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Friday, 22 June, 2012

Paddy seeds presented to chairmen of Self-Administered Zones/Division

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing this morning presented 420 kilos of quality paddy seeds to six chairmen of Pa-O, Palaung, Danu, Naga, Kokang Self-Administered Zones and Wa Self-Administered Division and 700 kilos to Rakhine State Planning and Economic Minister who observed 500-acre quality paddy strain seed production farm in Pobbathiri Township.

The chairmen and the state minister viewed production process of quality paddy seeds.

The Union minister and the directors-general presented seeds and Paletwe paddy for all self-

administered zones and division.

At the warehouse of Paletwe hybrid paddy seeds, Director-General U Kyaw Win of Agriculture Department reported on storage of paddy strain to be distributed to farmers this rainy season, distribution of paddy seeds to regions and states for cultivation of paddy till today and replied to queries raised by chairmen of Self-Administered Zones/Division.

Responsible persons of CETC Company, Diamond

Star and KMA companies explained research works on Paletwe hybrid paddy strains with the assistance of CETC company of China and other hybrid paddy strains, plans for extending paddy seed production farm and distribution of fertilizers.

The director-general of Agriculture Department briefed them on conducting of research works with CETC company of China and cent per cent assistance of Shwe Than Lwin Co.

Later, the Union minister, together with chairmen of Self-

Administered Zones and Division and the Rakhine State minister viewed harvesting of one-acre model plot of paddy plantation.

MNA



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing presents Paletwe paddy and seeds to Self-Administered Zones/Division.

MNA

True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Cash, foodstuffs donated to local people of Rakhine State

YANGON, 21 June—The cash and foodstuff donation for the local people of Rakhine State who lost Shelters and properties due to the recent incidents was held at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township this morning.

Managing Director U Aung Maw Thein and wife Director Dr Daw Moe Myat Win and family of MDG Co Ltd (Myanmar Distribution Group Calsome Cereal) donated K 5 million and Calsome cereal worth K 5 million, Paddy Brokerage (Wardan) members 1400 bags of rice containing 12 pyis each worth K 9.1 million, Thet Trading Co Ltd 48 boxes of coffee mix worth K 6,585,600, UN office and project staff of Myanmar K 4,609,400, 51 US dollars and 10 bales of clothes, Suntain Technologies 50 solar lamps worth K 2 million, Saudia Arabian Embassy five tons of date jam, Police Lt-Col Tun Hla (Rtd) on behalf of Meiktila District General Administration Department 300 pieces of men's wear worth K 600,000, Parahita

Association of Thanbyzayat and wellwishers K 515,000, U Kyaw Kyaw-Daw Nwe Nwe Win and family K 200,000, U Sien Win-Daw Mya Nyunt K 200,000 and one bale of clothes, Shwe Kyee Min dried fish industry 25 packets of dried fish worth K 300,000, staff families of MDRD Co Ltd K 170,000, U Thein Win-

Daw Thauung Nyunt K 100,000, U San Aung Tun-Daw Thaw Thaw Hlaing of Nice Fare Travel Co Ltd K 138,000, nine boxes of instant noodle, two bales of clothes and two bags of rice, U Aung Win-Daw Mo Mo Cho two bales of women's wear, one packet of mosquito-net and blanket, one box of pot and plate, Maung Shine The



Well-wishers donate cash and foodstuff to local residents in Rakhine State at the Fire Services Department (Head Office).—MNA

Paing K 100,000, U Myint Thein-Daw Yin Yin San and family one box of clothes feeding-bottle, key chain, and one packet of clothes, Daw Pu Sein and family K 100,000, U Tet Toe-Daw Khin Aye Win and family K 100,000 and one packet of clothes, Daw Nyunt Nyunt Htay and family K 110,000 and three bales of clothes, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Aye and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi and family K 100,000, U Thein Tin Oo and family K 100,000, U Than Maung (San Thawda Office Paper and Stationery Trading) stationery worth K 150,700, Sgt Sein Aye (Rtd) K 38900, Daw Kyin Aye K 1000,000 and four bales of clothes, Pro Dr U Ba Myint-Daw Khin San Htwe K 100,000, U Soe Myint-Daw Aye Mying (Seinle Phyu Family Plastic Industry) K 60,000, U Ba Tint Swe-Daw Thuza Htaik and family K 50,000 and 70 pieces of men's wear (See page 8)

Preventive measures taken against epidemic diseases in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Under the guidance of the Health Ministry and aegis of Rakhine State government, emergency health care and anti-epidemic disease team constituted with Head of State Health Department Dr Than Tun Aung and Dr Myo Thant of State General Hospital led by Director (Infection) Dr Soe Lwin Nyein of Health Department has been providing health care services, taking measures against epidemics and giving emergency treatment at relief camps in Rakhine State since 12 June.

The team has taken such measures as chlorinating wells and lakes for safety of drinking water, building flush toilets, inspecting foods and monitoring against epidemic diseases in Sittway, Maungtau,

Buthidaung, Yathedaung, and Ponnagyun townships to prevent against outbreak of epidemic diseases.

The team took anti-DHF measures in Ywagyimayauk Ward on 18 June and Ponnagyun, Buthidaung and Maungtau townships on 19 June, chlorinating a total of 118 wells and lakes.

The team has also provided medicines to Sittway General Hospital, and people hospitals in Maungtau, Buthidaung and Ponnagyun townships and supervised medical treatment to the injured.

The team has provided treatment to 1022 patients at relief camps in urban Sittway, and 300 at relief camps in Buthidaung, Maungtau and Yathedaung townships, totaling 1322.

MNA

Global warming linked to penguin decline



Chinstrap penguins with chicks.

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Italian tennis player Francesca Schiavone plays a return against Romanian Irina-Camelia Begu in Unicef Open WTA/ATP.



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PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 22 June, 2012

The guardian

Reforms are in progress and changes taking place in multiple sectors towards a new system encouraging every citizen observes the discipline as it serves as the guardian of law and order in a society enjoying equality, justice and freedom together with peace, prosperity, stability and the rule of law.

Our people aspire all-round development for the country that lagged behind development for many years mainly due to instability and the absence of peace lingering for decades especially in the remote border areas. As the government is in the service of fulfilling the wishes of the citizens, it focuses on its own people and adopted the people-centred system as the core of democracy transition.

Applying this system well the government is consolidating and enlisting the united strength of people as the main driving force behind all rapid changes and advancements in political, economic and social sectors and in implementing the discipline-flourishing democracy by seeking broader public opinions through all-inclusive talks, discussions and coordination based on mutual trust, understanding and respect.

As we are seeking public opinions in our efforts to reinforce the people-centred system for step by step implementation of democracy together with discipline as its guardian, people on their part can express their views, beliefs, complaints and also suggestions freely and orderly through formal procedures.

But no one should apply unruly means in any form to express his opinions as this kind of act instigates mob violence, riots and unrest followed by the loss of innocent lives and public property undesirable to any human society and destructive to democracy that grows well together with prosperity only in a peaceful and stable environment.

In this regard, the government, the parliament, the entire people and the fourth estate should firmly join hands in unity for standing tall with high efficiency and dignity and warding off all kinds of crimes against democracy.

Electric Power No. 1 Ministry holds prize presenting ceremony



Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min presents prize to an outstanding student who passed matriculation examination in 2011-2012 academic year with flying colours.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June— The Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 held a prize-presenting ceremony to honour offspring of the staff, who have won distinction in the matriculation exam (2012-2013), and scholars at primary, middle and high school level, at Yeywa meeting hall of the ministry this morning, in the presence of Union Minister

MYANMARGAZETTE	
NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organization on expiry of the one-year probationary period.	
Name	Department
(a) Professor Dr Than Maung	Rector Traditional Medicine University (Mandalay) Traditional Medicine Department Ministry of Health
(b) U Aye Thuang	Managing Director No. 1 Heavy Industries Ministry of Industry
(c) U Myint Naing	Managing Director No. 2 Heavy Industries Ministry of Industry

Heavy rains hit Waingmaw, Phakant townships in Kachin State

Local battalions provide assistance for flood victims

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—As floods hit Waingmaw and Phakant townships in Kachin State due to heavy rains, local battalions joined hands with the local people for undertaking relief works.

From 10 to 14 June, the heavy rains caused floods at compound of No. 1 Basic Education High School in Ward 2 of Waingmaw, the road in front of Union Solidarity and Development Party and Township Education Officer's Office and the road to No. 1 BEHS near St Joseph Catholic Church. The local battalion and local people dredged the drains for proper flow of water and diverted the flow of water.

Likewise, heavy rains caused landslides at the pile of waste soil near Sapaw and Shansu villages in Seikmu Village-tract and collapsed 47 huts of workers from jade mine. In the incident, a total of 162 people from 47 households became homeless. They are being accommodated at the monastery and church in Sapaw Village and Basic

Education Primary School in Shansu Village.

The local tactical operation command, battalions and township administrators and local people removed the waste soil and provided necessary assistance for the flood victims.—MNA

It was reported that

there were one six-distinction winner, three five-distinction winners, three four-distinction winners, one three-distinction winner, three two-distinction students, 16 one-distinction students and 64 students with no flying colours, totalling 91 students.—MNA



Tatmadawmen of local battalions participate in sanitation for proper flow of water at drains in flooded areas of Waingmaw.

MNA

Archives

Dr. Khine Khine Win (National Archives Department)

Archives are a country's past, unique and irreplaceable source of information. Without archives there would be no real sense of information and no real evidence. We must preserve archives as it contains supporting evidence and particular pertaining to history, cultural heritage and state administration etc.

Archives should not be created by intention. There are many daily records of government organizations, private organizations and individual in various events but not all of them are archives. Archives automatically changed from those daily records which have merit of preservation of unique value to the originating source for cultural, historical and personal reasons. Every country has their own history and each country has their own National Archives Department. The duties of National Archives Department are to compile records, to preserve those records systemically, to conserve rare records in proper way and to provide researchers with

these records for reference and assure the information.

Archives can be in many different formats including paper files, microfilms, photographs, CDs, tapes and documents etc. No matter how the format is different, to preserve those valuable things as long as possible is the primary mission of National Archives Department.

To know the country's past and let the next generation know about the present, National Archives Departments were established. The National Archives Department of Myanmar was established in 1972. It has been preserving many historical records of Myanmar and help researchers who want to refer to them. It is located at Office No. 32 Nay Pyi Taw and No. 114, PyidaungsuYeitha Street, Dagon township, Yangon. National records and archives law of Myanmar was enacted in 1990 and 2007. According to the law, the National Archives Department of Myanmar has

been acquiring records from government organizations and if they are found to be so classified as archives, directing the preservation by the decision of Supervisory Body which is composed by many archivists. National Archives Department of Myanmar also happily acquire the historical records from individual and private organizations through donation or purchasing.

The storage environment is an importance factor as it can cause damage to records and archives. And also improper storage provokes the degradation rate of records. As National Archives Department of Myanmar preserves records systemically, the records keeping in the Department today deserve credit for keeping them longer and benefit much to the next generation as they can easily access to information at a single place.

We all appreciate your great generosity and kind donation which can help widen the horizon of next generation.

Cambodian, Vietnamese PMs to inaugurate border pillar over weekend

PHNOM PENH, 21 June — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Tan Dung will jointly preside over the inauguration ceremony of the Boundary Pillar No 314 on 24 June, the kingdom's foreign ministry said in a Press release on Thursday. The pillar is located at the terminus of the land boundary between Cambodia's Kampot Province and Vietnam's Kien Giang Province, said the Press release.

"The inauguration is a part of joint activities to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic ties between Cambodia and Vietnam and the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Year 2012," it said. After the inauguration, the two prime ministers will also co-chair the third Cambodia-Vietnam Conference on the Investment Promotion, which will be held at Ha Tien, the capital city of Kien Giang Province.

During the conference, the two premiers will witness the signing of the protocol on the amendment of an agreement on the promotion and protection of investment between governments of the two countries. Cambodia shares 1,270-km-long border with Vietnam to the east. About 80 percent of the border demarcation has been completed so far and the two countries vowed to complete the remaining part by the end of this year.— *Xinhua*

Peru to host int'l anti-drug forum

LIMA, 21 June — Representatives from nearly 70 nations and international organizations are expected to attend an anti-drug conference here next week, a Peruvian official said on Wednesday. The 25-26 June forum, to be hosted by the Peruvian government, will gather delegates from five continents for the first time to analyze strategies to combat drug-trafficking and related organized crime, said Carmen Masias at a Press conference.

The conference "will bring together those who are directly involved in anti-drug policies, such as the 'czars', foreign ministers, cabinet members and top government officials," said the director of the Peruvian National Commission for Development and Life Without Drugs.

