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Myanmar, Vietnam to step up bilateral cooperation from similar standpoints of promoting regional peace, stability and development

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— President U Thein Sein received Vietnamese delegation led by Chairman of National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 2 pm today.

They held discussions on friendship and amity and mutual cooperation between the two parliaments of Myanmar and Vietnam, international issues, bilateral cooperation from the similar standpoints of promoting regional peace and stability and development, increased investments of Vietnamese entrepreneurs in Myanmar and Vietnam's readiness to support Myanmar's reform process to share its experience in implementing reforms for 30 years.

Moreover, the meeting focused on boosting bilateral trade and further cooperation in agriculture, mining, oil and gas exploration and



President U Thein Sein has a documentary photo taken together with the Vietnamese delegation—MNA

production and tourism sectors.

Also present at the call

together with President U Lwin, U Aung Kyi, U Thein Sein were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung

Hlaing and Dr Kan Zaw

and departmental heads. The Vietnamese delegation was accompanied by the

Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar.

MNA

Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadana Theinga) inaugurated



A bird eye's view of the newly opened Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadana Theinga).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— Ayeyawaddy Bridge (Yadana Theinga) linking Nwonyein Village in Shwebo Township and Singu Township in Mandalay Region was commissioned into service today.

The bridge would help local people to overcome the

obstacles in transportation and to save time, said Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham in his opening speech at the ceremony to open the bridge.

Work on construction of the bridge started in April, 2010, but the bridge was opened beyond the schedule

as it was hit by the quake in September, 2012.

The bridge has become the 39th one among the bridges which are 180 ft and above long inaugurated during the time of the new government.

As local people are now on the right track to

development thanks to the bridge, they should work hard to enjoy cent-per-cent development, said the vice-president. It is expected that Nwonyein Village would enjoy the high socio-economic status within coming a few years as the products of the village such

as earthen and glazed pots and other local products can be transported to western and eastern parts of the Ayeyawaddy River and to neighbouring countries through the ASEAN road network. Though the bridge was struck by the 6.8 Richter Scale on 11 November

last year, it was completed within a short time thanks to cooperative efforts of the government, the Tatmadaw and the local people.

The bridge has become the 14th river crossing bridge spanning the Ayeyawaddy River. The completion of the bridge would help the local people to travel from Singu to Mogok, PyinOoLwin and Kyaukme through Mandalay-Mattara-Bhamo-Myitkyina Road, to Mabein through NgaO junction, to Momeik through Twinng junction while linking Kyaukmyaung and Shwebo in the western part of the Ayeyawaddy River with the Mandalay-Shwebo-Myitkyina Road, the Shwebo-KhinOo-YeO-Kalewa Road.

The bridge also shorten the distance between the local areas and Chin State by linking to the Shwebo-Ayadaw-Monywa-Yargyi-Kalewa and Kalay Road.

MNA

Nation-building endeavours



Teachers urged to have sense of duty to accomplish their mission of encouraging students to reach their full physical and mental potentials

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July — Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung and wife Daw Nann Pyu Pyu Aye visited villages in Yesagyo Township on 18 July and met with local people.

On their arrival at a sandstone-carving worksite near Kyauktat village in the township, they cordially greeted local people and presented their clothing and foodstuff.

Next, they proceeded to primary schools in Ywathit, Chaungpyar and Kontalin villages and observed learning of school children at schools. In his address in meeting with teachers and the board of trustees of the respective schools, the Union minister called on teachers to lay great emphasis on their teachings so that students will understand the subjects they are learning. He also stressed to turn out the students to be ones with good personal hygiene habits, keep inside and outside of the school neat

and tidy, grow plants and trees for greening. Then he handed over stationery, publications and sports gear to responsible persons.

In the afternoon, the Union minister inspected progress of construction of a six-roomed new school building for BEHS No (1) in Pakokku and making school furniture at the school gymnasium. In meeting with the teachers, he highlighted the importance of promotion of education standard as it is key to nation-building endeavors and called for sense of duty to accomplish the mission of encouraging students to reach their full physical and mental potentials as human resources development is an essential prerequisite for development of the nation. He, then, presented sports gear and publications to them. On his arrival at Pakokku University, the Union minister met with undergraduates who are taking a first-aid course (basic) there and urged

them to work hard to be good and able citizens that their own regions rely on, spending the priceless time efficiently and effectively.

Then, he cordially greeted the rector and faculty members and presented publications and foodstuff to them.

MNA

Traffic accidents claim lives of 116 road users during past six months in Mon State

MAWLAMYINE, 24 July — With the aim of raising awareness of traffic rules among all road users and ensuring traffic rules enforcement in ten townships of Mon State, surprised checks are being conducted daily by members of traffic police

and Mon State All Bus-line Control Committee led by Mon State Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee in respective townships to take actions against violation of traffic rules.

No sign of reduction in road fatalities and injuries

were seen in Mon State yet, it is learnt.

During the period from January to June in 2013, 392 men were wounded and 116 men and women were killed and 548 injured in 316 counts of car accident occurred in ten townships.

Kyemon-307

Accident

Yangon FC draws its away game against Yadanarbon FC

MANDALAY, 24 July — The second day of the match (20) of MNL Myanmar 2013 continued yesterday at designated places.

At Bahtoo Stadium, Yangon FC managed to hold Yadanarbon FC to a one-all draw at away match. Yadanarbon FC produced their ruthless attacking display at the start of the game and its striker scored the opener after just five minutes in front of the home crowd. The home team led the game in the first half, but Yangon FC tried to control the game after the break and the equalizing goal came from Sithu Aung at 73

minutes in the second half.

As Yangon FC drew with Yadanarbon FC, they have to show their highest performance in the remaining two matches.

Likewise, Magway FC managed to draw against

KBZ FC at away, ending in a one-all draw. As the match between Zeyashwemyay FC and Manawmyay FC ended 1-0, the home team had got three points in front of the home crowd.

Kyemon-Shine Htet Zaw



Mandalay stadium construction project nearing completion

MANDALAY, 24 July — So far construction of a stadium on 68th street in Chanayethazi Township in Mandalay have been completed by over 85 per cent. Construction works started on 2 January, 2011 are firing all cylinders to be completed at the end of

August this year, it is learnt.

A lawn has been put into the stadium and fiber seats are being fixed at the stands. The stadium is designed and built to withstand an earthquake measured 8 on the Richter Scale like ones in Nay Pyi Taw. Installation of a sound system and lighting, greening

works and constructions of brick walls are in progress gaining momentum. The XXVII SEA Games will kick off on 11 December, 2013 and women's football matches will be held at the under-construction stadium.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Pilgrimage bus plunges off the road in Myinmu

MYINMU, 24 July — A road accident happened to a passenger bus carrying pilgrims on the detour of Myinmu at about 7.30 am on 22 July.

The vehicle, Hino Rainbow, en route from Mandalay to Monywa driven by U Maung Kyaw, 32, skidded out of control and plunged off the road at

a place between mile post Nos (6/0) and (7/0) on the detour in Myinmu. The vehicle ended up hitting a tree by roadside. Seven among the pilgrims on board the vehicle were injured in the accident.

The crash caused the windscreen of the vehicle broken and a small dent in the left side of the car.

Myinmu police station charged the driver over reckless driving.

Kyemon-Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)



WORLD

DPJ to ask ex-PM Kan to leave party for supporting independent



Former DPJ leader and Prime Minister Naoto Kan

TOKYO, 24 July—The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan is set to ask former DPJ leader and Prime Minister Naoto Kan to leave the party for supporting an independent candidate in Sunday's House of Councillors election in violation of party policy, DPJ sources said on Wednesday. In the Tokyo constituency, the DPJ field-

ed only one candidate after revoking its endorsement of another candidate due to the slim likelihood of securing two seats in the capital.

But Kan, one of the founding members of the party, backed Masako Okawara, who ran as an independent after losing the DPJ's endorsement, during the election campaign.

Kyodo News

Britain's William and Kate keep world waiting for baby's name

LONDON, 24 July—Britain's Prince William and his wife Kate kept the world guessing about the name of their first child as they left hospital to start family life with the future king. "We are still working on a name, so we will have that as soon as we can," William told reporters outside St Mary's Hospital in London on Tuesday. "It is the first time we have seen him really, so we are having a proper chance to catch up."

George, James, Alexander and Louis are the bookmakers' favourites for the youngest royal, third in line to the British throne after Prince Charles and William. The royal couple gave the world its first sight of their baby when they emerged from hospital to cheers from well-wishers and a barrage of camera flashes. A beaming Kate



Britain's Prince William and his wife Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge appear with their baby son outside the Lindo Wing of St Mary's Hospital, in central London on 23 July, 2013.—REUTERS

posed for pictures before handing her son to William who joked that the baby had more hair than him and had inherited his wife's good looks.

The birth gave a further boost to the royal family after the celebration last year of Queen Elizabeth's 60

BEIJING, 24 July—The first US citizen has been detained in China in connection with probes sparked by an unfolding corruption scandal in the drugs industry, as China widens the range of international firms and staff under the spotlight.

Police have also questioned two further Chinese employees from drug maker AstraZeneca in Shanghai, after a local sales representative was taken away for questioning earlier.

And China's health ministry said 39 hospital staff would be punished for taking bribes from drug companies. The unnamed American is the first US citizen to be detained in connection with the investigations, and the second for-

Key Sri Lankan opposition member joins government

COLOMBO, July 24 — A leading member of Sri Lanka's main opposition on Wednesday resigned from parliament and joined the government ahead of provincial council elections scheduled for September.

Opposition United National Party (UNP) member Dayasiri Jayasekera told parliament that he would be contesting the north west-

eign national, after a British risk consultant linked with GlaxoSmithKline was held last week.

GSK has been accused by China of funneling up to 3 billion yuan (\$489 million) to travel agencies to facilitate bribes to doctors and officials.

"We are aware that a US citizen has been detained in Shanghai. We are in con-



tact with the individual and are providing all appropriate consular assistance," US Embassy spokesman Nolan Barkhouse said on Tuesday, when asked about the involvement of US citizens in the widening probe.

He declined to say which company the individual was associated with. The latest moves by Chinese officials underline the

country's tough stance on corruption and high prices in the pharmaceutical industry, as it unrolls wider healthcare access and faces an estimated \$1 trillion healthcare bill by 2020.

"Momentum is gathering and if you are a big international firm, then you're a good example to be held up. This is a wake-up call for the rest of the industry," said Jeremy Gordon, director of China Business Services, a risk management company focusing on China.

AstraZeneca said that the Shanghai Public Security Bureau had asked on Tuesday to speak with two line managers linked to the sales representative questioned earlier.

Reuters

ern provincial council elections on behalf of the government.

He criticized his party leadership and said that he was compelled to resign as the party had no future after losing consecutive elections.

Jayasekera also hit out at UNP leader Ranil Wickremesinghe in his speech, saying Wickremesinghe did not leave room for

party members to express their opinions freely.

