

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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1st Waxing of Wagaung 1374 ME

Saturday, 18 August, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes

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

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

Notification No. 58/2012
15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)

Investigation Commission formed

1. There occurred unrests and killings in Rakhine State in May and June 2012, which undermined peace and stability and rule of law. The **Investigation Commission** comprising the following persons is formed so as to expose the real cause of the incident and to give suggestions for national interest.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (a) Dr Myo Myint | Chairman |
| Director-General (Retd) Ministry of Religious Affairs | |
| (b) Rev. U Kyaw Nyunt | member |
| Judson Church, Yangon | |
| (c) Rev. U Saw Mar Gae Gyi | member |
| Secretary Myanmar Baptist Convention | |
| (d) U Thein Tun | member |
| Entrepreneur | |
| (e) U Soe Thein (a) Maung Wun Tha | member |
| Writer | |
| (f) U Thura (a) U Zagana | member |
| Artist | |
| (g) U Khun Tun Oo | member |
| Chairman Shan Nationalities League for Democracy | |
| (h) Daw Than Than Nu | member |
| Democratic Party (Myanmar) | |

- | | |
|--|--------|
| (i) U Khin Maung Swe | member |
| Chairman National Democratic Force | |
| (j) Dr Aye Maung | member |
| Chairman Rakhine Nationalities Democratic Party | |
| (k) U Aye Tha Aung | member |
| Chairman Rakhine League for Democracy | |
| (l) U Ko Ko Gyi | member |
| 88 Generation Students Group | |
| (m) Dr Daw Yin Yin Nwe | member |
| UNICEF Senior Officer (Retd) | |
| (n) Dr Salai Mu Kyone Lyan | member |
| International Law Expert | |
| (o) U Tin Aung Moe | member |
| Environmentalist | |
| (p) U Aung Naing Oo | member |
| Executive Committee member Vahu Development Institute | |
| (q) Daw Wah Wah Tun | member |
| Chairperson Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association | |
| (r) Daw Ja Nan | member |
| Executive Director Nyein Foundation | |
| (s) U Tun Aung Chein | member |
| Member Myanmar National Human Rights Commission | |
- (See page 8)*

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

(Order No. 18/2012)
15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)

Appointment of Chief Justice of Ayeyawady Region High Court

According to Section 308, Subsection (b), paragraph (iv) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 82, Subsection (b) of the Union Government Law and the Section 50 of the Union Judicial Law, Ayeyawady Region High Court Judge U Than Tun, with the approval of the Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw, was appointed as Chief Justice of the Ayeyawady Region High Court.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

(Order No. 19/2012)
15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)

Appointment of Judge of Ayeyawady Region High Court

According to Section 308, Subsection (b), paragraph (iv) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 82, Subsection (d) of the Union Government Law and the Section 50 of the Union Judicial Law, U Win Myint, with the approval of the Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw, was appointed as Judge of the Ayeyawady Region High Court.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Cambodian PM wants closer ties with Vietnam in trade, investment, tourism



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Indiana museum discovers glass Picasso piece



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Flood warning for Thanlwin, Shwegyin, Sittoung Rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an 782 cm has exceeded by 32 cm (about one foot) above its danger level. It may decline its danger level 750 cm during the next 48 hours.

The water level of Shwegyin River at Shwegyin 718 cm has exceeded by 18 cm (about 0.6 foot) above its danger level. It may decline its danger level 700 cm during the next 24 hours.

The water level of Ngawun River at Ngathainggyoung 1176 cm has exceeded by 46 cm (about 1.5 feet) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1130 cm during the next three days, announced by the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 18 August, 2012

Accomplishments and challenges of ASEAN

One of ASEAN's noble goals is the promotion of regional peace and security, and 45-year-old association's Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia is now achieving the support of the global countries that love peace as an international norm for inter-state relations. The treaty has even won the respect of major world powers including permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

At the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia, ASEAN Leaders adopted the Bali Concord III "ASEAN Community, in the global Community of Nations" assigning all member states the task of endeavoring towards full realization of the Concord. So, we the member states of the association are duty bound to create a more dynamic regional organization while maintaining the centrality of ASEAN.

In fact, the adoption of the ASEAN charter was followed by the association's transformation into a rule-based inter-governmental organization with legal personality. Currently, all the member states are in the process of integrating themselves into the "ASEAN Community" by 2015 in accordance with the concept of "One Vision, One Identity and One Community".

As a result of its central role in the emerging regional architecture, the ASEAN profile has been enhanced in regional and international affairs. Besides, the association is also consistently striving to achieve outward looking ASEAN, and the ASEAN Vision calls for the successful establishment of a peaceful, stable, prosperous and harmonious ASEAN Community.

Although we have achieved many accomplishments, there still remain future challenges for us. In this regard, we the peoples of ASEAN including the citizens of Myanmar should do our utmost in the ASEAN integration efforts aimed at narrowing the development gap among ASEAN member countries, and the implementation of Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, as identified by the ASEAN Leaders in the Phnom Penh Declaration and the Phnom Penh Agenda at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

First meeting of APSC Committee held

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— In preparation for the 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship by Myanmar in 2014, the first meeting of the ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee (APSC Committee) was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 15 August.

The meeting was chaired by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, U Wunna Maung Lwin and attended by Deputy Ministers from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Science and Technology, Deputy Attorney-General of the Union, Deputy Auditor-General of the Union, Member of the Union Civil Services Board, Director-General of the Union Government Office, Leader of the President's Advisory Group, Myanmar



The first meeting of ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee (APSC Committee) in preparation for 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship by Myanmar in progress.—MNA

Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Human Rights Commission, Directors-General from relevant ministries and responsible officials.

The meeting discussed on the effective coordination among the

Ministries relating to ASEAN political and security matters in preparation for ASEAN Chairmanship by Myanmar in 2014 and to enhance and expedite the preparatory efforts undertaken by the various Ministries for the

2014 ASEAN Chairmanship. The subject on the formation of ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee and ten thematic working committees to support the APSC Committee was also discussed during the meeting.—MNA

Fund raising, awarding sub-committee to be well-behaved in 27th SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— A work-coordination meeting of the fund raising and awarding sub-committee formed to successfully hold the 27th SEA Games took place at the meeting hall of the ministry of Finance and Revenue here this afternoon.

It was attended by Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun, Union

Minister for Sports and Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein, Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu, Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, as well as the committee members.

At the meeting, Union Minister U Hla Tun delivered an opening speech. He said

that one leading committee for preparing tasks and 13 sub-committees had been assigned duties for successfully holding the SEA Games; that the ministry that are to serve duties on the fund raising and awarding sub-committee is duty bound to make strenuous efforts to accomplish its related 15 duties that might change

according to circumstance for those had been allocated since early the previous year.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Tint Hsan, Deputy Ministers U Win Shein and U Aye Myint Kyu focused on works that needs to be carried out by the sub-committee.

Secretary of the sub-committee U Myat Maw presented reports on undertakings and the future plans which on those present made discussion.

MNA

Japanese delegation meets UMFCCI President

YANGON, 17 Aug—A 12-member delegation led by Chairman Mr A Hachiya of West Japan-Myanmar International Friendship Association called on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min Win and Dr Maung Maung Lay and General Secretary Dr Myo The at the office of UMFCCI in Lanmadaw Township on 4 August.

The discussions focused on promotion of friendly ties between the two countries, investment in Thilawa Special Economic Zone and export of Myanmar fruits to Japan.

Myanma Alin

Myanmar chess team leaves for Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—A four-member Myanmar chess team left here yesterday morning for Thailand to take part in the World Chess Olympic Games in Istanbul of Turkey from 27 August to 10 September.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon International Airport by President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin and executives.

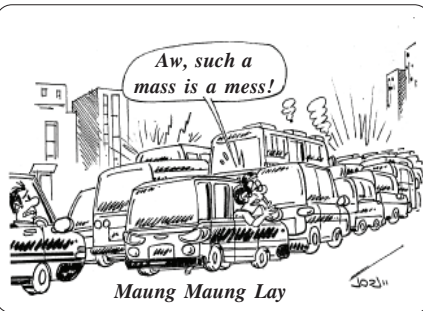
The Myanmar chess team comprises executive of MCF U Hsan Lwin and players Win Zaw Htun (Agriculture & Irrigation), Myo Naing (Transport) and Win Htun (Home Affairs). They will make preparations for taking part in the World Chess Olympics in Istanbul after taking joint exercises in Bangkok of Thailand.—MNA

Slight earthquake hits 25 miles northeast of Mawlamyein

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.0 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 25 miles northeast of Mawlamyein), about 120 miles east of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at 12 hrs 48 min 24 sec M.S.T, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA



The medical staff from Rural Health Centre feed Vitamin A pills to under-five-year-old children in Nanpok Village in Mohnyin Township as working activity of nourishment week on 12 August.—NLM-001



Maung Maung Lay

Singapore says disturbed by double standards of US human rights report

SINGAPORE, 17 Aug—Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) on Thursday slammed the US State Department's "Human Rights Practices 2011," saying that the report "again includes the same gross inaccuracies and misrepresentations of the Singapore government's policies."

"We are disturbed by the double standards applied to the US' criticism of our Internal Security Act (ISA)," the ministry said in a statement.

The Internal Security Act, which has been in place in Singapore over the past decades, is meant to address threats to internal security, including threats to public order, communal and religious harmony, and subversive and terrorist activities, it said, hitting back on the criticism contained in the report.

The US report alleged that Singapore used the controversial Internal Security Act, which allows preventive detention without trial under certain circumstances, against "alleged terrorists" in recent years. It also cited caning as a punishment for some crimes in Singapore as one of the "problems." Singapore said it failed to understand how the

United States reconciles its criticism of the act with the continued existence of US detention facilities at Guantanamo.

"By contrast to the Guantanamo detention facilities, which exist outside the framework of US law, the ISA provides a proper legal framework, and prescribes rules, for preventive detention," the statement said.

Singapore also reacted angrily to the annual US human rights report last year, which it said contained the same misrepresentations and inaccuracies year after year.

"This seems to suggest that the US Department of State is really not interested in the facts, and indeed does not want the facts to come in the way of the conclusions it wishes to reach, pursuant to its own ideology. This approach undermines the objectivity of the report," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

"Singapore does not claim that our system is perfect, or that our system would necessarily work in other countries. Our government is held accountable to the public through democratic elections and the rule of law," it said.—Xinhua



Policemen rescue a kidnapped tourist during an anti-terrorism drill in Guilin, southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 16 Aug, 2012. More than 1,700 people from across the city take part in the drill on Thursday, aiming at improving the ability to handle emergent situations.—XINHUA

Bloody day of blasts in Iraq kills more than 70

BAGHDAD, 17 Aug—A series of bombings and shootings killed more than 70 people across Iraq on Thursday in a bloody day of attacks underscoring the country's struggle with a stubborn insurgency more than half a year after the US military withdrew.

In the worst of the blasts that erupted in the morning and ended in the evening, at least 27 people were killed when a car bomb exploded outside a cafe in Baghdad's Zafraniya district as Iraqis took to the streets to end daily fasting for the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Shortly before the Zafraniya blast, another bomb tore into a busy intersection outside a popular ice cream store in the mainly Shi'ite district of Sadr City, killing 16 and wounding 40 more, police and hospital officials said.

"I was sitting in the cafe when I felt a huge spark like



Security personnel inspect the site of a car bomb attack in Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, on 16 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

electricity in my eyes, and a huge explosion. After that I woke up in hospital with injuries to my arms and shrapnel in my back," said Amjad Saad, 23, a college student.

No group claimed responsibility for Thursday's bombings and shootings, but a local al-Qaeda affiliate and other Sunni Islamist groups have carried out at least one major assault a month since the last American troops left in December. Al-Qaeda's local

wing, the Islamic State of Iraq, says it has begun a new offensive against mainly Shi'ite targets, and security experts say it has benefited from cash and morale thanks to the inflow of fighters into neighbouring Syria.

Security had been tightened in Baghdad ahead of the end of Ramadan next week, a period when analysts had said they believed insurgents may attempt a major coordinated attack.—Reuters

Seven US troops among 11 dead in Afghan helicopter crash

KABUL, 17 Aug—Eleven people were killed on Thursday in a *Black Hawk* helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan, including seven US soldiers and three Afghan allies, the NATO-led force in the country said.

The cause of the crash, which Afghan authorities said was in the Shah Wali Kot District of the southern province of Kandahar, was under investigation, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a statement.

"The crash resulted in the deaths of four International Security

Assistance Force service members, three United States Forces-Afghanistan service members, three members of the Afghan National Security Forces, and one Afghan civilian interpreter," ISAF said.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for shooting down the helicopter, although the insurgents often exaggerate their victories and are quick to claim responsibility for any incident involving the death of foreign troops. The area where the helicopter went down is an insurgent hotbed and supply route, lying

north of Kandahar city near Zabol and Uruzgan provinces.

A spokesman for NATO said all the foreign troops on board the helicopter were American, adding to a grim week in the country which included multiple suicide bombings which killed 63 civilians in one day, most of them shoppers in markets.

The Taliban shot down a CH-47 Chinook transport helicopter in August 2011, killing all 38 people on board, including 25 US special operations soldiers.

Reuters

South Africa police say fired in self-defence; 34 killed

MARIKANA, 17 Aug—South African police were forced to open fire to protect themselves from charging armed protesters at the Marikana mine, and 34 of the protesters were killed, Police Commissioner Riah Phiyega said on Friday.

She told a news conference that 78 people were injured and 259 arrested in Thursday's violence.

