firm Accuvant. A spokeswoman for Microsoft declined to comment on whether other viruses had exploited the same flaw in Windows or if the company's security team was looking for similar bugs in the operating system.

Flame's code included what is known as a digital certificate, which falsely identified it as a piece of

software from Microsoft.

The creators of the virus obtained that certificate by manipulating a component of the Windows operating

system known as terminal services licensing, or TS licensing, that is designed to authorize business customers to use advanced features of Windows.



A bug in TS licensing allowed the hackers to use it to create fake certificates that identified Flame as being from Microsoft, Mike

Reavey, a senior director with Microsoft's Security Response Centre, said in a blog post.

He feared that other

hackers might be able to copy the technique to launch more widespread attacks with other types of viruses, Reavey said.

"We continue to investigate this issue and will take any appropriate actions to help protect customers," Reavey said in the blog post.

News of the Flame virus, which surfaced a week ago,

Monitors running Windows are pictured at the press centre of the annual news conference of Bayer in Leverkusen on 28 Feb, 2012. REUTERS

Twitter co-founder to publish life lessons in 'old media'

NEW YORK, 6 June—Twitter co-founder Biz Stone is planning to dish up some life lessons that will need more than 140-character bursts.

Stone, 38, is working on a book about creativity called "Things a Little Bird Told Me" that will relate stories from his life and career and encourage others to be think outside the box, Grand Central Publishing said on Monday.

"I've found that my experiences resonate with a very wide array of individuals at different stages in their lives," Stone said in a statement. "I'm excited to create a physical artifact to share the lessons I've learned."

Grand Central's executive editor Ben Greenberg said the book would "reveal how his creativity works and will help readers apply those principles to their own lives."



Twitter co-founder Biz Stone attends the "World Economy and Future Forum" hosted by broadcaster MBN in Seoul on 3 March, 2011. REUTERS

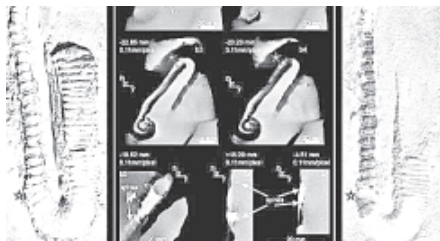
Stone co-founded Twitter with Evan Williams and Jack Dorsey in 2006, creating a micro-blogging service that allows users to send messages of up to 140 characters and which now has some 140 million active users.

Stone also helped to create and launch social networking site Xanga, blog publishing service Blogger, and most recently, The Obvious Corporation, which aims to help people work together to make the world smarter and healthier.

The Twitter co-founder has previously published two books on blogging, 2002's "Blogging: Genius Strategies for Instant Web Content" and "Who Let The Blogs Out" in 2004. "Things a Little Bird Told Me" is due for publication in April 2014.

Reuters

128m-yr-old grandfather of modern squid and octopus discovered



The Austria National History Museum scientists have recreated the appearance of a fossil which they believe to be the ancestor of the modern-day squid and octopus.

INTERNET

LONDON, 6 June—Scientists have re-created the appearance of a previously unknown fossil — a spiky creature thought to be the ultimate ancestor of the modern-day squid and octopus — discovered last year.

The Austria National History Museum team used 3D scanning technology to unearth the fossil of 'Dissimilites intermedius' a layer at a time, and then created a video of how the creature lived and moved. The

ammonite was discovered in sediment, which formed at the bottom of the ocean during the Cretaceous period — on a surface that 128 million years later would lie at the top of the Dolomite mountains in the Alps. The scientists said that the computer tomography had allowed them to see far more than they would ever have been able to with the naked eye, with the creature was exposed a layer at a time.

The team, led by Alexander Lukeneder from the

geological/palaeontology section, also discovered the body was covered with spines each between three and 4mm long.

"The fossil is of a previously unknown creature which is a type of Ammonite," the *Daily Mail* quoted a museum spokesman as saying.

"Computer tomography and a complicated 3D reconstruction programme were used to help reconstruct not only the appearance of the fossil found in the Dolomites a year earlier, but also to work out how it moved by the position of the impressions left by its limbs," the spokesman added. The video of the swimming creature seen now for the first time in 128 million years is on display at the Natural History Museum together with photos of the 13cm-long creature. Details of study have been published in the specialist magazine 'Acta Palaeontologica Polonica'.

Internet

Snails clear seaweed to keep coral reefs beautiful

SYDNEY, 6 June—Tiny snails keep coral reefs and seashores stunningly beautiful by getting rid of the ugly seaweed that might otherwise crowd them, a study says.

"What may surprise many people is that we found that the strongest impacts of all were snails controlling seaweeds on rocky shores," said Alistair Poore, associate professor at the University of New South Wales Evolution and Ecology Research Centre, who led the international study.



Photo shows snail. Tiny snails keep coral reefs and seashores stunningly beautiful by getting rid of the ugly seaweed that might otherwise crowd them, a study says. INTERNET

a university statement.

Manipulating animals in their natural habitats is the most powerful technique to understand how ecological interactions work, they noted.

"When these grazing animals are removed, the seaweeds quickly start to dominate," added Poore.

Internet

Retired spy telescopes to go to NASA

WASHINGTON, 6 June—The US government's secret space programme has decided to give NASA two telescopes even more powerful than the Hubble Space Telescope, officials said.

The telescopes designed for surveillance uses

for the National Reconnaissance Office were no longer needed for spy missions and will be made available to the space agency to study the heavens, *The Washington Post* reported on Monday.

NASA officials

acknowledged they are without a programme to launch any telescope at the moment, and it would be 2020 before even one of the two gifted telescopes could be on its way into orbit.

Still, the unexpected gift could give NASA's space

Internet

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Australia central bank cuts rates to 3.5 pct

SYDNEY, 6 June—Australia's central bank on Tuesday cut its cash rate by a quarter point to 3.5 percent, saying a weaker outlook abroad and only modest growth at home warranted a more stimulative stance.

The local dollar showed little lasting reaction as the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) decision was widely expected, though some had hoped for an even bigger cut given the darkening global outlook.

"The Board judged that, with modest domestic growth and a weaker and more uncertain international environment, the outlook for inflation afforded scope for a more accommodative stance of monetary policy," RBA Governor Glenn Stevens said in a statement after the central bank's monthly meeting.

The move was the second easing in as many months and



Sun reflects off the front door sign of the Reserve Bank of Australia building in Sydney in this 5 July, 2011 file photo.—REUTERS

follows grim economic data around the world, from US payrolls to Chinese manufacturing. Australia's A\$1.4 trillion economy is heavily dependent on foreign demand for its resource exports. A Reuters poll of 23 analysts taken on Monday found 16 had expected an easing this week to follow May's 50 basis point cut, and a majority tipped further cuts in coming months.

Rates are now the lowest since December 2009, but still far above those in the United States, Japan or Europe, which is one reason investors are pricing in as much as 100 basis points of further cuts within a year.

That would take rates beneath the record lows of 3 percent plumbed during the worst days of the global financial crisis. Any easing will be

welcomed by the Labour government, which is trailing badly in the polls yet is determined to tighten fiscal policy to return its budget to surplus years, if not decades, before most other rich economies. Australian households are highly sensitive to mortgage rates as over a third have home loans, most of which are variable. Mortgage debt totals around A\$1.2 trillion, or 1.5 times household disposable income, and paying the annual interest on it takes almost a tenth of those earnings. A reduction of 25 basis points in the standard variable mortgage rates saves an average borrower around A\$540 a year.

Australia's banks are expected to pass on only part of the latest easing to customers, choosing instead to maintain profit margins in the face of higher funding costs.—Reuters

US seeks Japan auto liberalization in TPP talks

TOKYO, 6 June—US trade officials say Japan should further liberalize its auto market if it wants to join talks on a trans-Pacific free trade deal.

Japan has been holding pre-entry consultations with the United States and 8 other countries that are already negotiating the terms of a Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Japanese negotiators say US authorities want Japan to further open 3 markets, particularly the auto sector, and have presented 6 specific

demands. These include reviewing the lower taxes for mini-vehicles — a segment where Japanese automakers have a competitive edge.

US authorities also want Japan to seek the input of American carmakers when deciding on safety and environmental standards, and to simplify screening procedures for measuring compliance. Japan maintains that its auto market is already adequately liberalized.

NHK

'Left brain crucial for music-linked emotions'

SYDNEY, 6 June—Language-based areas of the brain, primarily on the left, are important for extracting emotional meaning from music, says a new study.

Our emotions and

feelings are typically linked with the right side of the brain. For example, processing the emotion in human facial expressions is done in the right hemisphere. However, the new study is challenging the widely-held view that emotions and feelings are the domain of the right hemisphere only, the journal *Neuropsychologia* reports.

"It's known that processing whether a face is happy or sad is impaired in people who lose key regions of the right hemisphere, as



Photo shows left brain. Language-based areas of the brain, primarily on the left, are important for extracting emotional meaning from music, says a new study.—INTERNET

happens in people with Alzheimer's and semantic dementia," says Sharpley Hsieh of Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA), who led the study.

Semantic dementia is the progressive loss of the ability to remember the meaning of words, faces and objects, resulting from shrinkage of the brain's lobes. "What we have now learnt from looking at people with semantic dementia is that understanding emotions in music involves key parts of the other side of the brain as well," she says, according to a NeuRA statement.

"Our findings suggest that the brain considers melodies and speech to be similar and that overlapping parts of the brain are required for both," adds Hsieh.—Internet

Gold's tarnished safe haven status gets polished

SINGAPORE, 6 June—A 4 percent rally for gold on Friday on weak US jobs data could signal a return to the safe haven status that has eluded bullion for the past seven to eight months.

The dollar, US Treasuries and German Bunds have been the safe havens of choice in recent months, while gold has moved in tandem with riskier assets that are under increasing pressure from the euro zone crisis. But the Friday move, the biggest daily percentage gain for gold in more than three years, was in sharp contrast to the falls in oil and the S&P 500 index. Gold in particular would benefit if the darkening economic outlook pushes central banks to embark on further monetary stimulus.

"It boils down to the question of whether you expect QE3 (a third round of quantitative easing) to happen and if you think the world economy needs stimulus to keep afloat," said Dominic Schnider, an analyst at UBS Wealth Management in Singapore. "If the answer is yes, buy gold now because it is going to be the first metal to

respond." A Reuters poll among 15 primary dealers — the large financial institutions that do business directly with the Fed — forecast a 50 percent chance of another round of monetary easing, up from 33 percent in early May.

"Gold's attraction increased after Friday's poor US payroll number came out, reviving expectations that the Fed could now join the ECB and launch another massive easing programme," said analyst Ed Meir from INTL FCSone.

A weaker dollar helped gold hit a record high above \$1,920 an ounce in September, but bullion prices have fallen 16 percent since then to around \$1,620 on Tuesday, moving in line with assets generally considered risky.

After Greece failed to form a government following an inconclusive election in early May, worries about a potential Greek exit from the euro zone sent the S&P 500 index down by 6.3 percent, commodities more than 10 percent and spot gold 6.3 percent in the month. The dollar index jumped 5.4 percent.—Reuters

Research shows promising treatments against skin cancer



A dermatologist checks a patient for skin cancer.

INTERNET

CHICAGO, 6 June—Two new experimental treatments against advanced melanoma have shown promise in keeping the deadly skin cancer at bay, according to research presented in the United States on Monday.

The agents, known as Dabrafenib and Trametinib, are being developed by the British pharmaceutical firm GlaxoSmithKline, and were tested in clinical trials against standard chemotherapy treatments. The trial on Trametinib included 322 people, of whom 214 took the experimental drug while the rest did standard chemotherapy, researchers said at the American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting in Chicago.

More than 22 percent of

those on Trametinib responded to treatment compared to eight percent in the chemo group.

