Established 1914

Our Three Main National Causes
* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

First day’s Fourth Regular Session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw convened

Messages put on record, proposal submitted to approve announcement of state of emergency, establishment of diplomatic relations explained, announcement on election of new Vice-President made, one new proposal submitted.

NAY PYI TAW, 4 July—First day’s Fourth Regular Session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 1 pm today, attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 626 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives. At the session, messages were put on record, proposal submitted to approve the announcement of a state of emergency, establishment of diplomatic relations explained, announcement on election of new Vice-President made, one new proposal submitted.

In his speech, Speaker U Khin Aung Myint said that he was glad to see the representatives in good health. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw regular meetings have been held in accord with the Constitution and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Laws. Today’s meeting was the fourth time during its one-and-half-year term. Legislature was the main duty of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The duties of Hluttaw representatives responsible for legislation were crucial. Even though Hluttaw representatives who elected them.

Hluttaw is the basic foundation of democracy system. Democracy system could be assumed as a basic portion of human rights. So, it would be more convenient to say in short that Hluttaw representatives who started implementing multiparty democracy system had duties to protect human dignity of their citizens in all aspects. He urged all representatives to submit bills and proposals and raise questions that would serve the interests of people and for emergence of good governance and strong judicial system in line with Hluttaw laws and rules.

After that, Hluttaw recorded messages sent by the President on President’s official goodwill visit to Japan from 21-4-2012 to 24-4-2012, the registration of illegally-imported motor cycles, issuance of ten thousand kyat note.

At the approval-seeking session of declaring a state of emergency, Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay submitted the approval of the Ordinance No.1/2012 of the state of emergency which is deemed as the law of the President. Those who want to discuss the above-mentioned matter are to submit their names to the Hluttaw not later than 4 pm on 12 July. The date on which discussion will be made will be announced later.

With respect to diplomatic relations submitting session, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Myo Myint explained the establishment of diplomatic relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Melawi, Bhutan, UAE, Luxemburg, the Republic of Latvia, Estonia Republic and Dominican Republic submitted by the President. Representatives who wish to discuss it are to submit their names to the Hluttaw not later than 4 pm on 12 July. (See page 8)

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (4-7-2012)

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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Bilin</td>
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Tourists visit border at scenic resort of Sino-Russian border gate in Manzhouli, north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 3 July, 2012.

Guinness says Philippine croc world’s largest

Hot dog! Speed eaters weigh in for NY contest
Rainy season tree planting ceremony of UEC holds

Relief and Resettlement Department, UNOCHA sign MoU

Prizes presented, stipends granted at EP-2 Ministry

Local people of Rakhine State provided with cash and kind

PERSPECTIVES
Thursday, 5 July, 2012

Find common ground through parliament

With Hluttaws now in full swing, we hope all elected members of different political parties will perform their tasks to the best of their abilities. Political, social and economic issues can now be debated and discussed in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw in line with the country’s parliamentary system.

Elected members of Hluttaws have a crucial role to play in bringing about economic development and national reconciliation, solving the problem of poverty, reducing the income gap and providing work opportunities as the second wave of reform strategy is at the crossroads. Meanwhile, with substantive democratic changes, the elected members’ discussions are to be streamlined. Parliamentary debates must be based on facts and figures not on sheer lies and personal attacks on fellow parliamentarians. Members of the public would benefit greatly if all parliamentarians used reason and wisdom in their deliberation of the budget bill and other important issues that maintain sustainable fiscal discipline and lay the groundwork for long-term economic growth.

Of course, in any society there will always be capable and incapable people, rich and poor, but the gist of solving the problem is to give all people an equal opportunity to advance in society without facing obstacles and prejudices. If all the parliamentarians are bold and of service to the people in a smart manner, they will surely be rewarded.

While many people hope the different sides can find some common ground through the Hluttaws even though they may hold different views, we urge the government and opposition MPs to cast aside their differences and work together in Hluttaws in the interest of the nation and the people making the best of duties and rights vested in them.

Rainy season tree growing ceremony for Union Election Commission took place at office here this morning. Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye grew a jack-fruit sapling.

Members of UEC, the director-general and deputy directors-general, directors, officers and staff participated in the activities.

The Chairman of UEC and commission members viewed the participation of the staff at the ceremony.—MNA

Relief and Resettlement Department under the Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Ministry and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) signed MoU at Inya Lake Hotel here on 30 June.

Director-General of the Relief and Resettlement Department U Soe Aung and the Asia-Pacific regional head of UNOCHA spoke on the occasion, signed the MoU and exchanged the documents.

In 2011-2012, the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 had brought out one six-distinction winner, six five-distinction winners, 14 four-distinction winners, six three-distinction winners, 11 two-distinction winners and 44 one-distinction winners totalling 83. The Union Minister presented K 18 million—K 100,000 per distriction to the winners and K 45,639,500 as stipend to the students.—MNA

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Dark economic clouds gather anew over Obama campaign

WASHINGTON, 4 July—After a month in which his re-election campaign picked up momentum, hard economic realities are about to hit President Barack Obama as he takes to the road on a campaign bus through the Midwest.

Poorly manufacturing data earlier this week followed by a likely weak Jobless report on Friday are reminding Obama that he has a lot of work to do in Iraq on Tuesday, and authorities said they bore the hallmarks of sectarian attacks on Shi'ite Muslims by al-Qaeda Sunni militants. A bomb in a small truck exploded in a market in the city of Diwaniya, killing 40 people, and other blasts killed four more near the city of Kerbala, police and officials said.

The bombing happened because of sticky bombs twisted pieces of metal and smashed wooden crates. "The bombing happened because of sticky bombs attached to two parked cars which went off separately," said Hussein Shadhan, a provincial council member, who was at the scene. "The blast threw the car in a delivery truck. Earlier in the day, two bombs in a vegetable market killed four people and wounded 29 near the central Iraqi city of Kerbala, hospital and police sources said.

“Market bombs kill 44 before Iraqi Shi’ite ritual

ISLAMABAD, 4 July — Pakistan on Tuesday announced that it is reopening land routes for NATO forces in neighbouring Afghanistan after US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, apologized over killing of 24 Pakistani soldiers in last November airstrike, the country’s Information Minister Shafqat Marwan Zaman Kaira said.

The decision was taken at a meeting of top civilian and military leaders after series of talks between the American and Pakistani officials, the Information Minister told reporters after the meeting. Prime Minister, Raja Pervez Ashraf, presided over the meeting of the Defence Committee of the Cabinet (DCC), sources called to exclusively discuss the reopening of the supply routes.

Pakistan closed NATO supply line in last November to protest over the killing of its 24 soldiers in a US airstrike on Pakistani border posts. The DCC meeting went under "apology" over the killing of Pakistani soldiers, the Minister said, adding that Pakistan’s decision will facilitate the transition process in Afghanistan.

Pakistan had been demanding US apology for months but the US had earlier refused to apologize and American officials were saying that only ‘regret’ was offered.

UN chief pleads for arms pact, Palestinians demand seat

NEW YORK, 4 July—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon pleaded on Tuesday for a binding pact to regulate the more than $60 billion global weapons market, while delegates at a treaty drafting conference worked to defuse a dispute over Palestinian participation. “We do not have a multilateral treaty of global scope dealing with conventional arms,” Ban told delegates to the conference, which runs through 27 July. “This is a disgrace.” Poorly regulated international arms transfers are fuelling civil conflicts, destabilizing regions, and empowering terrorists and criminal networks,” he said. Arms control campaigners say one person every minute dies from armed violence around the world and that a convention is needed to prevent illicitly traded guns from pouring into conflict zones and fuelling wars and atrocities. They say conflicts in Syria and elsewhere show a need for a treaty, a necessity is necessary, if the campaigners get their way, all signatories would be charged with enforcing compliance with any treaty by arms producers and with taking steps to prevent rogue dealers from operating within their borders. They would have to consider nations’ human rights records when deciding whether to export arms.
Galapagos’ new star tortoise a prolific dad

QUITO, 4 July — Lonesome George’s inability to reproduce made him a global symbol of efforts to halt the disappearance of species. And while his kind died with him, that doesn’t mean the giant fanged tortoise leaves no heir apparent. The Galapagos Islands have another centenarian who fills a shell pretty well: He’s Diego, a prolific, bossy, macho reptile. Unlike Lonesome George, who died on 24 June, Diego has not been central to bringing the Española Island type of tortoise back from near extinction, rangers at Galapagos National Park say. Diego was plucked from Española by expeditioners sometime between 1980 and 1981, and wound up in the San Diego Zoo in California, said the head of the park’s conservation programme, Fausto Llerena. “He once bit me, and two weeks ago he tried (again) to bite me. When you enter his pen, Diego comes near and his intentions aren’t friendly.”

