

National workshop on air pollution and acid deposition held

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June— The Meteorology and Hydrology Department and EANET held National Public Awareness Workshop-2013 on Acid Deposition and Other related Atmospheric Pollutions, at Myat Taw Win Hotel, here, this morning.

On the occasion, Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung said that the public needs to have knowledge about acid deposition problems that can trigger impacts on environment and human beings. And those present at the event were urged to share knowledge on preventing water and air pollution and monitoring acid deposition problems.

Next, Dr. Supat Wangwongwatana, Secretary of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia, and Deputy Director-General Dr. Jesada Luangjame extended greetings,



Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung delivers address at National Public Awareness Workshop-2013 on Acid Deposition and other related Atmospheric Pollutions.—MNA

and posed for a documentary photo together with those present.

Local and foreign experts discussed the topics on Introduction to the

Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and other

related Atmospheric Pollution, Acid Deposition Monitoring Activities of the EANET, the State of Acid Deposition and Air Pollution in East Asia, EANET Activities in Myanmar, Ambient Air Pollution in Myanmar, Environment Conservation Policy of Myanmar.

This was followed by a general round of discussions in which the director-general of MHD made a detailed assessment.

MNA/Reuters

MNA

EU lets Myanmar back into preferential trade scheme

BRUSSELS, 13 June— The European Union has readmitted Myanmar to a scheme allowing it to benefit from lower duties on exports, a further sign of the its rehabilitation following political reforms.

Myanmar will return to the EU's Generalised

System of Preferences (GSP), having been forced out in 1997 due to systemic practices of forced labour, Ireland, which holds the rotating EU presidency, said in a statement.

“Given the positive developments...it is important that the EU supports this by facilitating economic

growth and development opportunities,” Richard Bruton, Irish minister for jobs, enterprise and innovation, said.

The EU's decision had been conditional on the International Labour Organization reporting improvements regarding forced labour, which it did

a year ago.

The United States, the European Union and others have gradually loosened restrictions on Myanmar in the last two years after it opened up its political system and freed hundreds of political prisoners.

MNA/Reuters

INSIDE

Public Service Media under Democratic Reform (3)

The fact that how to provide the financial support to the PSM is of utmost importance.

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Hundreds donate blood in Cambodia to mark World Blood Donor Day



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FIFA says Brazil will be ready for World Cup



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Flood preventive measures in Ayeyawady Region under implementation

Flood news is common in rainy season. Especially, flooding is not a strange one for people in Ayeyawady region as the region has to face floods every year. But year-on-year floods turn to a disaster. The region has to mostly suffer the impacts of sea tides. Ayeyawady River originates in the Kachin State, north of the country and flows into the Bay of Bengal.

Floods can make the region alluvial lands which are fertile soils for agriculture. In the olden days, people there were not anxious about floods, and now

it has reached the danger level. Floods are caused by cutting down of trees, fishing, disposal of wastes into the rivers and creeks and construction of earth roads, motor roads and railroads on plane lands.

Ayeyawady Region produces paddy mostly which is country's main staple food. Irrigation Department of Ayeyawady Region is systematically building dams, sluice gates and channels for preventive

measures for bank slides by soil erosion, flow of sea water into the farmlands and floods as well as ensuring the durability of these facilities. And the department is also building intake channels for irrigation of summer paddy.

To prevent the region from the floods in the coming rainy season, 79 flood preventive measures in eight townships—33 in Kangyidaunt township, 12 in Kyaunggon township,



A photo shows implementation and extension works of Aung Mingalar channel in Pantanaw Township with heavy machinery.

11 in Yekyi township, one in Maubin, 13 in Pantanaw township, one in Danubyu

township, two in Thabaung township and six in Laymyethna township—are under

implementation.

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Byline and Photo: Ko Htwe

Union Health Minister attends World Health Assembly

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin attended the 66th World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland from 20 to 28 May.

They also attended the 133rd session of the executive board of World Health Organization from 29 to 30 May, and partook in the Ministerial Health Leaders Forum held in Harvard University in Boston, the United States from 2 to 5 June.

During the 66th World Health Assembly, the Union minister held discussions about health cooperation matters with Regional Director of the WHO South East Asia Region Dr. Samlee Plianbangchang on 20 May, the health ministers from Nepal and Sri Lanka on 21 May and the health ministers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Timorm Leste won 22 May.

On 21 May, the Union Minister participated in Aligning for better results; IHP+ technical briefing, on 22 May, Accelerating Achievement of Health related MDGs; The Global Fund New Funding Model Implication for Country



Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin attends 66th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.—MNA

Level Cooperation and WHO's Supplant Technical briefing and Meeting of the Global Fund Implementers on 24 May.

On 27 May, the Union Minister held a meeting with Director-General of WHO Dr. Magret Chan on appointment of WHO's resident representative and carrying out of WHO's projects. Besides, the Union Minister discussed fund allocating for the three main diseases (TB, Malaria and HIV) with Mr. Mark Edington, Head of Grant Management Division, Global Fund and officials concerned.

On 28 May, the Union Minister visited Medtronic medical equipment plant in Tolochen, Switzerland.

On 30 May, he attended the 133rd session of the executive board of WHO and discussed bilateral cooperation in teaching methods on medicines and giving medical treatment with the health minister from the Republic of Maldives.

On 31 May, the Union minister visited Sanofi Pasteur vaccines production plant in France.

On 2 June, he held a discussion with China Medical Board Chairman

Dr. Lincoln Chen at Sheraton Commander Hotel. Then, the Union minister attended opening of Ministerial Health Leader's Forum held in Loeb House of Harvard University.

From 3 to 5 June, he attended Harvard Ministerial Health Leader's Forum held at Harvard Kennedy School.

On 6 June, he discussed cutting-edge technology for heart disease treatment and sending scholars with Vice-President and General Manager, Mr. Marshalls Stanton at Medtronic (Headquarters) in Minneapolis, the United States.

On 7 June, the Union minister visited GE Leadership Institute where he asked for sending Myanmar trainees to the Institute and discussed management sector.—MNA

**Milk makes you smarter:
healthier and more
intelligent**

Teak logs found in dredging old lake

ZIGON, 13 June—An old lake of 175 feet long Theingyiye was unearthed near Mogaung Pagoda in Ward 3 of Zigon in Bago Region in the last week of May.

In seven feet depth, one teak log with 60 feet in length and 9.9 feet in diameter was found. In ten feet depth, four more teak logs were found.

After removing the teak logs, the excavators saw one brick walls in 16 feet depth. They informed of their findings to Bago Region Government.

A team led by retired professor U Soe Thein inspected the excavation site and remarked that the teak logs were earthed in the Japanese period.

Kyemon-Ko Lwin (Swa)

DHF campaign undertaken in Tatkon Tsp



NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—Combating mosquito and larvae was undertaken to take preventive measures against dengue hemorrhagic fever in Bo Min Yaung Ward of Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 5 June morning.

Ward administrator

U Ohn Nwe and party, members of Red Cross and Fire Brigades, Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association participated in the DHF campaign. They chlorinated water pots and tanks and fumigated the houses.—Kyemon-564

Plan to upgrade 20 reading rooms near Bago mountain range

YANGON, 13 June—A plan is underway to open 20 reading rooms will be implemented in villages near Bago mountain ranges for the second time, according to the Action Times Foundation.

The village libraries will be fulfilled with necessary books for ensuring durability.

These 10 reading rooms had been opened since 2010.

The reading room in-charge of respective village takes responsibility for providing books to the rooms and for sharing the books from the main room to its room branches nearby villages.

So far, a total of 110 reading rooms have been opened in the remote villages of regions and states. Of them, the first reading room was opened in Shwehlaychaung Village of Dala Township in Yangon Region.

Kyemon-Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

Speed boats under inspection for safety equipment of passengers

SITTWAY, 13 June—Rakhine State is giving priority to water way transport as it is teeming

with rivers, creeks and lakes.

At present, the passengers from

Buthidaung, Myebon, Kyaukpyu, Manaung and Taungup are pleased with transportation facilities given by speed boats namely Shwepyitan, Malikha and Shwenadi.

Now, the rainy season set in. As squalls and heavy rainy may fall in the state some times, Head of Rakhine State Fire Services Department U Min San Aye, Staff Officer U Win Hlaing and members under the instruction of the Myanmar Fire Brigade Headquarters inspect installation of safety equipment and life jackets at the vessels based in Sittway as of June.

Kyemon-698



Departmental personnel of Development Affairs Committee fumigates Nay Pyi Taw Myoma Market, shopping apartments, drains, restaurants for prevention against dengue hemorrhagic fever on 10 June.

MNA

Head of Township Fire Services Department U Kyaw Naing demonstrates use of fire extinguishers for fire preventive measures in Ward 9 of Hline Township.
KYEMON-543



WORLD

EU justice chief seeks answers on US data spying

BRUSSELS, 13 June—The European Union's chief justice official has written to the US attorney general demanding an explanation for the collection of foreign nationals' data through its Prism spy programme.

In a letter seen by *Reuters*, the European commissioner for justice and fundamental rights, Viviane Reding, said she had serious concerns about the possibility that US authorities had accessed European citizens'

data on a vast scale.

Reding has pushed hard for stronger privacy rules in Europe throughout her mandate. In 2012, she sought to introduce measures that would have set up barriers for foreign judicial authorities to access data about European citizens.

But EU officials say the proposals were diluted by her counterparts in the European Commission, the EU executive, because of concerns such laws would

strain relations with the United States at a time when the EU was preparing for talks on a free-trade deal with Washington. "I would request that you provide me with explanations and clarifications on the Prism programme, other US programmes involving data collection and search, and laws under which such programmes may be authorized," Reding wrote to Attorney General Eric Holder.—*Reuters*



European Union Justice Commissioner Viviane Reding addresses the European Parliament during a debate on the constitutional situation in Hungary in Strasbourg, on 17 April, 2013.

REUTERS

Japan PM to explain "Abenomics" policies to other G-8 leaders

TOKYO, 13 June—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will explain his economic policies to leaders of the Group of Eight leading industrialized countries when they meet next week in Northern Ireland, given heightened interest among other G-8 nations in the policies, dubbed "Abenomics," according to Japanese officials.

Abe will outline the three-pronged policies, aimed at ending decades of deflation and reviving the economy, amid criticism that the weaker yen, driven mostly by aggressive monetary easing, has hurt rivals' exports by making Japanese goods relatively cheaper abroad.

The summit at the Lough Erne golf resort near Enniskillen next Monday and Tuesday, drawing leaders from Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States, will be the first occasion for Abe to showcase his pet policies in a multinational setting.

The so-called "three arrows" of the Abenomics policies consist of loose monetary policy by the Bank of Japan, large fiscal spending and a growth strategy centered on deregulation and tax breaks on business investment. With Tokyo set to join the ongoing negotiations for a free-trade pact known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership in late July, the Japanese leader intends to underscore Japan's pursuit of trade as the driver of growth, the officials said.—*Kyodo News*

WTO to help Haiti integrate into regional, global markets

SANTO DOMINGO, 13 June—The World Trade Organization (WTO) Director-General Pascal Lamy on Wednesday promised to help Haiti better integrate into the regional and international markets, according to reports reaching here.

"Haiti is the country which is least involved in international trade (in the region)," Lamy, who is visiting Haiti, said at a press conference in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital.

The rate of international trade in Haiti is 60 percent, while for most countries in the region, it is 100 percent, he added.

Lamy said he regretted

that Haiti's development has not benefited enough from the international trade system. However, this means new opportunities for Haiti.

Lamy arrived in Port-au-Prince last Tuesday to participate in the official launching of the Caribbean Community's (CARICOM) Regional Aid for Trade Strategy, an initiative seeking to strengthen Haiti's participation in the multilateral trade system.

