

President U Thein Sein sends messages of felicitations to Croatian President, Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Ivo Josipovic, President of the Republic of Croatia and His Excellency Mr. Zoran Milanovic, Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Slovenian Counterpart, Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia and Her Excellency Ms. Alenka Bratusek, Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Slovenia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

Thanks to Industrial Zone Project, Kyaukpyu region could see development

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a Chinese delegation led by Member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Mr. Yang Jiechi at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

In extending greetings, the Chinese State Councilor said that further cementing Sino-Myanmar relations and bilateral cooperation was in progress. He acknowledged great strides made by successive leaders and the people in cementing bilateral relations and stressed the need to value the mutual friendship. He highlighted the President's efforts for progress in bilateral friendship and cooperation in culture.

“Peace talks between Myanmar government and KIA group had brought about better outcomes and China was glad to see it. China had always respected sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar and vowed to cooperate with Myanmar for development of China-Myanmar border regions as well as economic development.”

He continued that peace talks between Myanmar government and the KIA group held in the country had brought about better outcomes and China was glad to see it. China had always respected sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar, he added. He vowed to co-operate with Myanmar for development of China-Myanmar border regions as well as economic development.

He said that he hoped for sooner implementation of Kyaukpyu Industrial Zone Project and China wanted to take part in the tasks of ensuring development of the south-west part of Myanmar. He made an offer to help Myanmar in its XXVII SEA Games. He expressed his belief that SEA Games would be successful.

President U Thein Sein for his part said that there were daily relations between the people of two neighbouring states as the two countries shared a 2000 kilometers long border; that background history of the two nations showed that they had tremendous cooperation; that implementation of bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership had started during his trip to China in 2011; that the country had seen sweeping reform processes after the new government took office; and that it was needed to take lessons from China where peace and stability and economic development could be realized during a 30-year period; that the majority of the population is rural people whose livelihoods rely on agriculture sector. He expressed thanks for Chinese contribution to disbursement of loans for development of agriculture sector.

The President continued that thanks to Kyaukpyu Industrial Zone Project, the region could see development. He expressed thanks for the Chinese offer for opening and closing ceremonies of SEA Games and for

President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Mr. Yang Jiechi at the Credentials Hall.

MNA



assisting in Myanmar's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014 and donation of three Buddha tooth relics to Myanmar to be displayed in Yangon and Mandalay for public obeisance.

Next, they held comprehensive discussions on matters related to

development of the sectors of health, ensuring peace and stability in border regions of the two countries and cementing bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership. Also present at the call together with the President were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung

Lwin, U Aung Kyi, U Soe Thane, U Win Shein and Dr Kan Zaw and departmental heads. The visiting Chinese State Councilor was accompanied by the vice-ministers, the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yang Houlan and high-ranking officials. — MNA

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ODD NEWS

35-year-old man of extraordinary height found at Hton Pauk Chai Village in Natmauk Township



NATMAUK, 24 June — With the aim of making the public known a news report about a middle-age man of extraordinary height, a news team of Magway sub-printing house visited

Htone Pauk Chai village in Natmauk Township of Magway Region on 23 June afternoon.

Use of a tractor-trailer is only means of transport to get to Htone Pauk Chai village

via nine-mile long village-to-village road from Kyarkan village which is situated on Magway-Natmauk road and it is 24 miles away from Magway. The news team went to the village

in a vehicle arranged by U Min Naing (Min Htet Kyaw fuel shop) of Magway. On our arrival of the village under the arrangements of the Presiding Sayadaw of Tatwun Pyidawtha monastery at Tatwun village in Natmauk Township, we saw Ko Win Zaw Oo, 35, who has extraordinary height together with his parents and sisters.

It was a tradition of a village to see men, women and children of the village who had already arrived ahead of our arrival in the compound of his residence.

Ko Win Zaw Oo was born to U Aung Hla and Daw Mauk Tin on 4th waning of second Waso 1339 ME. He is an eldest son among the sibling and has got three younger sisters. His father said that although other siblings had the normal heights, his son got

extraordinary height.

According to Ko Win Zaw Oo, his height was normal in his childhood and he left the village at the age of 15 to Latha Township in Yangon for works. Later he arrived back home from Yangon and he attained the age of 18, he started growing in a faster way to reach the present height.

Now, Ko Win Zaw Oo is seven feet and 10 inches tall in a supine position and seven feet and six inches tall in an upright posture. The village administrator measured the height of Ko Win Zaw Oo to reaffirm his height and not to be in contradiction to other news reports.

His health condition is normal, but he cannot walk far. He is always damp with sweat and he suffers a knee pain. Sole of his foot is 13.5 inches in length and five inches in width. His

chest is four feet and one inch wide. He gets caught in embarrassment as his height attracts attention of people everywhere he went. He likes betel chewing and sweet taste and eats every kind of food.

He can have two cans of rice for a meal. He wants to live in a pleasant way all his life. Local-made longyis, slippers and blankets are not fitted him.

He cannot wear slippers and he has to walk in bare feet. His parents are old and they are not in good health. He has to change his shirts thrice a day as he is always drenched in sweat.

Those who are willing to make cash and kind donation to Ko Win Zaw Oo may contact village administrator U Paw Oo (Ph: 09 401640752).

Kyemon-Sit Naung & Kyaw Wint Thu

New ATR 72-600 airplane for AIR KBZ lands at Yangon Airport

YANGON, 24 June — A new airplane, ATR 72-600, for AIR KBZ arrived at Yangon International Airport to add its fleet as the sixth one on 22 June afternoon.

It is learnt that the new aircraft was bought from ATR Company in France and

it has become a sixth airplane for AIR KBZ during a two-year period of the airline that has operated its air service since April in 2011.

It is planned to run daily domestic flights from Yangon to Mandalay, Nyaung U, Heho, Kengtung, Tachilek, Lashio, Myeik,

TRANSPORT

Dawei, Kawthoung, Kalay, Myitkyina, Bhamo, Putao, Thandwe and Sittway by six airplanes— two ATR 72-600 aircrafts including the newly-arrived airplane and four ATR-72-500s. Plans are underway to operate flights to Monywa and Homalin.

With the increased



arrivals of globetrotters and the aim of ensuring

convenience of local and foreign air travelers, AIR KBZ has a plan to purchase two more new ATR 72-600 airplanes ahead of open season in 2014, according to General Manager U Myat Thu of commercial

department.

AIR KBZ running domestic flights and MAI operating international flights are brother airlines under the same umbrella of Kanbawza Group.

Kyemon

NATIONAL SPORTS

Nay Pyi Taw FC, Ayeyawady FC draw 3-3

YANGON, 24 June — MNL Myanmar 2013 football tournament continued yesterday evening.

The match between Nay Pyi Taw FC and Ayeyawady FC ended in a three-all draw.

Although Ayeyawady FC allowed the first goal of Nay Pyi Taw FC five minutes later the start of the game, it managed to hold Nay Pyi

Taw FC to a draw in its second leg away match. Ayeyawady FC brought the crowd to its feet against after scoring the equalizing goals against Nay Pyi Taw FC when it failed to gain a winning goal.

After the match No (15), Nay Pyi Taw FC got 28 points and Ayeyawady 22 points.

Kyemon-Shine Htet Zaw



Myanmar holds Malaysia (B) team to a draw in front of home crowd



YANGON, 24 June — As the fifth match of the ASEAN Youth Championship Football Tournament, Myanmar youth team played against Malaysia (B) team at Aung San Stadium, here, on 22 June evening and the match ended in a one-all draw.

Although Malaysia won by one goal to nil at the end of the 90-minute game, it allowed a late goal of Myanmar in the stoppage time to share one

point with the rival. The equalized goal for Myanmar came from Kyaw Zin Oo while Malaysia led the game throughout the time with an immediate goal scored two minutes after the start.

Myanmar team included in Group (B) had already won six points after five matches. Myanmar will play its away match against Malaysia (B) team on 29 June.

Kyemon-Shine Htet Zaw

Kyaukpadaung Township sees daily traffic rule enforcement

KYAUKPADAUNG, 24 June — With the aim of heightening the public awareness of traffic rules and ensuring a reduction in traffic accidents, actions are being taken against traffic rule violators at the corner of market ring road and fire station street and at the junction in front of a cinema building in Kyaukpadaung Township of Mandalay Region.

“It is good to see traffic rule enforcement daily, taking actions against violation of traffic rules. I would like to see a mobile team to take actions against violators at other places as people have a strict adherence to traffic rules on a road where traffic

rule enforcements came into effect. It is also required to take actions against tractor-trailers with substandard exhaust pipes and four-wheeled trolleys blocking the market ring road while loading and unloading of goods is in progress”, says a local who lives near the market.

Traffic rule enforcement came into force as of 1 May when an educative period is over. A total of traffic rule violators from undisciplined 185 motorbikes, 10 vehicles and one three-wheeled motorbike were arrested and brought to trial at Kyaukpadaung Township Court.— Kyemon-Ko Nay (Kyaukpadaung)

WORLD

Gov't encouraged by Tokyo election victory before upper house poll

TOKYO, 24 June—The government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe welcomed on Monday the ruling party's landslide victory in the Tokyo metropolitan assembly election the previous day as a sign of support for his economic policies ahead of the upper house poll next month.

"We couldn't have had a better result," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a Press conference. "We are grateful for the high recognition the Abe administration has received in the run-up to the House of Councillors' election," the top government spokesman added.

The Liberal Democratic Party, headed by Abe, and its junior coalition partner, the New Komeito party, secured an overall majority in the 127-seat assembly in the capital in Sunday's election

with all 82 candidates they fielded winning.

Suga said he believed the result was due largely to Abe's policies to revive the moribund economy — dubbed "Abenomics" — and that the ruling coalition will campaign for the 21 July upper house election by promising to end nearly two decades of deflation with the policies.

The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, which tumbled to fourth place from being the largest party in the Tokyo assembly, pledged continued efforts to bounce back in the upcoming election.

DPJ President Banri Kaieda and Secretary General Goshi Hosono, meeting at the party's headquarters in Tokyo, confirmed that the DPJ will fight the election without any change to the



Photo shows rose ornaments attached above the names of all 59 candidates of the Liberal Democratic Party in the Tokyo metropolitan assembly election, showing all the LDP's candidates winning, at the party's headquarters in Tokyo on June 23, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

current leadership.

"It is a tough outcome, and we accept it humbly," said former DPJ chief Katsuya Okada in Tsu, Mie Prefecture. Asked how things would turn out in the election for the upper house, which is currently controlled by the DPJ, Okada said, "People are starting to doubt that Abenomics will make everything better."

The Japan Restoration

Party was another loser in the Tokyo election, dropping from three seats to two despite stirring high expectations at one point.

Kyodo News

Snowden heads to Venezuela via Moscow, Havana

MOSCOW, 24 June—Former US National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden will fly from Moscow to Cuba on Monday and then plans to go to Venezuela, a source at the Russian airline Aeroflot said on Sunday.

The source said Snowden was already on his way to Moscow from Hong Kong and would leave for Havana within 24 hours.

The South China Morning Post also reported that Snowden had left Hong Kong for Moscow and that his final destination might be Ecuador or Iceland. The WikiLeaks anti-secrecy

website said Snowden was heading for an unnamed "democratic nation".

The flight to Moscow prompted speculation that Snowden might remain in Russia, whose leaders accuse the United States of double standards on democracy and have championed public figures who challenge Western governments.

But Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, said he was unaware of Snowden's plans and the Foreign Ministry declined immediate comment on whether he had asked for asylum.

Reuters

EU risks upsetting Turkey with threat to call off talks



Anti-government Alevi protesters shout slogans during a demonstration in Istanbul on 23 June, 2013.

REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 24 June—The European Union is on the verge of scrapping a new round of membership talks with Turkey, a move that would further undermine Ankara's already slim hopes of joining the bloc anytime soon and damage its relations with Brussels.

Germany, the EU's biggest economic power, is blocking efforts to revive

Turkey's EU membership bid, partly because of its handling of anti-government protests that have swept the country in the last few weeks, EU sources say.

