Dolphins keep longest memory among non-human species

BEIJING, 8 Aug — There’s a saying elephants never forget, but a new study conducted by the University of Chicago indicates that it is dolphins that can remember call of another dolphin decades later, according to a paper in Wednesday’s Proceedings of the Royal Society B.

After examining more than 50 bottlenose dolphins, Jason Bruck, a University of Chicago postdoctoral scholar, found that dolphins could remember the signature whistles of former tank mates for more than 20 years, which is the long-est among non-human species. Bailey the dol-phin hadn’t seen another dolphin named Allie since the two juveniles lived together at the Dolphin Connection in the Florida Keys. Allie ended up in a Chicago area zoo, while Bailey got moved to Ber-muda. Yet over 20 years later, Bailey recognized and reacted to Allie’s distinctive signal when researcher played it on a speaker. Other dolphins had similar steel-trap memories. And it’s not just for relatives.

“It’s mind-blowing; I know I can’t do it,” Bruck said. “Dolphins in fact have the longest social memory in all of the ani-mal kingdom because their signature whistle doesn’t change.” Studies have shown that monkeys can remember things for about four years and anecdotes have elephants remembering for about 10, Bruck said. For Bruck, 33, it’s as if a long-lost classmate from middle school called him up and he would be able to figure out who it was just from the voice.

Bruck said, “The cog-nitive abilities of dolphins are really well developed, and sometimes things like this are carry-along traits. But to test whether this kind of social memory capacity is adaptive, we would need more demo-graphic data from multiple populations in the wild to see if they experience 20-year separations.”

Xinhua
Number of Thai tourists top at Shwedagon Pagoda

SAGAING, 8 Aug—Under the leadership of Sagaing Township All-round Development Committee (Townsenders), the educative talks will be held in Sagaing once every two weeks for broadening the horizon of the local people. The committee will invite the rectors, professors and faculty members from universities in Sagaing, writers and experienced persons to give lectures to the local people. The first talk will be held at the city hall of Sagaing on 11 August morning. Rector of Sagaing University Dr Thura Oo will give lecture under the title of Our Country, Our Land and Our Water and Associate Professor Dr Maung Maung Khin of Sagaing Cooperative University, moral character.

“it is a good idea of holding the educative talks. But, it is necessary to hold the talks on holidays when the attendees would have spare time. The experienced persons in subject-wise should be invited to the talks. Ideological changes of the people will contribute to better democracy transition. Higher opinion of the people is very important for the nation,” said a local.

Kyemon-Nanda Min Lwin

Plan to hold educative talks once every two weeks in Sagaing

YANGON, 8 Aug—Thai citizen tourists are the greatest number among the globetrotters who visited Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon.

“Tourists came from China, India, Singapore, the United States of America, the Russian Federation, France, Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and so on. Of them, the number of Thai tourists scored top on the table of tourists. Some of them said that they are Buddhists as well as those of the neighbouring country Myanmar, so they pay visits to the Shwedagon Pagoda,” said a man engaged in photographic industry at the pagoda.

Most of the Thai tourists gathered members in the flock comprising 20 to 30 persons for their pilgrimage tour to Shwedagon Pagoda.

Kyemon-Chantha (Meiktila)

ACCIDENT

Wall of the building collapses on light truck

YANGON, 8 Aug—The eastern part of a two-storey building at No 28 on 99th street in Lutlayay Ward of Mingala Taungnyunt Township collapsed at 10.20 pm on 4 August.

The parts of the wall fell on the light truck that stopped in front of the building. The building is owned by U Khin Maung Htoo who offered JS Company to reconstruct the building. Therefore, the building is being abolished.

In the incident, the back part of the light truck was damaged and there was no injury.

Kyemon-040

TAKING OF CENSUS

TAKING OF CENSUS DISSEMINATED IN WAINGWMAW

WAINGWMAW, 8 Aug—The educative talks on census-taking process and health knowledge were held at the hall in Madein Village in Waingwma Township of Kachin State on 3 August.

At the talks, Township Heath Officer Daw Mi Mi Thwe gave lectures on outbreak of dengue hemorrhagic fever and malaria in the rainy season.

In her turn, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department of Auxiliary Fire Brigade and social organization members pulled the vehicles in the water and cleared debris and blockage in the water course.

At 11.30 am, large vehicles could run on the road. The volunteers carried motorcycles by bamboo poles. The torrential water is still flowing on the road at 7 pm on 5 August.

Kyemon-Khin Hnin Yi

Crime

Snatchers arrested with stolen money

MEIKTILA, 8 Aug—At 12 pm on 2 August, U Nay Win of Thamata Literary House at No 36 in 4th Complex at Meiktila Myoma Market informed the No 2 police station that two women snatched the money box from the shop.

SIP Win Naing and party of Township Surveillance Squad of the police station searched suspected persons of Kinda Dam canal under dredging for proper flow of water

KYAUKSE, 8 Aug—Kinda Dam is located 12 miles east of Kyaukse in Myittha Township in Kyaikse District.

Kinda Dam was built in 1980. It was aimed at irrigating 61423 acres of monsoon paddy in Myittha Township, 29385 acres of paddy in Wundwin Township, 4500 acres in Tada/U Township and 16087 acres in Kyaukse Township, totaling 110,395 acres.

Kinda Dam irrigates Myittha, Wundwin, Tada/U and Kyaukse townships through left and right Kinda canals and Panlaung irrigation system for agricultural purpose.

As of 5 July, two backhoes are being used in dredging silt and sand from the left canal of Kinda Dam that has been supplying water to the farmlands for over 30 years.

Kyemon-Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

NATURAL DISASTER

AT Creek in Lashio inundates roads and urban areas

LASHIO, 8 Aug—The torrential rain hit Lashio of Shan State (North) on 4 August. As of 3.45 am on 5 August, the AT creek overflowed at the bridge located at the exit to Hsenwi from Lashio.

In consequence, the vehicles that run along Mandalay-Muse route and Muse-Laukkai-Mandalay route faced blockage.

Therefore, the passengers and commodities suffered delay transportation.

To overcome difficulties from the torrential rain in AT Creek, servicemen from local battalions in Lashio, local people, members of the local battalions in Lashio, local people

Kyemon-Nanda Min Lwin

Make hay while the Sun shines.

Friday, 9 August, 2013
Britain and Spain agree to try to defuse Gibraltar row

LONDON/MADRID, 8 Aug — Britain and Spain agreed on Wednesday to work together to calm tensions over the contested British overseas territory of Gibraltar, after the Spanish government threatened to restrict access to the territory.

A centuries-old conflict over the British outpost boiled over in late July when boats from Gibraltar dumped concrete blocks into the sea to make a reef, and Spain created long delays at the border days later, with lengthy car checks.

The row escalated so quickly that some believe the Spanish government is using it as a distraction from woes at home, where the ruling party has been embroiled in a corruption scandal and the economy is in a long recession.

Both sides have now said they will try to find a solution to the spat. Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron and his Spanish counterpart Mariano Rajoy talked by telephone on Wednesday.

“Mr Rajoy agreed that he did not want the issue to become an obstacle in the bilateral relations and that we needed to find a way to de-escalate the issue,” Cameron’s office said in a statement.

Rajoy emphasized the friendly relations between the two countries, his office said in a statement, and said the countries’ foreign ministers would work together to resolve the differences.

Spain had threatened to impose harsher measures on travellers to the territory on the country’s southern tip, including a 50-euro ($66.60) border-crossing fee. It also raised the prospect of taking in thousands of Gibraltarians who own property in Spain.

Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron answers a question during a joint news conference with Italy’s Prime Minister Enrico Letta in 10 Downing Street in central London on 17 July, 2013.—Reuters

Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron and his Spanish counterpart Mariano Rajoy talked by telephone on Wednesday.

Russia ‘disappointed’ by Obama cancelling Putin meeting: Kremlin

MOSCOW, 8 Aug — US President Barack Obama’s decision to cancel a planned meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin is disappointing, but he is still welcome in Russia, a top Kremlin foreign policy aide said on Wednesday.

“We are disappointed by the US administration’s decision to cancel the visit of President Obama to Moscow planned in early September,” Putin’s foreign policy aide, Yuri Ushakov, told reporters.

“It is clear that the decision is due to the situation around the former US special services employee Snowden, which we did not create,” he added.

Obama would still come to Russia in September for a G20 summit in St Petersburg but will not attend a separate meeting with Putin, he was supposed to take place in Moscow ahead of that.