Peruvian President Ollanta Humala is expected to open the conference, and participants will tackle such issues as how to reduce demand and supply and how to develop alternative tactics in the war on drugs, said Masias. The forum, said the Peruvian official, is expected to demand that drug-producing and drug-consuming nations accept the principle of shared responsibility as the basis for building anti-drug strategies.— *Xinhua*

Students have nutritional meal in school, in Qonggyai County, at an altitude of over 4,200 metres, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, on 20 June, 2012. All the compulsory schools in Tibet had implemented the nutritional meal plan from the beginning of this Spring Semester, providing meal for 239,800 students in the region.

XINHUA



Israel: "all options" open after Iran talks fail

JERUSALEM, 21 June — Israel responded on Wednesday to a lack of progress in talks aimed at curbing Iran's nuclear programme by demanding that the West impose stiffer economic sanctions on Teheran and hinting anew that a military option was still on the table. Six world powers and Iran failed to secure a



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (R) meets with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 20 June, 2012.
XINHUA

breakthrough at talks in Moscow this week, the third round under the latest diplomatic initiative, and set no date for more political negotiations.

"It is time for the United States and Western powers to impose more severe sanctions in the oil embargo and financial sectors in order to stop Iran's nuclear development programme," Vice Prime Minister Shaul Mofaz of the centrist Kadima party said in a written statement after talks in Washington with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Mofaz, a former defence minister and military chief, said that in addition to economic steps there was a need "to continue to prepare all other options", an oblique suggestion that a military attack to prevent Iran developing a nuclear weapon

remained a possible course of action.

While Western powers suspect Iran of trying to develop the capacity to build a nuclear bomb, Iran says its nuclear programme is destined for energy production alone. Before reports of the Moscow talks breaking up, Mofaz was quoted as telling reporters in Washington that any use of military power "should be the last option, and I believe that this option should be led by the US and the Western countries".

Mofaz heads the largest party in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's right-leaning ruling coalition, since the two leaders forged a partnership last month to avoid threats by their opponents to seek an early election.— *Reuters*

New Greek PM pledges hope, coalition gov't to be announced soon

ATHENS, 21 June — Pro-bailout conservative New Democracy (ND) party leader Antonis Samaras was sworn in Wednesday as prime minister of debt-crippled Greece, and pledged to work hard to give people tangible hope. The announcement of the line-up of a coalition government, to be formed under an agreement between ND, the socialist PASOK party and the smaller Democratic Left, is expected to be announced on Thursday and a swearing-in ceremony will follow shortly. In his first statement to the Press after being sworn in at the presidential palace on Wednesday afternoon, the 61-year-old winner of Sunday's national polls said, "we will do everything we can to take the country out of the crisis." One of the first actions of the new government, according to local reports, will be to call EU and International Monetary Fund (IMF) auditors back to Athens and request a two-year extension of the stability and growth programme to ease the pressure on recession-hit Greeks.

The deal on the formation of a three-party coalition government ended two months of political uncertainty in Greece that had added to its severe economic woes. Greece had to hold another election on 17 June as the first vote on 6 May turned out to be inconclusive. In both electoral battles, Samaras and his coalition partners vowed to honour commitments made to the EU and IMF lenders in return for multi-billion euro aid rescue loans.— *Xinhua*



Antonis Samaras (R), party leader of the conservative party New Democracy, is sworn in as new prime minister in the presence of Greek President Karolos Papoulias (C, back) at the presidential mansion, central Athens, Greece, on 20 June, 2012.— *XINHUA*

California has highest rate of immigrants in US

LOS ANGELES, 21 June — More than a quarter of Californians are immigrants, marking the highest rate among US states, shows a report released here on Wednesday. At 27 percent, the rate in the most populous US state is higher than that in New York, which ranks the second highest at 22 percent, according to the research.

The 9.9 million immigrants in California account for 34 percent of the state's labour force and produce the same percentage of its annual GDP, or more than 600 billion US dollars, the report says. "The report shows that immigrant workers are the backbone of key industries in California," said Reshma Shamasunder, executive director of the California Immigrant Policy Centre, while releasing the report.

"They are innovators, entrepreneurs, active community members, community leaders," added Shamasunder, whose institute conducted the research along with the Centre for the Study of Immigrant Integration at University of Southern California (USC) and the California Community Foundation. Around 61 percent of immigrants aged 16 and above participate in the labour force, compared to the 57 percent among non-immigrants, shows the report, which also finds that they figure prominently in the agriculture, manufacturing, and repair and personal service industries. Meanwhile, immigrant households make up 27 percent of the total household income, and thus represent a substantial share of all spending power in the state, the report says.— *Xinhua*



Kids cool off at a fountain in Battery Park in New York, the United States, on 20 June, 2012. According to the National Weather Service, in New York City's Central Park, the temperature was 93 degrees (34 Celsius).

XINHUA

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology



Chinstrap penguins with chicks. —INTERNET

Global warming linked to penguin decline

MADRID, 21 June — A third of a breeding colony of penguins in the Antarctic has disappeared in the last 20 years, with global warming the chief suspect, Spanish researchers say.

As sea ice in Antarctica melts, it causes disruption in the food chain that chinstrap penguins on the South Shetland Islands depend on, the researchers said.

Chinstraps penguins' main food, shrimplike creatures called krill, depend on algae that attaches to that ice, they said.

"Actually, in the '90s it was thought that the climate change would favour the chinstrap penguin, because this species prefers sea waters without ice, unlike the Adelie penguin, which prefers the ice pack," researcher Andres Barbosa of the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Madrid told LiveScience.com.

Chinstraps, named for the thin black line running from cheek to cheek under their faces, seemed to increase in numbers at the time, he said.

But the decline in winter sea ice is now affecting krill populations, Barbosa said. Research on the breeding colony on Deception Island in the South Shetlands showed occupied nests had declined by 36 percent between 1991 and 2008, he said.—Internet

Satellites track S America deforestation

LONDON, 21 June— An international team of researchers says it's developed the first system to monitor deforestation across Latin America in near real time using satellite data.

Scientists from Colombia, Britain, the United States and Switzerland said preliminary results reveal deforestation has increased in parts of Colombia by 340 per cent since 2004, and more than 2.5 million acres of forest have been lost in the Gran Chaco region of Paraguay, the second largest forested area in South America.

The satellite-based system, dubbed Terra-I, uses data supplied by NASA's MODIS satellite sensor to monitor changes in land cover every 16 days.

A challenge for the

researchers was separating real human-induced changes, such as deforestation, from changes brought about by natural seasonality and by droughts or floods.

"We developed a computational neural network and 'trained' it with data from 2000-2004 to recognize the normal changes in vegetation

greenness due to seasonal variation in rainfall in different areas," Mark Mulligan of King's College London said.

"The network now recognizes where and when greenness suddenly changes well beyond these normal limits as a result of deforestation," he said in a UCL release on Tuesday.

"The system runs on data for every 250 square meters of land from Mexico to Argentina shortly after the data comes in from MODIS and highlights every 16 days the pixels that significantly change, writing these results to Google Maps for easy visualization," he said.

Internet



This shows deforestation around the dry Chaco of Paraguay from 2004-2011.

INTERNET

Sharp debuts biggest-screen home TV

NEW YORK, 21 June — Sharp says its new 90-inch LED HDTV sets a new size record for television screens available to consumers.

The LC-90LE745U has built-in WiFi for access to online and streaming content such as Netflix, YouTube, Hulu Plus and others, and features Active 3D technology, *TG Daily* reported on Tuesday. Two pairs of 3D glasses come with the TV.

The TV, introduced in New York on Monday, is 4 feet tall, 8 feet wide with a depth of 5 inches and weighs 141 pounds, Sharp said.

Its 90-inch screen features 1080p resolution.

With a big screen comes a big price, with reports the out-the-door tariff at high-end electronic retailers will be \$10,999.—Internet



The LC-90LE745U is the world's largest LED TV and part of our large-screen 3D line of AQUOS® LED Smart TVs.

INTERNET

Robot 'finger' more sensitive than human's



Like the human finger, the BioTac sensor has a soft, flexible skin over a liquid filling.—INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 21 June— Researchers in California say a robot equipped with a sensor to mimic the human fingertip has a touch more sensitive than a human's.

The specially designed robot can outperform humans in identifying a wide range of natural materials according to

their textures, creating the possibility of advancements in prostheses, personal assistive robots and consumer product testing, the University of Southern California reported on Tuesday.

The robot's sensor can also tell where and in which direction forces are applied to the "fingertip" and even the thermal properties of an object being touched, researchers said.

USC's BioTac sensor has a soft, flexible skin over a liquid filling. As the finger slides over

a textured surface, the skin vibrates in characteristic ways and a hydrophone inside the bone-like core of the finger detects those vibrations.

The human finger uses similar vibrations to identify textures, the researchers said, but the robot finger proved even more sensitive.

When presented with common materials gathered from fabric, stationery and hardware stores, the robot could correctly identify the material 95 percent of the time, they said.—Internet

Flame virus confirmed as US-Israeli plan

WASHINGTON, 21 June— The Flame computer virus involved in cyberattacks aimed at slowing Iran's ability to develop a nuclear weapon was a joint US-Israeli effort, officials say.

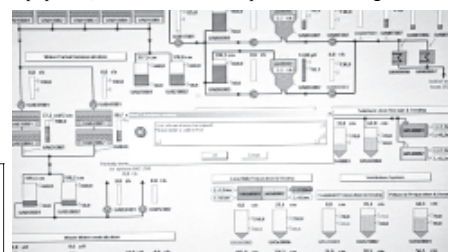
The malware was designed to secretly map Iran's computer networks and monitor the computers of Iranian officials to collect intelligence used to enable an ongoing cyberwarfare campaign, Western officials with knowledge of the effort

told *The Washington Post*.

Involving the National Security Agency, the CIA and Israel's military, the campaign included the use of the destructive Stuxnet virus to cause malfunctions in Iran's nuclear enrichment equipment, the sources told

further down the road than this," the official said.

Word of the Flame malware came when Iran detected a series of cyberattacks on its oil industry, apparently directed by Israel in a unilateral operation that caught its US



An error is seen on a computer screen of the Bushehr nuclear power plant's map in the Bushehr Port on the Persian Gulf, 1,000 kms south of Teheran, Iran in this 2009 file photo.

INTERNET

Churchill books to be digital editions

LONDON, 21 June— Books written by Sir Winston Churchill will be available in downloadable e-book editions later this year, a US publisher says.

RosettaBooks has signed a global licensing arrangement that will see works by the former British prime minister sold in digital form around the world, *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Tuesday.

Churchill was a prolific writer who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1953.

"It's wildly unusual to have a world leader who is



British Prime Minister Winston Churchill (l) is seen pictured with Statesman Averell Harriman (c) and Soviet strongman Josef Stalin at the Kremlin in this 1942 file photo.—INTERNET

also a writer, especially when they were such an important figure for 60 years," RosettaBooks Chief Executive Arthur Klebanoff said.

"And Churchill was an extraordinary writer."

Volumes of his work in e-book form will cost between \$7 and \$9 each and the first seven will go on sale via digital books stores on 1 July. Forty books by Churchill, including his "A History of the English Speaking Peoples," will eventually be made available in digital format.—Internet

the *Post*. "This is about preparing the battlefield for another type of covert action," one former high-ranking US intelligence official said.

Flame and Stuxnet were elements of a broader assault that is ongoing, he said.

"Cyber collection against the Iranian programme is way

partners off guard, several US and Western officials said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

The CIA, the NSA and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, as well as the Israeli Embassy in Washington, have declined to comment, the *Post* said on Tuesday.—Internet

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Kid hypertension hospitalizations double

ANN ARBOR, 21 June—Pediatric hypertension-related US hospitalizations nearly doubled from 12,661 in 1997 to 24,602 in 2006, researchers found. Lead author Dr Cheryl Tran of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and colleagues used data on discharge records from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project Kids' Inpatient Database, from 1997, 2000, 2003 and 2006.

Tran and colleagues hypothesize the increasing hospitalizations may be due

in part to the rise in childhood obesity. Overall, the most common diagnoses for hospitalized children were pneumonia, acute appendicitis and asthma — but convulsive disorder, headache, obesity and systemic lupus erythematosus were the most common secondary diagnoses when hypertension was the primary diagnosis, the study found.

When high blood pressure was part of a diagnosis, the most common primary diagnoses were lupus,

complications of kidney transplant, pneumonia and acute proliferative glomerulonephritis, a condition in the kidney that causes inflammation that can result in hypertension.

"A child with high blood pressure is at increased risk for having high blood pressure in adulthood and the heart and stroke risks that come with that diagnosis," Tran said in a statement. Hypertension is present in 1 percent to 3 percent of children in the United States, but hospital care for



Hospitalizations for children with high blood pressure have nearly doubled in recent years, according to new data.

INTERNET

hypertensive children reached an estimated \$3.1 billion in 2006, the study said.

The findings were published in the journal *Hypertension*.—Internet

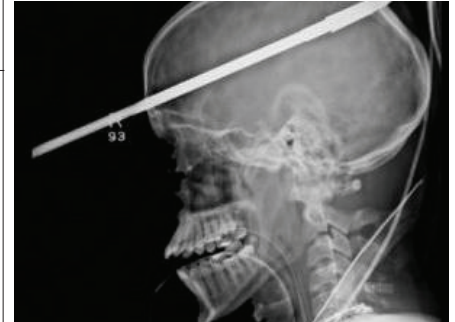
Doctors: 'Miracle' spear missed vessels

MIAMI, 21 June—A Miami doctor says it was a miracle an errant spear missed the main blood vessels in the brain of a boy, who remains in serious condition, but is recovering.

Nasser Lopez, 16, was swimming in a lake near his Miami-area home on 8 June when his 15-year-old friend was loading a fishing spear gun and accidentally

Bullock and colleagues at University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital and the Army Trauma Training Centre said when Lopez arrived by helicopter with the protruding spear, they resisted the urge to immediately remove it.

Instead, they borrowed rebar cutters and vise grips from the Miami-Dade Fire Department to stabilize the



An X-ray released by Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami Florida shows the 3-ft spear which narrowly missed the blood vessels in the brain of 16-year-old Nasser Lopez's.—INTERNET

touched the trigger, sending the 3-foot spear into Lopez's head, *The Miami Herald* and Miami's WFOR-TV reported. Neurosurgeon Ross Bullock said on Monday Lopez was in serious condition and his recovery in the hospital is expected to take several months.

"It's a miracle the spear missed all the main blood vessels of the brain," he said.

spear while they developed a strategy to remove the spear and its tip, which entered the right side of his brain 1 inch above his eye, Bullock said.

It took the surgeons 3 hours to gingerly remove the spear. Lopez is sitting in bed and can speak a few words, but the extent of his injuries are not yet clear, Bullock said.

Internet

Some fat with vegetables beneficial



According to scientists from the Purdue University, opting for the right kind of salad dressing is important to gain healthy nutrients from vegetables in the salad. Apart from the type, the amount of dressing used in the preparation also counts, they say.

INTERNET

WEST LAFAYETTE, 21 June—Those who choose no-fat or low-fat dressings for vegetables or salads may miss out on a significant amount of vitamins and nutrients, US researchers found.

Lead author Mario Ferruzzi, a Purdue University

associate professor of food science, and colleagues fed subjects salads topped off with saturated, monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fat-based dressings and tested their blood for absorption of fat-soluble carotenoids — beneficial

compounds such as lutein, lycopene, beta-carotene and zeaxanthin.

The carotenoids are associated with reduced risk of several chronic and degenerative diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease and macular degeneration, an eye disease that causes blindness, Ferruzzi said.

In the study, 29 people were fed salads dressed with butter as a saturated fat, canola oil as a monounsaturated fat and corn oil as a polyunsaturated fat. Each salad was served with 3 grams, 8 grams or 20 grams of fat from dressing.

The study, published online in the journal *Molecular Nutrition & Food Research*, found monounsaturated fat-rich dressings required the least amount of

fat to get the most carotenoid absorption, while saturated fat and polyunsaturated fat dressings required higher amounts of fat to get the same benefit.

The soybean oil rich in polyunsaturated fat was the most dependent on dose — the more fat on the salad, the more carotenoids the subjects absorbed. The saturated fat butter was also dose-dependent, but to a lesser extent, the study said.

Monounsaturated fat-rich dressings, such as canola and olive oil-based dressings, promoted the equivalent carotenoid absorption at 3 grams of fat as it did 20 grams, suggesting the lipid source may be a good choice for those craving lower fat options but still wanting to optimize carotenoids, Ferruzzi said.

Internet

Singapore overtakes Hong Kong as home to Asia's wealthy

SINGAPORE, 21 June—Singapore overtook Hong Kong as home to Asia's wealthy last year as declining stock markets hit the former British territory a lot harder than its Southeast Asian rival, according to Capgemini and RBC Wealth Management.

Hong Kong, whose stock market capitalisation slumped 16.7 percent last year, saw a sharper drop in the ranks of people with more than \$1

million to invest as a larger proportion of that wealth was locked in equity.

Southeast Asia also shows stronger signs of resilience to global turbulence than the rest of Asia as buoyant domestic spending offsets struggling exports.

The number of high-net-worth individuals in Hong Kong fell 17.4 percent to 83,600 last year, compared with a decline of 7.8 percent

to 91,200 people in Singapore, RBC Wealth's head of emerging markets Barend Janssens told reporters in Singapore on Wednesday. Hong Kong had leapfrogged Singapore in 2010 after falling behind in 2008.

Faster-growing Asia had for the first time more millionaires than North America last year, according to Capgemini (CAPP.PA) and RBC Wealth's latest world wealth report released on Tuesday.

The report did not provide estimates on the number of wealthy people in Singapore and Hong Kong.

Singapore, home to more Indonesian millionaires than Jakarta, has in recent years also attracted many rich people from around the world, including Facebook (FB.O) co-founder Eduardo Saverin who earlier this year gave up his US citizenship.—Reuters



Public and private residential blocks are seen on a hillside in Hong Kong on 19 June, 2012.—REUTERS



A man rides past an advertisement of property developer DLF Ltd. in Gurgaon on 11 June, 2007.—REUTERS

Citi cuts DLF; sees upside in Indian property

GURGAON, 21 June—Citi downgrades DLF to "neutral" from "buy", cuts target price to 218 rupees from 266 rupees.

DLF shares last down 1.3 percent to 186.20 rupees.

Citi says DLF's share out-performance versus rivals over past year

unjustified given non-core asset sales over next 5-6 months "will likely only help at the margin" and not cut debt "materially" due to continued estimated capex of around 3-4 billion rupees per quarter.

Citi adds wait for a pickup in execution, sales and

margins to become more constructive about India's biggest property stock.

For broader property sector, investment bank says most challenges priced in, sees "bright spots": such as resilient prices in cities such as Mumbai, but says "stay selective."—Reuters

Police nab suspect in France hostage standoff

TOULOUSE, 21 June—A gunman who ranted disjointedly about religious motives took four employees at a bank hostage on Wednesday before French police stormed in to arrest him — a new episode of apparent lone-wolf violence to jolt a region still reeling from a terrorist shooting spree that killed seven people three months ago.

The Toulouse state prosecutor waved off French media reports indicating that the man had claimed ties to al-Qaeda, pointing instead to what he called the man's alleged history of psychiatric problems.

Authorities provided

few details about the six-hour standoff, which ended after elite police stormed inside with guns blazing. A bank window bore a single bullet hole, and the bank's glass door lay shattered on the ground. The suspect was hospitalized for gunshot wounds to his left hand and the left thigh — neither life-threatening.

Prosecutor Michel Valet said the suspect's gun, which was used twice during the standoff, fired only rubber bullets and that he had no prior police record. Valet refused to identify the suspect by name or identify the religion that the suspect was referring to in "confused"

diatribes about his claims.

"I am not a doctor, but we have objective elements that allow us to think and affirm that we're dealing with someone who suffers from considerable psychological problems and that his act is linked to these problems," Valet told reporters on the street a few hundred metres from the bank — in a zone cordoned off by scores of police.

"The claims of responsibility centered on badly defined, badly expressed religious claims and right now it is difficult to know what guided his behavior, which was anything but rational," he



Police officers control the street next to a bank where a man took hostages in the southern French City of Toulouse, on 20 June, 2012.—INTERNET

NE China bridge collapses before opening to traffic

SHENYANG, 21 June—A bridge in the city of Fushun, northeast China's Liaoning Province, collapsed Monday evening, just one month before the bridge's scheduled opening to traffic.

A witness said the collapse happened after a rainfall that occurred at about 5 pm. Initial investigation showed that the collapse was caused by workers' irregular operation, according to local government sources.

Several workers dismantled supporting facilities before reinforcing of a part of the bridge was completed, said the sources. Construction on the bridge began in November 2011. The bridge was scheduled to be completed on 30 July, according to a government plan.— Xinhua



Visitors look at modern cheongsams, a traditional Chinese women's dress also known as Qipao, at China Silk Museum in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 20 June, 2012. More than 110 cheongsams were displayed at the museum in Hangzhou from 11 June, 2012.— XINHUA



Cargo ships sails near the Poyang Lake Bridge in Hukou County, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 20 June, 2012. Continuous heavy rain in Jiangxi has led to an increase in the surface area of the Poyang Lake, China's largest freshwater lake. The surface area of the Poyang Lake had reached 3,526 square kilometres, 502 square kilometres larger than that on 6 May. It also surpassed the historical average surface area of the lake.— XINHUA

US to slap "terrorist" label on Nigerian militants

WASHINGTON, 21 June—The US government is expected to formally apply a "foreign terrorist" label on Thursday to three alleged leading figures of the violent Nigerian militant group Boko Haram, officials said. The action by the State and Treasury departments follows growing pressure on the Obama Administration to take stronger action against Boko Haram. The group, which says it wants to establish an Islamic caliphate in northern Nigeria, has stepped up attacks on Christian places of worship

this year. Thursday's anticipated action, officials said, involves applying the "terrorist" designation to three men presumed to be central figures in the group. The three individuals, an official said, are Abubakar Shekau, aged around 43, described as a Boko Haram leader who allegedly aligned himself with al-Qaeda in a video message; Abubakar Adam Kamar, aged roughly 35; and Khalid al Barnawi, aged approximately 36.

Reuters



Lions killed by villagers are laid down on a truck at Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) office in Nairobi, Kenya, on 20 June, 2012. KWS has confirmed the six lions speared to death on Tuesday night by residents of the Otoika area in Kitengela, about 30 km south of Nairobi. The retaliatory villagers killed two adult lionesses and four cubs after the carnivores had killed four goats. Kenya has been losing 100 wild lions per year for the past 7 years, leaving the country with about 2000 of its famous big cats.— XINHUA

Giving makes children happier than receiving

VANCOUVER, 21 June — Giving induces a higher level of happiness than receiving among little children, showed a recently published Canadian study. The study, conducted by three psychologists at the University of British Columbia (UBC), found that toddlers under the age of two were happier giving treats to others than receiving treats themselves.

It also showed that children were happier when they gave their own treats away than when they gave an identical treat that did not

belong to themselves.

The researchers believed that this research supported the claim that experiencing positive emotions when giving to others was a proximate mechanism for human cooperation.

"People tend to assume that toddlers are naturally selfish," said Lara Aknin, who launched the study with UBC colleagues Kiley Hamlin and Elizabeth Dunn. "These findings show that children are actually happier giving than receiving."

The result was published

recently in PLoS One, an online peer-reviewed journal from the Public Library of Science (PLoS).

In the study, each toddler received treats and was asked to give one of the treats to a puppet. Experimenters also provided each toddler with an extra treat which was asked to be given to the puppet.

The children participating in the study displayed greater happiness when sharing the treats with the puppet, and were happiest when giving their own treats away, results showed.

Xinhua

Mexico, UK ink tourism cooperation accord

MEXICO CITY, 21 June—Mexico and the United Kingdom on Wednesday signed a cooperation agreement designed to boost tourism between the two nations, mainly by increasing flight frequency, Mexico's Tourism Secretariat (Sectur) said in a statement on Wednesday.

During a visit to the Capital Mexico City, Christopher John Rodrigues, the head of the UK's tourism promotion board Visit

Britain, met with Mexican Tourism Secretary Gloria Guevara for talks on joint tourism promotion measures, Sectur said. "The agreement will strengthen joint cooperation, as well as the exchange of information, experiences and statistics in the area of tourism," said the statement.

According to the agreement, both Mexico and Great Britain see tourism as "key to economic development, thus it is

important to generate reciprocal benefits" to strengthen the sector. Mexico's Tourism Promotion Board and its British counterpart are expected to develop promotion strategies to increase the flow of visitors between the two countries and boost air connectivity, said Sectur. Tourism is one of Mexico's top three foreign revenue earners, along with petroleum and remittances from abroad.— Xinhua

N Zealand's 'night parrot' brought back from the brink

WELLINGTON, 21 June—Flightless, slow-moving and at times more sexually attracted to humans than their own species, it's small wonder New Zealand's kakapo parrot is on the verge of extinction. But a mammoth conservation effort stretching back decades is offering hope for one of the world's rarest birds, lifting its numbers from about 50 in 1990 to 126 this year. The plump, green kakapo — the name means "night parrot" in Maori — was once one of the most common birds in New Zealand, which had few land

predators before European settlement in the early Nineteenth Century.

"There was a report from an early explorer, Charles Douglas, who said they were so populous you could shake them out of trees like apples," said Deirdre Vercoe Scott,

head of the Department of Conservation's kakapo recovery programme. "He said he'd once seen six kakapo shaken from a single tutu bush." Vercoe Scott said habitat destruction by humans and the introduction of pests such as stoats and

predatory cats and dogs, sowed the seeds of the kakapos' decline.

The flightless nocturnal birds, while essentially ground dwelling, are strong climbers but freeze when confronted by a threat, making them easy pickings for predators.

The males also attract mates by emitting a deep booming sound from thoracic air sacs, turning them into conspicuous targets for hunters in the night forest. With an ageing population and bird numbers declining, kakapo recovery programme chief scientist Ron Moorehouse said the species' future appeared "dire" in the 1990s.— Internet



On the verge of extinction The flightless New Zealand parrot is making a slow comeback. Numbers dropped to about 50 in the 1990s. Now 126 in carefully protected sanctuaries. Little Barrier Island (reintroduction reserve for end of year). Wellington. Auckland Island. Cook Strait. Bay of Plenty. AEP.

Collective tree growing ceremony held in Shwepyitha Township



YANGON, 21 June—Under the supervision of Township General Administration Department and Forest Department

Department, the monsoon season tree growing ceremony was held along both sides of road to Wataya industrial zone in Shwepyitha Township of Yangon Region on 16 June.

At the ceremony, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung Win, Township Administrator U Aung Moe Oo, Staff Officer U Myint Aung of Township Forest Department, township level personnel and members of social organizations participated in growing of over 550 saplings.

Myanmar Alin

English dictionary copies donated to school teachers

YANGON, 21 June—Wellwisher U Ka Si-Daw Khin Phone Myint and family of Bo Thura Road in Kyimyindine Township donated 80 copies of English dictionary for teachers of English subject from five basic education high, middle and primary schools in Kyimyindine Township and Township General Administration Department, cash awards to offspring of staff of the department for 2011-2012 matriculation examination at the hall of the department on 15 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Kyaw Ye Thway and wellwisher U Ka Si presented English dictionary to the teachers.

Next, the administrator of the township gave cash awards to outstanding students.—Myanmar Alin

Cash assistance provided in Mawgyun

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 21 June—Under the arrangement of Mawlamyinegyun Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, a ceremony to donate cash for performing cleft lip and palate surgical operations was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Mawlamyinegyun on 18 June.

Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Thin Thin Aye explained nurturing of cleft lip and palate children.

Treasurer Daw Htar Htar Lwin of MCWA provided K 60,000 to four children of parents.—Kyemon

School uniforms presented offspring of vendors

YANGON, 21 June—Development Affairs Committee of Kanbalu Township in Shwabo District of Sagaing Region provided school uniforms to 17 offspring of 11 vendors at Myoma and Zigon markets of the committee on 6 June.

Chairman of Small Loan Service Committee Executive Officer U Thit Htoo Myint presented cash assistance to the students.—Kyemon

Community-led all-round sanitation implemented in Ngaputaw

NAT PYI TAW, 21 June—Jointly organized by Central Health Education Division of the Health Department and Ngaputaw Township Health Department of Ayeyawady Region, the community-led all-round sanitation project was opened at the meeting hall of Ngaputaw Township Health

Department on 2 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Win Ko Ko, Project Manager U Shin Za Nan and the deputy director of Central Health Education Division made speeches. It was attended by the head of Township Health Department, the township

education officer, members of Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, people and basic health staff totaling over 50.

During the period of workshop, participants will make field trips to the rural areas for carrying out sanitation tasks. On completion, they will apply the experiences from the workshop in their works.

With the assistance of UNICEF, the all-round sanitation project is being implemented in Kyaiklat, Bogale and Ngaputaw townships in Ayeyawady Region and Paungde Township in Bago Region.

Health

Busline committee presents cash assistance to students

YAMETHIN, 21 June—Yamethin Township All Private Bus-line Control Committee presented cash assistance for students of bus line family for 2012-2013 academic year on 9 June.

Chairman of the bus line supervisory committee U Hla Thein made an opening address.

Next, the chairman and executives of the supervisory committee gave cash assistance to 62 students from primary, middle and high school level.

At the ceremony, the cash assistance for 62 students amounted to K 410,000.—Kyemon



Refreshment served to teachers, students

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Abbot of Shwein Yeiktha Monastery of Saya San Ward in Tatkon Township Maha Gandavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Paññasami (Dhammaçariya) served vermicelli meal to teachers, students and villagers at Basic Education Primary School in Lintsingon Village in Pyawbwe Township of Mandalay Region on 18 June.

Moreover, the Sayadaw donated school uniforms, exercise books and pencils to teachers and students and clothes to older persons.—Ko Po Tha (Tatkon)

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Insein Township

YANGON, 21 June—Head of Immigration and National Registration Department U Htein Lin Thein and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to 63 eligible citizens by easing restriction.

The issuance was supervised by Yangon Region Representative U Saw Sonny Chan of Insein Township, Head of Township General Administration Department Township Administrator U Tin Naing Soe, ward administrator U Zaw Myint Oo and townsenders.

The head of the township INRD and staff explained issuance of the cards by easing rules and regulations.

Kyemon

Inter-Subject Men's and Women's Football Tournaments kick off



MEIKTILA, 21 June—The Third Inter-Subject Men's and Women's Football Tournaments commenced at the football ground on 18 June.

Altogether four football teams namely Physics, Combined Arts, Chemistry and Mathematics in Group (A) are taking part in the tournament while Geology, Botany and Zoology in Group (B) in the tournament.

Physics, Mathematics, Combined Arts, Zoology and Botany major teams are participating in the women's event.

The football tournament lasts up to 1 July.—Kyemon

Kyimyindine Township plants saplings

YANGON, 21 June—Ahlon Township Forest Department of Yangon West District Forest Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry held the rainy season tree growing ceremony for 2012 in Alatchaung-Sethsan-Aukyon Ward of Kyimyindine Township on 16 June.

Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Thu Zaw of Yangon West District General Administration Department made a speech, and Assistant Director U Kyi Win of District Forest Department explained



cultivation and thriving saplings.

Later, the deputy commissioner and officials

distributed over 8000 saplings and collectively grew the saplings.

Myanmar Alin



CSC ISSUED: Head of Zabuthiri Township Immigration and National Registration Department and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards and households registration to local people in Shwekyabin Ward on 17 June.—MNA



CSC ISSUED: In implementing Moe Pwint Plan-3, Thingangyun Township Immigration and National Registration Department made field trip to Sangya Ward on 13 June. Deputy Director U Win Khaing of District INRD, Head of Township INRD U Tun Hla and party presented cards to local people.

MYANMA ALIN

Yangon Region Chief Minister meets Vice-Minister of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs of ROK

YANGON, 21 June—Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe received Korean Vice-Minister of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs Mr. Han, Man Hee and party at the hall of Yangon Region government office here today.

Both sides discussed bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

It was attended by Region Minister for Development Affairs U Hla Myint, Region Minister for Forest and Energy U Kyaw Soe, Region Minister for



Planning and Economic Minister U Than Myint and officials concerned.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe receives Vice-Minister of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs Mr. Han, Man Hee and party of Republic of Korea at Yangon Region government office.—MNA

Deputy Health Minister attends Pediatric Health Care Forum in Washington of USA

Deputy Health Minister Dr Win Myint attends High-ranking Officials' Forum on Pediatric Health Care at Georgetown University Hotel and Convention Centre in Washington of the United States of America on 14 and 15 June.

MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Health Minister Dr Win Myint attended High-ranking Officials' Forum on

Pediatric Health Care at Georgetown University Hotel and Convention Centre in Washington of the United States of America on 14 and

15 June and arrived back home on 19 June.

The forum was attended by health care high-ranking officials from global

countries, policy makers, personnel of child welfare social organizations, leaders of organizations from schools, workshops and factories and guests, totaling 1000.

The roadmap for reducing child mortality rate was reviewed, and new methods for prevention against child mortality were sought at the first day forum.

The deputy minister attended round-table discussion of health ministers and deputy health ministers of global nations on implementation children life security works. The deputy minister was accompanied by Medical Superintendent Dr Than Htaik of Yangon Children's Hospital on his tour.

MNA

UMFCCI, Vietnamese delegation discuss trade, investment matters

YANGON, 21 June—Yangon Region Minister for Electric and Industry U Nyan Tun Oo, Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Than Myint and Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Tun Aung received Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Chu Cong Phung and Chairman Mr Tran Bac Ha of Association of Vietnamese Investors in Myanmar (AVIM) at the President on 14 June.

The both sides had a cordial discussion on exchanging trade between two countries and strengthening further cooperation on investment matters.—MNA

Cash, foodstuffs donated...

(from page 1)

worth K 100,000, U Soe Moe Thun-Daw Cherry San K 50,000 and 80 pieces of female ware worth K 110,000, 10 dozens of camphor, Major Soe Myint (Rtd)-Daw Ohn Myint and family 100 pieces of T-shirts, Sayadaw U Panñasami and U Khin Maung Than (Dhamma Paragu) 10 sets of robes, Daw Saw Gyi and family K 100,000, Daw Tin Myaing Aye, daughter Daw Myint Myint Khaing one bale of clothes, Thitsa Shweku (Theravada Buddhist Missionary) K 300,000 and 20 sets of robes, Daw Swe Swe Lin K 10,000 and one packet of clothes, Major San Win Khaing and Captain Aye Aye Thein K 100,000, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Neyadhamma K 300,000 and 33 sets of robes, 25 umbrellas and 25 pairs of slippers, U Khaing Chit Tun and wellwishers and Han Phyu Tun 320 sets of clothes, 7.5 dozens of exercise books, U Win Myint-Daw Thein Thein of Phyu Phyu Thin Gold

Traffic rules talked at BEPS No. 2 in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—A talk on traffic rule was held at Basic Education Middle School No. 2 in Pyinmana on 19 June to broaden horizon of the students.

Commander of Disciplinary Company-2 IP Min Thaik Htaik of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police Force gave talks on rules for drivers, pedestrians and slow-moving vehicle drivers.

Question and answer session was held between the lecturer and audiences on salient points of traffic rules.

Later, he presented pamphlets to the students.

The talk was attended by the Township Education Officer, the headmistress, teachers and students, totalling 195.—MNA

Shop three bags of rice, one bag of clothes, Ko Than Zaw Tun-Ma Sandi Soe K 70,000, U Myint Oo-Daw Nan Ei and family K 20,000 and three packets of clothes, Captain Paing Khant two packets of clothes, one packet of slipper and one packet of medicine, Dr Khin May Thein and family 15 boxes of Ma Ma instant noodle and Ma Nyein Nyein Oo one packet of clothes, Yin Ei San and family four packets of clothes, Ma Nay Zar of Super Cool Purified Drinking Water one bale of clothes.

Deputy Director-General U Ko Ko Hlaing of Fire Services Department and officials accepted cash and kind donations. After presenting certificates of honour to the wellwishers, they spoke words of thanks.

Up to now, cash donation amounted K 146,400,676.

MNA



**Myanmar Women's Day
3rd July**

Rakhine State Chief Minister inspects rescue camps

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, accompanied by State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Htein Lin and Minister for Finance and Revenue U Soe Aye, inspected clear of fire-razed debris by members of Red Cross and Fire Brigade in Setyonsu Ward in Sittway on 18 May. Then, the Chief Minister and party visited rescue camps in No.3 BEHS (branch) and at Dhammayon of Mingan Block (8) and encouraged the displaced families.

After that, the Chief Minister and party looked into the health care service of medical servicemen from local medical battalion, at Thetkalpyin Village of

Sittway Township.

On 19 June, the Chief Minister together with Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe, State ministers, Chairmen of Relief, Settlement and Rehabilitation Subcommittee, State Hluttaw representatives and townsenders, attended coordination meeting on Sanitation and Development, Rakhine State Hluttaw Hall.

At the meeting, the Region Chief Minister made a speech, and the deputy minister, the chairmen of Relief, Settlement and Rehabilitation, the representatives and the townsenders participated in the discussion.—MNA

Japanese sport mission to visit Myanmar 27-30 June

YANGON, 21 June—The Government of Japan will dispatch a cultural and sport exchange mission led by Prof Takashi Shirraishi, President of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies to Myanmar in collaboration with the Japan Foundation from 27 to 30 June.

The mission is aimed at holding discussion on future policies for the expansion and enhancement of cultural and sports exchanges and cooperation between Japan

and Myanmar. With regard to the schedules, the Japanese mission will organize the Japanese Film Show, photo exhibition and presentation on Judo event.

According to the Japanese embassy, a press conference will be held on 30 June. Journalists who are interested cordially requested to register with Embassy of Japan, dialing 01-549633-8 of U Cho Tun or U Aung Naing Moe, for further information.

NLM



Staff of emergency health care and anti-pandemic disease team under Health Department providing health care services to local people at relief camps in Rakhine State. (News on page 1)—MNA

Students to apply knowledge from learning with high proficiency so as to serve interest of State and themselves

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June— Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan attended the ceremony to provide cash assistance to offspring of staff of the Ministry of Culture and present prizes to outstanding students at the multi-purpose hall of the Ministry of Culture, here, at

enterprises under the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of Culture, officials, prize winning students, staff and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan stressed the need for prize winning students to set aims in learning education to be able to secure master's

is to strive for successfully implementing the strategic processes of reform in line with the Reform Strategy of the State.

Next, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan presented cash assistance and exercise books for children of staff members from universities and departments under the Ministry of Culture for 2012-2013 academic year. Deputy Head of Office U Thawda

Department, Rector U Kyaw Oo of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) and Rector Daw Khin Kyi Pyar of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Mandalay) accepted the cash assistance and exercise books.

Next, the Union minister presented prizes to one five-distinction winning students and one four-distinction winning students in the



26-June-2012

Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department and Director-

distinction winner Maung Soe Ye Yint Aung spoke words of thanks.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan addresses prize presentation for outstanding students of staff of Ministry of Culture.
MNA



9.30 am today and gave cash assistance and exercise books to them for 2012-2013 academic year.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, departmental heads of the departments and

degree and doctoral degree, to apply knowledge from learning with high proficiency so as to serve the interest of the State and themselves and to avoid narcotic drugs, gambling and other misconducts. He noted that the Ministry of Culture

Shwe, Director-General U Yan Naing Oo of Fine Arts Department, Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department, Director-General Daw Nanda Hmun of Historical Research

matriculation examination for 2011-2012 academic year.

After that, Deputy Minister Daw Sanda Khin, Director-General U Yan Naing Oo of Fine Arts Department, Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of

General Daw Nanda Hmun of Historical Research Department gave prizes to other outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination with flying colours.

On behalf of the prize winning students, five-

At the ceremony, the Ministry of Culture provided K 600,000 for 15 students who passed matriculation examinations in 2011-2012 academic year and K 26,24500 to 141 university students and 924 basic education students.—MNA

DFID to assist Health Ministry in pre neonatal health care services



NAY PYI TAW, 21 June— Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin received Health Adviser Dr Julia Kemp of Department for International Development (DFID) of Britain at his office here this morning.

They discussed assistance to be rendered in reproductive health and birth control programmes, reduction of the mortality rate of expectant mothers particularly due to abortion, and health care services to mothers, infants and babies.

Present at the call were Deputy Health Ministers Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Dr Win Myint, Director-General of Medical Science Department Dr Than Zaw

Myint, Acting Director-General of Health Department Dr Min Than Nyunt, Deputy Director-

General Dr Thein Thein Htay (Public Health) and personnel.

MNA

Myanmar, Singapore businessmen meet

YANGON, 21 June— Jointly organized by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Singapore Business Federation (SBF), Myanmar and Singaporean businessmen met at the federation headquarters here on 14 June.

UMFCCI Vice-President U Aung Lwin and SBF CEO Mr Ho Meng Kit spoke on the occasion,

followed by presentation on Singapore-Myanmar Economic Relations by Divisional Director Ms Seah Bee Leng of Southeast Asia IE Singapore and Doing Business in Myanmar by Director of Kelvin China Partnership Ms Cheah Swee gin.

Next, businessmen of the two countries held group discussions according to their specialized fields.

MNA

Regions and States Champion Challenge Cup coordinated for Second Round

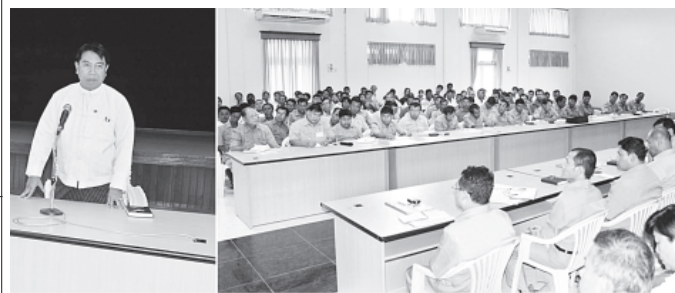
NAY PYI TAW, 21 June— Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu addressed at the preliminary meeting on holding Regions and States Champion Challenge Cup (Second Round), held at the assembly hall of the Sports Ministry here yesterday.

On the occasion, Director-General U Thaug Htaik instructed the sports teams to partake in the Cup in line with the rules and regulations laid down, who respectively raised queries to him.

The Deputy Minister this morning enjoyed the

traditional rowing contest (Men) of Regions and States Champion Challenge Cup in Ngalaik Dam. The first prize went to Ayeayawady Region team, the second to Thaninthayi Region, and the third to Yangon Region team.

MNA



Taninthayi Region MCWSC holds AGM, presents uniforms

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June— Taninthayi Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee held its annual meeting along with presentation of uniforms to members at the region government office on 19 June.

Patron of the organization Daw Ekari Khaing spoke on the occasion and the secretary assessed the strength and weakness of the association, followed by the members' discussions over the reports sent to the organization and

follow-up tasks.

Chairpersons of Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung District MCWSCs presented future plans. The patron then presented uniforms and cash assistance to the district MCWSCs.

MNA

Over K 4000 million disbursed in 10 Townships in Mon State

MAWLAMYINE, 21 June—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank of Bilin and Thanbyzayart Township of Mon State disbursed K 50000 per acres



CASH DONATED: Daw Khin Nu, son U Maung Maung Tar, wife Daw San San Wai, daughter Shwesin Tun recently donated K 300,000 to the fund of Jivitadana Clinic of Home for the Aged in Yedashe Township in memory of Daw Khin The Win and father U Ohn Maung. Secretary of the Home U Khin Maung Htwe accepts donation.—HOME FOR THE AGED

Books, cash donated to village library in Kyonpyaw

KYONPYAW, 21 June—A ceremony to donate books to Pyithaya Library was held at the library in Pyinmabinhla Village of Kyonpyaw Township in Ayeyawady Region on 3 June.

Region Hluttaw representative U Than Tun donated books and 10 fibre chairs, Staff Officer of District Information and Public Relations Department U Tin Maung Oo books and one clock tower, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Hla Win books and K 30,000, Head of Township IPRD Daw Khin Moe Myint 150 books and Library committee member U Maung Hlaing 75 books. Chairman of Library Committee U Soe Maung accepted the donations. The library was built at a cost of K 1.6 million by the local people.

The facility was opened by Region Hluttaw representative U Than Tun, Staff Officer of IPRD U Tin Maung Oo, Commander of

Township Police Force Police Captain Hla Win and Village Administrator U Soe Maung.—Township IPRD

DISTRICT NEWS

TREES GROWN: The World Environment Day was observed as tree growing ceremony by Namkham Township on 5 June. Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Soe, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Han Min Naung, departmental personnel, local people and social organization members plant 400 saplings.—MYANMA ALIN

for cultivation of monsoon paddy 2012 on 14 June.

Likewise, Chaungzon and Mudon bank branches disbursed agricultural loans to the farmers on 15 June.

A total of 10 townships in Mon State has disbursed K 4334.4 million for 105993 acres of paddy plantations. In so doing, a plan is under way to add K 10,000 more to those who lent K 40,000 per acre as loans.

At the same time, savings are being given to the farmers on their own accord. Up to 15 June, the bank has paid back K 695.303 million savings to the local farmers.

Khin Maung Soe

Assistance provided to students of staff

MUSE, 21 June—A ceremony to present school uniforms and exercise books to 42 students of staff of Muse Township People's Hospital was held at the hospital in Muse of Muse District in Shan State (North) on 16 June.

Moreover, a ceremony to honour three students who passed the matriculation examination followed. Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Myint Myint Khaing and officials presented prizes to the students including Sai Aung Maung who won two distinctions in the matriculation examination.

Myanma Alin



Free clinic opened in Bokpyin Township

BOKPYIN, 21 June—At the annex to the Township Hospital in Bokpyin Township, the free clinic was opened on 4 June, with speeches by Township

Administrator U Nyunt Tin and Township Medical Officer Dr Zaw Myint Naing.

It was attended by Bokpyin Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Aung Lin Hlaing, the township administrator and departmental officials, members of clinic committee,

donors and social organization members.

Wellwishers donated K 1 million for furniture and medicines to the clinic.

The clinic will provide health care services to needy patients every Monday and Thursday.

Township IPRD

Trees planted in Minhla Township

MINHLA, 21 June—The rainy season tree growing ceremony in 2012 was held on mile posts 6/6 and 6/7 on Minhla-Seikantlant-Myochaung Road in Mingla Township of Thayawady District in Bago Region on 16 June.

Region Hluttaw representative U Ye Htut, Township Administrator U Khin Maung Myint, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Aung Kyaw Htwe and staff, departmental officials, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Swe Swe Mar and party, members of social organization and local people planted 2200 saplings at the ceremony.—Township Forest

Cash and kind donated to Pynnya Dagon Library

LEWE, 21 June—A ceremony to donate cash and books to Pynnya Dagon Library was held at the library in Yondaw Model Village in Lewe Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 11 June morning.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area U Myint Swe made a speech.

Township Administrator U Aung Lwin donated K 50,000, U Tun Tun Naing-Daw Tin Tin Aye and family of Yondaw Village K 500,000, U Win Aung Daw Htaik Htaik and family K 50,000, U Waing Kyi-Daw Tin Mya and family and Daw Nyunt Yi and family K 15,000 each, Ko Kyaw Than-Ma Nweni Win family charges for one year newspaper and Doh

Kyayywa journal, Staff Officer U Myint Oo of Irrigation Department K 20,000, Township Education Officer U Myint Aung, Township Judge U Tin Soe, Auditing Officer Daw Kyin Hla, U Lwan Po-Daw Khin

Win Yi, Daw Nu Nu Win (Lewe BEHS No 1) K 10,000 each and Myanmar Libraries Foundation books to Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Ko Ko Gyi.

Township IPRD



ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: A ceremony to provide cash assistance to offspring of staff of Hinthada Township Development Affairs Committee was held at the hall of Township DAC for 2012-2013 academic year.—MYANMA ALIN

Tube-wells sunk in Yinmabin Township

YINMABIN, 21 June—One two-inch diameter tubewell and one four-inch diameter tubewell were sunk in Winphone Village of Yinmabin Township of Sagaing Region on 4 June for rural region development tasks.

At present, sufficient potable water is being supplied to the people of Winphone Village in Yinmabin Township.

Myanma Alin

School uniforms given to students of vendors

PANTANAW, 21 June—A ceremony to provide school uniforms to students of vendors in 2012-2013 academic year at the hall of Pantanaw Township Development Affairs Committee on 9 June.

Executive Officer U Aye Thein and party of Township presented school uniforms to 45 students.

Myanma Alin

Agricultural loans disbursed to farmers

THABAUNG, 21 June—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank disbursed K 50,000 agricultural loans per acre to local farmers for 2012 monsoon crop production in Thabaung Township of Patheingyi District in Ayeyawady Region beginning 15 June.

The same day, the bank disbursed K 29 million to 95 farmers for 580 acres of farmland.

Township IPRD



SCHOOL EQUIPMENT DONATED: School equipment donation ceremony was held at Pyidaungsu Hall in Seikkyi-khanaungto Township of Yangon South District on 10 June. Township Administrator U Tun Tun Naing presents donations to Staff Officer Daw San San Thi of No. 3 Basic Education Department. Township IPRD



HEALTH TALKS GIVEN: After holding health talks at the Taungthugon Ward Administrative Office in Insein Township on 12 June, Chairperson of Yangon North District Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Sein Sein Soe presents pamphlets to attendees.

MYANMA ALIN



Graduates from Civil Aviation University of China pose for cameras in north China's Tianjin Municipality, on 20 June, 2012. A total of 370 students dressed in air hostess uniform of their future airlines graduated on that day.

XINHUA

Giant Olympic rings unveiled at Heathrow ready to welcome visitors to London 2012

LONDON, 21 June—Giant Olympic rings on Wednesday was unveiled at Heathrow, the Host Airport of the Games. The Rings will provide a spectacular visual welcome to athletes, Games visitors and other passengers arriving during the London 2012 Games. The aluminum rings which measure 12 meters in width, the same as a double decker bus, have been installed in Terminal 5 international arrivals and will

be seen by at least 2 million passengers travelling through Heathrow.

The Rings were officially launched at a special event on Wednesday with Olympian Mark Foster. Entertainment was provided by the Band of the Irish Guards. Garrison Sergeant Major William Mott OBE, whose 30 foot portrait in Terminal 5, showing him dressed in the iconic Welsh Guards ceremonial red tunic

and bearskin cap, and currently the first face that welcomes visitors to Heathrow, was also present at the ceremony.

The Olympic rings are one of the world's most recognizable logos. The five rings—coloured blue, yellow, black, green and red—represent the union of the five continents and the meeting of athletes from throughout the world at the Olympic Games.—Xinhua



Afghan refugees wait at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) registration centre prior to returning to Afghanistan, on the outskirts of northwest Pakistan's Peshawar on 20 June, 2012.

XINHUA

Suicide blast rocks Afghan Khost City, killing 18

KHOST, 21 June—A suicide bombing rocked Khost City the capital of Khost Province 150 km southeast of capital Kabul on Wednesday, leaving 18 people dead including the attacker and injuring 35 others, hospital sources said. "Eleven dead bodies and 15 injured have been taken to Civil Hospital in Khost City," head of the civilian hospital in Khost City, Abdul Majid told Xinhua.

Meantime, some dead and injured people have been taken to a private hospital there. "We have received six dead bodies including two police and 20 injured men mostly civilians," Badri Gul, a doctor in a private hospital, told Xinhua. On the other hand, Sardar Mohammad Zazai, the police chief of Khost Province, said the bomber riding a motorbike blew himself up next to a military convoy.

However, he did not comment on the casualties, saying the bomber was killed in his blast. "It is too early to comment about the casualties," Zazai said, adding investigation is underway. Locals said that attack took place at around 12:00 noon while a convoy of foreign forces was passing Faiz Mohammad Khan area in Khost City, inflicting casualties.

Xinhua

South Africa eyes closer trade ties with Switzerland

JOHANNESBURG, 21 June—South Africa's Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies on Wednesday left for Switzerland to cultivate further trade cooperations between the two countries. "The minister is scheduled to meet with the trade officials and various business communities in that country, focusing on deepening the bilateral trade relations between the two countries," said spokesperson of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Sidwell Medupe.

"The officials of the two countries will take stock of the economic relation between the two countries and advance its development," said the spokesperson. Before leaving, Rob Davies said Switzerland is an important partner of the country's trade in Europe, ranking the 8th largest export destination for South Africa in the world in 2011.

"Total exports from South Africa to Switzerland rose from 8.8 billion rands (about 1 billion US dollars) in 2007 to 21.2 billion rands in 2011, constituting an average growth rate of 30 percent over this period," said the minister. Moreover, Switzerland was ranked as the 7th largest foreign direct investor in South Africa. Since 2003, Swiss firms have invested a total of more than 17 billion rands in South Africa's projects.—Xinhua



Military vehicles are seen close to the site of suicide bombing in Khost Province, southeast of Afghanistan, on 20 June, 2012.—XINHUA

Yemeni airstrikes kill 23 al-Qaeda militants in south

ADEN, 21 June—A total of 23 al-Qaeda militants were killed in airstrikes by Yemeni fighter jets in the southern province of Abyan on Wednesday evening, a security official said. The Yemeni fighter jets bombed an al-Qaeda convoy in a desert valley near the Mahfad town in Abyan Province, leaving at least 23 militants killed and several others injured, the local security official told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

"Two military aircrafts bombed the al-Qaeda convoy with four rockets, destroying three pick-up trucks and killing all the passengers on board," the security official said. "Senior commanders of the al-Qaeda terror group were believed to have been killed in Wednesday's air bombing. The injured militants were taken to an al-Qaeda-run hospital west of Mahfad," he added. Yemen's military presses a withering assault

aiming at quelling a resurgent branch of al-Qaeda which has increased its attacks on both Western and government targets in the Arabian Peninsula State.

The month-long army offensive forced the al-Qaeda militants to flee several bastions in the country's restive southern and eastern provinces which they captured during last year's political turmoil. The al-Qaeda militants remain in control of the smaller town of Mahfad in Abyan and other cities in neighbouring Shabwa Province. Fighting al-Qaeda militants in restive south is one of several challenges confronting current President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who has promised to launch a national dialogue to settle disputes between all political factions. Also, he has sworn to uproot the Yemeni branch of al-Qaeda.

Xinhua

China mulls harsher punishments on traffic violations

BEIJING, 21 June—The Chinese traffic authority is considering doubling penalty points imposed on those caught running red lights and plate related traffic violations, according to a Wednesday report of a local newspaper in Beijing. An unidentified official with the Traffic Management Bureau under the Ministry of Public Security confirmed with Xinhua that a draft amendment on the

regulation of driving licenses was being discussed and has been distributed to local authorities in April for deliberation.

However, the text of the draft remains unavailable to the public.

Under China's current regulation on driving licenses, if a driver's penalty points accumulates to 12 or higher within 12 months, he or she must report to the police and go through a seven-day special training on traffic law before taking the written exam for driving licenses again. According to the Beijing Times, the penalty points for

improper display of plates will be 12, while the current regulation only imposes six points. The points for ignoring traffic lights will increase from three to six.

Traffic violations in both categories pose grave threats to public security, therefore the increase in penalty points is expected to remind drivers to drive carefully, said the report, citing a police officer. The experience could have been drawn from the China's efforts in curbing incidents of people driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

Xinhua



Water gushes out from the Xiaolangdi Reservoir on the Yellow River during a sand-washing operation in Mengjin County, central China's Henan Province, on 20 June, 2012. The Yellow River has been plagued by an increasing amount of mud and sand.—XINHUA

Sri Lanka finds skeleton of prehistoric man 37,000 years ago

COLOMBO, 21 June—The examination of the skeleton of the recently found pre-historic man in Sri Lanka is believed to be 37,000 years old, an official from the Archeological Department said on Wednesday. Director General of the Archeological Department Senarath Dissanayake told Xinhua that the skeleton of the Balangoda human ancestor found in the underground Fa-Hien cave in western Sri Lanka is to be sent for carbon dating to the United States.

"The evidence so far found has proved that the skeleton belongs to 37,000 years ago," Dissanayake said. "We also have invited a team of British experts to come down to Sri Lanka to examine the skeleton," he said. With the excavation, more evidence was found about the 'Balangoda man' including his food items, rituals and also the stone tool he made. Sri Lankan archeologists also have found some ornaments made of beads and weapons made of animal bone. This is the first time that a full human skeleton as old as this has been found, the Archeological Department said.—Xinhua

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U Than Maung, Advocate
 For **CERTINA AG**
 C/o **Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd**
 Unit 1509, Sakura Tower
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Htain Lin Oo LL.B Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
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 Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666
 Yangon. 22 June 2012

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PHILIP VOYNO (023)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOYNO (023) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.6.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

41 infected with H1N1 in northeast Thailand

BANGKOK, 21 June—Forty-one people have been confirmed being infected with H1N1 influenza in northeastern Nakhon Ratchasima Province, according to the Ministry of Public Health on Wednesday. Public Health Ministry Inspector General Kamron Chaisiri said the infections have been found since early June.

Six female and 35 male patients, including six hospital staff, have been admitted to Nakhon Ratchasima Rajanagarindra Psychiatric Hospital, he said. The initial investigation showed that the first flu victim to be detected was a patient from alcoholism treatment ward on 12 June. All patients were already given antiviral flu and none of them is in a severe condition, added Kamron.

The hospital, however, has stopped admitting new patient until the situation is confirmed completely safe. Health officials have sampled schools in the province but discovered no other cases of bird flu infection.

Xinhua

Understanding on clam in Gaza starts on midnight

GAZA, 21 June—A well-informed Palestinian source revealed on Wednesday that an Egyptian-brokered understanding to restore mutual calm between Gaza militants and Israel will be valid starting from midnight.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Xinhua that the Palestinian factions, mainly the Islamic Hamas movement informed the Egyptian intelligence services officials that they accept the mutual calm with Israel. The source said that Israel has also informed Egypt that it doesn't wish for escalation, and that it would halt airstrikes on the coastal enclave as soon as militants stop launching rockets at its southern territories.

The understanding on restoring calms in the Gaza Strip will be valid starting from midnight, and it will be mutual, said the source, adding that "both sides are watching the situation on the ground carefully." "I believe that the two sides are interested in clam because both want to stop tension and avoid more escalation," said the source closed to Hamas movement in the Gaza Strip.—Xinhua

Institution established to promote Chinese opera overseas

BEIJING, 21 June—An institution that will train talented people for the purpose of promoting Chinese opera abroad was established on Wednesday. The department of international cultural exchanges was established under the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts (NACTA), a Beijing-based college dedicated to the training of professional Chinese opera performers.

Du Changsheng, NACTA president, said at the department's launching ceremony that the institution was created for the purpose of giving Chinese theater arts, as well as Chinese culture in general, a more extensive overseas presence.

The department will offer degrees for students majoring in international cultural exchange and will also provide education for international students. The department will also work with other cultural promotion organizations, such as the China International Culture Exchange Centre and the Confucius Institute.

Xinhua



France's Riadh Sallem (R) is knocked off during a training session ahead of 2012 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament in Richmond, Canada, on 19 June, 2012. Canada Cup is considered to be the most prestigious wheelchair rugby tournament besides world championship and Paralympic Games.

XINHUA

China issues emergency response to Hubei drought

BEIJING, 21 June—The Chinese government initiated a level IV emergency response plan on Wednesday in response to a severe drought in central China's Hubei Province. The National Commission for Disaster Reduction and the Ministry of Civil Affairs have dispatched teams to help with relief work.

Parts of the province have

been suffering from a drought since December 2011, with rainfall much below normal levels, and some areas have seen record-low precipitation, according to statistics reported by the provincial civil affairs department. As of Wednesday, a total of 3.29 million people in the province have been affected by the drought, and 1.17 million people have had their

livelihoods affected and require government assistance. The provincial disaster relief and civil affairs authorities have allocated 2 million yuan (314,000 US dollars) as relief funds, and governments at city and county levels in the province have issued 7.72 million yuan to deal with drinking water and food shortages.

Xinhua

China reaffirms support for eurozone stability

BEIJING, 21 June—A Foreign Ministry spokesman on Wednesday reaffirmed China's support for ensuring the stability of the eurozone. Spokesman Hong Lei made the remark during a routine Press conference while discussing President Hu Jintao's visits to Denmark and the G20 summit in Mexico. Hong said Hu will return to Beijing following a post-summit stop in Spain.

"China has long maintained friendly cooperation with Spain," he said, adding that the two countries have enjoyed frequent high-level exchanges, increasing economic and trade cooperation, sound cultural contacts and coordination in regional and international affairs.

Regarding the European sovereign debt crisis, Hong said China has voiced its stance on the issue on many occasions, adding that China supports European integration. He said China has provided effective support in multiple forms to help Europe cope with the crisis. "We believe Europe has the wisdom and ability to overcome the current crisis," he said.—Xinhua

Contestants pose during the western final of the New Silk Road Model Contest in Chengdu, southwestern China's Sichuan Province, on 20 June, 2012.—XINHUA



People take food during an event called "Dinner in the Sky" at the Cinquantenaire park in Brussels, capital of Belgium, on 20 June, 2012. Up to 22 guests pay 250 euros for the opportunity to dine 50 metres above the ground.—XINHUA

Tires stolen from monster truck

A Florida dealership is offering \$1,000 to anyone with information about the theft of a set of monster truck tires from a vehicle on the business' front lawn.

James Way, owner of North River Auto Sales in Bradenton, said the 1977 black Ford monster truck had been on his lot for less than a month when a friend noticed the tires missing the *Bradenton Herald* reported.

Way said it would have taken at least three or four men to remove each of the \$900 tires and load them into

a large truck or trailer.

"This was a big operation," Waysaid. "This didn't take just 2 minutes. They had to be here for an hour."

Way said his own security cameras were not working at the time of theft, but he is hoping camera from nearby businesses may have caught some of the action.

The Manatee County Sheriff's Office said deputies were investigating. They said no fingerprints were recovered.

C'sar the elephant gets contact lenses.



Veterinarians at a North Carolina zoo say they are crossing their fingers as a pair of jumbo contact lenses are made for one of their elephants. C'sar nearly went blind at the NC Zoo in

Contacts on order for Carolina elephant

Asheboro, but cataract surgery saved the day and has the 38-year-old bull African elephant pretty much back to normal after some harrowing months of bumping into things and being unable to eat.

The next step is to fit C'sar with a custom-made set of soft contacts that will not only protect his eyes but also compensate for the farsightedness the pachyderm

was left with after the surgery.

"My gut says that there won't be a dramatic improvement with contacts, but if you had asked me before the second surgery, I'd have said the same thing," Dr Ryan DeVoe, the zoo's senior vet, told the *Raleigh (NC) News & Observer*. "We have seen unexpected results so far, and it could happen again."

DeVoe said contacts had been used in the past on dogs

and other creatures, but only as a temporary measure while their eyes recovered from surgery. If the new contacts work on C'sar, it could open up a whole new world in the field of veterinary vision.

The newspaper said C'sar, will likely get his contacts in the fall after its eyes heal further. The lenses will be held in place by the elephant's three sets of eye lids.

Cab driver calls cops on robbery suspect

Police in Florida said a robbery suspect was arrested when police were called by the taxi driver she asked to wait outside of the targeted store.

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office said Cynthia

Sheik did not display a weapon when she entered the Race Track store in Port Charlotte and demanded the clerk hand over money from the register, the *Fort Myers News-Press* reported.

Investigators said the

taxi driver Sheik had asked to wait for her outside of the store called police during the robbery because he feared Sheik was not going to pay him.

An alarm when off when Sheik received \$320 from the

clerk and she fled the store, only to be confronted by a Punta Gorda police officer who had been in the area.

Sheik was arrested without incident and the investigation was turned over to Charlotte County deputies.

