Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar
**President Office**
Notification No. 58/2012
15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)

**Investigation Commission formed**

1. There occurred unrests and killings in Rakhine State in May and June 2012, which undermined peace and stability and rule of law. The **Investigation Commission** comprising the following persons is formed so as to expose the real cause of the incident and to give suggestions for national interest.

(a) Dr Myo Myint Chairman
Director-General (Retd)
Ministry of Religious Affairs

(b) Rev. U Kyaw Nyunt member
Judson Church, Yangon

(c) Rev. U Saw Mar Gae Gyi member
Secretary
Myanmar Baptist Convention

(d) U Thein Tun member
Entrepreneur

(e) U Soe (a) Muang Tun Tha Writer

(f) U Thura (a) U Zagan member
Artist

(g) U Khin Tun member
Chairman
Shan Nationalities League for Democracy

(h) Daw Than Than Nu member
Democratic Party (Myanmar)

(i) U Khin Maung Swe Chairman
National Democratic Force

(j) Dr Aye Maung Chairman
Rakhine Nationalities Democratic Party

(k) U Aye Tha Aung Chairman
Rakhine League for Democracy

(l) U Ko Ko Gyi member
88 Generation Students Group

(m) Dr Daw Yin Yin Nwe member
UNICEF Senior Officer (Retd)

(n) Dr Salai Mu Kyone Lyan member
International Law Expert

(o) U Tin Aung Moe member
Environmentalist

(p) U Aung Naing Oe member
Executive Committee member
Vahu Development Institute

(q) Daw Wah Wah Tun member
Chairperson
Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association

(r) Daw Ja Nan member
Executive Director
Nyein Foundation

(s) U Tun Aung Aung Member
Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
(See page 8)

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**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
**President Office**
(Orde No. 18/2012)
15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)

**Appointment of Chief Justice of Ayeyawady Region High Court**

According to Section 308, Subsection (b), paragraph (iv) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 82, Subsection (b) of the Union Government Law and the Section 50 of the Union Judicial Law, Ayeyawady Region High Court Judge U Than Tun, with the approval of the Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw, was appointed as Chief Justice of the Ayeyawady Region High Court.

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
**President Office**
(Orde No. 19/2012)
15th Waning of Second Waso, 1374 ME
(17th August, 2012)

**Appointment of Judge of Ayeyawady Region High Court**

According to Section 308, Subsection (b), paragraph (iv) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 82, Subsection (d) of the Union Government Law and the Section 50 of the Union Judicial Law, U Win Myint, with the approval the Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw, was appointed as Judge of the Ayeyawady Region High Court.

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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Flood warning for Thanlwin, Shwegyin, Sittoung Rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an 782 cm has exceeded by 32 cm (about one foot) above its danger level. It may decline its danger level 750 cm during the next 48 hours.

The water level of Shwegyin River at Shwegyin 718 cm has exceeded by 18 cm (about 0.6 foot) above its danger level. It may decline its danger level 700 cm during the next 24 hours.

The water level of Ngawun River at Ngahtaingyoing 1176 cm has exceeded by 46 cm (about 1.5 feet) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1130 cm during the next three days, announced by the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA
Accomplishments and challenges of ASEAN

One of ASEAN’s noble goals is the promotion of regional peace and security, and 45-year-old association’s Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia is now achieving the support of the global countries that love peace as an international norm for inter-state relations. The treaty has even won the respect of major world powers including permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

At the 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali, Indonesia, ASEAN Leaders adopted the Bali Concord III “ASEAN Community, in the global Community of Nations” assigning all member states the task of endeavoring towards full realization of the Concord. So, we, the member states of the association are duty bound to create a more dynamic regional organization while maintaining the centrality of ASEAN.

In fact, the adoption of the ASEAN charter was followed by the association’s transformation into a rule-based inter-governmental organization with legal personality. Currently, all the member states are in the process of integrating themselves into the “ASEAN Community” by 2015 in accordance with the concept of “One Vision, One Identity and One Community”.

As a result of its central role in the emerging regional architecture, the ASEAN profile has been enhanced in regional and international affairs. Besides, the association is also consistently striving to achieve outward looking ASEAN, and the ASEAN Vision calls for the successful establishment of a peaceful, stable, prosperous and harmonious ASEAN Community.

Although we have achieved many accomplishments, there still remain future challenges for us. In this regard, we the peoples of ASEAN including the citizens of Myanmar should do our utmost in the ASEAN integration efforts aimed at narrowing the development gap among ASEAN member countries, and the implementation of Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, as identified by the ASEAN Leaders in the Phnom Penh Declaration and the Phnom Penh Agenda at the 20th ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

First meeting of APSC Committee held

In preparation for the 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship by Myanmar in 2014, the first meeting of the ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee (APSC Committee) was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 15 August. The meeting was chaired by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, U Wunna Maung Lwin and attended by Deputy Ministers from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Science and Technology, Deputy Attorney-General of the Union, Deputy Auditor-General of the Union, Member of the Union Civil Services Board, Director-General of the Union Government Office, Leader of the President’s Advisory Group, Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Human Rights Commission, Directors-General from relevant ministries and responsible officials.

The meeting discussed on the effective coordination among the Ministries relating to ASEAN political and security matters in preparation for ASEAN Chairmanship by Myanmar in 2014 and to enhance and expedite the preparatory efforts undertaken by various Ministries for the 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship. The subject on the formation of ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee and ten thematic working committees to support the APSC Committee was also discussed during the meeting.

Japanese delegation meets UMFCCI President

A 12-member delegation led by Chairman Mr A Hachiyas of West Japan-Myanmar International Friendship Association called on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, Vice-Presidents U Zaw Min Win and Dr Maung Maung Lay and General Secretary Dr Myo Thet at the office of UMFCCI in Lanmadaw Township on 4 August.

The discussions focused on promotion of friendly ties between the two countries, investment in Thilawa Special Economic Zone and export of Myanmar fruits to Japan.

Myanmar chess team leaves for Thailand

The delegation seen off at Yangon International Airport by President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lay and executives.

The Myanmar chess team comprises executive of MCF U Hla Tun, Director of the Myanmar Chess Federation Maung Lwin and executives.

The Myanmar chess team is in Istanbul to participate in the World Chess Olympics in Istanbul, which is due to take place from 27 August to 10 September.

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**Singapore says disturbed by double standards of US human rights report**

**SINGAPORE, 17 Aug—** Singapore’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) on Thursday slammed the US State Department’s “Human Rights Practices 2011,” saying that the report “again includes the same gross inaccuracies and misrepresentations of the Singapore government’s policies.”

“We are disturbed by the double standards applied to the US’ criticism of our Internal Security Act (ISA),” the ministry said in a statement.

The Internal Security Act, which has been in place in Singapore over the past decades, is meant to address threats to national security, including threats to public order, communal and religious harmony, and subversive and terrorist activities, it said, hitting back on the criticism contained in the report.

The US report alleged that Singapore used the controversial Internal Security Act, which allows preventive detention without trial under certain circumstances, against “alleged terrorists” in recent years. It also cited caging as a punishment for some crimes in Singapore as one of the “problems.” Singapore said it failed to understand how the United States reconciles its criticism of the act with the continued existence of US detention facilities at Guantanamo.

“By contrast to the Guantanamo detention facilities, which exist outside the framework of US law, the ISA provides a proper legal framework, and prescribes rules, for preventive detention,” the statement said.

Singapore also reacted angrily to the annual US human rights report last year, which it said contained the same misrepresentations and inaccuracies year after year.

“This seems to suggest that the US Department of State is really not interested in the facts and it does not want the facts to come in the way of the conclusions it wishes to reach, pursuant to its own ideology. This approach undermines the objectivity of the report,” the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

“Singapore does not claim that our system is perfect, or that our system would necessarily work in other countries. Our government is held accountable to the public through democratic elections and the rule of law,” it said.—Xinhua

**Bloody day of blasts in Iraq kills more than 70**

**BAGHDAD, 17 Aug—** A series of bombings and shootings killed more than 70 people across Iraq on Thursday in a bloody day of attacks underscoring the country’s struggle with a stubborn insurgency more than half a year after the US military withdrew.

In the worst of the blasts that erupted in the morning and ended in the evening, at least 23 people were killed when a car bomb exploded outside a cafe in Baghdad’s Zafiriya district as Iraqis took to the streets to end daily military withdrawals.

