Preparations to be made for prevention of loss and wastage of cultivation, harvesting and threshing of crops and timely substitution for damages caused by natural disasters

Education sector is being upgraded for constantly turning out new generation human resources that will participate in national development drive

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo, accompanied by Union Ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officers and departmental heads, left Yangon International Airport yesterday and arrived in Mawlamyine at 9.30 am yesterday.

The Vice-President and party were welcomed by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint, the commander of South-East Command, state ministers and departmental officials.

At Aung San Hall of Mon State Government office, Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint reported on prevention of floods and relief works. He said that some damages occurred due to heavy rains in some areas of Kyaikto, Paung, Thanyuzayat, Ye and Chaungzon townships of Mon State. Mon State government forecast the possibility of floods, and state ministers and Pyithu Hluttaw representatives provided necessary assistance for the flood-affected areas in time. There was no casualty in floods and strong winds in Mon State, he said.

(See page 8)
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Sunday, 7 August, 2011**

**Extend rubber cultivation**

With heavy rain in early monsoon, rubber plantations are thriving and more and more rubber is being cultivated. Mon State has the largest acreage of rubber in the whole nation, followed by Taninthayi Region and Kayin State in the second and the third respectively.

Mon State has favourable conditions to grow rubber well. It has more than 400,000 acres of rubber. There are about 250,000 acres of rubber latex, and per-acre yield is over 600 pounds.

With its vast cultivable acreage plus favourable climatic conditions, Kayin State has more than 150,000 acres of rubber. Perennial crop application research centre is growing high-yield quality rubber strains by setting the target of cultivating over 2000 acres of rubber a year.

It is especially necessary to produce marketable quality rubber materials. Modern technique is also required to increase rubber latex production. Rubber is a raw industrial crop. As rubber products are much in demand today, rubber trade has gained speed in international market.

Modern cultivation methods are being disseminated to rubber growers in order to produce quality strains. Assistance is also being provided for those who grow rubber on a manageable scale to cultivate rubber on a cooperative basis. As a result, every region where rubber can grow is thriving with rubber plantations. So, growers will be able to earn more income if they boost cultivation of quality rubber strains.

**5th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament goes on**

**NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug**—The 5th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continued its second round matches at designated sports grounds today.

In today’s events, at No. 2 Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground, Ministry of Forestry beat Ministry of Hotels and Tourism 2-1, and Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation trounced Ministry of Commerce 3-1 at Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Sports Ground.


**Public Notice**

The Ministry of Health is systematically monitoring drugs to ensure that medicines available by the public are of high quality, safe and effective.

Capsules for slimmers listed hereunder include sibutramine which could increase the risk of developing heart disease, mental disorder and paraesthesia. The public is warned against taking these drugs.

**No. Drug**

1. Nobese 15mg Capsule

2. Nobese 10 Capsule

3. Slenfig - 10 Hard Gelatin Capsule

4. Slenfig - 15 Hard Gelatin Capsule

5. Slimmax - 10 Capsule

6. Slimmax - 5 Capsule

7. Accent 15mg Capsule

8. Accent 10mg Capsule

9. Obraz - 10 Capsule

10. Obenil - 5 Capsule

11. Redumin 10mg Capsule

12. Redumin 15mg Capsule

**Deputy Information Minister visits vegetable patches of Nay Pyi Taw daily, press**

**NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug**—Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win, accompanied by departmental officials, visited the seasonal vegetable and perennial crop plantations of the staff and their families in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Daily and Nay Pyi Taw Press in Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Township yesterday morning.

First, the deputy minister inspected water-cress, roselle, okra, pepper, tomatoes, drum stick, papaya, mango and corn plantations of the staff of the Kyemon Daily at Nay Pyi Taw Daily Housing. Managing Director U Zaw Min Oo of News and Periodicals Enterprise conducted the deputy minister round the plantations.

Next, the deputy minister viewed the crop plantations of the Kyemon News Agency, the Kyemon Daily, the Myanna Alin Daily and the New Light of Myanmar Daily in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Daily and encouraged the staff working on the farm. Then, he inspected the thriving Seintalone mango plantation and manageable-scale teak plantations of NPE.

The deputy minister also visited the crop and vegetable plantations and Seintalone mango plantation in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Press. Managing Director of Printing and Publishing Enterprise U Ye Tani conducted the deputy minister round the patches.

Teak, Ironwood, Mahagwani, star flower and shade trees such as Seinban, Tama, Paulauk and seasonal as well as perennial crops are grown in the compounds of Nay Pyi Taw Daily and Nay Pyi Taw Press.

In visiting the plantations, the deputy minister gave necessary instructions to officials saying that the staff members are now practically enjoying the benefits from those crop and vegetable plantations. It is heartening to know that the staff members no longer have to buy vegetables from markets and they are in a position to earn extra income by selling their vegetable surpluses. So, it is necessary to continue to maintain the perennial crops, shade trees and teak trees for their growth, added the deputy minister.—**MNA**

**Dy Construction Minister receives Chinese guests**

**NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug**—Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin meets Deputy Mayor Mr. Zhao Zijie of Lincang of Yunnan Province of China.—**MNA**
With war and neglect, Afghans suffer from water shortage

KABUL, 6 Aug—“Water cannot come to meet us at home so we come here to get the water,” an Afghan teenage, Dil Agha grumbled while carrying a bucket of water near a well in Col-e-Hashmat Khan, a slum neighbourhood in the south of capital City of Kabul. Agha, 13, said to Xinhua in an interview that his family lives at the top hill near Col-e-Hashmat Khan facing shortage of drinking water.

“It costs me too much to buy water and take a shower at home, similarly it is very difficult to carry water there to my home, so, I come here in scorching hot weather to take water home,” he murmured.

Col-e-Hashmat Khan, a natural lake that was once a favourite bird hunting spot for Afghan kings and rulers decades ago, is surrounded by mud houses, small shops and huts. Even though the natural lake is gradually drying in recent years, the locals living around it still use it as the source of portable water to quench their thirst and wash their clothes.

In the war-torn country, only 48 percent of the country’s some 26 million population have access to safe drinking water and only 37 percent could use improved sanitation facilities, according to media reports.

Water sources are becoming increasingly tainted and overexploited in dense places like Kabul city with over 3.5 million population.

In Kabul, 80 percent of the population lives in unplanned settlements where poor sanitation and lack of access to potable water is common.

Xinhua

Roadside bomb wounds five Iraqi soldiers, four policemen

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug—A roadside bomb ripped off in northern Baghdad, the Iraqi capital, on Friday when a joint patrol of the Iraqi army and police were passing by, wounding 5 soldiers and 4 policemen, an Interior Ministry source said.

The blast happened near the Municipal Council of Baghdad in the district of Cairo on Friday noon and wounded nine members of the Iraqi security forces and one passer-by, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the media.

One army patrol vehicle and another police car were destroyed in the blast. Several buildings nearby were also damaged. The police cordoned off the area and were searching for more possible explosive devices, the source added.

Xinhua

No relief in sight for Texas heat and drought

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug—The nation’s triple-digit heat wave — which hit its 34th day on Friday — could last until the end of August, while extensive drought in and around Texas may last into October, forecasters said.

The deadly heat event that has broken numerous records has left the southern plains and Mississippi Valley struggling to meet demand for power and water and has cost billions in impact on crops and livestock.

