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Sunday, 1 July, 2012

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets Brazilian counterpart



Our Three Main National Causes

- * Non-disintegration of the Union
- * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
- * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham met Vice-President of Brazil Mr Michel Temer at Pavilion 5 of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro of the Federative Republic of Brazil on 21 June.

Also present at the call together with Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham were Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Myo Myint and Myanmar Permanent Representative to the United Nations U Than Swe.

At the meeting, they frankly exchanged views on improving mutual relations and economic and trade development between the two countries.

MNA

Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Vice-President of the Federative Republic of Brazil Mr Michel Temer at Pavilion 5 of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Finnish Foreign Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met Finnish Foreign Minister Mr Erkki Tuomiosa at Pavilion 5 of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil on 20 June.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Myo Myint, Myanmar Permanent Representative to the United Nations U Than Swe and Director-General of International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Win Naing.

The meeting focused on Myanmar's reform processes, strides for peace and economic development, and assistances of Finland in Myanmar's peace and other processes.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets with Finnish Foreign Minister Mr Erkki Tuomiosa at Pavilion 5 of Riocentro Building in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil.

MNA



Workshop focuses salvage of historical heritage Dhammazedi Bell



PAGE 2

Indonesian delegation concludes visit

PAGE 9

Monsoon trees planting ceremony for 2012 held in Shan State

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—The Shan State monsoon trees planting ceremony for 2012 was held in the compound near Yandaingaug Hsutaung-

pyae MyoU Pagoda in Lashio on 28 June morning. The participants led by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat planted altogether

2000 saplings of various kinds at the designated spots.

After looking into the growing of saplings, the state chief minister paid

homage to the pagoda and made cash donations to members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Next, the state chief minister attended the clarification on taxes held at the town hall and made a speech on the occasion.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 1 July, 2012

The Great Bell of Dhammazedi

It remains ever unsolved lying at the bottom of a muddy confluence for four centuries hiding from explorers trying to spot its exact location for salvage. Many previous attempts to bring back the Dhammazedi Bell to its original place were unsuccessful because of the reasons including the existence of a number of shipwrecks in the area, poor visibility and 400 years of changing water currents and courses coupled with other natural forces such as low and high tides and silting.

Truly, the task of searching and salvaging the 270-ton ancient Bell is easier said than done as it is a gigantic mission involving a lot of hidden difficulties, problems and complex matters indicating firm commitment plus intellectual, technological, financial and human resources for achieving success.

Anyhow, it is a national task as Dhammazedi Bell is our invaluable cultural heritage and the largest of its kind ever cast in the world. Moreover, the Bell has many things to offer as its engraved writings will provide useful historical facts and we can study our ancient art of metal casting as the copper Bell included an alloy of gold, silver and tin.

In Yangon today, we held a workshop in which experts at home and abroad were presenting suggestions, means and action plans for the successful salvaging of the Great Bell of Dhammazedi.

In addition to many suggestions and options, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan in his opening address also stressed the job's value, saying, "It is a national task so much important for all of us that we must accomplish the mission successfully".

As we are going to use modern equipment and techniques, we must also aware of the environment factor, the water course and the traffic. Anyway, we are hopeful that the workshop will be a milestone in our dedicated task of preserving our centuries-old cultural heritage.

Workshop focuses on salvage of historical heritage Dhammazedi Bell



Member of MHC Dr Chit San (Chit San Win) speaking about salvage of Dhammazedi Bell.—MNA

YANGON, 30 June—The Workshop on Salvage of Dhammazedi Bell was held at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road, here, this morning.

Member of Myanmar Historical Commission Dr Khin Maung Nyunt presided over the workshop. Member of MHC Dr Chit San (Chit San Win) introduced salvage of historical heritage Dhammazedi Bell.

CEO Mr Dean Lim of SD Mark International LLP Co recounted his experiences in salvage of underground materials and replied to queries raised by those present.

In the afternoon, the second-session workshop was presided over by Director-General Daw Nanda Hmun of Historical Research Department. Professor Dr Nyein Nyein of Myanmar Department of Maubin University submitted the paper on "literary evidences and Panalwe region", Rector Dr Charle Than of Myanmar

Maritime University "change of water flow at study on confluence of Yangon River and Bago River", U Nay Min Hein of Society of Myanmar Civil Engineers (Singapore) "Method Statement of Salvage of Dhammazedi Bell", Daw Maw Maw (Lamin Ein-Panmyo Tayar) "Dhammazedi Bell and the Foreign Documentations" and U Htay Win (Pyu Researcher) "Dhammazedi Bell in Panalwe River and its location".

In the third session, Secretary of MHC Dr Kyaw Win presided over the workshop. Assistant Lecturer Dr Nyein Zin Latt of Port Engineering Department of MMU and Lecturer U Myint Thein read the paper "report on location of probable Dhammazedi Bell", Assistant Registrar Dr Tin Maung Oo of MMU "Conditions of Thanlyin while Dhammazedi Bell downed", Director U Maung Maung Than of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry "Assessment on Land use and Land cover change around Pazundaung Creek" and U Nay Tun (Senior Engineer) "way to search exact location of Dhammazedi Bell".

Those present took part in the discussions.

Director-General Daw Nanda Hmun reviewed the discussions.

After the workshop, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted the attendees and resource persons.

Also present on the occasion were Union

San San Nwe, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua, members of Myanmar Historical Commission, departmental heads of the Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture and officials of SD Mark



CEO Mr Dean Lim of SD Mark International LLP Co recounts experiences of the company in salvage of ship wrecks.—MNA

Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw

International LLP Co of Singapore.

Based on facts and figures, suggestions and technologies from the workshop, duties and functions were assigned and necessary committees formed to search and save Dhammazedi Bell in line with the prescribed laws.

MNA

Mawlamyine Tree-growing ceremony hails Myanmar Women's Day

NAY PYI TAW, 29 June—To mark Myanmar Women's Day that falls on 3 July, Mon State Women's Affairs Association and Mawlamyine Township Forest Department organized to hold a tree-growing ceremony in front of Pariyatti Dhamma Beikman in Myaynigon Ward, Mawlamyine this morning.

Among participants were Speaker of Mon State Hluttaw, Chief Justice of Mon State High Court, Advocate-General of the state, Auditor-General of the state, state ministers, State/District/ Township level



departmental heads, social organization members and locals.

A total of 550 saplings;

shady trees and flowery plants were planted at the ceremony.

MNA

One killed in motor cycle mine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—A man was killed in a mine blast in Ayeya Ward of Myitkyina in Kachin State on 29 June.

The mine was supposed to be carried by the man himself which exploded as he was riding the motor cycle past Region-3 Gym in Ayeya Ward around 6 pm yesterday. The man was seriously wounded and died on the spot. The authorities concerned are investigating into the case.—MNA

MBE provides grants and note books for needy students

YANGON, 30 June—Myanmar Business Executive Group contributed grants and note books to needy students from 37 schools in Pyapon, Dedaye, and Kyaiklat townships in Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

The contribution by the group amounted K 16.2 million with 2490 dozens of note books worth K 4 million.

MNA

China responds to exemption from US sanctions

BEIJING, 30 June — A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman on Friday responded to a US State Department decision to exempt China from sanctions over imports of Iranian oil, stressing the Asian country's opposition to sanctions imposed unilaterally. "China is always against one country's unilateral sanctions on another country, according to its domestic law. It is even less acceptable for such unilateral sanctions to be imposed on a third country," said Hong Lei, speaking at a regular Press conference.

Under America's National Defence Authorization Act signed by US President Barack Obama late last year, the foreign financial institutions of governments who continue to purchase Iranian crude oil after 28 June, will be denied access to the US financial market. However, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday announced Washin-

gton's decision to exempt China and Singapore from the measures, citing their "significant" reduction in purchases from the Islamic republic. Hong stressed that China imports crude oil from Iran through normal channels to meet the needs of its economic development.

"This does not violate any UN Security Council resolutions or undermine the interests of a third party or the international community," the spokesman said. "Thus, it is completely legitimate and justified." According to the US State Department, a total of 20 economies have been given US waivers. China, India, Japan, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Taipei will be able to continue to import Iranian oil. But 10 European countries included among the 20 will nevertheless be barred from importing Iranian oil from 1 July.

Xinhua



A security guard stands near a damaged van outside the burnt entrance of Microsoft's Greek headquarters following an attack at Marousi suburb, north of Athens on 27 June, 2012.
REUTERS

Greek militant group claims Microsoft attack

ATHENS, 30 June — A little-known leftist militant group claimed responsibility on Friday for an attack on Microsoft's Greek headquarters earlier this week. Hooded attackers rammed a van packed with gas canisters into the Microsoft building in Athens on Wednesday and then set the vehicle on fire, causing damage but no injuries. At least two people wielding pistols and a machinegun kept security guards away as they carried out the attack, police said.

In a statement published

on the Internet, the International Revolutionary Front said it singled out Microsoft to strike a blow at capitalism. "We chose this building because Microsoft is one of the most powerful companies of the computer sector ... which is now carrying capitalism on its shoulders," it said. The group said it also carried out the attack as a sign of support to other militants currently detained by police in Greece and Italy.

The statement made mention of Ted Kaczynski, also known as the

"Unabomber", who conducted a mail bomb campaign in the United States over almost 20 years. Arson attacks against domestic and foreign banks and local politicians have become more frequent in Greece in recent years as the country battles soaring unemployment and struggles through a recession deepened by austerity policies imposed by foreign lenders.

The International Revolutionary Front made its first appearance last year, carrying out arson attacks on the private vehicles of policemen as well as on a branch of US fast-food chain McDonald's. "We are taking the claim seriously and are investigating its authenticity," a police official told Reuters on condition of anonymity.— Reuters

Egypt's first Islamist president to be sworn in

CAIRO, 30 June — Egypt's President-elect Mohamed Mursi takes his oath on Saturday, a day after the Islamist leader pre-empted the formal ceremony by swearing himself in before ecstatic crowds in Tahrir Square and warning off generals trying to curb his powers. They have already clipped the prerogatives of the bearded leader now in the palace once occupied by Hosni Mubarak, who is serving a life sentence 16 months after Egyptians toppled him.

"I swear by God that I will sincerely protect the republican system and that I respect the constitution and the rule of law," Mursi said on Friday to wild cheers from the crowd, many of whom were followers of his once-banned Muslim Brotherhood. Addressing the "Muslims and Christians of Egypt", he promised a "civil, nationalist, constitutional state", making no mention of the Brotherhood's dream of creating an Islamic order.

Mursi is to be sworn in officially at 11 am (0900 GMT) by the constitutional court, rather than by parliament as is usual. The court dissolved the Islamist-dominated lower house this month in one of several measures intended to entrench military influence over Egypt long after Mursi assumes the presidency. "There is no power above people power," Mursi said in Tahrir Square, crucible of the revolt that ended Mubarak's 30 years in power. "Today you are the source of this power."—Reuters



Egypt's Islamist President-elect Mohamed Mursi waves to his supporters while surrounded by his body guards in Cairo's Tahrir Square, on 29 June, 2012.
REUTERS



Traders work at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, on 29 June, 2012. US stocks surged on Friday, with three major indexes posing best gains since 6 June, after European Union leaders agreed to take more concrete actions to solve European debt crisis.— XINHUA

Turkey rotates stringer missiles towards Syria

ISTANBUL, 30 June — Turkey on Friday rotated its stringer missiles in the Oncupinar Border Post towards Syrian soils, as it continued its military deployment along the border with the unrest-ridden country, local Dogan news agency reported. Turkish commanders of the Adana 6th Mechanized Infantry Brigade and the Gaziantep 5th Armored Brigade visited the region on Thursday and inspected the deployed artilleries and missiles, said Dogan.

Also, the country's Chief of Army, General Hayri

Kivrikoglu, has arrived in the southeastern town of Siirt to inspect the 3rd Brigade Command Post. However, Turkey's military deployment irritated the people living in border town of Kilis, who said they are afraid of going to their fields and they rejected the potential war, according to local media. Turkey started deploying rocket launchers and anti-aircraft guns along its border with Syria after its fighter jet was allegedly shot down by Syria last week. Damascus has described its shooting down of the Turkish F-4 jets as an act of self-defence.

showed that a convoy of about 30 military vehicles, including trucks loaded with missile batteries, arrived in the country's coastal town of Iskenderun and was deployed near the Syrian border on Wednesday. The convoy was escorted by police cars, anti-aircraft artillery and military ambulances. Other military vehicles also moved to the border town of Reyhanli in Hatay Province. Turkish President Abdullah Gul is due to discuss the soaring tension with Syria at a National Security Council meeting on Thursday.