The Netherlands, too, has voiced reservations about the EU's plan to open talks with Turkey next Wednesday on a new "chapter", or policy area,

the sources say.

EU officials had hoped that opening the new chapter, on regional policy, would breathe new life into Turkey's deadlocked EU membership negotiations.

EU ambassadors, who failed to agree last week, were due to discuss the issue for a last time on Monday morning. German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, who has been more positive on Turkey's accession to the EU than Chancellor Angela Merkel, said he still hoped for an agreement in the coming days. "We are on a good path," he told the broadcaster ARD, adding that there was still the possibility of a positive outcome, although he did not expect a decision on Monday. "We are working on this," he said.—Reuters

President Xi vows bigger stride in space exploration in talk with astronauts



Photo taken on 24 June, 2013 shows the screen at the Beijing Aerospace Control Centre showing astronauts Nie Haisheng (C), Zhang Xiaoguang (R) and Wang Yaping saluting in Tiangong-1 space lab module. Chinese President Xi Jinping came to the Beijing Aerospace Control Centre on Monday morning to talk with the astronauts aboard Tiangong-1.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 24 June—President Xi Jinping said that the Chinese people will take bigger strides in space exploration, during his talk to astronauts aboard the orbiting space module Tiangong-1 on Monday.

"The space dream is part of the dream to make China stronger. With the development of space programmes, the Chinese people will take bigger strides to explore further into the space," said Xi, making the video call at the Beijing Aerospace Control Centre.

Xi expressed his sincere greetings to the three astronauts who embarked on their space journey on 11 June on board of the Shenzhou-10 spacecraft, the country's

fifth manned spacecraft.

"You have worked and lived in space for 13 days. We all care about you very much," Xi told crew members Nie Haisheng, Zhang Xiaoguang and Wang Yaping.

Nie, commander of the crew, said they felt very well and were working as scheduled.

"We feel very proud to be able to contribute to realizing the Chinese nation's space dream," Nie said.

Wang, China's first teacher in space, said the crew members could rest seven to eight hours per day.

In the past 13 days of its journey, the Shenzhou-10 successfully finished automatic and manual

docking procedures with the Tiangong-1.

Also, a lecture was for the first time given from the assembled orbiter to about 330 primary and middle school students on Earth on 20 June, while more than 60 million students across the country watched the live broadcast of the lecture on TV.

Speaking of China's first space lecture, Xi said it would play an important role in fostering young people's interest in sciences and exploring the space.

During the 40-minute lecture, Wang introduced the motion in micro-gravity environments and the surface tension of liquid in space, with several demonstrations, and answered questions from the students.

China has sent ten astronauts and six spacecrafts into the space since its first astronaut Yang Liwei succeeded in his space trip in 2003.

The manned space mission has reflected the courage to defy hardship and explore, a spirit that would inspire the entire nation, President Xi said.

The dialogue drew applause from the audience at the aerospace control center. Xi also shook hands with field staff at the centre and expressed his greetings.

Xinhua

Malaysia declares emergency as Indonesia smoke pollution thickens

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 June—Malaysia declared a state of emergency in two parts of the southern state of Johor on Sunday, as smoke from land-clearing fires in Indonesia pushed air pollution above the level considered hazardous.

The illegal burning of forests and other land on Indonesia's Sumatra island, to the west of peninsular Malaysia and Singapore, to clear space for palm oil plantations is a chronic problem during the June-September dry season.

The "haze" caused by fires in Riau Province on Sumatra has also shrouded neighbouring Singapore but air quality in the city state improved over the weekend

after reaching hazardous levels.

"Prime Minister Najib Razak has agreed to declare emergency status in Muar and Ledang with immediate effect," Malaysian Natural Resources and Environment

Minister G Palanivel said in a Facebook post.

Palanivel said the air pollution index in the two districts had exceeded 750. A reading above 300 indicates that air pollution is hazardous.—Reuters



Pedestrians wear face masks as they walk along a hazy street in Kuala Lumpur on 23 June, 2013.—REUTERS

Samsung Galaxy Core gets a price in India, shipping 1 July

NEW DELHI, 24 June— Samsung had announced Galaxy Core in May and last week it was listed on company's website without a price or shipping date. Now, we know both.

Samsung Galaxy Core is available for pre-bookings at Rs. 15,350 and will ship starting on 1 July. The White colour is listed on the Samsung India online story already, with the Blue colour listed as 'forthcoming'. Third-party websites like Infibeam and Flipkart list the phone for Rs. 15,199 and Rs. 15,200 and indicate the MRP as Rs. 15,690.

Samsung Galaxy Core is a dual-SIM smartphone

that sports a 4.3-inch screen with a 480x800 resolution. Powered by a 1.2GHz dual-core processor, the smartphone has 1GB of RAM and runs Android 4.1 Jelly Bean and feature Samsung's TouchWiz interface layer on top. The smartphone sports a 5-megapixel rear camera and a VGA front facing camera. Galaxy Core offers 8GB of internal storage which can be expanded through a microSD card. It also offers Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 3.0 and GPS connectivity options. The phone comes with an 1800mAh battery.

Samsung's flagship Galaxy S4, Galaxy Core comes with FM Radio func-



tionality. The phone offers smart dual-SIM functionality allowing users to receive calls on one SIM card even when they're utilising the second SIM.

Samsung Galaxy Core offers new smart features borrowed from some of its high-end sibling including Smart Stay that recognises when a user is looking at the phone, and saves battery



life when a user looks away by dimming the screen and powering down using advanced facial recognition, Smart Alert that alerts the user to missed calls and messages when the device is picked up, Motion UI that activates common functions such as refresh or mute with simple motion commands and S Voice, Samsung's own voice assistant.—PTI

Australian radio telescope spys on galaxies in the raw

CANBERRA, 24 June— One of Australia's radio telescope has detected the raw material for making the first stars in galaxies that formed when the Universe was just three billion years old, less than a quarter of its current age, a Press release by the country's top research body said on Monday.

"This opens the way to studying how these early galaxies make their first stars," the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) said.

The telescope is CSIRO's Australia Telescope Compact Array telescope near Narrabri, New South Wales. "It is one of very few telescopes in the world that can do such difficult work, because it is both extremely sensitive and can receive radio waves of the right wavelengths," said CSIRO astronomer Professor Ron Ekers.

The raw material for making stars is cold molecular hydrogen gas, H₂. It can't be detected directly but its presence is revealed by a "tracer" gas, carbon monoxide (CO), which emits radio waves.

In one project, astronomer Dr Bjorn Emonts (CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science) and his colleagues used the Compact Array to study a massive, distant conglomerate of star-forming "clumps" or "proto-galaxies" that are in the process of coming together as a single massive galaxy. This structure, called the Spiderweb, lies more than ten thousand million light-years away.

Emonts' team found that the Spiderweb contains at least sixty thousand million times the mass of the Sun in molecular hydrogen gas, spread over a distance of almost a quarter of a million light-years. This must be the fuel for the star-formation that has been seen across the Spiderweb.

"Indeed, it is enough to keep stars forming for at least another 40 million years," says Emonts.

In a second set of studies, Dr Manuel Aravena (European Southern Observatory) and colleagues measured CO, and therefore H₂, in two very distant galaxies. The faint radio waves from these galaxies were amplified by the gravitational fields of other galaxies — ones that lie between us and the distant galaxies. This process, called gravitational lensing, "acts like a magnifying lens and allows us to see even more distant objects than the Spiderweb," says Aravena.

Aravena's team was able to measure the amount of H₂ in both galaxies they studied. For one, they could also use the radio emission to make an estimate of how rapidly the galaxy is forming stars, an estimate independent of the other ways astronomers measure this rate.

The Compact Array's ability to detect CO is due to an upgrade that has boosted its bandwidth — the amount of radio spectrum it can see at any one time — sixteen-fold from 256 MHz to 4 GHz, and made it far more sensitive.

Xinhua

Square roots? Scientists say plants are good at math

LONDON, 24 June— Plants do complex arithmetic calculations to make sure they have enough food to get them through the night, new research published in journal *eLife* shows.

Scientists at Britain's John Innes Centre said plants adjust their rate of starch consumption to prevent starvation during the night when they are unable to feed themselves with energy from the sun.

They can even compensate for an unexpected early night.

"This is the first concrete example in a fundamental biological process of such a sophisticated arithmetic calculation," mathematical modeler Martin Howard of John Innes Centre (JIC) said.

During the night, mechanisms inside the leaf measure the size of the starch store and estimate

the length of time until dawn. Information about time comes from an internal clock, similar to the human body clock.

"The capacity to perform arithmetic calculation is vital for plant growth and productivity," JIC metabolic biologist Alison Smith said. "Understanding how plants continue to grow in the dark could help unlock new ways to boost crop yield."—Reuters

2013 Paris Air Show ends with fat orders

PARIS, 24 June—The Paris Air Show had a happy ending on Sunday after global aviation industry players harvested a slew of contracts worth 100 billion US dollars.

Fierce competition among world leading planemakers was felt from the very beginning of the week-long show at Le Bourget airport.

The world's two giant aircraft manufacturers, Airbus and Boeing, continued their games to vie for the spotlight and woo customers.

Results showed that European aerospace heavyweight Airbus slightly outperformed Boeing, the US aviation giant, in sales ahead of the closure of the first four days of the show dedicated to potential customers.

Airbus claimed to have pocketed orders worth 68.7 billion dollars. It received commitments for 466 aircraft, 241 of which were in firm purchase orders.

By comparison, Boeing announced orders worth

66 billion dollars with orders and commitments for 442 aircraft.

The battle between Boeing and Airbus in the lucrative market for long-haul planes has dominated this year's event as these models offer planemakers the biggest profit margin.

Airbus used its new fuel-efficient A350s to compete with Boeing 787s and 777s. All of the new plane models are made of lighter composite materials which help reduce fuel consumption and pollution. The A350 XWB has successfully completed its second test flight on Wednesday at the show, which brought the company 21.4 billion dollars' worth of orders and commitments from four customers. Meanwhile, Boeing launched its latest model, the 787-10 Dreamliner this year with orders and commitments for 102 aircraft from five customers from Europe, Asia and North America at a cost of 34.3 billion dollars.

Boeing considers its new orders a pick-up for

its 787 Dreamliner which was grounded for several months this year due to battery problems.

"Our ongoing investment in the 787 family is well-founded," said Boeing Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Ray Conner.

Analysts said the booming orders for long-haul aircraft came as the global economy shows signs of recovery, while the demand by some airlines are growing as they look to renew their fleets. At this year's show, small aviation competitors also performed well. ATR, a European joint venture, won orders of 55 planes in a deal worth 2.1 billion dollars. Brazil's Embraer, which makes smaller-capacity commercial planes, successfully launched its new generation of regional jets at the show, gaining an order of 215 new planes and commitments of 165. Canadian Bombardier also announced dozens of orders in two separate deals worth 1.3 billion dollars.

Xinhua



Spring buds are silhouetted against the rising full moon in Washington, on 19 March, 2011.—REUTERS

Excavation to reveal ancient N China capital

SHIJIAZHUANG, 24 June—Archaeologists have started a three-month excavation project in north China's Hebei Province, where they expect to discover an ancient state capital dating back more than 3,000 years.

The excavation project is taking place in the village of Caijiafen. The State Administration of Cultural Heritage approved the excavation in April.

Archaeologists and historians believe the area to be excavated served as the capital of the Guzhu state, a vassal state of the Shang Dynasty (1600 BC to 1046 BC), according to Xie Fei, an expert from the Hebei Provincial Cultural Heritage Bureau.

The excavation will help to unveil the history and culture of the ancient state, Xie said.

