President U Thein Sein meets US Senators

**Nay Pyi Taw, 22 May** — President U Thein Sein on his first working visit to the United States of America met Senators Harry Reid, Mr. Mitt McConnell, Ben Cardin, Kelly Ayotte and John McCain at Capitol Hill yesterday.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane, U Than Htay and Myanmar Ambassador to the US U Than Swe.

The President concludes his visit and left the US on 21 May afternoon and arrived at Incheon Airport in Seoul of the Republic of Korea on 22 May evening.

During the President’s visit, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan and Special US Trade Representative Demetrios Marantis signed Trade and Investment Framework-TIFA, a significant milestone between Myanmar and the US.

**World Bank boosts funds for Syria refugees, Africa**

**Manchester City and Yankees launch new MLS team**

**ASEAN Highway-123 linking Dawei Deep Sea Port and Thailand**

Minthamee Valley.

It is located at Myanmar-Thai border and it shares border with Punaron Village of Thailand. It is a designated place on the Myanmar side of the section for ASEAN Highway-123 that helps promote trade and communication sectors between Myanmar and Thailand.

The 141-kilometer ASEAN Highway-123 lies from Dawei to Minthamee Valley between Myanmar-Thai border. ASEAN-123 (AH-123) links ASEAN-112 (AH-112) that is 1145 kilometres long from Thaton to Kawithuong.

As Dawei Deep Sea Port is being implemented for development of the region, the 150 kilometres long highway section will be extended from Dawei to the deep sea port.

At present, an agreement has reached between Myanmar and Italian Thai People’s Co of Thailand to construct the highway sections through BOT system.

The company has conducted feasibility studies and designs for the road section from Dawei to Minthamee Valley. More discussions follow.

On completion of ASEAN Highway-123 (AH-123), vehicles will have access to Bangkok, City of Thailand from Dawei Deep Sea Port of Myanmar via Chanapuri of Thai border through Minthamee Valley of Myanmar-Thai border.

A target has been set to complete the highway in 2015 so as to export products from Dawei Deep Sea Port and Dawei Special Economic Zone to Thailand by car.

The ASEAN Highway-123 that will link ASEAN Highway-1, ASEAN Highway-2, ASEAN Highway-3, ASEAN Highway-14, ASEAN Highway-111 and ASEAN-112 in Myanmar contributes to development undertakings among Myanmar, Thailand, India and China.

Myanma Alinn: 17-5-13

Trs: TTA
Donation of Elite Tech Group of Companies for MGF

YANGON, 22 May—Elite Tech Group of Companies donated a vehicle, Toyota Hi Ace Super Custom, to Myanmar Golf Federation at Yangon Golf Club (Danyingon) in Insein Township, here, on 17 May. The donation is intended to assist MGF’s efforts for achieving success in XXVII SEA Games.

It was attended by Patron Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Retd), President U Tay Za, Vice- Presidents U Aung Kyi, U Min Thein and U Zaw Min, General Secretary U Aung Hia Han and executives of Myanmar Golf Federation, responsible persons of Elite Tech Group of Companies and guests.

CEO U Chan Nyein Zaw of Elite Tech Group of Companies handed over documents related to the vehicle to Joint General Secretary U Myo Tun of MGF.— MNA

One dead, another hospitalized after knife fight

YANGON, 22 May—A man died of a single stab wound to a space between two ribs of the right side of his body while he was sent to hospital in Kayan Township on 12 May.

U Khin Win, 57, was stabbed to death in a knife fight with Zin Maung Tun, 23, at Nyaung Lan Lay Village in Kayan Township at about 9 pm on that day.

Myo Chit Khang, 23, son of the victim, informed the police of his father death. Kayan police station filed a lawsuit against Zin Maung Tun who was taken to Yangon Hospital where he is being listed in critical condition as U Khin Win stabbed him in the chest with a knife.—Kyemon

Man stabs himself twice after stabbing wife to death

YANGON, 22 May—A man stabbed his wife to death and turned blade on himself at a property in Namthu Village of Hopong Township at about 8.30 pm on 15 May.

Maung Yay (a) Thet Oo, 27, tried to commit suicide by stabbing himself twice shortly after making at his wife Ma Mi Hon, 28, six stabs while they were picking the big quarrel.

He collapsed unconscious due to stab wounds and taken to Sao San Tun hospital. Hopon police station is investigating into the case.—Kyemon

Live rounds of ammunition, pistol found abandoned in garbage can

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Ma Thin Myat Soe, YCDC staff, discovered one magazine and 56 rounds of ammunition of M-16, 11 rounds of ammunition of Carbine, 9 mm 22 rounds of ammunition, 13 rounds of ammunition of .38 revolver, one Spain-made pistol with No C-177374 and star trade mark on its body and one pistol bag in a garbage can at the corner of Bo Thura Street and Padaukbin Street in East Zaygyi Ward of Kyimyinda Township in Yangon at about 4 pm on 20 May while she was carrying out sanitation works. The live rounds of ammunition, one pistol and its bag were kept in a plastic bag.

As she informed authorities concerned of her discovery, officials of Kyimyinda Township police station rushed there and confiscated them.—Kyemon

Search for missing passengers of sinking boat in Yangon River ongoing

YANGON, 22 May—A motorized boat, Aung Yadana Myint, capsized and sank near Shwetaungdan pontoon bridge No (1) in Seikkan Township in Yangon at about 5 am yesterday.

A total of 24 passengers — 11 men and 13 women — and cement bags, iron rods and other goods were on board the motorized boat plying from Yangon to Kungyangon Township in Yangon River. The boat is assumed to have capsized and sank due to a raging torrent of the water.

Nine men and six women were rescued and one woman was found dead. Search for missing passengers from the sinking boat which is 36 feet in length, nine feet in width and five feet in depth is ongoing.—Kyemon
Austria says peacekeepers may quit Golan if EU arms rebels

VILNIUS, 22 May—Austria may pull its peacekeeping troops from the Golan Heights, evacuating the UN buffer zone, if its defence minister warned on Tuesday, after Syria and Israel exchanged fire across a long dormant frontline now inflamed by the crisis in Syria.

Vilnius’s warning was aimed at Britain and other allies which want to help Syria’s neighbours, in an escalating arms race, to build up their defences—doing so, minister Gerald Klug told Reuters, would risk drawing the EU into the war.

“My view is that if the arms embargo were not extended, then the impartiality of the peace mission could no longer be maintained,” Klug said in a statement after EU leaders in Brussels will discuss an arms embargo that expires on 1 June.

“Our mission would be additionally fraught and it would no doubt come to a new assessment of the situation,” of the negotiations within the European Union.

But without doubt there are several options in the political discussion, and withdrawal is one of these options.—Reuters

EU mission seeks to rebuild

MALI, 22 May—Under a blazing sun and the critical gaze of British and Irish instructors, a line of 11 Malian soldiers lined up in the dust firing AK-47 rounds at targets, one-by-one.

“One out of 10 — not very good,” Captain Ibrahim Soumassa, commander of the Malian unit, tells one of the men. “We’re at 25 metres. When we’re at 100, it’ll be difficult.”

A European Union training mission faces a considerable challenge as it seeks to succeed where years of US instruction failed by turning Mali’s rag-tag army into a force capable of facing militants threat stretching across the Sahara.

Years of corruption and neglect led the army to a string of defeats against al-Qaeda-linked militants last year, leaving northern Mali under militants control and sparking a military coup by disgruntled officers in the capital, Bamako.

