Cooperative means working together with others towards common goal

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug—Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint met staff from the departments under the ministries and responsible persons from region cooperatives, breeding and fisheries firms at Cooperatives University (Sagaing) yesterday.

The union minister discussed matters on sector-wise development of firms.

In meeting with faculty members led by the principal of Cooperatives University (Sagaing), he fulfilled the requirements of the university and left necessary instructions.

The Cooperatives College (Sagaing) was upgraded to Cooperatives University (Sagaing) with the aim of turning out scholars who can lead cooperative societies said the union minister. He also called for forming cooperative society system, instead of working individually to promote development of Sagaing region.

A cooperative means working together with others towards a common goal. That’s why students are to try to become a good cooperative always sharpening their skills and trying their utmost to be equipped with a sense of cooperation with others, he noted.

Breeding of milch cows on a manageable contributes much to a booming business in Koneywa, Kyaukse, Aungthar others, he noted.

Breeding of milch cows can help produce a lot of milk which is of great benefit for health, he said. The union minister said that the milk processing plant will be built in the village in Sagaing Township, Sagaing Region in the near future and it will be able to produce high quality milk. The village would be a model village among ones in Sagaing Region sooner. Based on the situation, the village would become a milch zone and its products will be delivered to neighbouring villages. The disbursement of loans will help these villagers form multi-village cooperatives societies.

Koneywa, Kyaukse, Aungthar, Ywathit villages will surely become breeding model villages as well as cooperatives villages.—MNA

Myanmar Airways signs first MoU on Joint Operation for ground handling services

YANGON, 18 Aug—Myanmar Airways under the Ministry of Transport and UAE-based Dnata Co Ltd signed the first MoU on Joint Operation for ground handling service in Myanmar, at the Chatrium Hotel here yesterday.

It was attended by Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun, general manager and officials concerned, as well as Senior Vice-President Mr. Derek Swan and officials from Dnata Co Ltd and distinguished persons.

The Union Minister delivered a speech at the event. He said that Myanmar Airways had been established since 1948 and now it turned 64 years. The cooperation with Dnata Co would give them international experiences in the field. The airlines in neighbouring countries are achieving success in their works due to their bilateral cooperation.

The MoU proved energetic contributions to both countries. It will be a road map for further cooperation, he said.

Myanmar Airways would give them international experience. The cooperation with Dnata Co in progress. It will be a model for the country to have further cooperation with other countries. The MoU will open new horizon of cooperation, he said.

Verdant Tuyin hill, sublime Zedi and pleasant Lake

Workshop on Development of Communication and Information Technology held in Mandalay

National Level Seminar on Energy and Electric Sectors Development held

Fire brigade members make voluntary tasks in Yangon General Hospital

Van Persie signs for Manchester United

Robin van Persie (right) is looking forward to challenging for trophies with Manchester United.
PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 19 August, 2012

A significant landmark

We are gearing up with intensified efforts for the 27th Southeast Asian Games as the opening date of the regional sports events in 2013 is just about 15 months away from now. Sportsmen and sportswomen of our country are undergoing intensive training sessions under the instructions of their respective coaches with their conviction of doing best for the country. All the people of the country also have high hopes for our athletes having full confidence in them that they will bring honour to the nation at the Games we hold for the third time. We have already hosted the SEA Games for two times during which we won 35 gold and 57 gold respectively and took the first place in medal tally in both events.

So, we are optimist that this time again our boys and girls will bag a large number of medals improving the image of our motherland through fair and square wins. Anyhow, our sportspersons have true spirit that means winning is not matter most, but to do their best. And for the host country, standing high in the medal tally is not enough. Actually, hosting a regional, continental or international event is to show the visitors how efficient and skillful the host can handle such a large occasion.

The State has been assisting in whatever it can and the federations are also striving for whatever possible results. The training of sportsmen and sportswomen can be categorized into two parts, physical and mental trainings, both of which need considerable support. In addition to intensive training at home, international experience is instrumental. It is everyone’s aspiration to enjoy glorious days somehow. Self-determination, diligence and endurance are requirements for writing history. So the coming SEA Games will be our opportunity for achieving a significant landmark in our course of sports standard development.

Bago Region Chief Minister meets JICA personnel

NAV P'TAW, 18 Aug—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win on 16 August attended the opening of Bago Region Bureau of Special Investigation on Thameinwai Road in Okha Myothit of Bago.

Basic Spoken English and Basic Computer Course conclude

NAV P’TAW, 18 Aug—The concluding ceremony of Basic Spoken English and Basic Computer Course, jointly organized by Yangon Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization, was held at the ILBC in Tanwy Township, Yangon East District, this morning.

Present on the occasion were Patron of Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thet Htay, Yangon Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, the Chairperson of Region Women’s Affairs Organization and members, teachers and students of ILBC.

A total of 67 students took the training course that lasted 13 weeks.—MNA

National Level Seminar on Energy and Electric Sectors Development held

NAV P’TAW, 18 Aug—National Level Seminar on Energy and Electric Sectors Development was held at the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2 yesterday morning. Present on the occasion were Union Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Zaw Min, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Khin Maung Soe, electric and industrial ministers from region and state governments, region Hlutaw representatives, energy and electrical technicians, entrepreneurs from organizations and companies, heads of department and officials.

Making speech on the occasion, Union Minister U Than Htay said that the seminar is the second of its kind being held for development of energy and electric sectors, adding that his ministry is actively engaged in hydro power, wind power, solar energy, coal, natural gas and geothermal sectors. With this end in view, work is well underway to form the National Energy Management Committee. The energy consumption of the country is small when compared with that of other countries. The government is in the process of inviting private sectors to participate in energy and electric sectors.

Next, Union Minister U Zaw Min said that the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 is taking steps to implement projects capable of linking with national grid under the management of the relevant region and state governments. He added that in the process, officials from the ministry held meetings with the respective Hlutaw representatives, entrepreneurs and technicians and minutes of the meetings have already been sent to the ministry. The relevant region and state governments are to coordinate with companies desirous of making investments in the distribution of power by medium and small power plants that do not link with the national grid.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe spoke, saying that the government is making efforts for the promulgating of Rural Electrification Act for power supply in rural regions. He noted that the National Electricity Plan is to be drawn in line with the National Energy Policy for long-term and short-term power supply after forming the National Energy Management Committee. For power generation, various kinds of energy resources are to be managed in a systematic manner. Only then, will supply and demand be struck. The minister stressed the importance of those present on the occasion to hold a cordial discussion with the constructive suggestions in the interest of the State and people.

After that, electric and industrial ministers from region and state governments, private companies, entrepreneurs and energy and electric technicians took part in the discussions.

In the afternoon, the Region Chief Minister delivered an address at the coordination meeting with Japan International Cooperation Agency at the hall of the Bago Region Government.

Also present on the occasion were Mr Htile Koneyama and party of JICA, Bago region ministers and departmental officials.
Firefighters hold back flames threatening towns in Idaho, California

SAN DIEGO, 18 Aug — Firefighters in Idaho’s Boise National Forest held the line on Friday against a week-old blaze closing in on a small mountain resort, while evacuation orders were lifted for two communities menaced by lightning-sparked flames in Southern California.

The so-called Trinity Ridge blaze blazed on the edge of the Rockies and a cluster of wildfires northeast of San Diego had posed two of the most immediate threats to populated areas among dozens of fires raging out of control in recent days across the sun-baked western United States.

No major injuries or loss of life have been reported in the region during the week. One U.S. Forest Service firefighter was killed on Sunday by a falling tree. The Idaho blaze has scorched more than 72,000 acres of sagebrush and timber east of Boise since it erupted seven days ago when a utility vehicle caught fire, destroying a rental cabin and six non-residential buildings in its path.

Authorities said earlier this week they feared the blaze would overtake the small town of Featherville, prompting some residents to flee on Wednesday night as flames crept to within four miles of the community. Shadows cast by a giant pall of smoke from the blaze cooled temperatures on the ground, helping firefighters slowly advance the flames and giving them more time to create defensible space in and around the town.

A contingent of more than 1,000 fire personnel focused much of their work on cutting additional fire breaks, clearing brush away from buildings and setting up sprinkler systems. They worked together in the nearby town of Pine.

Authorities estimated the two enclaves together were home to about 1,000 year-round residents and about 800 transient workers. Sun-shrunk and smoke-filled, the towns were facing a new threat from a fast-moving firestorm.

The blaze rapidly moved towards Pine after burning through at least 9,500 acres of sagebrush and aspen trees on Friday. A previous run of similar fire behavior was seen in 2010.

In another development, a two-alarm fire burning in downtown Boise was reported at 2 p.m. Friday. The cause of the fire is not known. It was not yet clear whether the blaze was connected to the large blaze 15 miles to the north.

Meanwhile, two firefighters were injured when a cloud of smoke caused them to lose their bearings. They were able to extricate themselves and were later released from the hospital.

Meanwhile, firefighters battling a blaze at Lava Canyon Road in Canyon County were airlifted from the area after becoming disoriented. The fire initially was reported at 44 acres, but was later reported at 68 acres.