"The police members had to employ force to protect themselves from the charging group," Phiyega said.—Reuters



A policeman (R) fires at protesting miners outside a South African mine in Rustenburg, 100 km (62 miles) northwest of Johannesburg, on 16 August, 2012.

REUTERS

Iceland says no bomb found on Russian plane after search

An Aeroflot jet is pictured on the runway of Keflavik airport, Iceland, on 16 Aug, 2012.

REUTERS



Moscow, 17 Aug—Icelandic police said on Thursday there was no bomb on a Russian jet carrying more than 250 people from New York to Moscow that made an emergency landing at Keflavik airport after an

anonymous caller told authorities there were explosives on board.

After a lengthy evacuation operation, police in Reykjavik searched the Aeroflot plane, that had already been airborne when

the call was received.

"Everything has been searched and nothing has been found," Vidir Reynisson at Iceland's Civil Protection Department told Reuters.

A spokesman for the Icelandic airport said 253 people were on board the flight from John F. Kennedy airport. A duty officer at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport, the aircraft's destination, identified it as Aeroflot Flight 103.—Reuters

Indian fishermen board on a bus after their release from a jail in southern Pakistani port city Karachi, on 15 Aug, 2012. Pakistan on Wednesday released 55 Indian fishermen detained for illegally entering into its waters in recent months, officials said.—XINHUA



Road accidents kill 16,000 annually in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 17 Aug—At least 16,000 people are killed each year in Mexico by traffic accidents, with total property damage up to 11.538 billion US dollars, said Health Minister Salomon Chertorivsky.

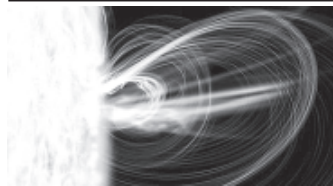
Addressing the laun-ching ceremony of the "Driving safety" campaign on Thursday, Chertorivsky said traffic accidents are the leading death cause in the country, especially among the youngsters.

He also said at least 1 million people are injured in traffic accidents every year, and among whom 40,000 left with permanent disabilities.

He added 90 percent of the accidents could be easily prevented, and recommended several preventions to the drivers and the pedestrians such as using the seat belt and walking on the sidewalks.

Xinhua

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology



Solar flares can send high energy particles streaming towards Earth. INTERNET

LONDON, 17 Aug—A warning system with the potential to protect against the devastating and costly effects of a massive solar storm could be on the horizon. That's according to research published in the journal *Astroparticle Physics*. Solar flares can be accompanied by the release of high energy particles — a coronal mass ejection — towards Earth. Ensuing huge geomagnetic storms could wreak havoc on electronic systems, satellites, power grids and communication networks. Data from the study, led by Prof Ephraim Fischbach and Prof Jere Jenkins of Purdue University, suggest that the rate of breakdown of radioactive materials changes in advance of solar flares.

They hope they can use this to develop a system that could predict when a potentially devastating geomagnetic storm might take place. This would allow authorities to adopt protective measures, such as shutting down satellites, at times of most risk. But it is unclear how long such a system would take to develop. Prof Jenkins told BBC News:

"We're still developing algorithms to pinpoint what type of flare and magnitude it will be." Other physicists are more sceptical of the conclusions made by the researchers. Commenting on the findings, Dr Peter Soler, a particle physicist at the University of Glasgow, said: "I do not believe the actual decay rate is being affected by this."

Radioactive elements — such as uranium — are unstable and break down over time. As they do this they release energy in the form of radiation. Physicists have long held the view that the rate of breakdown — or decay — for any given radioactive substance is constant. A chance event led Prof Jenkins to doubt this. He was watching television coverage of astronauts spacewalking at the International Space Station. A solar flare erupted and was thought to pose a risk to the astronauts. On checking equipment in his laboratory, he was surprised to discover that the rate of radioactive decay changed before the solar flare. The current report follows years of painstaking research

System could warn of solar storms

designed to strengthen this initial observation. "It's the first time the same isotope has been used in two different experiments at two different labs, and it showed basically the same effect," Prof Fischbach said.

It is unclear how solar particles affect rates of radioactive decay, but Prof Jenkins asserts that "either neutrinos are affecting the decay rate or perhaps an unknown particle is." Neutrinos are subatomic particles; huge numbers of them are spewed out during a solar flare. One of the biggest geomagnetic storms on record was the Carrington event of 1859. According to Prof Fischbach: "There was so much energy from this solar storm that the telegraph wires were seen glowing." He pointed out that "because we now have a sophisticated

infrastructure of satellites, powergrids and all sorts of electronic systems, a storm of this magnitude today would be catastrophic. Having a day and a half warning could be really helpful in averting the worst damage". According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, there are around 1,000 satellites in operation above the Earth's atmosphere. Satellites are used for communication, weather forecasting, navigation, research and reconnaissance.

Solar activity fluctuates over an approximate 11-year cycle. Activity is likely to peak over the next year or so and could bring strong solar storms. Solar particles also produce one of nature's wondrous spectacles — the auroras — natural light shows in the Earth's atmosphere. The auroras visible in the northern and southern hemispheres are known as the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) and Aurora Australis (Southern Lights), respectively. The auroras are most visible at high latitudes — usually in the polar regions. However, the intensity of this light show is influenced greatly by the amount of solar flare activity. According to Prof Fischbach, "the aurora borealis appeared as far south as Cuba" during the famous Carrington event. — *Internet*



Satellites are at risk during powerful solar eruptions. — INTERNET



The Waverider's engine was supposed to have ignited four seconds after it was released. INTERNET

Hypersonic jet Waverider fails Mach 6 test

WASHINGTON, 17 Aug — The US Air Force has said an attempt to fly its hypersonic jet *Waverider* at Mach 6 (3,600mph; 5795km/h) failed. The unmanned aircraft had been designed to fly at six times the speed of sound after being dropped from a B-52 bomber. But officials said that a faulty control fin prevented it from starting its superersonic-combustion ramjet engine, and the craft was lost.

It marks the second time in a row that the Air Force has been unable to test the technology as planned. The latest attempt had sought to fly at its maximum speed for five minutes. But a spokesman said that a problem was recognized 16 seconds after a rocket booster was triggered to increase its velocity, ahead of the scramjet engine being started.

When the rocket unit detached 15 seconds later the X-51A craft lost control and broke apart, falling into the Pacific Ocean north-west of Los Angeles. "It is unfortunate that a problem with this subsystem caused a

termination before we could light the scramjet engine," Charlie Brink, of the Air Force Research Laboratory at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, said in a statement.

"All our data showed we had created the right conditions for engine ignition and we were very hopeful to meet our test objectives." The previous test aircraft was also lost to the Pacific after it was unable to restart its engine. But the original test flight, in 2010, flew at five times the speed of sound for three minutes.

The Pentagon — which helped fund the project — has been testing hypersonic technologies in an effort to develop faster missiles. It has also been suggested the research could eventually help build a commercial plane with the promise of London to New York trips taking as little as an hour, or Tokyo to Paris journeys slightly more than double that time. For now only one X-51A vehicle remains and the Air Force has not yet decided whether to organise a fourth test. — *Internet*

RIM plans new contact management features on BB10 devices

TORONTO, 17 Aug — Research in Motion plans to provide BlackBerry users with an easy way to tap their contacts' public profiles — including blog posts, tweets, emails and other details — in



Research in Motion (RIM) BlackBerry smartphone handsets are pictured in this illustration picture taken in Lavigny, on 21 July, 2012. — REUTERS

its latest push to regain ground in the smartphone market. The new contact management feature, which pulls in contact details from social media and other Internet sites into a single BlackBerry page, will be available on RIM's next generation of smartphones that are set to launch early next

year, the company said on Thursday.

RIM has seen its once dominant position in the smartphone market slip away to rivals including Apple Inc and Samsung — and the company's fate depends on the success of the BB10 devices. "BlackBerry has always had this heritage of productivity ... We are just going to make it better yet again, when we launch BB10," said TA McCann, who is spearheading the development of the contacts and BlackBerry Messenger applications for the new platform.

The new smartphones that will replace RIM's current line-up of aging devices will run on the BlackBerry 10 operating system that is currently in development. McCann said the built-in contacts app on BB10 will aggregate all contact information, status updates and meetings for a contact in one place. — *Reuters*

Big retailers team up on mobile payments plan

NEW YORK, 17 Aug — A group of big retailers that includes Wal-Mart Stores Inc, Target Corp and Japan's 7-Eleven is developing a mobile payment network, adding to the proliferation of options that let consumers pay with smartphones. The system, known as Merchant Customer Exchange, is a retailer-led initiative that would match similar services from Google Inc, which began operating its own system last year on its Android devices. The group of retailers, which account for about \$1 trillion in annual sales, wants to make sure it has a say in the development of standards for mobile payments, Terry Scully, Target's president of financial

and retail services, said on Wednesday.

"What we are looking for is a broad, seamless experience across all retail formats," Scully said. Mobile payments are expected to rise nearly four-fold to more than \$1.3 trillion annually by 2017, a report from Juniper Research said on Wednesday. The group is in discussions with financial institutions, technology companies and telecommunications providers to set up a backbone for the payment system, Scully said, but he could not forecast when the system would be in stores. "While speed to market is important, we really are focused on doing it right," Scully said. The retailer group is joining a crowded field.

Earlier this month Starbucks Corp took on the mobile payments model, employing Square Inc to process payments at its US coffee shops. In May, eBay Inc's PayPal unit announced deals with 15 retailers to use its system for mobile

payments. "These big retailers are doing this because they are not happy with the solutions being pushed on them by the market," said Rick Oglesby, a payments expert at consulting firm Aite Group. If these merchants can agree on a common standard for mobile payments, the venture could grow very quickly, he added. "This creates a big opportunity," Oglesby said. "A system designed by merchants for merchants could have a big leg up over the competition."

The Merchant Customer Exchange is working on offering merchants such as retailers, gas stations and restaurants a way to integrate their promotions into the payment plan, which it said would be available through virtually any smartphone. The swift rise of mobile payment processing tools in recent years has led some observers to forecast a future in which wallets are left at home. That could transform retailing, but also create security issues,



Shoppers cart their purchases from a Walmart store in Mexico City, on 24 April, 2012. REUTERS

particularly if mobile devices are lost or stolen. About a decade after they were dreamed up by engineers and marketers, mobile wallets are still far from commonplace in the United States, stymied by industry infighting, consumer tastes and regulatory hurdles.

That has not stopped banks, phone makers and technology companies — fearful of being left behind — from trumpeting the concept and pushing the argument that any solution can succeed if it speeds up checkout times, is secure and easy to use. Shoppers abroad, especially in Asia, can already wave cellphones at the check-out counter to pay for everything from groceries to gasoline. — *Reuters*



A customer is seen at a 7-Eleven convenience store in Tokyo on 5 April, 2012. REUTERS

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Dark chocolate 'may lower blood pressure'

LONDON, 17 Aug—There may be good news for people looking for an excuse to munch on a couple of squares of chocolate after a review showed the treat could reduce blood pressure. An analysis of 20 studies showed that eating dark chocolate daily resulted in a slight reduction in blood pressure. The Cochrane Group's report said chemicals in cocoa, chocolate's key ingredient, relaxed blood vessels. However, there are healthier ways of lowering blood pressure. The theory is that cocoa contains flavanols which produce a chemical in the body called nitric oxide. This 'relaxes' blood vessels making it easier for blood to pass through them, lowering the blood pressure.

However, studies have thrown up mixed results. The Cochrane analysis combined previous studies to see if there was really an effect. There was a huge range in the amount of cocoa consumed, from 3g to 105g a day, by each

participant. However, the overall picture was a small reduction in blood pressure. A systolic blood pressure under 120mmHg (millimetres of mercury) is considered normal. Cocoa resulted in a 2-3mmHg



Two chunks of dark chocolate should do it.

INTERNET

reduction in blood pressure. However, the length of the trials was only two weeks so the longer term effects are unknown.

Lead researcher Karin Ried, from the National Institute of Integrative Medicine in Melbourne, Australia, said:

"Although we don't yet have evidence for any sustained decrease in blood pressure, the small reduction we saw over the short term might complement other

treatment options and might contribute to reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease." High blood pressure is both common and deadly. It has been linked to 54% of strokes worldwide and 47% of cases of coronary heart disease. However, chocolate packs plenty of fat and sugar as well as cocoa so is not the ideal way of lowering blood pressure.

There has also been a warning in the Lancet medical journal that dark chocolate may contain fewer flavanols than you might think. Dark chocolate contains a higher cocoa count than milk chocolate so should contain more flavanols, however, they can also be removed as they have a bitter taste.

Victoria Taylor, of the British Heart Foundation, said: "It's difficult to tell exactly what sort of quantities of flavanol-rich cocoa would be needed to observe a beneficial effect and the best way for people to obtain it.

Internet

Shares, euro edge lower as markets wait for stimulus clues

LONDON, 17 Aug — European stocks and the euro were lower on Thursday after global growth engine China warned its trade outlook was worsening and stronger US data tempered expectations of additional stimulus from the Federal Reserve. The FT Eurofirst 300 index of top European shares was down 1.7 percent at 0745 GMT, with indexes in London, Frankfurt and Paris all in negative territory. Asian shares were flat after initial gains.

