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Friday, 12 August, 2011

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

* Building of modern industrialized nation through the agricultural development, and all-round development of other sectors of the economy
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investment from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Coordination meeting on holding second regular session of Hluttaws held

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—The coordination meeting for holding second regular sessions of Hluttaws was held at the meeting hall of Hluttaw Office here this morning, with an address by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann.

It was also attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Union Ministers, deputy ministers, senior military officer, departmental heads, officials from Union Election Commission, Hluttaw Office, Nay Pyi Taw Council and Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee.

First, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann delivered an opening speech about distinctions of the second regular sessions of the Hluttaws and successful holding of the meetings.

Next, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsain and Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win submitted reports on information works and preparations for correspondents and journalists from foreign news agencies based in the nation and local media to attend the sessions; Union Minister at President Office Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Thein Nyunt on accommodating Hluttaw representatives; Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint on ceremonial arrangements; and Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and for Sports U Tint Hsain on catering for Hluttaw representatives; Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin on healthcare services; Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun on communication works, sound control system and voting machines; Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko on security measures; Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung and Union Minister for Rail Transport U Aung Min on transportation services for Hluttaw representatives; Managing Director of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited Brig-Gen Zarni Win on transportation and fleet management; and Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe on supply of electricity during the meetings.

(See page 8)
PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 12 August, 2011

Improve health standard of the youth

The youth of today can be reliable and responsible with academic qualifications only if they are in good health as they will take up national duties in future.

WHO defines health positively as “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”.

The Ministry of Education has called for participation of all schools in the 2011-2012 academic year school health week activities that run from 8 to 12 August. All basic education schools across the nation are carrying out the five school health programmes: keeping schools and environs clean, medical check-up and treatment, vaccination against infectious diseases, educative talks about health, and school nutrition improvement. In addition, teachers and students’ parents will work together to ensure that each student meet his or her height and body weight in proportion to their ages.

In 1995, WHO called for speeding up school health activities around the world under the Global School Health Initiative. Myanmar laid down a plan to set up schools with higher health conditions in 1996, and launched it in 1998 covering 90 townships.

School health activities are an important task to be carried out for the nation and the people. A school is an institution that improves physical, mental, and social well-being of students. Teachers and students’ parents are therefore urged to work in collaboration in school health activities to improve the health standard of the youth, the future of the nation.

MMANMARGAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Colonel Myint Kyaw of the Ministry of Defence as Director-General of the Population Department under the Ministry of Immigration and Population on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—MNA

After the call, the guests continued discussions with directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry led by Deputy Minister U Ohn Than.—MNA

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing received Deputy General Manager Mr Gao Guiheng and party of SDIC of the People’s Republic of China at the ministry, here, this morning.

They focused on cooperation in development of paddy, cooperation in long-term agro-based production and investment matters.

2011 Nutrition Development Weeks observed in Bago

YANGON, 11 Aug—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win on 9 August delivered an address at the ceremony to mark the 2011 Nutrition Development Weeks at the city hall in Bago.

Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Kyaw Oo explained movements on nutrition week.

Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Speaker of Region Hluttaw U Win Tin and Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Kyaw Oo awarded the outstanding townships in the nutritious food cookery contest and fed vitamin A tablets to children.

Seminar on Tagore, His Works & Philosophy held

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A Seminar on Tagore, His Works & Philosophy was held at the Arts Hall of Yangon University in Yangon today. Indian Ambassador Dr Villur Sundararajan Seshadri made a speech.

Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe delivered an address. Resource persons read papers.—MNA

Chief Minister U Nyan Win of Bago Division awards winner of the nutritious food cookery contest.—MNA

Donate Blood

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing receives Mr. Gao Guiheng, Deputy General Manager of SDIC.—MNA

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500,000 lassa fever cases each year in west Africa

GENEVA, 11 Aug—An estimated 500,000 people in west Africa are infected with lassa fever every year, the World Health Organization (WHO) said Wednesday, amid calls for more money to be spent on preventing its spread.

“The disease remains an epidemic in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Nigeria with evidence of its presence in Ghana, Ivory Coast and Mali,” the WHO’s representative in Sierra Leone, Dr. Wondmagegnehu Anemu told delegates at a conference on infectious diseases.

Anemu said he hoped the four-day meeting “will create an opportunity to examine the potential impact of the epidemic in the region and the world.” Sierra Leone’s Health Minister Zainab Bangura said that eradicating the rodent that carries the virus was “almost impossible.”

Instead he argued that countries “should embark on adequate measures to prevent the spread of the disease and all available resources should be spent on those access that promote good health as well as personal and environmental hygiene.” The acute viral haemorrhagic fever causes some 5,000 deaths annually in west Africa, according to World Health Organization figures.—Internet

Five policemen killed in blast in Peshawar of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 11 Aug—At least five policemen were killed and over a dozen others injured when a blast hit a police bus early Thursday morning in Pakistan’s northwest City of Peshawar, reported local Urdu TV channel Geo. According to the local media reports, the blast took place at about 7:00 am local time when a remote-control bomb planted under a pile of fruits along the street in the Lahori Gate area of the city hit a police bus passing by.

There are an estimated 20 police officers on the bus when the blast occurred, said local media reports, adding that about ten shops nearby were also destroyed in the explosion. Police have rushed to the site shortly after the blast was reported. All the injured have been shifted to Lady Reading Hospital, the largest hospital in Peshawar. Some of the injured people are in critical condition, said hospital sources.—Xinhua

Russia claims destroying of over half chemical weapons

MOSCOW, 11 Aug—Russia has destroyed more than half of its stockpiles of chemical weapons and should have the remainder gone by 2015, a senior official said Wednesday. So far some 21,000 tons of chemical weapons had been destroyed, Vasily Bogomolov, deputy director of the Federal Special Construction Agency, told reporters.

In line with its international obligations, Russia is supposed to destroy 40,000 tons of its chemical weapons by 2015, said Bogomolov who is responsible for construction of facilities for destroying chemical weapons in Russia.

There are at least six chemical weapon destroying facilities in Russia. According to the international convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons, Russia should destroy all its chemical weapons by 29 April, 2012. But it postponed the deadline to 2015 due to a lack of funding.—Xinhua

Asia’s giants exposed to natural disasters

PARIS, 11 Aug—The United States and Japan have the highest bills to pay from natural disasters, but Asia’s emerging giants — China, India and Indonesia — are proportionately at greater risk from them, a survey said on Thursday.

British risk assessors Maplecroft ranked 196 countries according to their economic exposure to earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, landslides, floods, storms and wildfires.

Four nations — the United States, ranked first, followed by Japan, China and Taipei — were deemed at “extreme risk” in absolute terms, which means the overall cost in dollar terms from a disaster.

Seven other countries (Mexico, India, the Philippines, Turkey, Indonesia, Italy and Canada) were rated as “high risk” in absolute terms. But a different picture emerged when countries were assessed for their social and economic ability to cope with a disaster.

China, India, the Philippines and Indonesia were all in the high risk category, while the United States and Japan were rated low risk.—Internet

Fighters who shot down US chopper are alive

KABUL, 11 Aug—The Taliban denied Thursday that the fighters responsible for downing a US helicopter, killing 38 people, had been killed.

