

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Summer Palace and Museum of King Tsar



NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing arrived at Peterhof from St Petersburg via Finland Bay on 28 June morning and visited the Summer Palace and the Museum of King Tsar and the natural beauty of the Samson Fountain.

The Senior General and party also visited the park and Honplaisir and arrived back St Petersburg at 1.30 pm LST.

In the afternoon, the Senior General and party

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Summer Palace and Museum of King Tsar.—MNA

left St Petersburg by air. They were seen off at Pulkovo Airport by Acting Commander of Western Military Region Lt-Gen Macarevich O Leontyevich and officials of the Russian Federation, Myanmar Ambassador to the Russian Federation U Tin Yu and Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Col Nay Win.

This morning, the Senior General and party arrived back here by air via Yangon.

During the visit, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services held talks on further cementing friendly relationship between the two armed forces of Myanmar and Russia, visited industrial and cultural sites in Moscow and St Petersburg and met with scholarship Tatmadawmen.—MNA

Plenary meeting of 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 14-15 July

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—The second plenary meeting of the seventh 47-member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee will be held on 14 and 15 July (7th-8th Waxing of Waso, 1375

ME) on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon.

The State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee member Sayadaws have already been invited to attend the meeting on Kaba Aye

Hill on 10 July, 2013 (3rd Waxing of Waso, 1375 ME) whether invitations letters are received in time or not, according to Religious Affairs Department.

MNA

Moderate earthquake hits outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—A moderate earthquake of magnitude 4.8 Richter scale with its epicenter outside

Myanmar (Andaman Islands, India) about 450 miles south of Kaba Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 10 pm

05 min 58 sec M.S.T yesterday, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

Implementation of Hanthawady International Airport Project to start soon

To cope with growing number of local travelers and increased tourist arrivals in Myanmar, it is planned to start the implementation of Hanthawady International Airport Project in September this year in Bago Region.

As Yangon International Airport could not handle floods of globetrotters in future, plans are underway to implement Hanthawady airport project with the aim of contributing towards further development in Myanmar.

Foreign investments are invited for implementation of the project and 30 companies showed their interest in the preliminary assessment programme. Seven out of them were chosen. But only four

companies—Incheon Airport Consortium, Yongram-CAPE-JGC Consortium, Vinci Airport, Taisei Corporation—submitted their proposals for the contract.

According to the Department of Civil Aviation, selection for the winner will be finalized in July this year to be able to start the project.

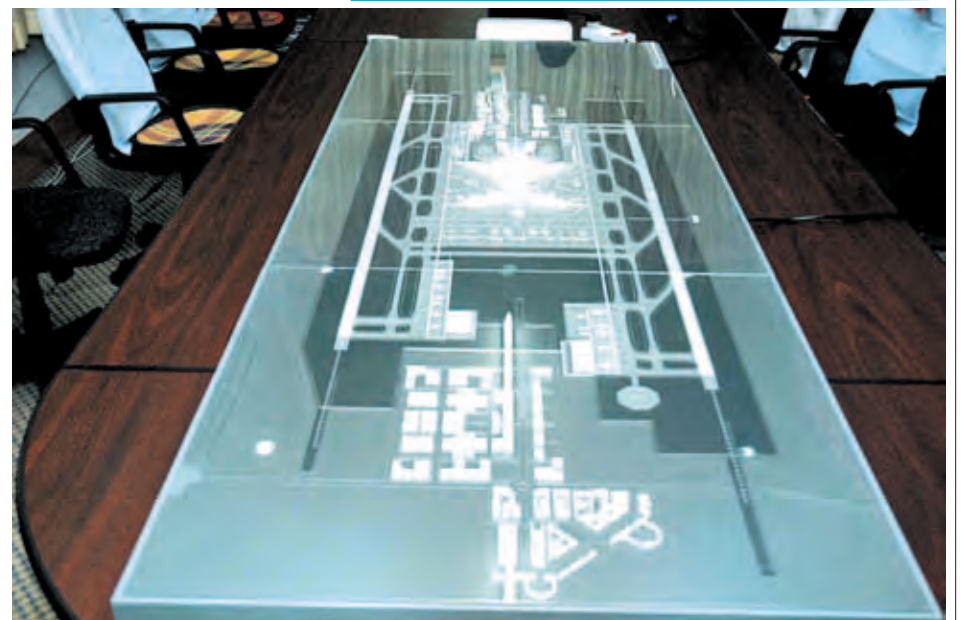
As an Airport City, there will be hotels, shopping malls, hospitals and clinics in the neighbourhood of Hanthawady International Airport that will be equipped with the characteristics of an international airport. The project with more than US\$ 1000 million in investment is set to complete in December 2017.

The Ministry of Transport was allowed to build

Hanthawady International Airport on an area of 9690 acres in 1996 and a stake-driving ceremony was held on the same day in 1996 when a ceremony to drive stake for construction of Mandalay International Airport (TadaU) took place. A Malaysia-based company failed to implement the project due to various reasons. Implementation of the project will resume soon.

Hanthawady International Airport will be designed and built to land Airbus A380s and cargo planes. It is designed to handle 12 million passengers per year and to expand for arrivals of 35 million passengers per year.

While Hanthawady International Airport is under construction, Yangon



International Airport will be upgraded into a facility with the capacity for six million passengers per year. Now the airport has a capacity for 2.7 million passengers per year. Yangon International Airport saw nearly 500,000 visi-

tors in the previous year and it is expected to reach six million passengers in 2017.

Yangon International Airport is situated on an area of over 1000 acres and infrastructure can be built for six million pas-

sengers. With a surge in arrivals of tourists along with development of the country, implementation of Hanthawady International Airport Project is in progress.

Kyemon (17-6-13)

Trs: YM

Byline: Thaw Zet
Photo: Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)

Nan Htet Htet Lin wins Physique Championship

NATIONAL SPORTS

YANGON, 29 June — Jointly-organized by Myanmar Physique Sports Federation and MGS Beverages Co., Ltd, Mr. Crusher and Ms.Quench and Contests in commemoration of International Olympic Day-2013 took place at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township, here, on 27 June.

The competition included men's and women's bodybuilding and physique contests. Among 18 participants in the men's bodybuilding event (open), Than Naing stood first, followed by U Pyu and Kyaw Lin. Among 19 competitors in the U-21 men's bodybuilding contest, the first prize went to Hla Htay, second prize to Zay Thu Aung and third prize to Saw Steven. Among 14 bodybuilders aged 50 and above at men's bodybuilding event (senior), U Pyar



was presented first prize, followed by U Thin Win and U Thein Han.

Next, women's physique contests followed.

feet and three inches) with the participation of seven contestants. Nan Htet Htet Lin stood first, followed by Thuzar Hlaing and Ngu Yi Thant in the women's physique event (under 5 feet and three inches) with the participation of seven competitors.

All contestants and athletes of the federation took part in the women's physique championship event in which Nan Htet Htet Lin won the first prize, followed by Aye Aye Soe (selected athlete of the federation) and Ma Saw Win respectively.

Next, President of Myanmar Physique Sports Federation Wunna Kyaw Htin U Hla Myint Swe and officials of the Ministry of Sports and MGS presented prizes to winners.

It was learnt that Daw Nu Nu Yi, executive of Myanmar Physique Sports Federation, was presented a lifelong fitness award at the ceremony.

Kyemon-Saw Thein Win

First prize went to Khine Wai Lwin, second to Ma Saw Win and third to Waing Chit Su in the women's physique event (above 5

Chin United FC wins MNL-2 (First Division) 2013 title

YANGON, 27 June — Chin United FC met GFA in the final match of MNL-2 (First Division) 2013 at Aung San Stadium yesterday evening. Chin United FC won by four goals to two and grabbed the title of the MNL-2 (First Division) 2013.

Although both teams were conceded to go on to MNL coming season, efforts of Chin United FC were crowned with success, securing the First

Division's Championship title. The final match was a good game for football fans as all players of the two teams tried their best for the title.

After the match, the prize-giving ceremony followed. Myanmar Football Federation President U Zaw Zaw and officials presented individual medals and K 5 million to the third prize-winning U-19 team, individual medals and K 10 million to the second prize-



winning GFA and individual medals, K 15 million and a Championship Trophy to first prize-winning Chin United FC. As Chin United FC and GFA gained highest

points in the table of MNL-2 (First Division) 2013, both teams had already been allowed to take part in the MNL 2014.

Kyemon-Shine Htet Zaw

Urban wards in Kawthoung see sanitation work

KAWTHOUNG, 29 June — With the aim of ensuring characteristics of a township, durability



of downtown roads and proper flow of water in the drains, Kawthoung Township Development Affairs Department carried out dredging of drains on 26 June.

Staff of the department performed sanitation work with the use of heavy machinery in cooperation with NGOs and dwellers of Aung Thukha and Shwe Zinyaw wards.

Kyemon-Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

Waso cane-ball demonstration in Thanlyin

THANLYIN, 29 June — To mark the second Waso robe offering ceremony of Thanlyin Township in Yangon South District, a Myanmar traditional cane-ball demonstration took place at a cane-ball house in Thanlyin on 22 June.

Cane-ball players from other townships participated in the demonstration, showing their skills.

The Waso cane-ball demonstration is being held on weekends at Thanlyin Township cane-ball house. The Waso robe offering ceremony will be held on Fullmoon Day of Waso. Those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact U Tin Ngwe (Ph: 09 73188934).

Kyemon-Tin Maung Ngwe (Thanlyin)



Billboard set up to mark Myanmar Women's Day

YANGON, 29 June — Hailing the Myanmar Women's Day, a ceremony to set up a billboard was held at U Htaung Bo roundabout in Myoma ward in Bahan Township, here, on 27 June morning.

Patrons of Yangon Region Women's Affairs Organization Daw Thin Thin

Mya and Daw Khin Aye Nwe, acting-chairperson Daw Thauang Mya formally opened the ceremony.

Next, Patron of Yangon Region WAO Daw Khin Thet Htay unveiled the billboard as a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women's Day.

Kyemon-Township IPRD

TRAFFIC RULES ENFORCEMENT

Tow Truck in action for undisciplined vehicles in Mandalay

84th street between 26th and 28th streets near Mandalay Zaygyo market were impounded by the tow truck.

"The tow truck of MCDC will take actions against undisciplined vehicles as a drive for ensuring traffic rules enforcement. The tow truck service is priced K 50000. Moreover, vehicles that have violated the traffic rules are to pay prescribed fines in accord with the traffic rules," says an engineer of MCDC.

The tow truck can be hired, K 50000 per service for vehicles which are non operational because of a

breakdown in the municipal area of Mandalay.

Mandalay City Development Committee is implementing various plans for development of Mandalay, laying down traffic rules to deal with the increased population and vehicles. Setting up of road signs and installation of digital traffic lights are being carried out. While officials concerned are trying hard to ensure traffic rules enforcement and develop the city into a modern one, mass participation is also needed.

Kyemon-Tin Maung (Mandalay)

MANDALAY, 29 June — It is learnt that undisciplined vehicles are being towed for long-time parking on the urban roads and in the neighborhood of Zaygyo market in Mandalay by a Tow Truck, the US-made Power Plus Brand, of Mandalay City Development Committee.

The Tow Truck is making regular patrols on downtown roads and in the city centre to take actions against undisciplined vehicles. Yesterday morning, two vehicles which were illegally parked in the no-parking area on

WORLD

Egypt violence builds, American among dead

ALEXANDRIA/CAIRO, 29 June—Two people, one an American student, were killed when protesters stormed an office of Egypt's ruling Muslim Brotherhood in Alexandria, adding to growing tension ahead of mass rallies aimed at unseating the Islamist president.