Xinhua

Facebook bug



BEIJING, 24 June — Facebook says a bug in its system led to users' contact information - such as email addresses or phone numbers - to be accessed by other users who either had some contact information about that person or some connection to them. The company said the cause of the bug is "pretty technical."—Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

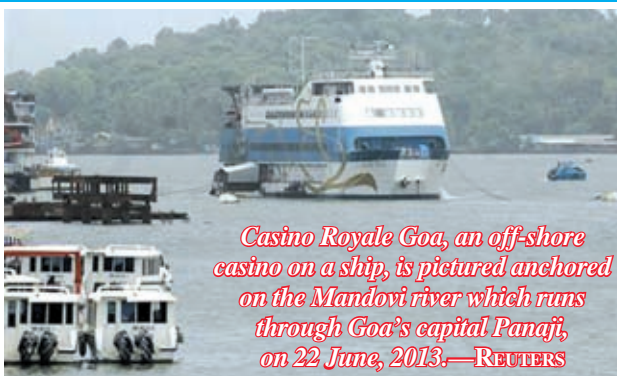
As Asia embraces casinos, India hedges its bets

PANAJI, (India), 24 June—Like many visitors to the Casino Royale Goa on a rainy Saturday night on India's western coast, Salim Budhwani said he does not gamble but also had no objection to the betting at the busy tables downstairs.

Despite socially conservative India's ambivalence about gambling, consultancy firm KPMG estimated that \$60 billion was wagered in the country in 2010. Much of the gambling is illegal, but attitudes are slowly changing as more Asian countries embrace gaming as a revenue generator and tourist draw.

Legal gambling in the increasingly wealthy country of 1.2 billion is limited to state lotteries, horse races and a handful of casinos. Most gambling in India, from penny-stake games at street corners and card parties in affluent homes to wagers on cricket and underground numbers games, is illicit and goes untaxed.

"People are playing on the roadside everywhere. People are playing in their houses," said Budhwani, 33, a luggage retailer from the city of Hyderabad who had brought his family to Goa, a tourist destination and one of two Indian states



Casino Royale Goa, an off-shore casino on a ship, is pictured anchored on the Mandovi river which runs through Goa's capital Panaji, on 22 June, 2013.—REUTERS

with casinos. "People are educated, they know what's at stake." Gambling on cricket, India's most popular sport, draws hundreds of millions of dollars.

The country was transfixed last month by a scandal in which several players were accused of taking bribes from bookies, spurring calls for legalizing and

regulating sports betting from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, a powerful business lobby, and others.

Legislation proposed after the cricket scandal is aimed at making cheating in sports a crime although it does not address regulating or legalizing betting.

Reuters

Scientists warn against complacency on deadly H7N9 bird flu

LONDON, 24 June—A new and deadly strain of bird flu that emerged in China in February but seems to have petered out in recent months could reappear later this year when the warm season comes to an end — and could spread internationally, scientists said on Monday.

A study by researchers in China and Hong Kong found only one human case of the H7N9 bird flu strain has been identified since early May.

In the preceding months, the virus, which was unknown in humans until February, has infected more than 130 people in China and Taiwan, killing 37 of them, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

"The warm season has now begun in China, and only one new laboratory-confirmed case of H7N9 in human beings has been identified since 8 May, 2013," the researchers wrote in a study published in *The Lancet* medical journal.

But they added: "If H7N9 follows a similar pattern to H5N1, the epidemic could reappear in the autumn."

H5N1 is another deadly strain of bird flu which emerged in 2003 and has since spread around the world. Latest WHO data on H5N1 show it has killed 375 of the 630 people confirmed as infected in the past 10 years. Many H5N1 cases have been in Egypt, Indonesia and Vietnam.

The researchers, from the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC) in Beijing and the University of Hong Kong, said the potential lull in H7N9 could offer health officials the chance to properly discuss and plan ahead for the possibility of the flu's return and wider spread.

This should include plans to build healthcare capacity in the region "in view of the possibility that H7N9 could spread beyond China's borders," they said. Experts from the United Nations agency said last month the bird flu outbreak in China had cost the economy some \$6.5 billion.

In a second study published in the same journal, the researchers also found that while H7N9 flu has a lower risk of death than its much-feared cousin H5N1, it has a higher fatality risk than the 2009 H1N1 flu which swept the world in 2009 and 2010 in a pandemic.

After analyzing data on hospital admissions, the team found that H5N1 bird flu had a fatality risk of around 60 percent for patients admitted to hospital — almost double that of the new H7N9 strain which has a death rate of about a third of those hospitalized with the infection.

Pandemic H1N1, often referred to as "swine flu", killed 21 percent of those it infected who were taken into hospital, the researchers said.

The team urged health officials and doctors not to be lulled into a false sense of security by the sharp drop off in H7N9 cases in recent weeks.—Reuters

China's central bank reiterates prudent monetary policy

BEIJING, 24 June—China's central bank said on Sunday that the country will continue to implement the prudent monetary policy while fine-tuning it at proper time. It also vowed to enhance liquidity management and keep a stable and moderate growth in its credit supply as well as social financing, said the People's Bank of China (PBOC) in a statement issued after a quarterly meeting of its monetary policy commission.

This came after a statement from the State Council on Wednesday, which vowed to continue the prudent monetary policy stance, firmly guard against systemic risks and make sure that credit gets channeled into real economy.

The central bank said the national economic operation and financial sector are "generally stable" while consumer prices being "basically stable," but it also highlighted challenges and risks.

GENEVA, 24 June—Public health officials meeting in Cairo agreed that strengthening countries' abilities to control, detect, and treat cases of new coronavirus infection are needed to stem the growing outbreak of the disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Saturday.

More than 100 public health experts from all countries in the Middle East and North Africa and Europe which have confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and from

The PBOC said it will maintain the stability and continuity of macroeconomic policies while optimizing the allocation of "financial resources" to support economic restructuring and guard against financial risks.

China's economic growth has been slowing. The 7.8-percent growth rate in 2012 was its slowest pace in 13 years, and economic data released so far in 2013 were not quite encouraging.

The PBOC has been taking a tough line with Chinese lenders. It refused to inject cash into the financial system in the past week despite a spike in domestic interbank lending rates and evidence that the economy is slowing. Analysts saw the move as the PBOC's attempt to force domestic lenders to stop channelling money into the informal banking sector, known as "shadow banking," which has boomed in recent years and fueled concerns about financial risks.—Xinhua

Public health officials agree on priority actions to control MERS-CoV

throughout WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) met from Thursday to Saturday.

They agreed that there is a list of priority actions which need to be agreed internationally and implemented nationally, according to the WHO.

At an international level, fast and complete reporting of cases, with contact histories, clinical care and treatment outcomes in as much detail as possible, and collected in a uniform manner across countries, is necessary, they said.

China-Britain currency swap agreement to boost market confidence

LONDON, 24 June—The agreement of a sterling/renminbi (RMB, or Chinese yuan) swap arrangement between the Bank of England (BoE) and the People's Bank of China (PBoC) is a very positive step that highlights the importance of the internationalisation of the RMB to London, Policy Chairman of the City of London Corporation Mark Boleat said on Sunday.

The agreement will give greater confidence to market participants, boost the already strong growth of London's RMB business volumes and support mutually beneficial trade and investment between our two countries, said Boleat.

Both countries' central banks have signed an agreement to establish a reciprocal 3-year sterling/renminbi currency swap line, with the maximum value of 200 billion Chinese yuan/20 bil-

lion pounds, according to an announcement on the BoE's website on Saturday night.

Boleat told *Xinhua* that the agreement gives confidence to the market for its official support and for the liquidity. "What we've seen in the past two years is the massive increase in the use of RMB to finance the international trade, and that has always been our major priority. It is easier for busi-

nesses who trading with China if they can trade in RMB rather than converting it into dollar and then into sterling," Boleat said. Import and export RMB financing totaled 33.6 billion yuan (5.4 billion US dollars) last year, up by 100 percent compared with 2011, and the volume of Letters of Credit and other loan guarantees grew 13 times to 4.7 billion yuan, according to a report released by City of London earlier this month.

"The RMB has been already a very important currency, and since I was last time in China the year before, the trend towards internationalization has been accelerated. We expect the RMB to be traded in London as the other major currencies are in the future," Boleat said.

Referring to the RMB pool held in London, Boleat



said the capital pool in London is still quite small, as the RMB deposit, investment and bond issuance has not grown as rapidly as the trade financing vehicles.

"But I am sure in longer term, we would see a much bigger pool of RMB held in London, we are going to see many more investments whether directly into China, or into fund dominated in RMB," added Boleat.

Xinhua

WHO said on Saturday in its latest disease outbreak update that the Ministry of Health in Saudi Arabia has announced an additional four laboratory-confirmed cases with MERS-CoV, including three female health care workers who cared for two previously confirmed MERS-CoV cases.

Globally, from September 2012 to date, WHO has been informed of 68 laboratory-confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, including 38 deaths, it said.

Xinhua

WORLD

Canada's oil capital Calgary could be without power for months after floods

CALGARY, 24 June—Power outages in the Canadian oil capital of Calgary could last for weeks or even months, city authorities said on Sunday, after record-breaking floods that killed three people and forced more than 100,000 to flee their homes swept across southern Alberta.

Some Calgary residents were able to return to sodden homes as river levels slowly dropped and some mandatory evacuations orders were lifted.

But Bruce Burrell, director of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency, said power restoration in the downtown core, where many of Canada's oil companies have their headquarters, could take days, weeks or even months.

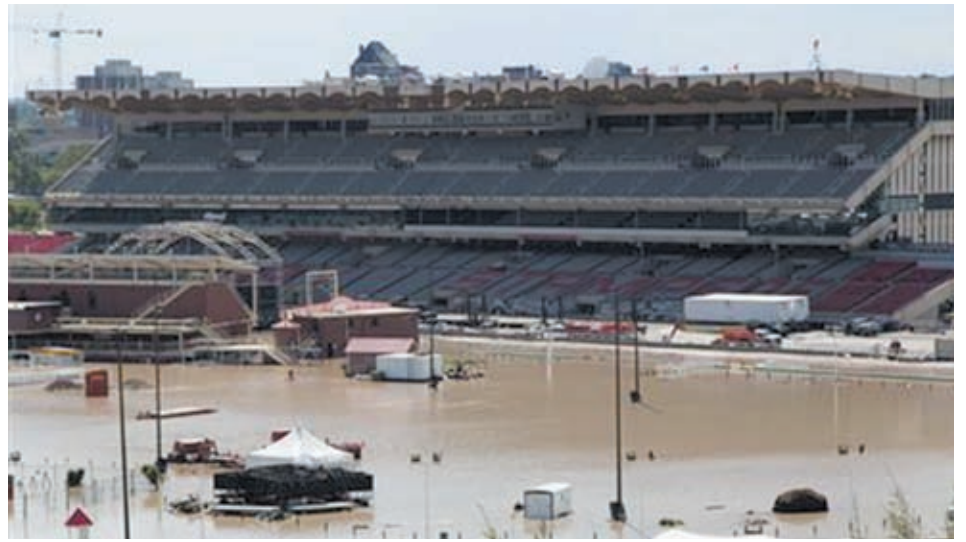
Many of oil companies were making plans for employees to work from home.

"This is an evolving situation and because of the volatility of electricity and

water and the infrastructure that was damaged we have got a lot of issues with restoring power to different parts of the city of Calgary," Alderman John Mar told CBC radio.

"We are facing an absolutely gargantuan task."

Heavy rains were blamed for 750 barrels of synthetic oil spilling from a pipeline approximately 70 kilometres (43 miles) south of Fort McMurray in northern Alberta early on Saturday.—Reuters



The grounds of the Calgary Stampede remain under water after they were flooded in Calgary, Alberta on 22 June, 2013.

REUTERS



The site of an explosion at the al-Mezze 86 neighbourhood in Damascus is seen in this 23 June, 2013.—REUTERS

Syrian rebels renew fight for Aleppo

AMMAN, 24 June—Syrian rebels battled President Bashar al-Assad's forces in and around the northern city of Aleppo on Sunday, seeking to reverse gains made by loyalist forces in the commercial hub over the last two months, activists said.

The fighting, by a variety of insurgent groups, happened as France urged moderate rebels to wrest territory back from radical Islamists whose role in the fight to topple Assad poses a dilemma for Western countries concerned that arms shipments could fall into the hands of people it considers terrorists.

