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True patriotism

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

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

Monetary and financial restrictions related to trade and investment eased: Deputy Minister

Pyithu Hluttaw regular session continues for 18th day

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Pyithu Hluttaw regular session continued for 18th day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this morning, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 402 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

At today's session, four questions were answered, one proposal discussed, one proposal submitted and one bill discussed.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw answered questions raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question raised by U Bo Ni of Yamethin Constituency on **“launching educative measures in all regions and states after testing mineral ingredients in lands of each region and state”**, the deputy minister answered that the ministry opened land utilization divisions in each region and state to disseminate knowledge for choosing fertilizers and crops, testing ingredients in lands.

Regarding the question raised by U Francisco of Pekhon Constituency, on behalf of U Khin Maung Myint of Yaksawk Constituency on **“dredging silts at Moebye Dam and cannels, repair of sluice gates and resuming voyage between Inlay Lake and Loikaw”**, the deputy minister answered (See page 8)

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives sign attendance book at 18th day regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw.
MNA



Reforms must be undertaken for financial and legal institutional development during the drafting process of monetary and capital market law: MPs

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—The Amyotha Hluttaw session continued for 18th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in

Hluttaw Complex here today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 211 MPs.

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko replied to four questions. Regarding the question of U Pe Thuang

about **whether there is any plan to upgrade Hopin Sub-township in Mohnyin Township into township level,**

the Union Minister replied that the sub-township is constituted with one town, four wards, eight village-tracts and

27 villages. It is just 22 miles from Mohnyin Township. It covers an area of 247.90 square miles with 8315 households and population of 49160. Its annual population growth rate stands at 1.9 percent. Due to its current economic, administrative and social status, it should be remained as the sub-township.

Regarding the question of U Paul Htan Htai of Chin State Constituency No (3) about **matters related to selection of ward/village-tract administrators,** the Union minister replied that ward/village-tract administration laws and rules have been issued by the President and the Union Home Affairs Minister and the rules have been submitted to the Hluttaw Office (See page 9)



Amyotha Hluttaw representatives seen at the 18th day session of Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 1 Aug, 2012

To attract more FDIs

Our government has already formed the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) which is now in operation with the internationally accepted system covering the job of providing investor protection, environmental conservation, social impact protection, and ensuring transparency and accountability in financial sector as the main agenda. MIC also encourages job creation by employees and technology transfer, and defines corporate social responsibility (CSR) and factors which must be gradually taken into consideration in weighing investment proposals.

We have more good news and that is based on the recommendations from experts and suggestions on resource related investment we are in the process of applying the internationally-acknowledged Extractive Industry Transparency Initiatives (EITI) in the near future.

But the sanctions imposed on Myanmar make us impossible to get any assistance from international monetary institutions and organizations such as World Bank, IMF, ADB and UNDP for our nation-building endeavours through democracy transition. In any circumstances, the government has been striving with high enthusiasm for extending our technical know-how and international economic engagement. Sadly, sanctions are still hampering our efforts.

Anyhow, we are inviting more foreign direct investments to our country from anywhere around the world. As for the FDIs the Myanmar Investment Commission has laid down the four principles, which are, to protect the interest of Myanmar citizens; to protect the dignity of the State; to protect national sovereignty; and to allow environmental friendly investment.

Moreover we are working in cooperation with international experts to enact the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law. And we hope that when the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law comes into force it will attract more foreign direct investments that will serve both the interest of our nation and our people and the investors and help improve our economy grow vigorously.



Mrs Kim Leck Scheidt from Frankfurt City of Germany donates K 2 million to the fund of Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Secretary U Maung Maung Gyi of executives committee.—NLM

Finance & Revenue Ministry holds monsoon tree planting ceremony 2012

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—The Ministry of Finance and Revenue held the 3rd monsoon tree planting ceremony for 2012 at the precinct of Myanmar Economic Bank Head Office in Nay Pyi Taw Bank Zone here this morning, with an attendance of Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun. The Union Minister planted a “mahogany” sapling at the ceremony.

Deputy Minister U Win Shein, Governor U Than Nyein of Central Bank of Myanmar, directors-general, managing directors and staff from MEB participated in planting of “mahogany” and “seintalone” mango saplings at the ceremony.

A total of 700 saplings were planted at 2012 monsoon tree planting ceremony of F&R Ministry. The Union Minister

inspected the precinct and plantations of MEB Head Office. The Union Minister met with Managing Director U San Thaug of Myanmar



Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun plants a “mahogany” sapling.

MNA

Chinese delegation observes printing industry of Myanmar



Deputy Director-General Mr Wang Yi of Yunnan Press and Publications Bureau of the PRC and party observe Nay Pyi Taw Press.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr Wang Yi of Yunnan Press and Publication Bureau of the People’s Republic of China arrived in Yangon on 29 July to observe the printing industry of Myanmar.

On 31 July morning, Mr Wang Yi and party arrived in Nay Pyi Taw. They observed Press and CTP of Nay Pyi Taw Daily under News and Periodicals Enterprise in Zeyathiri Township.

They discussed matters related to printing industries of Myanmar and Yunnan, cooperation between the two departments with Managing Director U Ye Tint of Printing and Publishing Enterprise, General Manager U Ye Naing of News and Periodicals Enterprise and chief editors from the newspapers at the meeting hall of Myanmar Alin Daily.

They observed Nay Pyi Taw Press of Printing and Publishing Enterprise.

Managing Director U Zaw Min Oo of News and Periodicals Enterprise

hosted a dinner to the delegation.

The Chinese delegation will proceed to Mandalay on 1 August where they will observe

printing industry and view around Mandalay till 2 August. The Chinese delegation will leave here for Kunming via Yangon on 3 August.—MNA

Constructive Engineers holds Green Seminar

YANGON, 31 July—Constructive Engineers Ltd, Myanmar’s sole agent of Carrier & Toshiba, organized Green Seminar at Park Royal Hotel in Alanpya Pagoda street here yesterday evening.

Managing Director Daw Thin Wutyi Kyaw extended greetings.

Mr Chong Wai Yen and Mr Derrick Thng of Carrier Singapore (Pte) Limited briefed on Carrier air conditioners and VRF system of Toshiba for energy and cost saving projects.

Carrier & Toshiba products could set aside time and cost with less impact on the environment. The

company is providing services for installation of Carrier & Toshiba air conditioners at huge public places and

commercial buildings. Royal Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw also hosted a similar seminar today.—NLM



Managing Director Daw Thin Wutyi Kyaw extends greetings at the seminar.—NLM

Iran says to keep Hormuz open as long as it serves its interests

DUBAI, 31 July—Iran will keep the vital Strait of Hormuz shipping lane open as long as the waterway served its interests, a military commander was on Monday quoted as saying.

Iranian politicians and officials have often said that Iran could block the strait—the neck of the Gulf through which 40 percent of the world's seaborne oil exports passes—in response to sanctions or military action.

Such a move would risk a military response from the United States and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi told

Reuters in July that Iran was unlikely to follow through on the threat unless its own vessels were denied use of the strait.

“Iran's goal is for everyone in the world to use the Strait of Hormuz but as long as it does not harm Iran's interests and in that case our reaction would definitely be different,” IRNA news agency quoted senior Revolutionary Guards commander Masoud Jazayeri as telling Iran's Arabic-language Al Alam television.

“Most military experts know that if Iran decides to

close the Strait of Hormuz, no country or countries would be able to confront this move,” he added, according to IRNA.

Experts say that a heavy Western naval presence in the Gulf and surrounding area is a big impediment to any attempt to block the waterway.

Israel and the United States have threatened military action against Iran unless it abandons nuclear activities which the West suspects are intended to develop nuclear weapons.

Tehran says its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes.—Reuters



A helicopter from the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) patrols the Arabian Gulf during a transit in the Strait of Hormuz, near the gulf of Oman on 14 February, 2012.—REUTERS

Car crash kills three, injures another in Japan's Kagawa

OSAKA, 31 July—A passenger car smashed into road-side trees early Tuesday in the western Japanese Kagawa Prefecture, killing three people and wounding another, local media said.

According to the country's public broadcaster Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK), the accident happened at around 1 am local time when the passenger car struck the trees on a national road in Kanonji City of the prefecture.

NHK cited local police as saying that the car with the four people on board hit directly hit the trees and a lamppost nearby, adding that the vehicle turned over after the crash.—Xinhua

A police patrol vehicle is seen outside the Italian embassy in Sanaa on 29 July, 2012.—REUTERS



Saleh who was toppled by a popular uprising.

Disgruntled tribesmen often kidnap foreigners and bomb oil and gas pipelines as a way to press demands on authorities.

In April, officers and tribesmen loyal to Saleh forced Yemen's main airport to close for a day in protest at the sacking of the air force commander, a half-brother of Saleh.—Reuters

Gunmen storm Yemen ministry, seize Italian

SANAA, 31 July—Gunmen kidnapped an Italian embassy security officer in Yemen on Sunday and some 100 armed tribesmen loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh stormed the Interior Ministry, demanding to be enlisted in the police force, officials said.

A spokesman for the Italian Foreign Ministry in Rome said a security officer who is a member of the country's Carabinieri military police had been seized in Yemen and that a crisis committee had been activated. The spokesman declined to give further details.

A security source in Yemen, who told Reuters the kidnap victim was a diplomat, said he had been near the Italian embassy when “men came by in a car and took him by force”.

Earlier, tribesmen briefly held interior ministry employees hostage. They freed the ministry personnel

few hours later but continued to occupy the building, a ministry official said.

The incidents highlighted the continuing turmoil in Yemen despite a peace deal under which Saleh stood down after months of protests against his 33-year rule and was replaced in February by his deputy, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi.

The ministry storming was a direct challenge to Hadi's authority. He is trying to restructure the armed forces and stabilise the impoverished Arab nation, where Saleh's legacy still looms large.

The Interior Ministry official said the tribesmen were Saleh loyalists, who were promised they would be enrolled in the police force in return for helping tackle last year's uprising. The promise has not been fulfilled.

“At midday, the armed tribesmen... stormed the ministry building, took control of it and climbed onto

the roof with their guns,” the official said. “They refuse to leave until their demands are met.” Tribesmen have fought alongside government troops in a US-backed offensive against al Qaeda-linked militants that drove insurgents out of several towns in the south of the country last month. Many tribal fighters also sided with



Govt says Osprey test flights must address safety

TOKYO, 31 July—The Japanese government says the US military's new Osprey transport aircraft should not fly freely in training but instead pay proper attention to Japan's public safety.

A meeting of foreign and defence officials from the United States and Japan is debating specific measures to allay safety concerns over the Ospreys. The US plans to deploy the aircraft at the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station in Okinawa later this year.

At a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, the government prepared for Diet questioning by the opposition Japanese Communist Party.

The government's draft reply says while US military planes are not subject to Japanese law governing the lowest altitude for emergency landings, this does not mean the aircraft can fly freely.

The government says Japan should request the US to ensure the safety of the aircraft to the maximum and limit any impact on local residents to the minimum.—NHK

Curry compound may curb diabetes risk: study

WASHINGTON, 31 July—Supplements containing a compound found in curry spice may help prevent diabetes in people at high risk, according to a Thai study.

Researchers, whose results were published in the journal Diabetes Care, found that over nine months, a daily dose of curcumin seemed to prevent new cases of diabetes among people with so-called prediabetes—abnormally high blood sugar levels that may progress to full-blown type 2 diabetes.

Curcumin is a compound in turmeric spice. Previous lab research has suggested it can fight inflammation and so-called oxidative damage to body cells. Those two processes are thought to feed a range of diseases, including type 2 diabetes.

“Because of its benefits and safety, we propose that

curcumin extract may be used for an intervention therapy for the prediabetes population,” wrote study leader Somlak Chuengsamarn of Srinakharinwirot University in Nakomnayok, Thailand.

The study included 240 Thai adults with prediabetes who were randomly assigned to take either curcumin capsules or a placebo. The ones taking curcumin took six supplement capsules a day,

each of which contained 250 milligrams of “curcuminoids”.

After nine months, 19 of the 116 placebo patients had developed type 2 diabetes. That compared with none of the 119 patients taking curcumin.

The researchers found that the supplement seemed to improve the function of beta-cells, which are cells in the pancreas that release the blood sugar-regulating hormone insulin.—Reuters



A bath mixture incorporating curry spices is seen while people take hot bath in Hakone west of Tokyo on 21 July, 2006. REUTERS

Lao network launches information campaign on HIV/AIDS

VIENTIANE, 31 July—The Laos' Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (LNP+) has launched an information campaign across the country to help stop the rise in the number of people with HIV and raise people's awareness of the disease and its treatment.

Kinoy Phongdeth, head of the (LNP+) and himself HIV positive, said that there has been no such campaign in Laos. “I contacted partners and organized groups to bring in medication and to offer support to other HIV positive individuals like me,” he said.

Phongdeth was the second person to be treated for HIV/AIDS in Laos. His experience led him to organize the network in order to help other people.

“After I discovered I was positive, I had a terrible shock and didn't know what to do. It dashed all plans and hopes for my future. I actually thought of committing suicide,” Phongdeth said.

The incidence of HIV/AIDS in Laos is rising, but is still less compared to that of surrounding countries.

At present, there are an estimated 9,000 individuals with HIV/AIDS in Laos with some 1,000 new cases discovered last year. The total population of Laos is around 6.4 million.