The Trametinib group also experienced a median 4.8 month period in which the cancer did not advance, and saw their risk of dying from skin cancer diminish by 46 percent compared to the chemo group — 81 percent were still alive after six months of treatment compared to 67 percent in the control group.

The phase III trial was the first to evaluate a treatment against melanoma that inhibits a protein known as MEK, and may help about half of all melanoma patients who have a mutation in the BRAF gene that fuels tumour growth. "This is the first in a new class of targeted drugs that could benefit patients with melanoma who have BRAF mutations," said Caroline Robert, head of Dermatology at the Institute Gustave Roussy in Paris, France.

"The findings show that targeting the MEK molecular pathway is a viable strategy for treating many people with the disease," Robert added.

"Trametinib is likely to

become another first-line treatment option for patients with advanced melanoma."

One other therapy on the market, vemurafenib (Zelboraf), is currently approved in the United States and Europe for advanced melanoma. The second trial involved Dabrafenib, which also targets cancers with the BRAF mutation, and showed a 70 percent lower risk of cancer progression compared to those treated with chemotherapy alone (5.1 months versus 2.7 months).

The phase III trial included 250 participants who had not been treated with any drug prior to enrolment and who had been diagnosed with inoperable melanoma, 187 of whom took the experimental drug while the rest were given standard chemotherapy.

Half of patients in the Dabrafenib group responded to therapy, compared to six percent of patients treated with a chemotherapy treatment known as dacarbazine. The median time in which the cancer did not progress was 5.1 months in the Dabrafenib group compared to 2.7 months in the control group.—Internet

Toyota concerns for auto industry

TOKYO, 6 June—Toyota Motor president Akio Toyoda expressed concerns for Japan's car industry as it struggles with the strong yen, falling share prices and other issues.

Toyoda, who is also the head of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, said the yen's persistent strength is dealing a heavy blow to manufacturers.

He said car makers have no choice but to continue working hard to cope with the difficult business climate.

He cited Europe's debt crisis as a likely cause for the decline in the stock market. He added that he hopes share prices will rebound to a level that reflects conditions in Japan's economy.

NHK



Clients shop for gold jewellery at a shop owned by the Krastvetmet nonferrous metal plant in Russia's Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk on 12 Aug, 2011. REUTERS

India-US defence talks to focus on China, Afghanistan

NEW DELHI, 6 June—US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta holds talks on Wednesday with his Indian counterpart which are likely to be dominated by NATO's planned exit from Afghanistan and China's growing power. Panetta's two-day visit to New Delhi is part of a tour of the region that has stressed Washington's strategic shift to Asia, with US officials portraying India as an anchor for the new approach.

In talks on Tuesday with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Panetta "underscored the link India plays between East and West Asia and how the United States views India as a net provider of security from the Indian Ocean to Afghanistan and beyond", his press secretary



US Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta (2nd left) speaks with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during a meeting in New Delhi. — INTERNET

George Little said. Panetta will meet Defence Minister AK Antony on Wednesday before giving a policy speech at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.

In his talks with Antony, Panetta was expected to

discuss NATO's planned withdrawal of combat forces from Afghanistan by the end of 2014 as well as expanding arms trade and joint military training between the two countries. Indian officials are worried the departure of most of the US-led force could

leave a dangerous vacuum in Afghanistan, and question if the Kabul government and its fledgling army will be able to fend off Taliban insurgents.

US officials said Panetta was encouraging India to play a more active role in Afghanistan, despite Pakistan's deep suspicion of its arch-foe's motives in the country.

Earlier on his nine-day tour through Asia, Panetta unveiled plans to shift the majority of the US naval fleet to the Pacific by 2020, a symbolic step meant to signal US determination to preserve its influence in the face of a rising China. Beijing said Monday the US naval plan was "untimely" and called on Washington to respect its interests in the region.

Internet

Three dead, six missing as typhoon passes Philippines

MANILA, 6 June—Three children were killed and six fishermen were missing after typhoon Mawar brought heavy rains and rough waters to parts of the Philippines, the civil defence office said on Monday.

Two siblings were carried off by an overflowing river in the western island of Palawan while a seven-year-old boy drowned in a river east of Manila, the office's deputy director, Florentino Sison, said.

A search is continuing for six fishermen on three separate boats who went missing after setting off before the storm hit, he added. Thirty-two fishermen were rescued in rough waters off the eastern island of Catanduanes on Saturday after their boat ran

out of fuel during the storm. Mawar became a typhoon early on Sunday with maximum winds of 120 kilometres (75 miles) an hour as it passed near the eastern side of the Philippines.

Although Mawar did not hit the country directly it brought heavy rains, particularly over eastern parts of the archipelago, raising fears of flashfloods and landslides.

As the typhoon moved away from the Philippines, the government weather station warned of "gale force winds" in the northern and central coasts of the country. Mawar was 660 kilometres northeast of Manila just before dawn Monday, moving northeast at 15 kph.

Internet

Factory orders post surprise fall in April

WASHINGTON, 6 June—New orders for factory goods fell in April for the third time in four months as demand slipped for everything from cars and machinery to computers, the latest worrisome sign for the economy. The Commerce Department said on Monday orders for manufactured goods dropped 0.6 percent during the month. The government also revised its estimate for new orders in March to show a steeper decline. Economists had forecast orders rising 0.2 percent in April.

The report showed broad weakness in a sector that has carried the economic recovery, adding to a growing body of soft economic data in the United States. "Obviously it's a slowdown in the economy," said Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic advisors in Holland, Pennsylvania.

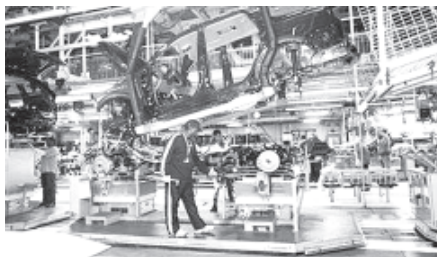
The Labour Department on Friday reported that job creation slowed in May for the fourth straight month. Also that day, the Institute for Supply Management said the

pace of growth in manufacturing slowed modestly in May, although the ISM's own gauge of new orders rose to its highest in over a year.

The Commerce Department report showed new orders for motor vehicles and parts fell 0.5 percent in April. An increase in new orders for civilian aircraft buoyed the overall transportation sector.

downward its estimate for new orders of long-lasting manufactured goods in April.

US stock prices declined as investors fretted about signs of economic weakness around the globe and Europe's intensifying debt crisis. Orders for non-defence capital goods excluding aircraft—seen as a measure of business confidence and spending plans—dipped 2.1 percent in



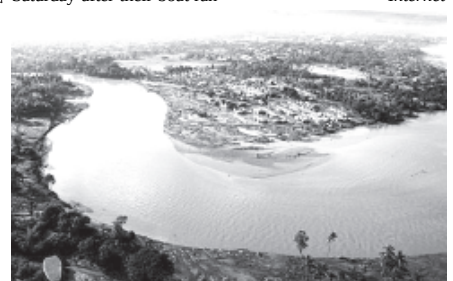
Chrysler auto assembly workers work on the line assembling Jeep Grand Cherokees and Dodge Durangos at the Chrysler Jefferson North Assembly plant in Detroit, Michigan on 26 April, 2012. — REUTERS

Outside transportation, orders dropped 1.1 percent, with machinery down 2.9 percent and orders for computers and electronics off by 0.8 percent. The government also revised

April. Shipments of this category, which go into calculations of gross domestic product, fell 1.5 percent during the month.

Reuters

An aerial picture shows the damage caused by devastating floods over Iligan City in the Philippines in 2011. Three children were killed and six fishermen were missing after typhoon Mawar brought heavy rains and rough waters to parts of the Philippines, the civil defence office said on Monday. — INTERNET



Israel asks Arab visitors to open e-mails to search

JERUSALEM, 6 June — When Sandra Tamari arrived at Israel's international airport, she received an unusual request: A security agent pushed a computer screen in front of her, connected to Gmail and told her to "log in." The agent, suspecting Tamari was involved in pro-Palestinian activism, wanted to inspect her private email account for incriminating evidence. The 42-year-old American of Palestinian descent refused and was swiftly expelled from the country.

Tamari's experience is not unique. In a cyber-age twist on Israel's vaunted

history of airport security, the country has begun to force incoming travellers deemed suspicious to open personal email accounts for inspection, visitors say.

Targeting mainly Muslims or Arabs, the practice appears to be aimed at rooting out visitors who have histories of pro-Palestinian activism, and in recent weeks, has led to the expulsion of at least three American women. It remains unclear how widespread the practice is. However, asked about Tamari's claims, the Shin Bet security agency confirmed she had been interrogated and said its agents acted in accordance with the law.

Israel has a long history of using ethnic profiling, calling it a necessary evil resulting from its bitter experience with terrorist attacks. Arab travelers and anyone else seen as a risk are often subjected to intense questioning and invasive inspections, including strip searches.

The security procedures appear to be getting stricter: Recent searches of journalists at official events have been invasive enough to create a series of mini-uproars and walkouts — a situation that has dovetailed with increasing concerns that the government is trying to stifle dissent. — Internet

HP says Oracle violated contract, seeks billions

SAN JOSE, (California), 6 June — Oracle Corp violated a clear contract with Hewlett-Packard Co when it decided it would no longer make new versions of its database software compatible with HP's Itanium-based servers, a lawyer for HP said in court. As the two firms faced off on Monday in opening state-ments in a bitter lawsuit over Oracle's decision to end support for Itanium, an Oracle attorney countered that Oracle had never agreed to give up its business flexibility in the "brief, breezy" contract language cited by HP.



A man walks past the Hewlett-Packard logo at its French headquarters in Issy le Moulineaux, western Paris, in this 16 Sept, 2005 file photograph. — REUTERS

The trial, in which HP seeks up to \$4 billion in damages, comes just days after Oracle lost a separate high-stakes case against Google Inc

over smartphone technology. Oracle decided to stop developing software for use with Itanium last year, saying Intel made it clear that the chip was nearing the end of its life and was shifting its focus to its x86 micro-processor. But HP said it had an agreement with Oracle that support for Itanium would continue, without which the equipment using the chip would become obsolete. HP said that commitment was affirmed when it settled an earlier lawsuit over Oracle's hiring of ousted HP chief executive Mark Hurd.

In court on Monday, HP lawyer Jeffrey Thomas said the Hurd settlement clearly bound Oracle to continue offering its "best products" to HP. As a sign of the importance of the contract, top executives from both companies — including Oracle President Safra Catz and then-HP enterprise chief Ann Livermore — negotiated the deal, Thomas said. "It is impossible to offer best products going forward without porting new versions of those products," Thomas said. — Reuters



In this 2 Nov, 2010 file photo, a passenger has his luggage checked by security personnel, inside the Ben Gurion airport terminal, near Tel Aviv, Israel. In a modern twist on Israel's vaunted history of airport security, the country has begun forcing incoming travelers deemed suspicious to open their personal e-mail accounts for inspection. — INTERNET

The Sasana Flag (The sacred flag of Buddhists)

Ba Sein
(Religious Affairs)

Hoisting of the Sasana Flag is considered to be an auspicious sacred rite by Myanmar Buddhists. But, it is often found that the Sasana Flag is incorrectly hoisted at wrong place due to the ignorance of some people. Buddhists are ready to obey the rules and regulations of hoisting the Sasana Flag if they are properly instructed. Therefore, some important points and rules of the Sasana Flag are stated and presented here.

In Myanmar, the term, "Buddha Sasana" is more usual than the term "Buddhist". Consequently, the Buddha Sasana Council was organized and founded in order to hold the Sixth Buddhist Council in Yangon. The six-coloured Flag was used as an official Sasana Flag for the first time in Myanmar.

