

President U Thein Sein felicitates French President, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic and His Excellency Mr Jean-Marc Ayrault, Prime Minister of the French Republic, on the occasion of the Bastille Day of the French Republic, which falls on 14 July 2013.

MNA

Only mutual respect and trust, understanding and religious tolerance could bring peaceful co-existence: President



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein meets with patron, chairman and executives of Interfaith Friendship Group at Yangon Region Government's Office.—MNA

YANGON, 13 July — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met with the patron, the chairman and executives of Interfaith Friendship Group at the hall of Yangon Region

Government's Office today.

Also present were Union Ministers at President Office U Soe Thane, U Aung Min, U Tin Naing Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw

Citizen's Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee U Htay Oo.

In his address, the President said that the process of State Building, Nation Building and Peace Building was in progress in Myanmar; that now is the time when the country is on the track to shaping a New National Identity which is acceptable to all citizens, all national races and all races and all religions to be able to build a peaceful and harmonious society; that there could be unity, trust, friendship and sense of patriotism among citizens and national races, regardless of race and religion, if it existed in the society;

that religious conflict and misunderstanding were deeply rooted since the colonial period, but tolerance and harmony among the different races with different beliefs brought a pluralism to live together for many years throughout the history.

The two communities gave protection to each other, during the conflicts caused by extremists of the two communities, and provided relief aids to families who had become victims of the conflicts, that lower educational standard and economic difficulties were attributed to conflicts; that the government was striving to implement social and economic reforms so as

to address the problems; and that protection should be given to freedom of religion and freedom of expression so that democracy in Myanmar will flourish.

He added that only mutual respect and trust, understanding and tolerance for ensuring the freedom of religion could bring a peaceful coexistence; that Myanmar society would be proud of being a pluralistic society; that he would like to call on each and every citizen to pay mutual respect on different beliefs and to fight against religious hatred.

All need to oppose those who are trying to fuel the conflicts by using the (See page 9)

INSIDE

Myanmar,
a paradise
of cultural
heritages

Maha Saddhamma
Jotika dhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin
Maung Nyunt

PAGE-8

Obama discusses
status of Snowden
with Putin



PAGE-3

Pakistan's Mala-
la, shot by Tale-
ban, takes
education plea to
UN



PAGE-3

US
military
unveils
Atlas
hu-
manoid
robot



PAGE-4

Boeing Dream-
liner catches
fire at London's
Heathrow airport



PAGE-6

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (13-7-2013)

Htamanthi	6.66 inches
Maungtaw	4.60 inches
Kyaikkhami	3.54 inches
Sittway	2.95 inches
Patheingyi	2.64 inches
Putao	2.44 inches
Manaung	2.36 inches

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

YANGON, 13 July— As the city of Yangon is home to around six million residents, it can be said that 10 per cent of the total population of the country is concentrated in it. So, the largest city of the country is always packed with daily social and business visits of the people far and wide of the country and foreign visitors.

In order to speed the city's commuters and visitors from the length and breadth of the nation and globetrotters on their way as they have to encounter traffic delays in Yangon's congested roads daily, Myanmar Railways has a plan to cooperate with Japan International Cooperation Agency-JICA to improve its railway network, it is learnt.

"Upgrading of railroad sections is underway. It started to upgrade Yangon-Mandalay railroad under

the cooperation program of JICA.

Shortly after a kick off of meeting between Myanmar Railway and JICA, a feasibility study on condition of a bridge and railroad tracks near Ma-hlwa-kone railway station was conducted on 2 July. Firstly, a 20 km long section which is desperately needed to upgrading on Yangon-Bago railroad will be chosen to upgrade as a model and workforce and rail equipment provided to them when the work starts," said AGM U Kyaw Kyaw Myo of Myanmar Railways.

He added that JICA engineers took the train to Bago on 6 July and performed a study with the use of vibration machine. They pledged to conduct on-job trainings for Myanmar railway engineers while carrying out railroad works together with them. It was aimed at sharing knowledge to others.

JICA to upgrade Myanmar's rail transport network



Regarding the need for construction of foot over bridges and road overbridges at intersections between railroads and motorways on circular rail network, he said that Yangon Region Government proposed three designated places— Insein

bridge, Parami 2nd street and Kanbe (Thitsar road); and that repair of some foot over bridges are underway through invitation of tenders in the dailies.

He also expressed his view to build more bridges like Pazundaung bridge to be

able to increase number of trips and income of circular train service.

Now, circular train service performs 200 trips a day. Moreover, 34 up and down trains are being used for rail service from Yangon to Pyay, Tharawaw, Bago,

Nay Pyi Taw, Mawlamyine, Ye, Dawei, Mandalay and Shwenyaung. Departments concerned in cooperation with JICA are carrying out implementation of Greater Yangon Strategic Development Plan.

Kyemon-Soe Win (MLA)

NATION-BUILDING ENDAVOURS

Bago Region Chief Minister's inspection tour of road, streets



BAGO, 13 July — Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and region ministers oversaw progress in construction of Thabin Shwehti concrete road which is 960 feet

long, 18 feet wide and nine inches thick in Kyunthaya ward in Bago on 9 July.

Next, the chief minister looked into Ah Wai Yar and Shin Saw Pu streets and coordinated

matters related to requirements of ward dwellers in meeting with the ward administrator and townsenders.

Kyemon-Moe Win Thu (Bago)

One child drowned in motorized boat capsizing in Wakema

WAKEMA, 13 July — A collision between the two motorized boats at the mouth of Shaw creek in Wakema Township left one child onboard a boat dead at about 11.30 pm on 3 July.

The motorized boat by the name of Zar Ni, steered by Zar Ni (a) Stal

Ni of Hsinchuang village in Myitpauk village-tract ploughed into the stationary motorized boat of Zaw Wan, 41, near Chaungwa Oo Hlaing sandbank at the mouth of Shaw creek. Due to the impact of the crash, the stationary boat capsized and sank. Ma Hla Hla Khine,

wife of Zaw Wan, Maung Shine, his elder son, and Aung Thiha, his younger son, onboard the boat fell to the water. Only the dead body of the younger son was discovered by nearby fishermen at about 12 noon the following day while other family members survived the

Thriving pre-monsoon Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton plantations in Myinmu Township

MYINMU, 13 July — Following the steps of two cotton growers who started putting pre-monsoon Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton on the three-acre farmland each at filed No (376), west of Nabekyi rest house, in the area of Pyawt village river water pumping project in Myinmu Township and produced over 1000 viss of cotton per acre last year, 17 other cotton growers cultivated 23 acres of cotton on 25 April this year.

As a result, a total of 157 farmers from 25 village-tracts were invited



to observe thriving 78-day-old Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton plantations at the field on 12 July.

At the ceremony, officials concerned of the agriculture department

gave talks on agricultural methods and farmer U Aung Tint shared his experience in cotton growing to the visiting farmers.

Kyemon- Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)

Car crash near Hledan overpass



accident.

Kanbat police station charged Zar Ni (a) Stal Ni with reckless driving.

Kyemon-Pathein Hla Kyi

YANGON, 13 July — A road accident happened to two vehicles competing each other for the way near Hledan overpass in

ACCIDENT

Kamayut Township. But no one is injured in the accident occurred at about 2.15 pm on 11 July.

A taxi with U Thiha Phyo at the wheel collided with a light truck driven by U Kyaw Myint while competing each other for the lane near the Hledan bridge.

Action is being taken against the car crash by Kamayut traffic police.

Kyemon-Kyaw Myint Aye (IPRD)

WORLD

Obama discusses status of Snowden with Putin

WASHINGTON, 13 July — US President Barack Obama discussed the status of Edward Snowden with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Friday, hours after the former US spy agency contractor made clear his intention to seek political asylum in Russia.

In their phone conversation, the two leaders “noted the importance of US-Russian bilateral relations and discussed a range of security and bilateral issues, including the status of Mr Edward Snowden and cooperation on counterterrorism in the lead-up to the

Sochi Winter Olympics,” the White House said in a terse statement. Snowden, who has been marooned in the transit zone of Moscow’s Sheremetyevo airport since his arrival there on 23 June, disclosed his intention to seek asylum in Russia through his meeting with a group of Russian and foreign human rights activists, lawyers and parliamentarians earlier in the day.

Russian lawmaker Vyacheslav Nikonov told reporters that the 30-year-old American has agreed to stop damaging US interests, a precondition set by Putin

days earlier for Snowden to stay in Russia.

White House spokesman Jay Carney on Friday reiterated Washington’s call for Russia to hand over Snowden to face espionage charges back at home. “We continue to discuss with Russia our strongly held view that there is absolute legal justification for him to be expelled, for him to be returned to the United States to face the charges that have been brought against him for the unauthorized leaking of classified information,” he said at a regular press briefing.

Xinhua



Pakistan’s Malala, shot by Taleban, takes education plea to UN

NEW YORK, 13 July—Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani girl who was shot in the head by the Taleban last year for demanding education for girls, marked her 16th birthday with a passionate speech at the United Nations on Friday in which she said education could change the world. “Let us pick up our books and pens. They are our most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world. Education is the only solution,” said Yousafzai, speaking out for the first time since she was attacked.

Wearing a pink headscarf, Yousafzai told UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and nearly 1,000 students attending an international Youth Assembly at UN headquarters in New York that education was the only way to im-



Malala Yousafzai (L), a Pakistani girl who was shot by the Taleban for going to school, poses for a photo with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at the United Nations headquarters in New York, on 12 July, 2013. —XINHUA

prove lives.

Yousafzai was shot at close range by gunmen in October as she left school in Pakistan’s Swat Valley, northwest of the country’s capital Islamabad. She was targeted for her campaign against the Islamist Taleban efforts to deny women education. “They shot my friends too. They thought that the bul-

lets would silence us. But they failed and out of that silence came thousands of voices,” she said to cheers from the students gathered at UN hall.

“The terrorists thought they would change my aims and stop my ambitions, but nothing changed in my life except this: weakness, fear and hopelessness died.

Strength, power and courage was born,” a confident Yousafzai said. She wore a white shawl draped around her shoulders that had belonged to former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who was assassinated during a 2007 election rally weeks after she returned to Pakistan from years in self-imposed exile.

“I am not against anyone, neither am I here to speak in terms of personal revenge against the Taliban or any other terrorist group. I’m here to speak up for the right of education for every child,” she said. “I want education for the sons and daughters of the Taliban and all terrorists and extremists,” she said. “I do not even hate the talib who shot me. Even if there is a gun in my hand and he stands in front of me, I would not shoot him.”—Xinhua

Red Cross calls for ‘humanitarian pause’ in Syria’s Homs

BEIRUT, 13 July—The Red Cross appealed on Friday for a halt in the fierce fighting between President Bashar al-Assad’s forces and rebels in the Syrian city of Homs, to bring in lifesaving supplies to trapped

residents.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said thousands of Syrian lives were at risk in the old city of Homs, where Assad’s forces have been pushing a heavy offensive

with air and artillery strikes to try to retake rebel areas.

The Red Cross said combatants in the more than two-year conflict were hampering the delivery of aid to beleaguered locals and had failed to secure safe passage for trapped residents trying to flee the area.

“We call on the Syrian authorities to permit delivery in the old city of food and medical supplies,” said Magne Barth, the head of the ICRC delegation in Syria. “We also call on all the armed groups that are in control of the old city to ensure that civilians who want to

leave can do so safely.”

Syria’s uprising-turned-civil war has become increasingly violent, killing more than 100,000 people so far.

