First Pyithu Hluttaw second regular session goes on for sixth day

Questions raised and answered, proposals and bills submitted for approval

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The first Pyithu Hluttaw second regular session continued for the sixth day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this morning.

It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 387 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

At today’s session, 12 questions were raised and answered, an open letter put on record, a proposal discussed, a bill was approved and a bill was submitted.

U Thein Nyunt from Thingangyun Constituency asked if the Union government will recognize the 120 public representatives who have stood as Pyithu Hluttaw members for about 20 years according to the results of the 1990 multiparty democracy general election. Union Election Commission Member U Myint Naing in his answer said that according to the documents of the commission, up to 7 March 2010, there were 107 representatives; Win from Mingaladon Constituency if Mingaladon Township Hospital giving health care to residents of Taikkyi, Hmawby, Hlegu and Mingaladon townships will be upgraded to the level of North Okkalapa Hospital and Insein Hospital, the Union minister said that Mingaladon Township Hospital has been upgraded to a 100-bedded one; (See page 6)

Representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw arrive at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall.—MNA

Drawing up of journalistic ethics; a sign for more transparency

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—Central Executive Committee of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association met for the eighth time this year at Sarpay Beikman, Yangon this noon at which the committee agreed to opening of media corners in Nay Pyi Taw, and regions and states, drawing up of a code of ethics for Myanmar journalists, organizing of national seminar in cooperation with WIPO headquarters. Chairman of the association U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) spoke on the occasion and Secretary U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Sethmu Tekkatho) reported on implementation of the minutes of the previous meeting and leaders of respective committees on ongoing works of the committees. The meeting also confirmed presenting educational awards to outstanding offspring of the members, and mobilization activities in regions and states. MNA

Berlin marks 125th anniversary of automobile invention

Cassini closes in on Saturn’s tumbling moon Hyperion

Gout

Gout is a condition that results from crystals of uric acid depositing in tissues of the body. Gout is characterized by an overload of uric acid in the body and recurring attacks of joint inflammation (arthritis). Uric acid is a breakdown product of purines that are part of many foods we eat.
Conserve natural ecology of Inlay Lake

Many environmental challenges triggered by climate changes such as global warming, extinction of biodiversity, desertification and shortage of freshwater have taken the centre stage, and the world countries have been turning serious attention to the best solution to the global issue: growing trees all the more and conservation of forests and woodlands.

Standing at an altitude of nearly 3000 feet, Inlay, a large lake in a plateau in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State (South), is a place where there are several famous pagodas, villages, floating vegetable patches, and cottage industries of national races, as well as a natural habitat with natural ecology of biodiversity. So, the natural lake is the major tourist attraction in Myanmar.

Now, the watershed areas of Inlay Lake are deteriorating in consequence of deforestation, silting, hillside cultivation, slash and burn farming, and horizontal expansion of crop farming in the lake. Naturally beautiful sites and biodiversity in and around the lake can be on the verge of extinction soon if the condition of the lake goes from bad to worse.

The lake has been conserved in successive periods. Now, the Forest Department is stepping up its tasks for conserving the natural resources in the areas within a 20-mile radius of the lake, including setting up plantations, mixed plantations of crops and trees, plantations for firewood, and watershed plantations.

The people of the villages around the lake are being educated about conservation of the environment and soil, and using natural pesticides and fertilizers in place of chemical ones.

The flora and fauna in the lake are of large varieties of species including regional herbs and orchids, aquatic and migratory birds, and large numbers of species of fish. Therefore, local people need to work hand in hand with service personnel in conserving the natural lake for its durability.

Union Minister graces graduation show of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon)

YANGON, 29 Aug—Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan graced the show and stage at which students of 15th graduation of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon) for 2010-2011 academic year presented their graduation artworks and performances, at National Theatre on Myomakaung Road here today.

It was also attended by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Yangon Region Finance and Revenue Minister Daw San San Nwe, Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, departmental heads of Information Ministry and Culture Ministry, members of National Culture and Fine Arts Universities Council, chairman and executives of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon, Myanmar Artists and Artisans Asiayon, and Myanmar Dramatists Asiayon, judges, the rector and faculty members of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon), graduate students and their parents.

Next, the students showed their performances.

The Union Minister and party then cordially greeted artistes, teachers and students.

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe view theses of students.

Myanmar National TV new channel to be aired

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—A new channel namely Myanmar National TV has been on schedule to air nationwide soon. The channel with Myanmar Language intends to serve varieties of sectors such as entertainment, infotainment programmes as well as current affairs at home and abroad.

As a part-time channel, it will be entertaining by the end of 2011. Later, it will be transitioned into a 24-hour one.
Another NATO soldier killed in Afghanistan’s restive south

KABUL, 29 Aug — A NATO soldier was killed in an operation in Afghanistan’s restive southern region on Sunday, bringing the number of military alliance casualties to three in a single day, NATO said on Monday.


Another ISAF soldier was killed in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack in southern Afghanistan while the third service member lost his life in an militant attack also on Sunday in the same region, according to separate ISAF statements issued on Sunday.

3 killed, 7 wounded in Iraqi violence

BAGHDAD, 29 Aug—Three security members were killed and seven people wounded in separate attacks in Baghdad and Iraq’s eastern province of Diyala on Monday, the police said.

In Diyala, gunmen using silenced weapons at dawn attacked a checkpoint in central Baquba, the provincial capital city, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, killing two policemen and a member of a local Awakening Council group, a source from the provincial operations command told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. Two more policemen were wounded by the gunmen who fled the scene after the attack, the source said. Meanwhile, a roadside bomb went off in the morning near a police patrol in Zaafaraniyah District in southeastern Baghdad, damaging a police vehicle and wounding two policemen aboard along with three bystanders, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua. —Xinhua

Over 50 people feared dead in eastern Uganda landslides

KAMPALA, 29 Aug—Twenty-two bodies have been exhumed and over 30 people are still missing after a series of landslides in the mountainous eastern Ugandan District of Bulambuli on Monday morning, local and police authorities in the region said. Simon Wanzofu, the district chairperson for the disaster-hit area told Xinhua by telephone that 22 bodies have been recovered and over 30 others are still missing after the landslides swept away two villages in the district.—Xinhua

Afghan Police and locals stand near the damaged vehicles after an explosion in Lashkar Gah, the capital of Helmand Province, Afghanistan, on 27 Aug, 2011. A car bomb exploded outside a bank in a major southern Afghan City Saturday, killing four people, officials said.

Taliban militants killed in S Afghanistan

LASHKAR GAH, 29 Aug—Security forces had killed 12 Taliban militants in Helmand Province 555 km south of capital City Kabul on Sunday, spokesman for provincial administration Daud Ahmadi said Monday.

“Security forces came in contact with a group of armed Taliban rebels in Washir district on Sunday during which 12 militants were killed,” Ahmadi told Xinhua.

A Taliban commander Mullah Salam sustained injuries during the fighting, he said. There were no casualties on the troops, he emphasized.

Taliban militants fighting Afghan and NATO-led troops have yet to make comment.—Xinhua

28 dead in Iraqi suicide bombing

BEIRUT, 29 Aug—A suicide bomber has attacked a mosque in Iraq’s Capital Baghdad, killing 28 people and wounding at least 40 others. A local source says the bomber went inside the Umm al-Qura mosque in the west of the capital and detonated his explosives during evening prayers.

Children are among the victims. Police say no one has so far claimed responsibility and investigations are continuing. Also on Sunday, a civilian died and eight others were wounded when a car bomb exploded in the Baya District of southwest Baghdad.

