Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann observes courses under Hluttaw capacity enhancement programme

NAY PYIT TAW, 5 Aug—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann observed Discussion on Drawing Bill organized by UNDP and English Language Training Course coordinated by Myanmar Scholarship Alumni Association (MSAA) with the assistance of Open Society Foundation (OSF) being conducted under Hluttaw Capacity Enhancement Programme at Hluttaw Office No (20) this afternoon.

The Pyithu Hluttaw speaker was accompanied by Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Chairperson of Rule of Law and Tranquility Enhancement Committee and Hluttaw Capacity Enhancement Steering Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, International Relations Committee Chairman and Hluttaw Capacity Enhancement Steering Committee Secretary U Hla Myint Oo and officials of the Hluttaw Office. Discussion on drawing bill lasts two weeks with the attendance of 45 representatives from Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw. The four-week English Language Training Course is being attended by the 30 Hluttaw representatives.

Union Peace-making Work Committee, ABSDF reach four-point agreement

YANGON, 5 Aug—The state level peace talks between delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min and a delegation led by Chairman of All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) Thaw Than Khe, Vice-Chairman Yebaw Myo Win and General Secretary Yebaw Hsan Ni took place at the Myanmar Peace Centre, of No 10, Shweli Road in Kamayut Township this morning.

At the meeting, Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min said that since the new government took office, the President had offered peace to the national race armed groups. As a result, altogether 13 ethnic armed groups had entered ceasefire agreements with the government, and the agreement signed between the KIO and government in Myitkyina in May had brought almost conflicts to an end in Kachin State, he disclosed.

He went on to say that the peace policy of the government is not merely a ceasefire as chronic armed conflicts could not be resolved immediately. Political dialogue can be the best solution to the conflicts, and all are thus to work hard for the emergence of a political platform which can be addressed through a roundtable discussion, he noted.

The peace process calls for a ceasefire as an initial state. This should be followed by a framework among the stakeholders, and peace talks will be held based on the framework, he said. And therefore, all are to strive for the emergence of a national accord through the peace talks, he added.

The government has the peace policy already, he said and added that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw issued a statement that it welcomed the peace-making efforts and would cooperate in the process. Moreover, the Tatmadaw also disclosed its cooperation in the peace process in line with the guidance of the President, he said.

The national race armed groups are also desirous of making peace (See page 6)

Food authorities meet importers of tainted milk

BEIJING, 5 Aug—China’s food and drug authorities on Sunday met with representatives of three companies that have imported potentially contaminated products from New Zealand dairy company Fonterra.

The State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) asked the companies to stop sales of such products and recall all products produced using potentially tainted materials.

Fonterra said on Friday that some of its whey protein produced in May 2012 has been found to be contaminated with clastidion botulinum, which can cause botulism.

The three importers are Hangzhou Wahaha Health Food Co, Ltd, Coca-Cola (China) and Shanghai-based Dumex Baby Food Co, Ltd, according to the administration.

The SFDA urged the importers to investigate the cause of the incident and take action as soon as possible.

The CFDA on Saturday issued an emergency notice ordering local food and drug administrations in Shanghai and Zhejiang to cooperate with the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine to investigate the incident.

The CFDA said it will pay close attention to the development of the incident and release further information to the public in a timely fashion.
**CONSTRUCTION**

Prevention of floods at Bago River inspected

**BAGO, 5 Aug—**Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win inspected preparations for floods against houses near the concrete bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Highway at the entrance to Bago on 1 August.

In the rainy season, Bago River overflows road section No 48/7 and 49/0 on Yangon-Toungoo-Mandalay Highway. To prevent the flood, the road was upgraded and the concrete bridge, 84 feet long and 76 feet wide, was constructed by Bago District Public Works from 1-1-2004 to 2-5-2005. It cost K 87.5 million. Thanks to construction, water that flows into Gaungsahsakyun Lake can easy access to Bago River without any blockage. As a result, the roads and housing wards do not suffer floods in the rainy season.

The Chief Minister gave instructions on necessary preparations for prevention against flood and inundation to the departmental officials and ward administrators. MMAL-Min Sit Thu

**Taung-in Bridge, Nanmagyi Bridge commissioned into service in Mohnyin Township**

**MOHNYIN, 5 Aug—**Taung-in Bridge which is 450 feet long and 13 feet wide linking Nanna Village of Mohnyin Township and Kathong Kyundaw Village in Taungingyi was put into service at 9 am on 31 July. The facility was built at a cost of K 18 million contributed by Kachin State government and K 21.3 million by the local people.

Present on the occasion were Kachin State Minister for Finance and Revenue U Nyunt Aung, State Hluttaw representatives, Mohnyin District and Township development officials and local people.

The state minister, Deputy Commissioner U Aung Soe Moe of Mohnyin District General Administration Department and village administrator U Thein Htwe formally opened the new bridge.

At 10.30 am, the ceremony to open the Nanmagyi Bridge, 88 feet long and 13 feet wide, was held in Nanna Village. The bridge links Mohnyin Township and Hopin Sub-Township, built at a cost of K 42 million by Kachin State government.

The state minister, S t a t e H l u t t a w Representative U Nyi Lay and Mohnyin Township Administrator U Mya Yu formally opened the new bridge.

Thanks to the two new bridges, the local people will enjoy fruits of transport, smooth flow of commodities, education, health and regional development. MMAL-State IPRD

**Hmawby Creek swollen at Ward 4**

**HMAWBY, 5 Aug—**Due to heavy rains, Hmawby Creek inundated the local residences in Ward 4 of Hmawby on 3 August.

The Yamonna A, B and C blocks, 1500 plot and 5000 plot of the ward were inundated 1.5 feet deep water.

A total of 1036 victims from 224 households were served with packet of rice and foods under the arrangement of Region Hluttaw representative U Hla Oo and Ward Administrator U Thein Win and party in cooperation with administrators of nearby wards. Although it does not need to evacuate the people, they face difficulties to cook the foods at home.

Kyemon-Soe Win-MLA

**Tourists observe Bogyoke Bronze Statue in Magway**

**MAGWAY, 5 Aug—**A Mantaw vessel with 10 tourists of Australian citizens arrived at the jetty in the market of Magway on 30 July morning.

The flock of tourists went along Magway Strand Road by trishaw and visited Bogyoke Bronze Statute.

The statue was cast in 1974 by sculpture U Han Tin. It is now 40 years ago. The general and party were assassinated 66 years ago.

This year, the local people paid tribute to the general and fallen heroes, explained a tour guide.

The tourists went shopping at Kantha Market. With regard to the tourists, a tour guide said, “They came from Mandalay. It took eight days trip. After stopping over in Upper Minhla, they will visit Minhla Fort and then leave in the evening. They will spend a night in Thayet and then visit the first-ever golf course of Myanmar in Thayet. They plan to visit Thayet market and proceed to Pyay.” MMAL-Magway Hla Myint

**Pajero plunges off Sule Railway Overpass**

**YANGON, 5 Aug—**A Mitsubishi Pajero driven by a doctor student, 25 years old, from south to north along Gyobyu Street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township plunged off the railway overpass on the approach road near Sakura Tower and Traders Hotel at 11.15 am on 4 August after hitting the rail. It plunged into the rail tracks, according to Mingala Taungnyunt Myoma police station.

A person, 55, father of the driver was on board the car. He suffered cuts and bruises and he is now under treatment at Yangon General Hospital. The woman who drove the car was also injured and is under treatment at Neurosurgical Department of YGH.

Although the Pajero plunged into the rail tracks, there was any delay for transportation because it was on the railroads for shunting of cargos, timber and feel tanks, said Junior Engineer U Than Zaw of Myanmar Railways.

“When I was sitting under the overpass, a car suddenly plunged off the overpass. It fell upside down on the ground. The uncle sustained bleeding from his face and his leg was under the car. At that time, Ko Hla Htay was together with me near the incident,” said Ko Zaw Min Htaik who sells betels near Yangon Railway Station.

“I saw a car that overturned on the rail tracks from the overpass. A man shouted help. About 14 persons lifted the car to be normal position. A woman was unconscious under the leather sheet near the driver seat of the car,” recounted Ko Hla Htay who gave a helping hand to victims of the car accident.

Kyemon-Myat Thanda Maung
Australian Prime Minister Rudd calls general election for 7 September

Canberra, 5 Aug — Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on Sunday called a general election for 7 September, only weeks after ousting the country’s first female leader Julia Gillard as head of the Labour Party in a party-room vote.

“This afternoon I visited the Governor-General and Her Excellency has accepted the Governor-General’s recommendation that an election be held on Saturday, the 7th of September,” Rudd said at a press conference at the Parliament House in Canberra.

In starting the election campaign, the prime minister said he will focus on strengthening the economy and that “managing the big economic transition that lies ahead will be difficult, but it is definitely doable.”

Referring to the decline in Chinese demand for iron ore and coal, Rudd said, “The boom, of course, has fuelled so much of our nation’s wealth. That boom is over.”

“The election will be about who the Australian people trust to best lead them through the difficult new economic challenges,” he said, adding that the new leadership “will require a steady hand, and a clear cut plan for the future.”

Rudd, who lost the party leadership to Gillard in June 2010 prior to the last general election, has consistently faced better as preferred leader in opinion polls.

“For me it’s pretty basic, it’s pretty clear. I simply do not have it in my nature to stand idly by and to allow an Abbott government to come to power in this country by default,” Rudd said after winning the Labour leadership vote on 26 June, referring to polls suggesting conservative opposition leader Tony Abbott would win in a landslide over a Gillard-led government.

The US documents show Britain supported atomic bombing of Japan

Tokyo, 5 Aug — Britain expressed support for the use of atomic bombs by the United States against Japan in World War II about a month before the first use of the TA weapon against Japan.