Xinhua

Filipino elementary pupils use protective head gears during a simultaneous nationwide earthquake drill in Pasig, Metro Manila on 29 June, 2012. Tens of thousands of students all over the country took part in a quarterly earthquake drill on Friday to react properly during high intensity earthquakes, disaster prevention officials said.— REUTERS



Iran's UN envoy criticizes US, EU over nuclear talks

NEW YORK, 30 June — Western powers negotiating with Iran over its nuclear programme have not been "serious enough" in their attempts to resolve an escalating stand-off with the Islamic Republic, Teheran's UN envoy said on Friday. Iran held what officials said were intense talks in Moscow earlier this month with the five permanent UN Security Council members and Germany — the so-called P5+1 — about its nuclear programme, but a breakthrough once again failed to materialize. "It is clear for us that some members of the P5+1 for whatever reasons ... are not forthcoming and serious enough for finding a solution," Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Khazaei said in a statement to reporters at the Iranian mission.

"If the talks do not proceed as it should be, we are going to have another stand-off," he said. "The USA and some Europeans have said they are going to increase their pressure and sanctions against us, and this ... indicates that they are not willing to engage with us in a meaningful dialogue." Iran has been in a decade-long dispute with Western powers and their allies over its nuclear programme, which they suspect is aimed at developing the capability to produce nuclear weapons. Teheran denies the charge.—Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Iconic Atari turns 40, tries to stay relevant

NEW YORK, 30 June — A scruffy, young Steve Jobs worked at Atari before he founded Apple. “Pong,” one of the world’s first video games, was born there, as was “Centipede,” a classic from the era of quarter-guzzling arcade machines. “Call of Duty” creator Activision was started by four of Atari’s former game developers. The iconic video game company turns 40 years old this week, much slimmer these days as it tries to stay relevant in the age of “Angry Birds” and “Words With Friends.” But Atari’s influence on today’s video games is pervasive.

Although it wasn’t the first company to make video games, Atari was the first to make a lasting impression on an entire generation. At arcades — or at video game bars such as Barcade in the

trendy Williamsburg section of Brooklyn — nostalgic patrons still gather around such Atari classics as “Asteroids,” “Joust” and “Centipede.” The Atari 2600, launched in 1977, was the first video game console in millions of homes, long before the Nintendo Entertainment System (1985), Sony’s PlayStation (1994) and Microsoft’s Xbox (2001).

Today’s younger iPhone gamers might not remember how “Pong,” that simple, two-dimensional riff on Ping-Pong, swept across living rooms and arcades in the 1970s. But they might recognize elements of it in easy-to-learn, hard-to-master games based on simple physics — among them, “Angry Birds.” “For tens of millions of Gen X-ers, or kids who grew up in America in the

’70s and ’80s, Atari is a cultural icon, an intrinsic part of childhood,” says Scott Steinberg, tech analyst and author of “The Modern Parent’s Guide to Kids and Video Games.”

“Pong,” he adds, was in some ways the very first social video game, one designed to play in bars, at home or at an arcade, while spectators crowded around to watch the action. Launched in 1972 from Atari’s Silicon Valley headquarters, “Pong” featured a basic black-and-white screen (that’s black and white only, no shades of gray here), divided by a dotted line. Short white lines on either side stood in for paddles. Two players controlled them and tried to get a moving dot — the ball — past their opponent.

Internet



In this 5 June, 1984, file photo, a woman in Chicago demonstrates Atari’s new game, Mind Link, which utilizes a headband that picks up electrical impulse from the movement of the forehead and transmits them to a receiver attached to a video game or home computer console.

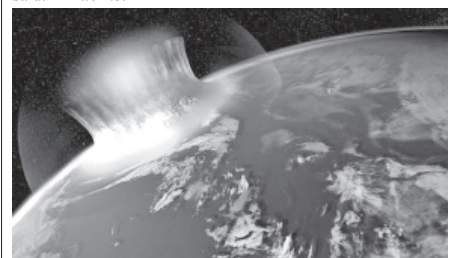
INTERNET

World’s oldest meteorite crater found

NEW BRUNSWICK, 30 June — A study of Greenland’s rocks may have turned up something unexpected: the oldest and largest meteorite crater ever found on Earth. Researchers think the crater was formed 3 billion years ago, making it the oldest ever found, said Danish researcher Adam Garde. The impact crater currently measures about 62 miles (100 kilometers) from one side to another. But before it eroded, it was likely more than 310 miles (500 km) wide, which would make it the biggest on Earth, Garde told OurAmazingPlanet. The team has calculated it was caused by a meteorite 19 miles (30 km) wide, which, if it hit Earth today, would wipe out all higher life.

In the 3 billion years since impact, the land has been eroded down to about 16 miles (25 km) below the original surface. But the effects of the intense shock wave and heat penetrated deep into the Earth, and remain visible today, said Garde, a researcher at the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland. Garde had been conducting research on Greenland’s geology and noticed several strange features that didn’t make sense. One day in September 2009, he came up with the extreme explanation of an impact from a meteorite. His team collected samples over the years and published the results in the July issue of the journal *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*. He’s now “100 percent positive” it’s a crater, for several reasons, he said.

For one, he found widespread crushed rocks in a circular shape that seemed to be caused by the shock waves of a massive impact. Second, there are deposits of a melted mineral called K-feldspar (or potassium-feldspar) that could have been liquefied only at extremely high heat, like that caused by a meteorite’s crash-landing. There’s also widespread evidence of weathering by hot water, which he thinks was caused by the ocean rushing into the crater after it struck the area. The area may have been covered by a shallow ocean at the time, but even if it wasn’t, it doesn’t matter, Garde said. “The crater from a meteorite that big would have caused the sea to rush in,” he said. — Internet



An artistic interpretation of how a large meteorite impact might have looked. The crater formed in modern-day Greenland may be the oldest and largest yet discovered on Earth. — INTERNET

How your body heat could power future devices

president of marketing) wasn’t there to show cool devices. The company was showing a new way of powering gadgets using simply a person’s own body heat. It’s not, strictly speaking, a new way. The technology is based on a principle discovered nearly 200 years ago by physicist Thomas Johann Seebeck, who found that a combination of materials, when warmer on one side and colder on another, produces electricity. [New Battery Charges Itself from Vibrations] Current heat wave notwithstanding, the human body’s temperature of around 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit is

usually hotter than the air around it. So Perpetua has developed an armband, soon to become a wristband, that produces enough power for small electronics — not smartphones, but items that connect to them, such as Bluetooth devices. Wearing a mock-up wristband connected to a meter, Wiant put out enough body heat for a consistent 3 to 4 volts. Headsets using a technology called Bluetooth Low Energy need only about 2 volts, he said. What else uses that level of power? A traditional watch does, he said, as do medical and fitness devices such as heart monitors. [Buggy Apps

Killing Your Smartphone Battery]

Perpetua’s first products are for the US government. The Department of Homeland Security’s Science & Technology division, for example, is funding a power-conducting jacket to monitor the health and safety of first responders — with sensors for heart rate, breathing rate and levels of pollutants such as carbon monoxide, for example. But Perpetua is also aiming for consumer products — for example, a watch with a wrist strap that also doubles as a wireless power source. By early 2013, the company hopes to have prototypes that companies such as makers of watches and heart monitors can start experimenting with. — Internet

A makeshift armband, at left, will one day become a wrist strap that could power that watch.

INTERNET



NEW YORK, 30 June — This week at a technology show in New York City brimming with colourful gadgets, Jerry Wiant of Perpetua stood over a table with a few black armbands and an old quartz watch. But Perpetua (a developer of green power sources for wireless sensors where Wiant is vice

Apple wins block of Samsung smartphone sales in US



A Samsung Galaxy Nexus phone (L) is seen on display at a Sprint store, on 27 April, in San Francisco, California. — INTERNET

NEW YORK, 30 June — A judge granted Apple’s request for an injunction blocking US sales of Samsung Galaxy Nexus smartphones made in collaboration with Google to challenge the iPhone. Friday’s ruling by US District Court Judge Lucy Koh was the second victory for California-based Apple this week in a fierce and complex patent war with the South Korean consumer electronics giant. On Tuesday, the same judge

barred the sale of Samsung’s new Galaxy Tab 10.1 tablet computer, saying that Apple had presented “a strong case” for the injunction. Both Galaxy devices are powered by Android operating software that Google makes available for free to gadget makers, and Nexus is the Mountain View, California-based technology company’s own branded line.

Inalengthy writtenruling granting an injunction to block Galaxy Nexus sales until

the patent case is resolved, Koh wrote that “in sum, Apple has shown a likelihood of establishing both infringement and validity.” The statement indicated that the judge felt Apple had a strong case showing that the patents at issue are valid and that Samsung had misused the technology. “Were disappointed with this decision, but we believe the correct result will be reached as more evidence comes to light,” Google said in an email response to an AFP inquiry. Samsung said it was also disappointed with the ruling, while Apple stuck to its contention that it was rightfully defending its intellectual property.

Patented technology outlined in the case includes database mining capabilities used by Siri virtual assistant software that became a hit after being introduced on the iPhone 4S. — Internet

Microsoft names new industry hardware chief

SEATTLE, 30 June — The Microsoft Corp executive in charge of relations with PC makers is moving to a new job just two weeks after the software company broke with tradition by announcing it would manufacture a tablet computer, ruffling feathers of some hardware partners.

Steven Guggenheimer will move from his position of corporate vice president of Microsoft’s original equipment manufacturer unit 1 July, the company said, to take up an unspecified new senior leadership job within the company. The move was the result of long-term planning, Microsoft said. Guggenheimer will be replaced by another Microsoft executive from the unit, Nick Parker.

Microsoft broke with more than 30 years of focusing

on software last Monday when it announced it would make two new devices called Surface to run its new Windows 8 operating system, in an attempt to directly counter Apple Inc’s iPad and

lightweight laptops. Some hardware makers complained they were kept in the dark about the move, which potentially puts Microsoft in direct competition with PC manufacturers. — Reuters



Steve Guggenheimer, Microsoft’s corporate Vice-President for original equipment manufacturers (OEM), introduces new tablet PCs with the Windows operating system at the Microsoft booth during the Computex 2010 computer fair at the TWTC Nangang exhibition hall in Taipei on 1 June, 2010. — REUTERS

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Airbus poised to invest \$600 million in new US plant



A visitor looks at a model of an Airbus Corporate Jet aircraft during the Annual European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE) at Cointrin airport in Geneva on 14 May, 2012.—REUTERS

ATLANTA, 30 June — European planemaker Airbus is poised to invest \$600 million in a new US production facility in Mobile, Alabama, for its A320 passenger jet that is expected to produce four planes a month by 2017, according to two people familiar with the company's plans. US rival Boeing Co on Friday argued that a US-based plant would

not dilute Washington's case against European aircraft loans that the World Trade Organization has found illegal. The same body has also faulted some US aid to Boeing.

Airbus, owned by Europe's EADS and Boeing, the world's dominant jetmakers, are involved in the largest-ever dispute at the WTO over mutual accusations

of billions of dollars of illegal aircraft subsidies. "While it is interesting once again to see Airbus promising to move jobs from Europe to the United States, no matter how many are created, the numbers pale in comparison to the thousands of US jobs destroyed by illegal subsidies, which Airbus and its European government underwriters have failed to remove to the satisfaction of the US government and in direct contravention of international trade law," Boeing spokesman Charlie Miller said in an emailed statement.

Airbus had initially offered to assemble some commercial freighters in Mobile to sweeten a bid for a bitterly fought \$35 billion refueling tanker contest it lost to Boeing last year.

Reuters

Small babies at higher risk of autism, not Asperger

NEW YORK, 30 June — Babies born small or prematurely go on to develop autism at higher rates, although the risk is still small, according to a new study from Finland.

The research is part of a global push to identify the culprits behind the developmental disorder and the recent uptick in its occurrence, which has had scientists scratching their heads for years.

"Previous reports of how birth weight or gestational age is associated with autism have not been consistent," Dr Andre Sourander, a psychiatrist at Turku University, told Reuters Health by email.

"Because autism spectrum disorders are one of the major challenges in child mental health it is extremely

important to get more understanding of its causes," Sourander said. Autism spectrum disorders, which range from mild Asperger syndrome to severe mental retardation and social disability in childhood autism, are diagnosed in about one in 88 children in the US, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The new results, published in the *Journal of Pediatrics*, are based on almost two decades' worth of data from more than one million births in Finland.

As of 2005, the rate of autism in the Northern European country was 9 per 10,000 children in Finland, whereas Asperger was diagnosed in 14.5 children out of 10,000.

After accounting for the

mother's age, smoking, number of previous births and other factors, Sourander's team found an increased risk of autism, but not Asperger syndrome, in preemies and babies that were very small at birth.

For instance, those who weighed less than 1,500 grams, or 3.3 pounds, at birth had three times the odds of developing autism.

However, because autism is relatively rare, most children who are born very small don't end up with autism, said Sourander. No one is certain why some children develop autism spectrum disorders, but scientists assume it's caused by an interplay between genes and environment, such as infections or other medical problems during pregnancy.

Reuters

Amazon to take on Brazil's ecommerce jungle

SÃO PAULO, 30 June — Amazon.com Inc is expected to set up a digital bookstore in Brazil in the fourth quarter, as it seeks to get a piece of the fast-growing online retail market in the country that inspired its name.