Eight wounded in vehicular militant attack in Tel Aviv

JERUSALEM, 29 Aug—Eight people were wounded in south Tel Aviv early Monday morning, when a Palestinian rammed a stolen taxi into a police roadblock and went on a stabbing spree outside a nightclub.

Police identified the perpetrator as a 22-year-old resident of the West Bank City of Nablus.—Xinhua

Policemen and residents gather at the site of a bomb attack in Najaf, 160 km (100 miles) south of Baghdad. Al Qaeda has resurfaced in former Iraqi strongholds, adding to the threat from more powerful and organized Shi’ite militias just as US troops prepare to leave, Iraqi officials say. Car and roadside bomb attacks killed about 70 people across Iraq last week, while al Qaeda’s local affiliate, Islamic State of Iraq (ISI), has ordered members of the Sunni Sahwa militia to rejoin its ranks.—INTERNET

However, the brief statements did not provide details about the exact place of incidents and nationality of victims, 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 there.

Taliban militants, whose regime was toppled in a US-led incursion in late 2001, have intensified activities since the militant group announced to launch spring offensive against Afghan security forces and NATO-led troops stationed in Afghanistan on 1 May. Over 410 NATO soldiers, most of them Americans, have been killed in Afghanistan since the beginning of this year.—Xinhua

A Pakistani rescue worker is seen through the bullet-riddled window of a passenger train following an attack by unknown gunmen in southwest Pakistan’s Mach on 28 Aug, 2011. At least five people were killed and 17 others injured when a passenger train was attacked by unknown gunmen Sunday afternoon in southwest Pakistan Province of Balochistan, reported local Urdu TV channel Dunya. —Xinhua

A local source told Xinhua that 22 bodies have been recovered and over 30 others are still missing after the landslides swept away two villages in the district. —Xinhua

A picture shows a railway station in Kandahar, southern Afghanistan, the day after an attack by militants. —AFP
WASHINGTON, 29 Aug—A review of 1,000 studies found no links between vaccines and autism and type 1 diabetes, a team of US researchers said.

A committee of experts convened by the Institute of Medicine, a non-profit group outside the framework of the US federal government to provide independent guidance and analysis to improve health, said few health problems are caused by or clearly associated with vaccines.

The committee said its review found convincing evidence of 14 health outcomes — including seizures, inflammation of the brain and fainting — that can, in rare instances, be caused by certain vaccines.

The group found indicative, though less clear, data on associations between specific vaccines and four other effects, such as allergic reactions and temporary joint pain.

In addition, the review found convincing evidence that the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine can lead to fevertiggered seizures in some recipients, although these effects are almost always without long-term consequences, the report said. The MMR vaccine appears to trigger short-term joint pain in some women and children, the experts said.

“The findings should be reassuring to parents that few health problems are clearly connected to immunizations, and these effects occur relatively rarely,” Ellen Wright Clayton, professor of pediatrics and law, at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, said in a statement. “And repeated study has made clear that some health problems are not caused by vaccines.”

The Institute of Medicine is part of the National Academy of Sciences.

No vaccine and autism link found

Wells Fargo, JPMorgan, Loan Star win Anglo Irish loans

New York, 29 Aug—Wells Fargo & Co, JPMorgan Chase & Co and Loan Star Funds were the winners of the $9.3 billion pool of U.S. commercial real estate loan sold by failed lender Anglo Irish Bank Corp, two sources familiar with the deal said.

Pedestrians walk past a branch of Anglo Irish Bank in Dublin, on 30 September, 2010.

The sale marks one of the biggest since the downturn in US commercial real estate four years ago.

It attracted more than two dozen buyers, said a source who was not authorized to speak on the record. The total price paid for all the loans was between $7 billion and $8 billion, the source said.

To attract a large pool of potential buyers, the portfolio was broken into eight separate pools according to the performance of the loan and the length to maturity.

The first three pools contained performing loans. JPMorgan was the winner of the first tranche comprising loans with a balance of about $1 billion to $1.5 billion, the source said.

Wells Fargo won the second and third tranches valued at about $3 billion to $3.5 billion, the source said. Wells Fargo recently bought a $1.4 billion performing loan portfolio from the failed Bank of Ireland for about $1 billion, another source said.

Global distressed debt and equity investor Lone Star won the remaining five pools of sub-performing and non-performing loans. The five pools have a face value of about $5 billion.

Those loans, which could lead to the buyer either getting the property or restructuring the loans, had attracted other private equity firms, such as TPG Capital LP and Blackstone Group LP. The winners were notified Thursday night, another source said.

Bloomberg first reported the story. The sales are expected to close in October. The pools have also been split along the lines of real estate types — hotels, apartments, condominiums, offices and warehouses, according to an information sheet obtained by Reuters.

Anglo Irish and a spokesman for JPMorgan declined to comment.

Representatives from Loan Star and Wells Fargo could not be reached for comment.—Reuters

Some of the five grounded Tiger Airways planes sit on the tarmac at Melbourne’s Tullamarine Airport on 8 July, 2011.

Tiger Airways CEO to quit by November

SINGAPORE, 29 Aug—Singapore-based budget airline Tiger Airways on Monday announced that its chief executive Tony Davis was quitting with effect from November. Davis is leaving the company on 1 November 2011 to take up a new position outside of the company, Tiger said in a statement to the Singapore Exchange, where it is listed. The statement did not mention where Davis, who joined Tiger Airways in 2005, was heading. He will also vacate his position as executive director of the airline when he leaves. Tiger Airways acting chief executive Chin Yau Seng will succeed Davis, who is currently seconded to Tiger Airways Australia as chief executive. Tiger Airways this month announced plans to raise S$158.6 million (US$131 million) in a rights issue to fund its expansion, including the purchase of aircraft.

It also said the funds would be used to bolster its balance sheet and provide financial flexibility as it recovers from losses incurred after its Australian operations were suspended for six weeks due to safety concerns.

Tiger Airways Australia had lost about S$2 billion per week before Australian regulators lifted the suspension and the airline resumed its flights on 12 August.—Internet

Ear infections are extremely common, especially in runny-nosed kids. The latest research indicates that when young children get colds, they end up with an ear infection 61% of the time. Keep reading to find out why.

No vaccine and autism link found

Wells Fargo, JPMorgan, Loan Star win Anglo Irish loans
Berliner, 29 Aug—Mercedes-Benz, the world leading luxury car producer, celebrates the 125th anniversary of its invention of automobile with what it claimed the largest gathering ever, at the former Tempelhof airport in Berlin on the weekend.

The Berlin 29th anniversary of the invention of the automobile was marked by the Republic of China’s attendance, with 1,800 well-assorted Mercedes-Benz-branded vehicles, ranging from vintage and classic passenger cars to a variety of historic commercial vehicles, on a vast open area of 250,000 square metres of the abandoned Tempelhof airport, which was closed in 2008.

A visitor looks at a vintage car during a Mercedes-Benz vintage car show to mark the German car maker's 125th founding anniversary at the former Tempelhof airport in Berlin, Germany, on 28 Aug, 2011.—Xinhua

Details of Sony’s S1 PlayStation Tablet revealed

NEW YORK, 29 Aug—Technology blog Engadget has uncovered additional details about one of Sony’s forthcoming tablets, previously announced as the S1 tablet.

“The official name of the S1 is the Sony PlayStation Tablet S,” revealed Engadget, adding that Sony is “currently projected to bring its 9.4-inch (1280x768) screen to market in the first two weeks of September.”