CARICOM was created in July 1973 by the Treaty of Chaguaramas, which was signed by Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

The regional bloc is intended to strengthen ties and build a common market in the Caribbean region. It includes 15 economies and has a market of almost 18 million consumers.

The Haitian government is carrying out a diplomatic exertion in the region and in other continents to promote tourism and attract investment.

The country has been undergoing a reconstruction process after the 2010 devastating earthquake, which killed over 222,000 people and caused property damage of 7.9 billion US dollars.

Xinhua

Austrian peacekeeping troops start to withdraw from Golan Heights

JERUSALEM, 13 June—Austrian peacekeeping troops started to withdraw from the Golan Heights on Wednesday, days after the Austrian government decided to end its participation in the UN mission in the area due to the spillover of the raging civil war in Syria.

Xinhua reporters on Wednesday morning saw a convoy of jeeps reaching the UN peacekeeping force's base in the Israel-held part of Golan Heights via the Quneitra crossing from the Syrian side. Later five buses were seen leaving the UN base with peacekeepers aboard.

An Austrian peace-

keeper, who was not among those departing on Wednesday, told *Xinhua* that about 60 Austrian peacekeepers left their posts in the buffer zone in the Syria-held part of Golan Heights and are expected to arrive in the Austrian capital of Vienna tonight from Israel's coastal city of Tel Aviv.

The peacekeeper, who asked not to be named as he was not authorized to talk to the press, said the withdrawal of the 380-strong Austrian contingent is expected to be completed by August. According to him, 370 Austrian soldiers were stationed in the buffer zone inside Syria before the withdrawal began.—*Xinhua*



A United Nations peacekeeping soldier from Austria carries his belongings as he enters the Israeli side of the Quneitra border crossing between Israel and Syria, in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, on 12 June, 2013.

XINHUA

Iraq signs six cooperation agreements with Kuwait, hoping to lift UN sanctions

BAGHDAD, 13 June—Iraq signed six agreements of cooperation with Kuwait on Wednesday and hoped that the United Nations would lift sanctions imposed on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

The latest sign of improvement of ties between the two countries came during the visit of Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah on Wednesday who met with Iraqi leaders, including Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

The two countries signed six cooperation agreements in the fields of diplomatic and cultural cooperation, ecology, higher education and scientific research, air transportation and economy.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari and his Kuwaiti counterpart confirmed during a joint press conference that delegates of

the two countries will meet with the UN Secretary General on Wednesday, hoping to help end the UN sanctions (known as "Chapter Seven") imposed on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

Zebari added that the two sides accomplished most of the pending issues, including the demarcation of border.

The Iraqi official said his country only owe Kuwait 11 billion US dollars in reparations for damage caused by Iraq's 1990 invasion of the Gulf state, noting that if Iraq keeps paying 5 percent of its annual oil revenue to Kuwait the reparations will be finalized in 2015. As for the Syrian crisis, Zebari said "We demanded a peaceful solution and a political process that could democratically transfer the power and to respect the will of the Syrian people."—*Xinhua*



A wildfire rages on in Black Forest, Colorado on 12 June, 2013.

REUTERS

Colorado wildfire destroys more than 90 homes as winds worsen

COLORADO SPRINGS, 13 June — A wind-whipped wildfire that destroyed more than 90 homes menaced additional communities in and around Colorado's second-largest city on Wednesday, forcing thousands of residents to flee.

The fast-moving fire raged out of control for a second day through heavily wooded rolling hillsides on the northeastern outskirts of Colorado Springs, devouring more houses into the evening as winds sent flames doubling back into areas already burned, authorities said.

"Properties that we identified as standing are now engulfed in flames

so the numbers are changing as we speak," El Paso County Sheriff Terry Masket told a news conference.

Jeff Stemas, 44, who fled with his wife, three dogs, a file cabinet and a computer as flames neared their house on Tuesday, learned on Wednesday from a website set up to track property losses that their home was among those destroyed.

"It's a total loss," he said with quiet resignation, shrugging his shoulders. "But I expected it."

The Black Forest blaze, named for the community near where it began, prompted authorities

to order more than 7,000 people from their homes, while a separate, smaller fire about 50 miles to the southwest forced the evacuation of 900 inmates from a state prison. No injuries were reported in either fire. Investigators were seeking the cause of both blazes, which started on Tuesday and underscored concerns that persistent drought could intensify this year's fire season in the western United States. By evening, the Black Forest fire had charred an estimated 8,500 acres and was expected to scorch at least another 3,000 acres, defying efforts by some 500 firefighters to contain it.—*Reuters*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

BSNL to discontinue 160-year old telegram service

NEW DELHI, 13 June—Smart phones, emails and SMS seem to have pushed the humble telegram service to a quiet corner with the BSNL deciding to discontinue the 160 year old telegraph service from 15 July 2013.

Once the main source

all over the country.

But with the advent of technology and newer means of communication, the telegram found itself edged out. As per a circular issued by Shameem Akhtar, Sr General Manager (Telegraph Services) Bharat Sanchar Nigam (BSNL) Corporate office, New Delhi, the telegraph service is to be discontinued with effect from 15 July, 2013.

The circular sent to various telecom district and circle offices as per the instruction of a competent authority denotes that telegram services will be closed from 15 July and as a result all telegraph offices under the management of BSNL will have to stop

booking telegrams from 15 July.

The circular has also directed the telecom offices to maintain the log books, service messages, delivery slips only for six months from the date of bookings. However, complaints, press reports and other messages from different consumer forum are to be kept for one year.

Sources at BSNL Delhi said, "We had asked the government to support the service as it was not commercially viable and the government said the BSNL board should decide on it. "We have taken a decision to close the service after consultation with the Department of Posts. They

also said that there are better options available," the sources said.

The BSNL has instructed that surplus telegraph staff members would be deployed to mobile services, landline telephony, broadband services and shifting could take place within the next 3 months.

Faced with declining revenues, the government had in May 2011, revised the telegram charges after a gap of 60 years. The telegram charges for inland services was hiked to Rs 27/50 from Rs 3/50, 4/50 earlier. Two months ago, telegram services for overseas communication was withdrawn by BSNL.

PTI



India's software exports has a lot of potential in Middle East

MUMBAI, 13 June—The Middle East and North Africa region has huge potential for export of India's computer software and services sector, a leading industry official has said.

Kamal Vachani, regional director of Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council of India, said Indian exporters can expand their markets with their innovation, quality and cost effectiveness.

"Because of its strategic location and the facilities Dubai can be the gateway for exports of computer software products and services to the North Africa," Vachani said.

He said the upcoming India Soft event in November 2013 in Mumbai is an opportunity for the entrepreneurs from the Middle East region to join hands with the leaders in Mobile services applica-

tions, cloud computing, big data management, BPO, e-security, Banking, Finance, Insurance, Telecommunications, Media & Entertainment, Bio Informatics, Engineering Design and others.

The Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council, ESC will host around 400 IT buyers from more than 75 countries including those from the Middle East and North Africa region for business networking.

Despite global economic slowdown, India's export of Computer Software and Services during 2012-13 registered an estimated growth of 10.26 percent over the year 2011-12.

The export of computer software and services during 2012-13 has crossed \$75 billion from \$68 billion in 2011-12.—PTI

BSNL

of quick and urgent communication, the service delivered many happy and sad news to people spread

Microsoft urges government transparency on security requests

SEATTLE, 13 June—Microsoft Corp on Tuesday urged the US government for greater transparency on requests for data from security agencies.

It follows a demand from Google Inc earlier on Tuesday for permission to publish the total number of government requests for national security information.

"Permitting greater transparency on the aggregate volume and scope of national security requests, including FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) orders, would help the

community understand and debate these important



People use computers at a Microsoft retail store in San Diego on 18 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

issues," Microsoft said in an emailed statement.

"Our recent report went as far as we legally could and the government should take action to allow companies to provide additional transparency".

Both Microsoft and Google, along with other Internet companies, have come under scrutiny following disclosures in *The Guardian* and *Washington Post* newspapers of their roles in a National Security Agency data collection programme named Prism.

Reuters

UK banks fear cyber attack more than euro crisis

LONDON, 13 June—Worries over hacking and other cyberattacks has pushed aside the euro zone crisis as the top risk for Britain's banks and they must do more to protect themselves, a senior Bank of England official said on Wednesday.

Global cyber crime in the financial sector has become a more pressing worry, underlined by a series of cases this year. US prosecutors last month laid out details of a crime ring they say stole \$45 million from two Middle

Eastern banks by hacking into credit card processing firms and withdrawing money from cash machines in 27 countries.

Andrew Haldane, the BoE's director of financial stability, met with five of Britain's top banks six months ago and four told him that a cyber attack was their biggest threat. It was surprising the fifth bank did not have this risk on their list but it does now, Haldane told parliament's Treasury Select Committee.

"You can see why the financial sector would be a particularly good target for someone wanting to wreak havoc through the cyber route," he added.

"Understanding and management of this risk was still at a somewhat early stage," Haldane said.

Earlier meetings with bank chiefs had pointed to the "usual suspects" of the euro zone crisis or a slump in the economy at the top risk, Haldane said. The focus on credit, market and liquidity risk over the past five years may have distracted attention from operational, and in particular cyber risks, at banks or in infrastructure like payment systems, Haldane said. Haldane was being quizzed by lawmakers on his reappointment to the BoE's Financial Policy Committee (FPC) "I hope we can do more on this at the FPC as part of wider government initiatives," Haldane said.

Reuters

Wipro to hire over 1,000 professionals in Germany by 2016

BERLIN, 13 June—IT services major Wipro on Wednesday said it will triple its headcount in Germany by hiring over 1,000 people over the next three years with an aim to expand its operations in the key European nation.

According to industry estimates Germany's IT market size stood at around \$80 billion in 2012.

"Wipro plans to triple its employee strength in Germany over the next three years, by hiring over 1,000 professionals," the company said in a release.

At present, the Bangalore headquartered firm has over 500 employees in Germany, which serve more than 30 clients. It has 145,000 employees across 98 countries as on 31 March, 2013.

Its customers in Germany include a global automotive company, an European utilities major and one of the largest telecom companies in the country, among others, Wipro said.



"Wipro expects to see significant traction in the retail, automotive, telecom, healthcare, banking and energy and utilities sectors in Germany in the years to come," it added.

To drive stronger incremental growth in the future, Wipro is looking to address the requirements of medium-sized enterprises in the region, in addition to its existing focus on large global enterprises, it said.

The company has a three-pronged strategy for

Germany. "We are making investments in building strong domain knowledge in key growth verticals and are hiring local talent with strong delivery and programme management capabilities," Wipro Chief Sales and Operations Officer (Growth Markets) Rajat Mathur said.

The firm will continue to strengthen our new business hunting approach in order to build a strong and structured pipe-line of business opportunities for the next three to five years, he added.—PTI



A bus passes the Bank of England in the City of London on 23 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH



Exports of Australian beef reach record high in May with soaring demand from Asia

CANBERRA, 13 June—Exports of Australian beef and veal are the highest on record, with soaring demand from China and the Middle East pushing the monthly total in May above 100,000 tonnes for the first time, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Joe Ludwig announced in a statement on Wednesday.

According to figures from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, more than 103,200 tonnes of veal and beef were shipped in the month.

The figure eclipses the previous monthly record of 94,693 tonnes in November 2006 and was 19 percent higher than exports in May last year.

Of the May record, the figures showed that the largest increase was to China, which took close to 11,500 tonnes, a 15-fold increase in May last year. China is likely to import 100,000 tonnes of Australian beef and veal by the end of the year.

Trade Minister Craig Emerson said he had spoken to meat processors in Australia who were operating at full capacity and exporting more than ever. "Australia's future prosperity is partly tied to capitalise on demand for high-end food from Asia's

expanding middle class," Emerson said. "Export figures like these show that many of our producers are already reaping the rewards of the Asian Century," he added.