The e-commerce powerhouse, named after Brazil's longest river, wants to elbow its way into Latin America's largest economy with the popular Kindle e-reader and a Portuguese-language catalogue of digital books, according to Brazilian publishers and an industry source familiar with Amazon's plans.

The all-digital approach will allow Amazon to minimize the risks that a bigger retail launch would imply in a country with notorious infrastructure shortcomings and a complex, costly tax system.

The company would

also have to ride out a downturn in Brazil's economy that threatens to cool consumer demand.

"Brazil would be the first country Amazon enters only with digital (products) and that is because of the logistic and tax difficulties," said the industry source, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the negotiations.

"Having a full retail operation? That's the goal," the source added. A Brazil-based operation would save the country's 200 million consumers from paying high import taxes on online orders shipped from overseas.

Two local book publishers told Reuters they have had meetings and video conferences in recent months to negotiate contracts with Amazon's head of Kindle content, Pedro Huerta.

"They told us the plan is



Graphics of the new Amazon Kindle tablets are seen at a news conference during the launch of Amazon's new tablets in New York, on 28 Sept, 2011.—REUTERS

to start between October and November," said one of the publishers, who asked not to be identified. Amazon spokesman Craig Berman declined to comment.

The world's largest online retailer, Amazon is the latest US company looking to tap Brazil's \$10.5 billion online retail market, which is expected to grow 25 percent this year fueled by a swelling middle class. Others include online movie service Netflix Inc and home-rental service

AirBnB.

It would be Amazon's latest foray into emerging markets after breaking into China in 2004 and India earlier this year.

But the move comes as Brazil's decade-long expansion in consumer growth hits the brakes. In 2012, Brazil's economy is expected to grow less than last year's 2.7 percent expansion, raising questions about the timing of Amazon's entrance.—Reuters

Consumer spending stalls, morale at 6-month low

WASHINGTON, 30 June — Consumer spending growth ground to a halt in May as auto purchases flagged, while confidence ebbed to a six-month low in June, the latest signs of trouble for the economy. Although manufacturing activity in the Midwest picked up this month, it offered little cheer for an economic recovery that has been hit by turbulence from the debt crisis in Europe and a lack of clarity on the course of fiscal policy at home.

"We are at a stall speed expansion here," said Tim Quinlan, an economist at Wells Fargo in Charlotte, North Carolina. "We have a consumer who is sort of losing steam." Spending was unchanged in May, marking the first time in six months it had not risen, the Commerce Department said on Friday.

It also lowered its gauge of April's spending to show a rise of just 0.1 percent. The weak data prompted economists to lower forecasts for second-quarter economic growth. Goldman Sachs trimmed its estimate to an

annual pace of 1.6 percent from 1.7 percent. That would mark a slowdown from the first quarter's already anemic 1.9 percent pace.

The change in the economy's fortunes — most visible in a sharp deceleration in job growth and manufacturing activity — closely mirrors the pattern seen last year and poses a challenge for President Barack Obama ahead of November's election. With the outlook darkening, consumer morale has tumbled. The Thomson Reuters/University of Michigan's sentiment index fell to 73.2 in June from 79.3 in May, a separate report showed.

The drop came even though gasoline prices have fallen about 51 cents from their April peak, slowing inflation sharply. A price index for consumer spending fell 0.2 percent in May, the first decline in a year.

But even when adjusting for inflation, spending rose a scant 0.1 percent last month, the same as in April.—Reuters

Nicotine patch safe after heart attack

NEW YORK, 30 June — Nicotine replacement therapy appears to be safe for people discharged from the hospital after suffering a heart attack or chest pains, according to a small new study. The results are good news for a group of patients whose need to quit smoking is especially pressing, researchers said. "We know continued smoking after a heart attack greatly increases the risk of a recurrent heart attack, (but) the ability of patients to quit smoking cold turkey is pretty low in general," said Dr Kevin Woolf, a cardiologist at

Hillsboro Cardiology in Oregon, who led the study.

Anti-smoking medications, such as the nicotine patch, gum, inhalers and lozenges, can double the chances that would-be quitters will actually kick the habit, said Woolf. But, he added, there has been a theoretical concern that nicotine replacement might come with its own hazards for heart patients. "We know that nicotine causes constriction of the arteries, which on paper could potentially harm patients with arteries in the heart that were already somewhat blocked," Woolf told Reuters

Health.

To see whether nicotine replacement therapies do cause harm, Woolf and his colleagues collected medical information on 663 smokers discharged from the hospital after having acute coronary syndrome — which includes a heart attack or feeling chest pain without exercising, a condition called unstable angina. Doctors prescribed a nicotine replacement product, in most cases the patch, to 184 of the patients. After one year, the patients who received a prescription fared about as well as those

who didn't.

Woolf and his colleagues report in the *American Journal of Cardiology* that 29 percent of the people in the nicotine group and 31 percent of the people in the other group died or experienced another major heart problem within a year of leaving the hospital. "This study adds support to safely using this medication after an acute coronary syndrome," Woolf said. Dr Stephen Kimmel, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, said the study backs up many cardiologists who had already considered nicotine replacement safe.—Reuters



A woman walks through a shopping mall in San Francisco, California on 5 Jan, 2012.

REUTERS



A pair of young Afghans pose as US Marines walk past while conducting a patrol in Garmser, Helmand Province. Afghanistan has made progress on structural reforms despite a difficult environment, the IMF said Friday as it approved the release of \$18.2 million in new funds under its loan programme. — INTERNET

Kabul making progress on reforms: IMF

WASHINGTON, 30 June — Afghanistan has made progress on structural reforms despite a difficult environment, the IMF said on Friday as it approved the release of \$18.2 million in new funds under its loan programme. The International Monetary Fund said Kabul had moved ahead on targets to draft a value-added tax law, set a strategy to fight economic crimes, and strengthen the central bank's capitalization framework. The IMF said it was releasing the second tranche of the \$133.6 million loan programme approved in November even though Kabul had not met a goal on fiscal revenues.

environment, Afghanistan has begun a transition toward greater macroeconomic stability and economic self-reliance," IMF deputy managing director Nemat Shafiq said. "The authorities have also reported on asset recovery from Kabul Bank where cash recoveries have increased following a presidential decree," she added. "Going forward, the programme will continue to focus on safeguarding the financial sector, strengthening economic governance, and moving toward fiscal sustainability. While progress has been made on all these fronts, strong government ownership of the

programme remains crucial to resist opposition from vested interests."

The original IMF loan was held up for a year as foreign donors and the Fund pressed the government to deal with the massive Kabul Bank scandal, in which nearly one billion dollars were lost in a scheme involving many powerful Afghan businessmen and officials. The bank, once Afghanistan's largest, had to be taken over by the central bank in late 2010 amid accusations that powerful former executives siphoned off more than \$900 million, some of which was used to buy luxury properties in Dubai. — Internet

"In a very difficult

Pakistan car bomb toll rises to 15: police

QUETTA, 30 June — The death toll in a car bombing targeting a bus in Pakistan's insurgency-torn southwest rose to 15 as police Friday arrested some two dozen suspects to investigate the attack, police said. Some 23 others were wounded in the bombing on a bus carrying Shiite pilgrims returning from Iran on Thursday in the Hazar Ganji area on the outskirts of Quetta city, the capital of the oil and gas rich Baluchistan province bordering Iran and Afghanistan. Police had earlier put the death toll at 13.

"The death toll has risen to 15 as two more injured persons have succumbed to their wounds," senior police official Hamid Shakeel told AFP. Police raided various parts of the city and rounded up some 24 suspects after the attack, he said and added that they are being investigated for any clues in connection to the bombing.

The banned Sunni extremist group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi claimed respon-

sibility for the killing in telephone calls to the local newspapers, saying the "suicide attack" was carried out by them. But police said that they could not still confirm whether it was indeed a suicide attack. "We are investigating this aspect also, but cannot confirm now that it was a suicide bombing," Kakar said. Markets were shut on Friday in Quetta after a strike call given by Shiite leaders to mourn the deaths. Baluchistan has become an increasing flashpoint for sectarian violence between Pakistan's majority Sunni

Muslims and minority Shiite, who account for around a fifth of the country's population of over 170 million.

Baluchistan is also rife with Islamist militancy and a regional insurgency waged by separatists who rose up in 2004 demanding political autonomy and a greater share of profits from the region's wealth of natural resources. Around 5,000 people have been killed in outbreaks of sectarian violence between Sunni and Shiite militant groups in Pakistan since the late 1980s. — Internet



A Pakistani policeman walks past the wreckage of a destroyed bus after a bomb explosion on the outskirts of Quetta on 28 June. — INTERNET

Taliban storm eastern Afghan district, killing 10

KABUL, 30 June — Hundreds of Taliban fighters stormed a remote district in eastern Afghanistan on Friday, sparking a fierce 12-hour battle in which 10 people were killed, including four civilians, an official said. Afghan security forces fought off the attack in Kamdush District of Nuristan Province, which began in the early hours of Friday morning, with the help of NATO air strikes, provincial spokesman Mohammad Zarin told AFP. Zarin said more than 20 militants — who he said had infiltrated the district from across the border in Pakistan — were killed in the counter-attack.

"More than 20 insurgents were killed and as many

injured in the counter attack, their bodies still lay in the battlefield," he said. There were four suicide bombers among the insurgents who tried to target the house of the local police chief. Six Afghan policemen and four civilians, including the wife of a local police officer, were also killed in the fighting, he said. Nuristan provincial police chief Ghulamullah Nuristani told AFP that dozens of houses were burned down in the clashes. NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) confirmed the coalition had given "close air support" without specifying details.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in an email to AFP the militants,



A Nuristan policeman stands at a police station near Kalagush in Nuristan in 2010. — INTERNET

who are waging a 10-year insurgency against the Western-backed government of President Hamid Karzai, were behind the attack. Afghanistan and Pakistan have long blamed each other for Taliban violence plaguing both sides of their

porous, mountainous border. Pakistan says rebels have regrouped in eastern Afghanistan. Afghan and US officials want Pakistan to eliminate Taliban and al-Qaeda-linked havens used to launch attacks in Afghanistan. — Internet

State media said in 2010 that Qi was a former People's Liberation Army pilot and had been unable to speak after the crash due to severe injuries to his face. Full-tilt expansion of Chinese air traffic in the 1990s led to a series of crashes that gave China the reputation of being unsafe. The poor record prompted the government to improve safety drastically, from airlines to new air traffic management systems at airports. Prior to the Yichun disaster, the last major passenger jet crash in China was in November 2004, when a China Eastern airplane plunged into a lake in northern China, killing all 53 on board and two on the ground. — Internet

China: Pilot failed to locate runway before crash

BEIJING, 30 June — A commercial airline pilot failed to locate the runway before landing and abandoned the plane after it crashed in northeastern China two years ago, the government said on Friday and called for the chief pilot to be prosecuted. The 2010 crash of a Henan Airlines plane killed 44 people and injured 52 and was China's first major commercial air disaster in nearly six years. The State Administration of Work Safety also suggested in its investigation report that the airline should be fined 5 million yuan (\$795,000) for

lax safety management.

The agency's investigation said chief pilot Qi Quanjun violated aviation rules during the descent, did not locate the runway before landing and abandoned the crashed aircraft. The Embraer E-190 jet hit the ground 690 meters (2,260 feet) short of the runway at the Lindu airport in Heilongjiang Province's Yichun city, then burst into flames. Media reports at the time said fog shrouded the runway during the landing.

The Civil Aviation Administration of China has said that a 2008-2009

investigation had found that 200 pilots falsified their flying histories, with more than half of them working for Henan Airlines' parent company. It said airlines desperate for staff had been hiring pilots whose resumes had been faked. The most recent report didn't say if Qi was among those who doctored his resume. The report said Qi should have his pilot's license revoked, be removed from his post and expelled from the Communist Party, and should also face criminal charges though it didn't specify what they would be.

Iraq attacks kill at least thirteen

BAGHDAD, 30 June — Bombings and shootings killed at least 13 people and wounded more than 50 across Iraq on Friday, security and medical officials said in a month that has seen at least 220 people killed in violence nationwide.

Two motorcycles rigged with explosives exploded at the same time in two markets and a third went off near a police station in Balad north of Baghdad late on Friday, police said. Mohammed Radhi, a member of the Salaheddin provincial council, said seven people were killed and 50 wounded in the blasts.

A medical source at Balad hospital confirmed the toll, saying that some of the wounded were moved to Baghdad, some 70 kilometres (43 miles) south because their injuries were so serious. Earlier, gunmen attacked a checkpoint in Khan Bani Saad south of the city of Baquba, killing four Sahwa militiamen and wounding four, a militia

commander said, adding that the assailants escaped. A roadside bomb targeting a patrol in Baquba itself killed one soldier and wounded another, an army major said. Dr Ahmed Ibrahim of Baquba General Hospital confirmed the tolls. And gunmen armed with automatic weapons opened fire on a civilian car north of Baquba, killing the driver, police said.

Friday's deaths brought the number of people killed in attacks since 13 June to at least 220 — an average of almost 13 per day. That is a far higher toll than the 132 official figures show were killed in May.