French soldiers, part of the European Union training mission in Mali, look on as Malian soldiers practise manning a checkpoint and arresting a suspect in Koalikoro on 17 May, 2013.—Reuters

UN makes push for immigration reform

WASHINGTON, 22 May—US President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden on Tuesday met with “Dreamers,” undocumented youth who were brought to the country as children, renewing the push to overhaul the country’s immigration system. Obama and Biden met on Tuesday morning met with families who directly affected by our nation’s broken immigration system.

The “Dreamers” shared how their lives have been positively affected by the deferred action process and emphasized that they and their families need “a permanent solution” that will allow them to fully contribute to the country they call home, said the White House. The participants of Tuesday’s meeting are currently visiting the capital to speak to their elected representatives as the Senate considers immigration reform legislation.

At the meeting, the president reiterated his commitment to passing a bipartisan, commonsense immigration reform bill this year. He made clear that while the current bill is not perfect, it does represent an important step towards the broad principles that need to be part of any immigration reform package,” said the White House in a statement.

The White House said the meeting was “an important opportunity” for the President and the Vice President to meet with families “who are directly affected by our nation’s broken immigration system.” The “Dreamers” shared how their lives have been positively affected by the deferred action process and emphasized that they and their families need “a permanent solution” that will allow them to fully contribute to the country they call home, said the White House.

The participants of Tuesday’s meeting are currently visiting the capital to speak to their elected representatives as the Senate considers immigration reform legislation. The Senate bill, unveiled last month by a bipartisan group of Senators, dubbed as “Gang of Eight,” is still pending in the Senate Judiciary Committee this week. The bill has so far received the most attention nationwide but is expected to meet even greater resistance if it gets the chance to reach the Senate floor. Even if it passes the Democrats-controlled Senate, the bill will still have a longer and tougher way to go in the Republi- cans-dominated House.

Immigration system overhaul remains President Barack Obama’s top legislative priority in his second term of presidency. Both the Senate bipartisan group’s proposals and the president’s own goals include giving an earned citizenship to 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the country, as well as awarding green cards to foreign high-skilled workers.—Xinhua

UN pulls out of Golan after talks fail

KOUKLEKO, 22 May—A 1,000-strong UN force in Syria’s Golan Heights has failed to agree on extending its mandate, meaning its deployment could soon be under threat.

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Amazon wins key cloud security clearance from government

Amazon, the world's biggest online retailer, has moved aggressively into the business of renting remote computing, storage and other IT services in recent years through AWS.

The business has been a hit with startups, but the company is now going after big corporations and government agencies, with much larger opportunity. However, these organizations are more demanding, especially on issues like security and regulatory compliance.

Last year, the US government launched FedRAMP to standardize and streamline security assessments of cloud systems. Before this programme, if a vendor wanted to sell IT services to a government agency it had to obtain authorization for each separate project, slowing down the process and making it more expensive.

Under FedRAMP, AWS will be able to provide its services for a government agency once and then its services can be used on multiple occasions by that agency. AWS said it received its three-year clearance through the Department of Health and Human Services. The certification covers the agency and all its operational divisions which include the US Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.

Loeb wants CEO Kazuo Hirai to sell as much as $69 billion in sales in more cities, through their restaurants store along with reviews by fellow diners and workers rather than shareholders seeking value. Struggling electronics giant Sony Corp, though, with more foreign and fewer bank shareholders, may prove something of an exception. That’s the hope, at least, of Cali- forniabillionaire Daniel Loeb, whose Third Point hedge fund has built up a more than 6 percent stake in Sony, making it the group’s biggest stockholder.

Amazon's secret weapon is its vast, distributed data centres in the United States, which include the US Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services. The AWS said it received its three-year clearance through the Department of Health and Human Services. The certification covers the agency and all its operational divisions which include the US Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.

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Look around the world and you will find that the Japanese model is being emulated in many different ways. In Silicon Valley, for example, many startups are using Japanese-style perks such as free food and transportation, and some are even hiring Japanese workers directly. In China, the Japanese approach is also being copied, with companies like Huawei and ZTE using similar strategies to attract and retain employees.

Looking further afield, the Japanese model is also having an impact on other aspects of business. For example, in the automotive industry, many companies are adopting Japanese-style production methods to improve efficiency and quality. In the retail sector, companies are using Japanese-style service models to enhance customer satisfaction.

But there are also challenges. For example, some critics argue that the Japanese model is too rigid and inflexible, and that it can be difficult to adapt to changing market conditions. Others point to the high levels of debt in many Japanese companies as a potential problem.

Despite these challenges, the Japanese model remains an influential force in the business world. Companies around the world continue to study and learn from Japanese practices, seeking ways to incorporate them into their own operations. The Japanese approach to business is not a one-size-fits-all solution, but it can provide valuable lessons for those who are willing to learn.
**New technique shows premature birth interrupts vital brain development**

**MORONOA, (California), 22 May—Home Depot (HD.N) reported higher-than-expected quarterly results and raised its sales and profit outlook for the year as the world’s largest home improvement chain benefited from a nascent recovery in the US housing market. The news on Tuesday boosted Home Depot shares by 3.9 percent to $79.75 in premarket trading. A bubble in the US housing market was at the core of the 2007-2009 financial crisis. During the downturn, Home Depot’s sales at established stores fell more than 20 percent in such markets as Florida and California. In recent quarters, the company has gotten a boost as housing markets have rebounded in regions where it has a heavy presence.

“In the first quarter, we saw less favourable weather compared to last year, but we continue to see benefit from a recovering housing market that drove a stronger-than-expected start to the year for our business,” Chief Executive Officer Frank Blake said.

Despite cooler-than-usual weather in many parts of the United States at the start of the spring selling season, Home Depot’s sales rose 7.4 percent to $19.12 billion in the first quarter ended on 5 May. That topped the analysts’ average estimate of $18.68 billion.

**Better pricing and customer service have helped Home Depot take market share from smaller rival Lowe’s Cos (LOW.N). The industry leader has also gained from tailoring its marketing to local areas, centralizing distribution centers and shifting more workers to jobs where they serve customers directly. Sales at Home Depot stores open at least a year rose 4.3 percent, including a 4.8 percent increase in the United States.—Reuters**

**New Light of Myanmar**

**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Dollar firms before Bernanke, inflation dip hits sterling**

**LONDON, 22 May—The dollar firmed, gold fell and shares slipped off five-year highs on Tuesday as investors positioned for an update on the future of the US Federal Reserve’s stimulus programme. A slowdown in British inflation sent sterling to a 7-week low on the view it could give the Bank of England more leeway to support the UK economy, and the yen lost ground after a Japanese minister rowed back on remarks suggesting the currency had weakened enough.**

The constant drip of global central bank stimulus during the financial crisis has pushed many financial markets to their highest levels in years, but in recent weeks Fed officials have started talking more openly about scaling back the bank’s support.

That has made Wednesday’s release of minutes from the central bank’s last meeting and Fed chairman Ben Bernanke’s testimony in Congress the main focus for markets waiting for the first signs of a clear shift in attitude.

The usually dovish Chicago policymaker Charles Evans said on Monday that while the pickup in the US jobs market continued he was “open-minded” about slowing the bank’s bond-buying, and mentioned the idea of simply halting it.

The dollar DXY was up 0.4 percent against a basket of major currencies at midday in Europe, comfortably below its recent three-year high. US stock futures pointed to steady open on Wall Street. Economists expect Bernanke to deliver a steady message on the bank’s policy when he speaks to Congress. But any hint that it plans to scale back its support could unsettle markets.—Reuters

**Housing recovery boosts Home Depot results; outlook raised**

**MONROVA, (California), 22 May—British researchers have used a novel form of MRI to identify crucial developmental processes in the brain that are vulnerable to the effects of premature birth, according to a report published on Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).**

The study showed that disruption of these specific processes can have an impact on cognitive function. The researchers said the new techniques developed here will enable them to explore how the disruption of key processes can also cause conditions such as autism and will be used in future studies to test possible treatments to prevent brain damage.

