Union Construction Minister inspects roadwork on Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint yesterday inspected progress of roadwork on Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo Road. The Union Minister assisted in construction of retaining wall between milepost Nos. 106/6 and 106/7, maintenance of tar road session between milepost Nos. 97/7 and 100/0 with the use of toll wall and dredging the drains for proper flow of water, construction of retaining walls between milepost Nos. 90/5 and 90/6, and between milepost Nos. 64/4 and 64/5.

At Nawaday Avenue’s briefing hall, the Union Minister met with engineers of district/township special groups of Bago Region, calling for ensuring that no overloaded trucks are allowed on Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo Road, a central one among Yoma crossing roads, and making efforts on upgrading roads and bridges in the district.

Flood warning for Sittoung, Shwegyin rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T observations today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk 1190 cm has exceeded by 120 cm (about 4 feet) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1070 cm during the next three days.

The water level of the Shwegyin River at Shwegyin 710 cm has exceeded by 10 cm (about 0.3 foot) above its danger level. It may continue to rise 30 cm (about 1 foot) during the next 48 hours commencing this noon and may remain above its danger level 700 cm, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department. —MNA

Our Three Main National Causes

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

Chelsea beat Wigan 2-0 in Premier League

WIGAN, 19 Aug—Chelsea opened its Premier League campaign with a 2-0 away victory over Wigan Sunday, with Branislav Ivanovic and Frank Lampard scoring inside the first seven minutes.

Eden Hazard, making his league debut for Chelsea, was instrumental in both goals at the DW Stadium. The Belgium international played the ball to Ivanovic in the second minute for the opening goal before being fouled for Lampard’s penalty by Wigan debutant Ivan Ramis.

Ramis made up for his error in the second half, clearing a Fernando Torres chip off the line as Chelsea looked to increase its lead. Brazilian attacking midfielder Oscar, who came off the bench to make his first Chelsea appearance, also came close.

Wigan’s Jordi Gomez missed several chances in the second half as Roberto Di Matteo’s side took all three points. —Internet
PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 August, 2012

Engines of growth

Now, we are going forward under our newly adopted democratic system and market-oriented economy helping us achieve well-rounded development in all areas including business, trade, and so on.

Like in many other fast developing countries around the world all-round development will become a drive for mass migration of people from the rural to the urban, followed by the increase in the populations of towns, especially cities and major towns, because of a large number of job and business opportunities created by extra industries, private business firms, joint-ventures, cooperative cartels, financial institutions including banks and the enlargement of transport facilities including ports and airports.

As a result of this positive trend, the formation of urbanization plans as well as action groups alongside the task of ensuring socio-economic development, creating favourable urban environment, introducing green economy, establishing environmental friendly industrial and housing estates has become a must for us all.

Currently, ten percent of the country’s population lives in Yangon, the commercial city where products from the whole country meet, and serving as the main gateway into motherland and the largest portal for imports and exports. Once an Asian model city now is a candidate for future mega metropolitan of the continent.

We have Mandalay; another metropolis renowned for its cultural heritages, and the country’s second largest economic hub acting as the centre in doing business with two global emerging economies — China and India. Roughly, 20 percent of Myanmar people living in Yangon and Mandalay are generating 30 per cent of Gross Domestic Product.

So, it is crystal clear that such major economic hubs are vital for our economic well-being serving as engines of growth and home of a very large working force. In this context, we must devise and deliver effective urbanization projects turning large and promising towns into major cities in which considerable number of industries and labour force are serving as extra engines of growth for our motherland.

Farmers fight back flood in Bago

NAV Pyi Taw, 19 Aug—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing visited 200-acre Palethwe paddy plantation in Oawtwin Township, Bago Region this morning and comforted local farmers.

He then attended the ceremony to provide paddy seeds and cash assistance to farmers who suffered losses from flooded farms at Bago Region Government Office. The torrential rains had flooded over 0.1 million acres of rice plants and about 8600 acres are faced with the threat of complete damage. But, measures are underway to re-grow the flooded farms.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister highlighted the threat of flood and drought worldwide due to global warming, calling for practical measures to substitute crops in case they are damaged by disasters. He expressed thanks to partner companies and wellwishers for their contribution to fulfill the requirements of farmers.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint called for donation of paddy seeds and assistance and harmonious cooperation of businessmen so as to re-grow the flooded farms in time.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing donated 300 baskets of paddy seeds and Dr Naing Tun Aung and wife Dr Wai Yin of International Gateway Co Ltd and Myohla Sugar Mill K 50.15 million kyats to the farmers.

Union Minister U Win Myint contributed 200 baskets of paddy seeds, businessmen and companies 15 million kyats, 100 USD and instant noodle worth K 3 million.

Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win spoke words of thanks. Today’s donations include 506 baskets of paddy seeds, K 80.15 million and 100 USD.

Outstanding students honoured in Thongwa

Union CPT Minister on inspection tour of Yatanarpon Teleport

NAV Pyi Taw, 19 Aug—A ceremony to honour outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination with flying colours, the teachers and schools for their best performance with best pass rate in 2011-2012 academic year was held at Basic Education High School No. 1 in Thongwa yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung and Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein gave speeches.

After that, the Union Minister, the Region Minister and officials presented prizes to the outstanding students, teachers and schools.

Later, the Union Minister donated cash and publications to the schools and social organizations in Thongwa Township.

MNA

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
Ryan puts personal spin on Medicare debate

The Villages, 19 Aug—Republican vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan on Saturday put a personal spin on the debate over Medicare, bringing his 78-year-old mother on stage at a speech to seniors in Florida where he vowed to safeguard the health insurance programme for the elderly.

Under attack by Democrats for his budget cost-cutting plan that proposes a major transformation in how Medicare works and is more offensive, charging that President Barack Obama would take billions from Medicare to pay for his 2010 health care reform law.

With that, he has also begun to align himself with presidential candidate Mitt Romney’s approach to Medicare, one that would spend $716 billion more than either Obama’s or Ryan’s over the next 10 years. Ryan personalized the issue at the Villages, the world’s biggest retirement community and a bastion of Republican support in a key swing state.

“When I think of Medicare, it’s not just a programme, it’s not just a bunch of numbers, it’s what my grandma had,” Ryan, 42, said. Standing in front of a presidential candidate Mitt Romney’s approach to Medicare, 2010 health care reform law.

works, Ryan has gone on the offensive, charging that President

plan that proposes a major transformation in how Medicare

stage at a speech to seniors in Florida where he vowed to
debate over Medicare, bringing his 78-year-old mother on

Medicare, it’s not just a programme, it’s what my grandma had,” Ryan said. Standing in front of a

vowed to do a programme that provides

limited subsidies to buy coverage.

On the campaign trail, Ryan has emphasized less

contentiously proposals offered by Romney.

Talk of shrinking the health programme for the elderly could lose votes in the 6 November election in the hotly contested state of Florida, home to the highest concentration of retirees in the country. “Their plan would put Medicare on track to be ended as we know it,” President Barack Obama said to a crowd of about 2,500 at a campaign event on Saturday in Windham, New Hampshire. —Reuters

At least 14 killed in attack on Yemen

Yemeni soldiers and security

guards on Saturday in a car

bomb and grenade attack on

the intelligence service

headquarters in the southern

port city of Aden.

More bodies were

believed buried under the

ruins of the building, part of

which was leveled in the

assault, the defence ministry

said. At least seven people

were wounded.

The United States has

been pouring aid into Yemen

to stem the threat of attacks

from al-Qaeda in the Arabian

Peninsula (AQAP) and to try to prevent any spillover of

violence into neighboring

Saudi Arabia, the world’s top
gas exporter.

Last year, a U.S.-backed

offensive driven al-Qaeda

off until its fighters were

beaten back from cities it had

swept from 2010.

They then moved on to

the three-storey intelligence

building nearby and opened fire

with automatic weapons and

rocket-propelled grenades.

The attackers deserted a car bomb next to the building, destroying part of it, said the defence ministry.

The ministry said the

attack killed 14 people and

wounded seven—all of them

members of the intelligence

service and the Central

Security forces. A security

source and medics said 18

people died. —Reuters

Serial attacks kill seven, wound 5 in Iraq

Baghdad, 19 Aug—Seven people were killed and five others injured on Saturday in separate gunfire

and bomb attacks in Iraq, the police said.

In central Iraq, gunmen stormed the house of a police traffic officer in Swaeb district in southwestern Baghdad, and shot him, his wife, his

sister and his daughter dead, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The attackers robber about 35,000 US dollars and fled the scene, the source said, adding that Iraqi security forces launched an investigation into the incident.