LNP+, a peer-based non-profit association established in 2003, received official recognition by the Lao government this year.

Phongdeth, in collaboration with other HIV positive individuals, built the

network from scratch with donations from various agencies.

According to Phongdeth, the network's main goals are to assist HIV positive individuals in seeking treatment with government help and to raise awareness of the risks and how it is transmitted.

Phongdeth, who has attended the Washington International AIDS Conference held July 22-27, said he would share his experiences in establishing LNP+ with other people working in the same field worldwide and to learn from the work of others.

Phongdeth's LNP+ is working hard to remove the stigma associated with being HIV positive.

Xinhua

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Net-casting spider hunt filmed in wild

LONDON, 31 July — High-speed footage of a net-casting spider's hunting technique has been recorded by a film crew. As ambush hunters, the spiders are known to use a combination of touch and well-developed sight to sense prey. The video reveals the rarely-seen, split-second technique of the species as it snatches an unsuspecting cricket in a Central American forest. The team believe this is the first slow-motion footage to show a net-casting spider hunting in the wild. Expert, Dr George McGavin, who witnessed the event said: "I would compare it to watching a big cat kill. It's as exciting as that."

The film crew were in central America filming wildlife for a new nature series, *The Dark: Nature's Nighttime World*.



The net-casting spider's deadly strike is completed in a split-second. INTERNET

They waited for five hours with the cameras trained on the spider until the cricket strayed into the killing zone beneath the net. "The spider did not move a muscle until the antenna of that prey item, the cricket, touched the thread." As soon as it touched it, [the spider] was on it in a thousandth of a second," said Dr McGavin, "if we hadn't had that camera, you wouldn't have seen a thing."

"It was the most exciting thing I've ever seen," he said. Net-casting spiders are found across the world in tropical and sub-tropical regions and are also known as ogre-faced spiders because of their distinctive big eyes, which help it to see prey during nighttime hunts. But on this occasion, the team also captured the important moment that triggers the spider's trap. When the cricket touched one of the net's anchoring threads with its antenna, it caused the spider to strike. "It's like a trip wire," said Craig Walker, deputy team leader for invertebrates at the Zoological Society of London. "It'll send a vibration to the spider." The spiders construct their webs in stages, first building a scaffold at a spot under which its prey is likely to pass. "It's almost like manufacturing your own workbench so that you can make something on it," Mr Walker told *BBC Nature*.

The spider then carefully crafts its distinctive net using a different type of silk. "They spin some of the silk at its most extended so its already at full stretch when its spun so that when its off the scaffold it'll immediately shrink to its non-stretched size," he said.

"They hit the prey with it at full stretch and then they relax it so that it gets caught into it, almost like a purse net." Sometimes spiders of this genus use an extra technique to help them to pick out their prey at night. "(They) will spend a little while spraying faeces on to the ground which dry white and then the dark animal has to run across it and it's a bit like putting a flash light on something," said Mr Walker.

Internet

Incredible spider facts



- * **Hang by a thread:** Journey into the stomach of a carnivorous plant where the life of one spider species depends on the strength of its silk
- * **Living the high life:** Meet Everest's jumping spiders, the highest permanent residents on the planet
- * **Biological warfare:** Watch the most massive spider in the world flick barbed hairs into a BBC presenter's face
- * **Paragliders:** Find out how the gossamer threads that shine catch the autumn light are actually spiderling parachutes that can carry the animal hundreds of miles
- * **Gone fishing:** See how this spider has turned a whole pond into a web to make a quick meal out of a stickleback

Frogs rescued from killer fungus have 'massive' brood

LONDON, 31 July — Rare tropical frogs rescued from a killer fungus in the Caribbean have produced a bumper brood in the UK. The two female mountain chicken frogs responsible for the 76 new additions are part of an attempt to rescue the species from extinction. All 12 frogs in the UK breeding programme came from Montserrat, where the chytrid fungus has ravaged the population.

"We're absolutely chuffed to bits," said herpetologist, Dr Ian Stephen. The frogs, simply known as mountain chickens, were rescued as part of the conservation efforts led by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (DWCT).

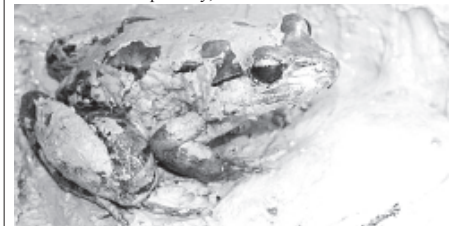
"The first challenge was getting them out of the Caribbean into Europe safely,"

said Dr Ian Stephen, ZSL's Curator of Herpetology. The frogs were transported in temperature-controlled boxes to protect them and minimise stress on the long and hazardous journey.

"Although the mountain chicken is one of the biggest frogs in the world they're still a small animal so they're incredibly sensitive to temperature fluctuations and that tends to be the thing that would kill a frog during transportation." "It's obviously quite a hairy moment when you open up the boxes," he said.

The 50 airlifted frogs were split into three groups and housed at ZSL London Zoo, the DWCT in Jersey and at Parken Zoo in Sweden in the hope of growing a healthy population of the species.

Internet



The female mountain chicken frog lays its eggs into a special self-made foamy nest. — INTERNET

Microsoft pays big to strengthen software defence

WASHINGTON, 31 July — As hackers from around the world converged on Las Vegas, Microsoft doled out a quarter million dollars in prize money to researchers who found ways to thwart attacks on its software.

The winners of Microsoft's first Blue Hat prize were unveiled at a hip club at a mobbed party complete with dancers, high-energy DJ, and explosions of shimmering confetti.

A top prize of \$200,000 went to doctoral student Vasilis Pappas for an advance

in countering "the most popular attack techniques we're seeing today," said Microsoft security response centre senior director Mike Reavey.

"We posed a challenge to the researcher community and asked them to shift their focus from solely identifying and reporting individual vulnerabilities to investing in new lines of defensive research that could mitigate entire classes of attacks," Reavey said of the prize.

Microsoft awarded

\$50,000 to the second-place finisher, and a fortune in software to the researcher who placed third out of the 20 submissions entered in the Blue Hat competition.

Technology from the finalists has been integrated into a software toolkit for protecting against threats, according to Microsoft trustworthy computer group general manager Matt Thomlinson.

"The Blue Hat prize is more than a competition; it's the future of security defense, where the community comes together to collectively take on some of the toughest problems we face and make the computing ecosystem safer," Thomlinson said.

Each of the top three entries dealt with a way cyber attackers twist snippets of benign software already in a computer system to malicious ends, according to Microsoft.

The Blue Hat winners were announced as a Black Hat conference of computer security professionals gave way to the largest known gathering of hackers, Def Con, which ends Sunday.

Internet



A woman works on her computer at a coffee shop on 25 July. As hackers from around the world converged on Las Vegas, Microsoft doled out a quarter million dollars in prize money to researchers who found ways to thwart attacks on its software. — INTERNET

Programmers sought for tropical hackathon

LONDON, 31 July — Wanted: 12 programmers to live on a remote tropical island for two months to do nothing but write code. Applicants are being sought for the coding jamboree that will take place on an as yet

un-named island. Those applying will have to submit a proposal explaining what they will work on during the hackathon. They will also have to complete a psychological evaluation to show they can live in harmony with other coders for the duration of the event.



It is not yet clear which remote tropical island will host the two-month hackathon. INTERNET

hackathon. Successful applicants will be expected to make their own way to the island and pay a small fee to attend. "It's a submission fee that's largely symbolic," he said. "It's to keep away the people that are planning to party all the time or are not serious about their project." "That could be really detrimental to the atmosphere," he said. The projects that people will work on would be matched to the skills of those attending to ensure good progress was made on all of them, said Mr Heck.

Mr Heck, who is currently based in the Kuala Lumpur,

said there were lots of islands in the Philippines that were potential candidates for the coding get-together. Although remote, the islands had good power supplies and were connected to the mainland via microwave links.

Reaction to the idea had been swift and positive, Mr Heck told the *BBC*. More than 4,000 people had shown an interest within hours of the advert going on the Y Combinator tech news site, he said. "Some of the bigger blue chip companies do this already with their top employees on a smaller scale," said Niall Cook, head of recruitment at hiring agency Computer People.

Retreats and other getaways had become a staple among firms that wanted to get staff focussing on new ideas rather than taking care of day-to-day business, he said. He had no doubt that the isolation of the hackathon would boost the creativity of anyone taking part. "If you look at some of the bigger companies of the last few years like Facebook they just came out of one idea and they've changed the way we live and work," he said. — *Internet*

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

SEC alleges insider trading ahead of CNOOC-Nexen deal



The man stands at the front desk of the headquarters of China National Offshore Oil Corp (CNOOC) in Beijing on 25 July, 2012.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 31 July—The US securities regulator filed a complaint in court on Friday against a firm controlled by a Chinese billionaire and other traders, accusing them of making over \$13 million from insider trading ahead of a bid by China's CNOOC for Canadian oil company Nexen Inc. The Securities and Exchange Commission said the federal court in Manhattan had frozen assets worth over \$38 million belonging to Hong Kong-based Well Advantage, controlled by businessman Zhang Zhirong, and other unnamed traders

who used accounts in Hong Kong and Singapore to trade in Nexen stock.

They made trading profits of \$7 million and \$6 million respectively by using inside knowledge of the merger to buy Nexen shares before the announcement, the SEC says.

The trading was suspicious, the SEC claims in its complaint, because the accounts used to buy the shares had "either no history or extremely limited history" of buying Nexen shares before July 2012.

CNOOC said on 23 July it had agreed to acquire Nexen for \$15.1 billion, China's

biggest foreign takeover bid. Shares of Nexen jumped almost 52 percent that day.

The unnamed Singapore traders used accounts in the names of Phillip Securities and Citibank, while Well Advantage made its trades through accounts held at UBS Securities and Citigroup Global Markets. Neither of the Well Advantage accounts had traded Nexen shares since January 2012, and the Citigroup account had been completely dormant for over six months.

Zhang Zhirong also controls China Rongsheng Heavy Industries Group Holdings, which according to a company filing in October 2010, entered a strategic cooperation agreement with CNOOC.

A spokeswoman for CNOOC declined to comment. Calls to Well Advantage's office in Hong Kong were not answered on Saturday. Hong Kong's Securities and Futures Commission also declined comment while officials at the Monetary Authority of Singapore were not immediately available.

Reuters

Driving sobriety tests likely to miss medical pot

NEW YORK, 31 July—A new, small study suggests medicinal marijuana may impair users' driving skills—but might be missed by typical sobriety tests. At doses used in AIDS, cancer and pain patients, people weaved side to side more and had a slower reaction time in the hours after using the drug, researchers from the Netherlands found. For people who hadn't built up a tolerance to marijuana, those effects were similar to driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08, the point at which drivers are considered legally impaired, they said.

"At this time, we know very little about the possible effects that medical marijuana may have on, say, motor vehicle crash rates, injury rates and mortality rates," said Dr Guohua Li, who has studied marijuana and traffic accidents at Columbia University in New York but wasn't involved in the new research. "There is a concern medical marijuana may interact with other drugs such as alcohol that may further compromise driving safety," he added.

The new study involved 12 frequent marijuana users

and 12 occasional (three times a month at most) smokers. At three different points, researchers led by Wendy Bosker of Maastricht University gave each of the participants either a 20 milligram or 10 mg pill of dronabinol—medical marijuana—or a drug-free placebo pill.

walking and turning and balancing on one leg.

Participants tended to weave a few centimeters side to side when under the influence, but the impairment was smaller in those who were used to doing pot regularly. After using medical marijuana people also took a second or



Strains of marijuana and their THC potency ratings are shown for sale at the Harborside Health Clinic in Oakland, California on 30 June, 2010.—REUTERS

Two to four hours later, participants completed a series of driving tests, including trying to maintain a constant speed and drive in a straight line, or follow at a constant distance behind another car. They also went through a typical highway sobriety test, involving

so longer to react when following another car—although that effect could have been due to chance, the researchers reported in the journal *Addiction*. The highway sobriety tests, however, didn't pick up any impairment due to marijuana.—Reuters

Pfizer to return rights to three Acura products

LONDON, 31 July—Pfizer Inc will return three products it was developing using Acura Pharmaceuticals Inc's abuse-resistant technology, Acura said on Friday. The license termination, which concerns three clinical-stage products using Acura's Aversion technology, will be effective a year from Thursday, when Pfizer notified the company.

"We will evaluate our strategy for these products (being returned) over the coming months, including possible partnering with alternative strategic partners," Acura chief executive Bob Jones said in a statement.

The pharmaceutical giant will retain rights to Oxecta—a pain management pill that also uses Acura's technology—which is

already on the market, Acura said. Pfizer will return all assets and regulatory and clinical responsibility related to the three drugs, MacKay Jameson, a spokesman for Pfizer, told Reuters via email.

Acura had received an aggregate of \$78.5 million in payments from Pfizer as of 31 March, under their 2007 license agreement.

It was eligible to receive tiered royalties of 5 percent to 25 percent on combined annual net sales of all products marketed under the agreement.

Acura will earn royalties on Oxecta sales from the first quarter of 2013.

Shares of Palatine, Illinois-based Acura closed at \$3.08 on Friday on the Nasdaq. They fell to \$2.60 in after-market trade.

