President U Thein Sein receives Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Mr Akihiro OHTA of Japan.—MNA

Japan plays crucial role in implementation of Thilawa Special Economic Zone

The first step

President U Thein Sein receives Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Mr Akihiro OHTA of Japan. —MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint attends debate on Constituent Assembly and 1947 Constitution

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint delivers speech at debate on Constituent Assembly and 1947 Constitution. —MNA

MNA
Sanitation

Sanitation carried out at Pakokku Myoma Market

Pakokku, 12 Aug—Pakokku has been facilitated with smooth transportation. Rural areas of the township are also on a par with the development of the urban areas. Rural areas have grocery shops, department stores and shops in trading. About 3000 villages of the township but from those of Yaw region, Pale, Gangaw townships and Chin State.

“Up to 9 am daily, Pakokku Myoma Market is bustling and busy with buyers and sellers. The circular road of the market is crowded with those who go shopping,” said a local. The market is constituted with 1263 shops at 57 complexes. Due to increasing number of the sellers, annex of the market is opened near Thihoshin Pagoda.

To maintain standard market characteristics, officials of Pakokku Township Development Affairs Committee and workers carry out sanitation and unblocking the drains at the market every Sabbath Day.—Kyemon-Nay Oo Maung (Pakokku)

Agriculture

Heavy rains do not harm paddy plantations in Thaton

THATON, 12 Aug—As the continuous rains hit Thaton Township of Mon State from the late July to date, water levels of Bilin River and Thanlwin River rose, causing floods at some parts of the township.

Although flooding is hitting the areas, it did not destroy cultivation of monsoon paddy. About two months old paddy saplings have resisted the inundation. So, there was no loss and damage in heavy rains. I think more heavy rains may not harm the paddy plants.”

“Although the paddy plants can resist the heavy rain, it may be worried about danger of landslide for some paddy plantations near the bank. Farmland owners face shortage of farming workers. In early days of the cultivation, they could not seek any farming workers. Most of the adults are now working in other country,” said a farmland owner U Nge of Thayettaw Village.

Talks on taking census held

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—At talk on taking census held was held at the monastery in Shadaw Village in Thayettaw Village-tract of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 8 August.

Village administrator U Pwint Byu made a speech. The local people seek help from the departments concerned.

The Philanthropic team members and university students are making preparation for helping the local people.

Mini book corners stationed at cinemas in Yangon

YANGON, 12 Aug—Information and Public Relations Department sets up mini book corners at the accessible public places.

For enabling movie goers to enjoy the books before movies, the mini book corners have been set up at Nay Pyi Taw, Shaehsaung and Thwint cinemas in Kyauktada Township of Yangon West District, Mingala Modern Cinema in Latha Township, Thamada cinema in Dagon Township, Royal cinema in Sanyoung Township and Topcinema in Hline Township.

These mini book corners were sponsored by owner of Mingala modern cinema U Zaw Min.—Kyemon-Tin Tin Cho (IPRD)
Flash floods batter Afghanistan, at least 22 dead

KABUL, 12 Aug—At least 22 people in Afghanistan were killed and hundreds were injured early this month in flooding east of the capital, Kabul.

The latest floods followed hours of torrential rain and hail on Saturday, with the Shomali plain, just to the north of Kabul, particularly hard hit.

Six of the dead were children, said senior Kabul police officer, Sayed Ekramuddin Jalal.

“We have already sent teams of rescuers to the area and taken people out of danger,” he said.

Several people were injured and about a dozen homes were washed away. Many irrigation canals and wells, as well as orchards and fields were damaged, he said.

Some of the victims were visiting relatives for the Eid al-Fitr holiday, he said.

Two women were killed and four people were injured in flooding elsewhere, said Ghulam Farouq, an official at the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness.

First televised debate of 2013 Australian election held

CANBERRA, 12 Aug—The first televised debate of the 2013 Federal election campaign between Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and the Opposition Leader Tony Abbott was held at the National Press Club in Canberra on Sunday night.

The debate started at 6:30 pm on Sunday (0830 GMT) with Kevin Rudd speaking ahead of the Opposition leader Tony Abbott in the hour-long event.

The economic theme dominates the debate. And local media said this theme also will set the tone for the second week of the campaign, especially with Tuesday’s release of Treasury’s Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook (PBO).

“This election is about the future strength of our economy and how best to secure it. The election is about a clear choice on the economy, on jobs, on how we support families under pressure and how we support education and health. We’ve managed to keep the economy strong.” Kevin Rudd said at the beginning.

Tony Abbott repeated his main promises after Kevin Rudd to strengthen the economy, scrap the carbon tax, build “the roads of the 21st century” and stop the asylum seeker boats.

“The asylum seeker boats. This election is about preparedness.” Tony Abbott said at the beginning.

US military resumes transport of Ospreys to Okinawa

Cебас, 12 Aug—Firefighters in Venezuela put out a blaze in a storage tank at an oil refinery that was caused by lightning on Sunday and led to the evacuation of people living nearby, a top official at state oil company PDVSA said.

Thunderstorms this weekend have drenched much of the South American OPEC nation, which has suffered repeated accidents at its oil refineries in recent years.

Lightning struck one large storage tank at the refinery last year, lightning set fire to two separate storage tanks at the El Palito refinery in January this year. No one was hurt in either fire.