In April Sony announced that its S1 tablet would run version 3.0 of Google’s Android operating system but Engadget believes the touchscreen device will ship with the newer Android 3.1 Honeycomb OS “with an eye towards upgrading to Ice Cream Sandwich once that’s available.”

The S1 is designed for media consumption with a 9.4-inch display, two cameras and a curved-top, “off-centre design” that is conducive to extended viewing sessions.

Sony has previously said that the tablets will be able to “smoothly access digital content including videos, games and books through Sony’s premium network services and more, on-the-go at any time.”

Engadget provided further details about the S1’s connectivity adding that it will provide seamless access and control of all devices in the home thanks to integrated WiFi, DLNA-compatibility and an IR blaster.

Both tablets will have access to Sony’s existing Qriocity music and video streaming service and readers will be able to download digital titles from Sony’s Reader Store.

Engadget did not provide any details about Sony’s second book-like dual-screen S2 tablet.

“We don’t know yet is [the Sony PlayStation Tablet S’s] final price — we’d heard $599 previously — but there should be more to say about that and the clamshell S2 tablet soon,” wrote Engadget.

It took Mr Lauritzen and his wife two days drive of their cherished wecker of Mercedes-Benz Cabriolet B. 320 W 142.3.4L to reach here for taking part in the pageant.

“It is a long journey, but we are happy to be here to see more class cars and more friends with same interests,” Mrs Lauritzen said. Owners take the opportunity to present their lovingly cared-for vehicles, which include a number of truly rare items of automotive history, to the Berlin public.—Xinhua

Cassini closes in on Saturn’s tumbling moon Hyperion

WASHINGTON, 29 Aug—NASA’s Cassini spacecraft captured new views of Saturn’s oddly shaped moon Hyperion during its encounter with a cratered body on 25 Aug. Raw images were acquired as the spacecraft flew past the moon at a distance of about 15,500 miles (25,000 kilometres), making this the second closest encounter.

Hyperion is a small moon — just 168 miles (270 kilometres) across. It has an irregular shape and surface appearance, and it rotates chaotically as it tumbles along in orbit. This odd rotation prevented scientists from predicting exactly what terrain the spacecraft’s cameras would image during this flyby. However, this flyby’s closeness has likely allowed Cassini’s cameras to map new territory. At the very least, it will help scientists improve colour measurements of the moon. It will also help them determine how the moon’s brightness changes as lighting and viewing conditions change, which can provide insight into the texture of the surface. The colour measurements provide additional information about different materials on the moon’s deeply pitted surface.

Cassini’s closest encounter with Hyperion was on September 26, 2005, when the spacecraft flew approximately 310 miles (500 kilometres) above the moon’s surface.

Cassini’s next flyby of Hyperion will be on Sept. 16, 2011, when it passes the tumbling moon at a distance of about 36,000 miles (58,000 kilometres).

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency.

Samsung launches mobile instant messaging tool

SEOUL, 29 Aug—Samsung Electronics Co said on Monday it would launch a mobile instant messaging tool in its latest push to attract more consumers to its handsets and challenge rivals such as Apple and BlackBerry maker Research in Motion.

The new service, called ChatON, will be available from October and preinstalled in Samsung’s feature phones as well as smartphones running on its own bada operating system and Google’s Android software, it said.

With the move, Samsung enters an already crowded mobile messaging market, which telecom carriers fear will hit revenue from profitable text messaging services.

Apple plans to roll out iMessage, enabling the millions of iPhone and iPad users to send messages to one another over the Internet at no cost, and RIM aims to leverage the popularity of its BlackBerry Messenger with a new music service.

Samsung’s messaging tool will work across all major smartphone platforms including iPhone and BlackBerry and will allow users to send text, images, and hand-written notes, as well as chat in groups and share video clips.

A customer looks at a Samsung Electronics mobile phone on display at a Samsung Electronics shop at the company’s headquarters in Seoul on 29 April, 2011.—INTERNET

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First Pyithu Hluttaw second regular…

(from page 1)

that the medical institution also receives HIV/AIDS patients; and that therefore, feasibility study is being carried out to build a hospital in a suitable place for the comfort of the people of Taikkyi, Hnawby, Hlegu and Mingaladon townships.

In response to the question of Dr Aung Than from Shwebo Constituency that legal drug stores and illegal drug stores and even betel quid shops sell drugs, and drugs are sold indiscriminately everywhere; that so unsystematic consumption of drugs leads to many undesirable consequences inclusive of being resistant to drugs; and that therefore he asked if there is a plan that drugs are sold only with the prescription of a medical professional and if there is a quality control unit system, he said that National Drugs law Section (16) says that anyone shall not produce, store and distribute raw materials for medicines or medicines with license; that drug stores can be run only by licensed ones; that selling drugs indiscriminately is prohibited in townships and villages across Myanmar; that anyone who wants to get a license to sell drugs retail or wholesale has to apply to the Township Foods and Drugs Supervisory Committee concerned under the Myanmar Foods and Drugs Administration, and a license is issued to him if he meets all the requirements; that there is a rule on Prescription Only Medicine and Over The Counter Medicine; that mixed drugs are prohibited; that the Foods and Drugs Administration regularly examines the drugs on market; and that in 2010, it examined 1800 drugs applied for registration and 115 samples of drugs.

In response to the question of U Khin Maung Shwe from Tamu Constituency if an appropriate building will be built for Tamu General Hospital in Tamu District, Sagaing Region, as it has not had an appropriate building yet although it has been upgraded from a 25-bedded to a 100-bedded one, he said that a budget of 181.779 million kyats for the 2011-2012 fiscal year has been passed at the Department of Health; and that a programme is being put out to tender to build one ward, one lab/X-ray room, a five-unit building of assistant surgeons and a six-unit building of nurses.

In response to the question of U Aye from Homalin Constituency if vacancies for posts of doctors in 100-bedded Homalin Hospital in Sagaing Region will be filled as soon as possible as it has only two of the 11 posts for assistant surgeons, he said that at Homalin Hospital are one medical superintendent, one assistant surgeon (orthopedics), one assistant surgeon (OG), one assistant surgeon (surgical), and one assistant surgeon; that a plan is underway to install specialists (medical science, paediatrics and anaesthesiatics) at the hospital and at Hhamanti Station Hospital, Thaungthut Station Hospital and Shwepyiaye Station Hospital as soon as possible.