The Flag Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders, which was successfully held at the Maha Pasana Cave (Great Cave) on Kaba Aye Hill, Yangon, 1980, passed and adopted the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha Organization of the Union of Myanmar, the Sasana Flag, which consists of the six illuminations of Divine Effulgence, is prescribed in detail in the chapter (10) of the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha Organization.

Instructions and directives are mentioned in the Procedures of the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha Organizations and the Manuals of the Sangha Nayaka Course.

The size of the Sasana Flag

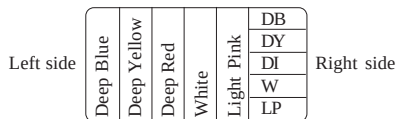
Four sizes of the Sasana Flag are prescribed:-

- The first size of the flag is 9 feet in length and 5 feet in width.
- The second size is 4 feet and six inches in length and two feet and six inches in width.
- The third size is two feet and three inches in length and one foot and three inches in width.
- The fourth size is nine inches in length and five inches in width.

Arrangement of colour

The Flag has to be depicted in accordance with an specific range of colours:-

Diagram of Flag



The Flag can be used on the following Auspicious Days.

They are:-

- The Fullmoon Day of Kason.
- The Fullmoon Day of Nayon (Mahasamaya Day).
- The Fullmoon Day of Waso (Dhammacakka Day).
- The Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Abhidhamma Day and Maha Pavarana Day).
- The Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon (Samaññaphala Day).

The Flag can also be used at the following religious ceremonies. They are:-

- The ceremony of Waso festival.
- The Kathina (robes offering) ceremony.
- The ceremony of the Abhidhamma Day.

- The Shinbyu (Initiation) ceremony.
- The Ordination ceremony of Bhikkhus.
- The grand ceremony of offerings to the Bhikkhus.
- The ceremony of Maha (State) convocation.
- The ceremony of Cula (regional) convocation.
- Religious Titles Presentation Ceremony of the State.
- The ceremony of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovidha convocation.
- The Religious Examination centres.
- The ceremonies of religious seminars, conferences and meetings.
- The ceremony of reciting scriptures.
- The ceremony of hoisting the sacred umbrella.
- The ceremony of the Sangha Pujaniya veneration.
- The meetings of the Sangha (Bhikkhus).
- The court of the Sangha Vinicchaya.
- The training centres concerning Religious Affairs.
- The ceremony of recitation of Patthana texts, and
- The ceremony of recitation of Nikaya Scriptures.

Means of hoisting and using the Flag

The Sasana Flag has to be hoisted according to the following procedures:-

- When hoisting the Sasana Flag, the deep blue part of the flag must be at the flag sides of the hoister.
- The deep blue strip of the Flag must be permanently at the very top of the five-mixed coloured portion of the flag (see the diagram).
- In hoisting the flag, it must be elevated quickly to the top of the mast, and should be lowered slowly.
- The Flag must be hoisted from dawn to sunset. But, the Flag can be hoisted the whole night at special important and grand occasions.
- When hoisting the Sasana Flag on the stage, it must be put in horizontal position on an elevated part of the background of the stage. And, the flag must be in the right position.
- When hoisting the Sasana Flag together with other flags, it must be at the centre and in a higher position.
- When hoisting the Sasana Flag at the auditorium, it must be on the right side and in front of the preacher.
- When hoisting the Sasana flag together with other flags at the auditorium, the Sasana flag must be placed at the left side of the preacher.
- When hoisting the Sasana flag on big vehicles, the flag must be firmly hoisted on the front part of the roof and if the vehicle is a small one, the flag must be hoisted at the front right of the vehicle.
- The Sasana Flag must be hoisted on the vehicles only when in procession carrying the Bodhi tree, the sacred umbrellas of the Pagoda, the Venerable Sayadaws, the successful candidates of Sangha and the Dhamma preachers. But, the Sasana flag must be respectfully folded on the vehicles when the procession of the above personages and sacred things concludes (is over).
- When hanging the Sasana Flag, it must be in horizontal position. It must never be in an upside down position. When hanging small pieces of

Sasana paper flags, they must always be in vertical position.

- The Sasana Organizations and other Buddhist religious associations must obey the above instructions concerning the Sasana flag and use it systematically at the religious meetings and ceremonies.
- The different levels of the Sangha Organizations of the Union of Myanmar are compulsorily instructed to hoist or hang or stick the Sasana flag during official meetings.

Points to note

It is necessary to take note of the following points concerning the Sasana flag to ensure due respect to the dignity of the flag. Points to note are as follows:-

- The Sasana flag is not allowed to be hoisted on the pilgrimage vehicle even if there are monks in it.
- Without sound religious reason, the Sasana flag cannot be hoisted at the road sides, junctions, vehicle gates, airports, jetties, markets, stations and other places.
- No one must show disrespect to the Sasana flag. No improper behaviour must be tolerated regarding the flag. The flag must not be inclined towards persons or things.
- The Sasana flag is not allowed to be torn, stained or destroyed in any way.
- No department is allowed to use the Sasana flag as the over-hanging covering of a pavilion.
- The Sasana flag is not allowed to be used as wrapper, trademarks, advertisements or designs on billboards.
- Wall posters and pamphlets are not allowed to be stuck or hung on the post on which the Sasana flag is being hoisted.
- When handling the Sasana flag, it is not allowed to be wrapped or fastened.
- When using the Sasana flag, it must not touch the ground, the surface of water, the floor of things which are under the flag.
- At all times, the Sasana flag must never be used as ground-covers, mats or carpets.
- Above the Sasana flag, no other flags must be hoisted.
- The Sasana flag, can be hoisted at the consecration ceremonies of images, holy monuments and statues as a sacred symbol. But the images, the monuments and the statues must not be covered with the flag.
- The Sasana flag must never be thrown away for whatever reason. If the flag becomes torn, soiled and useless, it must be burned respectfully.

All Buddhists will have to be aware of salient points in using the Sasana flag to honour the dignity of the emblem. We wish to express our desire to maintain the dignity and sacredness of the Sasana flag by urging all Buddhists to follow the correct procedures and to avoid even the slightest unseemly manner and behaviors towards the sacred emblem.

SPED Director-General visits sports training camps

YANGON, 6 June—General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik visited Myanmar Martial Arts Training School and Myanmar Equestrian Federation in Dagon Myothit (North), boxing and Sepak Takraw training camps in Thingangyun Township (Thuwunna), and archery and acrobatics training camps in Tamway Township (Kyaikkasan Grounds).

The director-general inspected rowing training camp at Inya Lake and Wushu training camp in Padonma Stadium in Sangyoung Township. He spoke words of encouragement to manager, coaches and players of Myanmar youth selected football team which will take part in AFC U-22 qualifier.

He also visited weightlifting, track and field, volleyball, taekwondo, billiard and snooker, karatedo, cane ball and chess training camps and fulfilled the requirements.—MNA

Paintings, cartoon, poster and computer painting competitions held in Taninthayi

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The 15th Region-level paintings, cartoon, poster and computer painting competitions in commemoration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, organized by Taninthayi Region Police Force, took place at No.1 Basic Education High School in Dawei on 3 June.

At the ceremony, Region Minister for

Security and Border Affairs Col Zaw Lwin, Social Affairs Minister U Win Swe, Development Affairs Minister U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo, Secretary of Region Government U Aye Han, Region Education Officer U Tun Yi and officials enjoyed it.

A total of 110 basic education level students from the Region participated in the competitions.—MNA

Union Health Minister meets UNFPA, Hitachi Medical Corporation guests

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received a delegation led by General Manager Mr Nobus Oshima of Hitachi Medical Corporation of Japan and party, and UNFPA resident representative Mr Mohamed Abdel-Ahad, at his office this morning respectively.

At the call with Japanese guests, they discussed promoting health care standards, giving trainings to health staff and medical experts, especially to X-ray specialists and

staff and maintenances of X-Ray machines.

The Union Minister had a discussion with the UNFPA delegation on ongoing and future cooperation, collecting of health data in compiling census, availability of medicines and medical equipments for reproductive health and capacity building and promoting the skills of staff. It was also attended by Deputy Ministers Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Dr Win Myint, departmental heads and official.—MNA

Australian delegation views old building in Yangon



YANGON, 6 June—A delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia Mr Bob Carr viewed Ministers Office on Theinbyu Street, Musmeah Yeshua Synagogue Jew Temple on 26th street in Pabedan Township and the old buildings on Pansodan street, Yangon Region

this morning.

The Australian Minister received Chairperson of National League for Democracy Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at her residence on University Avenue at 4.30 pm. They met local and foreign media men and responded to the questions.—MNA

Chin State Police Force grants stipends to members' offspring

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Office of Commander of Chin State Police Force provided offspring of the

police force members with stipends on 28 May.

Commander of Chin State Police Force Police Col

Kyi Lin explained purpose of granting stipends.

The stipends provided to 306 primary school-

Union Science and Technology Minister visits universities, training school in Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint met rectors, professors, principal and instructors of Technological University (Myitkyina), University of Computer Studies (Myitkyina) and Government Technical High School (Myitkyina) at University of Computer Studies (Myitkyina) in Kachin State on 3 June.

The Union Minister heard reports on administrative and academic matters

presented by the rectors and principal and attended to the needs.

The Union Minister then inspected staff quarters, lecture halls, labs and workshops of the Technological University and Technical High School. On 4 June, the Union Minister together with Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai visited University of Computer Studies.

MNA

Bago Region Chief Minister calls for production of 30 million surplus baskets of rice

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win attended the coordination meeting on region rice production development and export promotion at the region government office yesterday.

The region chief minister called for systematic cultivation of high yield paddy with modern agricultural methods, cooperation of businessmen in

government's efforts for provision of capitals to the farmers, minimization of wastage during harvest, maintaining of regular rice market, and production of 30 million baskets of rice more in 2012-2013 fiscal year in Bago Region.

The director of Bago Region MAS made discussions, followed by agricultural companies in the region and attendees.

MNA

Fifth meeting of Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft), Farmland Rules (draft) Drawing Committee held

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The 5th meeting of Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft) and Farmland Rules (draft) drawing Committee, was held at Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry, here, this morning. It was attended by Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft) and Farmland Rules (draft) Drawing Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than, Vice-

Chairman Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw, members and departmental heads.

In his speech, Deputy Minister U Ohn Than said that Farmland Rules (draft) have been submitted to the President Office, the Government Office and Union Attorney-General Office. At present, the Union Attorney-General Office continues drafting it. Respective departments are urged to discuss it on a wider scale, the suggestions can be sent to the

Committee Secretary by letter.

After that, Director-General U Myint Swe of Settlement and Land Records Department elaborated on chapters and sections of the Vacant Land, Fallow Land and Virgin Land Management Rules (draft).

Afterwards, the committee members discussed their respective sectors, and Deputy Minister U Ohn Than made an concluding speech.

MNA

Workshop and Conference on Responsible Tourism opened

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The opening session of Workshop and Conference on Responsible Tourism was held at Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, departmental heads, President U Yan Win and officials of Myanmar Tourism Federation, high level officials from related ministries.

Deputy Minister U Htay Aung said in his address that the conference would facilitate development of sustainable and responsible tourism industry in Myanmar. Tourism industry enjoyed a boost following development measures of the government, political and economic reforms and cultural attractions. The responsible tourism is for creating better places to visit and to live. The government and private sector are working in cooperation to complete Responsible Tourism Policy (draft) and more consultations will be made. All those present were urged to actively cooperate in drafting the policy.

The Myanmar Tourism Federation Chairman U Yan Win and Mr Ludwig Westrap and Prof Mr Harold Jhon Goodwin of Hanns Seidel Foundation discussed nine objectives of Myanmar's responsible tourism and details.—MNA

Falam marks WED, plants trees

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Deputy Commissioner U Soe Tint of Falam District and the township administrators and departmental personnel, members of social organizations and over 300 local people celebrated World Environment Day of which the theme is "Green Economy: Does it include you?" yesterday by planting 2140 trees near Zabuthiri Pagoda in Tamai Monastery in Talanlo ward in Falam.—MNA

ASEAN human rights declaration (draft) completed



YANGON, 6 June—The 6th meeting of the ASEAN human rights declaration drafting body of ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights concluded at Parkroyal Hotel here today.