In Iraq’s western province of Anbar, a roadside bomb hidden in a garbage container detonated near a police patrol in eastern the
city of Fallujah, some 50 km northeast of Baghdad, injuring two policemen, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In addition, police arrested a woman suicide bomber wearing an explosive vest in the provincial capital city of Ramadi, some 110 km west of Baghdad, the source said.

In Iraq’s eastern province of Diyala, a roadside bomb went off in an area located just west of the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, injuring a woman, a provincial police source anonymously told Xinhua. —Xinhua

Wildfires strain outdoor tourism business in western US

Salmon, 19 Aug—Wildfires sweeping across the western United States are straining communities that depend upon the summer tourism season, as recreation sites catch fire, campgrounds close and outdoor activities such as river rafting are disrupted.

In the mountains of central Idaho, where whitewater rafting has replaced logging as an economic mainstay, blazes curtailing trips on rivers whose world-class rapids draw an international crowd of thousands from June through August.

Tourists who booked rafting trips months in advance have been canceling their reservations, sparked by fast-
changing blazes that have produced a smoky haze and led to road blockages.

“We’ve had nothing but cancellations,” said Lorali Simmons, owner of River Shuttle’s, a business in Salmon, Idaho, that shuttles vehicles for boaters on the Middle Fork and the Salmon River’s wild and scenic corridor.

The wildfires that have scorched 80,000 acres of mountain pine forests in central Idaho stranded 300 Middle Fork rafters northwest of Salmon this week after falling rock closed the only road to the site.

Dozens of fires are burning out of control across parched Western states, including California, where blazes have encroached on national parks.

A friend of Ryan’s as his running mate has put a personal spin on the Wisconsin congressman’s best-known

Republican presidential campaign. Romney (R) introduces his mother Betty Douglas at a campaign event at The Villages in Lady Lake, Florida on 18 August, 2012. —REUTERS

Hurricane Gordon heads toward eastern Azores

Miami, 19 Aug—Hurricane Gordon sped across the Atlantic on early Sunday toward the eastern

Azores islands, where a hurricane warning is in effect.

The US National Hurricane Centre in Miami

said Gordon was centered about 395 miles (635 kms) west-southwest of the

Azores at 2 am EDT (0600 GMT) Sunday. It added that Gordon was a Category 2 hurricane with top sustained winds of 110 mph (175 kph) and higher gusts.

The hurricane, which formed on Saturday, was moving towards the east at 22 mph (35 kph).

The hurricane was on a forecast track expected to take it near the eastern Azores on early Monday, forecasters said that while the Gordon was expected to weaken somewhat during the day Sunday, it was still expected to be a hurricane when it passes near the eastern Azores.

Portugal’s government, meanwhile, has discontinued a hurricane warning for the central Azores.

Forecasters said Gordon, on an eastward track in the pre-dawn hours, was expected to turn toward the east-northeast later Sunday. Hurricane-force winds extended outward up to 35 miles (55kms) from the center and tropical storm force winds reached outward up to 125 miles (205kph).

Gordon’s dangerous surf and ocean swells could reach the central and eastern Azores on Sunday afternoon and heavy rains were expected, the Miami forecasting center said.

Gordon became a hurricane on Saturday even as onetime Tropical Storm Helene swiftly weakened into a tropical depression as it lumbered ashore in Mexico’s Gulf Coast and degenerated into a rain storm without reports of significant

damage. —Reuters

A firefighter rescues trapped tourists in Longmenshan Township of Pengzhou City in Chengdu, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, on 18 Aug, 2012. Heavy rains dashed Chengdu on Friday night, triggering mudslide in Yinchanggou scenic zone of Pengzhou. —Xinhua

A man takes a photo of smoke rising from the site of an attack on the Political Security Agency building, the headquarters of the Yemeni intelligence services in the southern provinces, in the southern Yemeni city of Aden on 18 Aug, 2012.—INTERNET

A fire burns among the debris of a military building in the town of Methaq, in eastern the Bagdad, Iraq, on 18 August, 2012. —AP
Sharks tracked by surfing robot and free app

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 Aug — A surfing robot is being used to track great white sharks off the coast of California, US, by marine scientists. The mobile transmitter attached to the latest addition to an extensive programme of electronic tagging. Researchers aim to fine-tune 12 years of results with the self-propelled craft and raise public awareness of the area’s unique wildlife. Shark fans are asked to follow the animals’ movements via a free surfing phone application on smartphones and tablet computers.

The project is led by shark expert Professor Barbara Block, from Stanford University, who describes the area off the coast of San Francisco as the “Blue Serengeti”, comparing its underwater highways to the migratory routes of Africa. Her latest project builds on a 10-year programme dedicated to tracking predators in the Pacific Ocean using electronic tags on creatures ranging from seabirds to turtles. The study revealed that the waters were a hotspot for a variety of species which frequent the area depending on the season.

The unique shark-tracking robot.

The study revealed that the waters were a hotspot for a variety of species which frequent the area depending on the season.

New family of spiders found in Oregon cave

GRANTS PASS, (Ore.,) 19 Aug — Amateur cave explorers have found a new family of spiders in the Siskiyou Mountains of Southern Oregon, and scientists have dubbed it Trogloraptor — Latin for “underwater highway” to the spiders’ cave home. The spiders represent a family found in North America and water temperature, many migrating between Mexico and Canada.

According to Prof. Block, the great white sharks in particular demonstrated an “incredible homing ability”. But to further investigate their behaviour, she required a “mobile observatory”.

Across the planet the goal of biologists alike is to observe oceanographers and marine biologists alike is to observe the ocean in as much detail as possible, “to understand that unobtrusive equipment is the key to accurate data. After first hearing about the “environmentally friendly” unmanned technology developed by the Silicon Valley-based company Liquid Robotics, Prof. Block said she “became infatuated”.

The yellow bright shark-tracking robot designed by the company consists of two parts—a glider that descends 237km down into the ocean with a surfboard above. The glider has a special wing system that converts wave energy into forward thrust to keep it buoyant in the water. It also has a receiver that picks up the audio signals from the sharks’ electronic tags. The surfboard carries the rest of the scientific instruments, including the satellite link that allows researchers to accurately pinpoint the animals’ locations.

When a shark or other tagged animal encounters the robot, their path will be recorded and relayed back to the research team.

They have also placed a number of fixed buoys mounted with underwater audio receivers known as hydrophones to form a listening network in known hotspots. In the first week of its deployment, the robot has picked up five great white sharks.

Shamoon virus targets energy sector infrastructure

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 Aug — A new threat to the energy sector infrastructure has been uncovered by security specialists. The attack, known as Shamoon, is said to have hit “at least one organization” in the sector. Shamoon is capable of wiping files and rendering several computers on a network unusable. On Wednesday, Saudi Arabia’s national oil company said an attack had led to its own network being taken offline.

Although Saudi Aramco did not link the issue to the Shamoon threat, it did confirm that the company had suffered a “sudden disruption”. In a statement, the company said it had now isolated its computer networks as a precautionary measure. The disruptions were “suspected to be the result of a virus that had infected personal workstations without affecting the primary components of the network.”

The statement read: It said the attack had had “no impact whatsoever” on production operations.

On Thursday, Saudi security forces released the first detailed information about Shamoon.

User Streams product, you will need our permission if your application will require more than 100,000 individual users. The guidelines also covered how tweets are displayed within apps. If your application displays Tweets users, and doesn’t adhere to our Display Requirements, we reserve the right to revoke your application key.

Mr Sippey explained: “The changes are not expected to have an immediate impact on users. However, the announcement was heavily criticised by developers. Marco Arment, creator of popular reading service Instapaper, advised developers who were building on Twitter to “start working on another product.”

