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True patriotism

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

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

Preventive measures essential to minimize impacts of natural disaster

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, accompanied by General Hla Htay Win of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Office, Union Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Ohn Myint, U Thein Nyunt, U Aung Kyi, Dr Mya Aye and Dr Pe Thet Khin and departmental heads attended the presentation of agricultural inputs to farmers in flood-hit regions of Bago Region at Bago Town Hall this morning.

Present on the occasion were Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin, the Commander of Southern Command, region ministers, officials and local farmers from flood-ravaged regions.

Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win briefed the President on rainfall in the region, floods and construction of drains for prevention of flood, progress in dredging of sandbanks in Bago River, assistance to flood-hit households, flooded damages and measures for re-cultivation in time, and preventive measures against flood in coming years.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation



President U Thein Sein gives guidance at the ceremony to assist in farmers from flood-hit areas in Bago Region at city hall in Bago.—MNA

U Myint Hlaing suggested measures for farmer-centered development programmes in anticipation of increased income and socio-economic development of the peasantry, measures for reduction of operation cost and wastages from cultivation to post-harvest period, and quality of rice

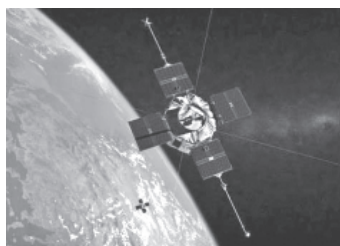
and acquisition of reasonable products, production of value-added products, creation of agro-based job opportunities, designation of model agricultural townships, and systematic reform programmes in line with five-point instruction of the President.

President in his instruction said that his visit was aimed at giving a helping hand to local people who were temporarily faced with troubles due to floods in Bago Region. He and his government members also met flood victims in Ayeyawady Region and

Yangon Region a few days ago and provided assistance to them. The country tends to see floods in long rainy season period. However, Bago Region suffered far fewer damages from floods in comparison with last year. This is thanks to systematic preventive measures taken last year.

Though natural disasters are unstoppable, preparedness measures must be taken as much as possible to ease the troubles. Bago Region could reduce the effect to some extent thanks to preventive measures based on last year's experiences. Locals are to exert
(See page 8)

NASA postpones radiation mission launch



The Radiation Belt Storm Probes Mission will provide insight into the physical dynamics of the Earth's radiation belts.

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Children play at Mickey fun house in Shanghai, east China, on 24 Aug, 2012. The fun house brought out by Disney set up various entertaining events, which attracted a good many of children.

PAGE 11

Valverde wins eighth stage of Spanish Tour



Spain's Alejandro Valverde of the Movistar team crosses the finish line to win the eighth stage of the Vuelta tour of Spain. Joaquim Rodriguez retained possession of the leader's red jersey.

PAGE 14

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

(26-8-2012)

Putao	(3.31) inches
Heho	(2.28) inches
Nyaunglebin	(2.20) inches
Machanbaw	(2.01) inches
Pyapon	(1.73) inches

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 27 August, 2012

Teachings of the Lord

Over 2500 years ago the Buddha after realizing the Four Noble Truths—the truth of suffering, the truth of the cause of suffering, the truth of the cessation of suffering and the path leading to the cessation of suffering—started teaching mankind the way to attain a state of supreme liberation, or Nirvana, which is possible for any human beings.

Afterwards, Buddha spent the rest of His life teaching a diverse range of people: from nobles to outcaste street sweepers the path of awakening He had discovered as the Enlightened One.

After the Buddha's attaining of Nirvana, the Sangha or His disciples continued the work of promoting, propagating and perpetuating His Teachings, and till now these Buddhist monks are the backbone of the system of disseminating Buddha Teachings and promoting religious knowledge among the lay people.

Fortunately, we can seek Dhamma knowledge from members of the Sangha at assemblies or individually or in groups at the monasteries. Monks have been relaying the Teachings of Buddha to lay persons in their own ways they believe are the most effective. Some solely focus on vipassana explaining methods of insight into the true nature of reality, some make references to the Jatakas in their discourses in promoting interest in religion, some add stories to make their discourses more lively and attention-grabbing, some concentrate on enhancing Dhamma knowledge among the people and some disseminate the basic knowledge or principles of Buddhism. In one way or another, the monks in fact are helping us find the path towards Nirvana.

Modern technology including television, computers, online services, DVDs and iPod and MP3 players are also helping people's access to greater religious knowledge.

As a result of the great efforts of the members of the Sangha, the people and the respective governments in preserving, protecting and disseminating the Teachings of the Lord throughout the successive eras through various means including Buddhist conferences or synods, today's people can still read, learn, study and practise Buddhism as in was in the time of the Buddha.



Cartoon Paw Lwin Kyaw

Maximum weight of axle fixed 10 tons



Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint speaking at the ceremony.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Aug—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint called on departments concerned and the people for preventing overloading of trucks.

Overloading has caused the damages of roads and bridges, spending the budget on repairing it, causing waste of budgets as the damaged roads and bridges are being repaired, the Union Minister said at the meeting on standardizing the weight of an axle meeting ASEAN Standard at the ministry here yesterday.

The maximum weight of an axle must be 10 tons to comply with the ASEAN axle load standard, he added.

The participants of the meeting discussed matters on measures to be taken for improvement of roads and bridges, the BOT system and for preventing the overloading.

Afterwards, officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Commerce took part in the discussion and Director General of the Road Transport discussed on standardizing the weight of imported vehicles and rules and regulations for them.

MNA

H & T Ministry focuses on promoting hotels and tourism industry in Inlay area

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—Workshop on promoting hotels and tourism industry in Inlay area was held at the Hupin Khaungtai Hotel in Nyaungshwe on 24 August.

In his key-note address at the workshop, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan stressed the need for keeping on conserving the attractiveness and natural

beauty of the lake, which is one of the six wonderers in Asia, when more hotels zones are established.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has been working to open a hotel zone in Inlay area with the assistance of local organizations to provide rooms adequately to visitors as the tourists arrival is risen.

The Union Minister

called for cooperative efforts of the businessmen and local ethnic people, ministries concerned, Shan state government and local authority to conserve the Inlay lake.

Hotels and tourism sector has not yet reached a staged to support the country's economy, however, the income from the hotels and tourism industry has played

an important in supporting the economies of the fastest-growing countries, the Union Minister said.

Meanwhile, the hotels and tourism industry can create job opportunities and opportunities for learning international relations, technology, investment and reducing the poverty in the country, he added.

Myanmar has attracted tourists due to its reforms, increasing the arrival in Myanmar about 50 per cent this year.

MNA

MAPCO to pick up agricultural products

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—The opening ceremony of Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation-MAPCO, with a plan to start selling its shares, took place at Strand Hotel in Yangon this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint.

It was attended by Yangon Region ministers, members of National Economic and Social Consultancy Council, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and members, Chairman of Rice Industry Association and CEC members, officials concerned from UNDP, FAO and UOB, directorial members of Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation and shareholders and businessmen.

In his speech, Union Minister U Win Myint said that he was glad to hear that Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation-MAPCO is fulfilling the needs for



Union Minister U Win Myint delivering speech at the opening of Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation-MAPCO.—MNA

improving agricultural products using supply chain management. The corporation is a core to develop agricultural sector because it consists of modernized rice mills, transportations and constructions, jetties and

silos for exporting agricultural products and value added products in advance. The government will lend a hand to the MAPCO for it is actually working for the development of agricultural sector.

Afterwards, Yangon Region Minister for planning and economic U Than Myint extended greetings. Chairman of MAPCO U Chit Khaing presented facts of the corporation in details.

MNA

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



Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper gives a speech on board Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) St John's, a Halifax Class frigate during Operation Nanook at the Hudson Bay near Churchill, Manitoba, on 24 Aug, 2012. The sixth annual operation involving 1,250 Canadian Forces personnel was aimed to enhance Canada's capability to defend its northern territories including a vast part of Arctic region. — XINHUA

Non-Aligned Movement summit opens in Teheran

BEIJING, 26 Aug — The 16th Non-Aligned Movement summit will start in the Iranian capital Teheran on Sunday. According to the Iranian Foreign Ministry, nuclear disarmament, human rights and regional issues will be the main topics.

During the summit, Iran may draw up a new peace resolution aiming to resolve the Syrian crisis. And Iran will take over the leadership role for three years from Egypt. The summit will last for 6 days. Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon will attend the summit.

Founded in 1961, the Non-Aligned Movement now has 120 members, most of which are developing countries from Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Some observer countries and organizations are also included. The movement, which represents nearly two-thirds of UN member countries focuses on striving for interests of developing countries around the world. — Xinhua

Yuan tipped to replace US dollar, Euro in southeast Asia

BANGKOK, 26 Aug — China's currency could be eventually used as an alternative to the US dollar and Euro by southeast Asian countries, experts said. Phathanaphong Phusuwan, a senior official of the Bank of Thailand, said in a seminar on Thai-Chinese trade, investment and finance relations on Saturday that the yuan would likely be used more between China and ASEAN member states in the long run.

In the panel discussion co-hosted by the National Research Council of Thailand, Huaqiao University and the Thai-Chinese Culture & Economy Association here, the official of the Thai central bank commented the Chinese currency could possibly replace the US dollar and Euro when it comes to trade, financial and money-exchange dealings throughout the ASEAN community, due in part to the unresolved economic and financial problems in the United States and the European Union.

"In the long run from 2015 onwards, trade with Asia

will largely increase under the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area agreement, which will influence the use of the yuan and the local currencies. The yuan is then a good alternative for the international trade in the future," said the official, referring to the year in which the regional bloc will become an ASEAN Economic Community. Nevertheless, he said, the role of the Chinese currency in Thailand and other ASEAN states will remain limited in the short and medium terms.

Thai merchants have increased their use of the yuan in trade, following the easing of restrictions by the Chinese government, he said. A dozen Thai commercial banks and foreign banks' branches here currently offer yuan-based services, including foreign currency deposits, money exchange, fund transfers and purchases of Chinese banknotes. The Chinese currency has accounted for 10.8 percent of China's trade dealings with the world during the first half of this year, according to a report of the Thai central bank.

Xinhua

Rafah crossing to be reopened in Sinai from both sides

CAIRO, 26 Aug — The Rafah crossing which was disrupted by the military action in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula will be reopened from both sides with previous mechanism, official news agency MENA reported on Saturday. The crossing will remain open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm every day except the weekends and the official

holidays. It will be operational as of Sunday on both Gaza and Egypt sides, MENA reported.

On 5 Aug, Egypt decided to close Rafah crossing with a security checkpoint was attacked which left at least 16 soldiers dead and seven others injured.

Since the turmoil early

last year, the security situation in Sinai has deteriorated. Hardline Islamists belonging to Jihad movements attacked police stations while local Bedouins committed several kidnappings of foreign tourists. The pipeline which exported natural gas to Israel and Jordan was also attacked more than ten times.

Xinhua

Ecuador says Britain withdraws threat to raid embassy in Assange standoff

QUITO, 26 Aug — Britain has withdrawn a threat to enter Ecuador's embassy in London to arrest WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange who has taken refuge there, President Rafael Correa said on Saturday, taking the heat out of the diplomatic standoff. "We consider this unfortunate incident over, after a grave diplomatic error by the British in which they said they would enter our embassy," Correa said in a weekly media address. In a statement, Ecuador's government said it had received "a communication from the British Foreign Office which said that there was no threat to enter the embassy."

Ecuador was furious after the British government warned it might try to seize Assange, who has been holed up in the building for more than two months trying to avoid extradition to Sweden, where he is wanted for questioning over rape and sexual assault allegations. Ecuador, which has granted the former computer hacker asylum, demanded that Britain's threat be retracted. The latest move should improve relations between Quito and London and allow more talks on Assange's fate to take place. For now, however, Assange remains trapped in the embassy with British police waiting outside. Britain



Wikileaks founder Julian Assange addresses on 19 August, the press and supporters from the balcony of the Ecuadorian Embassy in London. The Organization of American States declared "solidarity and support" for Ecuador in its dispute with Britain over granting asylum to WikiLeaks founder Assange. — REUTERS

has said it is determined to fulfill a legal obligation to send him to Sweden.

The Washington-based Organization of American States had condemned Britain's threat, and South American foreign ministers strongly backed Correa's position that Britain's warning was unacceptable and could set a dangerous precedent. Correa says he shares Assange's fears that if handed over to Sweden, he could then be extradited to the United States to face charges over WikiLeaks' 2010 publication of secret US cables. US and European government sources say the United States has issued no criminal charges against the WikiLeaks founder and has

launched no attempt to extradite him. Ecuador's government says it never intended to prevent Assange from facing justice in Sweden.

It has said that if he received written guarantees from Britain and Sweden that he would not be extradited to any third country then Assange would hand himself over to the Swedish authorities.

Assange, whose platinum hair and friendships with the rich and famous have helped make him a global celebrity, spoke from the embassy's balcony last weekend, denouncing what he called a "witch hunt" by the United States against him and WikiLeaks.

Reuters

Russia to join military drills with Canada

MOSCOW, 26 Aug — A group of Russian armed forces will take part in the military drills with Canada to be held next Monday in North America, a military official said on Saturday. The Watchful Eagle-2012 anti-terrorism exercise, slated for 27 August to 29 August, will take place in the United States and Canada.

The First Group of Russian forces, including air force officials from the Eastern Military District, have left Moscow and would join works at the Colorado headquarters in the US, military spokesman Alexander Gordeyev told Interfax news agency. The second delegation would engage in works at the backup headquarters in Alaska, according to Gordeyev.