During the four-day meeting which started on 3 June, ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (draft) was completed and it will be reported to the 45th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Cambodia in July.

After the meeting, U Kyaw Tint Swe, a representative of Myanmar for ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, Ms Siprapha Petcharamee, a representative of Thailand, Mr Refendi Djhamin, a representative of Indonesia and Ms Rosario G Manalo, a representative of the Philippines met the press.

MNA

Officials hold press conference after 6th meeting of the ASEAN Intergovernmental commission on human rights on the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.

MNA

Books, publications donated to village libraries

MACHANBAW, 6 June—A ceremony to donate books and publications to village libraries were held at the hall



CASH ASSISTANCE GIVEN: A ceremony to provide cash assistance to offspring of police members of Muse District Police Force was held at the office of the Commander of District Police Force on 30 May. Commander of District Police Force Lt-Col Tint Shwe presents teaching aid to a student.

DISTRICT POLICE FORCE

of Township Information and Public Relations Department in Machanbaw Township of Putao District in Kachin State on 1 June morning.

Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Nan Zay Phon Thang made a speech.

Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Ingyin Khin Zaw explained the purpose of the donations.

Next, the chairperson handed 45 copies of books and publications worth K 22500 to the head of Township Information and Public Relations Department.—*Myanma Alin*

New school building opened in NyaungU Township



NYAUNGU, 6 June—A ceremony to open the new building was held at Basic Education High School (Branch) in Tetma Village of NyaungU Township in Mandalay Region on 24 May morning.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Tun Tun Win of District General Administration Department, Township Education Officer Daw Than Sein, Headmistress Daw Khin May Toe, Canadian Mr John

and Tetma Village Administrator U Kyaw Myint Aung formally opened the new school building.

Township Education Officer Daw Than Sein explained matters related to the new building.

Wellwisher Canadian Mr John handed over the documents related to the school to the Ministry of Education.

On behalf of the wellwisher, U Maung Maung Gyi explained the purpose of the donations.

Education

Myanmar Libraries Foundation invites cash, book donations

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

Duties assigned in Labutta District

LABUTTA, 6 June—A ceremony to assign duties to respective departments for implementation of the plans in Labutta District of Ayeyawady Region in 2012-2013 was held at Yway Nadi Hall in Labutta on 1 June afternoon.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner U Kan

Win of Labutta District made a speech. Staff Officer of District Planning Department U Kyaw Khaing Oo explained the plans to be implemented in 2012-2013.

Deputy Commissioner U Kan Win handed over the letters of assignments to Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thaika. After that,

the township administrator assigned duties of agriculture to officials of Myoma Station, Bituk Station, Kyagan Station, Thabyugon Station and Pyinsalu Sub-Township.

District Planning Department

DISTRICT NEWS

Hole-in-one scored at Patheingolf Club

PATHEINGOLF, 6 June—U Win Ko (Merchant) scored an ace at 160-yard-distance hold No 10 with the use of Taylarmade R.5 Iron No 7 at Patheingolf Club in Ayeyawady Region on 26 May.

In the golf sport, he played together with U Aung Win Myint, Dr Sai Maung Maung, U Than Win (Sand/Stone Trading) and U Nay Myo Aung.—*Myanma Alin*



CASH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: Cash assistance was given to students of members of Township Police Force in Pakokku Township for 2012-2013 academic year. On 5 June, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Htay Aung presents K 738,000 to the students at the hall of the township police station.—*MYANMA ALIN*

Cash assistance provided to students

PYAPON, 6 June—Alinyaung Education Service Committee of Pyapon provided cash assistance, school text

books, stationery and school uniforms to students from the KG to matriculation for the sixth time at Nyeinchan Mingala Hall at No 15 on Shwenatku Pagoda Road in Pyapon on 27 May.

Chairman of the Committee U Aung Win (Reporter), townselder U Wunna Shwe, U Myo Win and U Hla Myo Tint made speeches.

Dr U Than Win (Associate Professor of Myanmar Department) gave a talk on important role of education sector.

Later, officials presented school uniforms, text books, stationery and cash assistance to 225 students individually.

Myanma Alin



CASH ASSISTANCE GIVEN: A ceremony to present cash assistance for students of staff members from Bahan Township General Administration Department was held at its office on 31 May. Township Administrator U Zaw Win Htay gives cash assistance for students.—*TOWNSHIP IPRD*

Cash assistance provided to students of staff



TWANTAY, 6 June—The cash assistance for offspring of staff members from Twantay Township General Administration Department of Yangon South District for 2012-2013 academic year was held at Tawwin Sandaku Hall of the township GAD on 31 May morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Than Zaw Han made a speech.

He then presented K 230,000, school uniforms and stationery worth K 200,000 to 26 students.

Township GAD

Traditional Artistes and Artisans Associations reconstituted

YANGON, 6 June—The reconstitution of Kyimyindine Township Traditional Artistes and Artisans Association of Myanmar Traditional Artistes and Artisans Association was held at Ponnyaw Pakara Dhammayon in Kyimyindine Township of Yangon West

District on 24 May morning.

At the ceremony, Deputy Head of Township Administration Department Daw Khin Htar Nwe made a speech.

Chairman of the Association U Maung Maung Hla Myint explained the organizational matters, election of new central

executive committee and future tasks of the association.

After that, Kyimyindine Township Traditional Artistes and Artisans Association was reconstituted with 20 members.

On 25 May, a similar ceremony was held at the hall of the Township General Administration Department on Pyapon Township. Deputy Head of Township Administration Department U Nay Lin Tun made a speech.

Later, Pyapon Township Traditional Artistes and Artisans Association was reorganized with 16 members.

Myanma Alin

Noteworthy amount rainfalls benefit agriculture tasks

YESAGYO, 6 June—The noteworthy amount of rainfalls in Yesagyo of Magway Region was 3.35 inches that there rained from 6.30 am to 10 pm on 4 June.

There are three hydrological stations in the township. The stations put the noteworthy amount of rainfalls on record. They were 3.35 inches in Yesagyo, 0.75 inch in Gwaygon Village-tract and 1.20 inches in Sitha Village.

As a result, the rains benefited monsoon groundnut and sesame, green gram and pigeon pea plantations.

Pe Tun Zaw (Yesagyo)

Writers Association formed in Lanmadaw Township



YANGON, 6 June—Lanmadaw Township Writers Association held the first coordination meeting at the office of the Township General Administration Department in Lanmadaw Township on 12 May.

Secretary of the Central Writers Association

Organizing Committee U Nyunt Tin (Maung Nyein Thu-Gyobingauk) presided over the meeting.

At the meeting, new executives were elected. U Aung Myint (U Aung Aye-Lanmadaw) was elected as vice-chairman, Daw Po Po Kyi (Po Po Kyi-Law) as secretary, Daw Aye Aye Myint (Wah Wah Htin Lin) as treasurer, Daw Than Than Si (Shwe Hson Thu) as executive and Dr Aye Aye Mar (Aye Aye Mar-IM-1) as executive.

Then, the new executives took oaths in the presence of the meeting chairman.

Kyemon

Experiences in Hluttaw recounted in Paunglaung

PINLAUNG, 6 June—A ceremony to recount experiences in Hluttaw was held at the monastery in Bihti Village of Leinnya Village-tract in Pinlaung Township of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone on 22 May afternoon.

Pinlaung Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Khun Maung Thaung explained his experiences at the Hluttaw and amended laws and amending laws for the people.

It was attended by member of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Leading Body U Khun Hla Hsan, Acting Township Administrator U Kyaw Swe and departmental officials and 1200 local people from Kaungba, Tataukm Nyaungmu, Takhayin, Hantanya, Leinnya and Bihti villages.

Myanma Alin

Stipends provided to students

TOUNGGOO, 6 June—Daw Khin Mar Yi, wife of the chairman of the Toungoo District Police Force Family Organizing and Discipline Enforcement Committee Commander of Toungoo District Police Force, provided K 5000 each to primary students, K 8000 each to middle school students and K 10,000 each to high school students, totalling 26 from Bawdigon and Thagara Expressway and Thagara Police Stations in Toungoo

Leikthay Village-tract gets new administrative office

PYU, 6 June—A ceremony to open the new office of Leikthay Village-tract Administrator in Pyu Township of Bago Region was held at the new office on 2 June morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Than Aung made a speech. Village-tract Administrator U Myint Oo explained matters related to opening the new office.

Later, Township Administrator U Than Aung, Village-tract Administrator U Myint Oo and Village elder U Myint Aung formally opened the new office.

Kyemon

Loans disbursed to members of micro-credit coop society



MYINMU, 6 June—As part of efforts to alleviate poverty through cooperative technique, Mon Myat Micro-credit Cooperative Society Ltd disbursed loans to students of high, middle and primary schools so as to purchase bicycles through installment system before opening the school in Myinmu Township.

The ceremony was held at the office of Township General Administration Department on 3 June morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Thein Zaw and Chairman of Mon Myat Micro-credit

Cooperative Society Ltd made speeches. U Aung Kyaw Win of Toe Tet Aung Trading and Managing Director U Soe Tint explained matters related to disbursement of loans for buying bicycles.

Next, the Township Administrator presented K 20,000 each to 109 members of the society and the chairman of the cooperative society bicycles to 58 members of the society.

Kyemon

Cash assistance given to offspring of staff members

KYAIN-SEIKKYI, 6 June—Phayathonzu Sub-Township General Administration Department of Kyain-seikkyi Township in Kayin State provided cash assistance to 12 students, offspring of the staff members for 2012-2013 academic year, at the sub-township GAD, recently.

Administrator of Sub-Township U Thein Tun presented K 189,000 as cash assistance to children of staff members.—Myanma Alin

DISTRICT NEWS

Myanmar youths start training for AFF U-22 qualifiers

YANGON, 6 June—As Asian Football Confederation (AFC) will organize the qualifiers of the AFF U-22 Championship to be hosted in Myanmar, the Myanmar youth team is making preparations for taking part in the championship in the G group, as of 5 June evening.

The Myanmar youth team is constituted with 28 tentatively selected players under training of Chief Coach Mr Pak Hsaung Hua (Republic of Korea).

Moreover, the team is under training of Manager U Than Toe Aung, Assistant Manager U Soe Moe Kyaw,

Chief Coach Mr Pak, Coaches U Tin Myint Aung, Assistant Coaches U Zaw Win Tun and U Aung Aung Tun, Physical Trainer Mr Hua He John and Goalkeeping Coach U Myo Chit.

The players are Goalkeeper Pyae Phyo Aung (Southern), Kyaw Zin Phyo (Magway), Myo Min Latt (Zeya Shwemyay), Defenders Ye Zaw Htet Aung, Ye Win Aung, Hein Thiha Zaw (Yadanabon), Zaw Min Tun (Magway), Nyi Nyi Aung (Hanthawady), Aung Hein Kyaw (Zeya Shwemyay), Yan Aung Win (Yangon), Midfielders Kyaw Zeya Win, Thein Than Win

(Kanbawza), Myo Zaw Oo, Thant Zin Win, Nanda Kyaw (Magway), Nanda Lin Kyaw Chit, Phyo Ko Ko Thein, Naing Lin Oo, Thiha Zaw (Ayeawady), Zaw Lin (Nay Pyi Taw), Kyi Lin (Yangon), Thet Paing Oo, Naing Bo Lin (Zeya Shwemyay), Nyo Nyo Win (Manaw Myay), Chit Min Soe (Rekkhapura), Forwards Kyaw Ko Ko (Zeya Shwemyay), Kaung Si Thu (Yangon) and Thet Naing (Yadanabon).