Twitter changes provokes anger from developers

Next-generation ASUS Transformer tablet revealed ahead of launch

NEW YORK, 19 Aug — An upcoming tablet from ASUS recently passed through the Federal Communications Commission’s testing facility equipped with the model number TF300T. Few details are available on the documentation, however, the model number suggests the tablet could fall between the budget-friendly Transformer Pad TF300 and the high-end Transformer Pad Infinity TF700. The Taiwanese manufacturer’s upcoming tablet will be Wi-Fi only and will feature an HDMI port and a microphone. We can also safely assume that the TF300T will have the ability to transform into a laptop with the help of ASUS’s keyboard dock.
Chiva eyes African Barrick Gold stake

LONDON, 19 Aug — China’s state-owned miner, China National Gold, has held preliminary talks to buy a stake in African Barrick Gold (ABG), one of Africa’s largest gold miners. Demand for gold in China has surged and it is expected to become the world’s biggest market for the metal this year. African Barrick has large reserves but has struggled to meet production targets. Barrick Gold, the parent of ABG, said the talks were at an “early stage”. “There can be no certainty that these discussions will result in the acquisition of all or part of Barrick’s holding in ABG,” Barrick Gold said in a statement. ABG’s production levels have been falling in recent years. Last year, the company produced almost 688,000 ounces of gold. That was down from 701,000 ounces in 2010 and 716,000 ounces the year before. At the same time, its cost of production has gone up. According to the firm, its cost is $902 (£440) per ounce of gold last year, a jump of more than 20% from 2010. The firm has also been hurt by issues such as power cuts as well as theft of fuel. As a result, its shares have taken a hit, falling almost 30% in the first half of the year. Analysts said that given these issues, the miner was a risky bet for potential suitors."African Barrick has always looked like it offered good value albeit at a high risk, and if the potential acquirer can get the asset and is comfortable with the risk, you will be able to get a reasonable set of assets for a good price,” said Hunter Hillcoat an analyst with Investec. — Internet

Eurozone trade surplus rises to record high in June

LONDON, 19 Aug — The eurozone’s trade surplus hit 14.9bn euros ($18.3bn; £11.7bn) in June up from 200m euros a year ago. The surplus was the highest since the European Union’s statistics agency began collecting data in 1999.

Germany, the Netherlands and Republic of Ireland recorded the biggest surplus among the 17-member euro area and the wider 27-member EU, said Eurostat. The EU’s trade surplus was 400m euros, compared with a 15.3bn-euro deficit a year earlier. The switch to a surplus was helped by increased exports to Asia and emerging markets including Russia, Japan, Brazil and South Korea. The data underlined the region’s dependence on external sources of growth as austerity measures in core eurozone countries have damaged household spending and business confidence.

"Companies have to look for foreign buyers to replace austerity-hit domestic demand and wage restraint and leaner production improve competitiveness,” said Berenberg Bank analyst Christian Schulz.

"Germany is still playing a big part. Although it has recently started losing competitiveness vis-a-vis its eurozone partners, the German economy continues to enjoy high and still improving level of competitiveness at the global level,” he added.

Earlier this week, Eurostat said the eurozone economy had shrunk by 0.2% in the April-to-June period from flat growth in the previous first quarter. Capital Economics warned: “With global growth slowing, we don’t expect the resilience of the core’s exports to last long.” We will see both Germany and France slipping into recession in 2013.” — Internet

Australian scientists in research into spider venom for breast cancer cure

BRISBANE, 19 Aug — Australian scientists are undertaking groundbreaking research into spider venom for use in medicine to fight breast cancer, Queensland Science Minister Rus Bates said on Friday.

Scientists at James Cook University in Cairns in Far North Queensland will determine if venom from funnel web spiders and tarantulas can kill breast cancer cells through the research, the minister said.

Bates said the research was on the back of international studies that suggested certain toxins in spider venom could offer an unpathed suite of natural molecules to kill breast cancer cells.

“With more than 40,000 species of spiders, it’s estimated there are more than four million different toxins in spider venom,” Bates said in a statement. “Those toxins will now be screened, to look at their potential to treat cancer in humans.”

The minister said the work being done by James Cook University researchers had cemented Queensland’s place as a global scientific leader. — Xinhua

Hospira recalls pain injection on overdose risk

WASHINGTON, 19 Aug — The US Food and Drug Administration said Hospira Inc is voluntarily recalling one lot of its hydromorphone pain relieving injection as it may contain more than the intended fill volume, posing a risk of drug overdose.

Hospira said such overdoses may lead to life-threatening con-sequences, including slowed breathing, low blood pressure and reduced heart rate, the FDA said.

Hospira began the recall on Thursday after a complaint that one Carport — the drug delivery system — contained more than the intended ml labeled fill volume.

The company said it has not received any reports of adverse events related to the affected lot.

The number of the affected lot is 12730L and it was distributed between March and May 2012. — Reuters

Eat walnuts a day keep the doctor away

WASHINGTON, 19 Aug — Eating around two handfuls of walnuts a day improves sperm health in young men, a study in the journal Biology of Reproduction suggests. Sperm shape, movement and vitality improved in men who added walnuts to their diet over 12 weeks.

The fatty acids found in these nuts are thought to have helped sperm development. It is not known if this would help improve male fertility. About one in six couples are infertile, with 40% of these due to a male factor.

Dr Allan Pacey, senior lecturer in anatomy at the University of Sheffield said: “It would be relatively easy to poke fun at studies like this, but there is increasing evidence to show that aspects of a man’s diet can affect the number and quality of sperm produced by his testicles.” The researchers say the next step is to work with couples who are attending infertility clinics to determine if placing sub-fertile men with poor semen quality, on a walnut diet results in better success conceiving. It is thought that infertility in men may be a result of too few sperm being made, or that the sperm have poor swimming ability, size or shape.

This study involved 117 men between the ages of 21 and 35, who were divided into two groups. One group added 2.6 ounces (75 grams) of whole-shelled walnuts to their daily diet. The other group continued their usual diet but avoided eating tree nuts. Both groups ate a typical Western-style diet.

Lead author, Prof Wende Robbins from UCLA’s Fielding School of Public Health said: “We found a significant improvement in sperm parameters in the group that consumed the walnuts. “The men who ate no tree nuts saw no change.” Sperm quality improved in terms of concentration, vitality, movement, shape and chromosome abnormalities.

Dr Pacey said: “The study has been well executed and my only criticism would be that the men in the walnut-eating arm of the trial could have altered other aspects of their behaviour to give the results shown in the paper.” A better trial would be to place both the original number to something different from the original number, Pod2g explained. In a good implementation, the receiver of the message would see both the original phone number and the reply to one.

But using iPhone’s SMS feature, when receivers see the message, it seems to come from the reply-to number, while the original phone number of the sender is hidden. The loophole means that someone could send iPhone users messages pretending to be from the recipients’ banks or other trusted sources, asking for some private information, or cheating them to go to a dedicated website to obtain users’ information.

Pod2g called the security flaw “severe” and urged Apple to fix it before the final release of the iOS 6 software. “Now you are alerted. Never trust any SMS you received on your iPhone at first sight.” Pod2g wrote in the blog post. Apple Inc could not be reached for comments. — Xinhua

Could two handfuls of walnuts a day keep the fertility doctor away? — INTERNET

Hacker claims to have found new security flaw with Apple’s iPhone

SAN FRANCISCO, 19 Aug — A hacker on Friday revealed a security flaw that he claimed could make Apple’s iPhone particularly vulnerable to text message cheating. The flaw has existed since iPhone was first launched in 2007, and is still not solved in the beta version of iOS 6, the next operating system for iPhone, the hacker under the name “Pod2g” said in a blog post.

Under the protocols handling the exchange of SMS (Short Message Service) text between mobile phones, the sender of a message can technically change the reply-to phone number to something different from the original number, Pod2g explained. In a good implementation, the receiver of the message would see both the original phone number and the reply-to one. But using iPhone’s SMS feature, when receivers see the message, it seems to come from the reply-to number, while the original phone number of the sender is hidden. The loophole means that someone could send iPhone users messages pretending to be from the receivers’ banks or other trusted sources, asking for some private information, or cheating them to go to a dedicated website to obtain users’ information.

Pod2g called the security flaw “severe” and urged Apple to fix it before the final release of the iOS 6 software. “Now you are alerted. Never trust any SMS you received on your iPhone at first sight.” Pod2g wrote in the blog post. Apple Inc could not be reached for comments. — Xinhua

The demand for gold has surged in China recently amid an economic boom. — INTERNET

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health
Typhoon Kai-Tak kills nine in Vietnam

HANOI, 19 Aug.—At least nine people were killed, thousands of homes damaged and swaths of farmland flooded as Typhoon Kai-Tak swept across northern Vietnam, authorities said on Sunday. The storm, which claimed one landslide-fatality Friday, brought strong winds and heavy rains that inundated several densely populated communities including part of the capital Hanoi.

Five people were swept away by floodwaters while one woman died when a landslide buried her house while she was sleeping in Bac Giang Province, according to the government’s central committee on flood and storm control.

A truck driver was killed by a toppled tree while two people were electrocuted by a falling electricity cable, it said.

Outbreak of Ebola virus strikes DR Congo town of Isiro

ISIRO, 19 Aug.—At least one person has died after an outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus in the north-east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, officials say.