In response to the question of Dr Than Win from North Okkalapa Constituency what the Ministry of Health will do as the radiotherapy machine at Yangon General Hospital is too old and is out of order, so cancer patients have to undergo infrared radiation at Taungyyi Hospital in Shan State or in a foreign country, and patients from suburban wards are needy and the cost-sharing system is not enough, and the question that the Union Minister said that the government cannot appoint all the doctors holding medical license produced by the universities for medicine under the Ministry of Health, and many of them are engaged in non-medicine enterprises, and so the nation suffers a lot and what the government will do for the medical license holders, the Union Minister said that a monthly interest of K 300,000 from the trust fund for needy patients of the emergency ward of Yangon General Hospital, and a monthly interest of K 300,000 from other departmental fund (drugs) are set as a separate fund; medical examinations for X-rays, diagnosis, ultrasound and CT Scan are carried out free of charge for patients; that they are done by the assistant surgeon on duty off the office hours; and the examinations are done under the supervision of the assistant medical superintendent, the deputy medical superintendent, and the medical superintendent in office hours; that a reserve fund of 300,000 to 500,000 kyats donated by separate well-wishers is kept at the assistant medical superintendent to buy medical equipment if need be; that drugs are bought from the drug stores in the emergency unit as necessary, and charges of medicines are settle only after they are used so that medicines and medical equipment for patients are ready whenever necessary; that the oxygen pipeline system is installed in the emergency unit, and oxygen is supplied at the 15 units in the hospital; that an annual fund of 900,000 kyats from the interests of the trust funds is provided to each ward in order that the physician in charge can manage it for needy patients; that if it is not enough, necessary drugs are bought through the deputy medical superintendent validating a bill to the drug depot; that the funds for the cost-sharing system are used with the permission of the medical superintendent; that separate funds are set with the programme of the physician in each ward concerned; that drugs are also replenished under the departmental funds accounts (03-01) and (05-03); that the Department of Health is taking measures to buy some more ambulances in transferring patients from suburban hospitals to Yangon General Hospital; and that so there will be unnecessary delays in transferring patients; that previously, Yangon General Hospital had three radiotherapy machines, and one of them was beyond repair two years ago; that now, one modern machine and one old machine are all, and each patient has to wait for three to four months; that public contributions were received commencing August 2009 to import Theratron Phoenix Eternal Therapy System from Canada; that it arrived at Radiotherapy Unity of Yangon General Hospital on 26 July 2011, and it is now in the process of being installed by the foreign engineer; that in the first week of September, one more engineer from Canada arrived with source, and in cooperation with experts from I.A.E.A, he is adjusting the radiation, and the machine will soon be transferred to Yangon General Hospital; that the process of regularly receiving patients is expected to start by this October; that with the help of this foreign expert, the machines out of order will be repaired and needed parts will be imported with the help of I.A.E.A; that if all the three machines are serviceable, each patient has to wait for only one month; that during the period of one month, necessary arrangements can be made and lab tests can be made; and that a similar question on need to appoint more doctors from universities of medicine was answered at the fifth-day session of Pyithu Hluttaw on 26 August.

The Union minister said that the question raised by U Aung Thein Lin from South Okkalapa Constituency is similar to that of Dr Than Win.

In response to the question of U Soe Naing from Pyayon Constituency if necessary amendments will be made the rules on bank interest rates in the interest of exporters, businessmen and the people, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue said that the interest rates of the Central Bank of Myanmar are set as necessary on deposits and loans to help improve the nation’s economy; that according to the Central Bank law and rules, the Central Bank of Myanmar lays down monetary policies occasionally reviewing the economic and financial conditions of the nation to boost and stabilize the...
nation’s economy; that in changing the interest rates, one of the monetary means, the Central Bank of Myanmar lowers interest rates as it needs to encourage investments to deal with the nation’s economic downturn and accelerate the nation’s economy, and it needs to increase interest rates when the economic growth and inflation rate are high; that to fix bank interest rates, it needs to take account of the economic objectives and prevailing conditions of the nation; that the deposits and loans of banks are on the increase; that the government keeps an eye on bank interest rates and related economic points including bank deposit and loan rates; and that necessary plans will be underway when it is opportune to adjust interest rates in the interest of the savers and borrowers.

In response to the question of U Shwe Maung (a) Adn Rawsep from Buthidaung Constituency what the government will do to dissuade national experts from going abroad and persuade national experts living abroad to return to the motherland in the interest of the nation and the people, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko said that some of the Myanmar young people staying abroad for further studies do not return to the country and keep living and earning their living there; that some national experts are emigrating to foreign countries; that some do not go abroad for good, but are working for companies and enterprises in the foreign country concerned they are living; that working in a foreign country is based on the extent of living; that working in a foreign country concerned they are earning their living there; that some do not go back to the country and keep living and earning their living there; that some welcome back any national experts who can work for the country.

It is found that to go abroad, some Myanmar citizens have practiced illegal ways including breaking laws and staying in foreign countries after going abroad illegally. Legal action can be taken anyone who go abroad illegally. Responsible departments are working together with ASEAN Police Force and International Police Force to arrest those who have violated law and stay in foreign countries.

The government has planned to work together with experts to stop the movement of Myanmar scholars to foreign countries and to attract them to come back to Myanmar.

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour, licensed employment agencies sent altogether 586,806 semi-skilled and general workers to 15 foreign countries from 1990 to July, 2011 and no scholars were sent to foreign countries. As part of efforts for creating more job opportunities for scholars, the government has been creating opportunities for those who want to do investment in the country in high-tech factories and research and services. Besides, the ministry is making efforts to attract Myanmar scholars in foreign countries to work in the country.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan replied the questions raised by U Aung San, a representative of Pabedan constituency, on “whether any plan to introduce a bill for life security of athletes in an attempt to produce outstanding athletes in Myanmar, and any plan to hire experienced international coaches to train Myanmar athletes who will participate in the XXVII SEA Games in 2013 and to make friendly matches with foreign athletes and teams.”

The Union Minister said as part of efforts for improvement of sports, there are 187 sports grounds, 84 stadiums, 50 tennis courts and stadiums and grounds for other sports across the country. To achieve success in the upcoming SEA Games, the ministry has organized division/state sports competitions and made field trips to select the new generations of sports athletes. Moreover, the ministry has planned to hold the Champion Challenge Cup Tournaments for sports clubs in states and divisions as from September, 2011, and to provide cash, sports equipment and awards to them.

To produce new generations of athletes from universities, colleges and basic education schools, the ministry has arranged to send trainers of the ministry to universities, colleges and schools to train athletes there in timetables and has made coordination with responsible personnel to hold sports competitions for students. The ministry will help the selected new generation athletes receiving trainings at respective sports federations and send them to the Sports and Physical Education School 2 to become the country’s selected athletes. Arrangements are being made to do research on and to apply international sports techniques and to do search on sports medical science and to apply it in an attempt to improve the sports standard.

So far 28 foreign coaches have been hired for 18 sports federations, and arrangements are being made to hire qualified foreign coaches for remaining sports federations, to train selected athletes along with skilful athletes from foreign athletes to boost their speed and to make friendly matches with sports teams from foreign countries.

Therefore, the ministry has made efforts for life security of athletes and will consider the bill, and has laid down plans for hiring more coaches from foreign countries and to organize more friendly matches, the Union Minister for Sports said.

Afterwards, Member of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee U Stephen proposed the open letter signed and announced by 23 hluttaw representatives with the name of People’s Representatives and National Races Representatives to the Hluttaw. The Pyithu Hluttaw agreed and recorded it. The open letter was covered in the issues of daily dated 9, August.

Afterwards, ten representatives discussed the proposal “to provide necessary arrangements for drafting a bill of the Prisons Act which is agreeable to the 21st century and guarantee human dignity and to introduce the bill to the third regular session of the first Pyithu Hlutaw” submitted by U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency. Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko said not to waste energy of the prisoners and to benefit the State, the prisoners at prisons, labour camps and new life camps are assigned to agricultural, livestock breeding and production jobs. The ministry has allowed the prisoners to enjoy their wages. But, their wages are saved at the prisons and they are allowed to get back their wages when they are released. At new life camps, the prisoners are called workers and they can save their wages, their family members are allowed to visit and stay with them and hospitals, clinics and schools are set up for them. Besides, if they wish to live in the new life camps when they are released, the ministry provide them with homes, land for farming, farming equipment, loans free and help them to live with dignity in societies.

Moreover, with the aim of not only punishing them, but also improving their mental and physical abilities, the prisoners have to learn vocational skills, and meditation centers are also opened for them so that they become good citizens and are not willing to commit crime again.