International powers at the UN Security Council are deadlocked over how to find a diplomatic solution. China and Russia, Assad’s main arms supplier, have blocked efforts to sanction Assad by the United States and Europe, who back the rebels. Homs is the epicenter of the armed insurgency that grew from popular street protests struggling to end more than four decades of Assad family rule.

Reuters

Egypt’s Islamists take to streets of Cairo, but protests peaceful

CAIRO, 13 July—Tens of thousands of Egyptians marched on Cairo’s streets in the early hours of Saturday to demand ousted Islamist President Mohamed Mursi be reinstated, but there were none of the deadly clashes that swept Egypt a week ago.

Mursi’s Muslim Brotherhood called on Friday for “a day of marching on”, and 10 days after the military overthrew Egypt’s first freely elected president, large crowds

Republican Guard compound in Cairo where he is being held, killing 53. Four soldiers also died.

The powerful military blamed the confrontation on “terrorists”. Mursi’s supporters call it a massacre and say those who died were praying peacefully when troops opened fire. “I am here to say ‘no’ to the military coup and ‘yes’ to Mursi, who I see as my legitimate president, although I am not in the Brotherhood and nor did I



Members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi gather at the Rabaa Adawiya square, where they are camping, in Cairo on 12 July, 2013. The Arabic text on the banner reads “Mursi is my president.”—REUTERS

descended on the capital waving flags and chanting slogans.

A week earlier similar scenes of protest turned violent when pro- and anti-Mursi demonstrators clashed in cities and towns across the country, killing 35 people and widening the rift between Egyptians on different sides of the political divide.

Three days after that, Egypt was left reeling again when soldiers opened fire on a group of pro-Mursi demonstrators outside the

vote for him,” said Ahmed Adel, a 22-year-old student, in downtown Cairo.

The army denies Mursi’s overthrow was a coup, saying it ousted him to enforce the will of the people after millions took to the streets at the end of June to demand his resignation.

The Brotherhood contends it is the victim of a military crackdown, evoking memories of its suppression under autocrat Hosni Mubarak, toppled in an uprising in 2011.

Reuters



A view shows damaged buildings in the besieged area of Homs on 12 July, 2013.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

US military unveils Atlas humanoid robot



28 hydraulically-actuated degrees of freedom, two hands, arms, legs, feet and a torso as well as an articulated sensor head that employs laser beams to measure distances, it said.

Seven copies of the robot are being provided to the teams to take part in a DARPA-funded competition in December 2014, with a 2-million-dollar prize to the one that programs their Atlas to best perform a rescue mission in a hypothetical scenario, said the report.

"These seven teams will see if their simulation-honed algorithms can run a real machine in real environments," the report quoted DARPA Programme Manager Gill Pratt as saying. "We expect all the teams will be further refining their algorithms using both simulation and experimentation."

Pratt said the agency hopes to employ the competition to prove that robots can be compatible in environments engineered for people — opening doors, climbing stairs and moving around, even in environments degraded by some sort of disaster.

DARPA also wants to demonstrate that robots can be made to use tools designed for people, from screwdrivers to fire trucks, and that robots can be supervised by people who aren't trained to operate robots, Pratt added. —Xinhua

WASHINGTON, 13 July —The US military unveiled on Thursday one of its most-advanced humanoid robots known as Atlas, which was created to assist in future emergency situations, the American Forces Press Service reported on Friday.

The 1.9-metre tall, 150-kilogram Atlas robot,

built by Boston Dynamics, is funded by the Pentagon's Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), according to the report.

The Atlas robot can make a range of natural movements and has an on-board, real-time control computer, it said.

The Atlas also boasts

Microsoft pushes US Customs to enforce phone import ban

WASHINGTON, 13 July —Microsoft Corp, which won a ban last year on importing some phones made by a Google Inc subsidiary, filed a motion in a US court on Friday asking the US Bureau of Customs and Border Protection to enforce the measure. The US International Trade Commission, which hears a long list of high-tech patent complaints, said in May 2012 that Google's Motorola Mobility infringed a Microsoft patent for generating and synchronizing calendar items. It barred any infringing Motorola Mobility device from being imported into the United States.

All phones with Google's Android software are affected by the ban, Microsoft said. But Google said that it should have applied to only



The Microsoft logo is seen at their offices in Bucharest on 20 March, 2013. — REUTERS

some Motorola Mobility Android phones.

That order was to have gone into effect 60 days after it was issued but, according to Microsoft's court filing, it still has not been enforced. "CBP (Customs and Border Protection) has repeatedly allowed Motorola to evade that order based on secret presen-

tations that CBP has refused to share with Microsoft," the complaint said. Google argued that Microsoft tried to broaden the order beyond what the ITC had intended. "US Customs appropriately rejected Microsoft's effort to broaden its patent claims to block Americans from using a wide range of legiti-

IAU president says Tibetan observatory to be best in Asia

LHASA, 13 July —An observatory that is under construction in Tibet is expected to become the best astronomical observatory in Asia after its completion, International Astronomical Union (IAU) President Norio Kaifu said.

The observatory, based in Tibet's Ngari Prefecture, is located in an ideal place for astronomical monitoring due to its high altitude, transparent atmosphere and mild weather, Norio Kaifu said during an inspection tour in Tibet from 28 June to 1 July.

The Ngari observatory, perched at an altitude of 5,100 metres above sea level, can compete with Hawaii's Mauna Kea Observatories, the world's largest observatory for optical, infrared and submillimeter astronomy, he said.

The Ngari observatory, the first observatory built above 5,000 meters in the northern hemisphere, will also help to promote cooperation among Asian astronomers, he said.

The observatory will enable scientists from the Chinese mainland, Taiwan, Japan and the Republic of Korea to build large-scale telescopes and carry out joint research programs, said Yao Yongqiang, chief researcher with the National Astronomical Observatories of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The observatory, built with a total investment of



International Astronomical Union (IAU) President Norio Kaifu

more than 30 million yuan (4.87 million US dollars), is expected to be completed within ten years, Yao said.

A 0.5-metre telescope has been set up in the observatory to carry out research

on planetary science, star formation and other astronomical projects, Yao said. The Qinghai-Tibet Plateau has long been a popular location for stargazers.

Xinhua

Nokia's buyout chances in focus ahead of results

HELSINKI, 13 July —Next week could be crunch time for Nokia Oyj and its Chief Executive Stephen Elop in their battle to prove the Finnish mobile phone company can survive on its own. Investors will be scrutinizing second-quarter results to see whether there's enough cash to stay with a turnaround plan which Elop said would take two years but is now into its third.

Elop's bold bet in 2011 to adopt Microsoft Corp's untested Windows Phone software has yet to pay off, with no sign of catching Samsung and Apple Inc in smartphones. Analysts

also expect Thursday's results to show a steep fall in handset shipments, led by a drop in sales of regular mobile phones as consumers switch to smartphones and cheaper models from Asian rivals. Nokia's weak market position has made it a perennial target of takeover speculation, but such deal talk has intensified in the past month after a media report said it had held abortive talks with Microsoft. The company's recent decision to buy Siemens AG's stake in their joint venture Nokia Siemens Networks is seen straining its balance sheet further when the deal closes later this year.

Reuters



Guests at Nokia's unveiling of its new Lumia 1020 smartphone use the new phone's 41-megapixel camera with a grip in New York on 11 July, 2013. — REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Wells rides high on 'mortgage horse,' but run may end soon

NEW YORK, 13 July —The home loan business came through for Wells Fargo & Co (WFC.N) in the second quarter, helping the biggest US mortgage lender beat Wall Street's profit expectations, despite fears that lending volume would drop as rates rose.

Rising mortgage rates, driven by expectations that the US Federal Reserve will eventually cut back its economic stimulus programme, are expected to weigh on banks' mortgage business in the coming months. But Wells, the No 4 US bank by assets,

has some 90 businesses, ranging from credit cards to small business loans, that will benefit as the economy improves, the bank's top executives said on Friday. The mortgage operations contributed just 13 percent of the bank's more than \$21 billion of revenues in the latest quarter."

The mortgage horse has been a big, strong horse. We've got 89 other horses that are going to be able to grow," Chief Financial Officer Tim Sloan told analysts on a conference call, referring to the stagecoach that has



long been the symbol for Wells Fargo. The bank's shares were up 1.5 percent to \$42.51 in afternoon trading on the New York Stock Exchange after touching a new 52-week high of \$43.05 earlier in the session.

The stock has risen 21 percent this year, compared with a 25 percent rise in the KBW index of bank stocks. BKX."With Wells Fargo,

there were a lot of doubts from large institutional investors who were shorting the shares leading into earnings because of the 30-year (mortgage) rate increasing," said Tom Jalics, a senior investment analyst with Key Private Bank. "But it turns out the worry in investors' heads about originations and refinancing falling off a cliff is probably overdone."—Reuters

Surgery may not be better for spine fractures

NEW YORK, 13 July —Getting back surgery to fix fractures caused by compression of the spine may not be any more beneficial than more conservative treatments, according to a new study of Medicare patients.

Researchers found that people who had so-called spinal augmentation had a similar likelihood

of dying or having major complications as those who didn't have the surgery. "I can't say there is no effect in patients who swear by their procedure, but in looking at objective measures we can't say it's effective," said Dr. Brendan McCullough, the study's lead author who did the research while at the University of Washington in Seattle. During spinal

augmentation, doctors fill compression fractures—usually caused by the bone-thinning condition osteoporosis—in people's vertebrae with a bone cement.

Research has found that spinal augmentation relieves the pain of back fractures, but more recent studies suggest the procedure's perceived benefits may be due to a placebo effect—or mind over matter. Spinal fractures, however, can lead to more problems than just chronic pain.

They have, for example, been tied to a doubled risk of death. Therefore, some believe the procedure may help reduce the risk of death in people

with fractures. For the new study, the researchers used medical billing data for people on Medicare, the US health insurance for the elderly and disabled, between 2002 and 2006.

They identified 10,541 people who had spinal augmentation to treat their fractured back bones, and 115,851 people who used more conservative approaches, which typically include pain medicine and back braces or girdles.

Reuters



Air pollution linked to over 2 million deaths each year

WASHINGTON, 13 July—US researchers claimed on Friday that human-caused outdoor air pollution may be responsible for over two million deaths worldwide each year. The study, published in the journal *Environmental Research Letters*, estimated that around 470,000 people die each year because of human-caused increases in ozone.

It also estimated that around 2.1 million deaths are caused each year by human-caused increases in fine particulate matter, tiny particles suspended in the air that can penetrate deep into the lungs, causing cancer and other respiratory disease. "Our

estimates make outdoor air pollution among the most important environmental risk factors for health," co-author of the study, Jason West, from the University of North Carolina, said in a statement. "Many of these deaths are estimated to occur in East Asia and South Asia, where population is high and air pollution is severe."

In their study, the researchers simulated the concentrations of ozone and fine particulate matter in 1850, when the industrial era began, and in the year 2000. A total of 14 models simulated levels of ozone and six models simulated levels of fine particulate matter.

According to the study,

the number of these deaths that can be attributed to changes in the climate since the industrial era is, however, relatively small. It estimated that a changing climate results in 1,500 deaths due to ozone and 2,200 deaths related to fine particulate matter each year. Climate change affects air quality in many ways, possibly leading to local increases or decreases in air pollution, it said. For instance, temperature and humidity can change the reaction rates which determine the formation or lifetime of a pollutant, and rainfall can determine the time that pollutants can accumulate.

Reuters

India ready for investment treaty talks with US

WASHINGTON, 13 July —India is ready to begin talks with the United States on a bilateral investment treaty as part of its effort to reinvigorate ties with a valued trade partner, the country's commerce and industry minister said on Friday. "We have said that 'yes, we are ready for it. We are in favour,'" Anand Sharma told reporters after meetings with US Trade Representative Michael Froman and other US officials.