The death is one of two cases of the virus discovered in the town of Isiro. Medical charity workers say they are attempting to find and isolate anyone who has been in contact with those infected by the virus.

Medical Services Frontiers (MSF) says the strain is not the same as the kind found recently in neighbouring Uganda. At least 16 people died during an outbreak there last month. The DR Congo outbreak occurred in Oriental Province, which shares a border with Uganda.

“The there is no link between both epidemics at this moment,” Anja de Weggheleire, of MSF, told the BBC. She added that one death that have yet to be detected. “Not every person who develops the disease will develop clear symptoms that are recognised as Ebola. For the moment it seems that there are not that many cases but the exact number of cases is unknown.”

Experts fear that the town’s position as a transit point could make an outbreak more challenging to control. The virus, which is transmitted to humans from both monkeys and apes, has a very high mortality rate. It is one of the most virulent diseases in the world and is spread by close personal contact.

Provincial police officials described the slayings in Mosul as “terrorist attacks.” They are still investigating why gunmen stormed the houses, killing a husband and wife and two other people in the first attack, and two men in the second house.

Attacks have picked up in recent weeks, with nearly 200 people killed since the start of August. On Thursday, a relentless assault across the country killed at least 93 people and wounded many more. It was the second deadliest day in Iraq since US troops left in December.

Three dead in Indonesian quake

JAKARTA, 19 Aug.—A powerful 6.3-magnitude earthquake that shook the eastern Indonesian island of Sulawesi has killed at least three people and seriously injured a dozen others, according to an official.

The quake struck on Saturday evening near the mountainous districts of Parigi Moutong and Sigi in Central Sulawesi Province, where panicked residents ran from their homes into the streets as the ground shook violently for around 15 seconds.

“We have received reports from the ground that three people have died, including a nine-year-old boy,” National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told AFP. “Twelve others have been seriously injured and 40 homes are damaged.”

The US Geological Survey said the quake struck at a depth of around 20 kilometres (12 miles). 56 kilometres southeast of the provincial capital Palu, where residents also felt the tremor and ran from their homes.

Indonesia sits on the Pacific “Ring of Fire” where continental plates collide, causing frequent seismic and volcanic activity.

Bomb hidden in cemetery kills two in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR, 19 Aug.—A bomb hidden in a cemetery in a southern Afghan city exploded on Sunday as a police official and his family were visiting the grave of a relative, police said.

The official and four other family members were wounded.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack in Lashkar Gah, the capital of Helmand Province, but it matched the declared strategy of the Taleban to target government officials and others who align themselves with the government or international forces.

Lawmaker for Helmand Province, Abdulwadood Wardak, is a brother of the two men killed in the explosion, but he was not there at the time of the blast. The family was visiting the grave of their relative after morning prayers marking the Eid-Fitr holiday.

The bomb was buried near the grave, said Helmand Deputy Police Chief Ghulam Rabani. He said one of the men killed was the police chief for Nawa district, just west of Lashkar Gah. Rabani did not provide the man’s name.

Rabani said he believed the bomber had directly targeted this family, but did not say if it had been remotely detonated or had been triggered by the suspects.

Afghans commonly visit the graves of relatives on holy days to pay their respects. The Eid-al-Fitr holiday marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan, during which some people abstain from food and drink during the daylight hours.

In a message ahead of Eid-al-Fitr, Taleban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar instructed his fighters once again to avoid killing or wounding Afghan civilians. “Employ tactics that do not cause harm to the life and property of the common countrymen,” he said in an eight-page message released to news organizations last week. The Telahan had said previously, however, that they do not consider those who collaborate with the government their enemies.

A UN report issued earlier this month said 1,145 civilians were killed and 1,954 injured during the first half of the year, most of them by militants.

Gunnmen raid homes, kill six people in northern Iraq

KANDAHAR, 19 Aug.—Gunnmen killed six people in Iraq on Saturday, raiding two homes in a northern city in yet another bout of violence to strike the country in what has become a particularly bloody month.

Provincial police officials said the slayings in Mosul as “terrorist attacks.” They are still investigating why gunmen stormed the houses, killing a husband and wife and two other people in the first attack, and two men in the second house.

Attacks have picked up in recent weeks, with nearly 200 people killed since the start of August. On Thursday, a relentless assault across the country killed at least 93 people and wounded many more. It was the second deadliest day in Iraq since US troops left in December.

Experts fear that the town’s position as a transit point could make an outbreak more challenging to control. The virus, which is transmitted to humans from both monkeys and apes, has a very high mortality rate. It is one of the most virulent diseases in the world and is spread by close personal contact.

Provincial police officials described the slayings in Mosul as “terrorist attacks.” They are still investigating why gunmen stormed the houses, killing a husband and wife and two other people in the first attack, and two men in the second house.

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Cash donated to flood victims in Madauk

MADAUK, 19 Aug—A ceremony to donate cash to 340 flood victims of Myoma Wards 1 and 2 was held at Pan Ngwe Yon Pariyatti Monastery in Madauk in Nyanpyawt Township of Bago Region on 12 August. The people in the wards fell victims to flood due to overflow of Sittoung River and heavy rains.

On the occasion, WO Than Hlaing-Daw Thi Thi Lwin (Aung Nilar Yadana Store, Bogayoke Market) of Yangon donated K 5000 cash to families, amounting to K 2.7 million. Ward 1 Administrator U Aung Soe and Ward 2 Administrator U Mya Thein and flood victims accepted the cash donations.

Myanma Alin

Sowing of paddy seeds demonstrated in Pauktaw Township

PAUKTAW, 19 Aug—The talks on agricultural technology was held in conjunction with the demonstration on sowing of paddy seeds in Kyaukseik Village of Pauktaw Township in Sittway District on 17 August.

At the talks, Township Administrator U Sai Maung Lu gave instructions on following the technology for boosting of production. Head of District Agriculture Department U Khin Zaw explained the good agricultural patterns in detail.

Myanma Alin

Relief aids provided to flood victims in Shwegyin Township

SHWEGYIN, 19 Aug—Shwegyin Township Flood Relief Committee opened the office to help flood victims at the relief camps of the town due to overflow of Shwegyin and Sittoung Rivers as of 3 August. Up to now, wellwishers donated cash and kind to the victims. On 17 August, U Kyaw Min Naing (Shwekyungyi Co) donated K 5 million, U Moe Aung (Zaburtar Co) 300 bags of rice, U Hla Win-Daw Khin San Lwin (Win Yadana Gold Shop) 120 bags of rice and 1000 viss of fish, Chantha Co 100 bags of rice and K 1 million, U Htin Kyaw (Iron Fist Co) 50 bags of rice, U Maung Pon (Shwegyin Thar Co) 50 bags of rice, U Ko Latt (Golden Target Co) 50 bags of rice, Dr Tun Tun Win Dr Aye Aye Han 50 bags of rice.

Other wellwishers donated cash, bags of rice, packets of instant noodle, purified drinking water and packets of flashlight 1000 people from 2034 households of wards and villages. Moreover, arrangements are being made to provide paddy seeds for cultivation of monsoon paddy in time.

Myanma Alin

Cash donated to Yaw Education Foundation

YANGON, 19 Aug—A young token of contributing to persons from Yaw, Saw, Gangaw, Hilin, Laungshay and Kyaukku and ten Kyauk villages who helped compilation of the book entitled “Yaw Region in Kyaungyan Period (1752-1885 AD) that secured the Tan Foundation Literary Award (History Genre), retired dean and history professor U Kyaw-Daw Khin Soe Myint and family donated K 300,000 to the fund of Yaw Region Education Foundation recently.

Chairman of Yaw Association U Aye Maung accepted the cash donation.

Myanma Alin

Breastfeeding Week marked in Sangyoung Township

YANGON, 19 Aug—As a part of the events to mark the World Breastfeeding Week 2012 and the Nourishment Week 2012 were held at Sabei Hall of Basic Education High School No 2 in Sangyoung Township on 15 August. Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Chairperson of Yangon Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Thaung Mya and Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Thu of District General Administration Department and departmental personnel attended the ceremony.

On the occasion, Dr Sandra and Dr Khin Myitta reported on the plan of World Breastfeeding Week and the Nourishment Week. Officials presented prizes to outstanding persons.

Myanma Alin

Prizes awarded to outstanding students, teachers in Pyu

PYU, 19 Aug—Aungdawmu Social Development Association in Kanyukwin Region of Pyu Township held the prize presentation ceremony for 2011-2012 academic year at Aungdawmu Hall on 4 August. The association presented one scholarship award, prizes to distinction winners in the matriculation examination and 17 outstanding teachers.