Reuters



The entrance of Pfizer World Headquarters in New York City, on 31 Aug, 2003. REUTERS

BP says TNK-BP's suit was a "corporate attack."—INTERNET



LONDON, 31 July—A Russian court has ordered BP to pay \$3.1bn (£1.97bn) in damages to its Russian joint venture over a failed Arctic oil exploration deal with Rosneft.

The case against BP was brought by Andrei Prokhorov, a minority shareholder, on behalf of TNK-BP Holding. He claims that the proposed alliance damaged TNK-BP's interests because it lost out on a

BP ordered to pay \$3.1bn in damages over Rosneft deal

at around \$13bn, although he later reduced the amount to some \$8bn. Mr Prokhorov, who owns about 0.00001%, has denied AAR's connection to the suit. Friday's ruling, by an arbitration-based court in Siberia, is against London-based BP and the group's BP Russia Investment Limited venture.

The British group is now directly negotiating the sale of its 50% stake in TNK-BP to Rosneft. "We consider the court decision as unjustified. Today's ruling will be challenged in the court of appeal," BP said in a statement.

"All the plaintiff's arguments are based on absurd assumptions, and are not related to either the company's interests, or the

interests of its shareholders. TNK-BP did not suffer and could not have suffered any damages," from the failed deal with Rosneft, it said.

"TNK-BP initially was not considered as possible participant in the Arctic projects by Rosneft. We consider this claim as an attempted corporate attack and believe that today's ruling should be cancelled." A lawyer for plaintiff Mr Prokhorov said his client was "fully satisfied."

"For us, this decision was not a surprise," said attorney Dmitry Chepurenskiy. BP's attempted share swap with Rosneft last year was part of an ambitious plan by the UK company to develop oil fields in the Arctic. The Arctic deal eventually went to ExxonMobil.—Internet

Italy business lobby sees urgent need for euro bank union

MILAN, 31 July—Italy's biggest business lobby called on Saturday for quick implementation of a European Union summit decision last month to create a banking union, as credit in Italy and other peripheral euro-zone countries dries up. "The euro-zone bank union must

be implemented more quickly than what was decided at end of June, with supervision and risks joined together and direct recapitalization of banks by the EFSF-ESM funds," Confindustria research body CSC said in a study.

European Central Bank

president Mario Draghi on Thursday pledged to do whatever was necessary to protect the euro zone from collapse, prompting hopes of an ambitious new programme.

"The extraordinary intervention of the ECB of two rounds of three-year loans

has prevented the violent credit crunch from worsening. But in many cases this is no longer enough," CSC said. The study said heavy buying of government bonds would repair banks' battered balance sheets and help reduce disparity between credit conditions in Europe's core and periphery.

Reuters

Ethnic clashes in Ethiopia kill 18

MOYALE, 31 July—Ethnic clashes in southern Ethiopia have left 18 dead and scores displaced, the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) reported, but the Ethiopian government told AFP Sunday the situation was under control.

The clashes erupted Thursday in an area about a mile (1.6 kilometres) from the Kenyan border, between the Borana and Garri tribes over a land dispute, KRCS said in a statement. The Ethiopian government said the spat was over “administrative claims” by the two sides.

“The local authorities

were not able to resolve the claims and counterclaims in a constructive manner so clashes ensued,” Ethiopian government spokesman, Bereket Simon, told AFP, without giving details on the toll.

Bereket said police had made several arrests.

“Federal police and government have intervened and all the culprits are under control,” he said, adding that the situation has now “normalized.”

According to the KRCS statement, “at least 18 deaths and 12 injuries had been confirmed” and the conflict

has also led to “loss of properties with reports of massive displacements of populations” into neighbouring Kenya.

KRCS says a registration to determine the actual displaced populations was ongoing but said “more than 10,000 people require urgent humanitarian support”.

Bereket said the displaced people were expected to return to Ethiopia shortly. “This is a hiccup which we are going to address and they will be back soon... and will continue to live their normal lives,” he said.

Moyale is in Oromia



Red Cross and Red Crescent workers distribute aid to members of a community displaced by clashes in Moyale, a Kenya border town with Ethiopia in February 2012.—INTERNET

region in Ethiopia. Several pastoral tribes occupy the southern part of the region—

routinely hit by drought — and rely on land for animal grazing.—Internet

Helicopter crash kills three people in Mexico

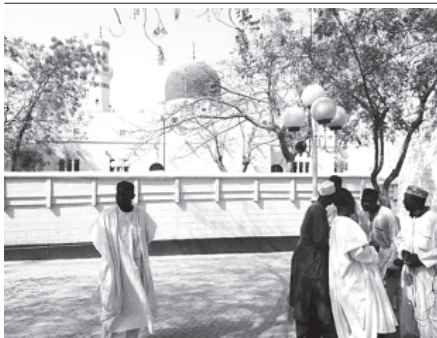
MEXICO CITY, 31 July—Three people died in a helicopter crash in Mexico, the local Public Prosecutor’s Office (PGJEM) said Sunday.

PGJEM said the crash occurred on Saturday night in Temoaya mountain range and one of the victims was businessman Juan Armando Hinojosa Jr.

According to the investigations, the tragedy happened when Hinojosa was returning from a lunch with the winner of 1 July presidential elections, Enrique Pena Nieto in his birthplace Atacomulco, a town in the state of Mexico.

PGJEM said that local authorities at 23:40 local time (0440 GMT) on Saturday night realized the loss of the helicopter with the pilot, copilot and one passenger on it. The state Rescue Unit started the search of the aircraft and found on early Sunday morning the wreckage near the Jiquipilco-Temoaya highway, in Jiquipilco municipality.

The causes of the accident was still under investigation.—Xinhua



People discuss in front of the central mosque in Kano, Nigeria, in January 2012. A gun battle near a mosque in Kano and two other shootings left at least eight people dead on Sunday in the latest violence to hit the area, authorities said.—INTERNET

Shootout, gun attacks leave eight dead in Nigeria’s Kano

KANO, 31 July—A gun battle near a mosque in the northern Nigerian city of Kano and two other shootings left at least eight people dead on Sunday in the latest violence to hit the area, authorities said.

It was not clear who was behind the attacks in the city of Kano, the largest in Nigeria’s mainly Muslim north, but they resembled similar incidents in the past blamed on Islamist militant group Boko Haram.

The deadliest occurred

on Sunday night when gunmen opened fire in an area around a mosque while Muslims were observing Ramadan prayers and where a police team was already deployed to protect worshippers, a senior police official said.

Police and the attackers exchanged fire and one of the assailants was killed when his own explosive device went off.

Three other gunmen were shot dead by police, according to the official who

spoke on condition of anonymity.

“The rest fled, abandoning their car and three motorcycles they came with,” the official said, adding that it was not clear whether police or the mosque was the target of the initial attack.

Earlier in the day, gunmen on a motorcycle opened fire on the car of a Nigerian air force officer, killing the driver and an aide, while two other people were killed in a nearby neighbourhood, authorities said.—Internet

Colombia’s rebel group releases two pilots

BOGOTA, 31 July—The rebel Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) Sunday released two civilian helicopter pilots kidnapped 20 days ago, said the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Juan Carlos Alvarez and Alejandro de Jesus Ocampo were set free and handed over to representatives of the ICRC and a local non-governmental organization in a rural area of Argelia municipality in southwest Cauca province, the ICRC said in a statement. Both Alvarez and Ocampo were kidnapped by the

guerrillas on July 10, after their helicopter made emergency landing due to a mechanical failure. The helicopter was burned by FARC members.

“In this case, we participated (in the release) because the armed group asked us for help,” said Jordi Raich, the ICRC representative in Colombia.

“We are pleased to have been able to make it possible for these people to be back with their loved ones,” added Raich, who did not give any more details about the release. Last Wednesday, the



Colombian soldiers head out to confront FARC rebels in, Cauca province, Colombia.—INTERNET

FARC group issued a statement asking for ICRC and non-governmental organization representatives to help with the release of the two pilots.—Xinhua

India’s home minister arrives in riot torn Assam

GUWAHATI, 30 July—India’s home minister P Chidambaram Monday morning landed at the Gopinath Bordoloi airport and left by helicopter for riot affected Kokrajhar district in India’s north east state of Assam where violence since July 20 killed 48 people and left 500,00 people homeless.

India’s Prime Minister Manmoham Singh visited the area on Saturday and assured the victims living in refugee camps of an inquiry.

Clashes between Bodo tribesmen and Muslims began after a Muslim student leader was reportedly attacked. Despite deployment of para military forces and Indian army clashes continued for seven days.

Xinhua

Peru’s president calls for unity on Independence Day

LIMA, 31 July—Peruvian President Ollanta Humala called here Sunday for unity to overcome difficulties facing Peru during celebrations marking the country’s 191st anniversary of independence.

“Happy day for all the Peruvians. I wish the country’s unity for the benefit of all,” Humala said in a address to the nation at the Congress building on the last day of celebrations.

Humala said he would fulfill all the plans and programs set for his term’s second year to eliminate poverty and defuse conflicts over mining.

“The conflicts of today worry all Peruvians. We need to overcome this culture of conflict,” Humala said, referring to frequent disputes nationwide over natural resources.

The celebrations ended with a military parade in the downtown of Lima, the Peruvian capital.

Troops and cadets from Peru’s army, navy and air force took part in the military parade in uniforms.

Representatives of firefighters, police officers and farmers also participated in the march.—Xinhua



In this July 29, 2011 file photo, Peru’s President Ollanta Humala, left, and his wife Nadine Heredia, right smile as they attend a military parade marking Peru’s Independence Day in Lima, Peru. Humala will mark his first year in office on 28 July, 2012.—INTERNET

S Korea’s auto exports grow 3.1 pct in Q2

SEOUL, 31 July—South Korea’s automobile exports grew 3.1 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier due to strong demand for large-sized cars from the United States, Australia and Russia, customs office data showed Monday. Exports of locally-made cars reached 10.85 billion US dollars during the April-June period, up 3.1 percent from the same period of last year, according to the Korea Customs Service (KCS). In terms of volume, South Korean automakers shipped 814,000 vehicles over the cited

period. The growth was attributed to solid popularity for large-sized cars with engine capacity of between 1.5 and 3 liters from the US, Australia and Russia, said the customs office. Shipments of autos with engine displacement from 1.5 to 3 liters reached 7.4 billion dollars during the quarter.

Imports surged 37.1 percent on-year to 992 million dollars in the second quarter, but trade surplus for the auto sector edged up 0.6 percent to 9.85 billion dollars over the same period thanks to falling prices of imported cars.

Average unit price of imported cars stood at 29,469 dollars a vehicle during the April-June period, down from 30,254 dollars three months earlier. Average export prices rose from 13,256 dollars a unit in the first quarter to 13,327 dollars in the second quarter.

For the first six months of this year, auto exports jumped 13.7 percent on-year to 21.74 billion dollars. Imports expanded 9.2 percent to 1.91 billion dollars over the cited period, sending the surplus for the sector to 19.83 billion dollars.—Xinhua

K 400,000 per 100 baskets of paddy purchased in Dekkhinathiri Tsp



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing views 262 acres of Yanaungmyin irrigated area of advanced farmland in Dekkhinathiri Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—“A total of 1618 acres of advanced land reclamation tasks were carried out with the help of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation this year and 1537 acres will be reclaimed in the coming year” said Union Minister at the President Office Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Thein Nyunt at the ceremony to harvest and the ceremony to purchase rice at K 400,000 per 100 baskets held at the briefing hall in Yanaungmyin irrigated area of 262 acres advanced farmlands in Nay Pyi Taw Dekkhinathiri Township here this morning.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing said that 60000 acres irrigated area in Nay Pyi Taw Area will be increased to 100,000 acres with the help of Nay Pyi Taw Council, farmers and reclamation of mechanized farmlands will be implemented within one or two years with momentum. He said that the State is encouraging establishment of value-added factories for crops including rice and others marketable crops.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint said that

the State would provide help to establish advanced rice mills for quality improvement and the agriculture and irrigation ministry is providing technical assistance, quality paddy strains to the farmers.

The Union Minister and party viewed harvesting of 262 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy strains with the use of Combine Harvester.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing accompanied by Mr Kobayashi Kenichiro of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and party arrived at the reclamation of 200 acres advanced lands in Chaungmange irrigated area in Lwe Township where the union minister heard future plans presented by Mr Kobayashi Kenichiro of JICA.

The Union Minister and party viewed the 28th-day paddy nursery and called for penetrating to not only local but international markets.

The Union Minister and party observed thriving 23th-day Palethwe hybrid paddy strains nursery at Ngalak irrigated area near Tegvigon Village.—MNA

Guangxi Zhuang delegation visits Shwedagon Pagoda



Chinese delegation led by Deputy Governor Mr. Lan Tianli visits to Shwedagon Pagoda.

MNA

YANGON, 31 July— The delegation led by Deputy Governor Mr. Lan Tianli of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China visited Shwedagon Pagoda this evening.

The delegation offered flowers and waters to Shwedagon Pagoda and signed the visitors' book.—MNA

Kayin State Chief Minister provides flood victims with foodstuff

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Swollen Thanlwin River near Hpa-an in Kayin State, Forced locals to flee to Shweyinmyaw Pyitawaye Stupa in Hpa-an to escape floods. Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win, state ministers, responsible persons of state/district and township and social affairs

groups visited and comforted them yesterday.

The State chief minister, the commander and responsible persons provided foodstuff to them. They viewed locals medical treatment provided to them by medics.