A $199 smartphone

WASHINGTON, 4 July — The chin is in at Virgin Mobile — the Sprint-owned prepaid wireless carrier has quietly launched one of HTC’s latest Android smartphones, the entry-level HTC One V, complete with a throwback Android 2.3.7-inch WVGA display, the One V features a 1GHz Snapdragon S1 processor, 5-megapixel camera with HTC ImageChip technology, 4GB of internal storage, microSDHC support, Beats Audio, 512MB of RAM and Sense 4 on top of Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich. Virgin Mobile subscribers new and old can now purchase the smartphone for just $199 without any contract, and plans start at just $35 per month for 300 voice minutes and unlimited messaging and data, though data speeds are throttled after 2.5GB of usage during a single billing period.

Olympic experts say they can repel cyber threats

LONDON, 4 July — Vital computer systems for London’s 2012 Olympic Games have come under repeated cyber-attacks — but only from hackers who were invited to join in thousands of hours of security tests. Atos, the lead technology company for the Summer and Winter Games since 2002, said Tuesday it had carried out more than 200,000 hours of testing, including mounting simulated attacks. It’s all aimed at protecting the systems that will deliver results to Olympic venue scoreboard, event timetables to athletes, and Olympic accreditation information to British border officials. The company is responsible for about 11,500 computers and servers at locations across Britain. Starting next week, it will run its Olympic Technology Operations Centre — based in Canary Wharf, close to the Olympic stadium — around the clock, monitoring possible cyber threats second by second. Michele Hyron, the company’s chief integrator, said to help experts encountered about 12 million potential cyber security problems each day, Hyron said Atos expects to see between 12 and 14 million events per day during the London Games, though only about 20 a day will be categorized as formal incidents — actions that require investigation. “We are using ethical hackers for that, we are using people from our own company — specialists capable of mounting sophisticated attacks who use their knowledge to test systems rather than disable them,” she said. “We are using ethical hackers for that, we are using external companies, we are using people from our own company who are specialized in that kind of activity,” she said. “We are preparing ourselves in terms of testing to cover all the kind of threats that may happen in the Olympics.” She spoke at the technology centre, where banks of experts were lined up in long rows according to their individual expertise. A quarter of the London Olympic organizing committee’s overall budget of $3.1 billion has been spent on technology. Atos is expecting to handle 2 million pieces of key data throughout the event — 30 percent more than at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. In Beijing, experts encountered about 12 million potential cyber security problems each day. Michele Hyron, the company’s chief integrator, said to help

A tree sitting atop a vehicle offers free firewood in Falls Church, Va, on 2 July, 2012, as cleanup continued after a round of summer storms that has also caused at least 17 deaths.

This undated photo released by Galapagos National Park shows tortoise Diego at Galapagos National Park.

This summer is ‘what global warming looks like’

WASHINGTON, 4 July — Is it just freakish weather or something more? Climate scientists suggest that if you want a glimpse of some of the worst of global warming, take a look at Washington in recent weeks. Horrendous wildfires, record breaking heat waves. Devastating droughts. Flooding from giant deluges. And a powerful freak wind storm called a derecho.

in 1975, the only other known living members of his species were two males and 12 females. Chelonoidis hoodensis — some consider it species, some a subspecies — had been all but destroyed, mostly by domestic animals introduced by humans that ate their eggs. So Diego and the others were placed in a corral at the park’s breeding center on Santa Cruz, the main island in the isolated archipelago whose unique flora and fauna helped inspire Charles Darwin’s work on evolution. Diego was so dominant and aggressive, bullying other males with bites and shoves, that he had to be moved eight years later to his own pen, with five of the females. The reptiles are not monogamous. “Diego is very territorial, including with humans,” said his keeper, Fausto Llerena. “He once bit me, and two weeks ago he tried (again) to bite me. When you enter his pen, Diego comes near and his intentions aren’t friendly.” A web-based herpetologist for the Galapagos Conservancy, Linda Cayot, says Diego is the most sexually active of the bunch because he’s the biggest and the oldest of the males. “In tortoises, the biggest dominates. It’s not that the others aren’t active. It’s just that he’s dominant,” she says. Tapia said it is impossible to know Diego’s age, but he is well over 100. He estimates Diego is the father of 40 to 45 percent of the 1,781 tortoises born in the breeding programme and placed on Españoila Island at least 14 species of giant tortoise originally inhabited the islands 620 miles (1,000 kilometers) off Ecuador’s Pacific coast and 10 survive. „their females developing in sync with their environment, as Darwin observed. Españaola, which encompasses 50 square miles (130 square kilometers), is arid, and in order to reach vegetation high on the ground, the tortoises there developed the longest legs and necks of any other species in the archipelago.”

Charles Darwin’s work on evolution.

This summer is ‘what global warming looks like’

WASHINGTON, 4 July — Is it just freakish weather or something more? Climate scientists suggest that if you want a glimpse of some of the worst of global warming, take a look at Washington in recent weeks. Horrendous wildfires, record breaking heat waves. Devastating droughts. Flooding from giant deluges. And a powerful freak wind storm called a derecho. In Washington, the kind of climate analysis at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in fire-charred Colorado, said these are the very record-breaking conditions he has said would happen, but many people wouldn’t ‘listen. So it’s told-you-so time, he said — Internet
Limited policy firepower major challenge for US economic recovery

Washington, April 4 — A main challenge facing the United States is to effectively use the limited policy firepower to bolster its economic recovery in the near term, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Tuesday.

The country should also restore fiscal sustainability with a balanced approach to medium-term consolidation and complete financial sector reforms, the IMF said in a concluding statement released after its 2012 Article IV consultation with the United States.

In the annual economic and financial checkup of the world’s largest economy, the global lending agency forecast that the US economy would grow around 2 percent in 2012 before picking up pace to 2.3 percent in 2013.

The US economic growth remained “ tepid” amid domestic and global economic downside risks, the IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde said on Tuesday at a press conference. US policymakers should take a comprehensive and credible fiscal consolidation plan to improve its fiscal sustainability, but those measures should not be too “ extreme” to become a brake on the economic recovery, Lagarde added. — Xinhua

US researchers report success in treating autism spectrum disorder

Washington, April 4 — Using a mouse model of autism, researchers at the University of Cincinnati (UC) and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center have successfully treated an autism spectrum disorder characterized by severe cognitive impairment. The research team, led by Joe Clark, a professor of neurology at UC, reports its findings online Monday in the Journal of Clinical Investigation, a publication of the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

The disorder, creatine transporter deficiency (CTD), is caused by a mutation in the creatine transporter protein that results in deficient energy metabolism in the brain. Linked to the X chromosome, CTD affects boys most severely; women are carriers and pass it on to their sons.

The brains of boys with CTD do not function normally, resulting in severe speech deficits, developmental delay, seizures and profound mental retardation. CTD is estimated to currently affect about 50,000 boys in the United States and is the second-most common cause of X-linked mental retardation after Fragile X syndrome. In the study, researchers discovered a method to treat it with cyclocreatine — also known as CynC, a creatine analogue originally developed as an adjunct to cancer treatment. They then treated genetically engineered mice as an animal model of the human disease.

“This successfully entered the brain and reversed the mental retardation-like symptoms in the mice, with benefits seen in nine weeks of treatment,” says Clark, adding that no harmful effects to the mice were observed in the study. — Xinhua

June auto sales point to best year since 2007

Detroit, April 4 — New auto sales in June raced past expectations on lower gas prices and still-generous incentives, and are on track to score their best year since 2007. The surprisingly strong June in which sales rose 22 percent from a year ago helped ease fears that weaker-than-expected results in May would suggest a slowdown in demand. June’s annualized sales rate of 14.1 million vehicles, according to Exostar Corp. beat analysts’ average estimate of 13.9 million. Before the economy sank into recession, annual auto sales tallied 16.1 million in 2007. They plunged to13.2 million in 2008 and to 10.4 million in 2009, before beginning a slow recovery. Last year, US auto sales totaled 12.8 million. Shares of General Motors Co jumped more than 6 percent on Tuesday as the No 1 US automaker posted a 6 percent increase in vehicle sales from the previous year and said June was its best performing month since September 2008.