As preparations, Myanmar U-22 Team will play against the tentatively selected national team at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna on 9 June. The former team will play tune-up matches in Thailand on 15 June to compete with Thai U-22 team on 17 June, Maldives U-22 team on 19 June.

Myanmar is included in the same group of South Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, China (Taipei) and the Philippines. Myanmar will play against the Philippines on 23 June, Vietnam on 25 June, South Korea on 28 June, China (Taipei) on 30 June and Malaysia on 3 July.

By Chit Ko Ko



CASH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: A ceremony to provide cash assistance for students of staff members was held at Tamway Township General Administration Department in Yangon East District on 31 May. Township Administrator U Thein Win presents school text books and stipends worth K 200,500 to 19 students of the staff members.—KYEMON

Trees planted at Home for the Aged

BAGO, 6 June—As a gesture of hailing the International Day of Cooperatives 2012, staff of Bago Region and Township Cooperative Departments and members of the Board of Directors and staff of cooperative societies donated meals and clothes to 28 older persons at Thabyegon Home for the Aged in Mazin Ward of Bago and planted trees in the compound of the home on 1 June.

It was attended by Bago Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Kyaw

Myint and Region Minister for Forestry and Mines U Kyaw Htay.

They paid respects to the aged and grew the saplings.—Myanma Alin





The moon is 37% obscured by the Earth's shadow during the partial lunar eclipse above Sydney.—INTERNET

JAKARTA, 6 June — The first partial lunar eclipse of the year provided dramatic scenes across Asia late Monday, with a clear moon visible to many as the event unfolded. While Australia and the east of Japan watched as the Earth slid between the Moon and the Sun, casting a

Asia witnesses partial lunar eclipse

grey shadow over the satellite, those hoping to view the eclipse in Tokyo and Kuala Lumpur were thwarted by cloud cover.

"It does look a bit odd because it's not like a normal crescent moon," said Jonti Horner from the astrophysics department of Sydney's University of New South Wales. "It looks like a bite has been taken out of the moon," he told AFP as he watched the sky. Fred Watson, astronomer-in-charge of the Anglo-Australian Observatory in western New South Wales, said: "A partial eclipse of the moon is the kind of thing that happens every few years but it's still worth looking at because of its astronomical interest."

In Japan about 20 people gathered at an astronomical observatory 367 metres (1,200 feet) above sea level in Rikubetsu on the northern island of Hokkaido. "People started to utter such words in admiration as 'it's beautiful' and 'it's awesome' as the eclipse

neared its maximum level," Noriko Sasaki, a worker at the observatory, said by telephone. Hundreds of people who flocked to the National Planetarium in the Malaysian Capital Kuala Lumpur after sunset to witness the spectacle were left disappointed by the clouds and instead were shown films on astronomy.

Internet



A participant peers through a telescope to view a partial lunar eclipse in Jakarta.

INTERNET

137 bodies recovered from Nigerian plane crash site: rescue officials

ABUJA, 6 June — A total of 137 bodies have so far been recovered from the site of the passenger plane which crashed into a two-storey building in Southwest Nigeria's Lagos State on Sunday, authorities with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) told *Xinhua* on Monday. Spokesperson of the agency Yushau Shuaib officially confirmed the figure of corpses recovered from the crash site, saying the remains have been deposited in the mortuary.

According to him, the body of a woman clutching her baby was among the corpses recovered on Monday.

"They were suspected to be residents of the storey-building which the plane crashed into," he added. The NEMA spokesperson said search and rescue operation was brought to a close at about 7 pm on Monday, disclosing that the work will continue in the crash site on Tuesday.

A rescue operator who declined to be named also disclosed that over 10 unidentified children were among the bodies so far recovered from the crash site. The Dana Air plane, which reportedly took off from Nigeria's capital city Abuja, crashed in a residential area in the Lagos metropolis on Sunday, barely 24 hours after a Nigerian Allied Cargo airplane (also from Lagos) crash-landed in Ghana, killing at least 10 people.—*Xinhua*

Chinese ancient books sell for 34.2 m USD

BEIJING, 6 June — Ancient Chinese books have been auctioned off for 216 million yuan (34.2 million US dollars) in Beijing, the auction house said on Monday night. A collection of 1,292 ancient books from Guo Yunlou, a library belonging to the Guo family in Suzhou of east China's Jiangsu Province, was sold to a private buyer at the 2012 Beijing Council Spring Auction on Monday night. The auction began at 9:35 pm and started with a bidding price of 180 million yuan. A buyer finalized the bidding at

the price of 188 million yuan. The total cost is 216 million yuan including commission fees. The deal will be finally realized after the buyer pays all the expenses within the required period of time, according to the auction rules.

After six generations, in about 150 years of heritage since the reign of Emperor Daoguang in the Qing Dynasty (1820-1849), Guo Yunlou's collection has reached more than 800 kinds including block-printed editions from the Song Dynasty (960-1279) and Yuan

Dynasty (1271-1368), fine writing and old copies as well as inscriptions from the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Three quarters of the Guo Yunlou collection were bought by the Nanjing Library in early 1990s, while the remaining 1292 books of 179 titles are still kept by some private collectors.

The remaining 1,292 books were bought by a private buyer at an auction in 2005 at the price of 23.1 million yuan. The encyclopedia of Splendid Valley of Flowers, the only existing and well-preserved copy handed down from the Song Dynasty, is the eye-catcher of the Guo Yunlou collection. Written in 40 books bound in 80 volumes, the encyclopedia is the world's largest Song edition. It has significant value in academic and history research as it has the content of some lost ancient books, said Fan Jingzhong, a professor from the China Academy of Art.

Xinhua



Chinese ancient books set record of highest auction price.—XINHUA

US study finds ginseng fights fatigue in cancer patients

WASHINGTON, 6 June — High doses of American ginseng, the herb, over two months have reduced cancer-related fatigue in patients more effectively than a placebo, according to a study presented on Monday at the annual meeting of American Society of Clinical Oncology. Researchers studied 340 patients who had completed cancer treatment or were being treated for cancer at one of 40 community medical centres in the United States.

Sixty percent of patients studied had breast cancer. Each day, participants received a placebo or 2,000 milligrams of ginseng administered in capsules containing pure, ground American ginseng

root.

According to the study, the pure ginseng provided only a slight improvement in fatigue symptoms in four weeks, but in eight weeks, it offered cancer patients significant improvement in general exhaustion, such as feelings of being "pooped," "worn out," "fatigued," "sluggish," "run-down," or "tired," when compared to the control group with placebo.

"After eight weeks, we saw a 20-point improvement in fatigue in cancer patients, measured on a 100-point, standardized fatigue scale," said Debra Barton of the Mayo Clinic Cancer Centre based in the US State of Minnesota, adding that the herb had no apparent side

effects.

Ginseng has long been used in traditional Chinese medicine as a natural energy booster. Until this study, its effects had not been tested extensively against the debilitating fatigue that occurs in up to 90 percent of cancer patients.—*Xinhua*



Ginseng fights fatigue in cancer patients, US study finds.—XINHUA

China-Pakistan military ties to strengthen

BEIJING, 6 June — Chinese Defence Minister Liang Guanglie on Monday met with visiting Pakistani Chief of Air Staff Marshal Tahir Rafique Butt to discuss bilateral military ties. Liang, also a state councillor, said as two neighbouring states, China and Pakistan enjoyed a sound and stably developing cooperative partnership. He added that the two nations had carried out in-depth cooperation in various fields, benefiting the two peoples. Their coordination in international and regional issues effectively helped defend common interests of both sides. The Defence Minister said the two countries' Armed Forces maintained close relations, which was a strong support

for bilateral ties. The armed forces had solid friendship, regular high-level exchanges and fruitful cooperation, Liang said, adding that he hoped both sides to cherish the momentum, continue to strengthen people-to-people exchanges and deepen pragmatic cooperation between the two armed forces, especially their air forces.

Butt said Pakistan attached great importance to the Pakistan-China friendship and appreciated China's long-standing assistance. The chief of air staff also expressed satisfaction with achievements in the defence industry, military training and personnel exchanges and hoped that the two Air Forces would further deepen cooperation.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Over 60 pangolins seized in S Thailand

BANGKOK, 6 June — Crime suppression police in the southern province of Songkhla on Sunday rescued 62 endangered pangolins from a wildlife smuggler.

A 33-year-old suspect was arrested after the police was tipped off that pangolins would be illegally smuggled from Thailand's neighbouring Malaysia. The police stopped a suspected saloon and found 62 pangolins hidden in the vehicle.

Smuggling and sale of pangolins is prohibited under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES.—*MNA/Xinhua*



Photo taken on 5 June, 2012 shows an inundated car in water in Yumen City, northwest China's Gansu Province. A torrential downpour hit the city during the midnight, bringing a record high of 69.2 millimetre precipitation within several hours.—XINHUA

Nigeria suspends airline company's operation over plane crash

LAGOS, 6 June — The Nigeria government on Tuesday suspended the operations of DANA Airline whose aircraft carrying 153 persons crashed into a two-storey building in southwestern Lagos State on Sunday. Minister of aviation Stella Oduah told reporters that the airline has been suspended indefinitely for operational safety reasons, pending the outcome of investigations into the plane crash which resulted in the death of about 193 persons including foreign nationals.

Owners of the commercial plane said earlier Tuesday that the airline company would do everything possible to assist families who lost dear ones in the air mishap. In a statement made available to *Xinhua*, the airline regretted the accident and expressed deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the deceased, adding that a 24-hour call centre service has been initiated alongside an information centre set up at the Murtala Muhammed Airport in Lagos to look after their needs and keep them as quickly informed as possible.

"An investigation into the cause of the accident got underway immediately (after the air crash), under the guidance of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), who is being assisted by investigators from the US National Safety Transportation Board (NTSB). Dana Air is cooperating fully and assisting the investigation in every possible way," the airline company said.—*Xinhua*

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Dated: 7 June 2012

Guests enjoy a "Dinner in the Sky" on a platform hanging in front of the Royal Palace in Brussels, capital of Belgium, on 4 June, 2012. "Dinner in the Sky" can accommodate 22 guests, seated at a table suspended from a crane at a height of 50 meters. The crane will remain in front of the Royal Palace for a week and then move to three other sites in Brussels.

XINHUA



Lufthansa plans to sell LSG, IT Services

FRANKFURT, 6 June — Lufthansa (LHAG DE) is planning to sell off its LSG Sky Chefs and IT Services units, the *Financial Times Deutschland* newspaper said on Monday.

The paper said plans to sell the catering unit LSG were at an advanced stage, with 49 percent to be sold by 2013 at the latest in a first step, ideally to a strategic partner in the catering industry.

"We are currently looking at several parts of the company to find ways to increase our competitiveness," a company spokesman said in reaction to the report, adding that no concrete decisions had been made. — Reuters



BID ANNOUNCEMENT

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has signed the Exchange of Notes with the Government of Japan on December 04, 2009 and the Grant Agreement with Japan International Cooperation Agency on December 23, 2009 concerning the Japan's Grant Aid for the Project for Construction of Primary School-cum-Cyclone Shelter.

Japan International Cooperation System (JICS) acts as the procurement agent for and on behalf of the Department of Basic Education No. 1, the Ministry of Education for procuring products and services under this grant. JICS now invites the Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the construction of four (4) primary school-cum-cyclone shelters in Labutta Township in Ayeyawaddy Region. Further information is available on JICS's website (http://www.jics.or.jp/jics_html-e/index.php).