Moreover, they provided foodstuff to families sheltering at the temporary relief camps at the gymnasium in No.1 Ward of Hpa-an, Aung Than Lwin sports ground and Parahita monastery in Ward-5, the gymnasium in No. 3 BEHS and Gyartawya monastery of No.1 Ward. 423 local households were moved on account of inundation of the Thanlwin River.

MNA

MNA

ASEAN multi-sectoral workshop concluded

YANGON, 31 July— Multi-Sectoral Workshop on MDGs: Acceleration Strategies and Priorities Beyond 2015 jointly organized by ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council of Myanmar, ASEAN Secretariat, and the UNDP continued for second day at Mindon Grand Ball Room of Sedona Hotel here, this morning.

The first session of the workshop was presided over by Senior Assistant Director of Ministry of Health of Malaysia Dr Suzana Mohd. Hashim. Dr Nabila Zaka, UNICEF Regional Office for East Asia and Pacific Maternal and Child Health Specialist and Dr Lam Phirun, Deputy Manager, National Reproductive Health Programme, National Maternal and Child Health Centre, Ministry of Health, Cambodia discussed.

The second session of the workshop was presided over by Ms Sochetra Nhean, Director of Gender Equality Department, Ministry of Women's

Affairs. Dr Robert Verbruggen, Regional Programme Adviser of UNAIDS to Asia-Pacific, Dr Mya Sabei Ngon, Antimalaria National Health Officer of WHO in Myanmar and Dr Pairoj Saonuum, Medical Officer, Senior Professional level, Officer of Disease Prevention and Control made discussion on combating of HIV/AIDS.

In the third session of the workshop, Executive Director of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women Ms Emmeline Verzosa presided over the workshop. Environmental Affairs Officer Environment and Sustainable Development Division United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Thailand Ms Aneta Nikolova and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Vietnam Dr Bui Ton Hien discussed environmental cleaning.

At the first part of the fourth session, Dr Ferdinal M Fernando, Director-General of Asean Secretariat Office of HCD Department presided

over the workshop. Training Leader of UNDP APRC Dr Anuradha Rajivan and Planning specialist Mr Biplove Choudhary made discussion.

At the second part of the fourth session, it was presided over by Deputy Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat Dato' Misran Karmain. Head Department of ASEAN Secretariat Office

SWWLMW Ms Mega Lrena and Deputy Director of Planning Department of Cambodia Mr Long Chintha discussed regional assessment of millenium development goals and responded to questions raised by those attendees.

Deputy Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat Dato' Misran Karmain and Resident Representative of UNFPA to



ASEAN multi-sectoral workshop in progress.—MNA

Monetary and financial ...

(from page 1)

that 12.64 miles of main canal, three miles of tributaries and 20 minor canals would be dredged in 2012-2013 fiscal year. Budget will be requested for repairing irrigation system in 2013-2014 fiscal year. There is no plan to resume voyage between Inlay Lake and Loikaw of Kayah State.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint answered questions raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question raised by Dr Maung Maung Wint of Bahan Constituency "plans of departments concerned for dissemination of information of quality drugs and safe foods", the deputy minister answered that Food and Drug Administration committees were formed at various levels. FDA is regularly checking food and drugs and issuing licenses and certificates for distribution and production of drugs. Licensed dealers are only allowed to import drugs. As regards the edible oil, FDA tests sample of the oil at its lab and issues license only when it finds the oil is suitable for public consumption. Edible oil quality control committee has been formed to monitor quality of edible oil.

Consumer Protection Bill has been submitted to Union Attorney-General Office in agreement with ASEAN Economic Community Implementation Committee. Workshops for consumer protection were held. Measures for public awareness, prevention against smuggling of unsafe drugs and consumer protection are being widely carried out.

Regarding the question raised by U Khun Lain of Falam Constituency on "construction of staff quarters for doctors of Falam People's Hospital, assigning doctors to two station hospitals in Falam Township, opening rural health centre in Zaungthe village in Falam Township and increasing cash assistance for graduates of nursing training school in Falam", the deputy minister answered that there is no plan currently to build staff quarters for doctors from mainland. The organizational structure of Falam People's Hospital is being reviewed at the request of Chin State government.

An assistant doctor (in-charge) is discharging duties at Lomban station hospital as of 7-4-2011 and the vacant post for an assistant doctor will be filled as soon as possible.

The request will be made for opening rural health centre in Zaungthe village within 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Negotiations are being made to meet procedural requirements to increase cash aid for trainees.



Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Khun Lain of Falam Constituency raising question.

MNA

U Sein Win of Maubin Constituency, Daw Sanda Min of Zabuthiri Constituency, U Phyo Min Thein of Hlegu Constituency, U Ohn Kyaing of Mahaangmye Constituency and U Mann Maung Maung Nyan of Pantanaw Constituency discussed the proposal "urging the Union government to reorganize State-owned factories and workshops and privatize them for national economic development" submitted by Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) Constituency on 23 July.

They seconded the proposal saying that the private sector is a drive for economic development. The private industries outperform the government-run ones in manufacturing and distribution of a commodity. The government should set aside a role as a policy maker for private business activities, levying taxes. Marketing policies of the private companies will create more job opportunities, contributing to poverty reduction. The economy will benefit from privatization.

U Kyi Tha of Gwa Constituency said that U Soe Tha of Twantay Constituency had submitted a similar proposal at second Hluttaw regular session, calling for seeking means for establishing State-owned enterprises and companies commensurate with the age. If the implementation of U Soe Tha's proposal by the government is enough, Daw Tin Nwe Oo's proposal does not necessarily need further actions.

Regarding the proposal, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw

discussed macroeconomic reforms are being implemented in line with the constitution for shaping market economy. Monetary and financial restrictions related to trade and investment were eased. Tariffs were exempted. Interest rates were cut. A series of relaxations were made in international payment system to develop banking industry. Privatization was made incrementally to increase ratio of private investment in the economy and new privatization commission was formed on 29 June, 2012.

The President gave guidance on adjusting ratios of state-owned sector and private-owned sector by



Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Sein Win from Maubin Constituency takes part in discussion.

MNA

National Energy Management Committee, Privatization Commission and Myanmar Investment Commission in coordination with Union ministries and region/state governments. The government and regional organizations are encouraged to allow incorporation of various forms of companies.

Privatization plays a key role in development of the

country. Budget deficit should burden the people. The country will be benefited from privatization and public-private partnership, boosting investment, technology, market, management and transparency. As the government will take measures on the proposal, it should be put on record.

Daw Tin Nwe Oo discussed that if the government would implement the proposal as guaranteed by the deputy minister, his presentation was seconded.

U Htay Oo of Hinthada Constituency submitted the proposal on **adopting Migration Policy for ensuring social security of Myanmar citizen migrant workers in any foreign country.** Dr Aung Moe Nyo of Pwintbyu Constituency said the most important point in the questions and proposals at the Hluttaw sessions should be the actual benefit of the people, rather than being listenable. The extremely huge ambition of U Htay Oo could be seen in the wordings "social security". Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi said he had no reason to object the adopting of Migration Policy.

The date for discussion of the proposal will be announced later and those willing to discuss the proposal were to submit their name list not later than 1 August.

Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North), Thura U Aung Ko of Kanpetlet Constituency and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi of Kawhmu Constituency discussed 2012 University Education Bill submitted by Pyithu Hluttaw Education



Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi submits a report.—MNA

Promotion Committee on 4 July. They discussed that the bill is not commensurate with the age. Necessary bills for emergence of independent universities should be prescribed. The whole bill need be reviewed.

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye said Private University Bill has been submitted to the Union Attorney-General Office. The approval of the Hluttaw will be sought for the bill. The establishment of the private university could start in 2013.

U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency submitted a proposal to postpone discussion of University Education Bill, the proposal is approved under Section 158 (e) of Pyithu Hluttaw rule.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker informed the Hluttaw of the postponement of the discussion, drafting the bill by Bill Committee, Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, respective Union ministries and Hluttaw representatives and approval to be sought from the Hluttaw.

Today's session concluded at 3.20 pm and the session continues for 19th day at 10 am on 1 August.

MNA

Gov't adopts plans for timber certification, invites private investment in establishment of forest plantations

Meeting on swift implementation of socio-economic development held

YANGON, 31 July—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun addressed the meeting on swift implementation of socio-economic development of the people at Head Office of Myanmar Timber Enterprise here this morning.

The meeting was also attended by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Yangon Region ministers and Region Hluttaw representatives, Director-General U Aye Myint Maung of Forest Department, region level departmental officials, deputy commissioners, township administrators, CEC members of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of

Commerce and Industry and Industrialists Federation, scholars, entrepreneurs and reps of industrial zones and invited guests.

The Union Minister said in his address that the meeting was aimed at addressing challenges of business activities.

The government has made plans to reduce its timber extraction by five percent, he said.

He said the government has adopted policies and plans to carry out timber certification, to encourage private investment for establishing forest plantations, to reduce risks to the natural forest, encourage export of non-wood forest produce and improve forest service industry.

He invited suggestions for better



Union Minister U Win Tun addresses meeting on swift implementation of socio-economic development.—MNA

conservation of natural forests.

Those present participated in the discussion and the Union Minister made clarifications.

The Union Minister yesterday met the chief minister of Ayeyawady Region, the Region Hluttaw speaker, region ministers, NGOs, local entrepreneurs, intellectuals and intelligentsia, townsenders and departmental

personnel at Patheingyi Town Hall and made discussions on socio-economic development of the region.

Those present discussed matters related to waste disposal system, fishery and land use policy, poverty alleviation, establishment of fine wood factories and wood plantations. The Union minister and the region chief minister made clarifications.—MNA

Reforms must be undertaken for financial and legal...

(from page 1)

on 6 July, 2012 for the knowledge of the Hluttaw representatives.

The law has been submitted to Union government meeting No (26/2012) on 12 July, 2012 in order to legitimate the provisions of Chapter (12) Emoluments and Chapter (13) ward or village-tract administration law and Chapter (13) Office Operational Costs. Proceedings are going on in line with the procedures.

Further measures would be taken for appointment of ward or village-tract administrators upon approval of those financial provisions. The selection process would be carried out under the arrangement of the supervisory board in line with Section 6 and 7 of Chapter (4) of ward or village-tract administration law.

Regarding the question of U Myint Hlaing of Rakhine State Constituency No (12) about the rehabilitation measures of the Union government for sufferers of riots in Rakhine State to be able to restore original status and whether the ministry has any plan to adopt long-term plans for guaranteeing no reoccurrence of similar cases, full security, stability, and the rule of law, the Union Minister replied that Article 144 of Penal Code was issued in Sittway, Maungtaw, Buthidaung, Kyaukphyu, Yanbye and Thandwe townships following the riots in June in Rakhine State so as to control the overall situation. The President issued ordinance according to Sub-section (a) of Section 413 of the Constitution, declaring the State of Emergency. Curfew order was issued in a b o v e - m e n t i o n e d townships on 8 and 1 June respectively, but the action of enforcement of Article 144 alone could not run administrative mechanism effectively and thus ordinance No. 1/2012 was issued on 10 June, declaring the State of Emergency in the entire state.

The President Office formed a team comprising the deputy minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, deputy minister for Immigration and Population, and the Rakhine State government led by the

Union Minister of Border Affairs on 22 June, 2012 to manage the operation of relief camps, auditing and supervise rehabilitation tasks.

To restore normalcy, relief camps were opened as the first phase to give temporary shelters to sufferers of the riots and those fled out of fear, as the second phase, amount of losses were recorded and such urgent needs as tents, foods, drinking water, medicines and clothing were provided, and as the third phase plans are under operation to help them regenerate their original businesses and getting back on their feet.

According to the records till 8 July, 2012, 60 relief camps were opened in Sittway, four in Yathedaung, and seven in Maungtaw, totaling 71, providing help to 55495 persons. 395 out of 470 houses of nine burnt villages in Maungtaw Township were reconstructed and the remaining 94 houses were repaired. Until 2 July, 2012, 32 houses were built and 58 houses repaired.

The President Office assigned a team comprising the Western Command commander, deputy minister of Home Affairs and security and border affairs minister of the state government headed by the Union Minister for Home Affairs to undertake stability-restoration and rehabilitation tasks in Rakhine State on 22 June, 2012. Originally, only Rakhine nationals lived in Rakhine State, but later the ratio of Bengali to Rakhine nationals in Maungtaw and Buthidaung has become 94 to 6 per cent due to illegal immigration of Bengali and long-term settlement in the region.

Border Regions Immigration Inspection Command Headquarters is tightening the regulations in order to handle travelling, birth, death, immigration, migration, marriage, constructing of new religious buildings, repairing and land ownership and right to construct building of Bengalis under the law.

To control illegal trespassing into and out of Rakhine State and for perpetuity of sovereignty of the State, deterrence wall has

been built in Taungup and Buthidaung. Plans are under way to add further 30 police stations to original 75 police stations of Rakhine State Police Force and to upgrade eight police stations.

Regarding the question of U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeawady Region Constituency No (6) about if there is any plan to allocate fund for provision of adequate travel expenses, office utilities and office equipment to enable Myanmar Police Force to stand independently with dignity, the Union minister replied that the fund allocation for the MPF for 2012-2013 fiscal year under separate expenditure is 91.5 billion in total.



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Ye Myint from Bago Region Constituency No. 4 participating in discussion.