A third man was killed and 10 injured in an explosion during a protest in Port Said, at the mouth of the Suez Canal. Police on Saturday said the cause was unclear but protesters, believing it was a bomb, attacked an Islamist party office in the city.

Egypt's leading religious authority warned of "civil war" after violence in the past week that had

already left several dead and hundreds injured. They backed President Mohamed Mursi's offer to talk to opposition groups ahead of Sunday's protests.

The United Nations, European Union and United States have appealed for restraint and urged Egypt's deadlocked political leaders to step back from a confrontation threatening the new democracy that emerged from the Arab Spring revolution of 2011.

The US embassy said in a statement it was evacuating non-essential staff and family members and renewed a warning to Americans not to travel to Egypt unless they had to. The Muslim Brotherhood said eight of its offices had been



Supporters of Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi shout slogans with brotherhood's flag during a protest in the suburb of Nasr City, Cairo, on 28 June, 2013.

REUTERS

attacked on Friday, including the one in Alexandria. Officials said more than 70 people had been injured in the clashes in the city. One was shot dead and a young American man who was using a small camera died after being stabbed in the chest. He was identified as Andrew Pochter, a 21-year-old student from Chevy Chase, Maryland who had been studying at Ohio's Ke-

nyon College. The college said he had been working as an intern for the US educational organisation AMIDEAST. —Reuters

Bombs hit Iraq funeral and football stadium, killing 22

RAMADI, Iraq, 29 June—A series of bombs near a bakery, at a funeral, inside a senior police officer's car and at a football stadium killed at least 22 people across Iraq on Friday, police and medics said.

The violence is part of a trend of increasing militant attacks since the start of the year, which claimed more than 1,000 lives in May alone, making it the deadliest month since the sectarian bloodletting of 2006-07.

Twin blasts at a neighbourhood football stadium killed five players in Madain, about 30 km (20 miles) southeast of Bagh-

dad, and a roadside bomb near a bakery shop in the west of the capital left three people dead, police said.

A senior Iraqi police officer was killed when a bomb exploded inside his car and a second blast came five minutes later as police and bystanders gathered near the wreckage of the vehicle in the city of Ramadi in Anbar province. Ten people died in those blasts.

"We were on duty at a nearby checkpoint when the car exploded. We ran to work out what was going on, but before we reached the car it exploded again," said a policeman at the scene. "Many civilians and

policemen were killed."

A suicide bomber attacked a funeral in the mainly Shi'ite city of Dujail, killing at least four others, police and medics said.

Concerns that Iraq may lapse back into full-scale sectarian conflict have mounted in recent months amid tensions fuelled by the civil war in neighbouring Syria, where mainly Sunni rebels are fighting to overthrow a leader backed by Shi'ite Iran. Sunni insurgents often target members of the security forces, heads of tribes and officials they see as supporters of the Shi'ite-led government, as well as Shi'ites. —Reuters



A man lies on a hospital bed after being wounded during one of two bomb attacks in the city of Baquba, about 50 km (31 miles) northeast of Baghdad, June 28, 2013.

REUTERS

Aso predicts stable gov't if LDP wins upper house election

TOKYO, 29 June—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will be able to build a stable government if the Liberal Democratic Party wins the House of Councillors election next month as he is unlikely to face any opposition from within the ruling party, Finance Minister Taro Aso predicted on Friday.

If the LDP wins the July 21 election for the upper house, where the ruling

bloc currently lacks a majority, "Abe's government will be stable," Aso said in a speech in Tokyo.

Many leaders have been forced to resign over a short period of time due to strife within the LDP, but now there are no lawmakers in the ruling coalition trying to topple Abe, said Aso, who was also prime minister for a year from September 2008.

Kyodo News

Brazil's mass protests peak, ball in politicians' court

BRASILIA, 29 June—The massive protests that paralyzed Brazil last week appear to have peaked after sending the country's shaken political establishment a loud message that it needs to change its ways.

It's now up to the politicians to deliver improvements to the country's deficient public services and more transparent and accountable government demanded by frustrated Brazilians, or the crescendo of angry protests could suddenly return.

While smaller protests continue on a daily basis, the number of demonstrators this week was much lower than the one million people who took to the streets a week ago, due to a mix of protest fatigue and achievement of the protesters' initial aim of drawing attention to their grievances.

Tens of thousands may still protest around Sun-

day's Confederations Cup final football match between Brazil and Spain in Rio de Janeiro, the locus of violence so far, but the end of the football tournament will deprive protesters of a high-profile stage on which to air their grievances.

"The streets are saying

to the politicians: you have heard our voices, now let's see what you will do with this," said Marcos Nobre, a political philosophy professor at the University of Campinas and author of a new e-book on the popular revolt.

Reuters



Riot policemen help to push a vehicle belonging to a local news media after it was attacked by demonstrators during a protest near the Estadio Castelao, where the Confederations Cup semi-final match between Spain and Italy is being played, in Fortaleza on 27 June, 2013.

REUTERS

Bomb in Thai south kills eight soldiers

BANGKOK, 29 June—Suspected Muslim rebels in southern Thailand killed eight soldiers in a roadside bomb attack on Saturday, days after the government rejected demands for a ceasefire over the Islamic holiday of Ramadan starting next month.

Thailand is a predominantly Buddhist country and resistance to central government rule in the Muslim-majority provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat has existed for decades, resurfacing violently

in 2004. The 60-kg bomb exploded as the soldiers were travelling in a military truck along a village road in Yala, police said. Another two soldiers were wounded and two villagers on a motorcycle behind the truck were also hurt, police said.

The opening of peace talks with rebel groups earlier this year has done nothing to end violence in the south, where more than 5,300 people have died since January 2004.

This week the Barisan Revolusi Nasional, one of

the oldest groups operating in the south of the country and a participant in the talks, proposed a ceasefire for Ramadan, which starts around 10 July.

In exchange they made demands including the release of all detainees in the south and the acceptance of Malaysia as a mediator, which the government rejected. The three Muslim-dominated provinces were once part of a Malay Muslim sultanate until annexed by Thailand in 1909.

Reuters

NASA picks Florida agency to take over shuttle landing strip

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 29 June—NASA has selected Space Florida, a state-backed economic development agency, to take over operations, maintenance and development of the space shuttle's idled landing site at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, officials said on Friday.

Terms of the agreement, which have not yet been finalized, were not disclosed, but Space Florida has made no secret about its desire to take over facilities no longer needed by NASA to develop a multi-user commercial spaceport, somewhat akin to an airport or seaport.

The state already has a lease for one of the space shuttle's processing hangars, and an agreement with Boeing to use the refurbished facility for its planned commercial space taxi.

The so-called CST-100 is one of three space-ships under development in partnership with NASA to fly astronauts to the *International Space Station*, a permanently staffed,



The space shuttle Atlantis leaves the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida on 2 Nov, 2012. REUTERS

\$100 billion research outpost that flies about 250 miles above Earth.

NASA ended its 30-year space shuttle program in 2011, leaving Russia's *Soyuz* capsules as the sole means to transport crews to the station, a service that costs the United States more than \$70 million per person. NASA hopes to buy rides commercially from a US company by 2017.

The shuttle's retire-

ment left the Kennedy Space Centre loaded with equipment and facilities that are not needed in NASA's new human space initiative, which includes a heavy-lift rocket and deep-space capsule for journeys to asteroids, the moon and other destinations beyond the space station's orbit.

Last year, NASA solicited proposals for agencies or companies to take over the shuttle landing facility and its 15,000-foot

(4,572-metre) runway, one of the longest in the world.

Additional landing site infrastructure includes an aircraft parking ramp measuring 480 by 550 feet, a landing aids control building, a 90-foot (27-metre) wide shuttle tow way, an air traffic control tower and a 23,000-square-foot (2,137-square-metre) enclosure used by convoy vehicles that serviced the shuttles after landing.

Reuters

Intel's new CEO focused on mobile chips, cautious on TV

SAN FRANCISCO, 29 June—Intel Corp's new CEO said on Friday he would speed up the rollout of chips for smartphones, tablets and wearable devices as consumers move away from personal computers.

Brian Krzanich, an Intel manufacturing guru who took over as chief executive officer in May, also took a cautious tone about the top chipmaker's planned foray into television and said Intel continues to look at the business model.

"We believe we have a great user interface and the compression-decompression technology is fantastic," Krzanich said. "But in the end, if we want to provide that service it comes down to content. We are not big content players."

In their first sit-down with reporters since their promotions in May, Krzanich and Intel President Renee James

said wearable computing devices would become a key battleground for mobile industry players.

Krzanich, who mentioned he had Google's Glass wearable device in his knapsack, said computing in the next few years would focus more on items for eyes and ears, as well as wristbands and watches. "I think you'll start to see stuff with our silicon toward the end of the year and the beginning of next year," Krzanich said. "We're trying to get our silicon into some of them, create some ourselves, understand the usage and create an ecosystem." The world's biggest chipmaker dominates the PC industry, but has been slow to adapt its chips to be suitable for smartphones and tablets. Intel is anxious to make sure it does not fall behind in future technology trends.—Reuters

Intel then Chief Operating Officer Brian Krzanich is seen during an interview with Reuters at Intel headquarters in Santa Clara, California on 13 March, 2012. REUTERS



Facebook to pull ads from pages with sex, violence

SAN FRANCISCO, 29 June—Facebook Inc said it will no longer allow ads to appear on pages with sexual or violent content, as the online social network moves to appease marketers being associated with objectionable material.

The moves come a month after several businesses pulled their ads from Facebook amid reports of pages on Facebook that promoted violence against women.

Facebook said at the time that it needed to improve its system for flagging and removing content that violated its community

standards, which forbid users from posting content about hate-speech, threats and pornography, among other things.

Ads account for roughly 85 percent of revenue at Facebook, the world's largest social network with 1.1 billion users. Facebook said the changes would not have a meaningful impact on its business.

On Friday, Facebook said it also needed to do more to prevent situations in which ads are displayed alongside material that may not run afoul of its community standards but are deemed controversial

nonetheless.

A Facebook page for a business that sells adult products, for example, will no longer feature ads. Previously such a page could feature ads along the right-hand side of the page so long as the page did not violate Facebook's prohibition on depicting nudity.

The move underscores the delicate balance for social media companies, which features a variety of unpredictable and sometimes unsavory content shared by users, but which rely on advertising to underpin their business.

"Our goal is to both preserve the freedoms of sharing on Facebook but also protect people and brands from certain types of content," Facebook said in a post on its website on Friday.

Facebook said on Friday that it would expand the scope of pages and groups on its website that should be ad-restricted and promised to remove ads from the flagged areas of the website by the end of the coming week.—Reuters



A smartphone user shows the Facebook application on his phone in the central Bosnian town of Zenica, in this photo illustration, on 2 May, 2013.—REUTERS

Canada to review all wireless spectrum transfer deals

TORONTO, 29 June—The Canadian government will review all sales of wireless airwave licenses and reject any deals that would lead to undue concentration, it said on Friday in its latest move to weaken the dominance of the country's three big wireless carriers.

The new rules come af-

ter the rule changes could help clear the path for US-based Verizon Communications Inc as it considers entering the Canadian market.

Ottawa has sought to break open the once-cozy Canadian telecom industry by keeping some spectrum out of the hands of the three biggest operators and mak-

smaller entrants.

