Nok mini, new airline for Mae Sot-Mawlamyine-Mae Sot route

Nok mini airlines will launch its maiden flight of the Mae Sot-Mawlamyine-Mae Sot route as of 1 September 2013.

The flights are scheduled to ply its route every morning. If the ticket is bought as reservation, the airline will run its flights through low-cost system, said Manager U Aye Min Tun.

As it is a low-cost airline, air tickets will be sold between US$ 55 and 80 per passenger. The passenger can pay kyat, US$ or baht for the ticket, he said.

As of 1 October, the airline plans to launch its new flight along Mae Sot-Yangon-Mae Sot route in addition to Bangkok-Yangon route. Nok mini is one of the branches of Nok Airlines. The route to Mawlamyine will be its maiden trip in international flights.

The airplane to be used in the Mae Sot-Mawlamyine-Mae Sot route is made in Sweden and the SAAB 340B+ airplane can give seats to 34 passengers. Nok mini is one of the low-cost system, airlines will run its flights through low-cost system, he said. Through low-cost system, airlines will run its flights through low-cost system, he said. Through low-cost system, airlines will run its flights through low-cost system, he said. Through low-cost system, airlines will run its flights through low-cost system, he said. Through low-cost system, airlines will run its flights through low-cost system, he said.

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President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Mr Yoo Jong Bok, Minister of Security and Public Administration of the Republic of Korea.—MNA

ROK shares new village movement experience with Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, 29 Aug—President U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Mr Yoo Jong Bok, Minister of Security and Public Administration of the Republic of Korea, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

At the call, President U Thein Sein said that the government is making all-out efforts for rural development and poverty alleviation. He expressed special thanks for ROK’s help for rural development through the establishment of model villages in Myanmar. Myanmar is making multi-sector cooperation with the ROK for economic development by forming the Myanmar-Korea Economic Cooperation Committee. He strongly believed that the latter’s visit would pave the way for Myanmar’s rural development.

The ROK Minister said that the relations between two countries now have improved with economic cooperation in the forefront. Development of agricultural sector plays a crucial role in Myanmar’s rural development thereby contributing to country’s economic development. The ROK is sharing its experience on successful new village movement with Myanmar people. As part of it, a new village movement center will be opened tomorrow, he added.

Both sides held discussions on Samsung Company’s investment in Myanmar, cooperation with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) on education, health and transport sectors, agreement on loan disbursement of 500 million USD to Myanmar during ROK’s Deputy Prime Minister’s visit to Myanmar and inter-ministry cooperation on eight rural development tasks.

It was also attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Kyaw Hsan and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Deputy Minister U Than Kyaw, officials and the ROK Ambassador to Myanmar.—MNA

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Airlines runs its airplanes for 100 flight schedules a day in Thailand.

The airplane will take 25 minutes from Mae Sot to Mawlamyine. The motor road from Mae Sot to Myawady is to take 15 minutes and Mawlamyine to Myawady over six hours. The flight can take only over 40 minutes for the route. The flight of the airlines will be convenient for the passengers from Mon State, continued U Aye Min Tun.

He added that tourists from Thailand spend a long time to travel to Kyaukhtyo Pagoda and Kayin and Mon States via Yangon. Thanks to the new airlines, they can reach Mawlamyine in a short time.

For foreign visitors, Sky hub agent is giving service of visa for aviation and service of sell air tickets to those wishing to receive medical treatment in Thailand.

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Kyemon:
29-8-2013
Trs: TTA
Outstanding port engineering students honoured

 Mandalay, 29 Aug—

Rector of the university Dr Myat Lwin made a speech.

General Manager U Min Kyi of MITT said that Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa has been holding the prize presentation for outstanding students of the university yearly with the aim of improving education of the students in port engineering subject of the university.

In addition choosing ten final year students, the Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa sponsors the students to pursue abroad port construction sites abroad and donates teaching aids to the university, he continued.

Prize presentation and assistance for teaching is aimed at contributing to raising efforts of the students in their majoring subject Port Engineering and emergence of outstanding port engineers.

Kyemon-Wunna Tun

Bus overturns on Yangon-Mandalay highway in Bago Township

Bago, 29 Aug—A vehicle overturned between mile posts 597 and 600 on Yangon-Mandalay Highway at the entrance to Phayagyi of Bago Township.

IP Htin Aung of Phayagyi Traffic Police Corps, SIP Kyaw Naing Oo of Phayagyi Police Station and party rushed to the scene and inspected the incident.

The Hilux from No 5 of Yangon-Nyaunglein Bus-line heading for Nyaunglein from Bago caused overturn due to out of control.

Among five passengers on board the Hilux, Ma Khaung, 20 of Wanbe-inn Village of Bago Township suffered from injuries at right side of head in unserious condition was sent to Bago General Hospital. Phayagyi Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against reckless driver under the law.

Kyemon-Phayagyi

20-year plan to upgrade parks, playgrounds in Yangon

Yangon, 29 Aug—

Parks and playgrounds located in municipal area of Yangon City Development Committee will be upgraded step by step under the 20-year long-term plan, according to the Parks and Playgrounds Department of the Yangon City Development Committee.

With regard to upgrading tasks for the parks and playgrounds, an official said, “Arrangements have been made for implementing the 20-year long-term plan. The department has earmarked to do its tasks under the year-wise plans. In addition, some of them are being upgraded.”

In addition upgrading and maintaining the parks and playgrounds, more sports grounds will be constructed. The people requested to construct new sports grounds in the vacant areas by submitting the applications. They indicated 11 vacant places for the grounds. After scrutinizing the ownership of the vacant areas, the department will submit the plans and seek the approval from the Yangon City Development Committee as soon as possible, he added.

Parks are being upgraded as of 2013 fiscal year in line with the 20-year long-term plan. At present, the department is placing emphasis on upgrading of Maha Bandoola Park, Kandaw Mingala Park, Thakin Mya Park, Nathamyaing Park and People’s Park and People’s Square, said officials of Parks and Playgrounds Department of Yangon City Development Committee.

Kyemon-Soe Win (MLA)

40000 bags of reserve rice sold to stable price in Mandalay

Mandalay, 29 Aug—

Rice brokerage sold 40000 bags of reserve rice of Mandalay in Mandalay as of 21 August so as to stable price of rice.

Reservrice of the State are sold at rice brokerage between 34th and 35th streets and 85th and 86th streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay and warehouse of Myo Haung. They sold K 17200 per bag.

Although reserve rice can be sold freely, anyone cannot be allowed to test the bags of rice. The buyer may buy rice with testing the sample. If most of the rice may be broken rice in the bag, new one will be substituted.

In August, exportation of rice was suspended to other countries through border region due to raising the price. Therefore, sales of reserve rice may affect price of rice. In addition, rice brokerages in Kywehsekan and on 86th street in Chanayethazan Township sell bags of rice with K 500 cheaper price to the customers.

HRD

Accident
Abe says gov’t to take charge of toxic water leak at Fukushima plant

Tokyo Electric Power Co.,” sue with a sense of urgency the state to address the is -

owing a recent toxic water leak into the adjacent Pacific Ocean. It was the worst leak from the containers at the complex. Abe, who is in Qatar on the last leg of his trip to the Middle East and Africa, said the government will thoroughly disseminate to people in Japan and abroad information about efforts to contain the disaster at the Fukushima plant. Japan’s Nuclear Regu-

lation Authority decided the same day to raise its as-

sessment of the severity of the leak to level 3, which is defined as a “serious inci-

dent,” on an eight-point international scale. The Fukushima nuclear acci-

dent, triggered by the huge earthquake and tsunami in

March 2011, was rated at the maximum level 7, on a


Seven killed, 58 wounded in Afghan Taleban attack on NATO base

Afghan, (Afghani-

stan), 29 Aug—At least seven Afghans were killed and 58 were wounded when Taleban’s suicide bomb-ings and ensuing gunfire hit a NATO base in eastern Ghazni Province on Wednesday, officials said.