Jayasekera said that he will not be crossing over in parliament from the opposition benches to the government but instead will resign from parliament as he was voted to parliament while contesting for the UNP.

He felt that he will not be betraying his supporters if he resigns from parlia-

ment. He said that he had done a lot for the party yet the party leadership had failed to recognize that and he felt the UNP cannot be brought back to its old glory days.

Jayasekera said that once he resigns he will be able to seek the support of the public for the post of chief minister to the North Western Province.

Xinhua

Kerry discusses Syrian humanitarian crisis with aid agencies

WASHINGTON, 24 July—US Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday met with leaders of UN agencies and aid organizations to discuss ways to cope with the humanitarian crisis arising from the ongoing conflict in Syria. "We are having a very difficult time being able to access people, move people correctly and protect people," the top American envoy said prior to his discussions with the aid agencies.

"So we intend to have a very solid, in-depth discussion today about creative ways that we can meet our obligations to human beings who are in huge danger and distress," he added.

Kerry visited the Zaatari camp, which houses about 105,000 Syrian refugees, on Thursday when he was in Jordan trying to revive the stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

"I saw firsthand, as I have previously in other places, the dramatic and unbelievably moving ways in which people are separated from homes, from family; so many people murdered, killed," he said.

Among those meeting with Kerry were UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres and heads of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the World Food

Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the World Health Organization.

The raging conflict in Syria, which started in March 2011, has killed about 100,000 people, created more than 1.8 million refugees to neighbouring countries and displaced hundreds of thousands more.

Xinhua



Verizon unveils three Droid phones from Motorola

NEW YORK, 24 July—Verizon Wireless, the biggest US mobile service provider, on Tuesday announced three new phones under its Droid smartphone brand from Google Inc's Motorola and said that Motorola would be its exclusive Droid phone vendor going forward.

The phones, the Droid Mini, Droid Ultra and Droid Maxx will go on sale for \$99, \$199 and \$299 for customers who sign a two year contract and will be available in Verizon stores August 20, according to Verizon Wireless.

The latest Droid lineup marks the first phone range that Motorola has designed since it was bought by Google in 2012. It will be followed in little over a week by the August 1 unveiling of the Moto X, a hotly anticipated smartphone from Motorola.

Verizon Wireless and Motorola launched the first phones under the Droid

brand for phones based on Google Android software in 2009, at a time when rival AT&T Inc still had exclusive rights to sell the Apple Inc iPhone.

The Droid brand helped to resuscitate a struggling Motorola at the time as Verizon Wireless supported the device with a massive marketing campaign.

The exclusivity agreement with Motorola could be a blow for phone makers including HTC Corp, whose devices have also carried the Droid brand in the past as have devices from Korea's Samsung Electronics.

Verizon Wireless Vice President of Marketing Jeff Dietel said that since Droid phones should only include its "elite" phones based on Google's Android software it wanted a manufacturer "that matched all the expectations" for unique hardware and services.

Dietel said that his company would still carry Android phones from ven-

dors besides Motorola. Rick Osterloh, Motorola's senior vice president of product management, declined to



The Droid Mini, Droid Ultra and Droid Maxx are seen on display during the Verizon Wireless media event in New York on 23 July, 2013.

REUTERS

comment on how the upcoming Moto X phone will differ from Droid phones and who will sell that device.

The lowest price Droid phone the Mini is a compact device with a 4.3 inch display. Motorola boasted that its mid-priced phone in the range, the Ultra, is the skinniest smartphone that can run on high-speed Long-Term Evolution (LTE) networks.

It claimed that its Maxx phone has the best battery life of any LTE phone on the market. It can be used for as long as 48 hours without being charged, compared with a previous version of the device which boasted 32 hours of battery life.

Verizon said the full retail price would be \$499 for the Mini, \$599 for the Ultra and \$699 for the Maxx.

Reuters

Cisco to buy Sourcefire, more network security deals seen

NEW YORK, 24 July—Cisco Systems Inc said on Tuesday it plans to purchase cybersecurity company Sourcefire Inc for \$2.7 billion, a deal that analysts say should spark more acquisitions in the industry as large vendors seek to profit

from growing demand for IT security.

Cisco, which has been seeking targets to boost its network security business, said it will pay \$76 per share in cash for Sourcefire, a premium of 28.6 percent over its closing price on

Monday of \$59.08. "We looked broadly at all the major players ... Sourcefire fit perfectly," Cisco's business development chief Hilton Romanski said in an interview.

Cisco has made it a priority to improve its security and is pushing to offer multiple security capabilities in hardware, software and cloud. Sourcefire is strong in intrusion detection and protection appliances, which is one of the higher growth segments within security.

Sourcefire shares rose 27.8 percent to \$75.51 in afternoon trading while Cisco stock was down 0.3 percent at \$25.64.

Analysts said the valuation may be high but the deal made sense for Cis-

co, which has lost market share in network security to small, innovative rivals such as Juniper Networks Inc, Check Point Software Technologies, and Palo Alto Networks Inc.

Cisco wants to be the top player in security and shed its reputation of lagging in that area, company security head Chris Young told analysts on a conference call.

"We will not rest until we are the number one security partner for our customers, hands down," Young said. More acquisitions should be on the way in the tech security sector, which Research firm IDC has said spending this year should generate 7.8 percent revenue growth for vendors.—Reuters



A Cisco office is pictured in San Diego, California on 12 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

Textbook publishers revamp e-books to fight used market

NEW YORK, 24 July—A booming market in recent years for selling and renting used college textbooks has saved students across the United States a ton of cash.

But it has put textbook publishers in a bind. They don't make a cent unless students buy their books new.

So increasingly, publishers like Pearson Plc and McGraw-Hill Education are turning to a new model: Creating online versions of their texts, often loaded with interactive features, and selling students access codes that expire at semester's end.

Publishers save on printing, shipping and process returns. The e-books are good

company recently announced a restructuring to emphasize online content.

Cengage Learning, which creates customized courses, has pledged to emerge from a recent bankruptcy filing more focused on digital. McGraw-Hill Education, which was recently acquired by private equity firm Apollo Global Management, has taken an equity stake in one software company focused on digital learning and purchased another outright.

Still, the transition will not be immediate, executives said. Students have to learn to adapt to a textbook that can almost read their minds.

"How do we get from



A man reads the bible from an iPad mini at the "Christ is the Answer International Ministries" group's camp near Florence on 2 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

for learning and good for their bottom line.

There's just one catch: Persuading students to go digital isn't easy. Online products accounted for 27 percent of the \$12.4 billion spent on textbooks for secondary schools and colleges in the United States last year, according to research firm Outsell Inc.

But the publishers expect that percentage to grow, and are retooling their businesses to compete in what they see as the future of the industry. Half of Pearson's total revenue last year came from digital products and services (not all of which are digital), and executives expect that to increase. The

the *Old World to the New World* as quickly as possible?" said Andrew Kvaal, a senior vice president for Cengage. "An awful lot of people still resonate with having a physical book in front of them."

Some 77 percent of college students said they preferred print to e-books in a survey conducted last year by the National Association of College Stores. Another survey, by the research firm Student Monitor, found only 14 percent of students enrolled in college this past spring had classes that required online texts and just 2 percent bought most of their books in digital format.

Reuters

Dolphins call each other by signature whistles

LONDON, 24 July—Dolphins have long been recognized as a smart animal. A new study by British researchers have even found that bottlenose dolphins address each other by using signature whistles.

Researchers at the University of St Andrews reported on Tuesday that, they conducted sound playback experiments with wild bottlenose dolphins on the east coast of Scot-



land. Their earlier work published this year showed that dolphins often copy the signature whistles of their close relatives and friends.

This new study tests whether animals that are addressed with copies of their signature whistles really react to them. Researchers followed groups of wild dolphins and recorded the dolphin unique 'signature' whistles using a novel signature identification meth-

od. They then played back either a computer version of an animal's signature whistle, or control whistles of either an unfamiliar animal or a familiar animal from the same population. Each dolphin only reacted when hearing the computer version of its own signature whistle, but not to the other whistles played back to it.

Researchers said this showed that dolphins can be addressed in this way

was the missing link to demonstrate that signature whistles function as names.

"In experimental work, parrots are also good at learning novel sounds and using them to label objects." Dr Stephanie King, who participated in this study, said: "Our results present the first case of naming in mammals, providing a clear parallel between dolphin and human communication."—Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Dow sets record high, S&P fails to break 1,700 mark

NEW YORK, 24 July—US stocks closed mixed on Tuesday with the Dow Jones Industrial Average refreshing all-time high and the S&P 500 failing to cross the psychologically important level of 1,700 points, as investors still fretted over the ongoing corporate earnings. The blue-chip Dow gained 22.19 points, or 0.14 percent, to a record closing high of 15,567.74 points. The index briefly broke the 15,600 level to set a new all-time intraday high of 15,604.22 points before retreating.

The S&P 500 moved up within a striking distance of the level of 1,700 points shortly after Wall Street opened slightly higher as DuPont posted better-than-expected quarterly earnings. However, the broader index pulled back in later trading session to end at 1,692.39 points, falling 3.14 points, or 0.19 percent.

The tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index shed 21.12



points, or 0.59 percent, to 3,579.27 points as a slew of earning reports from tech corporations such as Microsoft and Google missed market expectations.

Dow component DuPont reported a profit of 1.03 billion US dollars, or 1.11 dollars per share, on total sales of 10.0 billion dollars in the second quarter, lower than their year-ago levels. However, the

US chemical firm's adjusted earnings of 1.28 dollars per share beat analysts' estimate by just 1 cent. DuPont shares lost 0.09 percent to 57.12 dollars per share.

Apple reported after the closing bell its earnings per share of 7.47 dollars on the revenue of 35.3 billion dollars in its fiscal third quarter of 2013. Both the earning and revenue topped market consensus. The tech giant

shares rallied in after-hours trading.

Moreover, the market's momentum was further capped by a report from *Bloomberg News*, saying half of economists polled held the view that the Federal Reserve will start trimming its monthly bond purchases in September to 65 billion dollars from the current amount of 85 billion dollars.—*Xinhua*

Gold ends lower on technical selling

CHICAGO, 24 July—Gold futures on the COMEX division of the New York Mercantile Exchange futures finished lower on technical selling on Tuesday, marking their first decline in four sessions. The most active gold contract for August delivery fell 1.3 dollars, or 0.10 percent, to settle at 1,334.7 dollars per ounce. Market analysts say that market participants are locking in some profits following Monday's surge, which pressures gold trading on the day.

Gold August contract jumped 43.1 dollars on Monday, or 3.3 percent, to close at 1,336 dollars an ounce. According to FactSet data, it represented the largest one-day percentage and dollar gain since 29 June, 2012. The settlement was also the highest for a most-active contract since 19 June of this year.