MNA

Additional 493.097 million kyats have been asked to provide travel allowances and daily allowances to civilian staff of the MPF. It has been planned to ask for capital fund of 2.788 billion kyats as 2012-2013 fiscal year additional expenditure within this fiscal year.

Systematic financial management has been introduced to enable MPF stand independently with dignity, replied the Union Minister.

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Union U Soe Nyunt put forward bill amending Limitation Act, bill concerning Contempt of Court and bill amending Penal Code for debate at Amyotha Hluttaw. Each proposal was seconded by a MP.

The Hluttaw approved it for debate and announced that MPs wishing to discuss are to register by 6, August.

Next, U Aung Kyi Nyunt of Magway Region Constituency No (4), Dr Win Myint Aung of Sagaing Region Constituency No (4),

U Ye Myint of Bago Region Constituency No (4), U Hmat Gyi of Mandalay Region Constituency No (9), U Maung Saw Phyu of Rakhine State Constituency No (4) and U Nay Win Htun of Shan State Constituency No (9) discussed recommendation report on national development planning of Amyotha Hluttaw Planning Committee. They argued that plans must be consistent with accessible opportunities and objective conditions of the country. It is important to obtain accurate statistics and data in implementing the projects with transparency and a focus on rule of law. The accuracy of basic statistics and data, strong and weak



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Nay Win Tun of Shan State Constituency No. 9 takes part in discussion.

MNA

points and progress is important in implementing projects. Ministries are required to focus on details of the project in planning, to make a shift to leaner organizational structure and to assign right persons to right places. Reforms are a must for improvement of the administrative mechanism responsible for planning. It needs to adopt suitable economic system to the country that can assure rapid progress in short time. The bottom level needs to follow the instructions of the central administrative body. Likewise, the central executive body needs to consider the suggestions of the bottom level. It needs to make a shift of focus from agricultural development to industrial development, narrowing the rich-poor gap.

It is believed that systematic exploitation of natural resources with least impact on the environment would facilitate somewhat to industrial sector development of the country. Measures must be taken to turn the old mines into arable

land and forests. Gravels from mines could be used for roadworks, contributing to transportation. It is believed that the respective ministries through cooperative management could find a balance between environmental conservation and mining sector development.

The National Planning Committee decided to review the proposal.

Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No (9), U Thein Hlaing of Sagaing Region Constituency No (8), U Ye Myint of Bago Region Constituency No (4), Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No (8) and U Nay Win Tun of Shan State Constituency No (9) discussed the proposal of U Thein Win of Sagaing Region Constituency No (9) urging the Union government to undertake reforms for development of financial and legal infrastructure during the drafting of bill for monetary and capital market law.

They argued that it needs to enact law and rules and reinstate infrastructure for protection of monetary and capital market in the drive for monetary and capital market development. Innovations are a must for protecting investment, supporting the development of business and smoothing business operations.

In initiating reforms for infrastructural development, the first step must be taken by investing in human resources development. Schooling reforms must be carried out in line with the changing conditions, linking the textbooks lessons to knowledge of universe. National people should prepare to enjoy the natural resources of the motherland, to keep abreast of international community and to welcome foreign investments. In addition, the State media and private media should educate the people.

Current banking system must be revised and monetary and banking services reforms must be implemented, promoting the investment sector.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein discussed that The Planning and Finance Ministry and the Central Bank of Myanmar jointly initiated actions for capital market development of the country since 1990 under the permit of the Myanmar



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Hmat Gyi from Mandalay Region Constituency No. 9 partakes in discussion.

MNA

Investment Commission. Myanama Economic Bank and Japan Daiwa Research Ltd established Myanmar Securities Exchange and Dealing Co Ltd on 7 June, 1996 as 50-50 percent joint venture.

Capital Market Development Committee led by Union Minister for Finance and Revenue was formed on 1 July, 2008 and six subcommittees were formed to support the committee. Then, three-step capital market road map was adopted in accordance with the norms of international and ASEAN communities.

Domestic Bond Development Subcommittee has introduced two-year government bonds in addition to three-year and five-year government bonds beginning 1 January, 2010 and K-10 million bond in addition to K 10-thousand and K 100-Thousand and K 1-million bonds.

Corporate Companies Development Subcommittee has been taking actions for development of corporate companies. Securities rules and regulations formulation subcommittee is drafting securities exchange and dealing bill for development of capital market.

Training and Education Subcommittee is conducting local and foreign courses and workshops for capital market development and production of professionals. On addition, the Central Bank of Myanmar signed MoU with Tokyo Stock Exchange and Daiwa Research on 29 May, 2012.

(See page 10)

Reforms must be undertaken for financial and legal...

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Accounts and Audit Norms Subcommittee is holding talks for application of Myanmar accounting standards in line with international regulations. The Central Bank of Myanmar has shifted from fixed exchange rate to controlled floating exchange rate since 1 April, 2012. Money exchanger licenses have been issued to 17 private banks. Foreign Currency dealer work permits have been issued to 11 private banks on 25 November, 2011 and account transfer was allowed on 9 February, 2012.

It has been allowed for use of ATM at financial organizations in Myanmar. Banks are providing such services as card system payment for small amount of

money and cheque system payment for large sum of money. Securities exchange and dealing bill has been put forward to the Hluttaw.

Proposed Hluttaw representative U Thein Win said he did not withdraw the proposal and wished to hear the decision of the Hluttaw. As most MPs voted in favour of the proposal, it was approved.

U Than Swe of Taninthayi Region Constituency No (2) put forward a proposal **urging the Union government to take the bones of deceased King Thibaw and the Queen from Ratnagiri of India back to Myanmar.** A Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

The Hluttaw approved to discuss the proposal and announced that Hluttaw representatives wishing to discuss the proposal could register at the break.

U Nu of Yangon Region Constituency No. 10

submitted a proposal **urging the Union government to review the grading system of matriculation exam and to set the basic pass marks higher to be able to turn out increased number of qualified ones and to introduce a system in which those who fail the exam can re-sit for the particular subject he failed within short period.** A Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

The Hluttaw approved to discuss the proposal and announced that the Hluttaw representatives wishing to discuss the proposal are register when the session ended.

The session came to an end at 3.40 pm and the 19th day session continues at 10 am tomorrow.

Four questions were answered, three bills put forward, one bill discussed, one proposal discussed and approved and two new proposals submitted.

MNA

Course on rehabilitation of trafficked victims conducted

YANGON, 31 July— Working Group on Protection and Rehabilitation of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation yesterday organized course on reception, reunification and rehabilitation of trafficked victims at training hall of Yangon Region Social Welfare Department Office.

Leader of the Working Group Daw Khin May Soe delivered an address.

Present on the occasion were Leaders of four sub-working groups and Working Group on Protection and Rehabilitation of MWA, secretaries, members, National Programme Officer Daw Theingi Min from International Organization for Migration, presidents, secretaries and members of MWA. The two-day course was attended by 28 trainees.

MNA

MMCWA's tailoring course No (1/2012) concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association held concluding ceremony of tailoring course No (1/2012) in Dekkhinathiri Township here this morning.

President of MMCWA Dr Mon Mon Aung and MMCWA CEC Member leader of business working group of Daw Khin Than Win awarded outstanding trainees in the course.

CEC Member Daw Thet Thet Swe presented completion certificates to a trainee, on behalf of the trainees and Secretary Daw Thazin Nwe, gifts and certificates of honour to course instructors.

After the ceremony, the guests viewed the clothes made by the trainees.

The 8-week course was attended by 27 trainees from Township Maternal and Child Welfare Associations in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

MNA

UMFCCI holds workshop on ICT development

YANGON, 31 July— Jointly organized by the Republic of the Union Of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), Japan Telecommunications Engineering and Consulting Service (JTEC) and Myanmar Computer Federation, Workshop on Information and Communication Technology Development for Myanmar entrepreneurs was held at Park Royal Hotel on 17 July.

At the workshop, UMFCCI President U Win Aung, Chairman Mr Yoshio Utsumi of JTEC and Chairman of Myanmar Computer Entrepreneurs Association U Thein Oo delivered speeches. The representatives submitted the papers and the chairman of the meeting replied queries raised by those present.

It is learnt that the 2nd similar workshop was held at Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 20 July.

MNA

Reform strategy clarified



NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Clarification on reform strategy was made at the meeting hall of Planning Department of the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development on 27 July, with an attendance of Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thuang Lwin, officials of the Ministry and 145 staff officers from region and state planning departments.

Dr Zaw Oo, a member of national economic and social advisory council said based on departmental advice

reform framework has been drawn in line with international norms till achieving a unified single version.

Next, Professor Wing Thyee Woo of Penang University of Malaysia explained necessary preparedness to build a powerful nation, economic business to be reformed to private sector, unit that would interrelated among departments and experiences of reform in China, Poland, Indonesia and Vietnam.

MNA

Summer paddy harvested on model plot in KhinU Township

KHINU, 31 July—The model plot of farmer U Cho Htay was harvested in Kanthitsu Ywama field of Kanthit Village tract in KhinU Township of Shwebo District in Sagaing Region on 21 July.

Under the supervision of Head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department U Sein Kaung, Deputy Head of Department U Win Naing and staff participated in harvesting of the paddy plot and produced 105.43 baskets of paddy per acre.

Myanma Alin

Collective tree growing ceremony held in Kyonpyaw



KYONPYAW, 31 July—Jointly organized by Kyonpyaw Township General Administration Department and Forest Department, the 2012 monsoon tree growing ceremony was held along both sides of Kyonpyaw-Inye Road on 3 July.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Than Sein, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Kyi Kyi Win and members, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Soe Yi, regional in-charge U Kyaw Win Naing and staff, departmental personnel and staff planted 600 saplings.—Myanma Alin

OTTWIN, 31 July—Staff of Ottwin Township Forest Department on 9 July carried saplings by car and distributed teak, eucalyptus and other species of saplings to the local people free of charge.

In implementing the one acre of teak per village, three teak plants per household and 20 hardwood plants per house plan, the Township Forest Department nurtured 120,000 saplings.

So far, the department has distributed over 100,000 saplings to the local people.

Myanma Alin

Saplings distributed to people in Ottwin Township



Troubled Cal nuke plant maps comeback

LOS ANGELES, 31 July—The operator of California's troubled San Onofre nuclear power plant estimates that the damaged twin reactors could be running by the end of the year.

Documents obtained by *The Associated Press* on Monday show Southern California Edison notified the Public Utilities Commission last week that the Unit 2 reactor could possibly be back in service by 18 Nov, and its sister Unit 3 by 31 Dec.

An Edison spokeswoman says the dates submitted to state power managers for planning could be changed.

The plant has been sidelined since January after a tube break in a steam generator released traces of radiation.

The dates do not represent a formal request to restart either reactor, which must be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Edison says safety is its first concern.

Internet



Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Terzi (L) shakes hands with Serbian Foreign Minister Ivan Mrkic prior to a meeting in Belgrade, Serbia on 30 July, 2012. XINHUA

Serbian president, Italian FM against "new conditions"

BELGRADE, 31 July—Italian FM Giulio Terzi underlined in the talks with Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic that Italy supports Serbia's efforts to join the EU.

During their meeting on Monday in Belgrade, he added that Italy was ready to offer all the necessary help in the continuation of the dialogue with the interim government in Priština, the Serbian Presidency said in a press release.

The Italian foreign minister, who is the first foreign official to visit Belgrade after the government formation, expressed Italy's readiness to cooperate especially in the energy sector, and informed President Nikolic that Italy is

willing to invest funds in joint projects with Serbia such as construction of hydroelectric power plants on the Ibar River and the Drina River, the statement added.

Nikolic "expressed gratitude for the two countries' strategic partnership, and the investments which Italy has made in Serbia so far, stressing that Serbia counts on Italy's support on its further EU pathway".

Nikolic and Terzi "agreed that it would be very bad for all if the EU presented additional preconditions for Serbia's EU accession", the statement said.

Nikolic voiced Serbia's readiness to implement the recommendations put forward by the European Union, and correct the omissions in the judicial reform, the fight against corruption and crime, and

dubious privatizations.

Commenting on the issue of Kosovo and Metohija, President Nikolic underlined that in the future, Serbia's policy will be transparent, when it comes to its southern province.

Serbia will insist that the maximum security and peace be provided for all citizens in the province, and will not accept the independence of that party of Serbia, Nikolic stressed.

The plan is to reach a national consensus on the issue of Kosovo and Metohija, so that the strategy be backed by all relevant actors, Nikolic said.

The Serbian president told his guest that to date, the problem in the dialogue with Priština lay in the fact that Serbia's representatives had not asked for anything, but just made concessions on Serbia's behalf.—Internet

Typhoon Saola is approaching eastern Taiwan

BEIJING, 31 July—At 6:00 am today, typhoon Saola was centered about 410 km southeast of Hualian, Taiwan province with maximum wind force up to scale 12 near its centre.

Saola is forecasted to move north by west at speed of 5-10 km per hour with gaining intensity approaching eastern Taiwan gradually.

Affected by the typhoon, in the next 24 hours from 8:00 am today, there will be gale with force scale up to 8-10 affecting east of Taiwan. Maximum wind force will occur up to scale 11-14 and gust up to 15-16 near its centre. And high wind with scale 7-8 and gust up to scale 9-11 is forecasted to happen in Bashi Channel, Balintang Channel, Taiwan Straits, eastern and southern South China Sea, southern East China Sea, Taiwan coast, and coastal Fujian. Taiwan will be hit by heavy rain or rainstorm and isolated severe rainstorm.