Marshel Sir Henry Wilson told the meeting chaired by US Secretary of War Henry Stimson that the British government “concurred in the use of the TA weapon against Japan.”

The Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States had agreed that TA weapons should be used by the United States against Japan, the agreement of the British Government having been “communicated” by Wilson, the minutes said.

The committee was established based on the Quebec Agreement in August 1943 by the United States, Britain and Canada on coordinated development of atomic weapons.

Britain’s official agreement to the use of atomic bombs came after US President Franklin Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill agreed in their meeting in New York in September 1944 that an atomic bomb might be used against Japan when it was developed.

Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo (L) attends a conference with Algeria’s Foreign Minister Mourad Medelci in Algiers on 18 June, 2013.— Reuters

Spain studies retaliatory measures against Gibraltar

Madrid/Gibraltar, 5 Aug — Spain is studying retaliatory measures against the British territory of Gibraltar in an escalating dispute over a Gillard-led government.

The party is over,” Garcia-Margallo told ABC newspaper, referring to years of softer policy on Gibraltar under the paternalistic Spanish Socialist government.

The minister said Spain was mulling a 50-euro border-crossing fee and tax investigations of thousands of Gibraltarians who own property in Spain. A border fee would affect tourists and Gibraltarians who cross the border for work. Spain was also considering closing airspace to planes heading for the airport in Gibraltar and changing rules to wire taxing from on-line gaming companies based in Gibraltar, he said.

Spain disputes Britain’s three centuries of sovereignty over Gibraltar, a territory on the southern tip of Spain that is home to close to 30,000 people with an economy dominated by offshore banking, internet gambling operations and tourism. Under the previous Socialist government Spain softened its stance on Gibraltar, discussing other issues without bringing up sovereignty while agreeing to give Gibraltar a voice in any talks with Britain over its status.

But the centre-right government of Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has taken a harder line regarding its claim on the territory.

The latest tensions between Spain and the British territory began 10 days ago after Gibraltar boats began dumping blocks of concrete into the sea near the territory. Gibraltar said it was creating an artificial reef that would foster fish populations. Spain said the reef would block its fishing boats and ramped up border checks, creating long lines at the border between Spain and the territory.

Photo taken in July 2013 shows copies of documents declassified by the US National Archives and Records Administration.—Kyodo News

White House: US willing to engage with Iran on nuclear concerns

Washington, 5 Aug — The United States said on Sunday it is prepared to work with the new government of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to address concerns about Iran’s nuclear programme.

“Should this new government choose to engage substantively and seriously to meet its international obligations and find a peaceful solution to this issue, it will find a willing partner in the United States,” he said. The White House congratulated Rouhani, seen as politically more moderate than predecessor Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, on the election, which it said demonstrated a desire by Iranians for change. “We hope the new Iranian government will heed the will of the voters by making choices that will lead to a better future for the Iranian people,” Carney said. Rouhani was elected in June and took office on Saturday, promising “constructive interaction with the world” after eight years under Ahmadinejad marked by diplomatic confrontation and damaging sanctions.

The 64-year-old cleric’s resounding victory raised hopes for a negotiated end to the dispute over Iran’s nuclear programme and an easing of the sanctions that have hit the OPEC country’s oil exports.—Reuters

Russian Sukhoi T-50 5G fighter jets undergo flight tests: The Russian Sukhoi T-50 5G fighter jet is equipped with cutting-edge computerized life support systems, including an oxygen system securing unlimited breathing gas supply and advanced pilot’s compensation system. It took five years to shape up the system but all four Sukhoi T-50 PAK-F light fighter jets currently undergoing flight tests near Moscow were already manufactured with a system at a Sukhoi plant in Komsomolsk-na-Amure — a city located in Russia’s Far East. The 5G fighters made their way across the country without oxygen tanks on board.—Reuters

New Light of Myanmar
KIROBO, the talking robot blasts into space on historic mission

NEW YORK, 5 Aug—Kirobo, a knee-high talking robot with red boots and a black and white body, has blasted off from Japan for the International Space Station to test how machines with voice- and facial-recognition technology, will arrive at the outposts of Maastricht, who is working to show how meat grown in petri dishes might one day be a true alternative to meat from livestock. The meat in the burger has been made by knitting together around 20,000 strands of protein that has been cultured from cattle stem cells in Post’s lab. The tissue is grown by placing the cells in a ring, like a donut, around a hub of nutrient gel. Post explained. To prepare the burger, scientists combined the cultured beef with other ingredients normally used in burgers, such as salt, breadcrumbs and egg powder. Red beet juice and saffron have been added to bring out its natural colours. “Our burger is made from muscle cells taken from a cow. We haven’t altered them in any way,” Post said in a statement on Friday. “For it to succeed it has to look, feel and hopefully taste like the real thing.”

Success, in Post’s view, would mean not just a tasty burger, but also the prospect of finding a sustainable, ethical and environmentally friendly alternative to meat production. According to a 2006 report by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), industrialized agriculture contributes on a massive scale to climate change, air pollution, land degradation, energy use, deforestation and biodiversity decline. The report, entitled “Livestock’s Long Shadow,” said the meat industry contributes to 18 percent of global greenhouse-gas emissions and this proportion is expected to grow as consumers in fast-developing countries such as China and India eat more meat.

A cardinal sin in e-commerce is to tell customers something is available when it’s not, and conversely, having an item in stock but not having it on the website. That is why the retailers are investing in software that manages inventory, tracks it in real time, and continuously updates the websites. This will be TJX Cos Inc’s, owner of TJ Maxx, second stab at e-commerce after a 2005 failure. It abandoned its first attempt after only a year following poor sales, turmoil in the corner office, and challenges at its smaller chains. That failure cost TJX $15 million. Now, TJX is one of the fastest growing retailers, and T.J. Maxx one of the most popular brands. In 2011, it hired Elaine Bolotin, a leading e-commerce executive. Last year, it spent about $200 million to buy online retailer Sierra Trading Post, bolstering expertise. The revenue potential is huge. Avondale Partners thinks TJX, for instance, can quickly garner annual online sales of $1 billion. The company declined to comment beyond what its chief executive has said on investor calls, but Morningstar analyst Jaime Katz thinks TJX will carve out space at its current distribution facilities to sell more on the web, rather than spend millions on a fulfilment centre.

Warming oceans impact breeding patterns and habitat of marine life: Australian research

NEW YORK, 5 Aug—Low-price retailer TJ Maxx plans to open an online store this year, as does rival Saks Inc’s Off Fifth outlets, making 2013 the year technology may have caught up with the speed of fashion. For such chains, which feature clearances, last year’s fashions and overruns, their fast-moving and often unpredictable inventory has made selling goods over the web complex. “Retail is chaotic. Off-price retail is even more chaotic,” said Fiona Dias, a newly leading e-commerce expert and chief strategy officer at ShopRunner.

TJ Maxx, others look past chaos to e-commerce bonanza

LONDON, 5 Aug—A corner of west London will see culinary and scientific history made on Monday when scientists cook and serve up the world’s first lab-grown beef burger. The in-vitro burger, cultured from cattle stem cells, is the first example of what its creator says could provide an answer to global food shortages and help combat climate change, will be fried in a pan and tasted by two volunteers.

The burger is the result of years of research by Dutch scientist Mark Post, a vascular biologist at the University of Maastricht, who is working to show how meat grown in petri dishes might one day be a true alternative to meat from livestock. The meat in the burger has been made by knitting together around 20,000 strands of protein that has been cultured from cattle stem cells in Post’s lab. The tissue is grown by placing the cells in a ring, like a donut, around a hub of nutrient gel. Post explained. To prepare the burger, scientists combined the cultured beef with other ingredients normally used in burgers, such as salt, breadcrumbs and egg powder. Red beet juice and saffron have been added to bring out its natural colours. “Our burger is made from muscle cells taken from a cow. We haven’t altered them in any way,” Post said in a statement on Friday. “For it to succeed it has to look, feel and hopefully taste like the real thing.”

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Canberra, 5 Aug—Warming oceans are impacting the breeding patterns and habitat of marine life, effectively rearranging the broader marine landscape as species adjust to a changing climate, according to a new research statement from Australian national research body, CSIRO, on Monday. The international team led by CSIRO’s Climate Adaptation Flagship and University of Queensland’s Dr. Viro Poloczanska and Anthony Richardson, included 19 researchers from Australia, USA, Canada, UK, Europe and South Africa. They identified more than 1,700 changes, including 222 in Australia. According to this three-year study published on Monday in Nature Climate Change, marine species are shifting their geographic distribution towards cooler regions and doing so much faster than their land-based counterparts. Despite the ocean having absorbed 80 percent of the heat added to the global climate system, the ocean’s thermal capacity has led to surface waters warming three times slower than air temperatures over land, Dr Poloczanska explained. The leading edge or ‘front line’ of a marine species’ distribution is moving towards the poles at the average rate of 72 km per decade, which is considerably faster than terrestrial species moving poleward at an average of 6 km per decade," she said. “This is despite sea surface temperatures warming three times faster than land temperatures.”

She said winter and spring temperatures, over both the ocean and land, are warming fastest, which might advance phenological events such as the start of growing seasons and the timing of reproduction. In addition, anthropogenic carbon dioxide uptake by the oceans is altering sea-water carbonate chemistry, which can impact some marine organisms.—Xinhua

South Korea says concerned about US decision on some Apple models

SEOUL, 5 Aug—The South Korean government on Monday expressed concern about the decision by the United States to overrule a sales ban of some Apple Inc (AAPL) models. The Obama administration vetoed a US trade panel’s ban on the import and sale of some older iPhones and iPads, reversing a ruling that had favoured South Korea’s Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS) over Apple in their long-running patent battle. The move was vehemently criticized by the South Korean media as “protectionism.”