Sharma said there was no date for the first round of talks on the pact, which would set terms and condition for US and Indian investment in each

other's country." No, it was discussed today, and we have signaled our acceptance," Sharma said. The United States and China agreed this week to restart talks on a bilateral investment treaty, a move welcomed by the US business community as a sign of new Chinese President Xi Jinping's commitment to economic reform.

US business groups have been anxious for a similar commitment from India and were disappointed when a date for talks was not announced after Secretary of State John Kerry visited the country in late June.

Reuters



India's Minister of Commerce and Industry Anand Sharma attends the opening plenary session of the World Economic Forum (WEF) India Economic Summit in Mumbai on 13 Nov, 2011.—Reuters

Timing of first solid food tied to child diabetes risk

NEW YORK, 13 July —When babies already at increased risk for type 1 diabetes had their first solid foods before four months of age or after six months, their chances of developing the disorder at least doubled, according to a new study. Four to six months is the recommended age window for all kids to start on solid foods, but the new results suggest timing could be even more important for

babies at high risk for type 1 diabetes (T1D) because of genetic susceptibility.

The results weren't totally surprising, according to senior author Jill Norris, since type 1 diabetes is a lifelong disease in which the immune system attacks the cells that make insulin and previous research has found that the development of certain immune cells is related to the introduction of solid foods. "We did not choose this window out of

the blue," said Norris, who studies chronic diseases like diabetes at the University of Colorado, Denver. But this was the first study to examine how many kids were actually diagnosed with diabetes.

"We think the clearest message for parents is to wait to introduce any solid foods until after the 4 month birthday," Norris told Reuters Health in an email. "And when baby is ready, solid foods should be introduced by 6 months of age or soon thereafter, preferably while the mother is still breast-feeding the baby." Norris and her coauthors followed 1,835 children at high risk for type 1 diabetes -- based on genetic testing done at birth or family history—until they were eight years old. Fifty-three children were diagnosed with the disease.

Reuters



WORLD

Obama emphasizes US commitment to Syrian rebels in Saudi call

WASHINGTON, 13 July—President Barack Obama told Saudi Arabia's king on Friday that he is committed to providing US support to Syrian rebels who have been waiting for shipments of light arms that have been stalled in Washington.

In a phone call, Obama and King Abdullah also discussed events in Egypt a week after the Egyptian military ousted elected President Mohamed Mursi.

No US arms have reached the Syrian rebels, who are struggling to hold back an offensive by the Syrian government. The American weapons have been caught in a Washington impasse as some members of the US Congress fear the arms will end up in the hands of Islamist mili-

itants. A White House statement said the two leaders discussed the civil war in Syria and expressed strong concerns about the impact of the conflict on the region.

"The President emphasized the United States' continued commitment to provide support to the Syrian Opposition Coalition and the Supreme Military Council to strengthen the opposition," the statement said. On Egypt, Obama expressed concern about deadly violence that broke out after the military took over. He stressed his desire for an inclusive political process that will enable an early return to a democratically elected civilian government in Egypt, the White House said.

Xinhua

304,000 evacuated for Typhoon Soulik in E China



Vehicles move past a tree blown down by strong wind caused by Typhoon Soulik in Yacheng Town of Xiapu County, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 13 July, 2013. Typhoon Soulik landed on the Huangqi Peninsula in Lianjiang County of Fujian Saturday afternoon.—XINHUA

FUZHOU, 13 July — A total of 304,000 people have been evacuated in east China's Fujian Province, as Typhoon Soulik began to hit the province on Saturday, the provincial flood control headquarters said.

The National Meteorological Centre (NMC) said Soulik, the seventh typhoon in this year, made landfall on the Huangqi Peninsula in Fujian at 4 pm Saturday.

Wind speeds at the typhoon's centre reached a top speed of 118 km per hour as it landed, the NMC said. All maritime transportation to Taipei has been suspended. Operations in the ports of Fuzhou, Xiamen and Meizhou Bay have also been suspended, according to the provincial headquarters.

Public transportation in the city of Ningde, which

LONDON, 13 July—A Boeing 787 Dreamliner operated by Ethiopian Airlines caught fire at Britain's Heathrow airport on Friday in a fresh blow for the US planemaker whose new model was grounded for three months after one high-tech battery caught fire and another overheated.

External scorching from the fire was located in a different part of the aircraft from the bays containing batteries, and the cause of the fire was unknown.

Boeing shares closed down 4.7 percent at \$101.87, knocking \$3.8 billion off the company's market capitalization after television footage showed the Dreamliner surrounded by firefighting foam at Heathrow. Heathrow briefly closed both its runways to deal with the fire which

is expected to be hit hard by the typhoon, has been suspended since 9:30 am Saturday. A total of 142 flights have been canceled at the Changle International Airport of Fuzhou, the provincial capital, since Friday night. High-speed train services have also been suspended.

Some 5,500 soldiers have been dispatched to 18 counties to engage in rescue efforts. The National Marine Environmental Forecasting Centre on Saturday maintained a top-level warning for sea waves caused by Typhoon Soulik.

During Saturday daytime and night, Soulik is expected to whip up sea waves as high as 6 to 10 metres in the southern part of the East China Sea, waters near the Diaoyu Islands and the northern part of the Taipei Strait. Waters near Zhejiang Province and the northern part of Fujian may see waves of 4 to 6.5 metres.—Xinhua

Abe plans to stump in Okinawa from Tuesday

TOKYO, 13 July—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will visit Okinawa on Tuesday and Wednesday to stump for his ruling party's upper house election candidates in the southernmost prefecture, where public antipathy has grown toward the government's US base relocation plan and US aircraft deployment, party

sources said on Saturday.

On Tuesday, Abe will give speeches on the main island of Okinawa and attend a meeting for a candidate to be held in Ginowan, which hosts the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station, the sources said.

Okinawa is among the constituencies where LDP candidates are thought to be

facing a tough challenge in the 21 July House of Councillors election. It has been picked for stumping by LDP executives in the party's campaign strategy.

Antipathy toward US bases has risen in Okinawa since the deployment in October last year of the MV-22 Osprey aircraft, which has a history of crashes, at the

Boeing Dreamliner catches fire at London's Heathrow airport



Emergency crew stands near the tail section of a Boeing 787 Dreamliner, operated by Ethiopian Airlines, which caught fire at Britain's Heathrow airport in this 12 July, 2013 still image.—REUTERS

broke out while the aircraft was parked at a remote stand. There were no passengers aboard the plane.

Pictures of the plane at Heathrow showed an area just in front of the tail that appeared to be scorched.

The Dreamliner's two

batteries are in electrical compartments located low down and near the front and middle of the plane, while the visible damage to the Ethiopian plane appears to be on top of the fuselage, further toward the rear, according to video

from the scene. "A Boeing 787 Dreamliner suffered an on board internal fire," a Heathrow spokeswoman said. "The plane is now parked at a remote parking stand several hundred meters away from any passenger terminals."—Reuters

At least six dead as French train derails

BRETIGNY-SUR-ORGE, (France), 13 July—At least six people died and 22 were seriously injured when a train derailed and hit the platform at a station in central France on Friday, leaving several carriages torn open and one lying on its side, officials said.

Local officials said dozens of other passengers were being treated in nearby hospitals for minor injuries, and Interior Minister Manuel Valls said the death toll could rise.

The train — a regional service that travels more slowly than France's TGV express trains — veered off the track en route from Paris to the city of Limoges at the station of Breigny-sur-Orge, 26 km (16 miles) south of Paris.

President Francois Hollande said there would be a thorough investigation into what had happened and

sympathized with families for the fact it would take time to identify victims.

"A catastrophe has taken place," he told reporters at the scene, adding that the station would be shut for three days.

National rail operator SNCF said the train, travelling at peak rush hour around 5 pm (1500 GMT) just as many families were heading off on summer holidays, was carrying 370 people and that an investigation was under way into what had happened.

It said six of the train's carriages derailed. The train had not been scheduled to stop at Breigny-sur-Orge and passengers told local media it was travelling fast as it approached the station.

TV images showed one of the carriages smashed

against a platform at the station, 26 km (16 miles) south of Paris. Trapped passengers were still being helped to safety.

Passengers told local media the victims had been crushed or electrocuted, and many of those hurt had been hit by flying glass from the train windows. "We felt a big impact—as if we had run up onto something—then the train started to keel over and it came off the track. I was in the carriage that fell over," a passenger named Annie told France Info radio.

France's last major rail accident was in 1988, when a commuter train headed into Paris's Gare de Lyon crashed into a stationary train, killing 56 people, after its brakes failed.

Reuters



People look at a derailed intercity train after an accident at Breigny-sur-Orge train station near Paris in this 12 July, 2013 picture provided by tgorquet via Instagram.—REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Pyithu Hluttaw Health Promotion Committee Chairman receives UNAIDS's Deputy Executive Directors

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—Chairman of Health Promotion Committee of Pyithu Hluttaw Dr Kyaw Myint and party received Deputy Executive Directors of UNAIDS Ms Jan Beagle and Ms Marie

Claire Thoumyre at Hluttaw Complex, here yesterday morning.

At the call, they discussed providing assistance to hospitals that are engaged in HIV, AIDS treatment, promulgation of law on HIV/AIDS, training and dissemination on health knowledge.

MNA

Farming rights certificates to be issued in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 13 July—A coordination meeting on farmland registration was held in Township General Administration Department in Meiktila on 7 July afternoon.

The meeting is aimed at implementing farmland registration as guided by the President.

Township Farmland Management Committee Chairman U Myo Hlaing delivered a speech and Secretary U Thein Tun Zaw briefed on farmland registration.

The meeting was also attended by Region Hluttaw Representative U Saw Htay, Township farmland management committee members, respective township level departmental officials, village-tract administrators participated in discussion.

Meiktila has 135899 farmland plots from 370 villages in 57 village-tract to register.—MMAL-U Chan

Tha (Meiktila)

Patheingyi fire burns down 11 houses, one silo



MANDALAY, 13 July—A fire broke out in Patheingyi Township in Mandalay Region yesterday, causing

the loss equivalent to K 155.1 million.

It is allegedly started by a house of U Soe Tint

Jade decorations for jade pagoda being made



MANDALAY, 13 July—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, accompanied by Mandalay Mayor Region Development Affairs Minister U Aung Moun and Region Forestry and Mining Minister U Than Soe Myint visited Aye Aye Khaing Gems Workshop in

Mahaaungmye Township in Mandalay Region where jade sculptures to be displayed in Wiyawsana Jade Pagoda in Hsin village in Myinhmu village-tract in Amarapura Township on 11 July afternoon.

Donor U Soe Naing, owner of Aye Aye Khaing

Gems Workshop, conducted them round the unfinished works which include jade altar and arch.

The region chief minister discussed donation to the pagoda and attended to the needs.—MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay-Sub-Printing House)

MeySen to help develop English Language proficiency in schools

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye held discussions with a delegation led by Vice-

Principal for MeySen Academy School Mr. John Bromanat his office, here, 10 July.

Their talks focussed

on future plans for English proficiency enhancement of basic education schools' teachers and students.

MNA

Attorney-General of the Union meets foreign guests

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin met with Director Dr. Phillip Tahmirdjis and Programme Lawyer Ms. Shinery Pouget

from the British Institute of Human Rights and the International Bar Association at the hall of the Union Attorney-General Office, here, yesterday morning.

They exchanged views on cooperation for human resources development and work procedures of law offices.