Aircraft carrying Philippine interior secretary crashes

MANILA, 18 Aug — An aircraft carrying Philippine Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo crashed on Saturday afternoon in central Philippines, his aide said, but the secretary and two pilots were still missing, local media said.

A five-seat light plane carrying Interior and Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo crashed near the airport in Masbate, a city in Central Philippine Province of Masbate, according to the website of ABS-CBN, local TV station. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) confirmed that a statement, saying Mr. Robredo was on a plane from Cebu to Naga, whose pilots sent a distress call to Masbate airport at about 5 p.m., requesting for an emergency landing.

However, the plane did not come in to the airport and crashed in the nearby Masbate Bay, the statement added. The ABS-CBN said a later report that Robredo’s aide, identified as Jun Abrazado, has been rescued from the crash site, and pinpointed the location of the crash site. It is said that besides Robredo, there were three other people on the plane 2 pilots and Jun Abrazado. Masbate City Vice Governor Vincent Revi said in the report that search and rescue operations were ongoing, but he has yet to determine the status of Robredo and the other passengers.

NATO drone strike kills up to 50 militants in eastern Afghanistan: police

ASSADABAD, 18 Aug — About 50 militants were killed on Saturday afternoon when a NATO pilotless plane carried out an attack in Afghanistan’s eastern province of Kunar, the police said.

“The drone targeted four suspected vehicles in Shamilia area of Chapara Dara district at around 1 p.m. on Saturday, killing 50 militants, including 13 insurgents’ local commanders,” police chief of the district, Najibullah Khan, told Xinhua.

Khan said a Taleban shadowy police chief for the district named Hantiqullah and another Taleban leader named Turabi were among the killed.

The Taleban insurgency, which launched in May this year’s spring offensive against Afghan and NATO forces, has yet to make comments.

The Kunar province bordering Pakistan, has seen increasing militancy despite the continued military operations there.

Separately, a soldier with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) lost his life in an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan on Friday, the ISAF confirmed on Saturday.

Currently over 130 NATO-led ISAF troops have been serving in Afghanistan since the Taleban regime was toppled in late 2001.

In another development, militants killed the head of a prison district in the country’s southern province of Helmand on Saturday afternoon. “Head of Gereshek district’s prison, Ismail Khan, was killed when a sticky bomb attached to his vehicle went off near the prison compound at around 1 p.m. local time shortly after he got in his car,” police chief of the district, Guli Khan, told Xinhua.

Earlier, Saturday’s bomb explosion hit the vehicle of a local elder named Mohammad Ali, killing his driver and injuring four others including Ali in Nahrain district of northern Baghan province.

MNA/Xinhua

People gather near a damaged bus at the blast site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 17 August. At least three people were killed and 25 others were injured when a bomb hit a bus in Karachi on Friday afternoon, reported local Urdu TV channel DAWN.

MNA/Xinhua

Scores of houses damaged by strong quake in eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 18 Aug — A number of houses in Sigi district and Parigi Moutong district have been damaged, but we still do not know the exact figure yet,” Heli Setiawan, head of the Emergency Unit of the Disaster Management and Mitigation Agency in Central Sulawesi told Xinhua by phone from there.

Identification of the impact of the quake was underway, he said.

The quake struck at 16:41 pm Jakarta time (0941 GMT) with the epicenter at 27 km southwest Parigi Moutong of Central Sulawesi and with the depth of 10 km under land, an official of the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency told Xinhua.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 3 to 4 MMI (Modified Mercalli Intensity) in Palu town of Central Sulawesi, the official said.— MNA/Xinhua
Science & Technology

Scott’s wrecked ship Terra Nova found off Greenland

LONDON, 18 Aug — The wreck of the ship that carried Captain Robert Scott on his doomed expedition to the Antarctic a century ago has been discovered off Greenland. The SS Terra Nova was found by a team from a US research company, Scott and his party set off from Cardiff aboard the Terra Nova in 1910 with the aim of becoming the first expedition to reach the South Pole. The ship had a life after the polar trek, sinking off Greenland’s south coast in 1945. It had been on a journey to deliver supplies to base stations in the Arctic when it was damaged by ice. The Terra Nova’s crew was saved by the US Coast Guard cutter Southwind. On arriving at the geographical South Pole, Scott and his party discovered they had been beaten to it by a Norwegian team led by Roald Amundsen. The polar team led by Scott died during their journey from the pole; their bodies were found by a search party eight months later. Their endeavour became popularly known as the Terra Nova expedition.

A crew from the Schmidt Ocean Institute discovered the Terra Nova whilst testing out its sonar detection equipment aboard its flagship vessel — the R/V Falkor. One of the scientists noticed an unidentified feature during sonar mapping of the sea bed. Team members then noted that the 57m length of the feature matched the reported length of the Terra Nova. Technicians dropped a camera package called Shrimp to just above the presumed wreck to film it. Camera tows across the top of the target showed the remains of a wooden wreck lying on the seabed. Footage from the Shrimp also identified a funnel lying next to the ship. Taken together, the features of the wreck closely matched historical photos of the Terra Nova, leading to the identification. Brian Kelly, an education officer from the Discovery Point museum in Dundee, where the ship was built, told the Daily Record newspaper. “The Terra Nova has such a story.” She went through a lot in her lengthy history and really was the pinnacle of Scottish wooden shipbuilding. “It is incredible that one of the most famous ships in history has been found 100 years after the race for the pole and in the year commemorating the event.”

Canon recalls cameras over skin rash substance worry

LONDON, 18 Aug — Canon is recalling some of its digital cameras after it emerged a chemical reaction involving the device’s rubber grip could cause a skin rash. The EOS 650D range contains a substance which, when exposed to humidity, reacts to produce a substance known as “zinc bis”. Zinc bis turns the camera’s rubber grip white and in rare cases can cause irritation. Camera owners are being offered a free repair. Canon has warned people that contact with the affected cameras may cause an allergic reaction, such as a rash, on skin and a precautionary measure users should wash their hands to prevent spreading the reaction to their eyes. It is understood that 68,200 cameras suffered the manufacturing glitch, although when asked by the BBC Canon could not confirm this number. “Canon has identified a quality issue on a limited number of EOS 650D units, which causes the exterior rubber grip used on the camera body to turn white after a period of time,” the company said in a statement. “This issue does not affect image quality or camera performance in any way, however we are currently in the process of updating affected stock models before sale.” Any customers who may be affected are advised to visit Canon’s customer support site, where further instructions regarding their repair procedure are provided.

The company said the faulty batch in question contained a “higher than usual” level of a substance used to “vulcanize” the rubber grip, a process which makes it harder and stronger. In certain conditions — such as when gripped by hot hands — the resulting chemical reaction produces zinc bis (dimethylthio-carbamate). Canon would not confirm whether any customers had reported being adversely affected by the flaw. The EOS 650D — also known as Rebel T4i or Kiss X6i in other markets — was the first Canon digital single-lens reflex (DSLR) camera to feature a touchscreen LCD screen.

The recall covers some models that were mostly manufactured in June this year. The company has provided a simple tool which allows users to enter their camera’s serial number and see if their device is in the affected batch. “We offer our sincere apologies to customers who have been inconvenienced by this,” the company added. “Canon strives to provide the highest quality products to our customers, and we spare no effort in our quality management to make sure our customers use our products with confidence.”

Sci-Tech News

Scott’s wrecked ship Terra Nova found off Greenland

A simple crystal called dopet-terphenyl removes the need for much of masers’ complexity.

Kenji Ohno

Canon EOS 650D camera.

‘Maser’ source of microwave beams comes out of the cold

LONDON, 18 Aug — Researchers have shown off a microwave-emitting version of the laser, called a maser, that works at room temperature. Masers were invented before the laser, but have languished in obscurity because they required high magnetic fields and difficult cooling schemes. A report in Nature outlines a far simpler version using a crystalline material and no cooling or magnets. The resulting intense microwave beams could be used in applications ranging from medical diagnostics to astronomy. Masers were born of an idea first postulated by Albert Einstein: that in some materials, energy could be pumped in and concentrated into a beam of electromagnetic waves oscillating in synchrony. The first maser — an acronym of microwave amplification by stimulated emission of radiation — was build in 1953, and later forms of masers have become powerful tools in the development of life. The maser’s first use was in the first transatlantic television broadcast. But researchers carried the work on, coming up with a material that can amplify visible light instead of microwaves, forming three of the 1964 Nobel prize in physics.

These “lasers” reached complete ubiquity as simple devices for communications, for example, in the first transatlantic television broadcast. But researchers carried the work on, coming up with a material that can amplify visible light instead of microwaves, forming three of the 1964 Nobel prize in physics. Mark Oxborow of NPL, lead author of the paper, said the design “a new type of electronic device” whose applications, maser-enabled systems could outperform medical diagnostics or detectors for explosives. “Perhaps the one application that is most relevant is more sensitive forms of body scanners,” Dr Oxborow told BBC News. “Sensitivity matters with body scanners, because detecting a tumour before it metastasizes is so useful.”