The government effectively blocked Telus' C\$380 million (\$362 million) bid for struggling wireless upstart Mobilicity earlier this month by rejecting the transfer of its spectrum licenses.

In January, Rogers struck a deal giving it an option to buy rival Shaw Communications' unused spectrum, a move that Ottawa signaled disapproval of in April.

Shaw executives said on Friday they were not yet exploring alternatives to the Rogers option deal, which they described as irrevocable. The deal has not yet been sent to Ottawa for approval.

Just last month, Rogers announced a similar option deal to buy Quebecor Inc's unused spectrum in the Toronto area.

Rogers said the new rules were in line with its expectations and it would provide whatever information the government needs for its review. Both Rogers and Telus urged the government to let them put unused spectrum to work.

Reuters



A student uses his mobile phone as he walks inside the Engineering building at the University of Waterloo, located beside the BlackBerry maker's Research in Motion (RIM) headquarters in Waterloo on 18 April, 2012. REUTERS

ter two of Canada's biggest telecom companies—Rogers Communications Inc and Telus Corp—tried to acquire spectrum owned by smaller operators.

By making it tougher for the dominant three—Rogers, Telus and BCE Inc's Bell—to buy additional airwaves,

ing it easier for foreign companies to enter the market.

Canada's Conservative government has said it wants four viable wireless options for consumers in each region of the country.

The spectrum holdings of Rogers, BCE and Telus already dwarf those of newer,

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Starbucks reports UK loss, pays no tax for 2012

LONDON, 29 June—Starbucks, whose thin tax payments provoked a backlash against corporate tax avoidance when revealed by *Reuters*, paid no tax for the year to 30 Sept, 2012.

The coffee giant's main UK subsidiary reported its 15th straight annual loss at its UK stores in accounts filed on Friday.

Reuters revealed in October that Starbucks reported consistent UK losses while telling investors the British unit was profitable and promoting managers of the unit within the group.

Friday's accounts showed a UK loss of 30 million pounds, down from

the 32 million pounds loss it reported for the previous year, helped by a 4 percent rise in turnover to 413 million pounds.

The company cited challenging economic conditions and a competitive UK coffee market, although the accounts show profits were also undermined by a royalty for the use of the Starbucks brand of 26 million pounds.

This is paid to an affiliate in the Netherlands, where Starbucks has negotiated what it said was a very low tax rate.

The UK unit also paid 2 million pounds in interest to affiliated companies, the accounts showed.



A cup of coffee sits on a table in Starbucks' Vigo Street branch in Mayfair, central London on 11 Jan, 2013.

REUTERS

Following widespread criticism from politicians and the picketing of stores, Starbucks said it would pay or pre-pay around 10 million pounds a year in taxes in 2013 and 2014.

The company said it would not take tax deductions for certain intercompany payments such as the royalty fee, interest payments and the 25 percent

mark up on coffee beans that is paid to a Swiss-based Starbucks coffee purchasing unit.

Starbucks recently paid 5 million pounds to the UK tax authority as the first instalment of its 2013 tax bill, British media reported earlier this month. Starbucks declined immediate comment.

Reuters

New labels tied to fewer child poisonings by OTC meds

NEW YORK, 29 June—Fewer small children have been sickened or died from accidentally taking cough and cold medicines meant only for older ages, according to a new study of the effects of recent label changes on these over the counter products.

High doses of antihistamines can cause coma, seizure and abnormal heart rhythms in kids, and an overdose of the pain reliever acetaminophen can cause liver failure, according to the study's lead author Dr Maryann Mazer-Amirshahi of the department of emergency medicine at The George Washington University in Washington, DC.

"Also, consider that there is not a lot of evidence that these medications are effective in young children, so the benefit of using them does not outweigh the risks," Mazer-Amirshahi told *Reuters Health*.

In 2007, the US Food and Drug Administration and the Consumer Healthcare Products Association took such products made specifically for children off the market, and in 2008 they added warnings to adult medications cautioning not to give the drugs to

kids under four years old, according to Dr Dan Budnitz, director of the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention Medication Safety Programme.

He was not surprised to see a study indicating that those measures were effective, Budnitz told *Reuters Health*.

Based on reports to poison control centres in the US, the study found that unintentional ingestions of over the counter cough and cold medicines among kids decreased by a third between 2005 and 2010.

The number of children under 12 who had taken the medicines accidentally decreased by 33 percent; those given the medications by their parents in error decreased by 46 percent, according to the results published in *The Journal of Pediatrics*.

There were also 59 percent fewer calls to poison control centres for infants under two years old given the medicine incorrectly by a parent.

"We were expecting to see a decrease but the magnitude of it took us by surprise," Mazer-Amirshahi said.

Reuters

Greece's Eurobank must follow autonomous course, new CEO says



A customer leaves a Eurobank branch in Athens on 10 April, 2013.—REUTERS

ATHENS, 29 June—Greece's fourth-largest lender Eurobank (EFGAT) must follow an independent course, its new chief executive said on Friday, casting further doubt on whether a suspended merger with peer

National Bank (NBGr.AT) would go ahead.

In early April Greece's international creditors — the euro zone and the International Monetary Fund — blocked Eurobank's planned merger with larger rival NBG on

concerns the joint entity would become too big.

"Our aim is for Eurobank to take part autonomously in the strategic restructuring of the banking system and return to the private sector as soon as possible," CEO Christos Megalou said in a letter to staff a day after his appointment.

Megalou, a former Credit Suisse investment banker, was appointed to the job on Thursday by Greece's bank rescue vehicle, the Hellenic Financial Stability Fund (HFSF), which owns more than 98 percent of Eurobank after recapitalising it. "The bank's autonomous course is a must, therefore let's leave behind any worries related to the pending

merger," Megalou said, echoing comments by the rescue fund's CEO at the bank's annual shareholders meeting a day earlier. On Thursday the head of the HFSF fund said Eurobank would continue to operate as one of the four pillars of the country's banking system, remaining administratively independent.—*Reuters*

US FDA approves new Baxter drug for hemophilia B

WASHINGTON, 29 June—Patients with a form of the chronic blood disorder hemophilia will soon have a new therapy that not only treats episodes of excessive bleeding, but helps to prevent them.

The Food and Drug Administration on Thursday granted US marketing approval for Rixubis, a genetically

engineered protein made by Baxter International Inc that represents the first new treatment for the genetic disorder in more than 15 years. Hemophilia B is the second most common type of hemophilia, which affects 3,300 people in the United States and some 25,000 worldwide, according to the National Hemophilia Foundation.

It arises when people make insufficient blood clotting factor that naturally controls bleeding.

Rixubis, which is administered twice weekly, aims to control and prevent bleeding and better manage hemophilia B patients in the hospital for surgery. It can also be used routinely to prevent or reduce bleeding.

Reuters

PTSD tied to raised heart disease risk

NEW YORK, 29 June—People suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) may also be at increased risk of heart attacks and strokes, according to a new study of Vietnam War veterans.

After following nearly 300 pairs of male twins, all Vietnam vets, for more than a decade, researchers found that almost a quarter of the men diagnosed with PTSD also had heart disease, compared to less than a tenth of the men without the combat-related stress

disorder. "As time goes by, it's become more and more clear that PTSD is not just something that impacts psychological health. It has broad repercussions throughout the body," said Dr Viola Vaccarino from the Emory University School of Public Health in Atlanta, the study's lead author.

Behavioural symptoms of PTSD include reliving the traumatic event in memories or nightmares, avoiding situations that may trigger those memories and feelings of paranoia, fearfulness and

guilt, according to the US Department of Veterans Affairs. The symptoms tend to start shortly after a person experiences a traumatic event, such as combat, terrorist attacks, serious accidents, natural disasters and personal violence or abuse. Physically, Vaccarino's team notes, PTSD sufferers are known to often have raised levels of stress hormones and other chemicals signaling overactivation in the fight-or-flight pathways of the nervous system.—*Reuters*



Rixubis, Hemophilia B Drug, Approved By FDA

WORLD

Obama pledges to help Africa, pays tribute to Mandela



US President Barack Obama and Senegal's President Macky Sall.—REUTERS

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE, 29 June—US President Barack Obama paid tribute to anti-apartheid hero Nelson Mandela as he flew to South Africa on Friday but played down expectations of a meeting with the ailing black leader during an Africa tour promoting democracy and food security.

White House officials hope Obama's three-nation tour of Africa — his first substantial visit to the continent since taking office in 2009 — will compensate

for what some view as years of neglect by America's first black president.

The health of Mandela, the 94-year-old former South African president clinging to life in a Pretoria hospital, dominated Obama's day even before he arrived in Johannesburg.

"I don't need a photo op," Obama told reporters aboard Air Force One after leaving Senegal. "The last thing I want to do is to be in any way obtrusive at a time when the family is concerned

with Nelson Mandela's condition."

He will discuss a new exchange program for African students with US colleges and universities. The event will include youth in Uganda, Nigeria and Kenya participating through video conference, and will be televised in those countries, White House officials said. Obama and the Republican-controlled House of Representatives have fought bitterly over government spending. US foreign aid is a

perennial target for lawmakers who want more budget cuts.

Before departing Senegal, Obama met farmers and local entrepreneurs to discuss new technologies helping to raise agricultural output in West Africa, one of the world's most underdeveloped and drought-prone regions. The technical aid in the US government's "Feed the Future" program leverages money from the private sector and aid groups to help small farmers.

Obama said he would announce an initiative to use the same strategies for the power sector, a model he said makes the most of the shrinking US foreign aid budget.

"I think everything we do is designed to make sure that Africa is not viewed as a dependent, as a charity case, but is instead viewed as a partner," he said.

Obama acknowledged that China, Brazil, India and other countries have been increasingly active in Africa and said the United States risks being left behind. But he said the US approach to development is preferred by African leaders.—Reuters

ASEAN postpones meeting with nuclear powers

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 29 June—ASEAN has postponed a meeting with experts from the world's five "official" nuclear powers on the powers' plan to join its treaty for a nuclear weapon-free region after the nuclear powers rejected an ASEAN proposal to meet now, ASEAN sources said.

The consultations between ASEAN officials and legal experts from the nuclear states to discuss the protocol for the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone had been to be held Friday before the start of the annual meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations foreign ministers later in the week.

ASEAN still hopes for a meeting at another time, most probably on the sideline of the UN General Assembly in New York in October, the sources said.

ASEAN has been trying to get the five major nuclear powers to sign the protocol to its SEANWFZ treaty, which is aimed to preserve the region as a nuclear weapon-free zone and

free of all other weapons of mass destruction.

All the major powers except China backed out suddenly from signing the protocol last year, mainly due to concerns that some of the wording in the protocol might restrict their nuclear operations.

They had proposed changes to the wording.

On Friday, ASEAN officials held their own meeting under the Executive Committee of the SEANWFZ Commission to discuss a plan of action to strengthen the implementation of the treaty.

"We agreed to continue engaging with the nuclear weapon states to resolve comprehensively, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the treaty, outstanding issues with a view to realizing the signing of the protocol to the Treaty on SEANWFZ and its related documents," a draft of a communique to be issued after the annual meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers Sunday, says.

Reuters

Snowden's options appear to narrow in bid to evade US arrest

WASHINGTON/MOSCOW, 29 June—Nearly a month after Edward Snowden exposed top secret US surveillance programs, the former spy agency contractor looks no closer to winning asylum to evade prosecution at home - and his options appear to be narrowing.

Stuck in legal limbo in a Moscow airport transit area and facing uncertainty over whether any of the destinations he is said to be contemplating - Ecuador, Venezuela and Cuba - will let him in, Snowden seems to be at the mercy of geopolitical forces beyond his control.