Scientists from King’s College London and Imperial College London used diffusion MRI — a type of imaging which looks at the natural diffusion of water — to observe the maturation of the cerebral cortex where much of the brain’s computing power resides.

By analysing the diffusion of water in the cerebral cortex of premature infants and 10 babies born at full term, they mapped the growing complexity and density of nerve cells across the whole of the cortex in the months before the normal time of birth.

They found that during this period maturation was most rapid in areas of the brain relating to social and emotional processing, decision making, working memory and visual-spatial processing. These functions are often impaired after premature birth, and cortical development was reduced in preterm compared to full term infants, with the greatest effect in the most premature infants.—Xinhua

**New technique shows premature birth interrupts vital brain development**

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**A Best Buy logo is seen at the company’s store during Black Friday in San Francisco, California on 23 Nov, 2012.—Reuters**

**Best Buy profit tops estimates, sales miss**

**SAN FRANCISCO, 22 May—Best Buy Co Inc reported weaker-than-expected quarterly sales on Tuesday and warned that a slew of investments to win back shoppers could squeeze profits in the near term. The news overshadowed a better-than-expected profit from the world’s largest consumer electronics chain in the first quarter and sent its shares down 4 percent in premarket trading. Net earnings from continuing operations fell to $97 million, or 29 cents a share, from $169 million, or 49 cents a share a year earlier. Excluding restructuring and other charges, it earned 32 cents a share, beating the analysts’ average estimate of 25 cents a share, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.**

**Surgery offers mixed benefits for kids’ sleep apnea**

**NEW YORK, 22 May—A new study has confirmed that removing the tonsils and adenoids of children with obstructive sleep apnea can reduce sleepiness and improve the quality of life, but putting off the surgery might not hurt either. The study is the first controlled test to compare the operation with so-called watchful waiting as a strategy for stopping childhood obstructive sleep apnea syndrome, where the structures in the back of the mouth can temporarily block breathing during sleep. The findings, released on 21 May at an American Thoracic Society International Conference in Philadelphia, and appearing online in the New England Journal of Medicine, found that after seven months, surgery improved many gauges of everyday living. “Improvements in emotional regulation, attention, organizational skills, reduced sleepiness, improved quality of life including socialization and physical and emotional wellbeing were quite large, larger than we anticipated,” coauthor Dr Susan Redline of Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston told Reuters Health. Yet when the children were formally tested, youngsters in both groups performed equally well, an indication that the sleep disturbance wasn’t causing any measurable cognitive problems.

“Where you objectively measure these cognitive tasks, children can do fairly well in that motivated and structured environment” whether or not they have surgery, she said. “It shows that over a 7-month period of watchful waiting, cognition does not decline.” Nearly half the children who did not have the operation improved on their own, Redline said. About 500,000 such operations are done in the US each year, mostly to help children with apnea. It’s the second most common pediatric surgical procedure after tubes in the ears, and costs about $2,850, according to the Healthcare Blue Book. Redline and her colleagues took 464 children age 5 to 9 and randomly assigned them to surgery or observation at seven academic sleep centres. Nearly half were overweight or obese. The children with the most severe apnea were excluded. Children with the surgery showed a large improvement on ratings of things such as impulsiveness, emotional control and quality of sleep that were assessed by parents and teachers. “It really was across-the-board improvement in everyday life” for surgery patients, Redline said. On the other hand, “almost half the children improved spontaneously over the 7-month period without surgery,” she said.—Reuters
World Bank boosts funds for Syria refugees, Africa

**Geneva, 22 May**—The World Bank plans substantial new funds to help Jordan cope with the influx of refugees from the civil war in Syria, and hopes new funds for central Africa will cement a peace deal there, the bank’s President Jim Yong Kim said on Tuesday.

“Then we will be significant amounts of new funding going to Jordan in the very near future to deal with the economic downturn and the economic downturn and the humanitarian crisis, but King Abdullah asked Kim for more help two weeks ago. “With Jordan, they are the first ones who have come and just asked me directly for increased assistance and we’ve said yes,” Kim said.

“So we are using all of our flexibilities to try to increase our lending to them at very low rates so they will be able to respond to the humanitarian crisis.”

Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank, gives interviews during an interview with Reuters at the 66th World Health Assembly at the United Nations in Geneva on 21 May, 2013 file photo. *Reuters*

**Tokyo, 22 May**—Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and his Georgian counterpart Maha Panjikidze confirmed on Tuesday Japan’s commitment to continuing cooperation with the former Soviet republic through official development assistance, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said.

During a meeting in Tokyo, the two ministers also agreed on the importance of cooperating with each other at the United Nations and other international venues, while they briefed each other on their countries’ foreign affairs developments.

Kishida expressed Japan’s readiness to work closely with Georgia within a multilateral framework involving Japan and four former Soviet republics, according to the ministry. The four are Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova, who together form a regional forum called GUAM.

Georgia is in a strategic area in the Caucasus connecting Europe and Asia, providing a conduit for oil and natural gas production, both to Caspian region. With energy-security needs in mind, Japan has provided development aid to the country in the past years.—Kyodo News

**Kiev, 22 May**—A Russian ATR-42 turboprop passenger plane made an emergency landing early Tuesday at Donetsk Airport without casualties, local authorities said.

The UTAir airline-operated plane, on route from Donetsk to Moscow, encountered a technical problem shortly after taking off, and made a safe emergency landing at 6:30 am local time (0330 GMT), the Donetsk Airport press service said. Passengers would fly to Moscow by another plane, it said.

On mid-February, a plane bound for Donetsk from the southern city of Odessa with 52 people aboard crashed while landing at Donetsk airport, killing five people.—Xinhua

**Geneva, 22 May**—Syria, Israel exchange fire on Golan Heights

BRUSSELS, 22 May—Britain said on Tuesday it had asked the European Union to put Hezbollah’s military arm on its list of terrorist organizations, urging Europe to respond robustly to evidence of the Islamic group’s involvement in an attack that killed five Israelis.

Britain’s request came after Bulgaria accused the Lebanese militant movement in February of carrying out a bomb attack on a bus in the Black Sea city of Burgas that killed the Israelis and their Bulgarian driver in July last year.

Britain also cited a four-year jail sentence handed down by a Cypriot court in March to a Hezbollah member accused of plotting to attack Israeli interests on the island.

Britain asks EU to put Hezbollah armed wing on terror list

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“The United Nations has warned the numbers could triple by the end of the year, but humanitarian agencies say Syria’s neighbours are already shouldering a massive humanitarian burden, with many refugees camped with host families. Jordan, which attempted to host the UN World Health Assembly this week, has been turning away Syrian refugees for the past six days, aid workers said.

Kim said he was worried about the situation in the region and the World Bank stood ready to help. Jordan received a pledge of $250 million from the World Bank in January 2012 to help it cope with the economic downturn and the Syrian crisis, but King Abdullah asked Kim for more help two weeks ago.

“With Jordan, they are the first ones who have come and just asked me directly for increased assistance and we’ve said yes,” Kim said.

“So we are using all of our flexibilities to try to increase our lending to them at very low rates so they will be able to respond to the humanitarian crisis.”

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During a meeting in Tokyo, the two ministers also agreed on the importance of cooperating with each other at the United Nations and other international venues, while they briefed each other on their countries’ foreign affairs developments.