Sales Ford Motor Co, the second-largest US automaker, climbed 7 percent and its shares rose 3 percent. Of the major automakers reporting US sales on Tuesday, Toyota Motor Corp posted a 60 percent gain, to 177,795, that still fell short of analysts’ expectations. The strong rebound by the third-biggest automaker based on US sales followed a low point after the Japanese earthquake and tsunami last year. Sales of industry No 4 Chrysler rose 20 percent to 144,811 vehicles, slightly topping analyst expectations. It was the 27th consecutive month that Chrysler beat those from the previous year, and its best June sales since 2007. — Reuters

FDA approves first rapid, take-home HIV test

Washington, April 4 — Americans will soon be able to test themselves in the privacy of their own homes for the virus that causes AIDS, now that the Food and Drug Administration has approved the first rapid, over-the-counter HIV test. The OraQuick test detects the presence of HIV antibodies using a mouth swab and returns a result in 20 to 40 minutes. Government officials estimate that about 240,000 people, or one-fifth of the roughly 1.2 million people carrying HIV in the US, don’t know they are infected. Testing is a chief means of slowing new infections, which have held steady at about 50,000 per year for two decades. FDA officials said the test is designed for people who might not otherwise get tested.

The availability of a home-use HIV test kit provides another option for individuals, get tested so that they can seek medical care, if appropriate,” said Dr Karen Midthun, director of the FDA’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. OraSure plans to start selling the test in October, both online and through retailers like Walgreens, CVS and Walmart.

It hasn’t set a price yet but expects the consumer version to cost less than $10 but more than the one marketed to health professionals, which costs about $17.50. CEO Doug Michels said the price increase will help pay for a toll-free call center to provide counseling and medical referrals to test users. Each of the call-center operators is bilingual in English and Spanish, they’ve gone through 160 hours of training on HIV counseling and testing.” Michels said in an interview with the Associated Press. “So they are highly trained professionals and they’ll be there to support the consumer.” Michels said the company’s marketing efforts will focus on populations at greatest risk of being infected with HIV, including gay and bisexual men, African Americans and Hispanics. FDA stressed in its approval announcement that the test is not 100 percent accurate in identifying people with the virus. A trial conducted by test maker OraSure showed OraQuick detected HIV in those carrying the virus only 99.9 percent of the time, though it was 99.9 percent accurate in ruling out HIV in patients not carrying the virus. — Internet

This undated handout photo provided by OraSure shows the OraQuick test, which detects the presence of HIV in saliva collected using a mouth swab. — Internet

Top banks say they not too big to fail

Washington, April 4 — US regulators released public portions of these banks “ living wills”. The documents, required by the 2010 Dodd-Frank financial law, aim to end too-big-to-fail bailouts by mapping out ways that, in theory, mortally-wounded banks could go out of business without wrecking the financial system. The regulators find that the resolution plans are not credible, they could force the banks to sell off business lines and restructure to become less complex. But some experts doubt how hard regulators will push the banks for changes or how useful hypothetical resolution plans will be in major financial crisis.

The plans were released on Tuesday and are a few dozen pages per bank summarizing thousands of pages submitted confidentially to regulators. The banks argued in the public documents that their resolution plans will work, with no cost to taxpayers or great consequence to the financial system. They used technical generalities in their conclusions without specifically addressing the unpredictable and vicious nature of a credit crisis. — Reuters
Heathrow Airport admits queues ‘unacceptable’

London, 4 July—British airport operator BAA admitted on Monday that immigration queues at Heathrow Airport, the main gateway for the London Olympics, have been “unacceptably long” in recent days.

Some passengers were forced to wait for two and a half hours last week for passport checks at the west London airport, which will welcome around 80 percent of the athletes, officials, fans and media coming for the Games.

“Immigration waiting times for passengers during peak periods at Heathrow in the last few days have been unacceptably long,” a BAA spokesman said.

Long-hours immigration queues at the airport, the world’s busiest in terms of international passenger traffic, caused major embarrassment to the British government in May, just weeks before the Olympic opening ceremony on 27 July.

With thousands of athletes due to land at Heathrow over the next three weeks, there are fears that the Home Office, or interior ministry — which is responsible for immigration — will not be able to cope with the traffic. The Daily Telegraph newspaper reported half-mile queues at Heathrow’s Terminal 4 on Friday.

A Border Force spokes- woman said the recent “queue breaches” at Heathrow had been “less than an hour” and that extra staff had been sent to immigration desks to deal with the queues.

“We are fully prepared for the busy Olympic period and will be implementing our well-rehearsed plans,” she said. “This includes staffing all immigration desks at key ports whenever necessary during the peak Olympic and Paralympic arrivals period.”

BAA said the Home Office had promised all of its Border Force desks at Heathrow would be manned during the busiest Olympic arrival times.

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Turkish warplanes bomb Kurdish hideouts in northern Iraq

Istanbul, 4 July—Turkish warplanes have struck several locations in northern Iraq believed to be Kurdish rebel hideouts, the army said Monday.

The strikes follow a 19 June rebel attack on an army outpost near the Iraqi border that killed eight Turkish soldiers and wounded another 19.

The army command said in a statement that it hit “three targets belonging to the separatist terrorist organization,” referring to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK) rebels, after exploratory flights located their suspected hideouts.

The jets safely returned to their bases in Turkey, the statement added, without specifying when the air strikes had taken place. In a subsequent statement, the army said it had also bombed PKK hideouts on 24 June, when 25 rebels were killed and another 23 injured. Another 30 or so rebels were killed during the 19 June clash, according to the army.

The bombings of rebel bases come amid government efforts to soften tensions with the Kurdish minority, but a recent spike in PKK violence in the southeast may force the government to take significant action, according to analysts. The PKK, listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey and much of the international community, took up arms in the Kurdish-majority southeast Turkey in 1984, claiming some 45,000 lives. The army statement came as an Istanbul newspaper on Monday began a high-profile trial of some 200 suspects alleged to be linked to the Union of Kurdistan Communities, which authorities say is a wing of the PKK.

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Freeport Indonesia considers IPO

Jakarta, 4 July—The Indonesian subsidiary of US mining giant Freeport-McMoRan is considering launching an initial public offering (IPO), its head said Wednesday.

“We are considering several options, including an IPO,” Freeport Indonesia president Rozik Soetjipto said as quoted by the Jakarta Globe newspaper.

“One IPO would be good for Freeport Indonesia,” he said, adding that it would make the company “more accountable and transparent.” He did not specify details such as the timeframe or size of the sale.

The regulation, which applies to new contractors, obliges foreigners to divest at least 51 percent of their shares to Indonesians over a 10-year period.

It is not clear how the law may affect Freeport’s Indonesian operations.

Indonesia, Southeast Asia’s largest economy, has some of the world’s biggest untapped mineral reserves, including tin, nickel, copper and gold.

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Florida man sees “cruel” face of US justice

Miami, 4 July—Quartavious Davis is still shocked by what happened to him in federal court two months ago.

“My first offense, and they gave me all this time,” said Davis, a pudgy African American with dreadlocks who spoke with Reuters at the Federal Detention Centre in Miami. “Mein gott, just as well I’m dead.”

Davis was convicted of participating in a string of armed robberies in the Miami area in 2010. His accomplice identified against him, saying he carried a gun during their crimes and discharged it at a dog that chased them after one of their burglaries. But Davis was not convicted of hurting anyone physically, including the dog.

Davis would occupy no place at all in the annals of crime if not for his sentence. Now 20 years old, he was sentenced to 1,941 months — almost 162 years — in prison without the possibility of parole.

On the day of Davis’s interview with Reuters, the US Supreme Court decided that life sentences without parole for defendants under the age of 18 constituted “cruel and unusual punishment” even in cases of murder.—Reuters

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Eight killed in bus accident in Nepal

Kathmandu, 4 July—At least eight people have been killed and some 27 were injured in a bus accident in Darchula District in far-western Nepal on Tuesday morning.