With the dollar strengthening against most major currencies following a strong US industry output report on Wednesday, the euro was down 0.15 percent against the greenback as Europe got into its stride, extending the single currency's nine-day decline. "An undoing of market expectations on Fed easing has been reflected in higher US yields, but has yet to affect market volatility, which



Tokyo Exchange employees monitor the market at the bourse in Tokyo on 18 June, 2012. REUTERS

remains at low levels ... The lack of news in the euro area belies tensions there, as key European decisions lie ahead," Barclays Capital analysts wrote in a note.

Europe's stock markets began to rally two weeks ago when ECB President Mario Draghi said the central bank was "ready to do whatever it takes to preserve the euro", raising hopes of bold steps to help lower the borrowing costs of Spain and Italy. That rising appetite for risk has also been pulling down German government bond prices, which hit a new seven-week

low following a further sell-off in US Treasuries.

The euro zone will publish final July inflation numbers later in the day. They are expected to show price rises running at an unchanged 2.4 percent. Other data on the watch list for investors includes UK retail spending figures for July. Over the coming few weeks markets will be watching the Jackson Hole meeting of central bankers at the end of the month, US jobs data due early in September and the ECB's policy meeting early next month for clues over crisis actions. — Reuters

Blood group 'linked to heart disease'

The study also found that for individuals with blood group B the risk of heart disease increased by 11%, and for blood type A, by 5%. Lead author Prof Lu Qi, from the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, said: "While people cannot change their blood type, our findings may help physicians better understand who is at risk of developing heart disease. It's good to know your blood type the same way you should know your cholesterol or blood pressure numbers."

"If you know you're at higher risk, you can reduce the risk by adopting a healthier lifestyle, such as eating right, exercising and not smoking." The British Heart Foundation stressed it is important that we all look

after ourselves to reduce the risk. Doireann Maddock, a senior cardiac nurse from the charity said: "Nobody can influence what type of blood they are born with but a healthy lifestyle is something everybody can have an influence over. Eating healthily, getting active and stopping smoking are the types of things you should be worrying about, not your blood type."

"While these findings are certainly interesting we'll need more research to draw any firm conclusions about blood type and its role in heart disease risk." The study did not look at why different blood types appear to have different risks of heart disease. Prof Qi said: "Blood type is very complicated, so there

could be multiple mechanisms at play." However, blood group AB has been linked to inflammation, which plays an important role in artery damage. There is also evidence that blood group A is associated with higher levels of the 'bad' type of cholesterol, low density lipoprotein (LDL), a waxy substance that can clog arteries.

While those with blood group O may benefit from increased levels of a chemical which helps blood flow and clotting. The findings are based on two large US analytical studies — 62,073 women from the Nurses' Health Study and 27,428 adults from the Health Professionals Follow-up Study. — Internet



It is not known why those with blood group AB are most at risk of heart disease. — INTERNET

LONDON, 17 Aug — People from blood groups A, B and AB are more at risk of heart disease than those with the more common blood type O, a study suggests. Those with the rarest blood group, AB, are the most vulnerable — they are 23% more likely to suffer from heart disease than those with blood group O. The researchers do not know why this is, but are now looking at how blood groups respond to improved lifestyle. The findings are published in an *American Heart Association Journal*.

J&J to remove harmful chemicals from adult products by 2015

NEW YORK, 17 Aug — Johnson & Johnson announced plans to eliminate several harmful chemicals like formaldehyde from its line of consumer products meant for adults by the end of 2015, the *New York Times* reported on Wednesday. The latest move comes after the company said in November it was phasing out formaldehyde-releasing preservatives from its baby products. The diversified healthcare company is extending the program to include well-known drugstore brands like Neutrogena, Aveeno and Clean & Clear,

the paper said. "We've never really seen a major personal care product company take the kind of move that they're taking with this," said Kenneth Cook, president of the Environmental Working Group, one of the organizations that has been negotiating with company officials to change their practices, the paper said. J&J previously said it had been reducing the use of formaldehyde-releasing preservatives from its baby products since 2009 when the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics first raised concerns with the company about its baby

shampoo. Formaldehyde is considered to be a possible trigger for some cancers and skin allergies. Susan Nettesheim, vice president for product stewardship and toxicology for the company's consumer health brands, said the project was a major undertaking and would require extensive spending on research and development to find alternatives, the *Times* said. The cost of the project was not revealed by the company, the paper said. J&J officials could not be reached by Reuters for comment.

Reuters



An 19 April, 2010 file photo shows a bottle of Johnson & Johnson's baby shampoo in Philadelphia. — INTERNET



Sharp has lost ground to rivals such as South Korea's Samsung. — INTERNET

Sharp shares fall amid fears of worsening losses

TOKYO, 17 Aug — Shares in Japan's electronics group Sharp have slumped to their lowest level in nearly 37 years amid fears losses will balloon this year. Shares fell 12.4% to 169 yen (£1.36) after Deutsche Securities downgraded the firm's stock to "sell" from "hold" and predicted a full-year operating loss of 159bn yen. Meanwhile Goldman Sachs predicted an operating loss of 150bn yen. Both figures are bigger than Sharp's own prediction of a 100bn yen loss. Sharp has already lost about \$1.5bn (£956m) in market value since it released its first quarter results earlier this month.

Analysts have cited worries over weak demand for liquid crystal display televisions, its main product, as Sharp continues to lose ground to rivals such as Samsung. Sharp is also under pressure from its creditors

Mizuho Financial and Mitsubishi UFJ to restructure its business further in order to receive new loans. The company recently announced it would cut 5,000 jobs to reduce costs. Sharp is also in talks with Taiwanese electronics group Hon Hai Precision Industries to renegotiate a planned tie-up.

But whether the company will be able to shore up investor confidence remains to be seen. Interest by short-sellers is growing, according to data provider Markit, which could trigger another sell-off. Short-selling is a technique used by investors who think the price of an asset, such as shares, will fall. They borrow the asset from another investor and then sell it in the relevant market. The aim is to buy back the asset at a lower price and return it to its owner, making a profit along the way.

Reuters

Deaths from landslides up to 10 times worse than thought

LONDON, 17 Aug—The death toll from landslides is 10 times higher than generally estimated, with most fatalities occurring in South Asia, China and Latin America, according to a British study published on Thursday.

In the seven years between 2004 and 2010, 2,620 fatal landslides occurred around the world, causing 32,322 deaths, researchers at Durham University, northeastern England said, adding that the figure was conservative.

Fatalities occur most

during the northern hemisphere's summer, especially during the Asian monsoon, and among densely-populated slums built on deforested slopes, they said.

Hotspots in Asia include the southern edge of the Himalayas, Sri Lanka, the Chinese coasts and the mountains around the Sichuan basin in central China, Chinese Taipei and the Philippines, the island of Java in Indonesia. In the western hemisphere, deadly landslides occur most in Haiti

and in highlands from Mexico through Colombia to Chile, where denuded slopes are vulnerable to storms.

"Landslides are a global hazard requiring a major change in perception and policy," said author David Petley, a professor of geography at the university's International Landslide Centre. The database, published in the US journal *Geology*, should be a useful guide for policymakers, he said. "There are things that we can do to manage and mitigate landslide risks such



This file photo shows rescuers digging through the rubble in the aftermath of a landslide in Quezon City, suburban Manila, on 7 August.—INTERNET

as controlling land use, proactive forest management and guiding development away from vulnerable areas."

The study defined

landslides as movements of rock and soil incurring loss of life, for which an earthquake was not responsible.

Internet

Police smash street-level heroin supply network in Sydney

SYDNEY, 17 Aug—Nine people have been arrested following an operation in Sydney's west that has smashed a major street-level heroin supply network, Australia's New South Wales Police said on Thursday.

Operation Monson was established in April 2012 to investigate the supply of heroin in the Parramatta area, police said.

Following extensive investigations, police raided three properties in the Sydney suburbs of Merrylands and Parramatta on Wednesday.

Five men were arrested in the raids following the seizure of cannabis, drug paraphernalia and other suspicious property, police said.

Another four people were arrested on Thursday morning and are helping police with their inquiries.

Assistant Commissioner Denis Clifford said investigations are ongoing as police will continue to remove drugs from the streets in the area. "Ongoing investigations are certain to lead to further arrests and charges," he said.—Xinhua

Reuters

Britain stops export of key Picasso painting

LONDON, 17 Aug—Britain has placed a temporary export ban on a key Picasso painting which had been on loan to a public gallery since 1974 before its aristocratic owners decided to put it up for sale.

"Child with a Dove" was painted in 1901 and marked the beginning of the Spanish artist's "blue period." It has been valued at 50 million pounds. Culture Minister Ed Vaizey said on Friday he was preventing the work from leaving the country until December 16, and, if a "serious" attempt to meet the asking price was made by a private buyer or institution outside Britain,

until 16 June, 2013.

"This will provide a last chance to raise the money to keep the painting in the United Kingdom," the Culture Ministry said in a statement.

Works can be bought by public institutions for significantly less than the guide price through private sale arrangements that involve sharing tax advantages between the two parties.

Vaizey based his decision on recommendations by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest which is administered by Arts Council England.

The committee decided that the painting, which was placed on long-term loan to the National Gallery in London in 1974 and remained there until 2010, was sufficiently important and closely connected with Britain to justify the export deferral.

"Child with a Dove" is a much-loved painting whose iconic status, together with its long history in British collections—latterly on loan to public galleries—make it of outstanding importance to our national heritage," reviewing committee member Aidan Weston-Lewis said.

Reuters



Rescuers leave for the site of the accident where a ferry sank in the Ma'anshan section of the Yangtze River, east China's Anhui Province, on 16 Aug, 2012. The accident occurred early Thursday morning, leaving a dozen people missing, local authorities said. Nine of the twenty-one people on the ferry were rescued. Investigation into the cause of the accident is underway.

XINHUA

Biggest Asian wildlife traffickers are untouchable

BANGKOK, 17 Aug—Squealing tiger cubs stuffed into carry-on bags. Luggage packed with hundreds of squirming tortoises, elephant tusks, even water dragons and American paddlefish. Officials at Thailand's gateway airport proudly tick off the illegally trafficked wildlife they have seized over

the past two years.

But Thai and foreign law enforcement officers tell another story: Officials working hand-in-hand with traffickers ensure that other shipments through Suvarnabhumi International Airport are whisked off before they even reach customs inspection.

It's a murky mix. A 10-fold increase in wildlife law enforcement actions, including seizures, has been reported in the past six years in Southeast Asia. Yet, the trade's Mr Bigs, masterful in taking advantage of pervasive corruption, appear immune to arrest and continue to orchestrate the

decimation of wildlife in Thailand, the region and beyond.

And Southeast Asia's honest cops don't have it easy.

"It is very difficult for me. I have to sit among people who are both good and some who are corrupt, says Chanvut Vajrabukka, a retired police general.

"If I say, 'You have to go out and arrest that target,' some in the room may well warn them," says Chanvut, who now advises ASEAN-WEN, the regional wildlife enforcement network.

Internet



A boy is seen making a purchase at a flooded convinent store in Manila on 15 August. Tropical Storm Kai-tak blew out of the Philippines on Thursday, offering some relief for millions of people struggling to recover from a brutal few weeks of monsoon rains that claimed 109 lives.—INTERNET

In this photo taken on 2 June, 2011, a Thai Custom officer shows an Indian gharial, a type of crocodile native of India, with its mouth tied at a news conference on wildlife seized in Bangkok, Thailand. Officials at Thailand's gateway airport proudly tick off the illegally trafficked wildlife they have seized over the past two years.

INTERNET



Natural gas well burst kills one, injures three in Colorado

DENVER, 17 Aug—A high-pressure burst of natural gas at a well operated by Canadian energy giant Encana Corporation in Colorado killed one man and injured three other workers on Wednesday, the company and local authorities said.

The accident at the well in Platteville, Colorado, about 30 miles northeast of Denver, apparently resulted from an equipment failure,

said Weld County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Tim Schwartz.

"It appears to be an industrial accident and doesn't look like anything suspicious," he said, adding there was no explosion or fire.

A 60-year-old worker was killed and three other workers were hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries, Schwartz said.

The precise cause of the

"high-pressure gas release" is under investigation, said Wendy Wiedenbeck, a Denver-based spokeswoman for Encana.

Two of the three injured workers and the man who was killed were Encana contractors, Wiedenbeck said. The third injured victim was a company employee. Their names were not immediately disclosed.

Reuters

TB screening should be included in physical exams: draft regulation

BEIJING, 17 Aug—Screens for tuberculosis (TB) should be included in physical examinations for students, as well as people working in certain industries, according to a draft regulation issued by the Ministry of Health on Wednesday.

A draft amendment to the TB Prevention and Control Regulation was published on Wednesday by the ministry for public comment. Last week, a previous edition of the regulation was published by the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, or China's cabinet.

According to the draft, infected TB patients must be prevented from engaging in activity that could cause the virus to spread, while TB screening should be included in physical examinations for staff working in sectors related to TB prevention and treatment, food, drugs and cosmetics, as well as for teachers, newly-enrolled students, dairy workers and those whose work causes them to come into contact with dust and harmful gases.

Although the current regulation has been in use for more than 20 years, the

country still faces problems and challenges related to the spread of respiratory illnesses.

The draft says health departments should protect patients' privacy and refrain from leaking their personal information and related materials. Medical or disease prevention and control facilities that hide, delay or give false information regarding TB epidemics or intentionally leak the private information of TB patients, suspected patients and close contacts will receive a warning.—Xinhua

Multiplier librarian course commences in Kamayut Township

YANGON, 17 Aug—Jointly organized by Kamayut Township General Administration Department of Yangon West District and Township Information and Public Relations Department, the multiplier librarian course No. 1/2012 was opened at the hall of the township GAD on 7 August morning.

