NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo received visiting UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party at the anteroom of Supreme Court of the Union here this afternoon.

Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party paid separate calls on Union Minister for Home Affairs Li-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Population and Immigration U Khin Yi and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin. They also called on Deputy Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint and Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin separately at respective ministries.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin said that the Ministry of Health is undertaking of public-based nutritious development tasks. In his address by MMCWA Dr Mon Mon Aung extended greetings and officials gave lectures on dos and don’ts for expectant mothers and care for children. Afterwards, the educative talks followed. President of MMCWA Dr Mon Mon Aung extended greetings and officers gave lectures on dos and don’ts for expectant mothers and care for children. Later, the president of MMCWA and party held a roundtable talks with 40 MCWA members.

He said that only then, will the people become healthy and fit persons and the human resources develop. As such, he added the national will be a modern and developed one. It is important that children under six months are to be fed mother milk only. It is necessary to feed the children over six months with nutritious foods to enable them to enjoy the rights of a human with health and fitness, he said.

Next, the Union Minister and guests presented iodized salt, vitamins and diapers to the expectant mothers and viewed documentary photos of MMCWA (Central) and Region/State MCWSCs.

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—The ceremony to mark the World Breastfeeding Week 2012 and Nourishment Week Activity organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the hall of the association in Dekkhinathiri Township this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, patrons, responsible persons of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, officials of Ministry of Health and other ministries, responsible persons of UN agencies and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin said that the Ministry of Health to turn out healthy and fit citizens who are reliable human resources for all-round development of the State, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association is playing a key role in undertaking of public-based nutritious development tasks.

MMCAWA launches World Breastfeeding Week 2012, Nourishment Week Activity

Vijay Kumar wins men’s rapid fire pistol silver at Olympics

LONDON, 3 Aug—Cuba’s Leuris Pupo proved he has the steadiest arm in the Olympic men’s 25 metre rapid fire pistol final on Friday, grabbing gold with a record-equalling total.

The 35-year-old hit 34 of the 40 targets to finish ahead of Vijay Kumar of India in second with 30. Feng Ding of China was third on 27 before being eliminated after 35 shots.

The Cuban, ranked 21 in the world, showed little emotion as he shook hands and calmly embraced his five rivals after securing victory by matching the finals world record.

There was big disappointment for Russian Alexei Klimov who had scored 592 to improve his qualifying world record mark by one but was eliminated in fourth place after hitting 23 of 30 targets. China’s world number three Zhang Jian was another to make an early exit, finishing fifth after hitting 17 of 25 targets.—Reuters

India plans space mission to send a satellite to Mars

NEW DELHI, 3 Aug—India plans to send a satellite via an unmanned spacecraft to orbit Mars next year, joining a small group of nations already exploring the red planet, a government scientist said on Friday.

A rocket will blast off from the southeastern coast of India, dropping the satellite into deep space, which will then travel onto Mars to achieve orbit, the senior scientist said, asking not to be named because the project is awaiting final approval. A spokesman for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) based in Bangalore would not confirm the mission, but commented generally on the ambitions of India’s space programme. “After the Moon, worldwide attention is now focused on finding out if there are habitable spots on Mars,” ISRO’s Deviprasad Karnik said. ISRO scientists expect the satellite to orbit at less than 100 km (62 miles) above Mars. Cabinet is expected soon to clear the mission, according to media reports this week that said the programme will cost about $80 million.

The plan has drawn criticism in a country suffering from high levels of malnutrition and power shortages. But India has long argued that technology developed in its space programme has practical applications to everyday life.

India’s space exploration programme began in 1962. Four years ago, its Chandrayaan satellite found evidence of water on the moon. India is now looking at landing a wheeled rover on the Moon in 2014.—MNA/Reuters

Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo receives UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party.—MNA

Chief Justice of Union
receives UN Special
Rapporteur on Human
Rights Situation in Myanmar

India’s Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C-11 blasts off carrying India’s first unmanned moon mission Chandrayaan-1 from the Satish Dhawan space centre at Sriharikota, about 100 km (62 miles), north of Chennai on 22 October 2008.—Reuters

Vijay Kumar competes in the men’s shooting 25m rapid fire pistol qualification round at the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Royal Artillery Barracks on 2 Aug, 2012.—Reuters

The army serviceman threw both hands in the air and ran, grabbing gold with a record-equalling total.

The many Indian supporters at the Royal Artillery Barracks were rewarded for their support when 26-year-old Kumar claimed a surprise silver.

The service personnel threw both hands in the air and pumped his fists as he was welcomed on to the podium to
L&F Minister calls for extensive production of fresh dairy products

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint on 31 July visited dairy product factory in Insein of Yangon Region under Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, calling for production of fresh milk and dairy products.

The Union Minister underscored the need to breed more milch cows in all corners of the country and conducting trainings for production of dairy products.

DHSHD holds ceremony to assign project duties to companies

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—The Ministry of Construction is taking a leading role in construction of transport infrastructure, development of rural areas and improvement of housings; according to the reform strategy, the ministry assigned duties of main construction tasks and urban and housing development tasks to private entrepreneurs; and the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development is drawing the concept plan, structure plan and master plan in regions and townships so as to systematically supply necessary housings and infrastructures in conformity with the increasing number of urban population across the nation, said Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint at the ceremony to assign duties of urban housing plans for 2012-2013 fiscal year of DHSHD at the ministry, here, on 1 August.

In his speech, Deputy Minister U Soe Tun stressed the need to emphasize soil test for urban and housing project. Quality control team is to check foundation of the building. Emphasis is to be placed on quality of construction materials at the buildings. He said that it is necessary for Ministry of Construction and companies to ensure undertaking housing projects meeting set standards.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lwin in his address highlighted construction of low-cost housings for the people, building of advanced structures, drawing of advanced plans in line with set norms and rules and regulations of the ministry and companies with added momentum.

Bio-diversity and nature conservation talked

MOHNYIN, 3 Aug—Bio-Diversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA) gave educative talks on bio-diversity and nature conservation at Ohnsansai Village in Mohnyin Township on 27 July and at Helon Village on 29 July. Opening a forward camp at Nunnon Village in Mohnyin Township, BANCA is carrying out tasks for bio-diversity and nature conservation in and around Shwe Latt Pan, Lepenlay, Lonsant, Ywathit, Maanakaw villages starting from eastern bank of Indawgyi Lake.

Besides, the BANCA carried out social work such as opening social educational booths during Shwe Myintzu Buddha Puja尼亚 days, doing sanitation work in Indawgyi Lake and distributing 700 stoves to locals. Their social work would be extended in ten villages around Indawgyi Lake.

Ceremony to assign duties of urban housing plans for 2012-2013 fiscal year of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development in progress.—MNA

Bio-diversity and nature conservation talks, organized by Bio-diversity and Nature Conservation Association, in progress in Mohnyin Township of Kachin State. —NLM 001

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 August, 2012

Democracy and discipline

Hopes are springing up across the nation one year after the practice of longed-for democracy as the country has made a shift to open-door policy, establishing and fostering ties with new and old partners worldwide.

Why do we want democracy? In practice, the answer is we want the rights from democracy since it is universally supposed to guarantee freedom, equality and justice of individuals.

Discipline of each and every citizen is the basic fundamental in exercise of democracy. Despite the fact that freedom is the essence of democracy, one’s practice of freedom should not violate the rights of others for the abuse of democratic rights will lead to mobocracy and anarchy. Discipline is indeed the enjoyment of democratic rights will lead to mobocracy and anarchy. Discipline is enjoyment of freedom and equality within the legal and social framework.

It is absolutely required to impose discipline on Myanmar citizens at the very moment. Relevant laws must be strictly enforced to make sure there is no reckless and irresponsible action of the citizens, especially in the public place. It has been a long time that we have lived on regardless.

The role of the schools is crucial for instilment of discipline into young brains. Breach of discipline is like an epidemic and spreads like wildfire among the people. The notion of freedom is often misinterpreted as anti-discipline in modern world. In reality, true freedom cannot be separated from discipline.

The government on its part is striving for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation but discipline is much concerned with self-awareness and self-respect. Therefore, we need to show a sense of discipline if we do not want alien countries look down on us. Furthermore, democracy is a practice and just demanding its rights would not promote it.

We also need to honour the statutory and moral obligations.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 4 August, 2012

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name

(a) U Cho Than Maung Managing Director
Myanma Port Authority
Ministry of Transport
Managing Director
Myanma Posts and Telecommunications
Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs

(b) U Eikdi Hla Director-General
Civil Service Affairs Department

(c) Daw Thein Nyunt Director-General
Union Civil Services Board

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed General Manager U Than Tun of Myanmar Airways under the Ministry of Transport as Managing Director of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.
US nuclear bomb facility shut after security breach

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The US government’s only facility for handling, processing and storing weapons-grade uranium has been temporarily shut after anti-nuclear activists, including an 82-year-old nun, breached security fences, government officials said on Thursday. WSI Oak Ridge, the contractor responsible for protecting the facility at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is owned by the international security firm G4S, which was at the centre of a dispute over security at the London Olympic Games.

Officials said the facility was shut down on Wednesday at least until next week after three activists cut through perimeter fences to reach the outer wall of a building where highly enriched uranium, a key nuclear bomb component, is stored. The activists painted slogans and threw what they said was human blood on the wall of the facility, one of numerous buildings in the facility known by the code name Y-12 that it was given during World War Two, officials said.

While moving between the perimeter fences, the activists triggered sensors that alerted security personnel. But officials conceded the intruders were still able to reach the building’s walls before security personnel confronted them. Ellen Barfield, a spokesperson for the activists who called themselves “Transform Now Plowshares,” said three were arrested and charged with vandalism and criminal trespass. She said the three, identified as Megan Rice, 82, Michael Walli, 63 and Greg Boortje-Obed, 57, were being held in custody and appeared for a hearing before a US magistrate judge in Knoxville, Tennessee, on Thursday. A detention hearing is set for Friday afternoon, when prosecutors must show the defendants are a flight risk and a danger to the community in order to keep them in custody, according to court officials. — Reuters

Iran, EU agree to talk again on nuclear dispute

BRUSSELS, 3 Aug — Chief negotiators for the EU and Iran agreed on Thursday to hold more talks about Tehran’s nuclear work, but the European Union gave no sign progress was imminent in the decade-long dispute.