The 11 Western and Arab countries known as the "Friends of Syria" agreed on Saturday to give urgent military support to the rebels, channelled through the Western-backed Supreme Military Council in a bid to prevent arms getting to Islamist radicals.

But radical forces showed they remained formidable on Sunday when the Islamist Ahrar al-Sham brigade detonated a car bomb at a roadblock at an entrance to Aleppo killing at least 12 loyalist soldiers, according to the opposition Aleppo News Network and other activists in the city.

Aleppo, 35 km (20

miles) south of Turkey, has been contested since July last year, when rebel brigades entered the city and captured about half of it. In recent weeks, Assad has focused his military campaign on recapturing rebel-held areas.

He has also been expanding control of the central province of Homs after capturing a strategic town on the border with Lebanon, and has used heavy bombardment and siege warfare to contain rebels dug in around the capital, according to opposition sources and diplomats monitoring the conflict. Firas Fuleifel, with the moderate Islamist al-Farouq Brigade, said six rebel fighters were killed in fighting in Aleppo in the last day.—Reuters



Photo shows a hot air balloon that crashed in the town of Itakura, Gunma Prefecture, on 23 June, 2013. A 70-year-old man was killed in the accident.

KYODO NEWS

Fifteen killed in Montenegro bus crash, 31 injured

PODGORICA, 24 June—Fifteen people were killed and 31 injured when a passenger bus with Romanian licence plates fell into a deep river gorge in central Montenegro on Sunday, officials said.

Police said the bus had swerved off the Zdrijelo Bridge and plunged onto a rocky outcrop in the gorge of the Moraca River, about 50 km (30 miles) north of the capital Podgorica.

"This is a major tragedy for us. Fifteen people out of 46 passengers died in a bus accident. Medical crews are fighting for the lives of others," the Romanian ambassador to Montenegro, Mihail Florovici, told Vijesti TV.

He did not say whether

the dead were Romanian. Montenegro's interior ministry earlier said 13 people died. A Reuters photographer on the scene said the wreckage of the bus was lying on its side on an outcrop about 30 metres (90 feet) down in

the gorge, where police and rescuers were seen trying to retrieve dead and injured passengers.

Police cordoned off the area and the main road linking Podgorica with the north of the country.

Reuters



A view shows the Grlo bridge over river Moraca in central Montenegro, on 23 June, 2013.—REUTERS

Gold mine collapse kills five in northwestern Colombia

BOGOTA, 24 June—At least 5 miners were killed and five others injured after an illegal gold mine collapsed on Sunday in Colombia's northwestern Antioquia region, where rescue works are still looking for trapped workers, officials said.

Cesar Hernandez, director of Antioquia's Prevention and Disaster Office, said the incident occurred

in a rural area of Zaragoza township. Four injured miners were taken to local hospitals while another one was transferred to a more complex medical center in Cauca municipality in the northeast.

"The dead and the injured people are 'barequeros' (informal miners) who had no formal employment relationship with the mine. They had an agreement

with the mine owner to work at certain times," Hernandez told local media.

According to Hernandez, the authorities are conducting an investigation to identify the causes of the mine collapse. Meanwhile, Colombia's National Confederation of Miners claimed that the mine was illegal, although it was in process to legalize their activity.—Xinhua

Boat with illegal migrants on fire off Crete island, eight injured

ATHENS, 24 June—A boat carrying illegal migrants to Greece caught fire off the southern Aegean Sea island of Crete on Sunday, resulting in the injury of eight persons, according to Greek Coast Guard officials. The small vessel was spotted by Coast Guard speedboats, while sailing at about 12 nautical miles off the city of Ierapetra.

For yet unclear reasons, fire had broken out in its engine. According to early information there were 20 men and three women on board. The nationalities of the undocumented immigrants have not been clarified. They have all been transferred to the city of Heraklion, where the eight injured received first aid. Most have suffered mild burns, with the exception of one person who is in more severe condition, according to hospital sources. Tens of thousands of people try to illegally enter Greece each year and then continue their journey to other European countries, and several lose their lives in sea tragedies.

Xinhua

Mandela in critical condition: S African government

CAPE TOWN, 24 June—Former South African President Nelson Mandela is in "critical" condition at a hospital in Pretoria, the South African presidency said on Sunday.

President Jacob Zuma visited the hospital Sunday night and doctors informed him that Mandela, 94, had

become critically ill over the past 24 hours.

The country's first black president and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate was hospitalized on 8 June due to a lung infection.

"The doctors are doing everything possible to get his condition to improve and are ensuring that Madiba is well-

looked after and is comfortable," Zuma said in a statement, using the clan name by which the anti-apartheid leader is widely known in South Africa. Zuma appealed to the country and the world to pray for Mandela, his family and the medical team attending to him.

Kyodo News

LOCAL NEWS

Education Ministry doubles basic education stipends



NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—Education Ministry has doubled the amount of stipends for the needy and outstanding students this academic year.

The scholarships were granted to outstanding students who have difficulties to continue their studies since 2013-2014 academic year.

The monthly stipends for middle school students was increased to K 20,000 from K 10,000 in the previous year and that for high school students to K 30,000 from K 15,000 in the previous year.

The ministry provided K 5000 to each primary school student, K 6000 to each middle school student and K 8000 to each high school student.

The stipends that started the previous year

will continue to be provided this academic year. A total of 414 scholarship awards were presented to the middle school students and the number will be increased

to 1416 this year. A total of 826 high school students will receive the scholarships this year, an increase from 412 in the previous year.

MMAL-Kyan Taing Aung

A ceremony to upgrade four schools to full-fledged high schools and middle schools in Lewe Township in progress.



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HRD

Stationery donated to monastic education school

KAWLIN, 24 June—A ceremony to provide stationery to No (2) Monastic Basic Education Primary School in Kawlin of Sagaing Region was held at the school on 19 June.

The ceremony was attended by Headmaster of the school Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sunanda, teachers and chairman of the board of directors of Kawlin

Township Development Affairs Committee Market Cooperative Society U Kyi, and vice-chairman U Nay Win and donors.

The chairman delivered a speech at the ceremony.

The donors presented cash assistance for the teachers and stationery for students.

MMAL-092

Schools in Lewe Tsp upgraded

LEWE, 24 June—Basic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in Lewe Township were upgraded on 17 June.

The ceremonies on 17 June which marked the upgrading of Dalantchun,

Aungmyeya, Thipokbin and Kantha schools were attended by Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Myint Swe, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Hmat Gyi, Deputy Director-General of No (2) Basic Education Department U Zaw Win, Director of Nay Pyi Taw Education Department U Myint Zaw, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and villagers.

Thipokbin and Kantha Basic Education High Schools (branches) were upgraded to full-fledged high schools, Dalantchun middle school (branch) to the middle school.

MMAL-Min Min Latt (Mandalay University)

AID

Humanitarian aids distribution discussed

MANDALAY, 24 June—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint met Deputy Head Ms Carrie Howard of UNOCHA (Myanmar) at Mandalay Region Government Office on 18 June.

The meeting was also attended by Region Road Transport Minister U Kyaw Hsan, Region Planning and Economy Minister U Aung Zan, and Region Government Secretary U Ohn Lwin.

The meeting focused on cooperation between UNOCHA and the region government for distribution of humanitarian aids.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)

Cooperative society formed in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 24 June—A cooperatives society of finished wood producers in Mandalay on 20 June.

The meeting to form the society with 15 members was held in Aungmyethazan Township Cooperative Department office.

MMAL-026

Riot police get drill in Meiktila



Police in Meiktila perform a drill at No (1) Police Station in Nandawgon ward in Meiktila.

MEIKTILA, 24 June—drill on the ground of No (1) Police Station in Nandawgon

ward on 21 June morning.

The drill was joined by 47 Meiktila police members and police battalion members.

Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Aung Kyaw Moe, the district police commander, the commanding officer of police battalion, the head of district fire brigade, members of the township support group and townsenders.

MMAL-435

International Olympic Day sports activities held

YANGON, 24 June—Under the arrangement of the Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee the Union Minister for Sports, sports activities were held at designated camps in various

Myanmar Sports Federations yesterday to mark International Olympic Day.

Myanmar Para Sports Federation organized men's and women's 800-meter four-wheelchair and

men's 4800-meter three-wheelchair contests at cycling training ground of Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna), and the executives presented awards to the winners.

Other sports activities such as weightlifting, Taekwondo, Karatedo, cricket, Wushu, and tennis events were held at Aung San Gymnasium, at the halls

YANGON, 24 June—Foreign Correspondents Club of Myanmar held its 24th Annual Meeting in Parkroyal Hotel here on 22 June morning.

Chairman U Tin Maung Aye delivered a speech and Secretary U Han Htway Aung submitted a financial statement which was approved by those present at the meeting.

New executives were then elected for 2013-2014

SPORTS

of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation and Myanmar Karatedo Federation, Lanmadaw gymnasium and Theinbyu tennis court.

The executives and officials of the respective sports federations presented prizes to the winners.

MNA

Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club meets



Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club holds AGM.

fiscal year.

U Hla Htway (Nikkei Shimbun) was elected as patron, U Aung Hla Tun of Reuters as chairman, Mr Zhang Yunfei of Xinhua and Daw Aye Aye Win of AP as vice-chairs, U Thitsar Hla Htway of TBS as secretary, U Han Htway Aung and Daw Hla Hla Htway of AFP as joint-secretaries, Daw Mo

Mo Myint of NHK and Daw Hsint Hsint Aung of NTV as financial supervisors, Daw Ei Ei Tin of Fuji TV and Dr Zaw Than of Sankei Shinbum and U Thiha Htway of International Relations Officer.

The meeting was attended by members of the club.

MMAL-Shwe Innthar

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 25 June, 2013

Long live the Dhamma!

It was over 2500 years ago that the Buddha began His virtuous mission of preaching people the Four Noble Truths the main vehicle carrying man and women till reaching Nirvana where all human sufferings end.

And when the Buddha attained Nirvana, He assigned His disciple monks the noble duty of disseminating His Teachings or in other words the Dhamma or the Sasana. From that time on and till now, Buddhist monks have been discharging this duty well.

In addition, the Buddhist monks are also carrying out the task of protecting, promoting, propagating and perpetuating the Sasana dynamically with the participation of all walks of life of Buddhist people.

In Myanmar, almost all the Buddhist monks are strictly observing the Viniya or the discipline and rules while on their continuous mission of teaching the Dhamma. In fact, the people's insight into the Dhamma is the foundation of preserving and safeguarding the Sasana.

Without the thorough Dhamma knowledge people cannot understand the real essence and the graciousness of Buddhism. Superficial knowledge on Buddhism is dangerous as it may cause misunderstanding sometimes even inviting harmful consequences.

Buddhist monks all over the country on their part are conducting public dissemination of the Dhamma or giving practical vipassana lessons and practices at their monasteries, religious centres, large or small congregations, donation ceremonies or pagoda festivals in ever corner.

As these monks are the venerable completely devoted their entire lives to the work of disseminating public knowledge on the Dhamma apart from safeguarding and preserving the Sasana, ordinary people, organizations and the government are providing all the requisites as a way of facilitating and supporting their mission.

Obviously, monks are the core in spreading Dhamma and preserving the Sasana to ever remain intact, and the lay persons including business institutions and the government are the main devotees always supporting them. The Sasana will live as long as this practice goes on!

Four RCC bridges put into service in Hlaingbwe

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—The Government of Japan, under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme, granted US\$ 632,466 for reconstruction of four bridges in Hlaingbwe Township of Kayin State. The handing over and opening ceremony was held on 22 June.

It was attended by Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw

Min, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mikio NUMATA, members of bridges construction committee and local people.

The RCC type facilities were built in the places of four-wooden bridges in Hlaingbwe Township and Kamawkachu Village.

It is expected that this will contribute to further strengthening the existing friendly relations between Myanmar and Japan.