MNA

AGRICULTURE

Scientific Palethwe approach introduced

KYAUKTAN, 13 July—A ceremony to introduce scientific approach in Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation to ensure 100-basket yield per acre was held in 10-acre farm of farmer U Thein Win in Nyaungwaing village-tract in Kyauktan Township in Yangon South District in Yangon Region on 11 July



and wife Daw Thet Wai and turned eight houses in Aung Thukha ward, three in Thit Cho Gon ward and a silo to ashes.

Mandalay Region Development Affairs Minister U Aung Moun and officials rushed to the scene with 43 fire engines and 200 firefighters who put out the fire one hour later.

Some 50 families from 11 households were sheltered in Taik Chan Hla Pagoda compound in Patheingyi and provided with necessary assistances.

MMAL-Nan Myo Thar

morning.

The move is aimed at boosting incomes of farmers.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Head of Region Agriculture Department U Myint Lwin, District Agriculture Department U Kyaw

Kyaw, Head of Township Agriculture Department U Htay Maung, Head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department U Saw San and staff. They attended to the needs of the farmers.

MMAL-019

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



Thanks to combined efforts of Township General Administration Department, Township Development Affairs Committee and other groups to ease the traffic jams, vendors on Hledan 50-ft road in Kamayut Township in Yangon were seen in perfect harmony with the traffic on 4 July.

MMAL-163

Tamu market reopens after being closed over security concerns

KALAY, 13 July—Nan Falon market in border township Tamu in Sagaing Region reopened on 11 July after being closed by the consensus of shopkeepers for security reasons in the aftermath of the extortion of money by an Indian rebel from an Indian merchant that took place near the market.

The Indian merchant who had been held captive by the rebel was freed by a group of shopkeepers of the market. After the event, they unanimously decided to close the market for three day from 8 to 10 July to avoid any possible danger.

The market is at the centre of border trade between Myanmar and India.

"We Tamu Nan Falon market ever give precedence to the order. If it prevails, the region will develop," a

shopkeeper explained.

The market was established more than 50 years ago and had trading relations with the Indian merchants since then.

MMAL-Shin Nay Min

ARTICLE

Myanmar, a paradise of cultural heritages

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 14 July, 2013

BRTs for Yangon's traffic snarl-up

A news report carried in a recent *Kyemon* daily brought the good news to Yangonites that the commercial heart of Myanmar will be introduced to a Bus Rapid Transit-BRT system and the city's mass transit system will be efficient to a certain degree soon. It is a ray of hope for commuters who are always frustrated with traffic woes and robbed of their priceless time every day in the traffic moving at a snail's pace.

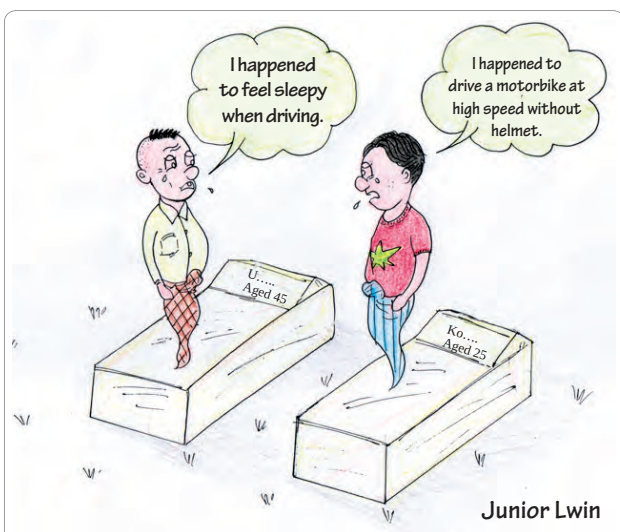
First of all, we welcome a plan for introduction of the BRT system in Yangon where dawn-to-dusk congested roads fuel public dissatisfaction with existing urban bus service which is not punctual and reliable. We are fairly optimistic that the high quality bus transit system can work on nose-to-tail vehicles on the main bus routes where traffic is frequently brought to a grinding halt and can serve as a cost-effective solution to the commercial hub's traffic snarl-up.

BRT system is designed to transport a large number of people to and from their destinations at one time without being held up in traffic congestions as quality buses run on dedicated lanes and can carry up to some 120 passengers. Moreover, the BRT system is a cost-benefit urban mobility as it cost four times less than the sky train service and ten times less than the subway system. What's more, BRT is fast, comfortable, efficient, safe and user-friendly when compared to conventional bus services.

So, the quality bus service should be introduced to Yangon encountering a vicious headache for roads clogged with heavy traffic based on two important reasons: cost and convenience. Investing in the high performance public transport bus service is a must for public transit efficiency in Yangon.

Union FM felicitates French counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic, on the occasion of the Bastille Day of the French Republic, which falls on 14 July 2013.—MNA



A single piece of land, the second largest territorial size among ASEAN ten-member nations, is Myanmar noted for its bio-diversities and cultural heritages, both natural, man-and nature-combined creation and man-made. Though a tropical country like other ASEAN member nations, certain unique geographical and climatic features bestow upon Myanmar many striking specialties. Firstly, the country is just one land entity with both land borders and a long coastline providing it with both terrestrial and maritime accessibilities. Myanmar is not a landlocked country for an isolated existence, but a country, sandwiched between two most populous great countries—India to the west and China to the north-east, thus receiving influence and impact of cultures of both neighbours, tangible and intangible.

Physical features determine Myanmar's geography and history. Thickly forested mountains and hill ranges run from north to south. Similarly its aquatic bodies in the forms of rivers, streams, falls, springs and lakes follow the same north to south direction creating valleys and plains of the same north to south design. Though generally tropical climate predominates, variations create differences—heavy monsoon in the south and along the coastline, dry and arid in the rain shadow middle areas and temperate and cold in the north, where, amazingly, there are year-round snow capped mountain peaks that are actually offshoots of great Himalayas. Into this peculiar patterns of climate and physical features human habitation originated appropriately, becoming nucleuses of indigenous ethnic groups who in course of time came to mix, mingle and assimilate happily with migrants. They form a mosaic of Myanmar anthropology today.

The wealth of natural resources above and underground and under water clearly explain the earliest existence of living creatures that go through the cycle of Darwinian evolution for aeons of time. Fossils discovered by chance by world's paleontologists



U Bein Bridge: This 1.6 kilometre (one mile)-long wooden bridge across Taung Thaman Lake was built with discarded palace timbers which have stood firm for more than 150 years.—MYANMAR HOTELS & TOURISM GUIDE 2013

include among other things, remains of early man. "Anthopithicus Enectus" [the first man who could walk upright on two legs] which they scientifically

call upper Myanmar "Anya" and lower Myanmar "Akyey". Since they found old stone implements in upper Myanmar they gave due honour by terming

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

termed "Pondaung Primate", honouring the name of the place near Monywa, Myanmar. Much to the surprise and marvel of them, after assaying these fossils in the laboratories of their respective universities they gave out their consensus of their results that "Pondaung Primate" fossils proved over 40 million years earlier than hitherto accepted oldest primate fossils found in the Nile valley. This is merely a piece of story of Myanmar's cultural heritage.

Since the two well-known geologists Dr. Morvius and Dr. de Terra chance-found stone tools of man of Palaeolithic Age in the dry zone area of mid Myanmar Yenangyaung and Magway, which they scientifically examined and confirmed by their colleagues as the stone implements of the old stone Age, Myanmar has become a paradise for scientific researchers. Morvius and de Terra fittingly christonized their finds as "Anyathian culture". Myanmar people

them "Anyathian culture". Since then Anyathian culture has been used in the wider context of Myanmar cultural heritage. Later, researchers who followed their footsteps discovered human settlements in coastal regions as well.

Though the country seems so remote and less well-known to the world public, Myanmar's natural resources and cultural heritages are long standing virgin fields for seekers of new frontiers of knowledge. After Myanmar regained independence on January 4, 1948, she became a member of the world organization UN in that year, and so in the activities of the UN and its associated agencies including UNESCO, Myanmar participated with full cooperation and spirit and was committed to all international obligations and agreements. In the "Myanmar Agenda 21" which was the happy outcome of the world's Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Myanmar, like all other attendant

countries at that Summit had undertaken to plan, programme and implement for the preservation and protection of our planet the Earth for future generations in the 21st century. In it are specifically stated, defined and outlined regarding the preservation of physical (natural) environment and cultural environment. In defining the meaning and demarcating the extent of these two types of environments, Myanmar Agenda 21 covers specific domains with two aspects—tangible and intangible. Especially in the case of cultural environment, three types are clearly defined—(1) cultural environment created by nature only (2) cultural environment created by nature and man combined and (3) cultural environment created by man only.

Under all these three categories of cultural environment Myanmar possesses abundance of resources and evidences qualifying her to be listed in the Register of World's Cultural Heritage. Though one of those earliest 50 UN member states, Myanmar has lagged behind in many ways, in her progress and prosperity, owing to unfortunate circumstances at home, abroad and at

(See page 9)

NATIONAL

Only mutual respect and trust, understanding and religious...

(from page 1)

religion as a political tool in their interests and take legal actions against those people. He called for providing assistance to those victims, regardless



Dr Tin Hla.
MNA

of races and religions and remedies for their trauma. He urged local people to join hands in government's cooperation with Civil Societies Organizations (CSOs), townsenders and respective international organizations.

Even the UN criticizes the government as some are trying to bring these issues into regional and international problems. He urged the Interfaith Friendship Group to make



U Nyunt Maung Shein.—MNA

efforts for avoiding the recurrence of similar riots and violence, maintaining country's dignity and protecting people from the danger.

According to four main religions enshrined in the Constitution, the essence of

all religions teach people to be civilized and tolerant, to have loving-kindness and to be able to distinguish between right and wrong. So, as a democracy country, all must accept religious freedom, he added.

After that, Interfaith Group Patron Retd



U Sein Win Aung.
MNA

Ambassador U Hla Maung, Chairman Retd Ambassador U Sein Win Aung, Vice Chairman U Nyunt Maung Shein, Secretary U Tha Nyan and executive members touched upon group's ongoing tasks and future tasks.

After that, the Union



Dr S Kyaw Hla.—MNA

Ministers, the Region Chief Minister and Pyithu Hluttaw representative gave supplementary reports.

The President called for making cooperation between



Dr Tha Nyan.—MNA

the government and the organizations to avoid the recurrence of the conflicts, taking lessons from the past incidents. The government on its part would continue



U Hla Maung.—MNA

to deal with the suggestions, he added.

After the meeting, the President cordially greeted the members of the Interfaith Group.—MNA

Myanmar, Japan to cooperate in agriculture sector

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—The monsoon tree planting for 2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation took place at the vacant plot of the ministry, here, yesterday morning. Union Minister U Myint Hlaing, the deputy ministers and departmental heads planted Seintalone mango trees and

looked the collective tree planting of the staff.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing attended Myanmar-Japan Agriculture Sector Development Meeting at the ministry and delivered an address.

The Union ministers and party then proceeded to 500-acre farmer's educative

farm, research farms, edible oil crop plantations and crop plantations and rice mills in Pobbathiri, Zabuthiri, Dekkhinathiri, Pyinmana Township and Zabuthiri Townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The Union Minister viewed thriving of crops and perennial crop plantations.

The Union ministers and Japanese delegation discussed further strengthening amity between the two governments and the people of the two countries, cooperation in export of rice, beans and pulses, sesame, groundnuts, sunflowers and horticulture and doubling export of rice to Japan in the coming year.

Both sides agreed to establish advanced rice mills in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago Regions and Nay Pyi Taw Area, import modern farm equipments, provide technical assistance and conduct courses by Japan and cooperate trade and agricultural sectors.