Joe Ludwig said the emerging trend testified to the success of the Australian meat industry. "Food produced in Australia has a global reputation for its high quality," Ludwig said. "This is exactly the time to be investing more to capitalise on opportunities in new markets."—Xinhua

Britain to regulate e-cigarettes as medicine from 2016

LONDON, 13 June—Britain is to regulate electronic cigarettes as non-prescription medicine from 2016 in an attempt to improve quality, though the country's drugs watchdog said they would still be sold in convenience stores.

Healthcare authorities around the world are grappling with how to deal with the battery-driven devices, which allow users to

inhale nicotine-laced vapour and are increasingly popular as a less harmful alternative to smoking.

A few countries have banned them — such as Brazil, Norway and Singapore — while others are opting for varying degrees of regulation, in some cases including restrictions on advertising and curbs on their use in public places.

Under the new British system, manufacturers will have to prove the quality of their products and demonstrate that they deliver the correct amount of nicotine. But they will not need to conduct clinical trials.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) said on Wednesday that existing e-cigarettes on the market were not good enough.

However, manufacturers have time to raise their game and apply for a license, allowing them to sell regulated devices as over-the-counter products from 2016.

A growing number of established tobacco companies are investing in the e-cigarette market worldwide, including Lorillard, British American Tobacco, Imperial Tobacco, Reynolds American and Altria.—Reuters

New suspected cases of coronavirus reported in France

PARIS, 13 June—Two new suspected cases of the infection of coronavirus, a virus close to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), have been reported in Tours in central France, local media reported on Tuesday.

Regional radio said two people were hospitalized at the University Hospital of Tours after returning from Saudi Arabia. They suffered from respiratory problems and stomach aches, which

are common coronavirus symptoms.

France's first victim of the SARS-like virus, 65-year-old man who was hospitalized in April after returning from Dubai, died last month.

The SARS-like virus was first detected in September 2012. Since then, 55 cases have been reported in different countries with 31 deaths, according to the World Health Organization. Xinhua



A man uses an E-cigarette, an electronic substitute in the form of a rod, slightly longer than a normal cigarette, in this illustration picture taken in Paris, on 5 March, 2013.—REUTERS

British banks plan task force to respond to standards probe

LONDON, 13 June—Executives at Britain's top banks may form a task force to respond to a report due this week from an influential committee of lawmakers examining standards within the industry, banking sources said on Wednesday.

The proposal would see the chief executives from Britain's biggest six banks—Barclays (BARC.L), HSBC (HSBA.L), Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS.L), Lloyds Banking Group (LLOY.L), Standard Chartered (STAN.L) and Santander UK (SAN.MC)—produce a coordinated response to the report, which is expected to

be published on Friday, the sources said.

The Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards (PCBS) was set up by the government last July with a remit to examine ethics within the industry after Barclays (BARC.L) was fined for attempting to manipulate global interest rate benchmarks.

Bank executives have discussed the task force plan with the industry's lobby group, the British Bankers' Association (BBA), but will not make a final decision on whether to proceed until after the commission's report is published, the sources said.

The task force would be chaired by Nigel Wicks, the BBA chairman.

The 600-page PCBS report is expected to make sweeping recommendations, including changes to bankers' bonuses, a new professional register for bankers and the inclusion of criminal sanctions in tougher penalties against executives at failed banks. It is also likely to reiterate the commission's previous call for legislation enabling regulators to break up banks that don't stick to rules ring-fencing their routine retail operations from riskier investment banking activities.—Reuters



A combination of four photographs shows (top L-R) a worker silhouetted against an illuminated sign in a branch of HSBC; Two people walking out of the headquarters of the Royal Bank of Scotland; (bottom L-R) a Lloyds bank branch near St Paul's Cathedral and a customer using a Barclays ATM, in central London on 23 July, 2010.—REUTERS

Auto maker MG unveils new car in Britain

BIRMINGHAM, 12 June—Chinese owned auto maker MG unveiled the full range of styles for the MG3 at its Birmingham-based European Design Centre on Wednesday.

The new car, MG3, carried forward many of the styling cues first illustrated on the MG ZERO concept car, again designed at SAIC Motors European Design Centre. The SAIC, MG's parent company, is one of the largest automotive company in the world and China's leading auto firm.

The MG3 is a distinctive statement of modern British style designed to target young and style conscious buyers, wanting something that's different from anything else



in the market.

"This new MG3 is a great package for the increasing number of European customers looking for a stylish small car, that's affordable and practical to own," said Guy Jones, MG Motor UK's Sales & Marketing Director.

The MG Motor UK is based in Birmingham, along with SAIC Motors European Technical Engineering Centre and they jointly employ 400 people in automotive styling, design, engineering, manufacturing and support services.

Xinhua

Rabobank warns of additional austerity cuts in Netherlands

THE HAGUE, 12 June—Extra austerity measures aimed to keep the Dutch budget deficit within the EU norm of three percent could mean the Dutch economy growth would remain flat or even contract in 2014, Rabobank economists said in a quarterly report on Wednesday.

"A continued focus on Brussels' three percent of GDP deficit ceiling will again prevent the Dutch economy from growing in 2014," the Dutch bank report stated, "It would be better if the cabinet accelerated structural reforms instead of carrying out additional spending cuts."

"Maintaining the focus on public sector retrenchment will also worsen the negative spiral of low economic growth, falling purchasing power and extra austerity measures... As a result, the economic malaise is certain to continue into 2014," it added.

The Rabobank economists are expecting a one percent contraction of GDP this year, and stagnation for 2014.

"This is mainly due to very weak domestic spending. The additional austerity measures designed to lower the budget deficit are stifling

Dutch growth," the report said. On Monday, the Dutch national bank, De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB), already announced that the government needs to cut an extra 6 to 8 billion euros (8 to 10.6 US dollars) in 2014 to meet the EU standard.

The European Commission allowed the Netherlands to exceed the three-percent norm in 2013, but expected cuts of at least 6 billion euros in 2014 to reach a budget deficit of 2.8 percent. "Those additional cuts will throw sand in the wheels of the recovery," Rabobank said.

Xinhua

WORLD

Askul to sell nonprescription drugs through Internet

TOKYO, 13 June—Askul Corp, a mail-order office supplies retailer, will start selling nonprescription drugs over the Internet this month, company officials said on Wednesday.

The decision was made after Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government decided in principle to allow online nonprescription drug sales under its new economic growth strategy.

Askul will initially sell low-risk products such as vitamin supplements, but it plans to start selling drugs that could have side effects, such as cold medicines, as early as August after opening a new distribution centre in Saitama Prefecture. Askul's online shopping mall called Lohaco will accept orders, with

about 4,000 items available.

The company is considering offering online video counseling services from pharmacists. "We intend to offer services that can be trusted by customers and municipalities, while keeping safety paramount," an official of the company said.

Customers will be able to buy office supplies, foods and other products along with drugs through the Lohaco site and receive free shipping for combined purchases of 1,900 yen or more. Starting this summer, the company plans to provide same-day delivery for the Tokyo metropolitan area and the Kinki region centering on Osaka, and next day delivery for other areas.—*Kyodo News*

Iranian Gmail users targeted in pre-election hacking campaign



A customer uses a computer at an internet cafe in Teheran on 9 May, 2011.—REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 June—Tens of thousands of Gmail accounts belonging to Iranian users have been targeted in an extensive hacking campaign in the weeks leading up to the country's closely watched presidential elections on Friday, Google Inc said on Wednesday.

The US Internet company, which described the attacks as broad "email-based phishing" attempts seeking to trick unsuspecting Gmail users into giving up their user names and passwords, said they origi-

nated in Iran and appeared to be "politically motivated in connection with the Iranian presidential election on Friday."

Google said it has a policy to alert users to "state-sponsored attacks and other suspicious activity," but did not identify the perpetrators beyond saying that it appeared to be the same group behind a Gmail hacking campaign in 2011 involving fraudulent digital certificates.

The most recent phishing campaigns began almost three weeks ago, Google

Mandela responding better to treatment

CAPE TOWN, 13 June—Anti-apartheid hero Nelson Mandela was responding better to treatment in hospital on Wednesday morning after a "difficult last few days", South Africa's President Jacob Zuma said.

Mandela, South Africa's first black president, was rushed to a Pretoria hospital on Saturday in a "serious but stable" condition suffering from a recurring lung infection. He was spending a fifth day under the care of its doctors.

"We are very happy with the progress that he is now making," Zuma said in a speech to parliament.

"We urge South Africans and the international community to continue to keep President Mandela and the medical team in their thoughts and prayers," he told parliamentarians

who burst into applause.

Mandela's condition has reinforced a creeping realization among South Africa's 53 million people that they will one day have to say goodbye to the father of the "Rainbow Nation" that he tried to forge from the ashes of apartheid.

The 94-year-old has received visits from family members including his wife Graca Machel and former wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela.

His family issued a statement saying they were happy with the care he was receiving and hopeful he would recover.

"We are particularly honoured to have received the many prayers and messages from South Africans at large as well as the global community," grandson Mandla said outside the

family home in Johannesburg.

It was 49 years to the day since Mandela was sentenced for sabotage and conspiring to overthrow the white-minority government.

Mandela has a history of lung problems dating back to his time on the wind-swept Robben Island prison camp near Cape



Town.

He was released in 1990 and went on to serve

Zenani Mandela (R), daughter of former South African President Nelson Mandela, arrives with unidentified family members at a Pretoria hospital where Nelson Mandela is being treated on 12 June, 2013. Nelson Mandela is "responding better to treatment" for a lung infection, President Jacob Zuma said on Wednesday.
REUTERS

as president from 1994 to 1999.

Reuters

UN says Israel-Syria ceasefire jeopardized by Golan violence

UNITED NATIONS, 13 June—Aspillover of violence from Syria's civil war into the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights is jeopardizing a decades old ceasefire between Israel and Syria, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a report to the UN Security Council on Wednesday.

Ban recommended to the 15-member council that self defence capabilities of a UN peacekeeping mission in the area, known as UNDOF, be enhanced, "including increasing the force strength to

about 1,250 and improving its self defence equipment."

Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria in a 1967 war, and the countries technically remain at war. Syrian troops are not allowed in an area of separation under a 1973 ceasefire formalized in 1974. UNDOF monitors the area of separation, a narrow strip of land running 45 miles from Mount Hermon on the Lebanese border to the Yarmouk River frontier with Jordan.

"The ongoing military activities in the area of sepa-



Israeli soldiers sit atop a mobile artillery vehicle (front) as they return from a drill near the Quneitra border crossing between Israel and Syria, on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on 12 June, 2013.—REUTERS

ration continue to have the potential to escalate tensions between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic and to jeopardize the ceasefire between the two countries," Ban said.

The 15-member Security Council is due later this month to renew the mandate of UNDOF for six months. Ban recommended that the force, which has been operating with about 900 troops, be boosted to its authorized strength of 1,250.

The peacekeeping mission has been caught in the middle of fighting in the Golan Heights area of separation, which had been largely quiet since the ceasefire. Stray shells and bullets have also landed on the Israeli-controlled side and Israeli troops have fired shells into Syria in response.

"The presence of the (Syrian army) and unauthorized military equipment in the area of separation is a grave violation of the 1974 Agreement of Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces," Ban said in the report.—*Reuters*

US federal budget deficit widens to 139 billion dollars in May

WASHINGTON, 13 June—US federal government recorded a budget deficit of 138.7 billion US dollars in May, US Treasury Department figures revealed on Wednesday.

The monthly budget deficit was highest since February, after the federal government registered a 112.9 billion dollars in

budget surplus in April.