NASA’s Voyager probe, billions of kilometres away.
Wall Street hits four-month high, boosted by

**Research on mice boosts hopes for ‘male Pill’**

**GSK drug halves attacks in hard-to-treat asthma**

**Chevron appeals Brazil ban, seeks oil field restart**

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**New York, Aug 18** - The S&P 500 hit its highest level since early April on Thursday after comments from German Chancellor Angela Merkel that appeared to support the European Central Bank’s efforts to fight the debt crisis, while Cisco Systems jumped after it raised its dividend.

The Nasdaq outperformed the market after Cisco shares jumped nearly 10 percent and Apple Inc shares hit a new closing high of $166.34, while broad gains across most S&P 500 sectors offset a gloom from Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

The day’s gain was the first significant move since a 2 percent gain on 3 Aug. Since then, the S&P 500 has been moving more higher, but in a slow motion.

"I think the biggest plus today is the fact that people realize that we are now really in an upward trend. We faced resistance but for over a week, we moved higher slowly without a significant pullback. That is what pulling people in, although volume remains low," said Frank Grotz, market analyst at Wellington Shields & Co in New York. "Some say we are climbing the wall of worry. I think we are climbing the wall of low expectations. Because nobody is expecting anything good, it is easy to move up on any news.

Merkel said ECB chief Mario Draghi’s vow to do all that is necessary to defend the euro is in line with what European leaders have been saying. Some traders took that driver given the economic fundamentals. The study appears in the US future drug development."

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**Tel Aviv readies underground parking lots as bomb shelters**

**INTERNET**

Tel Aviv, 18 Aug—The Tel Aviv Municipality has prepared 60 subterranean parking lots as bomb shelters in case of missile attacks from Israel’s foes.

A total area of 85,000 square metres would be able to house up to 800,000 people, city officials told reporters on Wednesday.

The development comes against a backdrop of increasing acute reports and analyses in the Israeli media over the prospect of a military strike on Iran’s nuclear enrichment facilities, and the extent of possible retaliation by either Teheran or Hezbollah.

A report in July revealed that the city was largely unprepared in case of an attack on the home front, and that the existing 241 shelters would only be able to contain up to 40,000 people — only tenth of the city’s population.

The municipality said the additional facilities were certified by a private engineering company and met the standards set up by the Home Front Command for protected, fortified areas.

The underground lots are mostly situated beneath shopping malls, as well as at the city’s sprawling central bus station.

Additionally, authorities have prepared plans for evacuating central urban areas in the event of a rocket barrage in the country’s uniquely populated business and cultural centre.

In a recent report, local Channel 10 television news quoted official sources as saying that an attack on Iran would mean firing of 50,000 missiles on Israel in response.

**Oracle fined $2 mn for off-books payments in India**

**INTERNET**

San Francisco, 18 Aug—Software and systems giant Oracle was fined $2 million on Thursday to resolve charges that its India subsidiary kept a multi-million dollar off-books slug fund.

The Securities and Exchange Commission said it had filed charges in San Francisco District Court accusing Oracle of violating the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act by not preventing the subsidiary from setting up the $2.2 million fund.

The money, which came out of the receipts from sales to Indian government agencies over 2005-2007, “was essentially used to make authorized payments tophony vendors in India”, the SEC said in a statement.

The SEC did not alleging that bribery had taken place, but suggested it was the possible purpose for payments to these ostensible vendors.

“The third-party payments created the risk that the funds could be used for purposes such as bribery or embezzlement.”

Oracle neither admitted nor denied the allegations, but the SEC said it voluntarily disclosed the problem, had cooperated with the investigation and had fired employees involved in the misconduct.

But the company was fined for poor internal controls and poor supervision of its India subsidiary.

“Theft is a major concern for foreign companies,” said SEC San Francisco official Marc Fagel.

“It is important for US companies to proactively establish policies and procedures to minimize the potential for payments to foreign officials or other unauthorized uses of company funds.”

**Int’l machinery expo starts in Cambodia to boost industries**

Pinom Penh, 18 Aug—The second Cambodia-International Machinery Industrial Fair kicked off here on Friday, aiming at promoting the development of industries, officials said.

More than 200 exhibitors from 20 countries and regions have been displaying the international leading brands of machinery, said Judy Wang, president of Yorkers Trade and Marketing Service of Hong Kong, which organized the event.

The exhibitors are from Cambodia, China, Czech, Germany, China’s Hong Kong, China’s Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, South Korea, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam, she said.

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Verdant Tuyin hill, sublime Zedi and pleasant Lake

Maha Saddhama Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Stretch out your legs from Bagan to a distance of about 7 miles to the south, you would be entralled to visit the three objects of amazing beauty forested Tuyin hill range, sacred Zedi and emerald green Lake. They are not only physically connected but also historically associated with Bagan.

After King Anawrahta (1014-1077 A.D.) brought from Suwanna Bhumi (Thaton) canonical Texts of Buddhism [Tipitaka inscribed on palm leaf] with the help of Primate Shin Araham. Thesavala Bhuddhism took root and flourished in Bagan kingdom. Relations with Buddhists countries far and near were established through religious and cultural exchanges. When Anawrahta received from King Dhatuucena of Thengo (Lankadipa) a replica of the sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha, he multiplied five replicas, that were enshrined, one in each of the five zedis at different places, where his royal mountain, white Elephant kneled down to indicate auspicious sites. The three sacred Tooth Relic zedis at Bagan are (1) Shwezigon (2) Tantkyi Taung Zedi on the hill range across the River opposite to Bagan and (3) Lawkawanda zedi on a promontory on the old jetty of Bagan. The fourth Tooth relic zedi is the hill of Tuyin hill and the fifth the summit of Pyet Khaywei Mountain of nearly 5000 feet high at a distance of about 150 miles in Kyaukse District, north-east.

Like Lawkawanda Zedi, Tuyin Taung Zedi has octagonal terraces with 32 elephant statues at the base. A good mortar road winds up smoothly to the spacious monument. Bagan archaeologists had painstakingly traced of metallic plates with inscriptions recording the previous construction site in Bagan. So it is now beyond any shadow of doubt that all stones used in Bagan monuments were hewn at the quarries of Tu-yin hill range and were transported to construction sites by chains of hands.

Bagan lies in the dry zone of central Myanmar and it receives scanty rain. That is generally accepted climate and geography. But in good monsoon Bagan enjoys heavy downpour. Perhaps through sub-terrestrial streams and springs and also occasional floods of the River Ayeyawaddy, flora and fauna including local humans get enough water to survive. In monsoon, little falls and pools are formed on the slopes and at the foot of the hill range, especially on the west side. In the heyday of Bagan, Tuyin hill range must have been a green range, as supported by references in stone inscriptions of the time.

In the reigns of King Narapati (1174-1230 AD) and King Kya Swa (1234-1250 AD) Bagan enjoyed a long period of peace and prosperity. Therefore religious learning and scholarship in Buddhism rose to an unparalleled height. The court was not merely a palace but it also became a learning centre for royal family and all counties. Religious writings of some merits were produced. Pali grammar “Sadaniti” by a learned monk Aggavamsa and two treatises by King Kya Swa himself “Sadaniit” and “ParamanandaBinda” earned great repute in Buddhist world of the time.

And today these scholarly works are in use. King Kya Swa abdicated throne for his scholarly pursuit of Pariyatti.

It was Kya Swa who damned the famous Mya Kan (Emerald Lake) on the western slopes of Tuyin Hill range. From the precint of the sacred Tooth Relic Zedi on the summit we get an aerial view of that Lake in summer. But in monsoon, the entire environment is emerald green. Rain water and springs combine to create falls and brooks. King Kya Swa saved and stored water in the dam he built with a strong dykes for use in dry season. An unknown poet of the time left to generations a very well composed verse which became a land mark in the history of Myanmar literature. It runs thus:

Pleasant Emerald Lake

Fed by a brooks from the hill cascades.

Cool and clear is its water

With a strong in intact dyke thither.

Frangipani flowers abound

Different feathered winged creatures around.

Hark! Is it the Lake Nanda of the celestial Realm?

Yes, looks like it.

We learn from Bagan stone inscriptions that this Emerald Lake supplied water for cultivation of crops and upkeep of orchards in the surroundings. During the time of the winter’s change, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Irrigation cooperated to repair and renovate Emerald Lake for water supply for the local population. After some years, water in the lake ran off and the Lake is silent. It found that due to some deposits, the bottom of the Lake has become porous. The upcoming development projects should include historic Emerald Lake.

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District News

Talks on fish resources given in Thongwa

YANGON, 18 Aug.—With the aim of conserving fish resources and boosting fish production, Thongwa Township Fisheries Department and Township General Administration Department jointly organized the educative talks at the hall of the Township GAD on 15 August.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Kyaw Thaung made a speech. Head of Township Fisheries Department U Zaw Myint Naing, in-charge of Okpo Township Fishing Camp U Than Naing and staff, township level departmental personnel, members of social organizations and marine entrepreneurs released over 358,000 fingerlings into the rivers and creeks.