Three people were injured when they tried to avoid the blaze at Puerto La Cruz on 11 Aug, 2013.—Kyodo News

In two very similar incidents less than a month apart last year, lightning set fire to two separate storage tanks at the El Palito refinery. No one was hurt in either case.—Reuters

High school students signatures for nuke abolition reaches 1 million

NAGASAKI, 12 Aug—A students’ group in Nagasaki Prefecture said on Sunday it has collected more than 1 million signatures from senior high school students calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons since it started gathering them in 2001.

At a meeting in Nagasaki the same day of about 50 former and current members of the group, the executive committee said the total number of signatures has reached 1.04 million.

Erica Fujimoto, 29, who was the founding member of the group, said, “I’m amazed to see the activity of the group, whose initial target was 10,000, expanded to this extent.”

The group also said the 195,000 signatures it has collected this year will be submitted to the United Nations Office at Geneva by a group of 20 high school students from 12 prefectures across Japan. The students were selected by a citizens’ group in Nagasaki.

Cambodia’s CPP won most provinces in July election

PHNOM PENH, 12 Aug—Cambodian People’s Party (CPP) of Prime Minister Hun Sen won a majority of votes in 19 out of Cambodia’s 24 provinces in a disputed 28 July election, official results announced by the country’s election body showed on Monday.

The results appeared to support the CPP’s claim that it won a parliamentary majority, despite opposition allegations of widespread cheating. The opposition has rejected preliminary results and called for an international inquiry.

Cambodia’s Prime Minister Hun Sen (C) speaks to the media as he inspect a bridge construction site in Phnom Penh on 31 July, 2013.—Reuters

In two very similar incidents less than a month apart last year, lightning set fire to two separate storage tanks at the El Palito refinery. No one was hurt in either case.—Reuters

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For Dell, buyout uncertainty adds to poor PC sales outlook

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Aug — Months of public bickering, secretive backroom negotiations and eleventh-hour deals for control of Dell Inc belie the fact that the combatants are vying for a company facing steadily declining sales prospects.

The tussle between Chief Executive Michael Dell and firebrand activist investor Carl Icahn is also starting to spook some customers. It’s the last thing a company, grappling with the ever-darkening global outlook for personal computers, needs.

IDC estimates Dell’s PC shipments slid 4.2 percent in the second quarter, compared to a year earlier.

Some customers have begun asking if Dell is even going to be around in the longer term, said Michael Gavaghan, vice president of sales and marketing at Florida-based Dell reseller SL Powers. Sales are taking longer to close as well, he said. “We hold their hand and gently say, ‘Are you sure you want this Dell purchase decision another few weeks,’” said Gavaghan.

He stressed, however, that customers are “not fleeing by any means.” The cacophony surrounding the $25 billion buyout bid proposed by Michael Dell and Silver Lake Partners has picked up over the past month. Icahn threatened to wage a campaign to replace the CEO and his board, and sue the company in Delaware to try to force an earlier shareholder vote.

Michael Dell raised his offer twice to try to win over major investors. A shareholder vote has been scheduled for September after being delayed three times. Morale within the company is stable for now, say some employees, though they add that could change rapidly if Icahn has his way and were to reshuffle management. John Pucillo-Dunphy, senior engineer and owner of Miracle Networking Solutions, a Dell reseller based in Middlesex, New Jersey, said he supports Dell’s goings and private and is more comfortable with Michael Dell’s leadership since it renews unclear what Icahn’s long game is. “I have seen the emails from Michael Dell. I haven’t seen anything from Icahn,” Pucillo-Dunphy said.

Icahn, who with 8.9 percent of the company is now its second-largest shareholder, has said little about what future he envisions for the company beyond that it has promising prospects based on its large base of PC customers, and that it should remain partly public. Pucillo-Dunphy said customers are not overly concerned about the

Meanwhile, HTC has reportedly started rolling out the update Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean will bring new features like dedicated toggles menu in the status bar, Daydream screensaver mode, lock screen widgets, improved task switching and some performance enhancements.

The Samsung Galaxy Grand Duos is expected to get some new goodies on the TouchWiz side from the Samsung Galaxy S4 like the new widgets and home screen.

Gsmarena notes some of the new features that the HTC One X+ will get.

These include improved battery endurance with new sleep mode switch, Quick settings panel that can be accessed by a two-finger swipe down, some camera improvements like a long tap on the camera UI screen that will now lock exposure and focus and last is the update also includes the video highlights feature, which allows users to opt from 12 kinds of music theme styles and easily make a quick 30 seconds video.

With the updates rolling out in other regions, the wait of Indian consumers to receive the updates begins.

PTI

IBM forms alliance with Google, Nvidia to boost chips unit

NEW YORK, 12 Aug — Technology services provider IBM said on Friday that it has formed an alliance with Google and a handful of other tech companies to license IBM’s Power chip technology, in an effort to attract more users.

Under the alliance called OpenPower Consortium, IBM and Google — along with Israel’s chip designer Mellanox Technologies, US chip-maker Nvidia Corp and Taipei-based server supplier Tyan Computer Corp — will build server, networking and storage technology based on the chips for cloud data centres.

The hardware and software provided by IBM, will be available to open development and it will be licensable to others, IBM said in a statement.

The alliance is open to any company that wants to participate and innovate on the platform, IBM said. IBM competes with Intel Corp and ARM Holdings’ chips, which dominate the market. Revenue from IBM’s Power Systems was down 25 percent in the second quarter compared with the previous year.