Unseen in public since arriving in Moscow last

weekend, much remains unclear about Snowden's overtures to various countries and how they have responded behind the scenes.

Russia may no longer have sufficient reason to continue harbouring Snowden if, as is widely believed, its intelligence services have already questioned him about the classified documents that he has admitted to taking from the National Security Agency.

The leftist government of Ecuador, already sheltering WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its London embassy, is reviewing Snowden's asylum request, though officials have sent mixed signals, suggesting

the process could drag on for weeks.

Venezuela's new president, Nicolas Maduro, has spoken favourably of granting refuge to Snowden but has taken no action, and he may think twice about risking a setback in tentative steps toward post-Chavez rapprochement with Washington.

And even if Ecuador or Venezuela decide to take Snowden, there is no guarantee that communist Cuba, the likely transit point for any flight from Moscow to those South American countries, would let him pass through and further complicate its own thorny relations with the United States.—Reuters

A television screen shows former US spy agency contractor Edward Snowden during a news bulletin at a cafe at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport on 26 June, 2013
REUTERS



US Secretary of State John Kerry (R) gestures as he meets Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem on 28 June, 2013.
REUTERS



Kerry steps up shuttle talks with Abbas and Netanyahu

JERUSALEM, 29 June—US Secretary of State John Kerry accelerated his Middle East shuttle diplomacy on Friday in the hope of persuading Israel and the Palestinians to resume direct peace negotiations.

After seeing Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in Jordan, Kerry flew by helicopter to Jerusalem for evening talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

In a sign that he may be making progress in his mission to bring the sides to-

gether, a State Department official announced late on Friday that Kerry would return to Amman for another meeting with Abbas on Saturday, then return to Israel for additional meetings.

The frenzied back-and-forth is reminiscent of Henry Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy as secretary of state to mediate conflicts in the Middle East throughout the 1970s.

The State Department official said a three-hour meeting with Netanyahu on Friday, the second in

as many days, involved a "detailed and substantive conversation about the way forward".

Israeli President Shimon Peres praised Kerry for his determination.

"I know this is difficult, there are many problems, but as far as I'm concerned I can see how (among) people, there is a clear majority for the peace process, a two-state solution, and a great expectation that you will do it and that you can do it," he told Kerry.

Reuters

LOCAL NEWS

CONSTRUCTION

Old lake being repaired in Indaigyi Village in Magway Township



MAGWAY, 29 June—An old lake one mile from Indaigyi village in Magway Township is being dredged by the village's lake maintenance committee and lake dredging group Proximity Desins.

"The lake has been a source of water for both human and animals since times of our ancestors. As time goes by, the lake becomes swallow. The capacity is lowered. It cannot

also hold water for a long time," a townselder said.

"We have to use the artesian well when the lake dries up. It is not convenient to use artesian wells. We have to queue for water. It costs time and money. We now dredge the old lake because we face water scarcity in the summer."

Livelihood and Food Security Trust Fund funded the repair of the lake. The estimated cost of the lake

is K 4,930,000. The repair works are manually carried out by labourers. The repair is expected to be completed in June.

MMAL-Magway Hla Myint

Well sunk in Nantsiaung

NANTSIAUNG, 29 June—KZEN Company sank a well in Nantsiaung Pegon Basic Education High School (branch) in Mawlu Region in Indaw Township in Sagaing Region.

Rural Development Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs funded the sinking of the well.

The work started on 20 May completed within five days.

Company officials on 24 June handed over the well to Nantsiaung village-tract administrator U Thaung Shwe, and townselders U Khin Maung Nyunt and U Maung Lay.—MMAL-171

AGRICULTURE

Agricultural loans disbursed to farmers in Mohnyin Tsp



MOHNYIN, 29 June—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank disbursed K 100,000 per acre loans to farmers for cultivation of monsoon crops in 2013 on 20 June.

The bank has given out K 107.8 million loans to 1486 farmers from

15 village-tracts of the township for cultivation of 10378 acres of farmlands till 26 June, said the assistant manager of Mohnyin Township MADB. The bank plans to disburse loans K 5400 million to the farmers for 2013-2014 fiscal year.—NLM-001

Loans disbursed to trishaw drivers

YAMETHIN, 29 June—The ceremony to disburse loans to trishaw drivers in Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region was held in Township Cooperative Department Office on 18 June.

The ceremony was attended by Chairman of Township Cooperatives Activities Development Committee Township Administrator U Maung Maung who said the cooperative societies are planning to provide seed

money to the grassroots.

Township Cooperative Department Staff Officer U Zaw Lin elaborated on small loans and future plans of the cooperative societies.

Region Hluttaw Representative U Kyaw Myint provided K 10,550,000 loans to 211 trishaw drivers through chairman of Trishaw Transportation Limited U Aung Myint.

The ceremony is the second of its kind in the township.

MMAL-416



"Myanmar Women's Day" 3rd July

Mawlamyine Youth Training School celebrates golden jubilee

MAWLAMYINE, 29 June—Mawlamyine Youth Training School of Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement turned 50 this year.

The golden jubilee of the youth rehab in Sangyi ward in Mawlamyine of Mon State was held on 22 June noon. Head of Mon State Social Welfare Department U Ko Ko Naing,

staff, principle of the school U Paw Oo, teachers and trainees, totaling 100, attended the ceremony.

The state department chief delivered a speech and the principal elaborated on purposes of the ceremony and functions of the school.

Seven outstanding students, four students with high morale and outstanding athletes were honoured at the ceremony.

MMAL-(L/012)

Mahaangmye BEMS upgraded

DABAYIN, 28 June—No (2) Basic Education Middle School in Mahaangmye Township in Mandalay Region has been upgraded to Basic Education High School (Branch).

The upgrading ceremony in conjunction

with donation ceremony for furnishings to the school was held on 25 June, attended by No (2) Basic Education Department Deputy Director U Thein Aung.

MMAL-Khin Khin Win (Education)

Musical Cosmetic with Living Expo on 1 July

YANGON, 29 June—Musical Cosmetic with Living Expo 2013 will be organized at Tatmadaw Convention Hall in U Wisara street in Yangon on 1 July.

Construction and decoration materials, musical instruments and services,

and singing trainings will be available at the show. The exhibition will feature International Tokyo Show. More than 100 booths of cosmetics, clothings and jewelry will be put on show.

MMAL-Myat Sandi Thin Zaw

CRIME

Monywa police raids mini cinema exclusive for couples

MONYWA, 29 June—Monywa police raided an exclusive 3D mini cinema for couples in Kyaukka street in Phone Soe ward in Monywa on 23 June and seized uncensored discs.

A combined force of township police and officials seized 3D international movies which are not legally registered in the country and found air conditioned rooms for couples. In-charge

of the cinema Thiha Swe is charged by the police with illegal holding of uncensored international discs.

"Air conditioned rooms exclusive for couples invite crimes at any time. We take actions as it does adhere to rules," a senior officer of the Township Police Station said.

A total of 29 materials were seized in the raids.

MMAL-Awza (Monywa)

Hlinethaya residents voice concerns over lake pollution

YANGON, 29 June—Residents in No (7) ward in Hlinethaya Township in Yangon Region raised concerns over pollution of lake for drinking water in the ward caused by leakage of dirty water from dumping ground into the lake.

Encroachment on the surrounding of the lake, the major source of potable water of the ward, means more dump around.

Township Development Affairs Committee, water treatment division of Yangon City Development Committee and social organizations are working on supplying the safe drinking water in the area, dredging the lake, purifying the water and distributing safe water bottles. Heavy rains often caused the lake to spill over and mixed with the dump.—MMAL-164



Educative talks on traffic rules organized

SEIKPYU, 29 June—An educative talk on traffic rules was organized in Seikpyu Basic Education High School in Seikpyu Township in Magway Region.

Headmaster U Zaw Win delivered a speech at

the ceremony. Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Win Aung and Police Inspector Kyi Than gave talks on traffic rules.

The talk was attended by 70 teachers and 1800 students.

MMAL-Township IPRD

ARTICLE

The World's Largest Marble Book of a Skyscraper's Height

The New Light of Myanmar [English] and Kyemon [The Mirror] Myanmar, Daily Newspapers of Sunday 23, June 2013 carried on their front pages with photographs a happy tidings — that “Kuthodaw Inscriptions shrines in Mandalay were included in UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register on 19 June 2013, because 729 inscribed slabs contain the whole of the Buddhist scriptures whose religious and social significance is important...”

Overwhelmed by this happy news, the writer is irresistibly tempted to send to NLM to reproduce in its esteemed Daily the following two articles he had written nearly two decades ago. Thanking UNESCO for giving Myanmar this chance to share her cultural heritage with the world.

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 30 June, 2013

Food safety whistleblowers

How do we ensure ourselves to stay away from health risks linked to artificial additives in our daily meals? For modern-day ordinary people who live from hand to mouth, they lack knowledge about foreign agents in food they eat. Moreover, they have no time and money to choose a better one as they have a difficult life, struggling to meet daily basic needs from dawn to dusk. Even the question is totally beyond their scope of knowledge.

According to a local news report a few months ago, color additives were found in most of chili and ginger powder packets in the market. Law enforcement and confiscation of contaminated food may be effective in urban wards of major cities, but the packets of kitchen essentials coated with cancer-causing chemicals still win a victory in ghettos, suburb areas and most of rural regions.

Do we really notice how much of chemical dyes we have already had through our kitchen food? If the answer is “No”, we have to accept that we are in the state of emergency as the rise in use of food colourings that enhance the risks for cancer is a matter of considerable public concern. People with little health knowledge should get consumer protection as they are dicing with danger without having much knowledge about the levels of toxicity in their food.

That’s why, we, media persons, have to play a role of food safety whistleblowers, striving for a consumer movement to take root. We have to heighten the public health awareness in a fight against hazardous additives and push businessmen for more transparency on food safety measures through media. We have to speak out about rainbow of health risks caused by food additives and demand for punitive actions against unscrupulous persons in support of food safety in our neighborhood.

Talks on DHF given in Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June— Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever is common during the rainy season. DHF used to infect infants and children under age 12. Now, medical experts warn that dengue fever symptoms are found at every age, from children to the aged.

As a drive to prevent

DHF in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Medical In-charge Dr Aye Mya Thida Aung of Zeyathiri Township Hospital and staff gave talks on health knowledge at Mayingyi village BEPS yesterday evening.

Next, spraying of insecticide was carried out in the village.—Aye Than

Edexcel launches education consultation

YANGON, 29 June— Education consultation for the students who passed matriculation examination and are wishing to attend international universities through BTEC Higher National Diploma of Edexcel took place at Traders Hotel, here, this morning. Principal Daw Thi Thi of Myanmar Noble College extended greetings and Regional Business Manager Ms. Boon Eeen of Edexcel

explained opportunities for continuous learning at the international universities through Edexcel.

BTEC is an institution that provides qualified and pragmatic ways to study for the students with theory and vocational subjects for attending universities for the first step. The students will get opportunities for learning more than 250 subjects.

MNA

The World Largest Book

What is a book? A book is a number of printed sheets of paper fastened together to be read or consists of blank sheets for writing. This is the dictionary meaning of a book in the conventional sense. In a wider context, a book can also be a number of manuscripts on sheets or slabs or plates or tablets of any material — metal, stone, bamboo, wood, clay, bone, horn, etc, etc. In Myanmar, manuscripts on folded papers or metal sheets [parabikes] or palm leaves [Pei-sar] or wooden or stone slabs arranged in serial and pagination order and bound or arranged together are indeed books. The same is true of ancient Egyptian papyrus rolls, Sumerian cuneiform clay tablets and ancient Chinese bone or shell inscriptions. Books have existed long before paper and printing press were invented.