Six world powers, represented by EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, have sought to persuade Iran to scale back its nuclear programme through intensifying economic sanctions and diplomacy. They have failed to reach a breakthrough in three rounds of talks since April. But neither side has been willing to break off talks because of concerns, in part, that this could lead to a new war in the Middle East if Israel attacked its arch-foe. Any deals are likely to be struck only during political talks between Iran and the six — the United States, Russia, China, France, Germany and Britain. But the sides had been unable to decide when, or whether, to meet since diplomacy hit an impasse in June.

“I ... have explored diplomatic ways to resolve international concerns about Iran’s nuclear programme,” Ashton said in a statement after a phone conversation with Iran’s chief negotiator Saeed Jalili. “I impressed the need for Iran now to address the issues we have raised in order to build confidence. I proposed, and Dr Jalili agreed, that we talk again after further reflection at the end of the month.”

Since political talks reached an impasse in June in Moscow, experts from the two sides have held technical discussions aiming to clarify aspects of Iran’s nuclear work, which the world powers fear aims at producing weapons. However, the technical talks have produced scant results, diplomats say. — Reuters

Papua New Guinea’s O’Neill endorsed as prime minister

PORT MORESBY, 3 Aug — Papua New Guinea’s parliament endorsed incumbent Peter O’Neill as prime minister after long-running national elections on Friday, ending a prolonged period of political uncertainty in the Pacific island country. O’Neill won with support from an overwhelming 94 of the nation’s 111 members of parliament after a four-party alliance joined forces with political rival Michael Somare, ending a feud that left the country with two prime ministers for much of 2011.

O’Neill was also supported by two other former prime ministers, Piasa Wingti and Julian Chan, in a move that supported by two other former prime ministers, Piasa Wingti and Julian Chan, in a move that supported his former deputy, Moresby. As a child, he had to walk 15 km (9 miles) to school. He wore his first pair of shoes when he was 16. His People’s National Congress party won 27 seats at the elections, the most of any party, on the back of his push to deliver more free health and education services.

O’Neill’s former deputy, Belden Namah, a former military officer who in May led soldiers and police into the nation’s courts to arrest the chief justice for alleged sedition, now becomes the main opposition leader.

The cooperation will also discuss details of the meeting scheduled in mid-July, and Indonesian and Australian governments will strengthen military cooperation in humanitarian fields, media reports said earlier this month. Minister Purnomo said that both countries even had concern for humanitarian cooperation such as in emergency cases that occur in the waters bordering the two countries.

The cooperation could be in the form of emergency treatment in case of a ship accident, he said. Cooperation also be in dealing with cases of illegal immigrants, said Purnomo. If these immigrants are stranded in the Australian waters but the signal is received by Indonesia, then Indonesia would handle it, he was quoted by Antara news agency as saying. He efforts would be taken by both countries through joint patrols that have been carried out in the Timor Sea.

Secretary General of the Ministry of Defence, Vice Marshal Eris Herrityanto, said that in such cooperation efforts, Indonesia would deploy the National Search and Rescue Agency team.

The cooperation will be further carried out at the meeting scheduled in September. The meeting will also discuss details of cooperation, including the placement of the troubled ship, he said. Indonesia and Australia had signed a bilateral agreement of the Lombok Treaty agreement on jointly fighting illegal human trafficking. — Xinhua

Senate approves new ambassador to Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The Senate on Thursday confirmed career diplomat James Cunningham as ambassador to Afghanistan, replacing Ryan Crocker, who stepped down because of ill health.

Cunningham has been serving as deputy ambassador at the US embassy in Kabul since June 2011. Earlier, he was the US ambassador to Israel; he also held senior US posts in Hong Kong, NATO and the United Nations.

He was confirmed on a voice vote. Crocker said in May that he was leaving the demanding Kabul post for health reasons after a long career in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait and Lebanon. — Reuters

Residents wade through a flooded street to buy drinking water during heavy downpour in Malabon, Metro Manila on 1 Aug, 2012. — Reuters

A general view of the Bashere nuclear power plant, some 1,200 km (746 miles) south of Tehran on 26 Oct, 2010. — Reuters

Indonesia, Australia to strengthen cooperation, including the placement of the troubled ship. — Reuters

Girls queue to buy bread at the only bakery serving the outskirts of Idlib Province on 1 Aug, 2012. — Reuters

The East Tennessee Technology Park, a site within the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is seen in an undated handout photo from the US Department of Energy. — Reuters
Greenland’s ice ‘melts in spurts’

Washington, 3 Aug — The US has confirmed it would resist efforts to put the internet under the control of the United Nations. At present several non-profit US bodies oversee the net’s technical specifications and domain names. They operate at arms-length from the US government but officially under the remit of its Department of Commerce. There has been speculation that other nations will push for a change earlier this year, but they cannot force the US to comply. The US has set up a position in documents filed with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) — the UN body to which representatives from 178 nations have been invited to revise the UN’s rules for telecommunication. The ITU is hosting a conference in December in Dubai to which representatives from 178 nations have been invited to revise the UN’s rules for telecommunication.

The ITU does not publish submissions by each country — leaving it up to the individual states to decide which material to release. But a site called WebrtcWiki.org has posted proposals linked to it. They include a submission from Russia suggesting the ITU could become responsible for allocating at least some of the internet’s addresses as well as the ‘determination of the necessary requirements’. At present US-based Icann (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) co-ordinates the codes and numbering systems, deciding which new internet address endings should be allowed as an alternative to .com. It then leaves it to ISPs (Internet service providers) to assign individual addresses.

President Vladimir Putin has signalled Russia’s final submission is to make it clear that any changes to governance should be allowed as an initiative of the International Telecommunication Union. The Russian Today news service has since reported that China and India had backed this stance. But the ITU has made it clear that any changes to the treaty must have unanimous support, and it would block members trying to put any matter to a vote. “We never vote because voting means winners and losers you can’t afford that,” Dr Hamadoun Toure, the ITU’s secretary-general told the BBC.

News

Samsung to unveil new Galaxy Note in late August

Seoul, 3 Aug — Samsung Electronics is set to take the wraps off a sequel to its popular Galaxy Note smartphone at an event on 29 August, about two weeks before the possible debut of Apple’s new iPhone. The two arch rivals are bracing for a full-blown battle with the expected rollouts of the two key models coming as they lock horns in a high-stakes patent trial in the United States. “We plan to unveil the next Galaxy Note at the Samsung Mobile Unpacked event in Berlin on 29 August,” a Samsung spokesman said on Friday, without elaborating. The event will take place two days before the opening of Europe’s high-tech fairIFA.

South Korean media reports speculate the new Galaxy Note may feature an unbekable, 5.5-inch display — slightly larger than the current one — as well as a faster processor and a much better camera. Samsung, once a laggard in the smartphone market, overtook Apple last year to become the world’s largest smartphone maker. The South Korean firm is looking to defend its supremacy by refreshing its lineup ahead of the launch of the fifth version of Apple’s iPhone, expected to be released in October. Samsung launched its flagship Galaxy Note III in May, while Apple is planning a major product launch on 12 Sept, stoking speculation the company may announce the sale of its redesigned iPhone.

Samsung is estimated to have increased smartphone shipments to 50.5 million in the April to June quarter of this year, nearly double the 26.5 million iPhones sold. Apple shipments in the June quarter tumbled 26 percent on the previous quarter as the European economy sagged and consumers held off on spending in the build-up ahead of the release of the iPhone 5. The two tech titans also started a trial in a US court this week in a patent battle triggered by Apple’s lawsuit last year claiming that Samsung slavishly copied the iPhone’s design. The smartphone and tablet-maker, Samsung has countersued.

Deeforestation in Brazil’s Amazon rainforest down 23 pct

Rio de Janeiro, 3 Aug — Deeforestation in the Brazilian Amazon rainforest fell 23 percent in the 12 months ending in July 2012 from the previous year, the Brazilian government announced on Thursday.

According to the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, 2,040 square km of woods were cut down from August 2011 to July 2012, meaning that almost 700 square km of woods were spared, compared to the same time frame last year. Logging in almost all states within the Amazon rainforest area in Brazil had slipped from Roraima in the northern border as the only exception, where deforestation rose 218 percent in this period. The sharpest decrease, 67 percent, was registered in Maranhao state.

According to Environment Minister Izabella Teixeira, the reduction in deforestation was a direct result of the enforcement of laws against illegal logging and the improvement of monitoring systems. The minister explained that the satellite monitoring system to verify deforestation in some regions did not function well last year due to clouds. Brazil’s National Institute for Space Research will launch a new satellite, which is expected to improve monitoring further.

Xinhua
Sharp shares fall 30% after it warns losses will grow

US researchers find potential target for treating diabetes, obesity

European Central Bank (ECB) President Draghi.—Reuters

The headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB) is pictured in Frankfurt on 30 July, 2012. Reuters

US researchers find potential target for treating diabetes, obesity. Xinhua

Japanese electronics firms have been losing ground to rivals from South Korea and China. Internet

Spray-on skin’ helps heal leg ulcers

LONDON, 3 Aug — A “spray-on skin” which coats a wound with a layer of skin cells could help healing, according to US and Canadian researchers. The spray was tested on 228 people with leg ulcers, which are painful open wounds that can last for months. The findings, published in the Lancet, indicated that ulcer sites treated with the spray were more likely to heal and did so more quickly.Experts said faster healing could save money despite the cost of the spray.

Leg ulcers are hard to treat. The best treatment, compression bandages, will heal only about 70% of ulcers after six months. Other options include taking skin from somewhere else on the body and grafting it over the wound. Instead the spray puts a coating of donated skin cells and blood-clotting proteins over the ulcer. In the study, patients who were given the spray-on-skin every 14 days showed the most improvement.

The researchers said the size of the wound “began to decrease rapidly” as soon as the treatment started. In patients who had the spray, 70% were healed after three months compared with 46% who received other treatment. The study largely tested the safety of the spray and the researchers found that when the target protein was disabled, the animals became more sensitive to insulin and were less likely to get fat even when they ate a high-fat diet that caused their livers to become obese. They studied how the body manufactures fat from dietary sources such as carbohydrates. That process requires an enzyme called fatty acid synthase (FAS). Mice engineered so that they don’t make FAS in their fat cells can eat a high-fat diet without becoming obese. “Mice without FAS were significantly more resistant to obesity than their wild-type littermates,” said first author Irfan Lodhi. “And they didn’t make FAS in their fat cells, while mice engineered not to make FAS in their other tissues were largely fat-free even when they ate a high-fat diet.”