Reuters

Samsung Galaxy Grand Duos and HTC One X+ reportedly getting Android 4.2.2 update

KOLKATA, 12 Aug — It’s raining updates for some smartphone users. Samsung Galaxy Grand Duos and HTC One X+ owners are reportedly receiving the Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean update.

Samsung has released the Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean update for the Galaxy Grand Duos in Russia. The South Korean major is expected to roll out the update in other markets including India. According to SamMobile, the Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean update will bring new features like dedicated toggles menu in the status bar, Daydream screensaver mode, lock screen widgets, improved task switching and some performance enhancements.

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A Dell laptop computer is pictured in New York in this 26 Aug, 2008 file photograph. — Reuters

Apple to unveil next iPhone on 10 September

For a company facing steady sales declines, it is now its second-largest shareholder, has said little about what future he envisions for the company beyond that it has promising prospects based on its large base of PC customers, and that it should remain partly public. Pucillo-Dunphy said customers are not overly concerned about the

next smart phone at a special event on 10 September. The company was not immediately available for comment. Apple’s iPhone launches are among the most-watched events on the tech industry calendar.

Reuters reported in June that Apple was planning launching iPhones with bigger screens, as well as cheaper models in a range of colours, over the next year, according to several sources with knowledge of the matter. The new iPhone would hit store shelves in time for the crucial holiday season.

On 10 September

Apple Inc, the world’s largest technology company, is expected to present its redesigned iPhone in September, according to technology blog AllThingsD. The blog cited unnamed sources as saying that Apple will unveil its

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The report said the molds supposed to be too short to be cast, the products could not be adequate for practical use.

“Considering the unique style which has never found not only in Japan but even in the Korean Peninsula so far, the new discovery in the prefecture tells us there were varied and multiple ancient trade routes between western Japan and China in ancient times,” Yoshida said.

Xinhua

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New Light of Myanmar

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Maruti planning new car to take on Hyundai’s Grand i10

BUSINESS & HEALTH

New Light of Myanmar

Maruti planning new car to take on Hyundai’s Grand i10

New Delhi, 12 Aug — The competition in the compact car segment is revving up, with market leader Maruti Suzuki India set to launch a brand new model early next year in response to rival Hyundai’s soon-to-be-launched Grand i10. According to sources, the new model along with the upcoming WagonR Stingray will be the key fresh products for Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) to defend its market share amid the ever increasing competition.

“Our new compact model from Maruti will be positioned between the WagonR and the Swift. It will make its debut at the Auto Expo next year,” a source said. When contacted, a spokesperson for MSI, however, said, “We do not comment on our future product line-up.”

India’s Auto Expo will be held between 6 and 12 February, 2014, at Greater Noida, moving away from the traditional venue of Pragati Maidan. Hyundai Motor India is already looking to hit at MSI’s successful Swift by bringing the Grand i10, slated for launch nationally on 3 September with both diesel and petrol options.

By bringing the new model a tad below Swift, MSI is looking at the new model to counter the Grand i10. While the WagonR is currently priced between Rs 3.57 lakh and Rs 4.48 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi), Swift is available in the range of Rs 4.48 lakh to Rs 6.87 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). MSI is also gearing up to launch WagonR Stingray ahead of this festive season as it looks to enhance its leadership position in the market.

The Indian passenger vehicles market, including cars, stood at 60,674 units in the April-June quarter, 2011, and MSI had a share of 43.38 per cent with 2,45,346 units. Car makers are betting on new models to beat the downturn in the market. Sales have been on a continuous decline for a record eighth month in a row in June. In the first quarter of this fiscal year, passenger vehicle sales have declined by 7.24 per cent from 6,54,858 units in the same period last fiscal year.—PTI

Cashing in on health scares, China online food sales boom

Beijing, 12 Aug — Chinese consumers are responding to a powerful new marketing tactic that plays to a widespread fear of food contamination — the promise of safe groceries sold online. Pledging produce direct from the farm, vendors have found a fast-growing segment of the market.

“The trend is adding momentum to a Chinese online retail boom driven by a rapidly expanding middle class, with companies such as COFCO Ltd and Shunfeng Express betting that a decent slice of a 1.3 billion population will pay for the peace of mind they say their services offer. ‘I think people are willing to pay a higher premium than in the West. In other markets, like the UK, food e-commerce is about convenience. Here, there’s going to be a higher quality and safety premium,’ said Chen Yougang, a partner at consultancy McKinsey. But convincing some skeptical Chinese consumers on food quality will remain a battle. Shanghai-based Zhang Lei expressed doubt about the credentials of some products being touted as organic.

“Everyone knows that in China organic is not the real thing,” said the mother of one. Nonetheless, total online sales of fresh produce in China could rocket to 40 billion yuan ($6.5 billion) in five years from about 11.5 billion yuan this year, said Zhou Wen Qian, a senior analyst at Beijing Orient Agribusiness Consulting.

Wellington/Colombo, 12 Aug — New Zealand-based dairy giant Fonterra Co-operative Ltd said on Sunday it had withdrawn milk powder under orders for nine countries because of fears for showing traces of the toxic agricultural chemical dicyandiamide (DCD), although it disputed the accusation.

It said two batches of milk powder had been removed from stores last month after Sri Lanka’s Ministry of Health had said they tested positive for DCD, a nitrate inhibitor used in fertilizers. Sri Lanka also imposed a ban on advertising by Fonterra’s Anchor powder brand.

