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**True patriotism**

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

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives FAO representative

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 July—** Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received FAO Representative for Myanmar Ms Bui Thi Lan at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace here this morning.

Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw and departmental heads.

They frankly discussed matters related to agriculture and livestock breeding sectors, rural development and poverty alleviation scheme, and promotion of environmental conservation works.—MNA

Duties on projects assigned for 2012-2013 in Myeik District

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 July—** A ceremony to assign duties on projects to Myeik District for 2012-2013 took place at Kyun Yadana Hall of the General Administration Department in Myeik District this morning, with an address by Myeik District Deputy Commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo of the department.

Purposes of the projects for 2012-2013 were clarified by Deputy Director U Min Naung of Planning Department of Myeik District. Afterwards, assignments of the duties on projects for the year were made by the Deputy Commissioner to Township Administrators, and departmental staff through manager U Myint Sein of the agricultural supervisory committee of Myeik District.—MNA

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Langkho District

**LANGKHO, 21 July—** Staff of Mongnai Township Immigration and National Registration Department of Langkho District on 16 July morning issued citizenship scrutiny cards and household certificates atBasic Education High School in Nakhan Village of Nakhan Village-tract in Mongnai Township of Shan State (South).

Issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards and household certificates of Head of Township INRD U Sai Aung Naing and staff were supervised by Head of Langkho District Immigration and National Registration Department U Tun Nyain and Township Administrator U Myat Kyaw, Myanma Alin.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (21-7-2012)

- Pyapon (4.29) inches
- Myaungmya (4.21) inches
- Taungup (4.17) inches
- Putao (3.39) inches
- Myitkyina (3.15) inches
- Theinzayat (3.11) inches

Football Tournament kicks off in Ottarathiri Township

**NAY PYI TAW, 21 July—** The Ottarathiri Township Administrator’s Cup Football Tournament kicked off at Taungnyo sports ground in Taungnyo village-tract in Ottarathiri Township this afternoon. After giving a speech, Township Administrator U Ye Myat Tint opened the tournament. Altogether 10 football teams from wards and village-tracts are taking part the tournament.—MNA

**H2B rocket successfully launched**

A H-2B rocket carrying the unmanned cargo transporter Konotori, blasts off from the launching pad at Tanegashima Space Center on the Japanese southwestern island of Tanegashima, about 1,000km (621 miles) southwest of Tokyo, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 21 July, 2012.

**Watch a 3,000-foot-wide asteroid hurtle near Earth online**

Get a glimpse of the humongous asteroid as it flies by on 22 July.

**Liverpool owner hails ‘inspirational’ Rodgers**

Brendan Rodgers was appointed Liverpool manager earlier on in the summer.

**Snedeker builds 1-shot lead, with Tiger lurking**

Liverpool owner hails ‘inspirational’ Rodgers
PERSPECTIVES
Sunday, 22 July, 2012

Let’s work together to promote reproductive health services

Abortion is illegal and complications of abortion are one of the leading causes of maternal death and disability in Myanmar. Nearly 5 per cent of all pregnancies end up in abortions. About 16 million of women in Myanmar which has a population of around 60 million are reproductive age.

Myanmar started the birth spacing program in the public health sector in 1991 funded by Family Planning International Assistance and formulation of the 5-year Strategic Plan for Reproductive Health (2009-2013) in collaboration with all stakeholders launched by the Ministry of Health and maternal mortality has downed from 520 in 1990 to 200 per 100,000 live births in 2010. However, every year, about 2000 women die in pregnancy or childbirth from complications that are highly preventable or treatable in the country. Contraception is important – but nearly one fourth of Myanmar married women of reproductive age would like to practice contraception, but they do not have the means to do so.

There are a number of issues to address – lack of access to appropriate health care and lack of knowledge about contraceptives.

The correct message for the Family Planning or birth-spacing, is about saving lives, and protecting mothers and children from death, ill health, disability and underdevelopment. As a key component of reproductive health, access to birth-spacing information, commodities and services is a fundamental right for every woman and community if they are to develop to their full potentials.

The media plays an important role in sending correct message and promoting demand and address socio-cultural barriers to utilization of reproductive health services.

Efforts of the Government and development partners to ensure the availability of contraceptives are also critical to preventing unsafe abortion in the country.

Ambassador U Soe Nwe presents credentials to German President

NAV PRT TAW, 22 July—U Soe Nwe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Federal Republic of Germany, presented his credentials to Mr Joachim Gauck, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, on 11 July, 2012 in Berlin.—MNA

Ambassador U Thant Kyaw appointed as permanent representative to UN

NAV PRT TAW, 22 July—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Thant Kyaw, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Belgium, as the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations, New York.—MNA

Wellwishers from Thailand donate alms bowls, 1500 sets of robes to SSMNC Chairman and member Sayadaws

YANGON, 21 July—Under the leadership of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Supervision of Myanmar Border and Hilly Region Theravada Buddhist Sasana Nuggaha Association, Traisikkhabhavana Academy, Thailand donated 1500 sets of robes and alms bowls at the ancient prayer hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda, here, at 7 am today.

The ceremony was attended by Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Mandalay Bhume Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa and members of the Sangha, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung and officials, members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Myanmar Border and Hilly Regions Theravada Buddhist Sasana Nuggaha Association Dr Khin Shwe and party, wellwishers from Thailand and guests.

Secretary of the SSMNC Chakhihtgetyi Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadha Bhaddanta Khemindasami administered the Five Precepts and members of the Sangha recited Parittas. A representative of the wellwishers and Chairman of the association Dr Khin Shwe supplied on the purpose of donation.

Wellwisher Nun Mrs Thiraporn donated a sash made of 1920s of gold, 6000 pieces of diamond and 17 pieces of ruby and other jewelries to Union Minister Thura U Myint Maung.

After that, the Union Minister, officials and wellwishers presented alms bowls and 1500 sets of robes to the Chairman Sayadaw and members of the Sangha from State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon).

A representatives of Thai wellwishers donated cash to the fund for all-round renovation of Shwedagon Pagoda to the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

After that, the Chairman Sayadaw delivered a sermon, and the congregation shared merits gained. Later, they offered meals to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Jivitadana Sangha Hospital to collectively donate blood

YANGON, 21 July—Jivitadana Sangha Hospital of Bahan Township will hold the collective blood donation for the 11th time at its hall on 4 August morning.

Members of the Sangha, nuns and laypersons will donate blood for saving life of the patients. The in-charge of National Blood Centre of Yangon General Hospital and party will accept the blood.

Those wishing to donate blood may enlist at out-patient Sangha ward, out-patient nun ward and layperson ward of the Jivitadana Sangha Hospital, the medical superintendent office and relations section.

Moreover, anyone may dial 09-73006446 of the out-patient Sanghas ward, 01-542706 of nun ward, 01-552542 of out-patient layperson ward, 01-558434 of medical superintendent and 01-541793 of relations section, not later than at 4 pm on 1 August.

MNA

CASH DONATED TO HNINZIGON HOME FOR THE AGED

YANGON, 21 July—U Khin Htoo and wife Daw Moe Phyu donated K 500,000 in memory of late U Sein Tun (a) Archan of East wing of Bogoke Aung San Market in Pabedan Township in Yangon to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through joint secretary of executive officer of Information and Public Relations Department of Mandalay on 17 July.

The talks and show, organized by Information and Public Relations Department of Mandalay District, were aimed at promoting reading habits of schoolchildren and helping them make the most of school library.

The event was attended by Region Finance and Public Relations Department, township staff officers, staff, headmistress, teachers and students.

District Staff Officer Daw Than Than Wai said the purpose of the event was to cultivate reading habits in basic education schools. She then donated publications to the school library.

Wellwishers U Thak Tun Thet and Hsu Hnget gave talks on reading habits, followed by performance of Ma Naing Mandalay Marionette troupe.—MNA

Literary talks and marionette show organized in Mandalay

NAV PRT TAW, 21 July—Literary talks and marionette show were organized at No. (21) Basic Education High School (Branch) in Chammannzay Township of Mandalay on 17 July.

The talks and show, organized by Information and Public Relations Department of Mandalay District, were aimed at promoting reading habits of schoolchildren and helping them make the most of school library.

The event was attended by Region Finance and Revenue Minister U Phone Zaw Han, the District Staff Officer of Information and Public Relations Department, township staff officers, staff, headmistress, teachers and students.

District Staff Officer Daw Than Than Wai said the purpose of the event was to cultivate reading habits in basic education schools. She then donated publications to the school library.

Wellwishers U Thak Tun Thet and Hsu Hnget gave talks on reading habits, followed by performance of Ma Naing Mandalay Marionette troupe.—MNA

Donate blood
Attack on Turkey-Iraq pipeline knocks out oil flows

ISTANBUL, 21 July—Turkish authorities are blaming sabotage for a fire on a pipeline carrying petroleum from Iraq to Turkey’s Mediterranean coast that cut oil flows late on Friday, NTV television said.

The fire on the Kirkuk-Ceyhan pipeline erupted near the town of Midyat in southeastern Turkey, it said, citing the provincial governor. No one was immediately available at the governor’s office or at the state pipeline operator Botas to confirm the report.

The Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), a Kurdish militant group, has claimed responsibility for attacks on the 960-kilometre link, which carries about a quarter the 960-kilometre link.

NEW YORK POLICE LINK NINE 2012 PLOTS TO IRAN, PROXIES

Each plot was attributed to Iran’s Lebanese Hezbollah militant allies, said the reports, which were produced following the bombing in Burgas, Bulgaria of a bus carrying Israeli tourists.

Iran on Thursday dismissed “unfounded statements” by Israel linking Tehran to the Burgas blast, saying they were politically motivated accusations which underscored the weakness of the accusers.

A H-2B rocket carrying the unmanned cargo transporter Kontouri, blasts off from the launching pad at Tanegashima Space Center on the Japanese southwestern island of Tanegashima, about 1,000km (621 miles) southwest of Tokyo, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 21 July, 2012. Reuters

H2B rocket successfully launched

TOKYO, 21 July—Japan’s space agency has successfully launched an H2B rocket on Saturday. Onboard is a cargo carrier, the Kontouri 3, which will deliver goods to the International Space Station.

The rocket blasted off from the Tanegashima Space Center in southwestern Japan at 11:06 AM local time. 15 minutes later, the Kontouri 3 separated from the rocket at an altitude of about 288 kilometers.

He earlier pleaded not guilty to a total potential combined sentence of 35 years in prison. Sentencing will take place on 1 November.

Police have been at the apartment, on the third floor of a red brick building located about four miles (six kilometres) from the Aurora movie theater where the shooting took place, since before dawn on Friday. By late Friday evening, police and fire officials were seeking respite from the heat, several of them stretching out in the shade of the front porch of a nearby Mexican restaurant.

Police to detonate devices in Colorado shooting suspect’s home

AURORA, 21 July—The apartment of the man suspected of killing 12 people in a shooting rampage at a Denver-area movie theater on Friday has been so extensively booby-trapped that police have determined they cannot safely defuse the devices, a police source said on Friday. Police now plan to detonate the devices using a robot but said that would not take place until Saturday. In addition to those who died, another 58 people were wounded in the shooting and ensuing chaos.

Before performing any detonation, which they believe would likely be small in size, police plan to close down traffic on nearby streets. Officers were familiar with the matter told Reuters. Police have already evacuated the apartment building as well as several nearby buildings. James Holmes was arrested after allegedly opening fire on people watching a midnight screening of “The Dark Knight Rises,” apparently also set some audio equipment at his apartment on a timer, a second law enforcement source close to the investigation said.

The timer set off some loud music later in the night. “It was to turn the music on ... it was on a timer. It came on loudly obviously to create a call for noise disturbance. People would make entry and potentially (trigger) those explosive devices,” the second source said.

Police have been at the apartment, on the third floor of a red brick building located about four miles (six kilometres) from the Aurora movie theater where the shooting took place, since before dawn on Friday. By late Friday evening, police and fire officials were seeking respite from the heat, several of them stretching out in the shade of the front porch of a nearby Mexican restaurant.

Would-be Pentagon model-plane bomber enters guilty plea

BOSTON, 21 July—The Massachusetts man charged with plotting to attack the Pentagon and the US Capitol with remote-controlled model airplanes packed with explosives entered a guilty plea in a Boston federal court on Friday.

Rezwan Ferdaus told a packed courtroom, including his distraught family members, that he would accept the plea deal for a 17-year prison sentence that was hammered out by his attorneys and prosecutors earlier this month.

The charges against Ferdaus carried a potential combined sentence of 35 years in prison. Sentencing will take place on 1 November.

Ferdaus, of Ashland, Massachusetts, is charged with attempting to destroy and damage a federal building, and attempting to provide material support to terrorists.

He earlier pleaded not guilty to a total of six charges after his arrest in September 2011. Authorities dropped some of the charges in exchange for the guilty plea.

A Muslim-American born in Massachusetts to parents of Bangladeshi descent, Ferdaus was arrested after an FBI investigation during which he requested and took delivery of explosives, grenades and assault rifles from undercover FBI agents that he believed were members of al Qaeda.

At the time of his arrest, the physics student was a graduate student from Northeastern University, had obtained one remote-controlled aircraft, a scale model of a US Navy F-18 Hornet fighter jet about the size of a picnic table, which he kept in a storage locker in suburban Boston rented using a false name. —Reuters

Russia to cut defence spending in 2013 to 2015

MOSCOW, 21 July—Russia was likely to cut its defence spending in the next three years by about 20 percent, Finance Minister Anton Siluanov said on Friday.

“In the near future, we (the Finance Ministry) and the Defence Ministry will agree about the cutting of the direct funding for the state armament programmes for 2013-2015,” Siluanov told reporters here.

The decision on the cuts, representing about 200 billion rubles (6.25 billion US dollars), was “likely” to be made soon. Siluanov said his ministry had been trying to persuade the Defence Ministry to postpone the funding for some rearmament programmes.

Russia’s rearmament programme, which was launched in 2008, envisaged spending 20 trillion rubles (about 680 billion dollars) until 2020.

The 2012 defence budget is more than880 billion rubles (about 28 billion dollars) and was750 billion rubles (about 23 billion dollars) in 2011.

A scale model of a US Navy F-4 Phantom fighter plane is seen in a handout photo released by the US Justice Department after the photo was submitted to US District Court in Massachusetts as part of a criminal complaint and affidavit filed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Boston, in this 28 Sept, 2011 file photo. —Reuters

2013-2015 cuts

Air conflicted with Israel

Ryan O’Driscoll

The reports detail two suicide bombings. James Holmes, who was arrested after allegedly opening fire on people watching a midnight screening of “The Dark Knight Rises,” apparently also set some audio equipment at his apartment on a timer, a second law enforcement source close to the investigation said.

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Science & Technology

Vast aquifer found in Namibia could last for centuries

LONDON, 21 July — A newly discovered water source in Namibia could have a major impact on development in the driest country in sub-Saharan Africa. Estimates suggest the aquifer could supply the north of the country for 400 years at current rates of consumption. Scientists say the water is up to 10,000 years old but is clearer to drink than many modern sources. However, there are concerns that unauthorised drilling could threaten the new supply. For the people of northern Namibia water is something that they either have too much of or too little. The 800,000 people who live in the area depend for their drinking water on a 40-year-old canal that brings the scarce resource across the border from Angola. Over the past decade the Namibian government has been trying to tackle the lack of a sustainable supply in partnership with researchers from Germany and other European countries. They have now identified a new aquifer called Ohangwena II, which flows under the boundary between Angola and Namibia. On the Namibian side of the border it covers an area roughly 70 km by 40 km (43 miles by 25 miles).

According to project manager Martin Quinger, from the German Federal Institute for Geoscientific and Natural Resources (BGR), it’s a substantial body of water. “The amount of stored water would equal the current surface water.” He continues: “What we are aiming at is a sustainable water supply so we only extract the amount of water that is being recharged. “What we can say is that the huge amount of stored water is always large enough for a back up for an area that is currently supplied only by surface water.” This region is dependent on two rivers for its water supply but this has restricted agricultural development to areas close to these water sources. Mr Quinger says that the new aquifer has great potential to change the current farming in the area. “For the rural water supply the water will be well suited for irrigation and stock watering.”

Staying dry in rain: run or walk?

If you run, you are out in the dry when moving in the rain.

Prof Bocci, reporting in the European Journal of Physics, new asserts that both wind direction and a person’s stature figure into the answer. In most cases, the general answer is to run as fast as possible; but the answer changes in a twirlwind, or for the thin. Prof Bocci is by no means the first person to address the problem, which is far more mathematically complex than it seems on the surface.

In the 1970s, a number of papers came out in mathematics magazines debating the question, each more fully exploring the issues at hand. The battleground for this bit of hobby mathematics now seems to be the UK’s Institute of Physics publication the European Journal of Physics. In 1987, another Italian researcher asserted in the journal that changing strategies did not make a substantial difference. In 2011, a textile expert and a physicist used the same publication to suggest that an optimal speed existed, depending on the wind direction. “For the most part in the previous work, there was a simple answer, but I found that the problem is much more complicated,” Prof Bocci told BBC News. “What complicates the question is the human shape; for simplicity, previous attempts to crack the thorny problem assumed people to be thin sheets or upright, rectangular boxes. When Prof Bocci considered a more general case—likely to be the case you would face in the rain—he found that the answer may depend on an individual’s height-to-breadth ratio as well as wind direction and raindrop size. Luckily there are a few generalisations in the analysis, to spare you having to calculate the cosine of the angle between your path and the wind direction.”

“Let’s say that in general, the best thing is to run, as fast as you can—as not always, but in general,” said Prof Bocci. “If you’re really thin, it’s more probable that there will be an optimal speed. Otherwise, it’s better to run fast.”

Possible source of half of all web spam meets its end

WASHINGTON, 21 July — Spam affects all of our daily web activities, whether we choose to ignore it or not. Junk mail, hate messages, and malicious websites are just a few of the potholes that dot the information superhighway. Insidious and malicious websites are quickly as those new servers are put down on Wednesday, Grum’s servers — the Internet’s second-biggest source of junk mail — are no more.