Kishida expressed Japan’s readiness to work closely with Georgia within a multilateral framework involving Japan and four former Soviet republics, according to the ministry. The four are Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova, who together form a regional forum called GUAM.

Georgia is in a strategic area in the Caucasus connecting Europe and Asia, providing a conduit for oil and natural gas production, both to Caspian region. With energy-security needs in mind, Japan has provided development aid to the country in the past years.—Kyodo News

**Kiev, 22 May**—A Russian ATR-42 turboprop passenger plane made an emergency landing early Tuesday at Donetsk Airport without casualties, local authorities said.

The UTAir airline-operated plane, on route from Donetsk to Moscow, encountered a technical problem shortly after taking off, and made a safe emergency landing at 6:30 am local time (0330 GMT), the Donetsk Airport press service said. Passengers would fly to Moscow by another plane, it said.

On mid-February, a plane bound for Donetsk from the southern city of Odessa with 52 people aboard crashed while landing at Donetsk airport, killing five people.—Xinhua

**Geneva, 22 May**—The World Bank plans substantial new funds to help Jordan cope with the influx of refugees from the civil war in Syria, and hopes new funds for central Africa will cement a peace deal there, the bank’s President Jim Yong Kim said on Tuesday.

“The United Nations has warned the numbers could triple by the end of the year, but humanitarian agencies say Syria’s neighbours are already shouldering a massive humanitarian burden, with many refugees camped with host families. Jordan, which attempted to host the UN World Health Assembly this week, has been turning away Syrian refugees for the past six days, aid workers said.

Kim said he was worried about the situation in the region and the World Bank stood ready to help. Jordan received a pledge of $250 million from the World Bank in January 2012 to help it cope with the economic downturn and the Syrian crisis, but King Abdullah asked Kim for more help two weeks ago.

“With Jordan, they are the first ones who have come and just asked me directly for increased assistance and we’ve said yes,” Kim said.

“So we are using all of our flexibilities to try to increase our lending to them at very low rates so they will be able to respond to the humanitarian crisis.”

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Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank, gives interviews during an interview with Reuters at the 66th World Health Assembly at the United Nations in Geneva on 21 May, 2013 file photo. *Reuters*
Mandalay Region Chief Minister visits relief camps in Meiktila

Mandalay, 22 May—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, accompanied by Region Border Affairs Minister Col Aung Kyaw Moe, Region Planning and Economy Minister U Aung Zan and officials, visited relief camps in Meiktila on 17 May.

He cordially greeted those at the camps and attended to the needs.

The chief minister and party then proceeded to Central Institute of Transport and Communication in Meiktila which is giving refuge to 1814 victims from 463 households.

He inspected temporary settlement there, consoled them and provided necessary aids.

As calm has been restored in Meiktila, the trading is getting going as usual.—Myanma Alinn

Myanma entrepreneurs leave for Thailand

Yangon, 22 May—A Myanmar delegation comprising restaurant owners, managers and chefs from regions and states, under the arrangements of Chairman U Nyan Lin, Vice-Chairmen U Sonny Aung Khin and U Khin Aung Tun and General Secretary U Kyaw Myat Moe and Joint Secretary U Nay Lin, left Yangon 21 May to attend THAIFEX Exhibition (World Food Asia 2013) in Maung Thong Thani of Thailand, and observe safety of foods.—NLM

Magway Region ANA invites entries for anti-narcotic contest

Magway, 22 May—Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association in Magway Region met in Magway Region ANA office in Natmauk street Magway on 18 May and discussed invitation of manuscripts of the open literary contests organized by ANA (Central).

Chairman of Magway Region Anti-Narcotics Association retired Police Col Ye Myint said at the meeting that manuscripts for sixth open anti-narcotics awareness raising short story, article and poem contests organized by ANA (Central) were to be submitted by 7 June.

Secretary of Magway Region ANA Dr Myint Aung briefed on rules and regulations of the contests. The meeting assigned the short story scrutiny group, the article scrutiny group and poem scrutiny group.

The Magway Region ANA invited manuscripts to be sent to Magway Township Writers Association Office not later than 31 May.

Loans disbursed to members of cooperative society in NyaungU

NyaungU, 22 May—NyaungU Township No. 5 Trading Cooperative Limited provided capitals to members at the cooperative society office at 9 am on 16 May.

NyaungU Township Cooperative Department staff officer U Kyaw Than explained rules and regulations of micro-financing and purpose of granting capitals.

Some youths today are squandering their time and money by spending more time with mobiles and on line, U Zaw Ye, administrator of the training school, said.

He suggested the youths to learn higher mobile technologies from tech experts to make the most of it.

Lecturers Ko Set, Ko Phone and Ko Zaw Myo gave talks on software, hardware and up-to-date mobile technologies.

Managing Director of Township Cooperative Syndicate U Nay Tun Lin and Chairman of the limited U Myint Aye discussed work plans.

A total of 143 members of cooperative societies in NyaungU received capitals of K 50,000 each, accounting for K 7.15 million in total.

The term of the loan is ten months.

Management of the cooperative association is discussing the issue of the number of SIM cards in the previous batch of the low-priced SIM cards.

SIM cards will be sold through public draw, according to the officials.

The township had received the share of 600 SIM cards in the previous month.

The officials said they are happy to learn a rise in number of selling SIM cards.

Myanma Alinn

Technology

Yezagyo Township gets more 900 SIM cards in May

Yezagyo, 22 May—Yezagyo Township in Magway Region received a share of 1500 CDMA 800 MHz SIM cards for second batch of the low-priced SIM card sale in May.

Township General Administration Department office accepted applications for purchase of SIM cards on 20 May.

A seminar on mobile technology which provided those present with practical experiences in progress.

Mandalay, 22 May—A seminar on mobile technology was organized by Mobile University training school in Aungmyaythazan Township in Mandalay at 10 am on 19 May.

The ward administrator spoke words of thanks for organizing the seminar on applications of mobile.

Those present and journalists raised questions about computing, hardware, software, information network, Facebook and Gmail.

Fifteen firefighters and 10 auxiliary firefighters put out the fire with the use of some 2000 gallons of water.

Myanma Alinn
**Perspectives**

Thursday, 23 May, 2013

**Our future in colour**

In black and white inky papers with foul odour that we used to smell good lies our past, present and future. We read our first-ever ABCs in our lifetime in these texts. The rare mis-coloured illustrations in these readers are nothing more attractive than black and white pictures for a five-year old because none has nothing attractive to gaze over. But we did gaze. We gazed into them with the love of letters. Flipping through our textbooks looking for such-and-such was kind of luxury for a starter who had virtually nothing more of his own than those gray papers.

But it is totally different with the kids today. They have quite a lot of things all more interesting than those gray papers. They would find polar bears on TV more interesting than all illustrations in their textbook. The characters in electronic games will be more friendly and interactive for them. Can we say it wrong that they spend less time with the books?

Children by nature has all the creativity, interests and energies. It is simple, honest and innocent logic that they would skip what they find boring. Rather than forcing them to stick to their textbooks, we should instead try to prepare more interesting textbooks with colours, better paper and better illustration. It would surely be somewhat costly. But it is worth spending money to lure our kids back to their school books and to instill the love of books in general. If not, we will see our next generations being glued to screens and scrolling up and down the web feeds as if the taste of text is unknown to them.

The first-ever colour textbooks are expected to be distributed to primary schoolchildren this academic year. We have to wait and see how good it is. You may find it difficult to accept the idea that elementary textbooks are much important than those readers, but it will surely be only a few.