Russia granted temporary asylum to Edward Snowden last week, rejecting US pleas to expel him from Moscow and allowing an agency contractor slip out of a Moscow airport after more than five weeks in limbo there.

Ushakov said the rift over Snowden between the Cold War-era foes showed Americans avoidingsigned an extradition agreement (with Russia) and constantly refused our requests to extradite individuals who committed crimes in Russia, referring to the lack of such agreement,” he said.

He added that Russia’s invitation for Obama to visit Russia was still in force.

Fire guts Kenya’s main airport, chokes regional gateway

NAIROBI, 8 Aug — A fire engulfed Kenya’s main airport on Wednesday, forcing the suspension of international passenger flights and choking a vital travel gateway to east Africa.

The country’s anti-terror police boss said he did not believe that there was a terror link to the fire even though it coincided with the 19th anniversary of the 1998 twin attack by Islamist militants on the United States Embassy in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, the commercial capital of neighbouring Tanzania.

Authorities said they will on Thursday begin preparing the airport’s domestic terminal, which escaped the blaze, for handing international flights, using tents to create extra space.

Domestic flights had resumed by Wednesday evening and, outward-bound cargo flights were due to resume hours later.

The raging blaze engulfed the terminal buildings and lit up the early morning sky, sending billowing columns of smoke rising in a plume that was visible from miles away.

The intense heat repeatedly drove back firefighters who battled for five hours to put out the fire, the worst on record at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, east Africa’s busiest.

Firefighters struggle to put out a fire at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Kenya’s capital Nairobi on 7 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Boniface Mwaniki, head of the anti-terror police unit, said there was no connection with “terrorism”.

“We don’t want to speculate, but at this stage we do not think there is any such link,” he told Reuters.

“Even if we are commemorating the 15th anniversary of the bomb clashes, we don’t think it is terrorism.”

Nevertheless, authorities had beefed up security at the airport and key installations in east Africa’s biggest economy.

Security analysts said there was no indication of any link to Islamists that Kenyan soldiers are battling in neighbouring Somalia as part of an African Union force.—Reuters

22 killed, 61 wounded in separate attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 Aug — At least 22 people were killed and 61 others wounded in the latest violent attacks across Iraq on Wednesday, the police said.

Unidentified gunmen on Wednesday evening stormed the house of a local police officer combatting major crimes in the city of Tikrit, 170 km north of Baghdad, and shot him dead, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The gunmen then detonated a car bomb near his house, killing eight people and wounding 55 others, the source said, adding that the blast destroyed the police officer’s house and damaged a large number of neighbouring houses.

Meanwhile, an explosives expert was killed and a policeman seriously injured while they were trying to defuse a car bomb in central Tikrit, the source said.

In northern Iraq, a booby-trapped car struck a police patrol in western Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad, killing four policemen and two passers-by and wounding another policeman, another local police source told Xinhua earlier.

Also in Mosul, a roadside bomb went off near a police patrol in the southern part of the city, killing a girl at the scene and wounding three policemen, the source added.

Elsewhere, three policemen were killed and a fourth was wounded in a roadside bomb close to their patrol near the city of Duluiyah, some 90 km north of Baghdad, a local police source anonymously told Xinhua.

On Wednesday morning, two civilians were killed in separate attacks by gunmen near Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, the source said.

300 tons of toxic water flowing into sea from Fukushima plant daily

TOKYO, 8 Aug — Around 300 tons of groundwater containing radioactive substances could be flowing from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant into the Pacific Ocean, the government said on Wednesday in the latest revelation of how Japan is still struggling to contain the 2011 nuclear disaster.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe vowed the same day that the government will firmly support Tokyo Electric Power Co’s efforts to deal with the massive build-up of radioactive water at the plant, saying he cannot leave the matter up to the utility alone.—Reuters

Radioactive water is increasing at the plant every day because groundwater is contaminated as it passes through the plant’s premises, where three reactors have not been fully mothballed.

TEPCO recently admitted that toxic groundwater is leaking into the ocean.

“We are assuming that there are three locations from where a total of 300 tons of contaminated groundwater is flowing into the ocean,” an official of the Natural Resources and Energy Agency said.

The source of contamination is believed to be highly radioactive water left inside the so-called underground trenches that are connected to reactor buildings.—Kyodo News

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**Airplanes plane cleared after emergency landing**

WASHINGTON, 8 Aug— Authorities in the US city of Philadelphia cleared a US Airlines flight of hazardous material on Wednesday after it made an emergency landing over an alleged bomb threat, local media said.

A phone call claiming there was a suspicious device on Flight 777 from Shannon, Ireland, came in to the authorities at around 1:30 pm (1700 GMT), and the jet landed about 25 minutes later at Philadelphia International Airport and was taken to a secure area for a search, according to WPVI-TV of Philadelphia.

However, the FBI, the Transportation Security Administration and Philadelphia police found nothing suspicious and eventually cleared the plane at around 3:00 pm (1900 GMT).

**Finland’s debt burden likely to grow by 2 bln euros in 2014**

HELSELSINKI, 8 Aug— Finland, one of the best credit keepers so far in the euro zone, will probably have its debt burden grow by 2 billion euros (2.6 billion US dollars) in 2014, the state budget proposal showed on Wednesday.

According to the proposal completed by the Finnish finance ministry, the state budget for 2014 will be 53.9 billion euros, slightly less than that of 2013, the financial deficit will stand at 6.6 billion euros, down by 0.4 billion euros compared with 2013.

In addition, the central government’s state debt will grow from 96 billion euros in 2013 to 98 billion euros in 2014, the Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE reported.

The proposal will be formally published on Thursday, before it will be discussed by the cabinet at the end of August. It will be submitted to the parliament in mid-September for final approval.

Public deficit seemed to be one of the major concerns of Finance Minister Jutta Urpilainen, who believed the country is facing three major challenges, namely the general economic downturn, exceptional structural transformations affecting industry, as well as public sector deficits.

Key measures have been taken to improve productivity and employment, underlined Urpilainen. Opposition leaders did not reject the budget proposal, but insisted that more concrete measures should have been taken to rescue the country from economic recession.

Kimmio Tuilikainen, chairman of the Centre Party’s parliamentary group, said that he would like to see more steps to improve employment and encourage business growth.

**Turkey goes all out to fight wildfire for 3rd straight day**

ANKARA, 8 Aug—The wildfire which broke out two days ago in Turkish south-eastern Province of Hatay has not been put under control and continues to ravage an area covering over 700 hectares of calabrian pine forest, Turkish Daily News reported on Wednesday.

More than 500 personnel with seven helicopters as well as three extinguishing planes are still striving to wipe out the fire, said the report. The town of Karlius and Karazah, along with Gulderen, Oglokaner and Dikmece valleys, are the main affected areas by the fire, with the flames even coming perilously close to the settlements.

“Our only consolation is no life lost yet,” Turkish Justice Minister Sadullah Ergen said, adding that the investigation is still going on to find out the reason of the fire.

**Syrian army kills 62 rebels east of Damascus**

BEIRUT, 8 Aug— Sixty-two rebel fighters were killed in a Syrian army ambush at dawn on Wednesday near the town of Adra, east of Damascus, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a monitoring group opposed to President Bashar al-Assad, said.

The state news agency SANA did not give a death toll for the ambush but said the rebels were from the al-Qaeda-linked al-Nusra Front. It said all the rebels were killed and machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades confiscated.

SANA said the “terrorists” included non-Syrians and the Observatory said that eight rebels were still unaccounted for after the attack, which happened west of an industrial area east of Adra.

Assad’s forces have been on the offensive around Damascus after rebels pushed into towns and suburbs on the outskirts of the capital last year. Adra is in the Eastern Ghouta region, which has been besieged by the army for months.

More than 100,000 people have died in Syria’s civil war and millions have been displaced. Protesters took to the streets in March 2011 to call for democratic reforms but were fired on by security forces, leading to an armed uprising.

The army has made efforts to secure the capital and its links to the western coast while the rebels have overrun much of the north and east.—Reuters

**Delta Airbus 330 lands safely in Amsterdam after flaps malfunction**

AMSTERDAM, 8 Aug— A Detroit-bound Delta Air Lines Inc Airbus A330 made an emergency landing in Amsterdam on Wednesday afternoon after experiencing technical difficulties following take-off from Paris, the airline said.

“Delta Flight 99 was unable to retract its flaps after take off,” Delta said in a statement.

“As a precaution, the crew diverted the aircraft to Schiphol Amsterdam Airport, landed uneventfully and taxied to the gate.”

The airline said the 298 passengers on board were being rebooked after disembarking the aircraft normally, a Delta spokesman said.

The flight had a crew of 11.

The tracking website Flightradar24 showed the Airbus had circled several times over the city of Norwich in England, about 250 km (155 miles) from Schiphol across the North Sea before landing at Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport.

**Drones strike six suspected militants in Yemen**

ADEN, 8 Aug—US drones killed at least six suspected al-Qaeda militants in southern Yemen on Wednesday, officials said, a day after US and British embassies were evacuated some staff because of growing fears of attacks.

It was the fifth strike in less than two weeks and follows warnings of potential pushes Washington to shut missions across the Middle East, and the United States and Britain to evacuate staff from Yemen.

Witnesses and local officials in the province of Shabwa said the drone fired at least six missiles at two vehicles in a remote area some 70 km (50 miles) north of the provincial capital, Ataq. Both vehicles were destroyed.

Residents who rushed to the scene found only charred bodies, they said.

At least 29 suspected militants have been killed since 28 July, when a drone strike killed at least four members of Ansar al-Sharia, a local militant group affiliated to Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), one of the most active branches of the network founded by Osama bin Laden.

**Passengers board Israeli Dan bus company’s first electric bus at a bus station in Tel Aviv on 6 Aug, 2013. Israeli Dan bus company on Monday inaugurated the country’s first electric bus service in cooperation with China’s BYD automaker.—Xinhua.**

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**Venture capital warms to European biotechs**

**ZURICH, 8 Aug —** While a wave of stock market enthusiasm in the United States for biotech company flotations has yet to cross the Atlantic, venture capital appetite for promising European companies is returning. Biotech is hot on Wall Street, with the Nasdaq sector index up 43 percent this year, listed US stocks scaling all-time highs and roughly 23 biotech companies going public. It's a trend that is helping pique interest in exciting new science further afield.

As the industry launches more and more drugs developed by identifying genes associated with disease — the fruit of decoding the first human genome over a decade ago — investors are looking to back the most promising ideas. Private biotech companies globally raised almost $1.3 billion through venture capital deals in the second quarter, a 190 percent leap over the amount raised in the prior three months, says BioWorld Snapshots, a Thomson Reuters company. European companies are taking a larger share of the spending spree, accounting for 44 percent of completed deals in the quarter. And shares of listed European biotech companies have risen as investors become more optimistic about getting a return on their money. Shares in Switzerland's Actelion have soared 48 percent so far this year, while Norway's Algeta has gained over 50 percent and Swedish Orphan biography is up around 36 percent.

"Maybe you could describe the US market as a tsunami and Europe as a rising tide, but it's growing and it's growing steadily," said Jim Healy, partner at California-based venture capital firm Sofinnova Ventures. —Reuters

**Electric-car maker Tesla surprises with second-quarter profit**

**DETROIT, 8 Aug —** Electric-car maker Tesla Motors Inc (TSLA.O) surprised Wall Street with better-than-expected earnings on Wednesday, and investors pushed the stock up as much as 14 percent in after-hours trade. As Tesla has ramped up production of its Model S sedan — the best-selling US sedan — the company's stock price is up around 36 percent.

"Our study suggests we need to improve thinking skills in those people. Studies have shown that eating chocolate containing the plant compound theobromine is linked to better thinking skills. Previous research has found the brain is more active if it gets an adequate supply of oxygen and sugar from the blood, the researchers wrote in the journal Neurorology. Among people with certain diseases that affect blood vessels — such as high blood pressure and diabetes — blood flow to the brain may be impaired," said Dr Farzaneh Sorond, the study's lead author from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"We're several steps removed from that recommendation," said Dr Farzaneh Sorond, the study's lead author from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"The entire sell side was looking for a loss," said Theodore O'Neil, managing director of Litchfield Hills Research, in a client brief late Wednesday. Morgan Stanley, in a briefing note to clients late Wednesday, said Tesla's second-quarter results surpassed "already high" expectations "that continue to rise nearly as fast as the share price." The company plans to begin selling a companion crossover model, the Model X, late next year, with volume production to begin in 2015.

**Urban women show higher risk of postpartum depression**

**VANCOUVER, 8 Aug —** Compared with those living in rural areas, women living in large urban areas are at a significantly higher risk of postpartum depression after five to 14 months of giving birth, according to a new Canadian study. The study, conducted by researchers from the Women's College Hospital, a University of Toronto affiliate, was published earlier this week in the Canadian Medical Association Journal. After reviewing the results of Statistics Canada's survey on key perinatal health indicators from more than 6,000 mothers, the researchers stratified location by the size of population — rural (less than 1,000 people), semi-rural (less than 30,000 people), semi-urban (30,000 to 499,999 people) and urban (at least 500,000 people). They found that more than 9 percent of women living in urban areas had postpartum depression five to 14 months after delivery, compared to only 6.7 percent of women in rural, semi-rural and semi-urban areas.

"They also found that in large urban centres, women were more likely to be for- eign-born, who had little or no social support during or after pregnancy. "Living in an urban area is a marker of more stress, less support and a potentially higher risk of postpartum depression for women," says Dr Simone Vigod, who led the study. "Our study suggests we need to better target our support and services toward women based on their geographic location to improve their outcomes and reduce their risk of postpartum depression." Vigod said. —Xinhua

**Hilton selects banks to lead initial public offering**

**NEW YORK, 8 Aug —** Blackstone Group LP has selected banks to lead an initial public offering of Hilton Worldwide Inc as it prepares to bring one of the largest leveraged buyouts back to the stock market, three people familiar with the matter said on Wednesday. The IPO of the hotel operator is expected to come in the first half of 2014, two of the people said. Hilton has selected Deutsche Bank AG, Goldman Sachs Group Inc, Bank of America Corp and Morgan Stanley to lead the deal, the three sources said.

Hilton, Blackstone, Deutsche Bank, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley declined to comment. Hilton's return to the stock market could come at an opportune time. A recovery in demand for hotel rooms coupled with little new supply has led to a boom in the hotel industry, according to Lukas Hartwich, a hotel analyst at Green Street Advisors. "We are kind of entering new territory. The story has been driven by pretty strong demand growth, not as robust as prior recoveries, and very low supply growth and that has worked out well for hotel operators," he said.

Blackstone took Hilton private in 2007 in a $26.7 billion deal that was one of the largest leveraged buyouts that preceded the 2008 global financial crisis. Once seen an example of the perils of buying large companies through excessive borrowing, Hilton was cited by Blackstone as a real estate investment that has seen "a substantial recovery in performance" at its public investor day in May, held at the company's Waldorf Astoria in New York.

**Cocoa tied to improved brain function in some elderly**

**NEW YORK, 8 Aug —** Older people with impaired blood flow to their brains saw improvements in thinking skills after drinking two cups of cocoa every day for a month, in a new study. Those in the other group drank low-flavanol hot chocolate. All participants were told to not eat or drink any other chocolate during the study period.

There were no differences in blood flow or in scores on thinking tests between the two hot chocolate groups at the start of the study or after one month. So the researchers combined both cocoa groups and compared people with poor blood flow to the brain at the start of the study to those who had adequate blood flow.

They found more people with poor blood flow at the start saw their circula- tion improve by the end, compared to people who had adequate blood flow initially. —Reuters
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Pakokku, 8 Aug**—The timber entrepreneurs, bamboo entrepreneurs, furniture entrepreneurs, established the group-owned forests at the hall of the Township Forest Department in Pakokku on 7 August morning.

Chairman of the Township Supervisory Committee Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Tin Kyaw explained formation and election for the participants.

The entrepreneurs elected the timber entrepreneur association led by Chairman U Myo Swe (Moemakha Saw Mill), Secretary U Aung Win (Mya Ayeya Timber Shop), members U Kauk Ya (Miba Gon), U Zaw Win Naing (Swe Thahar), U Hla Aye, U Thein Soe (Pyitainghtaukang), U Hnin Maung (Kyaw Timber Shop), U Nyunt Aung (Aung Furniture), U Kyaw Myint Naing (Thaung Han Furniture) and U Myo Khaing (Pyaye Wa Saw Mill). The bamboo association is led by Chairman U Thein Hlaing (Hlaing Hlaing Mill), Secretary U Thein Htet Oo, Secretary U Thein Htet Oo (East Owl), members U Ye Tint, U Win Myint and U Sein Win.

**Traffic rules knowledge shared to students in Magway Township**

Magway, 8 Aug—An educational talk on traffic rules was held at Pan Hay Wun Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Magway of Magway Region on 3 August with a view to broadening the horizon of the students about traffic rules.

Police Major Tin Myo Aung of No 4 Traffic Police Branch (Magway) gave lectures on traffic rules and stressed the need of the students to strictly abide by the traffic rules.

SIP Myo Thu and Sgt Aung Kyaw Myint explained traffic rules and road disciplines and traffic accident that broke out in Magway.

A plan is underway to give 15-minute talks on traffic rules to the students every Monday on the lawns of the school.—Kyemon-Magway Hla Myint

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**Reforestation for environmental conservation in Thandaunggyi**

Thandaunggyi, 8 Aug—Purchase centres are opened at 5th-Mile Village of Toungoo Township to trade bamboo shoots.

Bamboo shoots are opened in the village and it buy various sizes and types of bamboo shoots from the local people.

The bamboo shoots are made pickled bamboo shoot and green bamboo shoots with the labours.

The processed bamboo shoots are packaged and transported to other regions.

The purchase centres buy the products at K 140 to K 180 per viss.

The centres receive orders from the markets of Nay Pyi Taw, Pyinmana, Yamethin and Meiktila. Kyemon-Ko Lwin (Swa)

**Basic driving course kicks off**

Pakokku, 8 Aug—Commodity Transport Branch (Pakokku) of Road Transport under Ministry of Rail Transportation opened the basic driving course No 5/2013 at its training school on 7 August.

Head of the branch U Soe Win made a speech. The training course is being attended by 16 regular trainees, 10 special trainees, totalling 26.

The branch will provide necessary assistance to the trainees.—Kyemon-Aung (Mann Takkatho)

**Paungde sets up Anti-Narcotics Association**

Paungde, 8 Aug—The formation of the Paungde Township Anti-Narcotics Association was held in conjunction with the putting up of its signboard at the Diamond Jubilee Hall of the Paungde Home for the Aged on 6 August afternoon.

On behalf of the Bago Region (West) Branch Chairman, Pyay District Association Chairman retired police Lt-Col Khin Maung Win made an opening address.

Secretary of the association retired assistant director of Pyay District Law Office U Ye Htut read the list of executives.

Chairman of the township association retired forest reserves in Thandaunggyi Township of Kayin State are under systematic conservation. Despite placing emphasis on reforestation, there is no declining the production of firewood and charcoal from the forest reserves.

Likewise, the local people extend the croplands in the region.

Although permission has been given to the companies that would like to carry out reforestations in the vacant places, there are many requirements in cultivation tasks, said some analysts.

“Not to cause deforestation, it is necessary to make field trips for land survey and geographical conditions. If the local authorities give talks on disadvantages of deforestation and bad consequences of extreme timber extraction to the local people, the work of reforestation will achieve success,” a local staff expressed his opinion. Kyemon-Ko Lwin (Swa)

**NATIONAL SPORTS**

**2013 Myanmar Chess Open**

Yangon, 8 Aug—Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Chess Federation will organize the Myanmar Chess Open tournament 2013 at Aung San Gymnasium from 27 August to 5 September.

Anyone may take part in the competition.
NPED Union Minister participates in Myanmar Business Forum in Germany

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 Aug—Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw on 1 August met with officials of German International Cooperation (GIZ) in Frankfurt in Germany and discussed cooperation in long-term development of Myanmar, final coordination for signing the Development Agreement between Myanmar and Germany in 2013 and cooperation in improvement of SMEs, banking and vocational education.

While in Frankfurt, the Union minister met officials of KfW of German and discussed financial assistance for implementing the works to be cooperated with GIZ in Myanmar.

On 2 August, the Union minister together with Myanmar Ambassador U Soe Nwe met officials of the Ministry of Economic and Technology in Berlin. In Postdam, the Union minister held talks with Brandenburg region economic development board (ZAB) and exchanged views on regional development tasks of Brandenburg, development undertakings of states, regions and self-administered zones in Myanmar.

On 3 August, the Union minister viewed management of Hamburg port, handling of freights and containers. Together with Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung, the Union minister on 5 August met German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Mr Dirk Niebel and then attended the Myanmar-Business Forum at the hall of the ministry.

At the forum, the Union minister and the deputy minister delivered addresses. It was also attended by the president of UMFCCI and German entrepreneurs.

ACCIDENT

Cement truck turns upside down in Bilin Tsp

Bilin, 8 Aug—A truck carrying cement bags turned upside down on Yangon-Mottama road in Win Pyan village on 5 August.

Driver Aung Myint Oo of Ohtein village in Launggyi village-tract in Thげon Township, who lost control of the high-speed truck, sustained minor injuries in the accident.

The Bilin Police Station has filed a lawsuit against the driver for reckless driving. MIMAL-Township IPRD

HRD

Mandalay Region sees nearly 150 book corners

Mandalay, 8 Aug—Information and Public Relations Department is opening book corners and mini book corners in various public places to keep the books within readers’ reach.

The book corners are aimed at promoting reading habits of the people.

Deputy Minister for Information U Paik Htwe visited book corners in Mandalay Railway Station and Mandalay General Hospital on 4 August. He met with readers there. On arrival at Upper Myanmar Government Printing Plant (Mandalay), he inspected the progress in construction of sluice gate and the storage shed.

He also visited Sarpay Beikman Library and Sarpay Beikman Book Store in Aungmyethazan Township.

There are six book corners and 40 mini book corners in Mandalay District.

There are 12 book corners and 125 mini book corners opened at public places such as railway stations, bus terminals, government offices and tea shops in the whole region. MIMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Subprinting House)

ENVIRONMENT

Monsoon tree planting ceremony held in Ngazun

Ngazun, 8 Aug—Monsoon tree planting ceremony for environmental conservation in 2013-2014 fiscal year was organized in Ngazun of Mandalay Region by Ngazun-Ngamy motor road on 4 August morning.

It was attended by Region Hluttaw Representa-
tive U Kyaw Tin, Township Administrator U Tin Win, Head of Township Forest Department U Min Min Thaik and officials, departmental personnel and 252 attendance of local people.

A total of 1600 saplings were planted at the ceremony. —MIMAL-Thet Naung Oo

Collective tree planting ceremony held in Meiktila

Meiktila, 8 Aug—A collective tree planting ceremony was held in northern Pyithaya ward in Meiktila in Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 4 August for greening of environment around the sports ground.

A total of 150 saplings including teak and mango saplings were planted at the ceremony.

It was attended by ward administrator U Aung Ngwe and townselders, members of social organizations and local people. MIMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)

Drainage works carried out in Pyinmana

Pyinmana, 8 Aug—Measures for proper flow of dump water were carried out in downtown wards in Pyinmana in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 2 August.

The wards witnessed inundation spurred by blocked drains after heavy rains and unbalanced terrains. Member of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Aung Kyaw Nyein and staff dredged the 6200 ft drain in Paunglaung (2) ward and Uyinsu village. Min Min Latt (Mandalay University)
Breast milk and infant health

Most of the mothers in the urban areas now get into the habits of using milk powders and bottle feeding rather than breast milk. This is due to their health conditions, being busy with their works and being afraid of their physical appearances.

In Myanmar, the first week of August is observed as the Breastfeeding Week; the second week as nutrition promotion for under-five children; the third week will be the nutrition promotion week for pregnant women and lactating mothers and the fourth as the week for elimination of iodine deficiency disorders.

Among them, breastfeeding is the most crucial one. Breast milk is highly recommended as the most complete form of nutrition for infants, with a range of benefits for infants’ health, growth, immunity and development. According to the experts, breast-fed children are more resistant to disease and infection early in life than formula-fed children. The Ministry of Health announced that baby only needs breast milk for the first six months of life.

Milk powder and bottle feeding are sometimes detrimental to child’s health. New Zealand has recalled up to 1,000 tons of dairy products as bacteria were found in the milk powders and dairy products. A total of 300,000 children in China fell ill after being fed contaminated milk products.

Mothers around the world are placing emphasis on breast milk as they have come to know the negative effects of milk powders and bottle feeding. Breast milk banks have been set up in UK and Scotland. UK has 17 breast milk banks. Breastfeeding is tied to a lower risk of various health problems for babies. Breast milk has disease-fighting cells called antibodies that help protect infants from germs, illness, and even sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

All mothers are urged to pay more attention to breastfeeding.

Press Release on the Promulgation of Anti-Corruption Law

1. Amoeytha Hluttaw Financial and Legal Affairs Commission Chairman U Aung Tun of Magway Region Constituency No (11) submitted the Anti-Bribery Bill on the first day fourth regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw on 4-7-2012. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the bill on the seventh day sixth regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 8-2-2013 and sent it to the President on 13-2-2013 to sign and enact it as law. The President sent the Anti-Bribery Bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with 12 amendments suggestions, which are mentioned in detail in third column of the table of the fourth paragraph, on 22-2-2013. These 12 suggestions of the President include consultations with the Union Attorney-General, legal practitioners and academicians to make it comply with the constitution, compliance with the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), compliance with the existing laws and suggested omissions.

2. World nations have given high priority to anti-corruption efforts in post-conflict periods and in transitions. Myanmar enacted Anti-Corruption Act in post-independence period in 1948 and tasked the central investigation agency to enforce it. Myanmar ratified ratification and accession into UNCAC initiated since 2005 on 21-12-2012. A committee led by the Vice-President have overseen anti-bribery and anti-corruption efforts inside government departments since 8-1-2012. The Central Investigation Agency of the Ministry of Home Affairs enforced 1948 Anti-Corruption Act. There are 23 existing laws connected with the act.

3. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw only agreed on two amendments of the name change to “Anti-Corruption Bill” and the provision as regards the search for evidence in any bank among 12 comments by the President. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw decided to keep 10 remaining facts as approved earlier by the Hluttaw and sent it to the President on 30-7-2013. The following amendments need to be made to the bill:

(a) Despite the title of Anti-Corruption Bill, it merely prescribes bribery charges;
(b) To match with the title of the bill, the expression “corruption” needs to be defined;
(c) As corruption includes misuse of power, bribery and deliberate irresponsibility, the bill should cover these areas.

4. As regards the bill, the original approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the President’s comments and the final approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are shown against as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr</th>
<th>Initial approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw</th>
<th>President’s remark</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>The name of the bill is expressed as “Anti-bribery Bill”.</td>
<td>Bribery is a part of the corruption. The name of the bill should be taken into consideration whether it should be “Anti-corruption Bill” to be in conformity with the “the United Nations Convention Against Corruption-UNCAC” that has been signed by Myanmar.</td>
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| (a) | The name of the bill is expressed as “Anti-bribery Bill”. | Bribery is a part of the corruption. The name of the bill should be taken into consideration whether it should be “Anti-corruption Bill” to be in conformity with the “the United Nations Convention Against Corruption-UNCAC” that has been signed by Myanmar. | Bribery is a part of the corruption. The name of the bill should be taken into consideration whether it should be “Anti-corruption Bill” to be in conformity with the “the United Nations Convention Against Corruption-UNCAC” that has been signed by Myanmar.
| (b) | 32. Whatever provisions are included in any existing laws, the commission, if it assumes that it is necessary to probe into a criminal case expressed in the law, shall entrust following powers to an investigation team or an investigation officer to go through a bank. | Regarding the Section 32 of the Bill which says the commission shall entrust following powers to an investigation team or an investigation officer to go through a bank, the expression “to go through a bank” should be replaced with “to investigate the bank accounts of the accused”. | The previous approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is approved.
| (c) | 13. Members of the commission, when they are assigned duty to the commission, shall make a list of their property including cash owned by their families and their liabilities and assets and shall submit the list to the President. | “Members of the commission, when they are assigned duty to the commission”, shall make a list of their property including cash owned by their families and their liabilities and assets and shall submit the list to the president described in the Section 13 of the bill should be excluded as it is not in conformity with the constitution. |
| (d) | 15. The President, if he finds out that a member of the commission carries out duty against the law or breaks the constitution or existing law or tarnishes the image of the commission, shall have the right to terminate the duty of the member with the agreement of a personnel who selects the member. | “The President shall have the right to terminate the duty of the member with the agreement of a personnel who selects the member” described in the Section 15 of the bill should be excluded as it is not suitable for the president to seek an agreement from the personnel who selects the member. | The previous approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is approved.

32. Whatever provisions are included in any existing laws, the commission, if it assumes that it is necessary to probe into a criminal case expressed in the law, shall entrust following powers to an investigation team or an investigation officer to go through a bank.

Regarding the Section 32 of the Bill which says the commission shall entrust following powers to an investigation team or an investigation officer to go through a bank, the expression “to go through a bank” should be replaced with “to investigate the bank accounts of the accused”.

The previous approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is approved.
(from page 8)

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(c) 16 (o) Carrying out other duties assigned by the President, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw or the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw.

(f) 30 (a) In a case when the commission has to decide to take action against a person who is in authority, the commission shall submit its report to the President who assigned duty to the commission under the sub-section (a) of the Section-21, to the Speaker of the respective Hluttaw who assigned duty under sub-section (b) of the Section 21 and shall send its report to a person who lodged complaints, and to the Union Government Office so that it can take actions against the defendant under the arrangement of the Attorney-General of the Union.

(j) 54 (f) Submitting the findings to an investigation team.

(l) The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves the previous approval.

10. The following persons should not be appointed as members of the commission.

10 (d) Those who are serving his or her jail terms according to court’s verdict.

53 (b) Money and properties should be given back to those owners when authorized persons cannot prove that money and properties are obtained by legal means.

5. Though certain provisions mentioned above in para-3 in the bill resent to seek the President’s approval for signing it into law need reconsidering and to meet the prescriptions in the constitution and UNCAC and existing laws related to corruption, a message was sent to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 7-8-2013 to ask the President to sign the bill approved by the majority of MPs with respect to the wish of majority. The full text of the message is as follows:

**Press Release...**

those who commit the corrupt cases in bill even though other existing law stipulates action taken.

of qualified public officials (Article 7); Article 8 (Codes of Conduct for public officials, public procurement and management of public finances (Article 9); Public Reporting (Article 10); measure relating to judiciary and prosecution services (Article 11); private sector (Article 12); and measures to protect money-laundering (Article 14). In accord with that law, Myanmar enacted the following law; The Penal Code; The Criminal Law Amending Act (1953); The Forest Law; The Union Civil Services Board law (under discussion at Hluttaw); The Union Judiciary Law; The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, and The Law Taking Action Against the ownership or sale of property obtained by illegal means. It is hereby suggested that Section 68 of that bill should be enacted in conformity with UNCAC’s articles and described in accord with the existing laws. (There are 23 existing laws regarding the bill).

- Participation of society (Article 13) should be included in the bill.

- UNCAC includes protection of witness, experts and victims (Article 32) and Protection of reporting persons (Article 33). The Section 17 (i) of the bill includes Protection of reporting persons only. So, protection of witness, experts and victims should be added into the bill.

- That bill should include Extradition (Article 44), Transfer of sentenced persons (Article 45); Mutual legal assistance (Article 46), Transfer of Criminal Proceedings (Article 47); Law enforcement cooperation (Article 48); Joint investigation (Article 49); and Special Investigative techniques (Article 50).

Usage of expression should be amended.

- The expression “those who are in jail according to court’s decision described in the Section 10 (d) of the bill should be replaced with the expression “those who have served jail terms according to court’s decision”.

- The expression “money and properties shall be given back to those owners” described in Section 53 (b) of the bill should be used as the expression “those accused”.

Reference: (1) message sent to the President by the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with letter No. 1pahtah (meeting) 9/2013-9 dated 13-2-2013

(2) message sent to the President by the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with letter No. 107(2)/9/Presidential Office dated 22-2-2013

(See page 10)
Friday, 9 August, 2013

NATIONAL

Union FM felicitates Singaporean counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug—On the occasion of the 48th Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore, which falls on 9 August 2013, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Mr. K. Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore.—MNA

Union Religious Affairs Minister receives the Elders delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint held talks with a delegation from The Elders based in London this afternoon. During the meeting at the ministry here, the Union minister had a discussion with Mr Andrew Whiteley and Mr Sami Lahdesmaa on religious matters. The Union minister clarified the assistance provided by the ministry to the people of different faiths in Myanmar in accordance with the constitution. The delegation is currently visiting Myanmar to assist in undertakings for development of Myanmar.—MNA

Press Release on the Promulgation of Anti-Corruption Law...

(From page 9)

3. message sent by the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to the President with letter No. 1/pahta (meeting) 9/2013-59 dated 31-7-2013

1. I sent the anti-corruption bill with message (2) in the reference along with 12 remarks and received the bill back from the parliament with message (3).

2. The parliament only approved the two out of 12 suggestions—changing the name of the bill and changing the matter related to bank evidence—and sent the other 10 points back to me intact.

3. I made the 12 suggestions, seeking the advice from the Union Attorney-General, legal experts, academicians and legal and academic suggestions of the departments concerned, with a view to making the anti-corruption law more effective. The bill sent back to me intact.

4. Of those 12 suggestions, I have suggested that prescriptions in the sections 15, 16, sub-section (c), sections 47, 48, 49 and 50 need to meet the provisions of the constitution, prescriptions in section 18 need be cancelled or amended as it is against the other existing laws and prescriptions in section 23 sub-section (a) and section 31, sub-section (f) be amended and the prescriptions in section 68 need to meet existing laws and the international convention which Myanmar has signed.

5. In addition, I here describe the points need considering in the bill sent back to me.

(a) Though the bill is named anti-corruption bill, the provisions only cover penalties for bribery and corruption.

(b) It needs to define the phrase “corruption” to meet the intention of the name of the bill.

(c) The bill needs to cover wide-ranging subjects as corruption includes abuse of power, bribery and deliberate negligence.

6. In the Union address on 31-3-2011 on assuming the presidency of Myanmar, I articulated my political commitment that I would lead the government in bringing about good governance and clean government for the sake of stability and national economic development beginning from the very first day I took the office.

7. In addition, learning the political process of global nations, it is found that focus is placed on anti-corruption efforts in post-conflict period and transition period. In our country in the post-independence era, 1948 Anti-Corruption Act was enacted and special investigation was formed to tackle with corruption. The new government led by me ratified the UNCAC on 20-12-2012 which Myanmar signed in 2005. On 8-1-2013, a committee led by Vice-President was formed and tasked with eliminating corruption and bribery in government departments.

8. Home Affairs Ministry responsible for anti-corruption measures legally formed Special Investigation Bureau and Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and working in cooperation with international organizations. In addition, the special investigation bureau set up a public complaint system aiming at public cooperation in anti-corruption efforts and announced its establishment on 30-11-2012 daily.

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name | Appointment | Department
---|---|---
U Hwe Hla | Director-General | Union Ministry of Railways
U Than Tun | Managing Director | Union Ministry of Power
U Kyaw Hsan | Union Attorney-General’s Office | Union Ministry of Religious Affairs

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Deputy Director-General U San Lwin of Political Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

Farmers urged to take out all compensations not later than 30 Sep

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—Compensation for farmlands, perennials crops and underground artesian wells in Salinngyi Township of Sagaing Region have been given to the farmers at the administrator’s office of General Administration Department as of 16 March this year.

8. Home Affairs Ministry responsible for anti-corruption measures legally formed Special Investigation Bureau and Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and working in cooperation with international organizations. In addition, the special investigation bureau set up a public complaint system aiming at public cooperation in anti-corruption efforts and announced its establishment on 30-11-2012 daily.

Press Release Team

Correction

Please read “the Section 322 (b)” instead of “the Section 322 (a)” in second line and “Self-Administrated Zone” instead of “Self-Administrated Zone” in third line of the paragraph 5 in the press release on the matter related to enactment of Region/State Hluttaw Bill 2013 on page 7 of this daily issued on 8-8-2013.

Ed
**Two men arrested after shooting, car crash in Sydney**

SYDNEY, 8 Aug — Two men have been arrested after a car crash and shooting in west Sydney, the New South Wales Police confirmed on Thursday. Emergency services were called to the scene after receiving reports of a two-car crash and shots fired at an intersection of Hunter and Marsden streets, Sydney’s suburb of Parramatta, on the morning hours of Wednesday, police said.

On their arrival at the scene, police found two cars had collided, with two men trapped in one of the vehicles.

“Two men, both aged 20, were arrested at the scene and taken to Parramatta Police Station, where they are currently assisting with inquiries into the incident,” police said in a statement, but didn’t say whether the two arrested are those trapped in the car.

Police said that a 22-year-old male pedestrian was hit by the car crash. The man was seriously injured and taken to hospital with a broken leg and dislocated shoulders.

“A number of bullets were recovered from the scene and will be forensically examined,” said the police.

The investigation is still underway.—Xinhua

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**Japan unlikely to achieve debt reduction goal in FY 2020**

TOKYO, 8 Aug — Japan is unlikely to achieve its target of budget deficit reduction in fiscal 2020, even if sales tax hikes are carried out as scheduled and the economy is on a firm growth path, an estimate released by the Cabinet Office showed on Thursday.

The projection suggests that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s government should make more efforts to improve the nation’s fiscal health, the worst among G7 members, in line with the international commitment to improve the nation’s fiscal status in the next 10 years.

In fiscal 2015, the deficit is expected to reach 3.3 percent under the scenario, equivalent to half of the 6.6 percent in fiscal 2010, the estimate said. But under a conservative scenario in which the economy grows by an average of 2.0 percent in the next 10 years, the primary balance deficit is likely to be 3.5 percent in the fiscal year that will start April 2015, falling short of its deficit-cut goal.

The government on Thursday approved a medium-term fiscal reform plan, pledging to narrow Japan’s budget deficit by 1.7 trillion yen over the next two years to attain the target, with a decision yet to be made on the planned tax hike.

Legislation enacted last August stipulates the consumption tax rate is scheduled to be raised from the current 5 percent to 8 percent in April 2014 and to 10 percent in October 2015.

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**S Korea accepts DPRK’s dialogue offer on reopening Kaesong complex**

SEOUL, 8 Aug — South Korea accepted the proposal made by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) to hold talks on reopening the Kaesong industrial complex in 14 August, South Korean Unification Ministry said on Wednesday.

“The North (DPRK) proposed, inter-Korean talks will be held on 14 Aug. We hope that the upcoming dialogue would solve the Kaesong complex problem and draw up reasonable measures to normalize the factory park in a constructive way,” Unification Ministry spokesman Kim Hyung-seok told an emergency press briefing.

Kim noted that Pyongyang took a forward-looking turn toward Seoul’s repeated dialogue overtures, saying that South Korea was anticipating the DPRK would show a sincere attitude during the upcoming talks.

The acceptance came around one and a half hours after Pyongyang made the dialogue offer through a special statement. The DPRK’s Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea suggested holding the seventh round of working-level talks at its border town of Kaesong a week later.

The committee said that Pyongyang and Seoul should work together to prevent a recurrence of the factory park’s stoppage, noting that both sides should guarantee normal operations of the complex that will not be affected by situations in any case. Over the past six rounds of talks, the two countries failed to narrow differences over conditions for the factory park normalization. Seoul called for clear assurances to prevent recurrence of Pyongyang’s unilateral shutdown of the park, while the DPRK demanded the normalization as early as possible.

The Kaesong industrial complex, where 123 South Korean companies were running factories, has been suspended for about four months since early April when the DPRK withdrew 53,000 of its workers from the factory park’s stoppage, against the joint military drill between Seoul and Washington.

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**India welcomes Chinese hospital ship “Peace Ark”**

MUMBAI PORT, (India) 8 Aug — India on Wednesday welcomed the visit by the Chinese People’s Liberation Army Navy hospital ship “Peace Ark”.

Speaking at the reception banquet on the board of the hospital ship, MD Suresh, Rear Admiral and Flag Officer of Doctrine and Concept (FOODC) of the Indian Western Naval Command, said “The colours of the sea and our uniform bring us together. On behalf of the Indian western naval command, we warmly welcome you to Mumbai.”

He also said the visiting hospital ship “Peace Ark” witnesses Sino-India friendship and cooperation, and it is very humanistic for “Peace Ark” to provide medical service to the people all over the world.

For his part, Shen Hao, deputy of commander and president of the marine hospital ship, said “The friendship of China and India will not only serve the fundamental interests of the two nations, but also benefits the peace and stability of the world.”

The Chinese hospital ship’s visit to Mumbai aims at contributing to cooperation between the two sides in non-traditional security and promoting traditional friendship between the two nations. The Chinese Navy hospital ship arrived here on Tuesday afternoon.

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**Severe heat in Japan expected to last 2 weeks**

TOKYO, 8 Aug — Temperatures soared across Japan on Wednesday, climbing as high as 38.6°C in the southwestern prefecture of Kochi, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency. The town of Shimanto in Kochi recorded the highest temperature of the day, while parts of Yamagata, Ehime, Gifu, Miyazaki and Okinawa prefectures also saw temperatures above 36°C.

The agency issued a severe heat alert for Thursday covering areas stretching from the Kanto region in eastern Japan to Okinawa in the south and called for precautions to be taken to prevent heatstroke. The heat is expected to continue for about two weeks amid sunny weather due to high pressure zone over the Pacific Ocean.—Kyodo

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**Women walk in scorching sunshine in the city of Fukuoka, southwestern Japan, on 7 Aug, 2013, as temperatures soared across the country.**—Kyodo News

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**Farmers irrigate rice in the fields at Taihu Village of Xinyu City, east China’s Jiangxi Province, on 7 Aug, 2013. A lingering drought since July has left about 150,000 people short of drinking water in the province.**—Xinhua

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**Japan unlikely to achieve debt reduction goal in FY 2020**

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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 the United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

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<td>(1) Pair</td>
<td>Kyat</td>
</tr>
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</table>

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (020)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (020) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.8.2013 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: M/S INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

US OKs third LNG export proposal

WASHINGTON, 8 Aug — The US Energy Department on Wednesday approved Lake Charles Exports LLC to sell domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG) overseas from its terminals in Louisiana. Lake Charles was conditionally authorized to export at a rate of up to 2 billion cubic feet (56.63 million cubic meters) of natural gas a day (Bcfd) for a period of 20 years, said the Energy Department.

It is the third of 19 applications that the Obama administration has approved since 2011 to sell to countries that do not have a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States. The company previously received approval to export LNG from this facility to FTA countries on 22 July, 2011.

The Energy Department granted the first authorization to export LNG to non-FTA countries in May 2011 from the Sabine Pass LNG Terminal in Cameron Parish, Louisiana at a rate of up to 2.2 Bcfd, and the second authorization in May 2013 from the Freeport LNG Terminal in Quintana Island, Texas at a rate of up to 1.4 Bcfd.

Erik Milito, American Petroleum Institute director of upstream and industry operations, called on the Energy Department to move quickly to process a backlog of applications, saying “LNG exports are critical to unlocking the benefits for US workers and reducing the trade deficit.”

The US federal law generally requires approval of natural gas exports to countries that have an FTA with the United States. But for countries that do not have an FTA with the United States, the law directs the Energy Department to grant export authorizations unless it finds that the proposed exports “will not be consistent with the public interest.”

Thanks to newly developed hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, the US natural gas production is booming and having a transformative impact on the US energy landscape.—Xinhua

Performers play the military drill during the Military Tattoo Festival in Edinburgh, Britain, on 6 Aug, 2013. The Military Tattoo, lasting from 2 to 24 Aug this year, signaling the annual Edinburgh festival season entering its height. —Xinhua

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New Condo Unit on Bogoyoke St. Large Living/Dining, 1xMBR, 2xCBR, (1950 sqft), 6AC, 24hs Electric supply, High-security, 1xCar park space, etc. Contact: 09-51-56644. (No agents pls.)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (007)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.8.2013 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.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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For ZAGRO SINGAPORE PTE LTD. No. 333 R.m (3), Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Phone: 392831, 392735 kmml@myanmarlegaladvisors.com

Dated: 9 August, 2013
Ryan Gosling to play Batman in Man of Steel sequel?

LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug—Actor Ryan Gosling is reportedly in the running for the role of Batman in the Man of Steel sequel.

The Notebook actor is reportedly a hot contender to take on the role of Bruce Wayne in Zach Snyder’s new project, Batman vs Superman.

Read: Superman is coming back; this time with Batman. Wayne/Batman will be in the late 30s or around the 40 mark. He will be established and rugged. This new movie will not seek to recount an origin story or the rise of the Dark Knight. reports hollywoodreporter.com.

The other actors that have been approached include Josh Brolin and Joe Manganiello and Gosling is the youngest in the mix, followed by British actor Matthew Goode, 35.

Brolin, 46, is currently thought to be the frontrunner to play the role because of his history with the Warner Bros.

True Blood star Manganiello, 36, is also said to be in the running after missing out on the role of Clark Kent in Man of Steel to Henry Cavill.

Meanwhile, The Hobbit actor Richard Armitage and Pacific Rim star Max Martini have equally been named as contenders.

The movie is set to begin production in 2014 with a 2015 release date.—PTI

When Emma Watson was advised to quit acting

LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug—Harry Potter star Emma Watson has revealed that a university professor once advised her to quit acting.

The 23-year-old actress said that she was affected by questions in the media about whether she could sustain a movie career after the successful Harry Potter franchise in which she played Hermione Granger, reported Entertainment Weekly.

“For a while I kind of bought into the hype of, ‘Will they ever be able to play anything else?’,” Watson said.

“It gave me a sense of paralysis and stage fright for a while. And then a professor told me that they didn’t think I should act, either. So I was really grappling with it and wasn’t feeling good about it. And then, I don’t know... it got so bad and people had put me in a box so much that it started pissing me off. I suddenly wanted to prove them wrong. It gave me fuel, in a way. I’m not sure why that shifted happened,” she added.

Watson said that she was “unsure” about continuing to act after the franchise ended until she read the script of The Perks Of Being A Wallflower.

“Falling in love with that and then having such a great experience on that movie kind of sealed the deal for me. I stopped intellectualising it, and it became much more instinctual,” Watson said.

“I just got the bug and got very driven all of a sudden, which I really wasn’t before. But I’m so happy. It’s all felt very new to me, really.” she added.—PTI

Bruce Willis banned from doing stunts by wife

LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug—Hollywood action star Bruce Willis has been banned from performing stunts by his worried wife Emma Heming over fears he will hurt himself on set.

The Die Hard star, 58, has reluctantly decided to take a back seat when filming his action movies and let the professionals undertake the more dangerous stunts in a bid to appease his partner, reported E news.

“I do let the stuntmen take over. I don’t do that many stunts. I would do the stunts if I could but I’m not allowed to ever, ever - they hurt. I wouldn’t mind being hurt. I mean, I get hurt all the time, but I’ll get scolded (by my wife if I do them),” said Willis.—PTI

Lindsay Lohan cancels Europe trip at Oprah Winfrey’s request

LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug—Actress Lindsay Lohan has reportedly cancelled her European vacation after talk show queen Oprah Winfrey requested her not to go there.

Lohan, 26, recently completed her 90 day stay at a rehabilitation centre where she underwent treatment for alcohol addiction. She later booked a one way ticket to reward herself on a successful stay there.

Winfrey, who interviewed Lohan on her life post rehab, convinced the actress that she might face a relapse if she goes on vacation so soon, reports tmz.com.

Winfrey called Lohan multiple times to convince her to stay put. The TV mogul’s Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN) will also shoot an eight-part-documentary on Lohan’s life, which will go on air next year.

Meryl Streep, Robert De Niro to star in film of ‘The Good House’

NEW YORK, 8 Aug—Oscar winners Meryl Streep and Robert De Niro, who last appeared together on screen nearly 20 years ago in “Marvin’s Room,” will star in the film adaptation of Ann Leary’s best-selling novel “The Good House,” its producers said on Tuesday.

It will be the fourth film for the pair, who also worked together in the 1978 war drama “The Deer Hunter” and 1984’s romantic tale “Falling in Love.”

Streep, 64, will play New England realtor Hildy Good, a not-so-recovering alcoholic, opposite De Niro, 69, as her rekindled old flame Frank Getzelli.

Pulitzer prize winner Michael Cunningham is set to adapt the book for the screen. Karen Lunder, the executive vice president of FilmNation Entertainment, has acquired the rights.
**SPORTS**

**Real Madrid scores twice as Ronaldo beat Chelsea in friendly**

**Miami Gardens, (Florida), 8 Aug—Cristiano Ronaldo hit back at critical former boss Jose Mourinho in the best way possible on Wednesday with two goals to help Real Madrid beat Chelsea 3-1 and win the International Champions Cup pre-season tournament.**

Mourinho, who moved from the Bernabeu to Stanford Bridge in June, gave an interview last weekend which was taken as a slight towards the Real forward in the Spanish media.

Former World Player of the Year Ronaldo had declined to engage in a slanging match with his fellow Portuguese off the pitch but on it had a big say in Real winning the eight-team exhibition tournament that has rotated around the United States.

Marcelo put the Spanish team on the scoreboard early at Sun Life Stadium in Miami with a strike from the edge of the box in the 14th minute.

Chelsea responded just two minutes later through Brazilian Ramires to level the scores at 1-1 but from then on the tournament final was the Ronaldo show.

One of his trademark free kicks in the 31st minute put Real back in front and his header from midfielder Isco’s cross 12 minutes after halftime completed the scoring.

The victory maintained new coach Carlo Ancelotti’s 100 percent record in pre-season warm up games to date.

In the opening match of a doubleheader, Italian club AC Milan beat LA Galaxy 2-0 to earn third place in the tournament.

Italy striker Mario Balotelli and French forward MBaye Niang each netted in the first half to secure the victory for the Serie A outfit.

The Galaxy had surprised many by reaching the third-place match led by Irish striker Robbie Keane and American Landon Donovan, who recently won the Golden Ball for top player at the CONCACAF Gold Cup.

**Serena makes successful return to hard courts**

**Toronto, 8 Aug—Top ranked Serena Williams made a successful return to hard courts with a 6-3, 6-2 thrashing of former French Open champion Francesca Schiavone in the second round of the Rogers Cup on Wednesday.**

Williams was joined in the third round by three other high seeded players who were making their first appearances on the North American hardcourts after the season shifted from Europe. Wimbledon champion Marion Bartoli beat American Lauren Davis 6-0, 6-3, fourth seeded Li Na of China joined her following a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia while fifth seeded Italian Sara Errani accounted for Klara Zakopalova of the Czech Republic 6-2, 7-6(2).

Murray and Nadal make winning returns in Montreal

**Montreal, 8 Aug—Andy Murray shook off some early rust to beat Marcel Granollers 6-4, 7-6(2) in his first match since winning Wimbledon and Rafael Nadal breezed past Canadian wildcard Jesse Levine in the second round of the Rogers Cup on Wednesday.**

Murray struggled to find his usual rhythm in windy conditions and had to save two set points in a mixed display that reflected some nerves and a lack of match practice.

The Scot romped through the tiebreak with some impressive shot-making to set up a third round meeting with Latvia’s Ernests Gulbis, who beat Italian Fabio Fognini 6-3, 1-6. “It was tricky, it is extremely windy here,” the second seeded said in a court-side interview.

“I didn’t feel that I had my timing and got pushed behind the baseline.”

Nadal was more impressive in his first singles match since a shock first round defeat by Steve Darcis at Wimbledon and Rafael Nadal blazed past Canadian wildcard Jesse Levine in the second round of the Rogers Cup on Wednesday.

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BRAZIL, 8 Aug—Brazil opened trial on 2007 air crash that kills 199

Agency (ANAC). According to the investigation, Dos Santos and Fajerman are accused of failing to call for the flight to be diverted to other airports due to the poor weather and wet conditions, despite having knowledge of “the appalling conditions of friction and breaking on the main landing strip at the Congonhas Airport.” Abreu “was reckless” in declaring the Congonhas landing strip suitable on 29 June, 2007, days before the crash, despite the fact that the surface had not been grooved and without a formal inspection to verify that conditions were up to aeronautical safety standards.

The TAM Airbus A320 crashed in a heavy rain on 17 July, 2007, since one of its back brakes failed to activate, killing all 187 people on board, and 12 on the ground, as it sped across the length of the landing strip and crashed against a TAM facility outside the airport grounds. Defence witnesses are to be heard in November and December, so the verdict is not expected until the beginning of 2014.

Rodgers says Suarez comments undermine club’s dignity

LONDON, 8 Aug—Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers said striker Luis Suarez has gone against the values of the club after he publicly accused Rodgers of not honouring a promise to allow him to leave.

Suarez, who is being chased by Premier League rivals Arsenal, said in a newspaper interview that Rodgers had given his word that the Uruguayan would be sold if Liverpool did not qualify for the Champions League.

“My conversations with players will always remain private. I’ll never disclose any conversation between a player and I,” Rodgers told a news conference in Oslo after his side’s 4-1 friendly victory over Valerenga.

“In terms of the remarks that were made, this is a football club that has always worked a certain way. “The Liverpool way is all about a club with ambition, a club that strives to be the very best, a club that is about commitment — that means that everyone is committed to the cause of fighting for the shirt. “It’s also about dignity and being dignified in how you speak about the club, on and off the field, it’s about unity.

“Those are the four values that run through my mind when I think about Liverpool. Those are the values we will always retain. If anyone steps outside of that standard, I will deal with it. That’s something that we’ll do.”

Suarez’s future has been under scrutiny since the end of the season in which he scored 29 goals in all competitions.

Arsenal offered just over 40 million pounds for the striker, although Liverpool have maintained that Suarez is not for sale.

Suarez’s stand-off with the club has overshadowed an encouraging pre-season for Liverpool, who have won six out of six friendlies, but Rodgers said the striker’s situation would not affect the club’s preparations.

“There will never be any player or person bigger than the club,” Rodgers said.

“Professionally, Luis Suarez has given me everything since I came into the football club, but there is obviously a way in which you have to speak.”

Suarez, who did not play in Oslo because of injury, said he might even approach the Premier League.

“Liverpool is a club with a reputation for doing things the right way, I just want them to abide by the promises made last season,” Suarez, who is desperate to play in the Champions League, said in the Daily Telegraph.

“I have the club’s word and we have the written contract and we are happy to take this to the Premier League for them to decide the case but I do not want it to come to that.”

Reuters

Liverpool’s player Luis Suarez (2nd L) controls a ball during a practice session ahead of Sunday’s soccer friendly against Thailand’s national team, as part of Liverpool’s Asia tour, in Bangkok on 27 July, 2013.

Xinhua

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Reuters
Legislative body responsible to enact laws that serve interest of State and people: Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 Aug— The 12th day seventh regular session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw took place under 17 agendas.

First, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung who was agreed to be appointed as governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar took oaths in the presence of the Hluttaw Speaker.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint clarified the message of the President on changing of the name of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries into the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development and the Hluttaw approved it.

Next, three Hluttaw representatives discussed the report 3/2013 of Public Accounts Committee on the findings of the Union Auditor-General’s Office over the 2011-2012 fiscal year’s state budget. And Union Minister U Win Shein touched upon the report and the Hluttaw agreed with it. Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw clarified the national planning implementation report for second six-monthly (from October to March) of the 2012-2013 fiscal year and Union Minister U Win Shein explained the Union budget implementation report.

Next, three Hluttaw representatives discussed the proposal of a Hluttaw representative urging the government to enact the better procedures of tax collection, and Union Minister U Win Shein elaborated on it which was approved by the Hluttaw.

As regards the proposal, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker for his part said that the main duties of representatives are legislation. Therefore, only when they are able to formulate the laws that serve the interest of the people or the just and fair laws or the laws the citizens could abide by, will they be dutiful.

The legislative body of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw which is the highest among Hluttaw organs is obliged to promulgate the laws. That’s why the legislative body must not only be responsible but accountable. As members of the legislative body are responsible to enact the laws that serve the interest of the State and the people, they are to be dutiful as long as they are in service.

He assured that it continues cooperating with JICA for human resources development, expressing his satisfaction with concerted efforts of both sides to open Myanmar-Japan Centre in Yangon.

The JICA Chairman pledged that the agency continues its supports to economic, social and financial sectors of Myanmar.

The Myanmar-Japan Centre to be launched in Yangon is the tenth of its kind in ASEAN countries. Then, he expressed his hope that the Myanmar-Japan Centre would help Myanmar build capacities to partake in AEC in 2015.

Next, the Union Minister and the JICA Chairman observed Trade Promotion in Myanmar held at the assembly hall of the ministry.

Slight earthquake hits inside Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 Aug—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.9 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar, (about 13 miles west-northwest of Sedoktara), about 162 miles southwest of Mandalay, seismological observatory was recorded at 6 hrs 30 min 26 sec M.S.T today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

Union Attorney-General receives Singaporean professor, division head of Malaysia-based book distribution Co

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 Aug—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin met with Professor of Law H.H Weiler, President and Nus, Centre for International Law of European University Institute, Singapore, at his office, here, this morning.

The Attorney-General of the Union replied to the queries on the function and duty of the Union Attorney-General’s Office and the subjects of MoA and the Treaty raised by the professor.

The Attorney-General of the Union also received Ms Gaythri Raman, Head, Customer Discovery and Innovation & New Lexas Business Lead, Lexas Asia in the afternoon. Ms Gaythri Raman said that the company is to print law books and upload on the Internet worldwide, asking the Union Attorney-General for distributions of law books of Myanmar.

The Attorney-General said that there is a publication department in Myanmar that is distributing law journal only every six months. He suggested her to submit a proposal to publish law books printed by the Office to the Union Attorney-General’s Office.

Water level of Ngawun River likely to fall under its danger level

Nay Pyi Taw, 8 Aug—According to the observations at 12:30 hr MST this afternoon, the water level of Ngawun River exceeded 19 centimeter (about a half feet) above the danger level of Ngathadingyoung that has exceeded its danger level about 15 days starting from 25 July and it may fall under its danger level within next three days, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.