Storms cut power to thousands of homes in Australia's New South Wales

SYDNEY, 6 June — About 1,500 homes around Australia's New South Wales (NSW) are still powerless after a wild storm hit the state on Tuesday, local media reported on Wednesday. Torrential rain and winds topping 127 kilometres an hour tore off roofs and downed trees and powerlines along the NSW coast on Tuesday afternoon, leaving more than 25,000 homes and business

in Sydney and on the Central Coast without power on Tuesday night.

About 1,000 homes remain without power in Sydney on Wednesday morning, with about the same number blacked out south of the city in communities such as Kangaroo Valley and Berry, according to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) reports. The Sutherland Shire in Sydney's south has been hit worst by the wild storm, with the State Emergency Service receiving around 1,000 calls for help over the past 24 hours.

Xinhua

Air tanker crash kills two at Utah wildfire site

RENO, (Nev), 6 June — An air tanker dropping retardant on a remote wildfire along the Utah-Nevada line crashed Sunday afternoon, killing both crew members, authorities said.

The pilots were fighting the 5,000-acre White Rock Fire, which began burning Friday night after a lightning strike in eastern Nevada.

The fire spread across the Utah line Saturday night, but most of the blaze remained in Nevada, about 150 miles northeast of Las Vegas.

The cause of the 1:45 pm MDT crash in the Hamblin Valley area of western Utah was unknown, Bureau of Land Management officials said.

A helicopter crew saw the crash and told ground crews that "it didn't look good," Iron County, Utah, sheriff's Detective Sgt Jody Edwards told *The Salt Lake Tribune*.

BLM ground crews and helicopter crew members worked for a time to hold the fire back from the wreckage.

Rhode Island's Olivia Culpo crowned Miss USA

LAS VEGAS, 6 June — Olivia Culpo of Rhode Island was named Miss USA on Sunday after saying it would be fair for transgendered contestants to win the pageant, giving her a crown

fair that a transgender woman would win Miss USA over a natural born woman, and she answered, "I do think that would be fair, but I can understand that people would be a little apprehensive to take

evening gown that was among the few splashes of color in a competition that featured several white dresses.

Culpo, of Cranston, Rhode Island, is a student at Boston University. Her parents were both musicians, and she began playing cello in the second grade. She has played at the Boston Symphony Hall and Carnegie Hall in New York City, and she continues to perform. Miss Maryland, Nana Meriwether, was the runner-up, and contestants from Ohio, Nevada and Georgia rounded out the top five finalists. Miss Congeniality went to Miss Iowa, Rebecca Hodge, and the most photogenic award went to Miss Oregon, Alaina Bergsma.

The Miss Universe pageant will be held in December, but a location has yet to be named.

Earlier this year, Jenna Talackova, who underwent gender-reassignment surgery at age 19 and holds legal documents affirming her identity as a woman, was initially kicked out of the competition in the Miss Canada division, but was later reinstated by the Miss Universe organization's owner, Donald Trump. Talackova, now 23, went on to compete in last month's Miss Canada pageant but did not win. — Reuters



Miss Rhode Island Olivia Culpo (C) is congratulated by fellow contestants after being crowned Miss America 2012 during the Miss USA pageant at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada on 3 June, 2012. — REUTERS

that she will wear when representing the United States at the Miss Universe pageant later this year. Culpo, 20, competed in the traditional swimsuit and evening gown competitions at the Las Vegas pageant, but also answered a question—tweeted in from an audience member—about an issue that earlier this year vexed the organizers of the Miss Universe pageant in Canada when a transgendered woman wanted to compete.

Culpo was asked if it was

that road." She went on to say that there are "so many people out there who have a need to change for a happier life."

I do accept that because I believe it is a free country." The audience reaction seemed mixed initially but quickly turned to cheers and Culpo gave two thumbs ups. Later, when the winner's crown was placed on Culpo's head, tears came to her eyes as she accepted the congratulations of fellow contestants and walked the stage as the new Miss USA in a flowing, purple

immediately released.

A medical examiner was helping authorities recover the bodies as of Sunday night. The fire has been burning in steep, rugged terrain featuring pinion-juniper woodlands, sagebrush and grasses. Crews were pulled off the fire lines after the crash.

Reuters



In this file photo made on 13 July, 2006, a P-2V Neptune air tanker drops retardant on a wildfire southwest of Elko, Nev. An air tanker dropping retardant on a remote wildfire along the Utah-Nevada line on 3 June, 2012, killing both crew members, authorities said. The pilots were flying a P-2V air tanker that is owned by Neptune Aviation Services of Missoula, Mont. — REUTERS

Economic pain takes toll on US earnings forecasts

NEW YORK, 6 June — Expectations for US corporate earnings are deflating fast as the euro zone crisis deepens and economic data around the world disappoints. Standard & Poor's 500 earnings for the second quarter are now forecast to grow 7.4 percent, down from an early January forecast of 10.1 percent, according to Thomson Reuters data.

But remove profits-generating machine Apple Inc (AAPL O) and the financial sector. GSPF, which has weak year-ago comparisons, from the numbers and the forecast looks much worse. After those exclusions, the rest of the index is expected to report a 0.9 percent drop in second-quarter profits. Most S&P 500 sectors have seen estimates fall since January, with energy, materials and utilities all expected to see profit declines from a year ago, while telecommunications and healthcare profits are barely rising. — Reuters

Elmo seeks to be Olympic torchbearer

"Sesame Street" Muppet Elmo has kicked off a campaign to be one of the torchbearers in the run-up to this summer's Olympic Games in London. Elmo released a video online and an announcement on his Facebook page explaining his desire to run with the torch as it makes its way to the opening ceremonies of the

Games, NBC's "Today" show reported.

"He loves the fun of being an athlete," "Sesame Street" executive producer Carol-Lynn Parente told Today.com. "He's learned lots of things on Sesame Street about exercise being good for you." Parente said Elmo would not accidentally leave the torch with a stranger, as

he does in his campaign video.



Actress Vanessa Williams performs alongside Sesame Street's Elmo.

Woman finds egg inside of egg

A Texas woman who cracked open a giant egg laid by one of her hens said the yolk was on her when she found another complete egg inside it.

Cookie Smith of Abilene said she was surprised when one of her three hens laid the egg, which she said is about 3 inches longer than a normal egg and weighs about three times as much as the eggs she

usually brings in. She was further shocked when she cracked open the "super egg" and another complete egg was inside along with the white and yolk, the *Abilene Reporter-News* reported.

A video created by Britain's National History Museum at Tring says such a "double egg" is a somewhat rare occurrence and is caused by "unusual contractions" force a developing egg back into the bird's ovary, where it is surrounded by another egg.

Smith said she and her husband have decided not to eat the contents of either egg.



Fire sprinkler dampens wedding party

A Georgia bride said her wedding was tainted when a hotel sprinkler system went off, soaking her and her bridesmaids in a black substance.

Shalita Harris said she and her bridesmaids were getting ready in a room at the Westin Hotel in College Park and the triggered sprinkler system caused five members of her bridal party to be hospitalized, mainly due to

breathing problems, WSB-TV, Atlanta, reported. "Before we got ready to leave the room, we heard a big boom," Harris said. "I felt like my life was going to end right then and there."

Harris said her ceremony continued with only two of the expected eight bridesmaids in attendance.

School auctions basketball court floor

The University of Colorado-Boulder is auctioning off the portable floor of the basketball court with a starting price of \$5,000. The university, which is selling the Robbins "All-Star Plus" maple basketball floor on auction site HigherEdSurplus.com, said the 60-foot by 112-foot floor is in fair-to-good

shape and has been sanded and stripped down once since being purchased in 1996, KMGH-TV, Denver, reported.

The auction stipulates the winner must "remove, load and transport the flooring" and it is being sold "AS IS WHERE IS with NO warranty or refunds." The auction, which started on 1 June and ends on 15 June, had no bidders as of 4 June afternoon.

News Album

Brad Pitt to produce Marilyn Monroe biopic

LONDON, 6 June — Actor Brad Pitt has given nod to produce long-delayed Marilyn Monroe movie.

Naomi Watts was attached to play the iconic bombshell in biopic *Blonde*, directed by Andrew Dominik, reports contactmusic.com. Now Pitt, who previously worked with Dominik on "The Assassination of Jesse James", will produce the film through



Actor Brad Pitt

his Plan B production company.

"We're going to get this one done," said the 48-year-old. —Internet

Mikkelsen to play serial killer Lecter

LOS ANGELES, 6 June — NBC has cast Danish actor Mads Mikkelsen as the titular psychiatrist-serial killer in its upcoming drama series "Hannibal Lecter," *The Hollywood Reporter* said.

The 13-episode series is based on Thomas Harris' novels, which have spawned the hit movies "The Silence of the Lambs," "Red Dragon," "Hannibal" and "Hannibal Rising."

Hugh Dancy is to play



Will Graham, an FBI profiler and Lecter's nemesis, in the small-screen version of the story.

Mads Mikkelsen arrives on the red carpet before the screening of the film "Thérèse Desqueyroux" during the closing ceremony of the 65th annual Cannes International Film Festival in Cannes, France on 27 May, 2012. —INTERNET

Mikkelsen's film credits include "The Hunt," "Casino Royale" and "The Three Musketeers." —Internet

George Clooney to be honoured at Carousel of Hope gala

BEVERLY HILLS, 6 June — Actor and philanthropist George Clooney is to be honoured at The Carousel of Hope gala in Beverly Hills, Calif, for his humanitarian work, organizers said.

The 20 Oct event is a biannual benefit for the Barbara Davis Centre for Childhood Diabetes, a care and research centre for type 1

diabetes.

Clooney will be presented with the Brass Ring Award for his "outstanding artistic achievements and unprecedented humanitarian undertakings," organizers said.

Aretha Franklin and Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds have been booked to perform at the event. —Internet



George Clooney attends the 2012 White House Correspondents Association Dinner held at the Washington Hilton on 28 April, 2012 in Washington, DC. —INTERNET

Debra Winger to make Broadway debut

NEW YORK, 6 June — Debra Winger is to make her Broadway debut in David Mamet's new play "The Anarchist" this fall, producers announced on Tuesday.

Previews are to begin on 13 Nov and opening night is set for 2 Dec, said producers Jeffrey Richards, Jerry Frankel, and Howard and Janet Kagan.

Winger's previous stage credits include "How I Learned to Drive" and "Ivanov" at the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Mass.

Best known for her work in the films "Urban Cowboy," "Terms of Endearment," "An Officer and a Gentleman," "Shadowlands" and "Forget Paris," Winger will star with two-time Tony Award winner Patti Lupone in "The

Anarchist," a two-character play.

Internet



Jury member Debra Winger arrives on the red carpet during the 6th Rome International Film Festival in Rome on 1 Nov, 2011. —INTERNET



Actress Amanda Bynes arrives at the MTV Movie Awards in Los Angeles on 5 Jun, 2011.

INTERNET

Actress Amanda Bynes charged with DUI

LOS ANGELES, 6 June — The Los Angeles City Attorney's Office says actress Amanda Bynes has been charged with driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The "Hairspray" and "Whata Girl Wants" star was arrested on 6 April after she allegedly hit a police cruiser she was trying to pass.

E! News said the complaint against Bynes said the actress refused a peace officer's request to submit to and/or complete a chemical test to determine how much — if any — substance was in her system.

Bynes repeatedly has denied drinking or using drugs before getting behind the wheel the night in question.

Internet

Sheryl Crow has benign brain tumour

LAS VEGAS, 6 June — American singer-songwriter Sheryl Crow says she has been diagnosed with a benign brain tumour after forgetting the lyrics to some of her hits while

performing.

"I worried about my memory so much that I went and got an MRI. And I found out I have a brain tumour," Crow, 50, told the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

"And I was, like: 'See? I knew there was something wrong,'" she said. "I haven't really talked about it."

In November, I found out I have a brain tumor. But it's benign, so I don't have to worry about it. But it gives me a fit."