“Spray-on skin” which coats a wound with a layer of skin cells could help healing, according to US and Canadian researchers. Internet
Facebook shares dive as deadline for insider sales nears

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 3 — Facebook shares crumbled again on Thursday, sending the once-severely sought-after stock tumbling with first time as investors scrambled to get out of the way of a potential share deluge in coming weeks. Thursday marked a five-day losing streak for the stock. Facebook shares were priced at $50 billion in value since its debut — more than the total valuation of Hewlett-Packard Co or Starbucks Corp. The stock debuted at $38 and has headed south since, punctuated by growing doubts about its lofty valuation, growth prospects, high-profile departures.

Now, investors are struggling to understand the impact of the expiry on Wednesday of 16 million restricted stock units — considered a major draw in fast-growing Web power’s efforts to attract top-flight talent — but are given years to sell them. — Reuters

Apple seeks severe punishment for Samsung lawyer’s actions

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 3 — Apple Inc asked a US judge on Thursday to punish Samsung Electronics Co Ltd for aSamsung attorney’s conduct by ordering that the South Korean company has infringed Apple’s phone design patents, according to a court filing. However, Samsung called Apple’s demand "frivolous" and "unprecedented" in a legal brief filed later in the day. Trial began this week in a high stakes litigation between the two companies. Apple sued Samsung last year in San Jose, California federal court, accusing Samsung of copying the iPhone and Pad. Samsung has countered. US District Judge Lucy Koh on Tuesday had barred Apple’s attorneys from presenting some evidence during opening statements. Later that afternoon, Samsung emailed reporters links to that material, along with a statement that "fundamental fairness requires that the jury decide the case based on all the evidence." Samsung attorney John Quinn, of the low firm Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, acknowledged in a court filing this week that he authorized the press statement but said it wasn’t designed to influence the jury.

"The members of the jury had already been selected at the time of the statement and the transmission of these public exhibits, and had been specifically instructed not to read any form of media relating to this case," Quinn wrote. Apple called his conduct "egregious," because it impugned the integrity of the court, according to its legal brief on Thursday. A typical sanction for attorney misbehavior is a monetary fine, but Apple is asking Koh to rule that Apple’s phone design patents in the case are valid and that Samsung has infringed them. — Reuters

Oklahoma is so hot that street lamps are melting

NEW YORK, Aug 3 — It’s a hard thing to imagine global warming when its effects are right in front of your eyes. Sure, it’s one thing when the ocean begins to reclaim islands, but when you can see the effects in your hometown, it’s a whole different story altogether. Case inpoint: KFOR TV in Stillwater, Oklahoma is reporting that temperatures are so high that the street lamps have begun melting. To be exact, Stillwater is suffering from one heck of a heatwave. It’s expected to reach 115 degrees Thursday, 108 on Friday, and 109 on Saturday. And warmer temperatures are an issue everywhere: Tuesday marked the 23rd month out of the last 28 that came in warmer than average. It’s possible the heat itself isn’t responsible for the event it’s being reported on Firebaugh, CA, a nearby town. A fire in the area that melted a street lamp may have been the cause of the melting plastic light housings. Still, that lamp driver fire was caused and aggravated by the record heat and dryness. And if dangerous, spontaneous fires aren’t reason enough to go green, we don’t know what is. — Internet

Iraq attacks kill 33 people

BAGHDAD, Aug 3 — Iraqis attacks mainly targeting security force personnel killed at least 33 people on Thursday, officials said, after government figures showed July was bloodiest month in almost two years. At least 39 people have been killed in violence in the first two days of August, which have seen a number of attacks on security forces and their facilities, including a prison, a military site and checkpoints. At least nine people were killed and at least 32 wounded in a car bomb. In the al-Husseiniyah area of north Baghdad, a medical officials said. The crater also contains a mountain that could have been caused and aggravated by the record heat and dryness. And if dangerous, spontaneous fires aren’t reason enough to go green, we don’t know what is. — Internet

Nasa confident ahead of nail-biter Mars landing

HOUSTON, Aug 3 — NASA said all was well aboard its nail-biting mission to Mars, with its most advanced robotic rover poised to hunt for clues about past life and water on Earth’s nearest planetary neighbour. On a two-year journey to seek out signs of environments that once sustained life, the landing of the Mars Science Laboratory and the largest and most sophisticated rover ever built, Curiosity, is set for 1:31 am 6 August (0531 GMT). “The mission is going extremely well,” said Pete Theisinger, director of the Engineering and Science Directorate at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

“Everything is really on track…we are really good to go three days out. “If all continues to go well, the unmanned rover will touch down in Gale Crater, one of the lowest points on Mars, where scientists believe the waters of ancient rivers flowing downhill once pooled. The crater also contains a mountain that rises higher than any in the 48 continental US states, and should provide information about the past through its sedimentary layers. “When we do (land), we will have started an era of a whole new dimension of space exploration on the surface of another planet, and this is the dimension of deep time,” said John Grotzinger, project scientist for the Mars Science Laboratory. Describing Mars as a “planet that is kind of like our cousin,” Grotzinger said he was hopeful that many questions would be answered on the mission, including how the once wet planet became so dry. The mountain, Mount Sharp, is near Mars’ equator and may hold as much as a billion years of history in its layers, dating back some three to four billion years ago “when the planet may have been more like Earth,” he told reporters.

Knight’s future in balance after trading disaster

NEW YORK, Aug 3 — Knight Capital Group Inc fought for survival on Thursday after a $440 million trading loss caused by a software glitch wiped out much of its capital, forcing Knight to seek new funding as its shares plunged as much as 80 percent in two days. Many of the company’s biggest customers, including TD Ameritrade, the No 1 US stock brokerage by trading volume, and funds managers Vanguard and Fidelity Investments, stopped routing orders through Knight. One of the biggest fears is that the company will collapse, limiting trading clients and creditors with losses. “They have about 48 hours to shore up confidence,” said James Koutoulas, head of an advocacy group for former employees of failed brokerages MF Global and Peregrine Financial. Knight said it’s “actively pursuing its strategic and financing alternatives,” raising the likelihood the firm will be sold or face bankruptcy because of the loss, which is about four times its annual net earnings, and the subsequent damage to its business as customers and creditors voice their concerns. Knight is among the firms that and others question its stability. As one of the leading market makers in US stocks, Knight is among the firms that are critical to smooth, orderly trading. Marketmakers match orders from buyers and sellers and often provide liquidity by stepping into the market themselves. The speed at which Knight has unraveled has been particularly unnerving for investors and markets. It resulted from problems with the firm’s stranding software that sent bogus, rapid-fire trades into the market for 45 minutes on Wednesday and left Knight with big losses from a week’s worth of stock it bought at inflated prices. — Reuters

Iraq police and internal security forces stop cars at a checkpoint in central Baghdad in July 2012. Iraq attacks mainly targeting security force personnel killed at least 33 people on Thursday, officials said, after government figures showed July was bloodiest month in almost two years. At least 39 people have been killed in violence in the first two days of August, which have seen a number of attacks on security forces and their facilities, including a prison, a military site and checkpoints. At least nine people were killed and at least 32 wounded in a car bomb. In the al-Husseiniyah area of north Baghdad, medical officials said. In the northern oil city of Kirkuk, militants attacked the home of a Turkmen family, cutting the throats of a father, mother and two daughters, an AFP correspondent reported. At least seven soldiers and wounded 1 others werein three separate attacks south of the city, according to security and medical officials and Shaul Ahmed, mayor of Tuz Khurmatu, where one of the attacks took place Gannun also shot dead four police in Tikrit, north of Baghdad, while at least three members of the Saudi air force were killed by a bomb near Balad, also north of the city, the security and medics officials said. And gunmen attacked a checkpoint near a police station northeast of Samarra, killing one police and one Saudi material, apolice captain and one Saudi material, in Samarra said.— Internet

A trader works at the Knight Capital kiosk on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on 1 Aug, 2012. — Reuters

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A trader works at the Knight Capital kiosk on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on 1 Aug, 2012. — Reuters

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Lanmadaw Township, here University of Nursing in Yangon Region kicked off at Breastfeeding Week and Enterprise U Ohn Mya and Nourishment Week. Ko Ko explained activities by Yangon Region Chief Rector, the late Dr. Htin Aung was teaching us Poetry. This two-year Bachelor of Arts course (1949-51), taking English Literature as the subjects. The foremost scholar and Rector, the late Dr. Htin Aung was teaching us Poetry. This was my first year B.A. class in the Yangon University of regional fame and the first time to face the famous guru of the world of letters. I was tense and thrilled knowing not what to expect. There was a little ruffle outside, and a short portly lecturer with black flowing academic gown and thick rimmed glasses entered the classroom. He climbed the raised platform and stood at the lectern facing the class. Hundreds of eyes focused on the eminent teacher and waited expectantly. He gave a casual glance, opened the poetry text: ‘The Golden Treasury’ and began his lecture on Omar Khayyam beginning with the first line: ‘Awake! For Morning in the Bowl of Night...’

For the entire 50 minutes he read the verses, explained simple understandable prose for all to follow. Presently the bell rang. The teacher looked up, stopped his lecture, closed his textbook and quietly left the classroom to move southward bound it goes. I followed the magical musical rhythms flowing sometimes like gentle streams, sometimes like roaring waterfalls, sometimes so calm without ripples, waiting for the next verse. meter and rhyme of the poems. The Persian philosopher poet Khayyam totally bewitched me with the beautiful strains of verses, pulsed my heart and showed me his Paradise: *A Book of Verses underneath the Bough: A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread—and Thou Beside me singing in Wildness— Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enough.*

Many more of Omar’s philosophy indiguling in the ecstasy of poetry with appeal to enjoy the pleasures of life without too much reflections, were taught witty by Sayagyi with unmatched eloquence. Omar was better known as the mathematician and astronomer than as a poet. He had composed around 500 rubai or quatrains in Persian language during his life time. An English country gentleman Edward FitzGerald (1809-1883) translated Rubaiyat into English 50 years later and brought instant fame.