Deputy Commissioner of District General

Administration Department U Kyaw Thu Zaw made a speech. Assistant Director U Myint Swe of Region IPRD explained the purpose of training course and durability of library.

At the training course, heads of Township IPRDs gave lectures on librarian courses to the trainees.

It was attended by 30 trainees.

Myanma Alin

School health week activities launched

YANGON, 17 Aug—As part of activities to mark the School Health Week 2012-2013 academic year, the educative talks, cookery contest and serving refreshment was held at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Bahan Township on 8 August.

Dr Daw Khin Saw Yi gave talks on teenage health. Next, she evaluated meals

from the cookery contest and presented prizes to the winners.

Yangon Region School Health Medical Officer Dr Daw Khin Saw Yi, Chief Officer for Children's Health Daw Mya Lay, the Township Education Officer, the headmistress, students and farmers attended the ceremony.

Myanma Alin



Nourishment Week 2012 marked in Labutta

LABUTTA, 17 Aug—The ceremony to mark the Nourishment Week 2012 was held at Labutta People's Hospital (200-bed) in Labutta of Labutta District in Ayeyawady Region on 8 August morning.

to the mothers and children.—*Myanma Alin*

District News

Preservation of fish resources educated to local fishermen, entrepreneurs

MONYO, 17 Aug—With the aim of ensuring prevention against fish depletion and sustainable production of fish, an educative talks on preservation of fish resources was held at the resident of fisherman U Tin Win in Mayingge Village of Mindu Village-tract in Monyo Township, Bago Region, on 6 August.

and Minhla along Myitmakha River.

Head of Monyo Township Fisheries Department Daw Than Nu and Head of Minhla Township Fisheries Department U Zaw Myint Naing gave talks on prevention against depletion of fish resources and sustainable production of fish.

Later, pamphlets were distributed the attendees. They then erected the poster depicting don'ts for battery shock for fishing on Monyo-Talun Road at Yayhmway Village Bridge.

Myanma Alin

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Kan Win of District General Administration Department made a speech. Next, Medical Superintendent Dr Than Htay Aung explained activities of nourishment week.

After that, the deputy commissioner and child specialist gave ferrous sulphate and vitamin-B1 to the expectant mothers.

The OG specialist gave anti-tape worm medicine to children. Deputy Commanding Officer Maung Myint presented bed nets to the expectant mothers. Later, officials tested content of iodized salt and feed refreshment

Agricultural loans, inputs provided to farmers in Einme

EINME, 17 Aug—Einme Ayeya Paddy Trading Co Ltd provided K 250 million for cultivation of monsoon paddy and inputs for 8333.33 acres of 24 village-tracts to farmers in in Einme Township of Myaungmya District in Ayeyawady Region on 25

July.

The ceremony was held at Shwepyithan Hall of General Administration Department in Einme Township.

On the occasion, Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Tin Soe made a speech.

Present on the occasion were Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Hla Khaing, Region Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Ko Ko, Kayin National Race Minister U Mahn Than Shwe and region level departmental officials, Managing Director U Tint Oo of Einme Ayeya Paddy Trading Co Ltd and members of the BOD, district and township level officials, entrepreneurs, merchants and farmers.—*Myanma Alin*

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued to students in Mindat

MINDAT, 17 Aug—According to Moe Pwint-3 Plan, Head of Mindat Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Aung Tin Shwe and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to students at Basic Education High School No. 1 and No. 2 in Mindat on 25 July.

The issuance of cards was supervised by Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Arnt

Maung of Mindat District General Administration Department, Assistant Director U Khin Maung Yin of District Immigration and National Registration Department, Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe, district and township level officials.

The officials presented citizenship scrutiny cards to 250 students.

Myanma Alin

Thriving of Paletwe hybrid paddy demonstrated

KYAUKTAW, 17 Aug—An agricultural educative talk was held in Daungtawoyoe Village-tract in Kyauktaw Township of Rakhine State on 30 July.

Head of Sittway District Agriculture Department U Khin Zaw Win discussed the methods to boost per-acre yield of paddy.

Head of Township Agriculture Department U Sein Tun Mra lectured matters related to 14-point good agricultural pattern.

Later, the attendees viewed thriving of Paletwe paddy plantation of farmer U Aung Thein.—*Myanma Alin*



STIPEND PROVIDED: A ceremony to present cash assistance provided by Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Committee for 2012-2013 academic year was held at office of Latha Township War Veterans Organization on 5 August. An official presents cash assistance to a student.—*MYANMA ALIN*



SAPLINGS PLANTED: In-charge of Township Forest Department U Nay Zin, staff, departmental officials and members of social organization participated in growing of saplings in Tadaungway Basic Education Primary School in Zalun on 7 August.—*MYANMA ALIN*

Stimulant tablets seized in Lashio

Hsipaw, 17 Aug—Members of Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad in Shan State (North) together with witnesses search Kway Yon (a) Win Ko, 30, son of U Hla Aye, of Room-7 of Building 20 of Nawade Housing in Hlinethaya Township of Yangon Region who took the bus 2D... that will leave Lashio for Yangon, in the Manhsu Highway Bus Terminal in Ward 8 of Lashio at 11.30 am on 5 August. The authorities

seized 2795 stimulant tablets in 14 plastic bags hidden in the handbag worth K 5.6 million and one CDMA telephone. According to further investigation, the authorized Ma Shauk Lu, 40, daughter of U Li Hsaing, who was stimulant tablet seller, of Kaungwaing Village in Kunlong Township. A file of lawsuit was opened at Lashio Police Station No. 1 under Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanma Alin*

Crime News Narcotic drugs seized in PyinOoLwin

PyinOoLwin, 17 Aug—The members of PyinOoLwin Special Anti-Drug Squad led by IP Tun Tun Oo, according to the information that narcotic drugs are being sent to Sittway from Muse, waited at Wetwun Village of PyinOoLwin Township on 1 August.

At 8.45 pm, the authorities stopped the Mark II with number plate 4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of

Thegon Village of Nyaunggan Village-tract of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine packets of 19100 WY brand pink stimulant tablets totaling 171,000 weighing 16.2 kilos worth K 513 million from nine boxes. The authorities also seized one telephone and K 120,000. A file of lawsuit was opened at Peikchinmyaung Police Station under law.

Myanma Alin

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Notification No. 58/2012**

(from page 1)

- (t) Haji U Nyunt Maung Shein member
President
Islamic Religious Affairs Council Headquarters
- (u) Haji U Tin Maung Than member
Secretary
Islamic Religious Affairs Council Headquarters
- (v) Haji U Hla Win member
President
Myanmar Muslims National League (MaAhPha Headquarters)
- (w) U Kyaw Khin member
General Secretary
Myanmar Muslims National League (MaAhPha Headquarters)
- (x) Haji U Myint Tun member
President
Myanmar Muslims Youth's Religious Organization (MaMaLa headquarters)
- (y) U Hla Win member
Secretary
Myanmar Muslims Youth's Religious Organization (MaMaLa headquarters)

- (z) Dr Hla Tun member
Secretary
Thanantara Dhammapalaka (Hindu) Association
- (aa) Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing secretary
Myanmar Egress

- (2) The Investigation Commission is to investigate the following matters so as to expose the incident and present suggestions along with reviews.
 - (a) the causes of the conflict that undermines peace and stability
 - (b) casualties, property losses and other damages due to the conflict
 - (c) measures taken for restoring peace and stability
 - (d) rescue and rehabilitation tasks
 - (e) Short- and long-term measures to be taken for ending the conflict
 - (f) finding out the ways for peaceful coexistence between different creeds and ethnic groups
 - (g) suggestions for law enforcement
 - (h) suggestions for economic and social development
- (3) President Office and Rakhine State Government are to make arrangements for security and administrative affairs while the Investigation Board is on duty.
- (4) While making investigations into the incident, the Investigation Commission has the rights to probe into the incident in accord with Code of Criminal Procedures and Evidence Act as well as to summon the witnesses, see documents and have access to the necessary places. The investigation report is to be submitted directly to the President by 16 November, 2012.

**Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

Action would be taken against..

(from page 16)

the section 5 and 6 of the Money Lenders Act (1945) states that one who runs money lending business without permit and registration can be charged. And he or she would have to face fines or to serve three months jail term or both.



**Pyithu Hluttaw
Representative Dr Aung
Than of Shwebo
Constituency makes
discussion.—MNA**

In addition, according to the section 54 of the Micro Finance Law says that nobody can run micro finance business without license, and if those who fail to follow it, would have to face fines or to serve jail term no more than five years or both. So, actions would be taken against unlicensed money lenders, according to The Money Lenders Act (1945) and Micro Finance Law. So, these laws have given protections to people. Micro Finance Supervisory Committee under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue will make efforts for emergence of micro finance service so as to fulfill the requirements of the needy.

At the report submitting session, members of Bill Committee U Khin Maung Nyo and U Soe Soe submitted the committee's

report on **Bill revoking the Myanmar Five Stars Line Corporation Law (1964) and Bill revoking the State Crops Marketing Board Act.**

At proposal discussion session, U Thein Swe of An Constituency made his the proposal on **calling on respective Union-level bodies which are organized in accordance with the State Constitution to adopt rules, rules, laws and procedures and laws which had been enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw within 90 days after the President has signed or declared them on the duration set by the Hluttaw.**

Regarding that proposal, Dr Aung Than of Shwebo Constituency, U Khin Maung Oo of Monywa Constituency, Daw Mi Myint Than of Ye Constituency, U Tun Myint Oo of Mongpan Constituency, U Thein Aung of Thanbyuzayat Constituency and U Kyi Tha of Gwa Constituency discussed that according to the prescribed law, rules, procedures, orders and directives continue to be announced. Rules prescribe the ways of how a prescribed law comes into effect.

Therefore, it is known to all that how important a rule and regulation is. The Hluttaws are amending the necessary laws as much as they can. But, it has been assessed that the relevant Union level organizations are hesitant in the promulgating of rules over the relevant laws. Therefore, a suggestion is that the ministries and the Union Attorney-General Office are to appoint enough skilled personnel, to consult with other qualified lawyers as necessary, to introduce effective management and to

take systematic steps. Only then, will the people be informed about complete laws and rules as soon as possible.

As to the proposal, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo of the Union Attorney-General Office clarified that necessary rules and regulations, notifications, orders, instructions and procedures for an already



**Pyithu Hluttaw
Representative U Thein
Swe of An Constituency
putting forwards.—MNA**

prescribed law can be announced, adding that such rules and regulations are announced only when they are necessary although they have been promulgated but for some laws, only notifications, orders and instructions are announced. There are some cases that need to be handled as appropriate according to the subjects. There were many laws whose rules haven't been announced among the laws prescribed in successive eras.

According to Section 13 (B) of the 1973 law on defining the words, if there was no prescribed date of enforcement for a law, the law was in force on the day when it was announced. Although rules haven't been announced, a law can be in force and its protection and rights can be enjoyed. It means that law can be in force although its rules

are announced.

All in all, it cannot be surely said that the announcement of rules is required for every laws promulgated by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Rules are announced only when the subjects of original laws are needed. In defining the original laws, definition must be in real terms according to the rule of law policy. Therefore, it is stated in the provisions that rules can be announced instead rules must be announced. That was why, the original law is in force although the rules haven't been announced.

Matters can be addressed smoothly by the early announcement of rules for a law whose provisions can be implemented through the announcement of rules. But the relevant Union level organizations have to take times in scrutinizing, drafting and submitting the laws step by step and announcement of rules for a law is not always needed. Thus, only rules and regulations for the necessary

laws should be announced.

There can be problems for the Union level organizations to announce rules and regulations in 90 days. As it is already stated that a law is in force when it has been announced, coordination is to be made on whether there is necessary to announce the rules or not. And the proposal should be put on record.

U Thein Swe who submitted the proposal said that at a time when changes

are taking place there require rules and regulations and the original law alone is not enough for a law capable of protecting the people. Only then, can the people enjoy the rights. Thus, he sought the decision of the Hluttaw which approved the proposal with 273 votes, 68 against, and 18 in absentia.

Today's session came to an end at 12.40 pm and the 30th day meeting continues at 10 am on 20 August.—MNA

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Announcement No.37/2012**

**15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)**

**Zomi Congress for Democracy to register as
political party**

The Union Election Commission announced today that Zomi Congress for Democracy Party headquartered at No.203, Room 18, 3rd Floor, Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon Region, is allowed to register as a political party as of 17 August, 2012 in line with Section 9 of Political Parties Registration Law.

The party's registration number is 59.

By order,
**Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission**



In memory of sister Daw Kyin Shwe and nephew Ko Soe Oo, U Aung Myint-Daw Kyin Aye and family in Lanmadaw Township donated K 365,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through EC Joint-Treasurer U Chit Myaing.—NLM

Emphasis placed on regional...

(from page 16)

The deputy minister replied that as of 1992, Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library of the Ministry of Culture has been conducting field trip studies on a wider scale in Beikthano, Hanlin, Srikestra and Tagaung regions where Pyu culture flourished. After that, the research areas widen to the related areas.

This year, field trips will be made to Magway Region, Sagaing Region and Chin State and related areas. In 2013-2014 fiscal year, a plan is being drawn for conducting field survey on Pyu evidences in Patumi and Mindat townships of Chin State and Salin and Sedoktara townships in Magway Region.