Grum’s servers — the Internet’s second-biggest source of junk mail — are no more.

Grum’s servers — the machines that control the network and manipulate users’ PCs without their knowledge — were based in the Netherlands and Panama, making them difficult to locate. Once they were shut down on Wednesday, Grum’s architects quickly revived the spam networking using new machines in both Russia and the Ukraine. But almost as quickly as those new servers sprang to life, they were again shut down by authorities.

Experts estimate that Grum’s spam production may have accounted for as much as 50% of the world’s total. So, will you notice an immediate difference in the amount of junk mail or spam-ridden chat messages? Perhaps, but with hotspots such as this, as soon as one is taken down there are typically several more lined up to take its place. Still, bowing the hammer on Grum is definitely a big step towards a safer internet.

Test drilling on the new aquifer.

INTERNET

Watch a 3,000-foot-wide asteroid hurtle near Earth online

Slooh Space Camera will track the asteroid from the Canary Islands in Africa as it makes its way through the sky, and will live stream it on the Internet starting at 4:30 pm Pacific on 22 July. But if you miss the first live stream because you’re out partying or are otherwise intensely analyzing your weekly bad stock photo gallery, don’t worry—there’s another live stream you can catch starting up at 8 pm Pacific, as another telescope in Arizona tracks the asteroid as it passes by. This huge asteroid known as AM31 was discovered in 2002, and will come within 3.2 million miles from Earth. That’s almost the same distance another 1,000-foot asteroid reached last June, which also led to a flyby live-stream event by the Slooh Space Camera team.

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**How to protect kids from whooping cough outbreaks**

_Atlanta, 21 July_ — Whooping cough was once a terrible menace to US children, with hundreds of thousands of cases reported annually. Then a vaccine drove cases down, and the illness became thought of as rare and even antiquated. But it never totally disappeared, and now there’s been a spike in cases.

With nearly 18,000 cases so far this year, health officials say this is shaping up to be the worst national epidemic in more than 50 years for the highly contagious disease. Worrisome numbers have been reported in more than a dozen states. What’s a parent to do?

_Some advice:_

**FIRST STEP:** Make sure your child is up-to-date on vaccination against whooping cough, or pertussis. There are five doses, with the first shot at age 2 months and the last between 4 and 6 years. A booster shot is recommended around 11 or 12. It’s part of routine childhood shots that also protect against diphtheria and tetanus.

**PROTECT YOURSELF:** Adults who are around kids should get a whooping cough booster shot so that they don’t spread it to young children, who are the most vulnerable to whooping cough. Nine young children have died so far this year. The booster for teens and adults, approved in 2005, was combined with the tetanus booster that adults are supposed to get every 10 years or so.

**MAKE VACCINE NOT PERFECT:** No vaccine is 100 percent effective, and its ability to fend off infections wanes as years pass. But even diminished vaccine protection is better than nothing, and unusually people who are vaccinated have milder cases. In this current epidemic, experts are investigating whether the childhood shots and the booster offer less lasting protection than previously thought.

**WATCH FOR SYMPTOMS:** The illness typically starts with cold-like symptoms that can include a runny nose, congestion, low-grade fever and mild cough. Infants may have a pause in breathing, called apnea. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises parents to see a doctor if they or their children develop prolonged or severe coughing fits, vomiting and exhaustion.

The name comes from the sound children make as they gasp for breath. Here’s what it sounds like: http://tinyurl.com/btksu.

The disease is spread through coughing or sneezing. Whooping cough is treated with antibiotics, the earlier the better. — _INTERNET_

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**Bounty mutiny descendants have low rates of myopia**

_Camberra, 21 July_ — Descendants of a British mutiny who have lived for generations in the Pacific have among the lowest rates of myopia in the world, according to an Australian study. The study examined eye problems among the descendants of the Bounty sailors and their Polynesian wives who settled on Pitcairn Island after the mutiny in 1789 and who then moved to Norfolk Island off Australia’s east coast.

“One component of the study has found the prevalence of myopia (near-sightedness) on Norfolk Island is lower than on mainland Australia,” said University of Western Australia academic David Mackey.

“But there was a two-fold higher prevalence of myopia in people without Pitcairn ancestry. We found the rate of Pitcairn group myopia is approximately one-half that of the Australian population and as a result would be ranked among one of the lowest rates in the world.” Pitcairn was settled in 1789 by mutineers from the British naval ship the Bounty, who famously set their captain William Hulgh adrift in the South Pacific. Many of the families of the mutineers moved from Pitcairn, a five-square-kilometre island midway between New Zealand and Chile, to the larger Norfolk Island in 1856.

Mackey, who is managing director of the Lion’s Eye Institute which carried out the study, said Norfolk Island was unique because almost half the islanders could trace their ancestry back to the original Pitcairn population of just nine. The islanders have lived for generations in the Pacific have among the lowest rates of myopia in the world, according to an Australian study. — _INTERNET_

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**Peugeot has announced 8,000 job cuts and the closure of a factory.**

_Paris, 21 July_ — The head of PSA Peugeot Citroën has warned that French government criticism of the carmaker's intention to cut 8,000 jobs and close a factory in France is a dangerous situation. Chairman Thierry Peugeot told French daily Le Figaro that the criticism was undermining investor confidence. President Francois Hollande has denounced the plan as “unacceptable” and the government has criticised PSA’s corporate strategy.

Ministers have questioned how the company is still able to pay dividends. Peugeot family members control Europe’s second largest carmaker through a 25.2% and 37.9% voting rights. Mr Peugeot said, “We are ready to accept criticism, but there are limits. If the government is currently facing have an immediate effect on (investor) perception. This is a dangerous situation.” Recontinued: “We are well aware of the seriousness of the plan to cut 8,000 jobs. These measures are painful. I understand they can cause shock within the company, the government and the whole of the country.”

But he added that the carmaker was “forced to adapt” to falling European sales and “cannot stand by and do nothing.”

Peugeot’s share price has fallen almost 20% since it announced restructuring plans earlier this month. The carmaker’s intention to cut jobs and close a factory has caused dismay in Paris because the new socialist government came to power on a promise to reverse industrial decline. French media have reported that the government is working on an aid package for the car industry that is likely to include help for environmentally friendly vehicles but no new car sales incentives. Details of the package could be announced as early as next week. — _INTERNET_

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**PC sales weaken on economic woes and mobile devices**

_New York, 21 July_ — AMD (Advanced Micro Devices) has become the latest firm to warn of weaker-than-expected PC sales. The US computer chip maker highlighted China as an area of particular concern. The news follows a report by research firm IDC which suggested PC shipments to Asia Pacific had begun to shrink between April and June.

Economic uncertainty, the rise of mobile computing and the dollar’s strength and the upcoming release of Windows 8 have all been linked to the trend.

AMD discussed the problem in a conference call after a posted $577m ($5.6m) profit for its second quarter representing a 39% drop on the previous year. The company’s shares closed down 13% following the news. “It is clear that global economic activity is slowing, and this is impacting the PC market,” chief executive Rory Read said, according to a transcript published by financial site Seeking Alpha.

For the first time since 2001, AMD PC shipments have declined sequentially for three consecutive quarters and have been below historical averages for the last seven quarters. “We expect macro headwinds will continue for the third quarter. We also believe the PC industry may be resetting to a new baseline and that full year industry growth estimates will be reduced.” He added that weak sales of chips designed for desktop computers had first become evident in China before “spreading across the globe.”

The comments align with an IDC study which suggested that 3.9 million PCs were shipped to Asia Pacific, excluding Japan, between April and June. That marks a 1% fall on the same period last year.

HP desktop IDC indicated HP had seen the biggest drop in demand in Asia “Ongoing turbulence in western Europe has finally caught up with markets in this part of the world as well, with distractions from competing product categories like smartphones and tablets not helping matters either,” said the firm’s market analyst for the region, Avinash Sundaram.

His figures suggested that US PC-makers had been worst-affected, with Hewlett Packard seeing a 19% drop in demand, and Dell an 18% drop. IDC’s figures suggest that PC sales did grow in Europe, the Middle East and Africa over the same period, but only in light of poor figures the previous year. — _INTERNET_

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**AMD said demand for PC sales may not recover to previous levels.**

— _INTERNET_
Obama’s top security advisor to visit China, Japan

WASHINGTON, 21 July—US President Barack Obama’s top security advisor Thomas Donilon will visit China and Japan to strengthen security cooperation and promote ties with the two nations, the White House announced on Friday.

During the China trip, Donilon “will discuss the current and future state of US-China relations and cooperation on regional and global challenges, including nonproliferation, regional security in Asia and the Middle East, and global economic growth,” the White House said in a statement.

Earlier, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that Donilon will visit China from 23 July to 25 July, both sides will exchange views on bilateral relations and major issues of common concern, including nonproliferation, regional security in Asia and the Middle East, and global economic growth,” the White House said in a statement.

Donilon will hold consultations with senior Japanese officials on US-Japan security cooperation and other bilateral issues, as well as arrange of regional and global challenges.

Saudi Prince Bandar: a flamboyant, hawkish spy chief

LONDON, 21 July—Saudi Arabia’s “peasant prince” with the twinkling eye, hawkish views and fondness for the Dallas Cowboys football team is back, now heading the kingdom’s intelligence agency.