The association provides K 2.5 million for enrolment of school going age in the region and K 480,000 to 29 university students. Moreover, arrangements are being made to provide paddy seeds for cultivation of monsoon paddy in time.

Myanma Alin

Winners awarded in reading habit skill contest

YANGON, 19 Aug—Organized by Myanmar Libraries Foundation, No 3 Basic Education Department and Yangon Region Information and Public Relations Department jointly held the reading habit skill contest and prize presentation ceremony at Aung San Hall of Basic Education High School No 4 in Ailaung Township on 3 August.

Chairman of the foundation U Maung Maung made a speech. Vice-Chairman U Nyunt Swe donated books to BEHSs in Ailaung Township.

Later, officials awarded the winners in the reading habit skill contest.

Myanma Alin

School uniforms provided to students in Kyaunggon

KYAUNGON, 19 Aug—A ceremony to present school uniforms to offspring of vendors and slow-moving vehicle drivers was held at the office of Township Development Affairs Committee in Kyaunggon Township of Pathein District on 7 August.

The executive officer of Township Development Affairs Committee gave school uniforms to 24 students.

Myanma Alin

District News

EXHIBITION OPENED: The School Health Week exhibition for 2012-2013 academic year was held at Basic Education High School No 1 in Dagon Township on 6 August, Yangon Region School Health Officer Dr Daw Khin Saw Yi and Headmaster Dr Aung Ko Ko formally open the exhibition.

Myanma Alin

CSC ISSUED: Head of Wakema Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Aye Win and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to eligible citizens in Sabayo Village of Wakema Township on 2 August.

Myanma Alin
**YANGON,** 19 Aug—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun met officers of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue at Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch) here yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister clarified the instructions of the President at the second meeting of the Planning Commission from 13 to 15 August, adding that the President would proportionately allocate the budget and foreign loans and aids for regions and states in line with the constitution.

He called on the personnel at different levels to effectively handle corruption, citing that it is still rooted right and left at the bottom levels of administrative hierarchy. He recommended punitive actions against corruption, describing it as a shame to the government and nation.

He urged the officials to wipe off the black mark for emergence of a clean government. He called on them for a sense of responsibility and the spirit of mitigating the problems.

He promised to make further reforms as his ministry has so far made 74 amendments since 1 April, 2011. He said he viewed seminars on monetary sector development to be held in the capital, Yangon and Mandalay in coming sector as a shot in the hand for acceleration of reform process.

Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Myint explained work programmes for meeting international practices in monetary sector of the country.

The Union minister called for provision of accurate and secure online service to customers with IT-based office operations.

Union F & R Minister calls for accurate and secure online banking services

**YANGON,** 19 Aug—The launching of iPay Head Office took place at its building at the corner of Bogyoke Street and Seikkantha Street in Kyauktada Township of Yangon Region here yesterday morning. At the ceremony, Region Road Transportation Minister U Aung Khin and Managing Director U Myint Lwin of Kipanapadi Express Ltd cut the ribbon and Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung and Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe pressed the iPay signboard to launch the ceremony. The Union Minister and party looked round inside the iPay office.

Region chief minister attended opening of Yangon Expo & Car Show held at Tatmadaw Hall in U Wisara Road in Dagon Township. Region Planning and Economic Minister U Than Myint, Region Electric and Industry Minister U Nyan Tun Oo and Chairman of show committee U Aung Phone Myint cut the ribbon to open Yangon Expo & Car Show.

The Region chief minister and party viewed the booths displayed in the show. At the four-day show, 90 booths from 45 companies displayed their goods and it will continue till 21 August.

Launching ceremony of iPay Head Office

**YANGON,** 19 Aug—Tottenham midfielder Luka Modric fears his dream move to Real Madrid is set to fall through.

The Sun says the sensational development comes after a stormy exchange between Real boss Jose Mourinho and Spurs chief Daniel Levy.

A meeting on Friday to thrash out a deal for the Croatian ace ended with Mourinho in a rage after Levy asked for another £2m at the last minute. Now ex-Chelsea boss Mourinho is set to pull the plug and look elsewhere.

Mourinho fury, Modric fear as Spurs chairman Levy makes new demands

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Aug—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan yesterday morning viewed individual longest drive, nearest to the pin, banker drive and putting drive of the golfers held at Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee Golf Club and awarded cash to best drive golfers.

The Union Minister inspected testing of physical fitness for cycling athletes at Zabuthiri Cycling Ground and preparation for Nay Pyi Taw Archery Ground, VIP Room and VIP Stands.

The Union Minister also inspected construction of Zabuthiri Tennis Court, doing exercise of boxing athletes, construction site for sports village, hostels for athletes and supervisory office.

The Union Minister proceeded to Sports Training Camp (Lewe) where he viewed training of athletes and awarded cash to them.

Union Sports Minister meets officers from the ministry

**YANGON,** 19 Aug—Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun meets officers of departments and enterprises under Ministry of Finance and Revenue at Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch).—MNA

The Union Minister visited branches of Myanmar Economic Bank in North Okkalapa, Mingaladon, Insein Townships and construction of MEB branch in Hmawbi Township.

Donate blood
Billboards on traffic rules erected in Tachileik

KENGTUNG, 19 Aug—The billboards on traffic rules were put up in Kengtung of Shan State (East). The posters and billboards were erected beside Kengtung-Tachileik Road in Kaukkaw region of Ward 1 in Kengtung. Police Captain Aye Lwin of Tachileik Traffic Police Section gave lectures to the people to abide by traffic rules in front of the billboards. —Myanma Alin

Licences issued to motorcyclists in Nyaunglebin

Nyaunglebin, 19 Aug—According to implementation of the plan to register unlicensed motorcyclists from Nyaunglebin, Shwegyin, Kyaukdaga and Daiku townships of Bago Region, licences for motorcycles were issued at the gymnasium in Nyaunglebin on 11 and 12 August.

Nourishment Weeks launched in Mabeyin

MABEIN, 19 Aug—Chairman of Township Health Committee Township Administrator U Soe Than made a speech. Head of Township Health Department Dr Maung Soe explained matters related to nourishment weeks. Later, the township administrator and officials passed the work proficiency examination.

Basic administrative reform multiplier course opened

MOMAUK, 19 Aug—The basic administrative reform multiplier course was opened at the meeting hall of Momauk Township General Administration Department in Bhamo District in Kachin State on 15 August.

Stimulant tablets seized in Tatkwn Township

NAYPYITAW, 19 Aug—A total of 180 stimulant tablets were seized in Tatkwn Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 16 August evening.

Crime News

Gamblers together with K 300,000 arrested

YEDSEH, 19 Aug—Surveillance police squad led by SIP Than Naing of Swa Police Station together with witnesses searched Min Zaw, 32 of Aungchanta Village on the village road on 16 August.

REFRESHER GIVEN: As part of efforts to launch School Health Week in 2012-2013 academic year, Maung Phone Pyaw Kyaw of third standard student and family serve refreshment to students of No. 3 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Bahan Township on 7 August. —Kyemon

NOURISHMENT WEEK 2012 OF SHAN STATE (North) LAUNCHED IN LASHIO LASHIO, 19 Aug—A ceremony to launch Nourishment Week 2012 of Shan State (North) was held at the hall of Nursing Training School in Lashio on 10 August. On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Khian Soe of District General Administration Department made a speech. Medical Superintendent Dr Thun Htut Oo of Shan State (North) General Hospital explained members of nourishment week.

Fingerlings released to farmlands in Nyaungdon

NYAUNGDON, 19 Aug—With the aim of boosting fish production, ensuring sufficiency of fish consumption in rural areas, alleviating poverty and developing rural regions, fingerlings were seized in Tatkon Municipal Township General Administration Department Dr Maung Phone Kyaw of third standard student and family serve refreshment to students of No. 3 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Bahan Township on 7 August. —Kyemon
New role for drones - wildlife, eco conservation

In this 15 March, 2012 photo released by ConservationDrones.org, conservation drone pioneer Lian Pin Koh, right, of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and partner Serge Wich conduct a drone test flight in Zurich, Switzerland. — Internet

PRANBURI, 19 Aug—

Third-tier Rangers shatter world crowd record

GLASGOW, 19 Aug—

Glasgow Rangers football club is pictured in Glasgow, Scotland in February 2012. — Internet

One dead, nine injured in fog-induced crashes

RUNNELSLIAH, 19 Aug—One person was killed and another nine injured on Saturday in three separate crashes caused by fog and smoke on I-65 in Indiana, police said.