But Fonterra’s chief executive said the product was clean and safe and it was contesting the Sri Lanka’s Ministry of Health, however, said it has solid evidence to prove the presence of DCD.

“The tests were done by Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) of Sri Lanka and they have submitted a report on this. That is the evidence we have. We can prove it in the case of a legal battle,” a health ministry official said on condition of anonymity. The Sri Lankan recall follows last week’s withdrawal by Fonterra and several of its customers of infant formula, sports drinks, and animal feed in nine countries because of fears of contamination of a whey ingredient with a bacteria that can cause botulism.

Sperings said Sri Lanka’s action could be related to the price of dairy products there. Sri Lanka is the fifth biggest importer of Fonterra milk powder.

New genetic factors behind severe childhood epilepsy identified

Washington, 12 Aug — Researchers have identified 25 new mutations on six key genes associated with severe forms of childhood epilepsy, according to a large-scale international study largely funded by the US National Institutes of Health. The study, part of a project involving more than 40 international institutions, used a cutting-edge genetic technique, called exome sequencing, to search for non-inherited mutations linked to epileptic encephalopathies in 284 children whose parents do not have epilepsy.

“We identified an unusually large number of distinct disease-causing mutations 25 in total, all of which were de novo (brand new) mutations,” study author David Goldenstein, director of the Human Genome Variation Center at the Duke University Medical Centre, in a statement. The study known as Epilepsy 4000 (Epi4K) found a total of six genes behind the devastating form of the disorder: four had been described before using other genetic techniques and two genes are implicated for the first time.

Epilepsy is a group of neurological disorders caused by abnormal firing of nerve cells in the brain which often produces delirium, seizures and a range of other symptoms. More than two million people in the United States suffer from

British art exports hit post-credit-crunch peak

London, 12 Aug — The value of British art exports, although it disputed the accusation, has surged to its highest level since the credit crunch, despite new rules giving deceased artists’ estates a share of their work’s resale price, data compiled by a Thomson Reuters unit showed on Monday.

The value of art and cultural objects exported from Britain rose by 32 per cent to 1.97 billion pounds ($3.06 billion) in the year to May 2012, according to a statement from Sweet & Maxwell, a legal information provider owned by Thomson Reuters.

On 1 Jan, 2012, the Artist’s Resale Rights Directive, which allows artists to claim a percentage of the resale value of their work, was extended to benefit the estates and heirs of artists who have been dead less than 70 years. They became entitled to up to 4 per cent of an original piece’s resale price. Rights in Britain previously applied only to living artists.

“Many art experts and dealers were concerned that London’s position in the art world could suffer compared to New York or Hong Kong which haven’t introduced such a levy on the resale of modern and contemporary art,” said Bessissmo Sterpi, co-editor of “The Art Collecting Legal Handbook”, said in the Sweet & Maxwell statement.

“The early indications are that this hasn’t slowed down the London market,” he added.

Exports of modern art, the category most likely to be affected by the new rules, jumped by 105 per cent from the previous year to 687 million pounds by May 2012, a quicker rise than the rest of the market, Sweet & Maxwell said.

NZ’s Fonterra pulls ‘DCD’ milk powder in Sri Lanka, disputes test

Sri Lanka’s Ministry of Health, however, said it has solid evidence to prove the presence of DCD. The tests were done by Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) of Sri Lanka and they have submitted a report on this. That is the evidence we have. We can prove it in the case of a legal battle,” a health ministry official said on condition of anonymity. The Sri Lankan recall follows last week’s withdrawal by Fonterra and several of its customers of infant formula, sports drinks, and animal feed in nine countries because of fears of contamination of a whey ingredient with a bacteria that can cause botulism.

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Reuters

Xinhua

Xinhua
32-yr-old promotes peace with A-bomb comic “Barefoot Gen”

In her efforts to convey the tragedy of the 1945 US atomic bombing of Hiroshima to the younger generation, Kuniko Watanabe is drawing attention to the comic series “Barefoot Gen” (Hadashi no Gen), about a survivor’s experience. Photo taken on 19 June, 2013 in Hiroshima.

KYODO NEWS

Hiroshima, 12 Aug—In her efforts to convey the tragedy of the 1945 US atomic bombing of Hiroshima to the younger generation, Kuniko Watanabe, 32, is drawing attention to a famous comic series and its creator. In early June, Watanabe organized an event to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the start of the manga series “Barefoot Gen” (Hadashi no Gen), about a survivor’s experience, at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

The series, which started in 1973, is based on the late artist Keiji Nakazawa’s experience of the bombing as a 6-year-old boy. Nakazawa, who died of lung cancer at the age of 73 last December, lost his father, sister and brother in the attack, and his baby sister, born shortly after the bombing, lived only four months.

Since graduating from university, Watanabe, whose grandparents survived the 6 August bombing, has helped her mother record the testimonies of atomic bomb survivors. Watanabe said she realized that “Hiroshima is in my blood” after encountering scores of survivors and listening to their stories.

Watanabe got acquainted with Nakazawa six years ago, saying she came to love him just like her own father. After listening to one particularly harrowing talk by Nakazawa, which she said left her almost with the smell of blood in her nostrils, Watanabe told him that she felt “sad and frustrated.”

