First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw second regular session summoned

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Aug—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued Notification No. (1/2011) dated 1 August 2011. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
Notification No. (1/2011)
2nd Waxing of Wagaung 1373 ME
(1 August 2011)
Summoning first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw second regular session

In accord with Section 79 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 13 of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law, it is hereby announced that the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw second regular session is summoned on the 8th Waning of Wagaung 1373 ME (22 August 2011) (Monday).

Sd/ Khin Aung Myint
Speaker
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
MNA

First Amyotha Hluttaw second regular session summoned

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Aug—Amyotha Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued Notification No. (1/2011) dated 1 August 2011. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Amyotha Hluttaw
Notification No. (1/2011)
2nd Waxing of Wagaung 1373 ME
(1 August 2011)
Summoning first Amyotha Hluttaw second regular session

In accord with Section 155 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 34 of Amyotha Hluttaw Law, it is hereby announced that the first Amyotha Hluttaw second regular session is summoned on the 8th Waning of Wagaung 1373 ME (22 August 2011) (Monday).

Sd/ Khin Aung Myint
Speaker
Amyotha Hluttaw
MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall
(31-7-2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount (inches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ye</td>
<td>12.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launglon</td>
<td>5.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawei</td>
<td>5.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayinmaraw</td>
<td>4.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mudon</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayakhami</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hpa-an</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Union A&I Minister inspects paddy plantations in Pobbathiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing this morning viewed monsoon paddy transplanting at 100-acre field through good agriculture method in Nyaungbingyisu Village of Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw.

Managing Director U Kyaw Win of Myanmar Agriculture Service and Deputy Minister U Ohn Than gave supplementary reports on use of good agriculture method and transplanting the paddy. In his address, the Union Minister said that as rural areas have the job opportunities at farming works, the local people can enjoy fruits of development. The Union Minister viewed thriving paddy plan-tation on 100 acres of farmlands.

Director-General U Kyaw Myint Hlaing of Irrigation Department explained efficient use of water to farmers. The Union Minister then gave special attention to the 40-acre paddy field in Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township and 30-acre paddy field in Aungshhuka Village. They also visited sowing of paddy seeds on 12-acre field near Yanaungmyin Pagoda.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing views monsoon paddy transplanting at 100-acre farmland in Nyaungbingyisu

Village of Pobbathiri Township.—MNA
Work together for greater development of human resources

In the Age of Knowledge today, knowledge has an overwhelming influence on everything. The strength of the nation rests on knowledge. The youth of the country are nurtured effectively for human resource development to enhance the national strength.

As the first step, the programme for providing free primary school textbooks to students has been launched this year to bring the free compulsory primary school education system into force. In order to accelerate the system, exercise books, pencils, ball pens, cloth sling bags and nutritious foods will also be provided free of charge next year.

High basic education school enrolment rate is essential for producing a growing number of intellectuals and intelligentsia. Following years, scholarships and stipends will be granted.

Now, all possible ways and means are applied to sharpen the abilities of students. What is the most important in that regard is to improve the skills of teachers. Students are to be trained and nurtured to meet the international standard and ASEAN standard in the education field and to improve their reasoning power.

Students should use libraries and Internet. Two-way system between students and teachers, and students should hold discussions in classrooms.

The education goal can be achieved soon if teachers and students’ parents work together for speedy development of human resources.

Union Minister inspects Min Creek Bridge

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Maung held a meeting with the staff at Rakhine State Superintending Engineer’s office on 29 July.

He called for the upgrading of buildings, roads and bridges, repair to damaged roads and bridges due to heavy rains, keeping documentary photos, and maintenance of roads and bridges in the state.

The minister visited offices of the Rakhine State superintending engineer, district and township offices. He inspected Min Creek Bridge on Sittway-Yathedaung-Ponnagyun Road.

Union CPT Minister looks into communication facilities in Sittway

YANGON, 31 July—Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun on 29 July met staff at the office of Rakhine State Manager of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications in Sittway.

The Union Minister explained participation of CPT Ministry in undertaking eight tasks of rural development and poverty alleviation and extended installation of mobile telephones. While in Sittway, the Union Minister inspected Auto-Exchange, Rakhine State telegraphic office, microwave station and Sittway post office.

Teachership Course (1/2011) on Buddhist Culture concludes

YANGON, 31 July—A ceremony to conclude Teachership Course (1/2011) on Buddhist Culture conducted by the Myanmar Border Areas and Hilly Regions Theravada Buddha Sasana Nuggaha Association took place at the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Mayangon Township, here, this morning.

Patron of the association, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Maung Maung gave an introductory speech.

Talk “Dental Clinic Management in Japan” on 5 Aug

YANGON, 31 July—The Myanmar Dental Association will organize a talk “Dental Clinic Management in Japan” at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Lanmadaw Township here on 5 August (Friday).}

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Iraq ‘less safe than a year ago’: US watchdog

WASHINGTON, 31 July—Iraq is a less safe place than it was one year ago as security continues to deteriorate, an American watchdog warned on Saturday, just months ahead of a US withdrawal from the country.

The assessment by the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) contrasts markedly from the more optimistic view often voiced by senior US army officers who argue that Iraqi security forces are able to maintain internal security.

He also noted that efforts by the American embassy to train Iraq’s fledgling police force would be “challenging.” While the military has been in charge of developing Iraq’s policemen, that responsibility is being transferred to the US State Department. “Iraq remains an extraordinarily dangerous place to work,” Stuart Bowen said in the report published on Saturday. “It is less safe, in my judgment, than 12 months ago.”

He added that the transition of responsibility for reconstruction from the US military to the embassy was occurring “against the backdrop of a security situation in Iraq that continues to deteriorate.”

Bowen noted June was the deadliest month for US military personnel since April 2009, and that the April to July period saw the highest number of assassinations of senior Iraqi officials since SIGIR began tracking such figures.—INTERNET

Jet from New York crashes in Guyana; no deaths

GEORGETOWN, 31 July—A Caribbean Airlines jet from New York touched down on a rainy runway, then slid through a chain-link fence and broke apart just short of a ravine on Saturday in Guyana. Miraculously there were no immediate reports of death among the 163 people aboard, despite several dozen of injuries.

Passengers aboard Flight 523 said they had begun to applaud the pilot’s landing in the South American country when suddenly things went wrong. The Boeing 737-800 apparently overshot the 7,400-foot (2,200-meter) runway at Cheddi Jagan International Airport and barely missed a 200-foot (60-meter) ravine that could have resulted in dozens of fatalities, said President Bharrat Jagdeo, who came to the crash site before dawn.—INTERNET

An Afghan policeman (L) watches as firefighters work at the site after a car bomb explosion in Lashkar Gah, capital of Helmand Province on 31 July, 2011.—INTERNET

One killed, eight injured in hotel blast in Southern Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, July 31—At least one person was killed and eight others were injured in a hand grenade blast Sunday afternoon at a hotel in the Hub city of Lasbela district in southern Pakistan, reported local Urdu TV channel Waqt.

According to the local media reports, the blast took place at about 1:20 pm local time when some unknown people hurled a hand grenade into a hotel located on a main road in Hub city, which is located some 30 kilometres northwest of Karachi.

The miscreants ran away after the attack. Police rushed to the site shortly after the blast was reported. All the injured people have been shifted to a nearby hospital. Two of the injured people are in critical condition, said hospital sources.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack.—MNA/Xinhua

An Afghan policeman (L) watches as firefighters work at the site after a car bomb explosion in Lashkar Gah, capital of Helmand Province on 31 July, 2011.—INTERNET

Helmand blast kills 12 policemen, one child

LASHKAR GAH, 31 July—A suicide attacker killed 12 Afghan policemen and a child in the southern City of Lashkar Gah on Sunday when he detonated a car bomb, the provincial governor’s spokesman said.