The aim of the drills is to improve coordination and interaction between the Russian armed forces and the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) in case of aircraft hijacking. NORAD is a joint organization of the US and Canada that provides aerospace warning, air sovereignty and defence for the two countries. — Xinhua



Rescuers transfer an injured tourist in Shizuishan city of northwest China's Ningxia Hui autonomous region, on 25 Aug, 2012. A flash flood triggered by torrential rains in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region washed away nine tourists at a mountain ravine in the Dawukou district of Shizuishan city at 12 pm on Saturday. Six were killed so far and the three injured have been sent to a hospital for emergency treatment. — XINHUA

Last rebel group signs deal with Central African Republic

BANGUI, 26 Aug — Central African Republic's last armed rebel group signed a peace deal with the government on Saturday that was designed to end years of violence in the country. "We picked up guns to fight the bad governance, corruption, nepotism and exclusion that characterized this regime, and we think that our message has been heard," Abdoulaye Issene Ramadan, leader of the CPJP rebel group, said in the capital Bangui. "Today we bury the hatchet."

Central African Republic has been plagued by years of misrule since independence from France in 1960 and President Francois Bozize, who came to power in a 2003 coup, had faced low-level insurgencies from 2005 to last year. The four other main rebel groups signed peace deals with the government in 2008. CPJP fighters, concentrated in the country's northwest, clashed with government troops until the middle of last year when a temporary ceasefire was agreed. Central African Republic is rich in minerals but is among the world's least developed and most isolated countries. — Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

US Astronaut Neil Armstrong dies at age of 82

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug— American astronaut Neil Armstrong, the first man ever to set foot on the moon, has died at the age of 82, his family said on Saturday.

"We are heartbroken to share the news that Neil Armstrong has passed away following complications resulting from cardiovascular procedures," the family said in a statement. It did not say where he died.

Armstrong was said to undergo a heart-bypass surgery earlier this month to relieve blocked coronary arteries.

Describing the iconic space explorer as "a reluctant American hero who always believed he was just doing his job," the statement said "He served his nation

proudly, as a navy fighter pilot, test pilot and astronaut."

Armstrong commanded the *Apollo 11* spacecraft that landed on the moon on 20 July, 1969 and has been best remembered by saying "That's one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind."

Armstrong and his fellow astronaut Buzz Aldrin spent two and a half hours walking on the moon, collecting samples, conducting experiments and taking photographs, while astronaut Michael Collins remained in orbit in the command module.

US President Barack Obama lamented the death of Armstrong, calling him a man "among the greatest of

American heroes — not just of his time, but of all time."

"When Neil stepped foot on the surface of the moon for the first time, he delivered a moment of human achievement that will never be forgotten," the president said in a statement.

NASA administrator Charles Bolden also praised Armstrong, saying he will be remembered for "taking humankind's first small step on a world beyond our own."

"As we enter this next era of space exploration, we do so standing on the shoulders of Neil Armstrong," he said in a statement.

Born on 5 Aug, 1930, in Wapakoneta, Ohio, Armstrong served in the US Navy and joined the Korean War before becoming an



Apollo 11 astronauts (L-R) Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Edward "Buzz" Aldrin pose in this file photo. 21 July, 2009 marks the 40th anniversary of the moon landing. —XINHUA

astronaut. After the war, he served as a test pilot at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics High Speed Flight Station. He left NASA a year after the *Apollo 11* mission to become a professor of engineering at the University of Cincinnati. —Xinhua

Sunbathing keeps north American bugs healthy

TORONTO, 26 Aug— Canadian scientists have discovered how a group of insects use sunbathing to fight off germs.

A study done by researchers at Simon Fraser University, Canada has found that a group of North American insects called Western Boxelder bugs (WBB) group together in sunlit patches and while there, release monoterpenes, strong-smelling chemical

to activate the biosynthesis of the compounds in the bugs, described as highly gregarious creatures.

The chemicals then physically encase fungal spores on the bugs' body surface and set off a chain of events that ultimately protect them from germ penetration.

"Prophylactic sunbathing defends these bugs against pathogens that they encounter in their shelters,"



A western boxelder bug. —INTERNET

compounds that help protect the bugs by killing germs on their bodies.

The study found that the compounds were emitted when the bugs were in sunshine? in effect, sunbathing and weren't used for communication, reproduction or defending the bugs against predators.

According to the researchers, sunlight appears

co-author of the study Gerhard Gries said.

"If they are converting the sun's solar energy to fuel chemical work, without the aid of microbial symbionts — organisms that live together with a host, often to their mutual benefit — we would consider this a highly remarkable feat in the animal world," Gries added.

Internet

Mexican archaeologists excavate 850-yr-old human skeleton

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug— Human skeletons estimated to be about 850-years-old have been found by a group of excavators at an archaeological site in Mexico.

The skeletons were found at an archaeological site at Sierra Gorda in the central state of Queretaro during consolidation work of a pre-Hispanic structure - Building 17 of Huastec complex.

Jorge Quiroz, head of the excavation project, said the skeletons can be as old as

1150 DC, about two centuries after Tancama had been vacated by pre-historic locals.

"People who already lived in other places, came back to this city to deposit their dead in some of its structures (necropolis). This hypothesis might only be corroborated with further studies," Quiroz was quoted saying by Artdaily.

According to Cristina Garcia Pura, Doctor in Physical Anthropology, the skeletons have incision marks which might be signs

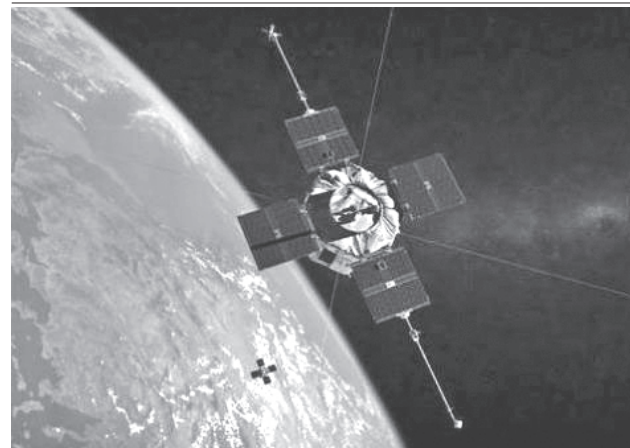
of sacrificial offerings.

"When the incision marks' studies have been made, we will know if they were victims of a sacrifice or if these were skulls that were used as secondary burials (meaning they were removed from another place). All were found grouped together and four of these craniums were linked to the bones of hand and feet among others.

"Although a bio-archaeological study has not yet been made, this type of findings usually belongs to

sacrificial offerings, since in that time (500-700 DC) in Mesoamerica, the feet, the hands and the craniums were considered the most important parts of the human body. So they were obliged to use them in burials," Garcia Pura said.

The skeletons have been moved to the Department of Archaeological Comparative Collections of Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) in Mexico for a through analysis of the bones, to determine their age, gender and possible sicknesses that might have lead to the individual's demise. —Internet



The Radiation Belt Storm Probes Mission will provide insight into the physical dynamics of the Earth's radiation belts. INTERNET

NASA postpones radiation mission launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, 26 Aug— NASA says it's looking at Saturday to launch its Radiation Belt Storm Probes mission after an intended on Friday morning launch was canceled for technical reasons.

A drift in the signal from a transponder aboard the *Atlas V* launch rocket led to the postponement of the launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, the space agency reported.

It is not yet known if the issue was in the transponder itself or in the ground-based range detection equipment meant to receive its signals,

engineers said.

The transponder is part of one of several systems used to track the vehicle after launch, and it is mandatory for it to operate prior to liftoff, they said.

The next 20-minute launch window will start at 4:07 am EDT on Saturday.

The Radiation Belt Storm Probes mission is intended to study the sun's influence on Earth and near-Earth space by studying the Earth's radiation belts on various scales of space and time, NASA said.

Internet

Angry Birds Space goes on mission to Mars

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug— Pigs and birds will explore the Martian terrain and shed light on NASA's missions to the Red Planet in the latest update to the game Angry Birds Space.

Rovio Entertainment, creator of Angry Birds, announced the update on Thursday, complete with a cast of agency rovers and landers.

Earlier this year, millions of gamers were introduced to concepts of microgravity in Angry Birds Space, which was supported through a partnership with NASA and includes links to a variety of education information.

"Rovio is teaching huge new audiences about NASA's missions to Mars thanks to this collaboration," said David Weaver, associate administrator for communications at NASA Headquarters in Washington.

"It's a great way to introduce both kids and adults to the wonders of the planet in a fun and entertaining way," he added.

NASA participated with Rovio on Angry Birds Space under a Space Act Agreement to share the excitement of space with the Angry Birds community, educate players about agency projects and programmes, and collaboratively create interactive informational experiences for the public.

The game will include links to NASA web content about Mars exploration and NASA missions that are represented in the game.

"We're huge NASA fans, and we were all

cheering the Mars Curiosity rover as it touched down," said Peter Vesterbacka, chief marketing officer of Rovio Entertainment.

"So, working together on the Mars update was a perfect fit, especially since we got such an amazing response to our previous collaboration, the 'Angry Birds Space: NASA announcement' video, which quickly surged to the top of 2012's viral video charts.

We're thrilled to continue working with NASA. Stay tuned for even more great fun and educational content coming up," Vesterbacka stated.

Internet



Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Carrots good for eyesight 'not a myth'

LONDON, 26 Aug— Carrots, which are packed with vitamin A, have many health benefits, researchers say.

The story that carrots are good for eyesight was put about as propaganda to keep secret the role of radar in shooting down German bombers. "We do not need extra vitamin A because we already get enough of it in our diet in developed countries,"

the *Daily Express* quoted Dr Dolores Conroy, director of research at charity Fight For Sight, as saying. "It does not matter how many carrots you eat, your eyesight is not going to get better.

"But it is a real problem in developing countries. About half a million children go blind every year because of vitamin A deficiency. If you do not have enough vitamin A the

receptors in the eye which catch light in low light will not work properly and a vitamin A deficiency leads first of all to night blindness," she said.

Conroy also commented on the wartime eyesight. "It is one of those myths like eating an apple a day keeping the doctor away and spinach giving you muscles like Popeye," she added.

Internet



Carrots, which are packed with vitamin A, have many health benefits.—INTERNET

Coconut water good after light exercise

PHILADELPHIA, 26 Aug— Coconut water — the clear liquid inside young, green coconuts — has a lot of potassium and antioxidants, US researchers say.

"Coconut water is a natural drink that has everything your average sports drink has and more," Chhandashri Bhattacharya of Indiana University Southeast in New Albany said in a statement. "It has five times more potassium than Gatorade or Powerade. Whenever you get cramps in your muscles, potassium will help you to get rid of the cramps."

Bhattacharya said the potassium in coconut water may benefit other people who do not exercise. The typical American diet is low in potassium and high in sodium. Previous research showed people who ate foods low in potassium and high in sodium had twice the risk of death from heart disease and a 50 percent higher risk of death from all causes.—Internet

Alzheimer's affects women more rapidly than men

brains are better at coping with the ravages of the disease. The stage of progression of Alzheimer's is measured using general tests, such as those based on behaviour, the *'Daily Mail'* reported.

More detailed tests, such as verbal skills tests, on sufferers who were at an apparently equal stage of the disease suggested men have an advantage in coping with its effects.

Men with Alzheimer's consistently outperformed women sufferers in detailed tests of memory and even verbal ability, where healthy women normally have the

advantage.

A review of data from 15 studies by researchers from the University of Hertfordshire shows for the first time that men might resist the progression of dementia more than women.

The analysis of studies involving 828 men and 1,238 women discovered that men with Alzheimer's consistently and significantly outperformed women with the disease across five cognitive areas examined in detailed tests.

These included tests of episodic memory, where people recall events from the past, and semantic memory involving factual information.



Men can stave off the effects of Alzheimer's for longer than women, whose condition deteriorate faster when affected by the disease.—INTERNET

LONDON, 26 Aug—Men can stave off the effects of Alzheimer's for longer than women, whose condition deteriorate faster when affected by the disease, a new study has found. The study found that women suffering

from Alzheimer's deteriorate faster than men, even when both are apparently at the same stage of the disease.

The findings suggest that women sufferers show greater loss of their mental faculties than men, whose

Pig parasite may help treat autoimmune disorders

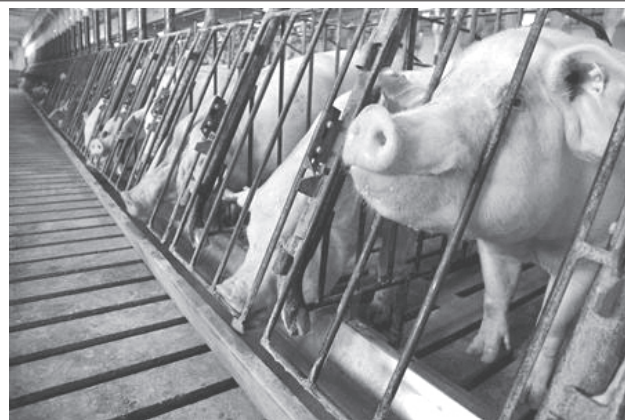
BOSTON, 26 Aug—If you had a chronic and potentially debilitating condition such as rheumatoid arthritis or Crohn's disease, and swallowing the eggs of a pig parasite could help, would you do it?

The team at Coronado Biosciences Inc is betting you would. The Burlington, Massachusetts, company is developing what it hopes will be the first in a new class of treatments for autoimmune conditions. Each dose of the drug consists of thousands of microscopic parasite eggs, culled from pig feces, suspended in a tablespoon of saline solution to be swallowed.

In a pig, the eggs would grow into mature whipworms and reproduce, without harming their host. In humans, the same eggs barely survive two weeks. Yet in that short period they appear to modulate a patient's immune system and prevent it from attacking the body's own tissues and organs.