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**NATIONAL**

**Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Swiss President of the Council of States**

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received a Swiss delegation led by President of the Council of States Mr. Filippo Lombardi at Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

The meeting focused on further cementing friendships and bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and Switzerland, as well as promoting amity and cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries.

Also present at the call together with the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker were Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swe, Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Chairpersons U Soe Tha and U Hla Myint Oo, Secretary U Maung Toe, Committee Member Daw Khin Saw Wai and officials concerned from the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

**C-in-C of Defence Services meets officers, other ranks in Magway**

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing cordially meets servicemen and their families at Magway Station.

The opening ceremony of village library in progress in Taunggalay Village of Bilin Township.

**Coordination meeting for private sector development held**

Construction held a coordination meeting for private sector development, in the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this afternoon.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin discussed development of the private sector in road and bridges works of Public Works under the Ministry and low-cost housing projects being implemented by Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development.

After that, Deputy Minister U Soe Tint called for transparency in the reform process and public interests.

The Managing Director, the Director-General, BOT companies and contractors also discussed roads and bridges construction and construction of housing projects.

MNA

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**Taunggalay Village in Bilin Tsp gets library**

**Bilin, 22 May—** A library was opened in Taunggalay Village in Dankay Village-tract in Bilin Township on 20 May.

During the opening ceremony, Information and Public Relations Department contributed 70 periodicals and local people cash to the trust-fund of the library.

The government has injected K 1 million while local people over K 0.6 million to the library which is 24 ft long, 14 ft wide and 12 ft high.

Kyemon
NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint receives Swiss President of the Council of States Mr Filippo Lombardi of Switzerland at the hall of Amyotha Hluttaw in Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon and discussed parliamentary affairs between the two countries.

Also present at the call together with the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw were Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Amyotha Hluttaw Committee Chairpersons U Zaw Myint Pe, U Thein Win, U Aung Tun, U San Tun, U Nyunt Tin, U Aung Nyein, Daw Khin Waing Kyi, U Nay Win Tun and Col Maung Maung Htoo and responsible persons from the Hluttaw Office.

The visiting delegation was accompanied by the Swiss Ambassador to Myanmar.—MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint receives Swiss President of the Council of States Mr Filippo Lombardi and party.—MNA

Myanmar, Japan discuss religious matters

NAY PYI TAW, 22 May—Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint held talks with Rev. Joeinasuno, Jodoshinshu Hongwanji-Hi FUJEJI of Japan at his office, here, this afternoon.

During the discussions, Rev. Joeinasuno said that there was no ministry of religious affairs in Japan; he wanted to know religious matters practiced in Myanmar; Japanese faith in religion became weak though the country has enjoyed economic development; he believed that the ministry of religious affairs was important for making people’s mind to become mild; and he expressed that both countries should exchange of Buddhist literature.

The Union Minister for Religious Affairs said that there were two International Theravada Buddhist Missionary Universities and over 5,000 monastic education schools in Myanmar and promotion and propagation of Sasana were being mainly carried out in Myanmar. Buddhist cultural schools were being run all corner of the country and each and every village had monastery and Sayadaws would guide villagers. The Union Minister also pointed out that there could be language barriers in learning but Myanmar could conduct free-study as courses are being conducted both English and Pali, for those pursuing Theravada Buddhist literature.

MNA

Press freedom is a foundation for democracy, plays a role in democratic transition

The 2nd Conference on Media Development in Myanmar was held at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel in Yangon on 20 and 21 May. Representatives from international media organizations, news agencies and reporters and editors at home participated in the conference.

Following is the interview we conducted at the conference.

U Thiba Saw (Chief Editor of the Open News Journal) member of Myanmar Press Council (Temporary)

The first conference was held last year at the time when the censorship still took effect, private newspapers did not take shape and the media law was still in draft. During the first conference, an official of the Ministry of Information told us that the ministry would abolish the censorship board and would allow to publish private-owned newspapers. We all hoped that all those visions would come true within a year and all happened within a year as the ministry had said. These are good signs. The visions we had last year took shape today.

There happened changes during the duration between the two conferences. For example, the media law was in draft form when the first conference was held, and later, the press council emerged. What the progress today is we can discuss media law drafted of the Ministry of Information and the other one drafted by the press council on the table.

During this second conference, we will discuss what and how we should do for the future of the media sector of Myanmar.

Press freedom is important for media. Media men want to get freedom. Media is a barometer for a democracy, and if there is media freedom in Myanmar, we can say that the country is on the right track to a democracy. The more media freedom in a country, the more achievements the country got in its reform processes. I assume that this conference plays an important role in bringing media freedom to Myanmar.

U Ko Ko Aung

BBC (Myanmar Program)

We noticed that the government is making efforts for ensuring transparency and participation of the people in it. The government welcomes the voice of the people, and in this point, the government’s willingness to allow the media men press freedom is another direction. Meanwhile, the media men are worried whether the government continues to control the media. Anyway, the conference on media development has helped the both sides understand and clear what they confused in the past.

Regarding the reform of the media sector, the government must take the security of the country and interests of the peoples into account while it is considering to relax restrictions in conformity with the democratic norms. Media men are worried whether the government would control the media when they have freedom in their reporting and coverage. But, we can find the answer during the conference.

I think that the government’s reform of the media has taken place in the print media than other media. As far as I know, there is a few who controls broadcast media while there are many who control the print media. When I gather news in the country, there are few newsmen who collect news for radio, except for TV. There should be many platforms for the media sector. The Director-General of the Myanmar Radio and Television told us that this vision would do come true soon and we hope so.

It is found that young journalists of Myanmar are working hard and it was also the young generation who worked for the media during the time before the country was opening up. Bogyoke Aung San took over an editor’s chair since his student life. Professionalism could be realized learning experiences but there may be weak points, he expressed his views.

U Aye Chan Naing

Director of DVB (State Television)

In an interview with Director U Aye Chan Naing of DVB, he expressed his views about the conference.

I knew remarkably the points said by Information Minister that state-owned media will be transformed into an independent one as Public Service Media. I noticed this pledge that Public Service Media which is free from the control of the government and market will be realized. In fact, the State media is owned by the people. It is good to create a public-owned independent media.

I agreed with most points in the recently issued Public Service Media draft law. What the important thing is that it should not be a Media Watchdog. The point I don’t like is that the board that is responsible for issuing license have an authority to abolish the license it had issued. I heard that this point will be amended. According to my point of view, license is not needed for print media, but registration process is needed. It seems license can be abolished since the start of license application. It is required for broadcasting media to apply for license as there is frequency limit in radio and TV broadcasts. Permission for establishment of radio and TV stations is not allowed to everyone. It will be necessary to enact laws to grant permission. But no restrictions are needed in print media. Everyone should be granted permission to publish newspapers, journals and magazines.

It is an unexpected one among other reforms of the government. There are a lot of changes which are encouraging us in the time of the new government. Reform processes are very fast. But reforms should reach grass roots. It is required to take much time, but I am very encouraged by the progress.