The newspaper said Crow's condition doesn't seem to be slowing her down. She is working on a new album, as well as writing a stage musical version of "Diner" with Barry Levinson, the writer-director of the 1982 film. —Internet



Singer Sheryl Crow and her son Wyatt attend the premiere of the animated motion picture comedy "Cars 2", at the El Capitan Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 18 June, 2011.

INTERNET

Sweden clinches pre-Euro friendly win over Serbia

STOCKHOLM, 6 June — Sweden beat Serbia 2-1 in their final pre-Euro friendly on Wednesday, securing an encouraging victory which nonetheless raised questions



Sweden's Ola Toivonen (C) scores a goal during a friendly football match against Serbia at the Rasunda Stadium in Stockholm. Sweden beat Serbia 2-1 in their final pre-Euro friendly on Wednesday, securing an encouraging victory which nonetheless raised questions about whether the team's defence is up to scratch ahead of Euro 2012. — INTERNET

about whether the team's defence is up to scratch ahead of Euro 2012. Sweden started off the scoring in the 23rd minute after Serbia's keeper Branimir Aleksic fumbled the ball on a Swedish corner and Ola Toivonen tapped it through the posts with his heel.

But Serbia equalised just four minutes later, after a tackle by midfielder Anders Svensson gave Serbia a free kick that led to a corner which Neven Subotic headed in

far-left corner to produce Sweden's winning goal.

Sweden's attackers picked up the tempo in the second-half. But despite the win, the hosts looked shaky and uncertain, nowhere near the smooth-playing and united team seen during training camp, raising as to whether coach Erik Hamren would be able to iron out the wrinkles before the Euros start.

Also of concern was Sweden's starting goalkeeper Andreas Isaksson, who left the pitch in the 71st minute with a slight groin injury — both good and bad news as Swedish fans breathed a sigh of relief it wasn't his recurring shoulder problem that has sidelined him in the past. Sweden has been paired alongside England, France and co-hosts Ukraine in Group D at Euro 2012, which runs from 8 June to 1 July in Poland and Ukraine. — *Internet*

between two Swedish defenders. Serbian keeper Damir Kahriman, who replaced Aleksic at the start of the second half, pulled down Toivonen and earned Sweden a penalty kick in the 52nd minute, which Zlatan Ibrahimovic blasted into the

Stosur sizes up Errani at French Open



Australia's Samantha Stosur

PARIS, 6 June — Australia's Samantha Stosur is expecting a heavyweight French Open semi-final challenge from pint-sized Italian Sara Errani and won't be fooled by the slight figure on the other side of the net. Sixth-seeded Stosur, the US Open champion and runner-up in Paris in 2010, starts Thursday's semi-final against 21st seed Errani as overwhelming favourite, holding a 5-0 career lead over the Italian. But Errani has punched above her weight at Roland Garros, reaching a maiden Grand Slam semi-final, knocking out former champions Ana Ivanovic and Svetlana Kuznetsova along the way. Stosur, at 1.72m and 65kg, goes into the match with

an eight-centimetre height advantage and packing the muscular power of an extra five kilos. "I guess when your opponent is a little bit shorter, it's a little bit easier for me to try and use the serve and forehand up high," said the Australian. "When you are that height, they are used to hitting the balls up there too. So it can help, but they are also going to be used to it. You have to have a plan B in the back of your head."

Stosur also wants to avenge her 2010 French Open final loss to another Italian, Francesca Schiavone.

Schiavone was the more aggressive player two years ago but Stosur said she learned a "tough lesson" from that match and will come out firing when she faces Errani, whom she beat on clay in Rome in straight sets last month.

— *Internet*



Italy's Sara Errani

Benzema calls for France to continue recent form

PARIS, 6 June — Karim Benzema wants France to maintain its recent good form into Euro 2012. Laurent Blanc's side is unbeaten in its last 21 fixtures and comfortably beat Estonia 4-0 on Tuesday night, with the Real Madrid man netting a stunning first-half effort. Following the match, Benzema told reporters: "The most important thing is to have won." I was feeling fit and fresh, like the most of my team-mates. It's always great

to score."

France will begin its Euro 2012 campaign against England on 11 June and Benzema is looking for his teammates to continue their winning ways in Ukraine and Poland. "We must remain concentrated," he continued. "We have recorded three good wins in our friendlies, now we will enter the heart of the matter. We have a good group and I hope that we will continue this form."

— *Internet*

England stars train ahead of Euro departure

LONDON, 6 June — After a worrying week of injury problems threatened to derail England's Euro 2012 challenge before the tournament had even started, there was better news for manager Roy Hodgson on Tuesday as all 23 of his players took part in "recovery work or training".

Hodgson has lost Gareth Barry, Frank Lampard, Gary Cahill and John Ruddy from his original 23-man squad for the finals, while John Terry, Scott Parker, Glen Johnson and Danny Welbeck have all been struggling with various injuries. But, according to the Football Association, the entire group took part in the recovery and training sessions on Tuesday and Hodgson could finally focus on working with his players ahead of their Group D opener against France on 11 June in Donetsk, Ukraine.



England's manager Roy Hodgson (L) looks on during the international friendly football match against Belgium at Wembley Stadium in London, England on 2 June. — INTERNET

Hodgson's side are due to fly to their Polish training base in Krakow on Wednesday and Chelsea defender Terry should be on the plane, although he was due to have further tests on the tight hamstring he suffered during Saturday's win over Belgium. Terry was sent for a scan on Sunday but

initial indications were that it was not a major concern and the Chelsea skipper would be able to take his place in Hodgson's squad. However, England have one more training session on Wednesday morning prior to departure before the travelling party is confirmed.

— *Internet*

Hodgson hoping Hart can inspire

LONDON, 6 June — England manager Roy Hodgson on Tuesday underlined the importance of Manchester City goalkeeper Joe Hart to his team's plans as they prepare for Euro 2012. Hodgson, whose side open their Group D campaign against France on 11 June in Donetsk, Ukraine, will head out to Krakow on Wednesday and stressed the importance of a strong goalkeeper to inspire

confidence through the team.

"His form for Manchester City has been superb," said Hodgson. "When he has played for England he has done very well and if we are to do well there is no doubt we will need Joe Hart in top form." England have a tradition of world-class goalkeepers stretching back to Gordon Banks and the likes of Peter Shilton and current England coach Ray Clemence — but more recent shot-stoppers have found it harder to impose themselves as a regular first choice.

With Ben Foster having quit the England scene and Norwich international rookie John Ruddy ruled out through injury Hart is the clear first choice ahead of Robert Green of West Ham and Jack Butland, who has only lower league experience with Cheltenham to draw on.

— *Internet*

Djokovic, Federer survive five-set epic to meet in French Open semis

PARIS, 6 June — Top seed Novak Djokovic and third seed Roger Federer both survived spectacular five-set thrillers to set up a repeat of last year's semifinal at French Open on Tuesday.

Djokovic showed incredible iron will and composure to save four match points on his way to wear down the fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-1, 5-7, 5-7, 7-6, 6-1, keeping alive his dream of holding all four grand slam titles at the same time.

Federer was pushed to the brink of abyss before he amazingly recovered to oust Argentine firecracker Juan Martin del Potro 3-6, 6-7, 6-2,

6-0, 6-3.

The women's draw lacked comparable drama and intensity to the men's as sixth seed Sam Stosur put out Slovak Dominika Cibulkova 6-4, 6-1 to set up a semifinal encounter with unfancied Italian Sara Errani who upset German Angelique Kerber 6-3, 7-6. — *Xinhua*



Roger Federer of Switzerland.

Eden Hazard is Chelsea's second signing of the summer after Germany's Marko Marin. — INTERNET



Belgian Hazard excited by Chelsea future

LONDON, 6 June — Belgium forward Eden Hazard says he cannot wait to get his Chelsea career going after signing for the Barclays Premier League side. The exciting 21-year-old completed his move from French club Lille on Monday after huge speculation over his future during the past few weeks. Hazard passed a medical and agreed personal terms with Chelsea and he will now join up with his new team-mates in July when they begin pre-season training.

He played for Belgium in their 1-0 international friendly defeat against England at Wembley on Saturday before completing

the formalities of his move to Stamford Bridge. Hazard told Chelsea's official website: "It's a dream come true for me. I can't wait to get started and for the season to start so I can meet my new team-mates, the supporters and all the people who are involved". "I want to play as many games as possible, score as many goals as possible and win a place in the hearts of the supporters. Ultimately, for a player it's all about winning things. I want to win as many trophies as possible, which is another reason why I came here as Chelsea have been winning things for a long time now, and I hope to win many more." — *Internet*



France 4-0 Estonia: Benzema and Ribery star as Blanc's men turn on the style ahead of England clash. — INTERNET

International Sports

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(7-6-12 09:30 am ~ 8-6-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Connecting to the World Through TELN3
- * News
- * 12 sign ascendants in June 2012
- * News
- * A Seminar on Medical Education
- * News
- * Taste of Myanmar (Rice Noodle Salad)
- * ASEAN PEOPLE'S VOICE
- * News
- * Environmental Conservation from the Myanmar Cultural Perspective
- * News
- * Music Programme
- * News
- * Who can match their Unique Music and Fashion
- * News
- * Amarapura, Origin of Hand Loom Weaving
- * Myanmar Movie "Matchmaking Wreath"

MYANMAR TV

(7-6-2012)(Thursday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatahsandi paritta
- 7:40 am
- 2. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
- 4. Health Programme
- 8:25 am
- 5. Teleplay (Health)
- 8:45 am
- 6. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm
- 7. Cute little Dancer
- 4:30 pm
- 8. One Village & One Product
- 4:45 pm
- 9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - First Year (Myanmar)
- 5:05 pm
- 10. Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions
- 5:30 pm
- 11. Science and Environment
- 5:40 pm
- 12. EURO (2012) HIGHLIGHT
- 6:30 pm
- 13. Approaching Science Discovery World
- 8:00 pm
- 14. News
- 15. Documentary
- 16. TV Drama Series

Red card for Euro 2012 jerseys



The two EURO2012 mascots wearing Ukraine (right) and Poland's national jerseys pose at the Legia stadium in Warsaw, 2011.—INTERNET

WARSAW, 6 June — Official jerseys for the upcoming Euro 2012 have been handed a red card by a consumer group even before the tournament kicks off for being tainted with lead, nickel and other toxic substances. The European Consumer Organization, BEUC, called a "chemical foul play" this week after testing nine official tournament shirts.

"All were found to have worrying levels of chemical

content," it said in a statement.

One of its members played down the warning, however. A spokesman for Belgian consumer group Test Achat, Jean-Philippe Ducart said "there's no need to dramatise." Referring to the quantities found, he told AFP that "there's nothing illegal, even though special attention is needed for vulnerable groups such as children."

BEUC said lead, a heavy metal, was found in six of nine tested shirts — those of Spain, Germany, Ukraine, Russia, France and Italy. Players from Portugal and the Netherlands will play in shirts containing nickel, it said. Jerseys from host nation Poland "should be banned outright from shops" for containing a compound to prevent the smell of sweat — organotin — that can be toxic to the nervous system.—INTERNET

Referees appointed for first Euro 2012 matches

GENEVA, 6 June — Carlos Velasco Carballo from Spain will take charge of the first match of Euro 2012 between co-hosts Poland and Greece, European football's governing body UEFA said on Wednesday.

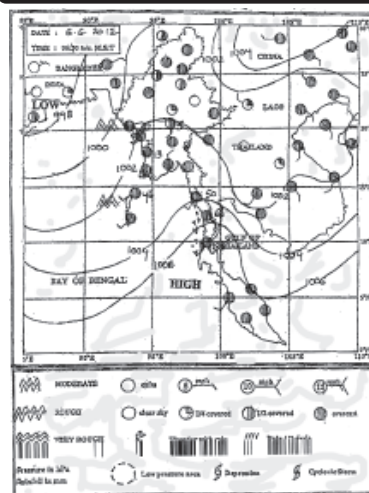
The tournament curtain-raiser kicks off in the Polish Capital Warsaw at 6:00 pm local time (1600 GMT) and will be followed

by the second Group A game between Russia and the Czech Republic in Wroclaw.