On Thursday night Prince Bandar bin Sultan was appointed Saudi Arabia’s new spy chief at a moment when the world’s top oil exporter is engaged in a bitter rivalry with Shi’ite Muslim power Iran played out in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Bahrain.

The sociable Bandar, 63, who vanished from public view when he was recalled from Washington by King Abdullah in 2005 after notching up 22 years as the kingdom’s ambassador there, will immediately be thrust into a game-changing Middle East crisis.

“He’s just the right person for the right time in Saudi. They have a story hawkish foreign policy and he’s the leading hawk of the House of Saud,” said David Ottaway, Bandar’s biographer and a senior scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington.

The United States’ closest Arab ally is a firm supporter of the Syrian rebels who are now battling in Damascus to oust President Bashar al-Assad after sending fences with Washington after a disagreement over last year’s Arab uprisings.

Japan to join minesweeping drill in Persian Gulf

Tokyo, 21 July—Japan will dispatch Maritime Self-Defense Force vessels to the Persian Gulf for a multinational minesweeping exercise to be held in September.

Defence Minister Sanoshi Morimoto said on Friday that the drill around the Strait of Hormuz will contribute to the stability of oceans, which Japan believes is important, as well as international security.

About 90 percent of Japan’s crude oil imports pass through the strait.

The drill is apparently aimed at checking Iran. The country has threatened to scatter mines to block the Strait of Hormuz, a key Middle East oil shipping route.

The Maritime Self-Defense Force will send a minesweeper and a tender, with a total of 180 personnel on board.

This will be the 2nd time that Japan will take part in the exercise, following the one held last October.

US Spy agency chief to meet with hackers at Defcon

Washington, 21 July— Computer geeks attending the world’s largest annual hacking party in Las Vegas next week will have a rare chance to rub shoulders with the head of the US National Security Agency.

General Keith Alexander, director of the spy agency, will speak at the Defcon conference, marking the highest-level visit to date by a US government official to the colorful gathering.

Organizers expect some 15,000 hackers this year as they celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first US hacking event that was open to the public.

The Pentagon disclosed the visit on Friday.

“We’re going to show him the conference. He wants to wander around,” said Jeff Moss, a hacker who organized the first Defcon conference while working as a security officer for a Seattle law firm. He now sits on an advisory committee to the Department of Homeland Security.

Alexander may choose to talk shop with the techies. He holds four master’s degrees, including ones in electronic warfare and physics.

Still, Moss said he expects there could be some controversy over Alexander’s presence among the diverse hacker crowd that attends the conference.

The NSA plays both offense and defence in the cyber wars. It conducts electronic eavesdropping on adversaries, in addition to protecting US computer networks.

“One important thing people will say ‘You’re a sellout for having someone from the NSA speak,’ said Moss, who is 23 July as the Dark Tangent in the hacking community.

But he doesn’t see it that way. “One of the things I try to do at Defcon is take some of the hackers out of their comfort zone. I want to expose them to people who would normally not hear from,” he said.

“Don’t you think it’s important to hear what the most senior person at the NSA has to say? I’m interested in hearing what he has to say,” said Moss, whose full-time job is serving as chief security officer with ICANN, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, which helps manage the infrastructure for much of the Internet.

Hackers come to the conference to exchange information about tools of the trade, socialize and compete in hacking contests.

There will be talks on attacking mobile phones and Google TV, more technical discussions on programming and discussions about government surveillance.

Defcon offers a side conference for children, Defcon Kids, which Alexander will likely visit. It also trains hackers to pick locks and has an annual contest to measure who is best at persuading corporate workers to release sensitive data over the phone.

Moss said he invited federal agents to the first Defcon conference, but that they politely declined. They showed up anyway incognito. They kept coming, in bigger numbers, sometimes in uniform. “We created an environment where the feds felt they could come and it wasn’t hostile,” Moss said.

“We could ask them questions and they wanted to ask the hackers about new techniques.” —Internet

Indonesian parliament prepares bill for humanitarian mission

Jakarta, 21 July—The Indonesian House of Representatives (DPR) will endorse the country’s Red Cross bill to protect humanitarian missions, lawmaker Anna Mu’awanah said.

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China to deploy military garrison in South China Sea

Guangzhou, 21 July—China’s central military authority has approved to form and deploy a military garrison in the newly established city of Sansha.

China’s Liberation Army (PLA) Guangzhou Military Command said on Friday that the Central Military Commission (CMC) had authorized it to form a garrison command in the city.

The garrison command will be a division-level command under the PLA’s Hainan provincial sub-command, responsible for guarding the country’s national defense mobilization, military reserves and carrying out military operations.

The PLA’s Sansha Garrison Command will be under the dual leadership of the Hainan provincial sub-command and the city’s civilian leaders.—Xinhua

Japan, China spar over Shanghai garrison's move to South China Sea

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang (R, Front) meets with Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo in Beijing, capital of China, on 20 July, 2012. Xinhua

NHK

6  THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Sunday, 22 July, 2012
A school girl accepts cash assistance from Lt-Col Thant Zaw Htoo.
Myanmar-Vietnam cooperation in commerce to be discussed on 27 July

YANGON, 21 July—Vietnamese entrepreneurs led by Deputy Director General Mr. Chau Minh Nguyen of the Department of Industry and Trade in Dong Nai Province, Vietnam, has arranged to hold a meeting on Myanmar-Vietnam cooperation in commerce with the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry at 10 am on 27 July. The meeting will focus on bilateral cooperation in mining, construction, chemicals, transports, agricultural products, cashew nuts and rubber producing, bikes and its accessories, pressure, children’s shoe industry, medicines and medical appliances, detergents, plastics, foodstuffs, agriculture and breeding, as well as ceramics. Those interested persons may contact the international relations department of the federation not later than 24 July, and dial 214344 to 214349 (Ex:120 or 122).

ASEAN ICT Award Contest on 15 August

YANGON, 21 July—According to the programme to promote cooperation among governments, businesses, peoples and other organizations in the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2012, a plan is under way to organize the ASEAN ICT Award Contest. Any interested person from ASEAN member countries may take part in the contest. The contest is classified as public sector, private sector, corporate social responsibility, digital content and start up company. Projects are to be submitted to the organizing committee through online, not later than 15 August.

Outstanding students honoured in Mawlamyine

NAV PI TAW, 21 July—A ceremony to honour the students of staff from Mawlamyine Township Forest Department who passed the matriculation examination for 2011-2012 academic year was held at the hall of the department in Mawlamyine on 17 July. Mon State Minister for Forestry and Resettlement Ministry for locals of Rakhine State offered cash, foodstuffs and clothes at Relief and Resettlement Department (Head Office).—MNA

People in Rakhine State provided cash and foodstuff

NAV PI TAW, 21 July—Wellwishers donated cash, foodstuffs and clothes at Relief and Resettlement Department (Head Office) under the Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Ministry for locals of Rakhine State who had lost houses and property in recent unrest. On 18 July, U Naing Aung, U Kyaw Swa Lin and (195) friends donated K 1 million for the locals of Rakhine State at the head office of Relief and Resettlement Department.—MNA

Heavy rains, strong winds destroy 15 houses in Mawgyun

Mawlamyinegyun, 21 July—Heavy rains and strong winds hit Mawlaymeyngyun Township from 10.30 am on 20 July. At 11 am, some houses collapsed and roofs of some houses were blown in three villages of the township. The strong winds also destroyed 14 houses in Mawgyun Village of Chaukgaung, U Hla Toe and one house in Ngwesinyaw Village and blew roofs of two houses in Ketho Village. Although the strong winds crossed the urban area, there was no casualty there. However, the heavy rains flooded some roads in the urban area.

Saplings planted as monsoon activity in Labutta Township

LABUTTA, 21 July—Labutta Township General Administration Department of Labutta District in Ayeyawady Region and Township Forest Department organized the rainy season tree growing ceremony beside the lake in Ward 7 of Labutta on 7 July morning. At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner of Labutta District General Administration Department U Kan Win, Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thaik, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Hla Myint, district and township level departmental personnel and local people participated in the growing of over 800 saplings.

Patron of Myanmar Libraries Foundation

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsun addressed the cash and publications donation ceremony to MLF libraries.—MNA

Cash, periodicals worth K 130,022,500...

Daw July Moe, U Tin Tun (a) Zoro, U Win Maung and wife Dr. Daw Yyi Myint, U Ham Min Oo, U Lu Maw, Daw Thandha Kyaw, U Myint Thein (Region Judge), Fashion Image Magazine, U Win Maw (Htulun Min Hla Ngwe), U Kyin Khang, Sai Than Oo Thein (Waso Ko Oo), U Win Cho (Dawun Publishing House), U Maung (Chit Oo Maung), U Nay Myo Thura and wife Daw Hla Myat Mo (Lamin Mo Mo) (Taguang Publishing House), Daw Nwe Yi, U Aung Kyaw Nyunt and wife Daw Mya Mya Oo, Myanmar Tourism Services Co Ltd, Sedana Hlaing (Yangon), U Hla Toe and wife Daw Cherry Aung, Tekkatho Ma Kyee Tan family, Daw Khang Thuzar Lin (Khin Le Le Chit), Kaung Thant Publishing House) donated cash and publications through Foundation Chairman U Maung Maung, Vice-Chairman U Nyunt Swe, and CEC members U Chi Naing (Chi Naing-Psychology), Dr Chit San (Chit San Win), U Maung Maung Oo (Hein Latt), Academy Kath Sithu, U Win Aung and Daw Hla Myat Mo (Lamin Mo Mo).