The attack in the heart of a city which was recently handed over to Afghan security forces was a reminder of the Taleban’s reach, even at a time of stepped up pressure from US and Afghan troops.

The explosion happened near the police chief’s compound in the provincial capital and appeared to target a joint Afghan police and army patrol.

Twelve people were wounded in the blast, nine of them policemen and three civilians, said Daoud Ahmadi, spokesman for the Helmand provincial governor.

“The information given by the crime scene unit of the police is that 12 policemen and a young kid have been killed in the suicide car bomb attack,” Ahmadi said.

It comes after a string of destabilizing assassinations of high-profile southern leaders, including President Hamid Karzai’s younger brother, and just days after suicide attackers with guns killed 19 people, most of them children.—INTERNET

Three people killed in clash with US, Iraqi forces

BAGHDAD, 31 July—An Iraqi spokesman says a raid by US and Iraqi forces has killed three people in a village north of Baghdad.

Ali Abdul-Rahman, a spokesman for the Salahuddin provincial government, says the raid took place Saturday morning in a village in the suburbs of Balad.

Balad is 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of the capital.

He says the residents noticed suspicious movements in orchards near their houses and grabbed their weapons. He says clashes erupted and three people were killed and seven wounded.

A US military spokesman, Col Barry Johnson, confirmed that US forces and Iraqi troops came under fire in the area. He said they returned fire, resulting in casualties but had no specifics on how many people were injured or killed.—INTERNET

An Afghan policeman (L) watches as firefighters work at the site after a car bomb explosion in Lashkar Gah, capital of Helmand Province on 31 July, 2011.—INTERNET

Anxieties in Afghanistan over troops pay if US defaults

KANDAHAR, 31 July—It is unclear if the United States will be able to pay troops on time in the event of a debt default, the top US military officer told troops in Afghanistan on Saturday.

Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the US military’s Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Pentagon officials were working hard to plan for a potential default but cautioned that the circumstances were extraordinary.

“So I honestly can’t answer that question,” he told troops at Kandahar air base in southern Afghanistan, as several expressed anxiety over budget wrangling in Washington. Potentially suspending pay to US forces waging wars in Afghanistan and Iraq is an extremely sensitive subject in the United States and Mullen acknowledged that many troops lived paycheck to paycheck.—INTERNET

Photo of an American trooper checking the back seat of a car at a police check point in Kabul, Afghanistan.

In this 2 June, 2011 photo, an Afghan police officer checks the back seat of a car at a police check point in Kabul, Afghanistan.—INTERNET
Rare fossil of sea reptile found on Alaska beach

ANCHORAGE, 31 July—Alaska scientists have discovered the fossil of a rare, prehistoric marine reptile that is likely the most complete remnant of the creature ever found in North America.

The nearly complete fossilized skeleton is of a thalattosaur, a long-tailed sea creature that plied warm, shallow waters in the early days of dinosaurs and became extinct at the end of the Triassic period some 200 million years ago.

The discovery of the fossil, found during an extreme low tide along the shore of the Tongass National Forest, was announced this week by the Museum of the North at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Geologists had been conducting field surveys at the site when the fossil was spotted. Unlike most thalattosaur discoveries, which are fossilized remnants of individual bones and bone fragments, this specimen appeared to be a nearly full skeleton.

"In North America, this may be the most articulated specimen that we have right now," Baichtal said.

Scientists excavated the fossil in June and have been studying it to determine whether it represents a previously unknown species. There are only about a dozen full thalattosaur specimens in the world, Baichtal said. "So the probability of this being something that wasn’t seen before is probably pretty high," he said.

Facebook beats Google as the most commonly typed domain in the address bar

WASHINGTAN, 31 July—It’s been a long time coming but Apple seems to have finally been able to extend previews of songs from 30 to 90 seconds in its iTunes stores around the world. The change has been made some seven months after the extension was first brought to the US iTunes store.

Music lovers who buy their tunes through the store will be happy with the news. Thirty seconds always seemed a little on the short side — sometimes it cut out even before the chorus had a chance to kick in. It’s not clear whether hearing more of a song actually increases the likelihood of a tune being bought — it can, after all, work both ways. It all depends on that pesky chorus.

According to the 9to5Mac website, the delay in rolling it out to other countries most probably had something to do with the Cupertino company working on sealing deals with record labels in other territories.

The website confirmed that the extension to 90 seconds had been made in at least the following countries: the UK, France, Australia, Luxembourg, Switzerland, New Zealand, and Canada. Japan can be added to the list, too.
Incidence is still low — just three-quarters of a percent of women in America had a stroke while pregnant or within three months of giving birth in the latest data — more research is needed to find the cause of the rise, she said.

Kuklina said one factor may be that more women are overweight when they become pregnant, which can add to the likelihood of complications from diabetes and high blood pressure. “When you’re relatively healthy, your stroke risk is not that high,” she said.

“Now, more and more women entering pregnancy already have some type of risk factor for stroke, such as obesity, chronic hypertension, diabetes or congenital heart disease,” she added.

Greater Breast density may raise cancer risk

Boston, July 31 — Greater breast density is associated with an increased risk of breast cancer and certain aggressive tumour traits, new research says. In the study, published in the 27 July online edition of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, researchers used mammography to compare breast density in 1,042 postmenopausal women with breast cancer and a control group of 1,794 postmenopausal women without breast cancer.

Breast density on mammograms is determined by the proportions of fat, connective tissue and epithelial tissue in the breast. Previous research has shown that women with higher amounts of epithelial and stromal tissue have more density and higher risk of breast cancer. But it hasn’t been clear whether breast density is associated with specific tumour characteristics and tumour type.

As expected, this new study found that breast cancer risk rose progressively with increasing breast density. The researchers also found that the link between density and breast cancer was stronger for larger tumours than for smaller tumours, for high-grade tumours compared to low-grade tumours, for estrogen receptor-negative tumours than for estrogen receptor-positive tumours, and for ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) tumours than for invasive tumours.

Japanese megabanks show mixed earnings

Tokyo, July 31 — Mizuho Financial Group said Friday that it suffered a 36 percent drop in net profit in the first quarter to June, as Japan’s megabanks reported mixed earnings for the April-June period.

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc also reported Friday its net profit in the quarter fell 2.4 percent on year, hurt by higher tax-related costs.

Nomura Holdings, Japan’s largest securities firm, and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc (MUFG), Japan’s largest bank by assets, reported profits in the period.

Mizuho’s profit slump was due to a fall off in profitability at its banking units, it said, posting a group net profit of 96.4 billion yen ($1.24 billion) for the first quarter from April to June, down 35.6 percent from last year’s 149.8 billion yen.

Mizuho had a computer system breakdown in March that led to disruptions at automatic teller machines as well as salary payments and other transactions that affected millions of customers across the country.

Net revenue slipped 11.2 percent to 632.9 billion yen from 713.2 billion a year ago.

The bank left unchanged its forecast net profit of 460 billion yen for the year to March 2012.

Indians farmers could get six times more cash for their land under a new land acquisition bill aimed at accelerating industrial development in Asia’s third-largest economy.

Indian farmers could get six times more cash for their land under a new land acquisition bill aimed at accelerating industrial development in Asia’s third-largest economy.

Verizon Wireless to distribute $10 billion

New York, 31 July — Verizon Communications Inc is set for a $5.5 billion pay day provided by its subsidiary Verizon Wireless, the US mobile service giant said.

The $5.5 billion is Verizon Communication’s share of a $10 billion pay out by Vodafone Group PLC, the firm’s British partner, The Wall Street Journal reported Saturday.

Sanford C Bernstein analyst Craig Moffett said declining revenues from Verizon Communications land line operations meant the firm was coming up short on cash needed to pay its shareholder dividends.

“There simply isn’t any cash elsewhere in the business to fund the common dividend,” Mr Moffett said.

Vodafone shares on Friday climbed 4.4 percent on the news of the distribution, the Journal said.