“The Taleban armed men targeted the com-

bination of the 150 medals the group left forces,” Provincial Reconstruc-

tion Team (PRT) at 04:15 pm local time in Ghazni city. The killed included four Afghan policemen and three civilians in the suicide bombings and gun-

fight,” deputy provincial governor Mohammad Ali Ahmadi told Xinhua. The injured included 12 children, four women, seven Polish soldiers with the NATO and several Af-

ghan police and civilians, the official said, adding the fighting lasted for four hours.

NATO’s PRT is a ci-

vilian-military body assist-

ing Afghans in the rebuild-

ing process of the war-torn country. At least two mas-

sive bombings took place in the attack in the city, 125 km south of national capital Kabul.

Assad used chemical

weapons, no decision yet

on Syria

WASHINGTON, 29 Aug
—US President Barack Obama said on Wednes-

day his administration has concluded that the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad used chemical weapons against civilians last week but has not yet de-

cided how to respond to it.

“We have concluded that the Syrian government in fact carried these out. And if that’s so, then there needs to be international consequences,” Obama told US Public Broadcasting Service in an interview. Obama said that the United States will send “a strong signal” to the Assad regime to make sure it nev-
er uses chemical weapons again.—Kyodo News

US rejects link between North Korea nuclear diplomacy, jailed American

WASHINGTON, 29 Aug
—The case of a US citi-

zen jailed in North Korea is a human rights issue that has no connection to long-

stalled talks over Pyong-

yang’s nuclear weapons, the State Department said on Wednesday. Robert King, US special envoy for North Korean human rights issues, is slated to travel to Pyongyang on Friday. The State Department on Tuesday described his trip as a “humanitarian mis-

sion” aimed at winning the release of ailing Kenneth Bae, a Christian missionary and tour operator.

The release of Bae, sentenced by North Korea’s Supreme Court in April to 15 years of hard labour for state subversion, would re-

move a big irritant in US relations with Pyongyang. State Department dep-

uty spokeswoman Marie Harf said, however, that King’s trip is unrelated to international diplomacy over North Korea, which has conducted three nuclear weapons tests since 2006.

“I don’t want to link the two in any way,” she told reporters.

“We have repeatedly said that separate and apart from any of the other issues we talk about with North Korea that Kenneth Bae needs to be released imme-

diately,” added Harf.

Harf reiterated Wash-

ington’s position that it ex-

pects North Korea to live up to a denuclearization-for-aid deal it signed in 2005 at six-party talks in Beijing.

Those talks involving China, Japan, the two Ko-

reas and the United States have been frozen for nearly five years, during which time North Korea conduct-

ed three nuclear tests and a series of long-range mis-

sile launches that prompted stiff UN sanctions. “We will continue to hold (North Korea) to those commit-

ments and its international obligations,” said Harf.

“The onus is on North Korea here,” she said. North Korea said in July it would not give up its nuclear deterrent until Washington ends its “hos-

tile policy” towards Pyong-

yang, although it was ready to revive nuclear talks. The two countries do not have diplomatic relations and of-

ficial visits between them are rare.—Reuters

Strong typhoon to approach Kyushu, may make landfill

KYOTO, 29 Aug — A typhoon was moving north-

ward in waters west of Yo-

naguni Island in Okinawa Prefecture on Thursday morning and is expected to turn east and approach Kyu-

su at around 600 miles, pos-

sibly bringing ashore the Ja-

pan Meteorological Agency said. The agency called for caution against high winds and tidal waves on Ok-

inawa’s Sakishima Islands caused by the typhoon. The agency measured winds gusting 120 kilom-

eters per hour on Yonaguni, with gusts of up to 85 kph on Ishigaki Island to the east, and rough seas in an absence of heavy rain. The typhoon is ex-

pected to move away from the Sakishima Islands as it continues north. As of 9 am Thursday, Konsgrey was around 90 km north-north-

west of Yonaguni, and mov-

ing north at an approximate speed of 20 kph, with an atmospheric pressure at its centre of 990 hextopascals. It was packing winds of up to 126 kph, and casting waves of 54 kph or higher over a large area up to 170 km north and 300 km south of its centre.—Kyodo News

Tropical storm Juliette heads toward Mexican Pacific tourist hub

MEXICO CITY, 29 Aug — Tropical storm Juliette was about 40 miles southeast of the Mexican Pacific beach resort Cabo San Lucas, where it is now heading, the US National Hurricane Centre said on Wednesday, as authorities there prepared for the pros-

cpect of evacuations.

The tropical storm was blowing at 45 miles per hour (72 kph per hour) and heading northwest toward the tourist resort in the state of Baja Califor-

nia Sur at 25 mph, the NHC said, although it said the storm should weaken by Thursday morning.

Mexican state oil mo-

nopoly Pemex has no major installations or refineries nearby.

Shoppers buy spice at a market in the old city of Baku, Azerbaijan, 28 Aug, 2013. Tensions have mounted over an imminent US attack following alleged chemical weapons use by the administration of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.—Kyodo News

Fukushima Gov. Yuhei Sato (R) and Shunichi Tanaka, chairman of the Nuclear Regulation Authority, bow as they meet in Tokyo on 28 Aug, 2013.—Kyodo News

Robert King (C), US special envoy for North Korean human rights issues, is surrounded by reporters af-

ter a meeting with Japan’s Minister-in-Charge of the Abduction Issue and head of the national public safety commission Keiji Furuya (not in picture) in Tokyo on 28 Aug, 2013.—Reuters
Japanese astronaut to command space station in March

CAPE CANAVRAL, (Florida), 29 Aug.—The first Japanese astronaut to live aboard the International Space Station is preparing for a return flight, this time to serve as commander, officials said on Wednesday. Koichi Wakata of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, is due to leave in November with a pair of veteran astronauts from the United States and Russia.

Wakata, 50, is expect- ed to take command of the orbital research outpost in March, marking the first time a Japanese astronaut will lead a human space mission. “It means a lot to Japan to have its own rep- resentative to command the International Space Station,” Wakata told a news conference broadcast from the Johnson Space Center in Houston. “It’s a big milestone for Japan, to have this experience,” he said.

In 2009, Wakata be- came the first astronaut from Japan to live aboard the $100 billion research laboratory that flies about 250 miles above Earth. Japan, one of 15 nations participating in the project, provided the station’s largest and most elaborate laboratory, named Kibo, as well as cargo resupply ships. Wakata, who was part of two missions on NASA’s now-retired space shuttles, is training for his fourth flight along with NASA astronaut Rick Mastracchio and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin, both 53. Mastracchio, a veteran of three shuttle missions and one of NASA’s most experi- enced spacewalkers, will be making his first long-dura- tion flight. Tyurin will be living aboard the station for a third time. Command of the station typically rotates between a US astronaut and Russian cosmonaut. In

Bigger US rocket blasts off with spy satellite

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug.—An unmanned Delta 4-Heavy rocket, the larg- est in the US fleet, blasted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on Wednesday to put a classi- fied spy satellite into orbit for the National Reconnais-
sance Office, officials said on Wednesday. The 23-story-tall rocket lifted off at 11:03 am local time/1803 GMT from a launch pad origi- nally built for, but never used by, NASA’s now- retired space shuttles. No
details about the rocket’s spy-satellite payload were released. With three main booster-rocker cores, the rocket is capable of putting a satellite the size of school bus into an orbit around Earth’s poles. Wednesday’s launch was the second Delta 4-Heavy to fly from California. The rocket, built by United Launch Alliance, a part- nership of Boeing Co and Lockheed Martin Corp., also has flown five times from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.

“We are truly honored to deliver this critical asset to orbit,” United Launch Alliance vice president Jim Spornick said in a statement, praising the groups involved in the launch effort.—Reuters

Panasonic to stop selling consumer smartphones in Japan

TOYKO, 29 Aug.—Panasonic Corp is finalizing plans to pull out of the consumer smartphone business in Japan and has approached potential buyers for its cellular base station business, the Nikkei reported. It will end production at its only smart- phone factory by March 2014, the daily said.