Chairman of MLF U Maung Maung spoke works of thanks that brought the ceremony to an end. Union Minister U Kyaw Hsun then cordially greeted those present at the ceremony.

A total of 236 donors donated K 28, 723,500 and 164585 publications worth K 101,299,000. The amount of donations in total touched K 130,022,500.—MNA

MYANNA ALIN

Nav Pi Taw, 21 July—The family who runs Thida Min, Kyelsinhein and Minhethein passenger express and cargo transport services held the ceremony to present cash assistance to offspring of students of bus drivers, bus conductors and gate staff and honour distinction winners in the matriculation examination at Mya Sein Hall in Dawei on 14 July morning.

Teaninthai Region Minister for Transport Dr. Kyaw Hsun made a speech and presented cash assistance to 99 students including distinction winning students in the matriculation examination for 2011-2012 academic year.

Region Minister for Social Affairs U Win Swe also gave cash assistance for basic education schools.

Transport service proprietor Daw Nyunt Tin (retired headmistress) presented cash awards to outstanding bus workers. After that, wellwishers donated cash assistance for enabling the students to conveniently pursue education through responsible persons.

The cash assistance provided for the second time amounted to K 8.8 million.

MNA

Nav Pi Taw, 21 July—After that, wellwishers donated cash assistance to 28 students of staff.

Assistant Director U Aye Cho of the department gave prizes to 40 outstanding education students at the hall of the department in Mawlamyine on 17 July.

Mon State Minister for Forestry and Mines U Win Maw Oo gave a speech and presented prizes to five-distinction winner Ma Zin Mon Soe and two-distinction winner Maung Phyoo Thiva of Mawlamyine BEHS No 6.

Departmental officials also presented cash assistance to 28 students of staff.

Assistant Director U Aye Cho of Mawlamyine and Thaton District Forest Department gave prizes to 40 outstanding staff and cash assistance and uniforms worth K 1,181,000 to offspring of staff.—MNA

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Cash, periodicals worth K 130,022,500...
DISTRICT NEWS

MADB in Shwedaung Township disburses agricultural loans
PRAW, 21 July—Under the supervision of the local authorities at different levels, Myanma Agricultural Development Bank of Shwedaung Township in Sagaing Region (West) disbursed loans to the local farmers for cultivation of monsoon crops in 2012 as of 6 July.

Manager of the bank U Khin Maung Win and staff presented loans to the farmers. Shwedaung Township constituted with 51 villages.

New foreign exchange counters to be opened in Mandalay
MANDALAY, 21 July—Foreign exchange counters are kept open at Kanbawzah Bank branch, CP Bank Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Myawady Bank branch, Myanma Industrial Development Bank branch, Ayeyawady Bank branch, United Amara Bank branch, Myanma Oriental Bank branch, Inwa Bank branch, First Private Bank branch and the new school building.

Headmistress Daw Mar Aye of Wegyi Village BEPS explained the construction of new building. After that, she handed over documents related to the building to the Township Education Officer.

The new building with the measurement of 80 feet long, 30 feet wide and 12 feet high, was built at a cost of K 982 million as of 8 July. The government is carrying out undertakings of prevention against trafficking in person with momentum.

The government is encouraging to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Thabeikyin Street in Botataung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

Agricultural loans increased to K 5000 per acre in Lashio
LAHSIO, 21 July—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank Branch-2 of Shan State in Lashio will disburse K 5000 per acres to local farmers for fulfilling the requirements of local farmers in cultivation of monsoon paddy in 2012 rainy season.

Bank branches in Hsipaw and Kyaukme townships of Myanma Agricultural Development Bank in Shan State (North) disbursed loans at K 5000 per acres to the local farmers. Moreover, the bank branches add K 10,000 each per acres to those who have borrowed K 4000 per acres from the bank.

Cash and kind donated for aged special out-patient ward
YANGON, 21 July—A ceremony to donate cash to the fund for construction of the aged special out-patient ward department was held at Insein General Hospital in Yangon North District of Yangon Region on 16 July.

Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Sun and Prof Dr U Myint Kyaw of the hospital accepted the donations. Later, the medical superintendent spoke words of thanks. Myanmar Alin

Duties of project assigned to departments, local authorities
MOGAUNG, 21 July—The duty assigning of annual projects for 2012-2013 fiscal year were held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Mogaung Township of Kachin State on 14 July.

Staff Officer Daw Ei Ei Shwe of Planning Department explained assignment of duties.

MLF invites cash, book donations
Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Saplings planted in Loilem Township
LOILEM, 21 July—Township Administrator U Aung Kyi and party inspected progress of growing saplings.

Village BEPS gets new school building
SALINGYI, 21 July—A ceremony to open Myinsuthaka new school building was held at Basic Education Primary School in Wegyi Village of Letpadawng Village-tract in Salinigy Township of Monywa District in Sagaing Region on 8 July.

Officials of Sagaing Region and Township Education Officer Daw Myint Kyi formally opened the new school building.

Information for trafficking in person
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WASHINGTON, 21 July—Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), on Friday welcomed the Eurogroup’s decision to provide up to 100 billion euros (about $122 billion US dollars) in financial assistance to Spain to strengthen its financial institutions.

“We welcome the decision made today by the Eurogroup to grant financial assistance from the European Financial Stability Fund (EFSF) to Spain to recapitalize its banking sector,” she said in a statement.

The recapitalization of weak banks and the other reforms attached to the agreement were consistent with the IMF’s recent policy recommendations, she noted.

“The implementation of these measures will contribute to significantly strengthen Spain’s financial system, an essential step in restoring growth and prosperity in the country,” she added.

Finance ministers from the 17-nation eurozone have given final approval to a Spanish banking sector bailout program specifying the conditions under which Spain can be lent money for the recapitalization of its banks.

Spain announced on 9 June to ask eurozone partners for financial help to support its ailing banking sector.

IMF chief welcomes Eurogroup’s financial assistance decision on Spain

12 killed in Brunei helicopter crash

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 July—Twelve military personnel including six cadets were killed in a Brunei air force helicopter crash while flying home after jungle training, according to a spokesman.

The crash occurred on Friday in Kuala Belait in the oil-rich state on the island of Borneo.

“We have 12 fatalities in the helicopter crash. Two military cadets survived the crash,” Brunei air force spokesman Norudin Salleh told AFP.

US planes riling Japanese

TOKYO, 21 July—A growing record of accidents involving Osprey airplanes has led to increasing opposition to their use by the US Marines in Japan.

The National Governors’ Association passed a resolution on Thursday saying it “cannot accept” the proposed deployment of the planes because of lack of information about their safety record, Asahi Shimbun reported.

Twelve of the aircraft are to arrive at a base in Yamaguchi prefecture in Hiroshma on 23 July. The 12 planes are to be deployed to the US Marine Corps Air Station Futtenma on Okinawa in September.

US military documents indicate the Osprey was involved in 58 “mishaps” from 2006-11, Asahi Shimbun said. The MV-22 Ospreys, the type to be sent to Okinawa, were involved in 30.

“Class A mishaps,” defined as those including fatalities, permanently disabling injuries or damage of at least $2 million, one was a fire on board a plane during flight and in the other incident a member of the crew fell from a plane.

Another six were Class B, involving permanent partial disability or damage of $500,000-$5 million. The remaining 22 were Class C, causing injury or damage of $50,000-$500,000. The Osprey was designed to be capable of vertical takeoffs and landings and short takeoffs and landings. Local officials say the Futtenma base is in a heavily populated area with the possibility that what might otherwise be a minor accident could cause serious injury or death to local residents.

Bomb threats made on Detroit landmarks

DETROIT, 21 July—Detroit police are investigating four hoax bomb threats made within a week on Comerica Park, the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel and the Ambassador Bridge.

Police officials said on Thursday a hoax bomb threat for the Ambassador Bridge on Wednesday was the fourth of its kind within the week, the Detroit Free Press reported.

Hoax threats were made for Comerica Park on Tuesday, the Ambassador Bridge again on Monday and the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel on 12 July.

The 12 July and Monday threats forced police to shut down the tunnel and bridge for several hours each day and bring in bomb-sniffing dogs and bomb squads. The threat on Comerica Park was made into an hour into a Detroit Tigers game, but fans and media were not made aware of the threat until the game ended.

Traffic was disrupted in the investigation of the most recent Ambassador Bridge threat. Police did not say whether one person or copycats made the hoax threats.

“this is an on-going investigation and there’s a lot I can’t share with you — we don’t want to get in a cat-and-mouse game with the perpetrators because they read newspapers, too,” Detroit police Inspector Donald E Johnson said.