NLM

Union FM felicitates Croatian Counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Dr. Vesna Pusic, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Croatia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

Union FM sends felicitations to Slovenian Counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Karl Erjavec, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Slovenia, which falls on 25 June 2013.—MNA

Jade lots sold through competitive bidding system

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—The tenth day of Golden Jubilee Myanmar Gems Emporium was held at Mani Yadana Jade Hall, here, this morning. The Mani Yadana Jade Hall was packed with

local and foreign gem merchants who bought jade lots through the competitive bidding system.

Jewelry shops and money exchange counters are kept open in the Jade Hall.

So far, a total of 8259 jade lots of 9657 have been sold out through the open tender. A total of 346 jade lots will be sold through the competitive bidding system at a rate of 90 lots per day.

Patron of Myanmar Gems Emporium Organizing Central Committee Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung accompanied by Chairman of the Committee Deputy Minister U Than Tun Aung and responsible persons visited the Jade Hall this afternoon.

Jade lots will be sold through the competitive bidding system till 27 June.—MNA



Local and foreign gems merchants seen at tenth day of Golden Jubilee Myanmar Gems Emporium at Mani Yadana Jade hall.—MNA

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No. 16/2013
1st Waning of Nayon, 1375 ME
(24 June, 2013)**

**Four Defence Services Personnel
Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives
substituted**

According to the request made in accord with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute four Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted four Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives stated hereunder in Announcement No. 1/2011 dated 20-1-2011, Announcement No. 22/2012 dated 22-4-2012 and Announcement No. 41/2012 dated 16-10-2012 of the commission with personnel shown against them.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. BC 24850 | BC 27485 |
| Lt-Col Than Naing | Lt-Col Myint Zaw |
| 2. BC 27059 | BC 24230 |
| Lt-Col Kyaw Zin Win | Lt-Col Hla Naing |
| 3. Navy 3637 | Navy 3626 |
| Cdr Khin Soe | Cdr Kyaw Kyaw |
| 4. BC 31869 | BC 26797 |
| Major Yan Naing | Major Tun Tauk |

By order,
Myint Naing
Member
Union Election Commission

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No. 17/2013
1st Waning of Nayon, 1375 ME
(24 June, 2013)**

**Six Defence Services Personnel
Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives
substituted**

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- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. BC 24196 | BC 33565 |
| Lt-Col Moe Lwin | Major Myo Min Thant |
| 2. BC 27002 | BC 31274 |
| Lt-Col Thant Zaw Oo | Major Maung Maung Nyein |
| 3. BC 21317 | BC 25168 |
| Lt-Col Than Kyaw Soe | Major Khin Maung Cho |
| 4. BC 23990 | BC 33130 |
| Lt-Col Zaw Moe Lwin | Major Soe Moe |
| 5. BC 26019 | BC 33445 |
| Lt-Col Kyaw Soe Oo | Major Win Naing |
| 6. BC 28298 | BC 46977 |
| Major Zaw Min Oo | Captain Kyaw Myat Soe |

By order,
Myint Naing
Member
Union Election Commission

LOCAL NEWS

Natural disaster prevention talks in Kungyangon Tsp

YANGON, 24 June—A ceremony to share knowledge about township-level natural disaster preventive measures organized by Save the Children and AryoneU Group was held at Thiri Yadana Hall of No.1 Basic Education High School in Kungyangon Township on 15 June.

At the talks, Township Administrator U Kyaw

Zeya Linn gave an opening speech and Assistant Director Daw Nyein Nyein Naing of Meteorology and Hydrology Department and Staff Officer Daw Swe Swe Win of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement disseminated knowledge on preventive measures against natural disaster. Then, local people raised questions and township-level depart-

mental officials replied to them. The students of BEHS No.1 presented the drill on preventive measures against natural disaster with the use of power point and children of Htinpon Village performed the one play acts for sharing knowledge of disaster risk reduction activities.

Kyemon-Sein Toe (Kungyangon)

Volunteers donate stationery, nutritious snacks in Mawlu

MAWLU, 24 June—A ceremony to donate stationery and nutritious snacks by One Candle Volunteers Group was held at Basic Education Primary School in Nakhwinkyin Village, Mawlu Village-tract, Indaw Township, Sagaing Region on 19 June.

The ceremony was attended by townselders

of Nakhwinkyin Village, teachers and members of the team. Then, volunteer group members explained the purpose of donation.

The group donated one dozen each of exercise books and pencils, one eraser, one ruler and snacks to 68 students for 2013-2014 academic year and chalk boxes, dusters, red pens and

filters worth K 170,100 to the teachers.

The group donated stationery and nutritious snacks to 15 BEPSs last year and four BEPSs this year. Plans are underway to make similar donations to more schools and the main sponsor of the group is Mandalaygazette.com.

Kyemon

Coordination meeting between township administrator and supportive committee for township/ward development held in Thingangyun



YANGON, 24 June—The formation of township/ward development supportive committee and coordination meeting between the township administrator and committee members was held at the township meeting hall in Thingangyun

Township, here, on 19 June. The committee members were introduced individually to the township administrator, officials, ward administrators and townselders.

Then, Township Administrator U Kyaw Lwin explained works to be

done. Committee Chairman U Khin Wai delivered a speech and committee members asked what they wanted to know and the township administrator made clarification. The members of the committees formed by the government for development of their areas have to meet once a month to collect suggestions and are to report work progress not later than the second day of the first week.

Kyemon

CHILD RIGHTS

Community-based child rights protection groups meet

YANGON, 24 June—A meeting between Child Rights Committee of Tamway Township, Yadanamyitta Group (UNICEF Project) and Ayechanmyitta Group is carrying out the community-based child rights protection in Ponnagone ward in Tamway Township.

Manager U Thein Swe from Yadanamyitta Group (UNICEF Project) explained facts about the group.

Ayechanmyitta Group is carrying out the community-based child rights protection in Ponnagone ward in Tamway Township.

Kyemon-Ohn Kyaw (Tamway)

CONSTRUCTION

DaikU Township gets RC bridge



DAIKU, 24 June—A ceremony to inaugurate Amay Daw Khin Su Bridge crossing Pauktabin creek was held at the bridge in Pauktabin Village of DaikU Township in Bago Region on 18 June. Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Region Development

Affairs Minister U Ye Myint Tun and donor U Thein Lwin formally opened the bridge. Then, the Chief Minister unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge and strolled along the bridge. The RC bridge, 145 ft long and 9.6 ft wide, links Pauktabin and Phaungtawthi

Villages. The facility was built at a cost of K 37.2 million—K 25.5 million by wellwisher U Thein Lwin and Daw Htay Htay Yi, K 9 million by their Mandalarian friends and K 2.6 million by local people. *Kyemon-Thein Nyunt (Peinzalok)*

Repaving of Myoma road in Pakokku

PAKOKKU, 24 June—Tun Nyo Lu construction company has been carrying out the repaving of Myoma road from People's Hospital in Pakokku to Hsinchaung Village in Yesagyo Township as of 17 June. "Paving of gravel in Pandaingchone road section has been completed.

Repaving of 40-ft-wide road is under way with the manpower of 50 workers," Engineer U Ye Myint from the company said.—*Kyemon-Aung (Man Tekkatho)*



Free private school launched in Natmauk



NATMAUK, 24 June—The opening of Zarnimay Myoset Pyinnya Pangin free private school took place at Hsutaungpyae Phayagy

Monastery in Natmauk on 19 June. After giving admonition by Township Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman

chairman U Hla Shein and U Thein Myint from consultant committee explained the purpose of free private school.

TEIRD

Sayadaw U W a y a m a , Headmistress Daw Myint Myint Maw of No.1 Basic Education High School, Assistant Region Education Officer (Retd) and school administrative committee

Then, Chairman of Natmauk Township Association (Yangon) and retired Managing Director U Han Zaw of Public Works donated K 100,000, U Kyaung Doe, K 20,000 and U Thein Myint, U Hla Shein and Daw Myint Myint Kyi, exercise books for the school. A total of 110 matriculation students will be taught at the school from Monday to Sunday. The opening day of the school coincided with the 68th birthday of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, townselders said.

Kyemon-Putibwa (Natmauk)

Erdogan defends riot police tactics in Turkey protests

ISTANBUL, 24 June— Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan piled ridicule on activists behind weeks of protests against his government during a rally on Sunday and defended riot police who fired water cannon at crowds in Istanbul a day earlier.

Looking out of over a sea of Turkish flags waved by his AK Party faithful in the eastern city of Erzurum, Erdogan praised his supporters and the general

public for opposing what he called a plot against his country.

“The people saw this game from the start and frustrated it. They (the protesters) thought the people would say nothing. They said we will burn and destroy and do what we want but the people will do nothing,” he said.

Sunday’s mass rally was the fifth which Erdogan has called since protests began in Istanbul in an

unprecedented challenge to his 10-year rule.

The unrest was triggered when police used force against campaigners opposed to plans to develop Istanbul’s Gezi Park, but they quickly turned into a broader show of anger at what critics call Erdogan’s growing authoritarianism.

The protests have underlined divisions in Turkish society between religious conservatives who form the bedrock of Erdogan’s support and more liberal Turks who have swelled the ranks of demonstrators.

He ending his speech by throwing red carnations to the roughly 15,000-strong crowd in the AK Party stronghold.

The AK Party rallies are focused on boosting party support ahead of municipal elections scheduled for next March and Erdogan said voters would then give their verdict on the weeks of unrest.

Reuters



Turkey Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan speaks during a conference in Ankara, on 18 June, 2013.

REUTERS

Egypt’s army ready to interfere to prevent conflicts

CAIRO, 24 June— Egypt’s defence minister said the army is obliged to interfere to prevent the country from sliding into a dark tunnel of conflicts, internal fighting and sectarian strife, official news agency MENA reported on Sunday.

“We still have one week left, in which a lot can be done,” Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi said, urging all political forces to achieve real reconciliation for the sake of Egypt ahead of the planned mass protest on 30 June to call for ousting President Mohamed Morsi and an

early presidential election.

The armed forces “will not remain silent while the country is sliding into an uncontrollable struggle,” the minister said.

“There is a state of division in society and the continuation of it is a danger to the Egyptian state and there must be consensus among all,” Sisi said, adding that the division would harm national security.

“We are completely responsible for protecting the people’s will,” Sisi reiterated.

Xinhua

38 Taliban rebels killed in Afghanistan within day

KABUL, 24 June—Thirty-eight Taliban militants have been killed during separate military operations across Afghanistan, said the country’s Interior Ministry on Sunday.

“Afghan National Police (ANP), army and the NATO-led coalition forces conducted several joint cleanup operations in Nangarhar, Parwan, Kandahar, Zabul, Uruzgan, Wardak, Logar, Ghazni and Helmand provinces over the

past 24 hours. As a result 38 armed Taliban were killed, four wounded and six other armed Taliban were arrested,” the ministry said in a press statement.

They also found and seized weapons, the statement said, without saying if there were any casualties on the side of security forces.

The Taliban insurgent group, which has been waging an insurgency of more than one decade, has yet to make comments. —Xinhua



Japan and the European Union begin their second round of free trade negotiations in Tokyo on 24 June, 2013, with both sides seeking to discuss elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to promote trade and growth. The first round of talks was held in Brussels in April. —KYODO NEWS

2nd Japan-EU trade talks begin with non-tariff barriers in focus

TOKYO, 24 June—Japan and the European Union began their second round of free trade negotiations on Monday in Tokyo, with both sides seeking to discuss elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers to promote trade and growth.

While the first round of talks in Brussels in April was mostly procedural, the two countries are expected to hold sector-by-sector talks in this round through 3 July, covering fields including goods and services

trade, investment and intellectual property.

Japan is hoping to increase auto and home electronics exports to the regional bloc by eliminating EU-imposed tariffs, while the European Union is seeking to eliminate Japan’s non-tariff barriers and gain greater access to public-sector projects in Japan.

The bilateral negotiation also form part of Japan’s plan to secure a new source of growth by raising the percentage of transactions with free trade part-

ners in value terms to 70 percent from the current 19 percent.