"It has the potential not only to be a drug but to provide insight into the cause of these diseases," said Dr Joel Weinstock, chief of gastroenterology and hepatology at Tufts-New England Medical Centre in Boston and an adviser to Coronado.

The company is preparing to enroll 220 patients with Crohn's disease in a midstage clinical trial. Participants will



receive either a dose with 7,500 eggs from a pig whipworm or a placebo once every two weeks for 12 weeks.

Coronado's partner, German drugmaker Dr Falk Pharma GmbH, is conducting a midstage trial of the drug, known as trichuris suis ova (TSO), in Europe. The two companies plan to share data when filing for marketing approval in 2016 or 2017.

Tiny Coronado, with a market value of nearly \$139 million, went public on the Nasdaq stock exchange last December. If the company, which also has an early-stage cancer drug in development, succeeds with TSO, it will compete against multibillion-dollar drugs from Amgen Inc and Abbott Laboratories.—Reuters

US, European shares rise on ECB report, euro trims losses

NEW YORK, 26 Aug—US and European stocks rose and the euro bounced off lows against the dollar on Friday after sources said the European Central Bank is considering setting targets in the bond market in a bid to contain crippling borrowing costs in troubled euro zone economies.

Stocks had earlier come under pressure on worries about Greece and uncertainty over how Europe will address Spain's debt crisis. Speculation has grown in recent weeks that the ECB will soon start buying Spanish and Italian bonds.

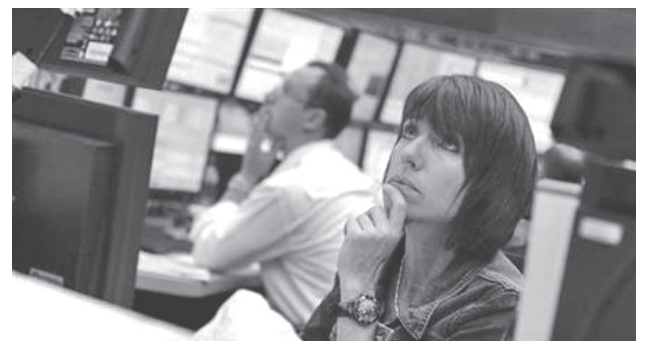
The ECB is considering targeting a yield band, an option gaining favour among central bankers, central bank sources told *Reuters*. But the decision would not be made before the ECB's 6 September policy meeting and it wasn't clear how wide the band would be or how the ECB would decide when to intervene in the bond markets.

"Any time we get comments out of Europe that create a perception that they are working diligently to solve the debt issue, the euro starts to rally, (the) dollar goes lower and in return, our equity markets move higher," said Randy Frederick, managing director of active trading at Charles Schwab.

"I'm not sure if this will have lasting impact on the market."

Further boosting investor sentiment, US Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said the Fed has room to deliver additional monetary stimulus to boost the US economy. Bernanke made the comment in a letter to a congressional oversight panel.

Reuters



Traders concentrate on their screens at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 24 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Samsung to appeal after \$1b Apple award in US case

SEOUL, 26 Aug — Samsung says it will appeal against a US court ruling that the South Korean giant stole designs from Apple to make smartphones and computer tablets. The jury in San Jose, California ordered Samsung to pay Apple \$1.05bn (£665m) in damages. In response, Samsung accused Apple of using US patent laws to try to dominate the smartphone market.

Analysts say the ruling is one of the most significant in a global battle over intellectual property. In recent weeks, a court in South Korea ruled that both technology firms had copied each other, while a British court threw out claims by the US company that Samsung had infringed its copyright. But the year-long US case has involved some of the biggest damages claims.

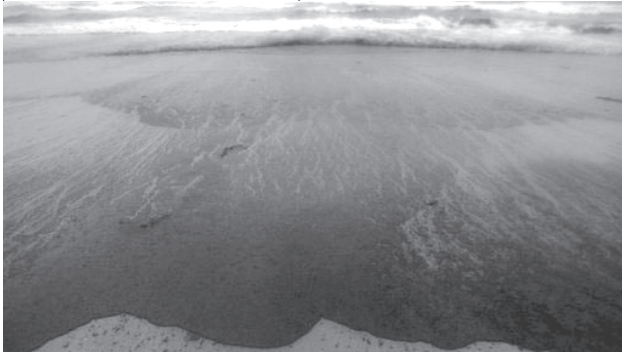
Samsung described

Friday's decision as "a loss for the American consumer". "It will lead to fewer choices, less innovation, and potentially higher prices," the firm said. The statement added that it was "unfortunate that patent law can be manipulated to give one company a monopoly over rectangles with rounded corners". Apple, however, said it applauded the court "for finding Samsung's

behaviour wilful and for sending a loud and clear message that stealing isn't right".

It said it intended to seek injunctions to block US sales of Samsung products at a follow-up hearing on 20 September. The two firms account for more than half of global smartphone and tablet computer sales. The nine-person jury at the federal court in San Jose, California had to consider 700 questions about each side's claim that its rival had infringed its intellectual property.—Internet

An oil slick stains a New Zealand beach in 2011.
INTERNET



COLOMBO, 26 Aug — Sri Lanka mobilized 500 volunteers on Friday to prepare for an oil slick heading towards its coast after a cargo vessel sank off-shore due to bad weather, a disaster official said. The rusting 15,000-tonne Thmothrompolyseara, a

Sri Lanka braces for oil slick

Cyprus flag carrier, took in water and went down late

tanks and that is causing a slick," Disaster Management Centre director Sarath Kumara told AFP. He said the slick measuring about 10 kilometres (six miles) long was about 20 kilometres (12 miles) off Sri Lanka's western coast, but could get washed ashore due to heavy monsoon weather.

"We have arranged small units of volunteers to clean up a coastal stretch of over 50 kilometres," Kumara said. "We have not experienced anything like this before." The coast line from Mount Lavinia, a popular tourist resort just south of the capital Colombo, and Negombo, the first beach resort opened for tourism in the early 1970's,

Thursday after remaining in anchorage for over three years following a dispute over its cargo of steel, local officials said.

"Much of the furnace oil in the ship had been pumped out, but we were told about 70 tonnes of fuel remained in its

was at risk, the DMC said. The foreign vessel had been detained by Sri Lankan courts following litigation over the cargo of steel valued at over \$300 million, according to local media reports. It was not immediately clear who owned the vessel.

Sri Lanka's merchant shipping authority director Ajith Seneviratne said they were ready to tow the ship away to a salvage yard in the island's east, but were prevented by a court order against the removal. "We knew that the ship could go down as the monsoon intensifies and we had pumped out most of the 600 tonnes of furnace oil it carried, but there was a residue that we could not pump out," Seneviratne said. — *Internet*



A young Chinese woman is interviewed by an "appearance consultant" arranged by Chinese Entrepreneurs Singles Club in Beijing. — INTERNET

China's single women compete for love and riches

BEIJING, 26 Aug — Young Chinese women in swishy dresses and strappy sandals sit in a row clutching forms that list their weight and measurements as they wait for an interview with the "appearance consultant". Dressed as if for a beauty contest, they are among more than 1,000 bidding to make it to the next stage of this bizarre competition — the chance to join an exclusive group of 50 vying for marriage to a multimillionaire. The testing process screens everything from looks and education to family background and astrological compatibility. The 50 lucky qualifiers win the chance to meet 32 men worth at least 100 million yuan (\$16 million).

Although it is at the extreme end of the scale, the matchmaking event arranged by the China Entrepreneur Club for Singles in Beijing reflects the growing challenges of finding a spouse in modern China. "I don't need to be so rich. I'm just saying I want the ability to have a good lifestyle," said Zeng Xie, 25, wearing thick mascara and a delicate dress as she slipped out between interviews to check in with her mother. Zeng's mother, who gave only her surname, Niu, rated her daughter's chances of finding love in the city as low, and bemoaned her unwillingness to return to the family's home town.

"She's got a lot of great qualities, so she has quite high standards," said Niu. "Kids these days are working and they are so busy, they don't have time to make friends." Experts say the material demands of some young Chinese have escalated as the country's wealth has grown — with home ownership a common requirement, according to Yale sociologist Deborah Davis. Davis says that transient urban lifestyles have combined with frenetic social change, booming wealth and more relaxed sexual mores to complicate the process of finding a partner in China.

The escalating demands of potential spouses have come under the spotlight in recent years thanks to popular television dating shows featuring materialism so outrageous that worried authorities forced them to dial them back. One female contestant famously rebuffed a potential suitor, saying she would "rather cry in a BMW car than laugh on the backseat of a bicycle", while another requested 200,000 yuan (\$31,000) to allow a man to shake her hand. — *Internet*

Hamas sends security officers to Cairo for talks

GAZA, 26 Aug — Hamas announced on Saturday it will send a security team to Egypt for information exchange about deadly attack against the Egyptian forces in Sinai earlier this month.

Ihab al-Ghoussein, a spokesman for Hamas' Interior Ministry, said that the delegation would leave through Rafah crossing point between Gaza and Egypt. He gave no further details about the delegation's structure. The delegation will work for boosting cooperation in investigations about the attack, in which unknown Islamists killed 16 Egyptian soldiers on 5 August.

Egyptian reports suggested that the assailants were backed by extremist groups in the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. But Hamas immediately denied the involvement of any Palestinian in the shooting. The discussions will also focus on Rafah crossing, the only gate for Gazans' bypassing Israeli control. Egypt closed the crossing after the attack but granted exit permission for humanitarian cases. — *Xinhua*



Visitors pose for photos in front of a super-big sofa displayed in a shopping mall in east China's Shanghai Municipality, on 24 Aug, 2012. Measuring 6.8 meters in height and 7.7 in width, the mammoth turns into a performance stage at weekends.

XINHUA

China's drug watchdog warns problems of counterfeit medicines

BEIJING, 26 Aug — A senior drug safety supervisor warned that China faces a severe situation of cracking down upon counterfeit medicines.

An increasing number of offences have occurred in the production and distribution of traditional Chinese medicines, said Yin Li, director of the State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA), in a statement issued on the SFDA official website on Friday.

Also, more and more offenders sell counterfeit medicines through Internet, Yin said. In the latter half of this year, the SFDA will step up joint actions with other law enforcement agencies and government departments to curb counterfeit medicines, he said.

Efforts will be made to improve the coordination among drug safety agencies from different regions as well as cooperation between the government and enterprises, he said. In addition, the SFDA will start an inspection on the production of medicines listed as the national essential medicines in the next four months. — *Xinhua*

Australia starts melanoma genome project

SYDNEY, 26 Aug — Australian researchers have started to undertake a two-year melanoma genome project that aims to identify the common gene mutations that lead to melanoma, Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) announced on Friday. The project, developed and coordinated by MIA, will cost 5.5 million AU dollars (5.74 million US dollars) and has been largely funded by private donors.

A national coalition of researchers from MIA, The University of Sydney, Westmead Millennium Institute, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research will work together on the project. Most of the melanoma tumour samples to be used are from the MIA BioSpecimen Bank of melanoma tissues, MIA said. MIA Executive Director John Thompson said the medical research would lead to better treatments for melanoma patients.

"The Melanoma Genome Project will build on Australia's international leadership in this area and move the world's medical knowledge closer to being able to prevent and cure melanoma," Thompson said. "It will lead to better diagnostic tests and new drugs which can specifically target the mutations that are causing this particular cancer."

Xinhua

Powerful typhoon lumbers toward Japan's Okinawa

TOKYO, 26 Aug — A powerful typhoon packing winds up to 215 kilometers (134 miles) per hour was lumbering toward Okinawa on Saturday and was projected to be the strongest typhoon to hit the southern Japanese island in several years. Typhoon Bolaven, the 15th typhoon of the season, was expected to reach Okinawa on Sunday, island weather officials said.

It comes on the heels of Typhoon Tembin, which on Friday crossed over southern Taipei and caused flooding in some areas, but largely spared the island's heavily populated areas. Floodwaters from Tembin reached 3 meters (9 feet) high in one town, where armoured vehicles rescued several

dozen people from their flooded homes. It returned to sea by late Friday morning.

Typhoon Bolaven was approaching Minami-Daito Island, some 400 kilometers (250 miles) southeast of Okinawa, on Saturday and moving north-northwest at 15



An armoured personnel carrier carries local officials through flooded areas brought by Typhoon Tembin in Pingtung county, Taipei, on 24 Aug, 2012. — INTERNET

kph (9 mph). Maximum winds near the eye were projected at 180 kph (112 mph). On Friday, the storm had winds of 162 kph (101 mph), the Japan Meteorological Agency said. The weather on Saturday morning in Naha, the capital of Okinawa prefecture, was

still sunny with mild winds, officials said.

But the Japanese Meteorological Agency issued advisories for gale-force winds in Okinawa and high waves in the waters around the island, where more than half the 50,000 US troops based in Japan are stationed. One of the biggest bases, Kadena Air Base, banned water-based activities in the rough seas as part of its preparations for the typhoon. Weather forecasters on public broadcaster NHK said the slow-moving storm could dump up to 80 centimeters (31.5 inches) of rain on Okinawa. Bolaven had sustained winds of 162 kph (101 mph) and gusts of up to 215 kph (134 mph), the agency said. — *Internet*

Taungbyone Nat festival of Wakhaung Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Human beings are rational animals. They are better creatures than other beings because of their nationality. But basically being animal, human beings are prone to freedom of their animality. They want to enjoy freedom, manifesting and expressing their animal instinct of freedom with abandon.