The comments came after General John Allen, commander of the NATO-led foreign force in Afghanistan, said Wednesday that the militants responsible had been hunted down and killed in an air strike. But Taliban spokesman Zabullah Mujahid told AFP: “This is not true. After seeing the enemy situation, we contacted the mujahed (fighter) who shot down the helicopter and he’s not dead. He’s busy conducting jihad elsewhere in the country.”

Mujahid added that four Taliban fighters had been killed in the US air strike but not those who shot down the helicopter.—Internet

One NATO soldier killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Aug—A NATO soldier was killed on Wednesday when an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) went off in Afghanistan’s restive southern region, the military alliance said on Thursday.

“An International Security Assistance Force member died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in southern Afghanistan yesterday,” said a statement issued by NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) here.

However, the brief statement did not reveal the nationality of the casualty, only saying it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.

Troops mainly from US, Britain, Canada and Australia have been stationed in the southern region within the framework of ISAF to fight Taliban militants.—Xinhua
**China’s new aircraft carrier no threat to power balance**

**Moscow, 11 Aug—**China’s first aircraft carrier, which set out on a low-profile sea trial Wednesday, will not shift the balance of power in the Asia-Pacific region, a Russian expert says.

The vessel, the former Soviet aircraft carrier *Varyag*, has been totally refitted for its new role as a platform for research and training.

Ruslan Pukhov, president of the Moscow Strategy and Technologies Analysis Centre, told Xinhua that a single aircraft carrier does not alter the power balance in the region.

“It is a matter of both national pride and security,” Pukhov said, adding that the aircraft carrier shows that the Chinese Navy has been developing.

He noted that China has long sought an aircraft carrier as it was the only permanent member of the UN Security Council that had no such warship.

The United States, Britain, France, Russia, Spain, Italy, India, Brazil and Thailand operate a total of 21 aircraft carriers around the world.

The Russian expert pointed out it could be hard to make a aircraft carrier into a feasible combat ship.

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**UN Secretary General’s Message on the International Youth Day**

12 August, 2011

“Change Our World” is more than the theme of this year’s International Youth Day; it is an injunction that should inspire young people at all times.

Far too many of the world’s more than one billion young people lack the education, freedom and opportunities they deserve. Yet despite these constraints – and in some cases because of them – young people are mobilizing in growing numbers to build a better future. Over the past year, they have achieved stunning results, overturning dictatorships and sending waves of hope across regions and around the world.

Young people are gifted with open minds and a keen awareness of emerging trends, and are bringing their energy, ideas and courage to some of the most complex and important challenges facing the human family. They often understand better than older generations that we can transcend our religious and cultural differences in order to reach our shared goals. They are standing up for the rights of oppressed peoples, including those who suffer discrimination based on gender, race and sexual orientation. They are confronting sensitive issues in order to stop the spread of HIV. And they are often the leading proponents of sustainability and green lifestyles.

The international community must continue to work together to expand the horizons of opportunity for these young women and men and answer their legitimate demands for dignity, development and decent work. Failing to invest in our youth is a false economy. Investments in young people will pay great dividends in a better future for all.

This Day marks the end of the International Year of Youth, a milestone in global advocacy by and for the world’s young people. My hope is that this experience will now provide a foundation to go even further in harnessing the talents and energies of young people. To them I say: you have the opportunity to change our world. Seize it.

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**Toll rises to 54 after boat sinks off Comoros**

**Moroni, 11 Aug—**The death toll from Monday’s boat accident off the Indian Ocean islands of Comoros has risen to at least 54, media reports said on Wednesday.

The boat capsized on when it travelled between two islands of the country. The boat set out on Monday night from near the coast of Grande Comore in the southern Comoros island. It was expected to dock at the Anjouan island (Ndzuwani) near Moroni.

The archipelagic country has not been strange to boat sinking over the past years. In 2006, an Al Mubarak ship flying the Comoran flag sank off the Maharoon coast when it left Madagascar.

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**Magnitude 6 quake jolts N Philippines Thursday morning**

**Manila, 11 Aug—**A magnitude 6 earthquake jolted northern Philippines Thursday around 10:56 am, local time, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said.

The epicentre of the earthquake, , was located 23 kilometres northwest of Calayan islands.

The US Geological survey said the earthquake has a depth 20.8 kilometres. The tremor was of tectonic origin.

Phivolcs said intensity two earthquake was felt in the Province of Ilocos Norte.

Phivolcs said there were no reports of loss of lives or damaged to property due to earthquake. The agency doesn’t expect any aftershocks.
‘Amazing’ therapy wipes out leukemia in study

NEW YORK, 11 Aug — Scientists are reporting the first clear success with a new approach for treating leukemia — turning the patients’ own blood cells into assassins that hunt and destroy their cancer cells. They’ve only done it in three patients so far, but the results were striking: Two appear cancer-free up to a year after treatment, and the third patient is improved but still has some cancer. Scientists are already preparing to try the same gene therapy technique for other kinds of cancer.

“It worked great. We were surprised it worked as well as it did,” said Dr Carl June, a gene therapy expert at the University of Pennsylvania. “We’re just a year out now. We need to find out how long these remissions last.” He led the study, published Wednesday by two journals, New England Journal of Medicine and Science Translational Medicine. It involved three men with very advanced cases of chronic lymphocytic leukemia, or CLL. The only hope for a cure now is bone marrow or stem cell transplants, which don’t always work and carry a high risk of death.—Internet

Retail liability may reduce alcohol deaths

ATLANTA, 11 Aug— US researchers say deaths, homicides and injuries drop when retail alcohol establishments are liable for injuries from their intoxicated customers or minors. The Community Preventive Services Task Force — an independent volunteer body of public health and prevention experts — determined commercial host liability, otherwise known as dram shop liability, can be an effective intervention for reducing alcohol-related harms.

A dram shop is any retail establishment where alcohol is sold. Dram shop liability refers to laws that provide for the liability of retail establishments that sell alcohol for the injuries or harms caused by their intoxicated or underage customers, the experts said. The task force, which conducted a systematic review of all available studies, found that these types of laws — in 44 states and the District of Columbia — encouraged more responsible beverage serving because managers and servers have an incentive to more closely manage their beverage service to intoxicated and underage customers.—Internet

Analysis: US mail aims to stamp out loss, deliver digital future

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug—The US Postal Service has its eye on a digital future, if it can get through its present financial straits. Postal officials and observers say the traditional business of delivering letters, postcards and other First Class mail will inevitably dwindle and may eventually disappear. The agency saw a $3.1 billion net loss in its most recent quarter and has drawn criticism from leaders in Congress and others that it has been slow to modernize.

The agency sees online services and digital advertising as keys to survival, but many of those ideas are in their infancy and would face competition from Google Inc and Apple Inc and others for both customers and developers.

BoA negotiates to sell big China bank stake

HONG KONG, 11 Aug—Bank of America Corp has held exploratory talks with the principal investment funds of Kuwait and Qatar about selling part of its stake in China Construction Bank, sources with direct knowledge of the talks told Reuters.

Bank of America, which owns about 10 percent of CCB’s Hong Kong-listed shares and is scurrying to raise capital for its mortgage-scarred balance sheet, will be contractually free to sell the bank shares after 29 August. They are valued at about $17 billion.

The bank, the largest in the US by assets, is likely to sell half its stake in order to shore up its Tier 1 capital. Analysts believe Bank of America needs about $50 billion to meet new capital requirements. Talks about the Chinese bank have been held with other investors in addition to the Kuwait Investment Authority and the Qatar Investment Authority, the sources said.

It is unclear if any agreement with the sovereign wealth funds or other investors have been cemented.

Bank of America, whose shares have fallen 20 percent in the past week, did not mention the China investment during a widely followed conference call that top executives held Wednesday with thousands of investors.—Reuters

A man carries a hot dog tray during a hot dog eating competition in New York City, in July 2011.—Internet

For Ford, torrid growth in China cools

BEIJING, 11 Aug— A Ford Motor Co executive said slower sales growth in China had begun to affect pricing in the massive Chinese market. “Our Focus sales continue to be strong, but we are seeing some pricing pressure because of the slowdown in growth,” said Joe Hinrichs, Ford President for Asia-Pacific and Africa, the Detroit Free Press reported Wednesday. On an annual basis, car sales were up 6.7 percent in China in July. From January through July sales were up 5.9 percent compared to the same period of 2010. But sales growth has cooled down. In 2010, car sales rose 32 percent to 18.1 million, the newspaper said. Expectations of growing sales in China have been tempered by government restrictions that are designed to relieve traffic congestion on city streets.—Internet

Red meat boosts diabetes risk

NEW YORK, 11 Aug—Two slices of bacon, a hot dog or a serving of deli meat daily has been found to significantly boost the risk of getting type 2 diabetes, a major US study published on Wednesday.

The research by experts at the Harvard School of Public Health represents the largest study of its kind to date and appears in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

Eating 50 grams of processed red meat every day increased a person’s diabetes risk by 51 percent, while eating 100 grams of unprocessed red meat each day, about the size of a deck of cards, boosted the risk by 19 percent.

However, those risks went down if the red meat was substituted with nuts, white meat, low-fat dairy or whole grain proteins.

“Clearly, the results from this study have huge public health implications given the rising type 2 diabetes epidemic and increasing consumption of red meats worldwide,” said senior author Frank Hu.

“The good news is that such troubling risk factors can be offset by swapping red meat for a healthier protein.” The data for the study came from questionnaire responses from more than 204,000 people in US nurses and health professionals’ studies.—Internet

A mail carrier makes his rounds in the Cow Hollow neighbourhood in San Francisco, California on 20 March, 2009.—Internet

“I think the real question is, how do we retain the Postal Service in this competitive communications environment?” said A Lee Fritschler, a George Mason University professor who previously served on the Postal Regulatory Commission.—Internet

Bill Ford Jr, Executive Chairman of the Ford Motor Company introduces the 2011 Ford Focus Electric Car at the 2011 North American International Auto Show at the Cobo Centre in Detroit, on 10 January, 2011.—Internet

BofA negotiates to sell big China bank stake

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Review: Can a smartphone camera do it all?

San Francisco, 11 Aug—If you’re anything like me, your cellphone and its built-in camera is always on you, while your digital camera gathers dust at home.

This wasn’t always the case. Just a few years ago, phone cameras with a lowly 1.3 megapixels were the norm, and photos came out pixelated and poorly lit. No way would you have thought of ditching your regular camera for one of those. But as smartphone makers have increasingly realized the potential of the built-in camera, there’s been a deluge of phones with cameras that can match digital cameras — if they are commercially feasible — could be as tiny as a small book, the team reported in Nature, the British science journal. “It is conceivable a modest-sized quantum computer could eventually look like a smart phone combined with a laser pointer-like device,” said Dietrich Leibfried of the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Scientists head to Arctic Ocean to track acidification

Anchorage, 11 Aug—Scientists from the US Geological Survey will embark next week on an expedition to monitor acidification trends in the Arctic Ocean linked to carbon emissions, the agency said on Wednesday. The USGS scientists will spend seven weeks on a Coast Guard icebreaker, getting as close to the North Pole as possible to take water samples and test for chemical indicators of acidification, officials said.

Carbon emissions are blamed for altering the chemistry of the world’s oceans by making them more acidic, which makes it more difficult for fish and other sea life to grow and live. The Arctic Ocean is considered especially vulnerable to acidification because of the cold temperatures and already-low level of calcium saturation, Lisa Robbins, a USGS oceanographer going on the trip, said in an interview.—Reuters

Quantum super-computing sees microwave breakthrough

Sydney, 11 Aug—Physicists in the United States on Wednesday notched up a lab success in the quest for quantum computers, whose stellar capacities have already earned them the nickname of “super-computers on steroids.”

Atoms can be excited to a quantum condition using microwaves, an advance over larger and bulkier lasers, until now the only way to achieve this.

A new entrant to the market should — and sometimes outperform — low-end dedicated devices in a snap. A new entrant to the market should inspire some more competition in the phone camera sphere: The myTouch 4G Slide smartphone, made by HTC and available through T-Mobile.

NASA’s Mars rover arrives at new site on Martian surface

Washington, 11 Aug— After a journey of almost three years, NASA’s Mars rover Opportunity has reached the Red Planet’s Endeavour crater to study rocks never seen before, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced on Wednesday.

Scientists hope it will find rocks and terrain much older than any other that the time-ravaged robot has examined during its seven years on the red planet.

The US space agency said that Opportunity arrived at the rim of Endeavour on Tuesday. The golf cart-size rover is expected to remain at the 22-kilometre-wide crater for the next few years. “NASA is continuing to write remarkable chapters in our nation’s story of exploration with discoveries on Mars and trips to an array of challenging new destinations,” NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said in a statement. “Opportunity’s findings and data ... will play a key role in making possible future human missions to Mars and other places where humans have not yet been.”

US to test fastest aircraft ever, moves at 13,000mph

New York, 11 Aug—An aircraft will take to the skies on Thursday that flies so fast it would only take 12 minutes for it to travel from LA to New York.

But before you start getting excited about the prospect of the technology being incorporated into the next generation of Boeing or Airbus aircraft, be aware that this is an unmanned machine being developed by the Pentagon’s Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency for military use.

A Wall Street Journal report says that if all goes to plan on Thursday’s flight, the Pentagon’s Falcon Hypersonic Technology Vehicle 2, or HTV-2, could reach speeds of around 13,000mph – that’s 3.6 miles a second.

Weather permitting (a flight scheduled for Wednesday was called off due to bad weather), the test flight will begin on Thursday morning at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California when an Air Force Minotaur IV rocket takes the HTV-2 to the edge of space.
Low-grade utility jade sale to be held at Mani Yadana Jade Hall

By Tin Htwe (MNA)

A worker drives a fork-lift to display low-grade utility jade stones to be sold at the Low-Grade Utility Jade Sale at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.—MNA

The government organized the sale to enable local entrepreneurs to buy low-grade raw utility jade by local currency and make and sell finished jade items such as beads, bracelets, necklaces and statues.

In conclusion, I believe that the sale will help increase the number of jade entrepreneurs with low capitals and private jade entrepreneurs, boost production of value-added jade items in the nation, enhance the economic strength of national gems merchants and contribute towards the circulation of local currency, and create jobs for national people.

Translation: MS

Low-grade utility jade sale to be held at the Low-Grade Utility Jade Sales at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.—MNA

Low-grade utility jade stones are displayed to be sold at the Low-Grade Utility Jade Sales at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.—MNA

The central committee has organized sales many times, but the sale will be the first in which jade lots will be sold by local currency. At the sale, 28 companies, private jade entrepreneurs and joint-venture companies will exhibit 205 jade lots. The sale is expected to draw the attention from about 500 local gems merchants.

The Gems Emporium (Nay Pyi Taw) was in its third time at the Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales last July. In the emporiums, precious stones and jewellery are sold by foreign currency only, drawing attention mostly from foreign gems merchants.

Launched in 1964, the Myanmar Gems Emporium has been held for 82 times. The number of jade lots sold at the emporium is on the increase. Last July Jade, Gems and Pearl Special Sales, 22,317 jade lots were on display, 17,449 of which were bought. Of the sold jade lots, 57.88% were at utility level C and D, and 7.69%, nanjade.

Low-grade C and D stones and jewellery are large in size, but are priced low. So, it is needed to organize separate sales for them. Only then will it be possible for national entrepreneurs to recoup their capitals gems mining and sales and go on their businesses.

The Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee under the Ministry of Mines will stage the Low-Grade Utility Jade Sale at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw from 12 to 16 August with the aim of improving the local market of finished jade items and statues, entitled to exhibit their gems. And those who have permission to mine gems, those with jewellery shop licenses, GT License holders, and registered gems companies can attend the sale to buy the exhibits.

When asked about the Low-Grade Utility Jade Sale, Managing Director U Thein Swe of the Myanmar Gems Enterprise said that previously, the Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee sold jade lots only by foreign currency; that the sales were designed to improve the gems and jewellery market in the nation and ensure raw materials for jade statues, bracelet, necklaces and lockets; that the jade purchased at the sale could be traded in accordance with the rules and regulations in cities such as Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Sagaing; that taxes had been paid for the purchases, so buyers had the right to hold and make jewellery of the purchases; and that jade lots could be bought individually or in groups.

He added that the sale would help improve the finished jade jewellery market and create jobs in the nation; previous to the sale, gems mining companies had to rely on the gems emporiums at which exhibits were sold only by foreign currency; that the sale would ease the burden of its kind staged in Nay Pyi Taw; that national gems entrepreneurs could buy low-grade utility jade and make value-added products; that local gems merchants could buy and trade jade legally; and that entrepreneurs with low capitals could embrace the opportunity to attend the sale and it would help improve the local jewellery market.

Proprietor U Maung Maung Hsan of Mani Shattara Nawarat Ring and Jewellery Shop of Maung Maung Hsan Gems Co Ltd that runs a jewellery shop at the Myanmar Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw said that to hold a low-grade utility jade sale was good news for jewellery shops; that previous to the sale, it was difficult for entrepreneurs with low capital to buy finished jade items in the market, but they could buy raw jade as jade lots would be on sales with local currency; that they would be able to buy all types of jade in a single place; and that national gems merchants would be able to boost production of finished jade items and there would be more job opportunities.

The central committee has organized sales many times, but the sale will be the first in which jade lots will be sold by local currency. At the sale, 28 companies, private jade entrepreneurs and joint-venture companies will exhibit 205 jade lots. The sale is expected to draw the attention from about 500 local gems merchants.

Regarding the sale, Secretary-1 U San Myo of the Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association said that as usual, the association would help the Myanmar Gems Enterprise with weighing, examining and accepting jade exhibits; that the sale was intended for national merchants only, and that was the first
Coordination meeting on holding second…

(from page 1)

Next, respective work committees submitted reports and discussed media coverage by correspondents from foreign news agencies and journalists from local journals at the second regular sessions of Hluttaws.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker made coordination and the meeting came to an end with concluding remarks of the speaker.

On 9 August afternoon, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met chairmen and members of four Pyithu Hluttaw Committees at Hluttaw Building.

It was attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, chairmen, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee and Government Guarantee, Pledges, and Undertakings Vetting Committee, the Director-General of Hluttaw Office, and personnel.

First, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker gave detailed instructions on high qualifications of committee members, and accomplishment of duties in the second session of first Pyithu Hluttaw.

Director-General of Hluttaw Office U Myint Then explained raising of questions, submission of proposals and bills to the Hluttaw meetings and answered queries raised by those present.

The meeting ended with necessary explanations of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.

Basic Education High School upgraded in Shan State

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat formally unveils the signboard of Kyauktalongyi Sub-township BEHS in Taunggyi Township.—MNA

Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat formally unveils the signboard of Kyauktalongyi Sub-township, Taunggyi Township of Shan State yesterday, attended by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat. Shan State Social Affairs Minister Dr Myo Tun, Chairman of Leading Body of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone U Khun San Lwin, State Education Officer U Hla Win formally opened the school. The chief minister unveiled the signboard of the upgraded school and looked around the school.

After the chief minister made a speech, State Finance and Revenue Minister U Khin Maung presented exercise books to the Chairman of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Leading Body.

Flood warning

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Mawlaik 1276 cm has exceeded by 46 cm (about 1.5 ft) above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level 1230 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today.

The water level of Chindwin River at Kalewa 1667 cm has exceeded by 117 cm (about 3.8 ft) above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level 1550 cm during the next 72 hours commencing noon today.

The water level of Sittaung River at Madauk 1195 cm has exceeded by 125 cm (about 4 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1070 cm during the next 72 hours commencing noon today.

The water level of Shwegin River at Shwegin 727 cm has exceeded by 27 cm (about 1 foot) above its danger level 700 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today.

The water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaingyungau 1158 cm has exceeded by 28 cm (about 1 foot) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1130 cm during the next 72 hours commencing noon today.

The water level of Thanlwin River at Hpakan 816 cm has exceeded by 66 cm (about 2.2 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 750 cm during the next 72 hours commencing noon today, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo drives a stake for erecting GSM tower.—MNA

Stake driven for GSM tower in Loikaw

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of GSM tower for extended installation of 4 million lines of 30 million GSM mobile lines project was held at the site for radio station in Loikaw this morning.

Chief Minister of Kayah State U Khin Maung Oo drove stake for construction of the radio station.

In accord with the guidance of the President, the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs has joined hands with private companies to build four GSM stations in Kayah State this year as first year of the five-year plan for installation of 3 million mobile lines. The ministry will install 12,000 GSM lines for the local people by reducing the price to some extent.

MNA
True patriotism

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

Taninthayi Region Chief Minister meets teachers bound for refresher course

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—Chief Minister of Taninthayi Region U Khin Zaw yesterday morning met teachers who will attend the Special Refresher Course No. 76 for Basic Education Teachers, at Basic Education High School No. 1 in Myeik.

Region Education Officer U Than Htay reported on arrangements for teachers.

After presenting cash assistance to the teachers, the Chief Minister visited the language lab, learning centre, computer room, chemistry lab, physics lab and bio lab at the school.—MNA

Kayin State INRD Director issues citizenship scrutiny cards

YANGON, 11 Aug—Director U Thaung Zaw of Kayin State Immigration and National Registration Department together with Staff Officer of Kaykayk Khatik District U Khin Maung Win encouraged staff working to issue citizenship scrutiny cards at Kaykayk Basic Education High School No. 1 on 9 August.

The director handed over 50 citizenship scrutiny cards that were finished within the day to school head U Saw Shwe Kyi.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister meets in-charge engineers in Kayin State

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint met in-charge engineers and departmental officials from state, districts and townships at the office of superintendent engineer of Public Works in Kayin State on 6 August.

The officials reported on condition of roads and bridges in the state and follow-up plans, roads and bridges needed for repair due to natural disaster, organizational set-up, condition of machineries and spending.

The deputy minister left necessary instructions.—MNA

Talk on cultivation methods on 13 August

YANGON, 11 Aug—Myanmar Rice Industry Association (Paddy Producers Group) will organize a talk at RUMFCCI Office Tower in Lanmadaw Township at 9 am on 13 August.

Dr Tun Win (PhD-Agronomy) will give talks on paddy cultivation methods for 100 baskets of paddy per acre production at low cost. Any person interested may attend it.—MNA

Dy EP-1 Minister receives Chinese counselor

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Myint Zaw received Economic and Commercial Counselor Mr Jin Honggen of the People’s Republic of China to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the ministry here today.

They discussed bilateral cooperation in the ongoing hydropower project beneficial to both sides.

It was also attended by directors-general, managing directors and officials concerned from the departments and enterprises under the ministry.—MNA

Regional Chief Minister addresses coordination meeting on rural development and poverty alleviation

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—The coordination meeting between Region Government and district/sub townships on rural development and poverty alleviation was held at Ayeyashwewa Hall in Pathein on 7 and 8 August.

Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung addressed the meeting and region ministers who assumes responsibility as chairmen of working committees submitted reports and analyzed the strength and weakness of the works. The chief minister called for development of agriculture and livestock breeding sectors, environmental conservation, growing of perennial crops and accomplishment of 2011-2012 target plan.—MNA

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye presents agricultural loans to farmers in Wetlet Township

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye attended the ceremony to provide loans for cultivation of monsoon paddy, agricultural input and farming equipment to local farmers by Hlatawmyay Rice Co at Hlataw Village, Wetlet Township yesterday.

The chief minister then inspected construction of Thasit-Thiyi-Thi-Naunggyiai earth road and condition of water level of Chindwin River in Monywa.—MNA

Rural development and poverty alleviation discussed in Ayeyawady Region

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MNA
**Police arrest man in British tabloid hacking probe**

LONDON, 11 Aug—British police said on Wednesday they had arrested a 61-year-old man in their investigation into the phone-hacking scandal at the now-defunct News of the World, part of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp media empire.

Sky News named the arrested man as Greg Miskiw, who ran the News of the World's news desk for many years and was described in a parliamentary committee as being a key link to a private detective at the centre of hacking allegations.

Miskiw, 61, one of the few senior editors at the time of the phone-hacking who had not yet been arrested, told Britain's Channel 4 news last month he was preparing to return from his Florida home to Britain to talk to police.

A Reuters journalist who visited Miskiw’s Florida home in Delray Beach, some 60 miles north of Miami, on Tuesday found it empty.

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**NZ school discovers real skeleton in closet**

WELLINGTON, 11 Aug—Teachers at a New Zealand school received a macabre surprise when they realized a supposedly plastic skeleton to be used in anatomy lessons was actually a real set of human bones, a report said.

Kruger said no one knew how long the skeleton had been at the school, which opened in 1852, the Northern Advocate newspaper reported.

“When we realized it was real, we wanted to do this by poor people, but we didn’t know how, so we phoned the hospital and they suggested we bring it to the police,” she told the newspaper.

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**Peru eyes doubling oil and gas investment**

LIMA, 11 Aug—Peru hopes to aggressively pursue oil and gas investment in the next five years by encouraging exploratory drilling and creating a stable environment for investors, the new oil agency head said on Wednesday.

“This discovery of between $8 billion and $10 billion are already expected for the next five years. We are optimistic that this could very well be doubled,” Aurelio Ochoa, president of state-run Perupetro said in an interview.

Ochoa, a geologist who previously worked as a private consultant, said Peru is one of the few countries classified as “semi-explored” and holds a lot of oil yet to be discovered.

He said an auction for exploration rights to new oil blocks could be held this year. Big multinational firms would come in time, he said, but the government could do more to simplify the process for project approvals in order to attract them. “We have to first prepare the fertile ground for them and they will come sooner or later, obviously we hope sooner,” he said.

“We have to create a virtuous cycle rather than the delays we’ve seen on important sites.” When former President Alan Garcia auctioned off large blocks of the Amazon to oil firms, local communities accused him of ignoring their interests and protested—sometimes violently.—Reuters

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**Liberia seizes ‘worrisome’ amount of arms, ammunition**

MONROVIA, 11 Aug—Liberia has seized a “worrisome” amount of arms and ammunition in the south of the country near the border with Ivory Coast, an official told a Press Conference Wednesday.

“The Bureau of Immigration with maximum support from the Ministry of Justice was successful in retrieving a cache of arms and ammunition through the cooperation of some ex-combatants,” Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization commissioner Chris Massaquoi told journalists.

He did not give details about the former combatants who he said collaborated with state security authorities to find the weapons.

But he added: “This discovery of weapons is worrisome”. The weapons were found in the counties of River Gee, Maryland, Grand Gedeh and Nimba. Some of the weapons were displayed during the Press Conference. They included rockets, machine guns and assault rifles and a large amount of ammunition. “The arms and ammunition were collected by Immigration Special Border Patrol Officers following intensive intelligence gathering in certain towns along the Liberian-Ivorian border, the immigration commissioner said.

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**Colombia arrests top Mexico drug cartel launderer**

BOGOTA, 11 Aug—Colombian police announced the arrest of a woman identified as a top money launderer for Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel and a top aide to the notorious Mexican drug lord Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman.

INTERNET

FILE PHOTO

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Child’s face restored after accident, a first in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 11 Aug—Surgeons have re-attached a large part of the face of a seven year-old child torn in a pitbull attack, Mexico’s State-run Social Security Institute said Tuesday. “This is the first facial replant that has been successfully carried out in the country,” said Juan Francisco Salazar, an institute spokesman in the northern state of Nuevo Leon.

Raul Carrizales, age seven, was attacked by a pitbull on 26 June in the City of Monterrey. The fierce dog tore off a large portion of his lower face. A neighbourhhood watchman who saw the attack picked up the piece of the boy’s face and put it in a plastic bag, and then in a container with water an ice, which allowed surgeons to later fix the boy’s face.

The operation on Carrizales took nearly six hours and involved two general surgeons, two plastic surgeons, two nurses and an anesthesiologist, Salazar said. “The next step is rehabilitation, so that he will again have feeling and movement in his face,” Salazar added.

Rare Philippine parrot seized from boat

MANILA, 11 Aug—Philippine authorities have seized a specimen of one of the world’s rarest parrots, the red-vented cockatoo, after boarding a boat suspected of being involved in illegal wildlife trading, the coastguard said Wednesday.

The critically-endangered red-vented cockatoo, a foot-long (31-centimetre) white parrot found only in the Philippines, was seized along with 71 hill mynahs and 42 blue-naped parrots from a boat at the resort of El Nido. Coastguard and environmental protection officers boarded the vessel on Saturday before it was set to sail for Manila and found the birds, a coastguard statement said.