The federal government raked in a revenue of 197.2 billion dollars in May, and reported outlays of 335.9 billion dollars in the same month.

The budget gap for the first eight months of the current fiscal year starting in October last year totaled 626.3 billion dollars.

Due to the ballooning entitlement spending, waning government revenue, as well as massive spending on wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the US federal government's budget deficit has surpassed 1 trillion dollars for four consecutive years under President Barack Obama's watch.

Xinhua

Kerry hesitates to propose Mideast peace plan for fear of failure

RAMALLAH, 13 June—A Palestinian official said on Wednesday that US Secretary of State John Kerry hesitates to put forward his plan for the Middle East peace process for fear of failure.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, attributed Kerry's hesitation to Israel's rejection of the Palestinian demands,

including full suspension of settlement construction and endorsement of the two-state solution. Kerry was expected to present his plan on 8 June but he demanded more time and postponed a visit to the region indefinitely, the official told *Xinhua*.

US President Barack Obama assigned Kerry to work on reviving the peace

talks between Israel and the Palestinians, which came to a full halt in 2010 due to Israel's refusal to freeze settlement construction. Kerry focuses his efforts on making progress regarding the issues of borders and security by presenting his ideas to each side. The Palestinian side has responded with Kerry's plan, but Israel has not, the official said.—*Xinhua*

LOCAL NEWS

HRD

Yangon university major repair costs over K 3800 million in 2012-2013



YANGON, 13 June—The ongoing major repair of Yangon University started since 2011 is estimated to cost more than K 3800 million in 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Convocation, main road, lecture halls such as Mandalay Hall, Toungoo Hall, Waithali Hall, Yamanya Hall and Amara Hall and some departments in Science and Arts Halls have been

repaired.

They are also furnished with modern furniture.

The repair of buildings in 2012-2013 costed more than K 3300 million in 2012-2013 fiscal year and the repair of roads, fences, lampposts, drains and others, over K 550 million.

Lecturers from the United States of America and South Korea who will give lectures at the university will be accommodated at the Pinnya Yeiktha hostel in Hline University Campus under repair.

MMAL-163

NATIONAL SPORTS

Yangon University boat team to celebrate 90th birthday

YANGON, 13 June— Alumni of Yangon University will meet to discuss celebration of 90th anniversary of Yangon University boat team at the team's office in Inya Lake

on 16 June morning.

Members are invited to discuss and pledge support for organizing of the 90th anniversary celebration and commemorative boat race.—MMAL

Compensations provided for land grabs

MYAUNGMYA, 13 June—Myaungmya Industrial Zone provided compensations to owners of confiscated farmlands at Myaungmya District General Administration Department Office on 9 June.

District Deputy Commissioner U Tun Min Zaw explained purposes and provided each farmer with compensations.

A total of K 47.7 million compensation was granted to

five farmers of confiscated farmlands. The price of land amounted to as K 1.5 million per acre.

The move came after both sides agreed on the amount of compensation.

The ceremony was attended by members of Myaungmya industrial zone supervisory committee and management committee and the farmers.

MMAL-Aung Min

(Myaungmya)



Condo basement parking lot inundated

YANGON, 13 June—The rain poured in downtown Yangon about an hour on 10 June, inundating the streets about one and a half inches due to blocked drains along Bo Sun Pak street.

There were two saloon cars in the basement parking lot of Bo Sun Pak Condominium at the corner of Merchant street and Bo Sun Pak street.

Despite attempts to

pump the water out of the basement, the heavy rain continued to inundate the basement, prompting authorities to move the cars by cranes.—MMAL-Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)



CRIME

TAMU, 13 June—A mobile team formed with respective departments in Tamu District in Sagaing Region seized illegally held foreign currency on a passenger bus bound for Kalay from Tamu on Tamu-Kalay-Kalewa road in Khun Mon Nun village on 8 June. The Indian notes worth

India Rupee notes seized by mobile team

approximately K 81.5 million were found in the tool box of the bus. The police charged the driver

and the conductor with illegal holding of foreign currencies.

MMAL-158



ACCIDENT

One injured, four vehicles damaged in police car crash



Police car crash injuries one pedestrian and damages for cars in Yangon.

YANGON, 13 June—A police car carrying five male detainees and five female detainees crashed into the back of luxury cars parked by the road in Mingala Taungnyunt Township on 11 June due to break failure, causing one pedestrian injured and damaging four vehicles.

The victim, Aung Naing Win, who was injured at the back was admitted to Yangon General Hospital.

The driver has been charged by the traffic police.

The loss is estimated to be K 1 million.

MMAL-Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

Failed transformer in Dala replaced within hours

DALA, 13 June—A new transformer replaced the old one which blew up itself on 8 June morning in Arntgyi east ward in Dala Township within one day.

Township Administrator U Win Myint Zaw, Township Electrical Engineer U Khin Maung Nyo and staff rushed to replace the damaged one with the new transformer. The electricity supply has been resumed since.

Township Electrical Engineer U Khin Maung Nyo said, "The transformer is age-old. And the rain poured. It was damaged due to falling insulation."

The new transformer was ordered immediately from manufacturers and the old one was sent for investigation. The local people thanked the staff for "trying hard for the people of the ward".

MMAL-Than Htay (Dala)



PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 14 June, 2013

Smokeless tobacco

Smokeless tobacco (SLT) use in various forms is highly prevalent in Myanmar. The use of SLT is deeply rooted in Myanmar culture, and there is also wide-spread belief that it is not as dangerous as smoking. Betel quid and tobacco is a common form of SLT use. The prevalence of SLT is high among school children and adults (especially in men) in Myanmar. Although control of smoking and consumption of tobacco product law exists, its enforcement is weak. Oral cancer caused by chewing betel nut quid is a growing problem in Myanmar.

Smokeless tobacco use requires spitting. A high prevalence of smokeless tobacco use leads to a high prevalence of spitting, creating an unaesthetic and unhygienic environment. However, a ban on spitting could, without a complete health message, lead to a swallowing of the juices, which results in higher rates of upper aero digestive cancer. The fact that children and youths are seen in large numbers taking up smokeless tobacco is a powerful indicator of an increasing trend.

The Global Youth Tobacco Surveys in 2001 and 2007 in Myanmar show that cigarette smoking has decreased among youth and adults, but use of other tobacco products has increased. Sentinel Prevalence Surveys of 2001, 2004 and 2007 in Myanmar show that among adults prevalence of smoking has been decreasing, while smokeless tobacco use has been increasing.

Best practices require the simultaneous control of smokeless and smoking forms of tobacco. We need to educate our youths to abstain from use of smokeless and smoking forms of tobacco.

Myanmar, Thai to promote higher education sector



Deputy Education Minister Dr Myo Myint and party observe displays inside the show.—MNA

YANGON, 13 June—Under the programme of “Myanmar-Thailand Cooperation in Higher Education: Strengthening Links”, the universities of the Higher Education Department under the Ministry of Education and the universities under Thai

Commission of higher education held a workshop on higher education and show at the Diamond Jubilee Hall of Yangon University, here, this morning.

It was attended by Thai Education Minister Mr. Phongthep Thepkan-

jana and higher education executive officers, Myanmar deputy education ministers, rectors, rectors in charge and principals of relevant universities of Myanmar.

Deputy Education Minister Dr Myo Myint and an official of Thai

Commission of higher education formally opened the show.

Next, the Thai education minister, guests and the deputy education minister and party observed educational opportunities for academic access to 23 universities in Thailand and other international universities.

Deputy Minister Dr Ba Shwe then focused on the topic “Strengthening Cooperation for the Common Flourishing Future”.

Rectors, rectors in charge and principals from 23 universities of Thailand and 47 universities under the higher education department of Myanmar discussed bilateral cooperation in Science and Engineering, Tourism and Hotel Management, Social Science and language (Myanmar and Thai), International Business and Business administration sectors.

MNA

Banya Aung

Financial support to Public Service Media

The fact that how to provide the financial support to the PSM is of utmost importance. Financing system for PSM must give the principles of PSM including editorial independence from political and economic interference. Deciding on budget of PSM depends on the efficiency and future plans of PSM and guarantees must be given against cutting and reduction in the funding to PSM by law when reportages of PSM do not satisfy the people. On the other hand, PSM’s expenditure is to ensure fully transparency and accountability. Besides, it is required to set up an independent body to monitor the efficiency and expenditure of PSM.

Moreover, to stay away from relying on solely financial resource, PSM needs to secure funds from diverse sources. Therefore, it is found that most of PSMs in the world have budgets channelled through the Public Funding and other businesses including commercials. Financial support systems of PSMs in some countries are as follow:

Country	Public Funding	Advertisement	others (eg.selling TV programme)
Australia (ABC)	80%	20%	
Canada (CBC)	66%	23%	11%
France	From 99% to 48%		
Japan (NHK)	98%	2%	
S-Africa (SABC)	23.5%	76.3%	
United Kingdom (BBC)	82%	17%	1%
Germany (ARD)	82%	9%	9%
Norway (NRK)	98%	2%	
Sweden (SR,SVT)	98%	2%	
Denmark (DBC)	91%	1%	8%
Thai (Thai PSB)	100%		

(In France, there are eight PSMs. Public funding to each PSMs varies depending on their services, reaching 69.1% in average.)

The table shows that only South Africa rely on advertising fees for their funds. However, during the group discussion over the Political Transition and Media Reform : South Africa Experience at the September 24-25 International Forum on PSM in Yangon, some participants pointed out that PSM of South Africa’s SABC looks like a private media and it is failed to follow the basic principles of PSM as it is totally relying on the advertising fees. A representative of South Africa also agreed with those points and replied that South Africa has been working to re-set up SABC.

Meanwhile, Thailand’s PSM does not need to rely on advertising fees as the government channelled all its income from alcohol and cigarette taxes to the funds of its PSM.

As part of the media reform process in Myanmar, all state-owned media must be transformed into PSM. To formulate the basic principles of PSM, there must be a financial supporting system which can give guarantees for editorial independence and free from commercial pressures. In consultation with experts from international media organizations including UNESCO in attempts to seek way for fulfilling the above need, they have supported the financial system funded by both the Public Funding and Advertising fees. Taking into consideration the fact of not to casing burden to the public budget and not to be influenced by the economic pressures, all agreed that 70% of the funds is to be channelled from the State budget and 30% is from the advertising fees. If

we views PSM as a public one, we can see that 70% of the shares is owned by the people and 30% by those who insert advertisements on PSM. Hence, PSM is obliged to give priority to the public interests as the largest part of its shares is owned by the people.

As advertising fees make up 30% of the funds, the number of pages for the advertisement on print media and duration of commercial advertisement in broadcasting media have to be limited by law. According to the PSM bill, a newspaper of PSM can give 30% of its pages to the advertising and Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) can give 10% of a program and 7.5% of a broadcasting time per day to commercial break. Therefore, the advertising revenue of all state-owned media would decrease after it transforms into PSM. However, the above consideration is a must to ensure that PSM would not be under commercial pressures.

(to be continued)

Trans: AMS

U Hau Do Suan presents his Credentials to Governor General of Canada

NAY PYI TAW, 14 June—U Hau Do Suan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Canada, presented his Credentials to His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, on 10 June 2013 in Ottawa.—MNA

Correction

Please read PSM instead of PMS on 2nd column in the article under the title of “Public Service Media under Democratic Reform (2)” that appeared on page 8 of this daily issued on 13 June. Error is regretted. —NLM

Low pressure over Northwest Bay of Bengal

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—According to the observation at 5:30 am M.S.T today, a low pressure area has formed over Northwest Bay of Bengal, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

NATIONAL

Union minister calls for resilient society



Union Minister U Win Tun delivers address at meeting of committee for Sustainability and Environmental Conservation of Inlay Lake.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—The Committee for Sustainability and Environmental Conservation of Inlay Lake met at Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry here, this morning, with an address by Union Minister U Win Tun.