The company told NTT DoCoMo Inc that it would stop supplying new smart- phone models from this winter, Reuters reported this month, citing the Kyodo news service. Panasonic, however, will still provide specialized models for corporate users and outsourced models for foreign markets. Production and domestic sales of con- ventional cell phones will continue as well, the Nikkei reported. The company has also approached potential buyers for its cellular base station business, including Finland’s Nokia, the Nikkei said. Panasonic said in July that its mobile phone sales decreased sharply in the April-June quarter due partly to NTT DoCoMo’s adoption of a new marketing strategy offering bigger discounts for smartphones made by Sony Corp and Samsung Electron- ics Co.—Reuters

Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata is seen on a monitor during a training exercise at the Star City space centre outside Moscow, on 9 Aug., 2013.

Japan's first European to command the station. Canada’s first commander, Chris Hadfield, was in charge from March until May.

Wakata, a native of Saitama, Japan, holds a bachelor’s degree in aero- nautical engineering, a master’s in applied me- chanics and a doctorate in aerospace engineering from Kyushu University. Before being selected as an astronaut in 1992, he worked as an aircraft structural engineer for Ja- pan Airlines. Wakata’s first two spaceflights, in January 1996 and October 2000, were aboard NASDA space shuttles.

He was Japan’s first live-aboard space station resident from March to July 2009. Upon returning to the station in Novem- ber, Wakata will serve as a flight engineer before taking over command in March.—Reuters

A billboard advertises 4G mobile telecom services of market leader EE, owned by France Telecom and Deutsche Telekom at Elephant House on London on 12 Nov, 2012.—Reuters

Japan's first European to command the station. Canada’s first commander, Chris Hadfield, was in charge from March until May.

British competition as operators jump from one to three

LONDON, 29 Aug.—Britain will catapult into the superfast mobile top division on Thursday when operators O2 and Vodafone finally launch 4G services to compete with market leader EE. The arrival of two more operators offering speeds more than five times faster than 3G—ideal for watching video on the go —marks a sharp turnaround from just a year ago when the country was stuck in the mobile slow lane with no 4G service. EE, a Brit- ish joint venture between Orange and Deutsche Telekom, started rolling out 4G in major cities from October 2012 after the reg- ulator allowed it to re-use its existing airwaves.

The move from Off- com was designed to kick start superfast broadband in Britain, which was fall- ing behind other countries in mobile speeds. EE took advantage of being first in the field by charging a premium and capital tie-up.—Reuters

Sharp ends talks with Samsung over copier JV

TOKYO, 29 Aug.—Sharp Corp, Japan’s largest dis- play maker, has called off talks with Samsung Elec- tronics Co Ltd to jointly set up a copier sales company, the Kyodo said. Sharp’s de- cision came after other Japa- nese firms such as Canon Inc opposed the proposal expressing concern that key technology would fall into the hands of the South Ko- rean technology giant, the

New Light of Myanmar

Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata is seen on a monitor during a training exercise at the Star City space centre outside Moscow, on 9 Aug., 2013.
Finnish central bank governor says Europe’s toughest time over, pressure now on developing world

HELSINKI, 29 Aug—The European economy has passed its toughest time and the pressure is being transferred to the developing countries, the governor of Finnish Central Bank said on Wednesday. Erkki Liikanen, who is also a member of the European Central Bank Governing Council, made the remarks after he came back from the world central bankers’ annual conference in Jackson Hole, US.

He told Helsinki News that the financial crisis in Europe is over, as the current accounts in the troubled countries, such as Greece and Spain, have recently shown surpluses. “Their trade deficits have decreased, even though the adjustment process is still ongoing,” he added. Liikanen pointed out that the European Central Bank (ECB) played a key role in strengthening banking supervision, which could be one of the important elements that helped overcome the debt crisis.

The fate of Europe was no longer the central topic, and he urged rest of the central bank governors was the possible impact of US Federal Reserve (Fed)’s tightening of monetary policy on the developing markets. According to Liikanen, the general view was that the weakened exchange rates in emerging economies were one of the effects of the tightened monetary policy. He suggested that the most important thing for the developing countries is to know how Fed will operate in the future.

In addition, Liikanen said the ECB would keep interest rates at record low for a longer period of time, a decision made based on the inflation outlook and the sluggish money supply. “It is important for the ECB’s efforts to consolidate the markets”, he said. From 23 to 24 August, some central bank governors from around the world gathered in Jackson Hole last weekend. The theme of the meeting was The Global Calculus of Unconventional Monetary Policies.—Xinhua

Broccoli could be key to preventing osteoarthritis

LONDON, 29 Aug—A compound found in broccoli could be key to preventing or slowing the progress of the most common form of arthritis, according to a new research published in the journal Arthritis & Rheumatism on Wednesday. According to the journal, results from laboratory studies showed that sulforaphane could slow down the destruction of cartilage in joints associated with painful and debilitating osteoarthritis.

In the research, mice fed a diet rich in the compound had significantly less cartilage damage and osteoarthritis than those that were not. According to researchers, sulforaphane is released when eating cruciferous vegetables such as Brussels sprouts and cabbage, but particularly broccoli. Previous research has suggested that sulforaphane has anti-cancer and anti-inflammatory properties. The researchers discovered that sulforaphane blocks the enzymes that cause joint destruction by stopping a key molecule known to cause inflammation. The study involved mice from the University of East Anglia, along with the University of Oxford and Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

“As well as treating those who already have the condition, you need to be able to tell healthy people how to protect their joints into the future,” said Ian Clark, the lead researcher. “There is currently no way in to the disease pharmacologically and you cannot give healthy people drugs unnecessarily, so this is where diet could be a safe alternative.”—Xinhua

Alcohol drinking before pregnancy may increase breast cancer risk

WASHINGTON, 29 Aug—Drinking alcohol before first pregnancy is likely to boost a woman’s risk of breast cancer later in life, US researchers said on Wednesday. Previous studies have looked at breast cancer risk and alcohol consumption later in life or at the effect of adolescent drinking on noncancerous breast disease. However, the link between alcohol consumption during the period of time between a woman’s first menstrual period and first pregnancy and the risk of breast cancer had not been reported.

According to researchers from the Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis, breast tissue is particularly susceptible to carcinogens during that period of time. They analyzed data from 116,671 female registered nurses, aged 25 to 44, on medical history, reproductive history, and lifestyle. With the exclusion of women who did not meet the predetermined study criteria, 9,005 women with a history of full-term pregnancy were included in the final analysis. Among these women, 1,609 cases of breast cancer and 970 cases of benign breast disease occurred during the study period.

The researchers reported in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute that “the longer the duration of menarche (first period) to first pregnancy, the higher is a woman’s risk of breast cancer.” Compared with nondrinkers with a shorter duration, nondrinkers with duration of 10 or more years between menarche and first pregnancy had 26 percent and 81 percent increased risk of breast cancer and proliferative benign breast disease respectively, they said. —Reuters

Verizon, Vodafone restart talks on $100 billion-plus deal: WSJ

NEW YORK, 29 Aug—Verizon Communications Inc and Vodafone Group Plc have restarted talks over a possible buyout of the British firm’s stake in their US wireless joint venture, the Wall Street Journal said, a deal that is expected to cost Verizon more than $100 billion. Verizon is in discussions with banks about the tens of billions of dollars in loans it would need to complete the deal, the newspaper said, citing a person familiar with the matter.

But it added that it was not immediately clear whether the two companies had resolved disagreements over price or whether Verizon has put forward a specific offer, the financial daily added. Reuters reported first in April that Verizon had hired advisors for a possible $100 billion bid and was contemplating a roughly $50 billion or more to cover the cash component of a deal, the Journal said, citing people familiar with the matter.

A Verizon spokesman declined to comment on the report while Vodafone was unavailable for comment outside regular business hours. Vodafone Chairman Gerard Kleisterlee said last month the company would seriously consider any offer for its stake in Verizon Wireless if it offered more value to investors than the current status quo.—Reuters

Carlyle, Townsend to invest $200 million in China warehouses

HONG KONG, 29 Aug—US buyouts firm Carlyle Group (CLO) said on Thursday it would invest around $200 million with US investment management firm Townsend Group to buy and build 17 warehousing sites as part of plans to build a logistics platform across China.