Japanese megabanks show mixed earnings

Tokyo, 31 July — Mizuho Financial Group said Friday that it suffered a 36 percent drop in net profit in the first quarter to June, as Japan’s megabanks reported mixed earnings for the April-June period.

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc also reported Friday its net profit in the quarter fell 2.4 percent on year, hurt by higher tax-related costs.

Nomura Holdings, Japan’s largest securities firm, and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc (MUFG), Japan’s largest bank by assets, reported profits in the period.

Mizuho’s profit slump was due to a fall off in profitability at its banking units, it said, posting a group net profit of 96.4 billion yen ($1.24 billion) for the first quarter from April to June, down 35.6 percent from last year’s 149.8 billion yen.

Mizuho had a computer system breakdown in March that led to disruptions at automatic teller machines as well as salary payments and other transactions that affected millions of customers across the country.

Net revenue slipped 11.2 percent to 632.9 billion yen from 713.2 billion a year ago.

The bank left unchanged its forecast net profit of 460 billion yen for the year to March 2012.

Greater Breast density may raise cancer risk

Boston, 31 July — Greater breast density is associated with an increased risk of breast cancer and certain aggressive tumour traits, new research says. In the study, published in the 27 July online edition of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, researchers used mammography to compare breast density in 1,042 postmenopausal women with breast cancer and a control group of 1,794 postmenopausal women without breast cancer.

Breast density on mammograms is determined by the proportions of fat, connective tissue and epithelial tissue in the breast. Previous research has shown that women with higher amounts of epithelial and stromal tissue have more density and higher risk of breast cancer. But it hasn’t been clear whether breast density is associated with specific tumour characteristics and tumour type.

As expected, this new study found that breast cancer risk rose progressively with increasing breast density. The researchers also found that the link between density and breast cancer was stronger for larger tumours than for smaller tumours, for high-grade tumours compared to low-grade tumours, for estrogen receptor-negative tumours than for estrogen receptor-positive tumours, and for ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) tumours than for invasive tumours.

Health Tip: When a person with Alzheimer’s eats

Mealtime with an Alzheimer’s patient can be stressful and challenging, to make sure the patient gets sufficient nutrition.

The Alzheimer’s Association suggests how to help mealtime go more smoothly:

* Serve meals in a quiet environment with no distractions.
* Clear the table of everything but basic utensils and dishes; keep dishes plates rather than with bright colours or patterns.
* Make sure the food isn’t too hot.
* Serve only one or two foods at a time, and make an effort to honour the patient’s food preferences.
* Have meals together, and don’t rush the meal.
* Be understanding if the patient can’t remember already having eaten.

Two Angolan health workers leave the isolated ward of a hospital in Luanda.

Two children have died from a wave of mysterious poisonings over the last two days in Angolan schools, but police have yet to identify the toxin that has sown panic in the country.
Nine killed, three missing in Moscow boat accident

Moscow, 31 July—A private pleasure boat carrying 15 people sank in the Moscow river after bumping into a cargo barge early Sunday, leaving at least nine killed and three others missing, authorities said.

Yuri Besedin, deputy head of Emergency Situations Ministry’s Moscow office, confirmed to local press that bodies of the five victims have been recovered from the water. The rest 7 people aboard Lastochka, the boat, were rescued, he added.

The collision occurred at 00:58 am local time (2058 GMT Saturday) as the navigator of the boat spotted the barge too late and “did not manage to escape the collision,” officials at the Emergency Situations Ministry were quoted by Interfax news agency as saying. The boat sank “within a minute,” they said.

Authorities said most passengers aboard were foreigners, mainly from Turkey and the United States and they were trying to identify these passengers.

Five deaths from Joplin tornado linked to fungal infection

Kansas City, 31 July—Injuries sustained from wood splinters or other materials triggered a rare fungal infection that may have contributed to the deaths of five people in the 22 May tornado in Joplin, Mo, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has determined.

In all, 13 people contracted the mucor-mycetes-born illness, the CDC said in a report released Friday. The CDC said it has seen multiple fungal infections of that type after other natural disasters such as hur-ricanes but never after a tornado. The 22 May twister killed 160 people in Joplin and destroyed about 30 percent of the city. Jasper County Coroner Rob Chappel and physicians had reported the fungal infections, but the CDC is the first official confirmation of the numbers of victims.

“It’s about what we expected,” Chappel said Saturday. He said he was glad to learn from the report that none of the fungal infection victims sustained their injuries while cleaning up debris.

12 injured after bus with HK, Macao passengers overturned in S China

Guangzhou, 31 July—Twelve people, including six from Hong Kong and three from Macao, were injured after their bus overturned in south China’s Guangdong Province Friday afternoon, confirmed local sources on Sunday.

The accident happened at 2 pm Friday on the No 105 state highway, when a bus with 12 on board steered and braked to avoid bumping into a car. Among the 12 people aboard the bus, the driver, surnamed Fang, and a 66-year-old lady from Hong Kong were seriously injured. Others suffered minor injuries.

The six Hong Kong passengers, accompanied by local doctors, had returned. They were all described as in “stable conditions” and were to be treated in Hong Kong.

The three from Macao, from one family, are still receiving medical treatment at the Sanxiang Hospital in the Zhongshan City, Gduangdong.

Two small planes collide over Alaska

Trapper Creek, 31 July—Two small airplanes collided above Alaska on Saturday, with one of the aircraft landing safely after the accident and the other crashing to the ground and burning, killing at least two people on board, authorities said.

The plane that crashed, a Cessna 180, was destroyed by the impact and subsequent fire. Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor told The Associated Press. The second plane, a Cessna single-engine, was able to return to Anchorage International Airport and make an emergency landing after the collision near Trapper Creek.

Alaska State Troopers spokeswoman Megan Peters said that two or three people had died in the crash, and the state medical examiner’s office was on route to the site to determine the exact number of people on board when the plane went down.

“It was engulfed in flames on the ground,” Peters said of the destroyed plane. “We’re seeing if anybody made it out. There’s no apparent survivors.”

A helicopter crash in southwestern Nigeria has left three people, including the pilot, dead, the national emergency management agency (NEMA) said Saturday after a six-hour search in a wooded area to locate the wreckage.

A helicopter crash in southwestern Nigeria has left three people, including the pilot, dead, the national emergency management agency (NEMA) said Saturday after a six-hour search in a wooded area to locate the wreckage.

Lagos, 31 July—A Nigerian businesswoman, her personal assistant and their Filipino pilot were killed Saturday in a helicopter crash in Nigeria’s southwest, authorities said.

Josephine Oluwadamilola Kuteyi chartered a helicopter to travel from the commercial capital of Lagos to the central Nigerian city of Ilorin in Kwara state, said Harold Demuren, the director general of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority.

Kuteyi ran a business in the town of Bacita about 124 miles (200 kilometres) away from Ilorin. According to its website, Josephdum Group imports and markets refined industrial sugar. It also has a stake in Nigeria’s maritime, agro-allied and real estate industries.

The helicopter hired from OAS helicopters crashed in a hilly area outside Il-e-Odan in Osun state about 71 miles (115 kilometres) away from its final destination Saturday, killing all three occupants, said the spokesman for the National Emergency Management Agency, Yushau Shuaib.

Shuaib said villagers helped to search for the bodies for six hours inside a forest because a device meant to send out distress calls and provide exact location details had not been activated on the aircraft.

Explosion at Mexican oil refinery kills two

Mexico City, 31 July—An explosion ripped through Mexico’s second-largest oil refinery on Saturday, causing a massive fire and killing two workers, though production was not affected, state oil monopoly Pemex said.

The explosion occurred at the 315,000 barrel-per-day Tula refinery in central Mexico while the company was running a trial of a visbreaker, a unit used to reduce viscosity when distilling crude oil, a Pemex spokesman said.

The visbreaker, one of several at the refinery, recently underwent maintenance work and Pemex workers were testing it on Saturday to restart the unit, the spokesman said.