At least 20 vehicles were involved in the crashes around 7 am, the Chicago Tribune reported. One crash in the northbound lanes of I-65 near mile post 227 involved 12 vehicles, killing one person and injuring six others, Indiana State Police Sgt Dan Leslie said. A second crash involving six vehicles and a third crash involving two vehicles in the southbound lanes left three people with non-life-threatening injuries, the newspaper said.

Fourth-tier Rangers shatter world crowd record

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, 19 Aug—

Texas mall shooting results in one dead, two injured

NEW YORK, 19 Aug—

World market for higher food prices, experts say

One dead, nine injured in fog-induced crashes

Rescuers search for Philippine minister, two pilots

MANILA, 19 Aug—

Fourth-tier Rangers shatter world crowd record

Glasgow Rangers football club is pictured in Glasgow, Scotland in February 2012. — Internet

Texas mall shooting results in one dead, two injured

San Antonio, Texas, 19 Aug—One man was killed and two wounded on early Saturday in a shooting at a mall in the small town of Odessa in West Texas and police said.

Police say officers were sent to the Music City Mall on a report that people were refusing to leave a sports bar inside, which was then cleared out by police.

The mall had reopened following an earlier shooting that left nine injured in late July.

With drought parching farms in Indonesia and the near Black Sea, weak monsoon rains in India and insidious threats in Africa’s Sahel region, the world could be headed towards another food crisis, experts say.

Asia should keep a catastrophe at bay with a strong rice harvest while the G20 group of industrialized and emerging economies must play the main threat, ensuring food prices.

“Have had quite a few climate events this year that will lead to very poor harvests, notably in the United States with corn or in Russia with soja,” warned Philippe Pinta of the French farmers federation FNSEA.

“That will create price pressures similar to what we saw in 2007-2008,” he added in reference to the last global food alert, when wheat and rice prices nearly doubled.

In India, “all eyes will be on food inflations—whether the impact of a weak monsoon feeds into food prices,” said Chakravorty, regional head of research at Standard Chartered Bank.
Chicago Air and Water Show kicks off

WASHINGTON, 19 Aug—A United Airlines flight returned to the Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey on Saturday after an engine problem erupted during its takeoff, media reports said.

An FBI official said a tire of the passenger plane blew during takeoff and flew into an engine, according the reports by CNN.

The Berlin-bound flight then circled the airport and landed at around 8:05 pm local time after burning fuel for 90 minutes, according to reports.

Saturday after an engine problem erupted during its takeoff, according the reports on Saturday.

The perfect 70-degree Fahrenheit temperatures and sunny skies brought a huge crowd to two-mile section of the necklace Lake Michigan beaches, as families camped out in lawn chairs to see the 26 aviation performances scheduled for the day.

Highlighting this year’s Chicago Air and Water Show was an appearance by the US Navy Blue Angels, the pilots of F/A-18 Hornets that thrilled audiences with their tight group formations and acrobatic aerial maneuvers.

Flying at supersonic speeds, the Blue Angels zoomed over Lake Michigan and performedloop-de-loops and barrel rolls, with the sound of their engine roar echoing all the way into downtown Chicago.

Another famous feature at the show was the US Army Golden Knights, an elite group of army soldiers that specializes in parachuting.

At 12,500 feet above sea level, the Golden Knights jumped out of the military planes carrying them and fell to the earth at more than 120 miles an hour, deploying parachutes just above North Avenue Beach to gracefully land at a precise target near the crowds.

The air show has become an annual tradition for many Chicagoans, who enjoy the mix of family activities and aviation excellence.

The show is also free, which adds to the appeal for many attendees.

“It’s a great opportunity just to bring the kids and enjoy the nice weather,” local resident Tim Jacobson told Xinhua during a break in the action.

Chicago Air and Water Show on the Michigan lake, north of Chicago, on Aug 18, 2012. The two-day Chicago Air and Water Show, opened on Saturday, is the largest free show of its kind in the United States. — Xinhua

Greece needs 2.5 billion extra spending cuts over two years

International Monetary Fund, Del Spiegel said Greece would likely need 14 billion euros in spending cuts in the next two years to meet demands made by its international lenders in return for financial aid, Germany’s Der Spiegel magazine reported on Saturday.

Citing an interim report by the troika of European Commission, European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund, the magazine reported that Greece would likely need 14 billion euros in spending cuts in the next two years to meet demands made by its international lenders in return for financial aid.

The country’s budget deficit stood at 9.3 percent in 2011. The increased financing gap was due to setbacks to privatization plans and as the economy, in its fifth year of recession, was faring worse than expected, the magazine said.

International creditors, who have bailed out Greece twice, have set those targets in return for financial aid. A positive verdict from the troika is key for lenders to decide whether they will keep funds flowing to the austerity-bound country.

The troika representatives wrote the report after their last trip to Athens and would determine the exact amount needed when they next visit Greece in early September, the magazine reported.

“The delegation also criticized in its interim report that Prime Minister Antonis Samaras’ government had already been unable to explain how the savings of 11.5 billion euros should be reached,” Der Spiegel reported. “Roughly a third is uncovered.”

Cuba plans to expand ostrich farming

HAVANA, 19 Aug—The Cuban government plans to expand ostrich farming across the country to boost local economy and exports.

Ostrich is considered the largest bird in the world and can be utilized by the domestic market, international markets, the state news agency Prensa Latina reported.

The first flock of ostriches arrived last month from Cuba to Mexico by CENPALAR (the National Centre for Laboratory Animal Production) in 1997 as part of a programme designed “to diversify the production of healthy foods and create new export items.”

The first commercial farm was established in 2007, when the experimental farm La Esperanza, in the outskirts of Havana, received 36 ostriches 20 from the CENPALAR.

Compared to other cattle breeds, ostrich farming carries more economic benefits since ostrich has high reproduction rate and commercial value. Its skin can be used for clothes, footwear and fashion jewelry of high quality. Its meat is highly nutritious, which is sold at high prices at the international markets.

Oil obtained from the ostrich’s abdominal fat is rich in essential fatty acids (EFAs), which is good for human health and can be utilized by cosmetic and perfume industry.

People play with water in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, on Aug 18, 2012. Heatwave hit most part of France, with the temperature climbing up to 38 degrees Celsius on Saturday in Paris in modern France, temperatures reached 40 degrees Celsius. — Xinhua

Nigerian government ready to have dialogue with militant group: minister

ABUJA, 19 Aug—The Nigerian government announced on Saturday that it is ready to hold peace talks with the Boko Haram sect in a bid to stop violence in the west African country.

Minister of Information Labaran Maku disclosed this in a statement made available to Xinhua, saying the olive branch extended to the militant group by the government followed recent comments credited to Boko Haram members in the media, in which they signaled readiness to hold dialogue with government representatives.

“The government welcomes any initiative that will usher in peace, security and tranquility, in the light of security challenges we have faced in the last two years,” the minister added, saying that the government wishes to reiterate its willingness to listen to the grievances of the sect.

Although President Goodluck Jonathan has openly expressed worry over the activities of Boko Haram and has devised several schemes to tackle the menace, critics blame him for the inability of his government to stop the violence.

According to Maku, the government hopes that the dialogue would lead to the restoration of peace, security and tranquility to northern Nigeria. — Xinhua

Aeroshell acrobatic team performs during the Chicago Air and Water Show on the Michigan lake, north of Chicago, on Aug 18, 2012. The two-day Chicago Air and Water Show, opened on Saturday, is the largest free show of its kind in the United States. — Xinhua

Flight returns to airport in New Jersey after engine problem

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An FBI official said a tire of the passenger plane blew during takeoff and flew into an engine, according the reports by CNN.

The Berlin-bound flight then circled the airport and landed at around 8:05 pm local time after burning fuel for more than an hour, said the Federal Aviation Administration.

An eyewitness, who was driving on a road near the airport, said she saw fireballs near a wing shortly after the plane took off, according to the reports.

The Newark airport, located about 24 km southwest of Midtown Manhattan in New York, is a major airport in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. — Xinhua

Tourists look at flowers at the 11th China (Changshun) International Agricultural and Food Expo in Changshun, capital of northeast China’s Jilin Province, on 17 Aug, 2012. More than 100,000 flowers of 74 categories were displayed at the expo, which attracted many visitors. — Xinhua

Soft drinks provide relief to low industrial growth in India

KOBLATA, 19 Aug—Aerated water and soft drinks provided otherwise disappointing industrial growth numbers in June in India, while sugar production fell sharply due to low output in the western state of Maharashtra, the country’s largest producer.