Carlyle and Townsend have agreed to buy five logistics warehouses owned by Shanghai Yupei Group, a domestic warehouse developer and operator in China, and to build another 12 in a strategic partnership with Shanghai Yupei. Shanghai Yupei will also invest $200 million as part of the deal, and warehouses will be built in strategic hubs across China, including first-tier cities Shanghai, Beijing and Guangzhou, and second-tier cities such as Shenyang, Tianjin, Chongqing, Zhengzhou and Heifei.

The strategic platform is planned to own and operate a nationwide logistics warehouse network with more than 1.8 million square meters of gross floor area.—Reuters
Four Myanmar-Thai border check points opened as international entry and exit gates

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—A ceremony to open Myanmar-Mae Sot border check point as international entry and exit gate for passport holders with valid visa was held at Myawady friendship bridge yesterday morning. It was attended by Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung, state ministers, Mayor of Tak Province in Thailand Mr. Sutita Peasabuntiya, the chairman of chambers of commerce from Myawady trade zone and Tak Province, officials from KNU, tourists and locals.

At the ceremony, Union Minister U Khin Yi said that Myanmar allows entry and exit of tourist with six visas and most of them enter through Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw international airports.

As Myanmar shares border with five neighboring countries, bilateral agreements were signed with a view to facilitating border pass for the peoples from both countries and third country nationals, he said. The tourists who have valid passports and official entry visas and documents are allowed to enter through four check points and three international airports and they are required to leave through one of those seven gates, he added.

Union Minister U Htay Aung clarified matters on development of tourism industry, Kayin State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Aung Lwin, convenience of entry and exit for tourists and preparations for security measures. The Kayin State ministers and officials formally opened Myawady-Mae Sot international entry and exit gate. The Union ministers and party inspected undertaking of immigration works by the staff from various departments, opening of exchange counters for tourists, selling of SIM cards and arrangements of taxi.

They also attended a press meet on launching of Myanmar-Thailand border check points as international entry and exit gates at Aye Chanpyo Hall.
Agriculture

Farmers of flood-hit farmlands provided with strains

Hpa-an, 29 Aug—Flash flood was caused by heavy rain and the increase of river water level in 2013-2014 fiscal year monsoon paddy season in Kayin State, destroying 7959 acres of farmlands. Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, accompanied by state agricultural supervisory committee members, provided 107 baskets of Hsinthukha paddy strains to farmers of farmlands.

Shwebo, 29 Aug—Shwebo’s W.Com Computer Centre and Mandalay National Blood Bank jointly organized a collective blood donation ceremony at W.Com Computer Centre on 18 August. Volunteers of the youth arm of the computer centre and blood donors in the township donated blood to the team of the Blood Bank of Mandalay. 136 donors participated in the blood donation. A team of 33 led by Dr Myo Min Han of the Blood Bank (Mandalay), Dr Wai Phyo Maw and nurse Daw Kyu Kyu accepted the blood bags.—MMAL-150

Specialists provide eye care to patients

Yangon, 29 Aug—At Hlinethaya People’s Hospital in Hlinethaya Township of Yangon North District, eye specialists provided eye care services to 309 patients on 25 August. Five specialists and two optical technicians gave eye health care to the patients with the assistance of four nurses. They transferred 23 men and 28 women patients who need to receive surgical treatment to Eye Specialist Hospital. The specialists provided glasses to needy patients. Kyemon-Min Htet Paing (Hlinethaya)

National Sports

Mandalay Region Football Federation meets

Mandalay, 29 Aug—A coordination meeting for organizing Mandalay Region Football Federation President Cup U-20 Football Tournament was held at the office of Mandalay Region Football Federation at Bahtoo stadium in Mandalay of Mandalay District on 26 August.

President of Mandalay Region Football Federation U Maung Ko called for promotion of footballing standards of Mandalay Region and organizing football tournaments under supervision of former selected upper Myanmar footballers.

Secretary of the Region Football Federation U Aung Aung and executives Academy Principal U Soe Nyunt, selected footballers association chairman U Zaw Win and officials went into details on rules and regulations of the game, formation of competition committees, offences and actions.

The football match is scheduled to kick off on 15 October at Bahtoo Stadium. The application forms will be made available for potential contesting teams on 20-30 August at the region Football Federation Office. The entry fee is K 0.1 million with another K 0.1 million as guarantee. MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

Myanmar to meet with Omen in AFC U-22 Championship

Nay Pyi Taw, 29 Aug—Myanmar U-22 football team has been qualified for the AFC U-22 Championship without any loss. It is single qualified team in ASEAN region.

The final stage of AFC U-22 Championship 2014 will be held in Oman. Myanmar will meet with Oman on 11 January 2014 at Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex. The group matches of the final stage will be held from 11 to 16 January 2014, the quarterfinals on 19 and 20 January, semifinals on 23 January, the third placed match on 25 January and final on 26 January at Muscat of Oman.

The drawing of lots for group matches was held at Muscat of Oman on 24 August under the supervision of AFC. Group A comprises Oman, Myanmar, South Korea, Jordan, Group B North Korea, UAE, Syria, Yemen, Group C Japan, Australia, Iran, Kuwait and Group D Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan and China.—Kyemon-Maung Maung Zaw

Labour

Committee protecting rights of Myanmar migrant workers formed

Tachilek, 29 Aug.—A committee to help Myanmar migrant workers facing difficulties in Maesai in Thailand was formed in a meeting at General Administration Department Office on 26 August.

Tachilek District Deputy Commissioner U Thaung Tin Htway, Commander of Tachilek Township Police Force Police Lt-Col Nay Myo Htut, Township Administrator U Ye Htoo and officials participated in discussion on promotion of friendly relations and safeguarding rights of Myanmar citizens abroad.

Myanmar migrant workers who witnessed abuses by some Thai authorities recalled their experiences.

The Myanmar Citizen Administration Support Committee (Tachilek) was formed with 27 members including Tachilek Township Administrator U Ye Htoo and officials, members of social organizations, cultural groups and media men. MMAL-Maung Yin Kyae

Communications

Low-priced SIM card draw: U Kyaw

Htin Aung and U Nyi Nyi Lyn of village administration support committee in Ywakauk village in Pyinmana Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area witnessed the draw of lots for sale of low-priced GSM and CDMA SIM cards at the village-tract administrator office on 24 August.—MMAL-145
Asia Development Bank Institute visits mechanized farmlands

**NAV PYI TAW, 29 Aug—**Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing together with expert Dr Jae-Ha Park (Deputy Director) of Asia Development Bank Institute—ADBI and Special Adviser Mr Giovanni Capannelli and experts viewed round thriving seasonal crops and vegetables on 900 acres of land in Ota thumbnail this morning.

They also visited the plantations in Dekkhinathiri Township and viewed thriving Japanese and Korean strains of vegetables. They also viewed milch cow breeding farms. They looked into use of modern agricultural machinery and heavy machinery in farming and fruit processing sites.

The Union minister and party visited Ngalaik village this morning. They discussed technological assistance from ADB for development of seed production, water supply for dry zone including Meiktila for agricultural purpose and drawing of a Road Map.

**India to provide US$ 25m for five-year plan**

**Cultural exchange talks between Myanmar and ROK**

**Yangon, 29 Aug—**A cultural exchange talks between the broadcasting departments of Myanmar and the Republic of Korea was held at Yankin hall of Sedona Hotel, here, this afternoon.

On the occasion, Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut delivered speech at talks on cultural exchange.

**MNA**
Chinese guests visit MRTV, Nay Pyi Taw Press House

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The following is the undertakings in today’s seventh regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw explained by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann.

The Speaker said the seventh regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw would wind up, thanking the lawmakers for their works and cooperation.

The seventh regular sessions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw started on 25 June, 2013, and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on 1 July. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was convened on 18 days during the period of the seventh regular session, the Speaker acknowledged.