Nakazawa replied to her, “That’s good because people in Hiroshima lack the feeling of ‘chikusho’ (frustration and infuriation),” according to Watanabe. To pass down Nakazawa’s experiences as a survivor and his desire for abolition of nuclear weapons, Watanabe coproduced a documentary film about the artist in 2011, whose English title was “Barefoot Gen’s Hiroshima.”

Watanabe said Nakazawa always hoped that “Barefoot Gen” would continue to be read from generation to generation, and that it is her “mission to shape the spirit he left.” As part of preparations for the June event, Watanabe spent several months reading through the manga series and even traced the footsteps of Gen on the day the bomb was dropped, together with volunteer university students.—Kyodo News

Film opens depicting Okinawa residents’ fight against US Ospreys

Tokyo, 12 Aug—“The Targeted Village,” a documentary depicting local residents’ fight against the deployment of crash-prone Osprey aircraft at a US military base in Okinawa, began showing on Saturday in Tokyo theaters.

The 91-minute film is based on an award-winning TV programme produced by Chie Mikami for an Okinawa TV station in 2012. It focuses on the residents of Takae, a community in northern Okinawa Island, who speak of feeling “targeted” by the US military and its plan to build six helipads in the surrounding area.

The film takes its title from the fact the village was used as a mock target in the 1960s to train US forces for the Vietnam War. The US military set up a mock Vietnamese village there and had residents of Takae dress up as Vietnamese farmers and lend a semblance of realism to the guerilla warfare training drills.

The area is also being used for training for jungle warfare, including guerrilla attacks, infantry training and helicopter drills.

The film concentrates on the deployment of the tilt-rotor Osprey aircraft as a symbol of the huge US military presence in Okinawa, home to about 75 percent of all US military facilities in Japan.

The crash of a US Air Force helicopter in a mountainous area within a base in Okinawa on 5 Aug may bring the film further attention.

“I wanted to reflect the feelings of the people of Okinawa who are opposed to the deployment of Ospreys,” said Mikami, 48, a newscaster at Ryukyu Asahi Broadcasting, a TV station in Okinawa known as QAB. A Tokyo native, she joined QAB in 1995.—Kyodo News

Netanyahu released from hospital after successful surgery

JERUSALEM, 12 Aug—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was released from hospital on Sunday hours after undergoing successful hernia surgery, but doctors said he would require several days’ rest to make a full recovery.

During the overnight procedure, which took around an hour and required general anesthesia, Defence Minister Moshe Yaalon temporarily assumed the 63-year-old premier’s powers, Netanyahu’s office said in a statement.

Yaalon was also slated to head a cabinet-level meeting on Sunday to select Palestinian security prison­ers for release as part of US-sponsored peace negotiations, the second round of which was scheduled to take place on Wednesday in Jerusalem.

Yaron Weiss, director of the Jerusalem hospital where the surgery took place, said the operation was ordered at short notice as a precaution against Net­anyahu’s condition deteriorating. Netanyahu’s office said he had been diagnosed after complaining of abdominal pain.—Reuters

Argentina president faces election test

BUENOS AIRES, 12 Aug—Argentine President Cristina Fernandez faces a mid-term primary election test on Sunday that will show whether she has enough popular support to push for a constitutional change allowing her to run for a third term in 2015.

Candidates for legislative elections in October will be chosen in Sunday’s open primary but, with no competition among candidates on the lists presented by each party, it serves more as a survey on Fernandez’s six years in power.

The left-wing leader has delivered steady economic growth and was easily re-elected two years ago. But heavy government spending has fueled annual inflation to over 20 percent, and her combative style has upset investors and many voters in Latin America’s third-biggest economy.

Fernandez, 60, says she is not thinking about a possible third term but talks persist that her congressional allies want the con­stitution changed to allow her to run again.

For that to happen, Fernandez would have to increase her control of Congress in October, when half the seats in the lower house will be up for grabs along with a third of the Senate.

Fernandez’s allies would need a two-thirds majority in both chambers to get debate started on per­mitting a third term.

“She doesn’t have that now, and she won’t have it after October,” said Ignacio Labaqui, a Buenos Aires-based analyst for emerging markets consultancy Medley Global Advisors.

“If the ruling party gets 40 percent or better at the national level, it could still claim to have a strong enough mandate to pressure the opposition into a bar­gain allowing the third-term amend­ment.”

Investors in government bonds and in Ar­gentina’s vast agricultural and shale oil resources are watching the primary vote for signs of whether voters are tiring of Fernandez’s interventionist policies and might be ready for a market-friendly leader in 2015.

An overvalued currency, heavy-handed im­port and foreign exchange controls and Fernandez’s decision to nationalize Ar­gentina’s private pension system, its main airline and top energy company YPF have all upset inver­tors and trade partners.—Reuters
Loans disbursed in Nay Pyi Taw market

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Aungpannyaing-Ingyin Market Cooperative Society disbursed loans to shopkeepers of the market in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 31 July.

Deputy Director U Khin Maung Win of the Cooperative Department granted the loans of K 6 million to the chairman of the society at the ceremony.

It was also attended by Dhannatheikdi ward administrator U Saw Lin, market committee members and shop keepers.

Chairman U Thaung Myint and Secretary U San Maung briefed on the rules and regulations of the society.

“Our microfinancing cooperatives society is systematically formed with board of directors. We are devoted the poverty alleviation,” in-charge of the market U Khin Maung Lwin explained.

Construction

Debris clearance starts in post-conflict Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 12 Aug—District and township authorities are clearing debris of fire-hit buildings in Meiktila where violence had erupted as of 20 March.