At present, the draft of the Myanmar Prisons Act (2006) have already written as the bill and plans are underway to introduce the bill to the Hluttaw in accordance with rules and regulations, the Union Minister said.

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 30 August, 2011**

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

The second best time is now.
Second regular session…

(from page 16)

that market prices are informed through radios and telephones (SMS) for the knowledge of farmers; under the supervision of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, MKCPA is organizing private entrepreneurs to provide cold storage services by setting up cold storages in the heartland of transportation and transaction activities to ensure less damages to vegetables and their qualities.

U Thein Win from Constituency No. 9 of Sagaing Region asked whether issuance of individual trading cards will be allowed with fixed period for traders with medium and small capitals and whether goods prohibited from importation will be allowed for legally importation and small capitals and whether goods allowed for importation of the required amount with the recommendation of the FDA; that importation ahmwe and papala, being foodstuffs, is allowed with recommendation of the FDA; that as to importation of various kinds of medicines, it is allowed if applied with drug importation approval certificate and drug registration certificate issued by the FDA of Health Department under the Ministry of Health in addition to recommendation of the FDA; that as to wheat seeds and paddy and K 10000 per acre of beans, so there is a huge gap between the amount of loans and actual production cost and asked there is any plan for increased agricultural loans to cover the whole cultivation of the entire nation with the support of private companies and cooperative syndicates under the arrangement of the State and the future plans if there is any.

The Union Minister replied that it is a question concerned with the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Ministry of Cooperatives and he would answer the question based on the replies of those ministries; that rice dealer companies and beans dealers of private companies and those companies will be more suitable to form a group or company under the permit, recommendation and supervision of the region/state government and ask for importation of the required amount with the recommendation of the FDA; that importation ahmwe and papala, being foodstuffs, is allowed with recommendation of the FDA; that as to importation of various kinds of medicines, it is allowed if applied with drug importation approval certificate and drug registration certificate issued by the FDA of Health Department under the Ministry of Health in addition to recommendation of the FDA; that as to wheat seeds and paddy and K 10000 per acre of beans, so there is a huge gap between the amount of loans and actual production cost and asked there is any plan for increased agricultural loans to cover the whole cultivation of the entire nation with the support of private companies and cooperative syndicates under the arrangement of the State and the future plans if there is any.

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Second regular session…

(from page 8)

So, the Union government, he went on that, is loaning K 40000 per acre of paddy and K 10000 per acre of other crops and other separated loans are being provided to farmers through agricultural production and hawkers credit unions and agricultural production cooperative syndicates under the arrangement of the Ministry of Cooperatives; that rice dealer companies and beans and pulses dealer companies are also providing farmers with agricultural loans, seeds, inputs, and farming equipment; that plans are underway to further provide to farmers by extensively establishing rice and beans and pulses dealer companies in townships; that the Union government is striving for increased provision of agricultural loans covering the entire nation with the support of dealer companies and cooperative syndicates under the arrangement of Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank.

U Tin Maung Myint of Taninthayi Region Constituency No. 3 raised a question that local coastal fishing boats are being in trouble because of trawling boats casting nets within about one mile off the coast in western sea of Taninthayi Region. They are illegally carrying out fishing works even in non-fishing period, using lighting boats with the use of over voltage than permitted and unlawful fishing nets that lead to fish extinction. He asked the long-term arrangements so as to prevent extinction of natural species in fishing.

Union Minister for Livestock, Breeding and Fisheries U Tin Naing Then replied to the question that the ministry has designated the sea 10 miles away from coast as offshore waters in which 30-foot-long boats with more than 20-horsepower engine are labeled deep-sea boats. Their fishing area is designated outside the area 10 miles away from the shore. If trawling boats and deep-sea boats are found fishing in offshore waters, they are fined under the title of undisciplined boats. If anyone comes forward with undisublimeled boats, Fisheries Department will take actions against those undisublimeled boats.

The fishing area around Kyunsu Township in Mawlamyine and Thayabyuam and Thuyun Amin island is claimed as no-fishing zone during fish and prawn reproduction season. He requested that it is needed to inform the officials of undisublimeled boats in order to take action against them.

The Fisheries Department of the Ministry has issued Notification No. (13/2010) dated 30-4-2010 defining Cod End Mesh Size to 2 inches and banning fishing with high-voltage induction fishing tackle for survival of fish and prawn resources and sustainable production.

Departmental personnel inspect the size of fishing nets before departure of fishing boats at respective stations to ensure the use of eligible nets.

A paper reading session on survivability and production of fish and prawn resources from Myanmar’s offshore fishery was held on 1 and 4 July, 2011, as an attempt of the Ministry to avert the situation of fish and meat insufficiency following extinction of fish species. As a result, 37 resolutions were adopted to ban fishing tools which could hurt the fishery resources and to take actions against fishing boats which fail to abide by the rules. These resolutions and regional cooperative measures of Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre for sustainable conservation of fishery resources are long-term plans for protection of biodiversities.

U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region Constituency (3) asked “whether magistrates in Myanmar visit prisons and reports under Court Directives (8/62) and (8/68) or not and if any, whether the statement will be released or not?” Union Chief Justice U Tun Tun Oo answered that the Court Directives (8/62) and (8/68) are instructions for magistrates to visit jails monthly to acquire the interruption of criminal hearings. The living, food and health situations of detainees and prisoners are to be included in the report of their visit. It was when the Correction Department was under the Ministry of Justice that these directives were issued.

The 1974 Public Judge Group Law, 1988 Judiciary Law and 2000 Judiciary Law suggest that the judges have the rights to visit jails, labour camps, and police custody camps to ensure legal rights of those serving prison terms and under custody to avoid delay of the hearings and so does 2010 Union Judiciary Law. So, it is in accord with the Union Judiciary Law.

In response to the question raised by U Zarad Rawmam (a) U Htay Win of Rakhine State Constituency (7) that “indigenous Myanmar Muslim voters in Maungtaw District of Rakhine State cannot travel freely; to travel other Regions or States for economic, education, health and social reasons, they have to take action Form (4) of Immigration Department under the directive of Na-Sa-Ka, forcing them to face many difficulties in socio-economic life; and how the state will help address this issue”, Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi answered that those who are labeled “Myanmar Muslim” are also allowed to travel in Maungtaw of Rakhine State; as Maungtaw neighbored with another country for about 152 miles and Bangladesh in Maungtaw have shared border, a common language and culture, the residents there could hurt the fishery resources and to take actions against fishing boats which fail to abide by the rules. These resolutions and regional cooperative measures of Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Centre for sustainable conservation of fishery resources are long-term plans for protection of biodiversities.

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China has 929.84 million mobile phone users

BEIJING, 29 Aug—More Chinese citizens are relying on their mobile phones as their primary method of communication, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) on Monday.

China’s mobile phone operators added 70.83 million new subscribers in the first seven months of this year, bringing the country’s total number of cell phone users to 929.84 million, the MIIT said in a statement on its website.

Fixed-line telecommunication companies, however, lost 4.89 million subscribers during the January-July period. The total number of third-generation (3G) mobile phone service subscribers expanded to 87.2 million by the end of July, according to the MIIT.

The entire telecommunications industry collected 559.46 billion yuan ($76.6 billion US dollars) in business revenues during the January-July period, up 10.1 percent year-on-year, according to the MIIT.

“... I want people to understand that this is not over,” US President Barack Obama said Sunday evening from Washington. “The recovery effort will last for weeks or longer.”

Millions of homes and businesses have been blacked out and about 20 people died as Irene pounded through the US states of North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania, as well as New York City and Washington, DC.