When a visbreaker fails, refineries end up with excessive fuel oil inventories that could hamper operations.

One worker was taken to hospital with serious injuries caused by the blaze, which was brought under control within an hour, Pemex said in a statement.

“The accident occurred in a small, very localized area, and so the refining production process was not affected,” the statement said. “Operations are continuing normally.” Pemex said it is investigating the cause of the accident.

Police investigate the area after two female French tourists were found shot to death in Quebrada de San Lorenzo, about seven kilometers from Salta, Argentina, on 30 July, 2011.—Xinhua

Volunteers clear debris from a tornado-damaged apartment complex 30 July, 2011 in Joplin, Missouri.—INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET
**Soldier, civilian wounded in rebels’ attack in S Philippines**

**COTABATO CITY, 31 July**—A government soldier and a civilian were wounded in the latest attack staged by leftist rebels on Sunday in the restive southern Philippines, the military said.

Soldiers were on a patrol mission when they were ambushed by unidentified number of New People’s Army (NPA) rebels in Dalisay village, Panabo town in Davao del Norte Province, said local army commander Captain Benjie Arciaga.

He said a 30-minute firefight ensued, leaving one soldier and a 60-year-old woman wounded. The NPA, armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, has been waging a guerrilla campaign in the countryside for more than four decades. The Philippine military estimates that there are more than 4,000 NPA guerrilla fighters scattered in more than 60 provinces throughout the country. In February, the Philippine government and the leftist rebels resumed in Oslo, Norway the formal peace talks which had been suspended for six years, in a bid to bring an end to the protracted militancy.

**Silicon Valley city battles surging homicide rate**

**San Jose, ( Calif.), 31 July**—San Jose has dubbed itself the “Capital of Silicon Valley” and has for years prided itself on one of the safest big cities in America. Yet, it is now on pace for more than 50 killings in 2011, a rate not seen in about 20 years.

Few in the San Francisco Bay area’s most populous city know exactly why it has had 28 murders so far this year, already surpassing 2010’s total of 20. “You can’t put your finger on one thing,” said Sgt Jason Dwyer, a police spokesman.

It could be an increase in gang crime, Dwyer said. The department is hoping that the budget-related layoffs of nearly 70 officers in June will not have a negative impact. “It’s been a trying time for us,” Dwyer said.

While the morale of the roughly 1,000 police officers in June will not affect the number of people injured. No tsunami warning was issued.

**Three dead as heavy rains lash Japan**

**Tokyo, 31 July**—Heavy rains continued to lash northeastern Japan on Sunday with the death toll rising to three in the hardest-hit region of Niigata, police and medical officials said.

Three others were missing in Niigata and Fukushima, the latter of which was ravaged on 11 March by a 9.0-magnitude earthquake and tsunami which knocked a nuclear power plant out of control.

Local governments in Niigata and had issued guidance since Friday to more than 60,000 people to flee their homes, the national Fire and Disaster Management Agency said.

Several thousands were estimated to remain sheltered in Niigata early Sunday, an official at the Niigata prefectural office said. He could not immediately confirm how many people had actually been evacuated.

In Fukushima, 1,020 were sheltered as of late Saturday, the Jiji Press news agency said.

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency said 2,278 houses had been flooded.—**Internet**

**62 killed in South Korea flood**

**Beijing, 31 July**—South Korea is struggling to cope after the worst rainfall in decades triggered landslides and flooding. Residents in the worst affected areas are worried and scared as the disaster claimed 62 lives with 9 still missing.

Flooding, landslides and power outages are being reported across the country. The worst hit region is the central province of South Chungcheong, which has been drenched with rain for several days.

**Storm Nock-ten hits Vietnam, killing two**

**Ha Noi, 31 July**—Storm Nock-Ten was spreading over Vietnam from Saturday afternoon, hitting its central Ha Tinh and Nghe An Provinces first, then moving northwards, according to the Vietnam Central Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC).

According to its Sunday report, a 68-year-old man in Nghe An Province was killed by electric shock generated by electric leak from poles pulled down during the storm, and another 60-year-old man from northern Son La Province died by lightening.

In addition, heavy rain has flooded thousands of hectares of rice fields and other crops, and many houses and schools had been broken their roofs.

**Strong quake jolts northeastern Japan; no tsunami**

**Tokyo, 31 July**—A strong earthquake has rattled northeastern Japan, leaving seven people injured. No tsunami warning was issued.

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency says the magnitude-6.5 earthquake struck at 3:54 am Sunday (1854 GMT Saturday) off the coast of Fukushima, a region struck by the 11 March monstrous quake and tsunami. The epicentre was 35 miles (57 kilometers) below the sea surface.

Plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. says the temblor caused no further damage to its Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power complex, which was crippled by the March disasters.

Seven people in nearby cities were injured mildly.

The March disasters left about 23,000 people dead or missing across Japan’s northeast coast and forced 80,000 others to evacuate their homes due to the radiation threat.

“Were we getting ready to go to work as usual on that day when my son rushed out of his room, shouting dodg, dad, we could see only dark clouds of dust, rocks twigs and floodwater gushing to our house,” said Lee Haedong, recall—**Internet**
Union A&I Minister receives Indian guests

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing receives Managing Director Mr Ajay Shastry and party of Blue Ocean Global Private Ltd, Indore of India.

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing this afternoon received Managing Director Mr Ajay Shastry and party of Blue Ocean Global Private Ltd, Indore of India at the ministry, here.

They discussed development of cotton cultivation and production and upgrading of cotton mills of Cotton and Sericulture section under Myanmar Industrial Crops Development Enterprise and partnership on product sharing basis for construction of cotton oil mill and oil purifying factory res through BOT system.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister U Ohn Than and the director-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry.

MNA

Outstanding students in Mingala Taungnyunt Tsp honoured

YANGON, 31 July—Students who matriculated with distinctions and teachers who trained them to do so with distinctions in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region were honoured at Mingala Taungnyunt Township No.1 Basic Education High School this afternoon.

Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe attended the ceremony and spoke words of praise.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi, wife Daw Thet Swe, the chief minister, region ministers and personnel awarded four-distinction winners, 10 five-distinction winners, 27 four-distinction winners, 26 three-distinction winners, 27 two-distinction winners, and 66 one-distinction winners, altogether 160 outstanding students and 13 teachers.

Union Minister U Aung Kyi accepted four sets of multimedia classroom-used accessories inclusive of printers collectively donated by overseas job agencies to four basic education high school.—MNA

National Workshop on Improving Health Care concludes

Third-day National Workshop on Improving Quality of Health Care in progress.

MNA

Union minister meets engineers in Sittway

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—Union Minister for Electric Power-2 U Khin Maung Soe inspected the office of Rakhine State Electrical Engineer in Sittway on 29 July.

The Rakhine State engineer reported on supply of electric power in Rakhine State, unit losses, safety measures and personnel affairs; and Managing Director of the Electricity Supply Enterprise U Myint Aung, on programmes for electric power to the state and ongoing power supply tasks. The minister called for reinforcement of rules and regulations, avoiding bribery and corruption, and discharging duties in an effective way. On arrival at the diesel-fired power plant in Sittway Township, the minister heard a report by the state engineer on the supply of electricity with four generators.—MNA

Myebon Township departmental staff and local planting tree on Pyilonechantha Pagoda Hill in Myebon. Monsoon tree planting ceremony was held in Myebon on 2 July.

MNA

Union Minister for Labour and for SWRR U Aung Kyi accepts four sets of computer, printer and multimedia accessories donated by Managing Director U Tin Myint of Panta Power Agency on behalf of wellwishers.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 31 July—The National Workshop on Improving Health Care continued for the third and final day at the Ministry of Health, here, this morning.