“We express concerns about the negative impact that such a decision would have on the protection of patent rights,” the Ministry of Trade, Industry & Energy, said in a statement. The ministry called on the US trade body and the Obama administration to make “fair and reasonable decisions” as Samsung faces a decision on Friday as to whether some of its phones and tablets infringed on Apple’s patents and should be banned from imports into the United States.

Apple and Samsung, the world’s top two smartphone makers, have been waging a global patent war since 2011, filing multiple lawsuits against each other over the design, interface and technology of their devices.
Vodafone files Telecom Italia suit

BEIJING, 5 Aug — British telecoms provider Vodafone Group is suing Telecom Italia for its dominant position in Italy, seeking damages of more than 1 billion euros ($US1.3 billion).

A Vodafone spokesperson yesterday said the civil action in Milan stated that Telecom Italia committed a series of abuses from 2008 to 2013 “with the intention and effect of impeding growth in the Italian fixed-line market.”

Telecom Italia rejected the claim saying it was confident it would decide the “total correctness” of its behaviour. In May, Italy’s competition authority fined Telecom Italia about 104 million euros for abusing its dominant market position as owner and manager of the country’s largest fixed-line telephone network.

Telecom Italia has said it would appeal against the antitrust fine, which was decided after a three-year investigation prompted by rival Wind, Italy’s third-largest mobile operator, and broadband company Fastweb, a unit of Swisscom.

Vodafone said Telecom Italia had caused a loss of customers, restricted Vodafone’s ability to expand its fixed-line business, and forced it to pay artificially high costs to compete in the market.

Vodafone Italia, which filed the lawsuit, is 77 percent owned by Vodafone, with the rest held by the British firm’s United States partner Verizon Communications. The lawsuit comes as Telecom Italia is moving to sell off its fixed-line copper network, which rivals say gives it a competitive edge.

Last month, Vodafone posted a 9 percent drop in organic service revenue with Italy and Spain posting double-digit falls and confidence in its once-reliable markets of Germany and Britain.

India partly revokes Roche cancer drug patent

ZURICH, 5 Aug — India has partly revoked patents granted to Roche Holding AG for its breast cancer drug Herceptin, a spokesman for the drugmaker confirmed on Sunday, Swiss newspaper Schweiz am Sonntag reported that the Kolkata Patent Office had lifted divisional patents for Roche’s drugs.

On Friday, India revoked a patent granted to GlaxoSmithKline’s for breast cancer drug Tykerb, following on from a landmark court ruling in April disallowing patents for incremental innovations.

Roche has already adapted its business model in India to increase affordable access to drugs and try to stave off trouble from India’s patent authorities.

In August 2012, it introduced cut-price versions of Herceptin and another cancer drug MabThera, under an alliance with Indian generics firm Emcure Pharmaceuticals.

Last year, India revoked patents granted to Roche’s hepatitis C drug Pegasys, Pfizer Inc’s cancer drug Sutent, and Merck & Co’s asthma treatment aerosol suspension formulation. All were revoked on grounds that included lack of innovation.

On Tuesday, 6 August, 2013

India to consider expanding tax-exempt items list for foreign travellers

TOKYO, 5 Aug — The Japan Tourism Agency plans to propose the addition of food and cosmetic products to a list of tax-exempt items for foreign travellers as part of fiscal 2014 tax reform that agency sources said on Sunday. The proposal is aimed at attracting tourists and mitigating the negative impact of a sales tax hike planned for next April.

According to a survey by the agency, food and cosmetic products dominated the list of the top three popular Japanese souvenirs in 2012, with 58.2 percent of foreign travellers buying confectionery, 51.4 percent buying other food products, alcohol and cigarettes and 38.5 percent buying cosmetics and pharmaceutical products.

Of the 1.09 trillion yen spent by foreign visitors in Japan last year, 31 percent was spent on shopping, the survey showed. At present, food products bought by foreign travelers are subject to sales tax because beverages cannot be subject to what such items will be consumed in Japan or taken abroad.

In many parts of the world, including many countries of the European Union, all products bought by foreign travellers are tax exempt and tax refunds are made on departure. The tourism agency will also propose making procedures for tax-free purchases easier.

Sugar drinks tied to obesity among preschoolers

NEW YORK, 5 Aug — Five-year-olds who drink sugar-sweetened sodas, sports drinks or juices every day are more likely to be obese than those who have sugar-sweetened beverages less often, according to a new study.

Although the link between sugar drinks and extra weight has been well documented among teens and adults, researchers said that until now, the evidence was less clear for young children.

“Even though sugar-sweetened beverages are relatively a small percentage of the calories that children take in, that additional amount of calories did contribute to more weight gain over time,” said Dr Mark DeBoer, who led the study at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

He and his colleagues surveyed the parents of a nationally-representative group of 9,600 children when the kids were two, four and five years old.

“The children were all born in 2001. Parents reported on their income and education, as well as how often children drank sugar-sweetened beverages and watched TV.

The children and their mothers were weighed at each survey visit. The proportion of kids who had at least one soda, sports drink or sugar-sweetened juice drink each day ranged from 9 to 13 percent, depending on their age. Those children were more likely to have an overweight mother and to watch at least two hours of TV each day at age four and five.

After accounting for those influences as well as families’ socioeconomic status, the researchers found five-year-olds who had at least one sugary drink each day were 43 percent more likely to be obese than those who drank the beverages less frequently or not at all.

Kids were considered obese if they had a body mass index — a measure of weight in relation to height — above the 95th percentile for their age and gender, as calculated by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 15 percent of five-year-olds in the study were obese.

Child care in Australia booming

CANBERRA, 5 Aug — A new report released on Sunday shows unprecedented growth in Australia’s child care sector as record numbers of families take advantage of government fee assistance to return to work. The Child Care in Australia report also confirms that fee increases have remained stable for nearly a decade. “Child care is booming in Australia,” Early Childhood and Child Care Canberra’s Kate Ellis said.

“The report shows record numbers of children and families in record numbers of child care services across the nation. Of course more needs to be done, but this is a testament to Labour efforts over the past six years.”

The report finds that more than 1 million children are in child care and more than 726,000 families are using child care. There are more than 15,000 child care services in Australia and the average child care fee increase across the sector last year was 7.3 percent, lower than the previous year’s 7.4 percent.

It also reports that average families with annual income of $65,000 annually (66,750 US dollars) spent 8.4 percent of their disposable income on child care in 2012, compared to 13 percent of their income in 2004. Ellis said not only were more families using child care than ever before, they were using child care on more days of the week for longer hours, “Nearly half of all 3 to 5 year-olds in Australia are now in child care, up from 43.5 percent six years ago,” she said.

Ellis said while the report was encouraging, challenges remained for the sector, particularly relating to availability. “While there’s been strong growth in the number of places, there are still unacceptable shortages in many highly populated centers, particularly Sydney and Melbourne,” she said. “Our government is tackling these shortages on a number of fronts but it will take partnerships between all levels of government and the private sector.” — Xinhua
Union Peace-making... (from page 1)

through a political dialogue which is supported by the people as well as the international community. The country was now in a position to bring about a full-fledged political domain for peace.

It is firmly believed that the ABSDF as a force will participate in the peace process, development and democratization and all the parties need to be rational and pragmatic in making the peace process a success, he said. In his conclusion, the Union minister said that the peace talks are to be regarded as the first step for cooperation in democratization rather than a dialogue between the government and ABSDF and wished all those present to push ahead with the process till reaching eternal peace.

Next, Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee U Thein Zaw, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and U Khin Yi stressed the need of all-inclusiveness in Union level peace talks, peace for development and the ongoing peace process being implemented by the government with momentum, ceasefire agreements with 13 national races armed groups in Kayin and Kachin States where the sound of gunfire fell silent and expressed their belief in the today’s meeting that could bring better outcomes.

Next, Chairman of ABSDF Yawb Than Khe, Vice-Chairman Yawb Myo Win and General Secretary Yawb Suu Ni expressed their belief in conflict resolution through negotiation for the sake of the people, their readiness for cooperation with those who love the nation and successful implementation of internal peace and national reconciliation, their hope for the today’s meeting where all plans for ensuring internal peace could be laid down and their views on requirements for peace process.

Then, both sides exchanged view on ceasefire, regional peace and stability and development in a frank manner and leaders of both sides signed agreements.

After the meeting, the Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee presented a peace bell, U Thein Zaw and the Union ministers, gifts to ABSDF chairman.

The meeting was also attended by Union Ministers U Ohn Myint and U Zeyar Aung, the advocate-general of Kayin State, the Kayin State minister for security and border affairs, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, responsible persons of Myanmar Peace Centre, CEC members, the military affairs in charge and members of ABSDF. Also present as observers were U Zin Aung of Myanmar New Society Democratic Party, U Kaung Myat Htut of Myanmar National Congress Party, U Min Ko Naing and U Mya Kyaw of “88” Generation Students Group and representatives of Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPCS) and Nippon Foundation.

Next, a press conference on agreements resulting from the meeting was held, and both sides answered the queries raised by local and foreign media persons and posed for documentary photos.

At the today’s state level peace talks, both sides agreed to cease fire as of 5 August, 2013 for ensuring a nationwide ceasefire and holding a political dialogue, to take measures in order not to occur conflicts and fighting between ABSDF and Tatmadaw and to allow unarmed ABSDF members to travel to other places in accord with the law except designated area (“designated area means bases of ABSDF in the areas of national race armed groups”), to open a liaison office in which arms are not allowed in Myawady which is acceptable to both sides and to continue to hold talks on places for opening of more liaison offices at the Union level meeting, to form an official delegation to hold a Union level peace talks and to begin the Union level peace talks as of 10 August, 2013. To be able to sign agreements at the today’s meeting, ABSDF accepted the invitation of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and held informal meetings with Vice-Chairman U Aung Min for three times and preparatory work committee for two times totaling five.