Seven people died on the spot, while one succumbed to injuries while being rushed to hospital, said DSP Dev Bahadur Bogati.

The night bus heading for Darchula from Dhangadi skidded some 200 meters down the road, some 520 km west of Kathmandu, at earlier Tuesday morning.

According to police, they have been intensifying rescue effort with the help from the locals. The death toll may increase, police said.

Meanwhile, the injured have been ferried for the treatment in the nearby hospital.—Xinhua

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Giant 2012 Olympic rings are unveiled at Heathrow Airport’s Terminal 5, west of London, on 20 June, 2012.

Photo taken on 3 July, 2012 shows the Xingjia Branch Plant of Shijiazhuang Sanhuang-Smeltco Co Ltd where an accident of slag water leakage occurred, in Xingjia Township of Pingquan County, north China’s Hebei Province. Six people were suffocated to death when slag water leaked in this plant and mixed with rainwater on Tuesday.—Xinhua

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Freeport says it is the single biggest taxpayer to the Indonesian government. Grassberg, the world’s biggest gold and second-biggest copper mine, is Freeport’s only mine, employing more than 20,000 people.

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Sentencing of US justice at the Federal Detention Centre in Miami.
Mandaly, 4 July—A ceremony to donate motorcar to Awaïyayama Yankin Monastery from Mahanagaungmye Township in Mandalay and cash to fund for construction of extended building of Cardiac Ward of Mandalay General Hospital was held at Maha Atalagonyi Manswell Monastery on 27 June. Wellwisher U Win Swe.

Mandaly Railways invites entrepreneurs for modern hotels, shopping centres

Mandaly, 4 July—Myanmar Railways will open Mandaly Railways Station at international level with facilities of the railways superintendent office, parcel office, express mail section, warrant travelling section, arrival and departure ticket booths and car park on the first floor, canteens on the second floor, office of the division-3 of Myanmar Railways and vacant offices on the first.

The fifth and sixth floors and the pent will be opened with the modern hotels and advanced shopping centres. Myanma Railways invites Myanmar national entrepreneurs to undertake joint venture in the long run.

Mandaly Railways is located on 78th street near Mawaddy Market and general hospital. Every car is collected K 200 as fee and motorcycle K 100 to pass the railway station.

Cash donated to cardiac ward of Mandalay General Hospital

Daw Tin Tin Hlaing (Manswell Co) of 36th Street between 83rd and 84th streets donated a Toyota Surf for Awaïyayama Yankin Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Odatasirhivamsa (Agga Maha Pandita, State Sanghi-Maha Nayaka Committee) of the monastery and K 50 million for the extended building of the cardiac ward.

Medical Super-intending Dr Maung Win, Prof Dr Than Than Kyaw, Dr Kyaw Soe Win, Dr Myint Ngwe and staff accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to wellwishers.

Collective tree growing ceremony held in Hinthada

Hinthada, 4 July—A ceremony to present compensation to the farmers who lost their farmlands where Natka Dam was built to irrigate 1200 acres of farmlands in Pyawbwe Township of Mandalay Region was held at Kanphyaw Village of Pyawbwe Township on 26 June.

The authorities presented K 20,000,000 each per acre to 92 farmers, accounting for K 20,688,000 over 103.44 acres of farmlands. On 16 May, the authorities handed over K 17 million for 85 acres farmlands of 47 farmers from Kyee Village of Pyawbwe Township and K 37,688,000 for 188.44 million for 85 acres farmlands of 47 farmers from Kyee Village of Pyawbwe Township and K 37,688,000 for 188.44 million for 85 acres farmlands of 47 farmers from Kyee Village of Pyawbwe Township.

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The new MPs would bolster the dedicated cooperation of the expressed his belief that the competency of the MPs. genuine goodwill and system, both of which call for running of check and balance there is a great deal of laws in communication technology technology and cultural, science and of the nation and its people, which contribute to interests formulating the new ones protect the interests of the session of First Fourth regular 8
First day fourth regular session ...

(from page 16)

scholarship, K 15000 per month, will be provided to outstanding students in each township starting from this fiscal year.

The President has allowed opening of new schools, upgrading and recruiting necessary teachers and education staff during the four-year period from 2012-2013 academic year to 2015-2016 fiscal year. A total of 314 high schools (branch) and affiliated high schools have been upgraded to the high school level; 450 affiliated high schools and middle schools to the high school (branch) level; 380 middle school (branch) and affiliated middle schools to the middle school level; 438 affiliated middle schools and post-primary schools to the middle school (branch) level; 1733 primary schools to post-primary school level; 1014 primary schools (branch) and affiliated primary schools to the primary school level; and 326 primary schools (branch) to the primary school (branch) level. A total of 4295 schools have been upgraded.

The improvement of education standard of the country will be achieved earlier if Region/State governments, townselders and local people fulfill to the needs of schools upgraded by the State.

For the upgraded schools, the government has to recruit 695 teachers and officers, 19770 personnel, and 4422 staff totally 24887 yearly. It will cost more 16089.144 million each year at the rate of 1340.762 million a month.

The pay scale of headmaster of the middle school will be increased from $(59000-1000-64000)$ to $(100000-2000-110000)$ and that of the headmaster of the primary school from $(50000-1000-58000)$ to $(59000-1000-64000)$. A total of 60000 junior assistant teachers will be promoted to assistant teachers. Region/State education officers will be promoted from deputy director/assistant director to director level. District education offices under control of a deputy director will be opened. There will not be district education offices in all 68 districts. The district education offices will be tasked to perform duties in nearby districts. The President has allowed the promotion of township education offices to assistant directors. Only well-behaved, disciplined and dutiful staff will be promoted through scrutiny of the Union minister, the deputy ministers and officials.

He also said that sufficient staff will be appointed in basic education high schools of Regions and States. There will be 420 officers and 2467 staff totally 2887 in region/state education offices, district education offices and township education offices. According to new organizational set-up of education offices, there will be 2531 officers and 11229 staff totally 13760.

Myanmar Examination Board will be transformed into of Myanmar Examination Department to cope with increased number of BEHSs and matriculation students. More staff will be appointed in accord with the organizational structure of the department. These measures are being taken in line with the guidance of the President in the State of the Union address and the guidance to uplift capacity and socio-economic standards of the education staff. Priority will be given to increased accessibility of education by citizens, improving skills of the students, ensuring good moral, lifting Union spirit and nurturing good and able citizens.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker decided to return Foreign Investment Bill which had been amended by the Amyotha Hluttaw and sent with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw that the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker had sent a message to return the bill to the Pyithu Hluttaw.

Chairman of Financial and Legal Affairs Commission U Aung Tun of Magway Region Constituency No (11) submitted “Anti-bribery Bill” on behalf of Amyotha Hluttaw Financial and Legal Affairs Commission. A Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal to discuss the bill. As the Hluttaw agreed, it was decided to be discussed at the Hluttaw. The Hluttaw representatives willing to discuss the bill could submit their name lists.

The first day Amyotha Hluttaw session concluded at 10:45 am and the second day session will be held at 10 am on 5 July. At today’s session, three questions were raised and answered and one bill was submitted.

Course No. 1/2012 on collecting monthly production, social and economical statistics in townships concludes

Nav Pyi Taw, 4 July—A course No. 1/2012 on collecting monthly production, social and economical statistics in townships and conducting survey concluded at Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development today.

In his closing remarks at the ceremony, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Then urged the township level planning drawing bodies to select areas that should be given priority when they develop townships and villages so that they can effectively carry out development tasks yearly. He also stressed the need for improvement of plans which are directly related to job opportunities and increasing incomes of the people as part of efforts for achieving the development targets of the country and the UN Millennium Development Goals. A total of 46 trainees completed the course.

Land Use Scrutiny Committee meets

Nav Pyi Taw, 4 July—Land Use Scrutiny Committee met for the first time this year at Forest Department here this morning.

Chairman of the Committee Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun addressed the meeting.

He highlighted the need of land reform for advancing towards green growth and called for compiling accurate figures.