U Saw Maw Tun of Bago Region Constituency No. 1 asked whether there is a plan to keep Hsinbyumyarthin

King Bayintnaung at Kanbawzathadi Palace in Bago and build small scale of the royal palace buildings. The deputy minister replied that the Ministry of Culture inserted



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Than Swe of Taninthayi Region Constituency No. 2 asking questions.—MNA

some ancient places including Kanbawzathadi Palace as the historical parks into its reform policy and sought the approval from the President Office. The department is going on the tasks in line with the its procedures.

Therefore, the statues and small scales of the buildings for Kanbawzathadi Palace will be displayed in line with the historical evidences while upgrading Kanbawzathadi Palace as historical park.

U Than Swe of Taninthayi Region Constituency No. 2 asked **whether there is plan to build the National Museum in Dawei of Taninthayi Region and whether there is a plan to maintain Taungthaman Bridge and tombs of the historical persons around Taungthaman area.** The deputy minister replied that the ministry received the

permission for plot to build a cultural museum in Dawei in April 2012, and therefore, the fund was not collected for construction of the museum this financial year. Thus, the fund will be demanded for the museum in 2013-2014 fiscal year, and depending on the fund, the construction will be carried out.

Taungthaman Bridge in Amarapura Township of Mandalay Region has been maintained by Ministry of Culture since 1990. As of 1999-2000, the maintenance tasks depended on the fund. In 2005-2006 fiscal year, the major repair was carried out for the bridge spending K 17 million. In 2008-2009, K 4.85 million was spent on maintenance of damaged parts.

The ministry is maintaining the ancient buildings by scrutinizing the cultural heritage value. In making assessment, tombs at Linzin Graveyard do not meet



Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin replies to questions.

MNA

the prescribed norms, and these tombs are not on the priority. That is why the Ministry of Culture does not maintain the tombs. However, relatives and their generations or other organizations wishing to maintain the tombs may coordinate with the local authorities.

Secretary of Amyotha Hluttaw Commerce Committee

U San Pyae read the report of the committee. Those wishing to participate in the discussion may enlist not later than 4 pm on 22 August.

Today's session came to an end at 11.55 am and the 30th day session continues at 10 am on 20 August.

Today's session, four questions were answered and one report submitted.—MNA

Supreme Court of the Union, region/state high.....

(from page 16)

Out of them, 8653 have been judged and the remaining cases are still being heard at the courts. Meanwhile, 7880 criminal cases have been brought to the region and state high courts. Out of them, 5786 cases have been settled and 2094 cases are still being heard at the courts. District-level courts have accepted 21248 cases during the same period and out of them, 14223 cases have been decided and the remaining 7025 are still being heard by the courts while 14572 criminal cases have been

brought to the district-level courts, 11464 cases have been settled so far and the remaining 3108 cases are being at the courts during the same period. The township-level courts have accepted 40362 civil cases, have settled 26355 cases so far and is still hearing the remaining 14007 while have accepted 347156 civil cases, have settled 323667 cases so far and the remaining 23489 cases are being heard at the courts.

The Chief Justice of the Union urged the participants of the meeting

to finish the remaining cases correctly and speedily in accordance with the law.

The meeting was participated by chief judges from the Supreme Court of the Union, region and state high courts; the director-general, deputy director-general and directors from the Supreme Court of the Union and legal officers from regions and states.

During the meeting, chief judges from region and state high courts discussed the matters on judiciary affairs and functions of the courts region and state-wise and the meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the Chief Justice of the Union.—MNA

Basic English Course No. 1/2012 on law subject for law officers concluded

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—The Basic English Course No. 1/2012 on law subject for law officers of the Office of the Attorney-General of the Union concluded at the meeting hall of the office this morning, made an address by Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin.

He said that the course gave a key to open the world to the trainees, who need to pursue

further studies on the subjects learnt in the course by advancing their abilities. Besides, the Office of the Attorney-General of the Union had conducted 15 courses spread English skills on law subject, which turned out a total of 324 trainees. The qualifications of the trainees are to be recorded at the office.

Then, the Attorney-General of the Union awarded

three outstanding trainees.

It was attended by Director-General U Kyaw Hsan of the Office of the Attorney-General of the Union, the deputy directors-general, heads of the office, directors and course instructors and trainees.

The 26-day course covered eight subjects to a total of 25 trainees.

MNA



In memory of U Thaug Nyunt (a) U Bon Shwe, 86 years, Daw Thein Myint and family on Thudhamma 3rd street, ward 2 in North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region donated K 300,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through EC Joint-Secretary U Maung Maung Gyi.—NLM

Non-formal primary education launched in Mawgyun



MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 17 Aug—The non-formal primary education was launched at Maha Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Mawlamyinegyun Township for 2012-2013 academic year.

At the ceremony,

Acting Township Administrator U Zaw Myint and Assistant Director (Rtd) of No 1 Basic Education Department Daw Nyunt Nyunt Yi made speeches.

Acting Township Education Officer U San Myint explained matters

related to non-formal primary education.

The Acting Township Administrator presented prize to Assistant Township Education Officer U Oo Kyaw for his performance in best capability of best non-formal education in 2011-2012 academic year.

Officials also presented prizes to six outstanding trainees.

Next, 27 wellwishers donated over K 1 million or non-formal primary education, the region government and 27 wellwishers donated exercise books and stationery worth over K 1 million for basic education high, middle and primary schools.

Myanmar Alin

Low pressure area on Northwest Bay of Bengal

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—According to the observations at 5.30 hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over Northwest Bay of Bengal, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA



AEROBICS CONTEST HELD: Yangon West District WAO Chairperson's Cup Inter-Township Aerobics Contest, organized by Yangon West District Sports and Physical Education Committee, was held at the town hall in Ahlon Township of Yangon West District on 11 August. Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Than Myint speaking at the opening ceremony of the contest.

MYANMA ALIN

Teak saplings watered in Yesagyo Township



YESAGYO, 17 Aug— Assistant Director U Maung Under the supervision of Maung Kyaw of Forest

Department of Pakokku District in Magway Region, Staff Officer U Tin Kyaw of Pakokku Township Forest Department and in-charge of Yesagyo Township Forest Department Senior Forester U Myint Aye and staff grow 500 teak saplings along the communication road to Yesagyo-Pakokku Road near Hsanthit Village.

Although there is no shower in Yesagyo Township, the forest staff pour water at the saplings for their thriving.—*Kyemon*

Administrator's Cup Football Tournament kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug— The Zeyathiri Township Administrator's Cup Monsoon Football Tournament 2012 commenced at the football ground of Yezin Universities' Campus, here, on 9 August.

Altogether 16 football teams are taking part in the tournament.

At the opening ceremony, Township Administrator U Myat Thein Tun made a speech. In the debut, Sibingyi Village-tract



played against Kyitaung Village-tract.

Kyemon

Yesagyo Township grows monsoon paddy

YESAGYO, 17 Aug— Yesagyo Township plans to put 35127 acres of farmlands under monsoon paddy in 2012-2013. So far, the township has grown 2413 acres of monsoon paddy against the target with the use of irrigation water and rain water.

With the aim of enabling the local farmers to cultivate the local farmers to cultivate paddy in time at the flood areas, Township Administrator U Khaing Tun and members of Township Agricultural Development Committee made field trips to the grassroots level and met local farmers in the respective cultivation zone for providing necessary assistance.—*Myanma Alin*

Ticket prices hikes in waterway

MANDALAY, 17 Aug— Ticket prices and commodity charges were changed for passengers of Ayeyawady, Delta and Chindwin branches of Inland Water Transport under the Ministry of Transport as of 1 August.

Prices of tickets for deck and first class reached K 2380 per passenger and K 3570 on Mandalay-NyaungU route of Ayeyawady Branch. Likewise, ticket for deck was set at K 2710 per passenger and first class K 6950 on Mandalay-Katha route. Mandalay-Bhamo route sets K 3850 per passenger for deck

and K 9900 for the first class.

Along Mandalay-Pyay route, tickets were set K 6680 per passenger for deck and K 10020 for the first class. Charges of commodities were set at K 72 per mile.

Kyemon

Motorcycle licences issued to youths of above 16

MANDALAY, 17 Aug— With the aim of enabling university students to abide by disciplines and traffic rules in Mandalay by driving motorcycles, Directorate of Road Transport as of 1 August issues motorcycle driver licences to those who reach 16 years.

The licence will allow the motorcyclists to drive under 110 CC engine power motorcycles and the licence can be valid five years.

Under the guidance of the Directorate of Road Administration of Mandalay Region, the licence of motorcyclists are issued to

the people of above 16 years old though the licence was issued to them above 18 years in the past.

However, only when the candidates have completed two-day traffic rules course, will the licences be issued.

Kyemon

Modulating canal to Meiktila Lake dredged

MEIKTILA, 17 Aug— Meiktila Lake had been dredged in successive kings in their monarchial periods. The irrigation facilities of the lake were constructed in 1982.

In 1997, a drain from Mondaing Dam to Meiktila Lake was dug with a view to preventing silting of Meiktila Lake and overflows, storing surplus water and minimizing loss of water.

In 2006, Lwinkhin Dam, Lekkhokpin Dam and Nyaungkon Dam were constructed for supplying water to Meiktila Lake through four modulating canals.

At present, four modulating canals were silted without adequate width.

Thus, proper flow of water cannot be seen in the canals.

Now, Meiktila Township Irrigation Department is dredging the canal with the use of heavy machinery as of July.

Kyemon



Performing Arts Competitions wraps up in Labutta

LABUTTA, 17 Aug— The 19th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions of Labutta Township was held at Yway Nadi Hall in Labutta on 1

August morning.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thaik formally opened the competition and made a speech.

It was also attended by Deputy Commissioner U Kan Win of District General Administration Department, district and township level departmental personnel, social organization members, townsenders and panel of judges.

After the competitions, the township administrator and officials awarded the winners.

Myanma Alin



District News

Crime News

PINMANA, 17 Aug— A Dyna passenger bus hit a tuk-tuk on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Tatkon Township due to out of control.

At 4.30 pm on 1 August, the Toyota Dyna of Paunglaung bus with number plate Ba/... driven by Nay Lin Aung from

Dyna bus hits tuk-tuk without control

Tatkon to Pinmana hit 1Ha/... driven by Aung Min Win between mile posts 173/4 and 273/5 on Yangon-Mandalay highway near Kyatheaing Village due to without break control and the tuk-tuk caused upside down.

In the incident, passengers of tuk-tuk Daw

Ni, Daw Mya Mya, Daw San Lwin, Ma Aye Hsint, Ma Khaing, Ma Thuza Win, Ma Than Than Win, Daw Khin Tint, Ma Myint Myint Aung, Ma Yi Yi Myint and Maung Nay Myo (unserious) were rushed to Tatkon Township Hospital (100-bed).

Kyemon

Talks on nourishment week given in Taikkyi Township

TAIKKYI, 17 Aug— An educative talk to mark the Nourishment Week was held at the administrative office in Okpousu Ward of Taikkyi Township of Yangon North District on 9 August.

Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Nu Nu Wai made a speech. Head of Township Health Department Dr Kyaw Zin Pyone gave talks on

nourishment weeks. The chairperson of Township MCWA gave ferrous sulphate, iodized salt and nutritious foods to expectant mothers and Vitamin-A to children under five.—*Myanma Alin*



Cambodian PM wants closer ties with Vietnam in trade, investment, tourism

PHNOM PENH, 17 Aug—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Thursday that the country wanted to see further cooperation with Vietnam in trade, investment, tourism and culture for mutual benefits of the two neighbours' peoples.

The premier's remarks were made during a meeting with Vietnamese deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc, chairman of the National Committee for Prevention and Control of Drugs, AIDS and Prostitution, at the Peace Palace.

He also highly evaluated the good and friendly relations

between Cambodia and Vietnam. On the drug combat issues, Hun Sen encouraged both sides' drug officials to intensify cooperation through information and expertise exchanges in order to timely crack down on all forms of drug offenses.

Meanwhile, Nguyen Xuan Phuc said that his visit to Cambodia was to strengthen cooperation in drug combat. He also pledged to encourage more Vietnamese investors to Cambodia in order to deepen the bilateral ties in trade and investment.

Phuc made a 3-day visit



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (R, Front) meets with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc (L, Front) in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, on 16 Aug 2012.—XINHUA

to Cambodia on Tuesday. During the stay, he had held a bilateral talk with Cambodian deputy Prime Minister Ke Kim Yan, chairman of the National Authority for Combating Drugs. Both sides pledged to intensify cooperation to fight

against cross border drug trafficking and all forms of drug offenses.

Also, he paid courtesy calls on Cambodia's President of National Assembly Heng Samrin and the first Vice-President of the Senate Say Chhum.—Xinhua

South African gov't calls for more investment in transport sector

CAPE TOWN, 17 Aug—South Africa Transport Minister on Thursday said Pretoria is calling for more investors in the transport infrastructure development to drive the country towards being a fully developed economy.

Calling for investors at a Breakfast Meeting held in Cape Town, Ben Martins said the South African government has increased its investment in transport sector but the magnitude of the

challenges require more role players.

"We have realized that the demand for road and rail transport in particular, far outstrips the capacity of government to fund these needs. It is our view that infrastructure investment which has direct economic returns that can also be monitored in terms of cost recovery and profit should be seriously considered," Martins told a gathering of senior business and

government officials.

Transport sector although still under invested in many Africa countries it remains as backbone to economic growth of that country and neighbouring states.

South Africa is Africa's economic power house and its infrastructure development is pillar to the continent's economic growth, especially the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

"It is common cause that no economy can thrive without developed road, rail, maritime and aviation infrastructure networks.

In line with this strategic vision, we have taken a decision to invest in necessary and critical infrastructure across all modes," said Martins.

Early this year President Jacob Zuma in his state of the nation address outlined an infrastructure development plan that represents a strategic and integrated platform to mobilize the state and private investors.

Xinhua

Two killed, two injured in US Louisiana shootout

HOUSTON, 17 Aug—A shootout took place early on Thursday morning west of New Orleans, the largest city in the US state of Louisiana, leaving two sheriff's deputies killed and two other deputies wounded, local media reported.

According to reports on the website of NOLA.COM, the shooting happened around 5 am local time in a parking lot for the Valero refinery at St John the Baptist Parish, west of New Orleans.

The police only said that the two dead sheriff's deputies were working off duty to manage traffic along

Louisiana Highway 3217, which connects US Highway 61 with a strip of chemical and oil refineries and steel plants along River Road near the Mississippi River. No further details were immediately available.

The two injured deputies have been rushed to hospitals, said the reports.

A police spokesman confirmed that two suspects have been taken into custody, but at least one other is still at large.

Several law enforcement agencies in the area have been involved in the search for the suspect on the run.

Xinhua



A squid processor carries dried squids in Putuo District of Zhoushan, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 15 Aug, 2012. The falling purchase price results in double sales of dried squids.—XINHUA

Tech-savvy investors flock to old-school crop tour



A fishing sign in one of the dry pools at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge in Hudson, Kansas on 7 August, 2012.—REUTERS

CHICAGO, 17 Aug—The worst drought in a half century is bringing tech-savvy crop forecasters and fund managers back to the farm tradition of walking field rows to assess damage in the world's top grain exporter.

A record number of traders, seed dealers and government researchers have signed up for a first-hand look at corn and soybeans on the four-day, seven-state tour next week organized by Pro Farmer, the agricultural advisory firm. Demand was so strong that eight people who signed up late are on a waiting list.

Tour members want an on-the-ground look at the crops as new technology like satellite imagery was slow to detect a turn in conditions earlier this summer. In other words, in times of crisis nothing beats getting your hands dirty and your feet wet. "Unless you're going

out or you're sending somebody out to look at the crop, you're no smarter than anybody out there," said Chris Myers, the principal of M6 Capital Management, a commodity trading advisor that will send a new employee on the tour.

The tour, which sends participants into thousands of fields to manually count corn ears, kicks off on Monday and will provide its final national estimates of corn and soybean yields on Friday.

Some, like US Department of Agriculture employees, will tag along to help check their own estimates; others, like independent trader Charlie Schramer, will have a more material objective.

"I'll be trying to trade once we get to the hotels" after finishing field surveys each day, he said. "Most likely, I'll be trading overnight and what I can during the day."

This year, the early start to hot, dry weather that has decimated crops made field surveys the leading indicator of damage, analysts said.

Satellite imagery, a premium product for food companies and funds, did not detect problems right away because there was a period of time when images showed plants were turning green, as they typically do in early stages of development, said Corey Cherr, agriculture research manager for Lanworth, a private analysis firm that uses satellites as a forecasting tool.—Reuters

Deal struck in California to benefit English learners nationwide

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug—A settlement reached on Thursday between California's Central Valley School District and civil rights groups will likely benefit about 1.5 million school children from immigrant families whose native language is not English.

The Asian Pacific American Legal Centre (APALC) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) announced here that major civil rights organizations have struck a deal with the Dinuba

Unified School District (DUSD) in California to ensure that young English learners from immigrant families have an equal chance to succeed.

Under the agreement, the district will stop using the Second Language Acquisition Development Instruction (SLADI), a programme implemented in 2009, and will implement a new programme for young English learners beginning in the current school year.

"More than 150,000 Asian American, Native

Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students in California are classified as English learners," said APALC Supervising Attorney Justin Ma.

"We hope this settlement encourages all school districts to provide sound instructional programs to English learners," said Ma.

The United States has over 1.5 million students who have been enrolled as English learners, and about one-third of them are in California's public schools.

Xinhua

Four dead in pub fire on Thai holiday island of Phuket



This file photo shows Phuket's Patong beach pictured in 2005.—REUTERS

BANGKOK, 17 Aug—Four people died and at least 11 were injured in a fire early on Friday in a bar on the island of Phuket, police said, adding to recent incidents that have tarnished the reputation of one of Thailand's premier tourist destinations. The dead included two women and one man but police said the

bodies were too badly burnt to identify. Four French nationals were among the injured, one of them seriously ill in hospital.

The Tiger Pub on Patong beach, which also houses a discotheque, was reported to be close to collapse after the fire, which broke out shortly before 4 am (2100 GMT on Thursday). "It was probably due to the strong rainfall, which caused a transformer to explode. The fire then spread to the pub, causing significant damage," a police officer in Kratu district told Reuters by phone. Thailand is one of the world's most popular tourist destinations, attracting 19 million visitors last year to its beaches, temples and racy nightlife in the capital, Bangkok.

But robberies and scams are on the rise in some areas, and an Australian woman died in Phuket in June after being stabbed while trying to fend off a bag-snatcher. Lax safety standards are a problem. In the worst incident in recent years, 66 people died and more than 200 were injured when a fire broke out in a club in central Bangkok as people were welcoming in the new year in the early hours of 1 January, 2009.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DELPHINUS VOY NO (320)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELPHINUS VOY NO (320) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2012 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: FORTUNE SHIPPING AGENCY
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV HANNA MARIE VOY NO (1234)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HANNA MARIE VOY NO (1234) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Villagers pick up white gourds in the field in Lianzhuang Village of Huangxian County, central China's Henan Province, on 16 Aug, 2012. Farmers here are expected to harvest 7,000 kilogrammes of white gourd per mu (about 0.067 hectares) with total production value at more than 28 million yuan (4.4 million US dollars) this year.

XINHUA

Drought hits 11 provinces in Cambodia: spokesman

PHNOM PENH, 17 Aug—Drought has been hitting 11 out of the 24 cities and provinces in Cambodia and affecting tens of thousands of hectares of rice seedlings, Keo Vy, spokesman and chief of the Cabinet of the National Committee for Disaster Management, said on Thursday.

Generally, rainy season begins in May and lasts until October. But this year, there is a lack of rain in some provinces, he told Xinhua over telephone.

As a result, to date, the drought has damaged 4,811 hectares of rice seedlings and affected 101,365 hectares of rice seedlings. The drought-hit provinces are Kampong Speu, Takeo, Svay Rieng, Kandal, Prey Veng, Kampot, Battambang, Pursat, Banteay Meanchey, Uddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear. "If it persists for a longer period, there will be more damage," he said.

Prime Minister Hun Sen appealed on Wednesday to all levels of authorities to help rescue farmers' rice seedlings through pumping water to irrigate those affected.

"Weather is hard to predict. It was predicted that three storms would impact

Ministry of Information
Invitation for open tender of Myanmar Radio and Television to purchase machines

1. Machines to be purchased for Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information are as follows:—

- (a) NLE Laptop Computer - 5 Nos
- (b) Inmarsat BGAN Terminal Network - 2 Sets
- (c) P2 Card (64 GB) - 10 Nos
- (d) P2 Card Drive - 2 Nos

2. Application forms of open tenders may be taken out from Office No. 7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, from 09:30 to 16:30 hour from (20-8-2012) to (5-9-2012) during week days.

3. The open tender are submitted to Office No. 7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, in the presence of the members of the tender committee from 09:30 to 16:30 hr on (6-9-2012). The tenders, later than the designated date, will not be considered.

4. Forms of open tender and detailed Information may be inquired by following address.

Procurement Committee
Ministry of Information
Office No. 7, Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 067-412327, 067-412323

Cambodia in past weeks, but they had diverted to upper part...flooding China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and some areas in Japan," he told a graduation ceremony at the Build Bright University.

The prime minister added that Cambodia's rainy season this year could prolong until early December.

Cambodia is an agrarian country. More than 80 percent of the population are farmers.

The country produced some 8.25 million tons of paddy rice last year, according to a report of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Xinhua

Brazil to invest \$66 billion in roads, railways

BRASILIA, 17 Aug—Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff announced a nearly \$66 billion investment package on Wednesday to beef up the nation's ailing road and rail systems, part of efforts to solve serious transportation bottlenecks and spur a sputtering economy.

The investment includes laying 10,000 kilometers (6,200 miles) of train tracks and building or widening 7,500 kilometres (4,660 miles) of federal highways. Rousseff said the government would soon announce other packages aimed at airports, ports and transportation on waterways, other areas where serious deficiencies are seen as hobbling the South American giant's growth.

"We're restarting an initial stage from which Brazil will emerge richer and stronger,"

Rousseff said at a ceremony announcing the package, which comes as Brazil gears up to step into the world spotlight as the host of the 2014 soccer World Cup as well as the 2016 Olympics. "Brazil will finally have an infrastructure that's compatible with its size."

Brazil's economy has performed well during the last decade, but that strong growth dropped off last year and the government forecasts growth this year at 2.5 percent. Private economists surveyed weekly by the Central Bank now expect growth around 1.8 percent this. Despite that, the nation has yet to widely feel the brunt of the crises that have hit Europe and the US since 2008 — Brazil's unemployment remains at record lows.

But experts say that

transportation bottlenecks must be solved to assure long-term growth. The hurdles have long made it difficult to move Brazil's massive amounts of commodities from far-flung fields and mines to foreign markets, stifling the potential of important export sectors. Brazil ranks far behind other big nations when it comes to infrastructure, with a recent global competitiveness report from the World Economic Forum ranking the country No 104 out of 142 nations on the issue.

"Brazil still suffers from weaknesses that hinder its capacity to fulfill its tremendous competitive potential," the report stated, adding that the "lagging quality of its overall infrastructure" is an area of "increasing concern."

Internet

Bahrain's Gulf Air to resume flights to Iraq,



Bahrain's national carrier Gulf Air will resume flights to Iraq and Iran on 20 September after a hiatus of 17 months, the tiny Gulf kingdom's official BNA news agency said on Wednesday.—INTERNET

A man picks up plastic bottles from a new recycle bin at Kitsilano Beach in Vancouver, Canada, on 14 Aug, 2012. Vancouver city launches new beverage recycle programme by placing new unlock recycle bins for the ragpickers to collect the containers to get some profit and help achieve Vancouver's goal to become the greenest city in the world by 2020.

XINHUA

MANAMA, 17 Aug—Bahrain's national carrier Gulf Air will resume flights to Iraq and Iran on 20 September after a hiatus of 17 months, the tiny Gulf kingdom's official BNA news agency said on Wednesday.

The flights to Iraq and Iran — two countries where Shiite leaders criticised Sunni-ruled, Shiite-majority Bahrain's bloody crackdown

last year on Shiite-led protests calling for democratic reforms — were stopped in March 2011.

"Bahrain's national carrier, Gulf Air will resume its services to Iran and Iraq from 20 September 2012 following the Bahrain government's approval," the official BNA news agency said.

"Flights to Baghdad, Arbil, Najaf and Basra in Iraq and Teheran, Mashhad,

Shiraz and Isfahan in Iran will begin progressively between 20 September and 28 October 2012 subject to final approvals by the civil aviation authorities of the respective countries," it said.

A Saudi-led Gulf force entered Bahrain in mid-March 2011, freeing up Bahraini security forces to carry out a bloody crackdown on protesters. Arrests of dissidents continued after the crackdown, activists and rights groups said.

Iran condemned the crackdown on protesters, and reportedly sent a letter calling for intervention from the United Nations Security Council "to stop the killing of the people of Bahrain."

Iraq's Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki warned in 2011 that the "intervention" in Bahrain by its Sunni neighbours risked a sectarian war in the region, while powerful Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr reportedly urged Bahrainis to continue to demonstrate earlier this year.

Internet



Chinese man spends eight years building himself bionic hands after DIY accident

A man who lost both hands when a homemade bomb exploded has finally created a new pair of arms after eight years of planning.

Sun Jifa could not afford the hospital's prosthetic limbs after the explosive for blast fishing detonated prematurely,

but desperately needed the use of his hands to work on the family farm.

That's when the 51-year-old from Guanmashan, Jilin province, northern China, decided to create his own bionic hands.

'I survived but I had no

hands and I couldn't afford to buy the false hands the hospital wanted me to have—so I decided to make my own,' he explained.

Sun spent eight years making prototypes before finally creating a pair of metal hands which can grip and hold thanks to a series of wires and pulleys inside the shell.

'I control them with movements from my elbows and I can work, love normally and feed myself just like anyone else,' explained the real life tin man.

'The only drawback is that steel is quite heavy so they're tiring to wear and get hot or cold in the extremes of summer and winter,' added Sun. Now he plans to develop the design for other similarly disabled people.

'I made this from scrap metal for virtually nothing. There is no need to pay hospitals a fortune,' he said.



The 51-year-old spent eight years making his bionic hand

News Album

Indiana museum discovers glass Picasso piece



This photo provided by the Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science shows Pablo Picasso's "Seated Woman with Red Hat" ("Femme assise au chapeau rouge"). The Evansville Museum plans to sell the layered, fired glass piece that it has kept in storage nearly 50 years and only recently discovered was genuine, because it is too expensive to keep. It is not known how much it is worth.

INTERNET

EVANSVILLE, 17 Aug—An Indiana museum plans to sell a work of glass art by Pablo Picasso that sat unnoticed in storage for nearly 50 years.

The Evansville Museum says the piece titled "Seated Woman with Red Hat" was donated to the museum in 1963.

Museum officials say it was cataloged as art inspired by a design for a Picasso painting but credited to an artist named Gemmaux.

That name turned out to be plural for "gemmail," which is the type of glass used in the work.

President Steven Krohn told the Evansville Courier & Press that trustees decided to have New York auction house Guernsey's sell the piece because of the costs to display, secure, preserve and insure it.

Krohn says it's not yet known how much the piece is worth.—*Internet*

Driver files complaint against actor Depardieu

PARIS, 17 Aug—French actor Gerard Depardieu is facing a legal complaint for assault and battery after getting into an altercation with a car driver in Paris, an official at the prosecutor's office said on Thursday.

Depardieu is one of France's best known actors internationally with more than 100 films under his belt, including the "Asterix"



French actor Gerard Depardieu delivers a speech during a campaign rally for France's President Nicolas Sarkozy, candidate for the 2012 French presidential election, in Villepinte, northern Paris on 11 March, 2012.

REUTERS

series, but has increasingly made headlines for the wrong reasons.

"There was a confrontation and the driver filed a complaint," the official said, adding that the incident had taken place on Wednesday in central Paris.

A police source said Depardieu's scooter and the car collided, triggering the altercation. The driver alleges the 63-year-old had hit him.

The actor's agent was not immediately available for comment.

Depardieu last year outraged fellow passengers by urinating in the aisle of an

"Operation Frozen Dumbo" gets elephant Tonga pregnant

around August 2013 after a pregnancy of about 630 days.

Elephants have been impregnated with fresh or refrigerated sperm in the past in an effort to protect endangered species, but frozen sperm can be transported further, and allows the female elephant to be inseminated at her most fertile time.

The sperm was taken from a sedated wild elephant in South Africa using electro ejaculation in the project known internally as "Operation Frozen Dumbo," a zoo spokeswoman said.

It took eight months to clear customs on its way to France due to lack of an established procedure for such wares.

The project was a joint effort of Schoenbrunn Zoo, Berlin's Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, France's Beauval Zoo and

Pittsburgh Zoo in the United States.

Both African and Asian species of elephant are endangered, especially the Asian, mainly due to poaching for meat and ivory tusks and destruction of their habitats.

Around 2,000 elephants live in zoos, and a further 15,000 Asian elephants are estimated to be kept privately, employed in the timber industry or living in temples.

"Since the survival of elephants in their natural habitat is under threat, zoos around the world are striving to preserve them," said Schoenbrunn Zoo Director Dagmar Schratter.

"Artificial insemination with the semen of a wild bull elephant is a chance to enrich the gene pool to further species conservation," she said, adding that there were five female elephants living in zoos to every one male.



Schoenbrunn zoo director Dagmar Schratter displays an ultrasonic image of an elephant foetus during a news conference in Vienna, on 14 Aug, 2012.

Scientists have succeeded for the first time in impregnating an elephant with frozen sperm, ultrasound pictures presented by Vienna's Schoenbrunn Zoo showed on Tuesday.

The scan shows a 10.6-centimetre-long (4.2 inch), five-month-old elephant foetus with its trunk, legs, tail, eyes and ears clearly discernible.

The foetus, which was scanned in April, is likely now 20 cm long, the zoo said, and is due to be born to 26-year-old African elephant Tonga in or

Air France flight as it prepared to take off, forcing the plane to turn back to its parking spot.

A passenger on the flight said Depardieu, the star of movies such as "Jean de Florette" and "Green Card", appeared to be drunk and insisted he be allowed to use the bathroom during takeoff, when passengers must remain seated.

Fellow actor Edouard Baer, who was travelling with the film star on the flight to Dublin, said Depardieu had tried to urinate in a water bottle when denied access to the toilet by a hostess.

Reuters



In this file photo released by Disney, Samuel L. Jackson portrays Nick Fury in a scene from Marvel's "The Avengers." Disney and its Marvel Studios unit announced on 16 Aug, 2012.

INTERNET

'Avengers' sequel planned for May 2015

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug—"The Avengers" are returning for a superhero sequel three years from now.

Disney and its Marvel Studios unit announced on Thursday that the follow-up to this year's biggest hit will arrive in theaters on 1 May, 2015.

The studio announced last week that Joss Whedon will be back to write and direct the as-yet-untitled sequel.

Released in May, "The Avengers" gathered such Marvel comic-book heroes as Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Captain America (Chris Evans), the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) and Thor (Chris Hemsworth). The film has taken in nearly \$1.5 billion worldwide.—*Internet*

Robert Downey Jr arrives at the screening of the film "Marvel's The Avengers" for the closing night of the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival in New York on 28 April, 2012.

REUTERS

Robert Downey Jr injured on "Iron Man 3" set

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug—"Iron Man" star Robert Downey Jr. injured an ankle on the set of the third film in the superhero franchise, causing delays in production, Marvel Studios said on Thursday.

Downey, 47, who plays billionaire playboy-turned-superhero Tony Stark in the "Iron Man" and "Avengers" movies, hurt his ankle while performing a stunt during filming of "Iron Man 3" in Wilmington, North Carolina, Marvel Studios said in a statement. "There will be a short delay in the production schedule while he recuperates," Marvel added.

The actor became an unexpected action hero in 2008 when the first "Iron Man" film made \$585 million at the worldwide box office, followed by "Iron Man 2" two

years later, which took \$623 million globally.

"Iron Man 3," due in theaters next year, will reunite Downey with Gwyneth Paltrow, Don Cheadle and John Favreau, while Ben Kingsley will play villain The Mandarin.

Downey will also reprise his superhero suit for "The Avengers 2," which Marvel announced on Thursday will be released on 1 May, 2015.

"The Avengers" scored the biggest box office opening ever in the US earlier this year, and has grossed \$1.5 billion at the global box office. Marvel Studios is a unit of Walt Disney Co.—*Reuters*



Carey, No Doubt to perform before 1st NFL game

NEW YORK, 17 Aug—Mariah Carey and No Doubt are superstar acts, but they'll be the openers for the NFL's first game of the season.

Carey and No Doubt are set to perform live from Rockefeller Plaza before the New York Giants-Dallas Cowboys game at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey.

The hourlong pregame show will air at 7:30 pm EDT on NBC. Carey says she's thrilled to be performing in New York—which she called her hometown—and adds



she's looking forward to making the season launch "even more festive."

No Doubt drummer and New Orleans Saints fan Adrian Young says he's excited to take part, and noted that the band performed at Super Bowl in 2003.

This 26 May, 2012 file photo shows US Singer Mariah Carey performing on stage during a concert at the Mawazine Festival in Rabat, Morocco. Carey and No Doubt are set to perform ahead of the first game of the NFL season on 5 September in New York.—*REUTERS*

Carey recently released the single "Triumphant (Get 'Em)." No Doubt's new album, "Push and Shove," is out 25 September.—*Reuters*

The former Fulham, Manchester United and Everton striker makes move to the North East

LONDON, 17 Aug — Sunderland have strengthened their strike force by completing the signing of Louis Saha. The 34-year-old Frenchman, who has arrived on a free transfer after leaving Tottenham Hotspur this summer, has put pen to paper on a one-year deal with the Barclays Premier League side. "Louis is a striker whose abilities have been proven at the very highest level and he brings with him a raft of experience of top-flight football," Sunderland manager Martin O'Neill told

the club's official website. "I'm sure he will be a great addition to our squad in an area we recognize needs strengthening and I'm delighted we have been able to complete a deal ahead of our first match of the season." Saha first arrived in the Barclays Premier League when he spent a spell on loan at Newcastle United in 1999. The striker left Metz to return to England the following year when he signed for Fulham, where he scored 53 goals in 100 League matches during three-and-a-

half seasons at Craven Cottage.

His goalscoring prompted Manchester United to come calling in January 2004 and Saha helped Sir Alex Ferguson's side claim back-to-back Barclays Premier League titles in 2006/07 and 2007/08 as well as the 2006 League Cup and the UEFA Champions League in 2008. Saha, who has scored four goals in 20 appearances for France, joined Everton the following season and spent another three-and-a-half seasons at Goodison Park.

The Frenchman's most memorable contribution at Everton came when he produced the fastest goal in an FA Cup final, scoring after just 25 seconds, in the club's 2-1 defeat by Chelsea. Saha scored three goals in ten League appearances for Tottenham after joining from Everton on a free transfer in January this year. Sunderland will have the striker available for the trip to Arsenal in their opening match of the new campaign this Saturday.

Internet



Louis Saha scored three goals in five League appearances for Tottenham last season. — INTERNET

Ajax and Newcastle complete Anita transfer

THE HAGUE, 17 Aug — Ajax and Newcastle United confirmed the transfer of Dutch midfielder Vurnon Anita to the Premier League on Thursday.

Both clubs agreed on a transfer fee of 8.5 million Euros. The 23-year-old midfielder signed a five-year contract at Newcastle. He is the second Dutchman at Newcastle after goalkeeper Tim Krul. Anita joined the Ajax youth academy in 1999 and made his first team debut in March 2006. He played a total of 109 Eredivisie matches in which he scored five times. In the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 season the three-times Dutch international captured back-to-back league titles with Ajax.



Dutch midfielder Vurnon Anita

"He is an exceptionally talented footballer with great technical ability, which is exactly what I am looking at in a player," said United manager Alan Pardew on the website of the Magpies. — Xinhua

Flawless Pettersson grabs one-shot lead at Wyndham

KIAWAH ISLAND, 17 Aug — Swede Carl Pettersson, riding momentum from his good form at the PGA Championship, fired a flawless eight-under 62 for a one-shot lead after Thursday's opening round of the Wyndham Championship in North Carolina. Pettersson, fresh off a tie for third at Kiawah Island in the year's last major, had eight birdies to sit one shot clear of American David Mathis and South African Tim Clark at Sedgefield Country Club.

"I started off the round good with two birdies in the first three holes and got me kind of straight back into the score mode from last week," said Pettersson. "I hit it pretty good off the tee and hit my irons good and putted really well. It was a great day for me." Americans Tom Gillis, Troy Matteson and Scott Stallings were tied in fourth

place after shooting matching 64s in the final event before the FedEx Cup playoffs begin next week.

Defending champion Webb Simpson, who captured his first PGA title here last year, was among a group of 12 golfers sitting four shots off the pace. Clark and Pettersson

both played college golf for nearby North Carolina State and used their local knowledge to full effect at Sedgefield. Pettersson, the 2008 champion of the event, opened on the back nine and rolled in a six foot birdie on the 11th to kick start his round.

Reuters



Carl Pettersson of Sweden watches his tee shot on the 14th hole during the weather delayed conclusion of the third round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at The Ocean Course on Kiawah Island, South Carolina, on 12 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

Norwich sign Garrido from Lazio

LONDON, 17 Aug — Premier League club Norwich City signed Spanish defender Javier Garrido from Lazio on a season-long loan on Thursday. Garrido failed to make an impact in his previous spell in England with Manchester City and has also struggled to hold down a regular place at Italian outfit Lazio. But Canaries boss Chris Hughton believes the 27-year-

old will shine at Norwich, who have an option to keep him beyond this season. "I'm absolutely delighted to be bringing in somebody of Javier's quality," Hughton told Norwich's website. "It gives us real competition in the squad, and for me an important factor was the fact that he has played in the Premier League before."

"He has played in La Liga,

Internet



Andre Villas-Boas

CHIGWELL, (England), 17 Aug — Tottenham Hotspur have dropped their interest in signing Porto's Joao Moutinho because the Portugal midfielder is too expensive, the Premier League club's new manager Andre Villas-Boas said. Spurs are looking to replace playmaker Luka Modric, who is likely to join Real Madrid later this month, but Moutinho is not an option despite having worked under Villas-Boas at Porto.

"The level of expectation of Porto over (the price) is difficult," Villas-Boas told reporters at the Tottenham training ground ahead of Saturday's league opener at Newcastle United. "Porto sell expensive but they sell a good

Spurs priced out of Moutinho deal, says Villas-Boas

product. They have pride in defending that kind of ground." Asked if Spurs would be able to sign Moutinho, Villas-Boas added: "No I think it's very difficult."

He also ruled out a move for Stade Rennes midfielder Yann M'Vila although Spurs had considered the France international. "He's an interesting player but I don't think he'll join Tottenham," said the Portuguese. "He's a

defensive (midfield) player. For a possible solution for Luka we're looking for a more creative player. We had initial interest in the player but we have moved on from that."

British media reported Spurs were close to agreeing a deal of just over 30 million pounds (\$47.23 million) to sell Croatia midfielder Modric to Madrid and Villas-Boas said he expected the clubs to finalise the transfer before the window closes. — Reuters



Porto's Joao Moutinho

Nadal should be fit for Davis Cup semi-final

NEW YORK, 17 Aug — Rafael Nadal, who pulled out of the US Open due to injury, should be ready for the Davis Cup semi-final between Spain and the United States next month, the tennis ace's coach and uncle said on Thursday.

The Spaniard withdrew on Wednesday from the US Open, the final Grand Slam of the season, which starts in New York on 27 August, because of his continuing battle with knee tendinitis.

"It was the right decision. This pause will further prolong his career and, possibly, he will have no more problems in the future," Toni Nadal told Spanish radio, adding the goal is to work for a "full recovery".

Nadal, the world number three, won a record seventh French Open title in June but he crashed out in the second round at Wimbledon in a shock upset against Czech Lukas Rosol.

Shortly after the 26-year-old pulled out of the London Olympics because of the

long-standing problem with his knees and subsequently withdrew from ATP Tour events in Toronto and Cincinnati.



Rafael Nadal

But Toni Nadal said he was confident that his nephew would be ready to take part in the September 14-16 Davis Cup semi-final between Spain and the United States in the northern Spanish city of Gijon.

"There is a month to go and we hope that he will be fine, if not technically, at least physically," he said.

"After Wimbledon we decided to rest a few days and then work on strengthening his quadriceps but it was difficult".

We eventually managed to boost a bit of his strength but at the end of the training sessions he continued to feel discomfort and his recovery was not enough to face such a hard competition as the US Open. "Now we are training normally, but it is not the same as competing four hours a day during a tournament," the coach added.

Internet



Premier League club Norwich City signed Spanish defender Javier Garrido, pictured in 2010, from Lazio on a season-long loan on Thursday.

INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

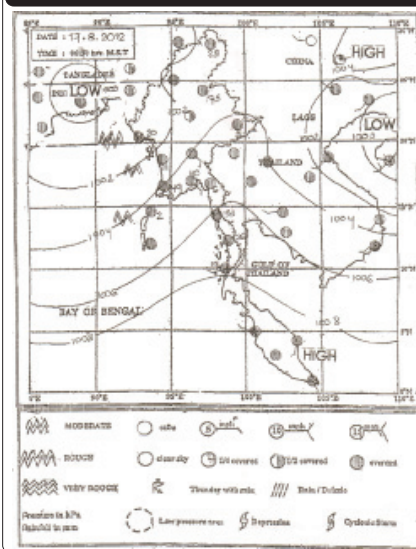
MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL
(18-8-12 09:30 am ~ 19-8-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * International Education Exhibition
- * News
- * To the Blue Mountain Ridge of Rhododendrons
- * News
- * Kid's Talent
- * News
- * Bago...Still Steepest in Legend and History
- * News
- * Culture Stage
- * The Collection of the various Artists
- * News
- * Agarwood: Myanmar's Valued Fragrance
- * News
- * High Level Policy Seminar On Central Banking
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie "Uncontrollable Heartbeat"

MYANMAR TV
(18-8-2012)(Saturday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
- 4. Documentary
- 8:10 am
- 5. Poem Garden
- 8:45 am
- 6. Local Talent
- 11:00 am
- 7. Martial Song
- 11:10 am
- 8. Musical Programme
- 11:25 am
- 9. Game For Children
- 11:50 am
- 10. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 2:30 pm
- 11. Dance of National Races
- 4:20 pm
- 12. Cultural Dances
- 5:35 pm
- 13. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 5:45 pm
- 14. Songs Programme
- 6:30 pm
- 15. Celebrity and Dinner
- 8:00 pm
- 16. News
- 17. Cartoon Series
- 18. TV Drama Series
- 19. Gitadagale Phwinfbaohn

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 18th August, 2012

| Sr No. | Regions/States | Temperature (°C/°F) | | For Tomorrow | |
|--------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------|---|---------|
| | | Maximum | Minimum | Forecast | Percent |
| 1 | Kachin | 34.93 | 24.75 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 2 | Kayah | 26.79 | 20.08 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 3 | Kayah | 35.95 | 21.70 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 4 | Chin | 19.66 | 16.61 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 5 | Upper Sgawing | 30.86 | 25.77 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 6 | Lower Sgawing | 38.10 | 26.79 | Isolated rain or thundershower | (100%) |
| 7 | Taninthayi | 26.79 | 21.70 | Widespread rain or thundershowers with likelihood of isolated heavy falls | (100%) |
| 8 | Bago | 28.82 | 24.75 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 9 | Magway | 32.90 | 24.75 | Scattered rain or thundershower | (100%) |
| 10 | Mandalay | 35.95 | 26.79 | Scattered rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 11 | Mon | 26.79 | 23.73 | Widespread rain or thundershowers with likelihood of isolated heavy falls | (100%) |
| 12 | Yangon | 28.82 | 21.70 | Widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 13 | Rakhine | 27.81 | 21.70 | Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 14 | Southern Shan | 23.73 | 18.64 | Widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 15 | Northern Shan | 30.86 | 22.72 | Widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 16 | Eastern Shan | 29.84 | 21.70 | Widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 17 | Ayeyawady | 28.82 | 23.73 | Widespread rain or thundershowers | (100%) |
| 18 | Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw | 32.90 | 23.73 | Isolated rain or thundershower | (80%) |
| 19 | Neighbouring Yangon | 28.82 | 21.70 | Some rain or thundershower | (100%) |
| 20 | Neighbouring Mandalay | 35.95 | 26.79 | Isolated rain or thundershower | (80%) |

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

Bay Inference: Monsoon is moderate to 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: Increase of rain in the Myanmar areas.

Insein General Hospital (300-bed) gets new ward for the aged

YANGON, 17 Aug—A ceremony to open the aged out-patient ward was held at Insein Township General Hospital (300-bed) on 14 August morning. Head of Yangon Region Health Department Dr Aye Ko Ko, Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Hsan and Professor (Medical Education) Dr Myint Han formally opened the new patient ward. Next, the head of Yangon Region Health Department explained the purpose of construction for the aged ward. Chairman of the construction committee Township Administrator U Tin Naing Soe handed over documents related to the building to the medical superintendent of the



hospital. Also present on the occasion were Chairperson of Yangon Region Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Thuang Mya, wellwishers, local authorities, members of township and ward MCWAs and guests.—Myanma Alin

NLM-ner Joke Sales Help

"I'd like to buy some gloves for my wife," the young man said, eyeing the attractive salesgirl. "But I don't know her size." "Will this help?" she asked sweetly, placing her hand in his. "Why yes," he answered. "Her hands are just slightly smaller than yours." "Will there be anything else?" the salesgirl queried as she wrapped the gloves. "Now that you mention it," he replied, "she also needs some lingerie."

Brazil's Thiago Silva delighted with Sweden win

PARIS, 17 Aug — Paris Saint-Germain defender Thiago Silva was left encouraged by the way the Brazil responded against Sweden after losing the final of the London 2012 Olympics last weekend. The former Milan star praised the attitude shown by Mano Menezes' side, who went on to win 3-0, believing it to be a sign that team has the ability to overcome their difficulties ahead of the World Cup in 2014. "We had played so well up to the final [of the Olympics]," Thiago Silva told Globoesporte.com. "We were playing good football and had recorded good results. Then came the loss against Mexico.

It was one that really hurt the group, it casted a shadow over our morale. But, now, I believe, we have a fresh start."

The PSG ace praised the impact of players like Daniel Alves, Dede and Paulinho, all of whom did not take part in London but did against Sweden, believing they provided the team with a boost.



Brazil's Thiago Silva delighted with Sweden win.—INTERNET



Andy Murray, from England, complains about a shot during a match against Jeremy Chardy, from France, at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, on 16 Aug, 2012.—INTERNET

Williams sisters advance, Andy Murray upset

MASON, 17 Aug — Serena and Venus Williams moved into the quarterfinals of the Western & Southern Open by handling the afternoon heat, humidity and wind. The conditions were too much for Andy Murray. Murray's off-day turned into the biggest upset of the tournament, a straight-sets loss Thursday that left him with hardly any hard-court time heading into the US Open. Murray lost 6-4, 6-4 to France's Jeremy Chardy, an opponent he'd beaten easily the four previous times they'd

played. Murray had trouble controlling his shots on a breezy, 85-degree afternoon. "I was a little bit uncomfortable with those balls bouncing extremely high," said Murray, who left the court as soon as the match ended and headed directly to the interview room. "It was fairly hard to control." Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Mardy Fish and Juan Martin del Potro also reached the quarterfinals on Thursday. On the women's side, Serena Williams won her 19th straight match—her last 12 in straight sets — by beating

Urszula Radwanska of Poland 6-4, 6-3. Williams hasn't lost a set since the Wimbledon final, which she won. She returned to Wimbledon and won the gold medal in singles and in doubles with sister Venus. The travel and the hot conditions have worn her down.

Federer beat Bernard Tomic 6-2, 6-4 on Thursday and has looked sharp in his two hard-court matches. Federer skipped the Rogers Cup last week. Djokovic was on the court for only 30 minutes in the evening.

Internet

Maradona Junior set to join Argentine club

BUENOS AIRES, 17 Aug — The Italian-born son of Diego Maradona is set to follow in the footsteps of his father by playing club football in Argentina. Diego Armando Sinagra Maradona, also known as Diego Junior, will sign for fourth-tier club El Porvenir, from the town of Gerli near the capital Buenos Aires, according to coach Luis Ventura.

Ventura, who is also a journalist, revealed the news on Twitter, saying: "I have in my hand the passport of Diego Armando Maradona and the permit to transfer his Italian registration...the future of Diego Junior is in Gerliiii." Playing down comparisons with his legendary father, Diego Junior told the Argentine sports daily Ole: "I love Argentine football and to play there is something I've wished to do." "If I were like my father I would be playing for the best teams in the world. I feel like I am a good player and I hope I can demonstrate that in Argentina." — Internet



Argentine football great Diego Maradona's son Diego Armando Sinagra Maradona, also known as Diego Junior, will sign for fourth-tier club El Porvenir, from the town of Gerli near the capital Buenos Aires, according to coach Luis Ventura.— INTERNET

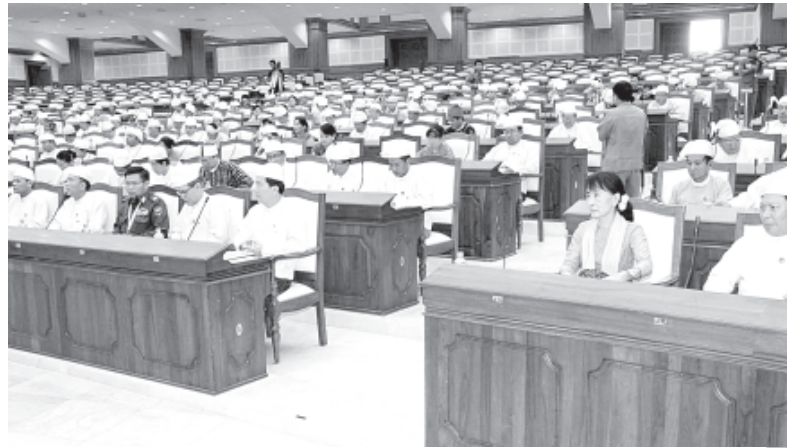
Action would be taken against unlicensed money lenders in accord with the Money Lenders Acts (1945) and Micro Finance Law

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—Pyithu Hluttaw Session continued for 29th day, at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.50 am today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 393 MPs.

At today's session, one question raised and replied, reports submitted and one proposal discussed.

At the question-and-answer session, with respect to the question of U Maung Maung Soe of Thakayta Constituency on "if there is a plan to take legal action against unlicensed money lenders who are running money lending business without making registration under the Money Lenders Act (1945)" and "if there is a plan to protect the needy from wrongly charge", Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein replied:

The government has prescribed City Development Laws, Development Affairs Law, Micro Finance Law and The Money Lenders Act (1945) in order that the needy can take loans from pawn shops and money lending businesses. With respect to the actions taken against unlicensed money lenders, (See page 8)



Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives seen at 29th day session of Pyithu Hluttaw. MNA

Emphasis placed on regional development and supply of timber demand for the people



Photo shows Amyotha Hluttaw representatives signing attendance book. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—The Amyotha Hluttaw session continued for the 29th day at the Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today, attended by 203

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives including Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint. U Win Naing Shein of Bago Region Constituency

No 5 asked whether there is a plan to reopen government timber shops in the townships across the nation. Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun replied that the ministry sold 176,600 tons of sawn timber to region governments for construction of schools, religious buildings and social organization buildings as regional development from 2001-2002 fiscal year to 2011-2012 fiscal year. So, the ministry sells 16054 tons of sawn timber per year.

A total of 14206 tons of sawn timber was sold for construction of houses for rural people from 2007-2008 to 2011-2012 fiscal year and it was 2841 tons of timber on average year. A plan to sell 18500 tons of sawn timber for the people, 5000 tons for rural housings and 10000 tons of sawn timber for development of states and regions in 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The ministry is placing emphasis on regional development and supply of timber demand for the people.

Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin replied to questions on cultural sector raised by three Hluttaw representatives.

U Ha Shein Bwe of Chin State Constituency No 8 asked whether there is a plan to send scholars from the Archaeology Department under the Ministry of Culture to study Cho Chin ethnic in lineage of Pyu in Mindat District. (See page 9)

Supreme Court of the Union, region/state high courts hold coordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—A third coordination meeting of the Supreme Court of the Union and region/state high courts was held at the meeting hall of the Union Supreme Court here at 9 am today.

In his address at the meeting, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo stressed the importance of judiciary professional skills, honesty and moral courage of judges in judging complicated cases to become the fair trials as the judiciary system has to decide the cases between the peoples and between the State and the people in accordance with the law. He also noted that the region/state high courts have the responsibility to direct the

Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo makes an address at third coordination meeting of Supreme Court of the Union, region/state high courts. MNA



district/township courts in the respective region and areas on points of law.

He also urged the judges and employees at courts to

love the truth and to have moral courage to be able to support the impartiality of the judiciary pillar and to fight the corruption at courts.

From 30 March, 2011 to 30 June, 2012, the Supreme Court of the Union has accepted 2957 civil cases, judged 2481 cases so far and

have still heard the remaining cases while it has accepted 1996 criminal cases in the same period, concluded 1697 cases so far and have still hard the

remaining 299 cases. During the same period, 10130 civil cases have brought to the region and state high courts. (See page 9)