Debris of fire-hit buildings has started to be cleared since 6 August afternoon. All the (damaged) buildings along Yangon-Mandalay Highway and in the Bus Terminal will be cleared,” a member of township committee responsible for clearing rubbles said.

Chairman of District Committee U Tin Maung Soe, Chairman of Township Committee U Myo Hlaing inspected the efforts and pushed the workers to complete the works on schedule—MMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)

Disaster

Inter-university volleyball tourney kicks off in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 12 Aug—Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) organized inter-university/degree college/college volleyball tournament for 2012-2013 academic year in Mandalay Zone.

The tournament kicked off at the Indoor Stadium of Yadanabon University on 9 August. Chairman of the organizing committee Rector of Yadanabon University Dr Khin Maung Oo made an opening speech at the ceremony.

The tournament will be held on 7-12 August and with the participation of seven teams. It was attended by Deputy Director-General of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Dr Thein Win and rectors of universities and colleges in Mandalay Zone.

MMAL-Maung Zaw

Invasive traffic island in downtown Yangon being repaired

YANGON, 12 Aug—Yangon City Development Committee is repairing the traffic island between the City Hall and Maha Bandoola Park.

The repair started on 9 August and is aimed at expanding the road for easing the traffic congestion.

“The former traffic island was too invasive. There was a traffic jam as the cars parked nearby are helter-skelter,” a YCDC staff said.

He said the new tidy traffic island will include a parking place and platform. It will have the length of 500 ft.

MMAL-Maung Zaw

Accident

Magway town hall roof falls off

MAGWAY, 12 Aug—Despite no heavy rain, strong wind or quake, roof of Magway’s landmark Town Hall in Pyidawtha ward in Magway Region fell off on 8 August evening.

No one was injured in the incident.

The building is a one-storey facility with the length of 283 feet and the width of 263 feet.

MMAL-Wathan Tun (Magway)

Staff quarters damaged by fallen tree

Banyan tree falls over staff quarters of nurses.

MOHNYIN, 12 Aug—A Banyan tree fell over the staff quarters which accommodates five nurses in 100-bed General Hospital in Mohnyin of Kachin State on 8 August evening.

One occupant sustained minor injuries in the incident.

The upper structure of the building was destroyed as the tree with its decayed root unexpectedly fell over the building.—MMAL-063

Crime

Securities stop girl’s attempted suicide

YANGON, 12 Aug—Securities of Hledan Centre could stop a girl attempting suicide from the sixth storey of a building in Hledan street in No. 8 ward in Kamayut Township yesterday.

Two securities from the centre broke open the door to stop Ma Lwin Malar Win, 19, from jumping off to kill herself.

Sangyoun Township Fire Brigade brought her to Yangon General Hospital. MMAL-167

Complaints for 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.

Beware of dengue hemorrhagic fever

MMAL-063
**NATIONAL**

**Kalewa Coal-fired Power Plant to apply clean coal technology**

NAVEYTAW, 12 Aug—Hydropower Planning Department under the Ministry of Electricity, China Guodian Corporation of China and Tun Thwin Mining Co Ltd will build Kalewa Coal-fired Power Plant, 1.5 km from the Chindwin River Bank and 18 km north of Kalewa, and the power plant will be facilitated with 270 megawatts generating capacity for the first phase and second phase, replied Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo at today’s session of Pyithu Hluttaw.

With regard to the question over construction of coal-fired power plant in Kalay, its construction date and type of generator, raised by U Soe Thein of Kalewa Constituency, the deputy minister replied that the ministry approved to apply clean coal technology in implementation of the project.

As the China’s China Guodian Corporation officially informed that it could not process with the implementation of the project, Tun Thwin Mining Co Ltd plans to cooperate with Singapore-based ISDN Holding Ltd without changing the project feasibility report.

Only when MoA and JVA have been signed, will the date for implementation of the project be set. Moreover, the project will apply clean coal technology not to harm the environment and local communities in line with the rules of World Bank, he added.

During the meeting, the Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee submitted the report to the Hluttaw.

U Win Myint of Pathein Constituency who submitted the report said that the report on findings of rule of law and tranquility was submitted with constructive attitude so as to ensure the clean government and good governance in the nation. The committee, those of governing body, judicial body, media and association in addition to the people are to join hands for prevailing rule of law and tranquility, he said.

A report was submitted for the bill amending Myanmar Maritime University Law sent by Amyotha Hluttaw with approval and the approval was sought for the chemicals prevention bill and the water resources and river and creek maintenance rules sent by Amyotha Hluttaw with amendment.

The 21st day session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues tomorrow.  

**Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University should be under S&T Ministry**

NAVEYTAW, 12 Aug—Myanmar Aerospace Engineering University should be put under the Ministry of Science and Technology that has much experience in computerization, mechanical degree and post-graduate degree, academic and management, said Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein in his reply to the question raised by U Soe Aung of Mandalay Constituency No. 11 raising questions.

Region Constituency No. 11, Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein in his reply to the question raised by U Soe Aung of Mandalay Constituency No. 11 raised questions.

Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan submitted the proposal to consider the bill amending Myanmar Trademark Act, and the Hluttaw decided to consider it. The deputy minister remarked, “The act promulgated in 1889 is inappropriate for present currency value. It should rise line for offenders. According to the Constitution 2008, the words in the bill must be substituted with new titles of Union ministries.”

