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The following is a translation of the announcement.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Government
Announcement No. 1/2011
4th Waning of Wagaung 1373 ME
(18 August 2011)

Invitation to peace talks

1. The Government firmly believes that the State hand in hand with the entire people, upholding Our Three Main National Causes, need to pursue regional development by putting an end to armed insurrection to make internal peace in order to build a peaceful, developed nation.

2. As the first phase, those national race armed groups wishing to make peace through solutions to armed conflicts may contact the State or Region government concerned group-wise to launch preliminary programmes.

3. Upon completion of the preliminary programmes, the government will form a team for peace talks. It is hereby announced that the government invites national race armed groups to peace talks.

By order
(Tin Myo Kyi)
Secretary
Union Government

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Finance and Revenue
Notification No. 156/2011
Nay Pyi Taw
4th Waning of Wagaung 1373 ME
(18 August 2011)

1. Exercising the power bestowed upon it in accordance with Section 4 of Income Tax Law, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue hereby announced this notification under the resolution passed at Meeting No. 18/2011 of the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 18 August 2011.

2. According to the provision manifested in paragraph 4 of Notification No. 123/2006 dated 5-6-2006 of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, the income tax levied in foreign currency on incomes of foreign exchange of the enterprises run with CMP system from 10% to 2%.

3. This notification shall be in effect for a period of six months from 19 August 2011 to 18 February 2012.

(Hla Tun)
Union Minister

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Finance and Revenue
Notification No. 157/2011
Nay Pyi Taw
4th Waning of Wagaung 1373 ME
(18 August 2011)

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2. According to the provisions manifested in paragraph 2 (b) and paragraph 3 of Notification No. 124/2006 dated 5-6-2006 of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, the income tax levied in foreign currency on incomes of salaries in foreign exchange of nationals and foreigners living in the nation from 10% to 2%.

3. This notification shall be in effect for a period of six months from 19 August 2011 to 18 February 2012.

(Hla Tun)
Union Minister

Loving-kindness

* Loving-kindness is an extreme attribute as well as one of the Ten Perfections.
* Loving-kindness embodies absolute innocence, peace, unity and affection.
* Loving-kindness means benevolence to all without discrimination against or in favour of particular one.
* Loving-kindness represents being radiant with pervasive mood of peace and ecstasy.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall
(18-8-2011)

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Iraqis inspect the site of a bombing in Kirkuk, Iraq, on 15 Aug, 2011. Bomb blasts ripped through more than a dozen Iraqi cities Monday morning, killing scores of people.

‘Living fossil’ eel found in Pacific Ocean

Union A&I Minister U Myint Hlaing attends ceremony to provide cash assistance to farmers of Dekkhinathiri Township for cultivation of monsoon paddy.

Russia’s 5G fighter makes first demonstration flight
Build peaceful and prosperous society

Today is time to build a new nation through democracy with the fulfillments in political, economic, social, education and health sectors. Earnest efforts are to be made to overcome various challenges while grasping the good opportunity.

The government has been carrying out the tasks for public wellbeing and economic opportunity in over four months after being elected by the public. Especially, efforts are being made in undertaking the tasks for enabling the rural farmers, odd-job earners and vendors in urban and rural areas to enjoy the benefits.

In meeting with responsible persons from economic and social fields, associations and organizations in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 August, President U Thein Sein pointed out, “Upholding Our Three Main National Causes, we will address the issue in accordance with the constitution. Any individuals and organizations in the nation that have different views from the government should not take account of disagreements and we always invite them to work with us for common goals in the national interests.”

Myanmar is a Union constituted with mini-unions. Myanmar is teeming with natural resources blessed with favourable weather and fertile soil. It is owned by all the citizens. All the people are responsible for safeguarding the nation not to lose national unity and solidarity that has been flourishing for many years. All the people are to be peaceful and prosperous for the nation and need to build a fine society for generation to follow.

In the successive periods, our country had to take so long time, dealing with issues of instability and unrest, which was merely a sheer waste of time. All the people lost so long precious time to strive for development of the State. Today, all the people should have stopped quarreling with each other, and individuals and organizations should no longer find fault and put blame on each other.

While building the nation in new era, all honest and innocent persons with good attitude love the mother land. All the national people living in the same place through thick and thin are to build a peaceful and prosperous society through full strength of solidarity.

U Tint Swai accredited to Italy

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Tint Swai, Director-General of the ASEAN Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Italian Republic.—MNA

U Myo Aye accredited to Israel

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Myo Aye as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the State of Israel.—MNA

US-based Caterpillar to sell heavy machineries

Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin received Director Mr William Chan Robert of the US-based Caterpillar Global Construction and Infrastructure and part at his office here on 16 August. The director discussed distribution of Caterpillar engines, machineries and spare parts with the deputy minister. Also present at the call were the managing-director of Public Works, the deputy managing-director (Planning) and the deputy chief engineer (Mechanical) and departmental personnel. —MNA

CBM, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp focus on development of banking services

Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein receives Chief Representative Mr Yoshiyuki Morii of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Yangon Representative Office.

TV set, generator and Sky Net receiver, accessories donated to self-reliant libraries

Township Administrator in Pruso, yesterday Kayah State Minister for Electric Power and Industry U Saw Hu Hu made a speech. State Hluttaw Representative U Richard and wellwishers presented TV set, generator and Sky Net receiver and accessories to responsible persons of villages.

The activities of Nutrition Week 2011 was launched at Mohnyin District Hospital on 7 August. The Chairperson and members of District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee present iron tablets, B1 tablets and iodized salt to expectant mothers.—NLM 001
Russia's 5G fighter makes
demonstration flight

MOSCOW, 18 Aug—Russia's Sukhoi T-50 fifth
generation fighter performed its first demonstration
flight at an international aviation show Wednesday.
Experts at the MAKS 2011 International
Aviation and Space Show said the
pilots did not perform
any aerobatic stunts
because the plane was
still going through a series of test flights.

It was important for the manufacturers to
show that "the plane no
longer exists just on paper, but is fleshed out in
metal and up in the air". The T-50, developed
under the programme Future Aviation System
for Tactical Air Force at Sukhoi, will be the jewel in the Russian air force
crown.

The service has relied on the Mikoyan MiG-29 and Sukhoi Su-27 family of combat aircraft as the core of its fighter force since the mid-1980s, but these aircraft are seen as approaching obsolescence, officials said.

The T-50 is Russia's first new major combat
craft since the fall of the Soviet Union. When an
operational fighter based on it is put into service, possibly as soon as 2015, it will be the Russian Air Force's first stealth aircraft, featuring low-
observable technology that makes it almost impossible to detect with radar.

Like its US counterpart, the F-22 Raptor, it will be able to cruise at supersonic speeds, and be capable of pulling high-G manoeuvres that older aircraft cannot match thanks to thrust-vectoring exhaust nozzles and a hi-tech flight control system.

The T-50 made its first flight at the Komsomolsk-on-Amur factory airfield in Siberia in January, and since then two prototypes have been undergoing flight tests at the Zhukovsky flight test centre near Moscow.

Four police officers killed in explosion
in Colombia

BOGOTA, 18 Aug—Four police officers were killed and three others were wounded on Wednesday when an explosive device went off in Narino Province, in southern Colombia, bordering Ecuador.

The incident, occurring five days after a similar device exploded near the Colombia-Ecuador border, killed three policemen and one policewoman when they were driving in Inda Zabalela to set up a checkpoint.

The three injured were receiving medical attention in hospital.

According to the primary investigation, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the country's largest rebel group, was blamed for the attack, which was believed to be an act of revenge for the arrest of one of its members.

The government was to set up a special security council to find out the culprit and strengthen regional security.