MNA



Union Minister U Myint Hlaing views cultivation of Seintalone mango saplings.—MNA

Higher competitiveness...

(from page 16)

relaxation of international economic sanctions against the country. He called on private sector to use sophisticated machinery and to apply modern techniques in value-added production process so that competitiveness of private sector will be improved in ASEAN market. He called for government-private sector cooperation to be able to reduce the transaction cost.

He highlighted participation of all for betterment of supply chain,

value chain for agricultural sector development as number of businessmen and farmers whose livelihoods rely on agro-industry represents high percentage compared with other economic sectors.

He urged rice mill owners and farmers to build mutual trust and friendship that could bring mutual benefits.

Green light has been given to the establishment of public company. He called for collective efforts for emergence of international-standard

factories and workshops and more job opportunities. He urged all merchants to work hand in hand.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint called for increasing export of value-added products and import of goods that can help boost long-term economic development. He highlighted the federation's leading role in an attempt to integrate Myanmar's economic entities into global supply chain.

As of 13 June, 2012, Myanmar would have to enjoy (Generalized System of Preference) GSP scheme with retroactive benefit

for exports. He called for making strenuous efforts for exportation of quality products.

After that, UMFCI President U Win Aung explained the facts about the association and accepted K 200 million donated by UMFCI Patron Chairman of KBZ Bank Ltd U Aung Ko Win.

General Secretary Dr Myo Thet submitted annual financial report. Afterwards, Director-General U Hla Maw Oo of Directorate of Trade announced the name of elected CEC members and executive members for (2013-2016).—MNA

Myanmar, a paradise...

(from page 8)

international arenas. Her isolated far cries are either unheard or ignored or unheeded. Nevertheless, individual scientists, researchers and scholars are not wanting. They do visit Myanmar despite many difficulties and obstructions in the formalities of passports and visas.

Myanmar in the last five decades was not entirely "isolated". Despite its cautious foreign policy dictated by the existing international political climate, doors were open to friends, well-wishers, scholars and scientists, who courageously and honestly exposed to the world "what they see, discover, and feel of their research findings in Myanmar and clamour for Myanmar's deserving place in the world."

A turning point came with the assumption of state office by the present government under the leadership of President U Thein Sein. Though barely over two years on the road to democracy, the process, the speed, momentum, and the results so far, together with sincerity and honesty of the leaders have earned admiration and even marvel in international communities,

organizations and fora including UNESCO.

Among many cultural heritage sites throughout the country, those most well-known, emerged in the limelight of the world especially UNESCO. With the cooperation of foreign and local experts and scholars attempts are afoot for the inclusion of Myanmar cultural heritages in the World's List. The listing of "Kuthodaw marble Inscriptions shrines in the Register of World's Memory by UNESCO in June this year was Myanmar's debut on the World's cultural Heritage Theatre."

Now both UNESCO and Myanmar are working for the inclusion of cultural heritage sites of Myanmar in the UNESCO List. In the lineup are the three ancient cities—Peithano, Sri Kestra and Hanlin. Other cultural heritage sites in States and Regions of the country are queuing up.

Now the country is open 360 degree and the influx of foreigners with different interests into the country is booming. International attention focuses on Myanmar's progress and prosperity augurs well for Myanmar cultural heritage.

LOCAL NEWS

Complaints for bribery and corruption

Complaints about bribery and corruption can be addressed to the Anti-Corruption Committee, the President Office at Office No. 18, Nay Pyi Taw, by anyone with his/her name, CSC No., address and firm evidence.

Action will be taken against those who got involved in bribery and corruption in accordance with the law after a thorough investigation.

Knowledge shared about Myanmar insurance services



BAGO, 13 July—Myanma Insurance of Bago Region gave an educative talk on insurance activities at the meeting hall of Kyunthaya Highway Bus Terminal, here, on 10 July.

The regional in charge of Myanma Insurance of Bago Region shared knowledge on various kinds of insurance services being provided by the Myanma Insurance, fire insurance and general insurance

and travel insurance, and then answered the queries raised by those present at the talk.

It was attended by region level departmental heads, the district police force commander, the chairman of district/township Private Bus Lines Control Committees, the secretaries, businessmen and officials concerned from Myanma Insurance.

Kyemon-588

Milk fed to schoolchildren at BEPS in Twantay

TWANTAY, 13 July—Milk feeding process is in progress at basic education schools for ensuring fitness and health of schoolchildren. Head of Twantay Township Information and Public Relations Department U

Thet Oo and family fed milk for a day to 194 students at Basic Education Primary School in Konwetchaung Village in Twantay Township of Yangon South District recently.

Kyemon-Myohlaing (Twantay)



Environmental conservation and mangrove forest tree planting activities in Maungtaw

MAUNGTAW, 13 July—The environmental conservation and planting of mangrove trees was held outside the border post near Pynphyu Creek in Paungza

Village-tract in Maungtaw Township on 9 July.

First, Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko Naing made an opening speech and

Staff Officer U Ko Ko Tun of Township Forest Department explained the purpose of tree planting. Altogether 4000 saplings were planted by district/

township level departmental officials, Tatmadawmen, townselders and NGOs at the ceremony.

Kyemon-Maungtaw District IPRD

Shwehle gets traditional medicine clinic

BILIN, 13 July—Bilin Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Township Health Department are providing health care services to people at Shwehle village monastery here on 9 July.

Chairperson of Township MCWA Daw Thinzar Win made an opening speech. Next, the health staff gave educative

talks on TB disease, anti-DHF and traditional medicines. They responded to the questions raised by those present.

Theresponsiblepersons took preventative measures. The township traditional medicine clinic gave free health care services to 41 villagers.

Kyemon-Township IPRD

Crime

Drugs, arms and ammunition seized in Hpa-an Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—Policemen of Kayin State Police Force Commander's Office, acting on tip-off, together with witnesses seized Win Maung, 52 of roadside shop near Shwedaw Village in Hpa-an Township at 5.30 pm on 8 July and seized 58 WY brand stimulant tablets weighing 5.8 grams worth K 191,400.

While the team was searching the house, 20 feet from opposite roadside, Lu Deik, 41 opened fire three time with the use of M-22 to the squad. The policemen arrested him after opening fire twice at him. The police seized 48 pink WY brand stimulants weighing 4.8 million worth K 158,400, one M-16, one

magazine, 20 5.56 rounds of ammunition, one M-22, one magazine, 11 7.62x39 rounds of ammunition, 29 .30 rounds of ammunition, US-made M-57 grenade with fuse and one CDMA mobile phone.

The police squad also arrested Sanay Tin (a) Soe Soe, 30, of Shwedaw Village in addition to one Mighty-X car and three motorcycles from the shed.

Htonaing Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Win Maung, Lu Deik and Sanay Tin under Sections 15/16(c)/20(a)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law and Section 19-a of the Provisional Arms Law.

Kyemon-Ko Ko Yupa

National Sports

Prizes awarded in Sagaing University Rector's Cup



SAGAING, 13 July—The final match of Sagaing University Rector's Cup Inter-Subject Men's Football Tournament for 2013 Academic Year took place at the sport grounds of District Sports and Physical Education Department on 10 July evening.

In the final match, Physics Team beat Arts All Stars Team 6-0.

Among the spectators were Sagaing University Rector In-Charge Dr Thura Oo, Cooperative University (Sagaing) Rector In-Charge Dr Yi Yi Win, the professors and faculty members,

students, Township Development Committee Chairman U Zaw Win and officials, invited guests and football fans.

At the prize awarding ceremony, Rector Dr Thura Oo presented championship trophy to Physics Team, Thamadi Saw Mill and Nyein Thiri Hotel owner U Nyein Zaw Tun, cash awards to first and second winning teams. Then, the officials awarded gold, silver and bronze medals to first, second and third winning teams and best player awards.

Kyemon-Myo Win

HRD

Heavy rain causes landslide, uproots trees in Momauk Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—A heavy rain in Momauk Township, Kachin State, caused a landslide and uprooted trees that blocked Mile Post No 17 on the Momauk-Lweje Road on 8 July.

The block to the road

has been cleared up by the Momauk Township Public Works.

Momauk No 2 Basic Education Primary School was also shut on that day due to the overflow water from the Momauk River which also inundated the

Disaster

low-lying area in Momauk. The school reopened the next day as the flood receded slowly. Meanwhile, a bridge across the Tapain River near Manaung Village was swept away by the flood water of the river.

Kyemon-Ko Ko Yupa

REGIONAL

Japanese farmers struggle to make election choices over TPP

TOKYO, 13 July —As voting for the upper house election approaches, Japanese farmers and their lobby groups are struggling to see who will best speak up for their interests.

While they have been a traditional support base for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, many have grown skeptical about backing its candidates after the LDP chief, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, announced in March an intention to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations for creating one of the world's largest free trade zones.

The pact, now being negotiated by 11 nations and set to involve Japan from late July, is estimated to boost the country's gross domestic product by 3.2 trillion yen but at the same time slash Japan's agricultural output by 3 trillion yen from 7.1 trillion yen if all tariffs are eliminat-

ed without compensation measures.

Alarmed, the Hokkaido agricultural cooperative has decided not to back the LDP candidate fielded in the prefecture's proportional representation block for the first time in its history. Some other prefectural cooperatives have also decided to support candidates from opposition parties.

But whether they have the power to sway the overall outcome of the House of Councillors election on 21 July remains murky as other agricultural cooperatives still support LDP candidates, with some local officials saying they deem it more important to keep up their ties with the LDP given that the party is expected to score a resounding victory.

"We are adamantly opposed to the aspect of the TPP that will devastate Japan's agriculture, but the

LDP and the government have said they will protect it for sure," said Akira Banzai, president of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, at a Press conference last month.

He urged the LDP-led government to keep its promise, saying the group backed LDP candidates who share its stance against the TPP in the general election in December through which the party returned to power.

"Politics is about trust," he said.

Even without the impact of the TPP, Japan's agriculture faces many challenges, including the rapid aging of farmers and often-low profitability.

According to the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry's white paper for fiscal 2012, the average age of farmers topped 66 and is almost at 70 for rice farmers. Among cattle

farmers, the percentage of those with sales of 10 million yen or greater was 85 percent, but it was just 1 percent for rice farmers.

The government has taken measures to ease the worries of farmers by including in its growth strategy a plan to double agriculture income by raising crop exports to 1 trillion yen by 2020 from the current 450 billion yen among other steps.

But economic experts have criticized the plan as unrealistic and called the pursuit of the TPP and farming plan contradictory aims.

Among such vocal critics, Satoshi Daigo, professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo, said, "Including the (promotion of) the TPP in its pledges and promising to double agricultural income are exact opposite things."

Kyodo News



Photo shows a busy street in Bhutan's capital Thimphu on 11 July, 2013. —KYODO NEWS

Nepal's former PMs under criticism for breaching protocol

KATHMANDU, 13 July —Nepal's six former Prime Ministers have faced criticism from different sectors for ignoring country's diplomatic code of conduct and protocol as they went to hotel to meet Indian External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid.

On Tuesday, former Prime Ministers Baburam Bhattarai, Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda, Sher Bahadur Deuba, Surya Bahadur Thapa, Jhala Nath Khanal and Lokendra Bahadur Chand reached a hotel at Kathmandu and met visiting Indian External Affairs Minister Khurshid separately.