In the hour or so before the Zafiriya blast, another bomb tore into a busy intersection outside a popular ice cream store in the mainly Shi’ite district of Sadr City, killing 16 and wounding 40 more, police and hospital officials said.

“I was sitting in the cafe when I felt a huge spark like electricity in my eyes, and a huge explosion. After that I woke up in hospital with injuries to my arms and shrapnel in my back,” said pamphid saad, 25, a college student.

No group claimed responsibility for Thursday’s bombings and shootings, but a local al-Qaeda affiliate and other Sunni Islamist groups have carried out hundreds of attacks since the last American troops left in December. Al-Qaeda’s local wing, the Islamic State of Iraq, says it has begun a new offensive against mainly Shi’ite targets, and security experts say it has benefited from cash and morale thanks to the inflow of fighters into neighbouring Syria.

Security had been tightened in Baghdad ahead of the end of Ramadan next week, a period when attacks usually increase and the last American troops left in December. Al-Qaeda’s local wing, the Islamic State of Iraq, says it has begun a new offensive against mainly Shi’ite targets, and security experts say it has benefited from cash and morale thanks to the inflow of fighters into neighbouring Syria.

**Iceland says no bomb found on Russian plane after search**

**ICELAND, 17 Aug, 2012.—** An Aeroflot jet is pictured on the runway of Keflavik airport, Iceland, on 16 August, 2012.—Reuters

Icelandic police said on Thursday there was no bomb on a Russian jet carrying more than 250 people from New York to Moscow that made an emergency landing at Keflavik airport after an anonymous caller told authorities there were explosives on board.

After a lengthy evacuation operation, police in Reykjavik searched the Aeroflot plane, that had already been airborne when the call was received.

“Everything has been searched and nothing has been found,” said a police spokesperson.

A spokesperson for the Icelandic airport said 253 people were on board the flight from John F. Kennedy airport.

A duty officer at Moscow’s Sheremetyevo airport, the aircraft’s destination, identified it as Aeroflot Flight 103.—Reuters

**Seven US troops among 11 dead in Afghan helicopter crash**

**KABUL, 17 Aug—** Eleven people were killed on Thursday in a Black Hawk helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan, including seven US soldiers and three Afghan allies, the NATO-led force in the country said.

The cause of the crash, which Afghan authorities said was in the Shah Wali Kot District of the southern province of Kandahar, was under investigation, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a statement.

“The crash resulted in the deaths of four International Security Assistance Force service members, three United States Afghanistan service members, three members of the Afghan National Security Forces, and one Afghan civilian interpreter,” ISAF said.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for shooting down the helicopter, although the insurgents often exaggerate their victories and are quick to claim responsibility for any incident involving the death of foreign troops.

The area where the helicopter went down is an insurgent hotbed and supply route, lying north of Kandahar city near Zabl and Ururazgan provinces.

A spokesman for NATO said all the foreign troops on board the helicopter were American, adding to a grim week in the country which included multiple suicide bombings which killed 63 civilians in one day, most of them shoppers in markets.

The Taliban shot down a CH-47 Chinook transport helicopter in August 2011, killing all 38 people on board, including 25 US special operations soldiers.

**South Africa police say fired in self-defence; 34 killed**

**MARIKANA, 17 Aug—** South African police were forced to open fire to protect themselves from charging armed protesters at the Marikana mine, 34 of the protesters were killed, Police Commissioner Riah Phiyega said on Friday.

She told a news conference that 78 people were injured and 259 arrested in Thursday’s violence.

“The police members had to employ force to protect themselves from the charging group,” Phiyega said.—Reuters

**Road accidents kill 16,000 annually in Mexico**

**XINHUA**

**MEXICO CITY, 17 Aug—** At least 16,000 people are killed each year in Mexico by traffic accidents, with total property damage up to 11.538 billion US dollars, said Health Minister Salomon Chertoroviskiy.

Addressing the laun-ching ceremony of the “Driving safety” campaign on Thursday, Chertoroviskiy said traffic accidents are the leading death cause in the country, especially among the youngsters. He also said at least 1 million people are injured in traffic accidents every year, and among whom 40,000 left with permanent disabilities.

He added 90 percent of the accidents could be easily prevented, and recom-mended several preventions to the drivers and the pedestrians such as using the seat belt and walking on the sidewalks.
that are set to launch early next year, the company said on Thursday.

RIM has seen its once-dominant position in the smartphone market slip away to rivals including Apple Inc. and Samsung — and the company’s fate depends on the success of the BB10 devices. “Blackberry has always had this heritage of productivity. We are just going to make it better again, when we launch BB10,” said TA McCann, who is spearheading the development of the contacts and BlackBerry Messenger applications for the new platform.

The new smartphones will replace RIM’s current line-up of aging devices will run on the BlackBerry 10 operating system that is currently in development. McCann said the built-in contacts app on BB10 will aggregate all contact information, status updates and meetings for a contact in one place.

Solar flares can send high energy particles streaming towards Earth. [Image]

Big retailers team up on mobile payments plan

New York, 17 Aug — A group of big retailers that includes Wal-Mart, the world’s largest retailer, Target Corp and Japan’s 7-11, is developing a mobile payment model, adding to the proliferation of options that let consumers pay with smartphones. The system, known as Merchant Customer Exchange, is a retailer-led initiative that would match similar services from Google Inc, which began operating its own system last year on its Android devices. The group of retailers, which accounts for about $1 trillion in annual sales, wants to make sure it has a say in the development of standards for mobile payments, Terry Scully, Target’s president of financial and retail services, said on Wednesday.

“What we are looking for is a broad, seamless experience across all retail categories,” Scully said. Mobile payments are expected to double in volume nearly four-fold to more than $1.3 trillion annually by 2017, airport from Juniper Research said on Wednesday. The group is in discussions with financial institutions, technology companies, and telecommunications providers to set up a backbone for the payment system, Scully said, but he could not forecast when the system would be in stores. “While sales to market is important, retailers are focused on offering merchants a simple, easy-to-use platform,” said Rick Oglesby, a payment expert at consulting firm Aite Group. If these merchants can agree on a common standard for mobile payments, the venture could grow very quickly, he added. “This creates a big opportunity,” Oglesby said.

A system designed by merchants for merchants “might be the key to a leap up over the competition.” The Merchant Customer Exchange is working on offering merchants such as retailers, gas stations and restaurants a way to integrate mobile payments with virtually any smartphone. The swift rise of mobile payment processing tools in recent years has led some observers to forecast a future in which wallets are left at home. That could transform retailing, but also create security issues, particularly if mobile devices are lost or stolen. About a decade after they were dreamed up by engineers and marketers, mobile wallets are still far from commonplace in the United States, stymied by high industry inflating, consumer tastes and regulatory hurdles. That has not stopped RIM from trying. The company’s devices are being used by banks, phone makers and technology companies — and pushing the argument that a universal system is required. In a statement. “All our data showed we had created the right conditions for mobile payments and we were very hopeful it will meet our test objectives.” The pessimism is a little unfortunate that a problem with this subsystem caused a failure. “We really are focused on doing this right,” Scully said. The new devices would be in stores. “While we really are focused on doing this right,” Scully said. The new devices would be in stores. “While we really are focused on doing this right,” Scully said. The new devices would be in stores.

RIM plans new contact management features on BB10 devices

Toronto, 17 Aug — Research in Motion plans to provide BlackBerry users with an easy way to tap their contacts’ public profiles — including blog posts, tweets, emails and other details — in the latest push to regain ground in the smartphone market. The new contact management feature, which pulls in contact details from social media and other Internet sources into a single Blackberry page, will be available on RIM’s next generation of smartphones that are set to launch early next year, the company said on Thursday.

RIM has seen its once-dominant position in the smartphone market slip away to rivals including Apple Inc. and Samsung — and the company’s fate depends on the success of the BB10 devices. “Blackberry has always had this heritage of productivity. We are just going to make it better again, when we launch BB10,” said TA McCann, who is spearheading the development of the contacts and BlackBerry Messenger applications for the new platform.

The new smartphones that will replace RIM’s current line-up of aging devices will run on the BlackBerry 10 operating system that is currently in development. McCann said the built-in contacts app on BB10 will aggregate all contact information, status updates and meetings for a contact in one place.