In addition, reports say that India, the world's largest consumer, added to restrictions on bullion imports. The country has doubled a tax on inbound shipments to 8 percent this year. Analysts believe that gold imports may tumble 63 percent to 175 metric tons in the six months through December from a year earlier, which is a further blow to physical demand for gold.



Xinhua



The logo of the Swiss drugmaker Roche is seen on a factory in Burgdorf near Bern, Switzerland in this 17 Nov, 2010 file photo.

REUTERS

Roche's new leukaemia drug superior to Rituxan in study

ZURICH, 24 July — Roche's experimental leukaemia drug known as GA101 delayed disease progression in people with one of the most common forms of blood cancer longer than its top-seller Rituxan, the Swiss drugmaker said on Wednesday. Roche is hoping GA101 will help fend off cheaper competition for Rituxan, which loses patent protection in Europe later this year, threatening a blockbuster product with nearly \$7 billion in annual

sales.

A late stage study showed GA101, or obinutuzumab, used in combination with chemotherapy, helped people with a particular form of leukaemia live longer without their disease worsening when compared with Rituxan which is also known as MabThera. The drugs were given in conjunction with the commonly used chemotherapy chlorambucil to previously untreated patients with chronic lymphocytic leu-

kemia (CLL) who also had other health problems, such as heart disease.

Roche said specific sugar molecules in GA101 were modified to change its interaction with the body's immune cells, creating a unique antibody designed to engage the patient's own immune system to help attack the cancerous cells. Roche said final data from the study would be submitted to the American Society of Hematology's annual meeting in December.—*Reuters*

Kids 'hearing voices' may be at high suicide risk

NEW YORK, 24 July—Among teens in a new study from Ireland, those who reported hearing voices were at greatly elevated risk of attempting suicide within the year compared to their peers with or without mental disorders who did not experience voices.

Considered a symptom of psychosis, hearing voices was linked to a nearly 70-fold higher likelihood of a suicide attempt over the course of a year in the study of 13-to-16 year olds. That could make the symptom a valuable early-warning sign for parents to act on, according to the study's authors.

The relationship between suicide and these symptoms had not previously been known, lead author Dr Ian Kelleher, of the

department of psychiatry at Beaumont Hospital in Dublin, told *Reuters Health*.

He and colleagues used data they gathered for a larger European study to follow 1,112 Irish adolescents for one year, checking in with them three times over the year and asking them to report any psychotic symptoms or suicide attempts.

At the first assessment, 77 of the teens reported having some psychotic symptoms — which include hearing voices or other sounds that are not there.

Of the kids who had such auditory hallucinations, seven percent reported a suicide attempt by the next check-in three months later, compared to one percent of the kids without psychotic symptoms at

the first assessment. At one year, 20 percent of the kids who heard voices reported a suicide attempt compared to 2.5 percent of the other kids, according to the results in *JAMA Psychiatry*. The group at highest risk was kids who had other psychiatric illnesses like anxiety, depression or obsessive compulsive disorder, and also reported hearing voices. Thirty-four percent of them reported a suicide attempt by the one-year mark.

"The important thing here is that we know that individuals with psychiatric illness are at higher risk of suicidal behaviour than the rest of the population but still the large majority of these individuals will never attempt suicide," Kelleher said.—*Reuters*

Menthol cigarettes likely have health impact: FDA

WASHINGTON, 24 July — The US Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday released an independent scientific review about menthol in cigarettes, saying that the mint-flavoured cigarettes likely pose a greater public health risk than non-menthol cigarettes.

Meanwhile, the agency issued what it calls an advance notice of proposed rulemaking, seeking input from the public related to potential regulatory options it might consider, such as establishing tobacco product standards. "While there is little evidence to suggest that menthol cigarettes are more or less toxic or con-

tribute to more disease risk to the user than nonmenthol cigarettes, adequate data suggest that menthol use is likely associated with increased smoking initiation by youth and young adults," the FDA evaluation said.

Further, menthol in cigarettes is likely associated with greater addiction. Menthol smokers show greater signs of nicotine dependence and are less likely to successfully quit smoking, it said.

According to the FDA, more than 400,000 deaths per year in the United States are caused by tobacco use. About 30 percent of all adult smokers and more



than 40 percent of all youth smokers in the country report smoking menthol cigarettes.

"Menthol cigarettes raise critical public health questions," FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg said in a statement. "The FDA is committed to a science-based

approach that addresses the public health issues raised by menthol cigarettes, and public input will help us make more informed decisions about how best to tackle this important issue moving forward." The agency said that the notice will be available for public comment for 60 days and that it will consider all comments, data, research, and other information submitted to the docket to determine what, if any, regulatory action with respect to menthol in cigarettes is appropriate.

If the agency decides to issue a rule, the first step in that process would be a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which would give the public an opportunity to weigh in on the specifics of the proposed rule, the FDA added.—*Reuters*

WORLD

Al-Qaeda says it freed 500 inmates in Iraq jail-break

BAGHDAD, 24 July — Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility on Tuesday for simultaneous raids on two Iraqi prisons and said more than 500 inmates had been set free in the operation, one of its most brazen in Iraq.

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, formed earlier this year through a merger of al-Qaeda's affiliates in Syria and Iraq, said it had stormed Baghdad's Abu Ghraib jail and another, some 20 km (12 miles) north of capital, after months of preparation.

Monday's attacks came exactly a year after the leader of al-Qaeda's Iraqi branch, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, launched a "Breaking the Walls" campaign that made freeing its imprisoned members a top priority, the group said in a statement. Sunni Islamist militants have in recent

months been regaining momentum in their insurgency against Iraq's Shi'ite-led government, which came to power after the US invasion to oust Saddam Hussein.

The group said it had deployed suicide attackers, rockets, and 12 car bombs, killing 120 Iraqi guards and SWAT forces in the attacks in Taji, north of Baghdad, and Abu Ghraib, the prison made notorious a decade ago by photographs showing abuse of prisoners by US soldiers. Interior ministry and medical sources said 29 police and soldiers were killed, and 36 wounded. "In response to the call of the mujahid (holy warrior) Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi to seal the blessed plan of 'Breaking the Walls' ... the mujahideen brigades set off after months of preparation and planning to target two of the biggest prisons of the Safavid govern-

ment," read the statement posted on militant forums.

Safavid is a reference to the dynasty that ruled Iran from the 16th to 18th centuries and is used by hardline Sunnis as a derogatory term for Shi'ite Muslims. Shi'ite Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki accused militias affiliated with his rival, the anti-US cleric Mo-

qtada al-Sadr, who is also Shi'ite, of complicity in the prison-break."

What happened in Abu Ghraib prison was the guards who were inside the prison, are connected to these militias, and it was they who colluded and it was they who opened the doors," he said on state television.—Reuters



Libyans gather at a burnt vehicle which was destroyed by a rocket fired towards a residential building in Tripoli, on 23 July, 2013. The rocket was fired at the neighbourhood of western embassies housing buildings and companies when it was empty at the moment of explosion.

XINHUA

One killed, 24 injured in security headquarters blast in Egypt

DAQAHLIYA, (Egypt), 24 July — At least one was killed and 24 others were injured at an overnight blast targeting the security department headquarters in Mansoura city of Egypt's Daqahliya governorate, a security source told Xinhua.

"The one killed is a police recruit while 22 security personnel and two civilians were injured," said Brigadier-General Saeed Emara, head of Daqahliya criminal investigation department, told Xinhua. Meanwhile, Abdel-Wahhab Suleiman, the health ministry undersecretary at Daqahliya, told Xinhua that the victims were sent to Mansoura Emergency Hospital.

The tragedy came a few days after four female supporters of recently-ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi were shot dead during a march in Mansour calling for Morsi's return. To avoid

accusations, the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP), the political wing of the Muslim Brotherhood group from which the ousted president hails, condemned the bombing at the security department in Daqahliya.

"On behalf of the FJB, I condemn the explosion at Daqahliya security department and all forms of violence," Essam al-Erian, FJP vice-chairman, said in a statement on his official Facebook page right after the explosion.

The Brotherhood, along with other Islamist parties, groups and affiliates, went on an open-ended sit-in since 28 June, five days before Morsi's overthrow, in support of the ex-Islamist president's legitimacy." Our uprising is peaceful and all its activities are peaceful, and no provokers did or will drag us into violence," said Erian.

Xinhua



A member of the Free Syrian Army aims his weapon as fellow fighters stand behind him in Deir al-Zor on 22 July, 2013.

REUTERS

Ninety-four illegal immigrants held in Mexico, including 19 Asians



Mexico detained 94 illegal immigrants, including 19 from the Indian subcontinent, packed into a truck bound for the US border, authorities said on Tuesday.—REUTERS

MEXICO CITY, 24 July — Mexico detained 94 illegal immigrants, including 19 from the Indian subcontinent, packed into a truck bound for the US border, authorities said on Tuesday. Among the people found near the southern city of

Tuxtla Gutierrez, capital of Chiapas state, were 10 Nepalese and nine Bangladeshis trying to reach the United States, officials said.

Apprehensions of Asians immigrating illegally to the United States have increased sharply in

recent years, according to the US Department of Homeland Security. Authorities said the migrants were traveling in inhumane conditions. The driver of the vehicle, who was from central Mexico, was arrested on human trafficking charges. The truck set out from Huehuetenango, Guatemala, and police detected the migrants with an x-ray at a checkpoint outside Tuxtla Gutierrez after midnight on Monday. The migrants were on their way to the United States, state prosecutors said.

Several of the migrants were treated for hand and leg injuries, and some struggled to breathe due to the "overcrowded conditions" on the truck, Mexico's National Migration Institute said.—Reuters

More than 20 killed in clashes between Mexican police, armed gangs

MEXICO CITY, 24 July — Violent clashes between armed gangs and Mexico's security forces killed 22 people on Tuesday, marking a surge in violence in a chaotic western state where President Enrique Pena Nieto is testing a new security strategy. The shootouts occurred after gang members blocked highways with buses and other vehicles in Michoacan, one of Mexico's most violent

states. Two members of the federal police and 20 gang members were killed, Mexico's Interior Ministry said in a statement. Pena Nieto in May sent a general to take over all police and military operations in Michoacan, where big swaths of the state have come under the control of criminal gangs who are fighting among themselves and against authorities. Former President Felipe Calde-

ron launched his military-led crackdown on drug cartels in Michoacan in 2006, beginning an offensive that has killed more than 70,000.

Pena Nieto has vowed to reduce the violence that has exploded in Mexico in the last decade. Since he took office in December, murders have fallen slightly, according to official statistics, but violent crime is still rampant in parts of Mexico.—Reuters

Death toll rises to 12 in rival clashes in Egypt

CAIRO, 24 July — Death toll of the continued Egyptian clashes between supporters and opponents of ousted Islamist-oriented President Mohamed Morsi has risen to 12 late Tuesday after three people died of their injuries. Nine people were killed and 33 injured in clashes that erupted early Tuesday between pro- and anti-Morsi Egyptians in the vicinity of Cairo University in Giza governorate, the Health Ministry said earlier.

As the death toll rose, the ministry said the number of the injured also increased to 86. Clashes also occurred in Cairo's Tahrir Square and Rabia al-Adawaeya Square of Nasr City during the day, said the ministry. Late on Monday, three people were killed and 44 others injured in Tahrir Square and Qalioubeya's Qalioub city as protesters from both sides exchanged rocks and birdshots. The clashes took place despite interim President Adli Mansour's call for national reconciliation on Monday.—Xinhua



Mourners pray at the coffin of a victim killed during an attack on a prison in Taji, during a funeral at the Imam Ali shrine in Najaf, 160 km (100 miles) south of Baghdad on 22 July, 2013. — REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Alm bowls and Waso robes offered at Koehrtetgyi



YANGON, 24 July— Under aegis of Pagoda Board of Trustees of Koehrtetgyi Pagoda in Sangyoung Township, Waso Robe and 108 bowls of Soon (Meal) were offered to the pagoda on Full Moon Day of Waso on 22 July.

The donations were made as per sermons delivered by Abott of Bargara Insein Monastery Bhaddanta

Pandita.

Waso Robes were offered to 63 members of Sangha on the precinct of pagoda. The religious association of the pagoda offered free snacks to visitors on the day.

Sermons will be given on each Sabbath Day during the period of Buddhist Lent.—*MMAL-Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindine)*

School uniforms donated to students in Meiktila relief camps

MEIKTILA, 24 July— School uniforms were presented to basic education students at relief camps in Meiktila on 20 July.

U Chit Min Tun of Ye Mhan Hone stationery shop in Meiktila, Patron Dr Tin Sein of Htilathukha

Thamaggi, Chairman Dr Khin Soe, Vice-Chairman U San Win Shein and Joint Secretary U Aung Thein contributed the uniforms.

Uniforms were presented to 1165 students in Sasana Rahkita (Ingon)

KALAY, 24 July— Myittha River has eroded the 30-50 ft river bank 150 ft from a school south of Natnan village in Nanmyaung village-tract in Kalay Township since 19 July, according to village-tract administrator U Win Maung.

“Our government primary school was established since 1997. The changing course of Myittha River is heading towards the school. If the water level increases, our village could also be eroded. Our village

Villagers volunteer in anti-erosion efforts

has more than 400 population from 88 households. With the sense of self-reliance, we have collected five Super bags and K 1000 from each household. We have reported the local authorities about the erosion. Township Management Committee have donated one bundle of rope and one bag,” he told Myanma Alinn.

Kalewa Township Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems Department visited



the scene and conducted measures to prevent further erosion in Natnan village on 22-23 July.

Asked about the erosion, engineer U Than Myint of the department said, “The method we are employing is the floating structure.” He said the water course would be diverted with the use of machinery.

The length of the eroded bank is 1500 ft.

U Than Myint said he would not allow the erosion of the river bank. All the villagers including monks are volunteering in the effort under the leadership of the Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems.

The village is said to be established since ME 1258.

MMAL-Shin Nay Min



relief camp, Magyeegon monastery, Okpho monastery, Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems Department and Central Transport Training School. The donations amounted to K 3.2 million.

MMAL-U Tin Hlaing

Artesian wells sunk in arid zone

MANDALAY, 24 July— Areas in Mandalay Region with poor access to water are prone to eye diseases and

Old grenade found in village

MYITKYINA, 24 July— An old grenade was found in Nanphyat village in Tanai Township in Myitkyina District in Kachin State on 22 July.

The grenade was found while undertaking earthworks for construction of Ywale road in Nanphyat village.

Village authorities informed the police about the finding and handed over the grenade to the police.

Moe Kya (Myitkyina)

diarrhea and other diseases caused by unsafe water.

Mandalay Region Government is funding the projects to sink artesian wells for widening access to water.

Kyaukpadaung Township Development Affairs Committee sunk an artesian well in Yathedaung providing pure water to 675 population from 104 households.

An artesian well has also been sunk in Myaingthaya village in Kyaukpadaung. More 35 artesian wells will be sunk in the township. The township DAC has set the target of 41 artesian wells. Six new artesian wells will be completed by the end of this July.

NyaungU Township

Development Affairs Committee is sinking artesian wells one after another, widening the coverage of pure drinking water.

Staff officer of NyaungU Township Development Affairs Committee U Toe Aung, “We have systematically compiled the list of drinking water-scarce villages, villages with moderate access to water and villages with adequate drinking water sources alongside the number of households and population.”

The township DAC is sinking 78 artesian wells in 219 villages with poor access to water and set the target of 18 artesian wells this year. A total of 14 wells have been completed.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)



Fingerlings released into dams in Kyaukse

KYAUKSE, 24 July— Dam and Zedaw Dam in Kyaukse District Fishery Department released fingerlings into Min Ye

Dam and Zedaw Dam in Kyaukse Township on 21 July.

The purposes of

releasing fingerlings include poverty reduction, fishery development, rural development and prevention against extinction of fish species.

The department is convincing the local fish farmers not to employ defective fishing techniques for sustainable fishery development.

A total of 40,000 fingerlings were released into the dams.

The ceremonies were attended by Mandalay Region Hluttaw Representative U

Aung Myint Than, Head of Region Fishery Department U Myo Aung, District Deputy Commissioner U Ohn Than, Head of District Fishery Department U Thet Oo, Township Administrator U Khin Maung Than, members of social organizations, district/township departmental personnel, ward administrators and villagers.—*MMAL-Township (IPRD)*



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Vietnamese National Assembly Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann held talks with a Vietnamese delegation led by National Assembly Chairman Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung, at Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 3 pm today.

During the meeting, further cementing relationships and cooperation between the two countries

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker

Thura

U Shwe Mann holds talks with Vietnamese

National Assembly

Chairman Mr. Nguyen

Sinh Hung.—MNA

and between the two parliaments were discussed.

It was attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw

Swa, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairmen U Maung Maung Thein, U Thein Zaw, Thura U Aung Ko, U Soe Naing, U Hla

Myint Oo, U Htay Myint and commission member U Khin Maung Tun and officials concerned.

MNA



Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee meets religious leaders in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 24 July — Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min, Union Minister U Ohn Myint and party accompanied by Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, state ministers and officials held cordial discussions with religious leaders at Nann Thida Hotel in Myitkyina on 22 July.

First, Union Minister U Aung Min said that representatives of both sides signed a seven-point agreement to bring peace which is desperately needed for Kachin State on 30 May; that opening of the office of KIO Technical Advisory Team, one of the seven points stated in the agreement, was going to be realized; and that political dialogues on equality of

rights of national races and autonomy would be performed. He quoted the President as saying that equitable development across the country could be brought about by united efforts of all national races in cooperation with the government organizations. He called on local people to cooperate with the government based on trust and understanding for

successful realization of the peace process to bring a lasting peace.

Next, townseldres and religious leaders expressed their views on matters related to implementation of peace in Kachin State, ethnic equality and harmonious coexistence. Union Minister U Aung Min and the Kachin State chief minister elaborated on works to be done.—MNA

Mini book corners opened in Haka



HAKA, 24 July— Assistance Director U Kham Lyan Sone, Head and staff of Information and Public Relations Department opened people-centered mini book corners at Chin State People's Hospital, Myoma market, women vocational training school and youth training school at Haka Township, here, yesterday with the aim

of promoting reading habits and creating skillful society.

Five-book each on political affairs, economic, social affairs, education, agriculture and livestock breeding, health, religious affairs, science and technology, culture and arts, sports, biography and public ethics were served.

These books are to be changed monthly.

Kyemon-State (IPRD)

Summary of observations at 9:30 hr M.S.T on 24-7-2013

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing and Bago Regions, Kachin, Shan,

Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Mon State and isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions, Kachin State.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Launglon 15.91 inches, Dawei 13.78 inches, Cocogyun 8.31 inches, Paung 5.47 inches. Ye 5.36 inches, Kyaikkhame 5.12 inches, Mawlamyine 4.96 inches, Kungyangon 4.92 inches, Chaung Sone 4.76 inches, Machanbaw 4.69 inches and Thaton 4.02 inches.—NLM

Bay Inference

According to the observations at 12:30 hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay and adjoining West Central Bay of Bengal has moved to the Orissa Coast, India.

NLM

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 25 July, 2013

Responsibility in service industry

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, the government's Internet service outlet, has informed its subscribers—who are virtually the whole Internet users in Myanmar—about the disruption of its Internet services due to the failure of its underwater fibre cable. It is not the first time that the country's relatively slow Internet went unavailable. The press release issued by the service provider is the welcome change, but there is still far from meeting the satisfaction of the subscribers.

The users question the accountability of the service provider which has previously claimed to be providing services to the public at low cost as every government service firm ever did. With increasing access to the Internet, businesses have fallen more and more in love with Internet communications. The Internet blackout has larger impact than the electricity outage. With no email services, the correspondence is virtually paralyzed.

It is natural that the service firms have to make profits and they do make profits. But the service industry, even under the government, has to show responsibility. It is quite clear that they provide the services at the fee they could make profit and they are bound to provide the services that the users could satisfy. It is the consequential problem due to the lack of competitiveness in the industry. Within a few months to come, more telecom providers including two international industry players Telenor and Ooredoo are expected to enter the almost untapped market. More competitiveness and accountability are expected in the whole service industry of the country as the country has opened up to the outside world.

More industry players would guarantee more options and better services to consumers. Though the local firms, both public and private, need to begin dealing with their consumers more responsibly.

Media bill discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July—Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee received members of Myanmar Press Council (temporary) led by Chairman U Khin Maung Aye this afternoon and they discussed the matters of legal affairs.

Similarly, Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relation

Development Committee Chairman Thura U Aye Myint and members received deputy ministers for Information, officials and Chairman U Khin Maung Aye of Myanmar Press Council (temporary) and members this afternoon. They discussed the matters relating to media bill.

MNA

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

NATIONAL

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham views development tasks of Sagaing Region

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivered an address at the opening ceremony of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanatheinga) this morning.

The Vice-President together with Union Ministers U Win Myint, U Kyaw Lwin and Dr Mya Aye, Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, the deputy ministers and officials visited Ayadaw-2 river water pumping project and he then heard reports presented by the officials.

At the meeting with local people, he attended to the needs. Next, he handed over 10 tractors and Sky Net receivers to 10 village-tracts.

He then went to Laykyunsakyar Standing Buddha Image and paid homage to it.

He then presented alms and offertories to it.

In meeting with education staff from No.1 BEHS (Monywa), the Vice-President fulfilled the requirements. Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye explained education facts and measures to be taken in achieving high pass rate to the Vice-President.

The Vice-President and party presented Sky Net receivers and 10 sets of computer to seven BEHSs.

The Vice-President attended a ceremony to handover the fire engine to Fire Brigade in Monywa. The Vice-President and party looked around retaining walls along Strand Road of Monywa Township and development of the Township by car.



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham greets local people during his tour of inspection of Ayadaw-2 river water pumping project.—MNA

MNA

Advance income tax collection on export and import means to avoid tax exemption, to ensure healthy tax culture

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July — “ Myanmar-India-China border demarcation at tripoint was not completed due to Sino-India border dispute while Myanmar-India boundary agreement was signed on 1967 and the survey works were completed in 1975. The border demarcation between the two nations has reached 907 miles”, said Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw at the 14th day seventh regular session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw

regarding the question raised by U Aung Sein of Manaung Constituency.

Next, the deputy minister explained already-established border demarcation between Myanmar and India, Myanmar and China and Myanmar and Thailand.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Lin Aung responded to the question raised by Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) Constituency that advance income tax

collection on export and import of goods aimed at avoiding tax exemption and ensuring a healthy tax culture. Advance income tax collection was introduced in accord with Section 501 (b).

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw carried out submission of a report on a bill approved by Amyotha Hluttaw and answering questions about budget allocations for staff quarters, availability of water and regional development tasks.

The Pyithu Hluttaw



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw.—MNA



U Aung Sein of Manaung Constituency. MNA



Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Lin Aung.—MNA

Speaker said that raising and answering questions had to be

made through the Speaker in order to avoid occurrence of

unwanted matters.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw approves Union Judiciary Law

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July — A total of ten agendas were carried out at the 14th day seventh regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw today.

First, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker informed lawmakers of the formation of a parliamentary coordination committee and the list of the names of the chairman, secretary and members of the committee and sought the approval of the Hluttaw.

Next, the Hluttaw approved the reformation of Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee and Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vetting Committee and the list of the names of chairmen, secretaries and members of the committees.

In his response to



Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint. MNA



U Tin Shan of Taninthayi Region Constituency No-6. MNA



U Ha Shein Bway of Chin State Constituency No-8. MNA

the question raised by U Tin Shan of Taninthayi Region Constituency No (6), Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint vowed to continue to implement the remaining works of Myeik-Taninthayi Union Highway in accord with the budget allocation for 2013-2014.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen

Zaw Win replied the question raised by U Ha Shein Bway of Chin State Constituency No (8) that Panaw-Kyawlayhlaing earth road was being built by the tender-winning Naing Min Company.

Then, U Hsai Paung Nat, member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, read out the report of the committee on the

bill amending the Union Judiciary Law approved and sent by Pyithu Hluttaw and it was approved by the Hluttaw.

In an interview with U San Tun of Kachin State Constituency No (11) regarding the bill, he said that the amendments urged to take oaths after judges were appointed, to make inspection tour

of prisons, camps and detention centers by the Chief Justice of the Union and to oversee prisons

and camps by the Judges of respective regions and states.

MNA

Country Director of UNWFP presents Credentials to Union FM

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— Mr. Domenico SCALPELLI designated as United Nations World Food Programme Country Director and Resident Representative in Myanmar called upon and presented his Credentials to U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign

Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the Ministry, here, today.

Afterward, the Union Minister and Mr. Domenico SCALPELLI discussed and exchanged views on potentials of development cooperation between Myanmar and WFP.—MNA

Four experts of WTO observe Pyithu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July— Four expert members of World Trade Organization (WTO) observed the 14th day seven regular session

of first Pyithu Hluttaw being held at the Hluttaw Complex this morning.

Later, they viewed round the Hluttaw Building and left there.—MNA



Tourists enjoy the scenery against rain in front of the Diaoshuilou Waterfall at the Jingpo Lake in Mudanjiang City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 21 July, 2013. The water level of the Jingpo Lake rose significantly due to the continuous rainfalls upstream. —XINHUA

Czech Customs seize 24 rhino horns, arrests 15

PRAGUE, 24 July—The Czech Customs officers and the Czech Environment Inspection have seized 24 horns of white rhinoceros illegally imported by an international gang from South Africa and have arrested 15 members of the gang, authorities said on Tuesday.

The case has been the biggest of its kind since 1993. According to Czech Customs authorities, the horns were worth 100 million crowns (5 million US dollars).

If convicted, the smuggler may be sentenced up to eight years in prison, ac-

ording to Ales Hruby with the Czech Customs authority.

Police said perpetrators had staged hunting expeditions, hiring hunters from the Czech Republic and gaining the required permits in South Africa.

“Under the system, each of the hunters was allowed the shooting of a single rhino at a local farm.

As such a kill is a trophy for the hunter, he can export it as his personal property for noncommercial purposes,” Hruby said.

The horns were imported to the Czech Republic and other countries as trophies, but distributed later to Asia where they are precious commodities on the black market.

Xinhua



A highway worker cleans the accident site where a vehicle overturned on a provincial highway in Nanfeng County, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 24 July, 2013. The accident that occurred late Tuesday has left 16 people dead and 10 others injured, local authorities said early Wednesday. Fifteen people were killed on the spot, and one died after medical treatment failed. Ten people were treated in local hospitals. —XINHUA

Norway marks 2nd anniversary of mass killings

OSLO, 24 July—Norway marked on Monday the second anniversary of the 22 July incident in which 77 people were killed two years ago in a strong bombing explosion in downtown Oslo and a following shooting spree on the small Utoeya island.

In an arrangement scaled down in comparison with last year, Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg made a six-minute speech at a wreath-laying ceremony in front of the damaged government building which used to house his office.

Stoltenberg asked the entire nation to guard against the extreme rightist and racist force, which he said is growing in Europe.

When the first anniversary of the mass killings was observed at the same site last year, Norwegian King Harald V joined Stoltenberg to lay a ring of flower wreath, with the queen, the crown prince and the crown princess standing behind.

But this year, the royal couple attended a special

memorial service in the Oslo cathedral church on Monday.

No big concert has been organized either this time in Oslo. Only a short piece of music — “My Little Country” was played by a famous Norwegian musician, Arne Hiorth, at the wreath-laying ceremony in front of the government building.

Flowers are much less too both in Oslo and on the Utoeya island, a sign that life has returned to normal exactly two years after the tragedy which shocked the whole nation.

The Utoeya island is about 40 kilometres west of the Norwegian capital.

Eskil Pedersen, leader of the ruling Labor Party's youth wing AUF, said that the fact that not as many participated in the memorial activities this year does not mean Norwegians have forgotten this tragic day.

“I think a lot of people have this day in their mind and mark it in their own way,” said the leader of the AUF, many of the

killed on the Utoeya island were its members. In Pedersen's opinion, it is good that Norway has gone back to normal. He said, “I do not think people should feel guilty for not marking the 22 July incident in some way today. It's very natural and good that people go back to normal. While a memorial event was also held on the Utoeya island on Monday afternoon, many cars pulled over and stopped on the roadside opposing the island.

Families and their friends emerged from the cars and walked up to the roadside rock on which flowers, toys, candles and cards are placed in memory of the 69 people shot dead by the Norwegian murderer Anders Bering Breivik, who is serving his prison term of 21 years.

Jan-Erik Wolden travelled from Oslo with his three grandchildren, who he said were near the bombing site that tragic day and traumatized by the terrible scene. For the last three winters, they could not

sleep peacefully, he said, adding that he hates the perpetrator. “I would never mention his name again. He is a completely crazy person and well, I am not supposed to say that, but it would much better for mankind if one of the policemen on the island, by mistake, has shot him down immediately.”—Xinhua

Morocco foils attempt by African migrants to enter Spain's territory

RABAT, 24 July—Morocco security forces succeeded on Tuesday in foiling attempts by two groups of 300 African migrants to illegally force their

way to Melilia, a Spanish possession in Moroccan territory, Moroccan interior ministry said in a statement.

The immigrants refused to heed the customary warnings and threw stones at the security forces, said the statement, adding that 100 of them were arrested and 30 others were taken to the nearby Hassani hospital in Nador for wounds caused by the barbed wires erected

around the city of Melilia.

The statement said that the neighbouring forests are often used as a hideout by illegal migrants who enter Morocco through the Algerian borders.

Melilla has been a Spanish possession since 1497 and is one of two Spanish territories on the African mainland along with the city of Ceuta.

Xinhua

Polish students will decrease 400,000 during 10 years

WARSAW, 24 July—The number of Polish students will decrease by some 400,000 from 1.67 million to 1.25 million in the next ten years, the country's Ministry of Science and Higher Education said on Monday.

According to the ministry, the downward trend will continue until 2025 when the number of students will start going up and reach 1.48 million by 2035. Meanwhile, the ministry also noted an increasing number of foreign students at Polish universities.

Xinhua

South Sudanese president sacks deputy, suspends top negotiator

KHARTOUM, 24 July—South Sudanese President Salva Kiir on Tuesday sacked his deputy Riek Machar, dissolved the government, and suspended the country's top negotiator with Sudan, according to news reaching here from Juba that quoted a presidential decree.

Machar's spokesman has confirmed the dismissal of Machar, as reported by the state TV; while *Sudan Tribune* newspaper said the work of Pagan Amum, chief negotiator of South Sudan

with Sudan over some outstanding issues, was also suspended, and he was “referred to investigation.” Amum, secretary general of the ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement, has expressed his desire to run for the party's presidency as well as the ambition to join the presidential race slated for 2015. He has criticized some of Kiir's recent decisions such as the sacking of Minister of Finance Kosti Manie Ngai and Cabinet Affairs Minister Deng Alor Kuol.—Xinhua



A member of China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) special forces participates in a comprehensive military contest at a PLA training base in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 23 July, 2013. XINHUA

REGIONAL

Abe to visit three ASEAN nations to strengthen ties with region

TOKYO, 24 July— Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, starting his third trip to Southeast Asia this year on Thursday, aims to strengthen security and economic ties between Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations through his meetings with the leaders of Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines. The Japanese leader's three-day tour of the region is part of his continuing efforts to build ties with countries that share with Japan such values as democracy and a market economy, a diplomatic maneuver that many observers say amounts to an attempt at containment of China.

With China becoming increasingly assertive in regional waters, Japan is involved in a territorial dispute with it in the East China Sea, while Malaysia and the Philippines are embroiled in a separate territorial dispute with it in the South China Sea. During a meeting in Manila on Satur-



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

day, Abe and his Philippine counterpart, President Benigno Aquino, are expected to confirm Tokyo's plans to supply patrol ships to Manila as part of its efforts to beef up the Philippines' coast guard, according to Japanese officials.

Last year, Manila asked Tokyo for 10 such patrol ships. In a bid to help achieve peace between the Philippine government and the country's largest Muslim rebel group on Mindanao, Abe is expected to unveil a new package of official development as-

sistance to the Philippines at the summit. In meetings with Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday and Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in Singapore on Friday, Abe is expected to explain his economic policy and Tokyo's position on the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade negotiations, which Japan officially joined Tuesday. Both Malaysia and Singapore are already members of the talks, which are aimed at creating one of the world's largest free trade areas. The

latest round of TPP talks is being held in Malaysia through Thursday.

Also Friday in Singapore, Abe plans to meet with US Vice President Joseph Biden, who is scheduled to be in the city state then after visiting India. The two men are expected to agree to strengthen Japan-US ties following the landslide victory by Abe's ruling coalition in Sunday's House of Councillors election. Abe, who became prime minister in late December, made his first trip abroad as new Japanese leader in January, visiting three of the 10 ASEAN members — Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia. In May, he visited another ASEAN country, Myanmar. Japan and ASEAN are marking the 40th anniversary of their friendly ties this year, with a special Japan-ASEAN summit scheduled to be held in Tokyo in mid-December. Abe is scheduled to return to Japan on Saturday night. —*Kyodo News*

Japan to be briefed by TPP countries day after its TPP debut



Japan's chief negotiator Koji Tsuruoka heads to the 18th round of talks for the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade agreement in the Malaysian resort of Kota Kinabalu on 24 July, 2013. Japan made its debut as the 12th member of the talks the previous day.

KYODO NEWS

KOTA KINABALU, (Malaysia), 24 July— Japan is expected to be briefed by other members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations about the current status of the talks on Wednesday, a day after becoming their 12th member.

Japan made its belated debut in the already three-year-old negotiations on Tuesday, joining the 18th round of talks, being held in

Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. The round began on 15 July and ends on Thursday.

With TPP countries aiming to conclude a deal by the end of the year, they are planning to help Japan catch up with the negotiations by holding sessions on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday devoted to briefing Japanese negotiators on the current status of the talks.

Kyodo News

Boat carrying asylum seekers sinks off Indonesia, 60 feared dead

SYDNEY, 24 July — A boat carrying as many as 170 suspected asylum seekers bound for Australia has sunk off the south coast of Indonesia, with up to 60 people feared dead or missing, Australian media reported on Wednesday.

The latest mishap at sea involving boat people came less than a week after Australia slammed the door on would-be refugees with a deal to send all boat arrivals to Papua New Guinea for assessment and eventual settlement.

As many as 170 people were on board the vessel, which broke up in heavy seas late on Tuesday, *News Ltd* reported. More than 100 people, mostly from Iran and Sri Lanka, were rescued by fisherman in the area overnight, it said. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) confirmed that a rescue operation was underway, without providing further information.

"Indonesian authorities are coordinating the rescue of that incident. AMSA is not involved at this stage," a spokeswoman for the authority said. Indonesia's

National Search and Rescue (Basarnas) was not immediately available for comment.

Refugee policy and immigration are hot political issues in Australia, particularly with an election looming in a few weeks. On Friday, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd announced tough new measures to stem what has been described as a dramatic increase in the number of refugee boats setting out on the perilous journey from Indonesia. More than 15,000 asylum seekers have arrived by boat in Australian territory this year, igniting a heated debate on refugee policy and prompting opposition accusations that the ruling Labour government is soft on border protection.

That number trying to reach Australia however is tiny compared with refugee arrivals elsewhere in the world and the new policy has been condemned by human rights groups. Amnesty International said Australia was shirking its moral obligations and turning its back on the world's most vulnerable people.

Reuters



Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao

Chinese VP to visit DPRK

BEIJING, 24 July — Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao will head a Chinese delegation to visit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) from 25 to 28 July at the invitation of the DPRK side.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei made the announcement

here on Wednesday.

According to the spokesman, during the visit, Li, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, will attend activities in commemoration of the 60th anniversary for the truce of the Korea War. — *Xinhua*

Indian PM meets US vice president

BEIJING, 24 July — US Vice President Joe Biden has met with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in New Delhi.

Biden's trip to India aims to boost trade, political and defence ties between the two countries. It is also seen as a big step in promoting US President Barack Obama's plan to forge strong partnerships in

the Asia-Pacific region.

Earlier, Biden met his Indian counterpart Hamid Ansari. Biden is accompanied by his wife, who will visit a US supported public health program in Agra.

The Bidens will then head to Mumbai, where the vice president will meet business leaders before heading for Singapore on Thursday. — *Xinhua*

IKEA spurns S Korea offer to invest in Kaesong industrial zone

SEOUL, 24 July — Global furniture retailer IKEA has turned down a South Korean government offer to set up a plant in an inter-Korean industrial zone in North Korea's border city of Kaesong, South Korea's Unification Ministry spokesman said on Wednesday.

Kim Hyung Seok said South Korean officials held

talks with officials from IKEA's office in Seoul early last year, during which it said it arrived at the decision "from business perspective." The spokesman's remarks came after Wednesday's *Dong-A Ilbo* newspaper quoted a diplomatic source as saying IKEA rejected the South Korean request, citing excessive risk. — *Kyodo News*



ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (006)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (006) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORIENT OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (116)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (116) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV AN YUE JIANG VOY NO (190)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN YUE JIANG VOY NO (190) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921



Photo taken on 22 July, 2013 shows the ruins of Suoyang City in Guazhou County, northwest China's Gansu Province. The ruins of Suoyang City is ready to meet the evaluation from experts for its access to the World Cultural Heritage list in August. Suoyang, which dates back to the Han Dynasty (202 BC-220 AD), was an ancient city on the "Silk Road", a route that facilitated Eurasia trade and cultural exchanges in ancient times.— XINHUA

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)

(4/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB -031(2013-2014)	(a) SSB/HF Transceiver (Synthesized) (25 W-100W) (b) VHF/FM Transceiver (Synthesized) (25 W) (c) VHF/FM Transceiver (Walkie-Talkie) (5 W)	(2) Nos (1) No (11) Nos	US \$
(2)	IFB -032(2013-2014)	Spares for Komatsu Dozer	(16) Items	US \$
(3)	IFB -033(2013-2014)	Spares for Kobelco Excavator	(10) Items	US \$
(4)	IFB -034(2013-2014)	Spares for Kobelco Excavator	(11) Items	US \$
(5)	IFB -035(2013-2014)	Spares for D 375 Rig Pump	(21) Items	US \$
(6)	IFB -036(2013-2014)	2 7/8" AOH Drill Pipe and Accessories (1) Lot	(3500) MTR	US \$
(7)	IFB -037(2013-2014)	13 5/8" x3K Well Head Assy	(1) Lot	US \$
(8)	IFB -038(2013-2014)	13 5/8" x5K Well Head Assy	(1) Lot	US \$
(9)	IFB -039(2013-2014)	4 3/4" Tri Cone Rock Bit	(10) Nos	US \$
(10)	IFB -040(2013-2014)	National Torque Convertor (C 245-125)	(3) Nos	US \$
(11)	DMP/L-016(2013-2014)	Nissan Engine & Gear Box (Recondition)	(1) Set	Kyat
(12)	DMP/L-017(2013-2014)	2" Pitch Double Roller Chain & Offset Link	(2) Items	Kyat
(13)	DMP/L-018(2013-2014)	10.00 x 20 Tyre, 11.00 x 20 Tyre, 12.00 x 20 Tyre, 7.50 x 16 Tyre, 7.00 x 16 Tyre & 20.5 x 25-24 Ply Tyre	(6) Items	Kyat
(14)	DMP/L-019(2013-2014)	Rubber Cushion For CAT-3512 Engine & Mitsubishi Generator	(48) Nos	Kyat
(15)	DMP/L-020(2013-2014)	Bearings, Oil Seals & O-Rings For EMSCO Drilling Rig	(1) Lot	Kyat

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 19-8-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 23rd July, 2013 at the Material Planning Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

Uganda building collapse leaves four dead, six injured

KAMPALA, 24 July — Four people were killed and six others seriously injured when a building under renovation collapsed on Monday morning in the Ugandan capital Kampala, a police spokesman said here.

The incident happened at Nakivubo Mews near Magoba Arcade, where constructors were demolishing the house for renovation in the busy downtown Kampala, according to Patrick Onyango, Uganda's deputy police spokesperson. The police and the Uganda Red Cross Society arrived at the scene for rescue operations of people still believed to be trapped under the rubble. Police investigations are under way.

The injured have been rushed to Mulago Hospital, the country's national referral hospital for treatment.

Gen Kale Kayihura, the inspector general of police who visited the scene, blamed the Kampala Capital City Authority for allowing dilapidated buildings in the city, which puts people's lives at risk.— Xinhua



Youth participate in a school parade performing folk dances of Peru, in the Armas Square of the city of Peru, capital of Peru, on 20 July, 2013. The "Third School Parade", which is called Millennium and Cultural Lima and organized by the city of Lima, brings together all the schools in the city to commemorate the upcoming national holiday on 28 July.— XINHUA

Chilly weather in Argentina kills one, blocks roads

BUENOS AIRES, 24 July — A cold front affecting Argentina since Thursday killed a homeless man on Monday in the western Province of Mendoza while a blizzard caused roadblocks in some areas.

The victim was a 40-year-old man whose body was found in the street in Mendoza's city of San Martin, some 1,100 km northwest of Buenos Aires. Local police said the man might have frozen to death. In the capital Buenos Aires, temperatures dipped to

freezing, with a wind-chill factor of -0.3 degrees Celsius registered on Monday at 4:00 pm local time (1900 GMT). But the lowest temperatures were reported in three southern cities including San Carlos de Bariloche in Rio Negro Province, with -11 degrees Celsius, and Zapala and San Martin de los Andes, both in Neuquen Province, with -10 degrees Celsius.

In Chubut Province, a total of 133 vehicles, including 98 trucks, were stranded along National

Route 3, a highway that links the cities of Comodoro Rivadavia and Trelew, due to piles of snow.

Snow also fell in Misiones Province, along Argentina's northern border with Brazil and Paraguay, which is unusual for the region. San Vicente, a town 190 km south of Misiones's capital Posadas, was the most affected by snow. The National Meteorological Service forecast the cold spell will last until Wednesday.

Xinhua

ENTERTAINMENT

US film, TV actors to honour Rita Moreno with lifetime award

LOS ANGELES, 24 July— The Screen Actors Guild, which represents film, television and other performers in the United States, on Monday said Rita Moreno will receive its lifetime achievement award at its annual awards ceremony in January.

Moreno, 81, has been performing for nearly 70 years as an actress, singer and dancer and won an Oscar in 1962 for her supporting

role as the sassy Anita in “West Side Story,” a character she informed with her own upbringing in a Bronx “barrio.”

Born in Puerto Rico, Moreno is the only Hispanic to have won the four major awards in the entertainment industry—the Emmys, the Grammys, the Oscars and the Tonys—and one of only 11 artists to have done so.

“She is an extraordinary



Cast member Rita Moreno poses as she arrives for a screening in honor of the “West Side Story: 50th Anniversary Edition” Blu-ray release in Hollywood, California on 15 Nov, 2011.

REUTERS

ily versatile, talented and generous actor whose career is notable for its courageous choices and for the breadth, depth and quality of her many demanding and commanding roles,” said Ken Howard, co-president of the guild known as SAG-AFTRA.