Nepali Media have reported that such meeting is a serious violation of protocol as former prime ministers went to hotel to meet him. "Leaders should have called the Indian Minister at their residence to meet instead of going to hotel which is a serious protocol violation because former ministers hold top position than a foreign minister," an official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told Xinhua with the condition of anonymity. The previous government led by Baburam Bhattarai had introduced a new code of conduct that bars former

prime ministers to meet foreign guests at hotel who are below than their protocol. The official said former prime ministers also did not take consent from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before meeting, which is a must according to diplomatic code of conduct.

Similarly, local media have produced news and views lambasting the former prime ministers for violating diplomatic code of conduct and breaching protocol.

Kantipur Daily, Nepal's largest selling vernacular daily has published an editorial on Thursday saying that former prime ministers' meeting with Indian Minister is a diplomatic shame for the country. "Our prime ministers meeting with Indian foreign minister has hurt the people and it has bowed their head. It is an evident that our diplomatic norm is fast eroding," the editorial says.

Similarly, there are many articles, letters to editor and interviews in the Nepali Media that slams the former prime ministers.

Khurshid himself told the reporters that he had not invited the leaders to meet him but leaders themselves spontaneously went to meet him.—Xinhua

First verdict on Delhi gangrape case deferred till 25 July

NEW DELHI, 13 July —A juvenile court Thursday deferred till on 25 July the first verdict on the horrific and fatal gangrape case of a 23-year-old medical student by six accused on a moving bus in the Indian capital in December last year, the public prosecutor said. Public prosecutor Madhav Khurana said that the Juvenile Justice Board had finished the trial of one of the accused, who was actually a minor at the time of the incident, but reserved the judgment. "The court has completed the hearing. The order has been deferred to 25 July," he told the media in the national capital.

The accused, whose name has been withheld as he was a minor at the time of the incident, is charged with rape, murder, destroying evidence, and other crimes, including kidnapping. If convicted, he faces up to three years in a reform facility as he was below 18 years of age when he had participated in the gangrape. The prosecution has described the juvenile as the "most brutal of the six accused."—Xinhua



A worker maintains the green rooftop of a building at the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine in Beijing, capital of China, on 12 July, 2013. According to Beijing Rooftop Landscaping Association, the city's green rooftop area has expanded to more than 1.2 million square metres up to the end of 2012, one percent of the total area. Planted over waterproofing membrane, green roofs help reduce pressure on urban drainage system and boost buildings' insulation value.—XINHUA

Pakistan sees multiple challenges to Afghan peace process

ISLAMABAD, 13 July —Pakistan admitted on Thursday that the Afghan reconciliation process face many challenges but all sides will have to show patience to achieve the goal of elusive peace.

The comments came days after the Afghan Taliban temporarily closed their office in Qatar, dashing hopes for beginning of the long-awaited process. "Pakistan is of the view that reconciliation is the only way forward for bringing peace

and stability to Afghanistan," Foreign Ministry spokesman Aizaz Ahmad Chuadhry said.

Responding to the queries of media persons at this weekly news briefing in Islamabad about the reported closure of Taliban office in Doha, the Foreign Office spokesperson said there are many challenges in the reconciliation process and Pakistan has always called for patience and perseverance to settle the Afghan issue.

The Taliban office

was closed after President Hamid Karzai objected at the Taliban white flag and their plaque of the "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan" the name they had used during their 1996-2001 rule.

Karzai and his aides had termed the Taliban office as a parallel government. The Qatari authorities later removed the Taliban flag and the plaque. "All stakeholders should be engaged for the positive outcome of the reconciliation process," Chaudhry said.—Xinhua



The Osaka Securities Exchange in western Japan ends its last day of cash stock trading on 12 July, 2013, before its listed shares are transferred to the Tokyo Stock Exchange on 16 July following a three-day weekend in Japan.—KYODO NEWS

At least 10 injured in partial building collapse in Chinatown, NYC

NEW YORK, 13 July — At least 10 people were injured, three of them critically, after a building partially collapsed in Manhattan's Chinatown on Thursday, according to fire officials.

The victims suffered from burns and smoke inhalation, the officials said.

The accident happened in a beauty salon in the rear of the building, but the cause of the collapse was not immediately clear. Initial reports from the scene suggested it was caused by

a gas explosion.

"We had a fire and an explosion on the first floor. We had minimum collapse but heavy fire on the first floor with extension to the second and third floor," Fire official Robert Boyce said. Four firefighters suffered minor injuries during the rescue, he added.

The building had previous codes violations but it's unclear if they had anything to do with the explosion, according to fire officials.

Xinhua



A rescue vessel approaches to a "burning passenger liner" during a drill on the sea water off Weihai, east China's Shandong Province, on 11 July, 2013, the national Maritime Day. The drill includes maritime joint search-and-rescue missions, fire fighting and emergency response exercise.

XINHUA

Turkey not to risk ties with Egypt over differences on Morsi's removal

ANKARA, 13 July — Relations between Turkey and Egypt will survive the recent hiccup caused by the Egyptian army's deposition of President Mohamed Morsi in response to millions of protesters' demand, Turkish analysts believe.

Turkey has taken a strong position by condemning what it called a "military coup" that removed Egypt's first democratically elected president from power and criticized the United States and the EU for not terming the army intervention "a coup."

Most rhetoric of Ankara on Egypt stems from its domestic concerns as the country suffered a series of military coups in its modern history, Hasan Kanbolat, Director of Centre for Middle East Strategic Studies (ORSAM), told Xinhua.

However, "I do not expect any serious deterioration in bilateral relations between the two countries,"

he anticipated.

On Wednesday night, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan seemed to have softened his criticism on developments in Egypt. He said Turkey had to deal with the grave consequences of coups and that he would not want "the Egyptian people" suffer from same problems.

Erdogan's comments came after Egypt had summoned Turkish Ambassador Huseyin Avni Botsali one day before to protest what it views as Ankara's interference in Egyptian domestic affairs.

The fact that Turkey did not retaliate by summoning the Egyptian ambassador signals that Turkey wants to maintain strong ties with Egypt under the provisional government that has the backing of the military.

A Turkish diplomatic source, speaking to Xinhua on condition of anonymity,

ruled out any severance of ties with Egypt. "We have no intention whatsoever to suspend our ties with Egypt and do not plan to recall our ambassador in Cairo," Kerim Balci, editor-in chief of Turkish Review, agreed that Turkey's own experience with the military is the major factor behind Turkish tough reactions to Morsi's removal.

"Turkey has suffered from various kinds of military interventions throughout its late Ottoman and republican history," Balci said. "What happened and what will happen in Egypt is indirectly but strongly relevant to what happened and what will happen in Turkey."

Ankara stood out from the crowd in its strong condemnation against the Egyptian army's ouster of Morsi as some oil-rich Gulf countries rushed to support the new government with billions of US dollars in loans.

Xinhua



Visitors enjoy folk dance during a folk handicraft exhibition in Beijing, capital of China, on 11 July, 2013. The five-day exhibition, opened on Thursday, displayed folk handicrafts made in southwest China's Guizhou Province.

XINHUA

S Africa, US forces to conduct joint exercise

CAPE TOWN, 13 July — The South African and US armed forces will conduct a joint exercise in Eastern Cape to raise preparedness for intervention in an unstable country, it was announced on Thursday.

The exercise, code-named Shared Accord 13, is a joint peacekeeping and humanitarian exercise. It is part of the efforts by the US Army Africa (USARAF) to incorporate a partner nation in an exercise prior to going to Africa.

All branches of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) will take part in the exercise that will run from 24 July to August, South African Navy Capt Jaco Theunissen said.

The exercise will involve the army, air force, navy and medical units, with the participation of 5,000 soldiers, according to Theunissen. "We are exercising to do a human support intervention in an unstable country," said Theunissen. "What we

simulate is what is currently happening in a lot of countries in the world, especially in the African continent."

"You've got warring factions destabilizing the country.... We are exercising the war fight, where you will fight against rebel groups." Medical units would also practice giving basic medical healthcare to a local population in an unstable warring environment, according to the South African Press Association.

Xinhua

China's compulsory education to cover more disabled children

BEIJING, 13 July — Chinese education authorities on Thursday vowed more efforts to enable access to compulsory education for the 80,000 registered disabled children of school age who are not currently receiving equal schooling as their peers.

Various measures including allowing them to learn in regular classes will be implemented by the Ministry of Education, Xinhua learned from the ministry. China had 378,800 disabled students attending the country's 1,853 schools for the disabled by the end of 2012, according to the ministry.

It added that the ratio of disabled children receiving compulsory education reached 72.1 percent by the end of last year, representing an increase of 10 percentage points compared with the ratio in 2008.

Chinese central and local governments have invested more than 5.4 billion

yuan (about 879.92 million US dollars) in building or renovating 1,182 schools for the disabled in the country's underdeveloped central and western regions, the ministry said.

The central government also allocated 120 million yuan as special subsidies for education of the disabled in the regions.

Xinhua



Students from the Independence collage participate in the third tsunami and earthquake drill, in Arequipa city, Arequipa department, Peru, on 11 July, 2013. The Peruvian Education Ministry scheduled a nation-wide tsunami and earthquake drill for public and private schools on Thursday, according to local Press.

XINHUA

Father of Cambodian PM dies at age of 90

PHNOM PENH, 13 July — Hun Neang, the father of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, died of natural causes at the age of 90, according to an obituary from his relatives on Friday.

"We are all in deep sorrow over the passing away of Hun Neang, who was father, grandfather and great grandfather, in the early morning of Friday at the age of 90," said the obituary.

The funeral is being held at the Prime Minister Hun Sen's residence near the Independence Monument in Phnom Penh until next Wednesday, it said.

Hun Neang was a person who had devoted himself to Buddhism and had built a lot of Buddhist pagodas and schools in Cambodia. According to his biography, Hun Neang had 6 children, 30 grandchildren and 66 great grandchildren.

His wife, Dy Pok, died in 1998 at the age of 79.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

Justin Bieber apologizes to Bill Clinton for abusing him

Justin Bieber called Bill Clinton a "great guy"



LOS ANGELES, 13 July—Singer Justin Bieber, who was filmed while urinating in a mop bucket of a restaurant and saying "F**k Bill Clinton", has reportedly apologized to the former US President.

The footage in question was shot in New York earlier this year. Eonline.com reports that a source informed that

of, "If that is the worst thing you have ever done, all is well." The 19-year-old thanked Clinton on Twitter and called him a "great guy".

"@billclinton thanks for taking the time to talk Mr. President. Your words meant alot. great guy," tweeted Bieber.

It is also said that Bieber told Clinton that if there was anything he could do for the Clinton Global Initiative, he would love to help.

Clinton, in turn, reportedly told Bieber to focus on the good that he can do for the world and to keep an eye on his friends (one of whom leaked the video).

PTI

Filmmaker Sam Mendes to direct Daniel Craig in James Bond 24

LONDON, 13 July—Sam Mendes will direct Daniel Craig as 007 in the 24th instalment of the blockbuster James Bond film franchise about the fictional British spy, its producers said on Thursday.

The film is set for release in the autumn of 2015 and follows on the success of Mendes-directed predecessor "Skyfall", which earned \$1.1 billion at the box office worldwide and was the highest-grossing film of all time in Britain, producers Michael G Wilson and Barbara Broccoli said in a statement.

The screenplay for the Sony Pictures Entertainment (6758.T) and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc MGYR.UL film will be written by John Logan, who also worked on "Skyfall".

"Following the extraordinary success of 'Skyfall', we're really excited to be working once

again with Daniel Craig, Sam Mendes and John Logan," Wilson and Broccoli said.

Mendes has been rumoured as the director of the latest Bond project for months, but his participation was not a certainty while he was involved in the creation of a stage musical version of children's writer Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory", which opened last month.