Myaung Aung

Fingerlings released into rivers, creeks in Minhla, Monyo

THAYAWADY, 18 Aug.—With a view to increasing fish resources and boosting fish productions, Monyo and Minhla Township Fisheries Departments released fingerlings into creeks and rivers at Htainbong Bridge of Ngayangalhu Village-tract in Monyo Township on 12 August morning.

On the occasion, Head of Monyo Township General Administration Department U Min Naing Aung, Head of Monyo Township GAD U Phyo Thu Maung, Head of Monyo Township Fisheries Department Daw Than Thaing, Head of Minhla Township Fisheries Department U Zaw Myint Naing, in-charge of Okpo Township Fishing Camp U Than Naing and staff, township level departmental personnel, members of social organizations and marine entrepreneurs released over 358,000 fingerlings into the rivers and creeks.
Farmers, businessmen urged to change mind set to improve productivity

During the meeting, 11 local and foreign resource persons discussed reforms in telephone sectors and postal service.

Contracts to purchase 30000 metric tons of asphalt signed

Representative Mr. PD of Swiss Singapore Overseas Enterprises Pte Ltd spoke words of thanks.

Managing Director U Kyaw Lin of Public Works signed contracts with Chief Representative Mr. PD of Swiss Singapore Overseas Enterprises Pte Ltd, Chief Operating Officer Mr. Tharesa of IPL Pte Ltd, Director Mr. Maheshkhumar Raojibhal Patel of Export Trading Commodities Pte Ltd and Director Mr. Shyamal of Lookeast Business Solutions Pte Ltd. Purchase of four contracts is aimed at maintaining old tarred road including 2431 miles and four furlongs long home roads and 279 bridges of above 180 feet long built by Public Works. The contracts are to purchase 60000 metric tons of tar in 2012-2013 financial year. For the first 30000 metric tons of tar, a total of 12000 tons of tar will be bought from Swiss Singapore Overseas Enterprises Pte Ltd and 6000 tons each from IPL Pte Ltd, Export Trading Commodities Pte Ltd and Lookeast Business Solutions Pte Ltd.

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint attends contract signing ceremony between Public Works and Swiss Singapore Overseas Enterprise Pte Ltd, IPL Pte Ltd, Export Trading Commodities Pte Ltd and Lookeast Business Solutions Pte Ltd.—MNA

Workshop on Development of Communication and Information Technology held in Mandalay

At the workshop, 11 local and foreign resource persons made a speech at the Workshop on Development of Communication and Information Technology held in Mandalay yesterday. Next, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint delivered an address.

MWAF clarifies its plans to ministries

At the ceremony, the President of MWAF explained emergences of MWAF and its background history, aim and constitution. After that, General Secretary Daw Mya Mya discussed formation of departments and working groups, duty and functions, and tasks being undertaken and then replied to queries raised by those present.

Similarly, Patron of Ministry of Home Affairs WAO Dr. Daw That Thet Oo replied to queries raised by those present.

Strong earthquake jolts outside Myanmar

Daw Khin Khin Maung Myint delivered an address at the meeting of members and discussed reforms in communication sectors of neighbouring countries. Communication sector must have competitiveness under and Myanmar Investment Commission that observed reforms in communication sectors of neighbouring countries. Coordination on reform systems was made among National Coordination on reform systems was made among National
**Ward administrator elected in Kyimyindine Township**

**YANGON, 18 Aug**—A ceremony to elect ward administrator for Wayonseik-Ayeywa West Ward of Kyimyindine Township, Yangon West District, Yangon Region, was held at Maha Withokdayon Monastery in Wayonseik Ward.

The supervisory committee elected 10-house representatives at Wayonseik Monastery and Ayeywa West Dhammayo on 14 August.

The 10-house representatives held the election of ward administrator at Wayonseik Maha Withokdayon Monastery on 15 August, with an address by Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Thein of Yangon West District General Administration Department.

The 10-house representatives elected the ward administrator through secret voting under the law, supervised by supervisory committee members, the deputy commissioner and Township Administrator U Kyaw Ye Thway.

The election of ward administrator was the first ceremony of its kind in Yangon Region. Next, the deputy commissioner donated K 100,000 and school textbooks to Wayonseik Basic Education High School Branch through members of the School Board of Trustees.

**Cookery contest marks Nourishment Week**

**YANGON, 18 Aug**—Mingaladon Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association of Yangon North District and Township Health Department jointly organized the cookery contest to mark the nourishment week at the hall of Shwenatha Model Village of Mingaladon Township on 13 August morning.

MCWAs from Kontalaung, Thingangyungyi, Paungku, Padamya, Paungku, Padamya, Shwenatha and Pearl villages participated in the contest.

**Multiplier librarian course conducted in Bilin Township**

**BILIN, 18 Aug**—Bilin Township Information and Public Relations Department opened the multiplier librarian course No 1/2012 at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 4 August morning with the aim of turning out skilled librarians.

Staff Officer Daw Khin Saw Lin of Thaton District

Information and Public Relations Department explained the purpose of opening the librarian course and emergence of libraries meeting five-point standard.

Head of Bilin Township IPRD Daw Aye Myo Myo and TV technician-J Daw Zarni Phyo Wai gave lectures on librarian tasks.

**New bus line runs from Dagon Myothit (East) to Sule**

**YANGON, 18 Aug**—The buses that were left in the World War from Ward 13 of Dagon Myothit (East) Township to Thayettaw of Thingangyun Township at present, 13 Daewoo buses are on test to run its route along Ward 13 to Sule through Department Store, Bailee, Nandawon Market, Goodifff and Shwegon dine. Due to applause of passengers from Dagon Myothit (East) Township, the busline will be added with more buses.

Bus fare is fixed at K 50, K 100 and K 150 per passenger, and the route from the start to the end is fixed at K 200 per passenger.

The new bus line is No 36 green.—*Kyemon*

**Loans disbursed to agriculture, livestock breeding cooperative societies**

**MAUN, 18 Aug**—A ceremony to disburse loans to agricultural and livestock breeding cooperative societies was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Kayanggyo Model Village of Maun township in Ayeyawady Region on 11 August morning.

Staff Officer of Maun Township Cooperative Department U Thet Naing explained the purpose of disbursement.

Staff Officer U Thet Naing and Township Cooperative Syndicate U Soe Myint presented K 6.13 million to Nyein Chan Livestock Breeding Cooperative Society and Lin Zarni Agricultural Cooperative Society.

**Tachilek BEHS gets new school building**

**TACHILEK, 18 Aug**—A ceremony to open the extended building of Basic Education High School was held in Tachilek of Shan State (East) on 3 August.

Shan State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun, Shan State Education Officer U Aung Win and Deputy Commissioner U Thet Lwin formally opened the new building. The State Minister and Additional State Education Officer U Khun Sein Myint made speeches.

Member of the School Board of Trustees U Bo Cho explained the purpose of constructing the new building. In charge of the construction committee U Nay Myo handed over documents related to the building to Township Education Officer Daw Htay Htay.

After that, Shan State Minister for Development Affairs U Tu Maung presented prizes awarded by the Shan State Chief Minister to outstanding students in the matriculation examination and officials awarded the other students.

The new school building, 170 feet long and 30 feet wide, is RC type two-storey structure built at a cost of over K 100 million including K 70 million by the Ministry of Education.

FLOODS PREVENTION TAKEN: A demonstration on prevention against floods in 2012 monsoon was held No 3 outpost of Ayeawady-Hinthada embankment 25/1 (Hsantan) in Zalun Township of Hinthada District on 7 August. Staff Officer of Maun Township Irrigation Department performed demonstration on protection of embankment.—*MYANMA ALIN*

**Talks about taxation held in Mohnyin**

**MOHNYIN, 18 Aug**—Mohnyin Township Internal Revenue Department of Mohnyin District in Ka chin State held the educative talks on taxation at Aung San Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Mohnyin on 14 August morning.

It was attended by middle school students.

Head of Mohnyin Township Internal Revenue Department U Han Thein explained facts about tax management.

**Taxation talks given to students in Monyo**

**MOYNO, 18 Aug**—The taxation talks was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Monyo Township on 8 August afternoon.

The talks were organized by Monyo Township Internal Revenue Department of Hago Region. On the occasion, Headmaster U Aye Kyaw of Monyo BEHS made a speech.

Head of Township Internal Revenue Department U Khin Swe explained taxation matters being undertaken by the township IRD.

Later, pamphlets on taxation and books were distributed to the attendees.

**Yangon**
Miss World beauty queens in China desert city

Orixos, 18 Aug—Beauty queens from all over the planet made final preparations to compete for the Miss World title on Saturday in a Chinese mining city on the edge of the Gobi desert. A total of 116 contestants — the highest number ever — were scheduled to don their finest evening gowns and swimwear for the evening contest, which is watched annually by around a billion people around the globe.

This year it takes place on the arid and sparsely populated steppe of Inner Mongolia, where Ordos, around 700 kilometres (440 miles) from the nearest beach, makes an unlikely setting for the world’s biggest beauty pageant.

Reigning Miss World Ivian Sarcos of Venezuela will hand over her crown in the futuristic Ordos stadium which sits alongside a vast town square dedicated to the mighty Mongolian warrior Genghis Khan.