Much of the violence has occurred in and around Baquba, the capital of Diyala Province north of Baghdad. On Thursday, a car bomb exploded near a Shiite place of worship in Baquba, killing six people and wounding 51, while two people were killed and four wounded in another bombing and three more wounded in an attack near the city. — Internet



An Iraqi man stands in the rubble of destroyed buildings following a car bomb in the Kadhimiyah District, on the outskirts of Baghdad on 13 June. — INTERNET

K 50000 per acre of loans disbursed



NYAUNGDON, 30 June—Nyaungdon Township Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank held a ceremony to disburse loans for cultivation of monsoon crops in 2012.

At the ceremony, Nyaungdon Township Administrator U Khin Min, Ayeyawady Region Pyithu

Hluttaw representative Dr Hla Min, Manager U Mya Win of Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank explained benefits of farmers, disbursement of agricultural loans for boosting production, spending of loans for benefiting farming works and nurturing of paddy through good

agricultural pattern.

Manager of Nyaungdon Township Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank branch U Mya Win disbursed K 95.1 million for cultivation of 1902 acres of farmland.

On the occasion, the bank branch plans to disburse K 2450 million as agricultural loans for 49000 acres of monsoon paddy in 41 village-tracts in Nyaungdon Township.

Myanmar Alin

Child-centred academic course concludes

BAGO, 30 June—The child-centred academic course concluded at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Panhlaing Ward of Bago on 24 June.

At the ceremony, Bago Region Education Officer U Saw San Yin made a speech.

He then explained advantages of child-centred academic system.

Myanmar Alin

Palethwe hybrid paddy harvested on model plot

HSENWI, 30 June—A ceremony to harvest Palethwe hybrid paddy on model plot of farmer U Paw Aik Kham was held in Myoma field in Hsenwi Township of Lashio District on 26 June.

After harvesting work, the paddy plantation produced 183.13 baskets of dry paddy per acre.

Staff of Agriculture Department and Settlement and Land Records Department together with local farmers harvested paddy.—Myanmar Alin



Want to enjoy Film Festival in Japan

YANGON, 30 June—The Asian International Children's Film Festival will be held in Minamiawaji of Japan on 24 November 2012.

The film festival is entitled with Meaning of Life for You. The participants are allowed to present images of friendship, hobby, environmental problems, earthquakes and wars with the Global Theme.

They have the opportunity to depict three works in each country or region. The participant may be single or in group.

The participants of the teams are limited with nine members arranging from 12 to 18 youths headed by one leader. The works taken up to 7th September 2012 are to be put up at the DVD to the attachment of titles for the works, directors and schools for participants and then the works are to be sent to the Japanese Embassy.

Myanmar Alin

School equipment, stationery donated to basic education school

KYAUNGON, 30 June—A ceremony to donate water purifier, air-conditioner, 500 litres water tank, concrete road to water purifier, exercise books, umbrella and table lamps worth K 2.2 million was held at Myoma Basic Education Primary School in Kyaungon Township of Ayeyawady Region on 26 June.

On behalf of the wellwishers, Daw Khin Mar Mar explained the purpose of donations.

She then presented 113 dozens of exercise books for students and 12 umbrellas and 12 table lamps for teachers.

Later, the headmistress gave a certificate of honour to the wellwisher.—Myanmar Alin

Photo, wall magazine showed in Mingin

MINGIN, 30 June—In commemoration of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the photo and wall magazine show was held in Ugyi Village of Tinbet Village-tract in Mingin Township of Sagaing Region on 24 June.

At the ceremony, Village-tract Administrator U Me Nyo made a speech. Secretary of Township Social Economy Development Supporting Committee Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U San Aye gave talks on poverty alleviation and development of rural areas, human resources development.

He then donated books and publications to the village library.

The local people enjoyed photos and wall magazine.

Myanmar Alin



TRAINING COURSE OPENED: The training course for community-based surveillance of trafficking in person was opened at Myitta Ponnya Kari Dhammayon in Myitta Nyunt Ward in Tamway Township on 23 June. Township Administrator U Thein Win explains matters related to the training course.—MYANMA ALIN

DISTRICT NEWS



PRIZES PRESENTED: A ceremony to present prizes to winners in the essay, painting, cartoon and poster contest in commemoration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Pakokku Education College in Pakokku District on 26 June. Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Zaw Win gives prizes to the winners.

MYANMA ALIN

MPT gives Internet services to CDMA phones

MANDALAY, 30 June—Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications of Mandalay Region freely sells GSM phone worth K 200,000 each and WCDMA phone worth K 250,000 at the public communication centre on 25th street between 80th and 81st street in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay with two photos of the users and copies of citizenship scrutiny cards.

At present, private phone shops sell GSM phones with numbers of 09-4025xxxx at K 220,000 and WCDMA with number 09-4440xxxx at K 290,000. Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications puts phones on sales at correct prices, the telephone prices in street declined.

As of 12 June, Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications allows CDMA phones with 0991xxxxx with K 10,000 fee for EVDO system Internet service. Users are to pay 4 Kyats per minute in 3G system, and its communication rate is speedier than GSM.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Tree growing ceremony marks Myanmar Women's Day

THAYAWADY, 30 June—As a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women's Day, Thayawady District of Bago Region held the rainy season tree growing ceremony for contributing to the environmental conservation was held in the place near District General Administration Department on 24 June morning.

The ceremony was jointly organized by Thayawady District Forest Department and District Women's Affairs Organization.

At the ceremony, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Maung Maung, Region Hluttaw representative U Tin Soe, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Myo of District General Administration Department, the chairperson of District Women's Affairs Organization, district and township level Forest Departments and staff, students and local people grew teak, ironwood, mahogany and eucalyptus saplings.

District Forest

Shade and flowery plants grown in Okpo

OKPO, 30 June—Hailing Myanmar Women's Day, the shade and flowery plants were grown at the road leading to Okpo on 25 June morning.

Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Tin Htwe, Bago Region Hluttaw representatives U Hla Myint and U Htein Lin, Township Administrator U Aung Thu, Executive Officer U Htay Lwin Soe of Township Development Affairs Committee and staff, Staff Officer U Saw Sila and staff of Township Forest Department, members of social organizations and local people planted over 1800 saplings.

Agriculture



TREES PLANTED: The tree growing ceremony in commemoration of World Environment Day was held in the compound of Kengtawng Sub-Township People's Hospital in Langkho District in Shan State (South) on 5 June. Administrator of Kengtawng Sub-Township U Thein Zaw Oo and staff, in-charge of the Sub-Township Forest Department Forester U Myint Zaw and departmental staff grow saplings.—MYANMA ALIN

Union Minister for Information and for Culture addresses opening of workshop on salvaging Dhammazedì Bell



Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan, Union ministers, region chief minister, deputy ministers and scholars at home and abroad, and resource persons pose for documentary photo.—MNA

YANGON, 30 June—The Workshop on salvaging Dhammazedì Bell, jointly organized by Historical Research Department of the Ministry of Culture and SD Mark International LLP Co of Singapore, kicked off at Chatrium Hotel on Natmauk Road, here, at 9 am today, with an address by Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Robert Chua, members of Myanmar Historical Commission, departmental heads of Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture, officials of SD Mark International LLP Co of Singapore, resource persons and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister said that he wished Union Ministers, Yangon Region Chief Minister, deputy ministers, region ministers, resource persons, Myanmar Historical Commission members, historians, ambassadors, rectors and professors, wellwishers, donor organizations, members of NGOs, distinguished guests and journalists health and happiness. He said that he thanked all those who contributed to organizing the workshop a reality.

Through coordination, the workshop focused on seeking suggestions, means and action programs for the successful salvaging of the Great Bell of Dhammazedì which is invaluable cultural heritage.

Historical records say the Bell was cast of 180,000 viss (290 tons) of metal. The bell in Moscow which is said to be the largest in the world is just 128 tons in weight. So, Dhammazedì Bell is much larger than its Moscow cousin. Records also said it had writing engraved from top to bottom all around its circumference. So, it was an invaluable ancient heritage.

Actually, the workshop was part of efforts for promoting national pride and preserving centuries-old cultural heritage and national characteristics.

He expressed his view that it is a national task so much important for all that they must accomplish the mission successfully. So, he said that he is optimistic the workshop would produce a firm commitment for the success of the mission.

According to the history of Thanlyin (Syriam) ancient city state, palm leave manuscripts on Mon history, paper on the Three Pitaka compiled by Mongkai mayor U Yan, and Zapudipa Oozaung treatises, Portuguese Ngazinga, the

colonial governor of Thanlyin, took away the Bell from the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda with the intention of casting it into cannons in AD 1612. On the way to Thanlyin the Great Bell fell from the raft and sank into Panahle river at the mouth of Ngamoeyek Creek. Till now, it remains underwater as a mystery for 400 years. The three rivers meeting at the confluence which now is hosting a large number of wreckages of sunken boats have been witnessing changes in current, bank erosions, low and high tides, silting and water course changes throughout the 400 years. That is the reason behind the many failed attempts of Myanmar experts and wellwishers to salvage the Bell.

On the surface the task of searching and salvaging the Bell seemed to be easy. But on the ground, it is an enormous mission involving many unexpected obstacles and hardships and complicated issues.

So, the workshop would seek suggestions and means put forward by the experts at home and abroad to find and salvage the Bell.

The workshop would see domestic and foreign experts presenting ten papers on historical events in connection with the Bell, records about the Bell from foreign archives, research on its location, search, excavation and salvaging technology, and Captain Michael Mike Hatcher, a famous heritage explorer.

At this workshop, researchers, experts and honoured guests would put forward valuable discussions, suggestions, additional ideas, opinions and means to solve possible problems.

So we believe this workshop would produce sound suggestions and means and ways for our task of searching, salvaging, moving and transporting the Bell. The main agenda of this workshop was to find and salvage the Bell. Based on these advices and methods, they intend to adopt practical action plans, apply appropriate techniques, acquire modern machines and equipment for every specific job, and form working committees.

The initial job here is the location of the places where the Bell may lie hidden after a round of discussions on the internal and external historical records, and previous research records. What follows next is the exploration work with the help of modern machines and equipment and under the advice of renowned heritage explorers. But the search work cannot be done all the year round. They should set the appropriate exploration periods taking into consideration the limits such as the water levels, tides and weather conditions. My assumption is that the work will take time.

Because of the abovementioned circumstances, financial topic appears as the main concern for the success of the work. Here, Singaporean S.D Mark International LLP company

offered a non-profit project involving the task of finding and salvaging the Bell at a cost of up to USD 10 million, conveying it back to the Shwedagon Pagoda and handing it over to Myanmar just for whichever government reward. CEO Mr. Dean Lim of the company and expert diver searchers are now taking part in this workshop. So he expressed his heartfelt thanks to go to S.D Mark International LLP, CFO Mr Freddie Yeo and Mr Lim, and Dr. Chit San Win (writer Chit San Win) and Captain U Ye Myint Tun of Master Mariner (F.G) for facilitating financial arrangements.

The salvage work concerns with the natural water course, navigation and natural environment apart from its size that is enormous, and the nature of work that is difficult and complicated. So, they must apply means that have no adverse impact on natural water course, navigation and the environment.

Research works at Panahle region where Bago river, Yangon river and Ngamoeyek creek meet will also be conducted along the course of the process.

Historical record says that the Bell is 520 years old and has been lying underwater for 400 years. They also say the Bell was cast from an alloy of copper, gold, silver and tin. So, the natural elements such as water, oxygen, soil may weaken the Bell's durability through chemical reaction. So, we need follow-up research work. As the weight of the Bell is over 200 tons they need special research as well as advanced techniques for salvage and transport.

Nowadays, they all witness the government in office speeding up its step-by-step reform strategy. The Ministry of Culture has been extending its task of finding and preserving the country's lost or vanishing ancient cultural treasures, upgrading existing cultural heritage into archaeological parks and historical parks, and trying to put them into World Heritage List in cooperation with foreign nations and international organizations.

The work of searching the Bell is a part of the said task. As the work is difficult and huge, it takes time. Its success calls for a large array of intellectual, technological, financial and human resources. But it is a priceless historical cultural heritage for the nation and people. So he said that he would like to request participation from the people of all walks of life including those in the religious order, masses and classes, political parties, and the media with nationalism as the base.

He said that he would like to express thanks again to resource persons of foreign institutions, local experts, resources persons from ministries, and distinguished guests. Moreover, he requested continuous involvement of all ministries and experts in the whole process.

If the Bell can be saved, it will be able to:

- place our invaluable cultural heritage back on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda as globally shining glory apart from enhancing the image;
- study ancient Myanmar metal casting skills, engraved writings, and historical facts and evidences, helping all to fill the blanks history has left behind.

It will attract attention of the people around the world and help develop Myanmar's tourism industry.

Again he would like to express special thanks to Singaporean S.D Mark International LLP, its CEO and other officials that values more to the task of salvaging a priceless cultural artifact than the cost they are going to bear. He also thanked Union ministers, the region chief minister, honored guests.

