Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

UEC Chairman meets subcommission members in Rakhine State

NAV Pyi Taw, 28 Aug—The meeting between the Chairman of Union Election Commission and state, district, township, ward and village subcommission members in Rakhine State took place at City Hall in Sittway on 9 August.

Chairman of the UEC U Thein Soe first made a speech. Chairman of Rakhine State Subcommission U Aung Mya, Secretary U Kyaw Myint, and district and township subcommission chairmen reported on electoral processes to the UEC Chairman.

The meeting ended with a concluding remark by the UEC Chairman.—MNA

Integrated farming helps improve rural economy

Win Thein Oo (Fishery)

Recently, I made a trip to Upper Myanmar for writing articles on progress of fishery industry and conservation of fish resource in accord with the instruction of the Director-General of Fisheries Department.

During the trip, I visited 100-acre fish pond of U Tun Yin’s Mya Kantha integrated farm in Taungpyone region of Madaya Township. I saw fish ponds and concrete buildings of poultry farms on them. The integrated farming is contributing to uplifting livelihoods of rural people through the combined task of agriculture and livestock breeding which is included in five rural development tasks adopted by the State.

The integrated farming must mutually benefit agriculture and livestock breeding. Waste from livestock breeding is to be utilized as organic fertilizer and by-products from agriculture is also to be used as fertilizer so as to double the production. The integrated farming can boost production and create the job opportunity for increasing income of employers and employees. Such farming on a manageable scale can earn the increased income for the families. Indeed, it is necessary to take care of biosecurity due to containing bios and living organisms.

While visiting the farm in Taungpyone region, I remember the integrated fish farming training I received in China in 1997. Chinese farmers established the poultry farms at the upper stage, the pig farms at the middle and the fish ponds at the lower level and mulberry plantation on the bund of fish ponds. I saw silk weaving works at the same venue.

When the fish ponds were dried in the sun, pond silt was fed to mulberry plants. The farms created job opportunities for the local people.

In Taungpyone, the integrated farms of farmer U Tun Yin generated jobs for 37 households and they were engaged in works of fishery, poultry breeding and growing of mango plants. All members of families were working on the farms.

(See page 9)
Perspectives

Sunday, 29 August, 2010

Time to stand unitedly

Emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed democratic nation is the national goal. The government is taking measures to ensure peace and stability of the State and the rule of law, build firm economic infrastructures and develop human resources.

As desired by the people, nation-building tasks require constant efforts that need to be made in accord with the call of the past, present and future. It is the national duty of all to work with correct vision and true patriotism.

Peace and stability is instrumental in shaping a new nation. With the unity and national consolidation among the State, the people and the Tatmadaw, the whole country has seen peace and tranquility alongside fruits of development.

As a result, nation-building endeavours and national development work are picking up. All basic requirements are being fulfilled to ensure balanced development in every region and then the whole Union. With a lot of projects being implemented and some completed, fruitful results can be witnessed.

For the improvement of Kayin State’s education sector, about 1500 universities, colleges, institutions and libraries have been opened. Sixteen 180-foot-and-above bridges, 274 under-180-foot bridges and 271 miles of roads including 144 miles of tarred roads, have been built. And these are signs of progress. Besides, the national race organizations that have returned to the legal fold are taking part in regional development tasks in collaboration with the State, the people and the Tatmadaw.

Overall, all the national people are to actively and unitedly participate in nation-building tasks by maintaining prevailing peace and stability and prosperity.

Lolane on display at Yangon International Product Showcase 2010

Booth of Lolane cosmetics crowded with visitors at Tatmadaw Convention Hall.—MNA

Kanyin Dam in Ingapu Tsp to irrigate 25,000 acres

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo views progress of Kanyin Dam Project.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Aug—Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Htay Oo, on 24 August, visited Kanyin Dam Project in Ingapu Township, Hinthada District, Ayeyawady Region.

At the briefing hall, the minister heard reports on progress in construction of main dam, conduit, spillway and irrigation facilities, and gave instructions.

The main dam is of earthen type and will be 194 feet in height and 2,850 feet in length. Earthworks for construction of the main dam has so far completed by 73 per cent.

The conduit is high-pressure steel pipe and will be 938 feet in length. Earthworks for construction of the conduit has finished by 56 per cent and concreting 14 per cent.

The spillway will be 250 feet wide and 991 feet long. Earthworks for the spillway has completed by 61 per cent and concreting 100 per cent. The whole has so far completed by 61 per cent.

The dam being built by damming up Kanyin Creek in Ingapu Township will be able to irrigate 25,000 acres of farmlands and generate 5-megawatt hydroelectricity, contributing to development of surrounding regions.

MNA

Progress of Nancho Hydropower Plant inspected

Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min looks into implementation of Nancho Hydropower Project.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Aug—Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min yesterday afternoon inspected land preparations for laying penstock steel pipeline Convention Hall on U Wisara Road here.

Inforithm-Maze organized the exhibition with the sponsorship of Department of Export Promotion of Thailand.

Lolane professional hairstylists from Thailand decorated models with new hairdos.

The company introduced Lolane Nature Code Colour Shampoo which can recolour one’s hair going grey within five minutes after shampooing.

Those who want to retail the products may contact the company headquarters at No. 40, 67th Street, Botataung Township, here, (Ph: 294045, 290170, 291318, 291319, Fax: 296928, Email: grandwyn@myanmar.com).—MNA

and construction of power station and swift yard at Nancho Hydropower Project, seven miles upstream of the confluence of Nancho Creek and Paunglaung River.

He looked into progress in construction of concrete water control tank and digging of the entrance and exit at No. 2 water tunnel and concrete lining works of No. 1 water tunnel.

The minister viewed construction of concrete embankment and water intake structure and gave necessary instructions. He also inspected progress of concrete works. He stressed the need to supervise worksite safety and standards of the construction materials. Nancho Hydropower Project has completed by 57.47 per cent. On completion, the project installed two 20-megawatt generators will generate 152 million kilowatt hours yearly.—MNA
New breach in Pakistan flood levee

Pakistani villagers flee their homes due to flooding in Thatta near Hyderabad, Pakistan on 26 Aug, 2010.—INTERNET

THATTA, 28 Aug—Floodwaters made another break on Saturday in the levees protecting the southern city of Thatta, as thousands of residents fled for high ground and left the city nearly empty. Both sides of the main road were crowded with people — from Thatta and nearby flooded villages fleeing the floodwaters. Many had spent the night sleeping in the open. Hadi Baksh Kalhoro, a Thatta disaster management official, said more than 175,000 people had left the city, leaving it nearly deserted. Some are heading for nearby towns or cities, he said; with thousands also headed for the high ground of an ancient graveyard for Muslim saints. He said the latest levee breach, which happened early on Saturday, could leave the outskirts of Thatta flooded by later in the day. The city is about 75 miles (125 kilometers) southeast of the major coastal city of Karachi. Internet

Heavy rains kill 34, affect 85,000 in Nicaragua

MANAGUA, 28 Aug—Thirty-four people have died in constant heavy rains since May in Nicaragua as of Friday, in a developing disaster that has already affected some 85,000 people.

Twenty-three of the deaths took place in August, according to Nestor Solis Gonzalez from the Civil Defence. There were six confirmed deaths during last 24 hours. Among those affected by the killer rains, one a few were staying at the shelters established by the aid organizations.

Solis said roads in many northerner provinces were badly damaged and the rains have left many municipalities isolated. Nicaragua’s Producers Union were badly damaged and the rains have left many municipalities isolated. Nicaragua’s Producers Union said the rains also affected the harvesting of beans, sorghum, soya and peanut as the crops died of too much water. The government is expected to launch a relief plan in the coming days.

600 houses flooded, 300 families displaced in E Nepal

KATHMANDU, 28 Aug—With heavy rainfall in recent days, over 300 families have been displaced by floods while around 600 houses have been waterlogged in Morang District. Similarly, a culvert collapse has obstructed vehicular movement in Jhapa District in eastern Nepal.

According to Saturday’s Republica.com report, around 600 houses in Kahara and Baradangda villages have been inundated by the river that entered into human settlements following Thursday night’s incessant rain. Some 60 people have been trapped by currents of water.