At the same time, the 10th tropical storm Damrey has increased into a severe tropical storm in this morning. At 5:00 am today it was centered about 860 km south by east of Tokyo, Japan with maximum wind force up to scale 10. It is forecasted to move west by north at speed of 30 km per hour with gaining intensity. In the coming 24 hours it will not affect off shore of China.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 30 July, 2012 shows the thick clouds over the sky before the typhoon Saola arrives in Taizhou, east China's Zhejiang Province. Tropical storm Saola has turned into a typhoon on Monday and is approaching China's southeast coastal area.—XINHUA



Tourists watch as sediment-laden water gushes out from the Xiaolangdi Reservoir on the Yellow River during a flood peak adjustment operation in central China's Henan Province, 30 July, 2012. A flood peak arrived at the Xiaolangdi Reservoir on Monday. XINHUA

Bilateral trade between Russia, Vietnam surging in 2012

MOSCOW, 31 July—Trade volume between Russia and Vietnam would rise by 1 billion US dollars to 4 billion dollars in 2012, said Russian economist Elvira Nabiullina Monday. While addressing a Russia-Vietnam business conference in Moscow, Nabiullina, who was appointed as President Vladimir Putin's economic

advisor in May, said bilateral trade turnover between the two countries has risen three-fold since 2006.

The two-way trade between Russia and Vietnam was 1.5 billion dollars in the first five months of the year, said Nabiullina, who insisted both Russia and Vietnam still need to tap their potentials in trade.

further expand their economic and trade cooperation.

To achieve the goal, both Moscow and Hanoi have been considering a free-trade agreement between Vietnam and the tripartite Customs Union comprising Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, Nabiullina said.

Vietnamese President Sang said Sunday his country is interested in joining the Customs Union, which became fully operational on 1 July, 2010.—Xinhua

Illicit drugs worth 524 mln USD seized in Sydney

SYDNEY, 31 July—The Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Australian Customs and Border Protection Service have smashed an international drug syndicate, seizing 558 kilograms of illicit drugs in Sydney, the AFP said on Tuesday.

The illicit drugs including 306 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine, known as

ice, and 252 kilograms of heroin, with a street value of 500 million AU dollars (524.6 million US dollars), were seized during a major joint operation with the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service in Sydney on Monday, the AFP said.

"This is the largest seizure of ice in AFP history and is also the AFP's third largest seizure of heroin," the AFP

said in a statement on Tuesday.

The AFP arrested four foreign nationals from Hong Kong as well as three Australia based syndicate members in Sydney central business district and Western Sydney during Monday's operation.

All seven alleged offenders are expected to appear in Sydney Central Local Court on Tuesday, the AFP said.—Xinhua

Flood leaves 88 dead, 62,900 homeless in DPRK

PYONGYANG, 31 July—Floods triggered by recent downpours have left 88 people dead, 134 injured and more than 62,900 homeless in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the official KCNA news agency reported Saturday.

KCNA reported that more than 5,000 houses were destroyed and nearly 12,030 others were submerged in the

floodwater. In addition, about 200 areas of embankment extending 160 kilometres and 4,800 hectares of cropland were washed away while more than 25,700 hectares were submerged.

The KCNA reported that officials across the country were visiting flood-stricken

areas in an "all-people drive" to evaluate the damage and take necessary measures to recover from the disaster.

The DPRK has suffered heavy rains and floodings since the start of the rainy season last Wednesday when a typhoon reached the country. Xinhua



People walk in the floodwater in Anju in this picture released by KCNA, the official news agency of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 30 July.—XINHUA

Two dead, 26 missing in Xinjiang mudslide

URUMQI, 31 July—Two people died and 26 others have been reported missing after a mudslide hit northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region Tuesday morning, the local govern-

ment said. The mudslide occurred at an iron ore mine in the township of Araltobe, Xinyuan county, Kazak Autonomous Prefecture of Ili, said a spokesman with the prefecture's fire brigade,

adding that the brigade received an emergency call at around 1 am.

The mud and debris buried 28 people, initially identified as 22 mine workers and six local residents, said

the spokesman. The bodies of two victims have been recovered from the debris, which covers an area about 500 metres long, 60 metres wide and five to six metres deep, he said. More than 50 rescuers are searching for the missing people.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SS VELES VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SS VELES VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SEA TRANS SHIPPING
CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (310)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (310) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER
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China's aircraft carrier platform returns to the dock in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province, after finishing its 9th sea trial, on 30 July, 2012. The trial lasted 25 days, the longest one in its history.—INTERNET

Vermillion ovarian cancer test shows positive result

NEW YORK, 31 July—Diagnostics company Vermillion Inc said a clinical trial of its blood test for detecting ovarian cancer showed the test had a high chance of correctly identifying patients with cancer. Shares of the company jumped 21 percent to \$2.17 on the news. The study, named OVA1, is a blood test for pre-surgical assessment of ovarian tumors for malignancy.

The study focused on two particularly challenging subgroups - women with early-stage ovarian cancer and pre-menopausal women. "A key goal of the study was to investigate the challenging pre-menopausal setting, where benign cysts have a high incidence and early-stage cancer often goes undetected," Chief Executive Gail Page said.

The test had a 94 percent sensitivity in the pre-menopausal group, and a 91 percent sensitivity in the early-stage ovarian cancer group.—Reuters



Former French prime minister Francois Fillon and a UMP party candidate for the parliamentary elections leaves a polling station in Paris 10 June, 2012.

REUTERS

Capri scooter spill leaves ex-French PM in Rome hospital

ROME, 31 July—Former French Prime Minister Francois Fillon underwent treatment for a broken foot in a Rome hospital on Monday after falling from a scooter at the weekend while on holiday on the picturesque Italian island of Capri.

Fillon, favourite to become leader of former President Nicolas Sarkozy's conservative UMP party, was flown by helicopter on Sunday to Rome's Villa Stuart, which specialises in orthopaedic surgery and sports medicine, after the accident.

The 58-year-old trapped his foot under his scooter after skidding and falling over, sources close to Fillon

told Reuters.

Hospital officials said he was in good condition after being operated on by doctors Pierpaolo Mariani and Attilio Santucci, the same surgeons who treated Roma soccer star Francesco Totti and French footballer Philippe Mexes.

"He will be able to continue his political campaign, although all will depend on what the doctors say," sources close to Fillon said. He would return to France in the next few days.

A hospital spokesman said Fillon was visited on Monday by Ferrari Chairman Luca di Montezemolo, with whom sports car fan Fillon had been holidaying when the accident occurred.—Reuters

Pakistan to push for intelligence sharing at US talks

DUBAI, 31 July—Pakistan's spy chief will call for an end to US military drone strikes in its tribal areas bordering Afghanistan and push for a sharing of technology and intelligence during a visit to Washington this week, the country's interior minister said on Monday.

But indications are that Islamabad's demands for a halt to drone attacks may receive a less-than-sympathetic hearing from top Obama administration officials.

Pakistani Lieutenant-General Zaheerul-Islam's visit to meet CIA director General David Petraeus will be his first since he became head of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in March and follows a thaw in relations between Pakistan and the United States.

Pakistan, however, continues to insist that US drone strikes—which it says are a breach of its territorial sovereignty—must end.

"We will push for no drones. If we (Pakistan and the US) are partners, we should sit together and have a common strategy. However, in this regional war there has been no common strategy

against a common enemy," Interior Minister Rehman Malik told a news conference in Dubai.

"I hope the visit of the director of the ISI will have good results. There is some dialogue going on as we speak," he said.

The United States has given no sign it is willing to halt the drone strikes.

In fact, US officials signal there will be little, if any, change in US counter-terrorism activity in Pakistan

and the region.

"Let's not lose sight of the issue here. Al-Qaeda and its militant allies are violating Pakistan's sovereignty by using its territory to plot and carry out attacks," a US official said.

"Aggressive counterterrorism operations are what's frustrating al-Qaeda and pushing their leadership to the brink."

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, also reiterated US concerns about the extent of Pakistan

efforts to confront militants—including the Haqqani network and the Pakistani Taliban, known as the TTP—in loosely-governed tribal areas along the country's mountainous border with Afghanistan.

"Everyone wants the Pakistanis to accept more responsibility for taking on al-Qaeda, TTP and the Haqqanis.

The problem is they have yet to show the capability—or willingness—to take effective action" in Pakistan's tribal areas, said the US official.

The official added that while there was "always room for dialogue on how to defeat terrorist entities in the region," Pakistani authorities "need to offer some concrete ideas on how it does more against the violent Haqqanis, rather than point fingers."

But Pakistan's Malik told journalists: "Both countries have to find a midway (point). This of course means intelligence-sharing. Also, give us the technology and we will use it.

The US has given us F-16 (fighter jets). Are we misusing it?"

Malik gave no further details, but Pakistan has long asked the United States to provide its military with its own drones for use in its tribal areas.—Reuters



A Pakistan national flag is mounted on the top of a fuel tanker, which was used to carry fuel for NATO forces in Afghanistan, as drivers sit nearby, at a compound in Karachi on 3 July, 2012.—REUTERS

World Bank says rising food prices a concern, ready to help



Workers spread wheat to dry at a wholesale grain market in Chandigarh on 16 April, 2012.

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 31 July—The World Bank on Monday said it stood ready to help governments respond to a broad-based run-up in grain prices that has again put the world's poorest people at risk and could have lingering detrimental impacts for years.

"We cannot allow short-term food-price spikes to have damaging long-term consequences for the world's most poor and vulnerable," World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim said in statement.

"The World Bank and our partners are monitoring this situation closely so we can help governments put policies in place to help people better cope," said Kim, a public health expert facing his biggest challenge in two months on the job.

A severe drought in the US Midwest has cut projected grain yields dramatically, reviving memories of 2008 when a sharp increase in food prices caused riots in some countries and raised questions about the use of crops to make biofuels.

Wheat prices have jumped more than 50 percent and corn prices more than 45 percent since mid-June, with dry conditions in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan, excessively wet weather in Europe and a below average start to the Indian monsoon season adding to global crop worries. Prices for soybeans, a critical food and animal feed crop, also have risen almost 30 percent over the past two months and nearly 60 percent since the end of last year.

Reuters

Mother delivers twins on two highways

A New York mother gave birth to twin boys on two different highways before making it to the hospital, officials said.

Siobhan and Bryan Anderson were making their way to North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset around 7 a.m. on 28 July after Siobhan's water broke, *Newsday*, Melville, NY, reported.



Declan (left) and Gavin (right) were born minutes apart on two different Long Island highways en route to the hospital this weekend.

Siobhan's contractions intensified on the road and she asked Bryan to pull over on the Southern State Parkway, the report said.

"I'm going to deliver," she told him.

Bryan called 911 and state trooper Ron Ferraro arrived along with Nassau County police and medical technicians.

As medical technicians put Siobhan on a stretcher and were wheeling her to the ambulance, she gave birth to Gavin John.

The mother "literally delivered the baby on the stretcher on the road, with cars going by," said Nassau Officer Ron Gerlin.

Siobhan was then moved into the ambulance which began making its way to the

nearest hospital, which was about 10 miles away.

However, when Siobhan couldn't hold back the second twin, the ambulance pulled off the Wantagh State Parkway to deliver Declan Michael.

"I was crying because it was so painful and I had no painkillers," Siobhan said. "They really wanted to come out." Minutes later, the ambulance arrived at the Nassau University Medical Center, where the babies were brought into the delivery unit by officers.

"They were moving around, looking at the world. I thought it was beautiful," said Leila Ayers, a nurse in the unit.

Super-Robot with twin guns is unveiled



Super-robot with twin guns

A massive robot that can carry a seated human pilot — and is armed with twin gatling guns — has gone on show in Japan.

Kuratas is described as the world's first giant boarding robot, no doubt inspired by the "mechs" of

Japanese anime and manga comic book culture which features human controllers inside a walking vehicle. But Kuratas is different in that it offers two types of control system.

The robot can be piloted directly, or remotely by a user connected to a 3G device such as a laptop, tablet or smartphone.

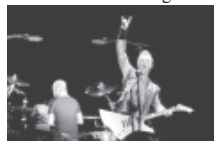
The firm that made the robot, Suidobashi Heavy Industry, even released a tongue-in-cheek video showing how to operate the robot.

It was unveiled to the world at the Wonder Festival in the Tokyo suburb of Chiba.

Kuratas, which is referred to as the Vaudeville project in a promotional video, has two humanoid arms and four wheeled legs — and twin six-barrelled gatling guns — which fire BB-sized pellets at the rate of 6,000 rounds per minute.

Metallica burns it up at start of Mexico tour

MEXICO CITY, 31 July — Metallica vocalist James Hetfield had warned things could get perilous at the start of the band's fifth tour of Mexico, saying "We're very focused on how dangerous



James Hetfield, lead singer for the heavy metal rock band "Metallica" performs during a concert at the Sports Palace, in Mexico City, Saturday, on 28 July, 2012.

INTERNET

this show is."

The audience of more than 22,000 believed it too. Many of the fans were visibly terrified Saturday night as the band re-enacted its burn-down-the-stage performance from 1998's "Cunning Stunts" video album.

At one point a technician fled across the stage like a human torch in a Mexico City show that featured explosions, pyrotechnics, laser lights and the odd giant coffin.

Hours earlier Hetfield said the tour would cover the band's 31 years of performing.

Metallica has scheduled seven more shows at Mexico City's Sports Palace before heading to dates in San Francisco and Edmonton, Canada. — *Internet*

Happy Birthday Arnold Schwarzenegger

NEW YORK, 31 July — Arnold Schwarzenegger's birthday has arrived on Monday and the former California governor is celebrating his 65th year.

The actor celebrated his milestone birthday with friends during a bike ride along Venice Beach, Calif and by enjoying a special lunch, according to TMZ. His friends sang him "Happy Birthday" at Cafe Roma, where Schwarzenegger frequently dines for lunch.

The Austrian native was born on 30 July, 1947 and first gained fame as a body builder. His sharp features and muscular build helped Schwarzenegger achieve his dream to become a star in the US. His breakthrough role into acting arrived in 1982's "Conan the Barbarian."

Schwarzenegger went on to star in the "Terminator" film series, and solidified himself

into Hollywood royalty.

After marrying the niece of President John F. Kennedy, Maria Shriver, Schwarzenegger's ambition did not decrease. In 2003, he was elected Governor of California, which he held until 2011. The actor's successes did not arrive without personal struggles, though. After 25 years of marriage in 2011, it was revealed that Schwarzenegger fathered a son more than 14 years earlier with an employee in he and Shriver's household - Mildred "Patty" Baena. — *Internet*



The actor starring in *The Terminator*.



This 29 May, 2012 file photo shows actress Kristen Stewart and director Rupert Sanders attending the "Snow White and the Huntsman" screening in Los Angeles.

INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 31 July — "Twilight" fans are heartbroken by Kristen Stewart's public admission

Pattinson 'wrote love songs' for Stewart before affair scandal

LOS ANGELES, 31 July — Robert Pattinson has said he was busy writing love songs for his girlfriend Kristen Stewart before her affair with director Rupert Sanders came into light.

The "Twilight" star revealed in an interview with *Black Book* magazine prior to the scandal that he would pen tunes for his muse, reported *Examiner* online.

He also gave an insight into what those songs might sound like, speaking of his pre-fame gigging days, when

Stewart's affair unlikely to harm 'Twilight' take

that she cheated on her boyfriend and co-star Robert Pattinson. Some on Twitter are blasting the actress with no shortage of nasty names, while others are pledging support for Pattinson, calling him "sexy" and promising they'd be faithful.

But the scandal involving the on- and off-screen couple is unlikely to affect box-office returns for the final installment in the vampire-romance juggernaut due this fall, or even harm the image of the 22-year-old actress.

Stewart, whom Forbes

named Hollywood's highest-paid actress last month, issued an apology to *People* magazine Wednesday, saying she is "deeply sorry for the hurt and embarrassment I've caused to those closest to me and everyone this has affected."

Stewart and Pattinson, 26, have been in a relationship for several years after meeting on the set of "Twilight," in which they play lovers.

Sanders, 41, who is married and has two children, followed with his own apologetic statement to *People*. — *Internet*



Robert Pattinson

he would perform at open mic nights to "about three other performers and the bar's waitress".

Pattinson said when he first moved to Los Angeles he would sing at quirky venues like The Rainbow Room on Sunset Boulevard.

Martin Sheen could join son's TV series

LOS ANGELES, 31 July — Actor Martin Sheen may appear more regularly on son Charlie Sheen's new series "Anger Management," the younger Sheen said at a press tour in Los Angeles.

Charlie Sheen said his father — who played a therapist in the show's ninth episode — could return as an official cast member if "Anger Management" is renewed, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

"He was great, he was awesome," Charlie Sheen said of working with his father on the series. "He brings a whole different energy."

FX President John Landgraf said at the FX's Television Critics' Association panel on Saturday that he was pleased with the series' ratings and that it had exceeded the audience necessary for a renewal.

When asked about how

Earlier this week, pictures of his girlfriend, 22, kissing 41-year-old "Snow White And The Huntsman" director and married father-of-two Sanders surfaced.

The scandal has led to Pattinson leaving the USD 6 million Loz Feliz mansion he shared with Stewart and the actress is said to have followed suit. They are also said to not be on speaking terms.

Both Stewart and Sanders have publicly apologized. — *Internet*



Actor Martin Sheen

his life is different now compared to his public breakdown after leaving "Two and a Half Men," Charlie Sheen was quiet and subdued, the *Times* said.

"I don't know — I learned a lot," he said. "Stick to what you know. Don't go on the road to 21 cities with no act."

Internet



David and Victoria Beckham trying for fifth child

NEW YORK, 31 July — Football star David and fashion designer wife Victoria are reportedly trying for their fifth and final baby.

The former Spice Girl and her 37-year-old husband already have four kids — Brooklyn, 13, Romeo, nine, Cruz, seven, and Harper, one, reported *Daily Star* online.

"Both Victoria and David are very patriotic and would love it if she got pregnant while they are in London for the Olympics, especially as it is also the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year. Their other children were conceived overseas, so the duo are hoping that their final child will have a Made In Britain tag," a source said.

"Brooklyn was famously named after where he was conceived in New York. And Victoria has joked that if she gets pregnant with a boy during the Olympics they are going to call him Stratford," it added. Apparently the couple want five children because of the number's symbolism. "They have always wanted five children to give them a family of seven - which is their lucky number. It's also the number that David wore on his England and Manchester United football shirts.

"Victoria is really into symbolism, and she can't help but notice there are five rings in the Olympic logo and, of course, there were five members of the Spice Girls," the source said. — *Internet*

Basketball: Sweet Dreams 20-years later as US rolls

LONDON, 31 July—It was 20-years ago that the original Dream Team was introduced to the world with the 116-48 destruction of Angola.

The United States women's basketball team got their shot at the African nation

at the London Olympics on Monday, and were no less charitable.

While Sue Bird will never be mistaken for Larry Bird or Diana Taurasi with Michael Jordan, coach Geno Auriemma believes this could

be the finest collection of talent the US women's basketball team has ever put on Olympic hardwood as the Americans rolled to a 90-38 win to remain on course for a fifth straight gold medal.

The win by the American women against the overmatched African champions was likely to be forgotten before they returned to the athletes' village.

But the Dream Team's blowout of the Angolans to kickoff the 1992 Barcelona Olympic basketball tournament continues to resonate two decades later.

For Angola women's basketball coach Anibal Moreira, a member of the 1992 squad that was thumped by the Dream Team, the evening provided a vivid flashback and a rush of familiar emotions.—Reuters



Diana Taurasi (C) of the US vies with Angola's Sonia Guadalupe (R) and Luisa Tomas (L) during their Women's preliminary round group A basketball match in the London 2012 Olympic Games on 30 July, 2012.

REUTERS

N Korea's An takes gold in women's -52kg

LONDON, 31 July—North Korea's An Kum Ae won gold in the women's -52kg category on Sunday after a day of surprises in which all the top seeds were knocked out in the opening rounds.

The 32-year-old, ranked 25th in the world, went one better than the silver she who won four years ago in Beijing by beating Cuba's Yanet Bermoy Acosta with a yuko



North Korea's An Kum Ae bites her gold medal as she celebrates during the awards ceremony for the women's -52kg judo competition at the London 2012 Olympic Games on 29 July, 2012.—REUTERS

throw in the extra time golden score period.

After securing her win, she leapt in the air with joy, but kept her emotions in check during a later press conference.

"I'm very happy to be able to win the gold medal. By winning the gold medal I was able to glorify my nation," the very softly-spoken An told reporters. "By winning the gold medal I think I gave some happiness and joy to our leader Kim Jong-un."

Earlier she put out world champion and tournament favourite Misato Nakamura of Japan, a bronze medal winner in Beijing, before comfortably seeing off Italy's Rosalba Forciniti in the semi-finals.

Cuba's Bermoy Acosta, 25, had also looked impressive on her way to the final, comfortably beating Belgium's Ilse Heylen, 35, who won bronze in Athens in 2004, in the semis.—Reuters

Shemyakina wins gold in women's epee

LONDON, 31 July—Ukraine's Yana Shemyakina caused an upset by winning gold in the women's individual epee with a nail-biting 9-8 extra-time victory over defending champion Britta Heidemann of Germany at the London Olympics on



Ukraine's Yana Shemyakina (R) competes against China's Sun Yujie during their women's epee individual semifinal fencing competition at the ExCel venue at the London 2012 Olympic Games on 30 July, 2012.

REUTERS

Monday. Twelfth seed Shemyakina, who was 18th at the Beijing Games four years ago, worked her way through the preliminaries here with two key victories over top-ranked Romanian fencers.

She beat fifth seed Ana Maria Branza and then

knocked out another Romanian in fourth-ranked Simona Gherman.

Heidemann reached the gold-medal match after a

controversial incident in her semi-final against Shin A Lam sparked a one-hour protest.

The South Korean refused to leave the piste, as was her right under the rules, until all protests by her federation failed. "The German must still have been thinking about the semi-final and wasn't able to focus as much on my bout," Shemyakina told reporters through a translator.

The controversy erupted over whether the clock was counting down correctly.

"I am not blaming the argument for my defeat but on the other hand it did cause me stress," said Heidemann.

"Of course I would have loved to take my second gold medal but after five tough matches here I think I have won silver and not lost gold."

Reuters

China's Li Xueying wins women's 58kg weightlifting Olympic gold

LONDON, 31 July—China's Li Xueying snatched an Olympic record of 108kgs and jerked up 138kgs for an Olympic record total of 246kgs to take the women's 58kg weightlifting gold medal at the London Olympic Games here on Monday.

Thailand's Pimsiri Sirikaew got the silver in 236kgs and Yuliya Kalina of Ukraine placed third in 235kgs.

Xinhua



Gold Medalist Li Xueying of China poses for pictures during the victory ceremony of women's weightlifting 58kg competition, at London 2012 Olympic Games in London, Britain, on 30 July, 2012. Li Xueying of China won gold medal with a new Olympic record of 246kg.

XINHUA

International Sports

Chinese gymnasts celebrate after winning in Gymnastics Artistic men's team final contest, at London 2012 Olympic Games in London, Britain, on 30 July, 2012. The Chinese team won gold medal.

XINHUA

China extends dominance at gymnastics men's team

LONDON, 31 July—Chinese gymnasts cleared doubts that followed their sixth-place finish in the preliminary, winning the Olympic men's team gold in dominant fashion on Monday.

The Chinese pulled off a nearly perfect performance to garner 275.997 points, beating Japan's by 4.045 points.

Japan, initially placed in fourth place, picked the silver medal after winning an appeal against the pommel horse

score on Kohei Uchimura. Host gymnasts dropped from second to third for bronze, Britain's first team gymnastics medal for a century.

China made a series of mistakes in the qualifying, but did nothing wrong in the final, which drew media suspicions that the defending champions had hidden their strength.

China ranked sixth in the qualifying and Japan fifth, making the two arch rivals in the same rotation in the final. Japan, silver medalists in

Beijing, started their challenge from rings, which earned 0.8 points ahead of China. In the second rotation of vault, China gained their lead once for all as all three gymnasts completed the discipline before Japan.

Japan's Koji Yamamuro banged on his knees and arms on his landing and had to be carried off by team medical staff. China overtook Japan by 1.542 points after the vault rotation and never looked back.

Xinhua



Kazakhstan's Zulfriya Chinshanlo reacts after setting new clean and jerk World record and total Olympic record on the women's 53Kg Group A weightlifting competition at the London 2012 Olympic Games on 29 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Kazakh Chinshanlo wins women's 53kg gold

LONDON, 31 July—Kazakhstan's Zulfriya Chinshanlo won her country's second gold medal of the London Olympics with a world record in the women's 53 kilogram weightlifting on Sunday. Chinshanlo set a world record for the clean and jerk - the second of two styles of lift - at 131 kg which, when added to her 95 kg in the snatch, gave her a winning total of 226 kg.

That was enough to see off stiff competition from Taipei's Hsu Shu-Ching who lifted a total of 219 kg, while the bronze medal went to Cristina Iovu of Moldova who tied with Hsu on 219 kg but was placed third because her bodyweight was higher.

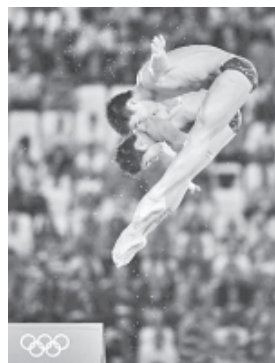
Earlier, China's hopes of continuing their dominance in the women's weightlifting events were dashed when 17 year-old medal hope Zhou Jun crashed out of the 53 kg class group B session without completing a single lift.

Reuters

China wins men's 10m platform synchronized diving gold medal at London Olympic Games

LONDON, 31 July—Cao Yuan and Zhang Yanquan of China dominated the final of men's 10m platform synchronized diving for the title at the London Olympic Games here on Monday.

The Chinese divers collected a total of 486.78 points for the title, followed by Ivan Garcia Navarro and German Sanchez Sanchez of Mexico in the second place at 468.90 and the bronze medal went to American duo David Boudia and Nicholas McCrory at 463.47.—Xinhua



Cao Yuan (back)/ Zhang Yanquan of China compete during men's synchronised 10m platform event at the London 2012 Olympic Games in London, Britain, on 30 July, 2012. The Chinese divers claimed the title of this event with 486.78.

XINHUA

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

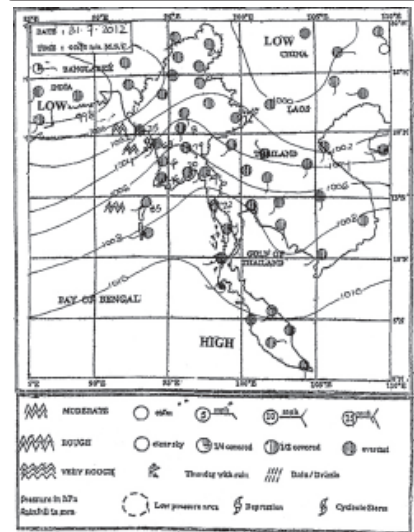
MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
 (1-8-12 09:30 am ~ 2-8-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Wazo Food Donation Ceremony
- * Banking is a Service Industry
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * The Workshop on Curriculum Development and Pedagogy
- * News
- * Singapore Education Exhibition
- * News
- * Hiker's Journey (Episode-6) (Yangon City) (Part-1)
- * News
- * Let's all, listen together with open hearts forever
- * News
- * Ancestor And Successors
- * News
- * Daily Code and Conduct
- * News
- * Charity Feast By Taw Win Family Co., Ltd
- * Myanmar Movie "On the shelf"

MYANMAR TV
 (1-8-2012) (Wednesday)

- 7:00 am 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Saydaw
- 7:25 am 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am 3. Maha Wuntha Myat Buddha
- 8:45 am 4. Dhamma Puja Song Programme
- 4:00 pm 5. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm 6. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm 7. Cultural Dances
- 4:30 pm 8. Dhamma Sekka Thutta Reciting Competition (2nd Prize Winner) (Dagon) (B-E-H-S-1)
- 5:05 pm 9. Classical Song
- 5:25 pm 10. Songs in honour of the month (Waso)
- 5:50 pm 11. ASEAN "Programmes"
- 6:20 pm 12. Traditional Boxing
- 6:45 pm 13. Shwe Yin Chone Than
- 8:00 pm 14. News
15. Korea NG Award
16. TV Drama Series
17. Dramatic Arts Competitions (Marionette)

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 1st August, 2012

Sr. No.	Location	Temperature (°C)		Forecast		Percent
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent	
1	Kachin	33.91	25.77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
2	Kayah	26.79	20.68	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
3	Kayin	26.79	21.70	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
4	Chin	22.72	16.61	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
5	Upper Sagaing	31.88	26.79	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
6	Lower Sagaing	33.91	27.81	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
7	Tamthays	26.79	21.70	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
8	Bago	29.84	22.72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
9	Magway	32.90	25.77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
10	Mandalay	33.91	26.79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
11	Mon	27.81	21.70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)	
12	Yangon	32.90	22.72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
13	Rakhine	29.84	20.68	Widespread rain or thundershowers (HI)	(100%)	
14	Southern Shan	22.72	18.64	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
15	Northern Shan	30.86	21.70	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
16	Eastern Shan	28.82	23.73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
17	Ayeyawady	28.82	24.75	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	31.88	22.72	One or two rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
19	Neighbouring Yangon	32.90	22.72	One or two rain or thundershowers	(100%)	
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	33.91	26.79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)	

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today
 During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Lower Sagaing Region and Kachin State, scattered in Mandalay, Magway Regions and Shan State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Tamthays Regions, Chin and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaaukyu (3.27inches), Kyaikkham (3.15inches), Paung (2.70inches), Kyaikraw and Taunggyi (2.50inches each) and Patay (2.52inches).

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

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

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

North Korean lifts 3 times body weight for gold

LONDON, 31 July—It was a big record for a little guy. North Korea's Om Yun Chol, all of 5 feet and 123 pounds, won a gold medal by confidently lifting an Olympic record 370 pounds in the clean and jerk Sunday at the London Games. That was more than three times his body weight, something only a handful of others have ever done.

How unlikely was the upset victory? Om was in the "B" group with lower-ranked competitors and lifted weights of 160 and 165 kilograms on his first two attempts early in the day. He got the crowd roaring when it was announced he would go for 168 kilograms - the Olympic record. "I wanted to lift a big weight and make the other athletes nervous," Om said.

It worked. As the "A" group entered the platform later Sunday, double world champion and pre-competition favorite Wu Jianguo of China lifted 133 kilograms in the snatch to gain an 8-kilogram lead over Om. But Wu's 156-kilogram clean and jerk wasn't enough to beat the North Korean's total of 293 kilograms, and he had to settle for the silver. European champion Valentin Hristov of Azerbaijan got the bronze.

Om's successful lift broke the mark of 167 kilograms set by Halil Mutlu of Turkey in Sydney in 2000.—Internet



North Korea's Om Yun Chol.

Narang wins India's first medal at 2012 Olympics



India's Gagan Narang celebrates after winning the bronze medal in the men's 10-metre air rifle at the 2012 Summer Olympics on 30 July, 2012, in London. INTERNET

LONDON, 31 July—Gagan Narang won the bronze medal for India in the 10-m air rifle event at the London Olympics 2012 with Romania's Alin George Moldoveanu winning gold and Italy's Niccolo Campriani winning silver.

Ace marksman Gagan Narang on Monday opened India's account in the London Olympic Games by clinching the bronze medal in the men's 10m air rifle event here.

Narang shot 103.1 in a gripping ten-shot finals for an aggregate of 701.1 after scoring 598 in the qualifying round in which also he stood third. The gold was won by Romania's Moldoveanu

Alin George who tallied 702.1, that included 103.1 in the final, to upset world number 1 Niccolo Campriani of Italy who stood second with 701.5 at the Royal Artillery Barracks.

After a good start when he shot 10.7, Narang was off target with his second shot that fetched him 9.7. But he gathered his wits and steadied his aim to collect 10.6 10.7 10.4 and 10.6 in the following four shots to at one stage remain on course for bagging even a silver.

However, he slipped a bit and had to fight for the bronze medal with China's Wang Tao who finished fourth with 700.4.—Internet

Ye blazes into semi-finals of 200 meters medley

LONDON, 31 July—China's Ye Shuwen showed that her world record display in the women's 400 meters medley was no flash in the pan when she clocked the fastest time in the heats for the 200 metres event on Monday morning.

The 16-year-old was over a second and a half ahead of the second fastest qualifier as she once again showed her power in the breaststroke and freestyle. Ye finished ahead of Zimbabwe's Kirsty Coventry and American swimmer Caitlin Leverenz while another Chinese swimmer Li Xiaoxing also got through to the last 16.

"I am very satisfied and a little bit surprised by my result," commented Ye after her race. Elsewhere, Michael Phelps took a small step towards convincing doubters that he is still capable of winning medals in the London Olympics, when he cruised into the semi-finals

of the men's 200 meters butterfly on Monday morning.

The American followed his excellent swim in the second leg of the men's 4 x 100 meters freestyle relay final on Sunday with a comfortable swim to qualify for the semi-finals with the fifth fastest time.

Austrian Dinko Juric qualified with the fastest time, while two Chinese swimmers Wu Peng and Chen Yin, who both swam in the same heat, both made it through to the last 16.

Chen will be optimistic of taking a medal after finishing fourth in the World Championships in Shanghai last year, while Juric will hope to improve on his World Championship display, after clocking the fastest time in the heats before failing to get near the medal positions.—Xinhua



Ye Shuwen of China leaves after women's 200m individual medley heats of swimming at the London 2012 Olympic Games in London, Britain, July 30, 2012. Ye Shuwen was qualified for the semifinal with 2:08.90. —XINHUA

Weightlifting: North Korea claim more gold

LONDON, 31 July—North Korea maintained their 100 percent men's weightlifting record at the London Games thanks to a sensational performance by Kim Un Guk who claimed a gold medal and a world record in the men's 62 kg class.

Despite a gold for Chinese women's lifter Li Xueying in the 58kg class the country's mixed run, in a sport they totally



North Korea's Un Guk Kim salutes celebrating his new world record in total of the men's 62Kg weightlifting competition at the London 2012 Olympic Games July 30, 2012.—REUTERS

dominated in Beijing, was compounded by a disappointing fourth place for men's world champion Zhang Jie.

Zhang also lost his 2008 world record when Kim notched up a total of 327 kg across the two styles of Olympic lift, adding one kg to the world's best and matching the highest lift for the individual snatch style.

Kim, 23, took to the weightlifting platform with a small bow in front of the barbell, but left the stage leaping and punching the air to a standing ovation after comfortably seeing off a field packed with medal contenders.—Reuters

Meeting on Hajj Pilgrimage held

YANGON, 31 July—A meeting on Hajj Pilgrimage to Mecca of Saudi Arabia (2012) was held at the Ministry of Religious (branch office) on Kaba-Aye Pagoda Road, here, this morning.

Present at the meeting were Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung, the Director-General of Religious Affairs Department, the deputy director-general and officials,

responsible persons of Islamic Religious Affairs Organizations, patron and members of Hajj Supervising Committee and responsible persons of Hajj Pilgrimage Companies.

At the meeting, the Union Minister said that last year people who wished to go Hajj pilgrimage faced financial losses due to malpractices. Any mistake if found should be pointed out sincerely.



Officials should take necessary measures to settle the problem, he said. He then fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Union Minister Thura U Myint Maung addresses meeting on Hajj Pilgrimage.—MNA

Union Health Minister inspects Specialist Hospital (Yangon)



Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin inspects renovation of Specialist Hospital (Yangon).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin accompanied by the rectors, the medical superintendents, professors/heads of department and officials inspected renovation of Specialist Hospital (Yangon) at the corner of Pyay and Min Ye Kyaw Swa Roads in Yangon on 28 July.

The Union Minister and party heard

reports on progress of work carried out by Original Group Co., Ltd, Golden Flower Co., Ltd and A1 Construction Co., Ltd. The Union Minister fulfilled the requirements.

The Union Minister and party looked into the completion of four-storey building, installation of elevator, out-patient ward, departments and wards of the hospital.

MNA

Flood bulletin for Sittoung, Thanlwin, Shwegyin Rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—According to the 15:30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo is 588 cm. It may reach its danger level 600 cm during the next 48 hours commencing this noon.

According to the 12:30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an 842 cm has exceeded by 92 cm (about 3-ft) above its

danger level. It may remain above its danger level 750 cm during the next three days.

According to the 12:30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Shwegyin River at Shwegyin 719 cm has exceeded by 19 cm (about 0.6-ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 700 cm during the next 48 hours commencing this noon' announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

K 400,000 per 100 baskets of paddy purchased in Dekkhinathiri Tsp



PAGE 7

Gov't adopts plans for timber certification, invites private investment in establishment of forest plantations



PAGE 8

London Olympic Medal Tally

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	10	6	3	19
2	United States	6	7	5	18
3	France	4	1	4	9
4	South Korea	3	2	2	7
5	North Korea	3	0	1	4
6	Italy	2	4	2	8
7	Germany	2	3	1	6
8	Russian Federation	2	0	4	6
9	Kazakhstan	2	0	0	2
10	Japan	1	4	7	12
11	Australia	1	2	1	4
12	Romania	1	2	0	3
13	Brazil	1	1	1	3
13	Hungary	1	1	1	3
15	Netherlands	1	1	0	2
16	Ukraine	1	0	2	3
17	Lithuania	1	0	0	1
17	South Africa	1	0	0	1
17	Georgia	1	0	0	1
17	Slovenia	1	0	0	1
21	Great Britain & N. Ireland	0	2	2	4
22	Colombia	0	2	0	2
22	Mexico	0	2	0	2
24	Poland	0	1	0	1
24	Sweden	0	1	0	1
24	Thailand	0	1	0	1
24	Chinese Taipei	0	1	0	1
24	Cuba	0	1	0	1
24	Denmark	0	1	0	1
30	Canada	0	0	3	3
31	Slovakia	0	0	2	2
32	Azerbaijan	0	0	1	1
32	Belgium	0	0	1	1
32	Qatar	0	0	1	1
32	Mongolia	0	0	1	1
32	Moldova	0	0	1	1
32	Norway	0	0	1	1
32	New Zealand	0	0	1	1
32	Serbia	0	0	1	1
32	Uzbekistan	0	0	1	1
32	Indonesia	0	0	1	1
32	India	0	0	1	1

Thomis secures France's passage



LONDON, 31 July—Elodie Thomis was again on target as France booked their place in the quarter-finals at London 2012 with a 1-0 win over Colombia.

The defeat was the South Americans' third in as many matches and sends them heading for home, although they earned credit for rallying in the second half after a desperately one-sided opening 45 minutes.

France went into the match knowing that only a win would guarantee them a place in the next round, and Bruno Bini's team selection reflected this, with Elodie Thomis in from the start.

The flying winger had been Les Bleues' super-sub with a goal and two assists against Korea DPR, and after just two minutes she very nearly continued at St James' Park where she had left off at Hampden Park.

Internet

LONDON, 31 July—Great Britain won a team silver medal in the eventing competition at Greenwich Park on 31 July.

Their brave gold medal challenge ultimately came up short as European champions and Olympic title favourites Germany took gold, with New Zealand clinching bronze.—Internet

Zara Phillips and Team GB claim Olympics silver in Equestrian



Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (31-7-2012)

Kyaukpyu	(3.27) inches
Kyaikkhami	(3.15) inches
Paung	(2.76) inches
Kyauktaw	(2.56) inches
Taungup	(2.56) inches
Putao	(2.52) inches