System could warn of solar storms

Solar flares can send high energy particles streaming towards Earth. [Image]

“System could warn of solar storms designed to strengthen this initial observation. “It’s the first time the same type of damage from solar storms could occur. The unannounced aircraft had been designed to fly at six times the speed of sound after being dropped from a B-52 jet in 2004. TheUnited States Air Force Research Laboratory at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, said in a statement.

“All our data showed we had created the right conditions for mobile payments and we were very hopeful it will meet our test objectives.” The pessimism is a little unfortunate that a problem with this subsystem caused a failure. “We really are focused on doing this right,” Scully said. The new devices would be in stores. “While we really are focused on doing this right,” Scully said. The new devices would be in stores.

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**Dark chocolate ‘may lower blood pressure’**

London, 17 Aug — There may be good news for people looking for an easy way to cut the risk of cardiovascular disease. A systolic blood pressure under 120mmHg (millimetres of mercury) is considered normal. Cocoa consumption resulted in a 2-3mmHg reduction in blood pressure. However, the length of the trials was only two weeks so the longer term effects are unknown. The study also found that individuals with blood group A and AB had more of a reduction in blood pressure, the small reduction they saw over the short term might complement other treatment options and might contribute to reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease.

**Blood group ‘linked to heart disease’**

London, 17 Aug — European stocks and the euro were lower on Thursday after the German growth engine China warned in its trade outlook was worsening and stronger US data disappointed expectations of additional stimulus from the Federal Reserve. The FTSE100’s 300 index of top important shares was down 1.7 percent at 7,455 GMT, with indexes in London, Frankfurt and Paris all in negative territory. Asian shares were flat after initial gains. With the dollar strengthening against most major currencies following a strong US industry output report on Wednesday, the euro was down 0.15 percent against the greenback as Europe got into its stride, extending the single currency’s nine-day decline. “A growing market expectations on Fed easing has been reflected in higher US yields, but has yet to affect market volatility, which remains at low levels... The lack of news in the euro area belies tensions there, as key European decisions lie ahead.” Barclays Capital analysts wrote in a note.

Europe’s stock markets began to rally two weeks ago when ECB President Mario Draghi said the central bank was “ready to do whatever it takes to preserve the euro,” raising hopes of bold steps to help lower the borrowing costs of Spain and Italy. That rising appetite for risk has pulled down German government bond prices, which hit a new seven-week low following a further sell-off in US Treasuries. The euro zone will publish final July inflation numbers later in the day. They are expected to show price rises running at an unchanging 2.4 percent. Other data on the watch list for investors includes UK retail spending figures for July. Over the coming few weeks, investors will be watching the Jackson Hole meeting of central bankers at the end of the month, US jobs data due early in September and the ECB’s policy meeting early next month for clues over crisis actions.— Reuters

**Shares, euro edge lower as markets wait for stimulus clues**

Tokyo, 17 Aug — Shares in Japan’s electronics group Sharp have slumped to their lowest level in nearly 37 years amid fears losses will balloon this year. Shares fell 12.4% to 169 yen ($1.36) after Deutsche Securities downgraded the firm’s stock to “sell” from “hold” and predicted a full-year operating loss of 150bn yen. Meanwhile, Goldman Sachs predicted an operating loss of 150bn yen. Both figures are bigger than Sharp’s own prediction of a 100bn yen loss. Sharp has already lost about $1.5bn ($956m) in market value since it released its first quarter figures for July. Analysts have cited worries over weak demand for liquid crystal display televisions, its main product, as the company continues to lose ground to rivals such as Samsung. Sharp is also under pressure from its creditors Mizuho Financial and Mitsubishi UFJ to restructure its business further in order to receive new loans. The company recently announced it would cut 5,000 jobs to reduce costs. Sharp is also in talks with Taiwanese electronics group Hon Hai Precision Industries to renegotiate a planned tie-up. But whether the company will be able to shore up investor confidence remains to be seen. Interest by short-sellers is growing, according to data provider Markit, which could trigger another sell-off. Short-selling is a technique used by investors who think the price of an asset, such as shares, will fall. They borrow the asset from another investor and then sell it in the relevant market. The aim is to buy back the asset at a lower price and return it to its owner, making a profit along the way.— Reuters

**J&J to remove harmful chemicals from adult products by 2015**

New York, 17 Aug — Johnson & Johnson announced plans to eliminate several harmful chemicals like formaldehyde from its line of consumer products meant for adults by the end of 2015, the New York Times reported on Wednesday. The move comes after the company said in November it was phasing out formaldehyde-releasing preservatives from its baby products. The diversified healthcare company is extending the program to include well-known drugstore brands like Neutrogena, Avene and Clean & Clear, the paper said. “We’ve reviewed our entire line of personal care products and have committed to no longer using any of these chemicals,” said Kenneth Cook, president of the Environmental Working Group, one of the organizations that has been negotiating with company officials to change their practices, the paper said. J&J previously said it was reducing the use of formaldehyde-releasing preservatives from its baby products since 2009. The consumer for Safety Cosmetics first raised concerns with the company about its baby shampoo. Formaldehyde is considered to be a possible trigger for some cancers and skin allergies. “These are household chemicals,” said Nettie Beaton, vice president for product stewardship and toxicology for the company’s consumer health brands, said the project was a major undertaking and would require extensive spending on research and development to find alternative preservatives. The cost of the project was not revealed by the company, the paper said. J&J officials could not be reached by Reuters for comment.

**Mizuno Financial and Mitsubishi UFJ to restructure its business further in order to receive new loans.** The company recently announced it would cut 5,000 jobs to reduce costs. Sharp is also in talks with Taiwanese electronics group Hon Hai Precision Industries to renegotiate a planned tie-up. But whether the company will be able to shore up investor confidence remains to be seen. Interest by short-sellers is growing, according to data provider Markit, which could trigger another sell-off. Short-selling is a technique used by investors who think the price of an asset, such as shares, will fall. They borrow the asset from another investor and then sell it in the relevant market. The aim is to buy back the asset at a lower price and return it to its owner, making a profit along the way.— Reuters

**Sharp has lost ground to rivals such as South Korea’s Samsung.** —Inserat

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Deaths from landslides up to 10 times worse than thought

LONDON, 17 Aug—The death toll from landslides is 10 times higher than generally estimated, with most fatalities occurring in Asia, China and Latin America, according to a British study published on Thursday.

In the seven years between 2004 and 2010, 2,620 fatal landslides occurred around the world, causing 32,322 deaths, researchers at Durham University, northeastern England said, adding that the figure was conservative.

Fatalities occur most during the northern hemisphere’s summer, especially during the Asian monsoon, and among the densely populated slums built on deforested slopes, they said.

Hotspots in Asia include the southern edge of the Himalayas, Sri Lanka, the Chinese coastlines and the mountains around the Sichuan basin in central China, Chinese Taipei and the Philippines, the island of Java in Indonesia. In the western hemisphere, deadly landslides occur most in Haiti and highlands from Mexico through Colombia to Chile, where denuded slopes are vulnerable to storms.

“Landslides are a global hazard requiring a major change in perception and policy,” said author David Petley, a professor of geography at the university’s International Landslide Centre. The database, published in the US journal Geology, should be a useful guide for policymakers, he said. “There are things that we can do to manage and mitigate landslide risks such as controlling land use, proactive forest management and guiding development away from vulnerable areas.”

The study defined landslides as movements of rock and soil incurring loss of life, for which an earthquake was not responsible.

Britain stops export of key Picasso painting

LONDON, 17 Aug—Britain has placed a temporary export ban on a key Picasso painting which had been on loan to a public gallery since 1976 before its aristocratic owners decided to put it up for sale.

“Child with a Dove” was painted in 1906 and marked the beginning of the Spanish artist’s “blue period.” It has been valued at 50 million pounds. Culture Minister Ed Vaizey said on Friday he was preventing the work from leaving the country until 16 December, and “it’s serious” attempts to meet the asking price have been made.

The British government decided to step in after an international art dealer, who bought it through private sale arrangements that involve dust and harmful gases.

In this photo taken on 3 June, 2011, a Thai Custom officer shows an Indian gharial, a type of crocodile native of India, with its mouth tied off the illegally trafficked wildlife they have seized over the past two years. But Thai and foreign law enforcement officers tell another story: Officials working-hand-in-hand with traffickers ensure that other shipments through Suvarnabhumi International Airport are whisked off before they even reach customs inspection.