The Union Minister also called for forming working committees, defining procedures and designating work schedule and time line in detail.—MNA

Inter-Region/State Champion Challenge Cup (2012) Acrobatics Championship concludes

Nav Pyi Taw, 4 July—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan awarded winners in Inter-Region/State Champion Challenge Cup (2012) Acrobatics Championship at gymnasium in Lwe Township this morning.

The Union minister awarded championship shield to Yangon Region women’s team and Chin/State men’s team. He also met in-charges

Japanese coaches to train Myanmar Karatedo athletes

Yangon, 4 July—Organized by Myanmar Karatedo Federation and Japan Karate Federation, “Kumite” Coach Mr. Takuya Tanigawa and “Kata” Coach Mr. Norimasa Fujita will inspect in Yangon, and training will be held from 5 to 8 July. Karatedo enthusiasts may participate in the training and dial 379935 for more information.—MNA

Dy Construction Minister assists in Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) project, road works

Nav Pyi Taw, 4 July—Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint assisted in construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Malun) in Magway Region on 30 June.

During his tour to the project, the deputy minister inspected works on construction of the bridge, installation of ironbeams and earth work on approach road. Approach roads of the bridge have been completed. The deputy minister also inspected Thayat-Mindon Road, work on construction of Sinsu-Yenama-Kanhkhte Road, Thayat-Mindon Road and construction of Kamar Bridge between the Mile Posts Nos. 221 and 222 on the road, the site chosen to construct Yaw Bridge between the Mile Post Nos. 261 and 262, extension of road at the Mile Post No. 27. 5 and construction of drains along both sides of the road. During his tour of Mindon Township, he also visited the Mindon Township Engineer’s Office and inspected Kamma-Pyakky Road linking Pathwein-Woyova Road and Kamma Kamma Township Engineer’s Office, Thayat-Natmitawk-Kanna Road, Yenama Bridge and maintaining flow of water under the bridge.

MNA

OFFICE OPENED: To mark Myanmar Women’s Day, Hlinethaya Township Women’s Affairs Organization of Yangon North District organized the special sales in front of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association on 28 June, Township Administrator U Hein Soe and Chairman of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Mya Myat Aye formally opened the sales.—MYANNA ALIN
Gold entrepreneurs conduct training course

YANGON, 4 July—The gold industry development course No. 1/2012, conducted by Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association, concluded at its office on Shwembontha Street, here, on 29 June morning. 

Patron of the region association U Ba Than (Ba Than Quality Gold), Chairman U Myo Myint, Region Hluttaw representative of Pabedan Township Constituency U Hla Tun (Hla Tun-Township Constituency Region Hluttaw representative) and others made speeches.

Holding Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships discussed

YANGON, 4 July—The Myanmar Weightlifting Federation held its coordination meeting at the office of the federation at Aung San Gymnasium on 2 July. President of the Federation U Thet Lin made a speech. The participants discussed holding of Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2012 to be hosted by Myanmar from 5 to 12 November 2012.

They focused on ceremony decoration, invitation, prize presentation, hotel reservation and financial matters. They talked about selection for the championships.

Myanmar Writers Association to donate cash to locals of Rakhine State

YANGON, 4 July—Myanmar Writers Association will donate cash to funds for rehabilitation of local people in Rakhine State. Cash donations of writers will be collected in various townships. Wellwisher writers are to send their cash donations to the association (central), not later than 23 July.

Trees grown in rainy season in Kyaklatt

KYAIKLAT, 4 July—In honour of Myanmar Women’s Day, the tree growing ceremony was held along both sides of Kyaklatt-Pyapon Road in Kyaklatt Township of Pyapon District in Ayeyawady Region on 30 June.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Aung Naing, Chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Mya Thi and members, Senior Forester U Kyaw Zaw and departmental personnel, staff, ward administraters and local people planted over 900 saplings. —Township GAD

Nurturing of saplings demonstrated in Paukkhaung

PAUKKHUANG, 4 July—With the aim of nourishing the spirit to adore forests in mind of students, Paukkhaung Township Forest Department Staff Officer U Than Hsint and staff demonstrated the establishment of nursery and nurturing works in the compound of Basic Education High School in Paukkhaung on 26 June morning.

Next, the staff presented 250 saplings of teak and eucalyptus to Headmistress Daw Nwe Yi and teachers and students and they planted the saplings.

At the golden jubilee hall of the school, the staff officer of the Township Forest Department talked about environmental conservation. —Township Forest

Income declaration handed over in Pyay

PYAY, 4 July—The ceremony to present declaration of income for 2012-2013 fiscal year was held by Pyay Township Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue on 28 June morning.

The ceremony was held at the office of Pyay Township Cooperative Department.

Staff Officer Daw Ohn Yi of Township Cooperative Department handed over 10 letters of income declaration from 10 cooperative societies and K 2.1 million in advance payment to Assistant Director U Soe Hla Myint of Pyay Township Internal Revenue Department.

Long staple cotton seeds handed over to farmers in Kanbalu

KANBALU, 4 July—A ceremony to present quality cotton seeds to 54 cotton growers and 157 farmers of Kanbalu Township was held at ward/village administrative offices in the township on 25 June for exceeding cotton sown acreage in the township in 2012-2013 cultivation season.

It was attended by members of Township Agricultural Coordination Committee who presented bags of quality seeds of Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton to farmers.

Head of Township Industrial Crops Department U Tint Swe gave talks on boosting production of long staple cotton with 10 salient points. Deputy Head of Department of Myanma Agriculture Department Daw Khin Moh Moh explained use of quality stains, systematic combating of pests and weeding system.

Kanbalu Township sets the plan to exceed the sown acres of cotton and will distribute Ngwechi-6 long staple cotton to 25 village-tracts.

Myanmar Women’s Day marked: The three growing ceremony was held on the campus of Technological University in Meiktila on 30 June in commemoration of the Myanmar Women’s Day. Deputy Commissioner U Sein Oka, Director U Aung Than Win and party of Region Forest Department, members of District and Township WAOs and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, teachers and students participate in cultivation of saplings.—MYANMA ALIN

ASSISTANCE DONATED: Wellwisher Dr Win Myint, wife Thihua Thudhamma Theingi Daw Khang Khang Ou (Myat Myitta Co) donated books, stationery and aids to 745 students at primary, middle and high school levels at Basic Education High School Branch in Hline Township of Yangon West District on 27 June. Headmistress Daw Marlar Yi accepts the donations. —MYANMA ALIN

DISTRICT NEWS

Health development youth service course opens

KENGTUNG, 4 July—Jointly organized by Health Department of the Ministry of Health, Central Health Unit and UNFPA, the health development youth hospice and service course was opened at the Kakaung rural health centre in Kengtung Township of Shan State (East) on 27 June morning.

Additional Head of Shan State Health Department Dr Aung Kyaw Hwe and Deputy Commissioner U Khin Win of Kengtung District General Administration Department made speeches.

The course will comprise sports, recreation and librarian works regularly. The training will provide courses on knowledge about reproductive health and prevention against HIV/AIDS diseases.

Trainers from Central Health Unit of the ministry and local health staff will give trainees to 40 trainees. —Health

DISTRIBUTING AID: Officials presented certificates to the trainees. —MYANMA ALIN

MYANMAR WOMEN’S DAY MARKED: The three growing ceremony was held on the campus of Technological University in Meiktila on 30 June in commemoration of the Myanmar Women’s Day. Deputy Commissioner U Sein Oka, Director U Aung Than Win and party of Region Forest Department, members of District and Township WAOs and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, teachers and students participate in cultivation of saplings. —MYANMA ALIN

Township Agriculture
Mexico’s Slim not eyeing more Europe buys for now

MEXICO CITY, 4 July—Mexican tycoon Carlos Slim said on Tuesday he has no immediate plans for further telecommunications purchases in Europe after buying into Dutch firm KPN and Telekom Austria.

Asked if he was looking to expand further in Europe after the two recent deals, Slim told Reuters: “No, no. We’re not looking for nothing now. We are going to consolidate what we’ve got.”

Slim’s America Movil, which is present in roughly a dozen Latin American countries, is establishing a beachhead in Europe where a combination of tough competition, regulatory pressure and recession in many markets has beaten down some company valuations to near decade lows.