Tokyo has already launched other free trade negotiations in addition to joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations involving 11 nations from late July.

The European Union, for its part, aims to help its flagging economy by gaining greater access to the world’s third-largest economy while seeking to capitalize on Asia’s robust growth.—Kyodo News



Hundreds of crocodiles had reportedly escaped from a crocodile farm in Gaozhou City, Guangdong Province. The farm owner claimed that there were not that many as reported. XINHUA

Cuban vice president reaffirms strong ties between Cuba, Laos

VIENTIANE, 24 June — Cuban First Vice President Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez completed a two-day visit to Laos on Sunday during which he reaffirmed his government’s commitment in furthering the strong relationship and cooperation between Laos and Cuba, according to a Lao government press release.

Bermudez, the first vice president of both the Council of Ministers and the Council of State, held a bilateral meeting with his Lao counterpart Vice President Bounnhang Vorachit in Laos’ capital of Vientiane during his visit. In the meeting the two exchanged ideas on regional and international issues of mutual interest, the release said.

Bermudez also met with Lao President Choummaly Sayasone to convey Cuban President Raul Castro’s invitation to him to make an official visit to Cuba at a suitable time.

According to the Press release, Vorachit and Bermudez both expressed a strong desire to beef up their countries’ traditional relationship and close cooperation. Vorachit thanked Bermudez and the government of Cuba for their great assistance to Laos in the past, and their present assistance in national defence and development.

The Communist Party of Cuba was an important supporter of the Lao Communist Party during the Lao Civil War. More recently,

Cuba has cooperated in helping Laos to develop its agriculture, human resources, sports and health sectors. Last year, the Cuban government donated nearly 200 tons of sugar to Laos to help malnourished youth in the country’s rural areas.

The Lao Foreign Ministry described Bermudez’s visit as “one of the important events in Laos-Cuba relations” that has developed traditionally friendly relations to “a new height” for the mutual benefit of both. Bermudez expressed his pleasure for having the opportunity to visit Laos, one of South East Asia’s least developed nations, to see the ongoing development of the country and the people of Laos.—Xinhua

Over 553,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon

BEIRUT, 24 June—The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said on Sunday that the number of Syrians who fled their war-torn country to Lebanon has exceeded 553,000, an increase of 23,000 in the past week.

The UNHCR’s weekly report said there are currently over 473,000 Syrian refugees who have been registered with the agency, while more than 80,000 others are waiting to complete their registration process.

The registered refugees are benefiting from aid provided by the UN, the Lebanese government and various non-governmental aid agencies, said the report.

Among the registered, some 172,300 are in northern Lebanon, 160, 500 in the eastern Bekaa region, 83,000 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, and 57,600 in southern Lebanon.

Lebanon has called on the UN Security Council and international donors to help it sustain the burden of the influx of Syrian refugees whose number may hit one million by the end of this year.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

Fishing vessel stranded by tsunami to be dismantled

TOKYO, 24 June—A 330-ton fishing vessel, washed several hundred metres inland in Kesennuma, Miyagi Prefecture, by the March 2011 tsunami, will be dismantled despite the municipal government's plan to keep it as a memorial of the disaster, a senior city official said on Sunday.

The fishery company that owns the *Kyotoku Maru No 18* has entrusted dismantlement of the vessel to a nonprofit organization, saying many local residents oppose preserving it, according to the official.

The NPO based in Muroran, Hokkaido, is involved in projects to dismantle and reclaim ships. It has not yet been decided when the NPO will start wrecking the vessel.

The city government still hopes to preserve the vessel and will conduct a questionnaire survey in July to ask all households whether they want to keep it or not, the official said.

Kyodo News

Philippine authorities probing oil spill in Manila

MANILA, 24 June—The Philippine government is closely monitoring the oil leak near the Pasig River in Manila, a government official said on Sunday, dismissing any concerns over the safety of President Benigno Aquino III or those in the Presidential Palace.

"We are monitoring the incident, but so far no reason to be concerned," Presidential Security Group (PSG) Commander Brigadier General Ramon Mateo Dizon said on Sunday.

The official residence of President Aquino III



People queue to collect free masks at a community center in Singapore, on 23 June, 2013. Singapore government distributed free masks to the low-income families to meet the demand for masks due to smoke haze caused by forest fires in neighbouring Indonesia.

XINHUA

China "gravely concerned" about US cyber attacks

BEIJING, 24 June—A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said on Sunday that China is "gravely concerned" about cyber attacks launched by US government agencies against China, which were recently revealed by media reports. Spokeswoman Hua Chunying made the remarks when asked by a journalist to comment on the media reports that the US side had launched cyber attacks against Chinese telecom operators and Tsinghua University.

After expressing China's grave concerns, Hua said that the reports "again

proved that China is the victim of cyber attacks, and we have already lodged representations to the US side." She reiterated that China opposes all forms of cyber attacks. "We are willing to enhance dialogue and cooperation with the international community in a spirit of mutual respect, to jointly safeguard peace and security in cyberspace," she said.—Xinhua



Children watch a detection dog performing during an "open day" of the Customs in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, on 23 June, 2013. An "open day" activity was held here for the residents to know about the works of drug-sniffing dogs.—XINHUA

Monuments, sites of N Korea's Kaesong added to World Heritage List

PHNOM PENH, 24 June—The World Heritage Committee of UNESCO on Sunday decided to inscribe historic monuments and sites in North Korea's ancient city of Kaesong on the UN agency's prestigious World Heritage List. The decision was made by the 21-member committee under the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its ongoing 37th session held in the Cambodian capital.

The approval was widely expected as registration of the property, located west of the city at the centre of the Korean Peninsula, had been recommended by the International Council on Monuments and Sites, a UNESCO advisory panel known as ICOMOS.

Kaesong, the capital of Korea's Koryo Dynasty (918-1392), becomes North Korea's second World Heritage site after the Complex of Koguryo

Tombs, which was listed in 2004.

An official attending the meeting said in a speech that the listing is a "matter of great pride for all Korean peoples." Another official raised the North Korean flag and gleefully shouted "Mansei!" (Hurrah!).

The property consists of 12 separate property components, including

sections of the Kaesong City Walls, Sonjuk Bridge, and Kaesong Namdae Gate.

In its evaluation, ICOMOS praised it as embodying "the political, cultural, philosophical and spiritual values of the capital of the unified Koryo state as it transitioned from Buddhist to Confucian philosophy."

Kyodo News



This December 2007 file photo shows Sonjuk Bridge in the ancient city of Kaesong in North Korea. The World Heritage Committee of UNESCO decided on 23 June, 2013, to add historic monuments and sites in Kaesong to the UN agency's World Heritage List.

KYODO NEWS

At least 8,000 killed in flood in N India

NEW DELHI, 24 June—At least 8,000 people have been killed by flash flood in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand last week, said a government official on Sunday. "At least 5,000 people must have been killed in the deluge that inflicted heavy damage on vast tracts of land especially in Kedarnath valley," disaster management minister Yashpal Arya told the media.

Rescuers and the military have rescued all

the pilgrims stranded in the Kedarnath valley, Hindu the temple town which was the epicentre of the flood, described as Himalayan tsunami, which took by surprise local people and authorities last week.

The meteorological department has warned of more rains in the region from Monday. Some 19,000 people still remained stranded in three areas of the state, said *Press Trust of India*.

Xinhua



Survivors evacuated from flood-hit areas by the Indian Air Force (IAF) arrive at Kedarnath valley in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand on 21 June, 2013.

XINHUA

Chinese, Australian tourists drive record visitor numbers in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 24 June—Rising numbers of tourists from China and Australia pushed the number of visitors to New Zealand up 9 percent year on year last month to a record for a May month, the government statistics agency announced on Monday.

"The latest visitor number was easily the highest ever for a May month," Statistics New Zealand population statistics manager Andrea Blackburn said in a statement. "Arrival figures jumped to 153,000, after sitting at around 141,000 for the last six May months."

The increase was mainly due to more visitors from Australia (up 8,000) and China (up 3,900). Visitor arrivals from China had doubled in the past two years, from

8,600 in May 2011 to 16,800 in May this year, said a commentary. Twenty years ago, in May 1993, visitors from China numbered only 300.

In the year ended May, New Zealand had 2.628 million visitors, up less than 1 percent from the previous year. Tourism New Zealand said the monthly increase in arrivals translated to an extra 224,480 stay days for May.

"When we look at the first five months of 2013 we see a considerable upwards shift in arrivals, with total arrivals up 5.8 percent against the same period last year and holiday arrivals up 9.4 percent," Tourism New Zealand acting chief executive Justin Watson said in a statement.

Xinhua



People visit the Amber Fort near Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan, India, on 14 June, 2013. The 37th session of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee (WHC) on 21 June inscribed the Hill Forts of Rajasthan cultural property in India on the World Heritage List. The serial site includes forts of Amber, Chittorgarh, Kumbhalgarh, Ranthambore, Jaisalmer and Gagron in the districts of Jaipur, Chittaurgarh, Rajsamand, SawaiMadhopur, Jaisalmer and Jhalawar respectively. According to the UNESCO's document, the Hill Forts of Rajasthan are serial property formed by seven sites in the northwestern state of Rajasthan in India, each strategically built and located on the oldest mountain range of the Aravallis or the Vindhyan range in the region and, each as a representative of the medieval defence settlements of the Rajput warrior caste.—XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**The Government of the Republic of the
Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Information
Myanma Radio and Television
Nay Pyi Taw**

Invitation to open tender to construct building

1. Open tenders are invited from Myanmar entrepreneurs to construct buildings at Myanma Radio and Television of Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw Pinyinmana (Thapyaytaung).

Sr.	Location	Work name	Quantity
1.	Nay Pyi Taw, Pinyinmana (Thapyaytaung)	one-storey 120x25x12 ft 60-person-capacity RCC building with water and power supply	2 Lots
2.	Nay Pyi Taw, Pinyinmana (Thapyaytaung)	one-storey 60x30x10 ft 60-person-capacity mess hall of Brick Masonry Building with water and power supply	1 Lot
3.	Nay Pyi Taw, Pinyinmana (Thapyaytaung)	8-unit 20x10x8 ft Common WC Brick Masonry Building	1 Lot

2. The open tender forms and rules are sold out during office hours from 20-6-2013 to 19-7-2013. Open tender forms are to be submitted not later than at 16:00hr on 20-7-2013 and the tenders will be opened the same day.

3. Those wishing to submit the open tender are to pay deposit to Myanma Radio and Television for respective works and open tenders are to be submitted along with the copy of receipt. If more than one tender is submitted, deposits for the works must be paid before submitting the open tender.

4. The place where open tender document will be sold and submitted is Myanma Radio and Television, Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon).

5. For further information about full text of the announcement, detailed rules, price of tender form and deposit, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mrtv and www.moi.gov.mm/mrtv:zg.

6. Detailed information are available at the maintenance section, Ph-067 79377 and Purchasing section, Ph 067 79135.

Myanma Radio and Television

**The Government of the Republic of the
Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Information
Myanma Radio and Television
Nay Pyi Taw**

Invitation to open tender to construct building

1. Open tenders are invited from Myanmar entrepreneurs for following construction tasks at re-transmission stations of Myanma Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information in Hninthada, Manhero and Mongyu 105th-Mile (105 mile).

Sr.	Work name
1.	Re-transmission Station (30' x 20' x 12') building (Brick Masonary)
2.	Generator House (10' x 10' x 9') building Brick Nogging
3.	(40' x 20' x 9') two-unit staff quarters Brick Mansory
4.	(200' x 200' x 6') fencing with concrete post and barbed wire (including gate)
5.	Sinking of brick tube-well (3' x 30') in depth and repairing work of brick water tank (4'-0 x 3' -0 x 3' -6")
6.	Erection of five lamp-posts for electricfication
7.	Laying 1m x 1m x 1m eight concrete foundations for tower foundation work

2. The open tender forms and rules are sold out during office hours from 20-6-2013 to 19-7-2013. Open tender forms are to be submitted not later than at 16:00hr on 20-7-2013 and the tenders will be opened the same day.