“Many more days of triple-digit heat are on deck as iron-clad high pressure at most levels of the atmosphere continues to squash over the south-central US,” Accuweather.com’s senior meteorologist Alex Hosnowski said.

The severe heat is just one part of a compounded climatic problem, an expert from the National Weather Service said.

Last year’s La Nina, the weather event that left equatorial sea surface temperatures in the central Pacific two to four degrees Fahrenheit cooler, triggered this year’s exceptional drought. Normally, La Nina causes a 10 percent drop in precipitation.

Reuters

75-year-old pilot explains encounter with F-16

CHICAGO, 6 Aug—Myrtle Rose was taking a short flight over suburban Chicago when the 75-year-old aviation enthusiast looked out her cockpit window to see two F-16 fighter jets. She assumed the military pilots were just slowing down to get a closer look at her antique plane.

“It wasn’t until she landed her 1941 Piper J-3 Cub that friends and the police told her the attention was much more serious — for straying into restricted airspace during a visit by President Barack Obama. Rose, who tries to fly every day when weather permits, said she had been itching to get back in the air Wednesday after a number of days on the ground. She normally uses her computer to check for airspace restrictions, but it wasn’t working properly.

“I hadn’t flown in over a week,” she said. “It was a beautiful day and left after some guests departed her home, she “just climbed in the airplane and left.”

Internet

Six killed in prison break in Iraq’s Hilla

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug—Three policemen and three inmates were killed in a prison break attempt in central City of Hilla, the capital of Babil province, a provincial police source said on Saturday.

The incident took place on Friday evening when prisoners managed to seize some weapons and clashed with the guards and then controlled part of the prison’s compound, Haider Zanbour, a member of Babil’s Provincial council, told reporters.

The clashes resulted in the killing of three prisoners and three guards and the wounding of eight other prisoners, Zanbour said, adding that some 20 prisoners managed to escape from the prison, some of them were wearing police uniforms. The prison holds some 1,200 prisoners, including some leaders of al-Qaeda militant group and some insurgent groups, he said.

The heavy gunfire inside and around the prison lasted more than an hour after midnight, he added.

Internet

Members of the Office of the General Prosecutor (PGR) prepare to incinerate drugs at the 37th military zone of San Juan Teotihuacan, Mexico State, Mexico, on 5 Aug, 2011.

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Internet
**Science**

**‘Rock rabbits’ becoming a pest in Israel**

Nazareth, 6 Aug—Hyrraxes, sometimes known as rock rabbits, are fuzzy, cute and, in Israel at least, becoming a serious pest in residential areas, scientists say. The animals have moved into neighbourhoods of Galilee and have been destroying people’s gardens. “They’re coming into the villages and eating everything they can find,” University of Haifa researcher Ary Karshenbaum said.

Scientists say they think they know why: hyrraxes love to make their homes in the debris from building sites, where they can lounge in the sun and still stay close to their bolt holes. “It turns out that it’s the piles of boulders [created by clearing sites for building] that attract the hyrraxes,” Karshenbaum said.

“We confirmed that they’re attracted to the boulder piles rather than heading specifically for people’s gardens,” he said. Suburban wildlife-watchers are fond of the hyrraxes but some people have called for a cull.

Nothing that drastic is needed, researchers say; simply filling in the boulder piles would drive hyrraxes out of the villages and back to their usual homes in the surrounding cliffs. That would be a solution in line with the Bible, which mentions the creatures.

**Impact of fungi on forest extinction eyed**

Berkeley, 6 Aug—Tree-killing fungi triggered by climate change decimated Earth’s forests 250 million years ago, something that could happen again, a US scientist says.

The death of the ancient forests was part of the largest extinction of life on Earth, which occurred when today’s continents were part of one supercontinent known as Pangaea.

In the so-called Permian extinction some 95 percent of marine organisms and 70 percent of land organisms eventually went extinct.

Cindy Looy, a University of California, Berkeley, professor of biology, says thread-like microfossils commonly preserved in Permian rock are relatives of a group of fungi, Rhizoctonia, that today is known to attack trees and other plants.

Today’s changing climate could also lead to increased activity of pathogenic soil microbes that could accelerate the death of trees already stressed by higher temperatures and drought, Looy and her Dutch and British co-authors say.

“Pathogenic fungi are important elements of all forest ecosystems,” Henk Visscher of Utrecht University in the Netherlands says. “When an entire forest becomes weakened by environmental stress factors, onslaught of damaging fungal diseases can result in large-scale tissue death and tree mortality.”

**GLMPS iPhone app offers a totally new take on image-sharing**

New York, 6 Aug—These days, there are countless ways to share photos and videos online. And everybody seems to be doing it. In fact, earlier this week, popular image-sharing social network Instagram revealed that users had uploaded more than 150 million photos to its servers, which equals to about 900 new pictures every minute.

Because of this craze, the number of photo-sharing apps has exploded, making it difficult to separate the wheat from the chaff. But a new app hit the market that offers something new.

Dubbed GLMPS, this new mobile app doesn’t only share photos or videos, instead, it creates a whole new type of media that combines both. The idea is similar to the discontinued Twitter video-sharing service 12Seconds, which shut down last year — but really, it’s not like anything we’ve ever seen before.

Here’s the basics of what GLMPS does: When you take a picture with your smartphone through the app, GLMPS captures a photo as well as a short, 5-second video clip of what took place just before the picture was taken.

When viewing the GLMPS file, the video plays first, and is then shrunken down and superimposed as a thumbnail over the photo. The video then plays on repeat, much like a GIF file. (When the video plays large, there is sound, but not when it is small.)

The effect of being able to see what happens just before a picture is taken adds a whole new level of intimacy to an photograph. Rather than simply see the posed version of people or a situation, GLMPS offers a sneak peak into the unfiltered world in which the picture was snapped.

Like Instagram, GLMPS users can share their images through the app itself, or post GLMPS files to a variety of social networks, including Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and others. GLMPS is currently available for free from the iPhone App Store, so we thought we’d take it for a test drive.—Internet

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**Technology**

**New Gmail Preview Pane layout inspired by tablets**

Washington, 6 Aug—Apple is not the only one taking design inspiration from its hugely popular iPad user interface to create better web-based products. Google is giving tablet user interface design a nod, too, with a new tablet-like email Preview Pane feature.

Google is giving tablet-like email Preview Pane layout inspired by ‘Rock rabbits’ becoming a pest in Israel

Ariane 5 rocket.

Ariane rocket launch postponed due to bad weather

Garmin’s new StreetPilot app, featuring 3D buildings.

Impact of fungi on forest extinction eyed

GLMPS iPhone app offers a totally new take on image-sharing

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**Image**

Rock rabbit.

Internet
**Health**

Gastric bypass may dampen desire for high-fat foods

LONDON, 6 Aug—The most common type of weight loss surgery in the United States appears to help patients shed pounds by reducing their intake of fatty foods and helping them stick to a healthier diet, a new study indicates.

In Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, the stomach is reduced to a small pouch and connected to the middle of the small intestine. While many patients who undergo this type of surgery lose large amounts of weight, it hadn’t been understood exactly how this happened. In a study of rats, researchers found that Roux-en-Y leads to a large reduction in consumption of fatty foods and drinks. This effect lasted for up to 200 days in rodents that underwent the procedure.

This avoidance of high-fat foods seems to be the result of unpleasant digestive effects that may be caused by increased levels of hormones associated with food avoidance, the researchers said. People who underwent the surgery also reported eating less dietary fat.