The Union minister called conservation of Inlay Lake, a national duty, describing it as an invaluable cultural heritage with long history.

The government formed the committee

in 2010 which adopted a five-year work plan for sustainability and conservation of the lake. The plan according to the Union minister won somewhat the support of local people and interest groups.

The plan was put into operation in 2012 with the financial and technical assistance of Norwegian government and UNDP. In addition, under the financial help of the Norwegian government, International Institute of Development (IID) and UN Habitat are

formulating conservation plans.

The Union minister called for inclusion of programmes to ensure resilient and responsive society in the conservation plan. The Norwegian Ambassador and the country director of UNDP extended greetings. The director-general of Forest Department explained progress in implementation of conservation plan, and assistance of UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat and IID.

MNA

Mekong countries media interaction in coincidence with China-South Asia Expo in Kunming



Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htwe at booths of first China-South Asia Expo and 21st Kunming Export-Import Fair.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—The first media interaction of Mekong basin countries was held from 5 to 10 June in Kunming, China.

The first media interaction took place in coincidence with the first China-South Asia Expo and 21st Kunming Export-Import Fair, with the aim of encouraging deeper cooperation in trade sector and promoting socio-economic development of regional countries.

On 6 June, Deputy Minister for Information

U Pike Htwe visited the Myanmar exhibition comprising 30 booths.

The expo has staged 2420 booths from 32 countries.

“We have found favourable market conditions at Kunming market for Myanmar jades in terms of transportation and prices,” said Daw Khin Myo Swe who has exhibited jades at the expo for three times.

Myanmar has participated in the expo for 12 years.

The international expo

would help Myanmar gain experience and to be ready for international expos, said U Tun Aung, Member of the Central Executive Committee of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The trade volume between Myanmar and China has increased from USD 300 million nine years ago to over USD 2000 million this year, said a member of Muse-Namkham Border Traders Association.

MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Than Hlaing	Director-General Survey Department Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry
(b) U Aung Naing Oo	Director-General Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
(c) Daw Khin San Oo	Director-General Office of Auditor-General of the Union

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of Director-General U Tin Htoo of Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic as from 29 December 2012.

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Maung Maung Tint Deputy Director-General (Head of Office) Planning Department Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development	Director-General Project Appraisal and Progress Reporting Department Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
(b) Col Aung Tin Soe Ministry of Defence	Rector Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) Union Civil Services Board

Deputy Minister Dr Maung Maung Thein visits office of International Kanbawza Insurance Co Ltd on 12 June.
MNA



Myanmar government ...

(from page 16)

They don't want to go back and safety regulations are relatively better there.

Q: So those wishing to go back are mainly from Selayang?

A: Yes, of course. But two groups, those wishing to go back and those don't. The free funeral organization run by Myanmar nationals in Kampung would organize funeral service for the five Myanmar workers killed there. Three have been allowed, and the identities of other two are still under investigation.

Q: Where else had you been?

A: We went to another hospital and saw a Myanmar patient there. He was in serious but in stable condition. We then went to a factory. There were 150 Myanmar workers, most of them men working on shift. So we met 75 of them. They said they

were safe there but afraid of the cases. They said they didn't want to go back. Some have even taken their wives there and some are pregnant. We asked them if they wanted to send back their pregnant wives.

Two of them said they wanted to send back their wives and we had coordinated for them.

Q: Is there any difference between what you've read in internet news and what you've seen on the ground?

A: It is right that Selayang has high outbreak rate of crimes. Other places don't seem to be that bad and pretty normal, but there were rumors and thus there were concerns.

There are over 120,000 Myanmar workers working in Malaysia and the number of undocumented would be over 30,000 and the utmost number would be no more than 200,000. I didn't see and

feel things like they needed to go back immediately. Yes, we had not been throughout the country, but there was no such fear in the places we had been. They wishing to go back actually wanted to send back their families.

Q: What are the follow-up plans and joint measures with the Malaysian government?

A: We will meet Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Malaysia tomorrow and mainly discuss with him security matters. We will talk with Deputy Social Welfare Minister then about labour affairs and protection of Myanmar workers under the law and about compensation to employers by Myanmar workers who don't want to work anymore. Mainly, we'll focus on safety of Myanmar workers and release of undocumented workers detained at detention camp. We have also planned to meet Malaysia-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce.

NewsCrew: Thank you!

HRD

Students get books, stationery in Ayadaw



AYADAW, 13 June—A ceremony to provide books and stationery of Sayadaw U Uttama of Sanmyayaungchi Monastery on Daysunpar Hill in Wanbeinn Village, Bago Township to the students of Post-Primary

School in Aungtha Village, Ayadaw Township for 2013-2014 academic year was held at the school, on 6 June. The ceremony was attended by donator Sayadaw and disciples, the Village Administrator, the Headmistress, teachers, parents and students. Sayadaw U Uttama presented books and stationery worth K 150,000 to 267 students through the Headmistress, and she spoke words of thanks.

Kyemon-Ayadaw IPRD

District IPRD provides wifi at library

SAGAING, 13 June—The Office of Sagaing District Information and Public Relations Department has conducted public library in order that people could gain knowledge by raising reading habit in different reading corners—reading

room for public, reference catalogue and children. The district IPRD Office has now installed free of charge wifi system for enabling easy access to the Internet.

U Tin Maung Win (Nanda Min Lwin) applying wifi system said, "I am

thankful to have easy access to the Internet, and that would be great and people could know what is happening around the world in time."

Kyemon-Zaw Myint Naing-Sagaing District IPRD)

Gangaw Township Cooperative Syndicate meets



GANGAW, 13 June—An annual general meeting of Gangaw Township Cooperative Syndicate was held at the hall of Gangaw Township Cooperative Department, here, on 9 June.

Chairman of Cooperative Syndicate U Yar Tin and Staff Officer of Township Cooperative Department U Myo Thaung gave speeches on the occasion.

Then, Managing Director of the syndicate U Myint Htwe read out 2012-2013 annual report of the Syndicate and those present participated in discussions.—Kyemon-465

MONYWA, 13 June—A ceremony to open a self-reliant clinic was held at Kaungthit Village in Ayadaw Township, Monywa District in Sagaing Region on 8 June. The RC type clinic with 27 feet in length, 15 feet in width and iron-corrugated sheet roofed was built by well-wisher U Htay Myint Lwin and wife Daw Khin Ma Ma of Mandalay at a cost of K 2 million.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Myint, Region Hluttaw Representative U Kan Tun,

departmental heads, social organizations, the ward administrator, townsenders, teachers and local people.

After delivering

speeches by the Pyithu Hluttaw representative and U Win Hlaing Tint, on behalf of the Township Administrator, Dr Aung



Self-reliant clinic opened in Ayadaw Township

Union SWRR Minister meets guests of OXFAM International



NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin received a delegation led by Ms Penny

Lawrance, International Program Director of OXFAM International, at Maykala hall of the Ministry, here, yesterday afternoon.

On the occasion, they discussed signing an MoU for projects and the women's role in disaster risk reduction.

MNA

Kengtung DAC joins hands with private company in sanitation

KENG TUNG, 13 June—Sanitation Section of Development Affairs Committee of Kengtung Township and Shwin Chein International Service Company of Kengngam 2nd Street plan to conduct joint venture work for sanitation in five wards of the urban area.

As of 3 June, the company will collect the test rate for carrying out sanitation task with the use of garbage van, fuel and workers and then set the record for the works. Kengtung is growing the population day by day due to development of urban

area. Thus, the sanitation section of the DAC needs to cooperate with the private company for keep the town clean and pleasant.

If the work runs regularly, the sanitation work will improve in the town, said deputy head of section U Than Zaw.—Kyemon-513

CULTURE

TAUNG GYI, 13 June—The Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department under the Ministry of Culture has opened cultural museums to display works of traditions and heritages of national races in all regions and states. Soon, the Cultural Museum (Lashio) will be opened at No. 13/64-B in Region 13 of Ward 12 in Lashio of Shan State

Plan to open cultural museum in Lashio

(North).

Vinyl pictures depicting natural plants, animals, fossils, Bawkyo Pagoda, Manhso Pagoda, Gokhteik Viaduct and scenes of Goktwin Road in State State are displayed on the ground floor, cultural booths of Palaung and Wa national races at room No. 3, cultural rooms of Kokang, Myaungzee, Lahu and Lesu national races on the first

floor and e-library, library and reading room at three rooms on the second round.

The museum showcases costumes, traditional works, customs and utensils of national races. The museum is aimed at searching ancient cultural heritage of Myanmar and preserving artefacts.

So far, similar museums have been opened in Taunggyi and Kengtung in Shan State.

Kyemon- Naing Tun (TGI)

0.002 gram of opium seized in Katha

KATHA, 13 June—A squad led by Sub-inspector Kyi Soe seized 0.002 gram of opium at the alter of U Maung Oo who live in Nonetone Village of Pinlaebu Township, Katha District in Sagaing Region on 4 June.

He confessed that he bought it from an unidentified person near the north of Nonetone Village.

Kyemon-Nyein Nyein (Katha)

Mon of Photgone Village Health Branch presented medicines donated by the Ministry of Health through Ward Administrator U Phoe Chain and the donor and family K 200,000 to Head of Township Red Cross Brigade Police Captain Tin Thein for construction of Township Red Cross Building. The officials and donor cut the ribbon to open the ceremony. The donor in his remarks said that he was satisfied with his work.

Kyemon (District IPRD)

Kyaw Soe gave talks on health.

The well-wisher explained the purposes. Health staff Daw Htay Htay

REGIONAL



Photo shows a Boeing 787 Dreamliner of All Nippon Airways Co at Yamaguchi Ube Airport in western Japan on 12 June, 2013. ANA canceled a flight from Yamaguchi to Tokyo's Haneda Airport earlier in the day after the aircraft's engine failed to start.

KYODO NEWS

New Zealand coroner declares three Canadians in Antarctic crash dead

WELLINGTON, 13 June—A New Zealand coroner on Wednesday officially pronounced the deaths of three Canadian men who were in a light airplane that crashed into a mountainside in Antarctica on 23 January.

Chief Coroner Judge Neil McLean praised search and rescue teams who scaled the mountain in blizzard conditions looking for the site of a plane crash for their extreme courage.

Pilot Bob Heath and crew members Mike Denton and Perry Anderson were killed when the plane hit Mount Elizabeth, in an area of Antarctica claimed by New Zealand.

Family members of the three watched the inquest from Canada via a live stream from the Auckland court, Radio New Zealand reported. The court was told the plane took off normally and had been reporting in hourly as expected up until

its emergency transmitter went off.

Judge McLean said in a harsh and unforgiving environment, even an experienced pilot in Antarctica could crash, according to the report.

The Canadian Transport Board was investigating the crash and preliminary inquiries showed there were no mechanical problems with the *de Havilland Twin Otter* aircraft.

When rescuers reached the crash site two days later, the nose of the plane had been buried in snow, making it too hard to recover the bodies. It was planned to retrieve them once the snow began to melt in October.

The plane was flying in support of the Italian Antarctic Programme under the logistical responsibility of the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development.—Xinhua

Chinese solar panel makers tap into Africa

NANCHANG, 13 June — Chinese solar panel makers may bulk up in Africa after China finishes building one of the biggest solar power stations on the continent.

Chinese solar panel makers will supply most of the 140 million US dollars needed to build a solar power station in Garissa, Kenya, according to state-owned China Jiangxi Corporation for International

Economic and Technical Cooperation, the deal's coordinator.

The coordinating company said on Wednesday that the project will serve as the base for China's biggest solar panel makers to expand their presence in Africa.