The heat in June, coupled with humid conditions, led to a 58.3 percent rise in the sale of aerated waters and soft drinks in the month year-on-year, while larger category of this segment, consumer non-durable, declined 1 percent.

The June figure for aerated water and soft drinks was even higher than the previous month, when production rose 25.1 percent, even as industrial growth was lower in June compared to May, though sugar production declined 66.1 percent in June. Abinash Verma, director general of the Indian Sugar Mills Association, said the crushing of sugarcane in Maharashtra continued till June last year, but this year the mills improved their capacities, due to which they could crush the same amount of cane by the middle of May. Crushing season starts from November every year.

He said, “This has brought down the overall sugar production in India in June compared with the same period last year.” Maharashtra produced 0.13 million tonnes of sugar in June last year, while this year it fell to 0.01 million tonnes. Some of the other important products which indicated high negative growth in June included cable and rubber insulated products, which fell 82 percent, colour television picture tubes fell 79.7 percent, di-ammonium phosphate by 54.1 percent, cement machinery by 80 percent and three-wheelers by 29.4 percent. — Xinhua

Visitors pose for photo at a 3D exhibition in Beijing, capital of China, on 18 Aug, 2012. Over 80 pieces of artworks created by South Korean artists are on display to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and South Korea. The exhibition will last till 9 Sep, 2012. — Xinhua

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 20 August, 2012 11
Another Afghan police attack kills two US troops

A disturbing string of attacks by Afghan security forces on the international troops training them. Later Friday, an Afghan soldier turned his gun on foreign troops in another part of the country and wounded two of them, a spokesman for the NATO coalition said.

Violent attacks in the country’s far west and south brought to seven the number of times that a member of the Afghan security forces—or someone wearing their uniform—has opened fire on international forces in the past two weeks.

Such assaults by allies, virtually unheard of just a few years ago, have recently escalated, killing at least 35 foreign troops so far this year. They also raise questions about the strategy to train Afghan national police and soldiers to take over security and fight insurgents after most foreign troops leave the country by the end of 2014.

The NATO-led coalition has said such attacks are anomalies stemming from personal disputes, but the supreme leader of the Taliban boasted on Thursday that the insurgents are preparing to launch a big and expanding Afghan forces.

Friday’s deadly attack in the far western province of Farah was identified as Mohammad Ismail, a man in his 30s who had joined the Afghan Local Police just five days ago. He opened fire during an inauguration ceremony attended by American and Afghan forces in the Kinjik village, in Farah provincial police chief Agha Noor Kemtuz said.

“As soon as they gave the weapon to Ismail to begin training, suddenly he took the gun and opened fire toward the US soldiers,” Kemtuz said. Ismail was shot and killed as the coalition and Afghan forces returned fire, the police chief said. —Internet

Wave of attacks that killed 82 overshadow Eid in Iraq

Baghdad, 19 Aug—A spate of attacks that killed 82 people in Iraq overshadowed preparations on Friday to mark the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, amid warnings insurgents would look to carry out deadly strikes.

The violence, the worst in more than three weeks, hit 15 cities across the country and left 270 people wounded on Thursday, just days before the Eid festival that is set to begin on Sunday.

The attacks brought the number of dead nationwide over the course of Ramadan, which began on 18 July, to 404, according to the UN. There has been at least one bombing or shooting on every day of the holy month but one.

Thursday’s deadliest violence struck in and around Baghdad, where at least 54 people were killed in a series of attacks throughout the day, security and medical officials said. Blasts and shootings also took place in the south, west and north of Iraq.

In the east Baghdad neighbourhood of Zafarniyah, a roadside bomb went off outside an ice cream parlour late on Thursday evening, killing four people and wounding 11. A subsequent car bomb nearby killed 22 and left 30 wounded. —Internet

Navy to repair nuke sub that caught fire in Maine

PORTLAND, 19 Aug—The Navy says a nuclear-powered attack submarine severely damaged by a fire at a naval shipyard in Portsmouth, Maine, is going to be repaired.

Navy spokeswoman Lt. Courtney Hillion told The Associated Press on Friday that engineering assessments are ongoing but the Navy has made the decision to repair the USS Miami, which is based in Groton (GRAH)–(uhn), Conn. A Navy shipyard worker from Portsmouth, NH, exchanged with setting the fire while the sub was in dry dock on 23 May. There had been lingering questions over whether it would make financial sense to repair the 22-year-old submarine. Early estimates put the damage at $400 million. —Internet

Seven charged in shootings that killed Louisiana police officers

NEW ORLEANS, 19 Aug—Louisiana police have charged seven people in connection with shootings near New Orleans on Thursday that killed two sheriff’s deputies at a trailer park and wounded two others, authorities said. Brian Lyn Smith, 24, of LaPlace was charged with attempted first-degree murder while six others also face charges linked to the violence. St. John Parish Sheriff’s Office spokesman Andrew Clement said on Friday.

The charges stem from a pair of related shootings early on Thursday in and around LaPlace, about 25 miles west of New Orleans, in which a gunman shot and wounded St. John Parish Sheriff’s Deputy Michael Scott Hoyningen, 33, as he performed off-duty work directing traffic at a parking lot for Valero Energy Corp’s St Charles refinery. St. John Parish Sheriff Mike Tregre said.

The gunman fled and officers investigating the incident ended up at a trailer park in LaPlace. As they were questioning two suspects, someone came out of a trailer with an assault weapon and shot dead the two officers and wounded another, Tregre said. —Reuters

FIVE KILLED IN PAKISTAN SUICIDE BOMBING

QUETTA, 19 Aug—A suicide bomber blew up his explosive-laden car at a check post in southwestern Pakistan overnight killing five people including three soldiers, according to an official. —Internet

Ministry of Information
Invitation for open tender of Myanmar Radio and Television to purchase machines

1. Machines to be purchased for Myanmar Radio and Television under the Ministry of Information are as follows:

(a) NLE Laptop Computer  - 5 Nos
(b) Innmarsat BGAN Terminal Network - 2 Sets
(c) P2 Card (64 GB)  - 10 Nos
(d) P2 Card Drive  - 2 Nos

2. Application forms of open tenders may be taken out from Office No. 7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, from 09:30 to 16:30 hour from (20-8-2012) to (5-9-2012) during working days.

3. The open tenderers are submitted to Office No. 7, Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw, in the presence of the members of the tender committee from 09:30 to 16:30 hr on (6-9-2012). The tenders, later than the designated date, will not be considered.

4. Forms of open tender and detailed Information may be inquired by following address.

 Procurement Committee Ministry of Information Office No. 7, Nay Pyi Taw Tel: 067-412327, 067-412323

This file photo shows Pakistani paramilitary soldiers checking documents on a street in Quetta, in June. A suicide bomber blew up his explosive-laden car at a check post in southwestern Pakistan overnight killing five people including three soldiers, according to an official. —Internet
Connn town settles dispute over girl’s pet bunny

Kayden Lidsky and her family have settled a zoning dispute allowing their neighbor’s bunny to be kept as pets.

This 14 May, 2012 file photo, Kayden Lidsky, left, poses with her father Josh, and sister Madison, and Sandy, the family bunny, in North Haven, Conn., after town officials settled a zoning dispute allowing the 20-pound Flemish giant to stay. An ordinance put in place about 50 years ago when North Haven was a large farming community, barred people from raising and selling rabbits and other livestock on less than 2 acres in competition with farmers.

Douglas, Wieber enjoy celebrity sparkle after gold

Olympic champion gymnast Gabby Douglas and teammate Jordyn Wieber have been on a whirlwind tour since the Olympics — and they’ve been having so much fun the past few days,“ said Wieber of her invitation to appear on “The View.” Wieber? She’d like a little gig on “Teen Wolf.”

Talent thrives among Elvis’s grandkids: Lisa Marie

A Minnesota man who tackled an armed teenage robber outside a SuperAmerica store said his years playing football helped prepare him for the feat.

The Home Depot Inc used a cease-and-desist order while enforcement officer issued the order that led to a cease-and-desist complaint against the Lidsky family, whose property is less than 2 acres.

Douglas, Wieber enjoy celebrity sparkle after gold

Douglas, Wieber enjoy celebrity sparkle after gold

The “Hunger Games” trilogy has replaced the “Harry Potter” saga as the online retail giant’s best-selling series of books.

In this, 16 Aug, 2012 photo, Kayden Lidsky, left, poses with her father Josh, and sister Madison, and Sandy, the family bunny, in North Haven, Conn., after town officials settled a zoning dispute allowing the 20-pound Flemish giant to stay. An ordinance put in place about 50 years ago when North Haven was a large farming community, barred people from raising and selling rabbits and other livestock on less than 2 acres in competition with farmers.