Moreno will be the 50th recipient of the award.

The Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists merged last year to form SAG-AFTRA, which is the trade’s leading group that represents some 165,000 actors, broadcasters, dancers, recording artists and other performers.

The group’s awards show, scheduled to take place on 18 January, 2014 in Los Angeles, annually recognizes the best performances of the previous year on film and TV.—Reuters



US singer Lady Gaga poses for photographers upon arrival for her concert in Manila on 19 May, 2012.

REUTERS

Lady Gaga is top earning celebrity under 30: Forbes

NEW YORK, 24 July— Despite hip surgery that forced the cancellation of part of her tour, Lady Gaga still earned an estimated \$80 million in the past year, propelling her to the top of Forbes list of highest earning celebrities under 30 years old.

Canadian pop singer Justin Bieber, who made headlines as much for his antics off stage as on, came in a distant second with

an estimated income of \$58 million. Singer Taylor Swift was third, pulling in \$55 million, about \$2 million less than last year when she topped the list.

The Forbes website said Lady Gaga, 27, would have earned more had she not had to cancel some 20 US shows starting in February. Gaga announced earlier this month that she will release her next album “ARTPOP” on 11

November. DJ, songwriter and producer Calvin Harris, who played more than 150 shows from June 2012–June 2013 and earned \$46 million, was fourth on the list, and Barbados-born pop star Rihanna rounded out the top five with earnings of \$43 million.

To compile the ranking Forbes estimated entertainment-related income for the 12 months from June 2012 through June 2013 by talking to agents, managers, producers and executives.

British singer Adele, who won an Oscar for the theme from the James Bond movie “Skyfall,” was seventh on the list with an estimated \$25 million.

Along with singers, two actresses also made the top 10. Best actress Oscar winner Jennifer Lawrence, who wowed audiences and critics for her performance in “Silver Linings Playbook” and also appeared in “The Hunger Games,” earned \$26 million, which secured her the No 8 spot, just ahead of fellow actress Kristen Stewart of “Twilight” fame, who had earnings of \$22 million.

Reuters

Madonna devastated after close friend’s death

LONDON, 24 July— Singer Madonna is reportedly devastated after death of her close pal David Collins.

The singer was seen landing at the Heathrow Airport dressed entirely in black and will go to Ireland, where the funeral will take place.

Collins was an interior designer and lost his battle to skin cancer after just three weeks of it getting diagnosed. He died on 17 July.

“Madonna is beside

herself with grief. David was one of her closest pals for years - she adored him,” thesun.co.uk quoted a source as saying.

“They’d often have a laugh around London, driving around together. She can’t believe he died just three weeks after his diagnosis,” the source added.

Collins designed the interiors of some of Madonna’s favourite London haunts, including Claridge’s - as well as the inside of her homes.

PTI

Rapper J Cole apologizes for insensitive lyrics about autism



Rapper J Cole

NEW YORK, 24 July— An American rap artist who drew criticism for using a disparaging line about people with autism in a song lyric has apologized.

J Cole said he had removed the line, which referred to rivals as “autistic” and “retarded,” from the

song “Jodeci Freestyle.”

“I want to educate myself more on Autism, and I’ll gladly own my mistake and serve as an example to today’s generation that there’s nothing cool about mean-spirited comments about someone with Autism,” J Cole wrote on his

blog, DreamVillain.

“People with this disorder and their loved ones have to go through so much already, the last thing they need is to hear something as ignorant as what I said,” he continued in the post, dated 21 July. “I understand.”

J Cole had performed the song with the rapper Drake, who has also apologized.

“This was a learning lesson for both of us, and I’m grateful for the opportunity to try to right this wrong,” Drake posted on his website on Monday.

The lyrics drew criticism from people with autism spectrum disorder and their families.—Reuters

Daniel Radcliffe turns super skinny for play

LOS ANGELES, 24 July—Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe has been sporting a skinny look for a demanding theatre role.

The 23-year-old actor, who was spotted leaving the Noel Coward Theatre on 18 July, was looking tired, pale and skinny and has sparked fears for his health, reported *Us* magazine.

His representative has revealed that his appearance is all down due to his role in the Martin McDonagh play *The Cripple*

of *Inishmaan*, which is currently playing at the Noel Coward theatre.

“It is a very demanding role, physically. At every night’s performance, there is a large crowd at the stage door and he takes the time to sign autographs and pose for pictures at length,” the representative added.

In the play, Radcliffe takes on the role of a 17-year-old orphan who tries to escape his unhappy life when a Hollywood film crew arrives in town.

PTI



Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe



Singer Madonna

SPORTS

We won't lose Wayne Rooney, says David Moyes

YOKOHAMA, (Japan), 24 July—Manchester United boss David Moyes on Tuesday said Wayne Rooney is coming back to fitness after a hamstring injury and moved to reassure fans the striker is not leaving the club.

Moyes said Rooney, whose departure from United's pre-season tour with a minor hamstring tear heightened speculation over his future, was on course for a quick recovery.

"So far as I know, he is coming back, he is jogging," Moyes told reporters in Japan. "We are not going to lose him." Rooney's return could be timely after forwards Robin van Persie and Danny Welbeck both suffered minor problems in



Manchester United boss David Moyes

Tuesday's 3-2 defeat to Yokohama Marinos in Japan.

Moyes admitted that United had "a couple of wee worries" over the pair, after van Persie was withdrawn with a thigh problem and Welbeck pulled up with a groin twinge.

The start of Moyes's stewardship has been domi-

nated by talk about Rooney, the subject of a bid from United's rivals Chelsea.

Manchester United have games in Osaka and Hong Kong over the next week before rounding off their tour with a game in Sweden. Their first Premier League game is on 17 August.—PTI

Jose Mourinho says no mind-games against David Moyes

JAKARTA, 24 July—Chelsea's Jose Mourinho on Tuesday hit back at suggestions he was trying to destabilize new Manchester United manager David Moyes after targeting striker Wayne Rooney.

The experienced Portuguese campaigner said he had done nothing but praise the English champions' incoming boss since returning for a second spell at Stamford Bridge.

Mourinho said he had called Moyes a "great coach, (who) deserves success, he deserves time to work, he didn't win trophies in Everton because it's very difficult to win trophies there".

"If to speak good about him is to play mind games,

what do you say if I speak bad about him?" Mourinho told a briefing in the Indonesian capital Jakarta.

"So the best thing is not to speak. If I don't speak, nobody says anything."

Mourinho raised suspicions that he was trying to make life difficult for Moyes after speaking glowingly about Rooney and hinting a move could improve his England chances before Chelsea's bid was made public.

Moyes, taking over from the legendary Alex Ferguson, has had trouble with the Rooney question in his early weeks in charge, and has repeatedly told journalists the unsettled striker is not for sale.

However, he flatly told Mourinho to "bring it on" when asked if he was a victim of mind games by the ex-Inter Milan and Real Madrid manager.

"If you're from Glasgow you quite enjoy those kind of things, so bring it on," said the Scot. However Mourinho, whose team plays an Indonesian All-Stars outfit on Thursday, added that Chelsea had an advantage over other teams because none of their players was up for grabs.

"Many clubs are waiting till the last moment to make that decision (to buy or sell players) but the prob-



Jose Mourinho

lem is this decision affects not just one or two clubs but a lot of them," he said.

"In that aspect we are lucky because we don't have players to sell so none of my players is leaving in any circumstances.

"So that's good for me... because many teams will be to the last moment under pressure." England defender Ashley Cole, signed during Mourinho's first stint at Chelsea after an infamous "tapping-up" scandal, said he wanted to stay at the club "as long as I can".

"I wouldn't say I've had an unfulfilled Chelsea career. I've been lucky enough to win a few trophies. I hope to win more. Having the manager back, we can do it all together," said the 32-year-old.

PTI

Real Madrid president: Cristiano Ronaldo to end career at club

MADRID, 24 July—Real Madrid president Florentino Perez says Cristiano Ronaldo will end his career with the Spanish giants and has denied receiving any bids for the Portugal forward.

Manchester United fans long for the return of Ronaldo, whom the English club sold to Madrid for a record 80 million pounds

(then \$131 million) in 2009.

Perez says in Tuesday's edition of French newspaper *L'Equipe* that "Real Madrid revolves around him," adding "I can assure you he will end his sports career here. We have not received any offers for him."

Despite scoring plenty of goals, Ronaldo has had off-field problems at Ma-



Cristiano Ronaldo

drid and recently acknowledged he misses the Premier League.

There is a 1 billion

euro (\$1.5 billion) buy-out clause in Ronaldo's contract, which runs until 2015.

PTI

Federer to start 2014 season in Brisbane



Roger Federer of Switzerland speaks at a news conference the day before the start of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 23 June, 2013.

REUTERS

SYDNEY, 24 July—Roger Federer will start his 2014 campaign at the Brisbane International next

January, underlining the tournament's status as the biggest of the Australian Open warm-ups.

The 31-year-old Swiss, who has four Melbourne Park titles among his 17 grand slams, has never previously started the year in Brisbane and the announcement was billed as the "biggest ... in the history" of the event, which started in 2009. Federer previously warmed up for the year's first grand slam at the now ailing Kooyong exhibition tournament and more recently in Doha, Qatar.

"I've always hoped that I could come there," Federer was quoted as saying in a media release.

"I'm not just coming for the Australian Open, especially when I commit so early in advance, it's also to win in Brisbane."

Wimbledon champion Andy Murray has won the men's event at the Pat Rafter Arena for the last two years, while Serena Williams won the women's title last year.—Reuters

Casey Stoner fuels comeback talk with Honda tests

SYDNEY, 24 July—Twice MotoGP world champion Casey Stoner has fuelled talk of a dramatic return to grand prix motorcycling by agreeing to do some testing for Honda in Japan next month.

The 27-year-old Australian, world champion for Ducati in 2007 and Honda four years later, retired at the end of the 2012 season saying he was no longer enjoying racing.

Stoner said he was still happy with his decision to stop racing bikes and move into the second tier of Australian V8 car racing but had agreed to test for Honda at Motegi, starting on 6 and 7 August.

"There are times when I miss riding my RC213V so I am really happy that Honda have asked me to do some testing in Motegi this year," Stoner told the Australian MotoGP website (www.motogp.com.au) on

Tuesday. "It will allow me to enjoy what I miss which is riding a MotoGP bike."

Honda Racing told the website that there were no plans for Stoner to ride as a wildcard at any races this season, not even in his

home race at Phillip Island in October.

"There have been rumours of a wild card races for Casey but this is out of the question," team principal Livio Suppo said.