In the morning session, Chairman of Myanmar Medical Association Prof Dr Kyaw Myint Naing and Director (Disease Control) Dr Win Maung of Health Department submitted the paper on raising cooperation in health tasks, Director (Food/Drug) Dr Kyaw Lin on pharmaceutical sales management and Director (Project) Dr Nilar Tin on review on organizational setup of departments under the Ministry of Health.

The participants took part in the discussions in groups.

In the afternoon, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin presided over the workshop. Six delegates presented submissions on six sectors and those present participated in the discussions.

Later, the work committee read the resolutions passed at the workshop.—MVA
Flood victims in Bago provided with cash and kind

YANGON, 31 July — Aids and cash were presented to flood victims at the ceremonies held in Buddha Athan Dhamma Beikman, Klyani and Shwemanta rescue camps in Bago of Bago Region on 29 July. Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, Union Minister for Industry-2 U Soe Thein and Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win called for sanitation and health in the aftermath of flood at the ceremonies.

The chief minister gave away foodstuff, clothes and cashes donated by the Ministry of Industry-1, the Ministry of Industry-2 and the Ministry of Rail Transportation.

The Ministry of Industry-1 and the Ministry of Industry-2 donated K 2965000 for flood victims in Bago provided with cash and kind

Myanmar to participate in world billiard contest

YANGON, 31 July—Kyaw Oo and Nay Thway Oo of the Myanmar Billiard and Snooker Federation are in training session in Aung San Stadium here for the world billiard contest to be held in Ireland from 23 August to 1 September.

Team leader Patron of the federation U Tin Maung Win, manager U Aung Lin and coach Dr Min Naing are training them for victory in the contest.

Precious Agarwood plants thriving in Shan State

Article & Photo: Reporter Maung Maung (Kyaukme)

Agarwood plants seen in three-acre horticultural farm of dragon ball plants and asparagus plants in Kyaukme Township.
75 missing in trawler capsize in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 31 July—At least 75 people were missing as a passenger-packed trawler capsized in Buriganga River near Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka on Saturday night. Police and locals were quoted by private news agency UNB as saying that a small cargo vessel collided with a trawler packed with around 100 passengers Saturday night, leaving the trawler upside down and 75 passengers missing at 8:15 pm local time.

Around 20 passengers of the capsized trawler managed to swim ashore. Several rescue teams of firefighting units from different fire stations rushed in and were conducting search for the missing passengers.—MNA/Xinhua

29 children killed by dengue fever in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 31 July—Cambodia on Saturday reported 5,401 cases of dengue fever so far this year, 69 percent rise from 3,200 cases during the same period last year. Among the cases, 29 Cambodian children had been killed, up from just 9 deaths during the same period last year, Ngn Chantha, director of dengue control at the Ministry of Health, said during a dengue fever prevention campaign on Saturday at the Olympic Stadium.

“There will be the possible large-scale outbreak of dengue fever this year if there is no concerted effort to prevent it,” he said, recalling that the large-scale outbreak in 2007 killed up to 316 children. “We call for all parents, guardians and students to kill larvae by using the chemical substance known as Abate in water pots and other still water sources,” he said. —MNA/Xinhua

Mexican beach seizures yields five tons of marijuana

MEXICO CITY, 31 July—Mexico’s Army says five metric tons of marijuana have been seized near the US border in Puerto Penasco, a beach city popular with visitors from Arizona. The Defence Department says soldiers discovered three tons of the drugs more than a mile (2 kilometres) from the port on Thursday. Officials earlier reported finding two metric tons of marijuana elsewhere in the same town the same day.

No further details on the seizures were available. US authorities were not immediately arrested. —Reuters

Driver swipes LA police cruisers, injures four officers

LOS ANGELES, 31 July—Four Los Angeles police officers were injured on Saturday, one of them critically, when a 64 year-old woman who may have been asleep at the wheel struck their cruisers, police said.

The 2:20 am crash in the city’s Woodland Hills suburb occurred as the officers responded to a fight at a loud party, said police spokeswoman Officer Norma Eisenman.

The woman driver and all four officers were hospitalized. One officer remains in critical condition with broken ribs and other injuries, Eisenman said.

Two officers and the woman driver were released from the hospital with minor injuries, police said.

Initial indications were that the woman who struck the cruisers was asleep at the wheel, but the investigation continues, police said. The driver was not immediately arrested. —Reuters

Two killed in crash of Wright brothers replica plane

COLUMBUS, 31 July—Two men were killed in Ohio on Saturday while testing a replica of a Wright brothers biplane.

The fabric-covered aircraft went down three to four miles south of the Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport, at about 10:45 am local time, airport manager Mick Leocq said.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol identified the fliers as Don Gum, 73, of Beaver Creek, Ohio, and Mitchell Cary, 64, of Yellow Springs, Ohio. Both were qualified pilots. —Reuters
India to participate in nuclear security summit in Seoul next year

NEW DELHI, 31 July—India has said that it will participate in the nuclear security initiative summit to be held in South Korea next year, local media reported Sunday. “The nuclear security initiative conference will be taking place in Korea (next year) and India will participate,” Indian President Pratibha Patil was quoted as telling media Saturday on board the special flight from her two-nation visit to South Korea and Mongolia.

She has also expressed confidence that the India-South Korea Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, signed during her trip, “will participate,” Indian President Pratibha Patil was quoted as telling media Saturday on board the special flight from her two-nation visit to South Korea and Mongolia.

But the 36-year-old billionaire decided this week to shut down operations and take his losses. In a letter to state officials, Omtron wrote that the Mocksville plant will close by 4 Oct. Similar timing is expected for Siler City.

“He just didn’t like the environment in this country and the lack of discipline that the poultry industry had,” David Purtle, a former Tyson Foods executive hired to be Omtron’s CEO, told the Raleigh newspaper, adding that he was surprised by the move. The company employees about 550 people at its Siler City operations, which includes two feed mills and a hatchery, and 476 people in Mocksville.

That’s in addition to the 145 people Omtron laid off earlier this month. At the time, the company said it was determined to make the operation competitive.

Members of huge family with 200 years of history get together in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 31 July—About 200 members of an extended family with a recorded history of 200 years ago are having a get-together in Singapore so that the family members from different countries and with various skin colours can get to know one another.

They all descended from the same Mr Tan Tock Seng, a Chinese businessman who was born in 1798 and later made himself one of the richest men in Singapore. Tan was also known as the philanthropist who founded the current Tan Tock Seng Hospital, a public hospital whose precedent used to help the poor.

Some of his descendants took part in the 167th anniversary celebration of the founding of the hospital on Saturday. Many of them are white, and one can by no means tell that the descendants of a Chinese family except from their family name.

Octopus-shaped kites fly at the 26th Berkeley Kite Festival in San Francisco, the United States, on 30 July, 2011. The two-day kite festival opened on Saturday.

NC chicken plants closing, laying off 1,000-plus

RALEIGH, 31 July—All North Carolina operations of a chicken processor bought out of bankruptcy earlier this year are closing, leaving more than 1,000 people jobless. The closure of the Townsends plants in Siler City and Mocksville also ends contracts with about 200 chicken farmers in four counties, the News & Observer of Raleigh reported Saturday.

Ukrainian billionaire Oleg Bakhmatyuk bought Townsends’ North Carolina assets out of bankruptcy in February for $25 million. Officials for the US shell corporation he created, Omtron, hoped to turn a profit through cost-cutting and exporting dark meat, which brings higher prices outside the United States. The company spent millions upgrading the North Carolina facilities.

But the 36-year-old billionaire decided this week to shut down operations and take his losses. In a letter to state officials, Omtron wrote that the Mocksville plant will close by 4 Oct. Similar timing is expected for Siler City.

“He just didn’t like the environment in this country and the lack of discipline that the poultry industry had,” David Purtle, a former Tyson Foods executive hired to be Omtron’s CEO, told the Raleigh newspaper, adding that he was surprised by the move. The company employees about 550 people at its Siler City operations, which includes two feed mills and a hatchery, and 476 people in Mocksville.