The findings were released online in advance of publication in an upcoming print issue of the American Journal of Physiology — Regulatory, Integrative, and Comparative Physiology. Learning more about how weight loss surgery reduces the desire to eat fatty foods could lead to new surgical and non-surgical treatments for obesity, Carel le Roux, of the Imperial Weight Centre at Imperial College in London, and colleagues said in the report.—Internet

Smokers mistakenly believe vitamins protect them from cancer

NEW YORK, 6 Aug—Smokers who take a multivitamin pill may think they can smoke more because the supplement protects them from the harmful effects of cigarettes, according to a new study.

Researchers found that some people who smoke mistakenly believe the vitamins will reduce their risk of cancer, allowing them to light up more often. The study noted that such trading of a virtuous behavior for a subsequent indulgence, known as the “licensing effect,” could undermine smokers’ urge to kick the addiction.

“Smokers who take dietary supplements can fool themselves into thinking they are protected against cancer and other diseases. Reminding health-conscious smokers that multivitamins don’t prevent cancer may help them control their smoking or even encourage them to stop,” said the study’s lead author, Wen-Bin Chiou in a journal news release. The study, published online 2 Aug in the journal Addiction, involved two experiments. In the first experiment, a group of 74 daily smokers were given a placebo (dummy) pill, but half were told they were taking a vitamin C pill. After taking the pills, the smokers were allowed to smoke freely as they took an unrelated hour-long survey.

Researchers found the smokers who thought they had taken vitamins smoked nearly twice as many cigarettes than those who knew they took the placebo. They also reported having greater feelings of invincibility.—Internet

**Business**

Groupon doubles users, will drop controversial metric

SAN FRANCISCO, 6 Aug—Groupon Inc, which more than doubled subscribers this year to 115 million, plans to abandon the use of a controversial financial measure it once touted as a good indicator of performance, two sources with knowledge of the situation said.

The No 1 daily deals website, which now dwarfs closest rival LivingSocial’s membership base, caved to pressure from investors and will stop referring to a metric called Adjusted Consolidated Segment Operating Income (ACSOI) that excludes marketing costs, one of the sources told Reuters. Groupon, speeding toward one of 2011’s most highly anticipated IPOs, plans to file amended S-1 IPO documents next week giving an update of its performance, both sources said. The phenomenal pace of growth will be unveiled in that filing and likely give its IPO a boost, despite fears about its need to spend heavily to lure new users and worries of another dotcom bubble brewing reminiscent of the late 1990s.

“There are few growth opportunities on the scale of companies like Groupon,” said Lou Kerner, vice president in equity research at Wedbush Securities. “That’s really what a lot of investors are seeking today.” Founded by Northwestern music major Andrew Mason in 2008, Groupon filed to raise $750 million in an IPO this year. In April, a source said Groupon could raise $1 billion, valuing it at $15 billion to $20 billion.

Social media firms like LinkedIn Corp have had spectacular debuts, stoking interest for offerings by the likes of Facebook and Twitter. CEOs and investors plowed into multivitamin pill may think they can smoke more because the supplement protects them from the harmful effects of cigarettes, according to a new study.

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Wall Street closes worst week since ’08 with wild day

NEW YORK, 6 Aug—Stocks closed out their worst week in more than two years on Friday in a volatile session that saw the major indexes swing back and forth before the S&P 500 ended down less than a point.

More than 15.9 billion shares — or more than twice the daily average volume — traded in the busiest day in more than a year as investors plopped into cash-rich mega-cap stocks that had been beaten down in recent days as the market dropped.

The market’s swings on Friday were fast and furious, with the Dow Jones industrial average covering 416.41 points from its session high to its intraday low.

The intense selling this week reflects frustration with sluggish economic growth and
Japan’s Hiroshima City marks atomic bombing

Hiroshima, 6 Aug—The Japanese City of Hiroshima marked the 66th anniversary of the bombing on Saturday, as the nation fights a different kind of disaster from atomic technology — a nuclear plant in a meltdown crisis after being hit by a tsunami.

The site of the world’s first A-bomb attack observed a moment of silence at 8:15 am Saturday (2315 GMT Friday) — the time the bomb was dropped on 6 Aug, 1945, by the United States in the last stages of World War II.

The bomb destroyed most of the city and killed as many as 140,000 people. A second atomic bombing 9 Aug that year in Nagasaki killed tens of thousands more and prompted the Japanese to surrender.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan on Saturday laid a wreath of yellow flowers at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, and reiterated Japan’s promise to never repeat the horrors of Hiroshima, whose suffering continues today because of illnesses passed over generations.

Japan has long vowed never to make or possess nuclear weapons, but embraced nuclear power as it aimed to rebuild and modernize after the war.

Crowds of people clutching Buddhist prayer beads bowed their heads Saturday in commemorating the dead, as pigeons were released during the solemn gathering repeated every year before the skeletal dome of a bomb-ravaged building.

ONUCI comes to aid of victims of Cote d’Ivoire’s bus accident

ABIDJAN, 6 Aug—The United Nations Operation in Cote d’Ivoire (ONUCI) on Friday gave assistance to the Cote d’Ivoire authorities in the rescue operation for victims of an accident in which a bus plunged in Ebrie lagoon, in Abidjan. The country’s state owned television gave a provisional death toll figure of 46 people.

An ONUCI medical team comprising of three ambulances, two doctors from the Bangladeshi battalion as well as two detachments from the Jordanian special forces (JOFPU) and a patrol unit of the UN Police (UNPOL) were sent to the scene of the accident to help in the rescue operations.

They were carrying out this operation alongside Cote d’Ivoire’s military fire-fighters, gendarmes and police who were supposed to recover the bodies of the victims and transport them to the main hospitals in the city.—Xinhua

Plane evacuated in Philadelphia over bomb threat

PHILADELPHIA, 6 Aug—A US Airways Boeing 757 with 157 passengers on board was evacuated Friday at Philadelphia International Airport because of a bomb threat but was later cleared for departure.

FBI special agent J.J. Klaver said bomb-sniffing dogs found nothing illegal on the aircraft after passengers bound for Anchorage, Alaska, were taken off the flight in what he called “an abundance of caution.”

Klaver said a letter had been received in London about the plane, which had earlier flown to Philadelphia from Glasgow, Scotland. A federal official with knowledge of the situation reported the letter had claimed there was a bomb on board.

Over 10 fishing boats with 200 people missing off east China coast

JINAN, 6 Aug—More than 10 fishing boats with about 200 people on board were missing off east China’s coast Saturday morning, local authorities said. The ships were on their way from Hong Kong’s Lantau Island to Ningbo Port in east China’s Zhejiang Province, according to Shandong provincial flood control headquarters.

The ships were registered in Weihai City of Shandong Province.

The exact numbers of the missing ships and people on board are still unavailable. Searches for the missing ships are ongoing.—Xinhua

Tropical Storm Emily kills one in Haiti, three in DR

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Haiti), 6 Aug—The tropical storm that brushed the southern coast of Hispaniola killed one person in Haiti and three in the Dominican Republic, but spared the Caribbean nations the severe damage many feared, officials said Friday.

Tropical Storm Emily threatened to soak more than 600,000 Haitians made homeless after last year’s earthquake but the tempest merely skirted the southern coast before it stalled at sea and dissipated. More than 100 people left their crudely built homes to find safer housing in churches, schools and other building as the storm moved west. There were scattered reports of flooded houses and crops.