United sells tickets for four reward miles

CHICAGO, 21 July—A programming error in the United Airlines online ticket sales system allowed customers to purchase flights to Hong Kong for four reward miles.

Patrons of United Airlines who purchased tickets to, from, or through Hong Kong were charged four reward miles plus taxes and fees, totaling about $35, because of programming error in the airline’s online system, the Chicago Tribune reported.

A round-trip flight from Los Angeles to Hong Kong usually costs about $1,800 or 60,000 reward miles.

United released a statement saying it has fixed the program and canceled the unused tickets purchased for four reward miles. United did not report how many tickets were purchased.

The US Department of Transportation announced it is investigating whether United violated a federal rule stating airlines cannot increase the price of tickets after they have been booked.

United officials believe the airline has not violated the rule because it did not advertise the sale of tickets for four reward miles.

English couple get prison for terror plan

MANCHESTER, 21 July—An English couple received prison sentences on Friday for a plan to blow up a Jewish community centre in Manchester.

Mohammed Sajid Khan, 33, who pleaded guilty, was given an indeterminate sentence but must spend at least seven years and six months behind bars, the Manchester Evening News reported.

Prosecutors said the couple’s plan was thwarted when police were called to their home because the Hamas website was being accessed.

Investigators said the couple bought the materials for homemade bomb at local stores.

You had become, under the influence of your husband, a devoted jihadist motivated by extremist Islamist beliefs,” the judge told Shasta Khan.

“Underlying your conversion was a desire to support your husband right or wrong and to keep your third marriage together.”

Calif parks director sat on hidden cash

SACRAMENTO, 21 July—The head of California’s state parks system resigned on Friday and her deputy was canned amid reports they concealed a cash stash of $54 million.

John Laird, the state’s natural resources secretary, said there will be a complete audit of the state parks system and an investigation into Ruth Coleman’s actions, the San Jose Mercury News reported.

Coleman had been director of state parks since 2003.

Laird said Coleman did not report to the Department of Finance that there was $20.4 million in an account used for park entrance fees and fees paid by park concessions and another $33.5 million in a fund for vehicle parks.

California is struggling with a massive budget deficit. In the past year, Gov Jerry Brown has called for the closing of about one quarter of the state parks to save money. The parks were saved from closing by donations from private groups and local governments.
Heavy rains hit north China
BEIJING, 21 July—Heavy rains will sweep China’s northern regions and some southern areas over the next three days, the country’s weather authority forecast on Saturday. Most parts of north China, the Sichuan Basin and the central and southern part of south China will see heavy rains or rainstorms from Saturday to Monday, the National Meteorological Center (NMC) said. Based on interviews with 403 Parkinson’s patients and 405 healthy people in British Columbia, the researchers also found people who contracted red measles as children were 35 percent less likely to develop Parkinson’s.

Severe flu increases risk of Parkinson’s
VANCOUVER, 21 July—Severe flu could double a person’s odds to develop Parkinson’s disease later in life, a new research shows. The study, conducted by researchers from Canada’s University of British Columbia, was published in the latest online version of Movement Disorders.

Experimental musicians use body as instrument
Using a sensitive microphone to amplify the low frequency sound waves a muscle emits when it is flexed, Donnarumma has learned how to produce actual rhythms by simply moving his body. “In the beginning, for instance, I was just standing with my legs still and waving my arms,” Donnarumma said. “Now I completely involve the whole body in the performance.” His song “Hypo Chrysos”, for example, uses Donnarumma tie two concrete blocks to his arms—an idea inspired by Dante’s classic poem “Inferno” in which the poet encounters sinners in hell dripping water filled with lead. The extra stress gives off a dry, crackly sound. The technical term for listening in on the body’s internal functions and converting them into melodies is “musical biofeedback,” according to Claudia Robles Angel, an audiovisual artist from Colombia who played a concert at Berlin’s Leipzkgue sound lab alongside Kirn and Donnarumma earlier this month. 

WHO endorses use of HIV medicines for prevention
NEW YORK, 21 July—The World Health Organization has endorsed using HIV medicines among people who do not have the infection but are at high risk of getting it, and suggested that poor and wealthy countries alike set up pilot projects to better understand the benefits. The United Nations agency made its suggestion on Friday, four days after US regulators approved use of Gilead Sciences Inc’s Truvada for people who are not infected but may engage in sexual activity with HIV-positive partners. The concept is known as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).

Chinese solar company taps Australian market
SHENZHEN, 21 July—A solar energy company based in north China’s Hebei Province has recently registered a subsidiary in Australia, aiming to tap the fledging market and, the sources with the company said on Saturday. Headquartered in Sydney and a subsidiary of Yingli Green Energy Holding Co, Ltd will provide solar modules, as well as after-sale services, in the Australian market, according to the company.

Sri Lanka to receive 415 mln USD loan from IMF
COLOMBO, 21 July—The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved a loan of 415 million US dollars to Sri Lanka as part of an agreement reached in 2009, the Sri Lanka Central Bank announced on Saturday. The bank said that under the agreement, a total of approximately 2.49 billion US dollars had been disbursed to Sri Lanka in stages since 2009. The decision to release the final tranche was made by the IMF Executive Board on Friday and the funds were accordingly transferred to the Central Bank in Sri Lanka. The completion of the agreement marks the longest engagement Sri Lanka has had with the IMF and the single largest facility Sri Lanka has ever obtained from the IMF. The IMF intends to discuss the future of financial support for its economic development agenda under an Extended Fund Facility (EFF).

Heavy rain to hit north China
BEIJING, 21 July—Heavy rains will sweep China’s northern regions and some southern areas over the next three days, the country’s weather authority forecast on Saturday. Most parts of north China, the Sichuan Basin and the central and southern part of south China will see heavy rains or rainstorms from Saturday to Monday, the National Meteorological Center (NMC) said. The NMC calls for precautions to be taken against potential disasters caused by heavy rainfalls, including mudslides, mountain torrents and urban waterlogging. The technical term for listening in on the body’s internal functions and converting them into melodies is “musical biofeedback,” according to Claudia Robles Angel, an audiovisual artist from Colombia who played a concert at Berlin’s Leipzkgue sound lab alongside Kirn and Donnarumma earlier this month. 

Volvo to recall imported truck models in China
BEIJING, 21 July—Volvo (China) Investment Co, Ltd will recall a total of 279 imported FM and FH trucks and chassis due to defects with heat shields, the country’s top consumer watchdog said on Friday. The heat shields could crack and lead to short circuits in starter motors if they hit the motors, a statement on the website of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said.

Severe flu increases risk of Parkinson’s
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (649)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (649) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.7.2012 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.

PHONE NO: 256908/378316/376797

 Haqqani leader killed in airstrike
YAKUBI, 21 July—A Haqqani leader and another insurgent were killed in an airstrike by an Afghan and coalition security force in eastern Afghanistan, military officials said.

The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force said Abdul Wali, a leader of the Taleban-linked Haqqani network, was killed and another insurgent injured on Thursday in the Sabari district in Khost Province, Khaama Press reported.

Abdul Wali led a Haqqani cell that specialized in the production of improvised-explosive devices used in attacks against Afghan and coalition forces throughout the region, Khaama Press said. He also reportedly coordinated the network, was killed and another insurgent injured.

Six Argentine police officers have been arrested on suspicion of torturing two young men in a video posted on YouTube.

The video shows the two men, wearing only underwear, as water is poured over them, CNN reported. One has a plastic bag placed over his head until he begins suffocating.

Telm, Argentina’s state news agency, reported that Eduardo Sylvester, the security minister in the province of Salta, asked for arrest warrants. Five officers were arrested on Thursday and a sixth on Friday, a police source told CNN.

The source said the video was made last year and posted to YouTube by one of the officers involved. He said the two young men had been arrested on minor charges and were released soon after.

We, the government of Salta Province, are strongly convinced that these police officers are not representative of who we truly are and we are not going to tolerate under any circumstances that officers commit this kind of crime,” Sylvester told Canal 13, a CNN affiliate.

5.1-magnitude quake hits Kepuluan Sangihe, Indonesia
HONG KONG, 21 July—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted Kepuluan Sangihe, Indonesia at 20:24:19GMT on Friday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 90.60 km, was initially determined to be at 3.3828 degrees north latitude and 153.3804 degrees west longitude.

Haining and Yuyao in Zhejiang Province, on 20 July, 2012. A 4.9-magnitude earthquake hit Yangzhou City at 8:11 pm on Friday, said the China Earthquake Networks Center (CENC).—Xinhua

Fishing vessels sail into the lagoon of Mejii Reef on 20 July, 2012. The fleet of 30 boats, including a 3,000-tonne lead boat carrying fresh water, fuel and other supplies, sailed into the lagoon of Mejii Reef to take shelter from storm at about 6 pm Friday. The fleet has sailed past Sanya and Yongzh, Zhuh and Meiji reef.—Xinhua

5.8-magnitude quake hits east coast of New Zealand
WELLINGTON, 21 July—An earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale jolted the east coast of the North Island of New Zealand at 0454 GMT on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 20.00 km, was initially determined to be at 37.7549 degrees south latitude and 179.6765 degrees east longitude.