The solar power station can generate 76 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually and provide power

Hundreds donate blood in Cambodia to mark World Blood Donor Day

PHNOM PENH, 13 June—Hundreds of Cambodian citizens and dozens of foreigners working in Cambodia lined up to donate their blood on Wednesday during the celebrations of the 10th World Blood Donor Day.

Speaking at the event, Cambodian Minister of Health Mam Bunheng expressed gratitude to all blood donors, saying that their donation was very valuable to save lives of the patients.

"I urge all of you to continue your donation," he said. "Blood transfusion will not harm your health; instead, your blood will save lives of people who are in need of blood." Hok Kim Cheng, director of National Blood Transfusion Centre, said the celebrations were to appeal to donors to donate blood in order to ensure the stability of supplying blood to hospitals and health centres throughout the nation. He

said last year, the centre had received voluntary donations of 60,084 units of blood, up 28 percent from 46,690 units in a year earlier. "More and more Cambodians are aware of the advantage of blood in saving lives," he said. "About 4.2 out of 1,000 people donate their blood last year, up from 4 out of 1,000 people in a year earlier."

He said all blood would

be tested for four types of diseases, HIV, hepatitis B and C, syphilis, and malaria.

"The blood that contains any of these diseases will be destroyed," he said. Dr Pieter Van Maaren, representative of the World Health Organization to Cambodia, said a unit of blood could save up to three lives in low income countries including Cambodia.—Xinhua



Cambodian citizens and foreigners working in Cambodia donate blood during the celebration of the tenth World Blood Donor Day in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 12 June, 2013.—XINHUA

Vietnam to do its utmost to deepen ties with UK

HANOI, 13 June—Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung said that Vietnam will do its utmost to continue deepening relations between Vietnam and the United Kingdom in an effective manner.

At his reception given to UK Minister of State for Trade and Investment Lord Green in Vietnam's capital Hanoi on Wednesday, Dung suggested cooperation be further boosted between the two countries in economics, trade and investment, *Vietnam News*

Agency reported. Dung said he hopes the UK will support Vietnam in its on-going negotiations about a Free Trade Agreement with the European Union, continue to provide high levels of Official Development Agreement for Vietnam and promote cooperation in civil aviation.

He proposed the UK increase scholarships and simplify procedures to make it easier for Vietnamese students to study in the European country, while investing more in building education-

al institutes in Vietnam.

Lord Green, for his part, affirmed that the UK always attaches great importance to cooperation with Vietnam and will continue working closely with the Southeast Asian country in effectively implementing agreements reached by leaders of both countries, especially those in areas of economics, trade, investment and education and training.

He said UK businesses are interested in the Vietnamese market and hope that the Vietnamese govern-

ment will create favourable conditions for them to invest in the country, especially in the fields of architecture, construction, provision of education services and machinery manufacturing.

He proposed the two sides further promote cooperation in education and culture, thus strengthening friendship and mutual understanding. The two-way trade between Vietnam and the UK reached nearly 3.5 billion US dollars in 2012.

Xinhua



People visit an exhibition showcasing serial pictures created by He Youzhi on love stories at the Zhejiang Art Museum in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province on 12 June, 2013. The exhibition kicked off here on Wednesday, where the serial picture master displayed his works created since 1949.

XINHUA

Indonesia's central bank raises overnight deposit facility rate

JAKARTA, 13 June—Indonesia's central bank raised the overnight deposit facility rate by 25 basis points to 4.25 percent on Wednesday, following the recent weakening of the country's rupiah currency.

"In efforts to maintain monetary conditions stable following the recent weakening of rupiah exchange rate... Bank Indonesia is ready to

take necessary measures," the central bank said on its website.

The overnight deposit rate, known as the Fasbi rate, is the yield Bank Indonesia pays on money deposited by commercial banks. It was last raised in August 2012. The bank also said it will continue to meet requirements for rupiah and foreign exchange liquidity in the market.

"These measures are taken as preemptive efforts to maintain monetary stability," it said. The hike in the overnight rate came a day before Bank Indonesia policymakers meet on Thursday. Analysts say the central bank may keep its benchmark interest rate at a record low 5.75 percent, which has been steady since February 2012.

Kyodo News



People take pictures of cars displayed at 2013 Xi'an International Automobile Industry Exposition in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 12 June, 2013. Visiting the auto show, which lasts from 8 to 17 June, is the way many local residents spent their three-day Dragon Boat Festival vacation from 10 to 12 June.—XINHUA

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV HOANG ANH-27 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(1) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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

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Tourists enjoy themselves on a pleasure-boat in the Summer Resort in Chengde, north China's Hebei Province, on 12 June, 2013. As summer comes, tourist destinations in Chengde attracted many visitors during the three-day Dragon Boat Festival vacation from 10 to 12 June. Chengde is a city well known for its imperial summer resort of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911).

XINHUA

Helicopter crash kills one, injures three in US state of Oklahoma

HOUSTON, 13 June—An EagleMed medical helicopter crashed near a hospital in the US state of Oklahoma on Tuesday night, killing one and injuring the rest three on board, local media reported.

The accident took place at 6:30 pm local time (1130 GMT) near the Choctaw Nation Hospital in Talihina, a town about 225 km from state capital Oklahoma City, the hospital's spokesperson Brandy Griffin told local media. There were no casualties on the ground.

Among the injured, one was in critical condition and was flown to a neighbouring hospital, while the two others were treated at the hospital.

Federal authorities were sending investigators to the scene while the identities of the victims have not been released.—Xinhua

5.4-magnitude quake hits Vanuatu

HONG KONG, 13 June—An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale jolted Vanuatu at 19:12:55 GMT on Tuesday (03:12:55 Hong Kong Time), the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 75.20 km, was initially determined to be at 18.0075 degrees south latitude and 168.3507 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua

Space dream on course after launch

BEIJING, 13 June—China is pursuing its space dream unswervingly, President Xi Jinping said following the successful launch of the Shenzhou X spacecraft on Tuesday.

The Long March 2F carrier rocket with three astronauts — commander Nie Haisheng, astronaut Zhang Xiaoguang and the second Chinese woman in space Wang Yaping — blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in Gansu province at 5:38 pm on Tuesday.

Xi met with representatives from organizations taking part in the mission at the center in the remote Gobi desert on Tuesday evening, and extended his congratulations and greetings.

"The Shenzhou X spacecraft has been successfully launched and precisely put into orbit, which means that our country's fifth manned space mission has succeeded in the first

phase," he said.

"At this very moment, I am sharing the same feeling with everyone," he said. "I am very happy and excited."

Xi said China is pursuing its space dream continuously by developing the space industry and turning the country into a space power.

The Shenzhou X mission is of great significance for the country's efforts to

consolidate and improve the rendezvous and docking technology and promote the development of a space lab and space station, he said.

Xi spoke highly of those involved in the manned space programme, praising them for their hard work, and urged them to exert persistent efforts and carry out all subsequent work carefully.

Xinhua



Part of the nose cone of the Shenzhou X spacecraft is found on Tuesday in Yulin, Shaanxi Province.

XINHUA

Gas transit via Ukraine drops 16.5 percent in January-May

KITEV, 13 June—Natural gas transit via Ukraine to Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) fell 16.5 percent year-on-year to 32.164 billion cubic metres in January-May, according

to official data released on Wednesday.

Gas transit to European countries plunged 15.1 percent to 31.121 billion cubic metres during the period, the state-run Ukrtransgaz Company said in a state-

ment. During the first five months of the current year, Ukraine delivered 1.043 billion cubic meters of gas to CIS countries, down 29.9 percent year-on-year, the statement said.

Xinhua



A visitor views video-related devices at the 19th Shanghai TV Festival in Shanghai, east China, on 12 June, 2013. The ongoing TV festival here will last until June 14, which attracted nearly 400 foreign participants like Warner Bros, ITV and Beta Film.

XINHUA

Measles outbreak occurs in Dutch "Bible Belt"

THE HAGUE, 13 June—In the so-called Dutch "Bible Belt," a strip of land mainly inhabited by conservative Protestants, a measles epidemic has broken out since late May, the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) said on Wednesday.

Local outbreak of the measles, an infection of the respiratory system, was reported around reformatory schools in the Land of Heusden and Altena region, the Bommelerwaard and the Alblasserwaard. In addition, patients were reported in the provinces of Zeeland, Utrecht and the rural area in the Randstad.

Most Dutch people are vaccinated against measles through the national vaccination programme which was introduced in 1976 to protect all children at the age of 14 months and at the age of 9 years against measles. However, some people living in the Bible Belt choose not to be vaccinated against diseases out of religious considerations.

"There is a phrase in the Bible which says intervening is against the will of god," explained Roel Coutinho, director of the RIVM Centre for Infectious

Disease Control, to Xinhua.

"Therefore, people choose to let themselves and their children not be vaccinated. We are talking about several thousands of unvaccinated children currently at risk of getting measles," Coutinho said.

So far, more than 30 patients with measles have been reported. The actual number is probably much higher because not all patients have attended the doctor.

In recent years, several outbreaks of measles occurred in Europe. In 1999/2000, the Netherlands witnessed its last measles epidemic, which mainly took place in the Bible Belt, with around 3000 patients with measles reported and 150 children admitted to hospital. Three children died from the effects of the disease.

"We expect the disease to spread again like in 1999/2000. These people have much contact with each other, through schools or other social occasions. But maybe it is OK this time, because it's the holiday season. All non-vaccinated children born after the last outbreak are susceptible to the disease," added Coutinho.—Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT



Brad Pitt was in Sydney to promote his newest film *World War Z*.

With Brad Pitt, son Pax on board a yacht named Ghost

SYDNEY, 13 June—Brad Pitt makes sure to give time to his kids, and the actor recently made the best of what he could for his son Pax during their recent visit to Australia.

The 49-year-old took Pax on a boat trip while they were in Sydney for the promotion of Pitt's new flick *World War Z* and they spent some quality time on board a yacht named Ghost,

read a statement.

Brad feels it is essential to find time for family.

"I always thought that if I wanted to do a family, I wanted to do it big. I hate it when they're gone. I hate it. Maybe it's nice to be in a hotel room for a day — 'Oh nice, I can finally read a paper' ... But then, by the next day, I miss that cacophony, all that life," he said.

PTI

Dispatch audio reveals details of Paris Jackson suicide attempt

LOS ANGELES, 13 June —Paris Jackson, the 15-year-old daughter of late pop star Michael Jackson, swallowed 20 pain pills and cut her arm last week in an apparent suicide attempt, according to emergency dispatch audio released on Tuesday.

The audio released by the Los Angeles County Fire Department casts new light on the 5 June incident at the Jackson's family residence in Calabasas, California, which prompted a judge who oversees her guardianship case to order an investigation into her "health, education and welfare."

The call between emergency dispatchers indicated that Paris took 20 Motrin tablets, an over-the-counter pain medication, and cut her arm with a kitchen knife.

The minute-long audio clip also described the teenager as awake and breathing before being rushed to a local hospital.

Paris and her two brothers Prince Michael and Prince Michael II, also known as Blanket, live under the court-ordered custody of their 83-year-old grandmother, Katherine Jackson, and cousin, TJ Jackson, the son of Jackson's older brother Tito.

Michael Jackson died in 2009 at age 50 from a lethal dose of the surgical anesthetic propofol.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell Beckloff ordered an investigator to "address the status of the minor child, Paris Michael Katherine Jackson, and recent media reports concerning her welfare," according to court documents filed after the she entered a hospital last week.

Reuters



Michael Jackson's daughter Paris speaks at a ceremony where Jackson's shoes and gloves are used to make hand and foot imprints in cement in the courtyard of Hollywood's Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles on 26 Jan, 2012. —REUTERS



Robert, who earlier dated Kristen Stewart, is now spending time with singer Katy Perry.