“We are thrilled that there was no major damage,” Marie Alta Jean-Baptiste, director of Haiti’s Civil Protection Department, told The Associated Press.

A man makes repairs to his roof in the shanty town slum area of Cite Soleil on 4 Aug, 2011. Tropical Storm Emily idled on Thursday just south of Haiti, where hundreds of thousands of people left homeless by last year’s devastating earthquake are vulnerable to high winds, torrential rains and dangerous floods and landslides.—INTERNET

In this photo taken on 4 Aug, 2011, fishing boats are seen parked in the Shenniam Harbour in Zhoushan in east China’s Zhejiang Province. China warned residents and alerted emergency relief centres Friday to prepare for Typhoon Muifa to hit the country’s heavily populated eastern coast. —INTERNET

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Union Ministers explain cultivation works to farmers from Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Cooperatives U Ohn Myint conducted 52 observer farmers from Sittway and Thandwe districts led by the Rakhine State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding round high-yielding 30-acre model paddy field and high-yielding Yezin-1 sunflower plantation in Pobbathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing called for use of high-yielding paddy strains and Union Minister U Ohn Myint explained programmes to assist farmers through microcredit associations. The farmers observed high-yielding paddy fields, sugarcane plantations in Chaing Village and near Kyin Village and visited Yezin Agricultural Research Department.

Nagapauk Bridge, Sittoung Canal crossing bridge inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint inspected construction of Yangon-Bago-Mawlamyine Road (Phayagyi-Sittoung road section) with BOT system yesterday morning.

Next, the Union Minister went to Nagapauk Bridge at Mile Post No.7/4 on DaikU-Sittoung road. After hearing reports by officials, he left instructions on speedy completion of the project and inspected the construction works.

The 240-foot-long Nagapauk Bridge is of reinforced concrete type with 24-foot motorway. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.

Then, the Union Minister proceeded to Bridge No.1/8 across Sittoung Canal. After hearing reports by officials, he left necessary instructions.

Union Health Minister meets US guests

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin receives Director of Asian Studies of Johns Hopkins University in Washington of United States of America Professor Dr Karl D Jackson and former Division Head of World Bank Professor Mr Jennifer Sullivan. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin at the minister’s office here yesterday.

The meeting focused on admission of Myanmar health staff to master and short courses at Johns Hopkins University and sponsorship for excursions to universities and institutes in Japan and Republic of Korea.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, and officials from Health Department and Medical Science Department. —MNA

UNHCR Resident Representative calls on Taninthayi Region Chief Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Khin Zaw received UNHCR Resident Representative Mr Bhairaja Panday and party at the Region Government Office yesterday.

Also present on the occasion were Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Zaw Lwin, Region Finance and Revenue Minister U Myat Ko, Region Government Secretary U Myo Aung Htay and officials.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Preparations to be made for prevention of loss...

(from page 1)

He continued his reports on damages in Mon State due to floods and strong winds, rehabilitation works and assistance provided for re-cultivation of crops in time.

After hearing the reports, the Vice-President said that he together with Union Ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads, were there to inspect damages in floods in Mon and Kayin States and to provide necessary assistance for them. According to the report of the Chief Minister he knew the regional government effectively addressed the natural disaster. At present, the climate change occurs across the world and various countries are facing natural disasters. In Myanmar, there are more raining days this year than that of previous year and the rain is heavier. By assessing the global climate and weather in the country, it is necessary to take preventive measures against climate change. Heavy rains is followed by such natural disaster as floods and strong winds, it is necessary to consider difficulties in agriculture, health and social sectors and to take preparedness and take preventive measures against natural disasters.

Preparations are to be made for prevention of loss and wastage of cultivation, harvesting and threshing of crops and for timely substitution for damages caused by natural disasters such as heavy rains, least rainfall and unimely rains.

The Vice-President stressed the need to consider quick rehabilitation of flood victims for their accommodation, food, health, education, social and vocational requirements if loss and damage occur due to weather. States and regions are to keep rescue equipment, reserved seeds of crops and harvesters and threshers as reserved ones.

As Myanmar has experiences in natural disasters, emphasis is to be placed on preventive measures against natural disasters. Moreover, eight tasks are being undertaken for rural development and poverty alleviation under the leadership of the President. The Central Committee led by the President has been formed with the participation of chief ministers of States and Regions as members. According to the procedures, arrange-ments are being made for providing capitals to farmers and odd-job people but it is necessary to practically carry out the tasks to gain achievement in long run. He stressed the need to control the tasks in conformity with region-wise conditions without malpractice. Capitals are to be provided to farmers at their necessary time. The local authorities are to closely supervise assistance for vocational works and business of farmers and odd-job people.

At the cultural museum and library of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library at the corner of Baho Street and Dawei Bridge street in Mawlamyine, the Vice-President and party viewed ancient cultural heritages, ancient Mon furniture and Buddha images. The Mon State Chief Minister and Assistant Director of the department U Aung Naing Moe conducted the Vice-President and party round the museum.

The Vice-President met the school heads of basic education schools at the hall of Mawlamyine BEHS No. 1. Mon State Education Officer U Myint Swe reported on role of the Mon State education office, opening of schools in the state, number of students, strength of teachers, ratio of students to teachers, opening of Education Learning Centres and multi-media classrooms, pass rate of matriculation examination, and buildings of basic education schools. In his address, the Vice-President said that he and his party arrived there to inspect damages beset by natural disasters such as floods and strong winds in Mon and Kayin States. On his tour, he inspected basic and higher education sectors in Mon State.

Nowadays, the education sector is being upgraded for constantly turning out generation human resources that will participate in national development. He said that he took pride of teachers for their participation in nurturing human resources of the nation. Mon State has good condition in basic education sector as the pass rate of matriculation examination examination and better teaching of teachers.

The State has been gathering momentum in carrying out enrolment of school-going age and completed learning of primary education. Thanks to encouragement of the State, willingness to pursue education among children and parents is increasing year by year. The government on its part has opened more and more schools for enabling the students to have easy access to learning opportunity. Post-primary schools have been opened in some regions with poor transport for those who have completed the primary education to be able to learn middle and high school education.

Teaching the students is being enhanced to easy learning of primary education. Thanks to preparation in modern technology, classroom management of their students are to make better teaching and students will become highly accounted for. Research works are to be conducted so as to apply marine science works. Graduation research theses must be applied to practical works.

As Myanmar has experiences in natural disasters, emphasis is to be placed on preventive measures against natural disasters. Moreover, eight tasks are being undertaken for rural development and poverty alleviation under the leadership of the President.
Preparations to be made for prevention of loss...

(from page 8)

Mon State is focusing on cultivation of rubber. Being industrial raw materials, rubber demand is higher and marketable across the world. The university is to conduct research on development of rubber technology so as to sell value-added products of rubber.

The State continues fulfillment for promotion of national education. Faculty members and students on their part are to strive for applying their experience from the learning the respective subjects in their practical fields.

Next, the Vice-President and party offered flowers and water to the Buddha image and paid homage to Kyaikthanlan Pagoda.

They made cash donations to the funds of the pagoda through the Pagoda Board of Trustees who gave the replica of the pagoda to them.

The Vice-President and party viewed round progress of Mawlamyne by car.

In the evening, the Vice-President and party visited Hsutaungpyae Yayle Pagoda in Kyaikkhami of Thanbyuzayat Township. After offering flowers, lights, water and gold foils, they paid homage to the pagoda and made cash donations.