MOFA conducts Basic English and Foreign Service Skills Course for LDCs

Yangon, 5 August—The opening of Training Course No. 1/2013 for Basic English and Foreign Service Skills, conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunniminnayaraz Hlaol of the ministry, here, this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Winna Maung Lwin.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Director-General U Myint Lwin, responsible officials of the Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department, retired ambassadors, professors and lecturers. The ten-week course is intended for the newly recruited lower division clerks of the ministry and it includes subjects related to English Proiciency and Diplomatic Skills and 70 lower division clerks are attending the course.—MNA

Health care services given to flood victims in Tanninihay

Tanninihay, 5 August—As incessant rains and Tanninhay River was swollen, the flood-hit victims from Monsu (2), Chaunggyi, Shwe Leikpya, Chaungmge and Myathida Wards in Tanninihay Township were moved to the four relief camps on 1 August, 2013. Mobile medical team of Coasal Region Command provided health care services to 70 flood victims who are taking shelter at the relief camps yesterday.—Myawady

Rep. of the Union of Myanmar
Press Release Team
Press Release (12/2013)
14th Waning of Waso, 1375 ME
(5 August, 2013)
Press release on relief and rehabilitation works in flood-hit regions

1. Some townships in Kayin State and Mon State and Tanninhay Township in Tanninhay Region had experienced floods as of 27 July 2013 due to heavy rains and swollen rivers.
2. While accommodating 3,340 flood victims of 6733 households in Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Kawkareik, Kyar-in-Seikyi and Myawady Townships and Kamamoung sub-township at 79 relief camps, only 16579 flood victims of 3,440 households still remain at 47 relief camps up to date and necessary assistance is being given to them.
3. Regular traffic resumed on 2-8-2013 on Thigun Nyaunng-Kawkareik road where officials of Kayin State government and the Public Works under the Ministry of Construction and local Tatmadaw carried out clearing road block. Flash floods in Kayin State left six persons killed and one still missing so far. Four bridges were destroyed and 367 basic school buildings closed temporarily and 3675-acre of paddy farmlands are still under water.
4. Likewise, a total of 4680 flood victims of 1050 households in Bilin, Kyaiakmaraw and Ye Townships in Mon State were accommodated at 34 relief camps. As flood waters receded, flood victims in Bilin and Ye Townships returned home. A total of 1600 flood victims of 361 households in Kyaikmaraw are being provided with rice and relief supplies at three relief camps. Flash floods destroyed one bridge in Mudon Township and one school building in Paung Township and 58 schools were subject to temporary closure in Kyaiakmaraw Township.
5. Flooding occurred in Tanninhay Township on 2 August 2013, forcing 1670 people of 324 households to move to three relief camps where they are being provided with necessary assistance.
6. During Vice-President U Nyan Tun’s rescue and relief tour, 7191 households in Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Kawkareik, Kyar-in-Seikyi, Myawady and Papun Townships were provided with rice, medicines and relief supplies including K 15,000 each to flood victims totaling K 107,715,000 as wellwishers donated K 200 million for flood victims.
7. Under the arrangement of Kayin State government, flood victims were provided with 337 bags of rice, 86 viss of edible oil, 8364 eggs and 13478 packets of instant noodle including K 8.85 million. It is hereby to inform that sanitation, health care services and rehabilitation works in the regions where flood waters receded are being carried out by the Union government in cooperation with respective state/region governments, social organizations, Tatmadawmen, police members and local people after rescue and relief works for flood victims had been performed in Kayin and Mon States and Tanninhay Region.
**LOCAL NEWS**

**MONSOON TREE PLANTING CEREMONY HELD IN PYINMANA**

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Aug—A monsoon tree planting ceremony was held in No (1) Basic Education High School in Pyinmana in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than, Director of Forest Department U Kyaw Lwin, Pyinmana Township Administrator U Hsan Maw, Commander of Pyinmana Township Police Force Police Major Than Myint, Deputy Director of Education Department U Aung Kyaw Soe and Headmistress Daw Khin Mar Win attended the ceremony.

Students, staff of forest department and village-tract/ward administrators planted about 170 various species of saplings including teak and hardwood in the yard of the school. **MMAL-Zaw Myo Naing**

**PALETHWE PADDY YIELD 159 BASKETS PER ACRE IN SAW TOWNSHIP**

Saw, 5 Aug—A model one-acre Palethwe paddy plantation in Saw Township yielded 159 baskets of paddy. The harvest of farmland of farmer U Win Pe of Zeyar ward in Saw in Gangaw District was carried out on 23 July.

The plantation was where the Good Agricultural Patterns were applied. The harvest was attended by Head of Gangaw District Agriculture Department U Khin Maung Myint, Township Administrator U Naing Tun, Head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department U Nyunt Aung, staff, Head of Township Agriculture Department U Zaw Min Naing, agricultural staff and farmers.

A total 137 acres of farmlands were put under Palethwe paddy in 2012-2013 fiscal year. A total of 2170 acres of farmland were put under summer paddy in the township.

The district head of Agriculture Department and party discussed the planting of high-yield Palethwe paddy. **MMAL-101**

**TREE PLANTING CEREMONY HELD NEAR ANANDA TEMPLE IN BAGAN**

Tree planting ceremony held near Ananda Temple in Bagan

Mandalay, 5 Aug—Monsoon tree planting ceremony was held in southern yard of Ananda Temple in Bagan on 31 July for greening the Bagan archaeological site, attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint. The region chief minister presented saplings to departmental personnel, members of social organizations and ward/village tract administrators.

He planted a star-flower plant and region Hluttaw representatives planted star-flower plants and sandalwood plants at designated places.

The departmental personnel, members of political parties and the people planted about 800 saplings.

The chief minister also visited the construction site of NyaungU Highway Bus Terminal by NyaungU-Kyaunkpadaung road at the entrance to NyaungU.

Later, the Chief Minister of the region viewed the construction of shops and other buildings at the construction site. **MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)**

**BOOKS DONATED TO SAGAING COOPERATIVE UNIVERSITY**

Sagaing, 5 Aug—Nyein Chan Kaungkin Printing Materials Trading Cooperative Society donated note books to Cooperative University (Sagaing) at Mya Tharaphi Hall of the university on 29 July.

Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan delivered an address at the ceremony. Chairman of Nyein Chan Kaungkin Printing Materials Trading Cooperative Society (Sagaing) U Thein Myint donated 600 dozens of note books through Rector in-charge Dr Yi Yi Win of Cooperative University (Sagaing).

Nagamin General Trading Company also donated 210 publications to the library of the university through the rector.

The cooperative society also donated 60 dozens of books to Saungda vocational education school through the principal of the school. Donors were presented the certificates of honour at the ceremony. **MMAL-137**

**EDUCATIVE TALK ON DRUGS AGAINST KUNG TUNG UNIVERSITY**

Kengtung, 5 Aug—An educative talk on drugs, traffic rules and human trafficking was organized in Kengtung University on 1 August under aegis of the Commander of Kengtung District Police Force.

Commander of Kengtung District Police Force MMAL-Naing Naing Aung Wai planted a star-flower plant and region Hluttaw representatives planted star-flower plants and sandalwood plants at designated places.

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The chief minister also visited the construction site of NyaungU Highway Bus Terminal by NyaungU-Kyaunkpadaung road at the entrance to NyaungU.

Later, the Chief Minister of the region viewed the construction of shops and other buildings at the construction site. **MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)**

**KOREAN TAEKWONDO TEAM, K-POP BAND TO PERFORM IN YANGON**

Yangon, 5 Aug—To strengthen friendly ties between Myanmar and South Korea, an acclaimed Taekwondo team and K-Pop band will visit Myanmar and perform their talents and songs soon, according to secretary of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation U Zaw Win.


The Taekwondo team is the winner of Taekwondo exhibition contests for two successive years in 2011 and 2012.

They will display Poomsae, Kyuk Pa and Sparring talents.

The K-Pop band will display many famous K-Pop songs like Oppa-Gangnam Style and Korean traditional songs. **MMAL-Kyangtaung Aung**
PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 6 August, 2013

We cannot allow transformation to fail

Democracy cannot just be about elections, basic freedoms, and constitutions. It must also include a culture of democracy and a new understanding of citizenship. We cannot be under an illusion that this is not a difficult thing, but we all are confident that we will succeed.

The first component of our transformation is political. We have a new constitution. We have had elections and by-elections. Media censorship and restrictions on the Internet have ended. New laws protect the freedom of association and expression. Thousands of prisoners have been freed. A special committee, comprised in part of former prisoners, is working diligently to ensure that no one remains in prison due to his or her political beliefs or actions. We are reviewing all cases.

The government is aiming for nothing less than a transformation from half a century of military-rule and authoritarianism to democracy. It is beyond doubt that this is no easy thing. We see elsewhere the dangers of any sudden political shift, with which institutions are unable to cope, and where the habits of democracy are not yet engrained, and the dangers of violence and anarchy. We must manage this transition in a way that moves fast but prudently, grounded in our own realities.

We must succeed as well in the second component of our transformation: moving from a state-centered and isolated economy to one that is based on free-market principles and is integrated into world markets.

We have embarked on a transformation that we believe is unparalleled in modern times. It is a multi-faceted transformation that must be successful in all its parts. Anyone who visits Myanmar today will see the great energy that has been thrown up by the transformation of competing ideas and robust debate. This is because all Myanmar people know that we cannot allow this transformation to fail.