Security personnel equipped with boats and life-jackets have been mobilized in the flooded area. They have been working tirelessly to rescue the villagers. —Xinhua

Afghan Taleban attack NATO bases, 11 attackers killed

KHOST, 28 Aug—A group of Taleban militants launched an attack on NATO bases in eastern Afghanistan’s Khost Province early on Saturday, 11 attackers were killed and two soldiers sustained injuries, press department of NATO said. “A group of Taleban terrorists raided two bases of NATO-led troops in Khost Province early on Saturday,” provincial police chief Abdul Hakim Ishaaqi told Xinhua. He added that the militants attacked NATO-led forces bases in Sahra Bagh and old airfield at 05:00 am local time.

The situation in Sahra Bagh base has been brought under control as all the attackers had been killed but gun battle is going on at the old airfield. Press department of NATO-led troops in southeast Afghanistan confirmed the attack, saying 25 militants targeted military bases by rockets and small arms early morning. During the clash 11 militants were killed and two soldiers sustained injuries, the press department emphasized.

Meantime, a Taleban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed of responsibility and in talks with media via telephone from undisclosed location said 20 suicide bombers stormed NATO bases in Khost Province this morning.

Mujahid also claimed that the militants shot down a helicopter in the old airfield.—Xinhua

Two car bombs explode in northeastern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 28 Aug—Two car bombs exploded on Friday at the same time in different places of Ciudad Victoria, capital of Tamaulipas state in northeast of Mexico with no injuries.

One of the bombs exploded early Friday morning outside the building of Mexican TV channel Televisa in the south of Ciudad Victoria, while the other explosion occurred near the facilities of the Municipal Transit Direction.

During the broadcasting of Televisa’s news programme “Primero Noticias” its conductor Carlos Loret said that the bomb in Televisa building in Ciudad Victoria only caused material damages.

“There are material damages outside. Inside we do not know, because the militaries and federal policemen cordoned off the zone and do not allow the pass,” Loret said. Minutes later, another bomb exploded, some 2 kilometres away from the first, also causing only material damages.

On 15 Aug a grenade was thrown to the roof of Televisa offices in Matamoros, in Tamaulipas state, also causing only material damages. The same day in the offices of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon another grenade exploded in front of Televisa’s office. In 30 July another bomb blast took place in Televisa’s offices in Nuevo Laerdo, causing only material damages.

Tamaulipas is the scene of the fight between the Golfo drug cartel and Los Zetas criminal organization.—Xinhua

Suspected US missile strike kills four in NW Pakistan

PARACHINAR, 28 Aug—Suspected US missiles struck two vehicles carrying militants in northwest Pakistan, killing four of them, intelligence officials said on Saturday.

The overnight attack happened in the Kurram tribal region bordering Afghanistan. The slain men were from Taleban’s Haqqani network, which is blamed for launching attacks across the border against the American and NATO forces in Afghanistan, one of the three intelligence officials said. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Although the CIA has repeatedly targeted militant positions in Pakistan’s tribal regions, such strikes in Kurram are rare.—Internet

Homes evacuated overnight near Montana wildfire

CANYON CREEK, 28 Aug—Authorities in western Montana roused people from their beds early on Friday to flee an approaching wildfire, as thunderstorms sparked dozens more in blazes across the West in Idaho and Nevada. Cooler temperatures and calmer winds helped firefighters control wildfires that flared up a day earlier across eastern Washington. Montana authorities began knocking on doors at 3 am on Friday, warning residents that a fire in the Bitterroot National Forest was threatening their homes. The Downing Mountain fire was reported Thursday evening and grew to 415 acres by Friday afternoon, said forest spokesman Tod McKay. But the blaze was moving west, away from houses and away from the town of Hamilton, which is just three miles away, he said.

About 70 homes in the Blodgett and Canyon Creek areas were evacuated and fire officials said residents of another 100 homes were warned they may have to leave.

“This is not an easy process for residents to be told at 3 am that they must leave their homes which are currently threatened. Thankfully everyone has been very understanding and cooperative,” said Ravalli County Sheriff Chris Hoffman.—Internet
Tiny Gulf Sea creature could shed light on Oil Spill’s impact

An anemone of the same species Jenny is studying. —Internet

ALABAMA, 28 Aug.—A University of Alabama molecular biologist will soon bring dozens of tiny, transparent animals that live in Gulf Coast waters back to his campus laboratory as part of an effort to better understand the oil spill’s long-term impact on the coastal environment and creatures living there.

The National Science Foundation awarded Dr. Matthew Jenny, assistant professor of biological sciences at UA, a research grant for the project focusing on sea anemones, small animals related to the corals that build ocean reefs.

Jenny, working in collaboration with researchers at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, will collect and preserve anemones pulled from coastal waters from Alabama to Louisiana.—Internet

Researchers listen to ‘ringing’ star

BOULDER, 28 Aug.—A distant star US scientists say is “ringing like a bell” could provide clues to other stars that might have planets that might be able to host life.

Scientists at the National Centre for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo, with colleagues in France and Spain, studied a star known as HD49933, located 100 light years from Earth in the constellation Monoceros.

The team examined the star’s acoustic fluctuations, using a technique called “stellar seismology” that measured “starspots,” areas of intense magnetic energy similar to the sun’s sunspots.

“Essentially, the star is ringing like a bell,” NCAR scientist Travis Metcalfe, a co-author of the new study, says. “As it moves through its starspot cycle, the tone and volume of the ringing changes in a very specific pattern, moving to higher tones with lower volume at the peak of its magnetic cycle.”

Researchers suspect the star in the northern hemisphere formed recently, no earlier than April 2004, Nathan Bridges, a HI3RISE science team member at the University of Arizona, said.

The crater appeared in photos taken between 6 June and 7 July.

“It’s showing we’re getting ice pretty far south,” Bridges said. “As we continue to look at these things it’s a good way to determine where shallow ice is on Mars.”

The ice patch covers an area of up to 20 square feet. It “is probably at the same depth and has a similar origin to that excavated by the Phoenix lander back in 2008,” he said.

NASA’s Phoenix Mars Lander landed in the Martian arctic in May 2008 and found evidence of water ice just beneath the surface.

During the next Martian summer “the HI3RISE team will likely take additional pictures to check up on the crater,” Bridges said.

High-resolution camera snaps water ice on Mars

TUCSON, 28 Aug.—A NASA spacecraft with a high-resolution camera has photographed a young Mars crater and found frozen water in it, scientists say.

A recent image from NASA’s Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter HI3RISE camera shows water ice at the bottom of a 20-foot-wide crater on the planet’s surface, SPACE.com reported on Friday.

Researchers suspect the crater in the northern hemisphere formed recently, no earlier than April 2004, Nathan Bridges, a HI3RISE science team member at the University of Arizona, said.

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Three big-carrier, Android-packing Samsung Galaxy phones down, one to go

NEW YORK, 28 Aug.—We’ve already got the Captivate for AT&T, the Epic 4G for Sprint, and the Vibrant for T-Mobile — all three of which come armed with eye-popping 4-inch displays, slim profiles, speedy 1GHz processors, and five-megapixel cameras — and now Samsung’s set to finish its lap of the four big US carriers with the Fascinate, due in the coming weeks for Verizon Wireless.

Sure, we’ve had plenty of other impressive, high-profile smartphones arrive on specific carriers over the last few months, including the jumbo-sized HTC Evo 4G for Sprint, the Motorola Droid X for Verizon, and of course, the iPhone 4 on AT&T.

But with its slim, sleek line of Galaxy S phones, Samsung’s doing something a little different — namely, it’s got a Galaxy phone for all four of the big carriers, rather than doling out exceptions to one carrier or another.

Internet

Secrets of the gecko foot help robot climb

NEW YORK, 28 Aug.—A Stanford mechanical engineer is using the biology of a gecko’s sticky foot to create a robot that climbs.

In the same way that the small reptile can scale a wall of slick glass, the Stickybot can climb smooth surfaces with feet modeled on the intricate design of gecko toes.

Paul Day and Alan Asbeck worked on adhesives for the feet of the gecko-like Stickybot.—Internet

Internet

Kodak releases new ESP 9250 multifunction printer

WASHINGTON, 28 Aug.—Kodak on Friday released a new multifunction printer (MFP), the ESP 9250. The new device replaces the ESP9 as Kodak’s top-of-the-line MFP.