The Vice-President instructed officials to coordinate with construction technicians, architectures, members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees and well-wishers to maintain the concrete passage to the pagoda due to erosion of seawater and donated cash to the funds for maintenance of the passage.—MNA

Union Minister U Than Aung Myint Oo views ancient cultural heritage displayed at cultural museum in Mawlamyine.

Vice-President Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo views ancient cultural heritage displayed at cultural museum in Mawlamyine.

Plan underway to install 4 million line of GSM in first year

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun delivered an address at the GSM Mobile Telephone Extended Installation Project at the ministry, here, on 5 August afternoon.

The managing director and the project manager for extended installation of GSM mobile phone reported on plans under way for installation of 4 million lines in first year of the project and future tasks.

Private entrepreneurs reported on progress of implementing the project.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the Union Minister.

MNA

Union Minister U Win Myint making speech at the ceremony to disburse agricultural loans.

Agricultural loans disbursed to farmers

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—A ceremony to disburse agricultural loans to farmers by Ayeyar Kyangin Paddy Company was held at the hall in Kyangin of Ayeyawady Region on 5 August.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung delivered addresses.

Administrator of Kyangin Township U Soe Than reported on land reclamation and completion of cultivation in the township.

Managing Director U Ko Ko Aye of the company presented agricultural loans to the farmers.

The Union Minister and party visited the booths for sales of agricultural machinery.

The Union Minister and party viewed round handiworks at the booth of wickerwork preservation group for rural development and poverty alleviation in Yekyi.

MNA

Union Ministers explains cultivation works to farmers from Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Cooperatives U Ohn Myint conducted 52 observer farmers from Sittway and Thandwe districts led by Rakhine State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding round high-yielding model paddy field and high-yielding Yezin-1 sunflower plantation in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing called for cultivation of high-yielding paddy strain and Union Minister U Ohn Myint explained programmes to assist farmers through microcredit associations. The farmers observed high-yielding paddy fields, sugarcane plantations in Chaing Village and near Kyin Village and visited Yezin Agricultural Research Department.

MNA
Union Health Minister meets doctor trainees of internship courses

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin met the trainees who passed the internship refresher course No. 1/2011 for doctors of University of Medicine-1 at the meeting hall of University of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Street in Yangon on 3 August morning. Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin inspected calculating pension salaries for retired staff of the departments under the Ministry of Health at the Health Department of Yangon Region, renovation of Region Health Department and meeting room.

He also met rectors, professors/heads of department, trainees of internship refresher course for dentists of University of Dental Medicine (Yangon) and those from University of Medicine-2 (Yangon) at the respective venues and left necessary instructions.

MNA

Thai appreciates Myanmar for its cooperation in searching crashed helicopter of Thai Army

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Thai Ambassador to the Republic of the Union Myanmar Mr Apiprath Viennrai sent letter of thanks to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stating profound appreciation of Thai Government and Thai Royal Armed Forces to the Myanmar Government, the Ministry of Defence and military personnel for their cooperation in searching the Black Hawk helicopter of Thai Army which crashed in the morning of 19 July at Myanmar-Thai border due to extremely bad weather.

The letter further stated that in searching Black Hawk helicopter of Thai Army which crashed at Myanmar-Thai border on 19 July morning due to terrible weather, parts of the wrecked helicopter and bodies of Commander of 9th Infantry Division Major General Tawan Ruangsri and other soldiers could be retrieved thanks to cooperative efforts of the armed forces of the two nations.

It added that the success of the joint operation will serve as an important milestone in future cooperation between the two governments as well as the two armed forces.

MNA

Largest US human trafficking case in question

HONOLULU, 6 Aug—The US government’s largest-ever human trafficking case, involving alleged exploitation of about 600 agricultural workers from Thailand, was put in jeopardy after all charges were dismissed in a related prosecution of a Hawaii farm, attorneys said Friday.

Federal authorities have accused Los Angeles-based labour recruiting company Global Horizons Manpower Inc of manipulating workers placed in US farms across the country, and an FBI spokesman last year compared the company’s actions to a form of modern-day slavery. A trial against Global Horizons CEO Mordechai Orian is set for February in Honolulu.

But after US prosecutors on Thursday abruptly dropped similar accusations that owners of Hawaii’s Aloun Farms economically entrapped 44 Thai labourers, the fate of the case against Global Horizons became unclear.

“They don’t have a case anyway,” Orian said in an interview Friday. “Everybody knew that with Aloun Farms, that they had more on them than on me. ... When you see the facts and the reality, it’s different from when you go to the media and make somebody look like a monster.”

Orian’s attorney, Randy Shiner, said the government’s failure to prove wrongdoing by Aloun Farms has “significant reverberations” for Global Horizons.

“All my clients have been treated unfairly. They’re just going through,” Shiner said.

Both Global Horizons and Aloun Farms were accused of using the same tactics to keep foreign workers in their service: false promises of lucrative jobs, passports confiscated and threats of deportation. Global Horizons supplied 33 workers to Aloun Farms for six weeks in 2003, before the time when mistreatment was alleged at Aloun.

Honda to recall 1.5 million vehicles in US over stalls, shifting problems

CHICAGO, 6 Aug—Honda Motor Co will recall about 1.5 million vehicles in the United States, to fix problems of engine stalls and vehicles shifting out of park, according to Detroit News reports on Friday.

Besides the recalls in the United States, the company will also recall 760,000 vehicles in China and 153,424 in Canada, the automaker said on Friday.

Japanese students participate in a robot competition in Tokyo, capital of Japan, 5 Aug, 2011. The participants of the competition operated their robot to build a pyramid by paper cups in the limited three minutes to pray for the victims of the 11 March quake in Japan.

XINHUA

Shallow quake strikes off Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 6 Aug—A shallow moderate quake measuring 5.6 Richter scale jolted Sumatra Island of Indonesia on Saturday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported here.

The quake struck at 9:45 am Jakarta Time (0245 GMT) with epicentre at 44 km southwest Mukomuko town of Bengkulu Province and with the depth at 10 km under sea bed, an official of the agency told Xinhua. Indonesia is prone to earthquake as it lies on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire.”—Xinhua

Holographic zoo nurses baby wallaby back to health

BUDAPEST, 6 Aug—A baby wallaby rejected by its mother and nursed back to health on goat milk is developing normally after living in a substitute pouch at the Budapest Zoo, officials said Friday.

Frodo, weighing just 13 months old when zookeepers noticed 13 March that the male joey was out of its mother’s pouch.

Frodo was “just lying there without any signs of life,” zookeeper Peter Hipka said. “We thought he was dead.”

Efforts to reunite mother and joey were unsuccessful, so Frodo was nursed on goat milk from a baby bottle. Frodo is now 9 months old, weighs 2 kilograms (4.4 pounds) and is often out of the substitute pouch zookeepers made from a satchel.——Internet
Tiger Airways Australia flights remain suspended

SINGAPORE, 6 Aug—The domestic flights of Tiger Airways Australia will remain suspended until at least 11 Aug following further adjournment of court proceedings, the parent company Tiger Airways Holdings said on Friday. Tiger Airways Australia was now working “constructively” with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) of Australia to address its safety concerns so that the airline’s operations can resume as early as possible, it said.