**New Legs, New Life for Myanmar Disabled**

It was on the morning of 6 August in 1945, a B-29 bomber of the United States Army dropped the first Atomic bomb on the centre of the City of Hiroshima, Japan.

According to the records of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, the bomb emitted mysterious flashes of light in the air about 1,800 feet above the ground and then produced a gigantic fireball which swelled rapidly into a tremendous explosion. A horrifying screech as to flames hit the earth and rose in the form of a swiftly-bulging mushroom cloud to a height of 27,000 feet almost instantaneously.

The atomic bomb destroyed about 13 square kilometres of the city. Between 70,000 and 100,000 people are estimated to have been killed in Hiroshima and over 10,000 died later from the effects of atomic radiation.

Three days later, the Americans released a second atomic bomb on the City of Nagasaki. Thus, Japan surrendered to the Allied Forces on 2 September in 1945.

Why did they use the atomic bomb?

"Horrors of Hiroshima emerged due to the translation error. Instead of writing the news title as ‘US ultimatums postponed,’ the journalist wrote the title as ‘US ultimatums ignored,’” said Sayaygi Thakin Ba Thauguang while I was studying translation under him. However, historians concluded that although it was an immediate cause, the world had heard the war cry and seen the dark colors of war since 1939.

After the first test explosion of an atomic bomb in the United States in July, 1945, the then US President Harry S. Truman informed the other leaders of the Allied Forces. Then the Allies issued a statement threatening to destroy Japan unless it surrendered unconditionally. In spite of the warning, Japan went on fighting. So the bomb was dropped. The historians concluded so.

Before the atomic bomb was used, the US bombing of Tokyo took place in March 1945. According to the Kyodo news of 8 May, 2013, more than 300 B-29 bombers dropped a large number of incendiary bombs above Tokyo on 10 March, 1945, about five months of Japan’s surrender that year turning the Japanese capital to ruins. The US raids of Tokyo also came in April and May that year.

The then Japanese government had filed a protest with the US government shortly after the March 1945 air raid. However, the US said the war with Japan in the Pacific theatre of the global war was one against fascism.

Actually, war is war. If a war breaks out, it is followed by social evils. A year after the bomb was dropped, among those who survived the nuclear holocaust, some were cripple and some were destitute. People had lost the buildings which had taken them to many years to acquire, and had no prospects or rebuilding them. Let me introduce a letter from my friends to you before the anniversary of the dropping the bomb. Mr. Tanimoto wrote in a letter to the Americans:-

“What a heart-breaking scene it was the first night! About midnight, I landed on the river bank. So many injured people lay on the ground that had to make my way by feeling my way over them. Repeating ‘Excuse me!’ , I went forward, carrying a bucket of water and giving a cup of water to each of them. They raised their upper bodies slowly, accepted the water with a bow, and drunk quietly. One of them said, ‘I couldn’t help my sister, who was buried under the house’, Another murmured, ‘I lost my home and family’. The next morning, I found many men and women dead, people whom I had given water the night before. But to my surprise, I never heard any one cry in pain and sorrow even though their anguish and agony must have been beyond words…”

On 9 August, 1945, Nagasaki, which is on the west coast of the island of Kyushu, was destroyed by the second atomic bomb used in warfare. The blast destroyed 4.7 square kilometers in the heart of the city. It injured 40,000 people, and 40,000 were killed or missing.

According to the Kyodo news appeared in the New Light of Myanmar of 5 June, the Nagasaki City Office began the annual task of adding names to the list of victims of the 1945 US atomic bombing of the city. The newly confirmed victims, who died between, 1 August last year and 31 March, told 1, 178. The names and dates of death of the deceased, along with those of more victims likely to be found by the end of July, are to be added to the list, which contained 158,765 names as of 9 August, 2012. Their details will be inscribed by two citizens with ink brushes in time to be dedicated on 9 August at a ceremony commemorating the 68th anniversary of the bombing.

“Feel anew the cruelty of atomic weapons,” said the victims once heard in a hibakusha, or atomic bombing survivor, and former officer of the city government.

The list of names, which is contained in 160 volumes as of ‘last year,’ is usually kept at the Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims.

“Hiroshima and Nagasaki are monuments to the horrors of war. They are a symbol of the peace movement.”

A service is held there each year on the anniversary of the bombing, in memory of the victims. And in the March of every August, war opponents and peace lovers recall an unhappy chapter in the history of mankind.

Wars—war for land, war for wealth, war for power, war for security—settle nothing. Millions of men, women and children were killed, or died of diseases, famine and untold suffering. As we remember wars or conflicts, peace prevailing activities or movements will have to be encouraged. We must take lessons that in a warfare, the loser suffers and so do their families.

Wars—never, never once again!

May peace prevail throughout the world!
Everyone desires the fulfillment of their basic needs such as making a living in peace and harmony under affine societal conditions, and the attainment of their life goals in peace and happiness, without any loss of their fundamental rights and human rights. Everyone also likes to contribute as much as they are able to beneficial activities not only for themselves but also for their families, friends and loved ones, the community which includes the neighbourhood or village or township where they live and for the country and the people, as well as for the people of the world.

In working for the betterment of socio-economic life, stability and peace would be a prerequisite for any efforts to be successful. Essentially, “stability and development” capture the aspirations of all of us. Stabilization and development would be essential not only for individuals but also the families, communities, citizens and people of the world. They constitute the vital need that our communities, our neighbourhoods, villages, townships, Regions and States, our country and the entire world have.

There can be no controversy or dispute on the impossibility of development work without stability and peace. My colleagues and I have stability and peace as our underlying aim in all our work. And it is only natural that we will inevitably face challenges, difficulties, obstacles, hindrances and conflicts in making our efforts towards the accomplishment of such worthy aims.

In our own minds, each of us has opposing forces vying for dominance. We see the existence of an opposition between greed and selfishness, ill will and good will, wholesome motivation and unwholesome motivation, altruism and egoism, doubt and decisiveness, vagueness and clarity, strong will and lack of will.

As opposing forces vie for dominance, one side may at one time become dominant over the other. While two opposing forces coming into conflict may often be in equilibrium, it can only be temporary. Eventually, one side always becomes stronger and wins out over the other.

From a political perspective, this process involving opposing forces may be seen as the contradictions. While there are many different kinds of tensions, they may be classified into two main categories: internal and external contradictions, fundamental and non-fundamental contradictions, and conflict-causing and non-conflict-causing contradictions.

To start with internal and external contradictions, individuals or organizations or groups may have tensions internally between the wholesome desire to do good things and the unwholesome desire to do bad things, normal desire and extreme greed, malice and benevolence, high spirits and low spirits, drive and lack of will, good will towards others and lack of it, indecision and resoluteness. These would be internal contradictions. External contradictions, externality of all times. Depending on the method of conflict resolution, some conflicts may be resolved while some others may escalate into open warfare.

Those specializing in the study of international relations have analysed international conflicts, past and present, into two main categories: conflicts of ideas and conflicts of interests. Examples of the first category would be ethnic conflicts, religious conflicts and ideological conflicts, while examples of the second category would be territorial disputes, problems involving control of governments and economic conflicts.

No one can deny the negative potential impact that conflicts may have, from undermining the political stability and economic development that a country has already achieved to stalling or even reversing them. In world history and Myanmar history and in the history of the world and those of Myanmar, there are prominent examples of such negative impact. In the period immediately after gaining independence in Myanmar, while Myanmar was a parliamentary democracy, ideological biases, personal prejudices, egos, and party biases gave rise to multicolored politics with differing hues even among those with the same political colour. Extreme nationalism displaced the sense of citizenship and the desire to work together for the Myanmar nation. National unity was undermined, and armed conflicts appeared in the endeavor for no space for effective development work, from which a political lesson needs to be learned.

Conflicts stem from differences or opposition of concerns and views between individuals, between organisations, between groups and between nations. Differences are generally caused by different approaches to a particular phenomenon, different values, different norms and criteria, different policies and ideologies, and differences in the educational qualifications or experience between those who are making evaluations and judgements. Conflicts are inherent in human nature and human affairs, and can be expected at all times. Depending on the method of conflict resolution, some conflicts may be resolved while some others may escalate into open warfare.

On Conflicts

Plan to take deterrent action against trafficking of narcotic drugs...

(by page 16) buy the drugs, expose the cases of arms, combat the people who are worried about trading of arms and to take more effective measures. The actions are being taken against the offenders in time.

The Myanmar National Drug Law Enforcement Central Committee is taking action against the illegal property. Kalay and Tamu Anti-Drug Squads are reestablished for undertaking the drug elimination in cooperation with the local police corps.

The Hluttaw approved the Early Childhood Care and Development Bill paragraph by paragraph.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Daw Su Hlaing submitted the proposal to approve the Early Child Care and Development Bill, and the Hluttaw approved it. MNA

It is only natural that differences in sentiments, goals and beliefs will continue to exist. It is important to recognize differences and respect for them. Our work can be correct only when we have the correct outlook, correct views and correct concepts. Every one experiences conflicts in life, both at work and at home. It is also natural to be offended by ridicule and blame and to be pleased with praise. It is necessary to follow the correct path calmly and steadily without being moved too much by either praise or ridicule. It is also human nature to want to take revenge. But it is necessary to realize that revenge would make it impossible to rise above the level of the other side. We have already worked to overcome numerous challenges for more than a decade to achieve the path to multiparty democracy. At present we have favourable conditions for further development for the nation and the people through multiparty democracy that we have strived for. We may still have challenges and conflicts to overcome, and we can overcome them through a worthy spirit, correct motivation and good will, constant awareness, unity and concerted efforts. Rather than responding emotionally to every incident that is encountered with excessive ego, excessive pride and a high level of jealousy, it is necessary to act on the basis of rationality and analysis. It is our wish and earnest hope that all those currently participating in the nation-building process and all the young people who will shoulder the responsibilities of the State in the future will sagaciously contribute to the process of nation-building in any capacity or role.