Natural gas well burst kills one, injures three in Colorado

DENVER, 17 Aug—A high-pressure burst of natural gas at a well operated by Canadian energy giant Encana Corporation in Colorado killed one man and injured three other workers on Wednesday, the company and local authorities said.

The accident at the well in Platteville, Colorado, and local authorities said, apparently resulted in Platteville, Colorado, and local authorities said. The third injured victim was a company employee. Their names were not immediately disclosed. The committee decided that the painting, which was made by a private buyer or its aristocratic owners decided to put it up for sale.

The precise cause of the Ten thousand lives.—

As a boy is seen making a purchase at a flooded convenience store in Manila on 15 August, Tropical Storm Kai-tak blew out of the Philippines on Thursday, offering relief for millions of people struggling to recover from a brutal few weeks of monsoon rains that claimed 109 lives.—INTERNET

TB screening should be included in physical exams: draft regulation

BEIJING, 17 Aug—Screening for tuberculosis (TB) should be included in physical examinations for students, as well as people working in certain industries, according to a draft regulation issued by the Ministry of Health on Wednesday.

A draft amendment to the TB Prevention and Control Regulation was published on Wednesday by the ministry for public comment. Last week, a previous edition of the regulation was published by the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, or China’s cabinet.

According to the draft, infected TB patients must be prevented from engaging in activity that could cause the virus to spread, while TB screening should be included in physical examinations for staff working in sectors related to TB prevention and treatment, food, drugs and cosmetics, as well as for teachers, newly-enrolled students, dairy workers and those whose work causes them to come into contact with dust and harmful gases.

Although the current regulation has been in use for more than 20 years, the country still faces problems and challenges related to the spread of respiratory illnesses.

The draft says health departments should protect patients’ privacy and refrain from leaking their personal information and related materials. Medical or disease prevention and control facilities that hide, delay or give false information regarding TB epidemics or intentionally leak the private information of TB patients, suspected patients and close contacts should receive a warning.—Xinhua.
Multiplier librarian course commences in Kamayut Township

YANGON, 17 Aug.—Jointly organized by Kamayut Township General Administration Department of Yangon West District and Township Information and Public Relations Department, the multiplier librarian course No. 1/2012 was opened at the hall of the township GAD on 7 August morning.

Deputy Commissioner of District General Administration Department U Kyaw Thu Zaw made a speech. Assistant Director U Myint Swe of Region IPRD explained the purpose of training course and durability of library.

At the training course, heads of Township IPRDs gave lectures on library courses to the trainees. It was attended by 30 trainees. Myanma Alin

School health week activities launched

YANGON, 17 Aug.—As part of activities to mark the School Health Week 2012-2013 academic year, the educative talks, cookery contest and serving refreshment was held at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Bahar Township on 8 August.

Dr Daw Khin Saw Yi gave talks on teenage health. Next, she evaluated meals from the cookery contest and presented prizes to the winners.

Yangon Region School Health Medical Officer Dr Daw Khin Saw Yi, Chief Officer for Children’s Health Daw Mya Lay, the Township Education Officer, the headmistress, students and farmers attended the ceremony. Myanma Alin

Agricultural loans, inputs provided to farmers in Einnme

EINME, 17 Aug.—Einnme Ayeya Paddy Trading Co Ltd provided K 250 million for cultivation of monsoon paddies and inputs for 8333.33 acres of 24 village-tracts to farmers in Einnme Township of Myanmaung District in Ayeyawady Region on 25 July.

The ceremony was held at Shweyinnyin Hall of General Administration Department in Einnme Township. On the occasion, Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Tin Soe made a speech. Present on the occasion were Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Hla Hkang, Region Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Ko Ko, Kayin Regional Race Minister U Mahn Than Shwe and region level departmental level officials, managing Director U Tin Oo of Einnme Ayeya Paddy Trading Co Ltd and members of the BOD, district and township level officials, entrepreneurs, merchants and farmers. Myanma Alin

Preservation of fish resources educated to local fishermen, entrepreneurs

MONYO, 17 Aug.—With the aim of ensuring prevention against fish depletion and sustainable production of fish, an educative talk on preservation of fish resources was held at the residence of fisherman U Tin Win in Mayingine Village of Mindu Village-tract in Monoyo Township, Bago Region, on 6 August.

The talk was jointly organized by Fisheries Department of Monoyo Township and Minhla Township Fisheries Department.

It was attended by fishermen, lake entrepreneurs, fish pond entrepreneurs from Monoyo and Minhla along Myitmakha River.

Head of Monoyo Township Fisheries Department Daw Than Than Nu and Head of Minhla Township Fisheries Department U Zaw Myint Naing gave enlightening talk against depletion of fish resources and sustainable production of fish.

Later, pamphlets were distributed the attendees. They then erected the poster depicting don’ts for battery shock for fishing on Monyo-Tahan Road at Yayhmway Village Bridge.

Myanma Alin

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued to students in Mindat

MINDAT, 17 Aug.—According to Moe Pwint-3 Plan, Head of Mindat Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Aung Tin Shwe and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to students at Basic Education High School No. 1 and No. 2 in Mindat on 25 July.

The issuance of cards was supervised by Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Aung Maung of District General Administration Department. Assistant Director U Khin Maung Yin of District Immigration and National Registration Department, Township Administrator U Ngwe Doe, district and township level officials.

The officials presented citizenship scrutiny cards to 250 students. Myanma Alin

STIPEND PROVIDEED: A ceremony to present cash assistance provided by Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Committee for 2012-2013 academic year was held at office of Latha Township War Veterans Organization on 5 August. An official presents cash assistance to a student.—Myanma Alin

Thrusting of Paithwe hybrid paddy demonstrated

KYAUKTAW, 17 Aug.—An agricultural educative talk was held in Daungtawyo Village-tract in Kyauktaw Township of Rakhine State on 30 July.

Head of Sittway District Agriculture Department U Khin Zaw Win discussed the methods to boost per-acre yield of paddy.

Head of Township Agriculture Department U Sein Tun Mra lectured on matters related to 14-point good agricultural pattern.

Later, the attendees viewed thrusting of Paithwe paddy plantation of farmer U Aung Thein.—Myanma Alin

Stimulant tablets seized in Lashio

HSIPAW, 17 Aug.—Members of Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad in Shan State (North) together with messages search Kway Yon (a) Win Ko, 30, son of U Hla Aye, of Room-7 of Building 20 of Nawade Village in Hlinethaya Township of Yangon Region, who was in the bus 2D... that will leave Lashio for Yangon, in the Manhshu Highway Bus Terminal in Ward 8 of Lashio at 11.30 am on 5 August. The authorities seized 2795 stimulant tablets in 14 plastic bags hidden in the handbag worth K 5.6 million and one CDMA telephone.

According to further investigation, the authorized Ma Shauk Lu, 40, daughter of U Li Hsaing, who was stimulant tablet seller, of Nyaunggan Village in Kunglon Township. A file of lawsuit was opened at Lashio Police Station No. 1 under Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Myanma Alin

Crime News

Narcotic drugs seized in PyinOoLwin

PyinOoLwin, 17 Aug.—The members of PyinOoLwin Special Anti-Drug Squad led by IP Tun Tun Oo, according to the information that narcotic drugs are being sent to Sittway from Muse, waited at Wettwin Village of PyinOoLwin Township on 1 August.

At 8.45 pm, the authorities stopped the MKL with number plate RC... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thegon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thegon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung Ko Lat, 37, son of U Myint Thein of Thon Village of Meiktila Township. They searched it and seized nine parcels of 19100 WY brand (4C... driven by Aung K...
Action would be taken against...

Action would be taken against...

The Investigation Commission is to investigate the following matters so as to expose the incident and present suggestions along with reviews.

(1) The Investigation Commission has the rights to probe into the incident in accord with Code of Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act as well as to summon the witnesses, see documents and have access to the necessary places. The investigation report is to be submitted directly to the President by 16 November, 2012.