20 perish in Nigeria flood

MOSCOW, 29 Aug—At least 20 people have died in a flood in southwestern Nigeria, media reports said.

“The death of 20 people has been officially confirmed. The situation is very serious,” said Yushau Shuaib, an official of the country’s emergency agency.

Torrential rain which began Friday triggered the flood. Thousands of people have been evacuated from the area.
Eat chocolate daily to reduce heart disease risk by a third

LONDON, 29 Aug—Here’s good news for all chocolate lovers—a research has indicated that a daily dose of chocolate could slash the risk of developing heart disease by a third.

Scientists have known for some time that a small amount of cocoa-rich dark chocolate can be good for you because of its high antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties.

But now a review of seven previous studies has suggested that the benefits may be more widespread.

Researchers analysed the studies of more than 100,000 participants with and without existing heart disease.

For each study, they compared the group with the highest chocolate consumption against the group with the lowest consumption.

Five studies reported a beneficial link between higher levels of chocolate consumption and the risk of cardiovascular problems. They found that the “highest levels of chocolate consumption were associated with a 37 percent reduction in cardiovascular disease and a 29 percent reduction in stroke compared with lowest levels,” reports the Daily Express.

Researcher Dr Oscar Franco, from the University of Cambridge, said just how eating chocolate affects your heart remains unclear. He said further studies were needed to test if chocolate causes the reduction or if it can be explained by some other factor. The finding has been published online in the British Medical Journal.

Gulf Airplane skids off runway in S India, seven injured

MUMBAI, 29 Aug—One aircraft from Gulf Air skidded off the runway early Monday morning in port city Cochin of southern India, said Press Trust of India.

Seven passengers suffered injuries and two people have serious conditions, said the report.

The GF 270 flight with 137 passengers and six crew members on board thenricked into the mud. Passengers were evacuated from emergency exits and shifted to the health centre with the airport. The plane landed was completely shut down and it will take at least one hour to resume operations, said ACK Nair, director with the airport.

All the international and domestic flights bound to land in Cochin were diverted to surrounding areas and the Cochin airport has been full of passengers due to the shutdown of operations. The incident could be resulted out from of control shortly before landing while hitting air pockets, said the report.

13 fishermen poisoned by rare fish species

KALIBO, 29 Aug—Some 13 fishermen in Central Philippines were believed to have been poisoned by rare fish species in Mabilo Village, Kalibo in Aklan Province Monday morning, a local official said.

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) are currently investigating the incident and if the fish species they ate were poisonous, an official with the BFAR said.

The fishermen are working in the netting project of the BFAR. The fishermen said there were around 30 of them who ate the fish but only 13 of them were hospitalized.

All of the 13 victims suffered allergy like reactions such as stomach ache, drowsiness, skin irritation among others. Some of them were confined in the hospital while others were placed in an out patient department.

Teen falls to death from Australia bridge

MELBOURNE, 29 Aug—A teenaged boy, who was attempting to scrawl graffiti on the Southern Expressway bridge in South Australia, fell to his death early Monday morning.

Southern Expressway bridge is the world’s longest reversible one way freeway, built as a corridor to relieve heavy traffic from the major arterial, Main South Road in Adelaide’s south.

It is understood that the youth slipped from a narrow ledge on the side of the bridge, falling on rocks in Christie’s Creek below, AdelaideNow reported.

A pedestrian discovered the body while walking along the Morphett Vale creek, a southern suburb of Adelaide in South Australia, about 8 a.m.

A backpack containing spray cans was recovered from the site, said police.

“It’s not just about the graffiti, it’s about public safety,” said Inspector Stephen Howard.““These bridges are not built for people to climb on.”” —Internet

Three killed in Chicago car crash

CHICAGO, 29 Aug—Three people were killed Sunday morning after their car was hit by a SUV on the rear in South Chicago. The victims, including a woman, her son and a friend, were pronounced dead in the afternoon after being hospitalized, police source said.

A police officer was quoted by the Chicago Tribune as saying that the car stopped in the centre lane with lights off at the time.

The SUV’s driver, a 64-year-old man, was unharmed and there was no indication of alcohol was a factor in the accident.

The case was under further investigation as police still have no idea why they were stopped in the centre lane. —Xinhua

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German pilot has lucky escape

STOCKSTADT AM MAIN, 29 Aug—The pilot of a tiny private plane made an emergency landing on a small street in western Germany, clipping the side of a house and a lamp post as he landed his ailing Cessna.

Police in Stockstadt am Main say no residents were injured and the 47-year-old pilot and his co-pilot were only lightly hurt in yesterday’s crash of a Cessna in the densely populated area, the news agency dapd reported. It said the street was only 16 feet wide.

Police said the plane was forced down due to a technical defect, but gave no details. There was no estimate of damage. — Internet

Cancer patients in England

‘three times more likely to get key drugs’

LONDON, 29 Aug—Campaiguers have claimed that a “devastating divide” has opened up when it comes to access to cancer drugs, after research revealed that people in England are much more likely to get drugs that their doctors think may work for them than patients living in Scotland or Wales.

Using the Freedom of Information Act, the Rarer Cancers Foundation (RCF) gathered data from health trusts in England on the types of drugs approved through the government’s cancer drugs fund. The fund, worth £200m a year, was set up so that patients in England could be given drugs that had been approved by their doctors but had not been given the go-ahead for widespread use on the NHS.

The data was then compared with exceptional-case approvals for the same drugs in Scotland and Wales.

The analysis suggests that patients in England are three times more likely than people in Scotland to gain access to key cancer drugs, and five times more likely than patients in Wales.

Andrew Wilson, chief executive of the RCF, said: “We are looking forward to the Committee of the House of Commons raising the level of access across the country. If we get the same access as the Scottish and Welsh patients, we would be looking at another £200m on the drugs fund.”

Cancer patients in England benefit from the government’s £200m cancer drugs fund, set up to offer treatment that is not widely available on the NHS.— Internet

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Production

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/373816/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (403)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (403) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.8.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense 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 and 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.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV BIENDONG TRADER VOYNO(1144)

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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.
Man tries to rob bank, gets scolded

Police say a man tried to rob a Boston bank but left without a scolding from a customer.

The would-be robber allegedly walked into Eastern Bank in South Boston Thursday and gave the teller a note that said: “Give me all your money.” The Boston Globe reported.

The teller refused and said the window was closed, police said.

“Then he moved over to the next teller and they scolded him for getting in front,” police spokesman Eddy Chrispin told the newspaper.

The second teller and a customer in line told the man he had to take off his hoodie and wait his turn in line, the newspaper said.

The suspect refused to take off the sweatshirt and left the bank. No one at the scene was injured, and there was no weapon shown.

Police said they were investigating the attempted robbery.

James Bond wins lottery

An Indiana man named James Bond can now enjoy the high-rolling lifestyle of his super-spy namesake after winning a $6.5 million lottery jackpot.

James Bond Jr., 46, of Vincennes said he won the jackpot from an Illinois Lottery ticket he purchased across the border in Lawrenceville, WTHI, Terre Haute, Ind., reported Friday. “I’ve taken a lot of ribbing over the years because of my name,” Bond said. “I loved all the James Bond movies, especially those with Sean Connery, but that’s as far as it goes.”

Bond, who operates a seasonal construction business, said he is meeting with experts to help develop a plan to make the money last for him and his family. He said he will also buy a new extended-cab pickup truck with all-wheel drive.