Two killed, seven injured in blast near NATO base in E Afghanistan

GARDEZ (Afghanistan), 18 Aug—Two local guards were killed and seven people were injured on Thursday when a car bomb went off near a NATO base in Gardez, the provincial capital of eastern Pakistan Province, an official said.

"I do confirm so far two local security guards were killed in a car bomb blast near the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) run by NATO troops in Gardez City," spokesman for the local government, Rohullah Saimoon told Xinhua.

He said seven local workers, who were waiting near the entry gate of the PRT base, were also injured in the blast that occurred at around 8:00 am (GMT 0330) Thursday in Gardez City, some 100 km south of capital City of Kabul.

Security personnel have cordoned off the area in precautionary measures and the injured people have been shifted to a nearby hospital. No group has claimed responsibility for the incident so far.—Xinhua

Massive raids nab 17 gang
members in Southern California

LOS ANGELES, 18 Aug—A multi-agency task force has arrested 17 members from five rival gangs in massive raids conducted in Southern California on Wednesday morning, authorities said.

The gang members, many of them Cambodian, were found to have involved in several home invasion burglaries and other related thefts. They were taken into custody by officers at 47 locations in the Long Beach area and Orange County. Six handguns and narcotics including methamphetamine, Ecstasy and marijuana were seized by authorities.—Xinhua

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Fifteen people killed, six vehicles
torched in Karachi

KARACHI, 18 Aug—At least 15 more people were killed and some half a dozen vehicles were torched in Karachi as the city's downtown and surrounding areas changed into a battle ground, where gangsters propelled rockets and hurled hand grenades freely, besides engaging in intense exchange of fire.

Former Pakistan People's Party (PPP) MNA Waja Karim Dad and his friend Sadruddin Bhai, who were sitting along with other friends at a hotel located near Jamaat Khana Punjabi Club in the remits of Jackson police station, were shot dead. Police said that the deceased were breaking their fast when motorcyclists arrived on the spot and opened fire on them, the

Daily Times reports. Later, unidentified armed men, mounted on a motorcycle, opened indiscriminate firing at a food stall, where people were sitting for Iftari near Achi Qabar Mithadhar. One person died on the spot while six others received injuries. The incidents added fuel to an already tense situation persisting in Lyari and the surrounding areas, where five bullet-riddled dead bodies were spotted on Wednesday.

Five out of seven dead bodies found from different areas during the early hours on Wednesday belonged to Lyari.
US FDA approves new drug for skin cancer

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug — The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Wednesday approved Zelboraf (vemurafenib) to treat patients with late-stage (metastatic) or unresectable (cannot be removed by surgery) melanoma, the most dangerous type of skin cancer.

Zelboraf is specifically indicated for the treatment of patients with melanoma whose tumours express a gene mutation called BRAF V600E. The BRAF protein is normally involved in regulating cell growth, but is mutated in about half of the patients with late-stage melanomas. Zelboraf is a BRAF inhibitor that is able to block the function of the V600E-mutated BRAF protein.

The FDA approved the drug based on a 675-patient study in which patients received either Zelboraf or a chemotherapy drug. The study is ongoing, but 77 percent of people on Zelboraf are still alive, compared with 64 percent of those taking the older drug.

The most common side effects reported in patients receiving Zelboraf included joint pain, rash, hair loss, fatigue, nausea, and skin sensitivity when exposed to the sun, according to the FDA. Zelboraf is marketed by South San Francisco-based Genentech, a member of the Roche Group.

Melanoma is the leading cause of death from skin disease. The National Cancer Institute estimated that 68,130 new cases of melanoma were diagnosed in the United States during 2010 and about 8,700 people died from the disease.—Xinhua

China Mobile 1H profit rises to $9.6 billion

SHANGHAI, 18 Aug — China Mobile Ltd, the world’s biggest phone company by subscribers, said Thursday its first-half profit rose 6.3 percent as sales were boosted by greater usage of mobile Internet devices.

The Beijing-based company said profit was 61.3 billion yuan ($9.6 billion) for the six months ended 30 June. Revenue climbed 8.8 percent to 250.1 billion yuan ($39 billion).

China Mobile added 32.8 million customers in the first half for a total of 610 million at the end of June.

The company has thrived as Chinese enthusiastically switched from fixed-line telephones to mobile phones, though customer growth has slowed from previous double-digit rates as the market has become saturated.

Beijing enthusiastically switched from fixed-line telephones to mobile phones, though customer growth has slowed from previous double-digit rates as the market has become saturated.

China Mobile also leads the market for so-called third-generation mobile services with 35.03 million 3G customers as of 30 June. Internet

Children with kidney disease face many health woes

New York, 18 Aug — Poor growth, heart problems and delays in puberty are among the problems experienced by children with mild to moderately impaired kidney function, new research says.

The study of 586 children with chronic kidney disease also found that even when some of them took medications to treat these health problems, including high blood pressure and metabolic issues, the conditions became more common as kidney function decreased.

The study appears online in the August issue of the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology.

“We were hoping to identify risk factors for CKD progression and see if these can be targeted to slow the decline of kidney function and prevent its complications,” study author Dr Susan Furth, of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, said in a journal news release.

“Our findings suggest that more aggressive interventions to improve blood pressure and metabolic abnormalities may be areas where interventions could slow chronic kidney disease progression and decrease the prevalence of cardiovascular disease in children and young adults with chronic kidney disease,” Furth said.

The next step for Furth and colleagues is to use the findings from this study to design clinical trials with more aggressive interventions.—Internet

Chew Sugarless Gum

Bacteria that contribute to dental plaque crave sugar. These bacteria produce plaque acids that aid in tooth decay by breaking down tooth enamel.

Chewing sugarless gum, however, can help promote a healthier mouth, the American Dental Association says. The ADA mentions these possible benefits of chewing sugarless gum:

Chewing helps boost the production of saliva, which can help wash away acids that can damage teeth.

Increased saliva includes more calcium and phosphate, which can help strengthen tooth enamel.

Sugarless gum contains sweeteners — such as aspartame, sorbitol or mannitol — that don’t contribute to cavities.—Internet

The logo of the Swiss drugmaker Roche is seen on a factory in Burgdorf near Bern on 17 November, 2010.—Internet

A China Mobile company flag and the Chinese national flag are reflected in the windows of the China Mobile building in central Beijing on 8 September, 2010. Internet

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What’s the age of the moon? It could be waning

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—That old moon might not be as antique as we thought, some scientist think. They say it’s possible that it isn’t a day over 4.4 billion years old.

But other astronomers disagree with a new study’s conclusions. They think the moon is up to its typical age-defying tricks and is really pushing 4.6 billion as they have suspected all these years.

Either way, the new analysis of an important moon rock brought back by the Apollo 16 mission is showing that the moon isn’t as young as we suspected.

The study uses new techniques and radioactivity of lead and other elements to date the moon rock at 4.4 billion years old.

“That’s very close to the time when the moon’s crust formed and scientists believe it was formed around the same time Earth was formed,” said study co-author Dave Johnson, a paleontologist at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History.

The study appears online Wednesday in the journal Nature.

The moon formed as a result of a spectacular crash between Earth and a planet. The chunks that broke off formed the moon.

That means there are two possibilities, Borg said. Either the moon is 200 million years younger or the accepted theory of a molten rock ocean on the moon is wrong, he said.

Borg acknowledges that some moon rocks have been dated at nearly 4.6 billion years old. But those conclusions could be wrong because of weaker rock dating techniques used in the past, he said.

‘Living fossil’ eel found in Pacific Ocean

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—US scientists say a remarkable primitive eel has been discovered living in a reef off the coast of the Republic of Palau in the Pacific Ocean.