President Office
Notification No. 58/2012
(from page 1)

(t) Haji U Nyunt Maung Shein
Member
Islamic Religious Affairs Council Headquarters

(u) Haji U Tin Maung Than
Member
Islamic Religious Affairs Council Headquarters

(v) Haji U Hla Win
Member
President
Myanmar Muslims National League (MaAbPha Headquarters)

(w) U Kyaw Khin
Member
General Secretary
Myanmar Muslims National League (MaAbPha Headquarters)

(x) U Myint Tun
Member
President
Myanmar Muslims Youth’s Religious Organization (MaMaLa headquarters)

(y) Hla Win
Member
President
Myanmar Muslims Youth’s Religious Organization (MaMaLa headquarters)

S/InThein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Dr Aung Thun of Shwebo Constituency makes discussion.—MNA

In addition, according to the section 54 of the Money Lenders Act (1945) states that one who runs money lending business without permit and registration can be charged. And he or she would have to face fines or to serve three months jail term or both.

The investigation report is to be submitted directly to the President by 16 November, 2012.

By order,
Win Ko
Secretary
Union Election Commission
Emphasis placed on regional...

(from page 16)

The deputy minister replied that of 1992, Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library of the Ministry of Culture has been conducting field trip studies on a wider scale in Bichierho, Hantin Sikestra and Sagaing regions where Pyu culture flourished. After that, the research areas widen to the related areas.

This year, field trips will be made to Magway Region, Sagaing Region and Chin State and related areas. In 2013- 2014 fiscal year, a plan is being drawn for conducting field survey on Pyu evidences in Patami and Mindat townships in Chin State and Salin and Sedoktara townships in Magway Region.

U Saw Maw Tun of Bago Region Constituency No. 1 asked whether there is a plan to keep Hsinbyumyarshin Sedoktara townships in Magway Region. Out of them, 5786 cases have been brought to the region and state high courts. Out of them, 8653 have been accepted 40362 civil cases, have been settled 26355 cases so far. The township-level courts have accepted 3108 cases, have settled 323667 cases, have been settled 323667 cases, the remaining 3108 cases are still being heard at the courts. Meanwhile, 7880 cases are still being heard at the region and state high courts. Out of them, 11464 cases have been brought to the district-level courts, 11464 cases have been settled so far and the remaining 3108 cases are being at the courts during the same period. The township-level courts have accepted 40362 civil cases, have settled 26355 cases so far and is still hearing the remaining 14007 while have accepted 347156 civil cases, have settled 323667 cases so far and the remaining 23489 cases are being heard at the courts.

The Chief Justice of the Union urged the participants of the meeting to finish the remaining cases correctly and speedily in accordance with the law.

The meeting was participated by chief judges from the Supreme Court of the Union, region and state high courts; the director-general, deputy director-general and directors from the Supreme Court of the Union and legal officers from regions and states.

During the meeting, chief judges from region and state high courts discussed the matters on judiciary affairs and functions of the courts region and state-wise and the meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the Chief Justice of the Union.

King Bayintnaung as Kanbawzathadi Palace in Bago and build small scale of the royal palace buildings. The deputy minister replied that the Ministry of Culture inserted some ancient places including Kanbawzathadi Palace as the historical parks into the its reform policy and sought the approval from the President Office. The department is going on the tasks in line with the its procedures. Therefore, the statues and small scales of the buildings for Kanbawzathadi Palace will be displayed in line with the historical evidences while upgrading Kanbawzathadi Palace as historical park.

U Than Swe of Taninthayi Region Constituency No. 2 asked whether there is plan to build the National Museum in Dawei of Taninthay and whether there is a plan to maintain Taungthaman Bridge and tombs of the ancient historical persons around Taungthaman area. The deputy minister replied that the ministry received the prescription norms, and these tombs are not on the priority. That is why the Ministry of Culture does not maintain these tombs. However, relatives and their generations or other organizations wishing to maintain these tombs may coordinate with the local authorities.

Secretary of Amyotha Hluttaw Business Committee replies to questions.

Non-formal primary education launched in Mawgwn

Mawlamyineyung, 17 Aug—The non-formal primary education was launched at Maha Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Mawlamyineyung Township for 2012-2013 academic year.

At the ceremony, Acting Township Administrator U Zaw Myint and Assistant Director (Rtd) of No 1 Basic Education Department Daw Nyunt Nyunt Yi made speeches.

Acting Township Education Officer U San Myint explained matters related to non-formal primary education.

The Acting Township Administrator presented prize to Assistant Township Education Officer Uo Kyaw for his performance in best capability of non-formal education in 2011-2012 academic year.

Officials also presented prizes to six outstanding trainees.

Next, 27 wellwishers donated over K 1 million non-formal primary education, the region government and 27 wellwishers donated exercise books and stationery worth over K 1 million for basic education high, middle and primary schools.

Low pressure area on Northwest Bay of Bengal

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 Aug—According to the observations at 5.30 hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over Northwest Bay of Bengal, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

AEROBICS CONTEST HELD: Yangon West District WAO Chairperson’s Cup Inter-Township Aerobics Contest, organized by Yangon West District Sports and Physical Education Committee, was held at the town hall in Ahtin Township of Yangon West District on 11 August. Yangon Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Than Myint speaking at the opening ceremony of the contest.
Teak saplings watered in Yesagyo Township

Department of Pakokku District in Magway Region, Staff Officer U Tin Kyaw of Pakokku Township Forest Department and in-charge of Yesagyo Township Forest Department Senior Forester U Myint Aye and staff grow 500 teak saplings along the communication road to Yesagyo-Pakokku Road near Hsanthi Village. Although there is no shower in Yesagyo Township, the forest staff pour water at the saplings for their thriving. — Kyemon

Ticket prices hikes in waterway

Mandalay-Bhamo route sets Mandalay-Katha route. and first class K 6950 on Mandalay-NyaungU route and first class reached K 2380 Ministry of Transport as of 1 branches of Inland Water Delta and Chindwin passengers of Ayeyawady, charges were changed for 19th Myanmar Traditional Competitions of Labutta Performing Arts Competitions wraps up in Labutta

Performing Arts Competitions was held at Yway Nadi Hall in Labutta on 1 August morning. On the occasion, Township Administrator U Bo Bo Min Thaik formally opened the competition and made a speech. It was also attended by Deputy Commissioner U Kan Win of District General Administration Department, district and township level departmental personnel, social organization members, town elders and panel of judges. After the competitions, the township administrator and officials awarded the winners. — Myanma Alin

Dyna bus hits tuk-tuk without control

Tatkon to Pyinmana hit... driven by Aung Min Win between mile posts 173-4 and 273-5 on Yangon-Mandalay highway near Kyattheing Village due to without break control and the tuk-tuk caused upside down. In the incident, passengers of tuk-tuk Daw Ni, Daw Mya Mya, Daw San Lwin, Ma Aye Htint, Ma Ma Htint and passengers were rushed to Tatkon Township Hospital (100-bed). — Kyemon

Modulating canal to Meiktila Lake dredged

Meiktila, 17 Aug— Meiktila Lake had been dredged in successive kings in their monarchial periods. The irrigation facilities of the lake were constructed in 1982. In 1997, a drain from Mondaing Dam to Meiktila Lake was dug with a view to providing necessary irrigation water and minimizing loss of water. In 2006, Lwinkhin Dam, Lekkhokpython Dam and Nyaungkon Dam were constructed for supplying water to Meiktila Lake through four modulating canals. At present, four modulating canals were silted without adequate width. Thus, proper flow of water cannot be seen in the canals. — Kyemon

Talks on nourishment week given in Taikkyi Township

Taikkyi, 17 Aug— An educative talk to mark the Nourishment Week was held at the administrative office in Okponsu Ward of Taikkyi Township of Yangon North District on 9 August. Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Nu Nu Wai made a speech. Head of Township Health Department Dr Kyaw Zin Pyone gave talks on nourishment weeks. The chairperson of Township MCWA gave ferrous sulphate, iodized salt and nutritious foods to expectant mothers and Vitamin-A to children under five. — Myanma Alin

Yesagyo, 17 Aug—Yesagyo Township grows monsoon paddy

Yesagyo, 17 Aug—Yesagyo Township plans to put 35127 acres of farmlands under monsoon paddy in 2012-2013. So far, the township has grown 2413 acres of monsoon paddy against the target with the use of irrigation water and rain water. With the aim of enabling the local farmers to cultivate paddy in time at the flood areas, Township Administrator U Khin Tun and members of Township Agricultural Development Committee made field trips to the grassroots level and met local farmers in the respective cultivation zone for providing necessary assistance. — Myanma Alin