Reuters



Former Moto GP world champion Casey Stoner of Australia prepares for an exhibition race at Albert Park ahead of the Australian F1 Grand Prix in Melbourne on 16 March, 2013.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Mickelson faces huge task to seal sweep of majors



Phil Mickelson of the US reacts after sinking a birdie putt on 14th green during the final round of the British Open golf championship at Muirfield in Scotland, on 21 July, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 24 July — Nine-times major champion Gary Player believes Phil Mickelson faces a “monumental task” to achieve a clean sweep of major wins and said it would be “eating him alive” if he was perennial nearly-man Lee Westwood.

Mickelson, who became only the second left-hander to win the British Open when he triumphed at Muirfield on Sunday, has set his sights on joining Player, Gene Sarazen, Ben Hogan, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods by landing the full set of all four of golf’s top prizes.

The 43-year-old American has five majors to his name, having also captured three US Masters crowns and one US PGA Championship, and needs a first win in the US Open to complete a career sweep.

“That is going to be the biggest challenge of all the majors for him,” South African Player told the BBC. “Because he is not a good driver and when you play the US Open you will have to use your driver.”

“This is a monumental task for him but he has got

that thing called ‘it’, which the majority of people don’t have. I think he will probably win it.

“You can’t describe it,” added the super-fit 77-year-old who attended last week’s British Open and still looks as lean and trim as he did in his heyday. “It is a gift that is loaned to you from the man above.”

Mickelson said a US Open triumph would cement his status as one of the greats.

“If I am able to make it a career grand slam, I think that’s the sign of the complete great player,” he said after emulating fellow left-hander Bob Charles’s 1963 British Open victory at Lytham.

“I am one leg away and it’s been a tough leg. There are five players who have done that and they are the greats of the game - you look at them in a different light.”

Mickelson won the US Masters in 2004, 2006 and 2010 and the US PGA Championship in 2005.

He said on Sunday the key to his three-stroke win over Swede Henrik Stenson in the third major of the year was his birdie at the

par-three 13th.

“I was behind the whole day and one-over-par for the championship,” explained Mickelson. “I hit a really good five-iron at the 13th to 10 feet and I knew that was a putt that was going to make the rest of the round go one way or the other.”

“It went in and it gave me a nice momentum boost because it’s very hard to make birdies out here. You’re not going to hit it to tap-in distance, you’re going to have to make some putts.”

“That was a critical putt because I made another birdie at 14, made some good pars at 15 and 16 and when I was walking up 17, that was the moment when I had to compose myself because there I hit the best two three-woods I’ve ever hit,” said Mickelson.

“That is why I don’t have a driver in the bag, those two three-woods were my best two shots of the week and got me on the green. As I walked up to the green, that was when I realised this is very much a championship in my control.”

Westwood looked the likeliest winner of the British Open when he went into the final round holding a two-stroke lead over the field.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(25-7-2013, Thursday)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6:00 am | 11:15 am |
| 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw | 17. Sing & Enjoy |
| 6:30 am | 12:00 pm |
| 2. To Be Healthy Exercise | 18. News/ International News/Weather Report |
| 6:35 am | 12:25 pm |
| 3. Dance & Song of National Races | 19. Myanmar Video |
| 6:45 am | 2:20 pm |
| 4. Documentary | 20. Musical Programmes |
| 7:00 am | 2:35 pm |
| 5. News/Weather Report | 21. Joint Performance by State Traditional Orchestra and State Orchestra |
| 7:20 am | 3:00 pm |
| 6. People Talks | 22. News |
| 7:30 am | 3:15 pm |
| 7. Teleplay (Health) | 23. Teleplay (Forest) |
| 7:45 am | 4:15 pm |
| 8. Documentary | 24. Myanmar Language |
| 8:00 am | 4:35 pm |
| 9. News/ International News | 25. Dance & Song of National Races |
| 8:25 am | 4:40 pm |
| 10. My Mind Game My SEA Games | 26. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - First Year (Botany) |
| 9:00 am | 5:15 pm |
| 11. News/ International News | 27. Documentary (SEA Games) |
| 9:20 am | 5:30 pm |
| 12. Mono Classical Songs | 28. India Drama Series |
| 9:40 am | 6:40 pm |
| 13. Documentary | 29. TV Drama Series |
| 10:00 am | 7:00 pm |
| 14. News | 30. News |
| 10:15 am | 9:00 pm |
| 15. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than | 31. News |
| 10:35 am | 32. Clever |
| 16. Teleplay | 33. TV Drama Series |

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(25-7-13 09:30 am ~ 26-7-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Shwe Maw Daw : The Glory of Bago City
- * World News
- * Fortune Teller: “Yan Moe Aung”
- * Local News
- * Soft Crab Breeding Procedure
- * World News
- * Reaching the Unreachable “Towards Safer Communities”
- * Local News
- * Anthropoid Origins in Myanmar (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Portraiture
- * Local News
- * Cruising to Precious Islands (Salon) Part-2
- * World News
- * Pride of Myanmar-Bagan Handicraft
- * Local News
- * Food Trip (Episode-8) (Part-2)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review “Red Flower”
- * Local News
- * The Legend of An ambulatory Surgeon (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * Lannakha Waterfall
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Social And Charitable Association (Episode-3) (Part-I)
- * World News
- * Five Treasures in the Ancient City Of Mrauk U
- * Local News
- * Cruising to Precious Islands (Salon) Part-1
- * World News
- * Myanmar Puppet

US tells Rwanda to stop support for M23 rebels in Congo



M23 rebel fighters walk as they withdraw near the town of Sake, 42 km (26 miles) west of Goma in eastern Congo on 30 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

woman Jen Psaki said. The call comes two days before US Secretary of State John Kerry chairs a special session of the UN Security Council on Africa’s Great Lakes region.

M23 began taking parts of eastern Congo early last year, accusing the government of failing to honour a 2009 peace deal. A UN report in June this year said the M23 recruited fighters in Rwanda with the aid of sympathetic Rwandan army officers, while elements of the Congolese army have cooperated with the Rwandan Hutu

rebel group FDLR. The report prompted the United States and European states to suspend military assistance to Kigali.

Psaki said the latest concerns over M23 follow credible evidence from Human Rights Watch that said the rebels were to blame for executions, rapes and forcible recruitment of men and boys while receiving support from Rwanda.

The rights group acknowledged on Tuesday erroneous testimony in the report but said it stands by its conclusions. A statement by the group said the report contained an error based on the testimony of one of the sources it interviewed. “It said the Rwandan soldiers had served with the peace-keeping contingent in Somalia and Darfur.—Reuters

Two killed in train-truck collision in Egypt

CAIRO, 24 July — At least two people were killed and five others injured on Tuesday evening in a train-truck collision in Egypt’s Beheira governorate, state-run news agency MENA reported.

A truck, carrying several agriculture workers, was hit by a coming train when the former attempted to cross the railway through an illegal barrier.

Two of the five injured were in serious conditions,

said Mohamed Meanisy, undersecretary of the health department in Beheira.

The accident came three days after two people were killed in another train-car crash in Suez governorate.

Egypt has been witnessing a series of deadly railway crashes over the past few years, reflecting the deterioration of the railway system and the lack of railroad maintenance.

Xinhua

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker, Vietnamese National Assembly Chairman sign two parliaments' cooperation agreement

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received Chairman of National Assembly of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung and party at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, at 4 pm today.

At the call, they frankly discussed promoting bilateral cooperation between the two parliaments, potentials to make more investments of Vietnamese entrepreneurs in Myanmar, and cooperation in various sectors including tourism industry.

Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives and officials concerned from the Hluttaw Office.

After the meeting, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and the visiting Vietnamese National Assembly Chairman exchanged gifts.

At 5 pm, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and Vietnamese National Assembly Chairman Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung signed an agreement on cooperation between the two parliaments.

The signing ceremony was attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

After the signing ceremony, both sides held discussions about progress in foreign investment in Myanmar including from Vietnam, commodity flow



and trade between Myanmar and Vietnam, as well as promoting trade sector by 2015.

Next, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker hosted dinner to the Vietnamese delegation.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint receives Chairman of National Assembly of Vietnam Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung.—MNA

KIO opens Technical Advisory Team to step up peace process

MYITKYINA, 24 July—Technical Advisory Team formed under the agreement reached during the peace talks between KIO and the government in May opened its office in Myitkyina today, marking a step towards permanent peace in Kachin State.

At the ceremony to unveil the signboard of the office, U Swong Lut Gum, the leader of the negotiation team of the KIO, said the team was formed in preparation for systematic peace process and would carry out measures step by step for holding political dialogues with the

government while seeking advices from experts.

U Aung Min, Vice-Chairman of the Union Peace Making Working Committee, stressed the need for drawing a framework or roadmap which is acceptable by all including the government and all armed

ethnic armed groups and can lead to the peace and for holding all inclusive national peace conference to reach a national peace accord.

He expressed his hope for holding talks between technical teams of both sides and for holding Union level peace talks to bring the

eternal peace to Kachin State and to the country.

Kachin State Chief Minister U La Jun Ngan Hsai expressed thanks to those who have been participating in the peace process, calling for cooperation in bringing peace to Kachin State.

After the ceremony, Union Minister U Aung Min, Union Minister U Ohn Myint, Chief Minister U La Jun Ngan Hsai and

ministers met with 13 prisoners including U Baran Shaung who have been released from the prison under amnesty granted by the President and presented cash assistance to them.

The prisoners who have been released from the Myitkyina Prison will return home tonight with the arrangement of Kachin State Government.

MNA

MEH Ltd signs MoU for amending previous agreement

NAY PYI TAW, 24 July—A ceremony to sign MoU between Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd of Mining Enterprise No (1) and Wanbao Mining Ltd for amending previous agreement was held at the department, here, this morning and Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung gave a speech.

Then, Managing

Director U Kyaw Hsan of Mining Enterprise No (1), Managing Director Maj-Gen Zarni Win of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd signed MoU with President Mr Chen De Fang of Wanbo Mining Ltd.

The ceremony was attended by Union ministers U Hla Tun, U Win Shein, U Win Tun, U Zeyar Aung and Dr Kan Zaw, Attorney-

General of the Union Dr Tun Shin and Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, the chairman and managing director of MEH Ltd, deputy ministers U Thant Shin, Thura U Thauung Lwin and U Than Tun Aung, Forest and Mine Minister of Sagaing Region U Than Htike and the president and vice-president of Wanbo Mining Ltd.—MNA

Myanmar, ROK eyes agriculture sector development



NAY PYI TAW, 24 July — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received Director-General for Development Cooperation under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea Ms. OH, Youngji and Ms. Yim Jinseon of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) at the

ministry, here, yesterday evening.

They held discussions on provision of assistance to projects being implemented for development of agriculture sector in Myanmar and full contribution to establishment of a Post-harvest Technology Application Centre in Nay Pyi Taw.

After the meeting, the Union Minister and the Korean delegation visited a educative farmland irrigated by Ngalaik Dam in Pobbathiri Township and a 65-acre research farmland in Zabuthiri Township and observed thriving 440-acre Palethwal summer paddy plantation in Pysin Township.—MNA