Taungbyone Nat spirit festival held annually in 7th waxing to fullmoon day of Wakhaung (August) 24-8-2012 to 1-9-2012 is an outlet for this kind of freedom for Myanmar people. Though Theravada Buddhism was well established and has been flourishing in the country, pre-Buddhist and post-Buddhist belief systems still co-exist in Myanmar because of long Myanmar tradition of religious tolerance. Despite attempts of Myanmar kings to stamp out nat spirit worship and all appertaining, superstitions, Myanmar peoples find joy and benefit in the worship of nat spirits for their mundane life, while Buddhism they generally believe is the most noble religion for the improvement of their "life here after".

Unlike gods and goddesses of the ancients who appeared as deities, Myanmar nats (Thirty-seven nats in Myanmar Pantheon) were originally human beings. They were kings, queens, ministers, soldiers, heroes and heroines who as humans had served public welfare and interest or employed in royal services with outstanding performances. But due to various reasons, punishment, loss of life on the battlefield, fatal diseases and accidents they met violent deaths. It is a common belief in all ancient civilizations, that the spirit of a person who died of a violent death "lingers on until it has got a place to rest."

Shwehpyingee and Shwehpyinngge the two nat-brothers at Taungbyone were the grandsons of King Anawrahta who adopted them just as he did their father Byatta, a good equestrian soldier who could bring to the court three times daily wild flowers from Mount Popa at a distance of 30 miles. While Anawrahta was sojourning at Taungbyone village, after his visit to his friend Chinese Emperor Uti, he built a pagoda "Sutaungpyi" at Taungbyone Village near Mandalay. He ordered that everyone must get a share in that religious work by contributing each a brick and a handful of sand to the construction of the pagoda.

Two youthful brothers were running after a local village girl named Ma Shwe U whose beauty was reputed far and wide. But she was already engaged to a lad of the locality named Ko Yin Maung who was away in the upper reaches of the Ayeyawady River to float down teak logs. The two had arranged for their wedding after the lent of that year. Proud of their rank, arrogant brothers never gave up their love overtures to Ma Shwe U who refused and resisted.

When the Sutaungpyi Pagoda was completed Anawrahta came to worship it. Upon seeing two bricks missing at the entrance, he asked why. When he found that his two grandsons had neglected their duties and defied the royal orders, the king would not spare them though they were his adopted grandsons. So the two brothers were done executed to death by flogging their necks. Because of their violent deaths their spirits lingered and they held light the royal barge returning to Bagan. Upon the king's command the nat spirits of the two brothers appeared and asked for reward for their services. The king proclaimed the village Taungbyone be their fief and a grand nat shrine built near the pagoda for their place to rest. At the yearly Pagoda festival, the festival for the two brothers be held and local people should pay homage to them. At Taungbyone, there still are fields and farms which King Anawrahta awarded to the two nat brothers. The proceeds of these lands go to the maintenance of their shrine and idols.

Since then, Taungbyone Nat festival has become almost

a national festival. But the traditional national festival of Wakhaung (August) is the casting lots festival for religious charity. However, believers near and far, at home and abroad, are obliged by the two nat brothers to come to the festival and do their obligations such as offering flowers, food, fruits, silk clothings, drinks and liquor and participating in over a week long procedures of the festival—singing, dancing, offering of roasted wild rabbits with toddy juice, liquor local and foreign to the two nat brothers and in the finale, the cutting of the Htein tree, to avenge the deity of that Tree who caused the untimely death of their grandfather Anawrahta.

Preparation of at least two months ahead is needed for this now would famous festival. Since the British colonial days special railway services were given at least four times a day between Mandalay and Taungbyone. There is also a good motor road for all kinds of vehicles. In the days gone by you could take a leisure boat on the Shwetachung canal near Zegyo Taw market centre to Taungbyone and return in the evening.

To understand the historical background and social and cultural significance and implication of Taungbyone festival you need to observe it from the beginning to the end with the guide of a person wellversed in this subject. The festival provides a good occasion for all and everyone to enjoy freedom of a human life—eat, drink, sing, and dance and enjoy with abandon. But there are specially organized committees to maintain law and order and peace during the festival. Local authorities are efficient in managing the situation.

In this globalized age of information and communication technologies where matter reigns dominant, it is amazingly strange to find increasing numbers of believers in spirits. At Taungbyone festival you see large gatherings of spirit worshippers from four corners of the world. Some are genuine believers but many are merry-makers for infinite fun.

It is believed that the two nat brothers would possess beautiful girls or women even if they are married or they have their regular nat mediums who can invoke them to possess them, and dance in trance to the songs and music of the two nat brothers. Normally male nat spirits possess female humans and female nat spirits possess male humans. The one who is possessed by a nat spirit would wear the dress of that nat spirit and sing and dance like that spirit. So you will see at Nat festivals many transvestites believed to be possessed by their nat spirit concerned singing, dancing mimicking and frolicking—a wonderful occasion for home and foreign gays to gather together for fun. Gay transvestites are prettier and more attractive than the real girls is the general remark of the visitors. But more practical and apt remark is that the two nat brothers have now become so globalized that they are now more fond of gays than girls! They are globalized also in many ways. Rather than local fermented toddy juice, rice beer, or country spirits and meat of wild games, the two nat brothers prefer wine, beer, Jim, brandy and whisky especially Johnny Walkers Black Label, and cheese, butter and tin meat. Rather than wearing traditional headgear and elongated silk longyi, the two nat brothers (their mediums) are now wearing jeans, jerkins, shorts and sports shirts as evidenced in the dresses of the nat, possessed dancers who are mostly gays.

It is worth visiting this festival at least for a day trip because you yourself be drawn into the festival of merry makers, leaving behind all your worries of daily life. Stay longer and watch the proceedings close hand you get a clear glimpse of a cosmos swiftly undergoing changes. You are momentarily transported into on other worldly plane of spirits. With all trappings of global characters and features such as hip hop songs, music and dances, Michael Jackson's

hits, Jacky Chan's aerobatic agility by those international gays of all climes is a grand scenario of a sort found in our world of the 21st century.

Serious worshippers of the two nat brothers believe that nat spirits are benefactors of their worshippers who pray to them for the fulfillment of their wishes on a contract of a sort, ie if their prayers are answered and wishes are fulfilled they would offer cash or kind (foreign liquors, sink dresses and other luxuries) to their client nat spirits. The writer of this article has met with some local and foreign believers who confirmed that their wishes were granted by nat spirits they consulted. There was the care of one American diplomat who visited Taungbyone Nat festival just for fun. At the shrine he told the idols of the two brothers that if they helped him to get him transfer to Geneva at next assignment he would offer them Black Label Whisky and silk longies. Three months later he received transfer order from Washington to Geneva! That diplomat keeps his contract with the two nat brothers by sending his promised offerings to them at annual festival.

One amazing experience of a foreign believer and worshipper of the two nat brothers was the wife of a high ranking official from an international organization which had its branch office in Yangon. The writer, as the Director-General of the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, Ministry of Culture was assigned to guide her on her visit to Taungbyone Festival. She was not only an academic researcher but also a serious believer in spiritual world. She studied and participated in the festival from the beginning to the end. The writer was her guide and interpreter. On the day of the ceremony of the two nat brothers bathing in the River, the shrine and the entire village were packed with worshippers and merry makers. She whispered to the writer that she could not resist the excited urge to dance because the two nat brothers "are possessing her!" The writer was astounded and told her not to, because she was the wife of a high diplomat. "Nonsense! there is no law against your belief." So saying, she dashed into dancing in trance, with her eyes close just like other nat mediums. When the long music stopped, she was awoken from trance and told the writer that the two brothers had left her body! On leaving Myanmar after two years of their duty, this lady took to her home country two wooden idols of the two nat brothers made and consecrated at Taungbyone. At her farewell dinner the writer jokingly told her to apply for passport and visa for the two brothers. The lady was a bit crossed and said, "Dr. Nyunt, you don't know about the spirit world! Such formalities exist only in the world of earthy mortals. I can take them even to Mt Olympus!" Her serious retort suddenly recalled the writer's knowledge of the story of how one famous mathematician of ancient Greece by the name of Pythagoras went to consult the oracle of the Temple of Apollo, on the eve of his presentation of a geometry theorem at the gathering of scholars in the garden of Academia in Athens.

Scholars in the past had done academic research on Myanmar Thirty Seven Nat Spirits. The most outstanding and perhaps the earliest was Sir Richard Temple. His work "The Thirty Seven Nats of Burma" fully illustrated with pictures from original manuscripts of parables and references from royal archives and libraries of Mandalay Palace of Kings Mindon and Theebaw was a monumental volume. The writer has found post-graduate dissertations on this subject at some foreign universities in England, America, Europe and South East Asia.

It seems that the upcoming generations the world over are eager to probe into the unknown not only the material aspect but also spiritual.

Tube-well sunk in rural region of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Myo Nyunt viewed sinking of tube-well at the central of Alyinlo village and met the local people at 9 pm today. On behalf of the local people, grandpa U Tun Tin expressed thanks for sinking

of a 300 feet long and four inches diameter tubewell.

The tube-well was sunk with K7.3 million contribution of the Nay Pyi Taw Council for supplying purified drinking water to 1821 local people from 470 houses of Alyinlo village.—MNA

Leadership Academy for Development Programme workshop held

YANGON, 26 Aug—Organized by Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Leadership Academy for Development

journalists were present on the occasion.

Programme (LAD) workshop was held at Sedona Hotel here on 22 August.

Departmental personnel, businessmen, and personnel of social organizations and

ProfDrFrancisFukuyama and ProfRoger Leeds of Johns Hopkins University gave talks. The workshop was first of its kind in Myanmar and Nay Pyi Taw also hosted the workshop on 24 and 25 August.—MNA

Preventive measures essential...

(from page 1)

efforts in unison to be able to re-grow the damaged farmlands as Bago Region takes major part in agricultural production of the nation. Approaches suited to region are to be sought to reduce the losses to lowest possible level to achieve best possible results.

Nowadays, systems have changed and so has the era. The government is focusing its efforts on fulfilling the wishes of the people. The majority of the people today aspire for stability of the State and socio-economic development of the people. So, the government is placing emphasis on those two wishes as its prime objective.



President U Thein Sein pays homage to Buddha images at Shwemawdaw Pagoda.—MNA

level—bear fruits.

The government aims for agricultural development and industrialization for socio-economic development of the country. Of three basic requirements—food, clothing and shelter, food is of utmost importance and only the agricultural sector

the economy.

Only with industrialization, the second phase programme for socio-economic development of the nation and people, can the country see development and prosperity in the long-run. Today, 26 per cent of the population is under poverty

government is inviting and accepting foreign investments to be made in industrial zones and industries in the country so that citizen-workers would be convinced by growing job opportunities rapidly. The government is carrying out that process in line with the laid-down four policies; not harming national interests, national integrity, national sovereignty and our environmental nature.

Nowadays, the government is disbursing more loans to farmers than before so they would have easy way in producing rice. In producing rice, however, farmers are facing high costs. Therefore, farmers should run other business to earn morn incomes without relying on agricultural sector only. To make savings on produces of rice of a day, farmers should do other farming such as cattle and poultry including seasonal crops. Today poverty in the country comes from the lack of job opportunities. But there are many jobs around him/her who would like to work. Working hard increases daily incomes. Only if every citizen works hard, will not only his family but also the country get more earnings. Every citizen is duty bound to work hard in their jobs for development of their socio-economic status, urged the President.

Afterwards, the President presented K 352.165 million for regrowing paddy in the damaged regions to the region chief minister.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and for Labour U Aung Kyi presented eight items of relief aids for 50 households, Union Minister Dr Mya Aye, 2000 dozens of exercise books worth K 4 million, Union Minister Dr Pe

Thet Khin, medical boxes that contain 22 types of medicine worth K 6 million, through Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and Bago Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Kyaw Oo.

A local from Thanatpin Township in Bago Region expressed words of thanks.

The President cordially greeted those present on the occasion.

The President and his

entourage paid homage to Shwemawdaw Pagoda where they offered flowers, water and lights.

They then signed the visitor's book of the pagoda, and then made donations.

The President and party left Bago for Yangon. Then, they left Yangon for Nay Pyi Taw by Tatmadaw special flight, and arrived back here in the afternoon.

MNA



President U Thein Sein presents K 352.165 million as cash assistance to Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win for buying 70433 baskets of paddy seeds to be re-grown on fields which were hit by flood. MNA

The government has initiated ties with all the political elements to ensure inclusiveness in undertaking political reforms designed for political stability. Meanwhile, it is trying to improve relations with the international community. Likewise, it has conducted negotiations with internal armed groups based on the patriotic spirit, the nationalistic fervour and the Union spirit setting aside the differences in its drive for internal peace. He said he believed that the nation would be able to see eternal peace in near future if negotiations at three different levels—region/state level, union level and political discussion at Union

can satisfy the food requirement. Though the country has food sufficiency today, measures must be taken for agricultural development in consideration of the growing population in the future. However, it is impossible to support agricultural development with conventional agricultural methods in use at present. The target can be achieved only through a shift to good agricultural patterns of food security in the future. So, it is required to change the spirit, form of farmland, paddy seeds, agricultural methods, from the very basic, practising mechanized farming. Those reforms must be undertaken no matter what as agricultural sector is the core business of

line and efforts must be made to bring down the rate to 16 per cent in 2015.

To alleviate poverty, it needs to set up industries in the country, which help create job opportunities to add individual and household livings. In so doing, the government is making efforts to invite foreign investments owing to its weakness in fundamental necessities such as technological assistance, capitals and human resources. Only then, would the state be able to overcome those obstacles.

Some are doing their livings abroad due to poor job opportunities at home. That is why forces of the citizens leak out. The

Union Health Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin presents kits worth K 6 million to Bago Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Kyaw Oo.—MNA



MMCWA (Central) discusses work programmes

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—Under the arrangement of Nay Pyi Taw Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, a clarification on its work programme by the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) was held at Ingyin Hall of Forest Department (Head Office) of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, here, on 24 August.