Later, the Union ministers, the region chief minister, deputy ministers, local and foreign experts and resource persons posed for documentary photo.

MNA

Union EP-2 Minister inspects power plants in Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Electric Power No (2) U Khin Maung Soe met staff of 132-KV Power Plant in Pyigyidagun Township in Mandalay Region this morning.

He inspected control panel room and left necessary instructions.

The Union minister also visited 33/11-KV power plant in Chanmyathazi Township and 132-KV and 230-KV power plants in Pathingyi Township.

He also inspected generators in Mandalay to supply electricity to the city if there is any electricity outage.

MNA

Union Science and Technology Minister receives Singaporean guests

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Managing Director of National Instruments ASEAN of Singapore Mr Chandran Nair and party paid a call on Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint at the ministry, here yesterday morning and discussed development of competent human resources and cooperation in science and technology sector.

Present at the call were Deputy Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo and Director-General of Dr Zaw Min Aung.—MNA

Education Ministry holds tree planting and fingerling releasing ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye and Deputy Minister U Ba Shwe participated in monsoon tree planting and fingerling releasing ceremony at the ministry this morning.

Staff planted saplings and released fingerlings into the dam. A total of 1557 saplings were planted and 10350 fingerlings were released at today's ceremony.—MNA

Mon State Chief Minister attends state-level informal primary education activity launch in Mawlamyine

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint on 28 June morning addressed at the launch of a state-level informal primary education activity for 2012-2013, which took place at Yadanamon Hall of No. 6 Basic Education High School in Mawlamyine in Mon State.

through officials concerned. The donation amounted K 8.5 million for the activity will be used to implement in Mawlamyine, Mudon, Kyaikto, Thaton and Paung Townships. At the prize-presenting ceremony of Mawlamyine University, the Chief Minister awarded the first, second and third winners who won in the extempore in English and in-charge rector Dr Htay Aung of Mawlamyine University and Professor of the English Department of the University Daw Hnin Hnin Wai presented prizes to the victors of the essay contest.

MNA

Indonesian delegation concludes visit



Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin and officials see off AIPA President, Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie SE MM and party at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

YANGON, 30 June—President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Speaker of House of Representatives of Indonesia Dr Marzuki Alie SE MM and party concluded their goodwill visit this noon.

The Indonesian delegation was seen off by Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Amyotha Hluttaw Financial and Legal Affairs Commission member U Myint Thein, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono and wife, and personnel of the embassy at Yangon International Airport.

MNA

Mingaladon GAD provides grants to students

YANGON, 30 June—Mingaladon Township General Administration Department of Yangon North District provided grants to offspring of its staff for 2012-2013 academic year on 28 June. Township Administrator U Nyunt Han presented K 196,000 for 30 students.

MNA

Rail Transportation Minister calls for coordination in implementing reform processes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min addressed meeting of the ministry on reform processes at the ministry this morning.

He said electricity, transportation and communication play key roles in development of the country. He urged respective departments to review and implement reform processes. The minister called for coordination with the staff in implementing reform strategy and development of the regions and people. He also called for systematically drafting reform processes.—MNA

Hotel 7 Mile opened in Mayangon Tsp

YANGON, 30 June—Hotel 7 Mile on Gonmyint Yeiktha Street in Mayangon Township was opened this morning, attended by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

The hotel is constructed as local 3 star level one with 52 rooms and one meeting hall.

MNA

Timber certification course conducted

YANGON, 30 June—A timber certification aimed at sustainable development of forest was opened at Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association in UMFCFI Office Tower on Minye Kyaw Swa Street, Lanmadaw Township, here this morning.

Chairman of MTEA Myanmar Timber Certification Committee U Shwe Kyaw and Mr Van Hensbergen Hubertus Jacobus and Ms Nilsson Josefin of SSC Forestry of Sweden gave lectures on timber certifications to 35 personnel from Myanmar Timber Enterprise, Forest Department, NGOs and MTEA members.

SSC Forestry delegation during its visit in Myanmar observed timber extraction works of MTE, forest reserves and natural reserves and made recommendations for forest development and communal forest development.

MNA

Universities Men's Table Tennis Championship concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Final match of Universities Men's Table Tennis Championship was played yesterday at Mandalay University Gymnasium.

Maung Lin Hein of Mandalay University overwhelmed Maung Thet Zin of Myingyan Degree College in the final showdown.

Deputy Directors-General Dr Aung Win Kyi, Dr Thein Win and Dr Soe Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) awarded winners.

Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing awarded championship shield to Mandalay University team.—MNA

SPED DG meets athletes

YANGON, 30 June—General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thuang Htaik yesterday met sports persons who will compete in international games at Kyaikkasan Sports Ground in Tamway of Yangon Region.

The chess, track and field and Karatedo players introduced themselves and officials explained preparations for the international events. The director-general attended to the needs.—MNA

Ayeyawady to fall below its danger level in Katha

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—According to the (12.30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Katha (1050) cm has exceeded by (10) cm (about 0.3-ft) above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (1040) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

RESPECT-PAYING CEREMONY HELD: Mudon Township Thabin Asiayon on 25 June held the 18th respect-paying ceremony and its annual meeting at its office in Mon State. Asiayon members presented cash and kind to a total of 12 senior members.—MNA



**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Directive No (1/2012)
11th Waxing of First Waso, 1374 ME
(29 June, 2012)**

Subject: Compiling list of fund, finance and materials of party systematically

1. Union Election Commission has issued this directive in pursuant to Section 26 of Political Parties Registration Law as regards keeping and spending of fund, finance and using of materials of parties.
2. Political parties which are granted permission to register at Union Election Commission have the rights to issue party membership certificates, collect membership fee and monthly fees and campaign in line with the rules of the party. Furthermore, they have the right to fund campaign of the party and pay set allowances for Hluttaw candidates who represent the party during a term of Hluttaw under Section 16 of Political Parties Registration Law and Rule 21.
3. Political parties shall keep accounts, records and evidences after compiling the following lists in line with Sections 15 and 16 of Political Parties Registration Law and Rules 19 and 21 as regards maintenance and usage of fund, finance and materials owned by the party.
 - (a) Account of party membership and monthly fees,
 - (b) List of cash and materials donated to the party by a citizen, an organization or national company or group of companies inside the country from legally extracted cash and materials,
 - (c) List of legally extracted cash and profit from business activities managed by the party,
 - (d) Fund and budget of the party,
 - (e) List of materials owned and purchased by the party,
 - (f) List of campaign fund drawn on in line with the rules of the party, and
 - (g) List of campaign fund drawn on by each of Hluttaw candidates.
4. Political parties shall complete compiling annual financial statement for each fiscal year and annual list of party-owned materials, auditing the records by the audit committee of the party, and approving the records under the rules and regulations of the party within three months from the end of a fiscal year.
5. Union Election Commission and subcommissions at each level, with the help of relevant government department and organizations, will audit lists of a party, if necessary, under Political Parties Registration Law Section 18 and Rule 23.
6. So, political parties are directed to systematically compiling fund, finance and materials of the party under the law and rules as stated in paragraph (3) and to prepare for audit of the commission and subcommissions at each level as stated in paragraph (4).

Signed by
Tin Aye
Chairman
Union Election Commission



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

Union F&R Minister receives foreign guests

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Union Minister for Finance & Revenue U Hla Tun received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua at the ministry here this morning.

They discussed matters related to cooperation in Myanmar's development measures including rural development and poverty alleviation tasks, loans of Chinese banks and cooperation in banking and monetary sector.

The Union minister also received Chairman Mr Willian Su of Myanmar-China Friendship Association based in New York and businessmen. The meeting focused on investment, banking and monetary sectors and insurance industry.

Also present at the calls were Deputy Minister U Win Than, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and officials.—MNA



Union Minister for Finance & Revenue U Hla Tun receives Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Junhua.—MNA

Tawwin bus line extends its route at Khayaybin Junction



NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Tawwin Bus line extends its regular Pyinmana-Tatkon route to the housing of News and Periodicals Enterprise and Printing and Publishing Enterprise of Ministry of Information at Khayaybin Junction in Zeyathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw

Council Area as of 26 June.

The bus line ran the route of Pyinmana-Bawgathiri-Tatkon road. Under the arrangements of officials, the bus line extends its route to the staff housings of Kyemon Daily, Myanma Alin Daily and the New Light of Myanmar Daily of NPE and PPE.

Thanks to new services in new route, those wishing to insert advertisement at the newspapers, to send news items and buy newspapers are enjoying smooth transportation.

*Khin Maung Win
(Kyemon)*

Cash donated to fund of rural library in Kawa

KAWA, 30 June—A ceremony to donate cash to the fund of Ahmanthit Library was held in Yongyi Ward of Kawa Township, Bago Region on 17 June afternoon.

Daw Wai Wai Thin of the Education Sub-Working Group under Social and Cultural Working Group under Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation donated

K 100,000 to the library.

The library is 16 feet long, 14 feet wide and 14 feet high. Member of the MWAFF Daw Wai Wai Thin, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Nyo Pya and Ward Administrator U Tin Saw cut the ribbon to open the library.

Myanma Alin

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Kawthoung

KAWTHOUNG, 30 June—The rainy season tree growing ceremony of Forest Department was held at point 1199 and along the uphill road to Koenawin Hill in Ayemyakantha Ward of Kawthoung in Taninthayi Region on 23 June morning.

Deputy Commissioner U Myint Than of the District General Administration Department, Assistant Director U Min Htut of District Forest Department, Township Administrator U Pa Si and departments concerned, Staff Officer U Myo Min Naing of Township Forest Department and staff, members of social organizations and local people planted 800 mahogany and 400 ironwood saplings.

Township Forest



Micro-credit cooperative limited formed

SINGU, 30 June—As a gesture of hailing International Cooperatives Day 2012, a ceremony to constitute Shwesitthi war veterans micro-credit cooperative limited was held at its office in Singu on 8 June morning.

At first, Township Administrator U Hla Win and chairman of the meeting Chairman of Township Level Organizing Commission Staff Officer Daw Mu Mu made a speech. Chairman of the society U Tin Nyunt and five members of Board of Directors including executive director U Hla Thaug, and audits U Maung Ko and U Myint Hsan were elected at the ceremony.

The meeting chairman sought approval of the members of the society.

Myanma Alin

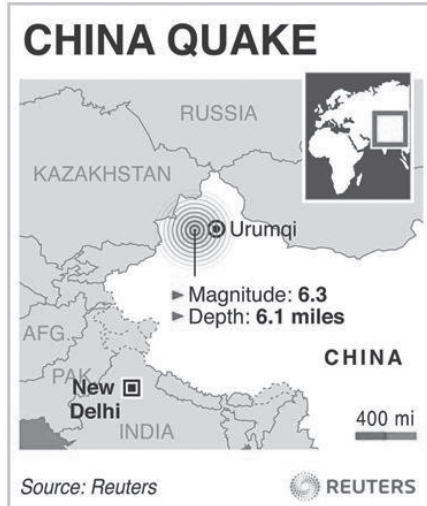


Strong quake hits remote western China: USGS

BEIJING, 30 June—A magnitude 6.3 quake struck a remote region of western China, close to the Kazakhstan border early on Saturday, the US Geological Survey (USGS) said, injuring around 10 people. The quake, initially reported as a magnitude 6.5, struck at 5:07 am local time on Saturday (2107 GMT on Friday), and was centered 87 miles southwest of the town of Shihezi in Xinjiang, home to the mainly Muslim Uighur people.

The official *Xinhua* news agency said there was strong shaking felt in the regional capital Urumqi which lasted for about 10 seconds, causing some people to rush out of their houses and into the street. In the county nearest the epicentre, the quake threw people from their beds and cut the power, but it would take time to fully assess casualties and damage due to the remote location, *Xinhua* added. Initial reports said about 10 people were injured in the quake, one seriously, and that most of them were tourists, *Xinhua* said. Some houses had also collapsed in a village close to the epicentre.

"It's a very quiet, remote, mountainous area that is sparsely populated. At the moment we have no report of any casualty or damage but we are watching closely," USGS Geophysicist Chen Shengzao told *Reuters* by telephone from Golden, Colorado. The USGS said the quake was very shallow, only 11.2 miles below the Earth's surface. Chen said that because of its magnitude and very shallow depth, the quake would have been widely felt. A 6.3 quake is capable of causing severe damage.— *Reuters*



A graphic locates the site of an earthquake in western China. A magnitude 6.3 quake struck a remote region of western China, close to the Kazakhstan border, early on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

REUTERS

China to lead talks on nuclear definitions

WASHINGTON, 30 June—China will lead talks among the five original nuclear-armed states to define arms control terms, the group said on Friday, a first for Beijing and a step that might ultimately bring greater clarity about its nuclear arsenal and strategy. A working group of the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China is expected to launch talks this summer on a glossary of nuclear terms, an arcane but necessary step

for wider talks on disarmament. Of the five original nuclear-weapons states within the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, China is the most secretive about its arsenal, its stockpile of fissile material and its nuclear doctrine, analysts say.