On page 109 of the 16th edition of *The Guinness Book of World Records*, it is stated that the world’s largest book is *The Little Red Elf* by W.P. Wood which measures 7 feet 2 inches long and 5 feet broad, now kept in a cave in Argyllshire, Scotland. Perhaps it is true for printed paper books.

If you really want to see the world’s largest book and make sure that it does exist, come to Mandalay, the second capital of Myanmar. In the precinct of *Maha Loka Marazein* Pagoda situated at the foot of Mandalay Hill, there is a book with 1458 pages of Sagyin marble stone, with two pages on either side of a half foot thick stone leaf, each leaf measuring 5 feet by 3 feet.

They cannot be possibly bound together but they are arranged like a book and set up in a serial and pagination order. If they were put together like a printed paper book, we would have a marble book 364/2 feet thick — the size of a modern high rise building. You would need to invent a special machine for turning

its pages, because with each 2-page leaf weighing 13.9 hundred pound weight, the total weight of this marble book come up to 520 tons.

The two-page, a half foot thick leaves are 729 in total number and on these leaves of marble slabs are inscribed Tipitakas or Three Baskets of Buddhist Scriptures — Vinaya or Priestly Discipline on 111 slabs, the Suttas or Discourses on 410 slabs, and Abhidhamma or Buddhist philosophy on 208 slabs. Each slab is enshrined in a square brick structure

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

modeled on the reliquary of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Buddha in Sri Lanka.

Those structures housing 729 inscribed slabs surround *Maha Loka Marazein* Pagoda, in three squares arranged in and pagination order. In the inner most square are 42 edifices, the middle square has 168, and the outermost has 519.

The Pagoda and the inscribed stone slabs are among many works of religious merit that the pious King Mindon carried out in and around his capital Mandalay during his reign 1852-1878 A.D. The Pagoda was built in 1857 A.D, on the model of Shwezigone Pagoda in Bagan which was built by King Anawrahta and completed by King Kyansittha some nine centuries ago. *Maha Loka Marazein* is the official title name in Pali. The people reverently call it “Kuthodaw Gyi” which literally means the Great Merit of the King, referring not only to the Pagoda but also to the inscribed slabs.

Before the making of the “largest book” in stone was begun, the text of the Pali canon or Tipitakas to be inscribed on the slabs was meticulously collated and edited by the most learned monks of the time. The marble was mined in Sagyin hills about 32 miles

north-east of Mandalay.

The slabs were brought down to the site on bamboo rafts during the floods of monsoon rain. After the slabs were smoothed, and polished, fifty artists and artisans inscribed the text on the slabs. Each scribe took the whole day to finish inscribing 10 to 15 lines. Learned monks supervised the inscribing work, and checked the inscribed pages very carefully.

The work of inscribing the stone slabs, began on 14 October 1860 A.D. and

was completed on 4 May 1868 A.D. It took 7 years, 6 months and 20 days to make this world’s largest book in stone.

The Marble Book of a skyscraper’s height

Myanmar has the tradition of writing on any available material in the country — stone, metal, brick, plaster, bone, horn, tusk, leaves, and paper. Buddhist scriptures, contemporary events, religious dedication, court chronicles, works of the literati, public and personal accounts were recorded on such materials. At ancient Bagan alone, one can say that there are as many lithic inscriptions as there are monuments and pagodas there, for every single edifice there is a stone pillar or slab, set up near it by its donor recording what he or she had dedicated to religion. The Inventory of Archaeology Department lists more than 3000 stone inscriptions on ground.

King Mindon the second last Myanmar king who ruled the kingdom in upper Myanmar for 25 years from 1853 to 1878 A.D. was a peaceful and extremely pious Buddhist king devoting most of his time to learning and doing religious and social welfare works. Pagodas, temples, monasteries, monastic schools, dams, canals,

hospitals, rest houses, homes for the aged, orphanages, parks and sanctuaries at and around his capital bespeak of his noble deeds. But being not satisfied with what he had done so far and being inspired by the example of the model Buddhist King Emperor Asoka, Mindon convened a Buddhist Synod which goes down to history as the Fifth Buddhist Synod. There were four Buddhist Synods held before his time. The first, the second and the third synods took place in India and the fourth in Sri Lanka at which the reviewed and edited canons of Buddhist scriptures and commentaries and sub-commentaries were for the first time recorded in writing on palm leaves.

Before the convening of the Fifth Synod, the examining and editing of all teachings of the Buddha [Tipitakas] on palm leaves were already begun by learned monks. Then the Fifth conference took place at his capital in 1871 A.D. lasting over five months. Over 2400 learned monks from at home and abroad participated in reciting the edited Tipitakas orally. The texts of these recited tipitakas were inscribed on Sagyin marble stone slabs.

Tipitakas are of three categories — three treatises of Suttas [Discourse], five Treatises of Vinaya [monks’ Disciplines] and seven Treatises of Abhidhamma [Buddhist Philosophy]. The total number of marble stone slabs on which Tipitakas were inscribed amounts to 729 slabs. 410 slabs record Suttas, 111 slabs record Vinaya, and 208 slabs record Abhidhamma. Each marble stone slab measures 5 feet and 6 inches high, 3 feet and 6 inches wide and 6 inches thick, with two faces [pages] of inscriptions. If you bind these 729 inscribed marble stone slabs into a book form, you will get a marble stone book of 364 feet and 6 inches thick with 1458 pages,

(See page 9)

NATIONAL

Buddha tooth relic and golden shrine handed over



Consecration of Buddha Tooth Relic and Golden Shrine to be kept at Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June — A ceremony to hand over Buddha Tooth Relic and

a Golden Shrine donated by Buddha Tooth Relic Temple in the People's

Republic of China to be kept at Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay was held at Moegaung Dhammayon of the Buddha Image in Mandalay this morning.

Press meet ...

(from page 16)

to support the government at all time. Media can criticize not only the government but also the parliament and spotlight every point. It is needed to move forward with the use of this way.

Ma Sint Sint Aung (Nippon TV) says "I found the ongoing media reform in the country not encouraging. I accept it has started. But it is still difficult to find someone to question about something I want to know. Those who are interviewed are unwilling to answer. If I want to interview the Head of State or a department, I have no idea whom I have to contact. Although there are contact persons for respective ministries, it is not easy. I would like to get the phone number and email address of the right person and receive an official response to my answer. Media world is developing

now. Myanmar has never seen such condition before. Although there has been a boom in media world, it is still difficult to contact the right persons. I feel the need of greater transparency. The contact person must be in a position of responsibility. All media persons have email addresses. I would like to be answered through email".

NHK Correspondent U Thiha Thwe says "If I say frankly, I would like to see press meets after cabinet meetings like other democracies. I would like to urge to explain what planning were made for which projects after the meeting attended by the President. It is good organizing this press meets prior to the stage I have said. It is not good having a long interval between the two press meets. When we have questions, we don't know whom we have to contact. Although we can contact Deputy Minister U Ye Htut, it is difficult to

contact him. Both of us have difficulties. It is good holding press meets like this. There should be media centres not only at the Parliament but also at the President's Office. It would be better if media representatives were stationed there and allowed to cover news.—MNA

The World's Largest Marble...

(from page 8)

weighing 520 tons [each marble stone slab weighs 13.9 hundred pound weight], a colossus book of a skyscraper's height.

These 729 inscribed marble stone slabs are arranged like a book and set up in a serial and pagination order in the spacious precinct of *Maha Loka Marazein* Pagoda which King Mindon built in 1857 A.D to the north-east of his palace city. The precinct is apportioned into three square courtyards.

In the innermost square courtyard are 42 inscribed marble stone slabs, in the middle square courtyard are 168 and the outer most square courtyard has 519. They all surround *Maha Loka Marazein* Pagoda in the centre. Each inscribed marble stone slab is housed in a brick structure designed on the reliquary of the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha at Kandy, Sri Lanka.

Marble stones were mined at Sagyin hills, some 32 miles north-east of Mandalay

and were brought to the site on bamboo rafts during the floods of monsoon. Stone craftsmen turned them into smooth and polished pages. Fifty scribes inscribed the canonical texts of edited Tipitakas on these pages. It took the whole day for each scribe to finish inscribing 10 to 12 lines. Learned monks supervised the inscribing work and thoroughly checked the inscribed pages. It took 7 years 6 months and 20 days to finish inscribing the texts of Tipitakas on 1458 pages of the marble stone book of 729 slabs.

Myanmar and Chinese monks consecrated the Buddha tooth relic and the golden shrine at the ceremony. Next, the Chinese monk of the temple explained purpose of donation and handed over the Buddha tooth relic and the golden shrine to the board of trustees of the Buddha Image.

Then, the board presented Dhamma gifts to the Chinese monks, and Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint and officials offered provisions to members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister Dr Maung Maung Htay presented cash donations to the board.

Then, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and officials offered a day meal to members of the Sangha.

MNA



to hand over a two-storey building to Basic Education High School No (4) in Magway held at the school.

Shwedaung Development Co., Ltd Chairman U Aik Tun handed over documents related to the two-storey school building to Magway Region Education Officer Director U Pe Tin who presented him a certificate of honour.

Next, School Head Daw Khin Sann Myint received 24 sets of computer and accessories donated by U Zaw Min and wife Daw Khin Mi Mi and family and presented them a certificate of honour. Then, the Egyptian Ambassador to Myanmar presented a gift to the school head and the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar eight sets of computer for the school through the school head.

Afterwards, officials concerned formally opened the school building and Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe of Magway Region unveiled a stone plaque of the newly-opened school building.

Kyemon-Tin Tun Oo
(Magway IPRD)

Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe visits computer room at Magway BEHS No 4.—MNA

International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking marked in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 29 June—A ceremony to commemorate the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Seinyadana hall, here, on 26 June and Deputy Commissioner U Myint Hlaing of the district gave a speech.

Then, Police Lt-Col

Buddhist clergy and laity alike from far and near, at home and abroad, come to this place to refer to this marble stone book whenever they have points of differences.

Were the editors of *The Guinness Book of World Records* aware of this largest marble stone Book in Mandalay, Myanmar, they would have revised their previous entry.

Aung Myint Naing of Mohnyin District Police Force read a message sent by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko.

After that, Brig-Gen Thet Lwin, the Principal of Mohnyin Degree Collage and District-level departmental officials presented awards to 15 primary students, 20 middle school students and 20 high school students in the painting, cartoon, poster

and computer painting contests.

"Holding contests and presenting prizes related to the drugs are opportunities for the students but Myanmar is facing challenges in drug control because of weakness in taking action against crime brokers," said a local people who visited the drug educative show.

NLM-001



LOCAL NEWS

Firefighters demonstrate skill in Thabeikkyin



MANDALAY, 29 June—Head of District Fire Services Department U Tun Tun Soe on 26 June staged a fire drill with the use of Isuzu fire-engine contributed by the Union Government at the playground of Chaungkyi Village in Thabeikkyin

Township, PyinOoLwin District.

Chaungkyi Village in Thabeikkyin Township is a model one with 1300 households and one auxiliary fire brigade with 400-gallon-capacity fire engine.

Kyemon-387

APBLCC (Yangon West District) holds traffic rules course

YANGON, 29 June—Traffic rules refresher course No.1/2013 for the drivers and bus conductors of All Private Bus Line Control Committee (Yangon West

District) was held at the committee head office in Tabinshwehti Street, Ward-1, Mayangon Township, here, on 26 June.