MNA
**Pragmatic approach...**

(From page 16)

_Thanks to the government, the Kachin State people, peace coordinators, members of the church and townelders, the light was seen at the end of the tunnel for the peace of Kachin State, he said._

He also warned that it alone was not enough for development of the state.

He called for pragmatic approach to create better future of Kachin State where gun fires were no more heard.

However, the civilians always fall prey to the conflicts, he said.

He said his trip was aimed at helping the Kachin State rise from the conflicts. He said he could decide on his own on some issues immediately and promised to bring others back to Nay Pyi Taw for formulation and international organizations to find solutions.

He said the ministerial officials, reg’ls of UN agencies and diplomats also accompanied him on the trip and would provide solutions to some issues.

He vowed to do all he could to provide aids to the state, calling for help of the local people.

He urged them to look forward and cooperatively create a harmonious environment, setting aside the past. He concluded his speech with the call for peaceful coexistence and peaceful development.

Next, Vice-President Dr Sai Maik Kham donated K 32.1 million—K 10 million for each household—to 3210 households of IDPs from Myitkyina District, Mvyiktina, Waingmaw, Shipwe townships, Panwa and Kaupaitke sub-townships.

Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association and gems entrepreneurs donated K 790,000 for 79 IDP households from Mohynin and Mogaung townships of Mohynin District, K 31.5 million for 3150 IDP households from Bhamo District, K 310.000 for 31 houses from Putao District and K 772.24 million for 7724 households outside the management of Kachin State government.

The Kachin State Chief Minister helped the Vice-President put on Kachin traditional costume.

Next, townelders Dr Tu Ja, U Lara, U Paw Oo, U Lamon Gem, Secretary-2 of Phakant Township Gems Entrepreneurs Association U Thang Kyi, U Baik Naw of Kachin State, Mogaung Township Pyithu Hlutaw representative U Kyaw Myint, Peasant Representative U Zaw Baik, townelders U Aung Htone Kha Naw, and Secretary of National Democratic Force (NDF) U Aung Myint Myat reported on peace and stability of the region, peace, education, nurturing the youths with good morale characters, agriculture and exportation of finished gems products.

After giving necessary instructions, the Vice-President cordially greeted them:

The vice-president and party visited Shwekyinar Buddha Image and donated cash to the board of trustees of the pagoda.

The vice-president also attended a ceremony to donate cash and kind to IDPs at Taguandau Camp.

At the ceremony, he donated 15 packages of 5000 rice packs, K 1,580,000; Deputy Minister for Border Affairs K 50 bags of rice; Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement 13 packages of instant noodles; the deputy minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry 15 packages of instant noodles; the deputy minister for Health 15 packages of instant noodles and Htoo Foundation 100 bags of rice.

After the ceremony, the vice-president met with the IDPs and visited the camp.

Vice-President Dr Sai Maik Kham also visited the relief camp at Robert Baptist Church and attended a ceremony to donate cash and kind to IDPs.

During the ceremony, Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Federation donated K 28.68 million to IDPs; the Chief Minister of Kachin State 50 bags of rice; the commander of Northern Command K 2 million, deputy ministers of Home Affairs, Border Affairs, Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Environmental Conservation and Forestry and Health relief aids and Htoo Foundation 300 bags of rice.

The vice-president attended to the needs of the IDPs. During the visit, the vice-president presented aids to the IDPs and their children.

The vice-president also visited AD 2000 camp and contributed K 9.8 million to the fund for the IDPs; the Kachin State Chief Minister 50 bags of rice; Ministry of Home affairs, Minister of Border Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Ministry of Health and Htoo Foundation donated cash to the IDPs and their children.

The vice-president arrived back Nay Pyi Taw by special flight this evening. _—MNA_
Security measures for tourists coordinated in NyaungU District

NyaungU, 12 Aug—Members of local special branch and criminal investigation department of Myanmar Police Force and authorities are trying to expose the robbery case at globetrotters in 2013.

To acause similar cases, a coordination meeting was held with the participation of departmental officials of district and township departments, those from hoteliers association, restaurant entrepreneurs association, travel and tours agencies, travel guide association, hotel/bicycle and pony cart rental service entrepreneurs and members of the pagoda boards of trustees at the hall of the NyaungU District General Ad-ministration Department on 10 August morning.

Commander of Mandalay Region Police Force Police Col Zaw Win Aung explained arrangements for prevention against snatching cases in NyaungU Township by NyaungU District Police Force.

Moreover, he said that Myanmar Police Force had formed the Tourist Security Unit with the strength of 30 members on 1 April 2013 in NyaungU Township. But, it was not adequate for the security measures, he said, adding that according the work demand, the squad was extended with 64 members. He noted that local police force and Tourist Security Squad are joining hands in taking security measures at the tourist attractive places on patrol. He invited discussions and suggestions from those attendees. The participants took part in the discussions and the officials replied to them.—Kyemon-Ye Thara Aung (NyaungU)

Model mother and baby awarded

Pakokku, 12 Aug—Pakokku District and Township Maternal and Child Welfare Associations and Health Department jointly organized the nutrition week activity in conjunction with the prize awarding the model mother and baby at Pyithaya Hall in Pakokku on 10 August.

Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Win of the district made a speech. Specialist Dr Yin Yin Htay gave an educative talk.