It was attended by President of MMCWA (Central) Dr Mon Mon Aung and members, the members of Nay Pyi Taw MCWSC, Patron of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry MCWA Branch Daw Swe Swe Chit, Chairperson of the branch Daw Khin Than Win and members and staff family.

At the ceremony, the MMCWA President explained constitution of MMCWA and aim and facts about the association, and the Joint-Secretary-2 Dr Jo Jo San discussed tasks, duty and functions of the association.

MNA

State Level Peace-Making Group, Pa-O National....

(from page 16)

Leader of PNLO Peace-Making Group U Khun Myint Tun, Deputy Leader U Khun Thurein and members.

At the ceremony, Vice-Chairman of the Union Level Peace-Making Group U Aung Min made an opening speech, and Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Soe Htut and representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw clarified the attitude and suggestions over the state level peace-making process.

Next, Leader of PNLO U Khun Myint Tun, U Khun Thurein and U Khun Ti Hsaung clarified the attitude and salient points on the peace-making process.

Afterwards, the State Level Peace-Making Group and peace negotiators from the PNLO discussed the five-point agreement reached in principle by both sides on 27 June 2012.

Today's talks reached the five-point initial agreement as follows:-

- To cease attacks of both sides as of 25 August 2012.
 - To reside at designated areas already agreed by both sides.
 - Not to carry arms to other regions except the designated areas.
 - To establish liaison offices without arms at Taunggyi, Hsihseng, Maukmai already agreed by both sides.
 - To officially form the representative group to hold talks with the state level peace-making group, and to start the Union level peace talks during a period of three months beginning 25 August 2012.
- Representatives from the state level peace-making group and the PNLO signed the agreement.



President U Thein Sein cordially greets those present at the ceremony to present cash assistance for growing crops in Bago Region. (News on page 1)—MNA

Next, Union Peace-Making Work Committee and peace representatives from the PNLO held the Union level peace talks and signed the Union level eight-point agreement as follows:-

- To make more discussion on ceasefire to be held stronger.
- To coordinate matters on designation of code of conduct.
- To provide assistance by Union Peace-Making Work Committee for running liaison offices.
- To continue to coordinate the location of PNLO/

PNLA troops.

- To coordinate matters on cooperation in the fight against narcotic drugs.
- To coordinate matters on media.
- To coordinate matters on foods, clothing and shelters of troops.
- To coordinate matters on public security and basic agriculture.

Afterwards, peace-making groups of both sides exchanged gifts and had documentary photo taken together.—MNA

Cash and rice donation ceremony for monastic education schools held

YANGON, 26 Aug—Cash and rice were donated for Dhammamaydini Monastic Education School in North Okkalapa Township of Yangon Region at the monastery here this morning, attended by Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung and departmental officials, officials from Sasana Nugaha Association and All Religion Friendship Association and invited guests.

The Union Minister and party received five precepts from Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Janeya of Dhammamaydini Monastic Education School and donated offertories to the

sayadaws.

The Union Minister provided K 1 million, 10 bags of rice and exercise books for monastic education school through an official.

The Union Minister and officials accepted K 300,000 by all religions friendship association, U Than Maung and Myanmar Maulawi Organization Headquarters.

Similarly, cash and rice donation for Natmauk Monastic Education School in Thakayta Township took place at the monastery at 10 am. The Union Minister donated K 1 million, 10 bags of rice and exercise books for monastic education school through an official.

The Union Minister and

officials accepted the contributions by Sasana Nugaha Association from Thakayta Township K 300,000, U Hsan Maung-Daw Yee Yee Myint (Seinpanmyaing restaurant), Daw Myint Myint Kyu and sisters, Daw Ngwe Yee and family and Daw Khin Htay Win and family K 500,000 each, islamists from Thakayta Township and Thakayta Township Basic Islam religion schools supervisory committee K 200,000 each, Pyinnya Shwepyi private high school (Thakayta) K 100,000 and All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (central) and hindu families K 351,000.

MNA

Yatanarpon to launch telecommunication services

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—Yatanarpon Teleport Company held its board of director meeting at International Express Mail Service at Hanthawady Roundabout here yesterday morning, attended by Chairman of Yatanarpon Teleport Company Union Minister for Telecommunications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun.

The Union Minister in his address said that the meeting is aimed at establishment of internet

service provider Yatanarpon Teleport Company as Yatanarpon Telecom Company to be able to provide low-priced telecommunications service of international standard to the people. There will be two other private operators in addition to Yatanarpon Telecom Company to facilitate the competitiveness of the telecommunication service market for customer's choice.

The Union Minister called for detailed discussion

of the BOD on business model option, suggesting seeking advices from consultant agencies in fields of low experience.

Next, the directors discussed actions for establishment of Yatanarpon Telecom Operator Company, extension of communication service to rural areas, preparation of human resources and technologies, and seeking experiences from international operators.

MNA

Educators, teachers meet to promote educational sector in Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint called on educators

and teachers in the region for identifying needs and priorities for the improvement of the education sector.

In his key note address at the regional educational forum for economic development held at the Basic Education High School No. 16 in Chanayethazan Township on 24 August, the Region Chief Minister stressed the importance of the forum as outcomes from the forum would support the Comprehensive Educa-

tion Sector Review-CESR of the country.

Myanmar has planned to step up efforts for promoting the education sector with the assistance of the UN agencies and donors and with private investment and cooperation.

During the forum, 12 resource persons read their papers and participants took part in the discussion.

The forum will continue tomorrow.

MNA

Korean media delegation arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 26 Aug—Under the arrangement of 2012 Exchange Visit of ASEAN and Korean Media People, a media delegation of the Republic of Korea arrived here by air this evening to pay a visit to Myanmar.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by officials of Myanmar Radio and Television of the Ministry of Information and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea.

MNA

**Korean
mediamen
seen at
Yangon
Inter-
national
Airport.**



MNA



The State has constructed two-way reinforced concrete bridge at the exit of Mohnyin on Shwebo-Myitkyina Road at a cost of K 150 million recently as the old was damaged in torrential rains last year.
NLM 001

Registration process for motorcycles, tuk-tuk in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 26 Aug—One stop service for issuance of registration for motorcycles is being given in regions and states and districts from 5 June to 4 October.
Up to 10 August, a total of 221,580 motorcycles have been registered in the entire nation.
On the week days, staff members from Directorate of

Road Transport, Customs Department, Myanma Insurance and Myanma Economic Service are issuing the registration to about 700 motorcycles at the compound of Police Training Institute in Chanayethazan Township. Up to 10 August, about 32000 motorcycles have been registered.
Electric motorcycles and tuk-tuk are marketable in

Mandalay. So, vehicle registrations have been issued for the owners.
As electric motorcycles and tuk-tuk are used in a large amount in Mandalay, registration is being issued to them, four years registration for electric motorcycle and one year for tuk-tuk.—Kyemon

Fish breeding short-term course opened in Hlawga

YANGON, 26 Aug—As part of efforts to support the rural development, the fish breeding short-term course was opened at Fisheries Camp (Hlawga) of Yangon Region on 22 August morning with the aim of increasing number of fingerling hatching camps, earning increased incomes through breeding of fish on a self-reliant basis and sharing technology of fish hatching.
Yangon Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Soe Min made a speech. Head of

Yangon Region Fisheries Department U Myo Aung explained the purpose of opening the training course.
The training course will conduct the trainees with hatching of fingerlings, control of quality, feeding, fish diseases, good livestock breeding patterns and marketable for marine products.
The Fisheries Department is sharing technology of fish hatching to the local breeders. There is a plan to open similar training courses, it was learnt.
Myanma Alin



Outstanding students honoured in Kyaukpadaung Township

KYAUKPADAUNG, 26 Aug—Kyaukpadaung Township War Veterans Organization of Mandalay Region honoured the offspring of veterans who passed the matriculation examination 2011-2012 academic year with flying colours, at the hall of the

township WVO on 5 August morning.
Patron of the Township WVO Brig-Gen Thein Win of the local station made a speech. Chairman of the Township WVO Captain Tin Hlaing (Rtd) explained the future tasks of the township organization.

Next, Brig-Gen Thein Win and officials presented K 120,000 for four distinction winning students and K 1.2 million as cash assistance to students of primary, middle and high school students of the war veterans.
Myanma Alin

Myanmar A cruises into final in SEA Junior Men's Volleyball C'ship



Myanmar A plays against Myanmar B in the second match of 17th South East Asian Men's Junior Volleyball Championship.
MNA

YANGON, 26 Aug—The 17th South East Asian Junior Men's Volleyball Championship 2012 continued for the fifth day at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna, here, this noon.
Among the spectators

were officials of the Sports and Physical Education Department and Asian Volleyball Confederation, the president of Myanmar Volleyball Federation and executives and guests.
In the first match, Thai team debut Indonesian team

3-0. In the second match, Myanmar A edged out Myanmar B with 3-0 result.
At the same venue tomorrow, Indonesian team will play against Vietnam in the third place match. In the final, Myanmar A will meet with Thailand.—MNA



BREASTFEEDING WEEK LAUNCHED: The management committee for Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) organized the 2012 Breastfeeding Week and Nourishment Week recently. Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Tin Nyo Nyo Latt speaking on the occasion.
KYEMON

Betel brokers of Thiri Mingala Market donated to flood victims

YANGON, 26 Aug—Betel Wing of Thiri Mingala Market of Yangon adopted a plan to provide assistance to flood victims of Kyaunggon Township on 21 and 22 August.
Families of betel wing of the market have made cash donations yearly.
As part of efforts to implement the special plan, they accepted donations due to information given by betel growers from Kyaunggon.
“We made donations to the flood victims as much as

we could. While dropping showers daily, we supported the victims for their foods,” said U Than Kywe of the betel brokerage.
Although they adopted a plan to donate 700 bags of rice for the victims, actually they donated 821 bags of rice worth K 12,315,000 to the victims, one bag of rice each, robes and bottles of purified drinking water to monasteries. In their circulation, they donated two pyis each of rice to the people including children.
Kyemon



District News

Thanlyin Township Traditional Artistes and Artisans Association reconstituted

YANGON, 26 Aug—A ceremony to constitute Thanlyin Township Traditional Artistes and Artisans Association was held at the hall of Thanlyin Township General Administration Department on 18 August morning.
Chairman of Myanmar TAAA (Central) U Maung Maung Hla Myint explained formation, organizational tasks, education and future plans of the association (central).
Vice-Chairman Sra Nwe read the list of 17 executive members of the township association and sought the approval of the meeting.
Myanma Alin

Regional development tasks carried out in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 26 Aug—As regional development tasks are being undertaken in Tachilek, Shan State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Sai Hsar Lu on 18 August met staff of Agriculture Department, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department and

Myanma Perennial Crops Department and gave instructions on works.
On the occasion, Assistant Director Dr San Tun Wai of District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department discussed alleviation of poverty.
Myanma Alin

Death toll in NW China road accident rises to 36

YAN'AN, 26 Aug—The death toll from an expressway accident in northwest China has risen to 36, local police said on Sunday.

The accident occurred at around 2 am on Sunday in Yan'an, Shaanxi Province, when a bus and a methanol-loaded tanker collided and caught fire. Only three out of the 39 people aboard the bus have survived the accident, but they all suffered injuries, police said. Police are investigating the cause of the accident. — Xinhua



Traffic police work at the accident site after a collision between a 39-seat bus and a methanol-loaded tanker occurred in Yan'an City, northwest China's Shaanxi Province on 26 Aug, 2012.— XINHUA

Powerful refinery blast kills 39, injures 80 in Venezuela

CARACAS, 26 Aug—A big explosion ripped off Venezuela's biggest oil refinery on early Saturday morning, killing 39 people including 18 National Guard members, Vice President Elias Jaua said. Some 80 others were wounded, officials said. The blast, caused by gas leak, occurred at the Amuay refinery at 1:11 am (0541 GMT), which produces as many as 645,000 barrels of crude oil per day, said Venezuelan Energy Minister Rafael Ramirez.

The reason for the gas leak was still to be determined, he added. The killed National Guard troops were protecting the refining facilities in Amuay town, located in the Paraguana Peninsula overlooking the Caribbean Sea in western Venezuela, Jaua said after traveling to the area. A 10-year-old child was also among the dead. Jaua said military ambulances rushed to the site for the injured, most of whom suffered slight injuries and were later discharged from hospital after some treatment.

The powerful blast also caused severe damage to nearby houses and shops, and forced the refinery to shut down. The Amuay refinery is part of the Paraguana Refinery Complex, the second biggest of the world's oil refineries, which is capable of producing 955,000 barrels per day. Venezuela is South America's biggest oil producer and the world's fifth oil exporter. President Hugo Chavez declared three days of



A fire is seen at the Amuay refinery in Punto Fijo, Venezuela, on 25 Aug, 2012. Death toll in an explosion at Venezuela's biggest oil refinery on Saturday early morning has risen to 30, coupled with 80 injuries, official sources said.— XINHUA

national mourning for the catastrophe.

Officials said the situation at the Amuay refinery had been put under control and there was no risk of further explosions. Ramirez said the refinery was expected to resume operation within two days. The blast wouldn't have a major impact on export and domestic supply as the country "has enough fuel supplies," he said.

Xinhua

Tropical Storm Isaac strengthens, approaching Florida

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug—The US state of Florida on Saturday stepped into a state of emergency as Tropical Storm Isaac strengthened and was approaching Florida, where the Republican National Convention (RNC) is due to start on Monday. While declaring the state of emergency in Florida on Saturday morning, Governor Rick Scott urged local residents to get prepared for the worst scenario Isaac might cause.