(To be continued)
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Workshop on Disabilities and Rights of Disabled kicks off**

**MAGWAY, 22 May—** The Workshop on Disabilities and Rights of Disabled, jointly organized by Social Welfare Department and the Leprosy Mission Myanmar, was opened at the hall of Pre-Leprosy Mission Myanmar, Welfare Department and the joint organized by Social Workshop on Disabilities and Rights of Disabled. The workshop was opened at the hall of Shwe Pyi Thit hall in Magway Region yesterday morning, with an address by Magway Region Minister for Social Affairs U Aung Kyaw Min. Head of Region Social Welfare Department Daw Khin Khin Kyone explained rehabilitation of the disabled persons. Daw Zin Mar Win of the Leprosy Mission Myanmar explained the root cause of conducting the workshop. The workshop attended by regional level departmental personnel will run two days.—**Kyemon**

**CDMA 800 MHz SIM cards sold in Myinmu for second batch**

**MAGWAY, 22 May—** There are 4868 applicants in Myinmu Township to buy CDMA 800 SIM cards. A total of 1500 CDMA 800 MHz SIM cards were sold—175 for monks, 412 for governmental staff and 913 for local people through lots for the second time at Shwe Pyi Thit hall in Primary School in Magway yesterday morning, with an address by Magway Region Minister for Social Affairs U Aung Kyaw Min. Another applicant will be sold there depending on more allotted SIM cards. On 24 April, a total of 1090 low-cost SIM cards were sold for the first time. Those who get the SIM cards are to pay for the items cash down on 20 to 23 May.—**Kyemon**

**Mandaly Region Health Care Subcommittee meets**

**MANDALAY, 22 May—** A coordination meeting of Health Care Subcommittee under Mandalay Region Natural Disaster Preparedness Committee took place at the meeting hall of Mandalay Region Health Department on 18 May. Mandalay Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing delivered an opening speech on the occasion. Chairman of Health Care Subcommittee head of Region Health Department Dr Moe Swe and committee members reported on natural disaster preparedness measures, healthcare and sector-wise matters.

After that, the Region Social Affairs Minister and subcommittee members inspected relief aids at Region Red Cross Society Relief Warehouse.—**Kyemon**

**Accident**

**Yangon, 22 May—** One people was dead and two injured in a car accident at No.14 ward of Shwepyitha Township on 18 May. The car hit U Hla Myint who was walking and a trishaw while driver Ye Tun Aung aged 23, was driving the car with excessive speed. Victim U Hla Myint who got wounds to head was dead while he was on the way to Insein hospital. Trishaw driver and two passengers sustained minor injuries.—**Kyemon**

**Seven got injured in light truck and 22-wheeled truck accident**

**Toungoo, 22 May—** No 48/4321 a 22-wheeled truck heading Monywa to Yangon on Yangon-Mandalay Old Road driven by Aung Phyo, 26, (son of U Myint Zaw) in Aung San Ward of Insein Township hit Town Ace Light Truck 8 Hsa/4434 in front of Wah food stall between milepost 186/5-6 in Kaytumadi Myothit of Toungoo Township at 1 pm on 16 May. The light truck was driven by Tin Win, 36, (son of U Maung), 11-Ward in Shwepyitha Township returning from PyinOoLwin to Yangon with pilgrims. Due to the accident, seven passengers from Yangon including driver Tin Win on board the light truck got injured seriously and they were rushed to Toungoo General Hospital. Moreover, three Chinese made motorcycles which are stationary near the restaurant and the light truck were damaged. IP Kyaw Kyaw Lin opened a file at Kaytumadi Myothit Police Station.—**Kyemon**

**Ottwin Township gets rural library in Khindan Village**

**OTTWIN, 22 May—** Bawa Aphawmon Library was put into service in Khindan Village of Kywegan Village-tract in Ottwin Township of Bago Region on 18 May morning. Head of Bago Region Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Nyunt, Township Administrator U Kyaw Shwe and village-tract administrator U Myo Zaw Oo formally opened the library. The head of Region IPRD and the township administrator made speeches on the occasion.

The one-storey library, 24 feet long and 14 feet wide brick noggin structure, was built at a cost of K 1 million by the State and K 1.2 million by the local people. **Kyemon**

**WAO members make field trips**

**SAGAING, 22 May—** Chairman of Sagaing District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Thin Thin Cho, members of District and Township WAOs and members of Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee held the discussions on rural development in Konyi Village of Sagaing on 18 May. They visited Pre-Primary School in Sadaung Village and Home for the Aged in Ywahtaung where they fed soy milk to 14 grandpas and 32 grandmas.—**Kyemon**
Japan to recommend documents at Kyoto temple as UNESCO heritage

Tokyo, 22 May—Japan will recommend a set of old documents at a Kyoto Bud- dhist temple for UNESCO’s Memory of the World Reg- ister, the Ministry of Educa- tion, Culture, Sports, Sci- ence and Technology said on Tuesday.

Japan plans to file a let- ter of recommendation with the UN Educational, Sci- entific and Cultural Organiza- tion by March 2014. An advisory body to the UN- ESCO register will study the letter to decide whether to include the documents, ministry officials said.

Japan hopes the docu- ments can be included in the register in 2015.

The documents, called the Toji hyakugomonjo and designated as a national treasure, have passed down to the Toji in Kyoto’s Mi-

China’s bird flu outbreak cost $6.5 billion

Geneva, 22 May—The H7N9 virus appears to have been brought under control in China largely due to re- strictions at bird markets, but caused some $6.5 billion (4.2 billion pounds) in losses to the economy, UN experts said on Tuesday.

Health authorities worldwide must be on the lookout to detect the virus, the experts said, which could still develop the ability to spread easily among humans and cause a deadly influenza pandemic.

The new bird flu virus is known to have infected 130 people in mainland China since emerging in March, including 36 who died, but no cases have been detected since early May. Health Min- ister Li Bin told a meeting of the World Health Organiza- tion on Tuesday that China had reported 369 cases and 98 deaths to the World Health Organization by March 2014. An inclusion by Fujiwara Michinaga (966-1028) who served as dajo-dainin or chancellor of the realm, and a set of docu- ments and materials that cover the progress of talks between Japan and Europe

Vietnam to join multilateral military exercise in Brunei

Hanoi, 22 May—A team of 16 Vietnamese sappers and military medi- cal officers will take part in a multilateral military exercise in Brunei in June, with the participation of 18 countries.

The duties of the Vi- etnamese team will be to search for and rescue vic- tims trapped under the de- bris of collapsed houses, local Tuoi treo (the Youth) news reported, quoting the National Committee for Search and Rescue as say- ing on Tuesday.

Scheduled to last from 17 to 20 June, it is the first- ever multilateral military exercise on humanitarian assistance and disaster re-

Freeport Indonesia says death toll rises to 28
during the Edo period.

UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova will decide whether to include the two in the register after examinations by the advisor-

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Scheduled to last from 17 to 20 June, it is the first- ever multilateral military exercise on humanitarian assistance and disaster re- lief and military medicine within the framework of the ASEAN Defense Min- isters’ Meeting-Plus (AD- MM-Plus).

Lieutenant General Tran Quang Khue, Deputy Chief of General Staff for the Vietnam People Army and Vice Chairman of the Committee, on Monday in- spected a training session of the team that will join the event.

Khue underlined that the coming exercise in Bru- nei will promote relations and cooperation among ar- mies of ASEAN-member nations, and asked the team to perform well in the exer-

Cambodian, Thai state-owned broadcasters ink cooperation deal

Phnom Penh, 22 May—The National Television of Cambodia and the Mass Communication Organization of Thailand (MCOT) on Tuesday signed a televisi- on cooperation agreement, focusing on the exchange of programmes and infor- mation.

The deal was inked between director general of the National Television of Cambodia Kem Gunawadh and MCOT’s director gen- eral Anek Perm Vongsent under the auspices of Cambodia’s Minister of Infor- mation Khieu Kanharith.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Khieu Kanharith said under the agreement, both sides would exchange techniques and experiences as well as information.

He said that it was very important to exchange infor- mation. As the border conflict between the two coun- tries has not been solved, both sides must broadcast only factual information and must avoid any provocative news. She said MCOT was pleased to cooperate with Cambodia in television sector, saying that Freeport keep the mine closed while the cause of the accident is still being investigated.