In Latin America, where the 72-year-old entrepreneur has purchased much bigger stakes or whole companies, he has taken a more cautious approach in Europe.

Slim recently increased his stake in KPN to 27.7 percent and boosted his stake in Austria Telekom to 23 percent, his biggest foray yet into the European market.

His arrival in Europe touched off a period of turbulence in the telecoms sector, with industry executives and analysts questioning if it would lead to a long-awaited consolidation in some markets like Germany or Spain.

With an empire stretching from banking to hotels to mining, the world’s richest man said he remained open to opportunities.

“We’re always open in the world for everything... We’re always open, he said in English at an Independence Day party at the US ambassador’s residence in Mexico City, laughing as party guests snapped pictures of him with their phones.

“Careful, you’ll fall in the water,” he warned one picture taker who was backing away to get a wider angle and nearly fell into the ambassador’s swimming pool. — Reuters

Indonesia sees growing export in second half

JAKARTA, 4 July—The Indonesian government forecasts higher export growth in the second semester due to surging prices for several key export commodities and products, the Jakarta Post quoting official reported here on Wednesday.

DepuyMoF tells state news agency on Tuesday that the rise of the shipping of the commodities and products, such as palm oil, vehicles, automotive components, electronics and footwear, was going to make up decline of exports at the first six months that the export target of 201 billion US dollar could be achieved this year. “Exports depend heavily on global economic growth, which has been highly affected by conditions in the eurozone. However, considering that our main export commodities are growing positively, this optimism makes sense,” Bayu said.

According to a trade report released by the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) on Monday, the nation’s exports have been under heavy pressure due to weaker overseas demand. Imports, however, grew, resulting in a 1.13 billion US dollar deficit in the nation’s balance of trade over April and May. During the first five months of the year, the nation exported 88.11 billion US dollar in palm oil, up 8.93 percent from the same period last year.

Meanwhile exports of vehicles and components totalled 1.92 billion US dollar, up 51.95 percent, and exports of machines and mechanical equipment totalled 2.52 billion US dollar, up by 22.3 percent.

In the first five months, the nation’s total exports grew 1.48 percent to 81.42 billion US dollar, with non-oil and gas exports up 0.04 percent to 64.26 billion US dollar.

Unlike the slow upward movement in exports, imports climbed by 16.09 percent to 79.40 billion US dollar, with non-oil and gas imports rising 17.30 percent to 61.65 billion US dollar.

S Korea’s imported car sales jump 20.5% in H1

SEOUL, 4 July—Imported car sales in South Korea jumped 20.5 percent in the first half of this year due to the popularity of foreign luxury models, a local trade association said on Wednesday.

Sales of imported cars reached 62,339 vehicles for the first six months of 2012, up 20.5 percent from the same period last year, according to the Korea Automobile Importers and Distributors Association (KAIDA).

In June, imported auto sales expanded 18.0 percent on year to 10,578 units, but on an on-month basis, car sales declined 9.7 percent last month.

“The June sales contracted on an on-month basis due to supply shortage of some models, but the imported car sales showed a growth rate of over 20 percent in the first half,” said Yoon Dae-sung, executive director of KAIDA. German automaker BMW ranked first in terms of best-selling brand in June with 2,136 vehicles sold. It was followed by Mercedes-Benz with 1,878 units and Audi with 1,385 units.

Volkswagen ranked fourth with 1,276 units sold. It was followed by BMW’s 320d with 342 units sold.

Strong quake rattles New Zealand’s North Island, no reports of injury

WELLINGTON, 4 July—A strong earthquake struck off the west coast of New Zealand’s North Island on Tuesday, shaking residents across a wide area and toppling goods from shelves but there were no immediate reports of major damage or injury. The 7.0 magnitude quake was centred 170 km northwest of the capital Wellington at a depth of 230 km (147 miles), the national GeoNet website reported.

The US Geological Service earlier reported the tremor at a 6.2 magnitude. There was no tsunami warning issued. The quake was felt throughout central New Zealand, sparking a flurry of activity on social network sites, but local media reported only minor damage. “It was a good shake but we see no damage. I felt the whole building shake,” a woman at the Opunake police station told Reuters.

The New Zealand dollar dipped to a session low near 80 US cents following the tremor. Christchurch, the New Zealand’s second-largest city, is still recovering from a shallow quake measuring 6.3 which killed 182 people in February 2011 and caused some NZ$20 billion ($15.5 billion) in damage. — Reuters

First Italian woman astronaut to be launched into space in 2014

ROME, 4 July—An Italian woman astronaut has been assigned for the first time for a long-duration mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS), local media reported on Tuesday. In 2014, the European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti will be launched into space on a Soyuz spacecraft from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, the Italian Space Agency (ASI) announced in Rome.

Cristoforetti, 35, a captain in the Italian Air Force, is now trained on the Russian Soyuz spacecraft, Station systems, robotics and spacewalks. “The past three years as an European astronaut have been an amazing time of personal and professional growth,” she was quoted as saying by ANSA news agency after receiving the news of her assignment.

“I am not excited to continue this journey with the objective of serving Italy and Europe as a crewmember of the International Space Station,” she added.—Xinhua

Mexico sees growing export in second half

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SEOUL, 4 July—Imported car sales in South Korea jumped 20.5 percent in the first half of this year due to the popularity of foreign luxury models, a local trade association said on Wednesday.

Sales of imported cars reached 62,339 vehicles for the first six months of 2012, up 20.5 percent from the same period last year, according to the Korea Automobile Importers and Distributors Association (KAIDA).

In June, imported auto sales expanded 18.0 percent on year to 10,578 units, but on an on-month basis, car sales declined 9.7 percent last month.

“The June sales contracted on an on-month basis due to supply shortage of some models, but the imported car sales showed a growth rate of over 20 percent in the first half,” said Yoon Dae-sung, executive director of KAIDA. German automaker BMW ranked first in terms of best-selling brand in June with 2,136 vehicles sold. It was followed by Mercedes-Benz with 1,878 units and Audi with 1,385 units. Volkswagen ranked fourth with 1,276 units sold. It was followed by BMW’s 320d with 342 units sold.

Xinhua
Indian debt fund buys $72 m of Kingfisher airline debt

KOLKATA, 4 July—A debt fund managed by India's finance firm SREI Infrastructure Finance has bought $72 million worth of debt of the beleaguered Kingfisher Airlines, its officials said on Monday. The Kolkata-based SREI Infra Finance group chief financial officer Sanjeev Sancheti told the Press Trust of India it was “a good buy as it is a fully secured debt”. The debt was bought from lender ICILBank.

Private carrier Kingfisher, controlled by liquor baron Vijay Mallya, reported a net loss of 11.52 billion rupees ($208 million) in the first quarter ended June 30, compared with a profit of 1.43 billion rupees a year earlier. The airline, which has been bleeding losses for years, is one of the country's largest debtors.

A debt fund managed by India’s finance firm SREI Infrastructure Finance has bought $72 million worth of debt of the beleaguered Kingfisher Airlines, its officials said on Monday. —INTERNET

27th S.E.A Games 2013

Tender Invitation for Opening & Closing Ceremonies

The 27th South East Asian Games (27th S.E.A Games 2013) will be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwesaung Beach, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for 12 days, from December 11th to 22nd 2013. The Games will bring together tens of thousands of athletes, officials, journalists and friends of all sectors from around the South East Asian Region. Several millions of people across the region and the world are expected to witness the spectacular Games either on site or through the television and internet.

The S.E.A Games is a gathering of athletes from 11 countries of the South East Asian Region and the Opening & Closing Ceremonies represent a core component of the Games. In this regard, Organizing Committee is inviting proposals for the Ceremonies from few experienced International Companies for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies to be held in Nay Pyi Taw at the Zabuthiri Stadium on December 11th, 2013 and December 22nd, 2013 respectively.

The interested companies are invited to collect “Request For Proposal” (RFP) documents with the price of US$ 1,000 - (One Thousand dollars, US Dollars Only) start from July 5th, 2012 at the following address:

Ministry of Sports
Office Building No.31
Nay Pyi Taw,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

The interested Companies should bring together the photocopies of Company’s Registration Documents when come to collect RFP. The person who wants to know more detail for this, please contact to enquire following telephone numbers:

+ 9567 - 406033
+ 9567 - 406029

The Company shall prepare its proposal in accordance with the requirements set forth in the RFP documents and submit their proposal to the Organizing Committee at above mentioned address before July 26th, 2012 (10:00 Hr). If you do have some questions about to know detail for RFP, please send as a written document to above address before July 18th, 2012.