Robert Pattinson, Katy Perry new friends?

LOS ANGELES, 13 June —After breaking up with actress Kristen Stewart, Hollywood actor Robert Pattinson is reportedly spending time with singer Katy Perry.

The two attended a Bjork concert at the Hollywood Palladium here. They were said to have met up secretly and made their way into the gig together before leaving separately to avoid

photographers waiting outside the venue, reports dailymail.co.uk.

Perry, 28, opted for a gothic inspired ensemble, teaming a leather miniskirt with a black and silver Tee shirt.

The Part Of Me singer teamed her outfit with a long black satin coat, black tights and heels. She also wore a black and silver neckpiece.—PTI



British music festivals in tune with older, cashed-up fans

LONDON, 13 June—Britain's summer music festival season kicks off this week with a line-up ranging from the Rolling Stones to Beyonce to exiled Tibetan monks designed to attract the modern festival-goer - a 36-year-old with a well-padded wallet.

Music festivals have become an integral part of summer for British music fans with Bon Jovi and Blondie at the Isle of Wight festival this weekend, Slipknot and Iron Maiden at metal-fest Download, and Iggy Pop at Yoko Ono's Meltdown in London.

But figures show a shift in the type of fans attending music festivals with research by website MSN this year finding the average festival-goer is aged 36 and expects to spend about 425 pounds on a ticket, transport, and food to attend the event.

This comes as ticket prices have surged with the UK's biggest festival, Glastonbury, charging over 200 pounds for the first time this year, 95 percent up on the 2003 price of 105 pounds - more than 2.5 times the rate of inflation.

Catering for the older crowd are older acts with musicians in the 10 top headline acts an average age of 39. British folk-rockers Mumford & Sons are the only top act this year to have released a debut album in the past five years.

Research director James McCoy from market researcher YouGov said the costs had changed the crowd at big festivals with a survey finding 22 percent of festival-goers from last year planned to go on a holiday instead of paying for a festival.

"People have less money to spend and many of the



Mick Jagger (L) and Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones perform at a concert during the band's "50 and Counting" tour in Chicago on 28 May, 2013.

REUTERS

festival-goers we surveyed were turned off by poor weather and long queues," said McCoy, joking about the annual photos of Glastonbury festival-goers in raincoats and covered in mud.

"There is clearly some

backlash to higher prices and also to the commercialisation of festivals. This won't significantly impact the industry although we might see some smaller, more alternative festivals emerge on the side."

Reuters

SPORTS

Woods the player to beat at rain-softened Merion

ARDMORE, (Pennsylvania), 13 June—Merion Golf Club has been linked with some of the most iconic moments in championship golf and Tiger Woods will aim to add a chapter of his own at this week's US Open where he is a heavy favourite.

A host of other players can lay claim to being genuine contenders for the year's second major, which begins on Thursday, but Woods is widely viewed as the likeliest winner based on his outstanding record and the often dominant form he has shown this season.

Though Woods did not fare well in his most recent start, languishing joint 65th in a field of 73 at the Memorial Tournament.

Tiger Woods of the US watches his shot from the 16th tee during a practice round for the 2013 US Open golf championship at the Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania on 12 June, 2013.

REUTERS

ment 10 days ago, he has triumphed four times on the 2013 PGA Tour and is clearly the player to beat at Merion.

"Tiger Woods is playing some awesome golf," fellow American Matt Kuchar, who won the Memorial title to give himself a significant boost for this week, told reporters on Wednesday.

"Winning four times

already is just amazing. He seems to be back clicking again and when he's on, he can do things that most of the rest of us can't do. It's fun to have him playing well.

"But the great thing about the game of golf, anybody who tees it up has a chance to win. Every field we play on the PGA Tour, the top to bottom, there's a lot of strength." Woods has revived memories of his glory days in the late

but it was just one of those weeks," 14-times major champion Woods said. "It happens. And move on from there."

"I had a good week of practice last week at home. We had a tropical storm roll through there, I guess it was getting us ready for this one." Bad weather has already been a huge factor at Merion with more than six inches (15cm) of rain saturating the area since Friday and severe thunderstorms have

1990s and early 2000s with much of his play this year and he will be eager to end a major title drought dating back to his playoff victory at the 2008 US Open.

Though the American world number one was bitterly disappointed with his overall game at the Memorial Tournament, and especially his putting, he has put that down as a blip in an otherwise successful season.

"I didn't really do much that I was real pleased about,

been forecast for the latter part of Thursday's opening round. "You're not going to see a firm US Open this year," said twice former US Open champion Ernie Els. "We're going to have a soft golf course ... all week."

It means that if you're on your game you're going to have a lot of birdie putts. There are quite a few par-fours where you've just got to put it in the fairway ... then you've got quite a short second shot.

Reuters

NASCAR driver Jason Leffler killed in New Jersey crash

PHILADELPHIA, 13 June—NASCAR driver Jason Leffler died from injuries suffered when his car slammed into the wall of a dirt raceway in New Jersey, state police said.

The crash occurred during a race at the Bridgeport Speedway in Logan township in southern New Jersey, near Philadelphia, state police spokesman Sergeant Adam Grossman said.

Leffler, 37, of Huntersville, North Carolina, was rushed to the Crozier Hospital in Chester, Pennsylvania, where he was pronounced dead at 9:02 pm, police said.

The raceway calls itself the "Fastest Dirt Track in the East." It consists of a spacious 5/8-mile high-banked dirt oval, where average

speeds reach well over 100 miles per hour, according to the track's website.

Leffler was a two-time winner of the Nationwide Series. He had been racing for over a decade, with experience in so-called midget race

New Jersey State Police said in a Twitter posting that the accident was under investigation. "NASCAR extends its thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathies to the family of Jason Leffler who passed away earlier this



cars as well as the Indianapolis 500, where he placed 17th in 2000, his website noted.

evening," the organization said in a Twitter posting. "For more than a decade, Ja-

Jason Leffler is pulled from his number 18 Toyota after a crash in the NASCAR Camping World Series NextEra Energy Resources 250 truck race at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Florida, on 24 February, 2012. —REUTERS

Israel's Maccabi Tel Aviv name Paulo Sousa as new coach

Videoton FC's coach Paulo Sousa (R) reacts next to FC Basel's (FCB) Alexander Frei during their Europa League Group G soccer match in Basel on 8 Nov, 2012.

REUTERS

JERUSALEM, 13 June—Israeli champions Maccabi Tel Aviv have appointed Portuguese coach

Paulo Sousa on a two-year contract, the club said on Wednesday.

Sousa, 42, moved to

Maccabi from Hungarian side Fehervar. He previously coached the Portuguese Under-16 national side and had stints in England over a three-year stretch with Queens Park Rangers, Swansea City and Leicester City.

As a player, Sousa was a midfielder for Benfica, Sporting, Juventus, Borussia Dortmund, Inter Milan, Parma, Panathinaikos and Espanyol and made 51 in-

ternational appearances for Portugal.

He replaces Spaniard Oscar Garcia who left Maccabi at the end of last season for personal reasons.

Garcia, formerly the Barcelona youth team coach, was recruited by Maccabi technical manager Jordi Cruyff at the start of last season and led the perennial underachievers to their first league title in ten years.—Reuters

FIFA says Brazil will be ready for World Cup



(L-R) Local Organizing Committee (LOC) CEO Ricardo Trade, FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valcke, vice-governor of Rio de Janeiro Luiz Fernando Pezao, Brazilian soccer icon Pele, Brazilian Minister of Sports Aldo Rebelo and Hublot Chairman Jean-Claude Biver attend the event marking one year to the kick-off of the 2014 FIFA World Cup at Copacabana beach in Rio de Janeiro on 12 June, 2013. —REUTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 June—Three days before the start of the Confederations Cup and exactly a year before the World Cup kickoff, FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valcke dismissed concerns that Brazil will not be ready for the bigger tournament.

Flanked by football great Pelé, who urged Brazilian fans to stand unified behind their still evolving national team, Valcke unveiled a clock in Rio de Janeiro counting down the days until the World Cup starts.

Valcke said that 12 months is enough time to finish work at airport terminals and the 12 stadiums that will play host to the event.

Aldo Rebelo, Brazil's sports minister, has said repeatedly that the stadiums will be completed by a December deadline.

"That is going to happen," Valcke said on Wednesday, echoing the comments by Rebelo, who was also at the unveiling of the clock.

"There is no Plan B. There is no solution other than having those 12 stadiums," Valcke added.

Six of the stadiums, including in Rio, Brasília, Belo Horizonte and three cities in Brazil's northeast, are mostly completed and are gearing up for the two-week Confederations Cup.

The smaller tournament, an eight-team competition that starts on Saturday, will serve as a World Cup warmup and will help organisers test facilities ahead of the marquee event.

Pelé urged Brazil fans, known for booing the national team for anything other than outright dominance on the field, to be patient.—Reuters

Frenchman Monfils pulls out of Wimbledon

PARIS, 13 June—Former world number seven Gael Monfils has pulled out of this month's Wimbledon tournament for "personal reasons", the French tennis federation said on Twitter on Wednesday.

The Frenchman, who beat fifth-seeded Tomas Berdych in the French Open first round, had looked to have found his feet on grass as he cruised to the quarter-finals of this week's Halle event, defeating 15th-ranked Miłosz Raonic in straight sets along the way.

The 26-year-old, whose career has recently been plagued by a knee injury, has climbed from 119th to 67th in the ATP rankings in a month following a series of good results including a third-round appearance at the French Open.—Reuters

Gael Monfils of France is pictured as he plays Tommy Robredo of Spain during their men's singles match at the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris on 31 May, 2013.

REUTERS



GENERAL

Stanley ends waiting game with Open spot

ARDMORE, (Pennsylvania), 13 June—Kyle Stanley says he never really sweated over it but had to play a waiting game before knowing he was in the field for this week's US Open at Merion Golf Club.

Having played six events out of the previous seven on the 2013 PGA Tour, the 25-year-old American decided to skip last week's St Jude Classic in Memphis, well aware that he could lose his place in the top 60 world rankings, and therefore also at the Open.

As it happened, Stanley slipped from 59th to 60th and became the last player to earn an exemption

for the season's second major through the world rankings when the field was set for Merion on Monday.

"It wasn't too much of a sweat for me," Stanley told *Reuters* with a slight grin on Wednesday after completing a practice round on a sun-splashed afternoon at Merion. "I was never going to play in Memphis."

"In my mind, I had kind of done all I could. I've played decent the last couple of months, so it was just kind of a waiting game for me."

"The good thing was I was back home in Seattle with my friends and had a lot to kind of keep my mind off it," said the American,

who had missed out by two shots in US Open sectional qualifying in Columbus, Ohio nine days ago.

Asked how closely he had monitored the likely permutations in the world rankings last week, Stanley replied: "I knew there was a guy over in Europe (Austrian Bernd Wiesberger), if he played well, he would probably have knocked me out."

"I knew that (Australian Marc) Leishman was 60th and he wasn't playing (last week). (American) Jimmy Walker was mid-sixties and he missed the cut."

"So it really came down to guys either had to win or finish top five and none of them did. So here we are."

Stanley, who won his first PGA Tour title at last year's Phoenix Open, is delighted to have regained good form over the past two months having struggled badly with five missed cuts in his first 10 starts on the US circuit this season.

"I've come a long way since the beginning of the year," said the slender American, who has recorded three top-six finishes in his last five appearances, including third place at the Memorial Tournament two weeks ago.—*Reuters*



Kyle Stanley of the US watches his tee shot on the 10th hole during the final round of the Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 2 June, 2013.—*Reuters*

38 countries have met int'l target on hunger eradication

UNITED NATIONS, 13 June —The UN food agency confirmed on Wednesday that 38 countries have met internationally—established targets in the fight against hunger, chalking up successes ahead of a deadline set for 2015.

UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Director-General Jose Graziano da Silva said that these countries are proof that with strong political will and co-operation, it is possible to eliminate hunger rapidly,

deputy UN spokesman Eduardo del Buey told reporters here.

Amid the 1,000 days of action for the eight anti-poverty targets known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), 38 countries have met part of the first MDG which calls on member states to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. Twenty countries, including Algeria, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Indonesia, Jordan, Nigeria, Togo, Uruguay, etc, have

satisfied MDG number one, which is to halve the proportion of hungry people.

The FAO chief urged all countries to keep up the momentum, aiming for the complete eradication of hunger, in keeping with the Zero Hunger Challenge launched in 2012 by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, del Buey said.

First proposed at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Brazil last June, the challenge aims for a future

where every individual has adequate nutrition.

"Globally, hunger has declined over the past decade, but 870 million people are still undernourished," del Buey quoted the FAO chief as saying.

Two billion people suffer from one or more micronutrient deficiencies, while 1.4 billion are overweight, of whom 500 million are obese, according to an annual report launched by the agency earlier this month.

Xinhua

H1N1 flu cases rise sharply in Venezuela

CARACAS, 13 June—The number of people infected with the H1N1 virus in Venezuela rose sharply by 57.18 percent in a week's time, to reach 1,138 cases, the country's health ministry reported on Wednesday.

The report covering the week of 26 May to 1 June showed an increase of 414 cases, with the most affected states located along the northern coast and western Venezuela.

Health Minister Isabel Iturría called for the public to remain calm, saying the situation was "under control," as 3 million people were vaccinated in May.

The H1N1 virus first appeared in 2009 in Venezuela, infecting about 900 people and causing eight deaths.

As a particularly aggressive type of the flu virus, H1N1 is not lethal itself, but can be fatal for those whose immune sys-

tems have been already weakened by another ailment, such as cancer, AIDS or diabetes, especially for the old people and pregnant women.

In Venezuela, test methods now are short of quickly determining whether a patient has been infected by the virus, but the country reportedly has a good reserve of medicine needed to combat the disease.

Xinhua

Cambodia's largest port sees 14 pct rise in cargo shipment in 5 months

PHNOM PENH, 13 June —The Sihanoukville Autonomous Port, the kingdom's largest shipping facility, has seen a 14 percent increase in cargo shipment in the first five months of this year thanks to growing business activities, a port senior official said on Wednesday. During January-May period this year, the state-owned port had received 112,200 twenty-foot-equivalent units, or

TEUs (standard-sized containers), up 14 percent from 98,500 TEUs in the same period last year, according to the port's statistics.

During the period, 419 ships had entered and left the port, up 5 percent compared with 400 ships in the same period last year. "The growth is thanks to better economic situation in Cambodia and in the world," the port's director general Lou Kim Chhun

said. He said goods leaving Cambodia through the port were mostly garment and footwear products, and agricultural products, whilst cargo entering Cambodia via the port were consuming products, autos, construction materials, machinery, steel, steam coal, and petroleum.

The port was expected to list on Cambodian Security Exchange later this year, he said.—*Xinhua*



A woman waits for customers at the fishing market of the Qinglan port in Wenchang City, south China's Hainan Province, on 11 June, 2013.—*Xinhua*

Extra budget, rate cut in SKorea to boost growth: central bank

SEOUL, 13 June—Extra budget and policy rate cut would boost the growth rate of South Korean economy by 0.2 percentage point in 2013, central bank governor said on Thursday. "The effect of supplementary budget and rate cut will be a rise of economic growth by 0.2 percentage point this year. The 2013 growth outlook may be revised up by such margin," Bank of Korea (BOK) Governor Kim Choong-soo told reporters after the June rate-setting meeting.

The central bank kept the benchmark seven-day repurchase rate on hold at 2.5 percent after cutting the rate by 25 basis points in May.

The BOK revised down its 2013 growth outlook in April from 2.8 percent to 2.6 percent. The next revision on the bank's growth outlook was scheduled for next month.

Kim noted the effect of the monetary and fiscal stimulus measures would increase the 2014 growth rate by 0.3 percentage points, saying that the country's economic growth may reach near 4 percent next year.

The governor said that the central bank decided to freeze the rate in a bid to monitor the effect of the rate cut in May and the extra budget based on the assessment of no change in the future growth path.—*Xinhua*



The "Zhongbaodao" ro-ro cruise ship moves in the Yinxingtuo section of the Three Gorges reservoir region in Zigui County, central China's Hubei Province, on 11 June, 2013. "Zhongbaodao" ro-ro cruise ship, the first one of this kind in Three Gorges reservoir region, was officially put into service on Tuesday.—*Xinhua*

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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- * Local News
- * A Flower of Music
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- * Cruising to Precious Islands (Salon)
- * Local News
- * Gold Single Market
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- * Cleaning water... Saving Lives
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Betels
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- * Large Parasol: A Souvenir of Patheingyi
- * World News
- * Incredible Innovation
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- * Food Trip (Episode-5) (Part-1)
- * Local News
- * Thuta Swesone Literary Award
- * World News
- * Kambawzathardi Golden Golden Palace (A Treasured Legacy of Golden Days)

50th Myanma Gems, Jade and Pearl Emporium Central Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—Second meeting of the Central Committee for holding 50th Myanma Gems, Jade and Pearl Emporium was held at Mani Yadana Jade Hall here yesterday afternoon.

Patron of the Central Committee Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung said that respective work committee's works had been completed by 90 percent. He urged officials to discuss difficulties they are facing. Over 7,000 local and foreign gems merchants would attend the emporium. He called for successful holding of the emporium and interest of the country. Quality gems would be on sale at fair prices, he added.

Officials from respective work committees



Second meeting of the Central Committee for holding 50th Myanma Gems, Jade and Pearl Emporium at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in progress.

MNA

elaborated on their preparations and ongoing programme. Member of the patron of the central committee Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U

Htay Aung and committee members and those present gave their suggestions. The meeting came to an end with a concluding remark by Union Minister Dr

Myint Aung. It was also attended by the chairman of Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and members.

MNA

Myanmar government to coordinate with Malaysian government to ensure safety of Myanmar workers

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—A Myanmar special delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw and Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security Daw Win Maw Tun encouraged Myanmar workers at Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia yesterday and met officials of Ministry of Home Affairs of Malaysia today.

The new agency made a telephone interview with Deputy Minister U Zin Yaw yesterday.

Q: May I know Myanmar special delegation's current activities in Malaysia?

A: We arrived at Malaysia on 11 June evening. Soon after we held talks with the Myanmar Ambassador to Malaysia and party on ongoing works. Next morning, we firstly went to Myanmar embassy and met 150 Myanmar workers who were making passport extensions there. Deputy Minister Daw Win Maw Tun and I met representatives from the employment agencies separately. We enquired their difficulties and current information and asked them whether or not they want to go back home.

Q: How did they reply to current incidents there?

A: We have a chance to know their current conditions. Most of them told us that some Myanmars were attacked in Selayang region, other rumors and some news on Facebook. Some have been there for five years and six years, ten years respectively. Most of them don't want to go back home as they have got not bad jobs. It is assumed that they extend their passports so as to continue staying there.

But, they are afraid to go outside. Their employers don't let them go outside as being anxious. They heard that their parents and relatives in Myanmar want them to go back home due to widespread rumors there.

Q: Where did the Myanmar delegation proceed?

A: We went to Selayang Market in Selayang region where violence has occurred. There are old Selayang Market and new Selayang Market. We went to new Selayang Market, escorted by Malaysian police force. Selayang region is a hotbed of crime in Malaysia. That wholesale market sells vegetables and fruits in the afternoon and fishes at night. We found illegal

migrant workers there. They have no passports and did not give taxes and have been staying there for 10-15 years. Some run food shops and wheel shops. About 4000 Myanmar people are staying there. They confirmed the outbreaks of violence there, but did not know all incidents. They also said the gangs and other groups attacked Myanmar workers. But they said they do want to go back home. We saw some illegal young workers who come to Malaysia on recent days. They are from different parts of Myanmar. We asked them to take care each others and have security alert.

Q: Did the delegation visit Selayang Hospital?

A: We proceeded to Selayang Hospital through Selayang Market. The Myanmar ambassador met four warded patients at the hospital, two of them have been discharged from the hospital. One of warded patients died on 8 June, and one remains in Hospital. Now he is not in serious condition. He is from Myingyan. We donated 1800 Malaysia Ringgits. The embassy is taking care of him as he is alone there.

Q: Didn't the Malaysian employer visit the patient?



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw.

A: His employer visited him every day. He said he (the employer) took care of him.

Q: And where else did you go?

A: We then went to a Myanmar monastery in Kampung. There was only one monk, Dr Ashin Anaga, with around 20 Myanmar workers taking shelter there.

Q: So he was taking care of the Myanmar workers. What did he say?

A: He asked about the plans to enable Myanmar workers to return home as soon as possible, and make them safe. I have spoken with those taking shelter there, 16 of them want to return and Myanmar Embassy will issue certificate of identification to them.

Q: Is the process easy?

Myanmar special delegation encourages Myanmar workers

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—A Myanmar special delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw and Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security Daw Win Maw Tun encouraged Myanmar workers who are renewing their passports at Myanmar

Embassy in Malaysia yesterday.

Then, the Myanmar delegation visited Selayang Market, Selayang Hospital and Kampung Myanmar monastery, and then met 75 Myanmar workers from a glass plant where 150 Myanmars were working.

MNA

Five Myanmar workers dead, six injured in separate attacks in Malaysia

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—Five Myanmar migrant workers were killed and six injured in separate gang attacks from 30 May to 7 June in Malaysia, said Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia.

Maung Tun Maw Thein was attacked by unidentified motorcyclists on his way back home after working at a vegetable shop in Selayang Market at 2 am on 30 May. He was taken to the Selayang Hospital. He has been discharged from the hospital on 11 June and is taking shelter at Kampung Monastery in Kuala Lumpur.

Around 10.15 pm on 31 May, Maung Ko Ko Maung was attacked by a gang near the Selayang Market, sustained wounds to his two hands and head. He also has been discharged from the hospital and is taking shelter at the same

monastery.

In the evening of June 1, seven Myanmar migrant workers were attacked by the same fashion, one was dead and three injured. Of three injured, one died at night and one by the name of Saw Bar Balugay died the next day. Saw L Shi from Ngapudaw is still receiving medical care at a hospital.

Similarly, at 1 am on 3 June when Myanmar workers from a car washing service station in Kampon Barshu Ampan Ward fell asleep they were attacked by a gang comprising 10. In the violence, Maung Win Hlaing from North Okkalapa Township died and two were injured.

On 7 June, Myanmar workers were attacked in Suban Jayar by a gang and Maung Wai Aung Thein was taken to hospital and he was discharged from the hospital on 12 June.

MNA

A: Yes, because Myanmar Embassy has made sure that they are Myanmar nationals. Then they would be taken to Malaysian Immigration Department, and if their criminal and work histories are clear, they would be able to go back home. The Myanmar Embassy and the Malaysian Immigration Department have agreed that those eligible can return immediately.

Q: When can they return earliest?

A: On 15 June, we have planned for the time being.

Q: What would be the plans for Myanmar workers wishing to continue their work there?

A: We are talking

with the Malaysian Foreign Ministry to ensure safety of Myanmar workers and have also planned to talk with Malaysian Labour Ministry to provide better working conditions for Myanmar workers.

Q: Are there any more wishing to come back?

A: Currently, 16 as I've said. And another 15 or 15 have also said they wanted to go back.

Q: But how about the number from the whole country?

A: The monk said the highest number would be ten thousand at most, because there are Myanmar workers doing well-paid jobs at big companies.

(See page 9)