Crime News

Pyyissena, 17 Aug— A Dyna passenger bus hit a tuk-tuk on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Tatkon Township due to out of control. At 4:30 pm on 1 August, the Toyota Dyna of Paunglaung bus with number plate Ba/…. driven by Nay Lin Aung from Tatkon to Pyinmana hit... driven by Aung Min Win between mile posts 173-4 and 273-5 on Yangon-Mandalay highway near Kyattheing Village due to without break control and the tuk-tuk caused upside down. In the incident, passengers of tuk-tuk Daw Ni, Daw Mya Mya, Daw San Lwin, Ma Aye Htint, Ma Ma Htint and passengers were rushed to Tatkon Township Hospital (100-bed). — Kyemon

Administered’s Cup Football Tournament kicks off

Nav Pyi Taw, 17 Aug— The Zeyathiri Township Administrator’s Cup Monsoon Football Tournament 2012 commenced at the football ground of Yein Universities’ Campus, here, on 9 August. Altogether 16 football teams are taking part in the tournament. At the opening ceremony, Township Administrator U Myat Thein Tun made a speech. In the debut, Sibyinji Village-tract played against Kyitaung Village-tract. — Kyemon

Yesagyo, 17 Aug—Under the supervision of Assistant Director U Maung Maung Kyaw of Forest

Yesagyo, 17 Aug—Under the supervision of Assistant Director U Maung Maung Kyaw of Forest
South African gov’t calls for more investment in transport sector

Cape Town, 17 Aug—South African Transport Minister on Thursday said Pretoria is calling for more investors in the transport infrastructure development to drive the country towards being a fully developed economy.

Calling for investors at a Breakfast Meeting held in Cape Town, Ben Martins said the South African government has increased its investment in transport sector but the magnitude of the investment in transport sector said the South African Cape Town, Ben Martins Breakfast Meeting held in being a fully developed infrastructure development at the Peace Palace.

South African Prime Minister Ke Kim Yan, chairman of the National Authority for Combating Drugs. Both sides pledged to intensify cooperation to fight across border drug trafficking and all forms of drug offensives.

Also, he paid courtesy calls on Cambodia’s President of National Assembly Heng Samrin and the first Vice-President of the Senate Say Chhum. -Xinhua

Phuc made a 3-day visit to Cambodia in order to deepen the bilateral ties in trade and private investors.

It is common cause that no economy can thrive without a developed road, rail, maritime and aviation infrastructure networks.

In line with this strategic vision, we have taken a decision to invest in necessary and critical infrastructure to create a larger economic growth of the country and neighbouring states.

South Africa is Africa’s economic power house and its infrastructure development is pillar to the continent’s economic growth, especially the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

“Just as it is common cause that no economy can thrive without a developed road, rail, maritime and aviation infrastructure networks, so too it is common cause that no country can thrive without a well-developed transport sector,” said Martins.

Early this year President Barack Obama, in his state of the nation address outlined the need for transport sector although still under invested in many Africa countries it remains as backbone to economic growth of the country and neighbouring states.

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Drought hits 11 provinces in Cambodia: spokesman

PHNOM PENH, 17 Aug—Drought has been hitting 11 out of the 24 cities and provinces in Cambodia and affecting tens of thousands of hectares of rice seedlings, Keo Vy, spokesman and chief of the Cabinet of the National Committee for Disaster Management, said on Thursday.

Generally, rainy season begins in May and lasts until October. But this year, there is a lack of rain in some provinces, he told Xinhua over telephone.

As a result, to date, the drought has damaged 4,811 hectares of rice seedlings and affected 101,365 hectares of rice seedings. The drought-hit prevention from Kampot, Speu, Takeo, Svay Rieng, Kandal, Prey Veng, Kampot, Battambang, Pursat, Hun Sen, Meanchey, Uddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear.

“If it persists for a longer period, there will be more damage,” he said.

Prime Minister Hun Sen appealed on Wednesday to all levels of authorities to help rescue farmers’ rice seedlings through pumping water to irrigate those affected.

“The weather is hard to predict. It was predicted that three storms would impact Cambodia in past weeks, but they had diverted to upper part... flooding the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and some areas in Japan, ‘he told a graduation ceremony at the Build Bright University.

The prime minister added that Cambodia’s rainy season this year could prolong until early December. Cambodia is an agrarian country. More than 90 percent of the population are farmers. The country produced some 8.25 million tons of paddy rice last year, according to a report of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Brazil to invest $66 billion in roads, railways

BRASILIA, 17 Aug—Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff announced a nearly $66 billion investment package on Wednesday to beef up the nation’s ailing road and rail systems, part of efforts to solve serious transportation bottlenecks and spur a sputtering economy.

The investment includes laying 10,000 kilometers (6,200 miles) of train tracks and building or widening 7,500 kilometers (4,660 miles) of federal highways. Rousseff said the government would soon announce other packages aimed at airports, ports and transportation on waterways, other areas where serious deficiencies are seen as hobbling the South American giant’s growth.

“We’re starting an initial stage from which Brazil will emerge richer and stronger,” Rousseff said at a ceremony announcing the package, which comes as Brazil gears up to step into the world spotlight as the host of the 2014 soccer World Cup as well as the 2016 Olympics. “Brazil will finally have an infrastructure that’s compatible with its size.”

Brazil’s economy has performed well during the last decade, but that strong growth dropped off last year and the government forecasts growth this year at 2.5 percent. Private economists surveyed weekly by the Central Bank now expect growth around 1.8 percent this. Despite that, the nation has yet to widely feel the brunt of the crises that have hit Europe and the US since 2008 — Brazil’s unemployment remains at record lows.

But experts say that transportation bottlenecks must be solved to assure long-term growth. The hurdles have long made it difficult to move big nations when it comes to infrastructure, with a recent global competitiveness report from the World Economic Forum ranking the country No. 104 out of 142 on the issue.

“Brazil still suffers from weaknesses that hinder its capacity to fulfill its tremendous competitive potential,” the report stated, adding that the “lagging quality of its overall infrastructure” is an area of “increasing concern.”

Bahrain’s Gulf Air to resume flights to Iraq

Shiraz and Isfahan in Iran will begin progressively between 20 September and 28 October 2012 subject to final approval by the civil aviation authorities of the respective countries,” it said.

A Saudi-led Gulf force entered Bahrain in mid-March 2011, freeing up Bahraini security forces to carry out a bloody crackdown on protesters. Arrests of dissidents continued after the crackdown, activists and rights groups said.

Iran condemned the crackdown on protesters, and reportedly sent a letter calling for intervention from the United Nations Security Council “to stop the killing of the people of Bahrain.”

Iraq’s Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki warned in 2011 that the “intervention” in Bahrain by its Sunni neighbors “risked a sectarian war in the region, while powerful Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr reportedly urged Bahraini to continue to demonstrate earlier this year.

Internet

A man picks up plastic bottles from a new recycle bin at Kitsilano Beach in Vancouver, Canada, on 14 Aug. 2012. Vancouver city launches new beverage recycle programme by placing new unlock recycle bins for the rugpickers to collect the containers to get some profit and help achieve Vancouver’s goal to become the greenest city in the world by 2020.

Internet

Bahrain’s national carrier Gulf Air will resume flights to Iraq and on 20 September after a hiatus of 17 months, the tiny Gulf kingdom’s official BNA news agency said on Wednesday. — Internet

Bahrain’s national carrier Gulf Air will resume flights to Iraq and on 20 September after a hiatus of 17 months, the tiny Gulf kingdom’s official BNA news agency said on Wednesday. — Internet

Xinhua

Internet

Barlings pick up white gourds in the field in Lianhuang Village of Huangtang County, central China’s Hainan Province, on 16 Aug. 2012. Farmers here are expected to harvest 7,000 kilogrammes of white gourd per mu (about 6,067 hectares) with total production value of over 28 million yuan (4.4 million US dollars) this year. Xinhua
Chinese man spends eight years building himself bionic hands after DIY accident

A man who lost both hands when a homemade bomb exploded has finally created a new pair of arms after eight years of planning.

Sun Jifa could not afford the hospital’s prosthetic limbs after the explosion for blast fishing deterred prematurely, but desperately needed the use of his hands to work on the family farm.