A total of 3683 local observers including members of political parties and associations and trainees, students from universities and schools, departmental personnel and members of ethnic groups and 75 observers from foreign delegation—visited the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in these days. The Speaker related the increase in number of visitors and increasing attention of the public on the parliament and progress in the democratization efforts.

A total of 16 laws have been enacted in the period with two bills including Telecommunications Bill sent to the President to sign, the Speaker said. Reports of Investigation Commission into Land Grabs, Joint Committee for Employer and Labour Rights and Joint Public Accounts Committee were approved, he said.

Most importantly, the joint constitutional review commission was formed and started reviewing 2008 Constitution, he added. The drafting of Bill safeguarding the rights of Ethnic Rights started in the session, he said.

All the lawmakers are supposed to listen to the people as per the motto, “People’s Voices, Hluttaw’s Voices; People’s Desires, Hluttaw’s Desires; People’s Aspirations, Hluttaw’s Implementations”, he said. He called on the parliamentarians to keep on showing their capacity and genuine goodwill.

He urged the lawmakers to visit their constituencies and listen to their constituents, contributing their efforts to the development of their own regions and to the State.

He then wished the Hluttaw representatives their welfare.

MNA

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MNA

Rural development ...

(from page 16) their efforts paid off and now South Korea has become one of 10 wealthiest countries in the world, the Vice-President said.

He expressed his wish to establish Myanmar Development Institute that would emulate the success of Korean Development Institute established in 1971 by Korean then President ParkChonHye. He mentioned Myanmar Development and Research Institute as a pilot project of the Myanmar Development Institute.

Korean experts from Saemaul Undong Centre have been drafting a pilot project for Myanmar’s village development since September 2012, he said. He stressed the need to transform cooperative syndicates of the villages into larger cooperative societies.

He acknowledged that the government initiated political and economic reforms and liberalized the economy in first 30 months. He said the government would give priorities to electricity supply, adequate potable and drinking water, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and industrial development in remaining 30 months.

He said he reason behind the formation of cooperative societies was that it would be hard to distribute resources to dispersed individuals.

He called the farmers tointitatecombined farming. He said Nay Pyi Taw Accord had been declared to facilitate cooperation with development partners. The Vice-President added that the country needed aid, cooperation and consultations from inside and outside the country. Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said small loan is the most fundamental part of Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation scheme. He called for funding from international organizations, UN agencies, WB, ADB and international monetary organizations to establish Microfinance Bank.

D i r e c t o r o f International Economy Department under the Ministry of Strategy and Finance Mr Tae Yong Yoon, Executive Director of International Development Centre of KDI Mr Hongtaek Chun and Korean Minister of Security and Public Administration Mr Yoo Jong Bok delivered addresses.

The Vice-President posed for a documentary photo with those present at the forum. The forum was jointly organized by Korean Strategy and Finance Ministry, Korean Development Institute, Ministry of Cooperatives, National Planning and Economic Development, and Livestock, Fishery and Rural Development. A village development pilot project has been implemented in Hlegu Township with the assistance of the Korean government since 2012. Saemaul Undong Complex Centre will be opened in Phaunggyi east village on 30 August. An MoU on extension of similar projects in other villages was signed yesterday.—MNA

Committee for Supervising and Safeguarding Tourists meets

Meeting of Committee for Supervising and Safeguarding Tourists in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The meeting 2/2013 of Committee for Supervising and Safeguarding Tourists was held at the meeting of the Ministry of Home Affairs, here, this evening, with an opening address by Union Minister Lt-Gen Ko Ko.

At the meeting, the Union minister said that tourist arrival has increased due to economic reform process in Myanmar and entry and exit for tourists through border checkpoints were allowed at present. The Union minister clarified plans for extension of air lines and called for broader cooperation among the committee.

It was also attended by Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, U Han Sein, U Myint Thein and U Kyaw Kyaw Win, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo and the committee members. Joint Secretary Police Brig-Gen Tin Soe reported on formation of work committees, Secretary Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win, offences for foreigners and ongoing tasks of the committee.

MNA

Japanese Govt assists USD 116,434 to construct new school building

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—Under the Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GACP), the Japanese government has extended an assistance of USD 116,434 to build Kwet Thit Basic Education Post Primary School in Ward 4, Hmawby Township in Yangon.

Mr. Mikio NUMATA, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar, and U Aye Ko, Chairman of Kwet Thit Basic Education Post Primary School Construction Committee, signed the grant contract yesterday.

MNA

U Tin Yu concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Latvia

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Tin Yu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Russian Federation, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Latvia.

MNA

New Light of Myanmar

NATIONAL

Friday, 30 August, 2013
Mine clearing course concludes at PyinOoLwin Station

PyinOoLwin, 29 Aug—The mine clearing course 2013 concluded at Defence Services Engineering Training Depot in PyinOoLwin Township of Mandalay Region on 26 August. It was attended by Commander of PyinOoLwin Station Maj-Gen Aung Lin Dway, Commandant of Defence Services Engineering Training Depot Col Myint Than Oo, senior military officers of stations, PyinOoLwin District Deputy Commissioner U Aung Zaw Latt, Township Administrator U Muang Maung, Commander of PyinOoLwin District Police Force Lt-Gen Zaw Myint and 15 trainees.

At first, the commander of PyinOoLwin Station made a speech. The commander of District Police Force spoke words of thanks. Next, the trainees demonstrated their skills as the graduation performances. The trainees attended the mine clearing course with the assistance of mine clearing dogs and other related modern equipment from 5 to 26 August.

Kyemon-614

Entrance text held for BEd course in Haka

Haka, 29 Aug—The entrance exam for the second batch of BEd 5-year course of University for Development of National Races 2013 was held at Basic Education High School in PyinOO Lwin Township of Mandalay Region on 26 August. Among 20 candidates, 17 took the examination. The winners must enter the personal interview at the Chin State Education Department. Township level entrance exams were held at the respective townships.

Kyemon-Chin State IPRD

Livestock breeding section accelerated in Taikkyi

Taikkyi, 29 Aug—Staff Officer Dr Thet Naing and party of Taikkyi Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department made a fieldtrip to village-tracts in the township.

In meeting with local breeders, they gave talks on extended breeding of pig, poultry and cows for economic development of rural areas and raising meat and fish sector of the State. The department provides assistance to the local breeders and distributes raising layers and broilers and pigs to the rural areas at Gyozyu Village-tract on 26 August for enhancement of fish and meat sources.

Deputy heads of the department also discussed the arrangements for higher intellectuals of the students of Basic Education Primary Schools in the village-tract, feeding milk to the students free of charge.

Kyemon-Tun Hlaing

Raising reading habit, taking census talked

Katha, 29 Aug—Jointly organized by Katha District Information and Public Relations Department and Katha Township Writers Association, the talks on raising reading habit and taking census was given at Basic Education Primary School in Upper Wegyi Village of Katha Township on 25 August.

Chairman of Township Writers Association U Khin Maung Lay (Maung Lay-Katha) and Secretary U Aye Lwin (Aye Lwin-Katha) gave talks on development of culture. Staff Officer U Chi Maung of District IPRD and Patron of the association U Chit Myaing (Thin Hnway-Katha) gave talks on raising reading habit and taking census process.

Member of Katha District Traffic Rule Enforcements Committee Traffic Police Cpl Aung Win presented pamphlets on knowledge about traffic rules to the attendees and donated 300 copies of journals and publications to the school library.

A local spoke words of thanks. The talks was attended by over 250 local people and students of Upper Wegyi Village.

Kyemon-District IPRD

Mway Hill, Phar Hill mineral exploration project in Chin State

Kalay, 29 Aug—Mway Hill and Phar Hill located in Tiddim of Chin State, border of Kalay Township in Sagaing Region has been designated as rain forest since British era. The forest of the hills were designated as prohibited area for logging. As part of conservation of the weather, the local people avoid cutting logs and extraction of timber up to now.

The two hills are surrounded with over 30 villages in Tiddim Township of Chin State and Kalay Township of Sagaing Region.