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Foodstuffs and household goods are provided to flood victims in Kyain-Seikkyi

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug — Due to nonstop rains in Kayin State, the wards in Kyain-Seikkyi Township were inundated and the state government members and Tatmadawmen assisted in moving the flood victims to the relief camps. Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win and officials met with the flood victims at the relief camps and presented foodstuffs and household goods to them yesterday.

Mynawdy
Local farmers transplant monsoon paddy at paddy field.

Kalay, 5 Aug—Ten-acre Ayeyarmin paddy strain was cultivated at the plot No-800 (e), holdings No-24 owned by farmer U Maung Tint in Chinhsing Village in Kalay Township on 30 July for export.

Myanmar’s rice standard would share in international market at a time when Myanmar was regarded as rice bowl of Asia. Myanmar had exported its rice to South Korea, Japan, China, Laos, and its rice strain was cultivated at the acre Ayeyarmin paddy plot No-800 (e), holdings 30 July for export.

Local Light of Myanmar

Mandalay Region MCWSC launches nutrition week activity

Mandalay, 5 Aug—Mandalay Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee held the demonstration on cooking as part of efforts for launching the 2013 nutrition week at its office on 1 August morning.

Chairperson of Mandalay Region MVWSC Daw Htay Htay Aung, Chairperson of District MCWSC Daw Thin Thin Khang, the chairperson and members of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and in-charges of the pre-primary schools.

The demonstration was aimed at feeding the pre-primary students with nutritious foods and enabling the household maids to have skills in cookery.

In-charge of the nutrition of the region MCWSC Daw Thanda Phone Win explained nutritious cooking for household maid, nurse Daw Mu Mu Soe Liwin of Nutrition Control Unit of Region Health Department, nutrition for pre-primary students, member Daw Myint Myint Thein of Dagon Dansauk Ward, egg and health, Daw Khin San Tin of Ward A, important of rice cooking and Daw Nwe Nwe Aye of Thinpanong Ward knowledge about cooking oil for household maids.

Next, Daw Thanda Phone Win explained nutritious food for pre-primary students and demonstrated cooking.

On the occasion were 70 attendees from nutrition units and pre-primary schools from townships in Mandalay District.

Knowledge share about hosting XXVII SEA Games in Myeik

Myeik, 5 Aug—A talks on sports events in commemoration of the XXVII SEA Games was given at Pyinnya Yadana hall of Basic Education High School No 3 in Myeik on 2 August afternoon.

Staff Officer Daw Hla Hla Htay of Myeik District Information and Public Relations Department explained youth and sports, and opportunity for the youth and athletes to lift the prestige and integrity of the State with the victory of sports.

After the talks,

Relief

Flood victims provided with rice and clothing in Thaton

Thaton, 5 Aug—The flood-hit families in Duyineik Village in Thaton Township of Mon State were provided with rice and clothing by the township management committee and wellwishers at Basic Education Middle School (branch) of the village yesterday. A total of 68 bags of rice and 72 packets of clothing were donated to 249 families.

“We are fishermen and our business mainly depends on Donthami creek. We can’t search fish as inundation occurs immediately. Although we can take shelter at the monastery now, we are facing difficulties for food. I wish to express thanks for donation and it benefits us a lot,” said a flood victim.

Due to incessant rains and inundation, No (2), No (5) and No (6) plots in Duyineik Village were flooded.

The wellwishers donated cash and kind to the flood victims who are taking shelter at the monastery and their relatives for the fifth time.

HRD

Headmistress Dr Daw Thin Thin Khang spoke words of thanks.

The talks was attended by teachers and students totalling about 380.

Complaints about bribery and corruption

Complaints about bribery and corruption can be addressed to the Anti-Corruption Committee, the President Office at Office No. 18, Nay Pyi Taw, by anyone with his/her name, CSC No., address and firm evidence.

Action will be taken against those who got involved in bribery and corruption in accordance with the law after a thorough investigation.

Agriculture

Model plot of Ayeyarmin quality paddy strains cultivated in Kalay

Kalay, 5 Aug—Ayeyarmin paddy were cultivated in Kalay region last year. The Ayeyarmin paddy were cultivated in Kalay region.

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Anti-Narcotic Drives

132 grams of heroin seized in Myitkyina

Myitkyina, 5 Aug—According to information given by a dutiful people, the person who owned 132 grams of heroin was arrested in Myitkyina on 30 July.

IP Kyaw Win and party of Myitkyina Anti-Drug Special Squad, acting on tip off, discharged duty on the ring road near Agricultural Mechanization Department in Myothitgyi Ward of Myitkyina at 10.30 am.

They searched a white van from Yazar Min bus line that will leave for Phakant and arrested passenger Sai Tin Aye with 16 grams of heroin in one soap box and 14 grams each in four boxes, 12 grams each in five boxes, totalling 132 grams in 10 soap boxes from the packets of pickled mustard in the polyethylene bags. The heroin was worth K 10,560,000.

Myitkyina Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against drug possessor Sai Tin Aye, son of U Paw Hong of Wainmaw Township, under Section 15/19(a) of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. The talks was attended by teachers and students totalling about 380.

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132 grams of heroin seized in Myitkyina

Myitkyina, 5 Aug—According to information given by a dutiful people, the person who owned 132 grams of heroin was arrested in Myitkyina on 30 July.

IP Kyaw Win and party of Myitkyina Anti-Drug Special Squad, acting on tip off, discharged duty on the ring road near Agricultural Mechanization Department in Myothitgyi Ward of Myitkyina at 10.30 am.

They searched a white van from Yazar Min bus line that will leave for Phakant and arrested passenger Sai Tin Aye with 16 grams of heroin in one soap box and 14 grams each in four boxes, 12 grams each in five boxes, totalling 132 grams in 10 soap boxes from the packets of pickled mustard in the polyethylene bags. The heroin was worth K 10,560,000.

Myitkyina Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against drug possessor Sai Tin Aye, son of U Paw Hong of Wainmaw Township, under Section 15/19(a) of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. The talks was attended by teachers and students totalling about 380.

Complaints about bribery and corruption

Complaints about bribery and corruption can be addressed to the Anti-Corruption Committee, the President Office at Office No. 18, Nay Pyi Taw, by anyone with his/her name, CSC No., address and firm evidence.

Action will be taken against those who got involved in bribery and corruption in accordance with the law after a thorough investigation.
Over 247,000 people affected by flooding in S Philippines

MANILA, 5 Aug — Over 247,000 individuals or nearly 50,000 families in southern Philippine Province of Maguindanao were affected by flooding due to heavy rains brought by low pressure area and intertropical convergence zone, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Sunday.

The displaced families came from 185 villages in 20 municipalities, the state agency said, adding that it is yet to receive report from the towns of Datu Odin Sinuatu and Datu Saudi Ampatuan.

Sultan Kudarat has remained as the place to have the most number of affected people at 41,700, it said.

The government has already extended over 4 million pesos (92, 170 US dollars) to the affected families, the NDRRMC said.

Search continues for 3 missing passengers in Vietnam shipwreck

HANOI, 5 Aug — Search and rescue teams on Sunday continued combing the area off the coast of Vietnam’s southern Ho Chi Minh City to look for three missing passengers after a motor boat capsized last Friday, local media reported.

The accident, which happened on Friday night due to strong wind, has claimed the lives of six passengers, including the boat operator. Another 21 passengers were rescued and being treated, according to state-run Vietnam News Agency.

The motor boat, with a maximum capacity of 18 passengers, was found to have carried 30 passengers on a passage that crossed Long Hau village in Can Gio District of Ho Chi Minh City when the deadly accident occurred.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung instructed the National Committee for Search and Rescue and relevant agencies to work closely together in search for the missing passengers and to provide assistance to the survivors.

Two killed in elephant attack in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 5 Aug — Two people were killed when an elephant went on rampage in Haripur-1 in the Sarlahi District of Nepal, locals said on Sunday.

The elephant killed Upendra Mahato, 30, and two-and-half-year-old Hiriyah Mahato in the district. Upendra had gone to water his field and slept in the field when the elephant attacked him. Hiriyah was attacked and killed outside her house while sleeping. Other members of her family had fled the scene during the attack.

“When we are sitting in front of house, (the) elephant suddenly came and began to attack, we ran away but I failed to rescue my daughter,” Hiriyah Mahato’s father Nathuni Mahato told Xinhua. Another local Prameshwor Mahato said one person was also injured in the elephant attack.

According to local police, four people have died in elephant attack in the district in the past two months.

S Korea to receive final bid for 7.4 bln USD fighter jet deal

SEOUL, 5 Aug — South Korea’s arms procurement agency planned to receive a final bid next week for an 8.3 trillion won (7.4 billion US dollars) deal to buy 60 fighter jets, the largest arms import contract in the nation’s history, an official said on Monday.

“The final bidding will be held between 13 and 16 Aug, except for the 15 Aug Liberation Day holiday,” an official at the Defence Acquisition Programme Administration (DAPA)’s spokesman office said by phone.

Three combat planes, including Lockheed Martin’s F-35 stealth jet, Boeing’s F-15 Silent Eagle and the Eurofighter Tranche 3 Typhoon of the European Aerospace Defence and Space Company (EADS), have been competing for the contract.

All the three aerospace giants have failed in the previous biddings due to higher prices than the 8.3 trillion won budget approved by the parliament.