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6. Detailed information are available at the maintenance section, Ph-067 79377 and Purchasing section, Ph 067 79135.

Myanma Radio and Television

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DELIGHT VOY NO (166)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (166) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(6) 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV AUTAI VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AUTAI VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(4) 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 SEA NET SHIPPING
CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TAN BINH 36 VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAN BINH 36 VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 TAN BINH CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

**Lhasa attracts
over one m
tourists**

LHASA, 24 June—More than 1.18 million tourists visited southwest China's Lhasa City, capital of Tibet Autonomous Region, between January and May, the local tourism bureau said on Monday.

Statistics from the bureau showed that the number of visitors represented an increase of 35.9 percent year on year, while tourism revenue reached 1.03 billion yuan (166.7 million US dollars), up 49.4 percent from the same period in 2012.

Many tourists arrived in the city before travelling to other places of the region, while some visitors chose Qamdo or Nyingchi prefectures as their first destination in Tibet.

Xinhua

**At least four
killed in bomb
attacks in
northern Iraq**

KIRKUK, 24 June—At least four people were killed in car bomb attacks in northern Iraq on Sunday, police said.

In one attack, a suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into the entrance of a police headquarters in the town of al-Riyadh located in west of the city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, killing three policemen and wounding 14 others with the police chief of the headquarters included, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, two car bombs went off in a quick succession at a residential Shiite Turkoman area in the city of Tuz-Khurmato, some 200 km north of Baghdad, killing one person and wounding 27, a local police source anonymously told Xinhua.

Xinhua

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



People dressed in traditional costumes take part in a folk custom parade in Geneva, Switzerland, on 23 June, 2013, as a part of the three-day Geneva Music Festival which started from 21 June.
XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GOLD MENUM VOY NO (122)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GOLD MENUM VOY NO (122) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(2) 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: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (321)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAKAN VOY NO (321) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (074)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (074) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.6.2013 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 ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (042)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (042) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.6.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Tom Cruise excited about Top Gun 2

LOS ANGELES, 24 June —Producer Jerry Bruckheimer has revealed that superstar Tom Cruise is excited to make the long-delayed Top Gun 2.

A sequel to Top Gun has been touted for nearly 30 years, while work has recently commenced on getting the project made.

This progress was

halted in August 2012 by the death of Top Gun director Tony Scott, leading to speculation that the movie might be scrapped entirely, reported Digital Spy.

Top Gun producer Bruckheimer recently confirmed that work had resumed on the sequel.

"We're at a point right now where everybody wants to make it. For a while it was Tom was excited about it but the studio didn't want to commit or the studio was excited and Tom didn't want to do it. And that's been going on for 30 years. And now we're at a point where the studio is excited and Tom is

excited," Bruckheimer said.

"A lot of that has to do with Tony Scott's vision. He had a really exciting vision and he got everybody excited about it. That enthusiasm has carried forward," he added.

Bruckheimer also confirmed that Jack Reacher scribe Christopher McQuarrie is no longer working on the screenplay, as he is now focusing on Mission: Impossible 5.

The original Top Gun made more than USD 356 million at the worldwide box office in 1986 and cemented Cruise as one of Hollywood's biggest stars

PTI



Tom Cruise

Katy Perry: Russell Brand divorced me via text message

LONDON, 24 June—Pop star Katy Perry has revealed that her former husband Russell Brand told her that their marriage was over through a text message.

The 28-year-old singer said she has not heard from the funnyman since he messaged her more than a year ago to say their 14-month marriage was over, reported Sun online.

"He's a very smart man, a magical man and I was in love with him when



Pop star Katy Perry

I married him. Let's just say I haven't heard from him since he texted me saying he was divorcing me on December 31, 2011," she said.

Although Perry accepts her hectic touring schedule was partly responsible for the failure of her marriage, she cryptically hinted there were more reasons for the split.

"I felt a lot of responsibility for it ending, but then I found out the real truth, which I can't necessarily

disclose because I keep it locked in my safe for a rainy day. I let go and I was like, "This isn't because of me; this is beyond me.'So I have moved on from that," she added.

The couple divorced last year. Since the split, Perry dated musician John Mayer but confirmed their on-and-off relationship is finally over. She is currently being linked with Twilightheartthrob Robert Pattinson.—PTI

Jennifer Lopez signs film on Chilean miners



Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez

LOS ANGELES, 24 June—Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez is the latest ad-

dition to the cast of The 33, a film based on the story of survival of the miners

trapped for more than two months after a mine collapse in northern Chile.

JLo joins the cast led by Spanish actor Antonio Banderas, who plays Mario Sepulveda, the charismatic miner who earned the nickname "Super Mario" during the saga, reports The Hollywood Reporter.

Filming will begin this fall in Chile under the direction of Patricia Riggen.

Also making up part of the cast will be actors Martin Sheen and Brazil's Rodrigo Santoro.

The script, written by Mikko Alanne and Jose Rivera, revolves around the incidents that took place in the San Jose mine, where the miners spent 70 days some 700 metres underground before their rescue in October 2010.

The script was written in collaboration with the miners themselves and includes details never before made public about their first 17 days below ground, before they managed to contact someone on the surface.

PTI

Selena Gomez, Ed Sheeran more than just friends?

LOS ANGELES, 24 June — Singers Selena Gomez and Ed Sheeran are said to be showing a lot of interest in one another, and have reportedly "hooked up".

Gomez, who was earlier dating Justin Bieber, instantly hit it off well with Sheeran after getting introduced by common friend, singer Taylor Swift, reports thesun.co.uk.

"They are hooking up.

They are friends with an open mind. He's sensitive and sweet and a lot deeper than Justin," a source said.

Gomez famously ended her two-year-old relationship with the Baby hitmaker Bieber in January this year.

Sheeran was also linked up with Swift earlier, but later, he denied the reports, calling her "a very good friend".—PTI



Ed Sheeran and Singers Selena Gomez

SPORTS

Duke gets first PGA win in playoff over Stroud



Ken Duke holds his trophy after winning the Travelers Championship golf tournament in Cromwell, Connecticut, on 23 June, 2013.—REUTERS

CONNECTICUT, 24 June—Ken Duke notched his first career PGA Tour title in his 187th start by beating Chris Stroud with a birdie on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff to win the Travelers Championship on Sunday. The 44-year-old became the oldest first-time winner in 18 years when he claimed victory by sinking a two-foot birdie putt after fellow American Stroud's long birdie try trickled just past the hole on the 18th green.

"Worked hard," said Duke, who had been a runner-up three times on the tour.

"I knocked on the door a lot and here we are."

Both players parred the 18th in the first hole of sudden-death before returning to the 18th tee for what turned out to be the decider at the TPC River Highlands course.

Duke became the oldest first-time winner on the tour since Ed Dougherty, who was 47 when he won the 1995 Deposit Guaranty Classic.

Stroud forced the playoff by chipping in from across the green for birdie

after sending his approach shot long after blasting a drive of some 340 yards.

"I'm glad I gave myself a chance in the playoffs," said Stroud, who was also chasing his maiden victory. "I wish that I would've won. Obviously, we all want to win. I gave it everything I had."

Duke fired a final-round of four-under-par 66 and Stroud posted 67 to tie on 12-under-par 268.

Duke took advantage of a lucky bounce at the par-four 10th, when he pulled his approach shot into the trees left of the green but the ball rattled around and bounced out onto the green to set up his five-foot birdie putt.

"I got an unbelievable break on 10," acknowledged Duke, who had only one top 10 this season from 18 starts — a tie for eighth at the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

"I knew it was going to be tough and that this guy wasn't going to give up. The main thing was, I didn't give up."

Reuters

Federer and Murray headline Wimbledon's Mega Monday

LONDON, 24 June—Dubbed as Mega on Monday, the first day of Wimbledon bursts into life later with defending champion Roger Federer, home crowd favourite Andy Murray and women's contender Maria Sharapova all in action on Centre Court.

Seven-time Wimbledon winner Federer begins his tournament against Victor Hanescu of Romania at 1300 BST, while Russia's Sharapova takes on Kristina Mladenovic straight after.

Eyes will then focus on last year's runner-up Murray, who begins his search for an elusive Wimbledon crown in a tie with Germany's Benjamin Becker.

Other showcourt feature matches include Rafa Nadal, who has his first round match against Steve Darcis on Court One, while French powerhouse Jo-Wilfried Tsonga plays Belgian David Goffin on Court Two.

In the women's singles, world number two Victoria Azarenka meets Maria Joao Koehler and Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki is up against Spain's Estrella Cabeza Candela on Court Three.

Reuters



Roger Federer of Switzerland leaves a practice after a training session before the start of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London on 23 June, 2013. REUTERS

Liverpool set to sign Mignolet from Sunderland

LONDON, 24 June—Liverpool have agreed a deal with Sunderland for goalkeeper Simon Mignolet and the Belgium in-

ternational will sign for the Merseyside club early next week for nine million pounds, British media report-

ed on Saturday. The *Liverpool Echo* newspaper said the 25-year-old goalkeeper was expected to have his medical examination and discussions with the club over personal terms after he returned from holiday this weekend.

Liverpool coach Brendan Rodgers has completed the signing of Spanish forward Luis Alberto from Sevilla, subject to international clearance, the Premier League club said on their website (www.liverpoolfc.com).

Rodgers has already recruited Celta Vigo striker Iago Aspas and landed Manchester City defender Kolo Toure on a free transfer since the end of last season.

Reuters



Sunderland's Simon Mignolet

Gay sets up double Bolt showdown after year's best 200m

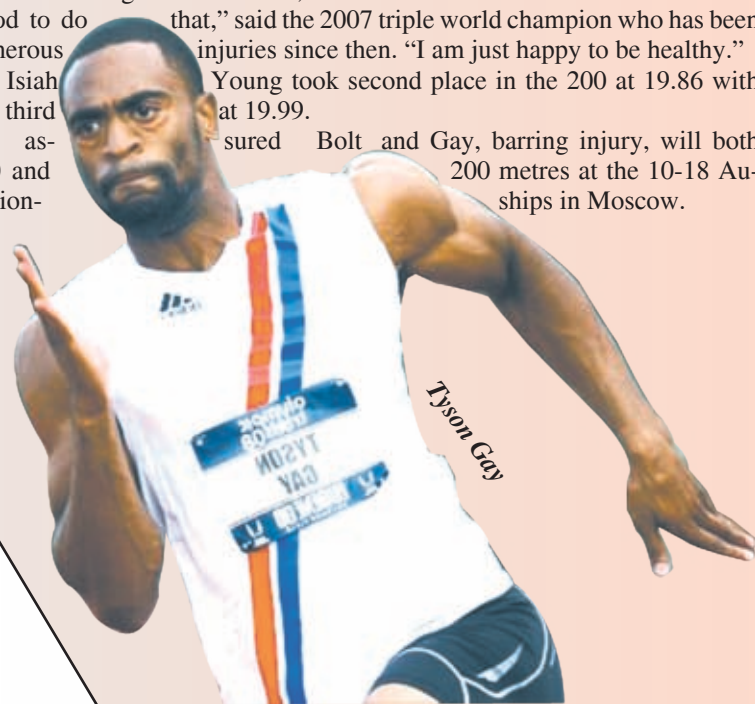
KINGSTON, 24 June—Tyson Gay rocketed to the year's fastest 200 metres, clocking 19.74 seconds at the US trials on Sunday to set up a double sprint clash with Olympic gold medallist Usain Bolt at August's world championships.

The big victory came two days after Gay ran a world-leading 9.75 seconds to win the 100 metres at the US meeting in Des Moines, Iowa.

"It feels good to do that," said the 2007 triple world champion who has been beset by numerous injuries since then. "I am just happy to be healthy."

Collegian Isiah Young took second place in the 200 at 19.86 with Curtis Mitchell third at 19.99.

The win assured Bolt and Gay, barring injury, will both be in the 100 and 200 metres at the 10-18 August championships in Moscow.