Breastfeeding faces challenges in China

BEIJING, 6 Aug—Upon hearing her baby wail, 35-year-old Zhang, a doctor at the Capital Institute of Pediatrics in Beijing, has continued to practice exclusive breastfeeding in strict accordance with international standards. “Exclusive breastfeeding” is defined as feeding an infant with only breast milk for the first six months of life, then continuing to breastfeed as a supplement to increasing amounts of solid food for at least the first two years of life. Although her son looks healthy, he is somewhat slimmer than other babies his age, which has displeased both Zhang’s and her husband’s parents. Older Chinese often believe that it is good for infants to be fat. Her parents have urged her to switch to formula, trying to pour their goods into Brazil, Rousseff said, adding that “we cannot allow them to sell devaluated products here because they have no other place to sell them.”

Brazil better prepared to face global economic crisis

RIO DE JANEIRO, 6 Aug—President Dilma Rousseff said Friday that Brazil is better prepared to deal with global economic crisis now than it could back in 2008. Rousseff said the Brazilian government has confidence in the steady performance of the country’s economy, which will not be shaken by an external crisis. She said Brazil currently has 348 billion US dollars in its foreign reserves, a 70-percent increase compared with that of three years ago.

Venezuela frees more than 2,000 prisoners

CARACAS, 6 Aug—Venezuela freed more than 2,000 inmates to improve conditions in its violent and overcrowded prisons at the start of what could be a much larger amnesty across the South American nation, state media said on Friday. With about 50,000 prisoners confined to aging facilities designed to hold just 13,000, the penal system is in chaos, rights campaigners and government officials say. The prisons crisis is a big issue ahead of next year’s election, where President Hugo Chavez aims for another six-year term. It drew world attention in June when thousands of troops stormed one jail, guns blazing, to end a deadly insurrection.

People of the Miao and Li ethnic groups gather to splash water to pray for good fortune at the Qixi Festival celebration gala in Baoting Autonomous County of Li and Miao, south China’s Hainan Province, 6 Aug, 2011. The Qixi Festival, or Chinese Valentine’s Day, falls on 6 Aug this year. On the day, people of the Li and Miao ethnic groups here usually observe the tradition to splash water over their lovers, express their affection through water.——Xinhua

EU official says debt problems in Spain, Italy still under control

BRUSSELS, 6 Aug—The European Union (EU) on Friday made another attempt to calm financial markets, insisting that worsening debt problems in Spain and Italy are still under control.

“Market unrest witnessed in the last few days is simply not justified on the grounds of economic fundamentals,” EU Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn told a Press Conference.

“It is not as if the fundamentals of the Italian or Spanish economies have changed overnight,” he said.

Admitting that investors have reacted disappointingly to the recent EU deal intended to restore economic growth and stabilize the euro currency on 21 July, the commissioner pointed out that was partly due to markets’ unrealistic expectations.——Xinhua

US Treasury hits back against S&P rating downgrade

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug—The US Treasury Friday night hit back against a Standard and Poor’s downgrade of US top-notch credit rating, saying that the agency’s judgment was flawed.

“A judgment flawed by a 2 trillion US dollars error speaks for itself,” a spokesperson of the Treasury said in a short statement.

The global rating agency stripped the world’s largest economy of its AAA long-term sovereign credit rating and lowered it by one notch to AA-plus.

“The downgrade reflects our opinion that the fiscal consolidation plan that Congress and the administration recently agreed to falls short of what, in our view, would be necessary to stabilize the government’s medium-term debt dynamics,” added the S&P.

“More broadly, the downgrade reflects our view that the effectiveness, stability, and predictability of American policymaking and political institutions administration recently agreed to falls short of what, in our view, would be growth-stimulating,” the S&P said in a research report.

“The outlook on the long-term rating is negative,” noted the agency, which means that it might further lower the credit rating.

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Researchers find way to help donor adult blood stem cells overcome transplant rejection

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug — Findings by the University of Texas (UT) Southwestern Medical Center researchers may suggest new strategies for successful donor adult stem cell transplants in patients with blood cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

The study, to be published on Friday in Cell Stem Cell, showed for the first time that adult blood stem cells can be regulated to overcome an immune response that leads to transplant rejection. It also opens up further studies in stem cell immunology, said Dr. Chengcheng “Alec” Zhang, assistant professor of physiology and developmental biology at UT Southwestern and senior author of the study. “We speculate that a common mechanism exists to regulate immune inhibitors in different types of stem cells,” he said.

In this current study, UT researchers developed a culture “cocktail” that successfully supported donor adult blood stem cells from humans and from mice, and found that they express immune inhibitors on their surfaces that protect them from immune attack. Using the increased number of cultured blood stem cells, the scientists were able to overcome the protein barrier that alerts the immune system to foreign material and significantly repopulated healthy cells in the rodent transplant recipients.

Brave fight to save last of her children

MOGADISHU, 6 Aug — Kaltum Mohamed sits beside a small mound of earth, alone with her thoughts. It is her child’s grave — and there are three others like it. Just three weeks ago, Kaltum was the mother of five young children. But the famine that has rocked Somalia has claimed the lives of four of them. Only a daughter remains. The others starved to death before their eyes as she and her husband trekked to Mogadishu in search of aid.

Kaltum and her husband tried to get their children from Somalia’s parched south to the capital in time to receive emergency aid from the few humanitarian organisations that are operating there. They began their journey in the Lower Shabelle, where the UN declared famine on 20 July. Her family belongs to a tribe of nomads, but drought killed their herds. Their journey for help, one made by thousands of other Somalis, came too late.

“Death is inevitable,” Kaltum said on Thursday in a makeshift camp near Mogadishu’s airport, home to hundreds of other displaced people. “But the surprise was how suddenly I lost my four children in less than 24 hours because of famine.”

A robotic vehicle designed by students from the University of British Columbia competes in the 11th annual UBC Engineering Physics Robot Competition in Vancouver, Canada, on 4 Aug, 2011. Robotic vehicles competing in this event should be able to climb the wall without any human assistance.—XINHUA

Chinese, Polish FMs pledge to bolster cooperaions, ties

WARSAW, 6 Aug—Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on Friday welcomes Polish taking over of the current EU rotating presidency during a meeting with his Poland’s counterpart Radoslaw Sikorski.

Yang said that China-EU relations are facing new opportunities for development. China is willing to work together with Poland to lift China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership to a higher level, on the basis of mutual respect, equality and seeking common ground. He called on Poland to play an active role to achieve results in the upcoming 14th meeting of China and EU leaders held in China in latter this year.—XINHUA

Police Academy actor

Bubba Smith dies

LOS ANGELES, 6 Aug—Bubba Smith, the American football star who found fame on screen playing Hightower in the Police Academy movies, has died at the age of 66. The 6ft 7in (2m) star won the 1971 Super Bowl with the Baltimore Colts and moved into acting in the late ’70s. He played the softly-spoken Moses Hightower in six Police Academy films.

Smith was found dead at his home in Los Angeles. The cause of death has not been confirmed, but police have said it did not appear to be suspicious. Fellow Police Academy star Steve Guttenberg paid tribute to Smith saying “his generosity was far larger than his physical stature”. He told TMZ: “Only his gift for caring about his friends and family could compare with his achievements on the football field, film and television. He also laughed like no other.”