The DAPA official told Xinhua that possible failure of the planned bidding may lead to re-examination of the project from the starting point, noting that all options would be available such as the cut in the number of jets to be bought, purchases in instalments and an increase in state budget.

ADB provides loan for transport link in Vietnam

MANILA, 5 Aug—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will lend 410 million US dollars to Vietnam to build projects for the second arterial highway connecting Ho Chi Minh City to the Mekong Delta and southern coastal regions, ADB said on Monday.

“This transport link will help open up Vietnam’s western provinces in the Mekong River Delta and support its economic and industrial development,” said Rustam Irsenov, transport Specialist in ADB’s Southeast Asia Department.

The projects will comprise two cable-stayed bridges with a combined length of 5 km and associated access and interconnecting roads totaling 26 kms.

The two bridges and the interconnecting road will cut travel time between Ho Chi Minh City and Long Xuyen, capital city of An Giang Province in the Mekong Delta region of southwestern Vietnam, from 3.5 hours to 2.5 hours. The highway is expected to be open to traffic by the end of 2017.

In addition to these transport benefits, the project is expected to support more inclusive development, improve access to basic social and health services, increase national food security and facilitate private sector investment in the region.

The project is expected to cost 860 million US dollars, which will be provided by the ADB, Australia and South Korea.
THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANNA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)

(6/2013)

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

Sr.No  Tender No  Description  Qty  Remark
(1)  IFB -051(2013-2014)  3.3 KV High Tension Auto Transformer  (1) Set  US $
    (2)  IFB -052(2013-2014)  Type Motor Starter Complete Set  (15) Items  US $
                    (Ex Coopr Servicing Unit)
    (4)  IFB -054(2013-2014)  20" Factory Made Hot Beds  (8) Items  US $
    (5)  IFB -055(2013-2014)  10" Steel Ball Valves and Pipe Fittings  (1) Lot  US $
    (9)  IFB -059(2013-2014)  Over Running Clutch for Gefco Rig  (2) Nos  US $
    (11) DMP/L-026(2013-2014)  7:00 x 16 & 7:50 x 16 Tyres  (2) Items  Kyat
    (12) DMP/L-027(2013-2014)  Electronic Cards for Mud Pump  (2) Items  Kyat
                    (Field Thyristor of Main PCR Unit)
    (13) DMP/L-028(2013-2014)  Insert Bowl For ZP-375 Rotary  (1) Pair  Kyat
                    (Ex D3 T2 Drilling Rig)
                    (Table Ex ZJ 70L Drilling Rig)

-Tender Closing Date & Time -
     2-9/2013, 1300 Hrs.

-Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5th August, 2013 at the
Material Planning Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/41206

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (214)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (214) are hereby notified that the vessel will
be arriving on 6.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS CMA CGM
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EKER TURKU VOY NO (023)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EKER TURKU VOY NO (023) are hereby notified that the vessel will
be arriving on 6.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T 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
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS HANJIN SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (331)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (331) are hereby notified that the vessel will
be arriving on 5.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T 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
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797
David Beckham offered movie role

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug—Retired soccer star David Beckham has been offered a cameo role in new movie The Secret Service as a villain.

Beckham, who announced he was quitting the sport earlier this year, has been asked by Colin Firth to star in The Secret Service and director Matthew Vaughn is so confident he will agree to appear, he has already had a villainous part written for him, reported Sun online.

"Becks was asked by Colin Firth if he’d like to be in the movie but he is yet to fully commit. He loves movies and fancies appearing on the big screen — but just as a one-off, not a full-time career," a source said.

The film, which is based on a spy graphic novel by Mark Millar and Dave Gibbons, stars Colin and Michael Caine as super agents fighting a team of villains headed by Samuel L Jackson and will also feature cameo appearances from stars including singer Elton John.

Beckham, who has children Brooklyn, 14, Romeo, 10, Cruz, eight, and Harper, two, with wife Victoria, has previously been tipped for movie success by his spouse.

"I think he would be really good at acting. He’d be a great James Bond," Victoria had said.

PTI

Ellen DeGeneres to host 2014 Academy Awards

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug—Comedienne Ellen DeGeneres has been chosen to host the upcoming 86th annual Academy Awards. This would be the second stint for DeGeneres, 55, the star of her own daytime talk show talk Ellen, who previously hosted the Oscars in 2007, reported Ace Showbiz.

"I am so excited to be hosting the Oscars for the second time. You know what they say the third time’s the charm," she said. Producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron said, "We are thrilled to have Ellen DeGeneres host the Oscars. As a long-time friend, we had always hoped to find a project for us to do together and nothing could be more exciting than teaming up to do the Oscars."

The 2014 Academy Awards will take place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood on 2 March, 2014. Actor Seth MacFarlane previously hosted the prestigious event.

PTI

Prince William sings Coldplay songs to son

LONDON, 5 Aug—Prince William has reportedly found a unique lullaby solution for newborn son Prince George Alexander Louis. He sings English band Coldplay’s songs to him.

Williams’ wife Kate Middleton gave birth to their son on 22 July, but George’s mid-night activities, especially crying, are giving everyone a hard time.

“William had no idea it would be this tough. He’s using a bizarre tactic of belting out Coldplay anthems at all hours of the night even though he can barely hold a note,” dailystar.co.uk quoted a source as saying.

"It’s even keeping Kate’s parents awake. His favourite song is Paradise and he also loves doing Yellow. Coldplay aren’t even his favourite band, but George responds to their songs the most and settles back down,” the source added.—PTI

Jennifer Aniston up for steamy strip scenes

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug—Director Rawson Marshall Thurber says actress Jennifer Aniston was totally up for steamy stripping scenes in her new comedy We’re the Millers.

The Friends actress plays a saucy dancer in the new comedy, which centres on a drug dealer, reported Contactmusic.

“I just thought it would be a fun moment. It didn’t take any persuasion to get her to do it. She really liked the script and wanted to play the part.”

She was up for it... It’s this bizarre moment of the ‘mum’ being able to save her family by stripping. We were shooting it in a shack in 120-degree heat and it was a long day for her, but she’s a pro. She’s in great shape and comfortable in her own body, and she nailed it," he said.

The director hints there may be a sequel to the films also.

“With good characters I think it’s always a good thing to continue a story,” he added.—PTI

PTI

‘2 Guns’ shoots past ‘Smurfs,’ ‘Wolverine’ to claim box office

LOS ANGELES/New York, 5 Aug—‘2 Guns,’ starring Denzel Washington and Mark Wahlberg as rival federal agents, shot through its weekend competition at movie theatres, collecting $27.4 million to lead the North American box office, according to studio estimates released on Sunday.

“The Wolverine,” last weekend’s box office leader, finished second with $21.7 million in ticket sales and has totaled $95 million during its two weeks in theatres.

Sony’s “Smurfs 2,” the newly released sequel to its 2011 movie “The Smurfs” starring Neil Patrick Harris and a band of small blue elf-like creatures, was third with $18.2 million in ticket sales.

The horror film “The Conjuring,” about a house possessed by a demon, continued its strong run and was fourth with ticket sales of $13.7 million. The animated “Despicable Me 2” was fifth after five weeks with $10.4 million in ticket sales.

“2 Guns,” an adaption of the graphic novel by the same name published by Boom! Studios, fell somewhat short of some industry projections that it would generate about $30 million in ticket sales in a summer in which a number of films have failed to live up to expectations.

Walt Disney’s (DIS.N) “The Lone Ranger” and Sony’s (NYSE:DOWX) “White House Down” and “After Earth” bombed earlier this summer.

“We’re thrilled with the numbers,” said Nikki Rocco, president for domestic distribution at Universal Pictures, which distributed “2 Guns” and chalked up its seventh number-one opening this year. She added that “this was a very healthy box office weekend” at a time when “people used to talk about the August doldrums.”

Rocco said the studio had anticipated “2 Guns” would open “somewhere in the twenties” of millions, so “we’re very satisfied.”

“Smurfs 2” fell short of the $35.6 million in ticket sales for Sony’s 2011 original film, which was released in late July. The film is based on a Belgian comic first published in 1958 that has been expanded into movies, a TV series and even an Ice Capades show.—Reuters
**Manchester United have given up on Fabregas — Barca chief**

**Arsene Wenger fears slow progress on transfers**

**Daddy Tiger Woods gifts ‘his first win’ to Charlie**

**Azarenka pulls out of Rogers Cup**

**New Light of Myanmar**

## Manchester United have given up on Fabregas — Barca chief

Barcelona sporting director Andoni Zubizarreta has claimed that Manchester United have abandoned their interest in Cesc Fabregas, according to reports in the Spanish media.

United, who have yet to make a major signing since David Moyes succeeded Sir Alex Ferguson as manager, have already had two bids for the Spanish international rejected by La Liga champions.

“Manchester United were interested in the player, but they have also understood our stance that we don’t want to sell him,” the former Spain goalkeeper was quoted as saying by Barcelona based daily Sport. “They have given up on signing him.”

Despite claiming the first league title of his career last season, Fabregas has endured a largely frustrating close season, and the midfielder is expected to leave as a 16-year-old to join Arsenal.

## Azarenka pulls out of Rogers Cup

Carlsbad, (California), 5 Aug.—Victoria Azarenka, who lost in the Carlsbad Open final to Sam Stosur on Sunday, has pulled out of the Rogers Cup in Toronto with a lower back injury, the tournament announced.

The world number two had been playing in her first tournament since Wimbledon, where she was forced to pull out of her second round match due to knee and hip injuries. “I’m so disappointed that I can’t make it to Toronto as I added it to my schedule knowing what an important event it is,” said Azarenka. The tournament begins on Monday.—Reuters

## Daddy Tiger Woods gifts ‘his first win’ to Charlie

Akron, (United States), 5 Aug.—Tiger Woods sa-vored an eighth Bridgestone Invitational success and a 79th PGA Tour triumph on Sunday. But for his young son, Charlie, it was a first chance to see his father win.