An injured man receives medical treatment at a hospital in northwest Pakistan’s Peshawar, on 20 July, 2012. At least four people were injured when some unidentified militants fired at shops near paramilitary forces’ headquarters in Pakistan’s northwest city of Peshawar on Friday morning, local media reported.

Rescue workers, paramedics and firefighters were dispatched to the scene to help the victims while traffic has been suspended along the roadway to facilitate rescue efforts and tow away the wreckage. He said that the wounded were taken to three hospitals in Tepic, the capital of Nayarit state, while the bodies were taken to the public prosecutor for identification and later will be transferred to their home.
Torch carrier now carries a spelling error

A US woman celebrated her role in the London Olympic Torch relay with a tattoo, only to discover her arm now reads “Olympic Torch Bearer 2012,” she said. Jerri Peterson, 54, of Atlanta, Ga, carried the torch through Derby, England, on 30 June after she was one of 70 people nominated for the honour by her employer, a hotel chain, for her years of charity work, the BBC reported on Thursday.

Returning to America she decided to commemorate the honour with her first tattoo, but the artist misspelled a crucifix word. “I looked at it as so disappointing. I called my husband and he giggled a little bit. Then I started laughing about it and I’ve been laughing ever since,” she said of the discovery.

British police affix cameras to dogs

Police in Staffordshire, England, said they will strap cameras to the heads of police dogs to help gather evidence during busts.

Staffordshire police said 20 police canines with their dog support unit will be outfitted with FidoCam technology during the next 12 months to give officers a dog’s-eye-view in situations including drug busts and foot chases, The Daily Telegraph reported Thursday.

“Jack’s unexpected reaction threw his family into frenzy, and his sister Lorna needs answers. Is he coming home or running away?” Where is his wife everyone hates? And how did he get all that money? Theresa Rebek’s new comedy tackles the timely issues of corporate greed, small town values, and the timely issues of corporate greed, small town values, and the timely issues of corporate greed, small town values, and the timely issues of corporate greed, small town values.

The ascent adaptation of Roald Dahl’s classic children’s book will begin filming on Broadway next spring, producers announced on Thursday.

“Before I received this letter, I hadn’t thought about it in years. I had no idea that I would get it back,” Keown said.

“Felt so bad when he found out. He wanted to fix it but decided to keep it. It’s the Olympics. It’s a unique thing.”

**Katie Holmes heading back to Broadway**

New York, 26 July—Katie Holmes is to star in Theresa Rebeck’s new play, “Dead Accounts,” on Broadway this fall, the five-time Tony Award winner Jack Westwood section of and Jill” attends the Theatre in the Westwood section of Los Angeles on 6 Nov, 2011. Internet

Kate Holmes, a cast member in the picture comedy “Jack and Jill” attends the premiere of the film at the Regency Village Theatre in the Westwood section of Los Angeles on 6 Nov, 2011. Internet

**Bon Jovi won’t judge ‘American Idol’**

Los Angeles, 21 July—Singer Jon Bon Jovi won’t judge the next season of singing reality show “American Idol” as he is working on his next album, a source said. Singer Jennifer Lopez had earlier expressed her desire to see him or Mick Jagger in her place as a judge. “Jon wouldn’t commit to anything unless he can give 100 percent. With planning for the next album already underway, he’s focused on the band,” the source quoted a source as saying. Internet

**‘Matilda’ to open on Broadway in April**

Los Angeles, 21 July—The raunchy comedy “American Reunion” is the top-selling DVD and Blu-ray, and No 1 rental in the United States, Rentrek reported on Thursday.

Coming in at No 2 for the weekend ending 15 July is “21 Jump Street,” followed by “Warthog of the Titans” at No 3, “Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows” at No 4 and “Mirror Mirror” at No 5. Rounding out the top tier are “Project X” at No 6, “Act of Valor” at No 7, “Journey 2: The Mysterious Island” at No 8, “Safe House” at No 9 and “John Carter” at No 10. The No 2 DVD rental for the weekend ended 14 July is “21 Jump Street.”

“Wrath of the Titans” is No 3, “Mirror Mirror” is No 4, “Safe House” is No 5, “Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows” is No 6, “Wanderlust” is No 7, “Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance” is No 8, “The Flowers of War” is No 9 and “A Thousand Words” is No 10 . Internet

Actor Jason Biggs, a cast member in the motion picture romantic comedy “American Reunion,” attends the premiere of the film at Grauman’s Chinese Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 19 March, 2012. Internet

“Maybe” still No 1 on US record chart

Los Angeles, 21 July—Carly Rae Jepsen’s “Call Me Maybe” is No 1 on the US record chart for a sixth week, Billboard.com reported on Thursday.

Coming in at No 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 is Maroon 5’s “Payphone” featuring WizKid and Macklemore’s “Thrift Shop” is No 3, Gotye’s “Somebody That I Used to Know” featuring Kimbra at No 4 and Ellie Goulding’s “Lights” at No 5. Rounding out the top tier are Rihanna’s “Where Have You Been” at No 6, Flo Rida’s “Whistle” at No 7, David Guetta’s “Titanium” at No 8, Pink’s “Blow Me (One Last Kiss)” at No 9 and Usher’s “Scream” at No 10. Internet

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Jankovic overcomes serving woes, Czink at Carlisle

LIVERPOOL, 21 July — Liverpool's principal owner John Henry has described the club's new manager Brendan Rodgers as "inspirational". Former Swansea boss Rodgers replaced Kenny Dalglish at the Anfield hotseat during the summer and has set about a rebuilding of the Liverpool squad. Henry met up with Rodgers on Liverpool's pre-season tour of north America, with the pair taking place against FC Toronto in Canada on Saturday.

"Brendan has a very structured approach and he plays the kind of football that we think Liverpool fans will love to see," Henry told the club's official website. "You can see why he was appointed. He's an inspirational figure. He's very charismatic, he's very smart, he knows what he wants to accomplish and he's determined to accomplish it. Everything I have heard so far in the way of feedback about him has been very positive." Liverpool finished eighth in the Barclays Premier League last season, 37 points behind champions Manchester City and 17 behind Tottenham Hotspur in fourth.

But Henry is fully behind Rodgers to do not want to put Rodgers under the immediate pressure of having to qualify for the UEFA Champions League in his first season in charge. "We don't want to put any pressure on Brendan by saying you have to get the Champions League this year," said Henry. "Of course he wants to make the Champions League. We all do, it's what every team in the Premier League is thinking. At this point we're just trying to get things stabilised—that should be one of our goals."

After Liverpool play FC Toronto they then go to the City of Industry side Romain Fenway Park, the home of the Boston Red Sox, who are also owned by Fenway and Fenway Sports Group. "It's heartening to have Liverpool going," said Henry. "We have got a very good squad of young players, and the future looks very bright—especially with Brendan in charge and the first team in the Premier League. At this point we're just trying to get things stabilised—that should be one of our goals."

Liverpool owner hails "inspirational" Rodgers

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Saints snap up goalkeeper Gazzaniga

LONDON, 21 July — Southamptoon have completed the signing of young goalkeeper Paulo Gazzaniga from League Two side Gillingham. The Barclays Premier League new boys have swooped to sign the 20-year-old Argentine on a four-year-contract at St Mary’s. He has joined for an undisclosed fee and has immediately joined up with team-mates for Saints’ pre-season training camp in France.

“I am very happy because signing for a Premier League team is a dream,” Gazzaniga told the club’s official website. “It’s mad because I only played a few matches last season because of a cruciate ligament.”

“We are delighted that we have secured his services and that he has come out to join us with the group. ’We will be in full training tomorrow and the first team squad from tomorrow onwards.”

“Too many clubs have been interested in him and we have to settle for a loan move to Gillingham.”

Tottenham boss Villas-Boas plays down interest in ‘special’ Hulk

LONDON, 21 July — Tottenham Hotspur boss Andre Villas-Boas moved to play down speculation linking the club with a move for Brazil’s Hulk while at the same time admitting that he enjoys a “good relationship” with the in-demand Porto forward.

The Portuguese coach said his former charge a visit at Brazil’s Olympic Games had made him “very aware” in terms of the interest surrounding the 25-year-old attacker about a move to White Hart Lane. In an interview with Gazeta de Portugal, Villas-Boas expressed his admiration for the Selecao star.

“Hulk is a very special player for me,” the former Chelsea coach told Terra. “We had a very good year together in Porto and we have a good relationship—that I don’t do not. But we have just been talking, nothing more.”

Villas-Boas, who replaced Harry Redknapp as Spurs boss earlier in the summer, led Porto to a treble during his one season at the Dragao, in 2010-11.

Sneden builds 1-shot lead, with Tiger lurking

Brandt Snedeker of the United States gained an edge at the British Open Championship after finishing his second round at Royal Lytham & St Annes golf club to lead the British Open Golf Championship, Lytham St Annes, England, on 20 July, in a ‘weeaboo’.