Other Police Academy co-stars have also paid tribute via TMZ including Michael Winslow, who played Larvelle Jones. He said: “I’m devastated. He was a very good friend, we’ve known each other for 25 years.” GW Bailey, who played Captain Harris, added: “I am shocked and saddened to hear of Bubba’s death. I am proud to say that Bubba was a dear friend and fellow Texan...[he] was one of a kind.”

Bubba Smith throws an American football as Moses Hightower in Police Academy 2. —INTERNET
Getting to sleep is monkey business

Forget counting sheep — Britons now prefer listening to lions roaring and monkeys calling to help them nod off, according to a new survey.

The poll, which questioned 2,000 adults about falling asleep at night, found that birds twittering and rainforest noises are the most soothing sounds for one in five people at bedtime, with fewer than one in 10 relying on counting sheep to send them into slumber.

“One thing these noises do is stop intrusive thoughts,” John Sheeerson, President of the British Sleep Society and consultant at Papworth Sleep Centre, told Reuters.

“These are normally worries about the previous day, or worries about tomorrow — any active thoughts that prevent people from drifting into sleep. A semi-repetitive noise like wind blowing or waves crashing, which has an occasional rhythm change, works by distracting you. The sound can’t be too boring but should not be so stimulating that you actively think about it — it has to be something in the middle,” Sheeerson said.

A lot of people find listening to these noises useful in getting to sleep, although this has not yet been thoroughly researched, he said.

While the relaxing properties of natural sound may not come as a surprise, noises generally considered to be irritating, such as passing traffic and ticking clocks can also be soporific, according to the survey.

News Album

Sony to release “Amazing Spider-Man 2” in 2014

scheduled to hit theaters in July 2012, and he will be back wearing the spider suit for “The Amazing Spider-Man 2,” now set for release on 2 May, 2014.

It’s rare that a studio announces a release date on a sequel so far in advance of the first movie’s debut. They typically prefer to wait and judge the success of the movie. “I think it speaks volumes about our confidence in what we are seeing on the new film and our desire to move quickly on the next installment,” said a studio spokesman.

MTV’s “Jersey Shore” premieres to record audience

Los Angeles, 6 Aug—The fourth season premiere of the hit reality television show “Jersey Shore” delivered a record 8.8 million viewers, making it MTV’s third most watched series telecast of all time, the network said on Friday.

The episode, which aired Thursday night and featured the usual antics between Nicole “Snooki” Polizzi and Mike “The Situation” Sorrentino — this time while the New Jersey clan visits the family roots in Italy — marked a four percent increase over last season’s premiere.

The show will soon begin filming season five back on familiar ground in Seaside Heights, New Jersey.

New “Apes” film scores $1.25 million at midnight shows

Los Angeles, 6 Aug—Bolstered by strong reviews, “The Rise of the Planet of the Apes” notched a solid $1.25 million in midnight showings on Friday, according to studio estimates.

The James Franco-led prequel offered late-night screenings in 1,124 locations. It will expand to 3,648 theaters in the US and Canada over the weekend.

Numbers for those early am showings compare favourably to the $700,000 Universal banked in midnight showings of “Cowboys & Aliens” at 1,200 locations last weekend. The graphic novel adaptation went on to make $36.4 million in its opening.

Lady Gaga accused of copying “Judas”

Los Angeles, 6 Aug—Lady Gaga on Friday was slapped with a lawsuit claiming her hit song “Judas” on the new album “Born This Way” was copied from a similar tune by a Chicago-based singer and songwriter, Rebecca Fracescatti, who filed the suit in US District Court in Illinois on Wednesday, alleges “Judas” infringes upon the copyright of her song “Juda,” which she recorded in 1999. The Chicago musician claims that “substantial original portions” of “Judas” were lifted from the song that she re-recorded in 2005 for her debut album, “It’s All About You.”

French duck fat puts gourmet spin on biodiesel

Duck fat has a rich history in French cuisine as the key ingredient in savoury cassoulets and confits, but now industrious farmers are turning the grease into biodiesel and biogas. A farm cooperative based in St.Aquilin, a rural village in the southwestern region of the Dordogne, is powering a tractor and two other vehicles with biodiesel made from duck fat and hopes to convince others to do the same. The animal product is in no short supply in this scenic area where two million of the web-footed birds are raised each year, according to the regional agricultural council. “We’re really doing this out of activism, to recognise that we have to do something to help save the planet. We should stop the big speeches and start with little acts,” said Jules Charmoy, who raises russet-hued Limousin cattle on his organic farm.
City sign keeper Pantilimon

LONDON, 6 Aug—Manchester City have signed goalkeeper Costel Pantilimon from Poli Timisoara, the English Premier League club said on Friday. The 24-year-old Romanian joins the FA Cup holders as cover for England international Joe Hart following the departure of Shay Given to City’s top-flight rivals Aston Villa. Pantilimon, signed for an undisclosed fee, made his Romania debut in 2008 and played against City twice in the Europa League last season, conceding three times. He is now expected to leapfrog Stuart Taylor and Gunnar Nielsen in City’s goalkeeper pecking order to be Hart’s deputy. Given joined Villa earlier in pre-season after losing out to Hart in the battle to City’s first-choice keeper. Pantilimon is manager Roberto Mancini’s fourth pre-season signing, following left-back Giel Chlicy from Arsenal, defender Stefan Savic from Partizan Belgrade and Argentinian star Sergio Aguero, who arrived at Eastlands from Atletico Madrid in a deal worth around £38 million. — Internet

Romeu relishing move to top class Chelsea

LONDON, 6 Aug—Spanish midfielder Oriol Romeu insisted Friday he is relishing his move to Chelsea, a team he describes as of the same level — if not superior — to his former club Barcelona. The 19-year-old, who is currently competing in the Under-20 World Cup in Colombia, has signed a four-year contract with the English side for an undisclosed fee. “I’m going to a club of the highest level, a very good coach, spectacular players,” Romeu told AFP. And he revealed that Chelsea’s new boss Andre Villas-Boas had personally telephoned him in Colombia to sort out the deal. — Internet

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Sports jacket
2 Raise anchor
3 Minimum
4 Small marshall
5 Emit warmth and light
6 Pond
7 Hurried
8 Minimum
9 Small marsupial
10 Fleece
11 Pond
12 Hurried
13 Cozy
14 Cosy
15 Latin poet
16 Devon river
17 Migrant
18 Devon river
19 Atmech
20 Permanent way
21 Support
22 Endurance
23 Flower
24 Bloodsucker
25 Clergyman
26 Flower
27 Bloodsucker
28 Clergyman

DOWN
1 Spanish dance
2 Forsake
3 Gets near (anag.)
4 Fleece
5 Punctual
6 Tiny village
7 Card game
8 Month
9 Gets near (anag.)
10 Spanish dance
11 Devon river
12 Devon river
13 Atmech
14 Permanent way
15 Support
16 Endurance
17 Flower
18 Bloodsucker
19 Clergyman
20 Punctual
21 Support
22 Endurance
23 Flower
24 Bloodsucker
25 Clergyman

Cuba’s world record holder Dayron Robles passes the finish line at the men’s 110m hurdles of the IAAF Diamond League London meet, at the Crystal Palace in London, Britain, on 5 Aug, 2011.— XINHUA