It was too precious to let the magic and eloquence of the Scholar fade away. Thus I attentively followed the lectures as quick as my hands could write. Back in the hostel after class, I fair-copied the lectures into an orderly form in a new exercise book. The note was already lost but the lectures remained, to readily recall will. It was amazing that Sayagyi brought only the textbook he was to teach as the class. All these marvelous stanzas, paragraphs and explanations came out like tinkling bells naturally; clear, precise and to the point. There was no dictation, no handouts, no language drills. He might have been prophetically teaching us, guiding us to the methodology of the universal open university he had studied in institutes of higher learning years before, for development of our future students not yet born. He showed us the ideal path and wisely left us to our own means to perfect ourselves.

‘Listen to the Brook’, the famed Teacher might have said in his mind as he called us to follow Lord Tennyson’s Brook from source, ‘through cost and corn; then, slip, slide, glose and glance among skinning swallows’; as southward bound it goes. I followed the magical musical chimes, rhythm and rhymes, meter and melody of the beautiful verses. Then along the landscape he toured us to the river thus:

I chatter, chatter as I flow To join the brimming river; For men may come and men may go But I go on forever.

I was so absorbed with Omar and Tennyson that I did not notice the shuffle of feet, the swing of the gown and momentary silence in the room. It looked up. Sayagyi had already left a little early before the class bell had rung. Recalling my dimmed memory of the past sixty years I had never missed Sayagyi’s Omar poetry sessions for the two years of the B.A. classes. The serene routine followed where he taught us classical poems composed for posterity by famous poets: Shakespeare, Milton, Lord Tennyson, Byron, Shelley, Wordsworth, Keats, Brownings (Robert and Elizabeth), and the Rossettis (Dante and Christina), Thomas Hardy and many others.

In our University students’ days of the ‘50s, campus life was part and parcel of our social activities. There were no many to move around apart from the academic studies; in hostels, sporting grounds where students excel in tennis (blues and half-blues); football where Varsity XI team were venue of upcoming talent, and won many cups and shields in national tournaments with the chorus ‘Varsity, varsity...ra-ra-ra’ echoing the AungSan Stadium as spectators boisterously cheered. There were also debates where students displayed their wits and Prome Hall always emerging as leaders. All these extra-curricular activities, point out to the fact that the University was good training ground to make a University graduate an all-round adult in the work years ahead. There were other co-ed activities too as two ladies’ dorms, Inya and Benton receive their counterparts from central hostels, Wellington, North, Prome and Tagaung. Social dinners followed where dainty damselfs, dressed in all their finery attended, and in turn-reciprocated, entertained by A-Nyeint dances and jokes. It was also here that boy met girl, made steady date for future partner to live happily ever after.

There were also intellectual activities such as Brain Trust sessions where professors, public dignitaries, scholars sat at the panel to answer questions posed by students amidst much fun and laughter. It was also a well-rounded training to groom students to meet any challenges and eventualities. On one session where I attended a jovial student challenged the panel to compose an impromptu verse about Pho Toke, wearing a ragged passe and going to Mogok. He might have spotted the unmistakable Sayagyi Dr Htin Aung among the illustrious panel. Sayagyi willingly obliged thus: ‘My name is Pho Toke, Wearing a passe-zoke; I go to Mogok, With gyo-gyoogyokezoke, And I play with my gyo-yoke...’

Tumultuous roar of laughter and applause echoed the open ground cheering the witty versification, joined by the great scholar poet and panel members. It was indeed a never-to-be-forgotten experience. In addition to Poetry I learned Shakespeare’s classical dramas, modern plays, and prose taught by equally excellent teachers.

All these academic and intellectual pursuits has laid in limbo since 1953 till 2010 when I started to translate classical English poems into Myanmar verse for ThaTaPadeha monthly magazine. This was my eulogy. In deep silence I paid obeisance to the Late Sayagyi Dr Htin Aung my perpetual Guru for making me what I am today, albeit a mere ripple in the vast expanse of the uncharted ocean.

May he enjoy the virtues of Pyinnya charity and attain peace through end of suffering!*********
**Paletthwe paddy, high yield groundnut plantations inspected**

**NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug**—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspected thriving 100-acre Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantation of KMA Co in the irrigated area of No.2 canal of Ngalaik Dam, here, this morning.

The Union Minister viewed preparation for cultivation of groundnut on 10 acres of farmland and thriving Paletthwe hybrid paddy plantations on 17 acres and 10 acres of farmlands.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister stressed the need to accelerate agricultural educative works to farmers in this cultivation season while establishing the paddy plantations in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. He said that 100-acre model paddy plantations in all eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area to enable the local farmers to observe the advantages of paddy farms. Depending on the market, farmers are to be organized for cultivation of groundnut as cash crops in addition to paddy, he said. At present, monsoon groundnut is to be grown on 10-acre farmland in time to be able to use it as quality strain for cold season crop, he added. He urged the farmers of regions and states to cultivate cash crops in addition to paddy.—MNA

**Quality strains key to higher per acre yield, says chief minister**

**NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug**—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint addressed agricultural development workshop of Mandalay Region at Region Agriculture Department on 1 August. He said cultivation of quality strains suited for the land of the region would boost per acre yield. Although the region has only 65 per cent of food sufficiency, the cultivation of cotton, beans and pulses, and edible oil crops would be encouraged.

The chief minister said the region is an agro-based one. Agriculture could boost its chances for economic development. Requirements of the people and farmers must be fulfilled.

The shift to quality strains could generate more incomes for farmers than that of conventional farming. Their industrious efforts deserve right prices. Mechanized farming could save labour, cost and time, facilitating agricultural development which also demands associations. He tipped that the workshop would profit the farmers.

Region Agriculture and Livestock Minister U Myint Than, who chaired the workshop, also delivered an address. Officials, agriculturalists and farmers participated in discussion where increasing yield and mechanized farming were put on table. —MNA

**Local people of Rakhine State provided with cash and foodstuff**

**YANGON, 3 Aug**—Wellwishers continued to donate cash and foodstuff for locals of Rakhine State, at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township here this morning.

Dr U Aung Myat Kyaw and Dr Daw Shin Moe Thu contributed K 210,000 and three bales of cloth. U Thway Myint and Daw Huy Huay of Dagon Myothit (North) Township K 100,000, U Tin Maung Lwin and Daw Kyin Win of Sanyangyoe Township K 50,000, U Aye Tun and Daw Mya Mya Kyi of Dagon Myothit (North) Township K 30,000, Padaung Township Fire Services Department members K 10,000, Social Vision Service items, story books and clothes worth K 2,354,000, U Myin Mo(a) U Oo Kyin Hla of Kyauktada Township K 10,000 and two bales of cloth and U Maung Maung and family of Dagon Myothit (North) bales of cloth. Director-General of Fire Services Department U Tin Mo and personnel accepted the donations and returned them certificates of honour. The donations so far made at the Fire Services Department (Head Office) has amounted to K 31307823. —MNA

**Cash donation for locals of Rakhine State continues**

**NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug**—Relief and Resettlement Department (Head Office) under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement accepted donations for the people in Rakhine State who lost their houses and property in order to relieve their sufferings.

Ma Khin Pa Pa donated K 50,000 to mark the ninth birthday on 29 July, Ko Ye Yin Aung-Ma Moe Thida Aung and family K 40,000 in memory of late Daw Khin Kyi on 30 July, Daw Tin Tin Aye (helper of copying machine) of Relief and Resettlement Department various clothes worth K 2,500 on 31 July, U Than Win (Retd Staff Officer of Irrigation Department) Daw Than Than Myint and family various sorts of clothes worth K 218,200 on 1 August, Dr Khin San Nwe (Assistant Director) of the Department of Atomic Energy, Ministry of Science and Technology, K 20,000.

Officials of Relief and Resettlement Department accepted cash and kind donations, gave certificates of honour to the wellwishers and spoke words of thank.—MNA

**Inter-ministry men’s football tournament 2012 kicks off**

**NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug**—The inter-ministry men’s football tournament 2012 kicked off at the pitch of Nay Pyi Taw FC in Pauklaung Sports ground, Pyinmana Township this evening, attended by Secretary of Myanmar National Sports Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu, deputy ministers of various ministries, officials and staff personnel and special guests.

The tournament is the sixth of its kind with a view to creating relaxing environment and unity and friendship among the staff of ministries, contributing to national health and refreshing the staff to be able take more duties.

Players of 28 contesting teams took positions in the pitch and the deputy minister made an opening address. Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation team played against Ministry of Immigration and Population team in the debut in which the former beat the latter 2-1. —MNA
South Okkalapa BEPS No 10 facilitated with new building

Daw Khin Kyi formally opened the new school building. The donor explained the purpose of donation and handed over documents related to the school building to Township Education Officer U Ye Tint. The school building is 120 feet long and 30 feet wide one-storey RC facility. The building was constructed at a cost of K 65 million. Myanma Alin

Supply of electricity extended to Meiktla

Chairman of Ward Electricity Supply Committee U Chit Hla explained the tasks fo the committee and township leader U Zaw Hay spoke words of thanks. Next, officials formally launched the electricity supply. The local people installed a 315kVA 11/0.4KV 11000 voltage transformer on a self-reliance basis at Mahasit Extended Ward by spending K 51.8million. Kyemon

Taxation knowledge shared to teachers, students in Nattalin

At the talk, Head of Township Internal Revenue Department Daw Oo Shwe Yin and Deputy Head of Department Daw Tin Tin Htay explained taxation system of Myanmar, purpose of levying taxes, responsibility of every citizen to pay tax, matters related to commercial tax, income tax, stamp tax and Aungbaung Lottery tax to teachers and students. Myanma Alin

Palethwe hybrid paddy planting thriving in Ponnagyun Township

On 21 July, Head of Rakhine State Agriculture Department U Khin Maung Win showed the saplings to observers at the farmlands of farmer U Thein Maung in Yebysakan Village in Ponnagyun Township. Later, the head of state department explained the advantages of the paddy strain. Myanma Alin