The incident’s impact on global copper supply has so far been limited as the Grasberg mine keeps stock- piling holding reserves of disrup- tions, but that would change if any investigation and closure drags on. —Reuters

Seismic diagnoses required for hospitals, dept stores

Tokyo, 22 May—Japan’s parliament enacted on Wednesday a bill that re- quires large facilities, such as hospitals and department stores, to undergo seismic diagnoses equivalent to those mandated for structures built before the enhanced quake- resistance standards were in- troduced in 1981. These facilities must complete the diagnoses by the end of 2015. Their ope- rators will be slapped with penalties up to 1 million yen if they refuse to follow the legislation, which revises the Act for Promotion of Renovation for Earthquake- Resistant Structures.

The infrastructure min- istry has in its sights hospitals and department stores with total floor space of more than 5,000 square metres, as well as smaller facilities used by children and elderly people for whom evacuating prem- ises may be challenging.

While the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Trans- port and Tourism is consid- ering releasing the diagnosis results following a morato- rium period, accommodation facility operators are raising concerns that they will lose customers if the outcomes are announced before their seismic strengthening works are complete.—Kyodo News

Photo shows the 634-me- tre-tall Tokyo Skytree in the Japanese capital, on 22 May, 2013, the first anniversary of the open- ing of the world’s tallest broadcast tower. —Kyodo News

Workers tie materials onto the back of a yak on Mount Qomolangma (Mount Everest), southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 19 May, 2013. Xia Jianfeng, a member of a commercial climbing team who suffered from cerebral edema on the altitude of 8, 650 metres, was rescued to the base camp on 19 May. The successful rescue made a miracle as it took place in such high altitude of the mountain. As increasingly more people come to climb Mount Qomolangma, the mountain in recent years, the rescue system here is also rapidly improved for the safety of climbers. —Xinhua

Seismic diagnoses required for hospitals, dept stores

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TANBINH 39 VOY NO ( )
Consignees of cargo carried on MV TANBINH 39 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.5.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Chris Brown getting close to Topshop heiress?

BEIJING, 22 May—Chris Brown is said to be getting close to Chloe Green—the Topshop heiress whose father is being sued by Chris’ ex-girlfriend Rihanna father after his high street store sold unauthorised t-shirts using her image. Chris Brown is reportedly getting close to Topshop heiress Chloe Green. The rapper has been spending more time with the shoe designer—despite his ex-girlfriend apparently Rihanna suing her father Sirius Green’s British high street store for selling t-shirts using her image without permission.

Chloe - who recently split from Marc Anthony - has been spotted with Chris, 24, more frequently since his relationship with the ‘Stay’ singer came to an end—something an insider claims Rihanna will “definitely” know about. A source told the Daily Mirror newspaper: “Chloe met Chris last year when he serenaded her at her dad’s 60th birthday party. She was always a big fan and thinks he’s really hot.” “After he split with Rihanna and she split from Marc, they’ve been spending more time together and having a lot of fun. It’s early days, but they’ve not been shy about being seen out at the same places. It’s the sort of thing Rihanna keeps an eye on, and she’s definitely aware of Chloe being on the scene.” The singer is reportedly suing the chain - who offered a £3,500 settlement — for £3.5 million.

Asif Kapadia to direct World War I love story

LOS ANGELES, 22 May—Indian-origin filmmaker Asif Kapadia will produce an epic love story on first World War Ali And Nino. The film is based on the novel by Kurkchubas Ali that was published in 1937, reported Deadline.Christopher Hampton has adapted the novel by the same name for the screen.

Kumamoto mascot to visit France in July to lure visitors to Kumamoto

Kumamoto, (Japan), 22 May — “Kumamon,” the official black bear mascot representing Kumamoto Prefecture, will visit France in July to take part in the Japan Expo as part of efforts to lure visitors to the southwestern Japanese prefecture, local officials said on Monday.

Kumamon, one of the most popular regional promotional mascots in Japan, will be making its European debut at the festival, which introduces Japanese culture and entertainment, scheduled for 4-7 July in the suburbs of Paris, the officials said.

The mascot is scheduled to dance to Kumamon songs on stage and help promote Kumamoto at a booth to be jointly operated by individuals, companies, partnerships and joint-ventures, which have taxable sale proceeds or receipts from services in the 2012-2013 fiscal year (1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013) are required under the Commercial Tax Law, to fill up, sign and file annual returns with the respective Township Revenue Offices or the Companies Circle Tax Office in person or by registered mail. Taxpayers are also reminded to claim acknowledgement receipts from respective offices in the case of filing the returns in person.

1. This is to remind that economic enterprises of the Union Government, State- owned mills and factories, and trading and service enterprises, development committees, cooperative societies, individuals, organizations or associations formed by individuals, companies, partnerships and joint-ventures, which have taxable sale proceeds or receipts from services in the 2012-2013 fiscal year (1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013) are required under the Commercial Tax Law, to fill up, sign and file annual returns together with annual financial reports to respective Township Revenue Offices or the Companies Circle Tax Office in person or by registered mail. Taxpayers are also reminded to claim acknowledgement receipts from respective offices in the case of filing the returns in person.

2. For the Cooperative and Private Sectors, Commercial Tax is not assessed if the total sale proceeds or total receipts from services does not exceed each of the following amounts.

(a) the case of the goods mentioned in Schedule 2 to Schedule 6 of the Commercial Tax Law, which are produced within the country , the total sale proceeds of Kyat 10 million in a fiscal year.

(b) in the case of the services mentioned in Schedule 7 of the Commercial Tax Law, the total receipts of Kyat 10 million in a fiscal year.

3. The Last Date of Filing the Returns is 30 June 2013 (Returns may be filed to respective offices until 1800 hours of 1st July 2013 as 30 June 2013 is a public holiday.)

4. Penalty for failure to file returns- For failure to file annual returns within the stipulated period without sufficient cause, a fine equivalent to ten per cent of the additional tax payable after the final assessment of tax.

5. Return forms will be provided free of charge at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Companies Circle Tax Office.

6. Inquiries may be made at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Companies Circle Tax Office or the Tax Service Unit, which is situated at No. 59/1, Ground Floor, Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township , Yangon.

Kyaw Kyaw Director Commercial Tax Directorate

Will Smith asks son not to have girlfriend

LOS ANGELES, 22 May — Superstar Will Smith’s son Jaden reveals his father gave him the best advice of not having any girlfriend. The father-son duo will be sharing the screen space in new film ‘After Earth’ and Jaden, 14, said his father also gives him many acting advices, reported Eonline.

“Probably the best advice he’s ever given me is, ‘Don’t have a girlfriend,’” Jaden said.

File photo taken in March 2013 in the town of Mashiki, Kumamoto Prefecture, shows “Kumamon,” the official black bear mascot of the southwestern Japanese prefecture, Kumamon will visit France in July to take part in the Japan Expo as part of efforts to lure visitors to the prefecture, local officials said on 20 May, 2013.

Kyodo News

Superstar Will Smith'
Kagawa confident Japan will qualify with win over Australia

NARITA, (Japan), 22 May—Shinji Kagawa threw down the gauntlet to Australia ahead of next month’s World Cup qualifier, saying Japan will punch their ticket to Brazil with victory over the Socceroos. Japan can qualify for next year’s World Cup with a draw against Australia on 4 June at Saitama, but Kagawa made it clear winning is the only option for the Asian champions.