The authorities are seeking the owners of the cargo, while the boat captain was fined for carrying prohibited goods, it added.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature classifies the red-vented cockatoo, Cacatua haematochroides, as critically endangered and estimates there are only 1,000 left in the wild. It also classifies the blue-naped parrot, Tanygnathus lucionensis, another bird found only in the Philippines, as near-threatened due to trapping and loss of forest habitat.

Madame Tussauds to open in Sydney

A wax figure of actress Nicole Kidman is seen here during a Madame Tussauds exhibition in Hollywood, California, in 2010. Kidman and Hugh Jackman are expected to be among the first Australian stars to feature when waxworks museum Madame Tussauds opens a venue in Sydney next year, according to the company.

The world-famous London attraction will begin welcoming visitors in the Darling Harbour tourist district of the city next May.

“The latest attraction will reflect the franchise’s 200 years of expertise and research, with each figure crafted with both a high level of artistry and accuracy,” the company said on Thursday.

“Most contemporary figures are also produced following sittings with the celebrities themselves, and talks are already well advanced with a number of Australian icons.”

The first Australian to be waxed will be “Home and Away” soap opera actor Ray Meagher, who has played Alf Stewart in the popular series since 1988. Politicians and sports stars are also expected to feature.

There are already branches of the museum in cities across the globe, including Hong Kong, Las Vegas, New York, Amsterdam and Bangkok.

Brazil fears traffickers may have killed natives

RIO BRANCO, 11 Aug—Officials in Brazil have said they had no news of an isolated tribe of Amazonian natives who may have been attacked by suspected Peruvian drug traffickers, amid fears of a bloodbath.

Employees of Brazil’s National Indian Foundation (FUNAI) have been searching for signs of the natives following an attack in late July on the remote Xinane guard post tasked with protecting the tribesmen near the Brazil-Peru border.

“The five employees have still not seen the natives. They fear there was a slaughter but nothing has been confirmed,” a FUNAI spokeswoman in Brasilia told AFP. “The armed men who attacked the guard post are still in the vicinity, as FUNAI employees have seen fresh footprints.”

In January, Brazil allowed the release of rare photographs of the natives — astonishing images taken by FUNAI showing adults and children peering skyward with their faces dyed reddish-orange and touting bows, arrows and spears.

FUNAI says there are dozens of tribes in Brazil that do not have sustained contact with the outside world. Some are often referred to as “uncontacted” tribes. Only 30 of them have been identified.

Trove of wild skins and skulls seized in Australia

SYDNEY, 11 Aug—Orangutan, lion and bear skulls were among hundreds of illegal wildlife products seized in a raid on a property in Sydney, the Australian environment department said on Thursday. Investigators also discovered the skins of a lynx and an Alaskan wolf, as well as numerous other skulls and pieces of ivory, in the haul of almost 400 items. “Operation Bonaparte is one of the largest wildlife seizures in Australia, and follows detailed monitoring and investigative work by departmental officers,” department spokeswoman Deb Callister said. The raid at a house in the suburb of Parra-matta on Wednesday also uncovered a variety of weapons, including two walking canes containing hidden swords, flick knives and cross bows.

A 41-year-old man was charged with weapons offences and is due to appear in court on 31 August. No charges have yet been laid over the wildlife stash. Trade in many of the items that were discovered in the property is strictly regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Offences can carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail.
No man is perfect and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was also a man. Want to know FLAWS and INCONSISTENCIES found in Sherlock Holmes stories? Read "How Conan Doyle Got Slipshod In Some Sherlock Holmes Stories" BY Win Myint Han of Myanmar

Available at leading bookstalls

Bark cloth and tool of the Hani ethnic groups in southwest China's Yunnan Province are seen at the exhibited barkcloth at an exhibition showing the origins of the clothes in south China's Hong Kong, on 4 Aug. 2011. The exhibition "Origins of Clothes - Barkcloth" kicked off at the Chinese University of Hong Kong on Thursday.—XINHUA

Russian meteorologists report ice reduction in Arctic

MOSCOW, 11 Aug—The Arctic is getting warmer at a fast pace with the Russian Arctic sector's ice area contracting to historically low levels, according to Russian meteorological bureau Rosgidromet. According to a Rosgidromet report cited by Interfax news agency Saturday, the polar cap in the Russian sector has shrunk to the historical low registered in 2007, with no ice expected to block the Northern Seaway at least until September.

"Currently, Arctic navigation conditions are very favorable. By early August, navigation can be done without icebreakers almost along the entire route," said Valery Martyshchenko, head of Rosgidromet's environmental pollution monitoring department.

Gold hits record on US rating cut

CHICAGO, 11 Aug—Gold futures on the COMEX Division of the New York Mercantile Exchange on Monday hit an all-time record after Standard & Poor's cut the US credit rating, triggering wide concerns over the world's largest economy.

The most active gold contract for December delivery surged 61.4 US dollars, or 3.7 percent, to 1,713.2 dollars per ounce, the highest closing in history. The metal's price hit up to 1,721.9 dollars during the intraday trading. "Another unbelievable move in the Gold market!" said Mike Daley, a senior gold analyst with PFGBest Group. "The Standard and Poor's downgrade for the United States credit rating was the fuel that propelled this rally to historic levels."

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZENOVIA VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZENOVIA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.8.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: CITIC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD

CHINA

Phone No: 256924/256914

Junk food still stars in TV ads seen by kids

NEW YORK, 11 Aug—Children are seeing fewer sugary, fatty foods advertised on TV, but unhealthy fare still makes up the bulk of food commercials they see, a new study suggests.

What's more, researchers found, children were actually seeing more fast-food commercials in 2009 compared with six years earlier.

The study, reported in the Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, was aimed at gauging the effects of a voluntary food industry initiative to calls from the Federal Trade Commission and the Institute of Medicine for greater self-regulation of food advertising to children. It now includes 17 companies, including Coca-Cola, Kraft Foods, General Mills and Kellogg — that have pledged to improve the nutritional content of the ads they run during programs geared mainly for kids younger than 12.

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8-foot pot plant in blind woman’s yard

While searching for two suspects, detectives in South Carolina discovered an 8-foot tall marijuana plant growing in a blind woman’s yard, police said.

Sheriffs came across the plant growing near a shed in the 57-year-old homeowner’s yard while tracking down suspects in an unrelated case Monday in Rock Hill, SC, WBTV, Charlotte, reported.

The woman told police officers she is legally blind and was unaware of the plant in the yard. She said her boyfriend, Daniel Matthew Ashworth, 48, did all of the landscaping in her yard. When police caught up with Ashworth, he admitted to them that he was growing the plant, saying that he was “just experimenting with growing it.” He also told police that he didn’t use marijuana. Police were granted permission to search the blind woman’s home, and that he didn’t use marijuana. Police were granted permission to search the blind woman’s home, and found no other drugs there. The 8-foot plant was taken in as evidence. Ashworth was arrested and charged with producing marijuana.

Ring recovered from repairman’s stomach

Authorities in Illinois said they used medication to recover a diamond ring from a Chicago repairman accused of swallowing it while working on a suburban home.

Cicero town spokesman Ray Hanania said an X-ray confirmed Wilfredo Gonzalez-Cruz, 30, of Chicago, swallowed the Cicero woman’s ring Friday and he was given medication to “force the expulsion of the ring” and placed in a rubber room with bedpans, the Chicago Sun-Times reported Wednesday.

Hanania said the ring was recovered Monday.

Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez said Gonzalez-Cruz, 30, allegedly took the ring Friday while in the bathroom of the owner’s home, WMAQ-TV, Chicago, reported.

Alvarez said the woman noticed her ring missing and told her husband, who confronted Gonzalez-Cruz. The prosecutor said Gonzalez-Cruz allegedly swallowed the ring while struggling with the woman’s husband.

Woman blows off fingers with fireworks

Police in Florida said a woman attempting to use fireworks to wake up her boyfriend ended up losing three fingers.

The Gainesville Police Department said the 36-year-old woman, a resident of Georgetown apartments, had planned to light the fireworks novelty item and throw it out the front door to wake her boyfriend with the resulting noise, but the item exploded while still in her hand, The Gainesville Sun reported Wednesday.

Police said the explosion tore off the woman’s thumb, middle and ring fingers. They said a bone remnant was found lodged in the apartment’s ceiling.

The woman was taken to Shands at the University of Florida for treatment. The boyfriend told police the couple had been drinking alcohol the previous evening.

Pay TV industry loses record number of subscribers

NEW YORK, 11 Aug—The Pay TV industry first showed a small net loss of subscribers a year ago. This year, that trickle has turned into a stream. The chief cause appears to be persistently high unemployment and a housing market that has many people living with their parents, reducing the need for a separate cable bill.

But it’s also possible that people are canceling cable, or never signing up in the first place, because they’re watching cheap Internet video. Such a threat has been hanging over the industry. If that’s the case, viewers can expect more restrictions on online video, as TV companies and Hollywood studios try to make sure that they get paid for what they produce.—Internet

8-foot pot plant in blind woman’s yard

In this 30 July, 2008 file photo illustration, a silhouetted coaxial cable is displayed in Philadelphia. The weak economy is hitting Americans where they spend a lot of their free time: at the TV set.

INTERNET

Madonna’s daughter Lola discusses fashion line

NEW YORK, 11 Aug—Even though she’s got her own fashion line, Lourdes Leon — better known to the masses as Lola, the daughter of Madonna — admits that she had a lot to learn when she first launched the Material Girl brand.

“It was really hard at first because I didn’t know what I was doing,” Lola, dressed in a tank top and jean cutoffs, said in a recent interview. “I was like, ‘You know, not a lot of people wear this. Let me just wear it.’ It wasn’t even that it looked good on me. I was just like, ‘Let me do this because not a lot of people are doing it.’ Now I feel like I can follow fashion a lot better than I used to, but also have some of my own take on it.”

Her learning curve is understandable: After all, she’s just 14. But she’s already a fashion star with Material Girl, which is geared toward teens and sold at Macy’s Inc stores. The line, which she launched with her mother last year, is now branching out into cosmetics, undergarments and nail polish.—Internet

In this 2 Aug, 2011, publicity image released by Material Girl, Lourdes “Lola” Leon, the daughter of pop star Madonna, is shown at the launch of the Material Girl beauty collection in New York.

INTERNET

‘Glee: The 3D Concert Movie’ not just about music

LOS ANGELES, 11 Aug—Concert movies typically offer a peek into the private moments of a pop star’s life. “Michael Jackson: This Is It” revealed the entertainer’s perfectionist tendencies, and sly sense of humour. “Justin Bieber: Never Say Never” showed the teen singer’s drive for success.

But “Glee: The 3D Concert Movie,” opening Friday, is an 83-minute romp with the fictional characters who populate the Fox TV series. It’s multi-purposing at its finest: Stars Lea Michele, Cory Montteth, Kevin McHale, Chris Colfer, Amber Riley, Heather Morris and the rest maintain their “Glee” personas while performing hits from the show during the concert tour that travelled the country earlier this summer.

INTERNET

Ring recovered from repairman’s stomach

‘Glee: The 3D Concert Movie’ not just about music

Man gets master’s degree on 90th birthday

Florida Atlantic University said a man became the oldest person to get a degree from the school when he received his master’s on his 90th birthday.

The Boca Raton school said Menachem Henri Hager of Fort Lauderdale received his master’s in liberal studies Tuesday, his 90th birthday, and became the oldest person ever to receive a degree from the school, the South Florida Sun Sentinel reported Wednesday.

FAU President Mary Jane Saunders described Hager during the ceremony as “a true inspiration to us all.”

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**Ligament injury sidelines Man Utd’s Bebe**

LONDON, 11 Aug — Manchester United’s on-loan winger Bebe has been sidelined for around six months after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee, Turkish club Basaklasis said Wednesday.

Bebe, 21, was injured while playing for Portugal under-21s in Slovakia on Tuesday and will require surgery, the Turkish first division club said in a statement on its website.

Club doctor Devrim Uygur said: “We have been informed that Bebe has a tear on his anterior cruciate ligament. We have contacted officials at his club Manchester United. We will make a joint decision over the operation should take place.”

**Goetze dazzles as Germany slay Brazil in style**

MUNICH, 11 Aug — Germany’s young guns proved they are fast becoming a force to be reckoned with as they turned on the style to beat Brazil 3-2 here on Wednesday with rising star Mario Goetze in dazzling form.

This is the first time Germany have beaten Brazil for 18 years and only the fourth time the hosts have beaten the South American giants in 21 meetings.

After a goalless first half penalty by Bayern Munich’s Bastian Schweinsteiger and a super individual effort from Goetze put the game beyond Brazil’s Robinho converted a penalty on 71 minutes.

**Schalke coach insists Huntelaar not for sale**

Schalke 04 coach Ralf Rangnick said on Wednesday that the club’s top scorer is not for sale despite a report in German magazine Sport-Bild which claimed the Russians want to sign Huntelaar.

“Klaas has a contract with us, so there’s no reason for me to think about it,” Rangnick said on Wednesday when asked about a report in German magazine Sport-Bild which claimed the Russians want to sign Huntelaar.

“I don’t plan on selling any player in my squad, unless they come up to me and say they want to leave the club.”

Huntelaar scored four goals in Schalke’s 11-hammering of m Saunders Teningen in the first-round of the German Cup ten days ago and netted eight goals in 24 league games for the Royal Blues last season.

**Japan beat South Korea in friendly**

TOKYO, 11 Aug — Dortmund midfielder Shinji Kagawa returned to international action with two goals to lead Japan to a 3-0 win over South Korea on Wednesday in a warm-up game for World Cup qualifiers next month.

The 22-year-old Japan’s forward Shinji Kagawa (C) scores a second goal against South Korea during their international friendly match in Stuttgart, southern Germany.

Japan got off to a flying start in the second half when CSKA Moscow star Keisuke Honda struck home from Hiroshi Kiyotake, who was making his debut for the Blue Samurai, in the 53rd minute.

Gregarious Kagawa, who broke a metatarsal bone against South Korea at the Asian Cup in January and missed the rest of the season as a result, averaged it by opening the scoring in the 35th minute.

**Wozniacki latest seed blown out of Toronto Cup**

TORONTO, 11 Aug — World number one Caroline Wozniacki headlined the parade of seeded players to fall at the Toronto Cup with a shock loss Wednesday while Maria Sharapova and Serena Williams moved into the last 16.

Defending champ Wozniacki rarely looked comfortable on court and did not live up to her top seeding with seven double faults and a slew of errors during a 6-4 7-5 loss to Italy’s Roberta Vinci in windy conditions that played havoc with her game.

A day after second seed Kim Claspers dealt the tournament a blow by retiring from her opening match with a partial tear of a stomach muscle, it was Wozniacki’s turn for a premature exit.

**Keane backs Man Utd for EPL title**

LONDON, 11 Aug — Manchester United legend Roy Keane believes his old club will romp to the Premier League title as their rivals fall by the wayside, it was reported Wednesday.

The outspoken Irish midfielder said United were firm favourites to retain the Premier League crown and dismissed the chances of Chelsea, Liverpool and Arsenal.

Even Sir Alex Ferguson said the other day the league’s getting tougher. But I don’t think so,” Keane said.

“If United are really at it, which they will be, they’ll win it comfortably. Even last year when United were slipping up, no team was strong enough to take advantage of it.”

Keane said the arrival of Chelsea manager Andre Villas-Boas would not be enough to turn around the London club’s fortunes.

**Mersey rivals united in calls for end to rioting**

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Keane said the arrival of Chelsea manager Andre Villas-Boas would not be enough to turn around the London club’s fortunes.

“The city has made incredible progress over the past few years and no-one wants to see our restored reputation damaged by what we have witnessed over the last couple of days. For everyone’s sake let’s stop this now and pull together for the benefit of the whole community,” he said.
Cyclist Gilbert edging closer to BMC

Belgian cycling star Philippe Gilbert, seen here in July 2011, is edging closer to signing for American team BMC, according to Belgian Press reports quoting the rider’s manager Vincent Wathelet.

INTERNET

BRUSSELS, 11 Aug.—Belgian cycling star Philippe Gilbert is edging closer to signing for American team BMC, according to Belgian Press reports quoting the rider’s manager Vincent Wathelet.

“It’s come down to Quick Step and BMC,” said Wathelet in a report by Het Laatste Nieuws Thursday.

Despite not being a three-week stage racer Gilbert, a 29-year-old French-speaking Belgian whose specialities are hilly one-day classics, is currently one of the hottest properties on the market.

Earlier this season Gilbert became only the second rider to win all three ‘Ardennes Classics’ with victory in the Amstel Gold Race, Fleche Wallonne and Liege-Bastogne-Liege.

He went on to win the opening stage of the Tour de France in imperious fashion to wear the yellow jersey for a day and, a week after the three-week epic, added the San Sebastian Classic to his growing list of victories.

Wathelet added: “On Tuesday we held discussions with (Quick Step manager) Patrick Lefevere and next week we will speak to (BMC manager) John Lelangue.

“But if it’s coming down to sporting criteria, it’s clear; BMC are ahead of the pack.”

“Sporting criteria are very important for Philippe and the Tour de France has reassured him.”

Cadel Evans won the Tour de France yellow jersey last month to become the first Australian winner of the race, helped by a BMC team which was one of the most dominant and well-disciplined in the race.

Earlier this week the American outfit signed Norway’s reigning world champion Thor Hushovd, a friend and training partner of Gilbert, from Garmin-Cervelo.

Gilbert’s current team Omega-Pharma are set to merge with Quick Step at the end of the season.—INTERNET

Weather forecast for 12th August, 2011

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<th>Minimum Temperature (°C)</th>
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State of the Sea Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35 to 40) mph.

Weather forecast for 12th August, 2011

Friday, 12 August

View on today

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
7:25 am
2. Healthy Exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning News
7:40 am
4. Dhamma Puja Song
7:50 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song
8:00 am
6. Health Programme
8:10 am
7. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies
8:20 am
8. Documentary
8:35 am
9. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition
8:40 am
10. International News
8:45 am
11. Musical Programme
4:00 pm
1. Martial Song
4:10 pm
2. Musical Programme
4:20 pm
3. Songs of National Races
4:30 pm
4. Myanmar Language
4:45 pm
5. Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition
4:50 pm
6. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Third Year (Physics)
5:05 pm
7. Songs for Upholding National Spirit
5:10 pm
8. Teleplay (Health)
5:20 pm
9. Songs of Yester Years
5:30 pm
10. Images of Innocent Children
6:00 pm
11. Evening News
6:15 pm
12. Weather Report
6:20 pm
13. Internet Garden
7:10 pm
14. TV Drama Series
8:00 pm
15. News
16. International News
17. Weather Report
18. Just For Laughs (Gags Asia)
19. TV Drama Series
20. Song Lover

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule (12-8-2011) (Friday)

Transmissions: 09:00am: 11:00am: 09:30am - 13:00pm: 09:30am

Local Transmission

- Opening
- News
- Fad and Fashion of Myanmar Cotton Ware
- Community Forest
- News
- 44th ASEAN Day Flag Raising Ceremony
- VCD Centre
- News
- Inle’s Beauty for Eternity
- The 9th ASEAN Forum on Coal Council Meeting
- News
- MI People’s Celebrities “Creation with Colours”
- Myanmar’s Beverages Gaining International Credit
- News
- News
- Youth of the Future (Episode-5) (Vocalist)
- News
- Music Gallery
- Myanmar Earthen Pots
- News
- Culture Stage
- News
- Myanmar Movies “Myself Others, Men & Women”

Overseas Transmission

- Opening
- News
- Fad and Fashion of Myanmar Cotton Ware
- Community Forest
- News
- 44th ASEAN Day Flag Raising Ceremony
- VCD Centre
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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

Myanmar workers in foreign countries must be protected in accord with Cebu declaration

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Rare animals to be shown off in Safari Park (Nay Pyi Taw), zoological gardens
A total of 60 rare animals to be shown off in Safari Park were imported from South Africa and Holland on 29 November last year. The new arrivals will be put on show to public within days after domesticating them in respective zoological gardens.—MNA

Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi
addresses first coordination meeting of Overseas Employment Supervisory Committee.

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—The first work coordination meeting of Overseas Employment Supervisory Committee took place at the Ministry of Labour here yesterday morning. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of the committee Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyi said that the committee is implementing the guidelines included in the President speech to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30 March this year that efforts are to be made to enable Myanmar workers both at home and abroad to enjoy legal rights. The main duties of the committee newly formed by the Union Government include the choosing and sending of workers by the Labour Ministry, choosing and sending of sailors by the Transport Ministry and the Home Affairs Ministry’s security of overseas job applications. Beside those duties, protection of Myanmar workers in foreign countries must be highlighted in accord with Cebu declaration. Now, work committees will be formed to support the committee and adoption of future work programmes will be discussed, said the Union Minister.

At the meeting, three work committees were formed and 12 work programmes were laid down.

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A Boeing chartered plane carrying 58 rare animals of ten different species taken from South Africa for Safari Park (Nay Pyi Taw) and zoological gardens of Forest Department under the Ministry of Forestry arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport on 9 August. A pair of lions and a pair of tigers will be caged in Zoological Gardens (Yangon) and another pair of tigers in Zoological Garden (Yadanabon) while the rest will be in Safari Park and Zoological Gardens in Nay Pyi Taw. A total of 60 rare animals to be shown off in Safari Park were imported from South Africa and Holland on 29 November last year. The new arrivals will be put on show to public within days after domesticating them in respective zoological gardens.—MNA

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MNA