"I am very pleased that by giving me the time I need to honour all my theatre commitments, the producers have made it possible for me to direct Bond 24," the 47-year-old Mendes said in the statement.

Mendes has a long background in theatre direction and burst on to the movie scene by winning an Academy Award for his debut feature "American Beauty" starring Kevin Spacey.—Reuters

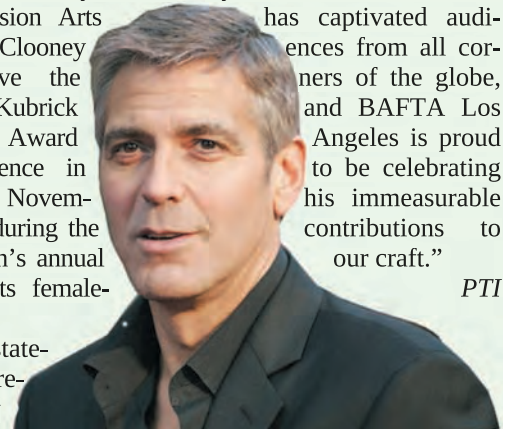


Actor Daniel Craig and director Sam Mendes (R) pose while launching the start of production of the new James Bond film "SkyFall" at a restaurant in London on 3 Nov, 2011.—REUTERS

George Clooney to receive BAFTA honour

LOS ANGELES, 13 July—Actor George Clooney will be honoured for his achievements by officials at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). Clooney will receive the Stanley Kubrick Britannia Award for Excellence in Film on 9 November, 2013 during the organization's annual gala, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

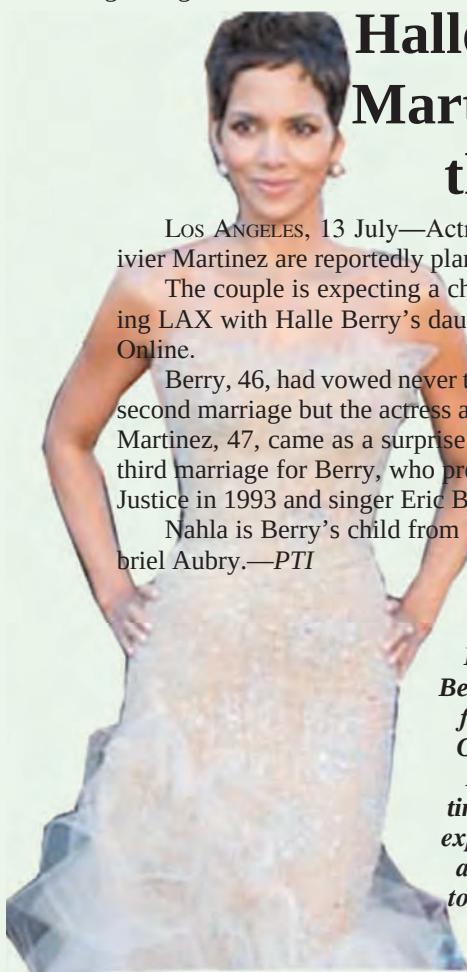
A statement released by



George Clooney will be honoured with the Stanley Kubrick Britannia Award for Excellence in Film.

PTI

Halle Berry, Olivier Martinez to marry this week?



LOS ANGELES, 13 July—Actress Halle Berry and fiance Olivier Martinez are reportedly planning to get married this week.

The couple is expecting a child and they were spotted leaving LAX with Halle Berry's daughter Nahla in tow, reported E! Online.

Berry, 46, had vowed never to wed again after the end of her second marriage but the actress admitted that her engagement to Martinez, 47, came as a surprise last year. This would mark the third marriage for Berry, who previously tied the knot to David Justice in 1993 and singer Eric Benet in 2001.

Nahla is Berry's child from her relationship with Gabriel Aubry.—PTI

Halle Berry and fiance Olivier Martinez are expecting a child together



Kristen Stewart texts Robert Pattinson

LOS ANGELES, 13 July—Actress Kristen Stewart reportedly sent a message to her ex-boyfriend, actor Robert Pattinson and his rumoured girlfriend Riley Keough, to find out if they are dating.

Pattinson is said to be dating late singer Elvis Presley's actress granddaughter Keough, who also worked with Stewart in The Runaways. And Stewart is clearly not happy about it.

"Kristen is furious and has texted Rob and called Riley to find out what is going on, but apparently none of her calls have been answered," femalefirst.co.uk

quoted a source as saying.

Pattinson is believed to have first met Keough through Stewart.

"Rob only knows Riley because of Kristen. Now they've been inseparable in

the last few weeks and have been having low key dates at his Los Angeles home," said the source.

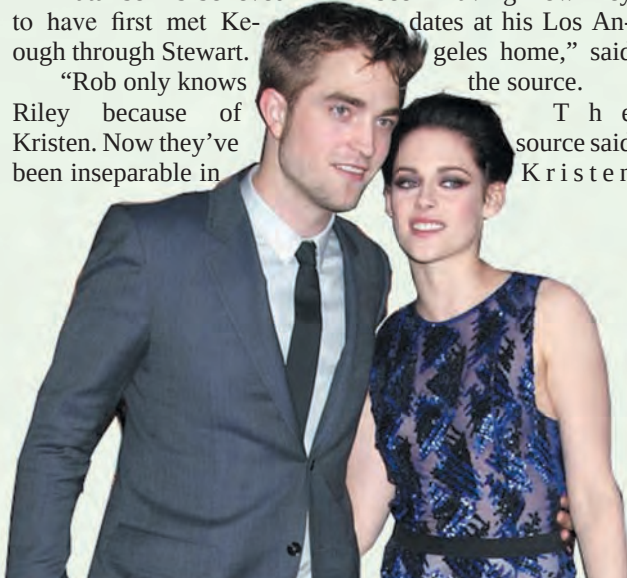
The source said Kristen

is "seething" even though she "understands things are over between her and Rob".

"But to see him now dating one of her closest friends is just too much for her to deal with and seeing the pictures really hurt her," the source added.

Stewart split from Pattinson for the second time in May, after he discovered she had been back in contact with her Snow White And The Huntsman director Rupert Sanders, with whom she had a short affair last year.—PTI

Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson split in May this year.



SPORTS

Maria Sharapova splits from coach Thomas Hogstedt

WASHINGTON, 13 July — World number two Maria Sharapova has ended ties with her Swedish coach



Maria Sharapova

Thomas Hogstedt after working together for almost three years.

She announced the news on her official website on Thursday. She stated that due to personal issues, Hogstedt will not be able to travel in the near future and they both agreed it was the right time to go their

separate ways. "I am very thankful for all his work, and wish him much success in the future," Sharapova said on her website.

The news comes after Sharapova crashed out of the second round at the 2013 Wimbledon Championships that ended earlier this month.

Hogstedt joined Sharapova at the end of 2010 season and helped her win the French Open and retain the number one ranking after coming out of her shoulder injury.

Sharapova will be announcing the name of her new coach in a few days.

PTI

Real pay \$51 million to lure Illarramendi from Sociedad

MADRID, 13 July—Real Madrid extended their new policy of snapping up promising home-grown talent by paying 39 million euros (\$50.9 million) to buy Spain Under-21 midfielder Asier Illarramendi out of his contract with La Liga rivals Real Sociedad on Friday.

Big-spending Real president Florentino Perez is known for luring "galacticos" like David Beckham, Zinedine Zidane and Cristiano Ronaldo to the Bernabeu but Illarramendi's capture follows hard on the heels of the purchase of playmaker Isco from Malaga and the return of fullback Daniel Carvajal from Bundesliga side Bayer Leverkusen.

The trio were in the Spain squad that won the Under-21 Euro championships in Israel last month and Isco and Illarramendi were both named in UEFA's team of the tournament.

Real sealed the deal for Illarramendi when they deposited the 23-year-old's buyout fee of 32.19 million euros (27.8 million pounds) plus value-added tax (VAT) of 6.76 million with Spain's professional league (LFP),

Sociedad president Jokin Aperribay, flanked by the player, told a news conference. The Basque club, who qualified for the Champions League playoffs last season, did not want Illarramendi to

leave but Real's move automatically triggered his exit, he added.

"We would have preferred to hold on to Asier Illarramendi than get the money but life goes on," he said.



Malaga's Isco (R) fights for the ball with Real Sociedad's Asier Illarramendi during their Spanish First Division match at La Rosaleda stadium in Malaga, southern Spain on 10 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Valencia take Chelsea midfielder Romeu on season loan

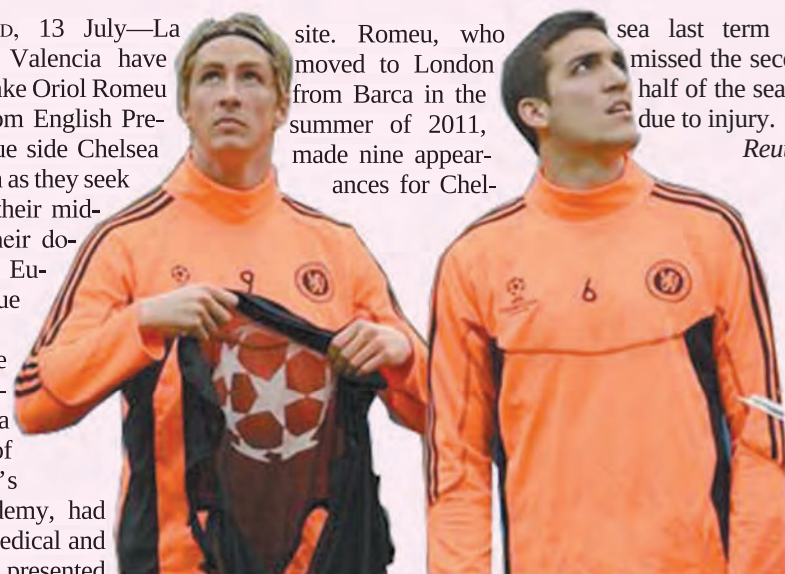
MADRID, 13 July—La Liga club Valencia have agreed to take Oriol Romeu on loan from English Premier League side Chelsea next season as they seek to bolster their midfield for their domestic and Europa League campaigns.

The 21-year-old, a product of Barcelona's youth academy, had passed a medical and would be presented to fans later on Friday at Valencia's Mestalla stadium, the club said on their web-

site. Romeu, who moved to London from Barca in the summer of 2011, made nine appearances for Chel-

sea last term but missed the second half of the season due to injury.

Reuters



Chelsea's Fernando Torres (L) and Oriol Romeu (R) attend a practice session in Munich on 18 May, 2012.

REUTERS

David Moyes says injured Wayne Rooney not leaving Manchester United



MANCHESTER, 13 July —Manchester United manager David Moyes says Wayne Rooney injured his hamstring before the club's preseason tour to Asia and Australia and dismissed suggestions the striker is set to leave the club.

Rooney returned home after only one day in Thailand and is expected to be out of action for a month, placing him in doubt for United's first match of the

Premier League season against Swansea on 17 Aug.

Moyes says Rooney "felt his hamstring tighten up right at the end of training" on the day the team went on tour, and that after it arrived a scan revealed "a small grade one injury." Rooney's early return provoked further speculation about his future. The 27-year-old England international has been linked with a transfer away from the club.—PTI

Jose Mourinho warns rivals he's better than ever

BANGKOK, 13 July—Jose Mourinho has warned that he is returning to Chelsea as a much better manager as he bids to win back the Premier League trophy and secure an elusive Champions League title with the London club.