Local officials in Tampa, a city on west coast of Florida and venue of the RNC, have been informed on issues that may occur due to Isaac and delegates to the convention have been informed on how to remain safe during a storm. According to information given by the National Weather Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration near Saturday noon, Tropical Storm Isaac is expected to strengthen and become a hurricane on Sunday

as the storm approaches the Florida Keys and parts of Florida. The Federal Emergency Management Agency said on Saturday it will continue to monitor Tropical Storm Isaac and remain in close coordination with local officials and emergency management partners in Florida, and other southeastern and Gulf states.

A Hurricane Warning is currently in effect for the Florida Keys, the west coast of Florida from Bonita Beach southward to Ocean Reef, and for Florida Bay. A Hurricane Warning means that hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. "As Tropical Storm Isaac moves closer to Florida, local residents need to be prepared," said the agency's Administrator Craig Fugate, "...check your family plans and emergency supplies, review your evacuation routes and remember that evacuation orders come from local officials." While tropical

storms are unpredictable, the agency encourages residents in the possible path of the storm to prepare now.

Republican National Convention CEO William Harris said on Thursday the organizers of the convention is "in regular contact" with



the National Weather Service, Governor Rick Scott of Florida and local emergency officials in an effort to track and understand the potential impact of the storm. The 2012 Republican National Convention will be held at the Tampa Bay Times Forum in

A resident walks among debris on the Manresa Beach in Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic, on 24 Aug, 2012. The Centre of Emergency Operations has issued a red alert in 21 provinces of the country and a yellow alert for 11 provinces, upon the arrival of Tropical Storm Isaac.—XINHUA

Tampa from Monday to Thursday. Nearly 50,000 visitors are expected to come to the Tampa Bay area for the event, including delegates, journalists and other guests, while thousands of protesters are also said to come along.

Xinhua

Chinese ocean patrol ship Haixun 31 heads to US

BEIJING, 26 Aug—A Chinese marine patrol ship set sail from Shanghai this morning on its very first visit to the United States. This more than one-hundred-meter long ocean patrol ship—the Haixun 31—is part of the maritime law enforcement unit of the Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration. Its job is to oversee maritime and shipping safety, supervise maritime traffic safety and security, and prevent pollution from ships. It is considered one of China's most advanced patrol ships.

Wu Jiasheng, Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration, said, "This is the first time that a Chinese ocean patrol ship with helicopter-carrying capacity is going to the United States." The trip will cover 4,400 nautical miles. It will take the ship two days to cross the Osumi-kaikyo strait that links the east China sea to the Pacific Ocean, and is expected to arrive in Hawaii on 4th September. "We'll have exercises with the US Coast Guard," Wu said.

Barry Compagnoni, Captain of US Coast Guard Liaison to China, said, "It's a good example of our practical cooperation with China MSA and the United States Coast Guard on search and rescue. And we have many other areas of interest with respect to safety of life at sea, international ship and port security, as well as the prevention of pollution from, in the marine environment."

China and the United States decided to increase this kind of communication and collaboration after the fourth round of their Strategic and Economic Dialogue in May. Officials say this vessel's mission is part of the effort to strengthen mutual understanding. And while the Haixun 31 may encounter Typhoon Bolaven in the next few days, the captain says the ship is capable of dealing with a level 12 wind. And he says there's also a backup route to avoid the typhoon.

Xinhua

5.1-magnitude quake hits off Honshu, Japan

HONG KONG, 26 Aug—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted near the east coast of Honshu, Japan at 0236 Beijing Time on Sunday (1836 GMT on Saturday), the US Geological Survey said.

The epicentre, with a depth of 81.90 km, was initially determined to be at 36.9408 degrees north latitude and 141.0519 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua

Chicago soybeans up, corn, wheat down

CHICAGO, 26 Aug—Chicago soybean futures rose on Friday thanks to ideas of strong crop demand, while corn and wheat futures fell as a higher dollar pressured trading and recent high crop prices hindered US exports.

The most active corn contract for December delivery fell 6.25 cents, or 0.77 percent, to close at 8.085 dollars per bushel. December wheat decline 6.25 cents, or 0.7 percent, to settle at 8.885 dollars per bushel. November soybeans rose 16.5 cents, or 0.96 percent, to close at 17.315 dollars per bushel. Outside market forces were mixed on Friday, as the session saw strong gains in US equities,

weakness in crude oil and strengthening of the greenback. A higher dollar pressures agricultural commodities, as it makes them more expensive for holders of other currencies.

The adverse currency action heaped pressure upon the corn and wheat markets, which both extended their losing streaks to three straight sessions. Corn and wheat also suffered from ideas of low demand, as this summer's drought conditions have pushed crop prices to record highs. The high prices diminish the appeal of corn and wheat on the international scene, where buyers can alternatively turn

to cheaper producers such as Brazil. Traders, however, continue to monitor next week's weather forecasts, worrying about the damaging effects of approaching tropical storm Isaac. Some showers are predicted for the Midwest wheat-producing regions, taking away some support from weather concerns. Unlike the other grains, soybeans were able to rise on the session, as strong demand for the US crop continues to push exports. Hot and dry weather conditions have also dramatically reduced the US crop yield, adding further support to the soybean market.—Xinhua



Children play at Mickey fun house in Shanghai, east China, on 24 Aug, 2012. The fun house brought out by Disney set up various entertaining events, which attracted a good many of children.—XINHUA

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
 Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
 Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department
 Office No. 32, Nay Pyi Taw
 Invitation for Bids

Fax: 067-406077

1. Bids are invited by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department (CESID), Office No. 32, Nay Pyi Taw, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the Supply of the following motor Vehicles from the eligible suppliers to be purchased in foreign currencies.

- (a) Mercedes Pullman Model 2011/2012 (2) Nos (Left-hand-drive)
- (b) Mercedes S350 Bluetec Model 2011/2012 (40) Nos (Left-hand-drive)
- (c) Audi A-6 Model 2011/2012 (Left-hand-drive) (30) Nos
- (d) Toyota Lexus ES Model 2011/2012 (50) Nos (Left-hand-drive)
- (e) Toyota Camry XLE 4 cylinders Model 2011/2012 (50) Nos (Left-hand-drive)

(Remark-The prices of both 2011 and 2012 model for the above motor vehicles are to be submitted.)

2. Bidding document shall be purchased by the authorized representative/authorized company (or) representative assigned by the company.

3. Bidding documents shall be available at the Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department (CESID), Office No. 32, Nay Pyi Taw and Repair and Store Division, Thazinyone street, 5 Quarter, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar during the office hour commencing from (29-8-2012) to (7-9-2012) in payment of Kyat 100000/- (Kyat one lakh).

4. Bids shall be accepted only from the bidders who officially purchased the bidding document. Bids shall be submitted with the original bidding document which is officially purchased.

5. Bids shall be addressed to the Director General, Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department (CESID) and to be delivered into the Tender Box located at the Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department (CESID), Office No. 32, Nay Pyi Taw not later than (16:00) hours on Monday 10th September 2012.

6. Bids shall be opened at the Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department (CESID), Office No. 32, Nay Pyi Taw at (10:00) hours on Tuesday 11th October 2012.

7. For detail enquiry, contact 067-406177, 067-406320, 067-406076 and 067-406167 during the office hour.

Director General
 Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection
 Department (CESID)



A hippo seen in a swimming pool on 24 Aug, 2012, at the Monate Conservation Lodge, near Modimolle, South Africa, after being trapped there for three days.— INTERNET

Solly the hippo dies in South Africa rescue effort

MODIMOLLE, 26 Aug — What started out as a day of hope for Solly the hippo turned to tragedy when rescuers were unable to save the 3-ton beast from the swimming pool he plunged into after being chased from his herd.

Solly's plight captivated animal lovers and his death on Friday left many in tears, with some blaming a vet who arrived too late. "It started out as a happy story and now it's a tragic story. It's devastating," said Ruby Ferreira, manager of the game preserve lodge where the hippopotamus had been stuck in the swimming pool since Tuesday.

The 4-year-old hippo had been chased from his herd by dominant males when he wandered into the Monate Conservation Lodge and plopped into its 8-foot-deep

pool. Although he was able to swim freely, he couldn't get out because the pool has no steps. Lodge workers dubbed him Solly, and the hippo's plight captivated South Africans, with live TV broadcasts from the pool and newspaper headlines like "It's all systems go for the rescue of Solly the hippo." Someone even set up a Twitter account on Solly's behalf and tweeted purported hippo quotes.

Then on Friday morning, the TV news carried a scrolling headline announcing the animal's death. Solly's demise left several of those involved pointing fingers of blame. Ferreira said a game capture team had been waiting since Thursday for a veterinarian to show up to tranquilize Solly and oversee the operation to hoist him out with a crane.

Internet

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Email:law_chambers@seasiren.com.mm

(For. KPS IP Consultants Ltd., Thailand)

Dated 27 August, 2012.

Woman drowns while getting wedding pictures taken

RAWDON, 26 Aug — A woman drowned after being pulled under the water by a strong current while she was having photos taken in her wedding dress near waterfalls. Quebec police said on Friday.

Sgt Ronald McInnis of the Quebec provincial police said her body was recovered about four hours after she disappeared under the water.

Police had originally said she fell from a cliff and tumbled into the waterfall but later corrected that. The woman was married on 9 June and was having photos taken in her dress with the picturesque Dorwin Falls as a backdrop in Rawdon, north of Montreal.

While she was being photographed with her feet in the water the dress became saturated with water, leaving her unable to stay above water, police said.

The photographer and a bystander tried to rescue her but were unable to because of the weight of the dress, McInnis said.

She slipped under the water and her body was later recovered in a basin about 100 feet (30 metres) away by a diver, he said.— Internet

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Srl No.	Tender No	Description	Qty
1.	12(T)19/MR(ML)	Wheel Steel Solid(Y)	1000 Nos
		Wheel Steel Solid(YD)	1000 Nos
		Axle Steel (Y)	200 Nos
		Axle Steel (YD 1)	400 Nos
		Axle Steel (W)	200 Nos

Closing Date - 28.9.2012(Friday)(12:00) Hour

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 27.8.2012 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone:95-1-291985, 291994,

Yemeni senior army officer survives bomb blast in Abyan Province

ADEN, 25 Aug — A Yemeni senior military official survived unharmed a roadside bomb targeting his convoy in southern province of Abyan on Friday evening, but two of his bodyguards were injured, a security official told Xinhua.

The bomb blast struck the convoy carrying the top commander of an army brigade and counter-terrorism unit, Mahmoud Ahmed, in Zinjibar, Abyan's provincial capital, injuring at least two of his bodyguards at the scene, the local security official said on condition of anonymity.

"Colonel Mahmoud

Ahmed, commander of the 116th Armored Army Brigade, was travelling in a desert road to the town of Zinjibar along with two other vehicles when he came under attack," the official said.

Two of his bodyguards were slightly injured in the bomb blast and no damages were reported, he added. Experts of the bomb disposal unit have arrived at the scene and launched investigation, according to the official.

In the past few months, al-Qaeda has carried out deadly suicide bombings in Yemeni key cities including

the capital Sanaa in retaliation for the severe blows against its members in the south and to expand foothold.

Backed by the United States and Saudi Arabia, the Yemeni government waged a month-long intensive offensive in May against hundreds of al-Qaeda militants, driving them out of strongholds they had controlled for nearly a year in the country's south.

Besides the al-Qaeda presence, the impoverished country is also boiling with staggering political and armed rebellions.— Xinhua

People enjoy themselves at a floating swimming pool called "Badboot" (Bathboat) in the port of Antwerp, Belgium, on 24 Aug, 2012. The venue is located in a 120 metre-long former barge which can accommodate 600 people and consists of two swimming pools, lounge terraces, a restaurant and a bar.

XINHUA



West Nile virus causes kidney disease

HOUSTON, 26 Aug—The West Nile virus causes serious and lasting damage to people's kidney, a new study released here said on Wednesday. According to local TV channel ABC13 reports, the study was conducted by Houston's Baylor College of Medicine researchers tracking local people for years after they were infected with the mosquito-borne infection. Researchers found that four in 10 patients had varying stages of kidney disease related to the West Nile virus, which was first identified in Uganda in 1937 and first discovered in the United States in 1999.

Kristy Murray, a professor of tropical medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and the study's senior author, said that this demonstrates that everybody, not just the elderly and the immune-compromised, need to take precautions against mosquitoes. The team of researchers is advising doctors to screen patients with any history of West Nile infection for kidney disease and to test patients with unexplained kidney disease for

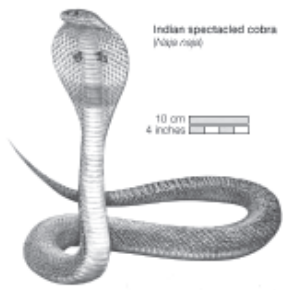
the West Nile virus.

Murray estimated that about 45,000 Houston-area people have been infected with the virus, many of whom don't know it. The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States said on Wednesday that so far, 1,118 cases of the virus have been reported in the country, of which, about three-quarters of the cases have been recorded from the states of Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, South Dakota and Oklahoma, with almost half of all cases having been reported in Texas. There have also been 42 deaths of the virus this year.

The West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne illness that can lead to serious neurological disease in some cases, and its symptoms include sudden onset of fever, headache, nausea, dizziness and muscle weakness. Commonly seen in temperate and tropical regions, the West Nile virus mainly infects birds, but is also known to infect human bodies mainly through mosquito biting.

Xinhua

Man bites snake to death in revenge



An Indian Spectacled Cobra.

A Nepali man who was bitten by a cobra snake subsequently bit the snake to death, a local newspaper reported on 23 August.