England's Howard Webb, who refereed the ill-tempered 2010 World Cup final, will be in the middle for that game.

UEFA said in a statement that Damir Skomina of Slovenia will officiate the Netherlands

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 7th June, 2012

No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	34/93	25/77	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
2	Kayah	35/95	22/72	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
3	Kayin	29/84	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
4	Chin	31/70	14/57	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
5	Upper Sagaing	31/88	24/75	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
6	Lower Sagaing	36/89	25/77	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
7	Tanintharyi	29/82	23/73	Widespread rain or thunderstorms (HI)	(80%)
8	Bago	34/93	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
9	Magway	37/99	24/75	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	26/79	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
11	Mon	32/90	24/75	Widespread rain or thunderstorms (HI)	(80%)
12	Yangon	33/91	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms (HI)	(80%)
13	Bhamo	32/90	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
14	Southern Shan	28/82	16/64	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
15	Northern Shan	35/95	22/72	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
16	Eastern Shan	32/95	23/73	Scattered rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
17	Ayeyarwady	29/84	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thunderstorms (HI)	(80%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	37/99	24/75	Isolated rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	33/91	23/73	Clear or two rain or thunderstorms	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	26/79	Likelihood of isolated rain or thunderstorms	(80%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 by MST on today: (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy. Rain or thunderstorms have been widespread in Tanintharyi Region, fairly widespread in Bago Region, Bhamo, Kayah and Mon States, scattered in Magway and Yangon Regions, Shan and Chin States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Tanintharyi Region and Bhamo State. The heaviest amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthung (7.68) inches, Sittoung (3.23) inches, Mawlaik (2.76) inches and Mawlaik (2.68) inches.

Bay Inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Tanintharyi Coast, Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of Strong Monsoon in the Andaman Sea.

Flame makes symbolic Irish Republic visit

LONDON, 6 June — The Olympic flame lit up the Republic of Ireland on Wednesday on its only visit outside Britain en route to the 2012 London Games, in a symbolic gesture of reconciliation between the two states.

Ireland's President Michael D Higgins received the flame, which is making a 10-week, 8,000-mile (12,875-kilometre) relay ahead of the Games that start on 27 July, in Dublin following a handover at the border.

The flame was transferred across the border between 1992 Olympic



The Olympic torch bearer is protected by security personell as protesters tussle with police near Peace Bridge in Londonderry, Northern Ireland on Monday. INTERNET

boxing medallists Wayne McCullough from Belfast and Michael Carruth from Dublin.

London Games chief Sebastian Coe and Irish Sports Minister Michael Ring

watched with a crowd of local onlookers as McCullough lit Carruth's torch with his own.

"This is a truly historic day for Ireland," said Ring. "Today we bring the Olympic spirit into the heart of our capital city, in front of a global audience."

The flame crossed the border as part of its a five-day journey around Northern Ireland as a token of closeness between Britain and the Republic of Ireland following Queen Elizabeth II's landmark visit there last year.

The trip comes a day after Britain wrapped up four days of celebrations for the sovereign's diamond jubilee, marking her 60 years on the

throne.

The flame was taken around Dublin ahead of its return to Northern Ireland to visit Newry and Lisburn before finishing in Belfast.

The Dublin relay started at Croke Park stadium — the home of Ireland's traditional Gaelic games — before passing some of the capital's most historic sites.

It was also to be greeted by Prime Minister Enda Kenny.

Dublin's 40 torchbearers included former Ireland rugby winger Denis Hickie, and pop duo Jedward, who represented Ireland at last month's Eurovision song contest.—INTERNET

NATO airstrike kills 'at least 15 Afghan civilians'

KABUL, 6 June — At least 15 civilians, including women and children, were killed in a NATO airstrike on a home in Afghanistan's Logar Province south of Kabul, Afghan officials said on Wednesday. NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said "multiple insurgents" were killed in the airstrike, which was ordered after troops came under fire from insurgents.

But deputy provincial police chief Rais Khan Sadeq



Map of Afghanistan locating Logar Province. INTERNET

Abdulrahimzai told AFP: "18 civilians including women and children are dead," adding that seven Taleban insurgents were also killed.

Provincial government spokesman Din Mohammad Darvish said "around 15 civilians are dead" after the attack in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

An AFP correspondent said he saw at least 15 bodies that had been loaded into five vehicles and driven by villagers to the provincial capital of Pol-i-Alam. He said he saw four children among the bodies, one as young as a year old and the oldest about 10 years old.

INTERNET



Carlos Velasco Carballo.

first game in Group B against Denmark on Saturday in Kharkiv, Ukraine, while Stephane Lannoy of France will take charge of the Germany-Portugal match in Lviv.—INTERNET

Schalke-target Van der Vaart aims to stay at Spurs

LONDON, 6 June — Dutch midfielder Rafael van der Vaart has poured cold water on reports German league side Schalke 04 want to sign him by insisting he is happy to stay with Premier League team Tottenham Hotspur.

Van der Vaart, who is with the Netherlands squad preparing for Saturday's opening Euro 2012 Group B match against Denmark in Kharkiv, Ukraine, has two years left on his Spurs contract and is content to stay at White Hart Lane. "There is always interest, but I am happy in England and want to stay," he told German Sky Sports at the Dutch training camp.

Both Van der Vaart and his agent Robert Geerlings have admitted being approached by Schalke, but the 29-year-old insists his comments were blown out of proportion. "I only said that in football anything is possible and nothing more," he added.

Van der Vaart already has Bundesliga experience having spent three seasons with Hamburg before he joined Real Madrid in August 2008 and was then snapped up by Spurs in 2010.

"Van der Vaart is a very good player, and there are also other considerations, but it does not look as if anything will happen quickly," Schalke chairman Clemens Toennis has said.—INTERNET



Dutch midfielder Rafael van der Vaart, seen here in 2008, has poured cold water on reports German league side Schalke 04 want to sign him by insisting he is happy to stay with Premier League team Tottenham Hotspur. INTERNET

Union I & P Minister receives UNFPA Resident Representative

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Mohamed Abdel Ahad called on Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi at the latter's office here today.

During the meeting, they discussed over tasks for taking a national census in 2014, programmes to be assisted by UNFPA in taking the census, plans for conducting workshops and training courses, preparations for holding a ceremony to mark the World Population Day in July and future tasks of the central census commission.

Also present at the call were Director-General of the Immigration and National Registration Department U



Maung Maung Than, Director-General of the Population Department U Myint Kyaing and officials concerned.—MNA

Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi receives Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Mohamed Abdel Ahad.—MNA

Random Chess winners awarded

YANGON, 6 June—Winners of the Random Chess contest conducted by Myanmar Chess Federation under the arrangement of Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports at the Aung San Stadium in Mingala Taungnyunt Township yesterday.

Officials of the Myanmar Chess Federation and Sports and Physical Education Department awarded the winners of the contest. Zwe Thura Aung won a consolation prize, Htay Min Lwin (Forestry) the fifth prize, Aung Naing (Ministry of Defence) the fourth prize and Kyaw Lin Naing (Forestry) the third prize.

Director of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Htay Aung presented K100,000 to Myint Han (Transport), President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin presented trophies to Kyaw Lin Naing and Myint Han who took the third and the second respectively, Deputy Director-General of the SPED U Naw Taung presented K150,000 to Myo Naing (Transport).

Afterwards, General-Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaug Htaik presented a championship shield to Myo Naing (Transport).—MNA

MMCWA donates note books, stationery to schools in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—As part of 2012-2013 academic year school enrollment day, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association donated note books and stationery to BEPS (Thazi) in Zeyathiri Township, BEPS Letpankhahla in Zabuthiri Township, BEPS (Pauktaw) in Pobbathiri Township, BEPS No.21 in Ottarathiri Township, BEHS No. 19 in Dekkhinathiri Township and BEPS (Thanetpinseik) in Pinyinmana Township on 4 June.

CEC members of MMCWA, chairpersons and members of Nay Pyi Taw and township Maternal and Child Welfare Organizations, assistant district education officer, personnel of the Education Ministry and community elders partook in the action.

MNA

School Enrollment Day observed in Kyaikto

NAY PYI TAW, 6 June—The ceremony to mark the School Enrollment Day for 2012-2013 academic year was observed at Basic Education High School No 1 in Kyaikto Township on 31 May morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myint Lwin and Mon State Education Officer U Min Tun Tin delivered addresses. Township Education Officer U Myint Oo explained the education matters.

Wellwishers donated books and cash to officials. They then provided stationery to needy students.

Also present on the occasion were Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Nyi Nyi Tun, township level departmental officials, responsible persons of NGOs and students.

MNA

Geoengineering could disrupt rainfall patterns



Volcanic eruptions, such as the one of the Karymsky volcano (Russia) in 2004, release sulphur dioxide to the atmosphere, which has a cooling effect. Geoengineering an 'artificial volcano' to mimic this release has been proposed as a solution to global warming.—INTERNET

SCIENCE DAILY, 6 June—A geoengineering solution to climate change could lead to significant rainfall reduction in Europe and North America, a team of European scientists concludes. The researchers studied how models of Earth in a warm, CO₂-rich world respond to an artificial reduct. The study is published 6 June in *Earth System Dynamics*, an Open Access journal of the European Geosciences Union (EGU).

Tackling climate change by reducing the solar radiation reaching our

planet using climate engineering, known also as geoengineering, could result in undesirable effects for Earth and humankind. In particular, the work by the team of German, Norwegian, French, and UK scientists shows that disruption of global and regional rainfall patterns is likely in a geoengineered climate.

"Climate engineering cannot be seen as a substitute for a policy pathway of mitigating climate change through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions," they conclude in the paper.

Internet

Sharapova moves to French Open semifinals



PARIS, 6 June—Whether she's enjoying a cafe lunch, shopping on the Champs-Élysées or notching another victory on the soft red clay, Maria Sharapova sure enjoys these trips to the French Open.

"What girl doesn't love Paris?" she said.

Two more wins and she'll love it even more.

Sharapova moved another step closer to filling

in the last piece of the career Grand Slam, defeating Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 6-2, 6-3 on Wednesday to reach the semifinals at Roland Garros.

Second-seeded Sharapova rolled through her 23rd-seeded opponent in 74 minutes, a much different scene than the three-set win over Klara Zakopalova in the fourth round that took more than three hours.

"I'm happy with the way I improved in this match," Sharapova said.

Her next opponent will be fourth-seeded Petra Kvitova, the Wimbledon

champion who ended 142nd-ranked qualifier Yaroslava Shvedova's upset-filled run with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 victory. Sharapova leads their all-time series 3-2, including a win on clay earlier this year in Stuttgart.

Later Wednesday, in the men's quarterfinals, No. 2 Rafael Nadal played No. 12 Nicolas Almagro and No. 4 Andy Murray faced No. 6 David Ferrer.

In the women's draw, Kvitova reached the semifinals for the third time over the past four Grand Slams.

Internet

China, Kazakhstan vow to enhance strategic partnership



PAGE 3

Djokovic, Federer survive five-set epic to meet in French Open semis



Roger Federer of Switzerland.

PAGE 14

Belgian Hazard excited by Chelsea future



Eden Hazard is Chelsea's second signing of the summer after Germany's Marko Marin.

PAGE 14

Flame makes symbolic Irish Republic visit



The Olympic torch bearer is protected by security personell as protesters tussle with police near Peace Bridge in Londonderry, Northern Ireland on Monday.

PAGE 15