Mourinho, looking greyer and weightier than English fans will remember, said his experiences at Inter Milan and Real Ma-

drid would put him in good stead in his second stint. "I think some white hairs in my case is a good sign because it means that I'm better now than before," he told journalists in Bangkok, where he will begin his new era with a pre-season friendly on Wednesday.

"I think I'm better now because my job is the kind of job where experience means a lot," explained the Portu-

guese. "Especially like in my case after my period with Chelsea I went around Europe, I had two years in Italy, three years in Spain, so I have more football culture than before.

"I have more experience than before so I think I'm in a better condition now than before. Because I think my job is about that, it's about learning experiences."

Mourinho, 50, is a good bet to return the Premier League trophy to Chelsea after winning back-to-back titles as well as two League Cups and the FA Cup during his first stint from 2004 to

Jose Mourinho



2007. At Inter Milan, he achieved the Italian treble of the Champions League, Serie A and the Coppa Italia in 2010 during another trophy-laden spell, and he also won La Liga during a more mixed time with Real Madrid. Now Mourinho is hoping to build

a lasting legacy at Chelsea and emulate his achievement at both Porto and Inter of winning the Champions League for the first time with the Blues.

Mourinho's visit to Thailand nearly began in embarrassing fashion when, after performing a Thai bow for waiting media, he tripped on the steps to the press conference dais and almost crashed onto the stage.

Reuters

GENERAL

Arsene Wenger tight-lipped over Luis Suarez bid



Luis Suarez

JAKARTA, 13 July—Manager Arsene Wenger refused to be drawn Friday on whether Arsenal would match Liverpool's reported asking price for striker Luis Suarez, after a 30 million-pound bid was said to have been rejected.

The Gunners boss declined to say if Arsenal were willing to stump up

what is thought to be 40 million-pound (\$60.7 million) bottom line for the controversial Uruguayan, but hinted that a deal may not be entirely dead.

"... We're hoping we will be in a position where we can answer this question," Wenger told reporters in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, ahead of a weekend

friendly match.

He added: "As you know, the transfer period demands a certain air of confidentiality and of secret."

Arsenal had a multi-million pound offer rejected earlier this week, it was reported, and Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers has stressed that the "world-class" player is not for sale.

Last month Suarez, who was banned for racist abuse in 2011 and is currently suspended for biting, admitted it would be difficult to turn down an offer from Spanish giants Real Madrid.

Arsenal, who have not won a trophy since 2005, are under pressure to spend big on players after posting huge profits last year -- earnings that prompted criticism from fans that the club lacked ambition.

The club have also been linked with Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney and Real Madrid's Gonzalo Higuain.

Suarez will miss the start of the new season as he is yet to complete a 10-game ban for biting Chelsea defender Branislav Ivanovic.

Arsenal will play Indonesia Dream Team in an exhibition match on Sunday. Indonesia has have more than a million Gunners' fans on Facebook.—PTI

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(14-7-13 09:30 am ~ 15-7-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Sculpture-work of Art
- * World News
- * Adventurous Journey to Bontalar Waterfall
- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges(Shan Traditional Food)
- * World News
- * The precious land of Myanmar (Mandalay Region)
- * Local News
- * The Stories of the Great Souls(Daw Saw Mone Nyin)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Portraiture
- * Local News
- * Taung Byone Nat Festival(Ep-5)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Puppet
- * Local News
- * Unique & Motivating Chap Char Kut Festival
- * World News
- * In The Studio: May Phyu Phyu
- * Local News
- * Food Trip (Episode-10)
- * World News
- * Life Skills
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Movie "Sacrificial Heart"
- * Local News
- * The Stories Of A Great Soul (U Pyae Son (Thwethout))
- * World News
- * Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting
- * Local News
- * A Trip to Mon State "Mawlamyaing"
- * World News
- * Marketable Goods (Myanmar Arts & Handicrafts)

MYANMAR TV

(14-7-2013, Sunday)

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|---|---|
| 6:00 am | 2:10 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 17. Documentary |
| 6:30 am | 2:25 pm |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 18. Teleplay (Forest) |
| 6:40 am | 2:45 am |
| 3. Dance & Song of National Races | 19. Road to 27th SEA Games (Wu Shu) |
| 6:50 am | 4:00 pm |
| 4. Documentary | 20. News/Weather Report |
| 7:00 am | 4:15 pm |
| 5. News/Weather Report | 21. Song & Dance of National Races |
| 8:00 am | 4:25 pm |
| 6. News/ International News | 22. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Myanmar) |
| 8:25 am | 4:40 pm |
| 7. Amazing World | 23. Performance With Song |
| 9:00 am | 5:00 pm |
| 8. News/ International News | 24. News/Weather Report |
| 9:20 am | 5:15 pm |
| 9. Mono Classical Songs | 25. Sing A Song |
| 9:35 am | 6:00 pm |
| 10. Science & Environment Songs | 26. News |
| 10:00 am | 6:20 pm |
| 11. News | 27. Cartoon Series |
| 10:15 am | 6:50 pm |
| 12. TV Drama Series | 28. TV Drama Series |
| 11:00 am | 7:00 pm |
| 13. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn | 29. News |
| 12:00 am | 7:15 pm |
| 14. News/ International News/ Weather Report | 30. TV Drama Series |
| 12:25 pm | 8:00 pm |
| 15. Round Up of The Week's International News | 31. News/ International News/ Weather Report |
| 12:35 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 16. Myanmar Video | 32. News |
| | 33. Tamyetmar Takwetsar |
| | 34. New Melody |

Portugal's agriculture sector a boon for youth

LISBON, 13 July—Portugal's agriculture sector is offering many unemployed youth in the country a beam of hope as farming takes a more prominent role in the national economy.

Faced with an increasingly harsh job market, many young people in Portugal have started to look for work in agriculture.

Joao Meneses, a design student who attended a university in Oporto, Portugal's second largest city, recently quit school to work at his parents' nearby farm in Amarante.

"I saw how my schoolmates were struggling to find a job and I didn't want to go through the same, so I decided to start a mushroom-cultivation project," Meneses said.

Beginning with 50,000 euros in government funding, Meneses now has already commercialized his project.

Official statistics showed that by the end of 2012, some 3,000 young farmers have received government funds for various projects under a five-year program starting in 2007 to boost agriculture.

Agriculture in Portugal employs more than 1 million workers, which accounts for 10 percent of the country's total employment, the latest statistics show.

While agriculture lures more job seekers, it has also registered higher export figures and taken up a larger share of overall Portuguese exports.

Xinhua



Children have a mathematics lesson in Kibera Hamlets of Nairobi, capital of Kenya, on 12 July, 2013. Located in Kibera slum of Nairobi, Kibera Hamlets is a community-based organization founded in 2004 by youth from Kibera that currently serves more than 150 underprivileged adolescents and children of high poverty and high violence background, among which 65% are orphans.—XINHUA

Colombian police arrest criminal kingpin

BOGOTA, 13 July—Colombian authorities announced Friday that Nilson Alberto Avila, one of the most wanted men in the country, has been arrested.

The No. 2 leader of criminal group "Los Rastrojos" was captured in the municipality of Tulua in southwest Colombia, the police said in a statement.

"One of the crimes committed by the band is

murdering important social leaders and dismembering their enemies, to cause terror among the population," said the statement.

Avila's arrest was part of the operations aimed at weakening and dismantling Colombia's most dangerous criminal groups, the statement said. Avila, who runs his group's financial affairs, has been wanted by the police for homicide, criminal

association, drug trafficking and other crimes.

He is suspected of killing several prominent figures, including Ernesto Victoria, executive president of Tulua's Chamber of Commerce, at a party of the victim's family on March 10. A nephew of Victoria's was also killed and five other people were injured on the same occasion.

Xinhua

Xi urges utmost landslide rescue efforts

BEIJING, 13 July—Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday urged sparing no efforts in searching for people left missing after a serious landslide in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Xi said the government will also do its best to assist the families of victims, according to a statement issued by the General Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee to Xinhua.

The landslide, which took place on Wednesday morning due to continuous and severe downpours, has led to 26 deaths in a village in Dujiangyan City as of Friday afternoon.—Xinhua

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing hosts dinner to Malaysian Armed Forces Chief

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla hosted a dinner to Chief of Malaysian Armed Forces General Tansri Dato' Sri Zulkifeili Bin Mohd Zin and wife at Function Hall of Thingaha Hotel, here, yesterday evening.

It was attended by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, senior military

officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) and their wives and Myanmar military attaché to Malaysia and wife. The Chief of Malaysian Armed Forces was accompanied by Lt-Gen Datuk Hadi Bin Hjhussin and wife and the Malaysian military attaché to Myanmar and wife.

After the dinner, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife and General Tansri Dato' Sri Zulkifeili Bin Mohd Zin and wife exchanged gifts and presented a flower basket to the artistes.—MNA



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing having conversation with Chief of Malaysian Armed Forces General Tansri Dato' Sri Zulkifeili Bin Mohd Zin at the dinner.—MNA

Higher competitiveness creates international market accessibility means



YANGON, 13 July — The 22nd annual general meeting of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry took place at National Theater, here, this morning.

It was attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, the Union ministers, members of parliamentary committees, the Yangon Region Hluttaw speaker, the deputy ministers, region ministers and patrons, the president, the vice-presidents, executives and members of UMCCI and affiliated associations, ambassadors, officials of

international organizations, experts and guests.

In his addresses at the meeting, Union Minister at President Office U Tin Naing said that a significant increase in activities of the federation reflected further economic cooperation of international organizations and local and foreign entrepreneurs brought about by over two-year-old sweeping reform process of the government, pointing out a surge in foreign investments and citizen investment in private sector.

The Union minister stressed the need to work hard to be competitive

with other countries to the international market in price and quality as have emerged following the opportunities to have access (See page 9)

Union Minister at President Office U Tin Naing
Thein views equipment at 22nd annual general meeting of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
MNA

Public Notice to Communication Bill

The Communication Bill which was submitted by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology to the Hluttaw is under discussion at Pyithu Hluttaw. It is hereby announced that the public are invited to make complaints about the bill in person at No.(I-2), Bill Committee Building in the compound of Hluttaw, Nay Pyi Taw at 13:00 hr to 18:00 hr (daily) from 12 to 15 July or dial 067-591358.

Pyithu Hluttaw Transport, Communications and Construction Committee

Illegally established villages in forests to be integrated and resettled in accord with village development plan

The Land Allocation and Utilization Scrutiny Committee which was organized under the directives of the President to help ensuring socio-economic development and comfortable livelihood of the people, has already announced that it will grant legal status to the villages with over 50 houses and which were illegally established in the reserve and protected public forests since many years ago. The scrutiny committee, under the supervision of related ministries and region and state governments, conducted a ground survey and collect the data for the plan.

To improve the socio-economy of the rural people and the environment, the committee has also planned to exclude the villages with under 50 houses and which have been illegally settled in forests from the list of forests of Ministry of Forest and Environmental Conservation in accordance with the rules and regulations of the ministry and to integrate and resettle them.

In so doing, the ministry has planned to carry out development tasks for the villages with the aim of making the best use of forest resources to build infrastructures for transportation, supplying safe drinking water, education, health and agriculture and basic needs for the people in rural areas.

Ministry of Forestry and Environmental Conservation

Public Notice to Bill on Promoting Interests of Farmers

The Bill on Promoting Interests of Farmers which was submitted by Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee to the Hluttaw, is being discussed at Pyithu Hluttaw. It is hereby announced that the public are invited to make complaints about the bill in person at No.I-10, Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee in the compound of the Hluttaw, Nay Pyi Taw at 13:00 hr to 18:00 hr (daily) from 13 to 18 July and dial 067-591512.

Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee