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Thursday, 28 June, 2012

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.

President U Thein Sein receives Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—President U Thein Sein received Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith of the Lao People's Democratic Republic at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 am today.

Present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and departmental officials.

The Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith and party were accompanied by Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Nilahath Sayarth and senior officials.

They exchanged views on further strengthening of bilateral relations between the governments and peoples of the two countries, and such matters of mutual interest as establishment of multi-sector cooperation mechanism, and extending invitation to the President for attending the 9th Asia-Europe Summit to be held in Lao PDR in 2012.

MNA



President U Thein Sein receives Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith of the Lao People's Democratic Republic at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.—MNA

President U Thein Sein receives Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict of the UNSG



NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—President U Thein Sein received Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict of the UN Secretary-General Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 3 pm today.

Present at the call together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and departmental heads.

Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict of the UN Secretary-General Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy and party were accompanied by senior officers.

At the discussion, they cordially exchanged views on more cooperation of Myanmar with the UN after emergence of the new government, successful implementation of prevention against recruitment of minors and future plans, drawing of similar plans of action by national race armed groups, eradication of recruitment of minors and provision of financial and technological assistance in child care tasks by UNICEF.—MNA

President U Thein Sein shaking hands with Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict of the UN Secretary-General Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy.—MNA

Great-grandmas sky dive for Blue Star moms
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Djokovic, Federer back on court
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Golf-McIlroy hopes to reverse form slump before home fans
Page 14



Mirza's fury at being used as Olympic tennis 'bait'



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PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 28 June, 2012

Effective plans in hand

Our goal of national industrialization based on industrial growth needs systematic energy planning and industrial development planning as growth in energy and industrial sectors have inter-reliant relations. With harmonious development between the two sectors, we can improve manufacturing sector that will generate more job opportunities in fulfilling the requirements of the State and people.

Other than selling country's energy resources in raw, we must manufacture finished goods including chemical fertilizers and petrochemical products apart from generating power for domestic demand through effective short-term and long-term plans.

Consequently, we will establish the National Energy Management Committee for the benefit of energy sector of the State and implement the National Energy Plan for short- and long-term objectives in compliance with National Energy Policy. Here the government is also seeking outside assistance at home and abroad and launching emergency power supply programmes urgently. Moreover, we need a systematic link between energy and electricity through short-term and long-term plans for ensuring power sufficiency in the whole country and for national development.

In response to the growing domestic electricity demand, we will make efforts to generate electricity to the most possible extent from natural gas, diesel, coal, solar and wind power and bio and waste fuels depending on the geographical features, climate and natural resources of the regions and public consumption rate apart from hydropower the main source of country's power supply at present.

The mission of the National Energy Management Committee is the implementation of action plans involving the task of managing the electricity production and supply of the Union government, regional governments and private investors as per the internationally-practiced procedures.

With extra workable plans in hand and energetic actions on the ground, the government in office is assigned itself to the task of solving all the problems and fulfilling all the needs of the people through its people-centred system.

Thabin artistes pay respects to older persons

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Mawlamyine Township Thabin Asiayon organized the 34th ceremony to pay respects to doyen Thabin

artistes. and to award best workers at its office in Mawlamyine on 25 June.

A total of 200 members of the township Thabin



Bring genuine rights for the persons with disabilities

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—“Inclusive education programme has brought education access to the children with disabilities. Children, who have completed special education and basic primary education from respective schools for the disabled, are now pursuing education at basic education middle, high schools and universities concerned shoulder to shoulder to ordinary children. Since 2006, the schools for the blind have got access to e-mail and the internet and Myanmar sign language dictionary and Myanmar sign language basic spoken book have been published for the deaf. Myanmar blind language written patterns book is also in the process of compliment. Measures will be taken to publish more books for the disabled”, said Union Minister U Aung Kyi at the ceremony to honour the real rights for the disabled in connection with the promotion of the implementation of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities jointly held by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Asia-Pacific organizations at Sky Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone here this morning.

The Union Minister said the constitution prescribes that the State has to take care of the disabled. The ministry is undertaking rehabilitation and development works for the disabled in cooperation with NGOs and UN agencies, and international organizations, INGOs and wellwishers.



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi signing at ceremony to honour the real rights for the disabled related to promotion of implementation of UN Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities.—MNA

Survey on basic disability was made in 120 townships in 2008, which revealed that the disabled accounts for 2.32 per cent of the population. So, “national level work plan for the disabled (2010-2012)” is being implemented to develop socioeconomic status of the disabled helping them curb poverty, enjoy mobility and equality in the society.

As Myanmar is a member of Asia and Pacific Region as well as of ASEAN, it is implementing regional development plans for the disabled in cooperation with the regional countries.

The Union minister said the lives of disabled persons will enjoy betterment if six sectors such as education standards, vocational education and job opportunities, healthcare, community, capability and morale, and social requirements of disabled persons in Myanmar were improved.

He also said that “Rights of Disabled Persons Law” have been drafted and would be submitted to the Hluttaw to safeguard rights of disabled persons in Myanmar, to care them, to ensure that they enjoy fundamental human rights with no discrimination on the grounds of disabilities, and to improve their living standards by letting them participate in national development tasks.

He continued to say that Myanmar will more and more try to improve quality of life of the disabled persons in Myanmar as it is a member of United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. He, on behalf of the government and Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Ministry, also thanked regional organizations and local/foreign organizations which recognized Myanmar's transparent stride for disabled persons.

Ms Aiko Akiyama of

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) extended greetings and Executive Director of APCD Foundation Mr Akiie Ninomiya and Mr Toshishi of Nippon Foundation delivered a congratulatory speech.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein and dignitaries present at the ceremony signed the book of visitors.

Officials of APCD Foundation presented gifts to Union Minister U Aung Kyi and Programme Director U Nay Lin Soe of Myanmar Independent Living Initiative.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Transport Minister U Win Shein, departmental heads, officials of UNESCAP, Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability, Nippon Foundation, Myanmar-ILI and disability organizations and guests.—MNA

Union Commerce Minister meets responsible persons of Japan Kyodo News

Asiayon presented gifts and cash assistance to 25 doyen Thabin artistes.

Treasurer Shwemyaing

Win Kyi read the annual report of the Asiayon and financial statement. Later, the executive presented cash assistance to 79 workers.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—A Japanese delegation led by President & Chief Executive Officer, Mr Hisafumi Koga of Japan Kyodo News called on Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint at the latter's office on 25 June afternoon.

They cordially discussed promotion of bilateral trade and investment between the two countries and potential for cooperation of economic and seeking market for Myanmar exports in Japan.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Dr Pwint Hsan, the Director-General of Directorate of Trade, the Director-General of Border Trade Department, the Director-General of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading and officials concerned.—MNA

Flood warning

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—According to the (12:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Bhamo is (1094) cm and Katha is (963) cm. It may reach their respective danger levels of (1150) cm and (1040) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

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

Obama, Romney fight over health care reform

TOKYO, 27 June—US President Barack Obama has defended his healthcare legislation providing coverage to nearly all Americans ahead of a Supreme Court ruling on the law's constitutionality.

26 states are fighting to repeal the law, saying it is unconstitutional to require citizens to buy insurance. The ruling is scheduled for

Thursday.

Obama told a meeting in Georgia on Tuesday that it was the right thing to give health insurance to 30 million people who were otherwise uninsured. He said Americans need to go forward and understand they'd make no progress by going backwards. But presumptive Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney is stepping up



criticism of the law, which the Obama administration sees as its greatest accomplishment.

Romney says it is a symbol of the big government Obama wants to create.

He told supporters on Tuesday that even if the law is upheld by the Supreme Court, he will scrap it the day he becomes president.

NHK

UN wants Africa's Kony hunters fully equipped by year-end

UNITED NATIONS, 27 June—The United Nations wants an African Union force



A Ugandan soldier tracking down Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) fugitive leaders takes position behind a machine gun at a forest bordering Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo, near river Chinko on 18 April, 2012.

REUTERS

hunting fugitive warlord Joseph Kony and his Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) to be fully equipped by December, according to a UN strategy due to be presented to the world body's Security Council on Wednesday.

The AU force, which has US backing, aims to have a full strength of 5,000 troops from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic (CAR) and Uganda, but lacks equipment, training, food and transportation.

"These troops lack almost everything," AU special envoy on the LRA Francisco Madeira told a news conference at UN headquarters in New York on Tuesday.

"They lack boots, they

lack uniforms, they lack food rations and sometimes they lack training. So there is a need for these things to be supplied."

Abou Moussa, UN special envoy and head of the UN Regional Office for Central Africa, is slated to brief the 15-member UN Security Council on Wednesday on the UN regional strategy to address the threat and impact of the LRA.

The strategy, obtained by Reuters, requires UN countries and agencies to ensure the AU force is "adequately equipped, including with regard to air capabilities, communications, office and living accommodations, medical support, and fuel and rations, as soon as possible, and no later than

December 2012."

The Security Council is likely to release a statement endorsing the strategy on Wednesday, diplomats say.

Kony, accused of terrorising northern Uganda for 20 years, is wanted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes. His LRA is accused of abducting children to use as fighters and sex slaves, and of hacking off living victims' limbs as a method of intimidation and revenge.

In a report released this month UN chief Ban Ki-moon said the AU force lacked the necessary resources to "enable troops to mount effective operations against the LRA" and urged UN member states to provide what was needed.—Reuters

Japan's Crown Prince starts first official visit to Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 27 June—Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito arrived here on Wednesday morning for a 3-day official visit to boost bilateral ties.

At the Phnom Penh International Airport, the Crown Prince was warmly greeted by Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Royal Palace Kong Sam Ol and other senior government officials. During the stay, Naruhito will be received in royal audience by the King Norodom Sihamoni and meet with Prime Minister Hun Sen, according to a Press release from Cambodia's foreign ministry. The Crown Prince is also scheduled to visit Angkor Wat temples, a world heritage site, in Siem Reap Province, which is located about 315 km northwest of the capital city Phnom Penh.

Cambodia is his second leg of the 3-nation tour. His first stop was Thailand and he will leave Cambodia for Laos on Friday.—Xinhua

Landslides, floods kill 76 in southern Bangladesh



A street is seen submerged by flood water in Chittagong on 26 June, 2012.—REUTERS

DHAKA, 27 June—Landslides and floods caused by heavy monsoon rains killed at least 76 people in southern Bangladesh and rescuers were searching on Wednesday for more missing, officials said. Three days of rain had hit the region of small hills and forests, and huge chunks of earth and mud buried flimsy huts where families were sleeping late Tuesday and early Wednesday. Many homeless people live at the foot of the hills or close to them despite warnings from authorities.

Monsoon floods are common in Bangladesh, a delta nation of 160 million people. Many of the dead were women and children,

and the death toll is likely to rise as rescuers are searching for several missing people, officials said. Volunteers using loudspeakers had warned people about the danger of landslides during the recent rains, said Jaynul Bari, a government administrator in one of the stricken areas, Cox's Bazar district. The floods inundated dozens of villages and were disrupting communications in the region.

The bodies of 32 adults and children have been recovered in Bandarban district, said KM Tariqul Islam, the chief government administrator in the area that is 248 kilometers (155 miles)

southeast of the capital, Dhaka.

Another 34 people died, most of them in landslides, in neighbouring Cox's Bazar. Bari said 23 bodies were recovered from the debris of mostly mud-and-straw huts in the remote Ukha region and another 11 people drowned in floodwaters.

About 200 displaced people were ferried to school buildings on high ground, Bari said.

In Chittagong, another district in the region, the bodies of 10 people whose houses were buried in landslides have been recovered, fire official Jasim Uddin said.

Internet

Japan, S Korea to sign security agreement

TOKYO, 27 June—Japan and South Korea are set to sign a comprehensive security agreement that will allow them to exchange key defence intelligence.

Sources in the South Korean government say the Cabinet endorsed a plan to sign the bilateral security agreement on Tuesday. They say the 2 governments may conclude the deal as early as this week.

The deal would require the 2 countries to protect shared classified information and prevent leaks to 3rd parties. Japan and South Korea have been negotiating the pact along with another security cooperation agreement.

But the other agreement designed to allow Japanese Self-Defence and South Korean forces to work together to supply water, fuel and supplies during drills and other activities will not be signed this time.



The South Korean government is facing increasing calls to handle security agreements with Japan prudently, as issues including that of the so-called World War 2 "comfort women" are recently again under scrutiny.

The government says there is a need to deal with history and security issues separately. But it apparently wants to sign the intelligence agreement first as it faces less resistance and negotiate the logistics pact later.—NHK

Yemen and Oman hunt al-Qaeda infiltrators

SANNA, 27 June—Up to five al-Qaeda members escaped a Yemeni prison on Tuesday as Omani and Yemeni security forces hunted for several other militants fleeing a military offensive in southern Yemen who crossed into Oman, Yemeni security sources said.

The infiltration into Oman, which sits on one side of the Strait of Hormuz, a conduit for one third of the world's seaborne oil exports, fuelled fears that Islamist militants may try to set up a base in a region of strategic importance for the United States.

"A limited number of al-Qaeda elements managed to cross the border line to Oman in recent days," the Yemeni source told Reuters. "Both sides are coordinating at the level of the border guards and the intelligence service to pursue and capture them."

An Omani foreign ministry official, Badr bin Hamad al-Busaidi, told the newspaper "Oman" that his country was hunting infiltrators from Yemen, but he said no arrests had been made. The small oil and gas exporter is an ally of the United States and Britain.

Separately, in the northern Yemeni province of Hodeidah, at least 23 inmates, including a number of al-Qaeda operatives, fled prison,

a security official told Reuters.

"They dug a tunnel from their cell leading to a nearby graveyard," the official, who asked not to be named, said. Saba state news agency said five militants had fled the prison.

Saudi Arabia fought a militant insurgency from 2003 to 2006 in which al-Qaeda members killed dozens of people in attacks on foreign workers and on government facilities.

Many of the militants fled the Saudi crackdown and regrouped to set up a base in Yemen.

Ansar al Sharia, an offshoot of al-Qaeda, last year exploited political turmoil to capture several cities in southern Yemen, before being driven out by government forces this month who now appear to have the rebels on the run.

Yemeni officials have said some militants have fled towards a province bordering Oman. Last year, the sultanate was rocked by mass protests against corruption and unemployment, which appeared to have been inspired by the Arab Spring uprisings.

Those protests have now subsided, largely giving way to sporadic labour protests in the oil, health and education sectors.—Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology



A man carries a bag out of an Apple store in Santa Monica, California on 13 March, 2012. REUTERS

Mac users guided to pricier hotels on Orbitz - WSJ

NEW YORK, 27 June—Orbitz Worldwide Inc (OWW N) has found that people who use Apple Inc's (AAPLO) Mac computers spend as much as 30 percent more per night on hotels, so the online travel agency is starting to show them different, and sometimes costlier, travel options than Windows visitors see, the Wall Street Journal reported on Monday.

Orbitz executives said the online travel agency is experimenting with showing different hotel offers to Mac and PC visitors, but said the company isn't showing the same room to different users

at different prices, the Journal reported. They also pointed out that users can opt to rank results by price.

Mac users are 40 percent more likely to book a four or five-star hotel than PC users and when Mac and PC users book the same hotel, Mac users tend to stay in more expensive rooms, the Journal reported.

In addition to the Orbitz website, the company owns other travel sites, including CheapTickets, ebookers, HotelClub and RatesToGo.

Apple and Orbitz officials could not be reached for comment outside of regular business hours.—Reuters

Nature charity appeals to buy White Cliffs of Dover

LONDON, 27 June—Britain's leading conservation charity launched an appeal on Wednesday to buy a stretch of the White Cliffs of Dover, one of England's most recognisable natural landmarks. In its largest ever fundraising operation for a length of coastline, the National Trust needs to raise £1.2 million (\$1.9 million, 1.5 million euros) to buy a stretch of the cliffs less than one mile (1.6 kilometres) long and safeguard the future of the famous landscape.

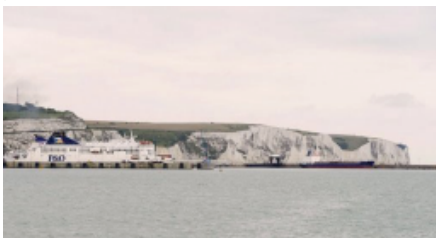
The charity wants to improve public access to the chalk cliffs on the southeast coast of England and boost the habitat for wildlife. The cliffs are often the first sight for visitors arriving in England by sea, and have a strong link to World War II as many of the British forces rescued from Dunkirk landed at the foot of the landmark.

They have featured in poetry and songs, most famously the World War II classic "(There'll be bluebirds over) the White Cliffs of Dover", sung by Vera Lynn. Fiona Reynolds, director general of the National Trust, said: "Immortalised in song and literature, the White Cliffs of Dover have become one of the great symbols of our nation."

"We now have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to secure their future for everyone to enjoy. "If we don't raise the money then the future of the White Cliffs is uncertain and this stretch of coastline might one day be disrupted by inappropriate management or development."

The purchase would fill in the missing link in a stretch of coast almost five miles (eight kilometres) long owned by the National Trust on behalf of the nation, from its visitor centre above Dover port to South Foreland lighthouse.

Hundreds of thousands of people visit the cliffs each year.—Internet



A ferry leaves the port of Dover August 2011. INTERNET

Electronic records tied to fewer malpractice claims

NEW YORK, 27 June—Doctors using electronic health records are less likely to get sued than their colleagues who use traditional paper records, a new Massachusetts study showed. The technology is being adopted by US medical practices to decrease errors and streamline patient care and is an element on which President Barack Obama's healthcare overhaul has focused. Some researchers have expressed concern that when using new, unfamiliar systems doctors could make more mistakes, such as writing notes and prescribing drugs in the wrong patient's record.

"While there's a general belief that they're helpful ... there's also been concern that these same systems can predispose to unrecognized types of (errors) and unsafe events," said Dr Steven Simon of the VA Boston Healthcare System. Simon and his colleagues found that using electronic health records (EHR) was tied to an 84 percent lower chance of getting sued. Their study was published on Monday in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

"If nothing else, these results should be reassuring to physicians and to practices that there's a very, very little chance that EHRs and EHR adoption would increase their chance of malpractice claims," Simon told Reuters Health.

One researcher not involved in the study cautioned that doctors may have to wait to see the longer-term effects of

electronic records on malpractice lawsuits, including whether the technology allows more medical decisions to be scrutinized in court. Simon estimated that about one-third of US practices are currently using electronic health records, which allow different doctors treating a single patient to access each other's notes and see what medications have been prescribed.

More advanced systems warn doctors if they are about to prescribe a drug that may interact with other medications a patient is taking.—Reuters



Devices used to take blood pressure, temperature, and examine eyes and ears rest on a wall inside of a doctor's office in New York on 22 March, 2010. —REUTERS

Subway work unearths ancient road in Greece

THESSALONIKI, 27 June—Archaeologists in Greece's second-largest city have uncovered a 70-meter (230-foot) section of an ancient road built by the Romans



Workers of Metro's construction company are seen at the ancient ruins in the northern Greek port city of Thessaloniki on 25 June, 2012. REUTERS

that was the city's main travel artery nearly 2,000 years ago.

The marble-paved road was unearthed during excavations for Thessaloniki's new subway

system, which is due to be completed in four years. The road in the northern port city will be raised to be put on permanent display paving stones were etched with children's board games, while others were marked by horse-drawn cart wheels.

Also discovered at the site were remains of tools and lamps, as well as the bases of marble columns.

Viki Tzanakouli, an archaeologist working on the project, told The Associated Press the Roman road was about 1,800 years old, while remains of an older road built by the ancient Greeks 500 years earlier were found underneath it.

"We have found roads on top of each other, revealing the city's history over the centuries," Tzanakouli said.

"The ancient road, and side roads perpendicular to it appear to closely follow modern roads in the city today."

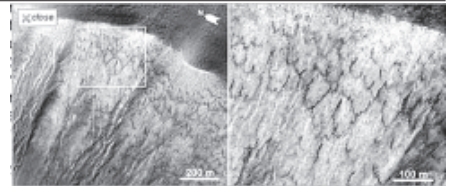
About 7 metres (23 feet) below ground in the centre of the city, the ancient road follows in roughly the same

Recent water action detected on Mars

GOTHENBURG, (Sweden), 27 June—Areas of Mars may have been shaped by liquid water in recent geologic times, suggesting more favorable conditions for life, European researchers say.

Scientists at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, along with colleagues from Germany, said their study shows large parts of the planet's Northern Hemisphere have undergone a number of freeze-thaw cycles, similar to what occurs on Earth.

"This process is



The surface of Mars displays a diverse landscape, and a new study shows large areas of the northern hemisphere have undergone a number of freeze-thaw cycles. INTERNET

common in our own arctic permafrost environments and causes the formation of lobate features on slopes," Andreas Johnsson of Gothenburg's Department of Earth Sciences said in a release on Monday.

Lobate features consist of piles of rock debris below cliffs, caused when melting ice saturates near-surface sediment, which then begins to move downward over still-frozen permafrost due to gravity.

"As the martian landscapes we're studying feature ground-ice, our interpretation is that liquid water has been available in the ground during thaw periods," Johnsson said.

"Consequently there must have been liquid water in large areas, which is interesting for our understanding of past climates."

Transient liquid water suggests more favorable environments for life on Mars, researchers said, since organisms can survive for long periods without water in cold environments on Earth but there must be access to water at certain times. Internet

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Health Tip: How to floss

Flossing every night before brushing your teeth helps protect the gums and remove debris.

The American Dental Association offers these guidelines on how to floss:

- * Using a piece of dental floss about 18 inches long, wrap each end around a finger on each hand and hold the floss between the thumbs and index fingers.
- * Gently rub the floss between teeth with a back-and-forth motion.
- * Curving the floss into a C-shape once it touches the gumline, gently slide it between the teeth.
- * With the floss held firmly against the side of the tooth, carefully slide it up and down away from the gum.
- * Do this for every tooth, taking care to floss the back side of each tooth.—*Internet*



Fruits including peaches stand on display at a supermarket in a 2012 file photo. Blueberry sales have increased by 500 percent in Georgia since 2003 while peach sales have remained flat.—INTERNET

Blueberries overtake peaches in Georgia

ATLANTA, 27 June— Georgia’s blueberry industry is steadily outpacing “The Peach State’s” famous peach industry, data from the University of Georgia indicates.

The data show the blueberry industry produced \$133 million in 2010—making Georgia the third biggest blueberry-producing state behind Michigan and Oregon — while the peach industry produced \$47 million, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reported. Blueberry sales have increased by 500 percent since 2003 while peach sales have remained flat.

More than 19,000 acres of land in Georgia are devoted to blueberry farming compared to 8,000 acres 10 years ago. Only 12,000 acres of land in Georgia are devoted to peach farming, compared to 16,000 acres a decade ago.

The rise of the blueberry industry and the fall of the peach industry has split Georgia residents over their true agricultural identity.

“Georgia law says the peach is what we’re known for, but it’s good to have some diversity when it comes to agricultural economy,” Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Gary Black said. “They are providing a good income and land utilization for a lot of our growers.”

“There’s nothing as sweet as a Georgia peach, not even a little old blueberry,” said Perry Swanson, president of the Peach County Chamber of Commerce. “Besides, would people say, ‘That girl’s as pretty as a Georgia blueberry?’”—*Internet*

An employee holds a gas pump at a gas station of Hyundai Oilbank in Seoul on 15 June, 2012.
REUTERS

Oil steady as US storm fears ease, eyes on Europe

roughly 20 percent of US oil production.

Oil companies had shut



NEW YORK, 27 June— Oil steadied on Monday as short-covering countered an easing of concerns that Tropical Storm Debby would batter US production platforms in the Gulf of Mexico and fading hopes that a European summit would produce a viable solution to the region’s debt crisis.

Prices traded lower for most of the US session as forecasts showed Debby, the first named storm of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season to threaten the Gulf, turning toward Florida and away from the region that is home to

down over 44 percent of oil production in the Gulf on Monday after earlier forecasts showed the storm heading into the region, but producers were already restoring workers to platforms and returning output as the threat waned.

Investors were also cautious due to worries that the European Union summit this week would do little to calm market anxiety about the euro zone debt crisis. As expectations of positive action from EU leaders have wilted, the euro fell to near two-week low against the dollar. “Oil continues to be weighed

down by negative sentiment for global growth ahead of a two-day summit of EU leaders on 28 June,” said Addison Armstrong, senior director of market research at Tradition Energy in Stamford, Connecticut.

Short-covering late in the day helped Brent crude settle up slightly, by 3 cents at \$91.01 a barrel, off earlier lows of \$89.60. U.S. crude fell 55 cents to settle at \$79.21 a barrel, after hitting an early high of \$80.68.

Trading volumes were light, with Brent down 20 percent from its 30-day average while US crude was down 30 percent, according to *Reuters* data. Brokers said concerns about the European crisis had pushed many players to the sidelines. US gasoline futures rose nearly 3 percent due to concerns about supplies in the New York Harbor, the delivery point for the contract.

Sovereign debt troubles as well as shaky banks in some euro zone nations, currently ample supply from the Organization of the Petroleum

Exporting Countries (OPEC) and slowing growth in the United States and China have pressured oil futures due to worries about demand.

As of last week, Brent and US crude have fallen more than 25 percent from their year’s high of \$128.40 and \$110.50 respectively achieved in March as investors have been pruning their positions in riskier assets such as oil.

Saudi Arabia Eyed

Saudi Arabia is showing no sign of changing its policy of high output in order to support global economic growth.

The top OPEC producer is largely responsible for the extra volumes that have taken OPEC in excess of its official output ceiling of 30 million barrels per day.

OPEC ministers this month said they would adhere to the collective limit, implying a 1.6 million bpd cut from actual supply from 12 members. To achieve that, Saudi Arabia has to reduce production sharply and prospects of that appear slim.—*Reuters*

Global stocks, euro slide on European summit doubts

MADRID, 27 June—Global stock indexes and the euro sank on Monday on doubts that a European summit this week would move any closer to solving the region’s festering debt crisis, a pessimistic outlook that sparked a bid for safe-haven assets.

The euro fell broadly on investor skepticism that the meeting of European Union leaders on Thursday and Friday will produce substantive measures to tackle the debt crisis, now in its third year and buffeting Spain, the euro zone’s fourth-largest economy.

Spanish and Italian bond yields rose in a sign of investor skittishness, while the dollar and US government debt prices gained as investors sought safety.

Decliners beat advancers by a ratio of about 3 to 1 on both the New York Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq in light trade.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 138.12 points, or 1.09 percent, to close at 12,502.66. The Standard & Poor’s 500 Index fell 21.30 points, or 1.60 percent, to finish at 1,313.72. The Nasdaq Composite Index slid 56.26 points, or 1.95 percent, to end at 2,836.16.

The CBOE volatility index, Wall Street’s so-called fear index, shot up 12.5 percent to 20.38, and debt prices surged. European equity markets also fell.

The FTSEurofirst 300 index dropped 1.6 percent to close



Traders look at electronic boards at the Madrid stock exchange on 22 June, 2012.—REUTERS

at 986.41 points, its biggest daily decline in more than three weeks as stocks retreated for a third successive session.

The MSCI all-country world equity index slipped 1.4 percent, while its emerging market index also fell 1.4 percent.

The price of the benchmark 10-year US Treasury note rose 22/32 to yield 1.61 percent. The 30-year US Treasury bond shot up 27/32 to yield 2.68 percent.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel dashed any lingering hope in financial markets that Europe would issue common euro-zone bonds to underpin its single currency after Spain formally became the fourth country to request a financial rescue.—*Internet*

Sleep can sharpen your memory

NEW YORK, 27 June— External stimulation during sleep can help strengthen memory, which, in turn, can help you learn, a new study reports.

Researchers from Northwestern University noted that such stimulation could reinforce what people have already learned, but doesn’t help them gain new skills.

“The critical difference is that our research shows that memory is strengthened for something you’ve already learned,” the study’s co-author, Paul Reber, associate professor of psychology at Northwestern, said in a university news release. “Rather than learning something new in your sleep, we’re talking about enhancing an existing memory by reactivating information recently acquired.”

In conducting the study, researchers taught participants how to play two musical tunes by pressing certain keys at certain times. After they learned how to play the artificially generated tunes, the participants took a 90-minute nap. While they slept, only one of the songs was played. The soft musical cues, the researchers noted, were played during slow-wave sleep, a stage of sleep that is linked to storing memories.

As the participants napped, the researchers recorded their electrical brain activity using electroencephalography. After they woke up, the participants

made fewer mistakes when playing the tune that was played while they were sleeping than the one that was not played.

“Our results extend prior research by showing that external stimulation during sleep can influence a complex skill,” the study’s senior author, Ken Paller, professor of psychology in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern, said in the news release.

“We also found that electrophysiological signals during sleep correlated with the extent to which memory improved,” added lead author James Antony, of the Interdepartmental Neuroscience Programme at Northwestern. “These signals may thus be measuring the brain events that produce memory improvement during sleep.”

The researchers said they are investigating how their findings could possibly be applied to other types of learning, such as studying a foreign language. They noted their research could also lead to more studies on sleep-based memory-processing involving other types of skills, habits and behaviors. The study was published on 24 June in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*.

Internet



Plan under way to upgrade Yangon-Mandalay Expressway

YANGON, 27 June—The Ministry of Construction has held the coordination meeting to upgrade Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

A plan is under way to place asphalt concrete along the expressway and safety guard rails along it.

Moreover, multi-purpose aids will be facilitated at the expressway.

The present expressway is a concrete type. With the aim of ensuring smooth and secure transport, upgrading tasks will be undertaken on it.

To allow the placing of asphalt concrete, installation of safety guard rails and aids for roads and bridges, the Ministry of Construction held a coordination meeting with U Tha Aye of Niles Co Ltd and officials of Nation First Financial Inc (USA).

As traffic accident occurred for several times on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway, police stations and other emergency aids are to provide assistance for the any problems of travellers. Within over one years in using Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway, over 100 traffic accidents have occurred.

Due to weakness in traffic facilities, the coordination meeting was held to provide better facilities to the traffic users and undertake housing estates along the expressway.

Kyemon



TREES GROWN: Staff Officer U Nay Myo Aung of Yedashe Township Forest Department and officials cultivated over 1000 saplings in the compound of Basic Education High School in Thagara on 23 June.

KYEMON

School uniforms provided to needy students in Twantay

TWANTAY, 27 June—The presentation of school uniforms to offspring of vendors was held at the hall of Twantay Township Development Affairs Committee on 13 June.

Chairman of the microfinance service committee Executive Officer U Nay Win of Township Development Affairs Committee presented 117 school uniforms to offspring of 76 vendors.

Myanma Alin

MEDICINES AND NUTRITION GIVEN: A ceremony to provide public-based door-to-door health care services was held at the clinic of Hline Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association of Yangon West District recently. Chairman of Yangon Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Thauung Mya and officials give medicines and nutrition to local people.—MYANMA ALIN



Inter-Subject Men's Football Tournament held at Yadanabon University

MANDALAY, 27 June—A ceremony to open the Inter-Subject Men's Football Tournament for 2011-2012 academic year of Yadanabon University was held at the football ground of the university at 4 pm on 24 June.

Rector in-charge Dr Khin Maung Oo of the university made a speech and formally opened the tournament.

Altogether 16 football teams are taking part in the contest. In the debut, defending champion Chemistry team beat English team 2-0 in the Group A. The competition runs up to 4 June. The Higher Education Department Upper Myanmar Director-General's Shield Inter-University/College Men's Football Tournament

will be held after the present tournament.

Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)



WINNERS AWARDED: The cash donation to education fund and the prize presentation for winning students in the essay contest (middle/high) was held at office of Tamway Township Cooperative Syndicate on 13 June. Secretary of Yangon Region Cooperative Union U Tin Myint speaks on the occasion.—MYANMA ALIN

Talks to mark Drug Abuse Control held

YANGON, 27 June—Under the leadership of Yangon Region Drug Control Committee of Social Welfare Department, a talk to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was given at Yankin Education College recently.

Next, the prize presentation for essay, painting, poster and article contests was held at the same venue.

Deputy Director U Tin Zaw Moe of Yangon Region Social Welfare Department



made a speech.

Police Captain Tha Htay, on behalf of Yangon East District Police Force, U Mya Aye (Physics), U Hla Moe Aung of Social Welfare Department and Supervisory Police Captain Zaw Min Oo of Yangon

(East) Anti-Drug Special Squad gave talks on eradication of narcotic drugs.

Officials presented prizes to 19 winners from Education College in the essay, painting and article contests.—SWD

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held

DANUBYU, 27 June—In hailing Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July, Danubyu Township Forest Department and Township Women's Affairs

Organization jointly held the rainy season tree growing ceremony 2012 at ring embankment in Ward 17 of Danubyu Township on 16 June morning.

Chairperson of Township WAO Daw Khin Aye Swe and party totaling over 100 planted 500 saplings.—Kyemon

Wards in Mawlu region get full-time electricity

MAWLU, 26 June—Electricity was supplied in rotation to wards in groups in Mawlu region of Indaw Township in Sagaing Region up to 18 June.

As of 9 am on 19 June, electricity could be supplied to all the urban wards round the clock.

Kyemon

Geoenvironment Certificate Course on 29 June

YANGON, 27 June—Under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Geoenvironment Committee of Myanmar Geosciences Association will conduct the Geoenvironment Certificate Course No 8 on 29 June.

Local scholars will give lectures to the trainees.

Graduates of B.Sc. (Geology), B.Sc. Engg. (Gem & Gem Mining), and B.Tech/B.E. (Civil or Mining) may attend the course.

Those wishing to attend the course may register at Office of the association at Room 303, MES Building, Hline University Campus, Tel: 517673-76, Ext: 501, Tel: 09-4318217 and Tel: 09-5162169.—Kyemon



Traffic rules enforcement meeting held in Patheingyi

PATHEINGYI, 27 June—Ayeyawady Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee held the coordination meeting No 2/2012 at the hall of the Patheingyi District Superintendent Engineer in Patheingyi on 21 June.

Chairman of Ayeyawady Region Supervisory Committee Region Minister for Transport U Than Tun made a speech.

The chairman of Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee Commander of Ayeyawady Region Police Force explained runs of illegal tuk-tuks/trawlergi, Head of the Region Judicial Department U Htay Win punishment and Joint Secretary Police Captain Zaw Win (in-charge of the traffic police force) occurrence of 366 traffic accidents from January to May, 628 injured and 88 deaths in 366 traffic accident cases, and plans to hold traffic rules.

Myanma Alin



DISTRICT NEWS

STIPENDS PROVIDED: Township Administrator U Khin Maung Htwe of South Okkalapa Township General Administration Department presented K 200,000 to 18 offspring of staff from the Township GAD for 2012-2013 academic year on 11 June.—TOWNSHIP GAD



Progress of rural development and poverty alleviation in Thanlyin Tsp monitored

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik met with 715 odd-job workers who are running different kinds of micro-socioeconomic businesses with loans from microcredit union of their own, at Maha Atula Saddhamaramsi Sasana Beikman of Thanlyin Township, Yangon District (South) on 23 June.

At the meeting, ward administrators reported on amount of money loaned in their respective wards, the Thanlyin Township administrator on progress of microcredit unions in the township, and Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe

on progress of microcredit unions in the region.

The Union Minister called for adherence to rules and regulations with mutual trust and understanding in efforts for development of microcredit unions. The Union Minister then went to Tin Refinery (Thanlyin) where he stressed the need for worksite safety and recruitment of skilled workers, calling for partnership with local and foreign countries. The Union Minister then visited oral rehydration salts workshop under Myanmar Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise in Thakayta Township.—MNA

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held at Cooperatives Ministry

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Ministry of Cooperatives held the 2012 rainy season tree growing ceremony, here, on 24 June afternoon, attended by Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint.

The Union Minister and departmental heads presented saplings to departmental officials. The Union Minister planted a

Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) plant. Departmental officials also grew saplings at the designated places.

The Union Minister and party viewed round cultivation of saplings by departmental personnel.

The Ministry of Cooperatives planted 600 saplings at today's ceremony.

MNA

Laotian delegation pays a visit to Bago



Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith and party visit Myan Star Garment Factory in Otha Myothit of Bago.
MNA

YANGON, 26 June—Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Dr Thongloun Sisoulith and party met Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and the region ministers at state government office this morning and discussed bilateral

economic cooperation of the two countries.

Next, the delegation accompanied by the region chief minister and officials visited Myan Star Garment Factory in Otha Myothit of Bago, Shwethahlyaug reclining Buddha Image, Kanbawzathadi Palace and Shwemawdaw Pagoda.—MNA

YCDC holds coord meeting

YANGON, 27 June—Yangon City Development Committee members, heads of departments and district and township Development Affairs Committees held the coordination meeting at City Hall, here, today.

YCDC Chairman Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint gave instructions on works.

Officials submitted respective reports. Later, the mayor attended to the needs.—MNA

Slight earthquake jolts

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—The Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced that a slight earthquake of magnitude (3.1) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 20) miles northwest of Tachilek) about (246) miles southeast of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (12) hrs (18) min (00) sec MST today.—MNA

Medical equipment donated to 1000-bed Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Professor Mr Yuichi Kasai of Department of the Surgery and Medical Engineering of Mie University of Japan donated hospital equipment to Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed) this noon.

The donor handed over the medical equipment to Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Phyu Phyu. The surgical equipment is worth US\$ 70,000.

The donor explained purpose of donation and the medical superintendent spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Union Transport Minister holds discussion with Beijing Construction & Engineering delegation



Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung receives Deputy General Manager of China-based Beijing Construction & Engineering Group.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received a delegation led by the Deputy General Manager of China-based Beijing Construction & Engineering Group at his office this morning.

Both sides had a cordial discussion on condition of construction new Hanthawady International Airport of Bago, condition of construction tasks in Dawei, Kyaukpyu and Thilawa ports and special economic zones

and widening negotiation in related departments in the matters of investment opportunities.

BCEG International Co., a state-owned construction and engineering company, is constructing highways, airports and urban construction works in Asia, Europe, Middle East and America. The company arrived in Myanmar for the first time to carry out construction, design and engineering works for airports and sea ports.—MNA

EP-1 Ministry cultivates 1530 saplings

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—The Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 held the monsoon tree growing ceremony 2012 at Construction-1 of Hydropower Implementation Department in Paunglaung region, here, this morning, attended by Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min who grew Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) plant.

Deputy Minister U Myint Zaw and departmental heads also planted saplings. The Union Minister viewed round cultivation of saplings by staff.

Today's ceremony witnessed the growing of 1530 saplings. So far, a total of 32775 trees are thriving around the ministry and Paunglaung region.—MNA

Dy Minister receives Vietnamese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 June—Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint received Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Chu Cong Phung at 11 am today and Chief Scientific Expert Mr Jamie Bowden of Radox Laboration Limited and party at noon at the ministry.

At the meeting with the ambassador, they discussed cooperation in healthcare services between the two countries, sharing and cooperation of technology in food and drug administration, opportunities of

pharmaceutical factories from Vietnam to invest in Myanmar.

At meeting with Radox Laboration Limited, they discussed upgrading of Laboratory work, supply of modern pathologic devices and training for research work.

Also present at the meetings were Director-General Dr Than Zaw Myint of Medical Science Department and departmental officials.

MNA

Professor Mr Yuichi Kasai of Mie University of Japan donates hospital equipment to Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed).
MNA



Union Foreign Affairs Minister receives Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs



Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin holds discussion with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith and party of LPDR.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Wunna Maung Lwin received Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister

of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and delegation at his office here this morning. They cordially discussed promotion of bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest. In the evening, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin hosted a dinner in honour of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and party at Myat Taw Win Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Kachin State Chief Minister, Commander view health care services for displaced persons

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Zeyar Aung, Speaker of Kachin State Hluttaw U Rawam Jone met the displaced families at the Baptist Church in Sitapu Ward of Myitkyina on 25 June morning and presented K1 million as cash assistance to them.

They viewed medical treatment provided by the Head of Health Department,

specialists, the commandant of No 1 Military Hospital (300-bed), the head of Kachin State Traditional Medicine Department and health staff to the displaced persons at the relief camp.

At Wuntho monastery, they consoled the displaced persons and gave cash assistance to them. At the camp, the specialists provided health care services to the displaced persons.—MNA



Union Hotels and Tourism Minister U Tint Hsan receives Project Director Ms Alex Morris and Regional Director Raquel Picomell.—MNA

Japan to assist in development of stock market, economic performance of Myanmar



NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Executive Director Mr Ryota Sugishita of Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd and party paid a call on Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein at his office here yesterday morning to discuss its assistance for development of stock market in Myanmar.

Likewise, Second Secretary Mr Tatsuya Nishiuma of the Embassy of Japan called on

the governor this morning to discuss the Japan's assistance for financial sector development of Myanmar.

The governor received Managing Director Mr Park Jeong of Myanmar Daewoo Limited at noon and held a discussion with the latter assistance programmes for economic performance of Myanmar.

Present at the calls were branch heads of the bank.—MNA



President U Thein Sein and party, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith and party pose for documentary photo.(News on page 1)—MNA

Union Hotels and Tourism Minister receives guests

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan received Project Director Ms Alex Morris and Regional Director Raquel Picomell of Foreign Affairs and Country Strategic, a media partner of Foreign

Affairs, at the ministry this morning.

The guests discussed that Foreign Affairs and Country Strategic, a media partner of Foreign Affairs, would publish "Myanmar: A New Strategic Partnership". It would help Myanmar's

tourism industry develop. The publication would be distributed in United Nations General Assembly to be held in September, 2012. It features energy and aviation sectors of Myanmar including Dawei Deep-Sea Port Special Economic Zone. They predicted more foreign investments in Myanmar and influx of tourists following reforms.

The Union minister said the ministry is trying to ensure smooth entrance, comprehensive services, sustainable development of tourism sites, and smooth transportation and is targeting to attract the increased number of tourists not only from ASEAN fellows but from other countries. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Htay Aung, the manager, the deputy director-general (head of office) and departmental officials.—MNA

Cash and Kind donated to local people in Rakhine State

YANGON, 27 June—Cash and kind were donated to local people in Rakhine State who lost their property and possessions in recent unrest in the state for their survival at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township here this morning.

At today's ceremony, U Kyi Thein+Daw Thein Their family donated K 11,000; U Aung Sein, one bale of cloth; U Chit Soe+Daw Tin Kyi family, 12 boxes of Mamee instant noodle and one bale of cloth; U Aung Ye Thway+Dr Sandi Aung Htet, K 0.2 million and four handbags; U Thauung Myint+Daw Khin Ma Lay, one bale of cloth; U Saw Htay Win+Daw Mu Mu Shwe family, K 0.1 million and three



bales of cloth; U Aung Myint Oo, K 111,000; U Gosita (Ananda Gonyi Monastery), 10 rice bags; Dr Ei Thanda Hlaing, one bale of cloth, one bale of blanket; U Aung Than+Daw Khin Khin Lay family, two bales of cloth; Ven Nandiya (Myodaw Monastery Sayadaw), K 30,000 and 11 set of robes,

five umbrellas and three slippers. The Deputy Director-General of Fire Services Department and officials accepted donations.

He then returned certificates of honour and spoke words of thanks. The donations to date amounted to K 172,235,576.

MNA

Freedom must be practised...

(from page 16)

in order that the very essence of democracy can be practiced correctly. In addition, it must inform and educate the people, the fifth pillar of the State. To accomplish these duties, the Fourth Estate must be proficient and genuine. The Union Minister then reiterated the five norms for his own view of genuine Fourth Estate.

The Section (354) (a) states that every citizen shall be at liberty in expressing and publishing freely their convictions and opinions if not contrary to the laws, enacted for Union security, prevalence of law and order, community peace and tranquility or public order and morality. In other words, journalists already have the freedom of expression. But, they have to observe journalistic code of ethics, and existing laws and rules to the letter in practicing expression freedom. Freedom must be practiced with observance of code of ethics, rationality and awareness.

society. In addition, the Article 20 of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.

maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary. It is assumed that journalists must well understand those facts.

The Union minister went on to say that Print Media Law (Draft) has been submitted to the Union government after final



Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win makes concluding remarks on paper reading session.—MNA

Article 10 of European Convention on Human Rights states the exercise of freedom of expression, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed

coordination with the Attorney-General's Office. It would be available for discussion at fourth regular session of Hluttaws which start next month if the Union government approves it, he said. He reiterated that the law (draft) is not inferior to international standards and those of ASEAN legislations and not to curtail freedoms of literary world and journalists and press freedom but to shape dignified and genuine fourth estate.

While plans are underway to enact Print Media Law, there are incremental changes in the censorship policies as well, he said. To form core press council ahead of the enactment of Print Media Law, advices from respective organizations were sought, he said.

He informed those present of the shift of Myanmar Radio and Television under the ministry towards Public Service Broadcasting.

He explained that the nature of Public Service Broadcasting is:-

- to cover its broadcasts all over the country,
 - to cover news and features about regions in each and every corner of the country,
 - to act with no bias, logically and adhering to journalism ethics, and
 - to air information necessary for such vulnerable population as ethnic minority, women and children.
- In reforming MRTV into



President U Thein Sein receives Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict of the UNSG Ms Coomaraswamy at Presidential Palace.(News on page 1)—MNA

Public Service Broadcasting step by step, the ministry will stick to the abovementioned natures and the three objectives discussed before, he said.

The News and

morale and discipline as the state, accurate and non-biased media serving the interests of the State and the people, he said. As a State media, it is making sweeping reforms to feature interesting

There may be non-biased media and there may also be the news media producing stories for profits and with party attachment, dogmatism and personality cult, he pointed out.



U Myat Thu (Tekkatho Myat Thu) reading paper.—MNA



U Ye Tint (Chief Editor-Retd) of the Mirror Daily reads out paper.—MNA

Periodicals Enterprise and newspaper industry, as a State media, is publishing three newspapers which are featuring the policies of the government, development tasks, notifications of the State and the departments for factual and complete public knowledge, he said.

On the other hand, they are trying to inform the public, to provide them with opinion, knowledge and insight, and to maintain

editorials, articles, poems, international news, district news, crime news, and literature, film and sports news in addition to State news and addresses, new releases, State-level occasions, news of foreign guests, and activities in national interest, he said.

When the new media laws are passed, new private newspapers and various forms of media will emerge, he said.

Newspapers and media have now fallen under corporations and media moguls in the international media field, he said.

As they put the economic profits at the fore, there are breaches of ethics. The scandal of News of the World of UK escalated into the probes of the parliament and the government.

Thus, even the western democracies have to enact (See page 10)



U Tha Sein asks questions.—MNA



U Aye Than makes questions.—MNA



U Than Oo making questions.—MNA



U Tin Htwe asking questions.—MNA

Likewise, Article 29 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights must be observed. It is prescribed in the article that in the exercise of his rights and freedom, everyone should respect the rights and freedom of others and meet the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic

by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for



The paper reading session on form and content reform of state-owned newspapers in progress.—MNA

Freedom must be practised...

(From page 9)

legislations preventing against media monopolization, encourage formation of independent press councils and establish Public Service Broadcasting.

As the broadcasting of TV and radio was under the government since regaining Independence, the government took responsibility of printing the newspapers later 1962. Despite the need of more transparency in media sector in democratic transition, the role of State media is still needed to avert said extremisms and provide the people with necessary information. Though, the outlook and essence of the State media must be reformed. Although the government continuously manages finance and handles administration, it must be reformed to have the outlook and essence of Public Service Media in reporting news and airing programmes.

Today's paper-reading session could boost opinion, knowledge and insight of staff of the Ministry of Information

and could improve cooperation of contact persons and media teams of each Union ministry in the future through thorough understanding of the nature of news writing and reporting. He concluded his speech with the call for improving the role of the State-owned newspapers and seeking ways, ideas and knowledge to shift from State media to Public Service Media step by step.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Ministers and resource persons posed for documentary photo.

Director-General U Ye Htut of Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information presided over the paper-reading session.

In the first session, Chief Editor of Kyemon Daily U Khin Maung Kyaw Din read out the paper on "Measures Taken by State-owned Newspapers to Reform Form and Content"; U Myat Thu (Tekkatho Myat Thu), "Newspaper Reform and Historical Outlook"; Retd Chief Editor of Kyemon Daily U Ye Tint (Ye Tint), "Newspaper and International News". The session then adjourned.

In the second session, Retd Chief Editor of Myanma Alin Daily U Ye Myint Pe (Maung Pe Hlaing) read out the paper on "From Conventional State-owned Newspapers to Dynamic Ones" and Deputy Director U Myo Myint Thau of NPE, on behalf of resource person Lecturer on Journalism U Ye Naing Moe, "Shift to Stronger News Reporting and Collections". In the third session, U Maung Maung Oo (Hein Lat) read out the paper on "Comparison of News Reporting by International Newspapers and Local Newspapers".

The resource persons replied to queries raised by those present.

Deputy Information Minister U Soe Win made concluding remarks, calling for more cooperation with Information Ministry to cover interesting news that the people should know in real-time. The paper-reading session concluded in the evening.

At today's session, six resource persons read out six papers and those present raised queries and made discussions.

MNA

Citizenship cards issued to local citizens

YANGON, 27 June—A ceremony to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to local people was held at the administrative office of Kyaukmyaung Ward of Tamway Township in Yangon East District on 20 June.

At the ceremony, Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw

San San Nwe and Head of Region Immigration and National Registration Department U Ye Tun Oo handed over the cards to Township Administrator U Thein Win and a townselder.

Myanma Alin

Computer donated to BEMS in Yamethin

YAMETHIN, 27 June—A ceremony to donate computer to Basic Education Middle School by local station was held in Bwet Village of Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region on 19 June morning.

Headmistress Daw Mar Mar Aye made a speech. Col Myint Soe of local station explained the purpose of donations and handed over the computer to the headmistress. Next, the headmistress provided bags, exercise books and stationery to needy students.—Myanma Alin

Shan pine apple on sales at good price



LASHIO, 27 June—Pine apples started to flow to the market from Hsipaw, Kontha,

Mongyin, Mongyai and Nampaung regions of Shan State (North) recently. Due to early days of sales, the pine apple growers get good prices, said Nan Mya Sein, a pine apple grower.

Pine apples are produced from these regions. At present, pine apple farmers sell each fruit of pine apple per K 1000 and a smaller K 900. Pine apples from Shan State have no eyes and they are ready to be eaten by just peeling the cover. The fruits are sweet, said Nan Ngwe Phaung who sells pine apple shop on Mandalay-Lashio Highway.—Ma Ma (Lashio)

Books, equipment donated to village library

YANGON, 27 June—A ceremony to donate books and equipment to Bawa Arhsay Library was held at the library in Letpantansu Village of Hmawby Township in Yangon Region on 20 June.

Daw Hla Hla Htwe of Hmawby Township Information and Public Relations Department talked about development of the library meeting five-point standard and durability.

On behalf of the wellwisher from Yangon, U Sein Lwin presented 1200 books, Captain Thein Htaik

Kyaw of local battalion, SIP Win Kyaw books and journals and U Win Tun Naing-Daw Nanda Soe, radio and tower clock.

Chairman of the library

committee U Saw Kawab Say accepted the donations.

Township IPRD

DISTRICT NEWS

DUTIES ASSIGNED: A ceremony to assign duties of projects for 2012-2013 fiscal year was held at the meeting hall of Yangon North District General Administration Department in Insein Township on 22 June. Deputy Commissioner U Nay Lwin of District GAD assigns duty to Head of District Agricultural Department U Myint Lwin.—DISTRICT GAD



Microfinance institutions undertaken in Pazundaung Township

YANGON, 27 June—Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe inspected functions of microfinance industry in Pazundaung Township for undertaking poverty alleviation at the administrative office in Pazundaung Township of Yangon Region on 20 June.

Chairman of Township Microfinance Association U Win Myint and officials reported on their respective sectors Pazundaung Township Microfinance institution was established with K 300 million capital by Union Minister U Thein Htaik.

At present, the institution is being run at K 450 million with shares and interests of the wellwishers and entrepreneurs. The institution disburses loans with soft interest to the customers.

Ohmma Thant-MNA

Palethwe hybrid paddy harvested on model plot

TATKON, 27 June—A ceremony to harvest Palethwe hybrid paddy was held on 1.75 acres of farmland of farmer U Maung Win in Shadaw Village-tract in Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 13 June morning.

It was attended by Head of Township Agriculture Department U Chit Swe Oo

and staff, Deputy Head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department U Myint Thein, station in-charge U Kyaw Lwin and staff, the village administrator and farmers.

The model plot produced 192.15 baskets of paddy per acre.

Township Agriculture

Palethwe hybrid paddy nurtured in Putao Township

PUTAO, 27 June—The nurturing of Palethwe hybrid paddy saplings through good agriculture pattern was held at field No. 41 in Taungkahtaung Ward of Putao Township in Putao District of Kachin State on 23 June morning.

It was attended by Deputy Commissioner U Hlaing Tun of District General Administration Department, Township Administrator U Soe Myint Thein, district and township agricultural development committee, township level departmental officials and local farmers.

At the ceremony, Head of Township Agriculture Department U Kyaw Soe

Aung explained process of nurturing system. Head of District Agriculture Department U Sein Myint gave a supplementary clarification. Later, staff of the department demonstrated the nurturing of saplings. Later, local farmers participated in the nurturing works.

Agriculture

CSC ISSUED: Issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards was held by Township Immigration and National Registration Department at Basic Education High School No. 3 in Hline Township on 19 June. Head of Yangon Region INRD U Ye Tun Oo, Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Min Lwin and Head of Yangon West District INRD U Yin Htwe supervise issuance of the cards to local people.—MYANMA ALIN



CITIZENSHIP CARDS ISSUED: Under supervision of Labutta District Immigration and National Registration Department Deputy Director U Nay Lin, staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to local people at administrative office of Ward 1 in Labutta. TOWNSHIP IMMIGRATION



Tropical Storm Debby rains misery on flooded Florida

TALLAHASSEE, (Florida), 27 June—Tropical Storm Debby weakened to a tropical depression after it drifted ashore on Florida's Gulf Coast on Tuesday, even as it dumped more rain on flooded areas and send thousands of people fleeing from rising rivers.

After stalling in the Gulf for two days, the large and ragged storm finally began moving eastward. The centre crossed the shore late Tuesday afternoon near Steinhatchee, in the Big Bend area where the Panhandle joins the peninsula. Most of the thunderstorms and rain were northeast of the storm centre and had already dumped 2 feet (61 cm) of rain over parts of Florida.

Forecasters at the National Hurricane Center said Debby could bring

another 4 to 8 inches (10 to 20 cm) of rain—and possibly tornadoes—to north Florida and southeast Georgia in the next two days.

Debby's top winds weakened to 35 miles per hour (55 km per hour) on Tuesday evening, just below the threshold to remain a tropical storm.

It could weaken further, as its centre slogged across the northern Florida peninsula, a trek expected to take about 24 hours, but could strengthen again into a tropical storm as it crosses into the Atlantic Ocean, the forecasters said.

Though Debby was still a threat, the hurricane centre said a tropical storm warning for the Gulf Coast of Florida had been discontinued. No coastal watches or warnings remained in effect.

Emergency managers in



With the rain falling around them, business owners use a small boat to check on the status of the water inside their store as floodwater associated with Tropical Storm Debby rises in New Port Richey, Florida, on 26 June, 2012.—REUTERS

Pasco County on Florida's central Gulf Coast ordered a mandatory evacuation for 14,000 to 20,000 people living between the Anclote and Pithlachascotee Rivers. The Anclote rose from 9 feet (2.7 metres) before Debby's approach to more than 27 feet (8.2 metres), well above major flood level, said Pasco County spokesman Eric Keaton. Water was ankle-

deep to head-high in the evacuation area. Emergency crews had to use boats to reach stranded residents in some areas, and 106 Pasco County homes had been damaged.

"The city has always been prepared for a water event, but I think Mother Nature woke us up as to how fast she can operate," Keaton said.—Reuters

Mystery ahoof as US cattle dying after eating grass

DALLAS, (Texas), 27 June—A mystery is ahoof in Texas farm country where cattle have dropped dead while grazing, puzzling scientists who say it appears an unusual combination of circumstances have turned pastures toxic.

Texas animal scientists said a type of grass known as "Tifton 85" bermuda grass is to blame for the poisoning of 15 head of cattle on an 80-acre ranch east of Austin. The animals went into convulsions and were dead within hours of being released into the pasture to graze. Only three cattle in that small herd survived.

"It's a bermuda grass that

is the same as cyanide poisoning, the same as they used in the gas chambers in Germany."

Warner said drought conditions likely helped predispose the field to this event. The grass in question was heavily fertilized with nitrogen but was not balanced with other needed compounds, which could have contributed to the development of the toxic grass, he said.

Because the Tifton 85 is planted broadly across Texas, agricultural officials around the state are scrambling to investigate the causes and what can be done to avoid more deaths. Other fields have reportedly tested positive for



A deputy sheriff tries to round up cattle in Port O'Connor, Texas, on 15 July, 2003.—Reuters

nobody every thought of as potentially having this problem," said Gary Warner, a cattle veterinarian in Elgin, Texas, who autopsied the animals.

"We don't know probably all we need to know currently. We do know the cattle died from prussic acid poisoning and we know the grass tested positive for prussic acid," said Warner. "It

is the poison, but no other cattle have died. Larry Redmon, a state forage specialist with Texas A&M University, said in a blog posting that the situation was considered unprecedented. The hybrid Tifton 85 bermuda grass was introduced by government plant breeders in 1992 and no problems like this have been reported before, scientists said.—Reuters

Venezuelan tribe angry at "sacred" stone in Berlin



Venezuelan passer-by Miguel Eduardo Villegas looks at a stone from his native country that is part of the Global Stone installation in the Tiergarten park in Berlin, on 26 June, 2012.—REUTERS

BERLIN, 27 June—Wolfgang von Schwarzenfeld's sculptures in a Berlin park were meant to promote world peace, but the 79-year-old German now finds himself at war with a Venezuelan tribe which accuses him of stealing a sacred pink stone known to them as "Grandmother".

The Venezuelan government is championing

the Pemon Indians of the "Gran Sabana" region by demanding the return of the polished stone from Berlin's Tiergarten park - putting the German government in something of a dilemma.

With Caracas calling it robbery, and the sculptor arguing that the stone was a legal gift, the monolith is emitting more negative energy than its esoteric fans

in Berlin are used to.

Blissfully unaware of the diplomatic tug-of-war, Robert, a Berlin gardener, got off his bicycle to light joss sticks among the stones from five continents that form the "Global Stone Project", awaiting friends for an afternoon shamanic ritual.

But newly arrived Venezuelan tourists Grecia Melendez and Juan Carlos Brozoski knew all about the war of the stone and suspected there were political motives behind the protests.

"(President Hugo) Chavez always wants a conflict with someone," said 32-year-old Melendez, taking photos of the 12 cubic metre stone, which is engraved with the word "love" in different languages—and graffiti with couples' names and hearts.

Von Schwarzenfeld, a frail figure with wispy white hair and scuffed brown shoes,

waved a sheaf of documents authorising the removal of the stone from the Canaima National Park in 1998.

As with all the stones arranged in a circle in Berlin, a "sister" stone remained behind. Every summer solstice, their burnished surfaces reflect the sun "as a symbol of a united mankind, hopefully one day in peace", he said.

The project was inaugurated in 1999 near Berlin's landmark Potsdamer Platz and Brandenburg Gate. As children played among the stones, Von Schwarzenfeld defied Venezuela to take back what he called a "gift to Berlin" from former president Rafael Caldera.

"Peace for me does not mean the absence of conflict," said the artist, undeterred by threats and what he too suspects are "political motivations" behind the tussle over the stone.—Reuters

Boat carrying 150 capsizes off NW Australia

CANBERRA, 27 June—A boat carrying around 150 people has capsized 107 nautical miles (200 km) north of Australia's Christmas Island, Australia's Customs and Border Protection said on Wednesday, the second such incident in less than a week.

Two merchant vessels

are on site and more vessels and aircraft were on the way to the scene, a Customs spokesman said.

Last week, a boat carrying around 200 suspected asylum seekers capsized between Indonesia and Australia, claiming around 90 lives.

Reuters



Light trails shine from a passing bus in front of Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament in London, on 17 Nov, 2011.—REUTERS

London's Big Ben to be renamed Elizabeth Tower

LONDON, 27 June—It's one of the most famous names in the world, up there with the Eiffel Tower and Statue of Liberty—but now London's Big Ben clock tower is to be renamed Elizabeth Tower to mark the queen's 60th year on the British throne. The announcement on Tuesday followed four days of celebrations earlier this month to mark 86-year-old Queen's Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee. The landmark, part of Britain's Houses of Parliament, is officially called the Clock Tower but is commonly known as Big Ben, the name of the giant bell in the tower that chimes the famous bongs in the capital.

Prime Minister David Cameron welcomed the name change. "The renaming of the Clock Tower to the Elizabeth Tower is a fitting recognition of the Queen's 60 years of service. This is an exceptional tribute to an exceptional monarch," he said. Reactions among the public were mixed, however. "Big Ben is so old and iconic, what is the sense in changing its name? All over the world people won't understand what the Elizabeth Tower is," said Romanian tourist Mara Ciortescu.

Banker Richard Labonte said: "It's not a bad idea, Ben is a strange name for a tower anyway and the Queen deserves it." The ornate 96-metre high neo-Gothic tower features four gilded clockfaces and was completed in 1859. There are 393 steps to the top of the tower, sited on the bank of the River Thames in the heart of London's Whitehall government district. The name change was proposed by Conservative Party lawmaker Tobias Ellwood and accepted by parliamentary authorities. "The House of Commons (parliament) Commission welcomed the proposal to rename the Clock Tower Elizabeth Tower in recognition of Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and will arrange for this decision to be implemented in an appropriate manner in due course," a House of Commons spokesman said.

Reuters

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Transport
Department of Civil Aviation

Invitation to an Information Session regarding the Construction of Hanthawady International Airport and Development of other International and Domestic Airports with Private Participation

The Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Transport is planning to implement the construction of the Hanthawaddy International Airport and the development of other international and domestic airports to modern standards with private participation through Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT), Joint Venture (JV) or Lease arrangements among other options.

In order to clarify and make transparent the basic requirements for implementation of the above projects under the Department of Civil Aviation, interested foreign and local investors and/or firms are invited to attend an information session to be held according to the following program:

Date / Time : 2 July 2012 (Monday), 10:00 AM
Venue : Civil Aviation Training Institute Auditorium
Department of Civil Aviation
Yangon International Airport

Director General
Department of Civil Aviation

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN ZE JIANG VOY NO (158)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN ZE JIANG VOY NO (158) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.6.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 COSCO SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921**

Israel to hand over historical building to Russia

JERUSALEM, 27 June — Sergei Courtyard compound, one of the most important heritage sites in Jerusalem, is all set to officially come under Russian ownership following an agreement between Israel and Russia, according to Israeli media.

Built by Tzar Alexander II's son in the 19th century, the Sergei Courtyard was meant for the usage of Russian pilgrims travelling to Jerusalem.

During the British Mandate's days the building was nationalised and in 1960s Israel had gained control over it.

discussed the final terms with Russian representatives last Sunday.

The ownership's transfer is to take place amid the official visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin in Israel, reported various Israeli news outlets on Monday.

The deal was announced four years ago by the then Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and was part of a diplomatic pursuit to get Russia to stop arming the Syrian army and get them to back the UN Security Council's sanctions against Iran.

Internet

The transfer of the structure, also known as the Russian Compound, was agreed in 2008, Xinhua reported Monday.

The transfer is to take place as soon as the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI), a non-profit environmental organization for preserving natural environments, plants and animals, vacates its offices in the building, around next autumn.

The organisation

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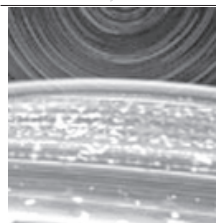
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Yangon. 28 June 2012

Amazing photos taken by Expedition 31 flight engineer and astronaut Don Pettit aboard the International Space Station show some fabulously beautiful star trails photographed with long-exposure techniques.
XINHUA



Models show Sony's new compact camera DSC-RX100 during the launching event in Seoul, South Korea, June 26, 2012. The new camera will come to market in South Korea on July 1.—XINHUA

Fire near Pikes Peak blackens 4,500 acres

COLORADO SPRINGS, 27 June—A brutal windswept Colorado wildfire that forced more than 6,000 people from their homes near Pikes Peak Tuesday charred more than 4,500 acres, officials said.

The Waldo Canyon fire was within a half-dozen miles of the US Air Force Academy, located immediately north of Colorado Springs.

"I saw a lot of glow in the Air Force Academy area," Colorado Springs Fire Department spokeswoman Sunny Smaldino told *The (Colorado Springs) Gazette* Monday night.

The voracious fire's giant flames—which forced evacuations of the Cascade, Green Mountain Falls and Chipita Park communities near 14,115-foot Pikes Peak in the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains — were fueled by a triple-digit four-day heat wave, relative-humidity levels near zero and sustained hot winds of 10 mph to 20 mph and gusts of up to 35 mph, the National Weather Service said.

This combination will create "explosive fire growth potential," the service said, as it also issued a red flag warning of imminent fire danger for most of the state through 9 pm MDT (11 pm EDT) Tuesday.

Gov. John Hickenlooper issued a statewide ban on open burning and a ban on personal fireworks ahead of next week's Fourth of July holiday.

Temperatures were forecast to reach 100 degrees again Tuesday and remain in the upper 90s during the day through Saturday, AccuWeather forecast.

Lightning strikes were forecast in tinder-dry areas, the weather service said.

Rain was not due until 4 or 5 July.

About 600 firefighters battled the Waldo Canyon fire — one of a half-dozen large fires burning across the state's dry terrain in the worst wildfire season in a decade.

The High Park fire, burning for weeks near Fort Collins, has charred more than 83,000 acres and destroyed 248 homes.

That blaze — one of the largest and most destructive in Colorado history — is 45 percent contained.

The Waldo Canyon fire, which started Saturday, is 5 percent contained.

Wildfires are burning in much of the West.

In southwestern New Mexico, the largest wildfire in state history has burned about 300,000 acres.

Internet

Supreme Court limits police on immigrants

WASHINGTON, 27 June — Police may not arrest people they suspect of a deportable offense without a warrant, the Supreme Court said in a split decision about Arizona's immigration law.

"As a general rule, it is not a crime for a removable alien to remain in the United States," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote for the majority in a 5-3 ruling that said Arizona may not make immigration laws that supersede existing federal statutes.

Because it is not generally a crime, state law-

enforcement officers do not have a right to jail or otherwise punish undocumented immigrants the federal government does not want to see penalized, wrote swing-vote Justice Kennedy, joined by conservative Chief Justice John Roberts and liberals Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Ruth Ginsburg.

"Arizona may have understandable frustrations with the problems caused by illegal immigration... but the state may not pursue policies that undermine federal law," the court ruled.—Internet

Estonian woman wins USD 470,000 while shopping

TALLINN, 27 June —An Estonian retiree, who took shelter in a casino while on her way to buy a frying pan, has hit jackpot and won a record 378,270 euros (over USD 470,000), a local newspaper reported.

The 63-year-old woman has requested to remain anonymous but agreed to give an account of the happiest day in her life to the *Maaleht* newspaper on Monday.

"I was not planning on going to a casino that day," the winner of the biggest jackpot in the history of the Estonian casino business said.

"I was heading to a shopping mall to buy a frying pan, but the rain had started and my husband and I hid in a casino. It all happened after about an hour of playing," she said.

Overwhelmed with joy, the woman completely forgot to buy the frying pan she was looking for on that day. According to the paper, the couple is planning to spend the money on travelling around the world.—Internet

Great-grandmas sky dive for Blue Star moms

A pair of Ohio great-grandmothers parachuted with seven retired Army Ranger paratroopers to raise funds for their Blue Star Mothers chapter and its food pantry.

Marjorie Bryan, 83, and Marianna Sherman, 82, joined retired Sgt 1st Class Michael "Big Mike" Elliott and his team for a round of sky diving Saturday

afternoon in Lima, Ohio, to raise money for their chapter of Blue Star Mothers, an organization for women whose children have served in the military, and its Lima Veterans Food Pantry, *The Lima News* reported Monday.

Elliott, 44, who has previously done tandem jumps with former President George HW Bush for his 83rd and 85th birthdays, said

Bryan and Sherman were impressive first-timers. "These Blue Star Mothers are so sweet, so special," Elliott said.

"We came up here two months ago, and they said they had this plan, and we said here's what you have to do. It was challenging, but they did it. They didn't quit."

The sky divers were also accompanied by other first-



timers including Bryan's grandsons, Alan and Matthew High; Sherman's son, Fred; and Robin McCarthy, 47, national president of the Blue Star Mothers of America.

Wedding party falls into lake

A Michigan bride whose entire wedding party plunged into a lake when a dock collapsed said the incident "makes for a good story."

Eric and Maegan Walber said their wedding

party gathered on the dock at the Bay Pointe Inn in Grand Rapids to take pictures after the ceremony Saturday and the dock began to wobble after about 30 seconds, MLive.com reported.

"I saw the thing starting

to tilt, and I'm like, 'Oh, yup, this is going to happen,'" Eric Walbert told WOOD-TV, Grand Rapids. "We went right under."

"Everyone was laughing," he said. "It was one of those things that it

just happens and you roll with it."

Maegan Walber said the plunge made her wedding day all the more memorable.

"It makes for a good story," she said. "We'll be telling our grandkids."

Nuclear plant war games postponed

The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission said it has postponed war games at a New York state power plant due to the fake ammunition causing people to pass out.

The NRC said the high-tech war games, which use blank rounds and lasers to simulate gun battles, were postponed at the Indian Point nuclear power plant in Buchanan after a security officer at New Hampshire's Seabrook nuclear power complained of light-

headedness resulting from the mock assault, *The Journal News*, White Plains, NY, reported Monday.

"The issue is that carbon monoxide is emitted from the firing of multiple rounds in a security enclosure, where ventilation is limited," NRC spokesman Neil Sheehan said. "This is the first force-on-force exercise that has been postponed due to this issue."

The equipment manufacturer, Florida-based Saab Training USA, said it is working to resolve the issue.

News Album

Reese Witherspoon opens up about pregnancy

LOS ANGELES, 27 June—Actress Reese Witherspoon, who has finally confirmed



Actress Reese Witherspoon

being pregnant with her first child by second husband Jim Toth, says she wants to eat everything she can see.

"Frankly I am feeling very round tonight. I am always feeling like I would like to eat everything in sight," she told a reporter after she was honoured with a special acting award in Chicago, Illinois, reports

daily. star.co.uk. The 36-year-old said she is very excited about the new arrival, which is due in late summer or early autumn this year. The baby will be a sibling for the actress' two children by ex-husband Ryan Phillippe.—*Internet*

Katy Perry to take break from showbiz

LONDON, 27 June — Singer Katy Perry reportedly wants to step back from her career and take time to properly recover from the breakdown of her marriage to Russell Brand last year.



Singer Katy Perry

According to the *Daily Mirror* newspaper, the 27-year-old said: "I need to let my heart heal," reports contactmusic.com

Perry spent much of her 14-month marriage on her world tour and has hinted that her career was one of the causes for the split.

"For a modern woman, it is important to be supported and that there is equality in every aspect," she said.

She said she does not regret her failed relationship with Brand, 37.

"Everybody asks me if I regret something, they ask me if it's going to be that one moment. Actually it's really a lesson learned and it's super valuable, I could not buy this lesson.

"And I apply it to my life, I learn and a lot of the time, I get really good material for my songs," she said.

Internet

Penelope Cruz has no time to worry

LONDON, 27 June—Actor Penelope Cruz says having a child has left her with very less time to worry about things.

The 38-year-old has a 17 month-year old son Leonardo and she says she has to hunt for issues to fret over.

"For me, having my son means I worry less. I've always loved to worry—ever since I was a little girl people would tell me to worry too much.

But these days I really have to pick my subjects to worry about because there are only so many hours in the day," Cruz told Hello! magazine.

However, Cruz also admits that having a baby around makes her tired.

"If you ask me if I am rested, I will say no, because I am not—I am tired all the time. But happy? Absolutely. I feel very calm, very focused, very much in a good place,"

Cruz said.

"Becoming a mother changed everything for me. As a woman it is the most wonderful thing that can happen to you because it alters the way you see the world. It is such a fascinating and beautiful process," she added.

Cruz is married to actor Javier Bardem. They tied the knot in July 2010.

Internet



Actor Penelope Cruz

Kristen Stewart bullied for hairy legs

LOS ANGELES, 27 June—Actress Kristen Stewart says she hated going to school because she was teased by school bullies for not shaving her legs

"I hated school so much.



Actress Kristen Stewart

Look at a picture of me before I was 15. I am a boy. I wore my brother's clothes, dude! Not like I cared that much, but I remember being made fun of, because I was not wearing designer jeans.

"I did not even think about it. I wore my gym clothes. But it is not like I didn't care that they made fun of me. It really bothered me," dailystar.co.uk quoted the 22-year-old as saying.

"I remember this girl in sixth grade looked at me in gym and was like, 'Oh my god! That's disgusting—you don't shave your legs!'," she said.—*Internet*

Cameron Diaz wants to stay fit even at 60

LONDON, 27 June—Cameron Diaz, who plays a fitness show host in her latest film, has revealed that she's determined to be in as good shape when she hits 60.

"What was fun about that is that I love to work out. I just love it," *Daily Express* quoted the 43-year-old as



Cameron Diaz

saying.

"It's something that I enjoy doing. I think it's important to take care of your body, not just for today but for the rest of your life.

"I stay fit because I want to be 60 and still doing all the things I'm doing now. So I like to stay strong," she said.

"Being able to train consistently, eat properly and do all of that—and then dance for a whole week... it changes your body. All that movement helps to make the body a little bit tighter," she added.—*Internet*

Smith, Lowe reconcile?

LONDON, 27 June—Actor Matt Smith was spotted enjoying an evening with former girlfriend model Daisy Lowe, leading to speculations of a patch up.

The two had split before Christmas 2011, but enjoyed a romantic cuddle at a music event on Saturday, reports the sun.co.uk. "Matt was trying to disguise himself by wearing his hood up as he hobnobbed backstage. But when Daisy came over he didn't seem to care who was watching," said a source.

"His eyes just lit up and they were locked into deep conversation — hugging

each other all the time. At one point he gave her bum a big squeeze. If they're not together any more then they have a funny way of showing it," the source added. The two parted ways stating work commitments as the reason.—*Internet*



Actor Matt Smith, model Daisy Lowe

Emma Watson clears the air over pink dog

LONDON, 27 June—Actress Emma Watson, who was seen walking a pink dog, has responded to criticism by animal lovers by saying the pet does not belong to her. The 22-year-old tweeted to clarify that the canine belonged to a friend who is working on breast cancer awareness.

"PinkDarcyDog is pink because her owner is raising money for breast cancer. I wish Darcy was my dog but she isn't. Was just walking



Actress Emma Watson

her. Just to clarify one more time that I don't have a dog. Fact checking takes five minutes," she wrote. Watson was clicked with the pink coloured canine in London last week.—*Internet*

Djokovic, Federer back on court

LONDON, 27 June—After demolishing their first-round opponents, defending Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic and six-times winner Roger Federer return on Wednesday to face players from the opposite end of the tennis spectrum.

Djokovic plays 20-year-old American Ryan Harrison



and the ice-cool Federer takes on fiery Italian showman Fabio Fognini, with both second-round matches on Centre Court. Neither Harrison nor Fognini have won a tour title while their multi-grand-slam winning opponents have 104 between them. "I see he's very talented, a great shot-maker," Federer said of his opponent.

"He's definitely got the talent to be a very tough opponent. Better be ready for some good shots coming my way." Kim Clijsters's second-round match against Czech Andrea Hlavackova and the end of Caroline Wozniacki's clash with Tamira Paszek complete the action on Centre while over on Court One number one seed Maria Sharapova plays Bulgarian Tsvetana Pironkova.

and instead is revelling in a confident spell of form which pundits already think could lead him to be named player of the tournament.

"Pirlo's penalty even surprised me," Italy coach Cesare Prandelli told reporters. "Then when he said that he took it like that to put pressure on the English I realised that there is always something to learn from champions like him."



Italy's national soccer players Alessandro Diamanti (L) and Andrea Pirlo attend a training session during the Euro 2012 in Krakow on 26 June, 2012. —REUTERS

If anyone can stop his raking passes in Warsaw, it is the dynamic Schweinsteiger,



Rafael Nadal of Spain hits a return to Thomaz Bellucci of Brazil during their men's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London June 26, 2012. REUTERS

LONDON, 27 June—Rafa Nadal needed a few games to adjust his sights for grasscourt combat at Wimbledon but Serena Williams quickly found her range as the two former champions moved safely into the second round on Tuesday.

Spaniard Nadal, looking to reclaim the title he won in 2008 and 2010, found himself 4-0 down against Brazil's Thomaz Bellucci on Centre

Nadal, Serena up and running at Wimbledon

Court before a barrage of heavy hitting took him to a 7-6 6-2 6-3 victory in two hours 15 minutes.

Williams, the day after her sister Venus was bundled out in the first round, restored family honour with a 6-2 6-4 defeat of battling Czech Barbora Zahlavova Strycova.

Home favourite Andy Murray, the last member of the men's 'big four' to get the grass under his feet this week, also impressed, thrashing Russia's former world number three Nikolay Davydenko for the loss of six games.

Wildcard Lleyton Hewitt, the 2002 champion, lost 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 to French fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and 20th seed Bernard Tomic's surprise 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 defeat by Belgian wildcard David Goffin made it a bad day for

Australian men who will not have a second-round survivor for the first time since 1938.

Women's defending champion Petra Kvitova had the honour of opening Centre Court proceedings on what is traditionally Ladies Day at the All England Club.

Like Nadal, she also took a while to find her rhythm



Serena Williams of the US hits a return to Barbora Zahlavova Strycova of the Czech Republic during their women's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 26 June, 2012. REUTERS

before beating Uzbekistan's Akgul Amanmuradova 6-4, 6-4 in a low-key match interrupted by the first raindrops of the week.

Rain eventually returned later in the day to leave the likes of Caroline Wozniacki and Andy Roddick with first-round matches to complete on Wednesday.

Deposed world number one Victoria Azarenka was untroubled against Irina Falconi, screaming to a 6-1, 6-4 victory while former French Open champion Francesca Schiavone, the 24th seed, survived a scare against home favourite Laura Robson before winning 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.—Reuters

International Sports

PREVIEW - Stopping Pirlo the key for youthful Germany

KRAKOW, 27 June—Bastian Schweinsteiger is winning his battle to be fit for Thursday's Euro 2012 semi-final against Italy where the relentless midfielder will have to nullify the mercurial Andrea Pirlo if Germany are to end their hoodoo.

The Germans have never beaten Italy at a major championship, famously losing the 2006 World Cup semi-final on home soil to the eventual victors, but they are favourites to progress this time having won all four matches so far in Poland and Ukraine.

However, they have yet to come up against a midfielder with the class of Pirlo, who has scored or set up all Italy's goals here and produced a wonderful display in the quarter-final with England before scoring the cheekiest of penalties.

The dinked spot kick in the shootout showed the 33-year-old is far from over the hill as some had wondered

who seems to cover every blade of grass and epitomises Germany's youthful yet experienced side of all-round talents.

Schweinsteiger suffered an ankle injury in February and it is still hampering his movement but the team is hopeful he can play after missing two days of training to rest.

"Bastian is a world class player and he is a leading player in our team," said playmaker Mesut Ozil. "I hope he can be fit in time for the game."

"Great Squad" Otherwise Germany are fully fit and at full strength with coach Joachim Loew widely expected to bring back at least two of the front three he surprisingly rested in the 4-2 quarter-final win over Greece.

Main striker Mario Gomez is likely to come back in for Miroslav Klose given his extra bulk against a wily Italian defence while Lukas

Podolski and Thomas Mueller will also be hoping for recalls.

Italy centre half Giorgio Chiellini is back in training after missing the England game with a thigh problem and could feature while Prandelli has niggles to Daniele De Rossi and Ignazio Abate to worry about and right back Christian Maggio's suspension.

Italy created reams of chances in the goalless 120 minutes against England and their lack of a finishing touch will haunt them if it continues in the Polish capital.

Prandelli seems to be leaning towards giving Mario Balotelli another chance despite his quarter-final misses. "Mario was always in the moves that counted," the coach said while acknowledging Germany were favourites to join Spain and Portugal in the 1 July final in Kiev.

"They are some years ahead of us. After the 2006 World Cup they focused on youth and now they have a great squad."

Reuters

Hansen heads to London with new approach

OMAHA, (Nebraska), 27 June—No matter how hard he tries, American Brendan Hansen just cannot seem to get away from Japanese breaststroker Kosuke Kitajima.

The pair have been rivals in the pool for a decade, trading world records, world titles—and occasionally insults. Both have had their moments of success but in the Olympic pool, where the glory is greatest and the pressure almost suffocating, Kitajima has ruled supreme.

"This is my third time and it doesn't get any easier," Hansen said after winning the 100m final at the US Olympic trials on Tuesday.

"I've learned over the last two Olympics that you don't have to move mountains to win a gold medal, you just got to put your hand on the wall first."

"We have got to figure out what I need to do the next three weeks and be 100 percent behind it because I want to touch the wall first from here on out."

While Hansen has earned two gold medals from medley relays, Kitajima has four individual golds, winning the 100 and 200 meters breaststroke finals at Athens in 2004 and again in Beijing in 2008. For Hansen, who has been Kitajima's life-long rival, it was an unpalatable concept that led him to quit swimming after Beijing.

But with the London Olympics approaching he had a sudden change of heart and decided to make a comeback, determined to end his run of close-shaves and win his first individual gold.

HIGHEST PEDESTAL

He returned to training with renewed vigor and a fresh approach and on Tuesday he took the first major step to realizing his unfulfilled dream when he booked his place on the team to London on Tuesday. "As athletes, we put the Olympics on the highest pedestal, because it's the



Brendan Hansen swims in the men's 100m breaststroke final during the US Olympic swimming trials in Omaha, Nebraska, on 26 June, 2012. REUTERS

highest stage we could get to so when we finally get there, we think we have to do these amazing, heroic things," Hansen said.

"I kinda learned that lesson the hard way, because in '04 I was so stressed out about it, and in '08 I didn't want to do it. Now I think maybe I'll figure it out, who knows." As the crowds roared his name, Hansen knew there was one person in the crowd paying special attention to his every stroke. Kitajima, who trains in California, was watching events unfold from the grandstand.

"I saw him the second day I was here. I went over to him and made it as awkward as I possibly could, gave him a big 'ol' hug," Hansen said.

"We have always had a very good relationship." Reuters

Golf-McIlroy hopes to reverse form slump before home fans

ROYAL PORTRUSH, 27 June—World number two Rory McIlroy believes he has made progress following a disappointing US Open and can overcome a slump in form when the Irish Open begins on Thursday at Royal Portrush. McIlroy has missed the cut on four out of his last five outings and there would be no better stage on which to reverse his fortunes than in front of his home fans in Northern Ireland. He has fond memories of the renowned old links course where he shot a record 11-under 61 during the 2005 North of Ireland Championship as a 16-year-old.

"I feel like I've made a lot of progress and I'm really looking forward to this week and hopefully giving myself a chance to win here," McIlroy told Sky Sports on Tuesday.

"I'm feeling good and had some really good practice over the last 10 days and my game feels in really good shape." McIlroy's appearance along with Graeme McDowell, British Open winner Darren Clarke and triple major champion Padraig Harrington, has spectators at fever pitch. A capacity crowd of 100,000 is expected to walk the fairways over four days of competition, the first sellout for a regular European Tour event. Fans eager to get a glimpse of some of the world's elite golfers flocked to Tuesday's practice and up to 500 spectators followed McIlroy as he went through his paces.—Reuters



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland watches his tee shot on the 15th hole during the second round of the 2012 US Open golf tournament on the Lake Course at the Olympic Club in San Francisco, California on 15 Jun, 2012. REUTERS

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(28-6-12 09:30 am ~ 29-6-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Panasonic Products Launching Ceremony
- * News
- * Shwe Bo's glazed pots
- * News
- * Great Shwedagon "Exhibition Hall of the Great Chronicle of Buddha"
- * News
- * Cruising to Precious Islands (Salon) (Part-2)
- * News
- * A Seminar on Medical Education
- * News
- * Goldenwings @ Jenko
- * News
- * Workshop for the Formulation of a Draft Responsible Tourism Policy Paper in Myanmar
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie "On the shelf"

MYANMAR TV

(28-6-2012) (Thursday)

- 7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
 3. Nice and Sweet Song
- 7:50 am
 4. Health Programme
- 8:10 am
 5. Documentary
- 8:20 am
 6. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
- 4:10 pm
 7. Musical Programme
- 7:00 pm
 8. Cute Little Dancer
- 4:30 pm
 9. Teleplay (Traffic)
- 4:55 pm
 10. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (English)
- 5:15 pm
 11. Song Programme
- 5:30 pm
 12. Science and Environment
- 6:35 pm
 13. Myanmar Series
- 6:50 pm
 14. Approaching Science Discovery World
- 8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. TV Drama Series

Lightweight British boxer Natasha Jonas, of Liverpool, poses before the Olympic boxing venue test event at the Excel centre in east London 23 Nov, 2011.—REUTERS



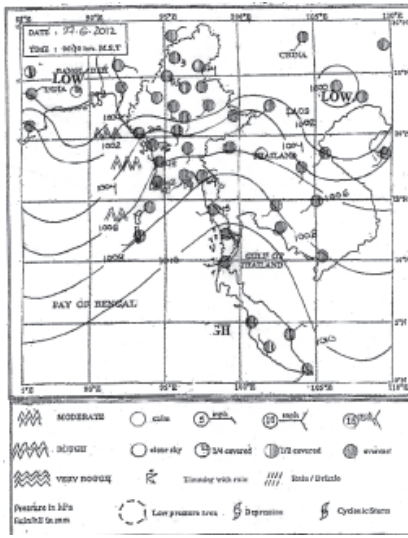
Crime reduction knowledge disseminated to students

LASHIO, 27 June—A talk on crime reduction was given at the hall of Lashio University of Computer Studies in Lashio Township of Shan State (North) on 22 June, attended by the principal, faculty members and students. At first the principal made an opening speech. Supervisor of Lashio Anti-Drug Special Squad Police Captain Ye Naing gave talks on narcotic drugs and in-charge of Lashio Anti-Human Trafficking (Special Squad) IP Min Khaing on laws relating to anti-human trafficking.—*Kyemon*



CSC ISSUED: In implementing Moe Pwint-3 Plan, Township Immigration and National Registration Department issued citizenship scrutiny cards and household registrations to local people at Hnakeik Shihshu Dhammayon in Ward 7, East of Thakayta Township on 20 June. Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Tin Win, Head of Yangon Region INRD U Ye Tun Oo and Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Zaw Win Naing supervise issuance works.—*MYANMA ALIN*

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 28th June, 2012

St. No.	Temperature (C/F)		For tomorrow		
	Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent	
1	Kachin	25/27	23/23	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	27/31	21/20	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kaym	29/34	22/22	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
4	Chin	19/26	15/19	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	26/29	22/22	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	33/31	26/29	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
7	Yambhaya	28/32	23/23	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
8	Bago	30/36	23/23	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
9	Magway	34/33	26/29	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	34/33	27/31	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	28/32	22/22	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	31/38	22/22	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	26/29	22/22	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	22/22	18/24	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	28/32	21/20	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	28/32	22/22	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	30/36	23/23	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	29/34	24/25	One or two rain or thundershowers	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	31/38	22/22	One or two rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	34/33	27/31	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mandalay Region and Kayah State. Scattered in Upper Sagaing and Magway Regions, Shan State, fairly widespread in Yambhaya and Yangon Regions, Kachin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Rakhine, Kaym and Mon States and isolated heavy falls in Chin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawnglaik (16.6) inches, Simay (8.6) inches, Mawki (6.8) inches, Gwa (6.8) inches, Kyaukpadaung (6.5) inches, Kyaukse (6.4) inches, Kawaraka (6.0) inches, Hlilan (5.2) inches, Hpa-an (Ago) (4.8) inches, Myawady (4.7) inches and Palaw (4.2) inches.

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

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of increase of rain in the Lower Myanmar areas.

US-UK security experts unite for London Olympics

LONDON, 27 June—Fighter jets thunder above the English countryside. Missiles stand ready. And Big Brother is watching like never before. The London Olympics are no ordinary games. Not since World War II have Britain and the United States teamed up for such a massive security operation on British soil. Hundreds of American intelligence, security and law enforcement officials are flying across the Atlantic for the games that begin 27 July. Some will even be embedded with their British counterparts, sharing critical intelligence and troubleshooting potential risks. Dozens of Interpol officers will also be deployed. The unique collaboration is rooted in common threats the partners have faced since the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the US and Britain's own deadly suicide bombings in 2005. Britain was America's closest ally in Afghanistan and Iraq, making it a prime target of Islamic terror groups.

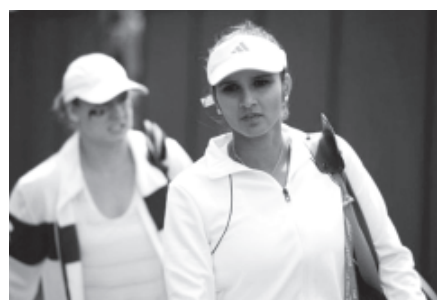
Although other Olympics have taken place since 9/11 — Salt Lake City, Athens, Turin, Beijing and Vancouver — London poses a different breed of security challenge. "I'm confident that there is more than adequate security here for these games," Louis Susman, the US Ambassador to the UK, told *The Associated Press*. "That said, we live in a tumultuous world, whether that be in New York or London." —*Internet*



This is a 18 Aug, 2011 file photo released by Britain's Ministry of Defence shows Royal Air Force Puma helicopter is pictured flying over the 2012 Olympic Stadium during a training flight over London.—INTERNET

Mirza's fury at being used as Olympic tennis 'bait'

LONDON, 27 June—India's top player Sania Mirza has lashed out at the country's tennis chiefs, saying she was humiliated at being used as "bait" in an Olympic selection row to pacify a disgruntled Leander Paes. The All India Tennis Association (AITA) last week announced two men's doubles pairs for the London Olympics with Paes, ranked seventh in the world as a doubles player, paired with 207th-ranked Vishnu Vardhan in one team. Rohan Bopanna (ranked 13) and Mahesh Bhupathi (15) formed the other combination after they said they would not



India's Sania Mirza (shown right at the Wimbledon championships on 25 June) has lashed out at the country's tennis chiefs, saying she was humiliated at being used as "bait" in an Olympic selection row to pacify a disgruntled Leander Paes. Mirza accused chiefs of "male chauvinism".—INTERNET

play with Paes for a range of personal and professional reasons. Local media reported Paes made being paired with Mirza in the mixed doubles event at the Olympics a precondition for playing with a lower-ranked player in the men's doubles.

"As an Indian woman belonging to the 21st century, what I find disillusioning is the humiliating manner in which I was put up as a bait to try and pacify one of the disgruntled stalwarts of Indian tennis," Mirza said in a statement. "The manner and timing of the announcement reeks of male chauvinism," Mirza said.—*Internet*

Nasri apologises for foul-mouthed rant at reporter

PARIS, 27 June—France midfielder Samir Nasri on Tuesday issued an apology for insulting a journalist after his team were knocked out of the Euro 2012 quarter-finals by Spain last Saturday. "Too many untruths circulate at the moment. May the fans, and the children in particular, know that I regret sincerely that my words may have shocked," he said on his Twitter feed. Nasri, who was a second-half substitute in France's 2-0 defeat by world and European champions Spain, passed waiting reporters without saying a word after the match. Asked by one journalist for a quote, he answered: "You are looking for shit, you are looking for trouble." The reporter replied: "Get lost, then, if you have nothing to say." Nasri turned back and said "fuck you" followed by a stream of further abuse, inviting the reporter to have a conversation with him man-to-man.—*Reuters*



France's soccer player Samir Nasri reacts during a training session at the team's training centre in Kircha near Donetsk 14 June, 2012.—REUTERS

**Freedom must be practised with observance of code of ethics, rationality and awareness
Role of State media still needed to avert extremisms and provide people with necessary information**

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information organized a paper-reading session on form and content reform of State-owned newspapers, at the ministry, here today, with an address by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan.

Also present at the call were Deputy Information Minister U Soe Win, Deputy Culture Minister Daw Sanda Khin, departmental heads, intelligentsia and intellectuals from journalism world, media contact persons and personnel of media teams of respective ministries, officials and personnel of the Information Ministry and invited guests.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan, in his speech, said the new government, since its

when the constitution was ratified. The reforms started in 2011 and have now reached certain level. Such reforms are—private media now has the right to publish freely far and wide; government departments including the ministries, have established media teams which issue and hold press conference on matters of departments concerned; such State media as newspapers and broadcasting stations are also going through reforms in both form and content.

The paper-reading session is aimed at further reforming the State media, in other words, seeking ways and means to transform the form and content of State media to that of public service media.

Previously, the State

in his speech urged to give serious attention to the print media, the Fourth Estate as well as constructive criticism of the press. This is the policy of the government toward the press, inviting its constructive criticism.

So, in accordance with the policy, State media must monitor the government and the respective departments apart from informing policies and stances, implementation and persuasion of the government toward the people.

In other words, form and content of the state media must be transformed into the values of public service media and it must be transformed to meet three objectives, namely (1) to inform policies and stances and implementation of the government; (2) to publish

Plan of Action for Prevention against Recruitment of Minors signed

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting



Signing ceremony of Plan of Action for Prevention against Recruitment of Minors between Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and UN Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—A ceremony to sign the Plan of Action for Prevention against Recruitment of Minors between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and UN Country

Task Force and Monitoring and Reporting was held at Thingaha Hotel, here, this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of the Committee for Prevention against Recruitment of Minors Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min and Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict of the UN Secretary-General Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, members of the committee, guests and departmental

heads.

Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win of the Office of Adjutant-General of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Director of Military Recruitment Maj-Gen Ngwe Thein signed the Plan of Action. Likewise, UNICEF Resident Representative of the UN and Resident UN Humanitarian Coordinator Mr Ashok Nigham signed the plan.

MNA



Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivers an address at paper-reading session on form and content reform of State-owned newspapers.—MNA



assumption of the State's duties, has been transforming the nation into democratic one based on the constitution as aspired by the people. Now, it has speeded up its reform process, having adopted reform strategy.

The Information Ministry, on its part, has studied to undertake reforms in media sector in line with the constitution since 2008

media under the control of the Ministry of Information mainly inform the policies and stances, implementation and limited information of the government to the public. It barely published public-based news and information, wishes, feedbacks and arguments of people.

On 31 March, 2011 on which the new government took the office, the President

opinion, wish, aspiration and feedbacks of the people in response to the actions of the government and departments; (3) to make constructive criticism with regard to actions of the government and departments.

It is the nature of public service media to have broader role of control, fund allocation, service and content. So, what can be

started now must be done and then pushed forward step by step.

Government departments, the people and media persons have to join hands in this process with mutual understanding.

In building the future democratic nation, the press, the Fourth Estate of the State must monitor the legislative, executive and judicial pillars (See page 9)

US Government's human trafficking report for 2012 promotes Myanmar's position

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—According to the human trafficking report for 2012 issued by the US Government on 19 June 2012, Myanmar was ranked to Tier-2 watch list from Tier-3, the lowest level previous years.

The US government used to rank the position reviewing the efforts of the global nations in the fight against human trafficking after evaluating the lowest norm included in the provisions of the Law on Protection of Victims against Human Trafficking (2010).

The Tier-3 of this year's report represents 17 countries out of 186 global nations, and financial sanctions will be imposed against those countries if they fail to show significant progress in 90 days.

The report reveals measures taken by Myanmar against human trafficking, establishment of hotline that receives public complaints and takes action over the complaints and setting up of 16589 community based watch groups that guard against human trafficking. Likewise, the report also reveals Myanmar's adopting and implementing the plan on elimination of forced labour in cooperation with ILO, introducing the new law to deal with forced labour and efforts of Myanmar in the protection of its workers in Thailand in cooperation with the latter.

Myanmar has laid down and is implementing the five-year plan under the leadership of the Central Committee for Protection of Human Trafficking since 1997 regarding the control of human trafficking as a national concern. Action was taken against 2,328 human traffickers under the human trafficking protection law from 2006 to date.—MNA

Commercial tax exemption on fertilizer, pesticides, farming equipment and agricultural machinery introduced

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—The government is encouraging development of agro-industry while implementing economic objective for development of agriculture as the base, building an industrialized nation and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well.

In line with the economic objective of the State, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has introduced commercial tax exemption on importation of fertilizers, pesticides and farming equipment, agricultural machinery, manufacturing and selling of the same things at home from 1 July, 2012, to 31 March, 2013.—MNA