The city has grown rich over the last decade on the back of a coal mining boom that has transformed it from the world’s biggest beauty pageant.

As “a continent this shows how much we are making progress as Africans... competing on the global stage and changing our image,” Ethiopian Airline CEO Tewolde Gebremariam told reports Addis Ababa’s Bole International Airport.

The plane arrived from Dulles airport in Washington, DC, home to the largest Ethiopian diaspora population globally.

Ethiopian Airlines’ Africa’s first Boeing 787 Dreamliner

Ales Ababa, 18 Aug—Ethiopian Airlines received Africa’s first Boeing 787 Dreamliner on Friday, making Ethiopia the only country by far to operate the innovative aircraft.

“As a continent this shows how much we are making progress as Africans... competing on the global stage and changing our image,” Ethiopian Airline CEO Tewolde Gebremariam told reporters Addis Ababa’s Bole International Airport.

The plane arrived from Dulles airport in Washington, DC, home to the largest Ethiopian diaspora population globally.

Spain’s Ferrovial to sell BAA stake to Qatar Holding

London, 18 Aug—The Spanish construction group Ferrovial said on Friday it will sell off a 10 percent stake in British airport operator BAA which controls London’s Heathrow airport.

Ferrovial said in a statement that it will sell 50.62 percent of BAA’s holding company FGP Topco to the investment fund Qatar Holding for 478 million pounds (607 million euros, $78.0 million). Ferrovial currently controls just under half of BAA, which runs several British airports and was bought by a consortium including the Spanish firm in 2008.

It said other stakeholders in the holding company had sold smaller shares to the Qatar fund, giving it a 20 percent stake in BAA overall and leaving Ferrovial with 39 percent. The total value of these various stakes sold to Qatar amounts to 1.14 billion euros, it said.

The latest sale is subject to approval by European competition authorities and is due to be completed this year. Ferrovial aims “to ensure that Heathrow retains its position as one of the best infrastructure assets in the world,” Ferrovial chief executive Inigo Meiras said in the statement.

“The transaction further strengthens Ferrovial’s liquidity position, providing it with notable flexibility to undertake investments in infrastructure and services projects,” the statement said.

Ferrovial in 2011 sold a 5.88 percent stake in BAA to US investment fund Alinda.

The British Airways check-in area at Heathrow airport. The Spanish construction group Ferrovial said Friday it will sell off a further 10 percent stake in British airport operator BAA which controls London’s Heathrow airport.—Reuters

Record eurozone trade surplus, analysts divided on outlook

Frankfurt, 18 Aug—New data out on Friday showed the eurozone logging a record trade surplus and bumper cash earnings in what some analysts said was evidence that austerity and structural economic reforms pay off.

Reigning Miss World contestent, Lebanon’s Sonia Lynn—Gabriel (C), prepares prior to a farewell for the final ceremony at a hotel in the inner Mongolian city of Ordos, on 17 August. More than 100 beauty queens from around the globe have descended on the northern Chinese mining city ahead of the Miss World final, taking place on Saturday.—Reuters

New EU data out on Friday showed the eurozone logging a record trade surplus and bumper cash earnings in what some analysts said was evidence that austerity and structural economic reforms pay off.—Reuters

Italian police capture top fugitive mafia boss

Rome, 18 Aug—Italian police on Friday captured a most wanted boss of the Neapolitan mafia “Camera,” ANSA newsagency reported.

Francesco Matrone, also known as “The Beast,” was captured near the city of Salerno, in southern Campania region, during an anti-mafia operation involving over 100 police officers and a helicopter. The 65-year-old boss, on the run for double murder and other crimes, was on the interior ministry’s list of nine most dangerous fugitives after escaping custody in 2004. According to a government report released earlier this week, during the last 12 months police have arrested more than 2,000 mafia members, seized over 4 billion euros (4.9 billion US dollars) of mafia assets across Italy. A total of 22 town councils have also been dissolved for mafia infiltration.

Nearly 90 percent of the anti-mafia operations were conducted in the southern regions of Sicily, Campania, Calabria, Puglia and Lazio, whose capital is Rome, and in the northern Lombardy, of which the capital is Milan, the report said.

One of the oldest and largest criminal organizations in Italy dating back to the 18th century, Camera has gained increasing political and economic power in recent years.

Reuters

Israel finds rocket shrapnel near Egypt border

Jerusalem, 18 Aug—Israeli forces discovered the remnants of a rocket on Friday near the border with Egypt, two days after two explosions shook the area in a suspected cross-border shooting.

A military spokesman said: “the remnants of a rocket were found in the hills near Elatif,” a southern Red Sea resort town wedged between Jordan and Egypt.

The site where the shrapnel was found was close to the Egyptian frontier, which has grown tense with a rise in rocket strikes and other violence since Israel’s ally, Housni Mubarak, was toppled by a popular revolt last year. There were no casualties in Wednesday’s rocket fire.

The last attack took place on 16 June, also causing no casualties, it is a clear indication that a rocket was fired from Egypt.

Egypt has launched a crackdown against suspected Islamic militants in Sinai since an 8 August attack on a military position that killed 16 Egyptian troops, by gunmen Israel killed after they subsequently stormed the Israeli border.

Egypt is one of two Arab countries to have signed a peace treaty with Israel, in 1979.
China, United States cooperate on smoking control in workplaces

Beijing, 18 Aug—China and the United States have established the Sino-US Partnership on Smoke-free Workplaces. The partnership was announced in a joint statement issued by the MOH and the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States (HHS) on Friday. The two sides pledged to boost bilateral cooperation in the field within both the public and private sectors.

The MOH and HHS, along with key partners, will recruit participants, including government offices and enterprises, to join the partnership in order to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke in public places, the statement said. Over 1 million people in China and an estimated 443,000 people in the United States die from tobacco-related diseases each year, according to the statement. Chinese government included a public smoking ban in the country’s 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015) issued last March.

China’s stop legislature is also actively preparing for tobacco control legislation, as a smoking ban for indoor public places issued last year has been deemed ineffective.

Gasoline drips off a nozzle during refueling at a gas station in Alhambra, California on 24 March, 2012. Reuters

Swiss experts arrive in Iran for quake relief aid

TEHRAN, 18 Aug—A group of experts from Switzerland has arrived in Iran to conduct a study on Iran’s recent earthquake.

Switzerland has dispatched a four-member assessment team to Iran in the wake of two powerful earthquakes which shook the northwestern province of East Azerbaijan last Saturday, said Press TV.

The team will survey the damages incurred by the twin tremors, and will work with Iran’s Red Crescent Society to distribute food and medical supplies to quake-stricken people, said the report. The Swiss team will also provide quake survivors with tents, blankets and field kitchens, according to the report.

White House studying potential oil reserve release

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—The White House is “dusting off old plans” for a potential release of oil reserves to dampen prices and prevent high energy costs from undermining sanctions against Iran, a source with knowledge of the situation said on Thursday.

US officials will monitor market conditions over the next few weeks, watching whether gasoline prices fall after the 3 September Labour Day holiday, as they historically do, the source said. It was too early to detail the size of any release from the US Strategic Petroleum Reserve and other international stockpiles if a decision to proceed was taken, the source said.

Oil prices have surged in recent weeks, with Brent crude prices closing in on $120 a barrel, up sharply from below $90 a barrel in June. The United States and other Group of Eight countries studied a potential oil release in the spring but shelved the plans when prices dropped.

As prices rise again, US officials were now collecting information from the market about potential needs and studying futures, production numbers and data on Iranian oil exports.

“The driving force in this is both in the economy and impact on the Iran sanctions policy,” the source said, noting that Washington has not yet held talks with international partners about a coordinated move.

Algae bloom kills nearly one million fish in Mexico Gulf

HOUSTON, 18 Aug—Officials of the US state of Texas said on Friday algae bloom, known as red tide, has killed nearly 1 million fish in the Gulf of Mexico.

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The pirates’ main policy is to champion broader internet freedom and data privacy, said the offence involved might have been violation of data protection.

A spokesman for Duesseldorf’s prosecutors said similar charges had been dismissed in the past because of lack of evidence that a crime had been committed.

But prosecutors were in no rush to prosecute, a spokesman for the Swiss government has said it will not be renegotiated.

The Pirates’ NRW parliamentary group, formed when the party won enough votes to enter the regional parliament for the first time this year, distanced themselves from the charges pressed by Schatz and said party members were divided over the issue.

German Pirates pursue state for buying Swiss bank data

BERLIN, 18 Aug—Members of Germany’s upstart Pirate Party said on Friday they had filed charges against the finance minister of North Rhine-Westphalia over the state’s purchase of leaked Swiss bank data in order to pursue tax evaders.

NRW, Germany’s most populous state, has bought several CDs of bank data on German taxpayers from whistleblowers, dividing opinion at home and heightening strains with Switzerland.

“We suspect that (Norbert) Walter-Borjans and everyone assigned to the case has committed a crime,” said Pirate Party regional lawmaker Dirk Schatz, one of four party members who pressed charges against the minister.