Under the treaty, which entered into force in 1970, the five committed to pursuing disarmament while the other signatories committed not to develop or acquire nuclear

weapons. Rose Gottemoeller, the acting US under secretary of state arms control and international security, said the United States and Russia have a far better grasp of each other's nuclear posture than they do of China's. China's leadership of the so-called P5 group, described in a statement issued by the five nations on Friday at the end of a three-day conference, could signal its greater interest in cooperating on these issues.

A US official who spoke on condition of anonymity said this was the first time China had chaired such a P5 group on nuclear issues.

"It's a very good step," Gottemoeller told *Reuters*. "The fact that they are shouldering the responsibilities for this working group, I think, is a good sign of their interest of developing more mutual cooperation of this kind, leading to greater predictability and greater mutual confidence."

Reuters



US President Barack Obama looks over fire damaged homes in the Mountain Shadow neighbourhood while next to fire fighters in Colorado Springs, on 29 June, 2012.

REUTERS

Obama pledges federal aid on Colorado wildfire visit

COLORADO SPRINGS, 30 June — President Barack Obama on Friday promised federal assistance for Colorado's worst-ever wildfire as he toured damage caused by the blaze, which has killed two people, destroyed hundreds of homes and forced the evacuation of 35,000 residents in and around the state's second-largest city. Obama began his three-hour visit with an Air Force One fly-over of the area left devastated by a blaze that has raged for a week near the base of the famed Pikes Peak mountaintop, while fire crews, taking advantage of more favourable weather, gained additional ground against the

flames. The so-called Waldo Canyon Fire unleashed its greatest fury on Tuesday night when, stoked by strong, erratic winds, it roared into foothill communities in the northwestern corner of Colorado Springs and threatened the US Air Force Academy campus in town. Lighter winds since then have helped firefighters, numbering over 1,000 by week's end, make greater headway in corralling the flames. By Friday afternoon, they had managed to carve containment lines around 25 percent of the fire's perimeter, up from 15 percent on Thursday.

As of Friday, the fire had

scorched nearly 17,000 acres of timber and brush, much of it in the Pike National Forest west of Colorado Springs, a city of more than 400,000 inhabitants about 50 miles south of Denver. While fire officials said 20,000 homes remained threatened by the blaze, evacuation orders were lifted for some of the estimated 35,000 residents chased from their dwellings earlier this week. But progress against the blaze was accompanied by grim news as authorities confirmed the full extent of destruction from Tuesday's firestorm — 347 homes destroyed, most of them in the upscale subdivision known as Mountain Shadows.— *Internet*

WTO rules against US in meat labelling case

GENEVA/WINNIPEG, 30 June—The World Trade Organization on Friday ruled a US meat labelling programme unfairly discriminated against Mexico and Canada, putting pressure on the United States to bring the scheme in line with global trade rules. The WTO Appellate Body said the US country-of-origin labelling rules, commonly known as COOL, were wrong because they gave less favourable treatment to beef and pork imported from Mexico and Canada, the countries that brought the case, than to US meat.

The decision is not subject to appeal, but gives the United States time to comply and does not immediately alter the labelling rules. US officials hailed other parts of the decision, which they said affirmed the right to adopt country-of-origin labels, even though the United States will have to change how it operates the programme. Meat labels became mandatory in March 2009 after years of debate. US consumer and some farm groups supported the requirement, saying consumers should have information to distinguish between US and foreign products. Big meat processors opposed the provision, which they said would unnecessarily boost costs and disrupt trade.

A WTO panel ruled in November that the labelling provision violated WTO rules on technical barriers to trade. "Country of origin labeling is a lose-lose proposition for all players on both sides of the (border)," said Canadian Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, adding that within one year of the law, Canadian feeder cattle exports to the United States plunged by nearly half. "Today's ruling is a key victory for the livestock industry," he said. Mexican officials also welcomed the ruling and in a statement called on the United States to "modify its rules to conform to the WTO and guarantee that Mexican cattle is subject to the same competitive conditions of US cattle."— *Reuters*



World Trade Organization Director General Pascal Lamy addresses a news conference on annual trade forecast and statistics at the WTO headquarters in Geneva on 12 April, 2012.—REUTERS

EU deal for Spain, Italy buoys markets but details sketchy

BRUSSELS, 30 June — Under pressure to prevent a catastrophic breakup of their single currency, euro zone leaders agreed on Friday to let their rescue fund inject aid directly into stricken banks from next year and intervene on bond markets to support troubled member states. They also pledged to create a single banking supervisor for euro zone banks based around the European Central Bank in a landmark first step towards a European banking union that could help shore up struggling member Spain. "It is a first step to break the vicious circle between banks and sovereigns," European Council President Herman Van Rompuy told a final news conference after talks which stretched right through the night.

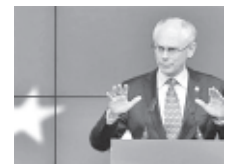
The deal was widely seen as a political victory for embattled Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti and his Spanish counterpart, Mariano Rajoy, over German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who had brushed aside any need for such emergency measures earlier this week. ECB

President Mario Draghi endorsed the "tangible results", which sent the euro nearly 2 percent higher and sharply cut Spanish and Italian bond yields. European shares rose, led by banking stocks buoyed by the prospect of moves to backstop the financial system. "I am actually quite pleased with the outcome of the European Council. It showed the long-term commitment to the euro by all member states of the euro area," Draghi told reporters. Market participants welcomed the outcome as a substantial step to restore confidence in the 17-nation euro zone, which was saluted by a more durable rally than previous summit outcomes. "It's inching closer to a banking union, and the closer we get to a banking union would put (the EU) well on the road to a fiscal union," said Art Hogan, managing director of Lazard Capital Markets in New York. Most economists polled by *Reuters* expect the ECB to cut borrowing costs at its 5 July meeting, which takes place against a darkening economic backdrop. But

internal resistance to the central bank reviving its bond-buying programme remains high.

After 14 hours of tense talks that ended at 4:30 am (0230 GMT), the 17 leaders agreed on a series of short-term steps to shore up their monetary union and bring down the borrowing costs of Spain and Italy, seen as too big to bail out. To that end the euro zone's temporary EFSF and permanent ESM rescue funds will be used "in a flexible and efficient manner in order to stabilize markets" to support countries that comply with EU budget policy recommendations, a joint statement said.

Internet



European Council President Herman Van Rompuy addresses a news conference after a European Union leaders summit in Brussels on 29 June, 2012.—REUTERS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (009)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (009) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (307)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (307) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (081)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAN JIANG VOY NO (081) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Guatemala sends dozens of drug traffickers to prison

GUATEMALA CITY, 30 June — A Guatemalan court sentenced 36 alleged members of a powerful Mexican drug cartel to prison on Wednesday for various crimes, including dismembering a state prosecutor who was investigating the gang. Judges determined that the three dozen gang members, including one woman, were responsible for at least three murders in the northern region of Peten last year.

The court also handed out prison sentences from two to 158 years for crimes ranging from drug possession, conspiracy, trafficking arms and murder. Seven of those arrested were found responsible for kidnapping and decapitating prosecutor Allan Stowlinsky in Coban, north of the capital, leaving his arms and legs in bags in front of his office and his head in a central market.

Prosecutors said the attorney general's office is investigating 10 of the 36 suspects for their participation in the massacre of 27 farm workers in Peten in May of 2011 in a dispute with the farm's owner for control of cocaine trafficking routes.—Reuters



Image provided by Mexican Navy shows Navy officers and volunteers carrying supplies to deliver to residents affected by Hurricane Carlotta in Oaxaca, southern Mexico, on 26 June, 2012. In a press release, Mexican Navy reported the land access to at least 37 communities of Oaxaca has been cut off. — XINHUA

China urges parties in Afghanistan to continue inclusive political dialogue

UNITED NATIONS, 30 June — China hopes parties concerned in Afghanistan will continue to be devoted to an inclusive political dialogue and peace process in order to realize national reconciliation, said Li Baodong, Chinese permanent representative to the United Nations here on Wednesday. His statement came as he addressed a Security Council open meeting on the situation in Afghanistan. "Thanks to the joint efforts by the Afghan government and its people and under the support by the international community, there has been positive progress in the situation in Afghanistan," Li told the meeting.

"China supports the reconciliation and reintegration process led by Afghan government," Li said. "We hope that various parties in Afghanistan will remain committed to an inclusive political dialogue and peace process so as to achieve national reconciliation." "It is of vital importance that the next elections in Afghanistan will be held smoothly. China welcomes the preparations carried out by Afghan government in this regard," he said.—Xinhua

EU leaders agree on compact for growth, jobs

BRUSSELS, 30 June — European Union top leaders have agreed on a compact for growth and jobs that aims at long-term economic revival as the two-day summit tackling the eurozone debt crisis ended here on Friday.

Under the compact, a total of 120 billion euros (about 150 US dollars) are being mobilized for growth measures to boost the financing of the economy, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said at the Press conference.

The compact aims at launching growth, investment and employment as well as making Europe more competitive. Country-specific recommendations have also been endorsed to guide relative policies and budgets of EU member states, according to the conclusions of the summit. Xinhua

China dairy recalls hundreds of cartons of tainted milk

BEIJING, 30 June — A Chinese dairy company has recalled hundreds of cartons of milk after a mechanical error tainted the batch with alkaline water, the latest blow to China's scandal-plagued dairy industry. The recall comes just weeks after China's top-selling dairy firm, Inner Mongolia Yili Industrial Group Co, pulled six months' worth of infant formula from shelves due to mercury contamination.

China's milk industry is struggling to restore consumer confidence after a series of

scandals, the worst of which was in 2008 when milk and infant formula laced with the industrial chemical melamine killed at least six children and made nearly 300,000 ill. In the latest incident, the Bright Dairy & Food Co, called Guangming in Chinese, posted a recall notice on its website after customers complained online of bad smelling and discolored liquid in the company's 950 ml cartons (about a quarter gallon) of Ubest milk, state media reported on Thursday.

A seconds-long mechanical delay during routine maintenance at one of its Shanghai factories caused a "small amount" of alkaline cleaning solution to be flushed into 300 cartons of milk produced on Monday, the company's notice said. "We deeply apologize for any impact this has had on our customers. From today on, we will strictly strengthen relevant management procedures," it said, thanking media and customers for their "supervision".—Reuters



Rescuers work at spot of landslide in Xixiu District of Anshun, southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 29 June, 2012. Five houses collapsed in a landslide here on Friday. Three people died and one was injured. XINHUA



Afghan border police display confiscated drugs in Herat Province, Afghanistan, on 27 June, 2012. According to an Afghan police official, Afghan border police captured 611 kg drugs in Herat Province on Wednesday. — XINHUA

Tokyo governor's panda naming proposal a "cheap farce": FM spokesman

BEIJING, 30 June — China on Friday called Governor of Tokyo Shintaro Ishihara's proposal to name a panda cub a "cheap farce." "Pandas are envoys of friendship," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said at a regular news briefing in response to a question on Ishihara's proposal. Ishihara proposed on Thursday that if a panda currently leased from China gives birth to a cub at a Tokyo zoo, it should be named after the so-called "Senkaku Islands" (China's Diaoyu Islands).

"If a cub is born, it should be named 'Sen Sen' or 'Kaku Kaku,'" Ishihara said, as quoted by media reports. "We will (eventually) return a panda cub (to China), right?" Ishihara said.

"Our counterpart would at least be able to exercise sovereignty" over a panda with the name of the islands.

Commenting on Ishihara's proposal, Hong said the Japanese official's "cheap" and "shameful" farce, which was deliberately made to impair China-Japan relations, will only blemish the image of Tokyo as well as that of Japan. "No matter what names Ishihara gives to Chinese pandas, he cannot change the fact that the pandas belong to China, just as Japan cannot change the fact that the Diaoyu Islands belong to China no matter what names it gives to the islands and their adjacent islets," he added. Xinhua

Air Force plane and crew missing for 60 years discovered on Alaska glacier

A US Air Force plane that disappeared 60 years ago in Alaska has been found on a glacier, 14 miles from where it originally crashed into a mountain.

The C-124 Globemaster and its crew of 52 servicemen were lost when the plane crashed in November 1952. A military spokeswoman said that a recovery team is still working to officially identify debris found on Colony Glacier, about 45 miles east of Anchorage, but that the military believes it to be from the long-missing plane.

"Some of the evidence positively correlates to the United States Air Force Globemaster that crashed in 1952," said Captain Jamie Dobson of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), which specializes in recovering remains of lost military personnel, the Associated Press reports.

An Alaska National Guard helicopter crew conducting a routine training mission in the area first spotted the wreckage on 10 June. The findings, which reportedly include suspected bone fragments, are currently being analyzed at JPAC's laboratory in Hawaii.

"They weren't seeing human remains.



A USAF C-124 Globemaster on an Alaskan runway in 1956.

They were seeing wreckage. But it wasn't recoverable. It was frozen in ice," Dobson said.