Memphis, 19 Aug — Elvis Presley’s grandchildren all have show business in their blood, but their mother Lisa Marie Presley said on Friday she hoped they would succeed at whatever they chose to pursue.

Pizza Hut, Home Depot deny copying Black Keys work

The band accuses Pizza Hut Inc. of using elements of its hit “Lonely Boy” in ad for power tools.

Former Playboy Playmate and former Chicago Bears linebacker Brian Urlacher has been enjoying every step of the way: the White House.

“Hunger Games’ dethrone Potter at Amazon.com

The Grammy-winning band sued the companies in June, claiming they used the band’s music to sell pizza and power tools. The companies separately denied the band’s allegations in court documents filed on Thursday and Friday in Los Angeles.

The band accused Pizza Hut Inc. of using elements of its hit “Gold On the Ceiling” to sell a cheesy crust pizza.

In this 12 March, 2012 file photo, guitarist/vocalist Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys performs at Madison Square Garden in New York.

President Barack Obama made the invitation breath: the White House.

Fans and signs outside store — Internet

The band sued the internet giant’s Best Buy division and other companies for using the Black Keys’ music to sell pizza and power tools.

The band sued Amazon.com and other companies over use of the band’s music to sell a cheesy crust pizza.

In this 12 March, 2012 file photo, guitarist/vocalist Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys performs at Madison Square Garden in New York.

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The band’s attorney Mike Finnerty said Samsung, Sony and Best Buy all told him they might not be able to continue to use the song “Gold On the Ceiling” in their ads.

This 12 March, 2012 file photo, guitarist/vocalist Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys performs at Madison Square Garden in New York.

Internet

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Cinecom’s ‘roll icon Elvis Presley, mingles with fans and signs autographs outside her father’s Graceland mansion in Memphis, on 17 August, a day after the 35th anniversary of his death. — Internet

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**Kaka on Galaxy radar to replace Beckham**

**Brazil star Kaka**

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**Brazilian international playmaker Oscar**

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**Ronaldinho “happy to face former Milan teammate Seedorf”**

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**Arsenal can shine without stars**, says Wenger

**Arsenal’s striker Lukas Podolski (L) clashes with Sunderland’s striker Fraizer Campbell during their English Premier League football match at The Emirates Stadium in north London. The match ended in a 0-0 draw.**

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**Arsenal star Kaka**

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**Kaka on Galaxy radar to replace Beckham**

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**“I am ready for Chelsea debut”: Oscar**

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**Japan’s Miyazato keeps LPGA lead**

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**Ronaldinho to face Federer in Cincinnati final**

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**Ronaldinho**
Focus Myanmar TV Programme

Weather forecast for 20th August, 2012

Manchester City 3-2 Southampton

Cash donated to delivery room, school in Tachilek

Li defeats Venus to meet Kerber in final

Man City 3-2 Southampton

Manchester City's Carlos Tevez (R) shoots to score during their English Premier League soccer match against Southampton at the Etihad Stadium, northern England. —Reuters

Li Na of China hits a return to Venus Williams of the US during their women's singles semi-final match at the Cincinnati Open tennis tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio on 18 Aug, 2012. —Reuters

Man City, 19 Aug—Manchester City have got their Premier League title defence off to a winning start by beating Southampton 3-2 this afternoon. The hosts have scored the lead within 20 minutes when Carlos Tevez was brought down inside the penalty area. David Silva stepped up, but his spot kick was poor and comfortably saved by Kelvin Davis. The champions did take the lead five minutes before the break when Tevez fired past Davis from close range, although replays suggested that the striker was offside. Tevez came close again before the break, and City picked up where they left off earlier in the second half when Samir Nasri found Eden Dzeko, who only fired straight at Davis.

The hosts continued to pour forward and squandered good chances through Gael Clichy and Silva, the latter of whom hit the crossbar with his effort. Then, against the run of play, Southampton grabbed an equaliser through Rickie Lambert's low strike. Things got even better for the Saints with just over 20 minutes left as they took the lead through debutant Steven Davis.

City responded as only champions can, however, and pulled level through Dzeko with 15 minutes left on the clock and almost took the lead a minute later through Tevez. Dzeko came close again before the hosts got the winner ten minutes from time through Nasri’s strike after poor defending from Southampton.

Manchester, 19 Aug—China's Li Na defeated an injured Venus Williams 7-5, 3-6, 6-1 to reach the final of the Cincinnati Open on Saturday and set up a meeting with German Angelique Kerber. Wimbledon semi-finalist Kerber came through a gruelling 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 win over Czech Petra Kvitova to reach her fourth final of the year and her biggest yet. Earlier, Williams, playing in her first semi-final since the 2010 US Open, was ranked

Dazed and confounded, Kerber was the more powerful serve. Kerber, though, was more effective on her delivery and deep to take the contest to a third set, where she ran out of energy and was convincingly beaten 6-1 as Li went on to take the final. Li, the ninth seed, is now a perfect 4-0 in her semi-final matches this year but has yet to win a final. Li's most recent loss coming at Montreal last week at the hands of Kvitova.

"It's amazing this year, because in the last two years I hardly got a point in North America. So I'm happy I can be in the final again," the 2011 French Open champion told reporters. Kerber's rise to seventh in the rankings this year has included wins at the Paris Indoors and Copenhagen events but her test against Li Na was the perfect preparation for Flushing Meadows.

The German dominated the opening set with Kvitova making a series of unforced errors but the gritty Czech dug deep to take the contest to a third set, making full use of her powerful serve. Kerber, though, swiftly regained her rhythm to race into a 5-2 lead before breaking Kvitova against an exhausted looking Kvitova. The German was then broken as she served for the match before sealing the contest just before it reached the two-hour mark over her next service game.—Reuters

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Workshop on Development of Agricultural Sector of Magway Region held

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing delivers an address at Workshop on Development of Agricultural Sector of Magway Region.—MNA

Announcement of attitude towards incidents occurred in Rakhine State

Dated: 10 August, 2012

1. Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam have flourished in Myanmar and those who profess the religions have been living through thick and thin in the country.
2. All Myanmar Islam Association totally disapproves of any exaggeration of incidents occurred in Rakhine State these days.
3. All Myanmar Islam Association publicly denounced any persons or organizations who attempt or commit terrorist acts, make threats and coerce which can harm the lives, property and undermine the dignity of Myanmar and its people taking advantages of incidents occurred in Rakhine State.
4. All Myanmar Islam Association has announced its attitude towards peaceful settlement of disputes in the framework of law through coordination based on quality Paddy, quality paddy from regions and states, documentary photos on achievements of Paddy in Rakhine Region, edible oil crops, value-added products of agricultural produce, a variety of fertilizer and pesticides and educational pamphlets.—MNA

Blood collectively donated at Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 19 Aug.—The 15th collective blood donation was held at Chanthayyi Prayer Hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees member U Thein Lim gave a speech, and In-charge of National Blood Center Dr Daw Thida Aung explained facts about donation of blood, and the collective blood donation followed.

Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees gave certificates of honour to the In-charge of National Blood Center, health staff and blood donors.—MNA

Golf qualifier wraps up in Mandalay

YANGON, 19 Aug.—Jointly organized by Myanmar Golf Federation, Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Senior PGA, the golf qualifier tournament was held at Shwemantaung Golf Course in Mandalay on 13 and 14 August.

A total of 54 golfers participated in the tournament.

After the qualifier tournament, Khin Maung Aye, Myint Ko, Tayzar Linn, Kyaw Moe, Tun Win, Thein Htik Aoi, Kyi Lwin, Myo Tun, Tun Hun Oo Aik and Aye Kyon were qualified at the professional level.

U Khin Maung Nyo, U Tun Shan and U Maung Hla were also qualified at Senior Professional level.

Likewise, Kyaw Thura, Min Thant Zin, Thaung Htik Soe and Min Naing Soe were qualified at Teaching Pro level.

Kightly hoping Stoke can sign ex-Liverpool, Man Utd striker Owen

United man would be a great addition to Tony Pulis’s squad if a potential deal can be done.

“Michael’s a top, top player and his experience will only help us, so we’ll see what happens,” Kightly said in the wake of his debut Potters goal in yesterday’s 1-1 draw with Reading.

“He’s not been the first big player to be linked with this club and that’s one of the attractions that was there for me to come here.

“Whether we sign him is a different matter but it’s a club that I feel that are pushing in the right direction and one that I wanted to be a part of.”—Internet