The ceremony was



attended by head and members of the Committee, drivers and bus conductors and an officer shared knowledge on the matters of accidental processes and controls, and abiding by traffic rules ordered by the APBLCC (Central).

Then, an official of Traffic Police Corps shared knowledge about traffic rules and those presents participated in the discussion.

Kyemon-Zaw Gyi (Panita)

Farmers educative field at Shwedaung research and quality cotton farm

WUNDWIN, 29 June—The farmers educative field of pre-monsoon long staple cotton was opened at Shwedaung research and quality cotton farm in Wundwin of Meiktila District on 26 June.

In-charge of the farm U Kyaw Hlaing explained production of quality cotton seeds of economic effectiveness, agricultural research works, transfer of good agricultural patterns to farmers and training courses.

It was attended by Head of District Cotton and Sericulture Educative and Technology Development

Branch of District Industrial Crops Development Department U Aye Lwin, officials and 102 farmers from five villag-tracts of the township.

Staff and farmers observed model cotton

plantation that can produce 1000 viss per acre and research farms.

The in-charges of research farms and plant propagation farms replied to queries raised by farmers.

Kyemon-579



Myanmar-Japan Legal Research Center to be opened at Yangon University

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye received a Japanese delegation led by the President of the University of Nagoya at his office, here, today.

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

The agreement and MoU include exchange of students, professors, researchers, staff, issuing publications, exchange of knowledge about researches on legal affairs and others, doing researches together, conducting more seminars and paper-reading sessions, enhancement of Myanmar-Japan legal

affairs on the campus of Yangon University, making cooperation in implementing a new Myanmar-Japan Legal Research Center and making other cooperations depending on both sides' agreement. —MNA

Chinese Sayadaw donates stationery, sports gear in NyaungU

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Sayadaw and members of Buddha Tooth Relic Temple of People's Republic of China presented gifts and donated stationery and sports gear to the teachers and students of Yaungkyidaw Basic Education Primary School

in KyaO Village, NyaungU Township yesterday.

Then, the Sayadaw delivered an address that donations were aimed at turning out students to become reliable outstanding persons for the State.

MNA

Talks on environmental conservation held in Magway



MAGWAY, 29 June—The Dry Zones Greening Department held an educative talk on environmental conservation to reduce the use of wood-substitute fuel and utilize more natural fertilizers at the department on 26 June.

Deputy Director of Magway Region Dry Zones Greening Department U Pyae Sone Myo and the assistant director talked about "Ways to conserve the environ and why we conserve it". The staff officer of the department

explained the use of natural fertilizers by nurturing micro-organism. At the talks, altogether 20 A1 stoves were distributed through lots to 100 Chaungpyu villagers of Magway Township.

Kyemon-Khin Marlar (Magway)

CRIME

Action taken against those hoisting State Flag upside down

YANGON, 29 June—Former Hsukalat Village Administrator Min Hla Oo, 42 hoisted the State Flag at the ceremony to mark the Kayin New Day in the village on 12 January morning but the flag fell off from a half of the flag pole.

Then, Min Hla Oo and U Sein Than, 53, hoisted the flag again however the State Flag caused upside down.

That was why, about 50 villagers of the village led by U San Lwin sent complaints to the office of Kungyangon Township

Administrator.

After the township administer had inspected the incident, Kungyangon Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against the two persons over the case on 26 June.

Kyemon-31

Police opens file against snatcher in Latha Township

YANGON, 29 June—Daw Than Than Hsint (a) Ma Oo, 40 of 5th floor at No 74/76 on 17th Street in Ward 1 of Latha Township, Yangon Region, returned home from her textile shop that is opened at 18th street at 9 pm on 27 June.

While she unlocked her room on the 5th floor, a young person stepped up to the

above floor after overtaking her and then descended from the room.

Suddenly, the young man snatched the MC gold chain worth K 350,000 from her neck and ran away.

Due to shouting help of Daw Than Than Hsint, some persons from the street and members of police patrol

squad arrested the snatcher.

At present, Latha Police Station opened a file of law suit against Thet Paing Oo (a) Thet Paing of Yadana Street in Namhsam Ward in southern Shan State under Section 382 of the Criminal Law and the snatcher is under interrogation.

Kyemon-31

REGIONAL



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R) meets with Indian National Security Adviser Shiv Shankar Menon in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 June, 2013. Shiv Shankar Menon is here attending the 16th round of China-India special representatives talks on border. XINHUA

Loss of large cache of dynamite triggers terror scare in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 29 June—The loss of a large cache of dynamite while being transported to a mining site in Bogor, West Java recently has sparked a terror scare across Indonesia which had been hit by deadly terror attacks in the past.

The Indonesian police have already created a special anti-terror unit called Detachment 88 to trace down those implicated in the case.

The special unit is now conducting an intensive investigation on the case, assisted by police from national police headquarters, West Java, and Jakarta regional headquarters. Some 12 witnesses have already been interrogated on the

missing cache of explosive materials.

Indonesian police spokesman Boy Rafly Amar said that they are not underestimating the possible implication of the incident. “There should be no chance for those dynamites to fall into the hands of irresponsible persons,” Boy said in police headquarters here on Friday.

But based on the preliminary findings, there has been no indication yet of terrorist involvement in the case, the police said. Some 250 sticks of dynamite were found missing while being transported to the mining site of PT Batusarana Persada. The loss of the dynamites was discovered on

Thursday morning when workers of the mining firm unloaded the explosive cargoes from a truck in the site located in Rengas Jajar village, Cigudeg, Bogor regency, West Java.

The workers found that canvas sheet covering the explosive boxes has been ripped off and later found out that two boxes weighing 50 kilograms that contained 250 sticks of dynamite were missing.

Those missing dynamites were part of explosives transported Wednesday by four trucks to the mining site from the warehouse of a supplier firm PT Multi Nitrotama Kimia in Subang, West Java.

The trucks were report-

ed to have made a stopover in Marunda, North Jakarta early Thursday morning.

The trucks were loaded with a total of 30,000 kilograms of ammonium nitrate, 2,000 kilograms of dynamites and 4,000 units of electric detonators.

While the investigation is still ongoing, the police have beefed up security in several areas that include the presidential palace here, the president’s private residence in Cikeas, and the presidential retreat in Cipanas, Bogor West Java.

The police also stepped up the inspection of vehicles at their checkpoints in various parts of the country.

Xinhua

Leftist rebels claim responsibility on attack against cops in N Philippines

MANILA, 29 June—The leftist New People’s Army (NPA) claimed on Friday responsibility on the ambush of police trainees in northern Philippine province of Mountain Province resulting to the death of one trainee and wounding of eight others.

Magno Udyaw, spokesman of NPA Mountain Province Provincial Operations Command, said that a unit of the Leonardo Pacsi Command “successfully” ambushed at around 7:15 am local time the troops of the Regional Public Safety Battalion (RPSB) of the

Philippine National Police (PNP) who were undergoing combat training in Kabunagan village in Tadian town.

He said the attack undertaken by the leftist rebels was a “punitive action” against the state security forces, which virtually

turned the province into a military garrison.

Contrary to government’s claim that the police trainees were unarmed, Udyaw said that the NPA seized 14 high powered rifles, 11 M16 and three M14, from them.

Xinhua

37th Session of World Heritage Committee ends successfully in Cambodia

SIEM REAP, (Cambodia), 29 June—The 37th Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee came to an end successfully on Thursday after 11 days in action.

Addressing the closing ceremony held in the tourism city of Siem Reap Province on Thursday night, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Sok An, chairman of the session, expressed the country’s pride to host such an impor-

tant meeting.

“During the session, our work was intense, constructive, inspiring and enriching in the spirit of solidarity, cooperation and tolerance,” Sok An said at the event which was attended by delegates of the 21-member World Heritage Committee. “Now, it comes to an end successfully.”

He also congratulated Qatar for hosting the 38th

Session of the World Heritage Committee next year.

Alissandra Cummins, President of the Executive Board of UNESCO, lauded Cambodia for successfully hosting the event.

“From this session, it is evident that Cambodia will continue to play a vital role in advancing the mandate of the organization in the area of cultural heritage,” she said.—Xinhua

Abe eager to end divided Diet at upcoming election



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe holds a news conference in Belfast on 18 June, 2013, after the closing of the Group of Eight nations summit at the Lough Erne golf resort near Enniskillen in Northern Ireland.—KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 29 June—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe expressed his resolve Friday to put an end to the divided Diet by winning the election for the opposition-controlled upper house next month.

“I will end the twisted relations between the two chambers of parliament at any cost,” he said during a debate with leaders of other parties on a live streaming

website ahead of the 21 July election, official campaigning for which will start next on Thursday.

The House of Councillors election will be the first national contest since Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party returned to power in last December’s general election, in which it ousted the Democratic Party of Japan.—Kyodo News

Japan to end blanket mad cow disease tests for domestic cattle

TOKYO, 29 June—Japan will end blanket mad cow disease tests for domestic cattle on Sunday, 12 years after such tests started in October 2001 just after its first mad cow disease case was found, the government said on Friday.

Blanket tests “had been significant for removing the people’s insecurity,” health minister Norihisa Tamura

told a press conference. “As Japan has become one of the safest countries, such tests are no longer necessary.”

The World Organization for Animal Health recognized Japan in May as having the lowest risk of mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

Kyodo News



Wedding dresses designed by Chinese silk and fabric store Ruifuxiang are seen at the wedding expo in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 June, 2013. The three-day 2013 China (summer) wedding expo kicked off here on Friday. Some 3,000 exhibitors from over 30 countries and regions participated in the exposition. XINHUA

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Mastiff attacks spark debate on urban dog control

BEIJING, 29 June—The death of a 6-year-old girl from a dog bite on the neck has set off another national debate about dogs, especially large breeds living in densely populated areas.

The girl from Dalian, Liaoning Province, was bitten by a Tibetan mastiff while shopping with her mother on 27 June. The injury was so serious that the girl died soon after being sent to a hospital.

On 3 June, an 8-year-old girl in Yuncheng, Shanxi province, was bitten by another dog of this breed. The girl struggled for about one minute but soon stopped moving.

A passing villager drove his electric bike onto the dog, trying to scare it away but failed. He then used a stick to hit the dog on the head until the dog ran away.

The girl is still hospitalized.

The two cases have aroused heated debate and discussion on urban dog management.

The Beijing police started a citywide crack-

down on large and dangerous dogs on 2 June, in an attempt to avoid attacks on people and diseases from the animals.

"Dogs have animal instincts and may show them from time to time, like barking loudly or even biting people, when threatened, scared or feeling their owner is at risk," said Feng Liyuan, a 46-year-old resident of Beijing's Chaoyang district.

"Some dogs are even trained to be vicious to guard the house. Children and the elderly may easily fall victim" to such dogs, Feng said.

Dog attacks are traumatic and can be fatal, she said.

Under the Beijing crackdown, dogs of 35 cm in height or taller or those of the 41 breeds identified as violent, including bulldogs and collies, will be banned in certain areas, including six key regions (Dongcheng, Xicheng, Chaoyang, Haidian, Fengtai and Shijingshan districts), as well as some rural regions that are densely populated.—Xinhua



Aerial photo taken on 23 June, 2013 shows the Rudraprayag and Srinagar town ravaged by recent torrential rain and flash flood in northern Indian state of Uttarakhand. More than 7,000 people are still stranded in the mountains of Uttarakhand, nearly nine days after monsoon floods swept through the northern Indian state.—XINHUA

Elderly village official vows to continue service

SHIJIAZHUANG, 29 June—Sun Xiulan, 84, said she will continue to serve her fellow villagers as long as she can walk and remains clear-headed.