News Album

Bobby Brown marries Alicia Etheredge

LOS ANGELES, 21 June—New Edition singer Bobby Brown married Alicia Etheredge in Hawaii, *People.com* reported.

Among the guests at the Monday ceremony were Brown's children—Landon,

23, La'Princia, 22, and Bobby Jr, 19 — as well as Brown and Etheredge's son, Cassius, 3.

Bobby Jr posted a photo of the newlyweds and members of their wedding party on Instagram. The image shows Brown and his youngest son in red suits and Adidas sneakers. Etheredge and a bevy of flower girls wore traditional white dresses.

Bobbi Kristina, Brown's daughter with his late ex-wife Whitney Houston, did not attend the ceremony, *People.com* said.

Houston accidentally drowned in a hotel bathtub last February after drinking alcohol and using cocaine. She was 48.

INTERNET



Photo of Bobby Brown, Alicia Etheredge and members of their wedding party. Posted on Instagram by Bobby Brown Jr.

INTERNET

Why won't Bale miss Batman costume?

LONDON, 21 June—If there's one thing about the conclusion of the Batman series that actor Christian Bale likes, it is the fact that he won't have to slip into the restrictive costume.

The superhero costume, which he wore while filming "The Dark Knight Rises", almost put him in hospital.

He is ready to hang up the cowl and cape after filming the forthcoming conclusion to Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy.

Bale admits it was difficult to breathe in it.

"When it gets cold, the cowl is extremely tight, and it gets better the warmer I get it; it becomes more flexible. But, after a couple of takes, I was trying to breathe

properly in my nose. I was starting to see stars and I said, 'I have to take this off,'" Bale told *Empire magazine*, reports *daily-star.co.uk*.

"And thank God, on this one (film) I can—on (first movie) 'Batman Begins', I couldn't—so I had to get inside because I couldn't let anybody see me without the cowl," he added.

INTERNET



Actor Christian Bale (L) and director Christopher Nolan.

INTERNET



Model-actress Kelly Brook

I prefer myself heavier: Kelly Brook

LONDON, 21 June — Model-actress Kelly Brook says she prefers herself to be heavier and loves eating cake on the sofa. I love my body. The curvier I am, the happier I am. I think that's true of most girls. When you've got a lovely boyfriend you just eat cake on the sofa. It's lovely," *femalefirst.co.uk*

quoted Brook as saying.

"I am lucky, I can eat what I want in moderation and I don't have to exercise religiously. I am just sensible and healthy and I never sit still for long," she said.

The 32-year-old says there some parts of her body which she would be happy to change but on the whole she

is completely satisfied with her image.

"I could do with toning my tummy a bit more, but overall I wouldn't change anything. I am a stone heavier than I was in my 20s. I don't think that's from my lifestyle changing, it's just from getting older," she said.

INTERNET

Disney starts shooting 'Maleficent' starring Jolie

BURBANK, 21 June — Hollywood's Walt Disney Studios says production has begun on "Maleficent," with Angelina Jolie playing the villain from the fairy tale "Sleeping Beauty."

"Maleficent" is written by Linda Woolverton and co-stars Sharlto Copley, Elle Fanning, Sam Riley, Imelda Staunton, Miranda Richardson, Juno Temple and Lesley Manville.

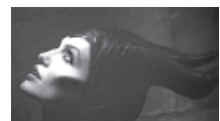
The film reveals the events that hardened the title character's heart and drove her to curse the baby, Aurora, Disney said in a synopsis.

The live-action movie

is being directed by production designer Robert Stromberg in his directorial debut.

"Maleficent" is scheduled for release in 3-D on 14 March, 2014. The studio announced on Tuesday production began on 13 June.

INTERNET



Walt Disney Studios released this image of Angelina Jolie as Maleficent.—INTERNET



Johnny Depp (L) and Vanessa Paradis in 24 Feb, 2008. INTERNET

Rep confirms Depp-Paradis breakup

LOS ANGELES, 21 June — Johnny Depp's publicist confirmed on Tuesday the Hollywood film star has broken up with his longtime partner, French singer-actress Vanessa Paradis.

The couple were together 14 years, and have a son and daughter. Depp denied rumors of a split last month, but his representative

confirmed on Tuesday the romantic relationship has ended.

"Johnny Depp and Vanessa Paradis have amicably separated.

Please respect their privacy and, more importantly, the privacy of their children," the actor's publicist told "Entertainment Tonight."

INTERNET

'Homeland,' 'Community' win top TV awards

LOS ANGELES, 21 June— "Homeland" was named Best Drama and its star Claire Danes Best Actress in a Drama at the Critics Choice Television Awards on Monday night in Beverly Hills, Calif. "Breaking Bad" star Bryan Cranston took home the prize for Best Actor in a Drama, while his co-star Giancarlo Esposito snagged the trophy for Best Supporting Actor at the ceremony at the Beverly Hilton hotel.

Christina Hendricks earned the Best Supporting

Actress in a Drama accolade for her work on "Mad Men."

"Community" was declared Best Comedy, while "Parks and Recreation" star Amy Poehler and "New Girl" leading lady Zooey Deschanel shared the Best Actress in a Comedy title.

Louis CK was declared Best Actor in a Comedy for "Louie."

Ty Burrell and Julie Bowen picked up matching Best Supporting Actor and Actress in a Comedy awards for their performances in

"Modern Family."

"Sherlock" won the Best TV Movie or Miniseries honor and its star Benedict Cumberbatch scooped up the prize for Best Actor in a TV Movie or Miniseries.

Julianne Moore won the statuette for Best Actress in a TV Movie or Miniseries for "Game Change."

"The Voice" won the award for Best Reality Series" and "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" won the Best Talk Show honour.

INTERNET



Claire Danes arrives for the HBO premiere of "Girls" at the SVA Theater in New York on 4 April, 2012.—INTERNET

'Gerrard focused on Italy test'

England captain plays down significance of avoiding Spain in quarter-finals



Steven Gerrard set up Wayne Rooney's goal in England's 1-0 win over Ukraine. INTERNET

LONDON, 21 June — Liverpool midfielder Steven Gerrard insists that England will not underestimate Italy when the two sides meet in the UEFA Euro 2012 quarter-final in Kiev on Sunday. England's 1-0 victory over Ukraine saw them finish top of Group D ahead of France, while Italy were runners-up in Group C behind Spain. But England captain Gerrard played down the significance of avoiding world and European champions Spain in the last eight.

"Italy is not going to be an easy game for us," said the Liverpool captain, who set up Wayne Rooney's winning goal against Ukraine in Donetsk. "People say we've avoided Spain but I don't want to underestimate the Italians. Italy isn't going to

be an easy game. Spain are a fantastic team, sure, but our plan was to finish top of the group. Now we are just going to concentrate on our next match."

England manager Roy Hodgson admitted that facing Spain in the quarter-finals would have been a daunting prospect.

"I'd have been quite happy to play the Spanish, but I'd rather miss them because they are the favourites alongside Germany," said Hodgson.

"I think this team of ours would have given Spain a pretty good run for their money. "The good thing is that we're there and we're not travelling home. There was not one person in our group who wanted to be on that plane." — *Internet*

Felix to run in 100, 200 at Olympic trials

EUGENE, (Ore), 21 June — In at least one way, less is more for Allyson Felix. Felix is still thinking about winning gold medals in multiple events at the Olympics. But she'll be adding the 100 metres to her specialty, the 200, instead of the more grueling 400 she had been training for over the past year. Felix will begin

her bid for the 100-200 double at the US Olympic trials on Friday. She was originally signed up for the 400, as well, but was listed as "scratched" in that event Wednesday. Her brother and agent, Wesley Felix, confirmed the decision with *The Associated Press*.

It marks a change of course for America's most decorated female sprinter, who has won three world championships at 200 metres but has twice finished second at the Olympics to Jamaica's Veronica Campbell-Brown. Last year, Felix tried the longer double but had disappointing results at world championships, clearly fatigued while finishing third in the 200 after placing second in the 400.

Her game plan started changing last month in Doha, where she ran a personal best 10.92 in the 100. Suddenly, she was talking about the possibility of a 100-200 double instead. "It's definitely one of my possibilities," Felix said a few days after that race. "Since my last race, people actually believe me. I'll run the 200 for sure and then I'll see ... whether I'll run the 100 or the 400." — *Internet*



This 6 May, 2012 file photo shows Allyson Felix of the United States, (1), crosses the finish line ahead of Chisato Fukushima, of Japan, (50), and Anna Doi of Japan, left, during the Women's 100-meter race at the Golden Grand Prix in Kawasaki, Japan. If Felix is looking for advice about whether to try the 200-400 double at the Olympics, Michael Johnson has a message for her: Don't bother. — *INTERNET*

Crewe expect to produce more stars

League One club applies for Category 2 status in Elite Player Performance Plan

LONDON, 21 June — Crewe chairman John Bowler says the club will continue to produce top stars when the Elite Player Performance Plan (EPPP) is brought in next season. The EPPP has come about after consultation between the Premier League and its clubs, representatives of the Football League, the Football Association and other key football stakeholders. It has six fundamental principles and is being brought in to improve youth development in English clubs. Academies will be independently audited and given a Category status of 1-4, with 1 being the most elite.

Crewe have established a reputation for producing a number of international players like Neil Lennon, Dean Ashton, Danny Murphy and Robbie Savage, while

Nick Powell recently made the move to Manchester United. The club have submitted their application for Category 2 status.

Chairman Bowler says the new set up will allow them to nurture young talent and be suitably rewarded when they inevitably catch the eyes of the country's bigger clubs.

"I think we've always got to be sensible that if there is an exceptional, outstanding player he's going to attract interest early on," he said. "I'm pretty sure the new academy arrangements aren't going to turn that on its head. After all, it's still up to us to persuade these young players that this is the right place to be, because this is where you can develop your career—that's what we're all about." We've now submitted our application and all the data to the

Football League, which is currently examining the documentation and we hope they agree with us that we should become a Category 2.

"In that category there's going to be some big, big names. I don't think there will be another Category 2 club of our size."

That's the kind of

standing we feel we deserve and we have a right to be in that group.

We want to be associated with those types of clubs. "If for no other reason, it's important to us for our games programme. We want to be playing against other quality academy sides."

Internet



Nick Powell is the latest youngster to join a top flight club from Crewe. — *INTERNET*

Smells like team spirit, says happy Hodgson

DONETSK, 21 June — England manager Roy Hodgson has praised his



English head coach Roy Hodgson congratulates English midfielder Ashley Young (L) after the Euro 2012 football championships match England vs Ukraine on 19 June, at the Donbass Arena in Donetsk. Hodgson has praised his squad's burgeoning team spirit as they prepare for the challenge of Sunday's Euro 2012 quarter-final showdown with Italy.

INTERNET

squad's burgeoning team spirit as they prepare for the challenge of Sunday's Euro 2012 quarter-final showdown with Italy. Hodgson and his side returned to their training base in southern Poland with a mounting sense of excitement after clinching their first place in Group D ahead of France with their 1-0 win over

Ukraine. After the celebrity circus of the David Beckham era and the mutinous, miserable 2010 World Cup campaign, England have rediscovered virtues once taken for granted — teamwork, unrelenting commitment and unstinting selflessness.

It has left the English with a renewed sense of belief as they prepare for the knockout rounds, and Hodgson could not be happier. While Hodgson readily admits England's squad still contains its fair share of egos, he believes a clarity of purpose has helped forge a tighter group. "I don't think there are any words necessarily that have any magic effect," Hodgson said. "I think it's just making certain that everybody realises — as they do — that if you want to be successful as a team you have to perform to your ability and trust the people around you to perform to theirs.

"I think any national team is going to have players with egos - that's normal and I think you want that as well because it's the player with the ego who is often the good

player, the player who makes the difference." Hodgson believes England's newly-found unity is reflected by the obvious delight shown by each member of the squad after goals have been scored and victories achieved. "I've been very happy with the way these players have really worked for each other and seeing the way they are after the games, and seeing the way they congratulate each other. That's something I've got to be pleased about and something to keep working on," Hodgson said.

Defensive midfielder Scott Parker, whose tireless spoiling embodies England's team ethic, said England's unity could carry the side "a long way." "Everyone talks about Spain and how great they are at passing the ball. Not every team is as good as Spain, that's the reality," Parker told theFA.com. "To think we are all of a sudden are going to turn into that is not what it's going to be. "We are what we are, we're committed, we've got a good base, a good bunch of lads and with that you can go a long way."

Internet

Schiavone saves eight match points at s-Hertogenbosch

'S-HERTOGENBOSCH, (Netherlands), 21 June — Italy's Francesca Schiavone reached the quarterfinals at 's-Hertogenbosch on Wednesday, saving eight match points in her 6-2, 2-6, 7-6 (10/8) win over Romania's Irina-Camelia Begu. Schiavone, who had fought off a match point in coming back from 5-3 down in the third set of her first

round victory over Maria Kirilenko, was seemingly down and out on Wednesday when she was 6/0 down in the third set tie-break.