Woods was observed arriving at the course near lunchtime and walking hand-in-hand with the four-year-old from the players car park to the Firestone clubhouse.

And Charlie was there when Woods walked off some hours later a seven-shot winner. Woods said his daughter, Sam, is old enough to understand his profession, but for Charlie “it was the first win he’s ever been at.”

“That’s what makes it special for both of us. He’s never seen me win a golf tournament,” Woods said.

“Sam was there when I won the US Open in ’08, and she loves to watch the YouTube videos and look back to Daddy.”

But “Charlie’s never had that, never felt what it’s like to be with the trophy,” he added. Woods said his children always ask “Daddy, when are you going to win the tournament?”

“So this week was nice to be able to get the lead and I held it, and it was awfully special for me to have (Charlie) here to witness it because he understands it now,” he said.

“He understands when I make a birdie, when I make par, and he understands the difference,” Woods added. “It’s awfully special to be able to share that kind of moment.”

As Woods now heads to the PGA Championship, a red hot favourite to finally end a five-year major title drought, the world No 1 said he won’t push his son into the game.

“Charlie likes playing golfer, he likes going out there and giving it a hit,” Woods said. “It’s like what my dad did and that’s keep it fun. Go out there, no lessons, and just have fun.”

But Woods said he wouldn’t put any pressure on his son. “Yes, it would be cool but I am not going to be pushing him and if he wants to do it, so be it,” he said. “If he wants to go and play another sport then that would be great, too.”

## Arsene Wenger fears slow progress on transfers

LONDON, 5 Aug—Arsene Wenger admits Arsenal may be forced to go back to the transfer market after a testing Champions League qualifier first leg on 20 or 21 August, a handful of days after the Premier League opener against Aston Villa on 17 August.

Any new signings must be registered by 12 August if they are to be eligible to play in the Champions League qualifying round, but Wenger concedes that is unlikely at present.

Speaking after Arsenal lost 2-1 to Galatasaray in the Emirates Cup on Sunday, Wenger said: “Let’s count first on what is here and if we can add something, we will do.”

“But it’s very difficult to predict if something will be sorted out before we play in the Champions League qualifier.

“I think we have enough quality to achieve it with the players we have in at the moment and if we can have some more in before then, it’s even better.”

The Champions League draw could pitch Arsenal against a number of strong sides including PSV Eindhoven and Real Sociedad.

And Wenger added: “It’s difficult. It’s a stressful situation but we did fight very hard to be in that situation and now it’s time to take advantage of the fact we finished fourth and we have an opportunity to qualify.”

“Of course it’s always very tricky to qualify but we have the experience of having done it before.”

Wenger will continue to target new signings but he played down talk of a move for former captain Cesc Fabregas. A clause in the player’s contract gives Arsenal first refusal should he opt to leave Barcelona but Wenger denied this was likely, insisting he had no knowledge of reports Barca coach Gerardo Martino had said the player’s future lay in his own hands.

“I haven’t heard that comment at all, and I haven’t read it so I’m always a bit cautious to answer what a manager is supposed to have said,” Wenger said.

“What I know is Fabregas will stay one more year at least in Barcelona. That’s the information I have. If that changes, I don’t know. But that’s what I have been told.”

Wenger also confirmed Gervinho was close to sealing a move to AS Roma, while Marouane Chamakh is expected to tie up a permanent switch to Crystal Palace.—PTI

## Arsene Wenger

While Charlie is already emulating his father, Woods, as asked if the youngster might model himself on some of the US tour’s younger talents, such as the often flamboyantly attired Rickie Fowler, Woods laughed and said: “My kid is not going to wear a flat bill (cap).”—PTI

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**Cesc Fabregas**

His opportunities in Barca’s midfield have been limited by the presence of international teammates Xavi, Andres Iniesta and Sergio Busquets, while his role lying behind the main striker is occupied by four-time world player of the year Lionel Messi.

However, with the sale of Thiago Alcantara to Bayern Munich and the 33-year-old Xavi expected to play fewer games this season, Zubizarreta insisted Fabregas will be a key part of the squad.

“Cesc is an extraordinary player, we are counting on him. He has vision, he helps in defence, he is our number four and we are not going to sell him.”

Fabregas scored twice on his first appearance of the season for the Catalans in their 8-0 hammering of Santos on Friday and has travelled with the squad to take part in coaching clinics in Palestine and Israel before they embark on a tour of Asia.—PTI

**Samantha Stosur holds the trophy after winning the Carlsbad Open.**
Greektourismbounces back to further growth

ATHENS, 5 Aug—After a tough year of 2012 when tourists stayed away from Greece amid economic and political uncertainty, the year 2013 will see the crisis-hit country on the rebound in the tourist industry sector, according to state officials and sector representatives.

As foreign visitors are returning in droves lured by the pristine beaches and wealth of history, Greece is expected to draw an all-time high number of at least 17 million tourists this year, up one million from 2012.

JuanMartin Del Potro beats John Isner to win Washington title

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug—Juan Martin del Potro showed he deserves to be among the favourites to win the US Open by railing to beat John Isner in Sunday’s final of the Washington Open.

The 24-year-old top seed from Argentina shook off a sluggish start to beat the US eighth seed 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 for his third title in the US eighth seed 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 for his third title in the US Open, the only Grand Slam title since the 2005 Australian Open not taken by Federer, Nadal, Djokovic or Murray.

“I’m glad to win the title. I played my best tennis of the season since the first event since an epic five-set loss to Djokovic in the longest semi-final in Wimbledon history, del Potro showed his left knee was fine after an injury at Wimbledon.

“I will have to be a favorite,” del Potro said. “I’m playing well. To win tournaments and beat these guys, you have to be fit and in good condition.”

“But I have a few more guys playing better than me, and they have been favourites forever.”

World number one Novak Djokovic, defending champion Andy Murray, five-time US Open winner Roger Federer and 2010 US Open champion Rafael Nadal were del Potro’s picks as the players to beat at Flushing Meadows.

“I would put him the smallest hair behind Djokovic and Murray,” Isner said of del Potro. “It would just be those guys right now. He would be third favourite.”

In his first event since an epic five-set loss to Djokovic in the longest semi-final in Wimbledon history, del Potro showed his left knee was fine after an injury at Wimbledon.

“I honestly, I’m surprised to win this tournament after a month without competition,” del Potro said. “To win my first tournament on hardcourt, it means a lot. It gives me confidence to keep going and get closer to the top guys.”

Del Potro stretched his Washington win streak to 14 matches by adding to the titles he won in the US capital in 2008 and 2009.

The last time he won in Washington he went on to win the US Open, the only Grand Slam title since the 2005 Australian Open not taken by Federer, Nadal, Djokovic or Murray.

“I’m so glad to win again here,” del Potro said. “It felt unbelievable.”

Seventh-ranked del Potro won his 15th career ATP title, his second of the year after Rotterdam in February, and improved to 4-0 all-time against Isner, the ATP season aces leader, despite not getting to sleep until 3 am after a rain-interrupted semi-final.

It was a little frustrating to me to finish so late last night. I started really low in the match,” del Potro said.

“I go almost out of the court to take the ball, but I started to return well in the second set. I found a really quick break in the second set and that helped keep me fighting, and in the third set I played my best tennis of the tournament.

“Then some unbelievable forehands. I played really well from the baseline.”

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Organizational set-up of enterprises depends on cost-to-income ratio to ensure a healthy financial measure: Deputy NPED Minister

Daw Nan Say-aw of Hpa-an Constituency at today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Welfare U Htin Aung said that setting of minimum wage rate that will depend on regions and types of works was being undertaken and it would be made known to the public if there is no objection on it.

Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi replied the questions raised by U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency that organizational set-up of enterprises under the ministries depended on the cost-to-income ratio to ensure a healthy financial measure. But, employment of more staff at the enterprises was allowed, if necessary, in accord with their production cost and budget balance. “Today’s government organizations are facing difficulties while implementing the tasks as they are not fully staffed.”

Plan to take deterrent action against trafficking of narcotic drugs in Tamu and Kalay regions

Nay Pi Taw, 5 Aug—In his response to the question raised by Daw Za Talang of Thantlang Constituency on behalf of Dr Daw Khin San Yi, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan commented that the bill committee read out its findings on the “Association Bill”.

U Thein Win of Sagaing Region Constituency No 9 asked a question on plan to take deterrent action against trafficking of pseudo-ephedrine in Tamu and Kalay regions, those who are not fully staffed. Officers are always busy with series of meetings and other duties. Security guards and general workers are not operational staff. The middle level of six or seven operational staff are not enough to run the organization. So I raised the question. I am satisfied with the answer of the deputy minister who vowed to adjust the organizational set-up, if necessary,” said U Pe Than in an interview with him.

At the today’s session, the bill committee read out its findings on the “Association Bill”.

The 18th day seventh regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw was held today under 15 agendas. The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced the list of Hluttaw representatives to be assigned duty at the Bill Committee and the Public Accounts Committee, the chairmen, secretaries and members of the affairs committees.


Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint attends Debate on Myanmar’s Sociopolitics Value and Democratic Transition

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint addresses debate on Myanmar’s Sociopolitics Value and Democratic Transition. U Pe Than of Mon State Constituency No 9, Professor Dr Mya Oo from Bago Region Constituency No 9, U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No 12, U Zaw Naing Oo of Mon State Constituency No 12, Dr Khin Shwe from Yangon Region Constituency No 9 and Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency No 1 said they are not fully staffed.

State of the Sea

Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40)mph.—NLM