Monsoon paddy grown through good agriculture pattern in Kalay

Head of District Agriculture Department U Maung Maung briefed those present on 14-point good agriculture pattern. Staff of the department together with female paddy transplanter participated in demonstration of growing paddy. —Myanma Alin

Dyna plunges into roadside, leaving one dead in Sagaing Township

In front of the monastery in Bagan Ward of Sagaing Township, a Toyota car plunged into the roadside and went upside down due to out of brake control in Bagan ward of Sagaing on 23 July. A Toyota Dyna driven by U Kyaw Win, 60 of Nyaungbinwun Village of Sagaing Township, together with bus conductors Zaw Oo, 24, son of U Hmi and U Shwe Maung, 65, left Nyaungbinwun Village for Mandalay. In the car, the conductor U Shwe Maung was under the car and died on the spot with the injuries of car, head and face and fracture of leg. —Myanma Alin

Heavy rains hit Mongyu of Mongyat

Mongyu, 3 Aug—Heavy rains hit Mongyu of Mongyat District from 24 to 26 July. In consequence, ten houses on both sides of the road, communication station, Forest Department and Pre-Primary School were washed away with two feet deep water. A total of 39 flood victims were evacuated to the safe places with the assistance of the Sub-Township Administrator, departmental personnel and local people. At present, duties are assigned to personnel and people for water sentry. —Kyemon

COMBINED VESTER PRESENTED Township Administrator U Maung Maung presented a combine harvester for farmers in paddy production in Ingyinkan Village of Yamethin Township on 21 July. The chairman and party of Farming Development Group accepts donation. —Myanma Alin

Outstanding students, teachers honoured in Shwelyin

SHWELYIN, 3 Aug.—A ceremony to honour outstanding students in the 2011-2012 academic year matriculation examination and outstanding teachers who turned out outstanding students was held at Pyinnya Yadana Hall in Shwelyin Township of Bago District on 20 July. On the occasion, Township Administrator U Khin Thein Maung explained conditions of education and social sectors in line with the process of reform period. The Township Education Officer reported on progress of township education. After that, wellwishers donated cash to the township administrator and officials who returned certificates of honour. Next, the township administrator and officials presented prizes to 35 outstanding students and 28 outstanding teachers. Myanma Alin

Book Fair staged in Myingyan District

MYINGYAN, 3 Aug.—Myingyan District Information and Public Relations Department of Mandalay Region organized the book fair in its office on 16 July morning. Chairperson of Myingyan District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Hla Wai and Staff Officer of District IPRD Daw Mya Win Kyi formally opened the book fair. After that, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Win Tin, Township Administrator U Shwe Maung, district and township level departmental personnel, members of district and township WAOs and Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, ward administrators and local people visited the book fair. —Myanma Alin

Bank eroded in Singu, Madaya townships

NAE PI TAN, 3 Aug.—Due to change of water course in Ayeyawady Region, bank erosion occurred in Singu and Madaya townships of Mandalay Region. Bank of the river being eroded in Singu Township. The water eroded 15 houses in Sayeg Village and 98 houses in Hinthada Village in Singu Township, seven houses in Nandawgon Village, seven in Kondanlay Village, two in Thaphan-daut Village and 400 feet wide area in Thonzepay Village in Madaya Township. Mandalay Region Government provided assistance for reconstruction of houses for eroded villages and evacuation of eroded victims and prevention against change of water course. —Myanma Alin
Rare baseball cards from Ohio sell well at auction

TOLLEDO, 3 Aug — Century-old baseball cards found in an Ohio attic have been sold at auction for a combined $566,132. The sale on Thursday night at the National Sports Collectors Convention in Baltimore, Md., featured cards depicting HallofFamers Honus Wagner and Ty Cobb. The 37 baseball cards exceeded the $500,000 they were expected to fetch. The prices included buyer’s premiums.

Family members cleaning out their grandfather’s attic this year in Defiance, Ohio, came across what experts say is one of the most exciting finds in the history of sports card collecting. The cards are from a rare series issued around 1910 that was given out with candy. The family that discovered the stockpile is

Top US commander in Afghanistan visits Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 3 Aug — The top US commander in Afghanistan discussed border coordination with Pakistan’s army chief on Thursday during his first visit since Islamabad ended its seven-month blockade of NATO troop supplies. Pakistan closed its Afghan border on November 10 in retaliation for American airstrikes that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers, and the two sides have held a series of meetings since then to try to prevent such an incident from occurring again. Pakistan reopened the route in early July after the US finally apologized for the deaths, which Washington said were an accident. Both countries have made public statements since then about the need to move forward and patch up their troubled relationship, but major disagreements continue.

“We are making significant progress toward building a partnership that is enduring, strategic, carefully defined, and that enhances the security and prosperity of the region,” a press release quoted Gen John Allen as saying after his meeting with Pakistan’s army chief, Gen Ashfaq Parvez Kayani. The US has long been frustrated by Islamabad’s refusal to target Afghan Taliban militants and their allies using Pakistani territory to stage attacks against troops in Afghanistan. Many analysts believe Pakistan is reluctant to target groups with which it has strong historical ties and could be useful allies in Afghanistan after foreign forces depart. Pakistan denied this, saying its forces are stretched too thin fighting Taliban militants at war with the state. It has also criticized NATO and Afghan forces for not doing enough to stop Pakistani militants holed up in Afghanistan from launching attacks across the border into Pakistan. Pakistan has also commanded the US to step up drone strikes targeting militants in its northwest tribal region, although officials within government and the military have supported these attacks in the past. The strikes are unpopular in Pakistan because many people believe they mostly kill civilians—an allegation denied by the US. The months-long standoff over the deaths of the Pakistani troops in November and the subsequent closure of the NATO supply line intensified both countries’ feelings of anger and distrust on both sides.—Internet

Philippine typhoon death toll rises to 37

MANILA, 3 Aug — The death toll in the Philippines from Typhoon Saola has risen to 37 and is expected to go even higher as new rains worsened flooding, the government said on Friday. Monsoon rains continued to hamper efforts to reach more remote parts of the Philippines with some towns remaining flooded for the sixth day in a row, despite the typhoon having moved away from the archipelago. Earlier reports said 29 had been killed but civil defence chief Benito Ramos said more deaths had been reported, including 11 youths who drowned in four different parts of the country on Thursday.

“They were probably enjoying the big waves riding on them. They did not expect a storm surge,’’ a regional official told AFP. The death toll is likely to go even higher, he added, citing four more swimmers who went missing in the north. The Ramos-led National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said that although Saola had passed, it was still enhancing the monsoon rains and warned of continued possible flash floods and landslides. In the coastal districts near Manila, knee-high floods persisted Friday, after nearly 150,000 tonnes within the next five years, according to Essowe Batana, deputy managing director of NSTC, which is jointly run by the state and producers.

“This increase is due to growing popularity of cotton production and to returning confidence in the sector, all helped by an improvement in prices during the 2012-13 season,” Batana said. Cotton, alongside phosphates, is one of Togo’s key export earners. Its production has leaped from a low of 29,000 tonnes in 2009-2010. Prices for the current season, which began at the end of May, have been fixed at 230 CFA francs per kg for top quality cotton and 210 CFA francs for second-grade cotton. The top price last year was 215 CFA francs per kg, which was an improvement on the level of 185 CFA francs in the 2010-11 growing season. Banata said 110,000 hectares were dedicated to cotton farming during the current crop year, up from just under 100,000 hectares last year. Within two years production should hit 130,000 (tonnes) and reach 150,000 tonnes five years, he added.

Top US commander in Afghanistan visits Pakistan

MAHENDRIYA, 3 Aug — The US ambassador to the Philippines said he would go to the North of Mindanao province in a show of support to the government amid reports of armed Muslim rebels seeking to establish a separate state. "We are making significant progress toward building a partnership that is enduring, strategic, carefully defined, and that enhances the security and prosperity of the region," a press release quoted Gen John Allen as saying after his meeting with Pakistan’s army chief, Gen Ashfaq Parvez Kayani. The US has long been frustrated by Islamabad’s refusal to target Afghan Taliban militants and their allies using Pakistani territory to stage attacks against troops in Afghanistan. Many analysts believe Pakistan is reluctant to target groups with which it has strong historical ties and could be useful allies in Afghanistan after foreign forces depart. Pakistan denied this, saying its forces are stretched too thin fighting Taliban militants at war with the state. It has also criticized NATO and Afghan forces for not doing enough to stop Pakistani militants holed up in Afghanistan from launching attacks across the border into Pakistan. Pakistan has also commanded the US to step up drone strikes targeting militants in its northwest tribal region, although officials within government and the military have supported these attacks in the past. The strikes are unpopular in Pakistan because many people believe they mostly kill civilians—an allegation denied by the US. The months-long standoff over the deaths of the Pakistani troops in November and the subsequent closure of the NATO supply line intensified both countries’ feelings of anger and distrust on both sides.—Internet

Togo cotton output seen up 25 pct amid higher prices

LOMIA, 3 Aug — Togo will produce 100,000 tonnes of cotton during the 2012-13 growing season, up from 92,000 last year. Prices for the current season, which began at the end of May, have been fixed at 230 CFA francs per kg for top quality cotton and 210 CFA francs for second-grade cotton. The top price last year was 215 CFA francs per kg, which was an improvement on the level of 185 CFA francs in the 2010-11 growing season. Banata said 110,000 hectares were dedicated to cotton farming during the current crop year, up from just under 100,000 hectares last year. Within two years production should hit 130,000 (tonnes) and reach 150,000 tonnes five years, he added.

Megabus crash in Illinois: At least one dead, more than thirty injured

CHICAGO, 3 Aug — At least one person was killed after a double-decker Megabus crashed on Thursday on a highway between Chicago and St Louis with more than 60 people aboard, said the bus company. Illinois State Police said the dead passenger was a woman who had been seated in the front upper section of the bus, near the driver. More than 30 passengers were transported to area hospitals. Authorities told ABC News that they believed the cause of the crash was a blown tire. The bus, which had 64 passengers listed on its manifest, according to the state police, slammed into a concrete bridge support on Interstate 55 on Thursday afternoon near the town of Litchfield, Ill. The company said it was headed to St Louis and then Kansas City. Police said they expected the highway to remain closed until late Thursday evening and possibly into Friday morning. Thirty ambulances, five helicopters and seven fire departments were sent to the scene, the state police said. A spokesperson for St Francis Hospital in Litchfield told ABC News that it had received 21 patients. Three other passengers were taken to St Anthony and another three to Hillboro Hospital. In addition, some passengers were taken to Memorial Hospital in Springfield.