That’s when the 51-year-old from Guannan, Jin province, northern China, decided to create his own bionic hands.

“I survived but I had no hands and I couldn’t afford to buy the false hands the hospital wanted me to have — so decided to make my own,” he explained.

Sun spent eight years making prototypes before finally creating a pair of metal hands which can grip and hold thanks to a series of wires and pulleys inside the shell.

“I control them with movements from my elbows and can work, love normally with anyone else,” explained the real life Tin Man.

“The only drawback is that steel is quite heavy so they’re tiring to wear and get hot or cold in the extremes of summer and winter,” added Sun. Now he plans to develop the design for other similarly disabled people.

“I made this from scrap metal for virtually nothing. There is no need to pay for hospitals a fortune,” he said.

Cybernetic hands

Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science shows Pablo Picasso’s “Seated Woman with Red Hat” (‘Femme assise au chapeau rouge”).

The Evansville Museum plans to sell the layered, fired glass piece that it has kept in storage nearly 50 years and only recently discovered was genuine, because it is too expensive to keep. It is not known how much it is worth. —Internet

Carey, No Doubt to perform before 1st NFL game

NEW YORK, 17 Aug— Mariah Carey and No Doubt are superstar acts, but they’ll be the openers for the NFL’s first game of the season.

Carey and No Doubt are set to perform live from Rockefeller Plaza before the New York Giants-Dallas Cowboys game at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey.

The hourlong pregame show will air at 7:30 pm EDT on NBC. Carey says she’s thrilled to be performing in New York—which called her hometown—and adds

Indian museum discovers Picasso glass piece

EVANSVILLE, 17 Aug— An Indiana museum plans to sell a work of glass art by Pablo Picasso that sat unnoticed in storage for nearly 50 years.

The Evansville Museum says the piece titled “Seated Woman with Red Hat” was donated to the museum in 1963.

Museum officials say it was cataloged as art inspired by a design for a Picasso painting but credited to an artist named Gemmaux.

That name turned out to be plural for “Gemmal,” which is the type of glass used in the work.

President Steven Krohn told the Evansville Courier & Press that trustees decided to have New York auction house Guernsey’s sell the piece because of the costs to display, secure, preserve and insure it.

Krohn says it’s not yet known how much the piece is worth.—Internet

Driver files complaint against actor Depardieu

PARIS, 17 Aug—French actor Gerard Depardieu is facing a legal complaint for assault and battery after getting into an altercation with a car driver in Paris, an official at the prosecutor’s office said on Thursday.

Depardieu is one of France’s best known actors internationally with more than 100 films under his belt, including the “Asterix” series, but has increasingly made headlines for the wrong reasons.

“There was a confrontation and the driver filed a complaint,” the official said, adding that the incident had taken place on Wednesday in central Paris.

A police source said Depardieu’s scooter and the car collided, triggering the altercation.

The actor allegedly drove the 63-year-old had hitherto.

The actor’s agent was not immediately available for comment.

Depardieu last year outraged fellow passengers by urinating in the aisle of an Air France flight as it prepared to take off, forcing the plane to turn back to its departure point.

A passenger on the flight said Depardieu, the star of movies such as “Jean de Florette” and “Green Card”, appeared to be drunk and insisted he be allowed to use the bathroom during takeoff, when passengers must remain seated.


Robert Downey Jr. involved on "Iron Man 3" set

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug— "Iron Man" star Robert Downey Jr. injured an ankle on the set of the third film in the superhero franchise, causing delays in production, Marvel Studios said on Thursday.

Downey, 47, who plays billionaire playboy-turned-superhero Tony Stark in the “Iron Man” and “Avengers” movies, hurt his ankle while performing a stunt during filming of “Iron Man 3” in Wilmington, North Carolina, Marvel Studios said in a statement. “There will be a short delay in the production schedule while he recovers,” Marvel added.

The actor became an unexpected action hero in 2008 when the first “Iron Man” film made $585 million at the domestic box office, followed by “Iron Man 2” two years later, which took $623 million globally.

"Iron Man 3," due in theaters next year, will reunite Downey with Gwyneth Paltrow, Don Cheadle and Jon Favreau, but Kingsley will play villain Mandarin.

Downey will also reprise his superhero suit for “The Avengers 2,” which Marvel announced on Thursday will be released on 1 May, 2015.

“The Avengers” scored $620 million at the US box office in 2012, and has grossed $1.5 billion at the global box office. Marvel Studios is a unit of Walt Disney Co.—Reuters

“Operation Frozen Dumbo” gets elephant Tonga pregnant

Schoenbrunn zoo director Dagmar Schoenbrunn displays an ultrasonic image of an elephant foetus during a news conference in Vienna, on 14 Aug, 2012.

Scientists have succeeded for the first time in impregnating a frozen elephant sperm, ultrasound pictures presented by Austria’s Schoenbrunn Zoo showed on Tuesday.

The scan shows a 10.6-centimetre-long (4.2 inch) five-month-old elephant foetus with its trunk, tail, eyes and ears clearly discernible.

The foetus, which was scanned in April, is likely now 20cm long, the zoo said, and is due to be born in 26 years old African, female elephant Tonga in around August 2013 after a pregnancy of about 630 days.

Elephants have been impregnated with fresh or frozen sperm in the past in an effort to protect endangered species, but frozen sperm can be difficult to use and allows the female elephant to be inseminated at her most fertile time.

The sperm was taken from a sedated wild elephant during a castration in the project known internally as “Operation Frozen Dumbo”, a zoo spokesperson said.

It took eight months to clear customs on its way to Vienna and took a lack of an established procedure for such wares.

The project was a joint effort of Schoenbrunn Zoo, Berlin’s Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, France’s Beauveau Zoo and Pittsburgh Zoo in the United States.

Both African and Asian species of elephant are endangered, especially the Asian, mainly due to poaching for meat and ivory tusks and destruction of their habitats.

Around 2,000 elephants live in zoos and a further 15,000 Asian elephants are estimated to be kept privately, employed in the timber industry or living in temples.

“Since the survival of elephants in their natural habitat is under threat, zoos around the world are striving to preserve them,” said Schoenbrunn Zoo Director Dagmar Schoenbrunn.

The zoo has also undertaken with the semen of a wild bull elephant a chance to enrich the species’ breeding stock ‘another species conservation,’ she said, adding that there were five female elephants living in zoos to every one male.

In this photo released by Disney, Samuel L. Jackson portrays Nick Fury in a scene from Marvel’s “The Avengers.”

Avengers sequels planned for 2014

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug— “The Avengers” are returning for a superhero sequel three years from now.

Disney and its Marvel Studios unit announced on Thursday that the follow-up to this year’s biggest hit will arrive in theaters on 1 May, 2015.

The studio announced last week that Joss Whedon will be back to write and direct the as-yet-untitled sequel. Released in May, “The Avengers” gathered such Marvel comic-book heroes as Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Captain America (Chris Evans), the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) and Thor (Chris Hemsworth). The film has taken in nearly $1.5 billion worldwide.—Internet

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Robert Downey Jr. arrives at the screening of the film “Marvel’s The Avengers” for the closing night of the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival in New York on 28 April, 2012. (REUTERS)
The former Fulham, Manchester United and Everton striker makes move to the North East

London, 17 Aug — Sunderland have strengthened their squad in an area we recognize needs strengthening and I’m delighted we have been able to complete a deal ahead of our first match of the season.”

Saha first arrived in the Barclays Premier League when he spent a spell on loan at Newcastle United in 1999. The striker left Metz to return to England the following year when he signed for Fulham, where he scored goals in 101 League matches during three-and-a-half seasons at Craven Cottage.

His goal-scoring prompted Manchester United to come calling in January 2004 and Saha helped Sir Alex Ferguson’s side claim back-to-back Barclays Premier League titles in 2006/07 and 2007/08 as well as the 2006 League Cup and the UEFA Champions League.

Saha, who has scored four goals in 20 appearances for France, joined Everton the following season and spent another three-and-half seasons at Goodison Park.

The Frenchman’s most memorable contribution at Everton came when he produced the fastest goal in an FA Cup final, scoring after just 25 seconds, in the club’s 2-1 defeat by Chelsea.

Saha scored three goals in ten League appearances for Sunderland after joining from Everton on a free transfer in January this year.