Lytham St Annes, 21 July — Brandt Snedeker plays fast and talks even faster, and he was on a roll Friday in the British Open. He rallied up the leaderboard with five birdies in a seven-hole stretch, tied the 36-hole record for a major championship and looked like he was on an unstoppable roll running away from the field at Royal Lytham & St Annes. Not so fast. Along came Adam Scott, playing cautiously and picking his spots for three birdies on the back nine to pull within one shot. Not far behind was Tiger Woods, sticking to a conservative game plan and delivering a dramatic finish by holing out from the bunker to set off a wild cheer from 6,000 spectators crammed into the stands.

As the second round ended, this Open was just getting started. On another benign day when the only course issues were forming in the bottom of pot bunkers from overnight rain, Snedeker became the latest player to match the course record at Royal Lytham with a 6-under 64 that gave him a one-shot lead. It was the first time he player to go bogey-free in the British Open, and since Woods won at St Andrews in 2000. Snedeker’s 10-under 130 tied the 36-hole record since Woods won at St. Andrews in 2000. Snedeker’s 10-under 130 tied the 36-hole record set by Nick Faldo in 1992 when he won the Open at Muirfield, and it broke by four shots the 36-hole record at Lytham.

Even more amazing? Snedeker hasn’t hit into any of the 206 bunkers into day two. "No bogeys around here is getting some good breaks and playing some pretty good golf,” said Snedeker. “My mantra all week has been to get the ball on the greens as fast as possible. Once I’m on there, I have a pretty good hand for the speed of the greens. Just trying to go and keep doing that over the weekend.”

Tiger Woods of the United States reacts after a birdie on the 18th hole at Royal Lytham & St Annes golf club during the second round of the British Open Golf Championship, Lytham St Annes, England, on 20 July, 2012.

Fish withdraws during Atlanta 2nd round

ATLANTA, 21 July — After withdrawing from the Atlanta Open, Marry Fish was just thankful he wasn’t hurt more seriously. Fish stumbled to his left while trying to return a drop in the second set and his left ankle appeared to buckle as he got near the steel net post. “I did something I could just to bring my head back,” he said. “That brought my right leg, foot, ankle of sliding and jarring it back and turned the inside of the right ankle. It was going to be either my knee, my ankle or my head. Thankfully it was my ankle.”

Fish’s leading Gilles Muller of Luxembourg 6-4, 3-2 in the second round when he pulled out of the match. He said the injury had not yet been diagnosed and planned to have an MRI either Thursday night or Friday.
Basic tailoring course concludes in Dalla

DALLA, 21 July—Dalla Township Women’s Affairs Organization of Yangon South District and Maternal and Child Welfare Association jointly held the concluding ceremony of the basic tailoring course at the training hall in Nyaungngokto Village of Dalla Township on 13 July.

Chairperson of District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Ohnna Nay Tan presented K 50000 to Chairperson of Township WAO Daw Aye Thanda Kyaw. They then viewed practical works of trainees.—Myanmar Alin

Answers for Yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

U BA YI (SWAN BATTERY)
Age (60) years
Pagoda, Ordination Hall, Monastery Donor and Material Supporter of Monks
U Ba Yi (Sawan Battery), age (60) years, son of (U Pe + Daw Hla Sein), of Aingtaung Village, Kani Township, Rakhine Region, husband of Daw Thein Myint, living at No.3/4/106, Nuwayad Street, Hmeehtaya Township, Yangon Region; father of Ye Myint + Nwe Nwe Aung, Maung Aung Myint Thu and Maung Ye Myat Thu; younger brother of U Chit Khan + Daw Kyin Mya, U Myint Shwe + Daw San Myint, U Ba Win + Daw Khin Thaung, U Win Swe + Daw Myint Myint Aye; elder brother of U Tin Po + Daw Khan Than Sint, expired on (20.7.2012), 2nd Wasing of Second Wasso, 1574 ME, at (01:00) pm (Friday) and funeral procession to Htainbin Cemetery will be made and the remains will be cremated on (24.7.2012) at (03:00) pm (Tuesday).

Bereaved family Motorcade shall leave the residence at (02:00) pm on the said date.

Giggs reveals pride at capturing Team GB in loss to Brazil

LONDON, 21 July—Ryan Giggs revealed he was “very proud” to captain Team GB, the first since 1972, in the 2-0 friendly loss to pre-tournament favorite Brazil.

Despite an underwhelming performance against a strong Brazil side, the 38-year-old was delighted to wear the captain’s armband against Mano Menezes’ men.

“Obviously [I’m] very proud,” Giggs told the BBC. “It was a good game to be involved in, obviously against Brazil. It’s always special when you play against Brazil, but to captain and be involved was great.”

A Sandro header and a Neymar penalty condemned Team GB to a 2-0 defeat in what was its first official game under manager Stuart Pearce.

And with just under a week to go before Pearce’s squad kicks off its Olympic 2012 campaign against Senegal, Giggs believes the team will be ready in time and can only get better from here on in. “It was great preparation for us,” the midfielder said. “We knew it was going to be tough.”

Militant attacks kill 15 in Pakistan

PARACHINAR, 21 July—A bomb exploded at a compound in northwest Pakistan on Saturday, killing nine people and wounding 20, local government and intelligence officials said.

The bombing in the compound, used by a local militia and containing residential units and an office, occurred near the village of Spin Tal in the Orakzai tribal region. The Pakistani military has been conducting operations against militant groups in the area for months.

“We are not sure if a suicide bomber hit the compound or some militants were assembling a bomb and it accidentally went off,” a local government official said, requesting or if some militants were assembling a bomb and it accidentally went off, obviously.

“The couple thanked the doctor and left.

“We asked the couple to come to the doctor about the problems they were having with their memory. After checking the couple out, the doctor tells them that they were physically okay but might want to start writing things down and make notes to help them remember things. The couple thanked the doctor and left.

Later that night while watching TV, the old man got up from his chair and his wife asks, “Where are you going?”

He replies, “To the kitchen.”

She then asks, “Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?”

He replies, “Sure.”

She asks him, “Don’t you think you should write it down so you can remember it?”

He says, “No, I can remember that.”

She then says, “Well, I also would like some strawberries on top. You had better write that down cause I know you’ll forget that.”

He says, “I can remember that, you want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries.” He then fumes into the kitchen.

After about 20 minutes he returns from the kitchen and hands her a plate of bacon and eggs. She stares at the plate for a moment and says, “You forgot my toast.”

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Becoming a progressive one.

Spent the interest from the funds on running its works.

Have worked for the foundation on a voluntary basis. The members of the executive committee of the foundation with rules and regulations and the chairman, vice-chairman and deputy chairman and members of the executive committee of Myanmar Libraries Foundation and invited guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said that Myanmar Libraries Foundation has been working to promote reading habits among the rural people and to upgrade the libraries which do not meet the five characteristics of a library.

The foundation was established on 15 May, 2010, with the aim of promoting sustainable development of libraries, and to upgrade the libraries which do not meet the five characteristics of a library. The foundation has been registered in accordance with rules and regulations and the chairman, vice-chairman and members of the executive committee of the foundation have worked for the foundation on a voluntary basis. The foundation set up its funds with K730 million and it has spent the interests from the funds on running its works.

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is envisaged becoming a progressive one.

When it completed its works for sustainable development of libraries to a certain extent, the foundation would provide education and health care services to the people in rural areas, he said.

The Union minister also called on the people to participate in the works for sustainable development of the foundation.

Afterwards, Mr Lu Zhi, Charge d’Affaires ai of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China, expressed his delight for contributing cash collected in the performance of Chinese aerobatic performing troupe to the foundation.

Cultural Counsellor Mr. Gao Hua of Chinese Embassy, on behalf of Chinese aerobatic team, donated K 11,386,000.

Cho Zaw Construction Company, Myitta Thingaha Film stars and musicians, U Nyo Min, Min Zami Ko Lui, U Ko Yhet and wife Daw Khin Mya Sanchi Wai (Shwe Minhame Production and Shwe Minhame Cinema), Dr Tin Tin Oo (Siswa Media Group), Two Cans Publishing House, Seikku Cho, Cho Publishing House, and Daw Thin Thin Naing donated cash and publications through Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan who returned certificates of honour.


Ferguson confirms Manchester Utd’s bid for van Persie

London, 21 July — Sir Alex Ferguson confirmed on Friday that Manchester United have made a bid for unsettled Arsenal striker Robin van Persie.

Ferguson made his move for van Persie after the Netherlands international, whose current contract expires at the end of the forthcoming campaign, announced earlier this month that he would refuse to sign a new deal with the Gunners.

Premier League champions Manchester City and Italian giants Juventus have also expressed interest in van Persie, but Ferguson tried to steal a march on his rivals with a firm offer.

It is believed Arsenal rejected United’s bid because they want at least 20 million pounds ($31.2 million) for the 28-year-old, who scored 37 goals in all competitions last season and won both the Players’ and Football Writers’ Player of the Year awards.

“We try to keep business as close as possible to us until the moment we conclude a deal. There’s no point talking about something that might not happen.

“There are other clubs interested in the player. We’ve shown an interest and that’s where we’re at at the moment.”

Van Persie stunned Arsenal coach Arsene Wenger when he declared immediately after Euro 2012 that he wanted to leave the north London side because he felt the club’s ambitions did not match his own.

That shock announcement prompted City and Juventus to start the chase for one of Europe’s top strikers and United are now firmly in the hunt as well.

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