TheSocial Democrats (SPD), Germany’s largest opposition party, of which Walter-Borjans is a member, has promised to veto the deal in its current form, while a spokesman for the Swiss government has said it will not be renegotiated.

According to reports by local TV channel ABC’s, the estimate was made by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department after finishing a flyover on Thursday in the Galveston Bay.

Tens of thousands of dead fish, mostly menhaden, were washed ashore on Sunday on Galveston, an island in the Gulf of Mexico, and water samples collected on Monday confirmed it was the red tide that killed the fish.

Part of the Galveston Bay have been closed for shellfish harvesting due to the red tide, which can cause respiratory problems. Last year, a red tide covering most of the Texas Gulf Coast and Galveston Bay forced the closure of oyster beds.

The red tide of low-to-moderate concentrations last year arrived in August and lasted until February, but killed no fish.

The red tide of low-to-moderate concentrations last year arrived in August and lasted until February, but killed no fish.

German troops can be deployed on home soil, court rules

BERLIN, 18 Aug—Germany’s armed forces can carry out combat operations on home soil in case of a threat of “catastrophic proportions”, the country’s highest court ruled on Friday.

However troops cannot be mobilized against demonstrators, the constitutional court said. The military had previously only been able to act in a similar way to the police in domestic disaster situations but will now be able to use combat weapons.

“This only affects exceptional situations of catastrophic proportions,” the court said in its ruling. “The deployment of armed forces and the use of specific military defence mechanisms is only permissible as a last resort in such an emergency situation,” the court said.

Germany has had a strained relationship with the military since the Nazi period, when the army had a role in the invasion and annexation of Poland.

Schatz, whose party’s main policy is to champion broader internet freedom and data privacy, said the offence involved might have been violation of data protection.

A spokesman for Duesseldorf’s prosecutors said similar charges had been dismissed in the past because of lack of evidence that a crime had been committed.

NRW prosecutors said last week they were pursuing tax evaders who secretly stashed cash in Switzerland after obtaining new bank data from a presumed whistleblower.

Their action is likely to strain ties between Germany and Switzerland, which has sharply criticized purchases of leaked bank data by officials in the same state.

In part to prevent such purchases, Berne struck a deal with Berlin in April to levy taxes on German assets in Swiss accounts, but the agreement could easily unravel.

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The red tide of low-to-moderate concentrations last year arrived in August and lasted until February, but killed no fish.
Nepali capital set to operate night bus service

KATHMANDU, 18 Aug—Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) has completed all the preparation for operating night metro bus service in major routes in the capital city from Friday.

KMC and Federation of Nepalese National Transport Entrepreneurs Association will operate some 14 buses on trial basis from 8 pm to 11 pm local time to facilitate commuters, said an official of KMC.

As per the plan, two buses will be operated in each route while four buses will run around Ring Road.

KMC also informed that at least one police would be deployed and a camera would be fixed on each bus to ensure security during the service.

With the operation of night buses, night commuters, who face difficulties in reaching their destinations in absence of reliable means of public transportation except expensive taxis in the capital city, will be benefited from the service.—Xinhua

One body dead, another missing in Yosemite river

FRESNO, 18 Aug—A 10-year-old boy died and his 6-year-old brother was missing after they were swept away along a 150-yard, treacherous boulder-strewn stretch of the Merced River, Yosemite National Park officials said on Thursday.

The two victims were part of a family visiting from Southern California that was hiking near the Vernal Fall Footbridge. Group members were cooling off in the river on Wednesday when a current carried the boys away.

The older boy was pronounced dead around 3 pm on Wednesday. Park visitors were able to pull him from the river about 150 yards downstream, but efforts to resuscitate him failed.

Authorities were still searching for the younger boy, who is presumed dead. Their mother was hospitalized after being pulled from the river with a back injury, park spokesman Kari Cobb said. "She went into the river but made it out," Cobb said.

The names of the boys were not immediately released.

The bridge is a vantage point on the Mist Trail where Vernal Fall first comes into view. The location was the site of tragedy last summer when three Central California friends cooling off in a pool above the fall were swept to their deaths.

Two of their bodies were discovered months later lodged under boulders near the site where the 10-year-old was found.

The Merced River runs through the heart of Yosemite Valley, and the Mist Trail to the fall is one of the most popular and sometimes perilous hikes in the park. The river falls 317 feet straight down to a narrow water channel, then widens with boulders the size of cars then descends another 400 feet by the time it reaches the bridge.

Even when the rest of the river is moving slowly, the drop in elevation and the narrow channel cause the water to move swiftly.—Internet

Americansrate computer industry best, oil & gas sector worst

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug—Americans give the computer industry the most positive rating out of 25 business and industry sectors, while the oil and gas industry and the federal government earn the lowest ratings among all.

The computer industry gets a 73 percent positive rating, followed by restaurants industry’s 59 percent, Internet industry’s 55 percent, retail industry’s 53 percent, farming and agriculture’s 52 percent and grocery industry’s 51 percent, according to the Gallup’s Work and Education ratings, finds a poll released on Thursday.

The computer industry gets a 73 percent positive rating, followed by restaurants industry’s 59 percent, Internet industry’s 55 percent, retail industry’s 53 percent, farming and agriculture’s 52 percent and grocery industry’s 51 percent, according to the Gallup’s Work and Education survey.

At the bottom of the list, the oil and gas industry gets the highest negative rating of 61 percent, followed by the federal government’s 60 percent and banking sector’s 53 percent, the poll finds.—Internet

Pakistan airman dies after audacious base assault

KAMRA, 18 Aug—A second airman died of injuries sustained in an audacious assault on a key Pakistani air base, raising the overall death toll from the attack to 11, the military said on Friday.

Heavily armed militants dressed in fatigue and wearing suicide vests stormed the base on Thursday, sparking heavy clashes that killed one security official andBase attackers at PAF Base Minhas in the northwestern town of Kamra.

Air Force spokesman Tariq Mahmood told AFP that a second air man had died in hospital on Friday morning as a result of injuries from the assault.

The Pakistani Taliban claimed what was the worst attack on a military base for more than a year, stirring concerns about the safety of Pakistan’s nuclear arsenal.

PAF Minhas, in Punjab Province, is only 60 kilometres (35 miles) northwest of Islamabad, has been attacked twice before, but on previous occasions the militants had not managed to penetrate the compound.

In an aeronatical complex assemblies Mirage and, with Chinese help, JF-17 fighter jets.—Internet

Iran’s top leader urges rebuilding quake-hit area

TEHRAN, 18 Aug—Iran’s top leader is urging the reconstruction of the northwestern region hit by deadly twin earthquakes last weekend. State TV showed Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei visiting the ruins of a village on Thursday that was heavily damaged by the quakes.

Khamenei told a gathering of village residents that the area could have a better future if they cooperate with the government and each other.

Official reports say authorities have already provided shelter to more than 70,000 in the region, where the 6.4 and 6.3 magnitude quakes that hit on Saturday killed 306 and injured more than 4,000 people.

Iran is located on seismic fault lines and is prone to earthquakes. In 2003, some 26,000 people were killed by a 6.6 magnitude quake that flattened city of Bam.

In this 27 July, 2011 file photo, a hiker takes a photo from the top of Vernal Falls in Yosemite on 27 July, 2011.—AFP

In this 29 July, 2011 file photo, a hiker takes a photo from the top of Vernal Falls in Yosemite on 29 July, 2011.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHILIP VOYO NO (033)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOYO NO (033) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P. T. where it will be at the consignee’s risk and expenses 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

MYANMAR AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

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Here’s $100m, now catch those drug smuggling ultralights

NEW YORK, 18 Aug—US Customs and Border Patrol is spending big—just under $100 million—to combat drug smugglers who use small aircraft worth only a few thousand dollars each to ferry narcotics into the US.

Last week the CBP awarded SRSCte, a New York-based research and development company, a $99,955,087.00 contract for a real-time detection system that is specifically designed to look out small craft aircrafts, slow-speed rudimentary manned planes that have a very small radar signature, on America’s southern border.

The contract award ended a year-long search for a way to spot ultralights loaded with narcotics—a tactic law enforcement agents are said in being employed more and more in recent years by drug smugglers hoping to buzz back and forth over border fences undetected. Ultralights are easy-to-use aircraft—often little more than an airframe and engine—that can be bought online or constructed at home for a few thousand dollars.

Ultralights do not require a pilot’s license. In May 2011, The Los Angeles Times reported that in the previous fiscal year, ultralights—sometimes with armed pilots—had entered US borders illegally at least 228 times, double the number compared to the year before that.—Internet
**Dead clown’s money to heirs vanishes**

Four bank drafts worth $80,000 mailed to the executor of a Canadian clown who died last year have disappeared in the postal system, the clown’s executor said.

Lorraine Pearce, 66, worked professionally as Buttercup the Clown until she died of cancer early last year. Bequeathed about $80,000 to four friends in the Toronto area, the Toronto Star reported.

Earlier this year, her executor, Mary Chmiel obtained bank drafts and then mailed them to the beneficiaries using Canada’s Post’s next-day, computer tracked service.