The hills are resources of nikel nickel. Mineral exploration project was assigned to Ban Bau Co in last years, but it was not able to implement the project. Now, North Mining Investment Company will go on the project. The project needs 207,630 gallons of water per day and 15 megawatts of electricity a day, said an official of the company.

Upon achievement of the mineral exploration project, Chin State government can earn US$ 500,000 yearly from the two per cent benefit of the project.—Kyemon-Ju Nine

Narcotic drugs seized in Katha

Katha, 29 Aug—SIP Kyaw Nyunt Win and party of Mansigyi Police Station in Bamauk Township of Katha District of Sagaing Region together with SIP Maung Zaw and party of Shwetaw Police Station on 21 August, acting on tip-off, searched Kenbo black motorcycle driven by Aung Htay on Naungyaw-Shwehmaw Aukcheint Road.

The combined team seized 0.3 gram of white powder in the penicillin bottle which may be heroin from his bag and two grams of white powder worth K 230,000.

File of lawsuit was opened against Aung Htay under Section 15/16(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotrophic Substances Law.

Kyemon District IPRD

Inundation in Mawlamyine

Low-lying area Shwedagon ward and Shwedagon Street was inundated due to heavy rain and overflow of Thanlwin River in Mawlamyine on 22 August.

Kyemon-694
Indonesia to build particular jail for terrorists

JAKARTA, 29 Aug—A plan to build particular penitentiary to jail terrorists arrested in Indonesia has been set with project site set in Sentul, Bogor, West Java near the country’s capital city Jakarta.

A senior official said Wednesday that the particular jail would be used as a centre to de-radicalize terrorists and militants arrested by the apparatus.

The construction of the particular jail would commence in the near future and to be carried out by Indonesian Law and Human Rights Ministry in cooperation with the government’s anti-terrorism desk of BNPT, Law and Human Rights Deputy Minister Denny Indrayana said on Wednesday.

“This is intended for de-radicalization measure as the requirements to do so were stipulated in the existing law and presidential decree,” Denny said on the sidelines of a sworn-in ceremony of minister.

The acting penitentiary director general at the ministry, Bambang Krisnabu said on Monday that construction plan, including the design, is still being intensively discussed in related ministerial level at the moment.

He added that besides the BNPT, police’s anti-terrorism squad of Detachment 88 were also involved in the plan.—Xinhua

China’s Defence Minister Chang Wanquan (1st L) meets with Brunei’s Minister of Energy Mohammad Yassin Bin Umar in Seri Begawan on Friday, 30 August, 2013.—Xinhua

Japan no longer sees UN chief’s remarks as questionable

Tokyo, 29 Aug — The government said on Thursday it no longer sees UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon’s remarks that were taken as criticizing Japanese political leaders’ perception of wartime history as questionable.

Ban’s “true intent has become clear”, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a press conference, a day after a senior Japanese official met with Ban in the Netherlands and asked what he meant by his comments.

Ban was quoted by Suga as telling Japan’s Senior Vice Foreign Minister Masaji Masuyama that he “is well aware” of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s position on the perception of history and Japan’s wartime efforts as a peaceful nation.

Speaking to journalists on Monday in Seoul, Ban said Japanese leaders should have “deep reflection and vision to look toward the international future in an effort to foster friendly ties with a correct view of past history”.

Ban, a former South Korean foreign minister, was referring to the conflict between Japan and China and South Korea over some Japanese law-makers’ views on Japan’s wartime aggression in the region, as well as to moves by Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party to revise the country’s pacifist Constitution.

Japan sharply reacted to the comments, with officials in Tokyo saying they would inquire through the United Nations what Ban intended to say because his remarks apparently lacked neutrality as a UN chief.

On Wednesday, Ban told Masuyama that his comments were not directed solely at Japan and regretted that there was “misunderstanding” in Japan about the remarks, according to Japanese officials.

The secretary general said he had intended to say in Seoul that political differences and tension “should be resolved through dialogue, by the strong will of leaders”.—Kyodo News

Pakistan plans “targeted operation” against miscreants in Karachi

Islamabad, 29 Aug—The Pakistani government on Wednesday hinted a “targeted operation” against the miscreants in the violence-hit port city of Karachi where businesses are now demanding deployment of the army to restore peace.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said the government has proposed a targeted operation in Karachi against identified target killers, extortionists and criminals.

Addressing a news conference in Islamabad on Wednesday, the interior minister said the next meeting of the federal cabinet would be held in Karachi to discuss the blueprint of the proposed operation.

A report released by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan earlier in July said a total of 1,726 people were killed in Karachi during the first half of 2013.

Those killed included victims of sectarian violence, targeted killings, as well as over a hundred people whose dead bodies were found in the city and who appeared to have died in incidents of violence, the commission said in a latest report.

The minister said there was no need for whole scale operation in Karachi as a number of target killers, extortionists and criminals have already been identified and the city can get rid of these elements in a non-political and transparent targeted operation.

The federal cabinet, presided over by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Wednesday discussed the law and order situation in Karachi and called for deployment of the regular army to check violence.

“The Prime Minister took serious notice of the law and order situation in Karachi and directed the Interior Minister to make a comprehensive presentation in the next cabinet meeting on the issue,” an official statement said.

Information Minister Pervez Rashid said Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif directed the Interior Ministry to present a detailed report on law and order situation in Karachi before the cabinet to assist the provincial government to improve the situation.—Xinhua

Sri Lanka assures transparency with human rights chief

COLOMBO, 29 Aug—The Sri Lankan government on Wednesday assured full transparency during the ongoing visit of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights Navanethem Pillay, Government Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva said Pillay was given all that she asked for during her visit and the government hopes the visit will be an eye opener for her.

Pillay arrived in Sri Lanka on Sunday and on Tuesday she visited the war-torn north of the country and had discussions with government officials as well as civil society. She also met families of people reportedly missing during the battle between the Tamil Tiger rebels and the military.

Silva said that several allegations had been raised against the government but the government was not shaken. He said that Pillay now had the opportunity to see for herself the ground situation and reach a conclusion accordingly.

The minister also said the government hopes Pillay will give a fair and balanced report on Sri Lanka to the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva following her visit to Sri Lanka. He was of the view that her impression on Sri Lanka should be positive from what she sees on the ground. Pillay was invited to visit Sri Lanka by the government and following a tour of the north she travelled to the east on Wednesday and will be having meetings in Colombo on Thursday and Friday.

Sri Lanka ended its civil conflict by defeating the Tamil Tigers four years ago but human rights groups have been accusing the military of committing human rights abuses during the conflict.—Xinhua

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(8/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

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<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
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<td>Plastic Seating Cup and Column</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
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<td>Group (Air Clutch)</td>
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<td>Container (2/2013)</td>
<td>Wire Cables for Solar Cells</td>
<td>(3) Items</td>
<td>Kyat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 26th August, 2013 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 25-9-2013, 1300 Hrs.
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One civilian killed in Afghan capital suicide bombing

KABUL, 29 Aug—At least one civilian was killed on Tuesday evening when a suicide bombing took place in western Kabul, the police and witnesses said.

“One man detonated his explosive jacket near the entrance of Ministry of Power and Water Resources. The bomber was killed on the spot and one civilian also died as a result of the explosion,” a police source told Xinhua anonymously.

The obvious target of the attack remained unknown, he said. The incident happened in the road where several gov’t agencies, including the parliament building, are located.

Xinhua

Students increasingly lured to study overseas

BEIJING, 29 Aug—China’s top universities, which once had students and parents scrambling for admission, are experiencing an embarrassing downturn in applications in the face of growing competition from overseas.

According to a recent survey by Chinese education consulting company MyCOS, the proportion of mainland students applying for top universities, such as Peking University, Tsinghua University in Beijing and Fudan University in Shanghai, is on a downward trend. Between 28 June and 30 July, MyCOS conducted an online survey of 492 students who have already received offers from universities for 2013. About 4 percent of those surveyed said they have turned down offers from the country’s top universities, about 1 percentage point higher than last year. About 3 percent said they are still considering their options.