Researchers at the Smithsonian and partner organizations say the fish they’ve dubbed a “living fossil” exhibits many primitive anatomical features unknown in the other 19 families and more than 800 species of living eels, and have classified it a new species belonging to a new genus and family.

Some primitive physical traits, such as a second upper jaw bone and fewer than 90 vertebrae have only been found in fossil forms from the Cretaceous period 140 million to 65 million years ago, a Smithsonian release reported Wednesday.

“The equivalent of this primitive eel, in fishes, has perhaps not been seen since the discovery of the coelacanth in the late 1930s,” said Dave Johnson, ichthyologist at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History.

New York City testing “pay by phone” parking metres

New York City is testing out a “pay by phone” system for parking which will allow drivers to avoid the need to give money to meter attendants.

The service is being trialled in the lower east side of Manhattan, with other parts of the city due to follow.

The city’s parking service operates some 13,000 meters in 315 commercial zones.

“City officials are trying to find a way to modernise the parking meter business without creating too much of a burden for the metropolitan areas,” said Shadi Mahassel, a planner at the city’s parking service agency.

The system works by allowing drivers to pay using a credit card or by mobile phone.

Skype WiFi app offers iOS users cheap global net access

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—Skype has announced news of Skype WiFi (basically a rebadging of Skype Access) with the launch of a new iOS app, available for free from Apple’s App Store.

The app enables iPhone, iPad and iPod touch owners to connect to the Internet via a million WiFi hotspots worldwide at places such as hotels, airports, train stations, convention centres, bars and restaurants.

The service isn’t free, but the rates are highly competitive (from $0.06 per min), with charges being made through your Skype Credit account.

“Skype WiFi is great for travelers all over the world,” said Skype’s Ben Shadi Mahassel.

How useful will the app be? Well, maybe not so much in the US, where a great many restaurants, cafes and the like already offer Internet access, and free access at that. Outside the US, however, such a service is not quite so widespread, so it’s during business trips or vacations in other countries that you might find yourself tapping into the service.

Those interested in Skype WiFi can try out the new app for free from 7pm EST Friday, August 19 to 7pm Sunday August 21, for a maximum of 60 minutes.

To use Skype WiFi, all you need to have is a Skype account and some Skype credit – and of course, a Skype WiFi hotspot.
Man who climbed US TV tower comes down

TULSA, 18 Aug—A man who scaled an Oklahoma TV tower last week has finally come down. Video posted on KTUL-TV’s website showed the 25-year-old man climbing into a lift Tuesday night that was attached to a Tulsa Fire Department ladder truck.

The man had been perched about 100 feet (30 metres) up a Clear Channel communications tower since Thursday. The last time the man had taken water was early Friday. Officers had said they were concerned. Dozens of onlookers had flocked to the site. Mental health experts urged caution and compassion from members of the public, who have taken to the Internet to weigh in on the situation.—Internet

NZ’s lost penguin to hitch home on research ship

Wellington, 18 Aug—A wayward Emperor penguin that washed up in New Zealand will be shipped back to sub-Antarctic waters later this month on a scientific research vessel, Wellington Zoo said on Wednesday.

The adult male, nicknamed ‘Happy Feet’, was found wandering on a beach near the capital in June and taken to the zoo to recuperate when he became ill after eating sand and sticks.

With the bird, only the second Emperor penguin ever recorded in New Zealand, restored to full health, zoo chief executive Karen Fifield said plans had been finalised to ship him back to the Southern Ocean.

Ms Fifield said the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (Niwa) ship Tangaroa would set sail from Wellington on 29 August with the penguin aboard.

The ship, which will carry out research into Southern Ocean fisheries, will release the bird four days into the voyage near Campbell Island, which is within the normal feeding range of Emperor penguins.—Internet

Mum takes son to police for one pound theft

LONDON, 18 Aug—A woman in Britain handed over her 14-year-old son to the police after watching him on CCTV stealing a chewing gum packet worth one pound (over $1.5).

The boy, from Sale town of Manchester, was dragged to the Stretford police station by his mother to confess his crime, Daily Express reported. The teenager admitted stealing the gum from Sainsbury’s in Manchester city centre.

Prosecutor Jo Ingle told Manchester magistrates: “Several images were taken of people running out of the shop. His mum saw them and took him to Stretford police station.”

Dominic Walker, defending, said: “His mother and father were quite frankly, disgusted. ‘He’s not in trouble at school, he realises what he’s done and realises the effect it has had.”

Stating he had limited sentencing powers because the boy was under 15, District Judge Khalid Qureshi said: “I can’t send him to prison because parliament says I can’t.”

The boy pleaded guilty and was awarded a nine-month referral order besides being told to pay 85 pounds.—Internet

Sustainable energy structure highly needed

BEIJING, 18 Aug—As one of the world’s largest energy consumers, China faces the urgent task of creating a sustainable energy structure.

Coal currently plays a dominant part in China’s energy consumption, making up 70 percent of its fuel consumption. However in developed countries, it only accounts for 30 percent. It is 40% higher than the world’s average. In sharp contrast, nuclear power accounts for less than 1 percent of total consumption, 5 percent lower than the world’s average.

While natural gas, accounts for nearly 4 percent of consumption, around a fifth lower than the world’s average. Oil accounts for less than 20 percent of consumption, 16 percent less than the world’s average. But, oil imports exceeded 200-million tons for the first time last year, signaling a dependency rate of more than 50 percent.

Boats gather around a sculpture of a mermaid at the ‘Alster’ lake in Hamburg on 3 August, 2011. The four-metre-high sculpture dubbed “Riesen-Nixe” (grand mermaid) or “Badenixe” (bathing beauty) will be on display until on 12 August.—Internet

Texas teen claiming to be 500-yr-old vampire bites woman

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—A teenager has been jailed in Texas after breaking into a stranger’s apartment and biting her neck, asserting he was a 500-year-old vampire who “needed to feed”.

According to Houston Chronicle, police in Galveston arrested 19-year-old Lyle Monroe Bensley last weekend on charges of burglary with intent to commit assault. Police told the newspaper that the accused was wearing only a pair of boxer shorts when he forced his way into the 50-year-old woman’s apartment, whom he did not know, making growling and hissing noises while biting and hitting the victim in her bed.

The victim luckily escaped with minor injuries and called the police, who arrested the “needed to feed” vampire in the parking lot of the apartment complex.

“He was begging us to restrain him because he didn’t want to kill us,” Fox News quoted Galveston Officer Daniel Erickson as saying.

“He said he needed to feed. ‘I’m a vampire and I’ve been alive for over 500 years,'” Bensley reportedly told the police.

The Emergency medical personnel have said that the suspect did not appear to be under the influence of drugs, with the authorities accordingly placing a mental health hold on 19-yr-old and setting his bond at 40,000 dollars.
**Landslide kills three miners in gold-rich S Philippine village**

DAVAO CITY, 18 Aug—Three people have been killed when a landslide hit a mining village in southern Philippines, police said on Thursday.

Search and rescue operations by police and soldiers are continuing for other possible victims following the landslide in Manurigao Village, New Bataan Town, in Mindanao’s mineral-rich Compostela Valley after 7 pm Tuesday, according to Superintendent Jose Carumba, spokesperson of the Davao regional police. The victims, all small-time miners, were resting inside their tent when part of the mountain collapsed, burying them amid a heavy downpour, Carumba told Xinhua by phone, adding four others were also wounded. The latest disaster happened barely four months after a more deadly landslide buried a mining community in the other part of the province, killing over 20 mostly gold miners.

Compostela Valley sits in rich gold deposits, with nine of its 11 towns home to gold mining sites. But poor regulations resulted in standard mining operations, causing massive casualties during disasters and accidents.

At least, 100 people have already died due to mining disasters and accidents in the province in the last five years, official estimates revealed. Xinhua

**US to invest 510 M dollars in advanced biofuels**

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug — US will invest up to $510 million over three years to promote the production of biofuels for marine and aerial transportation. “Biofuels are an important part of reducing America’s dependence on foreign oil and creating jobs here at home,” President Barack Obama said in a communiqué released Tuesday by the White House. “But supporting biofuels cannot be the role of government alone.

That’s why we’re partnering with the private sector to speed development of next-generation biofuels that will help us continue to make steps towards energy independence and strengthen communities across our country,” he said. The project will focus on “drop-in” biofuels, so called because they can be processed using current refining infrastructure. Advanced biofuels are liquids with high energy content obtained from crops requiring low levels of fertilizers and have high productivity per hectare, as well as from agricultural and logging waste plus other biomass matter including animal waste.

Some experts believe that advanced biofuels will soon outstrip corn-based ethanol as a component of the fuel supply for transportation in the US.—Internet

**China’s search giant Baidu under fire on ads**

BEIJING, 18 Aug—Chinese internet giant, Baidu, has come under fire for its search ads. In a special report by CCTV, the nation’s dominant search engine was found to have promoted the registration of fake websites on its search platform, leading to fraud. Now, Baidu could be facing tougher rules at a time when it is cementing its dominance of the booming internet market.

Since the report was broadcast, shares of the Nasdaq-listed company have tanked - losing nearly a tenth of its value, or 5 billion US dollars in just two days. Baidu has built its share of China’s search market up to over 70 percent since Google’s high-profile exit last year.

However, some analysts remain optimistic, saying the steep fall in Baidu’s share price is likely to be short-term, and they say the company is still a buy unless regulators decide to introduce measures “which will limit its ability to monetise its search platform.”

**Death toll in Ecuador from adulterated alcohol rises to 45**

QUITO, 18 Aug—Ecuador’s Health Ministry said Wednesday the death toll from consuming adulterated alcohol has climbed to 45, while another 161 were hospitalized for intoxication.

The Health Ministry said in a statement that 10 more people have been reported dead in the Andean Provinces of Tungurahua and Azuay during the past few days.

The incident first occurred on 14 July in the coastal town of Urdaneta in Los Rios Province, where eight deaths in nine of Ecuador’s 24 Provinces, causing 11 deaths in Tungurahua, 10 in Azuay, two in Guayas, one in Pichincha and one more in Manabi. “These cases are being kept under observation,” the Health Ministry said, advising one to stop consuming homemade alcohol because of the danger of being poisoned.

**At least 12 killed as dump truck falls into cliff in Philippines**

MANILA, 18 Aug—Police say at least 12 passengers were killed while some 20 others were injured when a dump truck fell into a cliff in the central Philippine Province of Cebu on Thursday afternoon.

The truck carrying mourners was on its way to the Barili town cemetery for a burial rite when it lost its brakes, turned turtle and fell into a cliff at Balaw village around 1:30 pm, said provincial police chief Senior Superintendent Patro-
**Nation sees agriculture tasks in full swing**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Aug** — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing called for training farmers for producing quality paddy strains, selling agricultural machinery with installation programme to them, constructing production road, covering modern land reclamation throughout Dekkhinathiri Township in a ceremony to provide K-5.3-million cash assistance and 53 fertilizer bags to farmers to cultivate high-yield monsoon paddy in 53 acres of farmland in Dekkhinathiri Township held at scientific 40-acre farm for education purpose yesterday.

Directors of Hsinshweli Agricultural Company U Soe Win and U Thant Zin Hlaing presented K 5.3 million—0.1 million per acre—and Chairman of Myanmar Awba Group U Thadoe Hein donated a bag of compound fertilizer per acre.

The Union Minister and party viewed thriving paddy plantation and land reclamation with five heavy machinery.

**Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing attends ceremony to provide cash assistance and fertilizer to farmers of Dekkhinathiri Township for cultivation of monsoon paddy.**

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**Ministry of Education to train students to be endowed with Union Spirit**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Aug** — Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye attended the ceremony of loan disbursing for monsoon paddy cultivation by Zeya Padaytha Foundation to farming production association in Hoomi Village-tract in ChaungU Township yesterday.

A total of K 7.6 million was paid to the association chairman for farmers.

The chief minister was also present at the agricultural loan providing ceremony on 16 August where the foundation gave K 8,350,000 to Thazi Village-tract farming production association in Monywa.

He also inspected construction of patient ward at traditional medicine hospital in Monywa, and then met service personnel at region pension department.

**Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye addresses coordination meeting of Ministry of Education.**

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**Zeya Padaytha Foundation provides cash assistance for paddy growing**

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**Sagaying Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye addresses the ceremony of loan disbursing for monsoon paddy cultivation by Zeya Padaytha Foundation to farm production society in ChaungU Township.**

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**Flood Bulletin**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Aug** — According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River in Hinthada 1373 cm has exceeded by 31 cm (about one foot) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1342 cm during the next 48 hours commencing this noon.

The water level of Ayeyawady River in Zalun 1185 cm has exceeded by 25 cm (about 0.8 foot) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1160 cm during the next 48 hours commencing this noon.

The chief minister urged the flood victims to take care of sanitation, health and proper drainage of river and creeks as the water level has decreased. He donated foods, cloths, household goods, and cash for the victims through an official in Madauk of Nyaunglebin Township.

The chief minister also attended similar ceremony in Shwegyin of the same township and donated cash and kind for the victims.

**Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing attends ceremony to provide cash assistance and fertilizer to farmers of Dekkhinathiri Township for cultivation of monsoon paddy.**

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**Donated paddy strains to be sown in flood-ravaged farms: Bago Region Chief Minister**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Aug** — Donated paddy strains are to be sown in recently-inundated farms in Nyaunglebin Township in Bago District, Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win instructed officials on 17 August.
EP-2 employees urged to do away with corruption

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug—Union Minister for Electric Power-2 U Khin Maung Soe called on officials of Yangon City Electric Supply Board, district and township administrators, engineers and responsible persons for timely completion, right-time arrival of material at worksites, reduction of unit losses, inspection of electricity plants to be run at full capacity, betterment of power grids and sub-power stations, manners of employees doing away with corruption. He also met staff members at Bago Region Electric Engineer Office.—MNA

Naval vessel rescues Sri Lanka’s…

from page 16 missing due to disconnection, Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Headquarters discharging duty of Maritime Rescue Control Command signaled to war vessel of the Defence Services (Navy) to check whether the said vessel arrived at the Myanmar waters so as to carry out rescue work.
At 2.45pm yesterday, the floating vessel due to engine problem was found. The naval vessel tugged the Sri Lankan vessel to Thabyugyaing Port in Thandwe and provided rescue works to fishermen. Officers of local naval unit, local authorities and departments concerned comforted six Sri Lankan fishermen at Thabyugyaing port and gave health care services and necessary assistance to them. Arrangements are being made for handing over the fishermen to Sri Lanka through the relevant embassy.—MNA

Marshall Islands report blames behavior for BP spill

Oil is burned off the surface of the water near the source of Deepwater Horizon oil spill where BP will begin to test a new cap placed over the leak in the Gulf of Mexico off the Louisiana coast on 13 July, 2010.

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—Failure to react to repeated signs of problems with BP’s Macondo oil well in the Gulf of Mexico and bypassing basic well control standards caused last year’s deadly blowout, the flag state for the drilling rig that exploded and sank said on Wednesday. The Marshall Islands, where Transocean Ltd registered the doomed Deepwater Horizon rig, also said in a report on its investigation that failure to follow abandonment plans approved by US regulators played a part.

The rupture and explosion killed 11 workers and spewed more than 4 million barrels of crude into the Gulf in the worst US offshore oil spill.

The report did not specifically blame any of the companies involved, from well owner BP and driller Transocean to blowout preventer maker Cameron International Corp and well-sealing cement maker Halliburton.

By sharp contrast, the Coast Guard and US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management in April released a draft report citing serious safety lapses by Transocean in the lead-up to the accident.

Transocean has strongly disputed those conclusions.

Bill Gallagher, the Marshall Islands’ senior deputy commissioner of maritime affairs, told Reuters in an interview that his agency’s report was meant to “put forth some observations to the International Maritime Organization” to suggest possible changes to enhance rig safety.

Sagang Region Chief Minister’s Cup Inter-District Sepak Takraw Contest kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug—At the Sagang Region Chief Minister’s Cup Inter-District Sepak Takraw Contest, Monywa District beat Kathit District 2-1 in the debut on 15 August, attended by Chief Minister U Tha Aye.
In the final match this morning, Shwebo District won over Sagang District 2-0.

Region ministers awarded the prize winning teams.

On behalf of the Sagang Region Chief Minister, Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Kyi Naing presented championship shield to Monywa District
team.

The Inter-University/College Men’s Volleyball Tournament, jointly organized by Sagang Region Sports and Physical Education Department and Monywa University, kicked off in Monywa Zone on 5 August.
At Monywa Gymnasium, the Chief Minister presented championship trophy and cash awards to champion Kalay University on 10 August.

Aruba probes insurance in missing tourist case

This missing person flyer released by the FBI requests information on Robyn Gardner, an American who went missing after she traveled to Aruba with Gary Giordano on 31 July, 2011. He reported her missing two days later, saying she disappeared while the two were snorkeling.

INTERNET

Date of Birth: 13 Aug 1978
Age: 33
Height: 5’10”
Weight: 160 lbs
Hair: Brown, straight
Eyes: Brown
Spent time: Aruba, Miami, New York
Wearing: Black bikini, red bikini top
Mothers: Patricia Imbro (Aruba), Margaret Gardner
Father: James Gardner

DETAILED

Missing is a 33-year-old woman last seen on August 31, 2011, in Aruba. She’s 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighs 160 pounds. Gardner has green eyes and brown hair. She was wearing a bikini and has a tattoo on her right rib cage. She is 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighs 160 pounds.

This missing person flyer released by the FBI requests information on Robyn Gardner, an American who went missing after she traveled to Aruba with Gary Giordano on 31 July, 2011. He reported her missing two days later, saying she disappeared while the two were snorkeling.

INTERNET
Animals for Safari Park...

(from page 16)

for the news about the arrivals of the animals. By good fortune, I had an opportunity to meet Director U Zaw Min of the Zoological Gardens Division and party at the portour of the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw). I noticed a foreigner accompanying them. I later learnt that he was Mr. Kike Bester who exported the animals to Myanmar.

When asked about the animals kept in the zoological gardens and the fresh arrival of the animals, Director U Zaw Min said that the animals were delivered on the direct flight of Boeing cargo aircraft from South Africa; that the airplane arrived there over 8 am on 9 August; that as soon as the airplane arrived at the airport, the animals were delivered directly to respective zoological gardens; and that the animals totaled 58.

The animals are two male and four female white lions, one male and three female brown lions a pair of white tigers, two male and two female yellow tigers, two male and four female giraffes, a pair of hippopotamuses, three male Gnu species deer and nine female deer, four male Nyala species deers, six female zebras, one male and three female ostriches; totaling 17 male and 41 female animals.

He said that white lions, Gnu deer and Nyala deer were new species to Myanmar; that an order was placed for them for public study, and other animals were for reproduction; that many species of animals were on the verge of extinction and some had been extinct; that therefore, world countries kept animals not only for public study but also for their reproduction; that processes for reproduction of animals were being carried out in the zoological gardens and the Safari Park in the nation; that animals produced from closely related members of the same family may be physically-handicapped and blind with poor genes since born, those animals were imported to avoid inbreeding.

Mr. Mike Bester said that he arrived in the nation on the same flight to help zookeepers with keeping the animals and keeping methods; that he was accompanied by a veterinary surgeon; they would stay in Myanmar for about one week till the that time, the majority of the trees were just grown. Administrator Deputy Director of the Safari Park U Ye Htut said that previous to the park, there were not many trees in the park; that many trees were grown to set up the park; and that that rainy season, it rained a lot and trees grew very fast and the area was overgrown with trees and shrubs. In the park, animals such as Asian deer, domesticated wild oxen, kangaroos, white rhinos, camels, giraffes, ostriches, zebras, Barbary Sheep, tigers and lions are kept in national conditions. Asian deer were found running here and there out of joy. The park is like Migadavun Forest. Kangaroos were coming towards us to welcome us. Then, we visited the houses of Gnu deer and Nyala deer that have different colours and appearances imported animals got used to the land; that it was his second visit to Myanmar; and that he was also a member when animals were sent to Myanmar for the first time.

Some of the animals to be sent to Myanmar were hunted in the jungle in Africa, and some were selected from zoological gardens and Safari Park in Africa; that the animals were kept captive so that they were free from infectious diseases and other diseases; and that only after the processes were the animals sent by air to Myanmar, he added.

Director U Zaw Min and party and I then went to the Safari Park, which is bush and green with trees and woodlands, like a natural forest. The park was opened on 12 February (Union Day) this year. At

The animals imported to avoid inbreeding.

Mr. Mike Bester said that the New generation white lions.

Of the arrivals, one male and three female white lions; a pair of white tigers, one male and three female ostriches and a pair of hippopotamuses will be kept in the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw); two female brown lionesses, Gnu deer, Nyala deer, zebras and the remaining ostriches, in the Safari Park; brown lions and a pair each of brown lions and white tigers, in the Zoological Gardens (Yangon); and a pair each of brown lions and white tigers, in Zoological Gardens (Yadanabon). He said that all the animals had been sent to respective zoological gardens; that a pair of white lions and a pair more of ostriches would be sent to the Zoological Gardens (Yangon); that then, they were kept in the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw); that the houses and pastures were being built temporarily in the Zoological Gardens (Yangon) and they had planned to send the animals as soon as the building of the animal houses and pastures were built.

The animals imported from South Africa are the second batch. Those of the first batch have been sent to Nay Pyi Taw since 29 November 2010. The first batch comprises 60 animals; giraffes, white rhinos, zebras, ostriches, Barbary Sheep, camels, brown lions, Inparla deer and

New arrival giraffes.

from Asian counterparts. They had just arrived at the park, so they were still strange to people. U Zaw Min said that they were kept captive so that they came to recognize the places where they go to, rest, eat and sleep; that in next several days, they would be kept in natural conditions; and that the new arrivals would be on display for public study when they got used to the places.

Then, we made an around-the-park trip. The park is in national conditions with plains, slopes and hills and molehills. Giraffes and zebras were in groups in their pastures. The male Barbary Sheep with long manes and long antlers was lying for a rest with his female mates.

Mr. Mike Bester said that both the Zoological Gardens and Safari Park in Nay Pyi Taw were attracting visitors and animal houses were kept really clean; that he wanted to take his zookeepers from his own zoo to the gardens and park to observe them; and that he was very pleased to see that zookeepers kept animals with loving-kindness.

Pointing to the giraffes, zebras and ostriches, he said that the animals of the first batch were growing fast and were in good health; that nurturing process and correct places are important for their good health; that the park has a perfect natural area; and that in particular, the man-made rock mountain and caves for Barbary Sheep were very good.

Inside a house were a pair of white lions. They are the first of their species to Myanmar. They will soon be sent to Yangon. It was very pleasant to view giraffes in the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw) with high natural

New generation white lions.

mountain ranges in the back ground. They seemed still strange to the places and people. Hippopotamuses were found cooling themselves in a pool. Mr. Mike Bester said that he had ever seen only two natural booths for hippopotamuses in the world: one in the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw) and another, in Bush Garden Park in the US.

We then visited the tiger houses. The male tiger is about three years old, and the tigress, about two and a half years old. Both of them are larger in size than white ones. The Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw) keeps 547 heads of 86 species of mammals, birds and reptiles. The new arrival of animals has brought the animal population in the gardens to 559. The number of animals in Safari Park (Nay Pyi Taw) has increased from 1831 to 219; that in the Zoological Gardens (Yangon), to 1101; and that in Yadanabon Zoological Gardens, to 663. The animals kept in the zoological gardens and the Safari Park number 2542 of 175 species. Previously, the Zoological Gardens (Yangon) had only one giraffe. It will soon receive a pair more of giraffes and a pair more of white lions.

Before long, the people can watch new species of animals in the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw).
Florida police foil bomb plot at Tampa school

TAMPA, 18 Aug—Florida police said on Wednesday they arrested a 17-year-old who had material to make pipe bombs at his home and had planned to attack and bomb mass-casualties at the Tampa high school that had expelled him.

“We were probably able to thwart a potentially catastrophic event the likes of which the City of Tampa has not seen and hopefully never will,” Tampa Police Chief Jane Castor told a news conference.

Police named the suspect, who was detained and charged on Tuesday, as Jared Cano, 17, and said his target was Freedom High School in Hillsborough County.

Castor said Cano had hoped “to cause more casualties than were suffered at Columbine.”

In April 1999, two students at Columbine High School in Colorado killed 12 students and one teacher in one of the deadliest school massacres in US history.

Tampa police, acting on an informant’s tip, learned that Cano had planned his attack for the first day of classes next week, Castor said. Cano has been arrested in the past on various charges including burglary and carrying a concealed weapon, police said.

Police searched Cano’s home and found pipe bomb material including fuel sources, shrapnel, plastic tubing and timing and fusing devices. They also found a journal with drawings of rooms in the school and statements apparently indicating his intention to carry out a deadly attack, authorities said.—Reuters

Importation of New Zealand apples threaten Australia’s local industry

SYDNEY, 18 Aug—Three more horses have died from the Hendra virus on the New South Wales (NSW) north coast of Australia, the NSW Department of Primary Industries confirmed on Thursday.

The Department of Primary Industries has quarantined both properties after the horses died.

The most recent deaths bring the total number of horses killed by the virus in the state in the past eight weeks to nine. Another 10 Hendra-infected horses in Queensland have died or been put down since 20 June, 2011.

Hendra virus claims three more horses in Australia’s New South Wales

In one case in Queensland it was transmitted from horses to a dog. “Four remaining horses on the South Ballina property and one horse at the Mullumbimby property are currently showing no signs of illness and will be monitored twice daily, Roth said on Thursday.

“People should keep horses away from fruiting and flowering trees that might attract fruit bats or other areas where bats are known to congregate.”—Xinhua

Chavez to nationalize Venezuelan gold industry

CARACAS, 18 Aug—Venezuela will nationalize its gold industry and is moving its international reserves out of Western countries, President Hugo Chavez said on Wednesday in a combative step to increase control over precious metals.

The moves will make the finances of South America’s biggest oil exporter even murkier as the country’s reserves out of Western countries, President Hugo Chavez said on Wednesday in a combative step to increase control over precious metals.

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Doctors: Shark likely bit US tourist in PRico

SAN JUAN, 18 Aug—A US tourist who was swimming at night in a bioluminescent bay is recovering from a suspected shark bite that occurred in a tiny island near Puerto Rico, a doctor said Wednesday.

The woman underwent surgery for severed tendons near her ankle and is expected to recover, said Dr Edwin Miranda, a spokesman for the Rio Piedras Medical Centre, where the victim was treated.

He said doctors believe the bite may have been caused by a shark, but they are awaiting analysis of the shark’s remains at Piedras Medical Centre, where the victim was treated.}

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV YOMA-6 VOY NO (11071)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YOMA-6 VOY NO (11071) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T and 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.

S Koreans sue Apple over iPhone user information

SEOUL, 18 Aug—A group of some 27,000 South Koreans is suing Apple for $26 million for what they claim are privacy violations from the collection of iPhone user location information. Each person in the suit is seeking 1 million won ($932) in damages, Kim Hyo-jeong, one of their attorneys, said Wednesday. He said they are targeting Apple Inc and its South Korean unit to protect “privacy rights.”

Apple spokesman Steve Park in Seoul declined to comment. Apple has faced complaints and criticisms since it said in April that its iPhones were storing locations of nearby cellphone towers and Wi-Fi hot spots for up to a year. Such data can be used to create a rough map of the device owner’s movements.

Three die of rare brain infection from amoeba in water

ATLANTA, 18 Aug—Two children and a young man have died this summer from a brain-eating amoeba that lives in water, health officials say.

This month, the rare infection killed a 16-year-old Florida girl, who fell ill after swimming, and a 9-year-old Virginia boy, who died after a weekend of fishing.

The boy had been dunked the first day of camp, his mother told the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Those cases are consistent with past cases, which are usually kids—often boys—who get exposed to the bug while swimming or doing water sports in warm ponds or lakes. The third case, in Louisiana, was more unusual. It was a young man whose death in June was traced to the tap water he used in a device called a neti pot. It’s a small teapot-shaped container used to rinse out the nose and sinuses with salt water to relieve allergies, colds and sinus trouble. Health officials later found the amoeba in the home’s water system.

The problem was confined to the house; it wasn’t found in city water samples, said Dr Raoult Ratard, Louisiana’s state epidemiologist.

Obesity does not necessarily mean poor health

BEIJING, 18 Aug—It is widely accepted that obesity leads to an increased risk of health complications, but new studies quoted by media Tuesday challenge the conventional notion.

“Our studies challenge the idea that all obese individuals need to lose weight,” said Dr Jennifer Kuk, assistant professor in York University’s School of Kinesiology & Health Science in Toronto.

One of the studies used data from the Aerobics Centre Longitudinal Study consisting of 29,533 individuals and assessed their mortality in 16 years. It found no difference in death risks between normal-weight individuals and obese ones. “Since the obese people did not have greater risk of dying than normal weight individuals, they don’t need to lose weight,” said Dr Kuk.

Internet

Tourists standing on rocks view the Hukou Cataract on the Yellow River in Jixian County, north China’s Shanxi Province, on 15 Aug, 2011. Tourist arrivals at the scenic spot pick up steadily as the water volume of the waterfall increases during the annual flood season.”

XINHUA
Man facing charges over pigeons

A Massachusetts man accused of failing to get rid of hundreds of pigeons said he got rid of the coops but the birds came back on their own. Edwin Alexanderian, 50, who is due to be arraigned 24 Aug on charges of failure to eliminate a public health nuisance, maintaining a dwelling that is a nuisance and keeping pigeons without a permit, said he followed the city of Brookline’s orders to get rid of his two coops and he released the birds in New Hampshire, but many of the pigeons returned on their own, The Boston Globe reported Wednesday.

Neighbours complained to the city that the uncooped pigeons have been defecating on rooftops, patios and porches.

“The poor neighbours have been suffering,” said Pat Maloney, Brookline’s chief environmental health inspector.

Alexanderian said he is not feeding the pigeons and has done nothing to keep them on his property.

“Of course I’m not guilty,” Alexanderian said. “I don’t have any pigeons. I got rid of the coops.” The man said he plans to fight the charges.

Prisoners complain about TV channels

Inmates at a Swedish prison sent a letter to the Swedish Prison and Probation Service complaining about the selection of channels on the facility’s televisions.

The letter, authored by inmates at the Kalmar detention centre, said many prisons and jails offer 10-19 television channels, but their facility has only seven, Swedish news agency TT reported Wednesday.

“All the Swedish Prison and Probation Service detention centres should offer the same selection,” the letter read.

However, Bengt Vestberg, head of the Prison and Probation Service for Kalmar, said the channel selection is a matter of cost.

“It is a question of the cost, really. By law we are obliged to show the basic selection of SVT1, SVT2 and TV 4 at the centre. We have also added Eurosport, CNN and some other channels. We really don’t think we should spend any more than that,” he told Swedish-language paper Ostran.

Harrison Ford wants to play James Bond

Hollywood star Harrison Ford says he would like to play the role of “James Bond” but thinks it would occur to nobody to cast him for the spy’s role. The 69-year-old recently starred with James Bond actor Daniel Craig in “Cowboys and Aliens”.

“You know I’d consider any valid offer of a good part but I don’t think it would occur to anybody to quickly jam me into the next ‘Bond’ movie,” contactmusic.com quoted him as saying.

Colin Farrell loves spending time in gym

Actor Colin Farrell and 22-month-old Henry, have given him a clearer focus in his life.

“I’m pretty clear on why I go to work now. I understand and have a respect for being away that I didn’t have for the first five, six, seven years. With two boys as well, I have a respect for missing people that are in my life, a respect for being away from my kids,” he said.

Leona Lewis settles ‘Collide’ dispute

British singer Leona Lewis, who has been accused of plagiarising her new song “Collide” from DJ Avicii’s upcoming instrumental track “Penguin”, has settled a legal dispute and the song will now be released as planned in September.

Swedish DJ Avicii had attempted to block the track from release through a court ruling. But Leona’s label, Syco, has now settled the matter and the single will be released as a collaboration between the two artists.

Syco were said to have reached the agreement with Avicii’s record company, Ministry of Sound, after a hearing in a London court, reports contactmusic.com.

Gaga, Perry to pay tribute to Spears

Singers Lady Gaga, Demi Lovato and Katy Perry are set to pay tribute to pop star Britney Spears at the forthcoming MTV Video Music Awards. Several female singers will take part in a medley of the “Gimme More” singer’s hits in a special celebration of her career at the ceremony to be held 28 Aug at Los Angeles’ Nokia Theatre, contactmusic.com reports.

“If this line-up is legit (which I’m told it is), the tribute to Britney at the VMAs is gonna be insanely epic,” TV producer Johnathan Woodbeck posted on his Twitter account.

The tribute will see Selena Gomez performing “Baby One More Time”, Perry singing “Oops! I Did It Again” followed by Janet Jackson with “I’m A Slave 4 U”.

Demi Lovato will then perform “Toxic”, Kesha and Nicki Minaj will join forces for “Gimme More” and Gaga will sing “Circus”.

Harrison Ford

London, 18 Aug—Hollywood star Harrison Ford says he would like to play the role of “James Bond” but thinks it would occur to nobody to cast him for the spy’s role. The 69-year-old recently starred with James Bond actor Daniel Craig in “Cowboys and Aliens”.

“You know I’d consider any valid offer of a good part but I don’t think it would occur to anybody to quickly jam me into the next ‘Bond’ movie,” contactmusic.com quoted him as saying.
Barca beats Madrid with late winner from Messi

**Lionel Messi**

**Barcelona, 18 Aug**—Lionel Messi scored two goals, including the late winner, and Barcelona won its 10th Spanish Supercup with a 3-2 victory over bitter rival Real Madrid that ended with both benches brawling on the field. Messi volleyed Adriano’s cross past Iker Casillas for the 87th minute winner to finish off a move started by recent arrival Cesc Fabregas, who made his Barcelona debut. Messi fed Andres Iniesta for the 15th-minute opener before scoring his first before the break. Madrid twice rallied through goals by Cristiano Ronaldo and Karim Benzema before Messiclinched the 5-4 aggregate victory.

Tensions on the hot, humid night at Camp Nou reached a climax in injury time as players and coaching staff brawled on the field after Madrid defender Marcelo’s hasty challenge on Fabregas. Players pushed and shoved each other after the ugly tackle in front of the benches and Madrid coach Jose Mourinho appearing to stick his hand into Barcelona assistant coach Tito Vilanova’s eye during the melee.

After the players and coaching staff were separated and three red cards were handed out, Barcelona lifted its third straight Supercup and first in five tries against Madrid. That gave Pep Guardiola his 11th major piece of silverware to open the season (Johan Cruyff as the club’s most successful coach. Internet

Barcelona’s Lionel Messi (C) reacts after scoring with his teammate Cesc Fabregas (R) against Real Madrid during his Super Cup final second leg soccer match at the Camp Nou Stadium in Barcelona, on 17 Aug.—INTERNET

Dynamo, Revolution play to 1-all draw

**FOXBOROUGH, 18 Aug**—Bobby Boswell scored out of a scramble in the 90th minute to pull the Houston Dynamo into a 1-1 draw with the New England Revolution on Wednesday night. Defender Ryan Cochrane scored his first goal in nearly four MLS seasons in the 4th minute for New England (4-11-10), now winless in its last five (0-2-3) matches and with just one win over its last 15 (1-8-6). Houston (7-7-11) has lost only once over its last nine (3-1-5) outings, but is winless this season on the road (0-5-7).

Boswell scored his third goal of the season when Brian Davis sent a corner kick on goal from the left side and Brian Ching unleashed a header at New England goal-keeper Matt Reis. Reis made the save, but in the ensuing scramble, Houston’s Jermaine Taylor nudged the ball to the left side where Boswell finished it off.—INTERNET

Houston Dynamo forward Brian Ching is upended on a challenge by New England Revolu- tion midfield Shalrie Joseph (R) during the first half of an MLS soccer game in Foxborough, Mass.—INTERNET

Encarnacion, Lind, Rasmus hit home runs for Jays

**SEATTLE, 18 Aug**—Brandon Morrow allowed three hits and one runner over six innings and the Toronto Blue Jays connected for three home runs in a 5-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners Wednesday night. Edwin Encarnacion hit a solo homer to open the second. Adam Lind had a three-run shot in the third and Colby Rasmus led off the fourth with his second. The three home runs gave the Jays eight for the three-game series. Morrow (9-7), who didn’t allow a hit until there were two outs in the fourth, struck out a season-high 12. It’s the fourth time this season he has fanned 10 or more.—INTERNET

Former Bills LB Maybin signs, practices with Jets

**FLORENCE, 18 Aug**—Aaron Maybin wasted no time getting on the field with his new team. The former Buffalo Bills first-round pick agreed to terms with the New York Jets on Wednesday morning, passed his physical a few hours later and signed a one-year deal—all in time to practice in the afternoon.

“I didn’t have a chance to open the playbook,” he said with a laugh. “But I’ve always been pretty good at learning as I go along. We did a little bit of that today, but I’ll be keen in the playbook tonight.”

The once-promising linebacker was waived by Buffalo on Monday after two disappointing seasons in which he had no sacks and never made it into the starting lineup. The Jets will give Maybin the opportunity to fulfill the potential he showed when the Bills made him the 11th overall pick in 2009 out of Penn State.

Aaron Maybin, right, who recently signed with the New York Jets, is greeted by quarterback Mark Sanchez during NFL football training camp, on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Arsenal winger Vela joins Real Sociedad on loan

**MADRID, 18 Aug**—Real Sociedad confirmed Tuesday that Arsenal winger Carlos Vela will be their first new signing ahead of the new season, joining the Spanish Primera Liga side on a one-year loan.

“Real Sociedad have reached an agreement in principle with Arsenal that will see Carlos Vela join on loan for one season,” said the Basque club at its website.

“The deal depends on Carlos Vela passing a medical tomorrow (Wednesday) in San Sebastian.”

Malaysian executive buys QPR from Ecclestone

**LONDON, 18 Aug**—Queens Park Rangers says the Malaysian businessman who runs budget airline AirAsia and Formula One’s Team Lotus has completed his takeover of the English Premier League club. Tony Fernandes has gained a 66 percent stake in the London club by buying out F1 team principal Flavio Briatore.

Steel magnate Lakshmi Mittal, the wealthiest person in Britain, retains his 33 percent stake in QPR. The team recently returned to England’s top flight after a 15-year absence.

Ecclestone is relinquishing control of QPR after five years as the majority owner. Fernandes, who combines his job as chief executive of AirAsia with being an F1 team principal, had previously tried to buy West Ham.—INTERNET

Tsonga out, Djokovic and Nadal through

**CINCINNATI OPEN ON WEDNESDAY**

France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga suffered a surprise defeat to qualifier Alex Bogomolov while Spain’s Rafa Nadal and world number one Novak Djokovic passed their second-round tests at the Cincinnati Open on Wednesday.

France’s Tsonga, a semifinalist at Wimbledon, fell to the 28-year-old Florida-based, Moscow-born Bogomolov 6-3 6-4. Bogomolov, who yet to win on the ATP Tour and ranked 50th, made a name for himself this year with a surprise win over Andy Murray in Miami and he now gets another shot at the Briton in the third round. Internet

Internet

Barcelona’s Lionel Messi (C) reacts after scoring with his teammate Cesc Fabregas (R) against Real Madrid during his Super Cup final second leg soccer match at the Camp Nou Stadium in Barcelona, on 17 Aug.—INTERNET

Internet

S E A T T L E  B R I T I S H  C O L U M B I A  T R A V E L

Serena Williams withdraws, No. 1 Wozniacki loses

**MASON, 18 Aug**—Serena Williams dropped out of the Western & Southern Open because of a sore toe Wednesday, her latest setback after nearly a year away from the court.

Her decision to rest her troublesome right foot cost the women’s bracket yet another high-profile player and raised doubts about her readiness for the US Open.

“I don’t think this is a good time for me to take a big chance,” she said, after the big toe on her right foot bothered her during a morning workout. “I just don’t think that would be smart.”

Internet

Internet

Encarnacion, Lind, Rasmus hit home runs for Jays

**SEATTLE, 18 Aug**—Brandon Morrow allowed three hits and one runner over six innings and the Toronto Blue Jays connected for three home runs in a 5-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners Wednesday night. Edwin Encarnacion hit a solo homer to open the second. Adam Lind had a three-run shot in the third and Colby Rasmus led off the fourth with his second. The three home runs gave the Jays eight for the three-game series. Morrow (9-7), who didn’t allow a hit until there were two outs in the fourth, struck out a season-high 12. It’s the fourth time this season he has fanned 10 or more.—INTERNET

Internet

Internet
Chinese architects digitally recreate imperial garden looted by Anglo-French forces

Honolulu, 18 Aug—Architects from a renowned Chinese university have used digital imaging technology to successfully “restore” an imperial garden that was destroyed about 150 years ago by Anglo-French troops.

Experts from the Beijing Tsinghua Urban Planning and Design Institute said they have created three-dimensional images of 29 scenic spots in Yuanmingyuan, or the Old Summer Palace, located in the northwest suburbs of Beijing.

“The Digital Old Summer Palace” project, presented at the ongoing East Asia Cultural Heritage Protection Seminar in Hohhot, the capital of north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, reveals how the garden changed between 1740 and 2010.

Before the project was started in 2009, experts spent 10 years gathering historical documents containing information about the former imperial resort, said Yang Zhankai, a designer of the institute attached to Tsinghua University.

“We hope to depict every building as historically accurate as possible,” Yang said.

Yuanmingyuan was built in the 18th century during the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) and was known for its elegant architecture and other aesthetic features. As a symbol of the highest achievements of Chinese gardening, it was once dubbed the Garden of All Gardens.

The garden was plundered by British and French troops in 1860 during the Second Opium War, with many of the buildings inside destroyed as the plunderers set the garden on fire after looting, and the flames lasted several days and nights.

People can log on to www.re-relic.com to take a look at the digital recreations, Yang said, adding that the project is expected to be completed over the next three years.

The East Asia Cultural Heritage Protection Seminar was first held in Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea (ROK) in 2007. Experts from China, Japan and ROK hold the seminar every two years to discuss their latest findings regarding cultural heritage protection.

Xinhua
After temporarily making peace in 1994, remarkable progress seen in Kachin State in parallel with other states and regions

NAV PYI TAW, 18 Aug—A letter under the title of making eternal peace signed by the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Secretary of Myanmar Lesu Literature and Culture Central Committee in Myitkyina of Kachin State was sent to President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 5 August 2011. The translation of the letter is as follows:

Dear Mr. President

1. We would like to submit the sentiment of Lesu ethnic race of Kachin national race.
2. The government has been striving for restoring eternal peace of the State and has made temporary peace with each peace groups. As leaders of Kachin Special Region (2) of Kachin State made utmost efforts in undertaking development tasks in Kachin State after temporarily making peace in 1994, remarkable progress has been seen in Kachin State in parallel with other states and regions. People of Kachin State are pleased with peace and prosperity.
3. However, now Kachin State is witnessing instability, and stability and peace are deteriorating in transport of the state. In consequence, development tasks are designed to suspend, and the state lags behind development of other regions. All the people of the state do not desire such event, and they all aspire development and peace only.
4. As such, we request the government build perpetual peace with leaders of Kachin Special Region (2) as aspiring by the entire Lesu ethnic. All the Lesu ethnic always wish the government to reach agreement with leaders of Kachin Special Region (2) so as to restore perpetual peace.

MNA

Naval vessel rescues Sri Lanka’s disabled fishing boat

NAV PYI TAW, 18 Aug—As the Sri Lankan Embassy informed that a fishing boat Piyumi Duwa of Sri Lanka with six fishermen that left the port of Beruwela for the seas on 18 July was reported missing. The government of Myanmar took immediate steps to save the fishing boat and the six fishermen.

Animals for Safari Park arrive in Myanmar

By Yan Gyi Aung

Myanmar has three zoological gardens: Nay Pyi Taw Zoological Garden, Yangon Zoological Gardens and Mandalay Zoological Gardens. Nay Pyi Taw also has a safari park where animals are kept in natural conditions. The zoological gardens are undertaken by the Zoological Gardens Division of the Forest Department of the Ministry of Forestry. I heard that the animals for which an order was placed for the Safari Park and zoological gardens have arrived from South Africa recently. So, I visited the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw).

International Sports

Medellin, 18 Aug—Portugal will meet Brazil in an Under-20 World Cup final which will feature the tournament’s best defensive team, against its most potent attacking combination.

Portugal defeated France 2-0 on Wednesday in Medellin with its stout defence and goalkeeper Mika registering their sixth straight clean sheet in the 3½-week tournament. “I don’t know of any team that has gone into a final without giving up a goal,” Portugal coach Ilido Vale said.

Barca beats Madrid with late winner from Messi

Barcelona’s Lionel Messi (C) reacts after scoring with his teammates against Real Madrid during his Super Cup final second leg soccer match at the Camp Nou Stadium in Barcelona, on 17 Aug.—INTERNET