The $250 ESP 9250 has a four-colour inkjet printer, and uses two ink cartridges: one black ink cartridge, and one color cartridge with cyan, yellow, and magenta inks. The standard replacement black ink replacement cartridge is $10; a high-volume black ink cartridge is available for $17. The color replacement cartridge is $18. The ESP 9250 uses the same ink cartridges as the ESP 9, but a Kodak representative said that the inks have been reformulated to produce better-looking output.—Internet

Internet

3-D movies can now be transmitted via Internet and digital television channels such as via satellite. —Internet

In the image from the ASTER camera aboard NASA’s orbiting Terra satellite, snow-capped volcanoes are seen from overhead that compose the picturesque Islands of the Four Mountains in the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, USA. —Internet
Health

Health Tip: Other benefits of sugar

Reducing sugar consumption can reduce the risks of obesity and diabetes. But sugar is not always dangerous because sugar can also be a medicine. According to Health, here are some benefits of sugar:

1. Healing wounds

Zimbabwean society tradition teaches that sugar is a very effective disinfectant. Local people sprinkle with granulated their open wound with sugar, so the healing process could be faster.

Research in the UK has proved that sugar are capable of pulling fluids around the wound so it does not overgrown with bacteria. The effect is the same as salt, but does not cause pain.

2. Pain relief

A research published in the Pediatrics journal reveals sugar solution efficacy in relieving pain in infants during immunization injections. Most babies which are given a cup of the solution did not cry when injected, due to less pain.

3. Soften rough skin

Sugar is a softener (exfoliant) for natural skin. To soften the damaged skin, use a recipe from The Groove Park Inn Resort & Spa in North Carolina below.

Combine ˚ cup granulated sugar with ˘ cup canola oil, add three drops of lavender essential oil. Use as a scrub, rubbed with a circular motion.

4. Keep the flowers bloom longer

A little extra sugar on the water in the vase of the flower. According to Rita Azar, owner of a flower shop in Los Angeles, one teaspoon of sugar is enough to make fresh flowers bloom longer.

Austria reports two cases of superbug, NDM-1

VIENNA, 28 Aug—Austria’s health ministry is reporting two cases of a new gene that allows bacteria to become a superbug.

The ministry says experts at the medical university in the southern city of Graz detected the gene, known as NDM-1, in two people, both of whom are believed to have been infected in hospitals abroad.

A statement on Friday said a person from Pakistan was released in good health from Graz’s university clinic last year after successful treatment. It said another person from Kosovo is still under medical supervision there.

Researchers say the gene—which appears to be circulating widely in India—alters bacteria, making them resistant to nearly all known antibiotics.

FDA finds salmonella in chicken feed in farms

BEING, 28 Aug—US food officials say they have found salmonella that links two farms in Iowa to an egg recall on Friday.

Salmonella was found in chicken’s feed at Wright County Egg and also Hillandale Farms, the FDA said. More than 550 million eggs from the two farms were recalled after they were linked to the recent salmonella poisoning across the US.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) official Sherrn McGary said the salmonella found at Wright County Egg in Iowa matches the fingerprints of the salmonella found in many of the sickened.

The officials emphasized they do not yet know how the chicken feed became contaminated. Investigators are studying 600 samples from 24 locations at the two farms.

Health Tip: The United States, on 20 Aug, 2010.—INTERNET

Eggs are seen at a supermarket in New York, the

FDA for reviewing the feed ingredients purchased from outside vendors. The life-threatening illnesses is expected to increase. However, no deaths have been reported due to this outbreak.—Xinhua

Business

Wall Street rallies after Bernanke speech

New York, 28 Aug—Wall Street gained sharply on Friday after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said the central bank would take actions if the economy deteriorates significantly.

Bernanke admitted the economic recovery is “less vigorous than we expected,” but he believed the economy would pick up next year. He assured investors by saying the Fed still had tools to help support economic activity and guard against deflation.

The Dow Jones industrial average rallied 165.37 points, or 1.66 percent, to 10,151.18. The Standard&Poor’s 500 index gained 17.37 points, or 1.66 percent, to 1,064.59 and the Nasdaq rose 34.94 points, or 1.65 percent, to 2,153.63.

Intel downgrades third quarter revenue forecast

NEW YORK, 28 Aug—Intel slashed on Friday its third quarter revenue forecast due to lower demand for computers, leading to a sharp sell-off of the microchip giant’s shares.

It said revenue would come in around 11 billion dollars, lower than the earlier estimate of 11.2 to 12 billion dollars.

“Revenue is being affected by weaker than expected demand for consumer PCs in mature markets,” the world’s biggest chip manufacturer said in a statement.

“It appears that inventories across the supply chain appear to be in line with the company’s revised expectations,” it said.

The impact of lower volume is being partially offset by slightly higher average selling prices stemming from solid enterprise demand, it added.

Trading of Intel shares on the Nasdaq stock exchange was suspended for some 20 minutes after sinking following the release of the downward figures. They later rebounded, trading 1.76 percent higher at 1650 GMT.

In July, The Santa Clara, California-based technology bellwether reported a second-quarter net profit of 2.9 billion dollars compared to a loss of 398 million dollars during the same quarter a year ago. On 19 Aug, Intel announced it was buying Internet security firm McAfee for 7.68 billion dollars, as the computer chip giant sought to expand its reach to mobile and wireless devices.

The acquisition of one of the world’s largest anti-virus software companies underscored Intel’s bid to move into mobile phones, in-car navigation systems, televisions and medical devices as the traditional PC market neared saturation.

China to let exporters keep some forex overseas

BEING, 28 Aug—China said on Friday it will launch a one-year trial programme to allow some exporters to keep part of their foreign exchange revenue overseas in an apparent loosening of currency controls.

The trial, which starts on 1 October, will help re-adjust the nation’s international balance of payments, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange said in a statement.

Exporters have so far had to repatriate all their forex revenues back to China, boosting the nation’s swelling foreign exchange hoard, which surged to a record 2.454 trillion dollars at the end of June.

The massive reserves are troublesome for China as the central bank has to issue more yuan currency to mop up the foreign exchange inflows, making it more difficult to curb inflation.

China’s forex reserves have ballooned in recent years, fuelled by strong foreign investment, large trade surpluses and inflows of “hot money”—short-term speculative funds in search of quick profits.

The trial to be carried out in Beijing and three coastal export hubs also aims to help reduce costs incurred by companies in transferring and converting foreign currency, the forex regulator said.

Qualified exporters in Beijing, Guangdong Province in southern China and eastern Shandong and Jiangsu Provinces can keep a certain portion of their foreign exchange revenue overseas, it said without elaborating.—INTERNET

A bank clerk counts US dollar bank notes and

Chinese yuan.—INTERNET

Xinhua

China lets exporters keep some forex overseas

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Xinhua

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Sunday, 29 August, 2010 5
Five trapped Chilean miners suffer from depression

Relatives watch on a screen a video recorded with a camera in a probe on 26 Aug, 2010 of trapped miners in Chile. Internet

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 Aug—Interval Licensing LLC, a company run by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, on Friday filed a complaint in a US court against Apple, Google and other nine companies, accusing them of patent infringement.

In addition to Apple and Google, the eleven defendants also include AOL, eBay, Facebook, Netflix, Office Depot, OfficeMax, Staples, Yahoo and YouTube.

The patents in the lawsuit cover fundamental web technologies first developed at Interval Research, a now defunct business founded by Allen and David Liddle in 1992, according to Interval Licensing.

“Interval Research was an early, ground-breaking contributor to the development of the internet economy,” David Postman, a spokesman for Paul Allen, said in a statement.

“This lawsuit is necessary to protect our investment in innovation,” Postman noted.

Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen sues Apple, Google and other companies

Tokyo, 28 Aug — Sony Corp is working on 3-D televisions that don’t need special glasses, joining a race with rival Toshiba Corp, but sees cost and technological hurdles to overcome before they can go on sale.

Toshiba said earlier this week it is working on glasses-free 3-D TVs, although no decision had been made on when they will go on sale.

Mainstream 3-D TVs now on sale, such as those from Panasonic Corp and Sony Corp, require glasses. But there are already screens that don’t require glasses, mainly intended for store displays. They require the viewer to stand in specific spots for the 3-D effect to emerge, and the image quality is much lower than that of screens using glasses.

“Seeing 3-D without glasses is more convenient,” Sony Senior Vice President Yoshishita Ishida said on Thursday at Tokyo headquarters. “We must take account of pricing before we can think about when to start offering them.”

Sony attempts glasses-free 3-D

NASA spacecraft finds multiplanet solar system

ALASKA, 28 Aug—Scientists at NASA have made a huge find: a star, 2,300 light-years away with a solar system of two, and possibly three, planets orbiting around it.

NASA’s Kepler spacecraft, which is equipped with a powerful telescope, made the find while scanning the stars in the Milky Way, searching for other solar systems.

Astronomers said they discovered a solar system too. The system, around a star called HD 10180, is 127 light years from Earth and may contain a stunning seven planets.

Clearwire plans pay-as-you-go service

New York, 28 Aug—Clearwire Corp said on Friday that it is planning a pay-as-you-go service, representing a new customer segment for the high-speed wireless service provider. The company, which is majority-owned by Sprint Nextel, currently focuses on so-called postpaid services where consumers pay a flat monthly fee for wireless data services for laptop computers. Clearwire declined to give more details in following a statement flagging a conference call on Monday morning. Bigger rival AT&T Inc recently started offering tiered service pricing instead of flat monthly fees for unlimited data services. Clearwire is the first US service provider to offer fourth-generation wireless services but its biggest rival, Verizon Wireless, is expected to follow suit with a 4G service later this year. Verizon Wireless is a venture of Verizon Communications and Vodafone Group Plc.

Sony unveiled six models of quick-start Blue-ray players/recorders for the Japanese market on Thursday.

Clearwire plans pay-as-you-go service before 15 Sept

KIEV, 28 Aug—Ukraine will not introduce quotas on grain exports before 15 Sept, Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Slauta said on Friday.

“Let us wait by 15 Sept to see how the market operates. If nothing extraordinary happens we will not impose any restrictions,” Slauta told reporters. Grain export quotas would be imposed just in case of a sharp rise in prices in world markets or speculative processes inside the country, he said, adding that “the country’s grain export works normally.”

Ukraine’s Ministry of Agrarian Policy confirmed it recently revised the grain export forecast for 2010/11 marketing year from 15 million tons to 40.8 million.

Meanwhile, Ukraine’s Agrarian Fund has suspended the purchase of grain due to a sharp rise in prices, Slauta said. According to early reports, the government was considering the introduction of such quotas as one million tons for barley and 1.5 million tons for wheat by the end of 2010 due to fears of a domestic food shortage.

Visitor arrivals to S’pore up 24.1% to exceed 1 million in July

SINGAPORE, 28 Aug—Visitor arrivals to Singapore grew 24.1 percent to reach 1,095,000 in July, the highest ever recorded visitor arrivals in the month of July.

This is also the first time that visitor arrivals have exceeded 1 million in a single month. The Singapore Tourism Board attributed the buoyant growth in visitor arrivals in July largely to improved travel sentiment and the draw of Singapore’s Integrated Resorts and the Great Singapore Sale.

It said tactical promotions by airlines and hotels, as well as marketing initiatives by STB’s regional offices also boosted tourist arrivals. Visitor days increased 21 percent on-year in July to 4.3 million days.

Indonesia, China, Australia, Malaysia and India were Singapore’s top five visitor generating markets. They accounted for 53 percent of total visitor arrivals for the month.

Indonesians made up 232,505 visitors, China 117,728, Australia 87,273, Malaysia 82,512 and India 64,862 visitors.

12 out of the top 15 markets registered positive year-on-year growth in July this year. China registered the highest growth of 62.8 percent, followed by Malaysia at 52.6 percent and Hong Kong SAR at 39.9 percent.

Hotel room revenue increased 37.2 percent on-year to S$173 million.

Average occupancy rate rose 10.2 percentage points on-year to reach 90 per cent, while the average room rate increased 19.9 per cent to about S$209 in July.

Visitor arrivals to S’pore up

Ukraine not to introduce quotas on grain exports before 15 Sept

Five trapped Chilean miners suffer from depression

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Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Internet

Reuters
When the rain comes in Myanmar, bamboo shoot pickle is abundant and smell from the pickle is floating in markets. The bamboo shoot pickle dish is one of popular Myanmar cuisines and gives a good appetite.

But, who knows how does the bamboo shoot pickle dish come to a dining table? In Myanmar, almost every town has its local food product. While bamboo shoot pickle from the regions of the eastern part of Pyinmana is popular than other bamboo shoot pickles from other areas, tea leaves and “Pe-poke”, dried sheets of soya beans, from Taunggyi and other towns in Shan State are well known in the country.

I, being an inquisitive man, was very eager to find out how do local people in rural areas work to get bamboo shoots and how does the pickle come to markets.

Fortunately, I found local farmers carrying bamboo shoots on their way back from forests during my stay in Wae-gyi Village, just about 20 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, last month.

For me, it was a rare opportunity to see how ordinary people worked in the forests. I got up early morning the next day and took a motorbike taxi to the foot of the mountain ranges. When I arrived there, I found there were many locals carrying baskets with wooden handles on their back and strings help them carry the baskets easily, inside the baskets are only some bamboo skewers and choppers. Some are marching along the lane flanked by bushes and trees leading to the mountain ranges.

“We are farmers, our job after completing ploughing in rain-fed field is collecting bamboo shoots in the forests on the mountain ranges”, said a farmer from the village of Te-gon, which is famous for producing bamboo shoot pickle.

When the rain pours in the central Myanmar, bamboo shoots are mushrooming in the forests along the mountain ranges. As they have finished ploughing and while women plant rice seedlings in rain-fed field, local farmers carry on for gathering the bamboo shoots on the Shan Mountain Ranges during the four-month of rainy season from June to September. Getting up before the sun rises, entering the forests on mountain ranges to cut bamboo shoots and going back before the sun sets are their daily routine in the rainy season. Children also go to the forest along with their fathers to help their families in the weekends. According to the farmer, the number of bamboo shoot hunters has increased this year, reaching over 100 every day.

Unfortunately, I was dissuaded to go along with them to the forests as they thought that I was not as tough enough as themselves to struggle the hard work in the forests. But, I had a chance to wait for them at the water fall which is just 30-minute walk from the foot of the mountain ranges.

After trekking around three hours, they arrived at the top of the mountain range. After having lunch brought from their homes, packed in plantain leaf, they entered into the forests along the mountain ranges, said Win Soe, 37, farmer of two, living in the village of Wae-gyi, 15-minute drive from the foot of the mountain ranges.

“If it’s just about one foot in size, we cut it, peel the outer layers, string them on skewers and arranged them in the “Pa” he said. The “Pa” is the bamboo basket with string and two handles specially designed to carry the baskets comfortably on their backs.

Around 3 o’clock in the evening, I, while splashing my face with water at the water fall, found some farmers carrying the baskets heavily loaded with bamboo shoots. They were walking down slowly from the mountain, sweat were pouring on their face and their shirts were soaked with sweat. It was the most exciting sight I witnessed during my stay there.

They have to take their time to reach the foot of the mountain ranges before the sun sets to sell the shoots. They sold their bamboo shoots to the brokers waiting at the foot of the mountain. A farmer collects from 30 to 40 viss of bamboo shoots per day, earning around K 8000 in the mid-rainy season. The price of bamboo shoots declines, reaching around K200 for one viss in the mid-rainy season when the bamboo shoots are plentiful due to sufficient rain falls from around K600 for one viss in early rainy season.

As the region usually enjoys poor rain falls in early rainy season, they can collect only two or three viss of bamboo shoots per day during those days when the price has increased up to K600 per viss.

The bamboo shoot season is also the time for local farmers to earn more income.

However, they can’t go to the forest every day since it is a tiring job. “Our work is very tiring and risky. Sometimes, we slipped on stones and got muscle pains. That’s why we can’t go to work every day, and have to stay at home for two or three days in a week to take a rest,” Win Soe said.

Though so tired, some go to Te-gon, the village of the bamboo shoot pickle makers, to get a good price. After taking pictures of bamboo shoot trading at the foot of the mountain, I proceeded to the village of Te-gon by motorbike.

While I was chatting with some pickle makers, I found transporters drove motorbikes loaded with bags of bamboo shoots to the village located about 20-minute drive from the foot of the mountain. When the dark comes, villagers are ready to start the process of making bamboo shoots pickle.

Bamboo shoots are chopped into slices and soaked in water for two days in a tank. The bamboo shoot pickle makers sold their products to shops in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana. At the shops, the bamboo shoot pickle was labeled in different names and sold to customers.

“There are many labels of bamboo shoot pickle packages at shops in the town. All are our pickle,” a man said as he was slicing the raw bamboo shoots at his home in the village of Te-gon. Thanks to the forests, even children are earning now as they do in lighter work of slicing the bamboo shoots.

As they said, they don’t need to worry for their food and they owe a great debt of gratitude to the forests and mountain ranges for their livelihood. The mountain ranges take care of their livelihood, giving the seasonal job to locals. Yes, they can also find other seasonal crops growing naturally in the forests, to make their honest living.
White Elephants of Myanmar

Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Animals with striking features, beauties and plowings were revered and venerated because they are believed to possess auspiciousness, magical spell and supernatural power, capable of bringing glory, greatness, peace, progress, prosperity, longevity of life and good fortune to the owner and to the country where they appear. White tiger, white horse, white buffalo, white ox, white cow, white dove, white peacock and white elephant are regarded sacred and lucky mascots in human civilization till today.

White elephant played a major role in Buddhism Jatakas. The story of Sadan White Elephant, the Jataka of King Vessandara, the conception of Buddha Jatakas and Tipitaka. The story of Sadan White Elephant, the Jataka of Lord of White, Pink and Spotted Elephants. His second son and successor of Pinya Period; Tayaphya, Thihathu and we have Tazi Shin (One White Elephant) Thihathu or Elephants because they owned them. Thus who assumed the title "Lord of White Elephant" owned 38 white elephants and King Alaungsithu building five Sacred Tooth Relic Pagodas. He and Swift) for choosing five auspicious sites for white elephant named "Than Myan Swar" (Strong white elephant). Myanmar Union used white elephants to bring to Myanmar's future.

King Anawrahta, the builder of the first Myanmar Union used white elephants to bring to his Naypyitaw Bagam 33 sets of Tipitaka, a white elephant named “Palei Pyone” (Smiling Pearl) to convey replica of sacred Tooth Relic and another white elephant named “Than Myan Min” (Strong and Swift) for choosing five auspicious sites for building five Sacred Tooth Relic Pagodas. He owned 38 white elephants and King Aungusithu had 35 white elephants.

Among Mon, Rakhine and Bama kings of successive historic periods, there were kings who assumed the title "Lord of White Elephants" because they owned them. Thus we have Tazi Shin (One White Elephant) Thihathu and Ngazi Shin (Five White Elephants) Kyaw Swa of Pinya Period; Tayaphya, Thihathu and Shwe Nan Kyaw Shin were lords of White Elephant of Inwa Period, Wareru, Binnya U and Rajadatri were Mon kings who assumed the title “Hsinbyu Shin” (Lord of White Elephant). Rakhine King Minyazayar was the Lord of White Elephant. He even struck silver coins with letters “Hsinbyu Shin”.

King Bayint Naung of Hamsavadi, the builder of the second Myanmar Union was designated “Emperor of the Ten Directions” by his tributary lords. He was entitled “Hsinbyuyma shin” (Lord of many white elephants). European visitors to his Palace Kombozathadi such as Caesar Frereck of Venice, Italy, Gasparo Balbi of Portugal and others reported in their travelogues their eyewitness account of his white elephants and war elephants. King Tanninganwe of Nayaun Yang Period was the Lord of White Elephant named “Sadan Pyaung Mon”.

Alaungpaya of Ratanathinkha, the builder of the third Myanmar Union addressed himself in credential letters “Lord of White, Pink and Spotted Elephants”. His second son and successor Minwu Min who gift and raised Shwedagon Pagoda to present height assumed “Hsinbyu Shin” because he received the tribute of a handsome White Elephant named “Sadan Pyaung Kyaw”. King Bodawpaya, the third son and the fourth successor of Myanmar Raya, he was entitled “Hsinbyumya Shin”. He owned 38 white elephants. Besides, another white elephant of Sadan type was found in Niban village near Bago Yoma hill range and so he assumed “Sadan Hsin Min Thakin”. It was given Pali name “Nibana Pyitsaya Naga Yaza”. This great White Elephant outlived five successive Myanmar kings. Its fantastic tusks were last seen on display in the Natural History Museum in London.

Kings Bagiyadaw, Thayawady, Bagan, Mindon and even the last Myanmar king Thibaw also owned white elephants and so they were called “Hsinbyu Shins”. When the British occupied Mandalay Palace in 1885, they sent to Yangon Zoo, King Thibaw’s White Mount “Zeya Watana Pyitsaya Naga Yaza”, which passed away not long after. Myanmar people thought the death of last Myanmar king’s white elephant was a foreboding that the British rule in Myanmar would not last long. Myanmar regained independence in 1948, just 63 years after Mandalay Palace was taken over by the British garrison in 1885. In 1958, a female white elephant of about 19 years old was found in Indawgyi of Myitkyina District. She was sent to Yangon Zoo and kept in a specially built hall. But in 1977 she passed away. Nearly over four decades, there was no emergence of white elephant until 2001 when a male white elephant of about 16 years in age appeared in Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State. On 15 November of the same year he was brought to Yangon and ceremonially named "Rajagaha Thiripittyasa Gasa Raja”. He was given residence in a specially built pavilion in a garden near Mindanpun Hitolok, Insein. A year later, 2002, second white elephant, a female of about 32 years in age was found in the forest of Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State. She was brought to Yangon and accommodated in White Elephant Pavillon on 5 April, 2002. She was named “Theingi Marlar”. In the same year the third white elephant, a female of about 12 years in age was found in Maungtaw Township, Kanchuang Stream, Rakhine State. On 6 December 2002, she was brought to Yangon and was given residence in White Elephant Pavilion. Her name is “Rati Marlar”.

The fourth white elephant, a female of about 38 years old was found on 26 June 2010 in the forests of Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State. On 9 August, 2010 she was ceremonially conveyed to Nay Pyi Taw and was given residence in a specially constructed White Elephant Pavilion, in the precincts of Uppatasanti Zeditaw. She received five Mingala rites namely (1) Anantayika Mingala (Warding off harm) (2) Gehapavesana Mingala (House warming) (3) Battabhunjana Mingala (Feeding) (4) Ravindasadana Mingala (Showing her to the Sun and the Moon) and (5) Namakarantha Mingala (Naming). She was named “Bhaddawady”. These four white elephants that emerged within the current decade (2001-2010) bear all characteristics and features of a White Elephant as prescribed in the texts of ancient treatises on White Elephant, Buddha Jatakas and Tipitaka. Most auspicious symbols of peace, progress, prosperity, glory, longevity of life, good rain, good harvest and good fortune, the four white elephants are admired, marveled and venerated by Myanmar people. They augur well for Myanmar’s future.

Minister meets Customs Department staff

YANGON, 28 Aug — Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun met with the staff of the Customs Department this morning at the head office of the department.

The directors of seven sections of the department reported formation of the sections and their duties and functions, work to be done in the fiscal year and progress in work implementation. The minister left necessary instructions.

Next, the minister visited Asia World Container Inspection Camp where he inspected examination of the containers through X-Ray scanning machine, export and import tasks in the warehouses and export/import supervisory work. Then, the minister gave officials necessary instructions. — MNA
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 wastage of feedstuff of chicken and planktons through the indirect feed. Feces of chicken were collected whenever the sanitation was carried out at poultry farms, and then the feces were fed to mango plantations as fertilizer. Feces of chicken were not fed to fish directly for the sake of biosecurity. Two workers were assigned at every poultry farm and they were provided with safety equipment for the farms. The poultry farms were sprayed pesticides under inspection of veterinarians. Therefore, any animal diseases including bird flu did not break out at the farms in integrated farming. The minister then went to Training Centre for Disabled Youth and inspected progress of hall measuring 50x30 feet donated by Singapore Association of Myanmar and attended to the needs.—MNA

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe inspects the site for construction of Institute of Social Welfare.—MNA

Yangon Mayor attends opening of tube well

YANGON, 28 Aug—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Aung Thein Lin attended the opening of reinforced tube well at Aung Chantha Housing Complex in East Shwegondan Ward, Bahan Township here this morning. The mayor formally opened the tube well and looked round 24000-gallon capacity water storage tank, ground tanks and pipping of water to apartments. He then visited Myeikgyuntha Recreation Park in Mayangon Township.—MNA

Construction of Kyweshin Bridge, Nay Pyi Taw-Kanbya...


Free medical treatment given

YANGON, 28 Aug—Deputy Minister for Health Dr Paing Soe this morning visited Sangyoung Township Health Department where the specialists of Yangon Region Health Department, Yangon West General Hospital, Yangon Eye Hospital, Yangon Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital were giving free treatment to the public. The specialists carried out hepatitis B screening and screening of other diseases and vaccinated the public against hepatitis B. Similarly, 288 patients were given treatment and some needed to be operated were transferred to specialist hospitals. Traditional medicine practitioners from the Traditional Medicine Department also gave free treatment to 35 patients. On 27 August morning at Yangon Central Women Hospital, the deputy minister met with the medical superintendent, professors, specialists, doctors, nurses and hospital staff.—MNA

Integrated farming helps improve...

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Rains trigger landslide in Turkey, 12 killed

ANKARA, 28 Aug—Landslides and floods triggered by torrential rains swept through a town in northern Turkey, killing at least 12 people, officials said on Friday.

The landslide hit dozens of homes in Gundogdu, in the tea-growing Black Sea Province of Rize. The region has become prone to landslides because of deforestation to clear way for plantations. The rains began late Thursday, as many people were breaking their dawn-to-dusk fasts for the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, according to the Anatolia news agency.

The Interior Ministry said 11 people were killed and two were reported missing. Rescuers later pulled out the body of an elderly woman, the Anatolia news agency reported, raising the death toll to 12.

Private TV television said dozens of homes collapsed and cars were buried in mud. Several roads, including a major Black Sea coastal highway, were shut down. One survivor, Burak Akat, said his family was dining when a loud sound was heard.

“We realized that the house was going to collapse. It did before I could say, ‘Run it’s going to collapse!’” Anatolia quoted Akat as saying. “I managed to throw myself out but my mother-in-law and my brother could not escape. They were buried in the landslide.”

At least seven people with injuries were rescued, said Rize Gov. Seyfullah Hacimuftuoglu.

Firefighters and other rescuers also evacuated scores of people who were stranded in homes, he said.—Internet

At least three gunmen involved in attack in Peshawar, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 28 Aug—At least three gunmen were involved in the firing incident which broke out early Saturday morning at the US consulate in Pakistan’s northwest city of Peshawar, reported local media.

According to the reports, the security forces have cornered the gunmen inside a government building and the situation is completely under their control.

A large number of security forces have been deployed around the area where the incident took place.

Helicopters have been called in to monitor the development. Saturday’s attack by unknown gunmen reportedly started at about 5:00 am in Shama chowk area in Peshawar, an area considered to be very sensitive in the city as many government, military and inter-national organization buildings including the US consulate are located there.

Eyewitnesses said that the firing first broke out with a low-intensity blast followed by fierce gunfire.

Latest news reports said that the firing broke out when unknown gunmen tried to force into the secured area nearby the US consulate. Shortly after the shoot-out took place, the security forces have cleared the area and all the roads leading to the site have been closed down.

Animal trainers perform with dolphins jumping out of the water in Haichang Polar Ocean World in Chengdu, capital of southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 26 Aug, 2010. XINHUA

Indonesia’s population boom spells multi-sectoral burst

JAKARTA, 28 Aug—An Indonesian population experts said that exponential annual growth rate of 1.49 percent will overload and over-stretch the country’s limited resources, potentially ushering in a host of new problems in coming years, local media reported on Saturday.

The rate translates into at least 3.5 million births per year which will significantly augment the current population size of 237.6 million people. In just five more years, Indonesia’s population could swell to more than 250 million people.

According to Sri Sumarti Ningsih, a demographer at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), the rapid population growth would impact the provision of basic needs. “Planning and the provision of facilities for certain age groups becomes vital with large populations,” she was quoted by the Jakarta Post daily as saying.

Already problematic housing issues would amplify as more people migrate to cities and set up low-cost houses in squatter areas by river sides and railway tracks, she added.

Xinhua

Italian man kidnapped in Dominican Republic

SANTO DOMINGO, 28 Aug—Police in the Dominican Republic say kidnappers have seized an Italian citizen and are holding him for ransom.

Police spokesman Nelson Rosario says the kidnappers are demanding $1.5 million for the release of Federico Dalmasso. The spokesman said on Friday that the victim was abducted Wednesday night as he arrived at his home in the Boca Chica tourist community 20 miles (35 kilometres) east of the Caribbean nation’s capital, Santo Domingo. Police say a special anti-kidnapping unit has been raiding several tourist community 20 miles (35 kilometres) east of the Caribbean nation’s capital, Santo Domingo.

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Mexico’s largest airline to shut down on Saturday

Westminster, 28 Aug —Secondhand smoke triggers a complex inflammatory response and inflammation is linked to heart disease, diabetes and other diseases, US researchers say.

Adelheid Kratzer, an investigator at the University of Colorado-Denver working under principal investigator Laima Taraseviciene-Stewart, says to determine how lung tissue may respond to secondhand smoke, the team exposed male Sprague Dawley rats to secondhand smoke in a special chamber five times per week for two months or four months.

The exposure was a mixture of 89 percent sidestream smoke, which comes from the end of a lit cigarette and is exposed to the whole body, and 11 percent mainstream smoke — smoke directly inhaled by the rats. The rats were exposed for two 3-hour shifts twice a day, separated by a 2-hour break.

The study, presented at the American Physiological Society conference, finds two months of exposure to secondhand smoke were enough to cause significant changes in the rats’ lung tissue. The results were more profound after four months.

For example, the study finds the numbers of white blood cells — macrophages lungs exposed to secondhand smoke — indicate the rats’ bodies had developed an immune response, also known as inflammation.—Internet

Smoking causes inflammation in lungs

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Hands/mouthing separate in brain

LONDON, 28 Aug —In a study using British Sign Language, signers made different mistakes in the sign and mouthing, meaning hand and lip movements are separate, researchers say.

David Vinson of University College London and colleagues propose hand and lip movements are separated in the signer’s brain. Vinson explains when study participants translated English words into British Sign Language, the hands sometimes made a mistake but the lips didn’t.

The study, published in Psychological Science, suggests differences in signs and in mouthing indicated hand and lip movements are not part of the same sign.

“In essence, they’re doing the same thing as reading an English word aloud without pronouncing it,” Vinson says in a statement. “So they seem to be processing two languages at the same time.”

Vinson and colleagues recruited both deaf and hearing signers who had grown up signing with deaf parents. The participants sat in front of a video camera and were asked to sign pictures or words shown on a monitor — shown at a fast pace to encourage mistakes that may reveal how language is processed.—Internet

A drug may reset the body clock

MANCHESTER, 28 Aug —US and British researchers say they have succeeded in resetting the 24-hour body clock in mice.

Researcher Andrew Loudon of the University of Manchester, England, says several enzymes are responsible for fine adjustments in synchronization of circadian rhythm — a timing system that regulates biological processes plants as well as creatures.

Loudon, Dr Mick Hastings of the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, England, Dr Travis Wager of Pfizer in Groton, Conn, and colleagues say a drug that inhibits one of the enzymes — casein kinase 1 — helps in re-setting the body clock in mice.

“We’ve discovered that we can control one of the key molecules involved in setting the speed at which the clock ticks and in doing so we can actually kick it into a new rhythm,” Loudon says in a statement.

The study, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, suggests the finding may help treat a number of health problems linked to disrupted circadian rhythms.—Internet

Brazil scrambles to put out forest fires

BRASILIA, 28 Aug —Brazilian firefighters are scrambling to extinguish rampant forest fires across the country as at least 1,391 fire outbreaks were reported from Thursday midnight to Friday noon.

A total of 22,730 fire outbreaks have been reported so far this month, according to latest statistics provided by National Institute of Space Research (INPE) on Friday.

INPE recorded 41,636 fire outbreaks year to date, a 135-percent increase year on year.

About 10,000 people are involved in the work of fire-fighting, especially in the areas of environmental protection. The Federal Police, the Army and the National Security Force are also supporting the work to combat fire.

Environment Minister Izabella Teixeira said the government has invested about 17 million US dollars to prevent forest fires, but the structure to combat fire may be insufficient due to weather and the large number of illegal fires started mainly by farmers.

This week, Brazilian Environmental Institute gave fines amounting to more than two million dollars for illegal burning in Brazil’s North Region where the Amazon rainforest is located.

In the region’s Rondonia State, one person was arrested in flagrante and fined 1.9 million dollars on Thursday for setting fire on a pasture, without permission.

In Para, another state in the region, seven farmers were also fined for causing fires in 724.91 hectares of pasture and forest regeneration.—Xinhua

A man walks past the Bank of Japan building in Tokyo on 28 August, 2010. The Bank of Japan is examining holding an emergency meeting early next week to ease monetary policy as the strong yen threatens the country’s fragile economic recovery, a source familiar with the matter said.

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INTERNET
Eight signs that ‘must be checked for cancer’

LONDON, 28 Aug — Eight key signs of cancer that should be investigated immediately have been identified by scientists. The symptoms predict the risk of cancer with such accuracy in certain age groups that patients should be referred to a specialist straight away unless there is a plausible explanation. The research, led by Mark Shapley and colleagues from Keele University, was published in the ‘British Journal of General Practice’. Identifying these symptoms should improve the number of early diagnoses, when people have the best chance of responding to treatment. The team said GPs should be given better computer systems to arm them with the tools to identify cancers much earlier.

The signs are:
- Bleeding from the rectum (indicative of colon cancer in older age groups).
- Iron deficiency anaemia (indicative of colon cancer).
- Breast lump (possible breast cancer).
- A rectal examination which suggests cancer may be present (possible prostate cancer).
- Blood in the urine (indicative of cancers related to urology).
- Coughing up blood (potential lung cancer).
- Post-menopausal bleeding (possible cancers related to gynaecology).
- Difficulties with swallowing (indicative of oesophageal cancer).

Professor Amanda Howe of the UK’s Royal College of GPs said: “It’s useful to see these well known ‘red flag’ symptoms and signs validated in primary care research, and reinforces the importance of encouraging patients to discuss worrying symptoms early with their GP.”

Older men’s testosterone varies by country, race

NEW YORK, 28 Aug — New research shows older men’s sex hormone levels depend on both race and geographical location, casting further doubt on the criteria for “male menopause.” More than a million testosterone prescriptions are being written in the US every year, experts say, and many go to middle-aged and older men with stunted libido and depressed mood presumably caused by low levels of the male sex hormone.

Hand-held detector aims to diagnose disease

CAMBRIDGE, 28 Aug — Credit-card-sized sample trays inserted in a modern-sized reader hold antibody-coated polystyrene beads containing a fluorescent label. The antibodies interact with specific disease markers, causing the beads to clump together, quickly producing a strong red fluorescence under UV light from an LED.

Tortured maid to have surgery to remove 24 nails

COLOMBO, 28 Aug — A Saudi couple tortured their Sri Lankan maid after she complained of a too heavy workload by hammering 24 nails into her hands, legs and forehead, officials said on Thursday. Nearly 2 million Sri Lankans sought employment overseas last year and around 1.4 million, mostly maids, were employed in the Middle East. Many have complained of physical abuse or harassment.

Lt Ariyawathi, a 49-year old mother of three, returned on Friday after five months in Saudi Arabia. Her family only realized what had happened to her when she complained of pain and they took her to see the doctor, Foreign Employment Bureau officials said. “The landlord and the wife of the landlord hammered 24 nails into her when she complained of the heavy workload,” Kalyana Priya Ramanayake, media secretary of the Foreign Employment Bureau, told Reuters.

China donates 5.36 million Rupees to Tagore Museum

NEW DELHI, 28 Aug — Rabindranath Tagore’s popularity in China will soon to be displayed in Kolkata’s Tagore Museum as the Chinese government will donate 5.36 million rupees (116,500 US dollars) for the establishment of a gallery on ‘Rabindranath and China’ in the museum.

An agreement for this purpose between the Chinese Ministry of Culture and Rabindra Bharati University was signed in India’s Kolkata on Friday at Tagore House by Mao Siwei, Consul General of China and Prof. Karuna Sindhuz Das, Vice-Chancellor of the university, according to the Chinese Consulate General in Kolkata on Saturday.

Mao said Rabindranath Tagore was very popular in China. The Complete Works of Tagore was published in 24 volumes in China ten years ago.

Missouri boy, 2, youngest in world to use artificial lung

ST LOUIS, 28 Aug — When 2-year-old Owen Stark arrived at St Louis Children’s Hospital, he wasn’t given much chance for survival. The little boy had collapsed at a store and his heart and lungs were shutting down.

But doctors used a German-built artificial lung that stabilized him so well that, at least for now, he no longer needs a lung transplant. The hospital said Owen is believed to be the youngest person to receive an artificial lung. “I don’t think there’s any question it saved his life,” Dr Mark Grady, a pediatric cardiac surgeon, told Reuters.

Claims Day notice

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (397) — Consignee of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (397) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.8.2010 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 beays and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

2-year-old Owen Stark

Widely used plastics chemical linked to testosterone boost

LONDON, 28 Aug — Exposure to the plastics chemical bisphenol A (BPA) can affect men’s testosterone levels, a new study has found.

BPA is used in a large number of consumer products, including food and drink containers.

A number of countries have moved to ban the use of the chemical in the manufacture of baby bottles and other feeding items.

In the new study, an international team of researchers analyzed data from 715 Italian adults, aged 20 to 74.

They found that their average BPA exposure was more than 5 micrograms per day, which is slightly higher than recent estimates for the US population.

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An agreement for this purpose between the Chinese Ministry of Culture and Rabindra Bharati University was signed in India’s Kolkata on Friday at Tagore House by Mao Siwei, Consul General of China and Prof. Karuna Sindhuz Das, Vice-Chancellor of the university, according to the Chinese Consulate General in Kolkata on Saturday.

Mao said Rabindranath Tagore was very popular in China. The Complete Works of Tagore was published in 24 volumes in China ten years ago.

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Kayaker slapped by fish

A kayaker in the Missouri River 340 boat race said she was hit in the face by an Asian silver carp that leaped from the water.

Brad Pennington, 43, of Houston said he was attempting to tie his kayak to a three-man canoe to receive help repairing a damaged rudder about 11 am on Tuesday when he was hit in the face with what he initially believed was a brick, the Columbia Missourian reported on Friday.

Pennington said the men in the canoe explained he had been hit by a 20- to 30-pound fish.

“I just went down the river laughing afterwards,” said Pennington, who dropped out of the race at Lexington, Mo., due to his damaged rudder. “I got face-slapped by a flying fish.”

Duane Chapman of the Columbia Environmental Research Centre said silver carp have been known to break noses and jaws.

Torpedo under Philly highway was replica

A torpedo discovered Friday at a Philadelphia construction site turned out to be a harmless replica, police said. Archaeologists working on the site near the Delaware River noticed the torpedo when they arrived about 7 am, The Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

Two men sitting on the replica — and drinking beer — said they and a third companion discovered it in the river off Port Richmond and moved it to the area under Interstate 95, hoping they could sell it for scrap. Police Chief Inspector Joseph Almirall said the bomb squad quickly realized the torpedo, which weighed 800 to 1,000 pounds, contained no explosives. He said a more thorough examination determined it to be a fake.

The men who said they found the device disappeared before police arrived. During World War II, a shipyard built submarines in Port Richmond and the replica may date back to that era. The archaeological team is conducting a dig on the site of a new I-95 interchange.

‘Toy Story 3’ crosses $1B mark

Burbank, 28 Aug—Disney Pixar’s “Toy Story 3” crossed the $1 billion mark at the global box office on Friday, the Hollywood film studio announced. The movie became the highest-grossing animated film of all time two weeks ago.

The Walt Disney Studios previously celebrated the $1 billion milestone this year with its live-action blockbuster “Alice in Wonderland.” Disney is the first studio to have two movies earn $1 billion in a year.

“It’s been an incredible year as we saw the Pixar team bring Buzz and Woody back to the big screen and watched Tim Burton’s vision for ‘Alice in Wonderland’ take the world by storm,” Rich Ross, chairman of The Walt Disney Studios, said in a statement on Friday.—Internet

Kayaker slapped by fish

American actor Sean Connery, who played James Bond in a string of 007 films in the 1960s, 70s and 80s, has announced he is retiring from acting.

“I don’t think I’ll ever act again,” he told the Edinburgh Evening News. “I have so many wonderful memories but these days are over. I’m swimming every day and I’m even trying to get the golf swing working again — but that might take a little bit longer. During the summer I wasn’t feeling great.”

Connery is perhaps best known for playing secret agent James Bond in a string of 007 films in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. His last major live-action movie role was in the Victorian-era action flick “The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen” in 2003.

Chinese man plays piano with toes

A Chinese man who lost his arms in a high-voltage accident as a child is electrifying audiences with his piano virtuosity using his toes, fans say.

Liu Wei, 23, appeared on the “China’s Got Talent” TV competition this month, playing the classical piece “Mariane D’amour” by Richard Clayderman.

His performance at Shanghai Grand Theatre earned him a standing ovation and a place in the next round. Shanghai Daily reported on 13 Aug.

Liu suffered his life-altering injuries when he came in contact with a power line while playing hide-and-seek as a 10-year-old.

‘Toy Story 3’ crosses $1B mark

Singer, composer and songwriter Randy Newman is joined by Buzz Lightyear and Woody of Disney Pixar’s “Toy Story 3” during an unveiling ceremony honouring him with the 2,411th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in front of the historic Musso & Frank Grill in Los Angeles on 2 June, 2010. —INTERNET

Jackson’s elder kids head to school

Los Angeles, 28 Aug—The previously home-schooled son and daughter of late pop star Michael Jackson are now attending an exclusive private school in California, sources told TMZ.

Thirteen-year-old Prince and 12-year-old Paris began at The Buckley School in the San Fernando Valley Wednesday. Past attendees of the school include Matthew Perry, Alyssa Milano, Nicole Richie, Nicollette Sheridan and Laura Dern.

Paris Jackson, (L), Prince Michael Jackson II and Michael Jackson on stage during the memorial service for Michael Jackson at Staples Centre in Los Angeles on 7 July, 2009. The “King of Pop” died in Los Angeles on 25 June at age 50. —INTERNET

Chinese man plays piano with toes

People walk through a life-size maze made up of more than 5000 rolls of bathroom tissue in Toronto. Entitled “Walled In,” the art installation is designed to raise awareness of untreated urinary and bladder conditions such as overactive bladder.

Photo taken on 27 Aug, 2010 shows the skeleton of the dinosaur fossil in Zhaucheng, east China’s Shandong Province.
Arshavin gives Arsenal revenge over Rovers

LONDON, 28 Aug — Andrei Arshavin scored a second-half winner as Andrei Arshavin avenged last season’s loss at Blackburn with a 2-1 victory at Ewood Park on Saturday.

Theo Walcott had put Arsenal ahead in the 20th minute with a fine, low finish. Mame Diouf, on loan from Manchester United, equalised for Blackburn seven minutes later after El Hadji Diouf out-paced new Arsenal defender Laurent Koscielny.

Premier League champions Chelsea are among the teams in action on a busy Saturday afternoon of action after Arsenal beat Blackburn - while Man Utd host West Ham later on. Chelsea beat Stoke City 2-0.—INTERNET

Fergie backs Rangers fans to come in peace

MANCHESTER, 28 Aug — Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson insists Rangers fans will be on their best behaviour when the Scottish champions visit Old Trafford for a potentially explosive Champions League clash.

Rangers supporters and riot police fought running battles in the streets of Manchester before and after the 2008 UEFA Cup final, which was played at Manchester City’s Eastlands Stadium.

Over 100,000 Scots travelled from Glasgow without tickets for the match against Zenit St Petersburg, with 42 fans arrested and many more injured during the ugly scenes.—INTERNET

Juventus sign Quagliarella on loan from Napoli

ROME, 28 Aug — Juventus on Friday announced that they have signed Italy international striker Fabio Quagliarella on a season-long loan with an option to buy from Serie A rivals Napoli.

Juventus are paying 4.5 million euros to take Quagliarella on loan for the 2010-2011 campaign and will be able to make the move permanent for a further fee of 10.5 million euros.

The 27-year-old striker will be paid two million euros per season, according to Italian news agency Ansa.—INTERNET

Fulham sign Salcido from PSV

LONDON, 28 Aug — Premier League club Fulham signed Mexico defender Carlos Salcido from PSV Eindhoven for an undisclosed fee on Friday.

Salcido agreed a three-year contract with the Cottagers after impressing boss Mark Hughes with his performances for Mexico at the World Cup.

Hughes said: “Carlos is a versatile defender who can play in a number of positions, so he gives us a number of options defensively.—INTERNET

Wie leads at Canadian Women’s Open

WINNIPEG, 28 Aug — Michelle Wie remains in the lead at the CN Canadian Women’s Open after shooting a 3-under 69 in the second round.

She is at 10-under overall Friday after opening the 2010-2011 campaign with a 66 and is tied for third with defending champion Suzann Pettersen at 6 under.—INTERNET

Atletico stun Inter to lift SuperCup

MUNICH, 28 Aug — Atletico Madrid defeated Champions League winners Inter Milan 2-0 on Friday to lift the European SuperCup, delivering an early-season bodyblow to coach Rafael Benitez.

After a disappointing first half, Europa League winners Atletico opened the scoring in the 62nd minute through Jose Antonio Reyes with Sergio Aguero grabbing the second eight minutes from the final whistle.

Benitez, who has taken over from Jose Mourinho in the Inter hotseat, then endured the further misery of seeing Diego Milito’s 90th-minute penalty saved by goalkeeper David de Gea. “I think we played well at the start, but then lost control,” said Benitez.—INTERNET

Bayern humbled by 10-man Kaiserslautern

BERLIN, 28 Aug — Defending champions Bayern Munich suffered a shock defeat in only their second German league game of the season on Friday as they were stunned 2-0 by 10-man Kaiserslautern, the Bundesliga’s new boys.

Having won the second division last season, Kaiserslautern beat Cologne last weekend and have now claimed the scalp of defending champions Bayern with goals by Ivo Ilievic and Srđan Lakic, who has now scored three goals in two games.—INTERNET

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE

Across
1 Chirping insect
2 Frozen water
5 Pours
8 Unlocks
9 Forsake
10 View coloured with emotion
11 Everything
12 Imbibe
14 Stickler for good English
15 Weaponless
17 Spelling contest
18 Alienated
20 Fissure
21 Engine
22 Sailor
23 Follow
24 Lasts

Down
1 Traverse
2 Frozen water
3 Lake District town
4 Journey
5 Characteristic
6 Arousing affection
7 Vast
11 Silent
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Solution:
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Solution:
Alzheimer’s, insulin resistance linked

FUKUOKA, 28 Aug—A researcher in Japan has linked insulin resistance in diabetes and the brain plaques associated with Alzheimer’s disease.

Lead author Dr. Ken Gisuke Sasaki of Kyushu University in Fukuoka, Japan, said more studies are needed to determine if insulin resistance—the stage before diabetes, when insulin, a hormone, becomes less effective in lowering blood sugar—is linked insulin resistance in diabetes and the brain plaques associated with Alzheimer’s disease. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (3.35) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmala) (3.11) inches, Hkamti (4.96) inches, Kawakareik (3.62) inches, Kyauktaw (3.42) inches, Mu udon (3.03) inches, Kyauktaw (2.87) inches, Hop-an (2.60) inches and Aunglan (0.94) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw Weather
Maximum temperature on 27-8-2010 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 28-8-2010 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 28-8-2010 was (92%). Rainfall on 28-8-2010 was (3.35) inches. Yangon (Kaba-Aye) Weather Maximum temperature on 27-8-2010 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 28-8-2010 was 75°F. Relative humidity on 28-8-2010 was (80%).
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop.
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful.

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy.
Riots beget riots, not democracy.
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution.

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

Construction of Kyweshin Bridge, Nay Pyi Taw-Kanbya (Magway) Road kicking into high gear

New library building opened in Twantay Tsp

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (28-8-2010)

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspects construction of four-lane Kyweshin Bridge.