However, she reeled off six straight points to tie it up, fought off two more match points from there and finally clinched victory at the Wimbledon warm-up event on her first match point. "When I started the tie-break,

I said 'Francesca, come on, pay attention and take two or three of the first six or seven points.' Nothing, 6-0," Schiavone said.

"I went to the other side and told myself there is not too big a difference in winning or losing one point, so keep going and push. We will see what happens. And then I won."

Internet

International Sports

FIFA invests 20 million dollars for green World Cup

RIO DE JANEIRO , 21 June — FIFA will invest 20 million US dollars in green initiatives as part of its sustainability strategy for the 2014 World Cup. Speaking at an event in Rio de Janeiro on Tuesday FIFA's head of corporate social responsibility, Federico Addiechi, said waste management, community support and renewable energy were key areas to benefit from the funds.

"The ultimate goal is to stage an event that uses resources wisely, striking a balance between economic aspects, social development and environmental protection," Addiechi said. The announcement was made on the eve of the United Nations Rio+20 summit in Rio de Janeiro. — *Xinhua*



Italian tennis player Francesca Schiavone plays a return against Romanian Irina-Camelia Begu during their women's second round match at the Unicef Open WTA/ATP tennis tournament.

INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

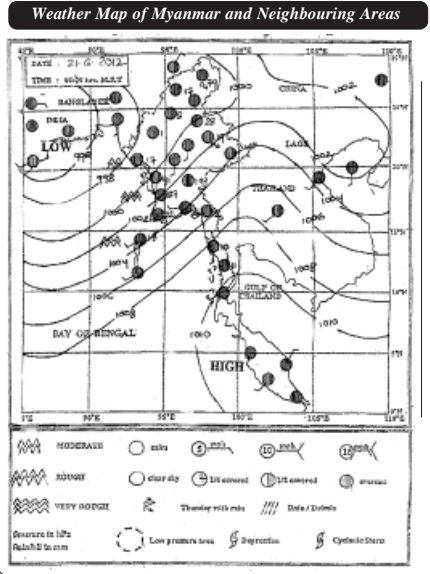
(22-6-12 09:30 am ~ 23-6-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Practise and March Towards the Goal
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * News
- * Lifestyle of Toddy Palm Climbers
- * Flying Without Wings My Great Limitless Adventure (Pakokku)
- * News
- * AB Bank First of Many Firsts
- * Kayah Traditional Museum
- * News
- * Myanmar Classical Songs
- * News
- * Seed Bank: A Stock of Million Treasures
- * Media Dissemination Workshop
- * News
- * Kabar Aye Ga Mone Pwint Super Market
- * Myanmar Movie "An Oath by Than Lwin River"

MYANMAR TV

(22-6-2012) (Friday)

- 7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:50 am
 3. Nice and Sweet Song
- 8:30 am
 4. Songs for International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit trafficking
- 8:45 am
 5. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm
 6. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 4:35 pm
 7. Teleplay (Health)
- 5:00 pm
 8. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Zoology)
- 5:20 pm
 9. Myanmar Language
- 5:35 pm
 10. Songs for International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit trafficking
- 6:20 pm
 11. Documentary
- 6:40 pm
 12. Internet Garden
- 8:00 pm
 13. News
 14. Just for Laughs
 15. TV Drama Series
 16. Song Lover



Weather forecast for 22nd June, 2012

Sr. No.	Temperature (°C/°F)	Forecast		Percent	
		Maximum	Minimum		
1	Kachin	31.88	23.73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
2	Kayah	28.82	19.66	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kaym	28.82	23.72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	28.68	16.61	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	28.82	24.75	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	35.95	25.77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Tamuhayi	30.86	24.75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
8	Bago	27.81	23.73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	32.90	25.77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	36.97	27.81	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	29.84	23.73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	30.86	23.73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakine	30.86	23.73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	25.77	18.64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	31.88	22.72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	30.86	23.73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	30.86	23.73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	32.90	24.75	One or two rain or thundershowers	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	30.86	23.73	Some rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36.97	27.81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Magway Region, scattered in Mandalay Region, fairly widespread in Tamuhayi Region, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Rakine State and isolated heavy falls in Kachin and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were: Tawngya (4.25) inches, Kyaukpada (3.78) inches, Thandwe (3.62) inches, Bham (3.58) inches, Gwa (3.46) inches, An (3.41) inches and Pagan (3.27) inches.

Bay Inference: Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Frequent squalls; with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (45) mph.

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

Two South Africans freed from Somali pirates

MOGADISHU, 21 June—A South African and Italian couple held hostage for 20 months after being kidnapped by Somali pirates have been freed, Somalia's defence minister said on Thursday. The couple was among the longest-held by Somali pirates.

South African Deborah Calitz and Italian Bruno Pelizzari smiled but appeared exhausted at a news conference at the presidential palace in Mogadishu.

"We are very happy to get our freedom again," Calitz said, speaking haltingly. "We are so happy today and to join our families again."

The two were kidnapped in October 2010 from a yacht off the southeastern coast of Africa. Their pirate captors originally demanded a ransom of \$10 million.

The couple's 20-month captivity is among the longest periods hostages have been held by pirates. When Somali pirates first began attacking ships off East Africa in about 2005, they attacked large container ships. But as those vessels improved their on-board defences, pirates began attacking more vulnerable private yachts. An international flotilla of warships patrols waters off Somalia, leading to a decrease in pirate attacks over the last year.

Somali Defence Minister Hussein Arab Isse credited Somali security forces with helping with the couple's release, but he did not say that the pair had been rescued. He also declined to say if a ransom was paid. Most pirate hostage cases end with payment of multi-million dollar ransoms.



Bruno Pelizzari, right, and Deborah Calitz, left, gesture in celebration at the presidential palace a few hours after they were released by their captors in Mogadishu, Somalia on 21 June, 2012.—INTERNET



SANITATION CARRIED OUT: As a gesture of hailing Myanmar Women's Day, under the leadership of Yangon Region Women's Affairs Organization, Yangon South District and Township Women's Affairs Organizations carrying out sanitation in precinct and environs of Kyaikkhauk Pagoda in Thanlyin recently. TOWNSHIP WAO

Raising work proficiency and environmental conservation course conducted

OTTWIN, 21 June—The training course for raising work proficiency and environmental conservation for ward and village-tract administrators was held at Ottwin Township administrative office on 13 June morning.

Staff Officer U Aung Thura of Township Forest Department gave talks on environmental conservation, reduction of illegal timber extraction, and establishment of village-owned forest by growing three teak plants and 20 hardwood plants per household.—Myanma Alin



Indonesia military plane crashes into homes; nine die

JAKARTA, (Indonesia), 21 June—An Indonesian air force plane slammed into homes and ignited a fireball in the crowded capital while trying to land on Thursday, killing at least nine people, a military official said. The turboprop plane crashed into eight houses, killing at least three people on the ground, said military spokesman Rear Adm. Iskandar Sitompul. Raging orange flames were seen jumping several feet into the air as a huge column of black smoke billowed.

Hendra, a resident in the air force housing complex in eastern Jakarta who uses only one name, said he ran out of his house after hearing several loud explosions and saw flames engulfing neighbours' homes.

"I could hardly believe my eyes... there was a military plane that crashed and hit the houses!" he said. "At once, the situation turned into chaos. All the residents fled in panic. Women and children were screaming hysterically."

He said he helped at least five injured people, mostly with burns, to a nearby Air Force hospital. He added that he saw at least three more critically injured children brought into the hospital. Sitompul said the Fokker F-27 was on a routine training flight when it crashed. The aircraft was declared airworthy before the training and skies were clear, he added.—Internet

Indonesian military personnel investigate the site where an Indonesian air force plane crashed, in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 21 June, 2012.—INTERNET

Sweden on alert, explosives found near nuke plant

STOCKHOLM, 21 June—Sweden raised the security alert for the country's nuclear power plants on Thursday after explosives were found on a truck at the southwestern atomic power station Ringhals. Police said they were investigating possible sabotage.

Police said bomb sniffer dogs detected the explosives during a routine check on Wednesday afternoon by security staff at an industrial area within the power plant's enclosure. Police declined to describe the amount or type of explosive material.

Four reactors are at Ringhals, 70 kilometers (45 miles) south of Sweden's second-largest city, Goteborg. The plant is controlled by energy companies Vattenfall and EON. Bomb technicians said the material lacked an ignition device, meaning there was no danger of an explosion.

Police spokesman Tommy Nyman said officers were investigating possible sabotage but had no suspects.

The Ringhals atomic power station near Varberg Sweden seen in the distant on 21 June, 2012. INTERNET

Outstanding students in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area honoured



NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—A ceremony to present prizes to outstanding students and honour teachers and schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, was held at Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC) in Zabuthiri Township, here, this morning.

It was attended by Union Minister at President Office Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Hla Myint Oo, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Htay, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, members of Nay Pyi Taw City Development Committee, departmental heads, school heads, teachers, parents and students.

In his speech, the Union Minister said that 3028 of 11678 students in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area passed matriculation exam, accounting for 25.92 percent. This year saw a decrease in pass rate, compared with last year

Union Minister at President Office Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Thein Nyunt giving prize to a student who passed matrix exam with distinctions.—MNA

rate, 32.37 percent. But the number of students who won the distinctions this year has reached 578, up 167 if compared with last year.

As part of educational development programme in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, the President, the Vice-President and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker helped upgrading of schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. In addition, authority concerned has provided the schools with facilities. Concerted efforts are to be made in order that Nay Pyi Taw Council Area sees highest pass rate in the coming year, he said.

After that, Head Dr Aung Kyaw Hlaing of No. 5 BEHS in Zabuthiri Township, which won the best passrate prize, handed over best shield to Dr Than Aung, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council.

Then, the Union Minister awarded six-distinction winners Ma Po Ei Phyu of No.9 BEHS in Zabuthiri Township and Ma May Pwint Thu of Yezin BEHS in Zeyathiri Township, and five-distinction winners.

Afterwards, the deputy minister, the members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and the Amyotha Hluttaw representatives presented awards to five and four-distinction winners. The Union Minister and the Nay Pyi Taw Council members awarded teachers from 22 schools. The Union Minister presented awarded to No.4 BEHS in Lewe Township, stood first, No.12 BEHS, second; No.8 BEHS, third; No.1 BEHS, fourth and No.9 BEHS, fifth.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Regions and States Champion Challenge Cup (Second round) Competitions continue at designated places. Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan this morning enjoyed the third Place Match of Fustal (Women) at the Fustal gymnasium in Zabuthiri Sports Zone here this morning.

He inspected the construction of sports village in which the 27th SEA Games will be held.

Then, the Union Minister addressed at the acrobat contest to hail International Olympic Day, at acrobat training hall in Sports Training Camp (Lewe).

There, he met with selected golfers from Champion Challenge Cup, managers/coaches, in-charges of the committee for holding boxing, weightlifting, Sepak Takraw, Fustal, Karatedo, Pencak Silat, cycling and golf.—MNA

Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan attending acrobat contest to hail International Olympic Day held at acrobat training hall in Sports Training Camp (Lewe).—MNA

Union Sports Minister enjoys Champion Challenge Cup's Fustal match (Women)



Displaced local people in Maungtaw Township go back home

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—Maungtaw Township has restored peace and stability, the displaced persons went back home. On 17 June, a total of 981 people from 213 households at Maungtaw 4th mile rescue camp—205 people from Thayagon village, 403 from Kanthaya (Upper village), 208 from Ngwetaung village, 63 from Mawrawady and Magyeegon villages, 148 from Kanpyinsitha village and 131 from Waithali village, and 70 refugees from Aungmyaybawdi Alotawpyae monastery have returned to their houses.

Local Tatmadawmen and members of Border Region Immigration Inspection Control Headquarters, Myanmar Police Force and Fire Brigade helped them carry properties, transport them, repair their houses, build temporary buildings and provide security measures.

Local regiment/unit, Border Region Immigration Inspection Control Headquarters, local police stations and member of Myanmar Police Force, continue providing security measures so as to ensure continued peace, stability and security in Maungtaw Township.—MNA

Relief aids for rescue camps in Rakhine State arrive

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June—The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Rakhine State government and Western Command have been fulfilling the needs such as foods, shelters and health care to refugees at the relief camps in some townships in Rakhine State.

Relief aids including one set of Water purifier, shelters, clothes, mineral salt sachets, onions, potatoes, Mamee instant noodle packages, fried peas, dried fish were today brought by Tatmadaw men and members of Myanmar Red Cross Society and firebrigade from Sittway Airport to the relief camps.—MNA



Tatmadawmen unloading aids from truck for relief camp in Rakhine State.

MNA

Steven Gerrard set up Wayne Rooney's goal in England's 1-0 win over Ukraine.
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Gerrard focused on Italy test



Crewe expect to produce more stars



Nick Powell is the latest youngster to join a top flight club from Crewe.
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