"I still grow crops by myself and can eat two bowls of dumplings in one sitting. I can still ride a bike," Sun said, trying to dispel doubts as to whether she has enough energy to do her job.

She is currently working to encourage local entrepreneurs to start businesses in her home village of Bajiasi, located in northeast China's Hebei Province, in order to boost local incomes.

Sun was elected as secretary of the village's Communist Party of China (CPC) committee at the age of 60.

"The village was very poor then. I just wanted to

make it a better place," she said.

"Since they chose me and my health allowed, I've been doing the job ever since," she said.

The arid village has a population of 1,800 people. It has little irrigable land and most of its farmers depend on the weather for a good harvest. Poverty has made it difficult for young men in the village to find wives and young women prefer to marry men from other locales.

"There are only four old wells in the village. We have little water to irrigate our land," said local resident Sun Changtai.

Sun Xiulan made great efforts to persuade the villagers to pool their money to pay for four motor-pumped wells. The wells have turned

dry land into irrigable land and helped to boost wheat and corn output significantly.

To link the village to the outside world, Sun spared no effort in raising funds to build roads leading to the village in 2006.

Although the village is changing for the better, Sun still lives alone in adobe-style housing built four decades ago.

Sun was widowed after her husband passed away in 1992. Her six children live in the city.

Lu Shuyan, her 42-year-old daughter, has asked her to come live in the city for years, but has always been turned down.

"She never asks us for money. Sometimes she even sends us peanuts that she harvests," Lu said.—Xinhua

Brazilian congressman accused of corruption surrenders himself to police

BRASILIA, 29 June—Brazilian congressman Natan Donadon, indicted for corruption and graft, who was considered as fugitive hours before, surrendered himself to the Federal Police (FP) in Brasilia on Friday noon.

The FP held a search in different places of Brasilia, and in the cities of Porto Velho and Vilhena in the north-western state of Rondonia earlier Friday since Donadon ran fugitive.

According to the police, Donadon decided to turn himself in to the police in the middle of a street in Brasilia, capital of Brazil, because he did not want to be exposed and appear before reporters in the door of the Federal Police Superintendence.

Donadon is the first Brazilian congressman who had a warrant issued against him by the Supreme Federal Court (SFC) under the 1988 Constitution.

The congressman, who also faces a dismissal process in the Chamber of Deputies, was also expelled from the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB).

The SFC Thursday ordered immediate imprisonment of Donadon for finding him guilty of graft and illegal association.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

He will be back: 'Terminator' film franchise gets trilogy reboot

LOS ANGELES, 29 June—The popular "Terminator" film franchise will be resurrected in a new stand-alone trilogy, with the first installment slated to open in theaters on 26 June, 2015, Hollywood studio Paramount Pictures said on Thursday.

The "Terminator" franchise about an assassin cyborg portrayed by Arnold Schwarzenegger has grossed more than \$1 billion over three

films since it debuted in 1984. It is unknown if Schwarzenegger, 65, will reprise his most famous role. A fourth film in the franchise, "Terminator Salvation," was released in 2009 without the former body builder, who was the governor of California at the time.

The 2015 film will be produced by Annapurna Pictures, which also produced 2013's Oscar nominee "Zero Dark Thirty,"

and Skydance Productions. Paramount is a subsidiary of Viacom Inc.

Reuters

With a poster from his latest film "Terminator 3" in the background, actor Arnold Schwarzenegger applauds youths in attendance at opening ceremonies of the Inner-City Games at the Hollywood Sports Centre in Bellflower, California, on 8 Aug, 2003.

REUTERS



Stevie Wonder to sing for blind treaty negotiators

GENEVA, 29 June—US singer Stevie Wonder will give a concert in Marrakesh on Friday, honouring his promise to perform if negotiators concluded an international treaty boosting access to books for blind and visually impaired people worldwide.

The "Isn't She Lovely" star, who has been sightless since birth, lobbied hard for the pact approved on Thursday by more than 600 negotiators from 186 states, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) said in a statement.

"This is a legacy, a gift to future generations. So let's finalize a new agreement that opens doors to the world's written treasures and moves towards a future where there are no barriers to the expansion of knowledge and enjoyment of culture," Wonder, said in a recorded video sent to the meeting this week.

"Let's get this signed, sealed, delivered, and I'm yours," he said, borrowing a verse from one of his hit songs. "Do this and I will come to Marrakesh and we will celebrate together."

The Wonder concert at the Palais des Congres, limited to participants of the diplomatic conference, is set for 2000 GMT on Friday.

The treaty aims to overcome copyright issues that have been barriers to improving access to published works in accessible formats that make it easier for the disabled to use, WIPO said.

It requires ratifying countries to adopt laws which will permit the reproduction and distribution of published works in formats such as Braille, large print text and audio books.

The pact, to be known as the "Marrakesh Treaty", enters into force when ratified by 20 member states of the UN agency.

Reuters



Stevie Wonder performs "Sir Duke" at the 48th ACM Awards in Las Vegas, on 7 April, 2013.—REUTERS

Paris Hilton's wardrobe shocks Emma Watson



Paris Hilton and Harry Potter actress Emma Watson



LOS ANGELES, 29 June—Harry Potter actress Emma Watson was shocked to see socialite Paris Hilton's overflowing closet.

The 23-year-old star was invited to visit Hilton's mansion while shooting for her new movie The Bling Ring and says her own wardrobe is relatively much smaller than what she saw.

"She (Paris) could never wear all of those clothes and half of them were brand new and still had the price tag on. But I suppose she just bought them to have them. We've all bought things on impulse, but that's an entirely different thing," dailystar.co.uk quoted Watson as saying. "I've got about eight pairs of shoes and that's it," she added.

PTI

The actress wants to celebrate a year from freedom after her split with actor Tom Cruise.

PTI



Katie Holmes to throw divorce party?

LOS ANGELES, 29 June—Actress Katie Holmes, who split from actor Tom Cruise last year, is reportedly planning to celebrate a year of freedom this week with her friends in New York.

An insider said the mood of the bash with her closest friends will be "enjoyable and emotional, with Holmes wanting to thank them for their support throughout a momentous year", reports thesun.co.uk.

According to a source, the 34-year-old has no plans to start dating again.

"She's lying low on the romantic side of things. She doesn't need that right now. Her focus is on Suri (her daughter)."

PTI

SPORTS

Hull sign Egypt winger Elmohamady on permanent deal

LONDON, 29 June—Premier League newcomers Hull City have signed Egypt international winger Ahmed Elmohamady from Sunderland for an undisclosed fee,

they announced on Friday.

Elmohamady spent most of last season on loan at Hull, making 41

appearances and scoring three goals as they secured a return to the top-flight.

The move reunites the 25-year-old with manager Steve Bruce, who signed El-



Sunderland's Ahmed Elmohamady (R) challenges Manchester United's Federico Macheda during their English Premier League soccer match in Sunderland, northern England on 2 Oct, 2010.—REUTERS

mohamady in 2010 when he was in charge of Sunderland.

"It feels great to be here permanently, especially after what happened here last season," Elmohamady told the club's official website

(www.hullcityafc.net).

"It's going to be great to play in the Premier League again, especially with Hull City, and I am very much looking forward to the new season."—Reuters

Franklin clinches fourth title at nationals

LOS ANGELES, 29 June—Olympic champion Missy Franklin clinched her fourth title when she swam the fastest time of the year to win the women's 100 meters backstroke at the US National Championships on Friday.

The Indiana meeting is doubling as trials for the world championships in Barcelona from 28 to 4 July August.

Franklin, who came from behind at the turn to beat Elizabeth Pelton in 58.67 seconds, had already qualified in the 100 and 200 freestyle, the 200 backstroke and earned a place in both the 4x100 and 4x200 freestyle relay squads.

"I think the whole field was right there at the 50," Franklin said after she

Missy Franklin laughs with her coach during warm ups at the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Aquatics Centre on 4 August, 2012. REUTERS



pipled her future collegiate team mate Pelton by 0.6 seconds.

"I knew I had to bring it back that last half, so it was tough. It hurt a lot. It's the hardest, but that's my favorite part that last 15 meters."

Despite being the quickest in the world this year, the 18-year-old said she was looking for more improvement before the world championships.

"The main goal is to be faster in four weeks than we were right now," Franklin said. "I think that's the goal for everyone. It will definitely be about the little technicalities the next four weeks."

"(Coach) Todd (Schmitz) and I will sit down and review what we

Dortmund stronger despite Goezte departure, says Kehl

BERLIN, 29 June—Champions League and Bundesliga runners-up Borussia Dortmund will emerge as an even stronger force next season despite the departure of talented midfielder Mario Goezte, captain Sebastian Kehl said on Friday.

Dortmund, who played second fiddle to treble-winning Bayern Munich last season after dominating in 2011 and

2012, lost Goezte to the Bavarians, who signed the Germany



Borussia Dortmund Mario Goezte runs for the ball during the Champions League semi-final first leg soccer match against Real Madrid at BVB stadium in Dortmund on 24 April, 2013.—REUTERS

international in a reported 37 million euro (31.56 million pounds) deal.

Central defender Felipe Santana has also left to join Ruhr valley rivals Schalke 04. "Our team is intact and despite the departures we are very solid," Kehl told *Bild*

newspaper. "Our team will certainly not be worse than last year. I believe that we will be even better."

Despite having plenty of cash to spend following their run to the Champions League final and the revenue from the Goezte deal, Dortmund have so far only brought in central defender Sokratis Papastathopoulos to replace Santana.

Kehl, however, sounded confident the club would soon become more active in the transfer market.

"It is not easy at the moment because other clubs seem to be demanding horrendous transfer fees. But I am certain (club bosses) Juergen Klopp, Michael Zorc and Hans-Joachim Watzke will keep their promise and bring in the right reinforcements," Kehl also said he expected highly coveted leading striker Robert Lewandowski to be playing for Dortmund next season.

Reuters

Korean Park moves two ahead at US Women's Open

NEW YORK, 29 June—South Korea's Park Inbee moved a step closer to her third major victory this year when she seized a two-shot lead in the weather-interrupted second round of the US Women's Open in Southampton, New York on Friday.

Shortly before play was suspended for the day as thick fog enveloped the challenging Sebonack Country Club layout, the in-form Park rolled in a 12-foot birdie putt on the 18th green to complete a four-under-par 68.

That left the Korean world number one at nine-under 135, two ahead of compatriot Kim In-kyung, who had played well for a 69 earlier in the day despite gusting winds and several tough pin positions.

"We got very lucky that we finished today," Park told reporters after ending a wildly fluctuating day of weather conditions with a

haul of six birdies and two bogeys. "I played very good golf today. I gave myself a lot of good opportunities, a very good ball-striking day. The long putts seemed to be going well today. I left a couple out (of birdie putts) there, but I am very satisfied with today's score."

American Lizette Salas was at four under after shooting an even 72, level with England's Jodi Ewart Shadoff, who was two under for the round



Inbee Park

Serena faces Date with destiny on the line

LONDON, 29 June—Kimiko Date-Krumm originally retired two years before Serena Williams, her third round opponent at Wimbledon, set foot on the All England Club's lush lawns for the first time.

Williams, bidding for a sixth Wimbledon title, is considered a veteran of the sport herself at 31, but she is no match in age for the 42-year-old Japanese, who is the oldest female player to reach this stage of the tournament in the professional era.

The pair have surprisingly never met during their lengthy careers, an anomaly

that will end when the American defending champion faces Date-Krumm on Court One on Saturday.

The popular Japanese player is enjoying an Indian Summer in her career having returned to the circuit in 2008, following a 12-year hiatus.

She first walked away from tennis in 1996, months after losing a close Wimbledon semi-final to the great Steffi Graf.

Date-Krumm, ranked 84, is a lengthy outsider to cause an upset against the dominant force in the women's game who is currently on a 33-match win-

ning streak.

The world number one, however, is not expecting to have everything her own way.

"She returns unbelievable shots," said Williams. "It doesn't matter how hard you hit it, she sees the ball and gets it back."

Novak Djokovic headlines the action in



the men's draw on Centre Court Saturday, with the top seed facing France's number 28 seed Jeremy Chardy in a third round match.—Reuters

Serena Williams of the US reacts to breaking serve in the second set during her women's singles tennis match against Caroline Garcia of France at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 27 June, 2013. REUTERS

with three holes to complete when the siren sounded to halt the action.

Angela Stanford (68) and fellow American Jessica Korda (71) were a further stroke back at three under while overnight leader Kim Ha-neul of South Korea was eight off the pace after battling to a 77.—Reuters

GENERAL

Ceremony welcomes relics' return to China



Two imperial bronze sculptures, looted from Beijing's Yuanmingyuan Garden in 1860, are handed over to the National Museum of China during a donation ceremony on Friday.
XINHUA

BEIJING, 29 June—Two imperial bronze sculptures that were looted from Beijing's Yuanmingyuan Garden were handed over to the National Museum of China during a donation ceremony held on Friday.

The sculptures of a rabbit head and a rat head will be added to the collection at the museum and exhibited soon, Li Xiaojie, director of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage, said at the ceremony.

Vice-Premier Liu Yandong and Francois Pinault, a French collector and businessman who donated the sculptures, unveiled

the gifts at the ceremony, and an honorary donation certificate was presented to Pinault by Cai Wu, China's minister of culture.

Francois-Henri Pinault, Francois' son who spoke on behalf of the family at the ceremony, said he expressed the idea of helping the two sculptures return to their home when he met President Xi Jinping in Beijing in April.

He said: "I believe the donation is a testament to the deep friendship between our two countries."

"The two pieces are part of China's history and cultural heritage. We deeply understand that art some-

times has richer symbolic meaning, just like Victor Hugo described in his letter about the garden."

Hugo criticized the looters of Yuanmingyuan, or the Old Summer Palace, in his Expedition de Chine after British and French expeditionary forces invaded the garden in 1860 during the Second Opium War.

"We believe when the two pieces are exhibited in the National Museum, they will tell their own story to audiences from different cultures and inspire them. Then our goal will be realized," Francois-Henri Pinault added.

Xinhua



David Ferrer

Ferrer wins all-Spanish clash to book third round spot

LONDON, 29 June—David Ferrer came out on top in an all-Spanish second round match at Wimbledon, getting the better of a baseline battle to beat Roberto Bautista Agut 6-3, 3-6, 7-6(4) 7-5 on Friday.

When fourth seed Ferrer claimed the first set after 43 minutes, there was no hint that the 60th-ranked Bautista Agut could upset the country's pecking order and reach the third round of a grand slam for the first

time. But his clever shot-making drew a string of unforced errors from this year's French Open finalist Ferrer in the second set and he tenaciously dug-in to take the third set to a tie-break.

However, Ferrer kept his nerve to regain the lead, broke in the 11th game of the fourth set and closed it out to set up a third-round match against Ukraine's Alexandr Dolgoplov.

Reuters

LONDON, 29 June—The sweet spot of Andy Murray's racket was put through its paces as he signed off his first week at Wimbledon by stylishly dispatching Spain's Tommy Robredo in straight sets on Friday.

Coming through the first three rounds unscathed would not usually bring cheer to a player who has reached the final in his last three majors but Murray could be forgiven for giving himself a pat on the back this time around.

He has managed to navigate the rough seas that have shipwrecked a fleet of top seeds and can now look forward to calmer waters after a 6-2, 6-4, 7-5 win over 29th ranked Robredo.

With Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal among those strewn on the rocks, Russia's Mikhail Youzhny, seeded 20, is the highest ranked player blocking Murray's path to a likely showdown with top seed Novak Djokovic in the showpiece match.

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(30-6-13 09:30 am ~ 1-7-13 09:30 am) MST	
* Local News	
* My Travel in this Exceptional Place, Inlay Lake	
* World News	
* Taste of Myanmar (Thin Egg Noodle Soup)	
* Myanmar Wedding Dresses	
* World News	
* Taung Byone Nat Festival (Episode-3)	
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6:25 am	3:45 pm
2. To Be Healthy Exercise	19. Documentary (SEA Games)
6:30 am	4:00 pm
3. Dane & Song National Races	20. News/Weather Report
7:00 am	4:15 pm
4. News/Weather Report	21. Song & Dance of National Races
7:25 am	4:25 pm
5. Teleplay	22. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Myanmar)
8:00 am	5:00 pm
6. News/International News	23. News/Weather Report
8:25 am	5:15 pm
7. Amazing World	24. Sing A Song
9:20 am	6:00 pm
8. Mono Classical Songs	25. News/Weather Report
10:00 am	6:20 pm
9. News	26. Cartoon Series
10:15 am	7:00 pm
10. TV Drama Series	27. News
11:00 pm	7:15 pm
12. Gitadahale Phintbaohn	28. TV Drama Series
12:00 pm	8:00 pm
13. News/International News/Weather Report	29. News/International News/Weather Report
12:25 pm	8:35 pm
14. Round Up of The Week's International News	30. Pyi Thu Ni Ti
12:35 pm	8:45 pm
16. Fashion In Honour of Myanmar Women's Day 2010 (Part-2)	31. Hit Songs of Stars
2:50 pm	9:00 pm
17. Musical Programme	32. News
	33. Tamyetmar Takwetsar
	34. New Melody

Murray hits form to blast Robredo off court



Andy Murray of Britain hits a return to Tommy Robredo of Spain in their men's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 28 June, 2013.—REUTERS

As if the hopes of a nation looking for a British man to end a 77-year barren run at Wimbledon were not enough of a millstone for Murray to carry, there is now the added weight of him being expected to at least reach the final.

"I think there's a lot more pressure on me now with them being out," he

said. "There are papers in the locker room, so you see some of the headlines. It's not that helpful."

"You need to be professional enough to not let that stuff bother you and just concentrate on each match."

The home fans' hopes, however, are built on the solid foundation of recent

results.

Murray has been among the most consistent performers at the grand slams, only failing to reach the semi-finals once since the US Open in 2010.

Added to that record, is that fact that he has moved slickly past three opponents without dropping a set.

Reuters

Engaging Parliamentarians in the Anti-Corruption Agenda held



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint poses for documentary photo with those present at the opening of workshop on Engaging Parliamentarians in the Anti-Corruption Agenda.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—A regular press meet between the cabinet members of the Union Government and local and foreign media was held at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Industry, here, this afternoon.

It was attended by Union ministers U Soe Thane, U Khin Yi and U Htay Aung and Deputy Ministers U Ye Htut and Dr Pwint Hsan.

Firstly, Union Minister U Soe Thane explained facts about the latest development in the county. The meeting came to an end in the

if it has media freedom. In the past, we had to attend media course in Thailand stealthily. We felt calm only when we arrived back home. Now, the country sees media freedom unexpectedly. Due to it, we have to face capacity problems in some parts. And we are unable to catch up these progresses. Now, conflict sensitive reporting is much better than before.

It can be seen that reporting on Rakhine issue is one-sided if compared with that of Meiktila conflicts. We see more progress in reporting on Meiktila conflict. In some cases,

Press meet between cabinet members and local and foreign media



Regular press meet between the cabinet members of the Union Government and local and foreign media in progress.—MNA

press meet will be held twice a month. But it is over two months. Press meet should be held occasionally. I think that it will be quicker when spokespersons from the ministries explain their respective matters.

My personal assumption is that respective ministries' clarifications at Hluttaw should be distributed not only to Hluttaw Department but also to the media. It takes too much time to listen to voice files again. And it is difficult to get accurate information.

I think that we can cover more exact news when getting these replies. Our reporting will be quicker if we have a chance to meet ministries' spokespersons as quickly as possible. It will be quicker than press meet held twice per month.

Reporter in Chief U Nyan Hlaing Win (The People's Age Journal)

It is very convenient even though the time is not

so long. It is convenient for some questions. Now, our country sees so many changes and faces a number of problems. It needs to know whom we have to contact and ask. No more than five or six ministers



Ko Thiha Thwe

are often seen at the press meet. Other ministers should attend the press meet. U Ye Htut has also said about that point before. Such meeting should be attended instead of giving training to the spokespersons. Real-time information should be released.

Union Minister U Soe

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—Opening of a workshop on Engaging Parliamentarians in the Anti-Corruption Agenda held, jointly organized by Spectrum and Gopac, was held at Royal Kumudra Hotel in Hotel Zone, here, this morning, with an address by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said that Myanmar had enacted Anti-corruption Laws, some of which are still in effect. Drafting Anti-corruption Bills were under discussion at Hluttaws, he added. He pointed out that the root cause of bribery in Myanmar was

poverty thereby reducing the country to poorer status. He called for urgent needs for drafting Anti-bribery Law.

The two-day workshop focused on Hluttaw's ethics and obligations, supervision, UN Convention Against Corruption, concepts of corruption and transparency of finance and public finance management.

It was also attended by Chairmen and members of Standing Committee of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, chairmen of Hluttaw Affairs Committee, members, officials from the Hluttaw Office and Spectrum and Gopac.

MNA



Union Minister U Soe Thane replies to queries.—MNA evening after the Union ministers and the deputy ministers replied to the queries raised by those present.

After the meeting, some local and foreign media interviewed Union Minister U Soe Thane about Myanmar's media world and the important role of media in nation-building endeavors.

Ko Aung Thura from 7 Day News Journal

It can be said that Myanmar sees media development in the time of the ruling government

media would give their comments on the news. It is due to freedom of expression. So, no need to worry about it. The government gives freedom to media and green light to opening of media courses. Only then, there will be controls as along as the capacity becomes high. Needless to worry about it. **U Htin Lin (Nay Pyi Taw In charge) from the Voice Journal**

I assumed that it needs to designate a specific time period for press meet though it is a frequent meeting. On the recent day, it is said the

Thane says "I have a chance to answer questions they wanted to know and to say I wanted to tell them by meeting with media persons frequently. Their participation is strength for the country's reform process. News coverage and reporting of media persons are very good at present time. I would like to urge them not to follow unreliable source and not to make personal attack. They will be sued over wrong message. Constructive criticism can be made to develop the nation and to build a democracy. If so, it will be okay.

It is not good to attack someone in regard to politics. Instead of making personal attack or accusation against someone, it would be better pointing out the weaknesses based on accurate information. Democracy allows criticizing someone and analyzing something. People are free to express their opinion. Doing like



Ko Aung Thura

this will pave the way for democracy.

The President encourages media. He called on ministries to meet media. Meeting with all groups is better than a meeting between an individual or a group and media. Today's meeting saw many questions and answers that made those present known. If so, media friendly can be realized. It is required to use this way to ensure national development. The onus is on all of us for development of the country. It is not necessary (See page 9)