Sunderland will have the striker available for the trip to Arsenal in their opening match of the new campaign this Saturday.

Saha scored three goals in five League appearances for Tottenham last season.”

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Saturday, 18 August, 2012

London, 17 Aug — Swansea City manager Alan Pardew op the website exactly what I am looking at in technical ability, which is experience of top-flight football,” Sunderland manager Martin O’Neill told

LONDON, 17 Aug — Top Spanish midfielder Javier Garrido from Lazio on a season-long loan on Thursday. Garrido failed to make an impact in his previous spell in England with Manchester City and has also struggled to hold down a regular place at Italian outfit Lazio.

First, Canada. But Chris Hughton believes the 27-year-old will shine at Norwich, who have an option to keep him beyond this season. “I’m absolutely delighted to be bringing in somebody of Javi’s quality,” Hughton told Norwich’s website. “It gives us real competition in the squad and for an important factor was the fact that he has played in the Premier League before.”

He has played in La Liga, Serie A, and the Premier League, but the former Real Sociedad defender has yet to make an appearance for Lazio this season. Hughton added: “No I think it’s very difficult.”

He is ruled out a move for Stade Rennes midfielder Yann M’Vila although Spurs had considered the France international. “He’s an interesting player but I don’t think he’ll join Tottenham,” said the Portuguese. “He’s a good defensive (midfield) player. For a possible solution for Luka Modric looking for more creative player. We had initial interest in the player but they have moved on from that.”

British media reported Spurs were close to agreeing a deal of just over 30 million pounds ($47.23 million) to sell Croatia midfielder Modric to Madrid and Villas-Boas said he expected the clubs to finalise the transfer before the window closes. — Reuters

The Hague, 17 Aug — Louis Saha scored three goals in five League appearances for Sunderland last season.”

INTERNET

Flawless Pettersson grabs one-shot lead at Wyndham

KIAWAH ISLAND, 17 Aug — Sweden’s Carl Pettersson, riding momentum from his good form at the PGA Championship, fired a flawless eight-under 64 in the final event before the FedEx Cup playoffs begin next week.

Defending champion Webb Simpson, who captured his first PGA title here last year, was among a group of 12 golfers sitting four shots off the pace. Clark and Pettersson both played college golf for nearby North Carolina State and used their local knowledge to full effect at Sedgefield.

Pettersson, the 2008 Ken Venturi award winner, fired a flawless round on Friday.

Pettersson of Sweden watches his tee shot on the opening match of the new Davis Cup semi-final between Spain and the United States next month, the tennis ace’s coach and uncle said on Thursday.

The Spaniard withdrew on Wednesday from the US Open, the final Grand Slam of the season, which starts in New York on 27 August, because of his continuing battle with tendinitis.

“The big right decision. This pause will further prolong his career and, possibly, he will have no more problems in the future,” Toni Nadal told Spanish radio, adding the goal is to work for a “full recovery”.

Nadal, the world number three, won a record seventh French Open title in June but hurtched out in the second round at Wimbledon in a shock upset against Czech Lukas Rosol.

Shortly after the 26-year-old pulled out of the London Olympics because of the long-standing problem with his knees and subsequently withdrew from ATP Tour events in Toronto and Cincinnati.

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Weather forecast for 18th August, 2012

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Insein General Hospital (300-bed) gets new ward for the aged

Yangon, 17 Aug — A ceremony to open the aged out-patient ward was held at Insein Township General Hospital (300-bed) on 14 August morning. Head of Yangon Region Health Department Dr Aye Ko Ko, Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Hsan and Professor (Medical Education) Dr Myint Han formally opened the new patient ward.

Next, the head of Yangon Region Health Department explained the purpose of construction for the aged ward. "Chairman of the construction committee Township Administrator U Tin Naing Soe handed over documents related to the building to the medical superintendent of the hospital."

Brazil’s Thiago Silva delighted with Sweden win

Paris, 17 Aug — Paris Saint-Germain defender Thiago Silva was left encouraged by the way the PSG ace praised the impact of players like Daniel Alves, who went on to win 3-0, against Sweden, believing they provided the team with a boost.

It was one that really hurt the group, it caused a shadow over our morale. But now, I believe, we have a fresh start.”

The PSG ace praised the impact of players like Daniel Alves, Dede and Paulinho, all of whom did not take part in London but did against Sweden, believing they provided the team with a boost.

Andy Murray, from England, complains about a shot during a match against Jeremy Chardy, from France, at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, on 16 Aug, 2012. — Internet

Andy Murray, from England, complains about a shot during a match against Jeremy Chardy, from France, at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, on 16 Aug, 2012. — Internet

Buenos Aires, 17 Aug — The Italian-born son of Diego Maradona is set to follow in the footsteps of his father by playing club football in Argentina. Diego Armando Sinagra Maradona, also known as Diego Junior, will sign for fourth-tier club El Porvenir, from the town of Gerli near the capital Buenos Aires, according to coach Luis Ventura.

Ventura, who is also a journalist, revealed the news on Twitter, saying: “I have in my hand the passport of Diego Armando Maradona and the permit to transfer his Italian registration... the future of Diego Junior is in Gerliiiii. ‘Playing down comparisons with his legendary father, Diego Junior told the Argentine sports daily Ole: ‘I love Argentine football and to play there is something I’ve wished to do.‘If I were like my father I would be playing for the best teams in the world. I feel like I am a good player and I hope I can demonstrate that in Argentina.” — Internet

Maradona Junior set to join Argentine club

Argentina Football great Diego Maradona’s son Diego Armando Sinagra Maradona, also known as Diego Junior, will sign for fourth-tier club El Porvenir, from the town of Gerli near the capital Buenos Aires, according to coach Luis Ventura. — Internet

Mason, 17 Aug — Serena and Venus Williams moved into the quarterfinals of the Western & Southern Open by handling the afternoon heat, humidity and with the conditions too much for Andy Murray. Murray’s off-day turned into the biggest upset of the tournament, a straight-sets loss Thursday that left him with hardly any hard-court time heading into the US Open.

Murray lost 6-4, 6-4 to France’s Jeremy Chardy, an opponent he’d beaten easily four previous times they’d played. Murray had trouble controlling his shots on a breezy, 85-degree afternoon. “I was a little bit uncomfortable with those balls bouncing extremely high,” said Murray, who left the court as soon as the match ended and headed directly to the interview room. “It was fairly hard to control.”

Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Mardy Fish and Juan Martin del Potro also reached the quarterfinals on Thursday. On the women’s side, Serena Williams won her 19th straight match — her last 12 in straight sets — by beating Urszula Radwanska of Poland 6-4, 6-3. Williams hasn’t lost a set since the Wimbledon final, which she won. She returned to Wimbledon and won the gold medal in singles and in doubles with sister Venus. The travel and the hot conditions have worn her down.

Federer beat Bernard Tomic 6-2, 6-4 on Thursday and has looked sharp in his two hard-court matches. Federer skipped the Rogers Cup last week. Djokovic was on the court for only 30 minutes in the evening.

NLM-ner Joke

Sales Help

“I’d like to buy some gloves for my wife,” the young man said, eyeing the attractive salesgirl. “But I don’t know her size.”

“Will this help?” she asked sweetly, placing her hand in his.

“Yes, why,” he answered. “Her hands are just slightly smaller that yours.”

“Well will there be anything else?” the salesgirl queried as she wrapped the gloves.

“Now that you mention it,” he replied, “she also needs some lingerie.”
**Supreme Court of the Union, region/state high courts hold coordination meeting**

A third coordination meeting of the Supreme Court of the Union and region/state high courts was held at the meeting hall of the Supreme Court building here at 9 am today.

In his address at the meeting, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo stressed the importance of judicial professional skills, honesty and moral courage of judges in judging complicated cases to become the fair trials as the judiciary system has to become the fair trials as the judicial pillar and to fight the corruption at courts.

He also urged the judges and employees at courts to love the truth and to have moral courage to be able to support the impartiality of the judiciary pillar and to fight the corruption at courts.

From 30 March, 2011 to 30 June, 2012, the Supreme Court of the Union has accepted 2957 civil cases, judged 2481 cases so far and have still heard the remaining 299 cases. During the same period, 10310 civil cases have brought to the region and state high courts.

(See page 9)