One explanation given for the trend is the increasing lure of overseas universities, such as in Hong Kong and Macao, which appear to be attracting larger numbers of the mainland’s top students. About 93 percent of those surveyed said they will apply to the top universities on the Chinese mainland, compared with 97 percent in 2012. As early as in 2002, universities in Hong Kong and Macao began to enroll undergraduate students from the mainland, attracting them with high-quality educational resources, generous scholarships and bright job prospects.

This year, the number of mainland students applying to Hong Kong University hit a record high of 12,000. The university planned to enroll between 250 and 300 students from the mainland, but the number finally expanded to 303, including 16 champions of the gaokao — the mainland’s college entrance exam. —Xinhua

Five killed in small plane crash in western Germany

BERLIN, 29 Aug—A small plane crashed in Ruhr region of western Germany on Tuesday evening, killing five people including one child.

The Piper plane crashed at 17:00 (1500 GMT) on a meadow near Dortmund in the western German state of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Two men, two women and one child were killed. Three other children were seriously injured and transferred to hospital by a helicopter, reported Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper, citing police source.

The accident site lies between the cities of Wickede and Frondenberg, a spokesman said. Some of the victims were trapped in the crashed plane and had to be freed. Tens of rescuers, several vehicles and helicopters were on site. —Xinhua

Language list aims to pass on Chinese culture

BEIJING, 29 Aug—A team of experts has urged the public to use standard Chinese characters despite the popularity of Internet buzzwords.

A team of experts working with the Ministry of Education released a list of 8,105 of the most commonly known Chinese characters on Tuesday, categorized by frequency of use, in an effort to standardize the language and deter the use of newly coined terms on the Internet.

“These words were made up by netizens in a certain context and can be replaced by commonly used characters to represent the same meanings,” said Wang Ning, a professor with the Beijing Normal University.

Wild golden monkeys are seen at the Qining Mountains in Yangxian County, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, on 26 Aug, 2013. The number of wild monkeys at the Qining Mountains has increased by 30 percent since the beginning of 2013. Like the giant panda, the monkeys are counted among China’s “national treasures” and placed under top state protection. —Xinhua

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**Country singer Bryan keeps top spot on Billboard album chart**

Los Angeles, 29 Aug — Country singer Luke Bryan topped the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday for the second consecutive week, denying singer-songwriter John Mayer’s latest album the No 1 spot in its first week.

Bryan’s “Crash My Party” sold 159,000 copies in the past week after tallying 527,000 in sales the prior week, according to figures compiled by Nielsen SoundScan.

Mayer’s sixth studio album, “Paradise Valley,” sold 144,000 in its first week on the chart. Four of Mayer’s six albums have topped the weekly U.S. album chart.

Half of the albums to reach Billboard’s top 10 did so in their first week of sales, including three debut studio albums.

R&B super-group TGT, composed of singers Tyrese, Ginuwine, and Tank, landed at No 3, selling 76,000 copies of their debut album, “Three Kings,” in its first week.

Rapper Earl Sweatshirt’s first album, “Doris,” sold 49,000 copies, which was good enough for No 5, while ASAP Ferg’s debut album, “Trap Lord,” entered the chart at No 9 with 39,000 copies sold.

Veteran singer-songwriter Jimmy Buffett’s 27th studio album, “Songs from St. Somewhere,” sold 55,000 copies in its opening week, reaching No 4.

Pop singer Katy Perry still holds the top spot on the digital songs chart as her new single “Roar” sold 392,000 copies last week, a week-over-week decline of 30 percent.

Year-to-date album sales are down 6 percent to 181 million, while year-to-date digital song downloads are off 3 percent to 865.4 million.

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Michael Douglas, Catherine Zeta-Jones separated

New York, 29 Aug — Star Hollywood couple Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones have separated in what could spell the end of their nearly 13-year marriage, People magazine reported on Wednesday, and a representative for Zeta-Jones confirmed the separation.

“Catherine and Michael are taking some time apart to evaluate work on their marriage,” a spokeswoman for Zeta-Jones said in a statement provided to Reuters, adding that she would not make any further comment.

According to People, Douglas and Zeta-Jones, both Oscar winners and among Hollywood’s most high-profile couples, have separated in what could spell the end of their nearly 13-year marriage, People magazine reported on Wednesday.— Reuters

**Venice film festival president highlights Chinese jury**

Venezia, 29 Aug— Venice film festival president highlights Chinese jury
Suarez could make Liverpool return against Man United

**LONDON, 29 Aug**—Banned Liverpool striker Luis Suarez could make his return to action against Manchester United after the two teams were drawn against each other in the League Cup third round on Wednesday.

Suarez, serving a 10-game suspension for biting Chelsea’s Branislav Ivanovic last season, will be eligible for the match at Old Trafford scheduled for 24 or 25 September.

The Uruguay striker is an unpopular figure at United after he was banned for eight games for racially abusing the club’s defender Patrice Evra in 2011 and he inflamed the situation by re-fusing to shake the Frenchman’s hand after making his return.

The third round also features a repeat of last season’s FA Cup final as Manchester City take on Wigan Athletic, who were relegated from the Premier League after upsetting City to win at Wembley in May.

There are four other all-Premier League clashes as Fulham play Everton, Aston Villa host Tottenham Hotspur, West Ham United take on Cardiff City and West Bromwich Albion play Arsenal.

Holders Swansea City visit second-tier Birmingham City.

Premier League South-ampton host third-tier Bristol City, Leeds, winners in 1968, visit Newcastle United and Norwich City play Watford.

Leicester face local ri-
dals Derby, Premier League Hull City host Huddersfield and four-times winners Nottingham Forest will face Burnley.—**Reutеры**

Arsenal, Liverpool face local credentials’ tests

**LONDON, 29 Aug**—Arsenal will be eager to show the north London balance of power has not shifted to Tottenham Hotspur and Liverpool face a test of their top-four credentials against Manchester United as traditional local rivals clash in the Premier League on Sunday.

Arsenal pipped their neighbours to a Champions League qualifying spot last season, but while Arsene Wenger’s team have been thwarted in their efforts to strengthen their squad, Tottenham have liberally splashed the cash.

Argentine international Erik Lamela is set to be-
come Spurs’ fifth transfer-
window signing, taking their spending to more than 90 million pounds ($140 million), and Spurs fans are optimistic for the season ahead. Two wins from their opening two matches have added to the positive vibe emanating from White Hart Lane, which has not been dampened by the impend-
ing world-record transfer of Gareth Bale to Real Madrid.

Things could not be more different at Arsenal, who have added a solitary new face to their ranks, the free transfer of Yaya San-
ogo.

Manager Arsene Wenger has been rebuffed in his efforts to bring in a marquee signing with re-
ported offers to recruit Liverpool’s Luis Suarez and now-Napoli striker Gonzalo Higuain coming to nothing. Although they reached the Champions League group stage with a comfortable win over Fenerbahce and beat Ful-
ham in the Premier League last weekend following the shock home opening toaston Villa, there is still frustra-
tion among support-
ners.—**Reuters**

Venues vow to come back after defeat to China’s Li

**NEW YORK, 29 Aug**—Walking out the door, Venus Williams vowed to be back. The 33-year-old American lost a heartbreaker to China’s Zheng Jie (6-3, 2-6, 7-65) in the second round of the US Open today before rejecting any possibility of retirement.

“Oh wow, I definitely want to come back for the atmosphere,” she said. “I’ll get there. I just have to keep working on it. I’ve had a tough set of circumstances to work through, especially this year, last year and the year before. “I’ve been dealt some cards that aren’t easy, but I have to play with them. I’m a fighter,” Williams suffers Sjogren’s Syndrome, which causes fatigue and joint pain, and has been hampered this year by back pain. “Champion in New York in 2000 and 2001, Williams had a parochial crowd on her side as the match went down to a wire. A rushed volley at five-all in the deciding tiebreaker proved costly. “I should have made the shot,” she said. “I rushed so badly and didn’t make it. I had a lot of opportunities. I was al-
ways stepping up and putting myself in a good position … but I just dug myself into so many holes.—**Reuters**

Stoppage time winner books group spot for Celtic

**LONDON, 29 Aug**—Celtic winger James Forrest scored a dramatic stoppage time winner to secure his club a Champions League group stage place on Wednesday alongside AC Milan, Real Sociedad, Zenit Petersburg and Czech champions Viktoria Plzen.