On July 18th and 19th, 2012, the responsible Committee’s Members will answer all your questions and explain what you want to know in Ministry of Sports, meeting hall at above mentioned address.

The Committee will analyze detail to all submitted proposals during July 26th to August 16th and after that, we will reply and contact only the Companies of successful proposals to discuss more detail for contracting.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (308)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (308) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV OSSIAN VOY NO (12015)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OSSIAN VOY NO (12015) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS T.S.LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GENIUS STAR VII VOY NO (19)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GENIUS STAR VII VOY NO (19) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CORAL HERO VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CORAL HERO VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.7.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (2) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE

Phone No: 256924/256914
Guinness says Philippine croc world's largest

A saltwater crocodile weighing more than a tonne and suspected of killing two people in the Philippines has been declared the largest such reptile in captivity by the Guinness Book of World Records.

The 6.17-metre (20.24-foot) male, nicknamed "Lolong," was captured in the Agusan marsh on the southern island of Mindanao last September after a two-year search following the killing of a girl and the disappearance of a fisherman.

"The largest crocodile in captivity is Lolong, a saltwater crocodile (Crocodylus porosus)," said. "His weight was also measured at a nearby South African pen as being more than a tonne."

Mafia writer gets asteroid named after him

An Italian journalist and author known for exposing the Naples mafia was honored by having an asteroid named after him, officials said.

Roberto Saviano had asteroid No 27847 named "Gomorrah." Saviano received death threats for his novel and was placed under police protection after its publication. "Gomorrah" was later turned into a film and won second prize at the Cannes and five European Film Awards in 2008.

"Thank you Dr Silvano Saxena, who discovered the asteroid, for deciding to name it after me," said Saviano. "Now I’ll look at the sky through different eyes.”

Houston tribute, obscenities highlight BET Awards

Whitney Houston’s mother Cissy provided the emotional highlight of Sunday’s ceremony as she sang "Bridge Over Troubled Water" in tribute to her late daughter.

The BET Awards became the musical capstone for a week of performances including stars like Jay-Z, Kanye West and Nicki Minaj, who performed "Macarena" and "Pink Friday" during Minaj’s performance.

"I was there (at the BET Awards) with a picture in my mind," said Cissy, a gospel singer. "I wanted to bring my daughter to the BET Awards."

"I really, really appreciate BET for keeping this category alive, and I appreciate all the female rappers doing their thing, past, present and future," she said, before uttering an obscenity.

Actor upset by BBC dropping Dirk Gently

"Two distinguished Internet celebrities" were extended moments of censored silence when the rappers performed "Mercy," not all the offending words were bleeped out.

Moments later, Jackson, the host’s show, was joined by Lee as they did a comedic parody by Samuel L Jackson referencing the alma mater of his high school. "I Love My University," as he sang, "To you my alma mater."

Director Marc Webb, who directed "The Amazing Spider-Man" at the premiere in Los Angeles, California, said, before uttering an obscenity. "It’s just you that’s bitter upset," he said. "You put your heart and soul into it, and I wasn’t the only one. A lot of people worked really hard to produce something that, by all accounts, is a triumph and then don’t go on.”

Seagulls attack Scottish mail carrier

The British Royal Mail delivers to more than 20 residents of a Scottish town have been subjected to a letter carrier was attacked by seagulls.

The Royal Mail said the “swooping attacks” by seagulls in Elgin led the service to suspend deliveries until the end of the nesting season. The Daily Telegraph reported.

"The safety of our people is paramount to Royal Mail and these swooping attacks have made it difficult for her to continue to do her job," a spokesman said. "Unfortunately, these frightening attacks have meant that this area have temporarily suspended deliveries to some addresses in Murrfield Road. These kinds of attacks do occur at this time of year across the country as gulls are nesting." The spokesman said the affected residents can pick up their mail at the High Street Post Office.

Resident George McPhee, 66, said he does not agree with the Royal Mail’s decision. “The seagulls are a bloody pest, but I have been 41 years in the same house and they have never hurt anybody and that’s including kiddies, dogs and cats,” he said. “Even during the Blitz everybody was getting their post. If they can’t get to those hard hats then so be it.”

File photo taken in September 2011 shows the saltwater crocodile called "Lolong," which was captured in the Agusan marsh on the island of Mindanao last September. Lolong has been declared the largest such reptile in captivity by the Guinness Book of World Records.
American, who still looks like a child, had to slide into the sand and wipe his face. The 30-year-old American powerhouse but she was eventually dominated by a high-quality clash which marked Williams’ first taste of life under the Centre Court roof. “You can’t play a defending Wimbledon champion or grand slam champion and not elevate your game,” Williams told reporters. “It had to weed out the riff raff and just get serious.” Williams will face another one in the semis after Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka beat Australia’s Tamira Paszek. Poland’s Agnieszka Radwanska reached her second grand slam semi-final after surviving several rain delays and a mid-match court switch to beat Russia’s Maria Kirilenko 7-5, 4-6, 7-5. Reuters

Hot dog! Speed eaters weigh in for NY contest

New York, 4 July — Ready, set, eat! The two defending champion eaters and their challengers gathered with Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Tuesday for an official weigh-in ahead of New York’s annual July Fourth hot dog eating contest. Joey Chestnut and Sonya “The Black Widow” Thomas, who will defend their titles Wednesday on Brooklyn’s Coney Island, weighed in at 210 and 100 pounds, respectively. Chestnut is vying for his sixth straight victory. A display table in front of the weigh-in stage held two platters of neatly stacked hot dogs in buns, along with two bejeweled championship belts — mustard yellow for him, pink for her.

The 5-foot-5 Thomas of Alexandria, Va, said she aims to beat her own record — 41 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes — by devouring 45 minutes later in the contest. “Let me be frank — this is one of my favorite traditions,” she quipped. She later said of the contest: “No question it’s going to be a good move for my career and I believe he has all the attributes to be a success here next season.” He’s very versatile, he can play left or right-back and he’s also been utilised in midfield by Sir Alex Ferguson in the past, so we know what we’re getting, and that’s a very good player.” Ferguson added: “I think a year out at a goodlevel playing every week will make him a real top player for us.” — Internet

Tour de France: Sagan nails second victory

BOULOGNE-SUR-MER, 4 July — Cycling prodigy Peter Sagan surged in the final stretch of the 99th Tour de France cycling race between Orchies and Boulogne-sur-mer on 3 July, 2012. — Reuters

Cuba qualify for Olympics both 4X400 meter relays

HAVANA, 4 July — Cuban men and women 4X400 meter relays will compete in the London Olympic Games, which will begin on 27 July, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) published in its website the list of the 16 relays qualified for each of the men and women 4X100 meter, which total of 64 teams will compete.

Serena packs off defending champion Kvitova

LONDON, 3 July — Defending Wimbledon singles title, grasscourt specialist Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic in her women’s quarter-final tennis match against Serena Williams of the US at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 3 July, 2012. — Reuters

Man Utd’s Fabio joins QPR on loan

LONDON, 4 July — Queens Park Rangers have completed the signing of Brazilian defender Fabio from Manchester United. The 21-year-old has moved to Loftus Road for the duration of the 2012/13 Barclays Premier League campaign. Fabio has made 53 appearances in Championship for Man Utd, but his best position is left-back and he has struggled to dislodge Frenchman Patrick Evra at Old Trafford. “I’m so happy to be here,” Fabio told QPR’s official website. “This loan is so important for me in terms of me wanting to play as many games as possible, play well and win games. It’s a good move for my career and I’m very confident. [Man Utd boss] Sir Alex Ferguson said that I’d enjoy it here and told me to play as many games as I can.”