That’s in addition to the 145 people Omtron laid off earlier this month. At the time, the company said it was determined to make the operation competitive.
Apple holding more cash than USA

NEW YORK, 31 July — Apple now has more cash to spend than the United States government. Latest figures from the US Treasury Department show that the country has an operating cash balance of $73.7bn ($45.3bn). Apple's most recent financial results put its reserves at $76.4bn. The US House of Representatives is due to vote on a bill to raise the country's debt ceiling, allowing it to borrow more money to cover spending commitments.

If it fails to extend the current limit of $14.3 trillion dollars, the federal government could find itself struggling to make payments, and risks the loss of its AAA credit rating. The United States is currently spending around $200bn more than it collects in revenues each month. Apple, on the other hand, is making money hand over fist, according to its financial results. In the three months ending 25 June, net income was 125% higher than a year earlier at $7.31bn.

With more than $75bn either sitting in the bank or in easily accessible assets, there has been enormous speculation about what the company will do with the money. “Apple keeps its cards close to its chest,” said Daniel Ashdown, an analyst at Juniper Research. Industry watchers believe that it is building up a war chest to be used for strategic acquisitions of other businesses, and to secure technology patents.

Bookstore Barnes and Noble and the online movie site Netflix have both been tipped as possible targets, said Mr Ashdown. — Internet

California police arrest 100 over marijuana growing

NEW YORK, 31 July — Police in northern California have uprooted 460,000 plants and made more than 100 arrests in a major operation against illegal marijuana cultivation. Authorities said they had seized 1,500 pounds (680kg) of processed marijuana, 27 guns and 11 vehicles over two weeks in Mendocino National Forest. The 900,000-acre site is part of an area known as the Emerald Triangle for its high number of marijuana plots.

The raids are part of a wider campaign to remove marijuana from public lands. Marijuana for medicinal use is legal in California if you have a permit to grow it or a doctor's note to buy it. But Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman said there was no sign that any of the gardens raided were being used to grow medical marijuana. In the past, Mexican drug cartels have blamed the cultivation large quantities of marijuana in California, though no details were given about those arrested over the past two weeks.

But US Attorney Melinda Haag told the Associated Press that 25 people were already facing federal charges. — Internet

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

TEHERAN, 31 July — An Iranian woman blinded with acid by her suitor for turning down his marriage proposal spared him at the last minute from being blinded too as punishment for his crime, Iranian media reported on Sunday.

Ameneh Bahrami was blinded in 2004 when Majid Mohavedi poured acid onto her face after she spurned his offers of marriage. In 2008, a court sentenced Mohavedi to be blinded in one eye for turning down his marriage proposal. The system detected the

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

BERLIN, 31 July — Tap ping into drivers' brain sig nals can cut braking dis tances and avoid car crashes, according to scientists. Researchers at the Berlin Institute for Technology attached electrodes to the scalps of volunteers inside a driving simulator. The system detected the

WHO: Hepatitis toll 'in millions'

LONDON, 31 July — Medical experts are calling for global action to tackle the viruses that cause the liver disease hepatitis. The first worldwide estimates in drug users show 10 million have hepatitis C while 1.3 million have hepatitis B. Writing in the Lancet, experts say only a fraction of those who could benefit are receiving antiviral drugs. Only one in five infants around the world are vaccinated against hepatitis B at birth, they say.

The figures, published in the Lancet, show about 67% of injecting drug users in the world have been exposed to hepatitis C, while around 10% have come into contact with hepatitis B. In the UK, around half of injecting drug users have been infected with the hepatitis C virus, while the rate for exposure to hepatitis B is 9% — the highest in western Europe.

Air France Rio crash: Pilots 'lacked training'

PARIS, 31 July — The pilots of an Air France plane that crashed into the Atlantic in 2009 lacked adequate training, French investigators have found. France’s BEA authority said pilots had failed to discuss repeated stall warnings and did not have the training to deal with the hazard. Air France rejected the accusation. BEA called for mandatory training in high-altitude stalling for all pilots. All 228 people on board the Airbus 330 from Brazil to France were killed.

BEA head Jean-Paul Troadec said that “the situation was salvageable” during the flight’s final minutes. Investigators said an account of those minutes, captured on flight recorders, concluded that the crew had failed to “formally identify the loss of altitude” despite an alarm ringing for nearly a minute. “The first event which triggered it all is the disconnection of the automatic pilot following the loss of the speed indicators, very probably after they were frozen by ice crystals,” said Mr Troadec. — Internet

Flight recorders were found this year. — Internet

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

Who: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’

Air France Rio crash: Pilots ‘lacked training’

Researchers say brain waves can cut braking distances

Iran acid victim spares attacker from retribution

WHO: Hepatitis toll ‘in millions’
Illinois considers ads on license plates

The Illinois secretary of state’s office said it is researching the possibility of boosting revenue by putting corporate logos on license plates.

Officials said the office’s study will determine potential costs of the programme and whether there would be interest from the public, the Chicago Tribune reported Friday. The officials said drivers would potentially receive registration discounts for choosing the corporate-branded plates.

The office’s study is due 1 Jan.

Woman aims to make longest bra chain

An Australia woman said she wants to create the world’s longest chain of bras to raise awareness of breast cancer and the need for research funding.

Leanne Martel, of Wyandra and the mother-of-two leading the effort, said she wants to beat the world record of 166,625 bras, set in Bundaberg, Australia and raise at least $1,600 each for the programme and determine potential costs for the women’s causes.

A South Dakota woman who has owned most of the former Wild West town of Scenic for years is listing the town for sale with an asking price of $799,000.

LeeAnn Keester, 45, daughter of Twila Merrill, 74, who owns most of the town, said the original asking price was $3 million for the 46 acres of property, including 12 inside the town, but it recently dropped to $799,000 in a bid to attract buyers, the Rapid City (SD) Journal reported Thursday.

“The businesses and land has always been family-run, but now, it’s time for someone else to come in and bring it back to life,” Keester said. “It’s just me and my mom now, and now, with her health being what it is, it’s just too much for us.”

Leo Stangle, one of the town’s eight residents, said Scenic was founded in the early 1890s as a railroad stopping point, but businesses began shutting down in the Depression of the 1930s.

The listing includes a US Post Office land lease, the Longhorn Fuel & Food Convenience Store, the Longhorn Saloon, a museum, two homes and two jails.

Polanski’s ‘Carnage’ to open New York Film Fest

2009 Tony Award-winning play “God of Carnage.” Shot in Paris earlier this year, it stars Jodie Foster, Kate Winslet, Christoph Waltz and John C Reilly.

It’s Polanski’s first film since being freed last year from house arrest in Switzerland. After arresting him, the Swiss government released the 77-year-old, rejecting a request to extradite him to the United States.

He still faces an Interpol warrant in effect for 188 countries for a 1977 child sex case in California.

Polanski isn’t expected to attend the New York gala.

Wild boars invade farms, attack pets

Wild boars are invading the farms of central New York state, attacking livestock, killing family pets and chasing people, experts warned on Friday.

The feral swine are a non-native species suspected of escaping from game farms. As many as a couple of hundred are roaming the state, said Paul Curtis, a natural resources professor at Cornell University in Ithaca.

While an exact picture of the wild boar population in New York State is unclear, a report from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) said the swine were successfully breeding in the three counties and producing litters averaging four to six piglets.

A South Dakota woman who has owned most of the former Wild West town of Scenic for years is listing the town for sale with an asking price of $799,000.

LeeAnn Keester, 45, daughter of Twila Merrill, 74, who owns most of the town, said the original asking price was $3 million for the 46 acres of property, including 12 inside the town, but it recently dropped to $799,000 in a bid to attract buyers, the Rapid City (SD) Journal reported Thursday.

“The businesses and land has always been family-run, but now, it’s time for someone else to come in and bring it back to life,” Keester said. “It’s just me and my mom now, and now, with her health being what it is, it’s just too much for us.”