Longoria part of Beso bankruptcy plan

LAS VEGAS, 29 Aug — Actress Eva Longoria is part of a plan to buy the Beso restaurant in Las Vegas out of bankruptcy, court documents indicate. A subsidiary of the Landry’s chain filed a plan last week to purchase the assets of Beso for $1 million and give Longoria a 30-percent stake in the business, the Las Vegas Sun said.

Longoria was a previous investor in Beso, which is located in the massive City Centre development and was behind in its rent to the tune of $3.5 million. Longoria stands to lose much of her original $1.37 million investment, according to court documents.—Internet

Beckham hires armed guard to protect family

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug — Soccer ace David Beckham has hired an armed bodyguard to protect his family while holidaying on Malibu beach.

David, who has kids Brooklyn, 12, Romeo, eight, Cruz, six and one-and-a-half-month-old daughter Harper Seven with wife Victoria, was spotted being protected by a man wearing an open-holstered pistol and keeping a close eye on his family.

Wedding just happened

LONDON, 29 Aug—Actress Tara Reid admits she hadn’t planned to marry Zack Kehayov so soon but they both felt it was the right time.

The “American Pie” actress who wed the finance worker on the Greek island of Santorini last week after a whirlwind three-month romance, admitted the couple had no intention of taking their relationship to the next level, reports contactmusic.com. “You know when they say, ‘You just know’? That was it for me. I knew. It was love. The wedding wasn’t planned. We didn’t go on holiday to get married,” she said. “But, when he proposed, it felt right and we just thought, ‘Let’s do it now’. We both wore white clothes and just did it on the beach.”

I didn’t suffer breakdown after ‘Avatar’: Zoe Saldana

LONDON, 29 Aug — Actress Zoe Saldana has hit back at reports that she suffered a mental breakdown after filming “Avatar”.

A magazine had quoted the 33-year-old star saying that the promotion and success of the sci-fi epic had taken toll on her physically and emotionally, so much, that she had burst into tears in a Paris hotel and couldn’t control her sobbing, reports contactmusic.com.

But the actress has denied the reports saying the statement was misconstrued.

Ritchie was unsure about ‘Sherlock Holmes’ success

LONDON, 29 Aug—Filmmaker Guy Ritchie has said he had doubts whether his first “Sherlock Holmes” movie would work.

The 42-year-old director, who is working on the second film of the franchise titled “A Game of Shadows”, said that when he shot his first film, he was not confident about the acting abilities of stars Jude Law and Robert Downey Jr.

“I think we’re more confident that we were on the last one. I certainly feel that. I feel certainly more confident that these two can act, which I was ***ing dubious about the first time round!” he quoted Ritchie as saying.

“I think we hit the ground running on this one. But we knew what we were doing,” he added.

POLICE FIND BURGLAR ASLEEP AT CRIME SCENE

Police say a Brainerd, Minn, man who was arrested for burglary may have fallen asleep at the scene of the crime.

Brainerd police received a call about the burglary Wednesday morning, KSNX-TV of Alexandria reported.

The person who reported the break-in told police the man was either asleep or passed out inside the home.

When police arrived at the house, they found an open-holstered pistol and a man wearing an off-duty policeman’s uniform.

Student’s belongings stolen on move-in day

An Oregon college freshman’s sports utility vehicle packed with all of his belongings was stolen the day he was to move into his dormitory room, police say.

Jackson Honer-Hollstien drove from his small hometown in central California to attend college at Concordia University in Portland, Ore., on Wednesday, The (Portland) Oregonian reported. When he woke up on move-in day Thursday, he discovered his white 1997 Toyota 4Runner had been stolen from the parking lot of the motel he stayed in over night. “It’s the worst thing,” Honer-Hollstien, 18, said. “I literally don’t know how to feel.” Among his stolen belongings were his Cannon T2I camera, downhill Armada skis and a new Kindle 3G.

Egret lives with 68-year-old woman

An Indiana man named James Bond can now enjoy the high-rolling lifestyle of his super-spy namesake after winning a $6.5 million lottery jackpot.

James Bond Jr., 46, of Vincennes said he won the jackpot from an Illinois Lottery ticket he purchased across the border in Lawrenceville, WTHI, Terre Haute, Ind., reported Friday. “I’ve taken a lot of ribbing over the years because of my name,” Bond said. “I loved all the James Bond movies, especially those with Sean Connery, but that’s as far as it goes.”

Bond, who operates a seasonal construction business, said he is meeting with experts to help develop a plan to make the money last for him and his family. He said he will also buy a new extended-cab pickup truck with all-wheel drive.

Egret Xiong Baistands on a hand of Huang Yu’ning in Nanhua Village, Baji Township of Nanning, capital of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 25 Aug, 2011. Xiao Bai was adopted by Huang when it was found badly wounded in Nanhua five years ago. And since then, the little egret has lived with Huang and never left away as the 60-year-old Huang cuddles the bird as much as his grandson.
Capello calls up United kids for Euro qualifiers

LONDON, 29 Aug — Fabio Capello has selected Manchester United youngsters Phil Jones, Tom Cleverley and Chris Smalling in his England squad for next month’s Euro 2012 qualifiers against Bulgaria and Wales. Jones, 19, is called up for the first time after a superb start to his United career following a £16.5 million pre-season transfer from Blackburn, while midfielder Cleverley, 22, gets the nod again after being brought in as a late addition to the squad for last month’s postponed friendly against Holland.

Defender Smalling, 21, was an unused substitute for a friendly defeat against France last season and is still waiting for his international debut. On the day United routed Arsenal 9-2 at Old Trafford and Manchester City beat Tottenham 5-1, Capello packed his squad with players from both Manchester clubs. United striker Wayne Rooney, who scored a hat-trick against the Gunners, and winger Ashley Young, who netted twice against Arsene Wenger’s men, were also included.

Squad:
Goalkeepers: Joe Hart (Man City), Rob Green (West Ham), David Stockdale ( Fulham, on loan at Ipswich)

Defenders: Ashley Cole (Chelsea), Gary Cahill (Bolton), John Terry (Chelsea), Leighton Baines (Everton), Phil Jagielka (Everton), Chris Smalling (Man Utd), Phil Jones (Man Utd), Micah Richards (Man City), Joleon Lescott (Man City)

Midfielders: Stewart Downing (Liverpool), Gareth Barry (Man City), Adam Johnson (Man City), James Milner (Man City), Frank Lampard (Chelsea), Tom Cleverley (Man Utd), Ashley Young (Man Utd), Scott Parker (West Ham), Theo Walcott (Arsenal)

Strike: Darren Bent (Aston Villa), Andy Carroll (Liverpool), Wayne Rooney (Man Utd), Jermain Defoe (Tottenham). — Internet

Problems dog ‘three kings’ ahead of US Open

New York, 29 Aug — Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer face a worrying power shortage, but Andy Murray doesn’t expect injury and faltering form to dim tennis’ brightest lights at the US Open. World number one Djokovic, the hottest player in 2011 with a 57-2 winning record, was forced to quit the Cincinnati Masters final against Murray when his weary right shoulder betrayed him. Defending US Open champion Nadal, who completed the career Grand Slam with his victory in 2010, has endured a torrid summer since capturing a record-equalling French Open in June. Early exits in Montreal and Cincinnati again prompted questions over the Spanish’s recovery from a left foot injury which had flared up at Wimbledon when he lost to Djokovic in the final.

Nadal’s mood wasn’t improved when he burned his fingers on his right hand in a Cincinnati restaurant. Federer, meanwhile, is without a major since extending his record Grand Slam collection to 16 at the 2010 Australian Open. Djokovic, Nadal and Federer, having won 28 of the last 31 Grand Slam crowns. Certainly world number four Murray scoffed at suggestions they were particularly vulnerable.