The bus, according to a Megabus spokesperson, was traveling along the interstate from Chicago, St Louis, Columbus and Kansas City. Litchfield, the site of the wreck, was about 55 miles north of St Louis. The National Transportation Safety Board said it was monitoring the situation, but had yet to make a decision on whether to launch a full investigation. In a statement, the board did not make safety or tire pressure one priority. The thoughts and prayers of our entire staff go out to the passengers involved. Megabus.com will continue to provide more details as they become available.—Internet

Vermont man arrested after crushing five police cruisers with giant tractor

NEWPORT, 3 Aug — A Vermont farmer, apparently unhappy with his arrest last month, crushed five police cruisers parked at a police station with a giant tractor on Thursday. The man, 34-year-old Roger Pion, was arrested by Newport police two miles away after he abandoned the red tractor and attempted to flee on foot. According to the Burlington Free Press, at least eight police vehicles, including an unmarked car and transport van, sustained damage. “It’s more than half our fleet,” Phil Brooks, Orleans County sheriff’s deputy, told the Burlington Free Press. “We have 11 cars.”

Correspondence for WACAS-TV, there were no injuries. According to the Newport Express, the tractor weighed approximately 15 tons. Pion was arrested on 3 July for marijuana possession and resisting arrest. Vermont state police said the Vermont State Police and the US Border Patrol are assisting in the investigation. Newport, Vt, is approximately five miles from the Canadian border.—Internet

Residents wade through a flooded street in the town of Navotas in suburban Manila on 2 Aug, 2012, after heavy rains and strong winds were brought about by Typhoon Saola. Internet

Internet

INTERNET

One of five crushed Newport, Vt, police cruisers. Internet

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Pakistan's army chief on 22 Sept, 2011. Reuters

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WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — Senate tax writers approved a $205 billion package of tax breaks intended to rescue the federal budget from the brink of a twin fiscal crisis: a $205 billion package of tax breaks.

The Senate Finance Committee passed legislation including a $15 billion billion business research tax break. It also included a popular $12 billion provision to prevent the alternative minimum tax, targeted at the rich, from hitting the middle class.

“This is a strong sign that we mean business,” said Republican Senator Pat Roberts who voted for the legislation, that passed 19-5 in a committee hearing filled with mutual praise. The bill would need to be substantially changed, however, to stand a chance of winning approval in the more partisan House of Representatives, where Republicans hold a big majority.

There, while senators praised one another, the usual bickering was in high gear during the debate over a Republican effort to “fast-track” tax reform with a bill that would slash the top income tax rate to 25 percent from 35 percent and imposed other changes that are anathema to Democrats.

Democratic Representative Barney Frank said the bill would give too much power to Republican Ways and Means Committee Chairman David Camp, and criticized its specificity on tax cuts and vagueness on paying for them without blowing the deficit. Camp will “single-handedly put his cape and fly down here with this bill that will help the rich and do some

Pension debt overwhelms bankrupt San Bernardino, California

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — San Bernardino, the third California city to seek bankruptcy protection since June, is saddled with huge pension debt and will produce details of those unfunded obligations within 15 days, its mayor said on Thursday. The city filed for bankruptcy protection on Wednesday, citing over $1 billion in estimated liabilities and up to 25,000 creditors, many of whom are the city’s own employees. The city, 65 miles east of Los Angeles, also listed estimated assets as over $1 billion. Patrick J. Morris, San Bernardino’s mayor, said in a telephone interview that the bulk of the city’s debt was due to “unfunded liabilities related to pension and benefits” for the city’s employees, and “obligations to employee groups in labor contracts.”

In the past two months, the city of Stockton and nearby Mammoth Lakes have also filed for Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection, a special bankruptcy provision for municipalities. Stockton, which filed the previous bankruptcy fraud that was particularly acute in southern California, filed for bankruptcy in June, becoming the largest US city to do so.

Other cities in California are also in deep fiscal trouble. Richard Larkin, senior vice president and director of credit analysis at bond underwriting firm Fitch and an expert in municipal bonds, concluded in a recent study that “because of the fiscal environment in California ... many of those defaults yet to come this year are likely to be in California.”

In late July, San Bernardino reported that it had $86 million in indebtedness payable from its general fund, the main budget, including payments on a $50 million pension bond. There is an additional $125 million in unfunded pension obligations, $61 million in unfunded retiree healthcare, and $40 million of worker compensation, compensated absences and general liabilities. The city is not alone in struggling to meet pension obligations, particularly for police and firefighters. Another California city, and in municipalities nationwide, retirement costs promised to city employees in good times are wreaking havoc with budgets in the wake of the housing market crash and high unemployment.

The city of about 210,000 residents declared a fiscal crisis last month after a report that local government had tapped out its reserves and projected that spending would top revenue by $45 million in the fiscal year that began on 1 July. — Reuters

Jobs seen weak in July, may help push Fed to act

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — US employment probably only inched up in July as the economy struggled to regain momentum, strengthening expectations of additional monetary stimulus from the Federal Reserve. Nonfarm payrolls likely rose 100,000 last month, according to a Reuters survey, after gaining 80,000 in June. The closely watched employment report comes two days after the US central bank sent a stronger signal that a new round of major support could be on the way if the faltering recovery does not pick up.

Job growth in recent months missed expectations and made a “skeptic” say other employment indicators recently suggest that July will show a similar picture. “If the data comes in weaker-than-expected, it’s going to give the Fed political cover, given how close we are getting to the November elections, for them to ease monetary policy,” said Sam Bullard, a senior economist at Wells Fargo Securities in Charlotte, North Carolina. Most economists expect the Fed will launch a third round of bond purchases, possibly as its next policy meeting on September 12-13. That’s despite the approach of the US presidential and congressional elections in November which could leave the central bank open to criticism from Republicans and

Yemen tribesmen release Italian officer: official

SANAA, 3 Aug — An Italian embassy security officer kidnapped by Yemeni tribesmen has been released unharmed, a government official said on Thursday. The same day the country’s information minister survived an assassination attempt.

The incidents highlight continuing instability in Yemen five months after former leader Ali Abdullah Saleh was formally replaced by his deputy under a plan designed to forestall a slide into lawlessness.

During the uprising that toppled Saleh, militias associated with al-Qaeda strengthened their position in areas of south and east Yemen, further testing central government control in a country riven with tribalism and extremism.

The Italian diplomat was handed over to the governor of Ma’rib and he is in good health and will be transferred to San'a later to be handed over to the Italian ambassador, “the official told Reuters.” The abductors who detained the security officer in the oil-producing province of Ma’rib had demanded to be compensated for the detention of one of their relatives and the return of land they say they own in the capital Sana’a, a tribal source said, adding they were promised their demands will be met.

Chinese navy training vessel visits French Polynesia

PAPIETE, (French Polynesia), 3 Aug — A Chinese Navy training vessel arrived at the capital city of French Polynesia for a four-day good-will visit on Thursday. The visit to the French overseas territories in the southeastern Pacific Ocean is part of Zhenghe’s five-month global voyage, the second of such sailings organized by the Chinese Navy in a decade.

Zhenghe, named after a famed Chinese maritime explorer, has scheduled route of more than 30,000 nautical miles (55,000 km) and is expected to pay port calls to 11 countries and working visits to three countries during its voyage. Before its arrival at Papeete, Zhenghe has already made a number of stops at Italy, Spain, Canada, Jamaica, Ecuador, and others. — Xinhua

Philippine police arrest four suspected kidnappers of Japanese boy

MANILA, 3 Aug — Police said on Friday that they had arrested four people allegedly involved in the kidnapping of a Japanese boy in Balanga city in the northern Philippine province of Bataan. Bataan provincial police spokesman Dennis Orbiza identified the suspects as Jonathan Benicarlo, his father, his sister Veronica and one Clarita Benicarlo whose relation with the three was not immediately known.

Police filed charges of kidnapping and serious illegal detention against the suspects for the abduction of six-year-old Paul Kajiwara at Cupang village last Tuesday.

Kajiwara was taken along with the daughter of Veronica. Orbiza said the boy’s Filipina mother, Amela Ranis who is married to a Japanese, received a text message initially demanding a ransom of 150,000 pesos (3,584 US dollars). The ransom was then reduced to 50,000 pesos (1,717 US dollars). Ranis reported the abduction of her son to police and an arrest warrant was set up.

Jonathan Benicarlo was the first to be arrested after he agreed to meet the boy’s mother for the payoff. The Japanese boy was later rescued and underwent debriefing under the care of his mother. “Investigators later discovered that Jonathan is the son of two Benicauro and brother of Veronica. Soon the investigators tied pieces of information linking the Benicarlo family to the kidnapping with the supposed kidnapper of Veronica’s daughter to date their involvement,” said Orbiza. The three other suspects were arrested in succeeding follow-up operations. — Xinhua

People speak with recruiters from jewelry and gem companies during the Gemological Institute Of America (GIA)’s Jewelry Career Fair in New York on 30 July, 2012. — Reuters

Police troops guard outside the Italian embassy in Sanaa on 30 July, 2012. — Reuters

File photo shows the US Capitol building is seen as the sun begins to set under heavy cloud cover in Washington. — Reuters
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Transport
Myanmar Port Authority
Invitation to an Information Session Regarding
the Upgrading and Renovation of Sule Pagoda Wharf No. 1 to 4 including Related Port
Terminal Facilities and the Other Port
Development Projects in Yangon Port
Myanmar Port Authority, Ministry of Transport is planning to implement the up grading and renovation of the Sule Pagoda Wharf No. 1 to 4 comply with International Standard and the construction and development of other port related infrastructures and marine structures in Lammudaw Foreshore Area, Pansodan Jetty Compound and Botataung Foreshore Area with Private Participation through Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) or Joint Venture (JV).