After being bitten by the

snake, while he was working in his rice paddy on 21 August, 55-year-old Mohamed Salmo Miya chased the snake, caught it and bit it until it died, the *Annapurna Post* reported, according to *Reuters*.

"I could have killed it with a stick but bit it with my teeth instead because I was angry," Miya was quoted as saying.

Miya, who lives in a village some 125 miles (200 kilometres) southeast of the Nepali capital of Kathmandu, was receiving treatment at a village health post at the time



of the news report and was not in danger of dying from his snakebite. He will not be charged with killing the snake, a local police official said, because cobras (called "goman" in Nepal) are not listed as endangered in the country.

In short, a snake has died of manbite.

Skip the dog and duck Fifty Pence are the best of friends

Dogs and ducks have been hanging out together on pub signs for years but you might be forgiven for thinking you'd ordered one drink too many if you came across Skip the terrier and mallard Fifty Pence. The inseparable pair play football – with Skip's friend Holly the collie – and the duck gives her companion affectionate pecks on the cheek.

She hops into Skip's basket at night and, if left outside when the dog retires for a rest, demands to be let in by tapping her beak on the window.

Fifty Pence was named by Annette Pyrah, who runs an animal rescue centre, as she was the size of a coin when found at just one day old, "all alone in the forest,

and pecking at her, but isn't able to pick it up with her beak. She's constantly pecking at Skip, trying to groom and preen her ears."

Skip seems to welcome

The pair's close relationship has thrust them into the limelight



cold, frightened and with a hungry fox circling". Ms Pyrah said: "At first, I kept her in a little pen under a feather duster, which replicated her mum." The dogs sat and gazed at her all day.

They're used to having lots of animals around and they're very well-trained.

"Once I let her out she started following the dogs around." She thinks she is a dog. She spends her whole day following Skip.

"She tries to play football with her, running after the ball

the attention, although Fifty Pence sometimes annoys her with the pecking.

But the pair may soon be parted. "There are wild ducks who come to my duck pond so I'm hoping Fifty Pence will find a boyfriend there and have some ducklings of her own," said Ms Pyrah, of Barlby, North Yorkshire.

"But when it comes to that, the dogs and I will be sad to see her go."

Sleepy commuter filmed cuddling up to stranger on the Tube

The rattle and hum of a Tube train hurtling across London was not enough to wake this sleepy commuter filmed cuddling up to a stranger on the London Underground.

Overworked Londoners catching a quick 40 winks on

the evening commute home is a common site in Tube carriages across the capital.

Tiredness had clearly got the better of one lady who was filmed repeatedly nodding off before snuggling up to the stranger next to her.

Grabbing the confused

man's arm, the unidentified woman can be seen resting her head on his shoulder before jumping up in horror after awakening to realize her mistake.

Putting her head in her hands, the lady's visible embarrassment quickly turns



A woman snuggles up to a stranger on the tube

into laughter, while her neighbour also sees the funny side of the incident.

US mimics take 2 top spots in air guitar contest

HELSINKI, 26 Aug— Shaggy bearded "Nordic Thunder" has outmimed his American compatriot "Aristotle" at playing the air guitar to become this year's world champion in northern Finland.



Olavi Uusivirta from Finland performs before the 2012 Air Guitar World Championships in Oulu, Finland on 24 Aug, 2012.

INTERNET

Justin Howard from Chicago narrowly beat Matt Burns of New York late Friday in the final of the international contest that has been held in the northern Finnish city of Oulu since 1996.

Dutchman Theun de Jong finished third in the field of 18 finalists that included competitors from Japan, Britain, Russia, Czech Republic and neighbouring Estonia.

The 17th Air Guitar World Championship is one of several zany annual events in Finland, which include an international cellphone throwing contest, wife carrying and swamp football.—*Internet*



Katy Perry and John Mayer are thought to have split

NEW YORK, 26 Aug— The couple were first linked last month and after a string of sightings of them followed, it seemed clear they were enjoying each other's company more than a little.

But a source has now apparently confirmed to *People* magazine that they are

no longer seeing each other but are likely to keep friendly.

The source said: "They'll end up as friends. They were honestly having fun. People made it out to be far more than it was." Katy, 27, and 34-year-old Mayer were spotted on a number of dates including mutual friends' house parties,

Katy Perry single again as she 'splits with John Mayer'

Hollywood hot-spot Chateau Marmont Hotel and LA's Soho House. They were also said to be working on music together but that might prove a little awkward now they're no longer dating.

Perry has previously gushed of Mayer, as she admitted she could never get serious with him, so this was perhaps on the horizon for the pair.

During an interview in 2009, she said: "I couldn't

marry John Mayer, it'd be so intense. I'd definitely shag the s**t out of him though. I'll go on record saying that."

Mayer is a known lothario across the pond, having dating Jennifer Aniston, Jessica Simpson, Lindsay Lohan and Taylor Swift in the past.

Since Katy's split from Brand, she has been linked to French model Baptiste Giabiconi, Florence + The Machine guitarist Rob Ackroyd.—*Internet*

Shirish Kunder extends the olive branch; apologises to SRK publicly

MUMBAI, 26 Aug— Filmmaker Shirish Kunder has finally put an end to the ongoing animosity between him and superstar Shah Rukh Khan by tweeting a public apology.

The editor-turned-director, who is married to Shah Rukh's close friend, choreographer-director Farah Khan, had created a stir last year when he took to Twitter for a potshot at the superstar's mega-budget venture 'RA.One'.

"I just heard a 150 Cr firework fizzle," Kunder had tweeted. However, Kunder has now apologised for the same in a tweet on Saturday and says he regrets it.

"I'll always regret one thing that I feel very guilty about. I sincerely apologise for my tweet on 'RA.One',"



he tweeted. In January this year, Kunder and Shah Rukh were caught in a brawl at actor Sanjay Dutt's bash. However, the two called truce.

Recently, Shah Rukh also got photographs clicked with the aliens of Kunder's new directorial 'Joker'. This act sparked speculations that the actor is helping in promoting the film.

However, Farah, who was present at a post release event for her acting debut in 'Shirin Farhad Ki Toh Nikal Padi', lost her cool when asked if Shah Rukh was promoting her husband's film.

Internet

Perrie Edwards: I keep close tabs on Zayn Malik — but trust him not to cheat

NEW YORK, 26 Aug— The X Factor winner said she couldn't be happier now that she has found romance with Malik, and makes sure that she stays in regular contact with her popstar boyfriend to keep the flame alive.

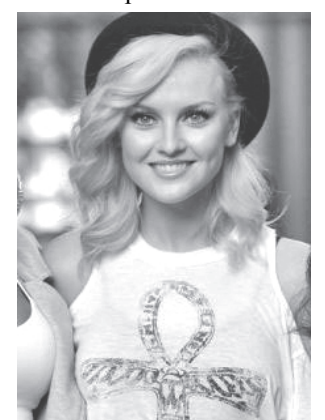
The 19-year-old said: "You just have to make sure you call and text each other all the time and tell each other what you've done each day and stuff. It's when you don't talk to someone that you start missing them."

She added: "Me and Zayn are really happy. We see each other quite a lot, the only time we don't is when he's in America. It's really hard. But I trust him." The blonde singer was adamant that she isn't bothered about hurtful comments made by One Direction fans either, choosing

to ignore them instead of letting them get to her.

"There's always going to be one or two bad comments, but you've just got to ignore it," she told *The Sun*.

"About one in 100 are bad ones. I just read all the good ones — most people are really happy that we're in a relationship."—*Internet*



Little Mix's Perrie

Superman and Wonder Woman become 'power couple'

LOS ANGELES, 26 Aug— Superman and Wonder Woman are to get together as a "power couple", publisher DC Comics has revealed. The pair of superheroes are seen kissing on the cover of the latest issue of DC Comics' Justice League. They have been romantically involved before, but writer Geoff Johns told *Entertainment Weekly* the relationship would not be a mere one-issue fling.

"This is the new status quo," he said. Artist Jim Lee added: "Hopefully this will raise a lot of eyebrows." The Man of Steel is currently free to embark on a relationship, having had his marriage to Lois Lane erased from history when DC Comics relaunched its superhero series last year. The latest issue of Justice League goes on sale on 29 August.

Internet

The cover of DC Comics' Justice League 12 was drawn by Jim Lee.

INTERNET



Bayern sink new boys Fuerth as Bundesliga turns 50

MUNICH, 26 Aug—Bayern Munich opened their German league campaign with a comfortable 3-0 win at newly promoted Greuther Fuerth on Saturday on the opening weekend of the Bundesliga's 50th season.

Fuerth were making their Bundesliga debut and held their famous Bavarian

neighbours for most of the first half until their defence finally cracked as goals from Thomas Mueller, Mario Mandzukic and Arjen Robben secured the win.

With half-time looming, new Bayern signing Dante headed down from a corner and although Fuerth defender Heinrich Schmidtgal cleared

off the line, Germany star Mueller was on hand to stab home.

Bayern doubled their lead in the 58th minute when Robben attacked the Fuerth defence on the right and after his shot was parried by Max Gruen, Mandzukic was on hand to head home and make it 2-0.

Since signing from Wolfsburg, the Croatia striker has scored four goals in three games for Bayern, including two in Monday's 4-0 German Cup first-round win at Jahn Regensburg.

Robben claimed the third 12 minutes from time with a spectacular shot from the left side of the goal that curled inside the near post from a tight angle. Borussia Moenchengladbach responded after their home defeat by Dynamo Kiev in Tuesday's Champions League play-off first leg with a 2-1 victory at home to Hoffenheim.

Internet



Bayern Munich defender Luiz Gustavo (R) and Fuerth's Djiby Fall vie for the ball. Bayern opened their German league campaign with a comfortable 3-0 win at newly promoted Greuther Fuerth on the opening weekend of the Bundesliga's 50th season.—INTERNET

Pedrosa on top after free practices in Brno

BRNO, 26 Aug—Spaniard Dani Pedrosa dominated all free practices ahead of Sunday's Czech Republic MotoGP after coming on top in the third and last practice on Saturday.

The Honda rider set the fastest time of the day at 1 min 56.209 seconds ahead of US rider Ben Spies on a Yamaha, trailing Pedrosa by 0.743



Moto GP rider Dani Pedrosa of Spain takes part in a free practice session at the Czech Republic Grand Prix in Brno.—INTERNET

seconds. World championship leader Jorge Lorenzo came third, with a gap of 0.806 seconds on Pedrosa.

The Spanish Yamaha rider, who leads Pedrosa by 18 points in the world championships, has thus come under more pressure after Pedrosa had narrowed the gap by winning in Indianapolis last weekend.

Casey Stoner, third in the world championships and the winner of last year's Brno Grand Prix, retired from the race on Thursday to undergo surgery on his broken ankle in Australia.—Internet

Eto'o returns for Cameroon after eight-month ban

YAOUNDE, 26 Aug—Samuel Eto'o will end a lengthy international suspension next month after being recalled by Cameroon for an African Nations Cup first round first leg qualifier against Cape Verde Islands.

The 31-year-old forward was banned for eight months after leading a player strike in November over unpaid bonuses. The row caused the team to cancel a friendly in Algeria.

The ban was expected to end the 15-year, 109-cap international career of the four-times African Footballer



Cameroon's Samuel Eto'o smiles during an interview following the launch of Puma's kits for nine African national soccer teams at the Design Museum in London on 7 November, 2011. REUTERS

of the Year widely regarded as Cameroon's greatest player.

Eto'o, though, will return against Cape Verde Islands in Praia on 8 September, the Cameroon Football Federation said on Saturday as they announced a 23-man squad.

The two-legged match will decide a place at the 2013 finals in South Africa. The return leg is in Yaounde in October.

Former Barcelona and Inter Milan striker Eto'o now plays for wealthy Russian Premier League side Anzhi Makhachkala.

Internet

Valverde wins eighth stage of Spanish Tour

MADRID, 26 Aug—Spain's Alejandro Valverde won the eighth stage of the Tour of Spain as Joaquim Rodriguez retained possession of the leader's red jersey on Saturday.

Valverde, riding for the Movistar team, was adding this 174.7km ride from Lleida to Collada de la Gallina in Andorra to his win in the third stage in Alcaniz.

The 32-year-old prevailed in a sprint from Rodriguez and Saxo-Bank's Alberto Contador after the concluding climb up the Col de la Gallina.

Team Sky's Christopher Froome crossed the line in fourth, 15 seconds behind this trio. In the overall standings Rodriguez continues to hold command from Froome, who lost ground to be placed 33sec

behind the leader, and Contador, 40sec adrift, with Valverde 50s off the pace.

Contador, winner of the Vuelta in 2008, appeared best placed to win the stage when he opened up a gap of around 100m only for Rodriguez and eventual winner Valverde to dig deep and catch him to set up the final dash for the line.

Earlier the day was marked by a six-man breakaway comprising Amael Moinard (BMC) and Michael Buffaz (Cofidis), Australia's Cameron Meyer (Orica-Greenedge), Javier Aramendia (Caja Rural), Javier Ramirez Abeja (Andalucia) and Matijn Keizer. At the foot of the final climb Meyer made a bid for glory only to be reeled in by the chasing favourites.

Internet



Spain's Alejandro Valverde of the Movistar team crosses the finish line to win the eighth stage of the Vuelta tour of Spain. Joaquim Rodriguez retained possession of the leader's red jersey.—INTERNET

New Zealand beat Australia to retain Bledisloe

AUCKLAND, 26 Aug—Daniel Carter ensured New Zealand converted their territorial domination into points as the All Blacks beat Australia 22-0 in their Rugby Championship clash at Eden Park on Saturday.

Flyhalf Carter kicked five penalties and converted Israel Dagg's try to score 17 points for the All Blacks, whose victory ensured they retained the Bledisloe Cup for the 10th successive season and piled the pressure on Wallabies coach Robbie Deans.