Tyson Gay

Bolt won the 100 at the Jamaican championships in Kingston this weekend and has a wild card bye in the 200 metres.

Both also will run the 4x100 metres relay for their nations in Moscow.

Jamaican sprinters have dominated the Americans in the past two Olympics and world championships.

Gay, who displaced Bolt as the year's fastest 200 metres runner, would not be drawn into a war of words over whether the US sprinters were ready to end Jamaica's streak.

"It's no secret Usain Bolt is obviously the greatest of all time," Gay said. "He's definitely going to be prepared."

Gay's triumph overshadowed losses by Olympic champions Aries Merritt and Allyson Felix on the final day of the US trials.

World 110 metres hurdle record holder Merritt, coming back from a hamstring injury, finished third behind Ryan Wilson and David Oliver but still made the US team.

Wilson ran 13.08 followed by Oliver at 13.11 and Merritt in 13.23, with only the top three finishers in each event qualifying for the worlds.

"I had to fight because I knew I had to make the team," said Merritt, who had only two workouts before the nationals.

Reuters

GENERAL

2.5 mln people partook in anti-gov't protests across Turkey

ANKARA, 24 June—About 2.5 million protesters have taken to the streets across Turkey since the unrest initially erupted on 31 May over government plans to redevelop Gezi Park in Istanbul's Taksim Square, daily *Milliyet* reported on Sunday.

Only in two cities, Bayburt and Bingol, people did not attend the protests; while 79 cities witnessed mass demonstrations, with

the majority in Istanbul and the capital Ankara, the report quoted the Interior Ministry's record as saying. At least five people were killed during the protests, as some 4,000 were injured, including some 600 policemen, and about 4,900 protesters detained. Civil disobedience protests occurred after the violent clashes faded away, said the report. A total of 58 public buildings and 337

private businesses were damaged, while 240 police vehicles, 214 private cars, 90 municipality buses and 45 ambulances were left in bad conditions, the report said, adding that the total damages were estimated at over 70 million US dollars. The protests began as a peaceful sit-in, but soon snowballed into nationwide anti-government movement due to harsh police crackdowns.—Xinhua



Keepers display six albino pythons at Chimelong Safari Park in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, on 23 June, 2013. The six golden pythons arrived at their new home at the park on Sunday.—XINHUA

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(25-6-13 09:30 am ~ 26-6-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Rakhine Tourist Area
- * World News
- * School for the Blind
- * Local News
- * Festive Mood & Festival Food
- * Large Parasol; A Souvenir of Patheingyi
- * World News
- * Try Your Best
- * Local News
- * Historic Temples of Massiveness and Unique Structures
- * Nay Pyi Taw Hot Spring
- * World News
- * Back to School
- * Local News
- * Life In Night...Art In Life (Episode-2)
- * Local News
- * Reflections of Taungoo Period
- * World News
- * Myanmar Sport Special Canoeing
- * Local News
- * Taste of Myanmar (Rice Salad with Vegetables)
- * Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- * World News
- * Summer School
- * Local News
- * Variety Puppet Dance
- * Strolling along a memory link-U Pein Bridge
- * World News
- * Cleaning Water... Saving Lives
- * Local News
- * Life In Night...Art In Life (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * Thuta Swesone Literary Award

Myanmar TV

(25-6-2013, Tuesday)

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|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| 6:00 am | 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw | 4:15 pm | 18. Song & Dance of National Races |
| 6:25 am | 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 4:25 pm | 19. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Year (Chemistry) |
| 6:30 am | 3. Dacnce & Song of National Races | 4:45 pm | 20. Songs of Yester Years |
| 7:00 am | 4. News/ Weather Report | 5:00 pm | 21. News |
| 7:30 am | 5. Documentary | 5:15 pm | 22. Documentary |
| 8:00 am | 6. News/International News | 5:30 pm | 23. SEA Games Go for Gold (Bicycle) |
| 8:25 am | 7. Teleplay | 6:00 pm | 24. News/ Weather Report |
| 9:20 am | 8. Mono Classical Songs | 6:20 pm | 25. Sing A Song |
| 10:00 am | 9. News | 6:50 pm | 26. TV Drama Series |
| 10:15 am | 10. TV Drama Series | 7:00 pm | 27. News |
| 11:35 am | 11. Tamyethnar Takwetsar | 7:15 pm | 28. TV Drama Series |
| 12:00 am | 12. News/International News/Weather Report | 8:00 pm | 29. News/International News/Weather Report |
| 12:25 pm | 13. Myanmar Video | 8:35 pm | 30. Pyi Thu Ni Ti |
| 2:25 pm | 14. Musical Programme | 8:50 pm | 31. Musical Programme |
| 2:40 pm | 15. Teleplay | 9:00 pm | 32. News |
| 3:00 pm | 16. News | 33. Bakery World | |
| 4:00 pm | 17. News/ Weather Report | 34. Documentary (Fashion Show) | |
| | | 35. India Drama Series | |

Israeli cabinet approves exporting 40 percent of natural gas

JERUSALEM, 24 June—The Israeli cabinet approved on Sunday the decision to export 40 percent of Israel's natural gas, according to a statement by the Prime Minister's Office.

Israel will then, according to the decision, keep 60 percent of its estimated gas reserves, which means approximately 540 billion cubic metres (BCM) of natural gas for Israeli market in the next few decades. In 2012, the Israeli economy consumed seven billion BCM

of natural gas. The decision to export natural gas will, in the meantime, satisfy exploration companies seeking access to the global market.

Government's projections show that the sum of money from royalties could amount to 60 billion US dollars in the next twenty years.

"The State of Israel has received a gift from nature — gas in vast quantities," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said during the Sunday cabinet meeting, referring to the substantial natural gas

reservoirs discovered off the shores of Israel in the past several years. "Thanks to the decision we made today, every Israeli citizen will enjoy this gift. We will lower the cost of living in the electricity sector via this gas, that will flow into the Israeli economy and invest in the public welfare with the profits from the gas exports," he said. But there is also public criticism over the move.

On the one hand, the figure of 40 percent is lower than the 53 percent that the

Tzemach Committee, an inter-ministerial committee recommending the government's gas policy has recommended to release for export. A higher rate of export serves the interests of gas and energy exploration companies, who operated a strong lobby in order to increase the quota for export. On the other, Israeli environment activists insisted the country needs to retain the natural gas and use it for its needs before exporting it to other countries.

Xinhua



The so-called college entrance examination is equal to bac général in France, which started on 17 June this year. According to a French teacher, the hard exam will trip up many students each year.

XINHUA



Brazil's goalkeeper Julio Cesar (2nd L) complains to referee Ravshan Irmatov of Uzbekistan (L) about the whistle being blown before Italy's second goal was scored during their Confederations Cup Group A soccer match at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador on 22 June, 2013.

REUTERS

Referee admits to mistake with Italy goal

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 June—A referee has admitted to making a mistake in awarding Italy's second goal during their 4-2 defeat to Brazil at the Confederations Cup, FIFA said on Sunday.

Giorgio Chiellini's goal was allowed to stand even though referee Ravshan Irmatov appeared to have blown for a penalty in Italy's favour seconds earlier. Brazil angrily protested the goal, which made

the score 3-2 to Brazil and brought Italy back into the match. The Uzbek official later confirmed he had whistled for a penalty, FIFA said. "He admitted he made a mistake with regards to the incident penalty-goal," FIFA spokesman Pekka Odriozola told reporters.

"(It was) a technical mistake, he has also admitted that, once you blow the whistle you have stopped play, you cannot give the

advantage."

"He doesn't want to give make excuses, but he explained what the situation was like for him," said Odriozola.

"It was very quick, while he was blowing (for the penalty), out of the corner of his eye, he saw the goal could be scored, (then) the goal was scored. He was thinking quickly and he did not want to give any excuses."—Reuters

Handing over ceremony of Buddha Tooth Relic and Golden Chamber held



The consecration ceremony for Buddha Tooth Relic donated by the People's Republic of China in progress at Uppatasanti Pagoda.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June—The consecration ceremony for Buddha Tooth Relic donated by the People's Republic of China to be placed at Uppatasanti Pagoda, here, was held in conjunction with the handing over of golden

chamber at the pagoda, here, this afternoon.

First, the congregation led by Sayadaw Abhidaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Pañnasiri of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha and Venerable Shi Chang

Zang of Buddha Tooth Relic Temple in China consecrated the Buddha Tooth Relic in Myanmar and Chinese languages.

The congregation received Five Precepts from the SCWCS Sayadaw and the monks recited Parittas.

Then, Ven Shi Chang Zang explained the purpose of donation and handed over the Tooth Relics and chamber to the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The Pagoda Board of Trustees presented Dhamma gifts to the Chinese monks

and party and Member of Pagoda Board of Trustees U Tun Kyi spoke words of thanks.

Next, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Dr Maung Maung Htay handed over K 12.8 million donated by the wellwishers to the

Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Sanga led by the SCWCS Sayadaw, Ven Shi Chang Zang and monks, Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt and U Hsan Hsint, Deputy Ministers Dr Maung Maung Htay and U Soe Win, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council and pilgrims from four corners of the country.

Ven Shi Chang Zang expressed that he had been to Myanmar many times and he regarded Myanmar as his second native country. He loved Myanmar people and three Buddha Tooth Relics were very important for China-Myanmar Buddhism Friendship, he added. During the tour, he donated 45 power tillers, 2 tractors, one combined harvester, one transplanter and 5 trucks for development of Myanmar's mechanized farming, he continued. Moreover, he said that he would like to address water scarcity of local people by tapping wells in areas under water stress in Myanmar.

MNA

Diagnostic Workshop on Agriculture Sector held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June — Jointly-organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar Development Resource Institute (MDRI), Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESD), USAID and Michigan University of the US, Diagnostic Workshop on Agriculture Sector was held at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

It was attended by Union Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister U Khin Zaw and departmental heads, US

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell, experts from MDRI, CESD, USAID and Michigan University and guests.

In his address, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing said that cooperation would be made between the ministry and USAID, welcoming its assistance to agriculture sector in Myanmar. He expressed his belief that it could thereby contribute towards better government-to-government connectivity as well as people-to-people connectivity.

Next, the US

Ambassador extended greetings and those present watched a video clip of activities on agriculture sector development across the nation.

Then, Prof Dr Steve Haggblag, Prof Dr Ducan Boughton and Professor Dr Thomas Reardon of Michigan University and Director Dr Zaw Oo of MDRI-CESD spoke on the occasion and the Union ministers made clarifications on work progress and requirements to be fulfilled in cooperation with USAID.

In the afternoon session, agriculturists of

Lapadaungtaung Copper Mine Investigation Report Implementation Committee holds coord meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 24 June —The committee on implementation of Lapadaungtaung Copper Mine Investigation Report would step up efforts for promoting socio-economy and creating more job opportunities for the local people.

During the coordination meeting of the committee at the President's Office here today, the committee will work together with Ministry of Mines, regional government, Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd, Myanmar Wanbao Company and responsible personnel with transparency and in accordance with the international standard to promote the local people's socio-economy including matters related to health, education and job opportunities, said U Hla Tun, Union Minister



Union Minister at the President Office and Chairman of the Committee U Hla Tun delivering address at the meeting.

MNA

at the President Office and Chairman of the committee.

The participants of the meeting discussed measures in details to be taken for fulfilling the needs of the people in accordance with standards

of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and Occupational Health & Safety Advisory Services (OHSAS).

MNA



Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and party visit farm machinery warehouse of Alliance Star Company.—MNA

the ministry took part in group discussions and international experts made supplementary discussions.

Next, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing together with foreign experts and board of the members of MDRI-CESD visited

a 500-acre plantation at Koe village in Pobbathiri Township, 70-ton rice mill at Nyaungbingyisu village, a dragon ball plantation near Chaing village, farm machinery warehouse of Alliance Star Company and a 500-acre

summer paddy plantation near Alyinlo village in Pyinmana Township, a 300-acre summer paddy plantation in Zabuthiri Township and a 100-acre paddy plantation of Research Farm at Tegiyikon village.—MNA