In order to clarify and make transparent the basic requirements for implementation of the above projects under the Myanmar Port Authority, interested foreign and local investors and/or firms are invited to attend an information session to be held according to the following program:

Date/Time: 9, August 2012 (Thursday), 10:00 AM
Venue: Meeting Room (1), Myanmar Port Authority, No.10, Pansodan Street, Yangon, Myanmar.

Managing Director
Myanmar Port Authority

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV TRANS PACIFIC 5 VOY NO (335)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TRANS PACIFIC 5 VOY NO (335) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) 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: FORTUNE SHIPPING AGENCY PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV HANNA MARIE VOY NO (1232)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HANNA MARIE VOY NO (1232) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.8.2012 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: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (103)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (103) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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: MANILLEUR MARKETING LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Bahrain says 3 arrested over ‘terrorist activities’**

**MANAMA, 3 Aug —** Bahraini police have arrested three suspects over “terrorist activities” after seizing materials that can be used to manufacture explosives, the public security chief said on Wednesday.

Major General Tariq Al-Hassan said in remarks to the Press that police are still searching for three other suspects.

“Bahraini police and Scotland Yard are investigating the issue,” Hassan said.

Following a raid on a residential area in a Shiite village, “police have seized more than five tonnes of materials that could be used to manufacture explosives,” he added.

Hassan acknowledged “some police officers could have acted inappropriately,” after the Shiite opposition accused the public security of abuse.”Any officer that is found guilty of violating appropriate procedures will be punished,” he said. “Such abuses, if they are proved, are unacceptable.

They contradict the mission of the interior ministry,” Hassan said.

There were 14 complaints against police and the ministry “have been referred to competent authorities, including the courts.

The other four are still being probed. "In July, more than 240 people were arrested, while dozens were hurt in clashes with the police, the main Shiite opposition group, Al-Wefaq, said.

The authorities accuse young Shiite protesters of using petrol bombs against security forces during frequent demonstrations in villages outside the capital Manama.

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**1.9 mn people affected by E China rainstorms**

JINAN, 3 Aug — Nearly 1.9 million people in east China’s Shandong province have been affected by heavy rains since 29 July, local authorities said on Wednesday.

Downpours have battered the eastern province since last Sunday, killing two people, according to the provincial civil affairs department.

In the city of Dezhou, heavy rains have affected more than 1.23 million residents and caused direct economic losses of 650 million yuan (102 million US dollars), the civil affairs department of Dezhou said.

According to statistics released by the department, 137,500 hectares of crops have been damaged and 2,213 houses have been destroyed. A total of 6,200 residents in Pingyuan county of Dezhou have been relocated to avoid possible natural disasters triggered by rainstorms.

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Photo taken on 1 Aug, 2012 shows a flooded road in Chiping County of Liaocheng City, east China’s Shandong Province. —Xinhua

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**The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre)**

urgenly invites the best, most-talented and highly-motivated individuals from ASEAN Member States to apply for the following vacancies:

1. Head of Operations Division
   Reporting directly to the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, the Head of Operations Division will establish and manage the operational functions and process of AHA Centre activities pertaining to preparations, response and monitoring of disasters, as well as manage the AHA Centre Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and operational decision making during a potential or actual disaster.

2. Head of Corporate Affairs and Programme Division
   Reporting to the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, the Head of Corporate Affairs and Programme Division will manage and supervise activities pertaining to corporate affairs, i.e. finance, administration, human resources and programme development.

3. Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer
   Support the Head of Operations Division in carrying out activities pertaining to disaster preparedness and response as well as supporting the EOC operations.

4. Senior Disaster Monitoring and Analysis Officer
   Support the Head of Operations Division in carrying out activities pertaining to disaster monitoring and analysis, including setting up and maintaining disaster monitoring systems.

The ASEAN Leaders at their 19th ASEAN Summit on 17 November 2011 officially launched the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) to facilitate co-operation and coordination among ASEAN Member States, and with relevant United Nations and international organisations in promoting regional collaboration in disaster management. For more information please visit www.ahacentre.org.

The AHA Secretariat is to manage the recruitment of the above vacancies with the support of the AHA Secretariat.

For more information on the vacancies and application procedures, please visit the ASEAN website: www.asean.org/opportunities

Deadline for applications on the above vacancies shall be 20 AUG 2012.

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**Bahraini Director of Public Security Tariq Al-Hassan holds a Press conference in Manama. Bahraini police have arrested three suspects over “terrorist activities” after seizing materials that can be used to manufacture explosives.**

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Internet
A Utah wildlife official said the mysterious “goat man” photographed crawling near some geese was a California hunter testing out a goat stalking disguise.

Phil Douglass, conservation outreach manager for the Division of Wildlife Resources, said he was contacted recently by a 57-year-old California man who revealed he had donned a goat suit on 15 July and appeared in Coty Creighton’s photograph near Ben Lomond Peak just north of Ogden, the Ogden Standard-Examiner reported on 31 July.

Douglass said the man, who did not give his name, gave information substantiating his claims and said he was testing out the goat suit for an upcoming hunting trip. “He gave me details that convinced me it was him,” Douglass said.

“I’m satisfied that this was a person preparing for a hunt and did it with knowledge and experience,” Creighton said.

Authorities in Ohio said they arrested a woman accused of trying to break into jail while shouting, “I want to be arrested.” The Butler County Sheriff’s Office said Tiffany Hurd, 36, was spotted attempting to climb over a barbed wire fence early morning of 29 July at the jail in Hamilton and a corrections officer was unable to convince her to leave, the Cincinnati Enquirer reported on 30 July.

“I want to be arrested.” Hurd allegedly shouted. Deputies said she appeared to be intoxicated. Hurd was arrested on misdemeanor charges of criminal trespass and disorderly conduct. “Prisoner arrested (trying to) get back (into) jail... She got her wish. Not the norm. Got it backwards,” Sheriff Rick Jones posted on his Twitter account.

LAS VEGAS, 3 Aug—Author and actor Steve Harvey says he will perform his final stand-up comedy in Las Vegas’ 2-hour half-way show will air live on Pay-Per-View telecast available on cable systems around the United States. After the live programme, fans will still be able to access the special via cable PPV for several months and also on Video On Demand, beginning on 3 August. “The road to this final show has been an amazing journey doing stand-up for the past 27 years, and I can’t thank fans enough after reflecting on all the unforgettable moments and jokes we’ve shared,” Harvey said in a statement. “It’s been a wild ride over the years: Devon stage, radio, TV and more, and taking the stage for my final show, I will have a special blowout performance in store for everyone in Las Vegas and watching at home that will be bigger than any show I’ve done so far.”

Harvey is the host of radio’s “The Steve Harvey Morning Show” and is the best-selling author of “Think Like a Man.” His relationship guide was adapted as a hit film set to premiere on 28 August cable’s Movies On Demand. He also is host of the game show “Family Feud” and upcoming new daytime programme “Steve Harvey.”

Producers Hawk Koch elected Academy president

BEVERLY HILLS, 3 Aug—Producer Hawk Koch has been elected president of Hollywood’s Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The organization’s board of governors selected Koch on Tuesday night. This will be his first term in the office.

Koch’s producer credits include “Losing Isaiah” and “Gorby Park.” He recently served as executive producer on “Source Code” and is executive producer on the upcoming “Very Good Girls.

The Academy honors the year’s best film with its Oscars each winter.

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Goat man’ was hunter in disguise

Steve Harvey to perform last stand-up show

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‘Goat Man’ was hunter in disguise

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The Academy honors the year’s best film with its Oscars each winter.
Douglas wins all around, giving her 2nd gold

LONDON, 3 Aug — Make it a pair of golds for Gabby Douglas, who added the all-around title to the one she won with the US team two nights ago.

Douglas became the third straight American to win gymnastics’ biggest prize, taking the lead on the very first event on Thursday night and never really letting anyone else get close. She finished with a score of 62.223, less than three-tenths ahead of Viktoria Komova of Russia.

Douglas brought the house down with her energetic floor routine, and US teammates Jordyn Wieber, McKayla Maroney and Kyla Ross jumped to their feet and cheered when she finished. Douglas flashed a smile and coach Liu Chang lifted her off the podium.

Athletics: Battle of distance queens highlights day one

Tirunesh Dibaba of Ethiopia runs in the women’s 5000 meters race at the Diamond League New York Grand Prix athletics meet on 9 June, 2012. — Reuters

LONDON, 3 Aug — The big men of the shot put open 10 days of athletics action at the London Olympics on Friday morning with the more slender frames of the East African distance runners closing out the day in the much-anticipated women’s 10,000 meters final. Distance queens Vivian Cheruiyot of Kenya and Tirunesh Dibaba will go head-to-head for the second gold medal in athletics in what is expected to be a thrilling final at the Olympic Stadium. Dibaba won the 5,000-10,000m double at the Beijing Olympics before taking a couple of years off but looked back at her best when her fearsome finish drove her to the fastest time of the year in Oregon in June. Cheruiyot matched Dibaba’s double at the world championships last year and she and Sally Kipyego, who is also running both races in London, are gunning for Kenya’s first Olympic gold medal in the event.

The Americans also went to Beijing four years ago with high hopes of gold only for relative unknown Polina Tomasevich to steal their thunder. Germany’s world champion David Storl should also be all in the frame, while Majewski returns to defend his title. — Reuters

Fish advances to quarterfinals in Washington

LONDON, 3 Aug — Fans are now being invited to sample the Barclays Premier League experience for themselves when the Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour comes to Manchester later this month. The Trophy Tour is a free interactive family-friendly event that gives fans of all ages the chance to get up close and personal with the world’s most popular football league. Over the last two years the Trophy Tour has visited nine cities across the Middle East and Asia and it is now stopping off in England for the first time to mark the start of the 2012/13 Barclays Premier League season.

Supporters are even through four zones where they can learn more about the League, its clubs, its play and its history while they will also have the opportunity to get a picture of themselves lifting the iconic Barclays Premier League Trophy with the help of green screen technology. The Tour will take up residence in Albert Square, Manchester from 16th-19th August — opening from 11am-7pm each day — and you can be there. To book your free priority place for this unique event, visit the Trophy Tour website: www.trophylotour.com.

“Tens of thousands of fans across the globe have already come to enjoy the Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour, now it’s the chance of supporters in England to experience what is at the heart of our competition: the Trophy itself, as this is what every player and manager competes to get their hands on,” said Premier League Chief Executive Richard Scudamore.