New Zealand, who have now held the Bledisloe Cup since 2003, have not lost to Australia at Eden Park since 1986. They have also won 14 of their 17 tests against their closest neighbours since Deans took over as coach in 2008.

The All Blacks face Australia in the third match of



Victor Vito of New Zealand's All Blacks is tackled by Anthony Fainga'a (L) and Digby Ioane (R) of Australia's Wallabies' in their Bledisloe Cup rugby union test match in Auckland on 25 August, 2012. REUTERS

the series, which is not part of the Rugby Championship, in Brisbane on 20 October.

Carter slotted three penalties to account for all the points in a first half which

the All Blacks dominated territory, while the Wallabies controlled possession but

were forced to play much of their rugby inside their own half.—Reuters

Liverpool take Real's Sahin on loan

LONDON, 26 Aug—Liverpool said on Saturday they have reached agreement with Real Madrid to take the Spanish outfit's playmaker Nuri Sahin to Anfield on a season-long loan.

Arsenal had also been tracking the Turkey international.

A statement on

www.liverpoolfc.com read: "The 23-year-old will now undergo a medical on Merseyside."

The German-born Sahin began his career with Borussia Dortmund and then had a spell with Dutch side Feyenoord before joining Real last season.

Internet



Turkey's Nuri Sahin (L) vies Georgia's Jaba Kankava during a friendly football match between Turkey and Georgia in Salzburg in May.—INTERNET

Stoke sign Edu from Rangers

LONDON, 26 Aug—Stoke confirmed on Saturday they are resigning Rangers midfielder Maurice Edu after agreeing terms.

Edu, a 26-year-old United States international, will undergo a medical before

completing the transfer for an undisclosed fee, subject to international clearance.

At Stoke, he will link up with compatriot Geoff Cameron, just arrived from Houston Dynamo.

Internet



Midfielder Maurice Edu, pictured during a FIFA World Cup qualifier match at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida, in June.—INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

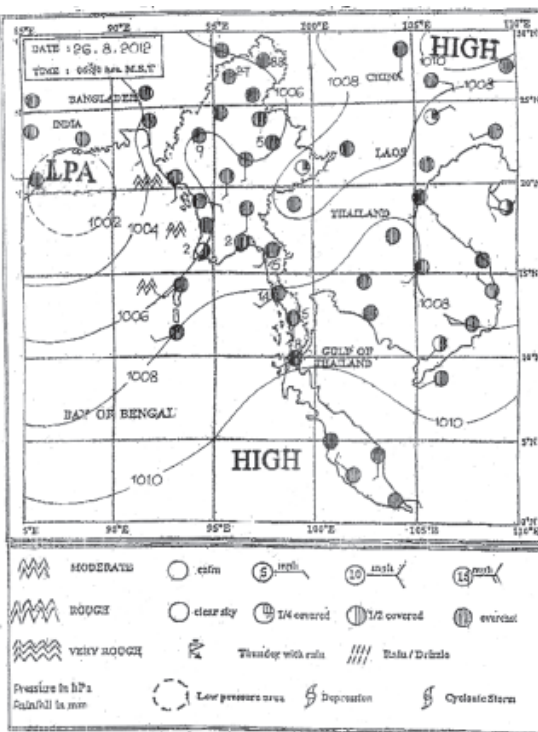
MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

- (27-8-12 09:30 am ~ 28-8-12 09:30 am) MST
- * News
 - * Products of Myanmar (Kachin Traditional Knife)
 - * News
 - * Record Album
 - * News
 - * Let's Enjoy Delicious Refreshment
 - * News
 - * A DAY IN ZALUN
 - * Road to 27th SEA GAMES (Wushu)
 - * News
 - * Park Royal Yangon's Bridal Show 2012 (Press Conference)
 - * News
 - * Culture Stage
 - * 13th ELT Conference for Teachers of English
 - * News
 - * Great Shwedagon (Ten Myanmar Traditional Arts & Crafts on the Platform)
 - * News
 - * ASEAN-MYANMAR Fashion Show
 - * Myanmar Movie "Miss Arrogant"

MYANMAR TV

- (27-8-2012) (Monday)
- 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
 - 7:55 am
 4. Dance Of National Races
 - 8:00 am
 5. Teleplay (Health)
 - 8:10 am
 6. Cute Little Dancers
 - 8:20 am
 7. "Road to 27th SEA GAMES" (Karatedo)
 - 8:30 am
 8. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Maha Gita Classical) (Basic Education) (Level Men & Women)
 - 4:10 pm
 9. Dance Variety
 - 4:15 pm
 10. Musical Programme
 - 4:30 pm
 11. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions
 - 4:45 pm
 12. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Botany)
 - 5:15 pm
 13. Documentary
 - 5:25 pm
 14. Myanmar Language
 - 6:20 pm
 15. Sing & Enjoy
 - 7:00 pm
 16. "Road to 27th SEA GAMES"
 - 8:00 pm
 17. News
 18. Cartoon Series
 19. TV Drama Series
 20. India Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 27th 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	29/84	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
3	Kayin	30/86	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	21/70	16/61	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	33/91	26/79	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	35/95	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
7	Taninthayi	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
8	Bago	30/86	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	35/95	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	35/95	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	33/91	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	30/86	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	32/90	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	28/82	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	31/88	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	30/86	20/68	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	32/90	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	33/91	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershower	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	30/86	22/72	One or two rain or thundershower	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	35/95	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershower	(100%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kayah State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Bago and Yangon Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Kachin State. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Putao (3.31) inches, Heho (2.28) inches, Nyaunglebin (2.20) inches, Machanbaw (2.01) inches and Pyapon (1.73) inches.

Bay Inference: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay still persists. 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) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.



Free health care service provided to flood victims

THAYAWADY, 26 Aug—The free health care services were provided to flood victims in Zeepwe Village-tract of Thayawady Township in Bago Region on 20 August.

Under the supervision of Bago Region Minister for Finance and Revenue U Myint Lwin Oo, specialists, townsenders, district level officials, members of social organizations and health staff gave health care services to over 350 local people.

Myanma Alin

Mexican gangs block roads, torch vehicles in western Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 26 Aug—Armed gangs blocked highways throughout Guadalajara, Mexico's second biggest city, on Saturday and vehicles were set on fire amid a surge in drug-war violence.

Police confirmed seven unauthorized roadblocks constructed with charred, smoldering cars and trucks within the Guadalajara city limits and 15 others in the surrounding Jalisco state, in western Mexico. Luis Carlos Najera, police chief for Jalisco state, told reporters at a news conference late Saturday that one man was seriously wounded by gunfire, but no arrests had been made. "We don't know who is behind this operation," said Najera. He added that all of the roadblocks have since been cleared.

Guadalajara has not seen the level of drug cartel-

related violence as other areas, but similar flaming roadblocks shook the city in early March as military forces successfully sought to arrest a prominent cartel leader. Two people were killed during that operation. Jalisco state has been a stronghold of the Sinaloa Cartel since the 1980s, when traffickers first started to use Mexico as a "trampoline" to bounce cocaine into the United States.

It has recently seen an upsurge in violence as Sinaloa Cartel gunmen battle rivals from the upstart Zetas cartel, which is displacing older trafficking groups in many parts of Mexico. More than 55,000 Mexicans have been killed in drug-related violence since President Felipe Calderon took office in December 2006 and launched his crackdown on cartels.— Reuters

Mortar bombs kill six in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, 26 Aug — Mortar bombs smashed through a house in a village in northwestern Pakistan on early Saturday, killing six people, security officials said.

The incident took place in Qambarabad village, a suburb of Peshawar close to the Khyber tribal district, where the military is fighting against local warlord Mangal Bagh and his Lashkar-e-Islam (Army of Islam) militant faction. "Militants fired several mortar shells and two of them hit a house in Qambarabad close to Bara town, killing six people and

wounding 12 others, all members of a same family," a local security official told AFP.

It is not clear whether the house was the militants' intended target. Another security official also confirmed the incident and casualties and said that the mortars were fired from an undisclosed location. Khyber is part of Pakistan's semi-autonomous tribal belt on the Afghan border, considered to be the world's premier al-Qaeda hub despite the killing of Osama bin Laden by United States troops last year.

Internet



Pakistani security officials and local residents gather at the site of a bomb explosion in the Khyber tribal district in June 2012. Mortar bombs smashed through a house in a village in northwestern Pakistan on early Saturday, killing six people, security officials said.— INTERNET

33 insurgents killed in operations in Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 Aug—About 33 Taliban insurgents have been killed in operations carried out by the Afghan police, army and the NATO-led coalition forces within the past 24 hours, the country's Interior Ministry said on Sunday morning.

"Up to six other armed Taliban insurgents were wounded and two suspects were detained by the joint forces during the above operations conducted in Kabul, Nangarhar, Kandahar, Zabul, Uruzgan, Logar, Ghazni, Paktika and Helmand

provinces," the ministry said in a statement.

They also found and seized weapons, the statement said, without saying if there were any casualties on the side of security forces. The Taliban insurgent group has yet to make comments. More than 350 insurgents have been killed, 60 wounded and over 180 others detained in the country since beginning this month, according to the figures released by the Afghan Interior Ministry.

Xinhua



A restaurant worker arranges dishes made by a cooking robot at a community service center in Yangpu District of east China's Shanghai, on 23 Aug, 2012. The cooking robot can make food automatically according to the cooking programs presetted in a computer when adding food ingredients and seasonings into the robot.

XINHUA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Tin Aye attended ceremonies to open new school buildings in Mandalay today.

First, he attended a ceremony to open a school building for the Basic Education Post-primary School at the village of Khaungkwe in TadaU Township, Kyaukse District.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing and Director-General of the No. 2 Basic Education Department U Myo Nyunt formally opened the school building.

During the ceremony, the UEC Chairman unveiled the signboard of the building and looked round the new building.

He also visited the “Pyinnya Pyokhin” nursery opened at the post-primary school.

The one-storey and iron-reinforced building and the building for the nursery were constructed at the cost of K 51.38 million : K 5.9 million was funded by the local people and K 45.48 million by the UEC Chairman.

The UEC Chairman also attended a ceremony to inaugurate the new school building for Basic Education Middle School (Myoma) in TadaU held at the school.

During the ceremony, Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint formally opened the building.

The two-storey building was constructed at the cost of K 325 million. The government funded K 70 million and the AMC Company K255 million to the construction of the building.

The UEC Chairman also attended a ceremony to honour the outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination for the 2011-2012 academic year.

At the ceremony held at the Basic Education High School in TadaU, UEC Chairman U Tin Aye, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and officials concerned presented awards to the outstanding students.

The UEC Chairman also awarded the heads and teachers of schools which won the best passing rate in the previous

UEC Chairman attends opening of school buildings in TadaU Township, honours outstanding students



Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye at new school building of Khaungkwe Village Basic Education Post-primary School.
MNA

Low pressure still persists

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday’s low pressure area over North Bay of Bengal has moved to Northwest Bay of Bengal and still persists, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

academic year.

At the ceremony, the chairman of AMC Company handed over documents related to the “Pinnya Parami” building of the BEMS, TadaU, and the chairman of Sancheinmi company documents related to “Pinnya Shaesaung” building of the Basic Education Post Primary School at Khaungkwe Village to the head of Mandalay Region Education Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the UEC chairman said that the teachers are playing an important role in producing intellectuals and intelligensia.

He stressed the need for the high education standard of all national races for the development of the country and the people as the development of a country and the people is based on the education.

He also called on teachers for providing their children until they complete the higher education.

Teachers are urged to train and nurture their students in accordance with the national education tasks so that they can possess good foundations and can become the intellectuals and intelligensia.

The UEC Chairman also called for the cooperative efforts of the teachers and parents to maintain the school buildings.

In TadaU Township, There were 56 distinction winners four four-distinction winners, seven three-distinction winners, 10 two-distinction winners and 35 one-distinction winner and the township reached the passing rate of 26.67 per cent in the previous academic year.—MNA

State Level Peace-Making Group, Pa-O National Liberation Organization (PNLO) hold peace talks



Union-level Peace-making Group led by Vice-Chairman U Aung Min and peace-making group of Pa-O National Liberation Organization (PNLO) pose for documentary photo.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Aug—The peace-making group of the Pa-O National Liberation Organization (PNLO) in response to the peace offer extended by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held talks with the State Level Peace-Making Group at the Taunggyi Hotel in Taunggyi yesterday morning, attended by Vice-Chairman

of the Union Level Peace-Making Group U Aung Min and Union Ministers, representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat and state government members, Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Soe Htut and senior military officers, (See page 9)

Stoke 0-0 Arsenal

LONDON, 26 Aug—Arsenal are still searching for their first goal of the season as they shared a tame goalless draw with Stoke.

Santi Cazorla was again their most impressive performer and tested Asmir Begovic, but others struggled to create any clear-cut opportunities.

Lukas Podolski had an early effort that hit the falling Andy Wilkinson’s arm, while Olivier Giroud’s shot was just over as the Gunners finished strongly.

Stoke’s Jon Walters was also wasteful and had no power in his late prod.—Internet

Liverpool 2-2 Man City

LONDON, 26 Aug—Carlos Tevez capitalised on a misplaced backpass from Martin Skrtel to steal a point for Manchester City at Anfield.

Skrtel powerfully headed home Steven Gerrard’s corner to give the hosts a first-half lead before a mistake from Martin Kelly allowed Yaya Toure to fire in after the break.

Luis Suarez curled in a free-kick to put Liverpool back in front when Jack Rodwell was punished for handball.

But Skrtel then inadvertently put Tevez in and he slid home the equaliser.—Internet