Man travelling from Minnesota to Florida in kayak

A Florida man is travelling from the northernmost point in Minnesota to the southernmost point of Key West, Fla, in a kayak. Daniel Alvarez, who won a \$10,000 adventure grant from Outdoor Magazine for his 4,000-mile kayak trip, said his "heart of America paddling journey" serves both as an adventure for himself and a chance to promote environmental organizations Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, American Rivers, Gulf Restoration Network and the Florida Wildlife Federation, the Tallahassee (Fla) Democrat reported. "I

want this trip to be more than just my fun adventure," he said. "The wilderness has already given me so much. I want to give back."

Alvarez, who is currently making his way through Minnesota's Boundary Waters Wilderness, said he will head from Lake Superior to the Mississippi River and then to the Gulf of Mexico for the last leg of his journey.

Tennessee couple find, return \$12,000

A Tennessee couple who found a bag containing more than \$12,000 on top of a convenience store trash can said it never crossed their minds to keep the money.

Kenneth Allen and his wife Kristy found the bank bag with \$12,764.73 and a man's wallet on 23 June evening, officer Jim Knoll, a spokesman for the Clarksville police, said in a release.

Kenneth told the Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle he never thought to keep the money "because that's not the right thing to do."

"I knew I had to return it," he said. "Someone might have needed that for something really important."

The Allens tried to track down the owner, but after no success, turned the investigation



The 11-year record of conjoined twins.

over to Clarksville police. Officers found the owner, a 51-year-old man who had suffered a reaction to medication and was hospitalized. That's why the bag was left behind, Knoll said.

Kenneth said the owner, whose name was not reported, has since called to express his thanks for the return of the money. "If anyone else had found this money, they'd have thrown one heck of a party," he said. "We were meant to find it."

News Album

Helen Mirren wins award as Czech film festival opens

PRAGUE, 30 June—British actress Helen Mirren added a "crystal globe" to her collection of awards Friday as the Czech Republic's Karlovy Vary international film festival opened for its 47th edition.

The festival's jury will consider 12 films and announce a grand-prize winner at its closing ceremony, when actress Susan Sarandon will also grace the red carpet in the spa town of Karlovy Vary.

Mirren, who won an

Oscar for her role in the 2006 film "The Queen", received the festival's crystal globe award for her contributions to world cinema. Czech President Vaclav Klaus also attended the opening ceremony.

Some 220 films including documentaries and dozens of short films will be screened during the festival, 22 of them making their world premiere.

The jury is led by Richard Pena, programme director at New York's



British actress Helen Mirren, pictured in March 2012, added a "crystal globe" to her collection of awards on Friday as the Czech Republic's Karlovy Vary international film festival opened for its 47th edition.—INTERNET

prestigious Film Society of Lincoln Centre.—INTERNET

Japanese fans flock to meet S Korea boyband

SEOUL, 30 June — Thousands of Japanese fans flocked to South Korea to see an exhibition dedicated to boyband JYJ and meet members of the K-pop group who have taken Asia by storm.

JYJ has invited 7,000 Japanese and 15,000 Korean fans to an exhibition centre in southern Seoul featuring performance costumes, trophies, film footage, pictures and favourite items of each member.

Holograms of the three band members were placed to guide fans and explain the show.

"This event was organized for the fans...I hope they create many good memories here with us," said member Hero Jae-Joong at the show launch on Thursday. The group, which is also winning a fan base as far away as Latin America,

will personally meet the Japanese fans on Saturday and Korean fans on Sunday.

According to the band's publicist, the Japanese fans paid an average 50,000 yen (\$630) for a three-day tour to Korea after winning a draw held among 15,000 JYJ fans in their country.

"JYJ doesn't visit Japan often so I came here myself to see them," said Saori Oka, 22, who flew in from Fukuoka.

"Of course I plan to come next year and I'm thankful such an event is being held to show the items, photos and footage of all three members."

INTERNET



Members of South Korean boyband JYJ Jae-Joong (R) and Jun-Su are seen during a launch event for their exhibition in Seoul, on 28 June. JYJ invited 7,000 Japanese and 15,000 Korean fans to the event in Seoul, featuring performance costumes, trophies, film footage, pictures and favourite items of each member.—INTERNET

Midsummer night's dream: free outdoor opera in NY

NEW YORK, 30 June — It is an opera lover's midsummer night's dream: a picnic blanket, a bottle of wine and blissful strains of Mozart, Verdi or Puccini in New York's Central Park. In a nearly 40-year tradition, city dwellers converge in Manhattan's Central Park to experience the sumptuous operatic fare usually only enjoyed by those willing to pay top-dollar at the city's celebrated symphony halls.

This week, under the baton of the octogenarian maestro Vincent La Selva, music lovers enjoyed a production of Puccini's "Tosca."

The performance took place in Central Park's Naumburg Bandshell, where many music lovers snubbed the amphitheater's built-in seats in favour of folding lawn chairs — or simply took in the music while reclining on the grass.

"I do operas that I think people want to see. They come from all around the country," said La Selva, founder and director of the New York Grand Opera, which staged the free public production.—INTERNET



Claire Stadtmueller (R) as Floria Tosca and Alejandro Olmedo (L) as Mario Cavaradossi sing during a free performance of Giacomo Puccini's "Tosca" by the New York Grand Opera at Central Park on 27 June in New York.

INTERNET

Rock in Rio festival to defy Spanish austerity

MADRID, 30 June — One of the world's biggest festivals, Rock in Rio, opens in recession-hit Spain this week vowing to defy the misery of

Colombian singer Shakira performs during the "Rock in Rio" music festival in Spain in 2008.—INTERNET

austerity with rock, and food. "We spent two days collecting food and in return



we gave people tickets to Rock in Rio," said Pablo Rodriguez, mayor of Arganda del Rey, the town southeast of Madrid where the festival venue, the man-made "City of Rock", rises amid parched yellow fields.

The food donations

supplied branches of the charities Caritas and the Red Cross for their local programmes to help the needy. "We gathered 15 tonnes of non-perishable food like sugar and oil — more food than we had asked for," and gave out 3,000 tickets to the festival in return, Rodriguez added.—INTERNET

Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes divorcing

LOS ANGELES, 30 June — It always seemed more than a little weird, didn't it? The whirlwind romance of Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes with its very public, very emphatic proclamations of love. It all occurred too quickly and too loudly to seem real. Now, after nearly six years of

marriage, Holmes is divorcing Cruise. She filed the papers on Thursday, said



In this 28 March, 2011 file photo, cast member Katie Holmes, right, and Tom Cruise arrive at the premiere of "The Kennedys" at The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills, Calif. Cruise and Holmes are calling it quits after five years of marriage.

INTERNET

Cruise's lawyer Bert Fields. The two share a daughter, 6-year-old Suri, who's been featured in celebrity media nearly as frequently as her parents.

But it's telling that even in addressing their split in the typically vague fashion of famous people, Cruise still refers to Holmes by the name he called her: Kate, as if to distance her from the adorable Katie audiences came to know and love from the teen soap "Dawson's Creek." "Kate has filed for divorce and Tom is deeply saddened and is concentrating on his three children," Cruise's representative, Amanda Lundberg, told The Associated Press.—INTERNET

Spain, Italy rematch in historic Euro 2012 final

KIEV, 30 June—And so they meet again at Euro 2012. This time, however, Spain and Italy are playing for the European Championship and a place in the history books. The Mediterranean rivals meet on Sunday in Kiev's Olympic Stadium, three weeks after they drew 1-1 in their opening match of the tournament's group stage. As the defending champion and World Cup holder, Spain is bidding to win a third straight major title, cementing its place as one of the greatest national teams. It would also match Germany's record of three European Championship titles.



Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon dives for a save during the Euro 2012 soccer championship semifinal match between Germany and Italy in Warsaw, Poland, on 28 June, 2012.

INTERNET

Only the unpredictable Mario Balotelli and a surprising Italy team — orchestrated by Andrea Pirlo — stand between Spain and what many see as its destiny. Even Italy coach Cesare Prandelli reckons that Spain is the best bet to lift the trophy. "At the moment, even if I open my eyes, I am still dreaming," Prandelli said after his side's 2-1 victory over Germany in the semifinals, when Balotelli scored both goals.



Spain's Andres Iniesta scores his penalty shootout during the Euro 2012 soccer championship semifinal match between Spain and Portugal in Donetsk, Ukraine, on 27 June, 2012.—INTERNET

"Spain remain favorites because of the years of hard work that they have put in. They have been dominant in every game they've played so far."

Spain hasn't lost in a European Championship since 2004 and has already matched West Germany as the only defending champion to return to the final after winning the World Cup. The West Germans managed it in 1976, but subsequently lost to Czechoslovakia following Antonin Panenka's famous chip shot in a penalty shootout. This final brings together teams with players brazen enough to have successfully copied Panenka's audacious spot kick during their penalty shootouts in the knockout rounds. Spain defender Sergio Ramos used it in the semifinal win over Portugal, after Pirlo employed it against England in the quarterfinals.

It also features the tournament's best defensive team against one of its most exciting attacking squads. Spain has not conceded a goal since that opening draw with Italy and hasn't been scored upon in nine elimination games at major tournaments. Balotelli, Antonio Cassano and Pirlo are leading one of Italy's top attacking teams in recent history. "We always just tried to play. I think that is our strength," said Prandelli, whose team is bidding to give Italy its second European title, the same number as Spain and France.

Internet

International Sports

Djokovic drops set to Stepanek, comes back to win

WIMBLEDON, 30 June — Top-seeded Novak Djokovic dropped a set against No 28 Radek Stepanek before coming back to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 on Friday, reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon.

Djokovic is trying to become the first man since Roger Federer in 2007 to win consecutive titles at the All England Club. A day after two-time Wimbledon champion Rafael Nadal stunningly lost to 100th-ranked Lukas Rosol in the second round under the roof at Centre Court, Djokovic fell behind another Czech player with the stadium covered.

But after getting broken at love to end the first set, Djokovic recovered quickly.

He broke Stepanek in the first game of each of the last three sets. Djokovic now faces 34th-ranked Viktor Troicki in an all-Serbian match. Troicki beat No 15 Juan Monaco 7-5, 7-5, 6-3.

Internet



Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts to a shot by Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic during a third round men's singles match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England, on 29 June, 2012.—INTERNET

Sharp-shooter Rosol prepares for Nadal encore



Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic celebrates after defeating Rafael Nadal of Spain in their men's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 28 June, 2012. REUTERS

LONDON, 30 June—After creating one of the biggest shocks in living memory, Lukas Rosol's reward for his victory over Rafa Nadal is a third round clash against Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber on Wimbledon's Court 12.

The Czech bruiser

battered Nadal's hopes of winning a third Wimbledon title on Thursday, but will now have to prove he can shine out of the limelight.

"When the guy's firing missiles left and right, going for broke, I think it's one of those days," women's world number one Maria Sharapova said about Rosol's heavy hitting display against Nadal.

Nadal's defeat opened up the draw for Britain's Andy Murray who now knows he will not have to face any of the world's top three on his route to the final.

The world number four faces Cyprus's Marcos Baghdatis, who beat Murray at Wimbledon in 2006 on his way to the semi-final. In the women's draw, four-times winner Serena Williams faces China's Zheng Jie.

Reuters

Federer taken the distance by French buccaneer

LONDON, 30 June — Roger Federer set pulses racing as he dived with danger for more than three hours before dousing the fireworks of French buccaneer Julien Benneteau with a pulsating 4-6, 6-7, 6-2, 7-6, 6-1 Wimbledon third-round win on Friday. Just 24 hours after Rafa Nadal's unlikely demise, Benneteau sent shockwaves of equal magnitude around the All England Club as he destroyed Federer during the first two sets with ferocious forehands, biting backhands and audacious reflex shots.

When the Frenchman stood two points from victory in the 12th game of the fourth set, and again in the tiebreak, it seemed as if Federer's incredible streak of reaching 32 consecutive grand slam quarter-finals would end on the Swiss's much-loved Centre Court arena. But fraying nerves is not the sign of a champion who has won a record 16 grand slam titles, including six Wimbledon crowns, and he did not flinch once as he withstood Benneteau's onslaught to steer the match into a fifth set.—Reuters

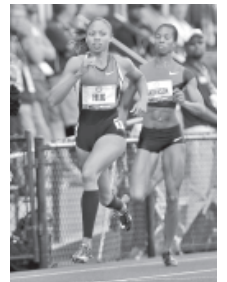


Felix, Tarmoh easily advance to 200 final

EUGENE, 30 June—Maybe the response just slipped. Or maybe the question completely caught her off guard. As Allyson Felix sauntered away from the crowd and toward the safety of a restricted area, she actually broke her vow of silence. "Feeling good," she said in almost a hushed voice. And then she was off again, escorted by coach Bobby Kersee. Felix is looking solid on the track even in the midst of controversy, winning her semifinal heat at Olympic trials on Friday. Same with training partner Jeneba Tarmoh, who moments earlier captured her race convincingly, too.