Leo Stangle, one of the town’s eight residents, said Scenic was founded in the early 1890s as a railroad stopping point, but businesses began shutting down in the Depression of the 1930s.

The listing includes a US Post Office land lease, the Longhorn Fuel & Food Convenience Store, the Longhorn Saloon, a museum, two homes and two jails.

Polanski’s ‘Carnage’ to open New York Film Fest

2009 Tony Award-winning play “God of Carnage.” Shot in Paris earlier this year, it stars Jodie Foster, Kate Winslet, Christoph Waltz and John C Reilly. It’s Polanski’s first film since being freed last year from house arrest in Switzerland. After arresting him, the Swiss government released the 77-year-old, rejecting a request to extradite him to the United States.

He still faces an Interpol warrant in effect for 188 countries for a 1977 child sex case in California.

Polanski isn’t expected to attend the New York gala.

Wild boars invade farms, attack pets

Wild boars are invading the farms of central New York state, attacking livestock, killing family pets and chasing people, experts warned on Friday.

The feral swine are a non-native species suspected of escaping from game farms. As many as a couple of hundred are roaming the state, said Paul Curtis, a natural resources professor at Cornell University in Ithaca.

While an exact picture of the wild boar population in New York State is unclear, a report from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) said the swine were successfully breeding in the three counties and producing litters averaging four to six piglets.

A wild boar in an image courtesy of the New York Invasive Species Council.

McCarthy won’t star in show for OWN

Chicago, 31 July—Author and TV personality Jenny McCarthy has decided against starring in a talk show for the Oprah Winfrey Network, the Chicago Sun-Times said.

Creative differences have been cited as the reason why McCarthy is now in talks to take the show to NBC, Sun-Times columnist Bill Zwecker reported Friday. “OWN does not have a show in development with Jenny McCarthy,” OWN said in a statement. NBC declined to comment on projects it may or may not have in development.

Winfrey wrapped up “The Oprah Winfrey Show” last May after 25 years so she could focus on her cable network.

Pampered pooches may pop Valium to cope with NY rock festival

New York, 31 July—When rock and roll fans flock to an outdoor music festival in upstate East Hampton next month, the pampered pooches and kittens at a neighbouring animal shelter may be popping Valium to cope.

In fact, the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons is so concerned about pampered pooches and kittens at a neighbouring animal shelter may be popping Valium to cope. The Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons is so concerned about pampered pooches and kittens at a neighbouring animal shelter may be popping Valium to cope.

The feral swine are a non-native species suspected of escaping from game farms. As many as a couple of hundred are roaming the state, said Paul Curtis, a natural resources professor at Cornell University in Ithaca.

While an exact picture of the wild boar population in New York State is unclear, a report from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) said the swine were successfully breeding in the three counties and producing litters averaging four to six piglets.

A wild boar in an image courtesy of the New York Invasive Species Council.

McCarthy won’t star in show for OWN

Chicago, 31 July—Author and TV personality Jenny McCarthy has decided against starring in a talk show for the Oprah Winfrey Network, the Chicago Sun-Times said.

Creative differences have been cited as the reason why McCarthy is now in talks to take the show to NBC, Sun-Times columnist Bill Zwecker reported Friday. “OWN does not have a show in development with Jenny McCarthy,” OWN said in a statement. NBC declined to comment on projects it may or may not have in development.

Winfrey wrapped up “The Oprah Winfrey Show” last May after 25 years so she could focus on her cable network.

Pampered pooches may pop Valium to cope with NY rock festival

New York, 31 July—When rock and roll fans flock to an outdoor music festival in upstate East Hampton next month, the pampered pooches and kittens at a neighbouring animal shelter may be popping Valium to cope.

In fact, the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons is so concerned about pampered pooches and kittens at a neighbouring animal shelter may be popping Valium to cope. The Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons is so concerned about pampered pooches and kittens at a neighbouring animal shelter may be popping Valium to cope.

The feral swine are a non-native species suspected of escaping from game farms. As many as a couple of hundred are roaming the state, said Paul Curtis, a natural resources professor at Cornell University in Ithaca.

While an exact picture of the wild boar population in New York State is unclear, a report from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) said the swine were successfully breeding in the three counties and producing litters averaging four to six piglets.

A wild boar in an image courtesy of the New York Invasive Species Council.

McCarthy won’t star in show for OWN

Chicago, 31 July—Author and TV personality Jenny McCarthy has decided against starring in a talk show for the Oprah Winfrey Network, the Chicago Sun-Times said.

Creative differences have been cited as the reason why McCarthy is now in talks to take the show to NBC, Sun-Times columnist Bill Zwecker reported Friday. “OWN does not have a show in development with Jenny McCarthy,” OWN said in a statement. NBC declined to comment on projects it may or may not have in development.

Winfrey wrapped up “The Oprah Winfrey Show” last May after 25 years so she could focus on her cable network.
SPORTS

Williams, Bartoli reach final at Stanford

STANFORD, 31 July— Serena Williams, who needed nearly a year to recover from surgery, is putting her best foot forward again and playing like a champion. Williams moved into the final of the Bank of the West Classic with an impressive 6-1, 6-2 victory over Germany’s Sabine Lisicki on Saturday night.

It’s her first appearance in a final since winning the title at Wimbledon last year and her first final on American soil since losing to Victoria Azarenka in Miami in March of 2009.

Wenger tells unsettled duo to show commitment

LONDON, 31 July— Arsene Wenger has told him that they remain committed to the north London club in favour of another season at the Emirates Stadium. Fabregas was absent from Saturday’s 2-2 draw against Boca Juniors in the Emirates Cup pre-season tournament because Wenger doesn’t believe the Spaniard is coping well with the continued speculation about Barca’s interest.

Arsenal’s French midfielder Samir Nasri

LONDON, 31 July— Arsene Wenger has called on unsettled stars Cesc Fabregas and Samir Nasri to show their commitment to Arsenal by snubbing Fabregas and Nasri to ignore lucrative approaches from Barcelona and Manchester City.

Pele gets grandstand view — only after gov't invite

RIO DE JANEIRO, 31 July — Pele enjoyed the World Cup draw with a box seat in Rio’s Marina — but only after President Dilma Rousseff issued an official invitation after the organising committee failed to do so. Pele has long had less than cordial relations with the head of the Brazilian Football Confederation — and 2014 organising committee — president Ricardo Teixeira.

But in the event the two were sat next to each other. Rousseff decided the star of three of Brazil’s five successful World Cup campaigns had to be included. Pele had said on Friday that “I don’t go where I’m not invited,” despite having a backseat role as an honorary ambassador for the tournament. Teixeira decided who was going to sit with the world’s greatest football player.

Kim shoots 62, leads by 1 at Greenbrier Classic

Kim’s low round of the year left him at 10 under with a chance to advance to next week’s Bridgestone Invitational with a win. He hasn’t missed Firestone since his rookie year in 2007.

A third place-or-better finish would put him in position to earn a spot in the PGA Championship in two weeks in Atlanta heading into the FedEx Cup playoffs. “I haven’t had this much fun playing golf in a long time,” Kim said.

PSG ‘sign Pastore for 43 mn euros’

ROME, 31 July— Paris Saint-Germain have signed Argentine international playmaker Javier Pastore from Palermo for 43 million euros ($62 million), Italian news agency ANSA reported on Saturday. The agreement was struck at midnight, said club president Maurizio Zamparini.

Pastore, 22, is one of the most coveted players in world football and his signature to Paris Saint-Germain would announce PSG’s

Answer to yesterday’s Crosswords Puzzle

Shanghai, 31 July — Michael Phelps eased his world championships heartache with a 100m butterfly win Saturday as 16-year-old Missy “Missile” Franklin exploded onto the scene with another two gold medals in

US swimmer Michael Phelps wins as ‘Missile’ explodes in China

Shanghai Drug-bra- zilian Cesar Cielo earned his second sprint title and Olympic champion Rebecca Adlington broke Britain’s gold medal duck in the women’s 800m, as Franklin helped the United States win their first 4x100m medley in more than a decade.