“I know that QPR is a club with great history. I read about the history and that’s why I’m here. I look forward to helping the club progress up the football ladder.” — Internet

Brazilian Fabio found first-team chances limited during his time at Manchester United — Internet

Five-time hot dog-eating world champion Joey Chestnut, left, and women’s record-holder Sonya “The Black Widow” Thomas, pose for photographers following a weigh-in for contestants in the annual Coney Island Fourth of July international hot dog-eating contest in New York, on 3 July, 2012, at City Hall Park in New York.—Internet

New Spurs boss Andre Villas-Boas takes charge at Tottenham

LONDON, 4 July — Andre Villas-Boas has been named as the new head coach of Tottenham Hotspur after it was announced that outgoing boss Harry Redknapp had left the club at the end of last season after four years at White Hart Lane.

Villas-Boas returns to management only four months after parting company with Chelsea in March after an eight-month spell at Stamford Bridge.

“Tottenham Hotspur is a great club with a strong tradition and fantastic support, both at home and throughout the world,” he told the club’s official website. “I feel privileged to be its coach. For me, this is one of the most exciting coaching positions in the Premier League. “I have had several discussions with the chairman and the board and I share their vision for the future progress of the club. This is a squad any coach would love to work with and together I believe we can bring success in the years ahead.”

Villas-Boas began his coaching career working under Sir Bobby Robson at Porto before teaming up with Jose Mourinho at Chelsea and Inter Milan.—Internet

New Spurs boss Andre Villas-Boas won three trophies in his only season at Porto.—Internet

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

Lipigues-Condonale rider and sprinter green jersey holder Peter Sagan of Slovakia throws a bunch of flowers on the podium after winning the 15th stage of the 99th Tour de France cycling race between Orchies and Boulogne-sur-mer on 3 July, 2012. — Reuters

Tour de France: Sagan nails second victory

BOULOGNE-SUR-MER, 4 July — Cycling prodigy Peter Sagan surged in the final stretch of a hilly, crash-ridden third stage of the Tour de France to outclass the rest of the bunch and nail his second stage win on Tuesday. The 197 kms ride to Boulogne sur Mer was as hard – fight as expected but, as in Liege two days earlier, the 22-year-old Slovak was again too strong for the opposition. Timing his move to perfection, he left no chance to Norway’s Edvald Boasson-Hagen and fellow-Slovak Peter Velich, who had to be content with the podium spots.

On the line, Sagan crossed himself and made a traditional gesture, which was said was an imitation of Tom Hanks’ stride in Forrest Gump. “I was in front of Affinity Forestas Foremost Games. When they told him to run, he ran. Today, my team mates told me to run and I ran,” he said. The Slovak explained he was a fan of motorcycle championship Valentino Rossi, also prone to spectacular gestures when he won and the commentator held in terms of sheer power.

There was a sharp contrast in the final stretch between Sagan’s celebrations and the misfortunes of some other leading names in this Tour. Overall, everyone, including Bradley Wiggins had to put a foot down when team mate Christopher Froome crashed into the barriers ahead of him, also forcing Australian Cadel Evans to brake sharply. — Internet

Slovakia’s Peter Sagan celebrates winning the second stage of the 99th Tour de France cycling race between Orchies and Boulogne-sur-mer on 3 July, 2012. — Reuters

New Spurs boss Andre Villas-Boas makes no mistake with his first transfer at Tottenham after signing a three-year deal. The 36-year-old has already joined up with supporters Evra at Old Trafford. — Internet
Bolt, Blake fuel Jamaican Olympic dreams

KINGSTON, 4 July—Glen Mills, coach of reigning 100- and 200-metre Olympic champion and world-record holder Usain Bolt and world 100m champion Yohan Blake, sees future champions as a heritage of the Olympics.

Bolt’s heroes, expected to continue in August at the sprint events, and the excitement stirred by Blake, who won the world title last year after Bolt was disqualified, is already inspiring a new Jamaican generation.

“Jamaicans have won 53 Olympic medals since first participating at the 1948 London Games, all but one of those medals coming in athletics and most of that haul coming in sprint events. At Beijing, Veronica Campbell-Brown won her second consecutive 200m Olympic gold and helped a national Jamaican medal haul of a record 11 medals, a record six of them gold, including world record turns by Bolt at 100, 200 and in the 4x100 relay.

Blake, who stunned Bolt at the Jamaican trials, sees the chance to escape from poverty as motivation for Jamaican youth to seek a sprint career. “It’s the poor background we come from,” Blake said when asked about the secret to Jamaican sprint success. “We always want something and we go for it.”

At the trials, two world leading times, including a stunning 9.75sec in the 100m and 19.80sec in the 200m, rocketed Blake into the spotlight and relegated Bolt to second billing.

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Fourth regular session of First Pyithu Hluttaw convenes for first day

Affirmation taken, three questions answered, Hluttaw’s functions recorded, one proposal and one bill submitted

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 July—The fourth regular session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw was held for the first day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 417 MPs.

At the session, three new Hluttaw representatives out of 37 MPs elected to the Pyithu Hluttaw in 1st April election who have not taken oath yet under Article 8 of Pyithu Hluttaw Law and one Defence Services personnel Hluttaw representative who has been reshuffled took affirmation before the Hluttaw Speaker, three questions were answered, Hluttaw’s functions recorded, one proposal and one bill submitted.

In his greetings, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker welcomed the new Hluttaw representatives and cheered up the old MPs submitted.

He urged again MPs to focus on equality in serving interests of the nation, citizens and the Union without party attachment, dogmatism, regionalism, racism and sectarianism.

He also urged them to take lessons instead of pointing the finger at one another what had happened in the past and boldly undertake the reforms for better future.

He urged them to strengthen the parliament to make sure its firm standing and as some matters could not be handled in accordance with democratic practices before the parliament came into existence, to build themselves competent and whiter than white for firmness of the parliament and to exercise democratic practices correctly and systematically.

He urged them to undertake the functions of parliament legally and recommendations and monitoring of the institutions concerned and the media.

He urged them to take the opinions and wishes of the people for urgent enactment of laws serving and protecting the interests of the people in accordance with the motto of the parliament—“People’s voice, Hluttaw’s voice, People’s wishes, Hluttaw’s wishes, People’s aspiration, Hluttaw’s determination”, to make sure its effectiveness in real world and to enforce the rule of law across the nation.

The success of the functions of the parliament relies much on the Hluttaw committees. There were four committees at first and later 19 more were established due to work requirements. In addition, Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission was founded to assist the parliament and its committees in their functions.

The main objective of the commission is to act as think tank the parliament and its commission in amending and revoking the laws that cannot serve and (See page 8)

First day fourth regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw held

Three questions answered, one bill submitted

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives attend the meeting.—SNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 July—First day fourth regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw took place at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this morning. It was attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 214 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint extended greetings. Respective Hluttaw representatives questions which were answered members of relevant Union-level organizations. U Maung Aye Tun of Rakhine State Constituency No (5) asked “whether there is a plan to upgrade BEPS in Kyauktaung village in Pauktaw Township to BEMS”. Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyaw answered that, as there are 59 primary education students in Letpan village Affiliated Basic Education School in Awrarna village-tract in Satin area of Buthidaung Township, it will be upgraded to BEPS (branch) if the proposal is made to Basic Education Department No (1) through relevant township and state education officers. There are 518 students and eight classrooms currently at Basic Education High School (branch) in Myintga village in Pauktaw Township. Plans have been made to allow surplus fund in 2012-2013 fiscal year and in 2013-2014 fiscal year to build one-storey brick building with 180-foot height, 36-foot width, corrugated iron sheet roof. Kyauktaung village BEPS in Pauktaw Township have been upgraded to BEMS (branch) since 2011-2012 academic year, providing middle school education.

The deputy minister then explained plans to improve capacity and socio-economic status of basic education service personnel, and accessibility of basic education. He said that the government provided all text books and six exercise books to provide 5.5 million students of primary schools including monastic ones at the cost of more than K 8000 million in 2012-2013 academic year.

The government has been provided all text books to the primary school students of the whole nation since 2010-2012 academic year at the cost of over K 1835 million. For ensuring all the children join the school and they all complete primary education, Compulsory Primary Education Law is being drafted.

As guided by the President, middle school scholarship, K 10000 per month for the whole academic year, and high school (See page 9)

Visitors look at a pure electric vehicle during 8th Beijing International Pure Electric Vehicles, Hybrid Electric Vehicles and Charging Station Exhibition, in Beijing 3 July, 2012.

Man Utd’s Fabio joins QPR on loan

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