After the 200 final Saturday, these two sprinters will finally address what everyone is anxious to know: Just how they will break their third-place tie in the 100 and decide who earns the final spot to the London Games in the event. A runoff? A flip of the coin? Soon, there will be a choice. Maybe even something as simple as one of them surrendering the spot to

the other. The controversy has overshadowed everything at the trials. Including this: Some of the biggest names in US sprinting were missing from the starting blocks in the opening round of the men's



Allyson Felix competes in her heat in the women's 200 meter semi-finals at the US Olympic Track and Field Trials on 29 June, 2012, in Eugene, Ore. Alexandria Anderson is at right.—INTERNET

200 meters. Justin Gatlin and Tyson Gay were expected to sit out this race after securing spots to London in the 100.

Internet

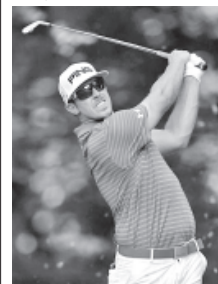
Mahan builds 2-shot lead at Congressional

BETHESDA, 30 June—A punishing golf course. Temperatures that topped 100. Hunter Mahan still managed to make Friday at Congressional feel like a

him a two-shot lead going into the weekend at the AT&T National as he goes after a PGA Tour-leading third win of the year.

Chris Couch sought medical attention and struggled to finish in the oppressive conditions. One caddy had to stop after nine holes, and another vomited to the side of the 13th green from drinking too much water. Tiger Woods stayed in the game with a 68 in the morning, when it was still so hot that towels were used to wipe sweaty faces more than to clean clubs. He talked about the value of staying fit and strong to survive days like this. He was five shots behind. Mahan, though, has set himself apart for two days.

"I hit a lot of good shots," said Mahan, who missed only two fairways and three greens. "I hit so many fairways and greens, I made it easy on myself. This is a pretty punishing golf course if you get off line a little bit. I put myself in some great spots to make putts. And I felt like I played well on the back, when it was getting really hot and you're getting a little bit more tired." Mahan was at 7-under 135. His two rounds fulfilled what his swing coach, Sean Foley, said Thursday when describing his ball-striking as "a laser show."—Internet



Hunter Mahan hits from the 13th tee during the second round of the AT&T National golf tournament at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md, on 29 June, 2012.—INTERNET

breeze. Mahan finally had a good score to match the efficient way he has been swinging the club. He made seven birdies in the stifling heat for a 6-under 65, giving

Roger Federer of Switzerland celebrates after defeating Julien Benneteau of France in their men's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 29 June, 2012. REUTERS

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

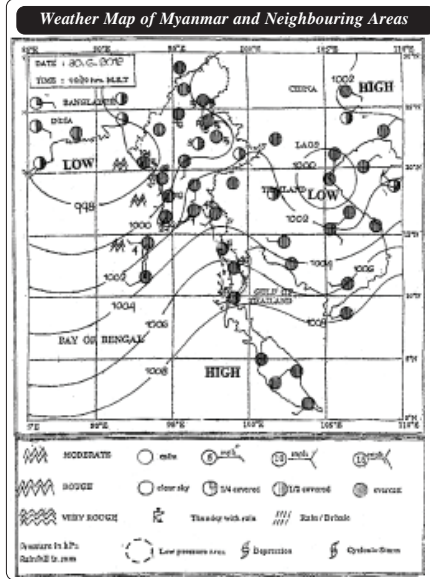
(1-7-12 09:30 am ~ 2-7-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * 12 Sign Ascendants in July 2012
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * News
- * Journey To Unimageable Spot (Episode-11)
- * News
- * Appetizing Myanmar Salads "Picking tea leaves"
- * News
- * MI People's Celebrities "Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein"
- * News
- * "ES4E" Your Gate Way to Success
- * News
- * Brainstorming Our Boys and Girls
- * News
- * Fete De La Musique French Music Festival
- * Myanmar Movie "Dream House"

MYANMAR TV

(1-7-2012)(Sunday)

- 7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:50 am
 3. Nice and Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
 4. Health Programme
- 11:10 am
 5. Musical Programme
- 11:20 am
 6. Round Up Of The Week's International News
- 12:30 pm
 7. How It's Works
- 12:50 pm
 8. Fashion Show in honour of Myanmar Women's Day (2011)
- 4:15 pm
 9. Dance of National Races
- 4:25 pm
 10. Teleplay (Htar)
- 4:35 pm
 11. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Law)
- 4:50 pm
 12. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:05 pm
 13. Sing & Enjoy
- 6:20 pm
 14. Cartoon Series
- 8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. Cartoon Series
 17. New Melody



Weather forecast for 1st July, 2012

Sr. No.	Location	Temperature (°C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	35/95	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	25/77	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayah	28/82	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
4	Chin	22/72	16/61	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	30/86	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Tanintharyi	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
8	Bago	28/82	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	30/86	23/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	36/97	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	27/81	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
12	Yangon	30/86	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	28/82	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	33/91	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	30/86	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	28/82	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	32/90	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	30/86	22/72	One or two rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36/97	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

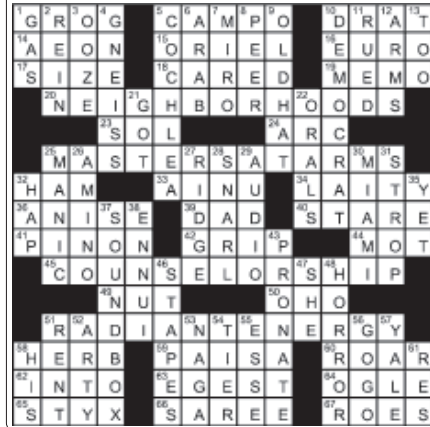
During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Lower Sagaing Region and Kayah State, scattered in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Bago and Yangon Regions, Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Rakhine State and isolated heavy fall in Mandalay Region. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungdaw (4.13) inches, Sittway (4.09) inches, Mawngk (3.90) inches, Mogaik (3.30) inches and Koyakikham (2.83) inches.

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

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of strong monsoon.

Answers for Yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Collectively growing of saplings held in Insein Township

YANGON, 30 June—Jointly organized by Insein Township General Administration Department and Township Forest Department, the 2012 rainy season tree growing ceremony took place in the compound of No 9 Basic Education Middle School in Sawbwagyigon Ward of Insein Township in Yangon North District on 27 June.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Tint Naing Soe, Head of Township Forest Department U Myint Aung, Township Education Officer U Tin Hlaing and Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Tin Tin Oo distributed saplings to township level departmental officials, ward administrations, members of social organizations and students.

Later, they planted 350 saplings at the ceremony. *Myanma Alin*



Fred Couples tees off on the ninth hole during the second round of the Senior Players Championship golf tournament at the Fox Chapel Country Club in Fox Chapel, Pa, on 29 June, 2012. Couples shot a 7-under-par 63 for the round, for a two-day score of 11-under-par 129.
INTERNET

Fred Couples leads Senior Players Championship

PITTSBURGH, 30 June — The heat is on at the Senior Players Championship.

Fred Couples is taking advantage of it.

With sweltering temperatures easing the stiffness in his chronically bad back, the defending champion birdied the final three holes Friday for a 7-under 63 and the second-round lead at Fox Chapel.

Couples, the winner last year at Westchester Country Club in Harrison, N.Y., reached 11 under on a day when the temperature reached 96 degrees with a heat index of 105.

"The heat helps," said Couples, the 1992 Masters champion.

"I have some heat on my back to start the day, and then being hot and humid certainly was a good thing."

Couples has complained about stiffness all week, saying his back is sore after receiving his regular anti-inflammatory injections two weeks ago.

His game hasn't shown it.

Couples has one bogey through two rounds, has birdied the two par-5 holes both days and has hit 34 of 36 greens.

He birdied four of the first six holes and closed the same way, with birdies at 13, 16, 17 and 18.

Internet

NLM-ner Joke

Engineers and managers

A man flying in a hot air balloon realizes he is lost. He reduces his altitude and spots a man in a field down below. He lowers the balloon further and shouts, "Excuse me, can you tell me where I am?"

The man below says, "Yes, you're in a hot air balloon, about 30 feet above this field."

"You must be an engineer," says the balloonist.

"I am. How did you know?"

"Everything you told me is technically correct, but it's of no use to anyone."

The man below says, "You must be in management."

"I am. But how did you know?"

"You don't know where you are, or where you're going, but you expect me to be able to help. You're in the same position you were before we met, but now it's my fault."—*Internet*

How the rich get richer

A businessman walked into a New York City bank and asked for the loan officer. He said he was going to Europe on business for two weeks and needed to borrow \$5,000. The loan officer said the bank would need some security for such a loan. The business man then handed over the keys to a Rolls Royce that was parked on the street in front of the bank. Everything checked out and the loan officer accepted the car as collateral for the loan. An employee then drove the Rolls into the bank's underground garage and parked it there. Two weeks later the businessman returned, repaid the \$5,000 and the interest which came to \$15.41. The loan officer said, "We do appreciate your business and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a bit puzzled. While you were away we checked and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is why you would bother to borrow \$5,000?" The business man replied: "Where else in New York City can I park my car for 2 weeks for 15 bucks?" —*Internet*

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets officials of World Cup organizing committee, Petrobras, Softex



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Executive Director of the committee Mr Ricardo Trade and members at office of organizing committee of 2014 FIFA World Cup in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham, accompanied by Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Myo Myint, Myanmar Permanent Representative to United Nations U Than Swe, departmental heads, the chargé d'affaires of Myanmar Embassy in Brazil, visited office of organizing committee of 2014 FIFA World Cup while in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil on 22 June.

Ricardo Trade and members and discussed prospects of cooperation in hosting 2013 SEA Games and improving Myanmar's football standards.

The Vice-President then viewed the preparations for organizing 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

On arrival at energy giant Petrobras in Rio de Janeiro of Brazil, officials explained oil exploration by the company.

The Vice-President threw questions and discussed potentials for investment in Myanmar.

On 23 June, the Vice-President met officials of Softex Company, a Brazil's information technology and software company, at meeting hall of Porto Bay where they stayed.

International Business Manager Mrs Glauca Critter Chiliatto explained e-government and financial solutions of the company and cooperation in IT development of Myanmar.

They met Executive Director of the committee Mr

The Vice-President threw questions and discussed

The Vice-President and party raised questions.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham goes sightseeing in Rio de Janeiro

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party went on sightseeing tour of Rio de Janeiro on 23 June.

The Vice-President and party went to Pao de Aucaor or Sugar Loaf Mountain of the city by cable car and enjoyed the scenery of Rio Bay and picturesque view of the city from the first view-point. The Vice-President had his memorable times with companions captured on the camera and viewed documentary video clip on construction of cable line to Sugar Loaf Mountain. The cable car was launched in 1912 and the place is reported to be one of the major tourist destinations of the city, attracting local and foreign visitors.

The Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 has



increased the environmental conservation awareness of the residents and as a result everywhere is green and lush in and around the town.

The Vice-President and party then proceeded to the second view-point and viewed the spectacular landscape of the city environs and looked round the souvenir shops.

On 24 June morning, the Vice-President and party went to the hill of Christ Redeemer Statue by train and observed the structure of statue, enjoying the breathtaking views of Rio de Janeiro.

The hill of the statue stands at an altitude of 720 meters and the statue is 38 meters high. It was built in

1931, attracting about 2 million of local and foreign visitors yearly.

The Vice-President then visited Copacabana Beach of the city in the evening and enjoyed the football match between Botafogo and Ponte Preta clubs at Engenhao Stadium, the home of the former club.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham enjoys picturesque scenery of Rio de Janeiro from the hill of world-famous Christ Redeemer Statue.

MNA

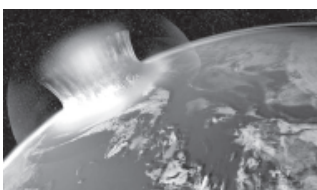
Locals in Rakhine State supplied with cash and kind

YANGON, 30 June—Cash and kind were donated to locals in Rakhine State, who lost their houses and properties in the recent unrest, at the Fire Services Department (Head office) in Mayangon Township here this morning.

At the event, a number of donors donated cash and kind including Kenghong (Chinese Buddhist Monastery) whose donation amount is K 5 million, Managing Director U Win Lwin of Kyaw Tha Co medicines, soaps, umbrellas worth K 3.1 million, overseas students monks in Indian K 2.62 million through Director-General of the Fire Services Department U Tin Moe and officials concerned, who spoke words of thanks to the donors.

The donation list can be seen with the latest amount of K 209,390,296.—MNA

World's oldest meteorite crater found



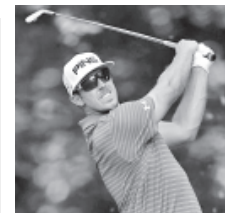
PAGE 4

Spain, Italy rematch in historic Euro 2012 final



PAGE 14

Mahan builds 2-shot lead at Congressional



PAGE 14

Strong earthquake rocks

NAY PYI TAW, 30 June—A strong earthquake of magnitude (6.3) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Northern Xinjiang, China) about (1600) miles northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (03)hrs(43)min(54)sec M.S.T today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA