President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Mrs Katja Christina Nordgaard, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented her credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at President Office, here at 10 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

President U Thein Sein receives Mrs Katja Christina Nordgaard, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Myanmar.—MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Danish Ambassador to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Mr Mikael Hemniti Winther, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at President Office, here at 10:30 am today.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Mr Mikael Hemniti Winther, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to Myanmar.

MNA

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- Strengthening of national solidarity
- Building and strengthening of discipline-flourishing democracy system
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the Constitution

Four economic objectives
- Building of modern industrialized nation through the agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investment 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
- Flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation
Freedom, sense of duty, and goodwill

The processes of building a modern, developed democracy nation and reforms to shape the future of the nation are being carried out with added momentum as fundamental strides towards the national goal.

The government issued a notification on 30 June to increase pension rates. Those who started drawing pensions before 1 January 2010 can enjoy pensions the same rates as that personnel in service will get when they retire, as of July 2011.

State service personnel will become pensioners after their long service. Then, they can receive superannuation pension, illness pension or political pension. Pensions are not at the same rate due to increasing salary rates.

Now, the government has equalized old and new pension rates in recognition of past good services of old pensioners.

Increasing old pension rates will bring benefits to not only old pensioners but also the nation. Any citizen has the right to enjoy government’s assistance and the rights and is to take responsibilities. Tens of thousands of pensioners are to do their bit in the tasks to serve national interests.

The government has taken a democratic measure to put an end to pensioners’ very long wait for proportionate increase in pension rates.

Myanmar, Germany to cooperate in education sector

NAY Pyi Taw, 5 July—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye received German Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Julius Georg Luy and party at the Minister’s office here this morning. The meeting focused on mutual cooperation in education.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers U Aye Kyu and U Ba Shwe and Director-General U Bo Win of the Education Planning and Training Department.—MNA

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing delivering speech at the 37th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference.—MNA

NAY Pyi Taw, 5 July—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing delivered speech at the 37th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference at Rome, Italy, on 27 July.

Delegations from 191 member countries of FAO participated in the conference which kicked off on 25 June and ended on 2 July.

In his speech, the Union Minister said that the new government of Myanmar is making efforts for development of the agricultural sector and rural areas and alleviation of poverty as a national duty.

He believed that it is time to lift economic sanctions on Myanmar on the humanitarian grounds and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, he added.

The Union minister also held talks with Assistant Director-General of FAO Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma and discussed matters on participation of FAO in hybrid paddy cultivation in Myanmar.

During the stay in Italy, the Myanmar delegation led by the Union Minister visited research plantation of Italy Rice Research Department, and met with faculty members of the agricultural university of Italy and discussed matters on research and development. They also made field trips to corn, wheat, sunflower and grape plantations and observed life of farmers.—MNA

Coordination meeting of UCSB held

NAY Pyi Taw, 5 July—Coordination meeting of Union Civil Service Board was held at the meeting hall of the Union Civil Service Board here this morning, with an address by UCSB Chairman U Kyaw Thu. Directors-General, rectors and head of office under Departments and Universities under the UCSB submitted reports on undertakings from January to June 2010. The Chairman discussed the reports and made a concluding remark.

Also present on the occasion were members of UCSB U Khin Maung Aye, Dr Win Myint, Dr Kyaw Kyaw Huay and U Soe Oo.—MNA

Appointment of Hungarian Ambassador agreed on

NAY Pyi Taw, 6 July—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr Denes Tomaj as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Hungary to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr Denes Tomaj was born in 1949 in Budapest. He obtained degree in International Relations from the Karl Marx University, Budapest in 1972. He obtained Master’s degree in economics from the University of Economics in 1983 and B.A in Administration from University of Political Science in 1990. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1972 and served in various capacities at the Ministry and Hungarian Embassies in Bangladesh and Nigeria. He served as Ambassador to the Netherlands from 1993 to 1998 and to Canada from 2002 to 2006. At present, he is serving as ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to the Kingdom of Thailand.

He will be concurrently accredited as ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok, Thailand. He is married with two children.—MNA
35 Iraqis killed in twin bomb attacks in north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 5 July—At least 35 people were killed and 28 others wounded in coordinated twin bomb attacks on a government building in north of Baghdad on Tuesday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

The incident took place around midday when a car bomb and a roadside bomb detonated outside the town council building of Taji area, some 20 km north of Baghdad, the source said on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi security forces sealed off the scene as ambulances evacuated the victims to nearby hospitals and medical centres, the source said. The toll could rise as the powerful blasts destroyed parts of the building, the source said, adding that civil defence team and security members are working at the site, removing debris looking for more victims.

Xinhua

Two killed, eight wounded in rocket attack on Baghdad Green Zone

BAGHDAD, 5 July—Two people were killed and eight wounded in a rocket attack on Baghdad’s Green Zone, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua Tuesday.

The attack occurred late Monday night when militants fired a Katyusha rocket on the zone, which houses some of the Iraqi government offices and foreign embassies, including the US embassy, the source said on condition of anonymity.

The rocket landed on a residential complex for security guards and workers of al-Rashid Hotel and set on fire many caravans used for their living behind the hotel, the source said.

The rocket was fired from the mainly Shiite neighbourhood of al-Zaafaraniyah in southeastern Baghdad, the source added.

The heavily fortified Green Zone has been frequently targeted by militants’ mortar and rocket attacks. The roughly 10-square-km zone is located on the west bank of the Tigris River, which bisects the Iraqi capital.

Xinhua

Explosion occurs against military vehicle in Ankara

ANKARA, 5 July—A bomb exploded on early Tuesday on a main road of Ankara, capital City of Turkey, while a military vehicle was passing by.

Four cars were damaged in the explosion, but there was no casualty, yet a passenger in a car was rushed to hospital due to the shock.

Xinhua

Four NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 5 July—Four NATO soldiers were killed in two separate incidents in restive eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, the military alliance said in a statement.

“Three International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service members died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in eastern Afghanistan today,” said a statement issued by NATO-led ISAF.

According to the statement, another ISAF service member was killed in an militant attack.

The brief statement did not reveal the nationalities of the victims, saying it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.

Xinhua

50 Iraqis killed in twin bomb attacks in north of Baghdad

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Xinhua

100 Iraqi lawmakers demand departure of US troops

BAGHDAD, 5 July—Up to 100 Iraqi lawmakers on Monday signed a document calling on the Iraqi government to demand departure of US troops from the country as scheduled by the end of 2011, the Anwar al-Iraq news agency reported.

“The legislatures have signed 100 signatures calling on the government to demand the departure of the US occupation forces, in compliance with the security agreement signed between Baghdad and Washington,” the Iraqi independent agency quoted Uday Awad, a member of the Alhar parliamentary bloc, as saying.

Awad also said that his bloc urges other Iraqi political blocs to take similar step to practice pressure on the Iraqi government to demand a complete pullout of US troops from the country, agency said on its website.—Xinhua

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Xinhua

Five security personnel killed in Balochistan, SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 5 July—At least five security personnel were killed in an attack launched Tuesday morning by unknown militants in Turbet, a District in Pakistan’s southwest Province of Balochistan, reported local TV channel Express.

According to the local media reports, the attack took place at about 11:00 am local time when a roadside bomb hit a vehicle of Frontier Constabulary patrolling on the street in the District of Turbet, which is located towards the southwestern tip of Balochistan Province.

After the vehicle was hit by a remote control bomb, militants hiding on either side of the street opened fired at the security personnel in the vehicle, killing five of them on the spot, said the report.

Earlier on Tuesday morning, a convoy of the security forces was attacked by a roadside bomb in Miranshah of North Waziristan, a tribal area along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border area, during which at least three soldiers were killed and eight others injured.

Xinhua
Loudest animal is recorded for the first time

10 kHz) is within human hearing range and Dr James Windmill of the University of Strathclyde, explains one clue as to how loud the animals are: “Remarkably, even though 99% of sound is lost when transferring from water to air, the song is so loud that a person walking along the bank can actually hear these tiny creatures singing from the bottom of the river.”

The song, used by males to attract mates, is produced by rubbing two body parts together, in a process called stridulation. In water boatmen the area used for stridulation is only about 50 micrometres across, roughly the width of a human hair. “We really don’t know how they make such a loud sound using such a small area,” says Dr Windmill.

The researchers, who are presenting their work at the Society for Experimental Biology Annual Conference in Glasgow, are now keen to bring together aspects of biology and engineering to clarify how and why such a small animal makes such a loud noise, and to explore the practical applications.—Internet

Square kilometre array telescope may help make contact with aliens

Canberra, 5 July—The Square Kilometre Array (SKA), the world’s most powerful radio telescope in development, may help make contact with aliens, if there is any, Australia’s leading astronomer Fred Watson said on Tuesday. The SKA is a global collaboration of 20 countries, which is aimed to provide answers to fundamental questions about origin and evolution of the Universe.

It will be able to survey the sky more than 10,000 times faster than ever before. With receiving stations extending out to distance of 3,000 km from a concentrated central core, it will continue radio astronomy’s tradition of providing the highest resolution images in all astronomy. Professor Watson, astronomer in charge at the Australian Astronomical Observatory at Coonabarabran in New South Wales, said the SKA will reveal more about the origins of the universe.

“It’s about asking the big questions,” The Australian Associated Press quoted Professor Watson as saying Tuesday. Watson said, “The SKA will be by far the most sensitive radio telescope ever built.

It will have the potential to reveal all kinds of things ranging from the possibility of picking up signals from aliens, if they exist.

It will look at the early universe, trying to work out how galaxies were formed, said Watson. The SKA would also investigate the “mysterious stuff”, called dark matter, which permeates four-fifths of the universe, and possibly reveal how dark matter helped the formation of stars.—Xinhua

iPhone 4 prototype surfaces on eBay

Washington, 5 July—If you really must have every gadget Apple has ever created, you might be interested in an iPhone 4 prototype which is currently being sold on eBay.

The device is sold “as is” without any warranty whatsoever, and it cannot be activated via iTunes. For the most part, it looks like a regular, black iPhone 4, but it’s marked “DF1692” in the lower right corner of its front side, and it also lacks the “+” and “-” markers on the volume buttons.

As far as any new, extravagant features go, this prototype will not get you any, except for bragging rights. Judging by the current bid, which stands at $2,025, there are people out there who value those very strongly.—Internet

Baidu teams up with Microsoft for English searches

New York, 5 July—Chinese web giant Baidu said Monday it had reached an agreement with Microsoft to provide English-language results generated by the US software giant’s Bing search engine. Some English search requests from Baidu users will be automatically directed to Bing and its results will be displayed in pages in Baidu’s search engine, the Chinese company said in a statement.

“The cooperation between Baidu and Bing will bring into play technological advantages of both parties and jointly provide best search experiences for users who need to search in English,” Baidu senior executive Zhang Dongchen said. The move will also help Baidu to explore the overseas Internet search market, Zhang said, without elaborating. Baidu receives around 10 million English-language search requests a day, mostly from professionals and students in major cities, Zhang said.

The Chinese search engine and Bing are expected to start offering the service later this year, the statement said. Baidu is the dominant search engine in China, the world’s biggest online market with at least 477 million Internet users, according to official data. Google has lost part of its share of the lucrative Chinese search market to Baidu since the US web giant last year engaged in a very public spat with Beijing over cyberattacks that it claimed had originated from China.—Internet

New app checks out the bar scene in advance

Chicago, 5 July—A new app aims to maximize the chances of meeting a member of the opposite sex by using facial recognition technology to show how many men and women are in any given bar. Scene Tap’s app also records how crowded a bar is by logging the total number of people inside. It operates using cameras installed at the doors of participating bars which can distinguish between men and women and give the approximate age of the patrons.

So far some 200 bars in the United States have signed up ahead of the imminent start of the scheme, 50 of them in Scene Tap’s home base of Chicago. CEO Cole Harper told Forbes magazine the facial recognition software is not able to be linked up with Facebook or detect identity, and it certainly can’t keep track of how much people are drinking. Harper, 27, and his co-founder came up with the idea while “bar-hopping, spending a lot of money on cabs, getting somewhere and not having it be a good time” in Chicago.

Reuters
Health

Couch potatoes double risk of lung blood clots

The new research suggests that a sedentary lifestyle can be added to the list. Over the 18-year study period, there were 268 cases of pulmonary embolism.

The risk more than doubled in women who spent more than 41 hours a week sitting down outside the workplace compared to those who were seated for less than 10 hours per week.

Results held even after age, weight and tobacco consumption were taken into account.

Boston, 5 July—Lying around for long stretches outside of work doubles the risk of dangerous blood clots in the lungs, according to a study among women released Tuesday. The study looked at the risk of pulmonary embolism—blood clots in the lungs that typically arise from a vein constriction in the legs—among 69,950 female nurses over an 18-year period.—INTERNET

Hana says $4.3 billion KEB deal to be extended to December

Seoul, 5 July—South Korea’s Hana Financial Group said on Tuesday its $4.3 billion deal to take over private equity fund Lone Star’s controlling stake in Korea Exchange Bank would be extended for six months to December.

“The deal will be extended by six months to end-December,” Kim Jung-tai, chief executive of Hana’s banking unit Hana Bank, was quoted as telling local media. A Hana spokesman confirmed the remarks.

Hana has been in talks with Lone Star to extend the deal deadline after their agreement expired in May as regulators put approval for the deal on hold, citing legal disputes affecting Lone Star.

KEB approved a record 1.510 trillion won ($1.4 billion) loan to Lone Star on the back of the fund’s stock holdings in KEB.

The president of the OSE said that the merger talks between the two bourses proceeded in merger talks aimed at surviving a wave of industry consolidation.

The lead in negotiations. The president of the OSE said that the merger talks between the two bourses proceeded in merger talks aimed at surviving a wave of industry consolidation.

Tokyo stock exchange proposes tender offer for OSE

Tokyo, 5 July—Tokyo Stock Exchange has proposed a tender offer for Osaka Securities Exchange Co., Japan’s Asahi newspaper reported on Tuesday, as the two bourses proceed in merger talks aimed at surviving a wave of industry consolidation.

The president of the OSE said that the merger talks between the two bourses proceeded in merger talks aimed at surviving a wave of industry consolidation.

A TSE spokesman said he was not aware of what had been reported by the Asahi. They both declined to confirm merger talks.

A source told Reuters in March that the TSE would begin talks with its smaller domestic rival on a possible tie-up amid a flurry of mergers and alliances among global exchanges.

But media reports have said that the merger talks are facing difficulties as both exchanges want to take the lead in negotiations. The president of the OSE told Reuters last month that merger talks with the TSE beyond June would be difficult if the Tokyo bourse insisted on listing its shares before agreeing to combine operations.

Higher chance of twins after IVF for taller women

Amsterdam, 5 July—Taller women who become pregnant after receiving two embryos through in-vitro fertilisation have more chance of giving birth to twins, a Dutch study presented Monday found.

According to Marijke Lambers of the VUMC, Gynaecology Obstetrics and Reproductive Medicine in Amsterdam and her team, it is the first time that a link has been found between the height of the mother and the probability of multiple births following IVF.

“This is a further step towards the development of tailor-made personal IVF treatment,” she said.

Her team studied 19,840 women from 1983 to 1995. Of those, 6,589 completed their first IVF cycle and 2,357 received two embryos, which resulted in 371 single births and 125 twin pregnancies.

“When we came to analyse the twin group, we found that a maternal height of over 1.74 m (five feet, nine inches) and a hair thickness and more than 11 oocytes [eggs] retrieved were independently associated with twin pregnancies,” Lambers said.

“The positive relationship between a higher number of oocytes retrieved and a twin pregnancy probably reflects the fact that these women would have had a larger choice of good-quality embryos. But the association between increased height and multiple pregnancy is more difficult to explain,” she said.

A couple holds their twin daughters. Taller women who become pregnant after receiving two embryos through in-vitro fertilisation have more chance of giving birth to twins, a Dutch study found.

INTERNET
Rearrangement of Ministers of Kayin State

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—The President Office of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued Order No. 42/2011 today. The Order No. 42/2011 is as follows:-

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
(Order No. 42/2011)
5th Waxing of Waso, 1373 ME
(5 July, 2011)
Rearrangement of Ministers of Kayin State

The following ministers of Kayin State submitted by Kayin State Chief Minister were appointed at the ministries shown against each in accord with the Paragraphs (e) and (f) of Section 262 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Paragraph (c) of Article 19 of the Union Government Law and Paragraph (g) of Article 8 of Region or State Government Law.

(a) Col Aung Lwin
(b) U Aung Maung Lwin
(c) U Saw Win Htein
(d) U Saw Christopher
(e) U Min Soe Thein (a)
(f) U Naing Min Soe Thein
(g) U Saw Khin Maung Myint
(h) U Than Dai
(i) U Chit Hlaing

Ministry of Security and Border Affairs
Ministry of Finance and Revenue
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Breeding
Ministry of Forestry and Mines
Ministry of Planning and Economics
Ministry of Transport
Ministry of Electric Power and Industry
Ministry of Development Affairs
Ministry of Social Affairs

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Foreign Affairs Ministry holds tree-planting ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a monsoon tree-planting ceremony for 2011 in conjunction with a ceremony to put fingerlings into Dam No.42 near the ministry here this morning. Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin planted a teak sapling and so did the deputy ministers.

Next, the Union Minister, deputy ministers and those present put fingerlings into the dam. Altogether 400 saplings and trees were planted and 40000 fingerlings were released into the dam.

Ayeayawady Region holds tree-growing ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Ayeayawady Region Chief Minister U Aung Maung Lwin planted a teak sapling at Ayeayawady Region monsoon tree-growing ceremony held at the entrance to University of Computer Studies near Pathein suspension bridge on Pathein-Chaungtha-Ngwehsaung motorway yesterday. The Region Hluttaw Speaker, the Chief Justice of Region High Court, the Deputy Hluttaw Speaker, ministers, the Region Auditor-General, officials and local people totaling 1500 planted various kinds of 1350 saplings.

Next, the Chief Minister attended the opening ceremony of Free Eye Specialist Hospital of ET Foundation held at Taikkyi Pariyatti Monastery in Pathein. Minister for Social Affairs of the region U San Maung and wellwishers formally opened the new hospital.

Then the Chief Minister unveiled the signboard of the new hospital and inspected it. — MNA

Union Minister for Mines visits Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales

NAY PYI TAW, 4 July—Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik visited Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales for 2011 at Mani Yadana Jade Hall here today. So far, 7808 lots of jade have been sold out through tender system. The special sales organized by the Central Committee for Myanmar Gems Emporium has turned fifth day of the sales.

Gem merchants at home and abroad view jade lots.—MNA

MCF President Trophy cycling contests conclude

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Union Minister for Sports U Aye Thaung Htaik, Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu, President of MCF U Tha Huy and officials presented prizes. MCF President Trophy cycling contests conclude.

Chairman of the Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tin Hsan formally opened the contests. Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik, Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu, President of MCF U Tha Huy and officials presented prizes.

Union Sports Minister U U Tin Hsan awards the first prize winner, A & I Ministry team. — MNA

Shield for women’s event went to Original Group team and Championship Shield for men’s event, to Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry. — MNA
A pensioner is someone who has retired from work after about 25 or 30 years of service to the country. They are pensioned off when they retire after public service with the aim of addressing their basic needs. The government pays pensions to retired persons in accordance with Pension Law, based on the rates of their last salaries.

A pension is an amount of money paid monthly by the government to someone who does not work any more because he has reached the age when people stop working or they are ill. I am a pensioner. While I was in service, there was a principle that any pension shall not exceed 600 kyats. At that time, pension rates ranged from 60 to over 200 kyats. The pension rate of a high-ranking official could be as much as 500 kyats.

When consumer prices started soaring due to high inflation rate, pensioners could no longer live on their pensions only and could not address their basic needs without support of their children or own businesses such as shop, store or service. Then, pensioners were made fun of by others calling them pensioners (who got into troubles in their basic needs due to poor pensions) instead of pensioners.

High inflation rate owing to price dictation of rapacious entrepreneurs dealt a serious blow to pensioners. Governments have provided Cost of Living Allowance (CLA) for service personnel since post-World War II (when the British government reentered the nation). It was because the nation was rising from the ashes due to the war, goods were scarce, commodity prices were going up, Japanese bank notes in the hands of Myanmar people were not in circulation, and the people would go hungry if they were not provided with any types of assistance.

From the post-independence period, CLA was increased occasionally up to recent years. Old pension rates were very low. But, when salary rates were increased from three digits to four, and to five, and then six digits, pension rates were also increased. Today, there are many old pensioners receiving pension rates of three to four digits.

My pension was only over 400 kyats in 1978. The Tatmadaw government provided CLA and increased salary rates. At that time, pensioners were also provided with CLA. When salary rates of State service personnel were increased, pensioners were allowed to draw initial pensions plus CLA. So, my pension jumped to about 900 kyats. However, I happened to draw my pension only once every five or six months. Sometimes, I had not drawn my pension for more than six months. Then, I had to take a testimonial from the head of my ward to prove that I was still alive to draw pension.

There are not so many pensioners at my age (80 years), whereas the number of pensioners at the age of over 60 or 70 is increasing. Many times when I met them, they complained about their poor living conditions, saying that they could not live on their pensions alone, they did not get on with their businesses, they were too old to work to earn money, and they had no children who supported them. Some of them complained like a pigeon. So-called politicians gave lip service to canvass for votes saying that if they came to power they would increase pension rates and salary rates; that what it was needed was that they had power to do so; and that so they should be voted for. Some people placed their reliance on them in the hope of pension and salary increase. Some politicians claimed democracy and human rights. But, at the same time, they called for economic sanctions against Myanmar till they came to power even though they knew that economic sanctions hindered economic growth of the nation, and had adverse effects on the entire people and State service personnel, especially pensioners.

In the multiparty democracy general election on 7 November 2010, the people elected those who are capable of serving the interests of the nation and the people and restoring State stability and peace and speeding up national development. On 30 March 2011, the Tatmadaw government (the State Peace and Development Council) handed over administrative duties to the new government under the leadership of President U Thein Sein elected by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. As it is said by civilians, there has been a civilian (democracy) government apart from the State Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar that enumerates directives, principles and rules and regulations for ensuring perpetuation of the Union and building an independent, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. The democracy (civilian) government that is capable of enough of shaping the future of the nation has been democratically elected in accordance with the constitution by the people. Myanmar is rich in aquatic and terrestrial sources and natural resources. Therefore, what is needed is that all of us carry out public welfare services in harness and keep marching on the correct national political path.

The inaugural speech of President U Thein Sein carried reforms, work programmes and policies for reconstruction and development of the nation. Now, they are in the process of being implemented. The rural development and poverty alleviation project is now on its way. The President in his address said that the government would increase pension rates to enable old pensioners to live on their pensions.

Political pensions are also paid to those who have shouldered duties with a sense of sacrificing spirit in relation to the affairs of the nation and the people. The government also increased political pensions.

The entire nation and people are happy with the news. Pensioners and their family members bought the 1-7-2011 issues of the newspapers, and all the copies of the newspaper had been sold out that morning.

Pensioners have to get forms from mother units and nearest head offices and branches of the Pensions Department and fill in them and report to mother units and branches with pension books and related documents as soon as possible.

Political pensioners have to get forms from mother units and nearest head offices and branches of the Pensions Department and fill in them and report to relevant offices and branches with pension books as soon as possible. In that regard, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has reminded that:

(a) political pensioners at ward, village and township levels are to report to Township General Administration Department,
(b) political pensioners at State/Region levels are to report to State/Region General Administration Department,
(c) Pyithu Hluttaw representatives are to report to Hluttaw Office,
(d) political pensioners at the central level are to report to related administrative bodies (the President Office, the Office of the Union government Office, and the central administrative body offices).

The President put his words into deeds in three months. Now, pensioners and political pensioners including me are busy filling in and submitting forms for increased pension rates, but with a big smile. Pensioners of us are now in a position to enjoy better living status.

Translation: MS
NAY PYI TAW, 5 July – Chairman of the Subcommittee for Rural Socio-economic Development Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan addressed the first work coordination meeting of the subcommittee held the Ministry of Information here at 4 pm today.

It was attended by Secretary of the subcommittee Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win, members Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telecommunications U Tint Lwin, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint, Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin, directors-general and managing directors of the Ministry of Information and Ministry of Culture and officials.

Delivering an opening speech, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said today’s meeting was held with the aim of achieving success in coordinating the action plans adopted by the subcommittee and practically implementing those action plans. The tasks of the subcommittee are tremendous and they have to be implemented by the Ministry of Information side by side with other ministries such as the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Ministry of Construction.

Therefore, for the success of the action plans, all related ministries are to coordinate and cooperate with each other.

Action plans have been laid down considering practical ways and means.

After holding discussions with Region or State Rural Socio-economic Development subcommittees, work committees will be formed in respective townships and field trips conducted.

The subcommittee has to implement the Action Plans in six fields through 10 strengths.

Secretary of the subcommittee Deputy Minister U Soe Win gave an account of the Action Plan of Subcommittee for Rural Socio-economic Development.

Next, subcommittee members Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lwin, Deputy Minister U Tint Lwin, Deputy Minister U Aye Kyu, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint and Deputy Minister Daw Sanda Khin gave suggestions on works to be carried out by their respective ministries for rural socioeconomic development.

Then those present held discussions on general matters.

Regarding reports and suggestions, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan fulfilled the requirements and gave concluding remarks. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July — Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik received Executive Director BR. Nahar of Birla Corporation Ltd of India this morning.

They held discussions on construction of cement plant and matters on coal mining.

Also present at the call were the directors-general and the managing director of the ministry.

Union Mines Minister receives Indian guests

The Union Minister inspected devices installed in exchanges in Mandalay yesterday. There, he called for development of the communication sector.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun called on officials of Yatanarbon Teleport near PyinOoLwin of Mandalay Region on 2 July, for safe and security of the works of the teleport.

He visited solar plant that will supply power required by communication devices factories for mobile phone extension project. He left necessary instructions to staff in main building of the teleport.

The Union Minister inspected devices installed in exchanges in Mandalay yesterday. There, he called for development of the communication sector.— MNA
**Union Foreign Affairs Minister receives Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar U Wunna Maung Lwin received Ambassador of the Canada to Myanmar Mr. Ron Hoffmann at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 17:00 pm today. During the meeting, they cordially discussed promotion of bilateral relations and matters of mutual interests.

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**Union I&P Minister receives UNFPA Regional Director of Asia and the Pacific**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi received Director of UNFPA’s Asia and the Pacific Regional Office Ms. Nobuko Horibe.—MNA

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**Maintenance of Mansan Main Power Plant (branch), power lines in Namatu inspected**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe visited Mansan Main Power Plant (branch) in Namatu, Kyaukme District, Shan State (North) on 3 July. Officials reported to the Union Minister on facts about the power plant (branch), maintenance tasks for power lines, safety measures being taken along the power lines and seeking of axis of Hsemwi-Kutkai-Tamoe yezaukkai power line. The state electrical engineer also reported on supply of electric power to the townships of Shan State (North) and plans for extended power supply.

After giving necessary instructions, the Union Minister inspected the control room and switch yard in the compound of the main power plant and maintenance of 230-KV (Shweli-Mansan-Namhsam) power line and 66-KV (Mansan-Mansan) power line.

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**First Kayin State Hluttaw special session (1/2011) continues**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—The special session (1/2011) of First Kayin State Hluttaw continued for second day at the meeting hall of the hluttaw this morning, attended by Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, State Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Kyaw Min, the deputy speaker, the ministers and representatives.

The State Hluttaw Speaker submitted the list of ministers designated by the Chief Minister in accord with the President’s proposal to the hluttaw and approved the list which won unanimous support.

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**Those matriculate may apply for university admission**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Those who passed 2011 academic year matriculation examination are to take out score result, grade point average, university admission handbook, and university entrance form from supervisors of respective exam centres (principals of the basic education high school) in person starting from 20 July (Wednesday) so as to join desired universities. These documents are available at Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) from 24 July to 13 August including weekends. For details, contact Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar), on Thaton Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon, Ph: 537677, 525612.

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**Second-day special session (1/2011) of First Kayin State Hluttaw in progress.**

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The second-day special session came to an end at 10.10 am.—MNA
Pilot dies after mid air collision in UK

WEST SUSSEX, 5 July—The pilot of a small aircraft died after colliding in mid air with another plane in the United Kingdom, local media reported Monday.

The incident occurred at around 4:30 pm local time in Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, England when an unnamed 63-year-old pilot crashed its plane into another aircraft during their flight, local authorities told BBC News. The small plane crashed down into the Adur Recreation Ground near Shoreham Airport, bursting into flames.

According to Sussex Police, the pilot tried to avoid crashing into residential areas and sought the open field. The other involved aircraft was a single-engine four-seat Diamond DA40 operated by Flying Time Aviation that was able to land safely after the collision. Both of the pilots were reported in good condition.

Emergency calls reported the incident and Sussex Police and England’s Air Accidents Investigation Branch arrived to cordon off the area and begin carrying out investigations. Wreckage and airplane parts were scattered throughout the area. Part of the plane’s propeller was located at Beach Green.

Despite the parks and regular walkers in the area, no one was injured on the ground.

Flying Time Aviation has been operating since 2006, and the company said it had not been involved in a serious incident during its history as a flight training organization, underlining its priority in safety.

Attackers kill 8 police and soldiers in Iraq

BAGDAD, 5 July—Bombers and gunmen launched a string of attacks against security forces across Iraq, killing at least eight police and soldiers and wounding 20 others, security officials said on Monday.

Separately, a rocket fired from southeast Baghdad struck near the Rusheed Hotel in the central area of the capital late on Monday, killing three hotel employees, wounding eight others and setting ablaze three caravans, security sources said. Attacks against Iraq forces have been increasing as they prepare for the withdrawal of US troops by December, more than eight years after the invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein. Militants struck the police and Army in at least 11 attacks late on Sunday and on Monday in Baghdad, Kirkuk, Mosul and elsewhere.

A parked car bomb killed two Iraqi policemen and wounded four others when it exploded near a petrol station in the town of Saqlawiya, in Anbar Province, 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of Baghdad, police said.

In the capital, a bomber detonated his explosive vest near a security checkpoint, wounding five soldiers.

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“The security forces were watching the suicide bomber. When he felt they would arrest him he blew himself up near an Iraqi Army checkpoint,” said Major General Qassim al-Moussawi, the Iraqi capital’s security spokesman.—MNA/Reuters

Five electrocuted, two injured in north China

HORHOT, 5 July—Five people died and two others were injured Tuesday morning in an electrocution accident in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, local safety authorities said.

The accident happened at about 9:10 am in a construction company in Urad Middle Banner of Bayannur City, sources with the Inner Mongolia Administration of Work Safety Supervision said. The injured have been sent to a local hospital for treatment.—Xinhua

Japan’s F-15 fighter crashes in training flight, pilot missing

TOKYO, 5 July—A F-15 fighter of Japan’s Air Self-Defense Force crashed on Tuesday, the Defense Ministry confirmed. The pilot of the jet remains missing.

Officials with the Defense Ministry told Xinhua that the aircraft took off from Naha Air Base in Okinawa Prefecture Tuesday morning for a training flight. The pilot sent emergency signals before his jet disappeared from radar around 10:33 am (0133 GMT) about 180 kilometres northwest of Naha City. Rescue team had found a tail section of the fighter and some other parts, according to the officials. The cause of the crash is still under investigation, according to the ministry.—Xinhua

Helicopter crashes in Norway, three bodies found

OSLO, 5 July—A helicopter crashed Monday in the mountains of western Norway, killing at least three of the five people on board, police said. Police initially told Norwegian media and the company that owned the chopper that the pilot and four passengers all died in the crash in Ullesvang, some 50 miles (85 kilometres) east of Bergen, Norway’s second largest city.

Local police chief Geir Gudmundsen later told The Associated Press that only three of the bodies have been found near the burning wreckage and two others are now officially considered missing.

He said rescuers had not been able to search the wreckage because of the intense heat. “There’s been a strong fire for several hours,” Gudmundsen said, adding that rescuers would likely have to wait until Tuesday morning before they could search the wreckage.—Internet

One dead, 28 injured in Beijing subway escalator accident

BEIJING, 5 July—one person has died and 28 others have been injured — two seriously — after an escalator accident Tuesday at a Beijing subway stop.

The incident happened at 9:36 am at the A exit of the Zoo Station of Line 4, witnesses told Xinhua. Xinhua

Photo taken on 4 July, 2011 shows the wreckage of the vehicles involved in a rear-end accident on the Xiantao section of the Suzhou-Yueyang Expressway in central China’s Hubei Province.—Xinhua

A picture taken on 4 July, 2011 shows blooming lilies in Changchun Park in Changchun, capital of northeast China’s Jilin Province. Hundreds of thousands of lilies of various kinds are in full blossom in the park, attracting many visitors. —Xinhua

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23 confirmed dead in central China road accident

WUHAN, 5 July—Police in central Hubei Province confirmed that 23 people had died after a rear-end collision Monday morning.

Initially 26 people were believed dead as some of the bodies were severely burnt and difficult to identify, said a spokesman with the Hubei traffic police headquarters, who also said 29 suffered injuries, two less than what was previously reported.

The accident occurred at about 3:50 am after a long-distance passenger bus was rearended by a truck on the Xiantao section of the Suizhou-Yueyang expressway, according to the spokesman. Both vehicles crashed through the guardrails of the expressway and caught fire. Nearly 60 metres of guardrails were broken, according to a Xinhua reporter at the scene.

The bus, operated by Wuhan Hailong Tourism Bus Company, was carrying 52 passengers, including five children, tourists, and local residents, according to a reporter at the scene.

The driver of the truck was in critical condition and was rushed to hospital immediately.

Heath wave continues to scorch southern China

BEIJING, 5 July—The National Meteorological Centre (NMC) on Monday continued the heat-wave alert for most parts of southern China. Temperatures in the Sichuan Basin, Chongqing Municipality, Shaanxi Province and other regions in southern and central northern China will reach 35 to 37 degrees Celsius on Monday, the NMC said.

Some regions in the provinces of Zhejiang, Jiangxi, Hunan, Fujian, as well as Chongqing, are expected to experience temperatures of 38 to 39 degrees Celsius, the centre said. It has urged residents in these regions to refrain from outdoor activities during the early afternoon, when temperatures will reach their peak. It has also advised outdoor labourers to take precautions against the hot weather.

According to media reports, the temperature in downtown Chongqing hit a historical high of 38.9 degrees Celsius on Sunday, the highest level for early July since the city began keeping records in 1951. Chongqing municipal government has opened 107 underground sites for residents to shelter from the heat.

Each site is equipped with drinking water, books, TV sets and emergency medicine.

5.4-magnitude earthquake strikes off Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 5 July—A moderate earthquake with magnitude of 5.4 jolted Sumatra Island of Indonesia on Tuesday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake struck at 02:00 am Jakarta time (0700 GMT) with epicentre at 41 km southwest of Tapanuli Utara, North Sumatra Province and with the depth at 57 km, the agency said.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire.”

Hundreds flee shaking Seoul shopping mall

SEOUL, 5 July—A 39-story shopping mall in the eastern part of Seoul trembled on Tuesday morning, forcing hundreds of people to flee the building, officials said.

Between 300 to 500 people fled the Techno Mart building in Seoul’s Gwangjin District after the building shook for about 10 minutes on Tuesday morning, fire officials said. No injuries have been reported.

It remains unknown what had caused the shaking of the building. Officials are investigating.

The Gwangjin District Office has ordered all the people working at the building to evacuate.

“We will immediately place the order and conduct a thorough safety examination,” a district official quoted as saying by Yonhap news agency.

6.5 magnitude earthquake hits NZ’s lower North Island

WELLINGTON, 5 July—A 6.5 magnitude earthquake rocked New Zealand’s North Island on Tuesday afternoon.

The quake, occurred at 3:36 pm (0336 GMT), was centred 30 km west of Taupo. It was at a depth of 150 km, said New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences.

It was widely felt in Wellington North, Napier, Blenheim and Christchurch. Xinhua reporters in Wellington strongly felt the jolt which lasted about 10 seconds.

Tourists shop at the International Grand Bazaar in Taipei on Monday. It opened in Taipei on Monday. It provides displaying and trade services of jade articles, porcelains, bronze wares, calligraphy and painting works, wood sculptures and stone carvings. —Xinhua

The 10 foot high statue of former President Ronald Reagan is seen after it was unveiled outside the US embassy in London on 4 July, 2011. The 10 foot high statue was commissioned to commemorate Ronald Reagan’s achievements and to mark 100 years since his birth. —Xinhua

A statue of former President Ronald Reagan is seen after it was unveiled outside the US embassy in London on 4 July, 2011. The 10 foot high statue was commissioned to commemorate Ronald Reagan’s achievements and to mark 100 years since his birth. —Xinhua

The Lake Taupo is seen in this file photo taken in the Taupo Region, a tourism resort on the North Island of New Zealand, on 5 April, 2010. A 6.5 magnitude earthquake, centred 30 kilometres west of Taupo, rocked New Zealand’s North Island on 5 July, 2011, according to the statistics from New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS Science).—Xinhua

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“We will immediately place the order and conduct a thorough safety examination,” a district official quoted as saying by Yonhap news agency.
The driver — identified only as a 20-year-old St Cloud man, was dead at the scene. A 5-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl were taken to St Cloud Hospital, where they died, according to media reports.

Under political pressure, Exxon Mobil Corp acknowledged that its pipeline leak could extend far beyond a 10-mile (16-kilometre) stretch of the famed waterway. “We’re not limiting the scope of our cleanup to the immediate site,” Exxon Mobil Pipeline Co President Gary Pruessing said at a news conference along the river near Laurel, as crews mopped up oil in the background.

Exxon Mobil has estimated that up to 1,000 barrels, or 42,000 gallons (159,000 litres), of crude oil spilled Friday night before the flow from the damaged pipeline was stopped. Pruessing said air and water monitoring had not revealed any health risks and the officials from the Environmental Protection Agency were still taking air and water samples to determine the impacts.

Though the cause of Montana spill has not yet been determined, officials speculated that high waves in recent weeks may have scouring the river bottom and exposed the pipeline to debris that could have damaged the pipe.—Xinhua

**Exxon Mobil to mop up oil spill into Yellowstone River**

Beijing, 5 July—The chief of Exxon Mobil Corp pledging on Monday to do whatever necessary to mop up the pipeline oil leak into the Yellowstone River as the company intensified its cleanup of spilled crude, according to media reports.

Under political pressure, Exxon Mobil Corp acknowledged that its pipeline leak could extend far beyond a 10-mile (16-kilometre) stretch of the famed waterway. “We’re not limiting the scope of our cleanup to the immediate site,” Exxon Mobil Pipeline Co President Gary Pruessing said at a news conference along the river near Laurel, as crews mopped up oil in the background.

**Oldest engraving for pharaoh discovered in Egypt**

Cairo, 5 July—US and Italian archeologists have discovered the oldest description about an Egyptian king (about 3,200 BC) in Egypt’s Aswan, Egyptian Antiquities Minister Zahi Hawass said on Monday. The engravings “traces back to when the Egyptian language firstly recorded in hieroglyphs and tells about a unique complete royal ceremony, which was known in the ancient Egyptian era,” said Hawass in a statement.

“Pharaoh appears to be wearing the Upper Egypt crown accompanied by (Horus apodis) at the royal court.” Hawass added.—Xinhua

**Study links anti-smoking drug to heart disease**

Beijing, 5 July—A new study found that Pfizer’s anti-smoking drug Chantix linked to higher risk of heart disease, according to media reports Tuesday. The study published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal linked the pill to a 72 percent increase in the risk of heart problems.

“We have known for many years that Chantix is one of the most harmful prescription drugs on the US market, based on the number of serious adverse effects reported to the FDA” (US Food and Drug Administration), said study lead investigator Curt Furberg of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Centre. The finding added to previous warnings about the pill’s connection to psychiatric problems. “It causes loss of consciousness, visual disturbances, suicides, violence, depression and worsening of diabetes,” Furberg said in a statement. “To this list we now can add serious cardiovascular events.”

The new study analyzed 14 randomized clinical trials involving 8,200 patients, excluding those with cardiovascular disease. It found 52 out of 4,908 people taking Chantix had serious cardiovascular events, a rate of 1.06 percent, compared with 27 out of 3,308 people taking a placebo, a rate of 0.82 percent. While the absolute difference is only 0.24 percent, the weighted, relative difference is 72 percent.

Pfizer responded that the analysis in the Canadian Medical Association Journal was based on too few heart or cardiovascular events to draw conclusions about the risks. Officials of Pfizer and the Food and Drug Administration said that they had been planning next year to conduct a joint analysis of clinical trials on whether Chantix posed heart risks. The drug is sold in nearly 90 countries and used by seven million Americans.—Xinhua

**Chinese models dressed in fancy wedding gowns and adorned with costume jewelry attend the 2011 China Hair and Beauty Expo in Beijing recently.**

This annual expo provides a platform allowing worldwide beauty and cosmetic manufacturers to introduce their products to buyers in China’s massive cosmetic market.—INTERNET

**Miscarriage mums assured ‘healthy baby still possible’**

Stockholm, 5 July—Women with repeated miscarriages can be reassured that their chance of having a healthy baby is the same as women who have never miscarried, say experts. The news comes from a large meeting in Sweden where doctors are discussing the latest advances in fertility medicine. The findings in over 1,000 women should offer some comfort to the 1% of couples who have lost three or more pregnancies in a row through no known cause.

Often the reasons for recurrent miscarriages cannot be found. This can be an added source of stress and leave a couple wondering why they were affected.

Most recurrent miscarriages are unexplained, meaning there is no obvious cause, and no treatment to offer.—INTERNET
Eater wins fifth Nathan’s hot dog contest

Competitive eater Joey Chestnut won his fifth straight Nathan’s International Hot Dog Eating Contest at the annual Fourth of July event in New York.

Chestnut downed 62 hot dogs with their buns in the space of 10 minutes Monday at Nathan’s Famous on Coney Island, finishing nine sausages ahead of second-place finisher Patrick Bertoletti, the New York Daily News reported Monday.

The eater fell short of his 68-hot dog world record, set at the 2009 competition. “I’m feeling pretty damn good right now,” Chestnut said. “At the end, I kept messing up my rhythm … (but) I just kept pushing.” Sonya Thomas took home the grand prize in the women’s competition by downing 40 hot dogs. Meanwhile, Chestnut rival Takeru Kobayashi, who was not allowed to participate in Monday’s event because he refused to sign an exclusive contract with Major League Eating, downed 69 hot dogs in a concurrent event at the 230 Fifth bar in Manhattan. “I think I showed them,” Kobayashi said. “I’m very happy about my win today but I feel like I’m not at my peak. I think I could go up to 90 or 85.”

Boy, 7, rescued from tree

A Florida mother said her 7-year-old’s tree climbing days are over after he was rescued from a weak branch 40 feet up by firefighters.

Sarah Simmons and husband Jacob said their son, Matthew, decided to climb the tree to get across a six-foot drainage ditch in their Orlando back yard, but he came to a halt and called for their help when he felt the branch beneath his legs begin to give, the Orlando Sentinel reported Monday.

“I just climbed up there like a bear does,” Matthew Simmons said. “I usually don’t get stuck when I climb trees.”

Sarah Simmons said her son had “never climbed a tree that high before.” Firefighters arrived on the scene used a ladder to help the boy to the ground.

Simmons told her son once he arrived back on the ground that she doesn’t “think you’ll be climbing trees anymore.” However, Matthew responded with a questioning, “Sometimes?”

Chord Overstreet not to return for hit TV

BEIJING, 5 July—US actor Chord Overstreet will not return for the third season of hit TV show “Glee”, according to media reports Tuesday.

Overstreet, who joined the last season of the musical series as recurring guest star and transfer student Sam Evans, may come back as a guest star from time to time.

The 22-year-old star talked about the job change on his Twitter, saying, “Well its been a good yr but too bad its over.”

Cecilia Cheung shows up to promote new film

BEIJING, 5 July—The launch ceremony for comedy film “The Lion Roars 2” was held Sunday, 3 July in the coastal city of Ningbo, Zhejiang Province.

An array of stars were in attendance, including Cecilia Cheung, Xiao Shen Yang, Victor Huang, and the film’s director Joe Ma.

A casually dressed Cecilia Cheung was seen mixing with and talking to the director and other cast members. She appeared to be in good spirits, despite rumors surrounding her private life. Cheung and her actor-singer husband Nicholas Tse have dominated the headlines of entertainment publications since details of their bumpy marriage were first revealed in May.

Cheung and Ma also talked about the recent promotion of Chinese films in the international market. “We find that Chinese films are gradually being recognized in the West,” said Ma.

A model presents a creation by French designer Adeline and part of her Haute Couture Fall-Winter 2011/2012 fashion show in Paris on 4 July, 2011. —Xinhua

Hawk attacking cyclists to guard nest

Oregon residents said a male hawk protecting the nest where his mate is tending to their recently hatched chicks has been attacking passing cyclists.

The cyclists said they have seen the hawks in previous years but the father bird has been more aggressive this year, regularly attacking those riding their bikes down Tuttle Creek Road south of Pendleton, the East Oregonian in Pendleton reported Monday.

“He’s back and he’s much more aggressive,” cyclist Mack Temple said. “He came in from behind and whacked me on the top of my helmet — he’s apparently getting bolder.”

Lynn Tompkins, executive director of Blue Mountain Wildlife, said the birds are likely Swainson’s hawks. “They are really territorial,” she said of Swainson’s hawks. “They have a reputation for being aggressive.”

Carl Scheeler, wildlife biologist for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, said the hawks usually incubate for 28-35 days and begin leaving the nest about a month later. “Typically, the more investment they have in their young, the more likely they are to be aggressive,” Scheeler said.

News Album

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 6 July, 2011 13

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Oregon residents said a male hawk protecting the nest where his mate is tending to their recently hatched chicks has been attacking passing cyclists.

The cyclists said they have seen the hawks in previous years but the father bird has been more aggressive this year, regularly attacking those riding their bikes down Tuttle Creek Road south of Pendleton, the East Oregonian in Pendleton reported Monday.

“He’s back and he’s much more aggressive,” cyclist Mack Temple said. “He came in from behind and whacked me on the top of my helmet — he’s apparently getting bolder.”

Lynn Tompkins, executive director of Blue Mountain Wildlife, said the birds are likely Swainson’s hawks. “They are really territorial,” she said of Swainson’s hawks. “They have a reputation for being aggressive.”

Carl Scheeler, wildlife biologist for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, said the hawks usually incubate for 28-35 days and begin leaving the nest about a month later. “Typically, the more investment they have in their young, the more likely they are to be aggressive,” Scheeler said.
**Djokovic new No 1; Serena Williams drops to 175th**

WIMBLEDON, 5 July — Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic rose to No.1 in the ATP rankings for the first time on Monday, while Serena Williams dropped to 175th.

Djokovic officially moved up from No 2 one day after beating previously top-ranked Rafael Nadal 6-4, 6-1, 1-6, 6-3 for his first title at the All England Club. It's the first time in nearly 7 years that a man other than Nadal or Roger Federer is ranked No.1.

"Times are changing," the 24-year-old Djokovic said on Monday. "It's good for the sport, I think, to have some new faces."

Federer first took the top place on 2 Feb, 2004, and he or Nadal had been No 1 every week short of Pete Sampras' record. Nadal's latest stay began on 7 March. But he surged past Federer in the rankings of 3 Nov, 1997, when she was 304th. She had a lot of rankings points to defend, so her loss to Marion Bartoli in the fourth round led to the 150-place slide on Monday.

Williams hasn't been this far down since the rankings of 3 Nov, 1997, when she was 304th. She moved into the top 150 the next week, went from 30th to 5th, and hasn't fallen back outside that level until now. Her older sister Venus, who also lost in the fourth round last week, went from 30th to 5th, and hasn't fallen back outside that level until now. Her older sister Venus, who also lost in the fourth round last week, went from 30th to 5th, and hasn't fallen back outside that level until now.

"I was surprised by the figure. It's a farcical bid. "If they're going to make an offer, make an offer, but $22 million for Luka Modric is ridiculous.""

**Redknapp slams ‘farcical’ Modric offer**

LONDON, 5 July — Tottenham Hotspur manager Harry Redknapp has signalled his determination to keep Luka Modric at White Hart Lane by labelling Chelsea's £22 million ($35.4m) offer for the player as "farcical". The 25-year-old Croatia midfielder has made it clear he would like to move across London to Chelsea who, unlike Spurs, have qualified for next season's Champions League.

Tottenham rejected his bid and Redknapp, speaking to Sky Sports, said on Monday: "I was surprised by the figure. It's a farcical bid. "If they're going to make an offer, make an offer, but £22 million for Luka Modric is ridiculous."

**Chile are in line to create a stir and win their first Copa America, an admiring Mexico said after they lost to La Roja 2-1 in their Group C opener in San Juan.—INTERNET**

Chile are in line to create a stir and win their first Copa America, an admiring Mexico said after they lost to La Roja 2-1 in their Group C opener in San Juan.

"They have made me improve," Djokovic said. "They have made me a better player." Djokovic had been No 2 since March. But he surged past Nadal by going 8-1 with eight titles so far in 2011, including Grand Slam trophies at the Australian Open and Wimbledon.

Federer arrived at the All England Club on Monday morning for a series of interviews, the ATP presented him with a cake shaped like a "1" in the red, blue and white colors of Serbia's flag. He is the first man from that country to be No 1 since the ATP introduced computer rankings in 1973. Djokovic is the 25th player to reach No 1.

Williams is a former No 1 and a 13-time Grand Slam champion who was ranked 25th entering Wimbledon after missing nearly a full year because of a series of health scares. As the defending champion at the All England Club, though, Williams had a lot of rankings points to defend, so her loss to Marion Bartoli in the fourth round led to the 150-place slide on Monday.

"I certainly would have taken it on any day," Farrar said of the stage victory. "But as an American, winning on the Fourth of July, it's the icing on the cake. ... Lucky me." After he crossed the finish line, Farrar held up his hands to form a “W” with his fingers and thumbs to honour his friend and training partner Wouter Weylandt, who died in a crash during the Giro d'Italia in May.

**Farrar wins 3rd Tour de France stage**

SAN JUAN, 5 July—Tyler Farrar of the US won the third Tour de France stage on Monday: "I was surprised by the figure. It's a farcical bid. "If they're going to make an offer, make an offer, but £22 million for Luka Modric is ridiculous.""

**S P O R T S**

**Vidal heads Chileans past Mexico**

SAN JUAN, 5 July—Chile provided a little of the passion the Copa America had been missing as they fought their way past Mexico 2-1 to go two points clear in Group C, Arturo Vidal bagging the winner with a fine header.

Mexico's coach Luis Fernando Tena praised the Chileans after a stylish performance on Monday.

"They have great players, they are a solid and strong team. They know each other well and are a solid and strong team. They know each other well.

"But as an American, winning on the Fourth of July, it's the icing on the cake. ... Lucky me." After he crossed the finish line, Farrar held up his hands to form a “W” with his fingers and thumbs to honour his friend and training partner Wouter Weylandt, who died in a crash during the Giro d'Italia in May.

**More stalemate as Uruguay held by Peru**

SAN JUAN, 5 July—The Copa America saw its fourth draw in only five games as Uruguay and Peru parted 1-1 in Group C, having reached the World Cup semi-finals last year with Diego Forlan voted player of the tournament, pressed hard in the opening period but they were shocked when Peru took the lead through the constantly dangerous Paolo Guerrero.

The Hamburg striker netted in the 23rd minute when he took advantage of some slack defending by the “Churucas,” rounded keeper Fernando Muslera and finished off by shooting.

The Copa America saw its fourth draw in only five games as Uruguay and Peru parted 1-1 in Group C.

"We go for a win," US coach Pia Sundhage said on Monday. "Absolutely." The two-time World Cup champions needed only a tie against Sweden to win Group C and likely avoid a quarterfinal matchup with Brazil.

**Tour de France cyclist swallows insect during ride**

REDON, 5 July—Frank Schleck couldn't tell by the taste if it was a bee or wasp. He was merely happy not to develop an allergic reaction after being stung inside his mouth when he swallowed an insect while riding in the Tour de France. The Leopard-Trek cyclist from Luxembourg had just started the team time trial in Sunday's second stage when his unwelcome visitor arrived.

He told The Associated Press on Monday that he initially “panicked” before remembering previous similar experiences that helped calm him. Schleck also cut his nose during the stage after hitting a camera. He struggled to match the pace of his teammates as Leopard-Trek finished four seconds behind stage winner Garmin-Cervelo.

**No gimmies allowed: US looking for win vs Sweden**

WOLFSBURG, 5 July—Just nice, winning is better. The United States plays Sweden in the group stage finale at the Women's World Cup in Wolfsburg, Germany, on 4 July, 2011.—INTERNET

But Redknapp would not say what kind of bid might interest Spurs, who reached the quarter-finals of last season's Champions League before losing to Spanish giants Real Madrid.—INTERNET

**United States players go through passing drills during a training session in preparation for a match against Sweden during the Women’s Soccer World Cup in Wolfsburg, Germany, on 4 July, 2011.—INTERNET**

"They have made me improve," Djokovic said. "They have made me a better player." Djokovic had been No 2 since March. But he surged past Nadal by going 8-1 with eight titles so far in 2011, including Grand Slam trophies at the Australian Open and Wimbledon.
Frantic lobbying day before vote for 2018 Olympics

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA, 5 July—In a frantic final day of campaigning, the three cities vying for the 2018 Winter Olympics are lobbying for votes in what shapes up as a choice between the third-time outsider.—INTERNET

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, rain have been isolated in Mandalay and Bago Regions, scattered in Magway Region, Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States, fairly widespread in Yangon Region, Kachin and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyauktaw, Cogoyun and Myamaungy (1.65) inches each, Paletwa (1.42) inches, Sittway and MyaukU(1.18) inches, Hakha (0.79) inch and Aunglan (0.75) inch.

Nay Pyi Taw
Maximum temperature on 4-7-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 5-7-2011 was 75°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-7-2011 was (84%). Rainfall on 5-7-2011 was (Nil).

Nay Pyi Taw (Airport)
Maximum temperature on 4-7-2011 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 5-7-2011 was 73°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-7-2011 was (79%). Rainfall on 5-7-2011 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 5-7-2011 was (Nil) at Nay Pyi Taw, (Tr) at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (Nil) at Mandalay. Total rainfall since 1-1-2011 was (22.91) inches at Nay Pyi Taw, (Tr) at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and (16.14) inches at Mandalay. Maximum wind speed at Nay Pyi Taw was (3) mph from east at (12:30) hours MST on 5-7-2011.

Bay Influence: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of the 6th July 2011: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions,Kayah State, scattered in Bago Region, Shan, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of decrease of rain in the Eastern Myanmar Areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6th July 2011: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6th July 2011: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6th July 2011: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).
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

★ VOA, BBC-sowing hatred among the people
★ RFA, DVB-generating public outrage
★ Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of newly-accredited Canadian Ambassador to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 5 July—Mr Ron Hoffmann, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Canada to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at President Office, here at 11 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

True patriotism
- It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

MNA

President
U Thein Sein
receives Mr Ron
Hoffmann, the
newly-accredited
Ambassador of
Canada to the
Republic of the
Union of Myanmar.

MNA