However, the drafts never arrived and Canada Post says there’s no record of where they went.

Chmiel said the post office investigated for several days before calling that the four envelopes were considered lost and the case was closed.

She contacted her member of Parliament and the post office reopened the investigation hours later, the Star said.

Meanwhile, the bank that issued the drafts said it can’t re-issue the drafts until Canada Post officially declares the drafts lost.

The investigation into the clown’s vanishing money was continuing, the report said.

**News Album**

**Los Angeles, 18 Aug—** The voice of The Lorax in the animated motion picture fantasy “Dr. Seuss’ The Lorax” for purposes of the premiere of the film at Universal Studios Hollywood in Universal City, Los Angeles, on 9 February, 2012.—Internet

**Young Elvis tribute artists keep the flame burning**

Minneapolis, 18 Aug—Elvis Presley was long dead when he entered the life of Victor Trevino forever. “I was in my living room,” the 27-year-old professional Elvis tribute artist—please, don’t call them impersonators—recalled on Thursday, the 35th anniversary of the sudden death of the king of rock ‘n’ roll at the age of 42.

“My parents played ‘Teddy Bear’ for me, and then they had me perform the song at a talent show when I was elementary school—I was like in the third grade or about 10 years old, he told AFP.

“I had my glasses on. I stuck my fingers in my hair, and the little blazer and pink shirt and penny loafers. I always liked to perform.”

As Elvis Week winds down, after a moving candlelight vigil on Wednesday at Presley’s sprawling Graceland estate, the spotlight is turning onto the unassuming Texans who devote their lives to mimicking a pop-cultural icon on stage.

Twenty-nine of them, from Australia, Britain, Canada, Japan and the United States, are vying for top honors in the sixth annual Elvis Tribute Artist Contest.

The finals take place on Saturday. Most of the 29 were children when Presley died, but a handful like Trevino, from Fort Worth, Texas, and fellow contestant

Elvis Presley tribute artist Victor Trevino, 27, of Fort Worth, Texas, poses with wife Chloe Trevino during an Elvis Week event in Memphis, Tennessee, on 16 Aug, the 35th anniversary of the death of the rock n’ roll icon.

**Sobbing Rihanna recalls confusion of Chris Brown beating**

LOS ANGELES, 18 Aug—A sobbing Rihanna has told Oprah Winfrey she felt protective of boyfriend Chris Brown after he beat her up more than three years ago and was concerned that everyone would think of him as a monster.

The “Umbrella” singer, in a rare emotional TV interview set to air on Sunday detailing her thoughts about the highly publicized 2009 assault, told Winfrey that the days and weeks after incident left her confused and ashamed.

“It was embarrassing, it was humiliating,” Rihanna told Winfrey.

She added: “I was thinking, ‘What’s wrong with me? Why am I doing this?’ It was like losing my mind.”

The investigation into the boxer/left-brained and battered and bruised from the beating by Brown in Los Angeles, 18 Aug—Elvis Presley tribute artist Victor Trevino, 27, of Fort Worth, Texas, poses with wife Chloe Trevino during an Elvis Week event in Memphis, Tennessee, on 16 Aug, the 35th anniversary of the death of the rock n’ roll icon.


Smoke, donkey mascot for US Marines in Iraq, dies in Nebraska

Smoke, the Iraqi donkey wounded in a desert battle for a peaceful retirement in the United States captured the attention of the world, has died in Nebraska.

Smoke became lethargic and died this week after being treated for injuries from a riding accident. The Marine Corps shared pictures of Smoke on Facebook.

The Marine donkey had been adopted by the U.S. military and was housed at the Marine Corps Base Quantico since 2009.

Smoke had served as an echelon therapy animal to help veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Smoke’s Facebook page has friends from around the world.

Smoke was taken in by US Marines after he showed up malnourished and wounded at Camp Fallujah in Anbar Province in 2008. Regulations prohibit keeping the donkey of the Marine Corps and FaceBook page.

Smoke and the donkey turned the donkey over to a local shiels. Folsom, now retired, tracked down the donkey and cut through layers of red tape to bring him to Nebraska last year. He said Smoke may have died of colic.

“He was a great little donkey,” Folsom said.

The donkey lived to walk into offices and open deck drawers to find apples, carrots and other treats planted there by Marines.

Deployed dads sent their children pictures and stories of Smoke.

US Army troopers who relieved Folsom’s unit on patrol during the battle were surprised to see Smoke."Smoke the donkey, adopted by retired US Marine Colonel John Folsom, is seen in this undated handout photo taken by Folsom at an unidentified location in Iraq and released by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. REUTERS


Memphis, 18 Aug—Singers Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood are to serve as hosts of the CMA Awards for a fifth time this fall in Nashville, ABC announced on Wednesday.

The network is to air the presentations live from the Bridgestone Arena on 1 November.

“I think you can speak for both of us when I say that we are extremely excited to be back for a fifth year hosting the CMA Awards,” Underwood said in a statement.

“Each year we work harder so that we can help present the show better,” Paisley said.

“We are excited,” said Paisley. ‘I think you walk out there with people expecting certain thing now and that’s a great place to be. I think they know who we are. They know what we do up there and we’ve all learned something different together than we are separately I think, which is fun.”—Internet

Reuters

Carrie Underwood poses during the NBC Today Show at Rockefeller Center in New York City on 15 Aug, 2012.—InXpress

Bass player for Elton John found dead of apparent suicide

LOS ANGELES, 18 Aug—Robert Wayne Birch, a backup singer and bass player for Elton John, was found dead in the Los Angeles area on Wednesday of an apparent suicide resulting from a gunshot wound to the head, officials said.

Los Angeles County Assistant Coroner Chief Ed Winter said Birch’s body was found after 1 PM PDT (0800 GMT) in a community of the San Fernando Valley. The case is “being investigated as a probable suicide,” Winter said.

Birch, who also played saxophone, worked as the bass player in John’s band starting in the early 1990s, opened the show for him to play with other famous musicians and bands such as Billy Joel, Keith Emerson, and The Replacements.
Van Persie signs for Manchester United

INTERNET

LONDON, 18 Aug — Manchester United have completed the signing of Arsenal striker Robin Van Persie on a four-year deal for an undisclosed fee. Van Persie is eligible to make his debut for his new club against Everton on Monday evening and he is Sir Alex Ferguson’s third signing of the summer for United, after Nick Powell, from Crewe Alexandra, and Shingi Kagawa, from Borussia Dortmund. The 29-year-old leaves Arsenal after eight seasons at the club, having joined from Feyenoord in May 2004. Van Persie international has scored 96 goals in 194 Barclays Premier League appearances.

Robin Van Persie (right) is looking forward to challenging for trophies with Manchester United.

Last season Van Persie claimed the Barclays Premier League Golden Boot and helped the north London side finish third in the division after top-scoring in the Barclays Premier League with 30 goals in 38 matches. “Robin is a world-class striker with a proven record in England and in European football,” United’s manager Sir Alex Ferguson told the official website of his club. “His talents need no introduction to our fans—he has scored a number of goals against us in some classic battles with his former club. His movement, finishing and all-round ability are outstanding.”

Van Persie said: “It’s an honour to sign to Manchester United. I am looking forward to following in the footsteps of so many great strikers, bringing my experience and playing my part to help the team compete for the biggest trophies in the game. I can’t wait to get started.” As far as former United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel is concerned, the transfer of the club’s new No 20 has given Ferguson’s side a huge advantage for the new campaign. Speaking at the Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour in Manchester Schmeichel told premier-league.com: “The Manchester City and United squads were very, very even going into yesterday, and then there came the game-changing sign of Robin van Persie.” He was player of the year last season, he scored 30 plus goals and was full of confidence. He is a fantastic finisher, “I am not the one comparing his record to Nistelrooy but he is the same kind of person. He doesn’t miss a lot of chances. “If he can deliver that kind of level he is going to score many, many goals and many, many goals in the difference—we have already seen that last season.”

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

Djokovic to face Del Potro again, Federer wins

MASON, (Ohio), 18 Aug — World number two Novak Djokovic has a shot at revenge against Juan Martin Del Potro, who ended the Serb’s medal hopes at the London Olympics, when the two clash in the Cincinnati Open semi-finals on Saturday. World number one Roger Federer, who dealt with American Mardy Fish 6-3, 7-6 in his style, will play with Swiss Davis Cup team mate Stanislas Wawrinka in the other semi. Djokovic, who lost to former US Open winner Del Potro in the Olympic bronze medal match less than two weeks ago, enjoyed a routine 6-3, 6-2 victory over 12th seeded Croatian Marin Cilic on Friday to advance. “It was my best match so far in this tournament and came in from the right moment, really,” Djokovic, who had an easy passage through to the last eight after Russian Nikolay Davydenko retired injured during their match, told reporters. “I had the biggest challenge today with Cilic who

Novak Djokovic of Serbia hits a return shot to Marin Cilic of Croatia during their quarter final round match in Cincinnati, Ohio, on 17 Aug, 2012. — Reuters

has been playing well the last couple of months and played angrily as good as that time. The five times grand slam winner may have added incentive on the court but the young Del Potro has the confidence and experience and is competing in the tournament for the first time. "He won that match, I played him in the Australian Open and he is a great player," said Djokovic. "I think some rest is in order for the rest of the US Open, a huge advantage for the new campaign.

Nadal unsure

Marescal, (Spain), 18 Aug — Rafael Nadal said he must fully recover from a nagging knee problem known as Hoffa’s syndrome before returning to competition and winning a doubt for next month’s Davis Cup semi-final against the United States. Spain’s world number three has not played since suffering a shock second-round Wimbledon defeat by lowly ranked Czech Lukas Rosol in June. Missed the Olympic Games and on Wednesday he withdrew from the US Open. “The important thing is to recover well and come back when he’s 100 percent perfect,” Nadal told Reuters television interview in a hometown of Manacor in Mallorca. “We’ll see if I will be ready for Gijon, for the Davis Cup. If his dream is to be there if the captain has confidence in me, then I always depend on the captain, he knows me. “Due to his aggressive style of play, Nadal has been suffering a string of physical problems during his career, including a foot injury in 2007 which he underwent surgery to.

Spain’s Rafael Nadal gestures during television interview, during which he detailed reasons for pulling out of the US Open, in Palma de Mallorca, on the island of Mallorca on 17 Aug, 2012.— Reuters

Serena Williams upset. Venus reaches Cincy semis

Mason, (Ohio), 18 Aug — Only one of the Williams sisters is heading to a semifinal, and it’s not the one with the long winning streak. Serena Williams lost one that — and her cool — at the Western & Southern Open. Venus Williams has her 19-match streak snapped by Germany’s Angelique Kerber on Friday, 6-4, 6-4 defeat that marked the first time she’d even lost a set since her title at Wimbledon. The third-longest winning streak of her career didn’t end quietly. She flung her racket at the ground, picked it up and slammed it on the court again as the second set slipped away, “I probably need to break,” she said. While Serena fumed over missed shots, older sister Venus had an easy jump-for-joy day. She reached the semis of a tournament for the first time since 2005 and more recently with Del Potro. She hit so many easy shots that after an overhead that landed in the court, she smiled and raised her arms in mock triumph. Her sister

Williams sisters gold medals at the Olympics in London.

thought she might have caught up with her. “She’s played so well since Wimbledon,” Williams said, as her sister struggled on the grass. Serena Williams is having a tough time getting readjusted to her bestest of her season included singles and doubles sets, setting up a rematch of their bronze medal match at the Olympics. Del Potro beat Kerber that one. After all her other success this summer has come in doubles, Serena Williams is having a tough time getting readjusted to her bestest of hers ever. She’s had her 19-match streak against the Premier League club’s coach Martin Jol said on Friday. Djokovic was linked to Liverpool last month after coach Brendan Rodgers admitted during a preseason tour of the US and Canada that the Merseyside club had inquired about him. However, no deal was forthcoming from Liverpool’s US owners, the Fenway Sports Group, which also owns the Boston Red Sox.

If asked the attacking midfielder would face South Africa’s first league match of the season, Jol said: “Clint is not involved, I told him that he wanted to leave and that he wasn’t ready to play for this club anymore.” The problems follow a superb season for the 29-year-old midfielder, who has 23 goals in 46 games to become Fulham’s top scorer. Clint felt he needs a move, that he wants a move and that was probably going to be Liverpool, Jol said. “But Liverpool did their business, bought other players, but not Clint. So we’ve ended up in a situation with Clint here at Fulham, but he’s not completely involved with the club.”

Dempsey refuses to play for Fulham again

LONDON, 18 Aug — United States international Clint Dempsey has refused to play for Fulham and is looking for a transfer to a Champions League team, the Premier League club’s coach Martin Jol said on Friday. Djokovic retired against Del Potro. “All these losses made me think and, yes, they are difficult, especially when you’re playing for a country and when you’re in Olympic Games and we’re fighting for bronze medal,” said Djokovic. “He won that match, I played him in the Australian Open and he is a great player,” said Djokovic. “I think some rest is in order for the rest of the US Open, a huge advantage for the new campaign.”

Venus Williams upset, Venus reaches Cincy semis

Dempsey refuses to play for Fulham again

International Sports

Jol clearly thought Liverpool was to blame for putting Clint in a difficult position. “We’ll have to wait and see what happens, but it’s a sad situation for us and it’s almost embarrassing,” the Dutchman said.
Chelsea enters season with new players, a new attacking style and confidence

LONDON, 18 Aug—Since being rebranded from the UEFA Champions Club Cup to the UEFA Champions League in 1992, no club has ever repeated as European champions—not even Lionel Messi’s Barcelona. But Marko Marin believes Chelsea is in a good position to make history after defeating Barcelona and Real Madrid in a way that is ‘very tough.’

In a new attacking style, Chelsea coach Roberto Di Matteo said during a press conference that his team needs to correct their thinking on how to win the Champions League title. "I think you need to correct your thinking on that," he said. "If we can get the balance right and help them get into the team, we can have a successful season.

Gary Cahill agreed with Lampard and believes both Marin and Hazard have adjusted well to the team so far. "I think they’ve bedded in really well and you have the team looking to change its style this season. "We have some young players with very good technical ability, very attacking with a lot of fair," Frank Lampard told reporters during Chelsea’s recent US tour. "Hopefully, if we can get the balance right and help them get into the team, we can have a successful season.

"Our deepest sympathy on the loss of Dr Khin Ohn Than. We know she will always reside in our hearts. May her soul rest in peace."

Mr Gunkul Dhumrongpiyawut + Ms Sopacha Dhumrongpiyawut
Gunkul Engineering Public Co., Ltd

Drive Safety
section the building.—

teachers at the college and inspected the site chosen to

three-storey building and its design.

Union minister on the budget for the construction of the

Assistant Lecturer U Kyaw Win Maw Tun reported to the

Mya Aye inspected construction of a building for Yankin

replied.

questions were raised and

Hluttaw representatives and

Hsan Hsint, 69 Region

Region Hluttaw Speaker U

yesterday, attended by

meeting hall of the Region

Ayeyawady Region

Session 1/2012 for First

Third day of Special Session 1/2012 for First

Ayeawady Region Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

UNION EDUCATION MINISTER VISITS YANKIN EDUCATION COLLEGE

YANGON, 18 Aug—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye inspected construction of a building for Yankin Education College in Yankin Township today.

Daw Khin Wai Myint, Principal of the college, and Assistant Lecturer U Kyaw Win Maw Tun reported to the Union minister on the budget for the construction of the three-storey building and its design.

The Union minister called on producing qualified teachers at the college and inspected the site chosen to construct the building.—MNA

Third day of Special Session 1/2012 for First Ayeawady Region Hluttaw continues

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Aug—Third day of Special Session 1/2012 for First Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw was held at the meeting hall of the Region Hluttaw Office at 10 am yesterday, attended by Region Hluttaw Speaker U Hsan Hsint, 69 Region Hluttaw representatives and 12 special invited guests.

At the meeting, six questions were raised and replied.

In discussion session, discussions made concerning Inyeegyi natural wetland in Kyonyaw Township, prosecution of farmers from Hlesek village in Kyonyaw Township, blockage of water, change of water course and use of vacant lands in Thabyu village and Taungnangon village-tract in Danuby Township and field trip reports for growing summer paddy and water supply.

The region Hluttaw speaker sought the approval of the Hluttaw and discussed 10 points of assessments by legislative committee and law scrutiny committee. The region Hluttaw speaker submitted to approve the report concerning extension tasks under 2012-2013 capital expenditures for development affairs committee in Ayeyawady Region.

Region Deputy Hluttaw Speaker Dr Htein Win submitted reorganizations of Hluttaw National Races Affairs Committee and Social, Culture, Sports and Human Resources Development Committee to the Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw approved the submission and the third-day of special meeting 1/2012 came to an end at 4.30 pm.

MNA

Liverpool suffer losing start,

Arsenal held in Premiership

West Bromwich Albion’s Claudio Yacob (L) challenges Liverpool’s Luis Suarez, during their English Premier League soccer match at The Hawthorns in West Bromwich, central England, on 18 Aug, 2012.—INTERNET

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (18-8-2012)

Khayan (3.23) inches
Mawlamyine (3.18) inches
ZaungTu (3.18) inches
Nyaunglebin (3.15) inches
Mudon (3.07) inches.

Tune-up volleyball match

on 18 Aug

YANGON, 18 Aug—As part of preparations to achieve success of Myanmar selected volleyball teams in the XXVII SEA Games, Myanmar selected men’s volleyball team will play against New Zealander men’s volleyball team in the tune-up match at the National Indoor Stadium(1), here, at 2 pm tomorrow.

Despite fixing the date for the match on 18 August, the tune-up match was postponed due to flight error of the New Zealander team.

The New Zealander men’s volleyball team arrived here by air this morning. The team was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Myanmar Volleyball Federation.—MNA

Arrival of New Zealand selected volleyball team seen at Yangon International Airport. MNA