“Winning is a must — it should be a given,” Kagawa said on Tuesday at Narita Airport, upon returning to Japan from his first sea- son at Manchester United. “It will be great to qualify for the World Cup at home in front of all our fans,” he said. Kagawa looked back on United’s championship season. Sir Alex Ferguson’s last as manager, but was not satisfied from an individual standpoint. He was hoping to score at least 10 goals — the former Dortmund man finished with six, including a 2 March hat-trick against Norwich City — but missed almost two months with a left-knee injury.

The three goals against Norwich weren’t by luck, but by design,” he said. “After that, my teammates started passing me the ball more.” “In this business, you need to be like Rooney or Van Persie and prove yourself if you want the ball. I want to be a player like them, which means I need results.” Kagawa said he would approach next season with confidence as David Moyes takes over from Ferguson. “There will be competition for places under the new manager. I don’t know what kind of team we’ll have next sea- son, but I want to do well,” he said.—Kyodo News

Toyota president, teammates 2nd in class at German endurance race

LFA-In the 10-car SP8 class in the village of Nurburg, 80 kilometres south of Cologne. They finished 39th overall in a field of 175 cars.

“In a race, a trivial flaw tends to bring about a serious consequence. Unless your machine is a really good car,” Toyota said in a message broadcast online. “This experience helped fine-tune my sensibilities necessary to develop good cars. He suggested he would apply the lessons learnt during the race to the development of automo- biles down the track.

The leading Japanese automaker also entered two “86” sports cars, but the president, whose penchant for competitive racing distin- guishes him from most of his counterparts, did not drive them.

He previously took part in the race in 2007 and 2009 when he was vice president. The Nurburgring Circuit is renowned for the 300-metre change in elevation from its lowest to highest points.

Sumo: Kisenosato up to career-best 10-0 at summer basho

TOYOTA

President Akio Toyoda

NAGoya, 22 May — Toyota Motor Corp Presi- dent Akio Toyoda took the wheel in the Nurbur- gring 24-hour endurance race through Monday in western Germany, with his team fin- ishing second in class, the automaker said. Toyota was teamed with three profession- al drivers, racing the Lexus teamed with three profession- als in its class, the Nurburgring 24-hour endurance race.

Toyota president, teammates 2nd in class at German endurance race

Kagawa admitted he felt pressed by the weight of expectations of playing at Old Trafford for one of the best managers of all time in world football. “The team may have won the championship, but it wasn’t my season,” Kagawa said. “I certainly felt the pressure and difficulty that goes hand in hand with playing for a big club.” “You’re always expected to perform and I did a lot of thinking, day in, day out. There were times when I doubted myself, lost confidence but in the end, I felt that I could make it here,” he said. Kagawa said the turning point for him was the Norwich game.

The three goals against Norwich weren’t bad luck, but by design,” he said. “After that, my teammates started passing me the ball more.” “In this business, you need to be like Rooney or Van Persie and prove yourself if you want the ball. I want to be a player like them, which means I need results.” Kagawa said he would approach next season with confidence as David Moyes takes over from Ferguson. “There will be competition for places under the new manager. I don’t know what kind of team we’ll have next sea- son, but I want to do well,” he said.—Kyodo News

Toyota president, teammates 2nd in class at German endurance race

Goeido (5-5) with a quick fall. Kisenosato improved to 10-0 for the tournament a day earlier by dismissing third-ranked maegashira Aran (4-6). A pack of three, including yokozuna Harumafuji who ran over No 5 Shohozan in a heartbeat, stands at 8-2. Eighth-ranked Tokitenku picked up his eighth win by default after No 12 Kyokushuzo (5-5) withdrew.

Hunger, poverty rates in Egypt up sharply over past three years

UNITED NATIONS, 22 May—Poverty and food insecurity have risen significantly in Egypt over the past three years, deputy UN spokesman Eduardo del Buey told reporters here on Tuesday, citing a joint report by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Egyptian government. “A joint report by the World Food Programme and the country’s government found that nearly 14 million Egyptians — or 17 percent of the population — suffered from food insecurity in 2011, compared to 14 percent in 2009,” del Buey said at a daily news briefing. “Data also shows that between 2009 and 2011, some 15 percent of the population moved into poverty,” he said. “This increase in food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty rates has not happened overnight, during this year or even during the past year,” said WFP Egypt Representative and Country Director GianPietro Bordignon. “People’s inability to have adequate and nutritious food is largely attributed to rising poverty rates and a succession of crises from 2005 — including the avian influenza epidemic in 2006, the food, fuel and financial crises of 2007-09 and a challenging macroeconomic context in recent years,” Bordignon said.

The joint report also showed the poorest families spend more than half of their average households on food and often buy less expensive, less nutritious food. Malnutrition is up, with 31 percent of children under five years of age stunted, up from 23 percent in 2005, the report said.—Xinhua

Manchester City and Yankees launch new MLS team

MIAMI, 22 May—The New York Yankees and Premier League club Manchester City have formed a Major League Soccer (MLS) team to play in New York City from 2015, aiming to win over America’s largest sports market to the global game. City, owned by Sheikh Mansour of Abu Dhabi, will be the majority partner in New York City Football Club with the biggest name in baseball, the Yankees, as a minority partner active in running the team.

The ownership group will pay a $100 million franchise fee. New York City has been without a top professional soccer team since the demise in the mid-1980s of the old Cosmos, which featured soccer greats like Brazil’s Pelé and Germany’s Franz Beckenbauer. While the New York Red Bulls are based in Harrison, New Jersey, MLS has long coveted a chance to get inside the five boroughs of the city itself. “This is another big day for soccer in America,” MLS commissioner Don Garber told Reuters. “We have worked for quite some time on trying to finalize a deal to bring the 20th MLS team to New York City. Two of the biggest, most prestigious and clearly most respected sports organizations in the world are joining together to own this team,” he added. MLS has steadily grown since its formation in 1996 with successful, well-supported teams in city’s such as Los Angeles and Seattle. But it has failed to attract large television audiences and the league hopes a New York team will change that. Garber said MLS viewed a top-flight team in New York City itself as a defining moment for the league. “This is a big market and represents over 19 million people,” he said.

Reuters

Brazilian company discovers oil near Namibian coast

WINDHOEK, 22 May—The Brazilian petroleum company HRT announced here on Tuesday that it had discovered oil near the western coast of Namibia. The HRT president Joe Paul told the media in the presence of Prime Minister Hage Geingob at the State House that the discovery was made within the Walvis Basin where the company has dug its first well Wingat-1. “HRT has begun drilling, particularly in this well, in the quest to find conclusive results on whether or not there is oil off the Namibian coast. Thus, we can say now that we have found an active petroleum system in Namibia. We found source rocks,” he said at the Press conference.

HRT has been exploring for oil off the coast of Namibia since March this year. Paul further said that the source rocks are rich in organic carbon and well within the oil-generating window, meaning that they will be able to generate oil or gas if heated sufficiently.

However, he said that although the company spent $10 million Namibian dollars ($84.7 million US Dollars), the discovery is not yet economically viable and that HRT would still drill a second well Murombe about 15 km from Wingat-1 in two weeks’ time.

Mines and Energy Minister Isak Katali who was also present during the announcement was quick to point out that this discovery would not mean that oil prices will go down any time soon, because there are many stages involved such as the quality and quantity of the oil.—Xinhua
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends 2nd day of 10th Anniversary Celebration of the United Nations Day of Vesak

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Swiss President of the Council of States

Ambassador Thura U Thet Oo Maung concurrently accredited to Turkey

Vice-President U Nyan Tun and party pose for documentary photo with Swiss President of the Council of States Mr Filippo Lombardi and party.