The Tour also features the fantastic football player handhelds offered by our clubs, because that is what excites hundreds of millions week-in-week-out at home and abroad, and the history and tradition of English football, as this is a crucial part of what drives the huge interest in the Barclays Premier League.”

David Wheldon, Head of Brand, Reputation and Citizenship at Barclays, added “The Premier League Trophy Tour is a fantastic way of engaging with Manchester, a hothead of English football and club rivalry, it is the first port of call for the Tour this season.”

The Barclays Premier League Trophy is a global icon, so this tour is a great opportunity for our customers, clients and our colleagues to get closer to one of the most sought after trophies in football.” The Tour is a part of a weeked of events celebrating the start of a new thrilling season of the Barclays Premier League. As well as the numerous interactive displays, including the opportunity to test your speed against Arsenal winger Theo Walcott, Barclays Premier League legendary will also be in attendance, including former Manchester United and Manchester City goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel.

The Great Dane, who won the League title five times during his glittering career in England, will be at the event on 17th August at 11am. “My link with Manchester goes back for decades and I love the city,” he said. “Local fans will get to understand more of the history and experience all the aspects of the most exciting league in the world. I’m looking forward to meeting some of the Barclays Premier League’s most passionate fans in Manchester.” There will also be a fan zone around the Trophy Tour which will give fans the exclusive opportunity to meet Barclays Premier League legends.

EA Sports FIFA 13 game, which is not released in England until October, a Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour will feature a replica of their studio, so supporters can pretend to be Jim White or Krisy Gallagher.

Manchester City will bring the spirit of City Square to Albert Square as ‘Fan Zone Danny’ gives out City goodies, Manchester United will be offering performances from its official choir, and both the Liverpool and Everton street dance crews will be attending. — Internet

Fish advances to quarterfinals in Washington

Mardy Fish

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — Mardy Fish knows what he’s got to do for his ankle to heal. He’s just not interested in doing it. Still feeling the effects of a right ankle injury sustained two weeks ago in Atlanta, the top-seeded American beat Ricardas Berankis 6-3, 6-1 on Thursday night to advance to the Citi Open quarterfinals. Fish said the injury doesn’t hamper his movement, and he can play through the pain, but not for too long a time, because it needs rest and “I’m just not going to give up,” he said. “I can’t give up. I’m not going to lose these tournaments.”

Fish already missed time this year after his latest heart surgery procedure in May to correct arrhythmia. Now he’s more concerned about regaining his confidence, anyway, it might be a surprise, in years past I felt I could win an event or lose to anyone,” he said. “That’s important. You’d be surprised, in years past I felt like I can go out and win a tournament or lose to anyone, but I could also lose to anyone on any given day. And I feel like I play relatively normal right now—I have the confidence, anyway, it might not be true—I have the confidence that I don’t lose many matches like that anymore.”

Eight-seeded Sam Querrey also advanced, finishing off Benjamin Becker 6-3, 6-1 Thursday night to advance to the Citi Open quarterfinals. Fish will face Mardy Fish, who has won a highly-lauded tournament in the past two weeks.

The trophy will be a fan favorite as it is cool to do something like that on any given day. And I feel like I play relatively normal right now—I have the confidence, anyway, it might not be true—I have the confidence that I don’t lose many matches like that anymore.”

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Focus Myanmar TV Programme

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(4-8-12 09:30 am ~ 5-8-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Welcome to Naga Land
* News
* Exquisite Silver Jewellery
* News
* Youth & Career
* News
* Kanbawzathardi Golden Palace

**MYANMAR TV**

(4-8-2012)(Saturday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
   - Uppatasanti Paritta
2:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
7:40 am
3. Dhamma Puja Song
7:50 am
4. Nice & Sweet Song
8:15 am
5. Poem Garden
11:00 am
6. Martial Song
11:10 am
7. Musical Programme
11:25 am
8. Game For Children
9:30 am
9. Round Up Of The Week’s TV Local News
1:40 pm
10. Dance of National Races
4:20 pm
11. Cultural Dances
5:30 pm
12. Solo Favourites
5:50 pm
13. Beautiful “ASEAN”
6:35 pm
14. Celebrity and Dinner
8:00 pm
15. News
16. Cartoon Series
17. TV Drama Series
19. Ghidagadha Pwintbaohn

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**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

**Weather forecast for 4th August, 2012**

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**Agricultural technology shared to farmers in Pwintbyu**

Pwintbyu, 4 Aug—At Agricultural Institute in Pwintbyu, Township Administrator U Thein Oo Swe made a speech at the educative talks on 17 August morning.

Principal Daw Yi Yi Hay explained cultivation of Pahtet hybrid paddy through good agriculture patterns, caution for use of pesticides and breeding of goat and sheep.

After that, the officials presented documentary photos and pamphlets to breeders.—Myauna Amin

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**Boxing: Singh soldiers on assoring criticism continues**

LONDON, 3 Aug — The poster boy of Indian boxing, Vijender Singh, came through a close battle with American Terrell Gausha on Thursday to make the last eight of the middleweights as the grumbles about officiating at the London Games continued.

The powerful 26-year-old edged a close contest, which could have gone either way, 16-15 with his stiff left jab probably catching the eye of the judges more than the speed of Gausha. Roared on by a partisan crowd at the Excel arena, Vijender admitted to feeling the pressure of carrying the hopes of billion people back home.

“I stayed calm and I fought very close and I won the fight,” said the policeman, who fought in front of former heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield.

Internet

Holyfield: “All India watching.

They love me and I love them and long may they support me,” added the Indian, whose left cheek was marked from the bout.

Gausha said he was proud of his display in defeat, the American’s seventh consecutive loss this week after opening with four wins.

The 24-year-old then replicated his fast footwork in the ring by trying to dance around questions about whether he thought the result was fair.

“I knew it was a close fight, I wasn’t sure which way it was going to go, I was just hoping I got the nod but unfortunately I didn’t,” he said. “I didn’t feel bad as I knew I had given everything I could and the world was watching.

“Not to take away from my opponent, he did good, but I left I was edging him a little bit.”

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**Beach volleyball—British women to women eliminated**

LONDON, 3 Aug — British women’s beach volleyball players Shauna Mullin and Zara Dampney lost a sudden death play-off on Thursday that ended their Olympic tournament, while teams from Brazil and the United States maintained 100 percent records.

Eastern European sisters Doris and Stefanie Schwaiger beat the British duo 2-0 (21-15, 21-12) to end the host’s participation in beach volleyball, held at Horse Guards Parade, a spectacular venue a stone’s throw from London landmark Big Ben.

“We’ll look back at this and really enjoy it — but we’re just a bit dazed and confused now it’s over,” Mullin said.

“We won a match here in our first Olympics — but what we’ve really achieved here maybe won’t be evident until we’re able to sit back and look at it.”

Britain’s men were eliminated on Wednesday. Beach volleyball is not played by many people in rainy Britain. Dampney and Mullin both started out in indoor volleyball and used to play against each other when Dampney was in the England team while Mullin played for Scotland.

The pair have received attention from the British tabloid press, not least because they sport mini British flags on the back of their bikini bottoms and have painted their nails in elaborate patterns of patriotic blue, white and red.

The Olympics is hopefully a springboard for better things for beach volleyball in this country, we need to start a petition to get a grand slam event here,” Dampney said.

Teams from Brazil and the United States maintained 100 percent records on Thursday as they cruised through to the knock-out phase.

Men’s favourites

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**R/489** Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information
**Publication of bills under debate at Hluttaws prior to enactment contributes to listening of public opinion: UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar**

Mr. Tomas Ojea Quintana at the Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Hall No. 1 in Hluttaw Complex here this morning. Speaking on the occasion, Committee Chairman U Htay Oo said that he had to receive the guests together with chairpersons of committees concerned and commission members on behalf of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker as he was on a tight schedule. He said Mr. Quintana would know that Hluttaws were actively taking part in democratization process in the form of legislation since he had often been to Myanmar. He added that Mr. Quintana would understand the overall situation in Rakhine State as he had visited there in company with diplomatic corps. Pyithu Hluttaw representatives’ team led by PyithuHluttaw Speaker Tha U Shwe Mann went to Rakhine State to comfort the sufferers.

Mr. Quintana expressed his thanks to Myanmar authorities for the arrangement of observation visit to Rakhine State. He said he learnt that Hluttaws were playing an important role in Myanmar with much enthusiasm. Publication of bills under debate at the Hluttaws to the people prior to enactment is a sine qua non, contributing to collection of public opinions wide and far. It had transparency enabling people use their rights.

Mr. Quintana put questions about functions of the committee and cooperation with Myanmar Human Rights Commission. Chairman U Htay Oo replied that the committee specifically handled petitions on human rights violation cases. It was learnt that the Human Rights Commission was also taking care of such issues on its own. The committee was also establishing relations with human rights committees from international parliaments.

Mr. Quintana then enquired about five detainees at Buthidaung Prison and Chairman U Htay Oo replied that they were detained because they broke the existing laws. They had legal rights to defend at courts. Authorities concerned took action under the law and they would be urged to do so.

Chairman U Htay Oo elaborated on functions of the National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee and concentrated efforts for restoration of national unity.

Also present at the call were Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myet Oo, Chairman of Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe, Chairman of Bill Committee U T Kwin Myat, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and personnel of Hluttaw Office.

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**High tide warning at Bago River**

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr. M.S.T. observation today, the water level of Bago River at Bago is 881 cm. It may reach its danger level 910 cm during next 24 hours commencing this noon, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

**Lower pressure area on Northwest Bay of Bengal**

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Aug—According to the observations at 5.30 pm M.S.T today, a low pressure area has formed over Northwest Bay of Bengal.

Under the influence of low pressure area, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States with regionally heavy fall in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions and Kayin State. Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 m/h, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

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**Slight earthquake hits 280 miles northwest of Myitkyina**

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Aug—A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 80 miles northwest of Myitkyina), about 280 miles north of Mandalay was recorded at 1 hr 35 min 50 sec M.S.T. today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

**Flood bulletin for Thanlwin River**

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T. observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an 881 cm has exceeded by 131 cm (about 4.3 feet) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 750 cm during next three days, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

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**London 2012 Olympics medal tally**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
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