Phelps, the world and Olympic champion and world record-holder, was third half-way through the 100m butterfly but he swept through the field to win in 50.71sec, ahead of Poland’s Konrad Czernecki and America’s Tyler McGill. — Internet

Pele gets grandstand view — only after gov’t invite

Brazilian football legend Pele (front), seen here sitting next to Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff and FIFA’s President Joseph Blatter during the Preliminary Draw for the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil, on July 30, at the Marina da Gloria, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

INTERNET

and who wasn’t,” said the 70-year-old who starred as a teenager when Brazil won their first World Cup in 1958.— Internet

Kim shoots 62, leads by 1 at Greenbrier Classic

Kim’s low round of the year left him at 10 under with a chance to advance to next week’s Bridgestone Invitational with a win. He hasn’t missed Firestone since his rookie year in 2007.

A third place-or-better finish would put him in position to earn a spot in the PGA Championship in two weeks in Atlanta heading into the FedEx Cup playoffs. “I haven’t had this much fun playing golf in a long time,” Kim said. — Internet

Phelps wins as ‘Missile’ explores in China

Shanghai, 31 July — Michael Phelps eased his world championships heartache with a 100m butterfly win Saturday as 16-year-old Missy “Missile” Franklin exploded onto the scene with another two gold medals in.

In favour of another season at the Emirates Stadi- um. Fabregas was absent from Saturday’s 2-2 draw against Boca Juniors in the Emirates Cup pre-season tournament because Wenger doesn’t believe the Spaniard is coping well with the continued speculation about Barca’s interest.

Arsenal’s French midfielder Samir Nasri

LONDON, 31 July— Arsene Wenger has called on unsettled stars Cesc Fabregas and Samir Nasri to show their commitment to Arsenal by snubbing Fabregas and Nasri to ignore lucrative approaches from Barcelona and Manchester City.

Pele gets grandstand view — only after gov’t invite

Brazilian football legend Pele (front), seen here sitting next to Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff and FIFA’s President Joseph Blatter during the Preliminary Draw for the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil, on July 30, at the Marina da Gloria, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

INTERNET

and who wasn’t,” said the 70-year-old who starred as a teenager when Brazil won their first World Cup in 1958.— Internet

Kim shoots 62, leads by 1 at Greenbrier Classic

Kim’s low round of the year left him at 10 under with a chance to advance to next week’s Bridgestone Invitational with a win. He hasn’t missed Firestone since his rookie year in 2007.

A third place-or-better finish would put him in position to earn a spot in the PGA Championship in two weeks in Atlanta heading into the FedEx Cup playoffs. “I haven’t had this much fun playing golf in a long time,” Kim said. — Internet

Phelps wins as ‘Missile’ explores in China

Shanghai, 31 July — Michael Phelps eased his world championships heartache with a 100m butterfly win Saturday as 16-year-old Missy “Missile” Franklin exploded onto the scene with another two gold medals in.

In favour of another season at the Emirates Stadi- um. Fabregas was absent from Saturday’s 2-2 draw against Boca Juniors in the Emirates Cup pre-season tournament because Wenger doesn’t believe the Spaniard is coping well with the continued speculation about Barca’s interest.

Arsenal’s French midfielder Samir Nasri

LONDON, 31 July— Arsene Wenger has called on unsettled stars Cesc Fabregas and Samir Nasri to show their commitment to Arsenal by snubbing Fabregas and Nasri to ignore lucrative approaches from Barcelona and Manchester City.
Colombia cruises and beats up on France 4-1 in Bogota

BOGOTA, 31 July—Luis Muriel scored twice to lead Colombia to a convincing 4-1 victory over France on Saturday in a Group A match in the Under-20 World Cup. France went ahead on Gilles Sunu’s goal in the 21st minute, but after that it was all Colombia. James Rodriguez equalized with a penalty in the 30th. Muriel scored in the 48th and 66th with Santiago Arias adding another in the 64th. France was far less effective in the second half, probably feeling the effects of playing in Bogota where the altitude is 2,600 meters (8,600 feet).

Sunu gave France a 1-0 lead with a left-footed drive from 30 meters (yards) which slipped inside the post just out of the reach of keeper Cristian Bonilla.

Sunu’s goal came after a furious opening 20 minutes in which Colombia hit the crossbar and had several clear chances before a 40,000 sellout in the Colombian capital. Colombia was producing chances and finally broke through when Rodriguez equalized from the penalty spot after France’s Kalidou Koulibaly cut down Arias in the area. Muriel scored a sensational goal to give Colombia a 2-1 lead in the 48th. Michael Ortega threaded a perfect pass through to Muriel, who turned from his left to right to shake a couple of defenders, and then drilled a 15-metre (yard) shot past French keeper Jonathan Ligali. Colombia picked up three points and joins South Korea atop Group A. South Korea defeated Mali 2-0 earlier on Saturday.—Internet

Colombia’s Luis Muriel (9) celebrates with teammates after scoring during a U-20 World Cup group A soccer match against France in Bogota, Colombia, Saturday, on 30 July, 2011.—INTERNET

Monday, 1 August
View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:25 am
3. Morning News

7:30 am
4. Dhamma Puji Song
5. Nice & Sweet Song

7:40 am
6. Health Programmes

8:00 am
7. Dance Variety
8. Cute Little Dancer
9. Teleplay (Health)
10. International News

8:40 pm
11. Sing & Enjoy
12. TV Drama Series

8:45 pm
13. Myanmar Musical Programme

5:05 pm
7. Myanmar Language

5:25 pm
8. Myanmar Idol

6:00 pm
9. Evening News

6:15 pm
10. Weather Report

6:30 pm
11. Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm
12. TV Drama Series

7:05 pm
13. News

7:10 pm

7:50 pm
15. Weather Report

8:00 pm
16. World’s Stars

8:40 pm
17. TV Drama Series

8:45 pm
18. Myanmar Musical Programme

5:45 pm
19. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

6:00 pm
19. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

6:20 pm
20. Weather Report

8:00 pm
21. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
22. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
23. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
24. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
25. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
26. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
27. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
28. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
29. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
30. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
31. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
32. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
33. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
34. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
35. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
36. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
37. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
38. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
39. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
40. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
41. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
42. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
43. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
44. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
45. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
46. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

5:45 pm
47. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe

7:45 pm
48. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:00 pm
49. Myanmar Musical Programme

8:45 pm
50. Myanmar Modern Music Troupe
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

Functions of Lube Blending Plant inspected in Thanlyin

Nay Pyi Taw, 31 July—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay on 29 July afternoon arrived at Lube Blending Plant in the area of No. 1 Thanlyin Oil Refinery where he gave instructions on operation of the plant in full swing.

The Union Minister inspected tasks of Thanlyin Dry Dock and sliding docks of transport branch under Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise. The managing director and the director reported on docking of vessels, annual repairing of vessels and tub boats, and plans for dredging at the dock due to silting of water course.

The Union Minister gave instructions on maintenance of materials and buildings, and minimizing cost of the State fund by repairing vehicles and heavy machinery of enterprise and taking innovative measures for maintenance works. He looked into tasks of the dock.

At the office of oil and petrochemicals transport on Thanlyetsun Street in Botataung Township, the Union Minister met staff and urged them to actively discharge duties assigned by the State while following the administrative mechanism of the State in accord with the ethics of government service.—MNA

Water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaingchaung 1161 cm has by above its danger level

Nay Pyi Taw, 31 July—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaingchaung 1161 cm has exceeded by 31 cm (about 1 foot) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1130 cm during next 72 hours commencing noon today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Iraq ‘less safe than a year ago’: US watchdog

Rare fossil of sea reptile found on Alaska beach