Robles wins 110m

LONDON, 6 Aug—Olympic champion Dayron Robles won the 110m hurdles with a new stadium record of 13.04 seconds in the Diamond League meet London leg on Friday. Robles, the world record holder, held off Jason Richardson of the United States, who beat Oliver for the second time in a row after his Stockholm win last Friday. Yohan Blake took advantage of the withdrawal of injured fellow Jamaican Asafa Powell with victory in the 100 meters by clocking 9.95 seconds into a headwind. 18-year-old Kirani James of Grenada won the 400 meters in a season’s best time of 44.61 seconds in his first race as a professional athlete.— Internet

Battle of Britain dominates Europa League draw

LONDON, 6 Aug — The draw for the Europa League playoffs on Friday threw up a Battle of Britain clash as Scottish club Hearts were paired with English Premier League giants Tottenham Hotspur. Hearts sealed their place in this stage of the competition after beating Hungarian club Paksi in new coach Paulo Sergio’s first match in charge on Thursday. However, the meeting with last season’s Champions League quarter-finalists represents a huge test for the Edinburgh club. “This is a very interesting draw for us, for sure,” Sergio told Hearts’ official website. — Internet

Seven-year-old boy signs up for Real Madrid soccer team

BUENOS AIRES, 6 Aug—A seven-year-old Argentinean boy, whose father works as a soccer player trainer, signed up for the Spanish soccer team Real Madrid. Miguel Coira, father of Leonel Angel, on Friday told a local radio station, his son signed a contract with the prestigious Spanish team, which makes the boy the youngest booking in the history of Real Madrid. “He is very good. What is best is that he has fun while he plays, which is the most important thing. He plays with older boys and he makes the difference,” Coira said. The father said the boy’s idol is Lionel Messi, the star from Barcelona team, the classical rival of Real Madrid and that he “doesn’t miss any game.”

Coira said another son who is 16 years-old plays in Valladolid team. He added that with his job he can give them both “a very good education” something impossible for me to do in Argentine.” He said he always wanted to do his job in Argentina but there was always trouble from everywhere. The boy was born on 29 March, 2004 and will begin training in Real Madrid on 6th September. — Xinhua
**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

### Weather forecast for 7th August, 2011

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<td>32/90</td>
<td>25/77</td>
<td>One or two rain or thundershower</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady</td>
<td>33/91</td>
<td>26/79</td>
<td>Fairly widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Shan</td>
<td>33/91</td>
<td>23/73</td>
<td>Fairly widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Shan</td>
<td>32/90</td>
<td>23/72</td>
<td>Fairly widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Shan</td>
<td>24/75</td>
<td>18/64</td>
<td>Fairly widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>22/72</td>
<td>Widespread rain or thundershower (IH)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>24/75</td>
<td>Widespread rain or thundershower (IH)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>35/95</td>
<td>26/79</td>
<td>Scattered rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
<td>33/91</td>
<td>26/79</td>
<td>Scattered rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>22/72</td>
<td>Fairly widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taninthayi</td>
<td>33/91</td>
<td>25/77</td>
<td>Widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Sagaing</td>
<td>35/93</td>
<td>27/81</td>
<td>Scattered rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Sagaing</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>23/73</td>
<td>Widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
<td>24/75</td>
<td>14/57</td>
<td>Fairly widespread rain or thundershower</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>31/88</td>
<td>24/75</td>
<td>Widespread rain or thundershower (IH)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay</td>
<td>3.78 inches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moulmein</td>
<td>6.81 inches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-8-2011 (Sunday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**AC Milan beats Inter 2-1 to win Italian Super Cup**

Ibrahimovic also hit the post with a header against his former club in the first half. The equalizer was quickly followed by Milan forward Alexandre Pato running onto a through ball. His shot hit the post, but Kevin-Prince Boateng slid to knock in the rebound.

Boateng celebrated with a spinning kung fu kick that delighted the cheering crowds packed into the Olympic stadium. The venue has proved an unlucky one for Inter, which played in the same fixture at the same place two years ago and lost 2-1 to Lazio.

The victory moved Milan one Italian Super Cup clear of Inter and two in front of Juventus. The Super Cup is the traditional curtain raiser for the Italian season, played between the previous season’s Serie A winners (Milan) and Italian Cup victors (Inter). Three of the next four Italian Super Cups will be played in China to help promote Italian football in Asia.—Internet

**AC Milan’s player Ibrahimovic (C) competes during the match against Inter Milan in Italian Super Cup 2011 at the National Stadium in Beijing, capital of China, on 6 Aug, 2011.**

**Xinhua**

**AC Milan’s Kevin Prince Boateng celebrates in front of the photographers after he scored a goal against Inter Milan.—Internet**

**Myanmar TV**

**Sunday, 7 August**

**View on today**

- 7:00 am
  - 1. Parita By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
  - 2. The Nine Precepts

- 11:00 am
  - 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

- 11:10 am
  - 2. Musical Programme

- 11:20 am
  - 3. Round Up of the Week’s International News

- 11:30 am
  - 4. Four Drama Series
  - 12:30 pm
  - 5. Golf Magazine (TV)
  - 12:50 pm
  - 6. Myanmar Video Feature
  - 2:20 pm
  - 7. Solo Favourites

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (7-8-2011) (Sunday)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transmissions</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>(09:00am) MST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Transmission</td>
<td>(7-8-11 09:30 am ~ 8-8-11 09:30 am) MST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Local Transmission**

- Opening
- News
- The Full Moon Day of Waso
- News
- News
- News
- News
- News
- News
- News
- News

**Overseas Transmission**

- Opening
- News
- The Full Moon Day of Waso
- News
- Cultural Trail from China to ASEAN (Part-II)
- News
- Lactacyd Bath Time For Babies Photo Contest
- Music Gallery
- News
- MI People’s Celebrities “Ye Taik, Phyu Phyu Kyaw Their”
- Myanmar Seafarers Courageous Rescuers
- News
- Treasure Trove for Knowledge Seekers
- News
- Myanmar Traditional Marionette Theatre (Part-2)
- Why So Melodious?
- News
- Record Album
- News
- Literature for Heart & Soul
- Moe Hnin Than Budhe, The Unique Pagoda in the Monywa
- Myanmar Movies “Misdeed”
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

Success of I & P Ministry calls for service personnel’s commitment

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi stressed the need for the commitment of the employees to the success of the project of issuing household registration list and citizenship scrutiny cards to the people as the ministry has relieved the rules and regulations.

In the meeting with the employees of the Immigration and National Registration Department under the ministry in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Region here yesterday, the Union Minister urged the employees to attach great importance to the project of issuing household registration list and citizenship scrutiny cards as the ministry has relieved the rules and regulations as a new system to issue the certificates and cards easily.

The Ministry of Immigration and Population has committed itself to achieve success in implementing the project which is one of the three main projects of the ministry.

Meanwhile, the employees are to carry out the tasks in accordance with the rules and regulations while working at the grass-roots level, he added.

The Union Minister also urged them to work for the people with goodwill, holding their beliefs based on right thinking.

The employees are to try to become good civil service personnel and to avoid corruption as they are working, keeping direct contact with the people, he also said at the meeting.

According the Union Minister, the ministry has achieved success in carrying out the tasks of the project.

Union Minister U Khin Yi meeting with service personnel of Immigration and National Registration Department in Nay Pyi Taw Council Region.

Flood Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Ngawun River in Ngathainggyoung 1163 cm has exceeded by 33 cm (about 1 foot) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1130) cm during the next 48 hours commencing this noon, said the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

Union Health Minister meets US guests

NATO chopper crash leaves 31 US soldiers dead

Ariane rocket launch postponed due to bad weather

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