The five clubs will go into Thursday’s 32-team draw for the lucrative group phase, where all participating clubs earn a base fee of 8.6 million euros ($14.17 million) plus a million for each win and half a million for a draw.

Celtic, inspired by the fervour of their Glasgow supporters, overturned a two-goal deficit from the first leg to beat Shakhter Karagandy of Kazakhstan 3-0 and secure a group stage spot for the second year in a row. They overcame early jitters to score through Kris Commons on the stroke of halftime and then levelled the aggregate tally through Giorgios Samaras early in the second half.

The 3-2 aggregate tri-
umph was secured with only seconds remaining at the end of a mazy run through the de-
fence from Anthony Stokes that set up Forrest’s goal for a grandstand finish to main-
tain the tradition of rousing nights of European competi-
tion at Celtic Park.

“This is the greatest night of my football life,” said Celtic manager Neil Lennon. “I never come across Real Madrid, so that’s something I’d like and a Bat-
tle of Britain would be great as well. “But I don’t care. I’m just delighted that we will be in the Champions League again.” AC Milan, advanced to the group phase for a 17th time, moving swiftly to quell the potential threat of PSV Eindhoven’s mauch vaunted young side. Kevin-Prince Boateng scored with a rasp-
ing shot from outside the area inside the opening 10 minutes.

He added another 13 minutes from the end after Mario Balotelli had scored the second for the seven-
times European champions, who won 3-0 at San Siro for a 4-1 aggregate triumph.

PSV, with an average age of just over 22 and four teenagers in the starting line-
up, had two early chances but Milan then went ahead through Boateng’s love 25-metres shot in the ninth minute.—**Reuters**

Platini says any FIFA chief bid not dependant on Blatter

**PARIS, 29 Aug**—Michel Platini’s decision on whether to run for the FIFA presidency in 2015 will be made without consider-
ing the plans of in-
cumbent Sepp Blatter, the UEFA chief was quoted as saying on Wednesday.

FIFA president Blatter, 77, said two years ago that he was starting his fourth and last term but the Swiss recently indicated he could seek another four years in charge if that was neces-
sary to lead the governing body reform process.

“I don’t know (what Blatter is going to decide). At first, he said that he would quit in 2015. Now, I will make my deci-
sion on my own, without taking Sepp into considera-
tion.—**Reuters**
Fort Hood shooter sentenced to death for 2009 killings

Fort Hood (Texas), 29 Aug—A military jury on Wednesday sentenced a US Army psychiatrist to death for murdering 13 people in 2009 at Fort Hood, Texas, where he gunned down unarmed soldiers in what he called a “meditated murder.”

Asleep In Jesus
Rev. Dr. Paul F. Johns
Age (79) years
Senior Pastor
Immanuel Baptist Church

Son of Mr. J. William Johns & Mrs. Esther Clara Johns, brother of Ms. Noreen Johns (U.S.A), Maj. Sam Johns (Rtd), Miss Martha Johns (Deceased), Gilbert Johns (Thailand), Mitchelle Johns (U.S.A), cousin of Capt. Olive Johns @ Dow Huan Yis - (Maj. Win Maung), nephew of Maj. Dr. Maria Kyaw Nyunt- (Col. Kyaw Nyunt) was called to His Heavenly Home on the 28th day of August 2013. Funeral Service will be held at the Immanuel Baptist Church No. (411), Mahabandoola Garden Road, Kyaunktada Township, on Saturday the 31st August 2013 at 9:00 AM, and thence to Yayway Christian Cemetery to be entombed.

Bereaved Family,

Nidal Hasan, charged with killing 13 people and wounding 31 in a November 2009 shooting spree at Fort Hood, Texas, is pictured in an undated Bell County Sheriff’s Office photograph. Reuters

Birmingham to open largest public library in Europe

BIRMINGHAM, 29 Aug—Library of Birmingham, the largest public library in Europe, will open to the public on 3 September. Located in Birmingham’s Centenary Square, the centre of the England’s second largest city, the Library is expected to attract over 3 million visitors a year, with many more visiting online.

To celebrate the opening of the Library, which cost 188.18 million pounds (or 295 million US dollars), a programme, called “Discovery Seasons,” of exciting events and activities for all ages will run until the end of 2013. Designed by a team led by Netherland-based architectural practice Mecanoo, the Library is a flagship project of Birmingham City Council’s 20-year Big City Plan. The Library is set to transform the city’s library services and become a major cultural destination, housing Birmingham’s world-class collections of archives, photography and rare books as well as a million printed volumes, the largest number held by any public library in Britain. At 31,000 square metres, the 10-level Library is around 20 percent larger than the old Central Library building, sharing a spacious entrance and foyer as well as a flexible studio theater seating 300 people with the Birmingham Repertory Theater.—Xinhua

Former champion Del Potro passes tight first test

New York, 29 Aug—Former champion Juan Martin del Potro out-slugged a gritty Guillermo Garcia-Lopez in a contentious four-set match to reach the second round of the US Open on Wednesday. Argentine Del Potro, who won his only grand slam at Flushing Meadow in 2009, beat the 74th-ranked Spaniard 6-3, 6-7(5), 6-4, 7-6(7) on his fourth match point.

“Felt good because I won the big battle for the first round,” Del Potro said. “He’s a very tough opponent. He plays so solid on the baseline. He made a good forehand, backhands.

“We play like every hand. I had to make three or four winners in the same point to win the point.” The match included a bad-tempered exchange between the serving sixth seed and the inspired Garcia-Lopez as the players bickered on a changeover when Del Potro questioned whether the Spaniard was entitled to treatment on his left leg. Garcia-Lopez, who ended up losing the match of several extremely close calls, later kicked at his towel in disgust after a replay of a point was ordered in the tiebreaker that he thought should have been ruled in his favour.

“I’m proud of the way I played, but I am a little bit disappointed because I gave everything, physically and mentally,” the Spaniard said. The four-hour, 13 minute marathon actually lasted twice as long with two rain delays totaling more than four hours. Despite the long day spent at the National Tennis Center, Del Potro said he was happy to be back in New York.

“As everybody knows it’s my favourite tournament,” Del Potro, who ended Roger Federer’s streak of five straight US Open titles in their five-set final, said in an on-court interview.—Reuters
Rural development to be carried out with concerted efforts: Vice-President U Nyan Tun

Myanmar to get loan of 261.50 million USD from WB

Myanmar, US focus on further strengthening of relations between two armed forces

The Finance Ministry will ask for a long-term loan of 30 million USD from WB. It will be used for development of taxation system, development of budget system, capacity building of public financial management, budget analysis and auditing.

Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein said it would help support swift implementation of Union government’s projects.

It is learnt that loan repayment period is 40 years including 10-year suspension period. And service charges for the loan is 0.75 per year, but service charges during suspension period will be collected based on drawing amounts.

After the suspension period, original capitals and service charges are to be repaid.

That loan could help facilitate the public finance management reforms in the short period of time.

The Hluttaw approved to take a loan of 261.50 million USD from the WB.

Afterwards, three MPs discussed Public Accounts Joint Committee’s report (5/2013) on Union Auditor-General’s important findings on 2nd bi-annual budget (2011-2012 FY).

Union ministers and deputy ministers from the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Mines, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism discussed the report. The Hluttaw approved the report.

Auditor-General of the Union U Thein Htike said that there were 3172 cases due to the lack of departments’ financial rules and regulations and procedures. Action has been taken against those who got engaged in the cases in accord with departmental procedures.

The Hluttaw also approved the Farmers’ Rights Protection and Interests Promoting Bill. After that, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker read out President’s message dated today.

(Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker’s speech is separately reported.)

The 7th regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw successfully concluded in the afternoon.—MNA