Graphic showing the last 10 winners in the US Open men’s singles. — Internet

World number one Novak Djokovic was forced to quit the Cincinnati Masters final against Andy Murray when his weary right shoulder betrayed him. — Internet

Johnson states case as America’s best young player

Edison, 29 Aug — Dustin Johnson had only one thought after winning The Barclays, which he first told his caddie as they left the 18th green and later swing coach Butch Harmon on his way to the airport. It’s about winning.

Johnson is in that elite group of players who expect to win every year, no matter how much harder that has become these days. Dustin Johnson knows the championship trophy after winning The Barclays in the hurricane shortened golf tournament, on 27 Aug, 2011, in Edison, NJ.— Internet

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Sandblasting in the US Open men’s singles. — Internet

Fanbregas eyes golden start with Barcelona

Barcelona, 29 Aug — Barcelona midfielder Cesc Fabregas is looking forward to a trophy-laden season with his new club and says that his teammates remain as motivated as ever as the Spanish season gets underway this weekend.

Fabregas returned to his hometown club this summer from Arsenal and after coming on for the final minutes last week as Barcelona beat Real Madrid in the domestic Super Cup he is now keen to win more medals.

Barcelona are aiming for their fourth consecutive league champion...

Arsene Wenger has vowed to end Arsenal’s miserable start to the season by splashing the cash in the aftermath of his side’s humiliating 8-2 defeat at Manchester United. — Internet

Wenger plans transfer raids after massacre at United

London, 29 Aug — Arsene Wenger has vowed to end Arsenal’s miserable start to the season by reducing the cash in the aftermath of his side’s humiliating 8-2 defeat at Manchester United. Wenger saw his makeshift team put to the sword as a Wayne Rooney-inspired United inflicted one of the heaviest defeats in Arsenal's history at Old Trafford on Sunday.

The woeful Gunners conceded eight goals for the first time since 1896 in a craven capitulation that served to highlight Wenger’s need to bolster a side that has been ravaged by injuries, suspensions and departures since the start of the season. Arsenal have failed to win any of their first three Premier League matches, losing to United and Liverpool in a disastrous start which has confirmed the worst fears of Gunners fans. However, Wenger, who insists he has no intention of resigning, has money to spend and is poised to act by signing Monaco’s South Korean striker Park Chu-Young, with more deals in the pipeline after the transfer window shuts on Wednesday.

Roger Federer says he’s still hungry as US Open starts

New York, 29 Aug — First came the end of Roger Federer’s remarkable run of reaching a record 10 consecutive Grand Slam finals. Then he failed to make it to a major semifinal after a record 23 in a row.

The US Open marks Federer’s last chance to prevent the close of another streak: In each season from 2003-10, he won at least one Grand Slam title — and sometimes as many as three. He’s 0-for-2011 heading into the year’s last major tournament, where play is scheduled to begin Monday morning, after what the US Tennis Association said was “minimal damage” to the site over the weekend from Tropical Storm Irene.

This US Open also is Federer’s first major tournament since he turned 30 on 8 August. That age tends to represent a barrier to success in tennis. Of the past 100 Grand Slam titles, only five were won by a man past his 30th birthday. The last to do it was Andre Agassi at the 2003 Australian Open.

Roger Federer, of Switzerland
China arrests over 900 in tainted pork crackdown

BEIJING, 29 Aug—Authorities have arrested 989 people over the last six months as part of a national crackdown on the manufacture and sale of clenbuterol, an illegal fat-burning drug that is sometimes used as an additive in pig feed, a public security official said on Monday.

Police busted a criminal ring that was involved in the manufacture and sale of clenbuterol in 65 cities nationwide, according to Xu Hu, a senior official from the Ministry of Public Security.

Police seized 2.5 metric tons of clenbuterol and closed six illegal laboratories, 12 production lines, 19 processing and storage sites and 32 "underground" factories during the crackdown, Xu said.

Authorities launched a food safety campaign in March of this year, with a focus on clenbuterol. A total of 2,000 police officers in the provinces of Hunan, Sichuan, Henan, and Jiangxi, among them members of the military and police, participated in the bust.—MNA/Xinhua

2009 US Open semi-finals

Williams is back at the Grand Slam tournament for the first time since that infamous outburst. She missed the 2010 US Open after having surgery on her right foot. Asked at a pre-tournament news conference Monday whether she learned anything from that episode, Williams said: “I don’t know. I don’t think about it.”

Rolling her eyes, she said: “Oh, my God. That was, like, two years ago.”—Internet
Second regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw goes on for sixth day

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The second regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw was held for the sixth day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Building here today.

Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 210 Hluttaw representatives attended the today’s session.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint answered the queries raised by four representatives.

First, U Swe Aung of Constituency No. 12 of Yangon Region said that vegetables are now traded on commission which leads to huge gap between market price of vegetables and income of the growers and instability of commodity prices; that if agricultural products are sold with competitive bidding system which is widely practiced in most countries, there will be more price stability and an increase in incomes of farmers and asked if there is a plan to set up cold storages for rent.

The Union Minister replied that vegetables are now traded on 10% commission and Myanmar Kitchen Crops Producers Association is taking such measures as setting up syndicates in regions and states, and extended building of brokerages where necessary against such system of trade; that after the establishment of brokerages, steps will be taken to shift to competitive bidding system from sale on commission; that in addition to announcement of daily market prices of commodities in brokerages linking with other brokerages in regions and states in order that everyone including growers can transact; (See page 8)

Mine blast damage tower of Shweli-Mansan national grid damaged, no interruption to power supply

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—A tower of 230 KV Shweli-Mansan national grid near Namtaunggon Village in Namtu Township, Shan State (North) was damaged by insurgent mine on 27 August, but no interruption to the power supply, it is reported.

On 27 August noon, the in-charge of Mine blast damage tower of Shweli-Mansan national grid damaged, no interruption to power supply national grid (Mansan) and party upon knowledge of insurgents’ explosion of F-18 suspension tower, tower No. 305 of Shweli-Mansan national grid went to the scene and found that two out of the four plinths were broken, one cracked and the other remained intact. Although the tower was bent for about two degrees, there was no interruption to the power supply.

Forty staff led by the deputy superintendent engineer from Myanma Electric Power Enterprise and the in-charge are repairing the tower. —MNA

Kaka rules out Madrid exit

Madrid, 29 Aug—Kaka says he will not be leaving Real Madrid before the close of the summer transfer window even though the Brazilian playmaker is unlikely to be a regular starter for coach Jose Mourinho.

The former AC Milan midfielder has remained out of the Brazil’s squad as he tries to re-discover his form following a string of injuries. He moved to the Santiago Bernabeu for a fee of $83million in the summer of 2009.

Inter Milan agree Forlan deal

Milan, 29 Aug—Diego Forlan is joining Inter Milan after Atletico Madrid agreed to sell the Uruguay striker to the Serie A club.

Financial terms of the deal were not announced.

Forlan will fill the vacant striker spot left after Samuel Eto’s departure for Russian club Anzhi Makhachkala.

The former Manchester United play-er says “it’s not every day you get the chance to play for Inter Milan at 32.” Forlan, who was named best player at last year’s World Cup in South Africa after Uruguay reached the semifinals, spent four seasons at Atletico and helped it to European Supercup and Europa League triumphs.

He had two years remaining on his Atletico deal with reports suggesting he has agreed to a two-year deal with the Italian club.

Diego Forlan

Internet