Next, Medical Superintendent of Pakokku Hospital and officials presented prizes to the outstanding mothers and babies. Also present on the occasion were Chairperson of District MCWSC Daw Soe Soe Thein and members, specialists, health staff, responsible persons of pharmaceutical companies who presented vitamins to the children and nutritious foods, eggs and vitamins to the mothers.—Kyemon-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)

Cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy demonstrated

Dawei, 12 Aug—The demonstration on cultivation of Palethwe hybrid paddy was held at the model plot on 4.37 acres of farmer U Maung Shin in Panbyin Village of Thayetchaung Township in Dawei District of Taninthayi Region on 9 August.

Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Dr Win Aung and officials attended the ceremony.

Head of Region Agriculture Department U Hla Wai explained completion of Palethwe paddy strain in the region, and Head of Dawei District Department U Kyaw Hla significant points of good agriculture patterns.

Local people evacuated to safe places in Mongphyat

Mongphyat, 12 Aug—Heavy rains and overflow of Namlon Creek violently hit Mongphyat Township of Shan State (East). Therefore, people from eight houses were evacuated to the safe places. On 10 August, overflow of Namlon Creek eroded the bank and caused landslides. Local authorities and servicemen from local battalion evacuated from the danger of landslides in Suplaung Village. Moreover, the local authorities moved people from six houses to the safe places.

Yesterday morning, Deputy Commissioner U Khin Maung Cho of Mongphyat District, Township Administrator U Zaw Myo Nyunt, village administrator U Sai Kham Lar and officials allotted land plots to the flood victims from eight houses for their resettlements.—Kyemon-Than Zaw (Mongphyat)
Japan’s heat wave continues, mercury tops 40 C for 2nd day in row

TOKYO, 12 Aug—Japan remained in the grip of a severe heat wave on Sunday, with temperatures topping 40 C for the second day in a row, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The temperature hit 40.6 C in Kofu, Yamanashi Prefecture, central Japan, and 40.4 C in Shimanto, Kochi Prefecture, western Japan. Temperatures exceeded 35 C at 297 of 927 observation points across the country, recording 39.9 C in Mobar, Chiba Prefecture, and 39.8 C in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Prefecture, as of 3 pm, the agency added.

The severe heat caused the death of at least three people, while three people taking part in a festival in the city of Kochi in Kochi Prefecture as well as five junior high school students in Kwanwa, Mie Prefecture, were taken to hospital after showing symptoms of apparent heatstroke, according to firefighters.

South Korea warns of power shortages amid nuclear shut downs

SEOUL, 12 Aug—South Korea has warned of serious power shortages this week amid an expected rise in summer temperatures and as the resources-starved country struggles to keep up with demand after six nuclear plants have gone offline.

The energy ministry said it may take emergency measures such as rolling power cuts to avoid a repeat of 2011 blackouts which cut electricity to businesses and homes across the country.

Separately, the ministry said some major companies, including Kia Motors Corp and Hyundai Motor Co, had not complied with energy saving regulations such as cutting power consumption during peak hours.

Both automakers refused to comment on the matter. Of the country’s total 23 reactors, six units are currently offline—one for maintenance or expiry of operational approval, and the other three to replace cables supplied with fake certificates.

Oil, gas and coal produce most of South Korea’s electricity, but nuclear plants generate more than 30 percent of power.

“If one nuclear reactor stops its operation all of a sudden, we may have to start rolling power blackouts like we did on 15 September, 2011,” Energy Minister Yoon Sang-jick told a news conference. Rolling blackouts would initially affect residential areas, minimizing any impact on the country’s export-focused businesses.

South Korea’s power demand is projected to peak at up to 80,500 megawatts (MW) in the next three days while its power supply capacity is seen at 77,440 MW, the energy ministry said in a statement. With all the possible power-saving and supply measures, the supply surplus could be raised to 1,800 MW but that would still not be enough, it added. South Korea has carried out power saving measures in the past such as encouraging offices and households to use less air-conditioning.

Beijing rainstorm cancels flights, kills airport worker

BEIJING, 12 Aug—Beijing’s weather department issued a weather alert on Sunday afternoon as torrential rain fell in the capital and a cleaning worker was killed by lightning at Beijing Capital International Airport. Thundershowers are also forecast for Monday morning, the Beijing Meteorological Bureau said. The bureau issued a yellow weather alert at 3 pm, saying flooding was likely in rivers and mountain streams.

The meteorological authority uses a four-tier colour-coded weather warning system, with red being the most severe, followed by orange, yellow and blue.

From 7 am to 5 pm on Sunday, the average precipitation of the city’s main urban area was 23.2 mm and the heaviest was 100.8 mm in the Qingshuiqiao area of Haitian district, according to the bureau. Zhang Pu, head of the team that oversees the flooding emergency team for the Beijing Drainage Group Co, said that an emergency plan had been started in the city on Sunday for possible flooding under bridges as more rains were forecast that night.

Strong quake strikes off eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 12 Aug—An earthquake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale jolted Maluku in eastern parts of Indonesia on Monday, but there was no tsunami potential or reports of damages, officials said here.

The quake happened at 07:53 am Jakarta Time (0053 GMT), and the epicentre, 121 km under sea bed, was 155 km northwest of Maluku Tenggara Barat of Maluku province, an official with the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said.

“We did not issue a tsunami warning. So far there is no report of damages as the centre of the quake was deep,” the official told Xinhua over phone. Spokesman of the National Disaster Management and Mitigation Agency Sutopo Purwo Nugroho also said that there was no reports of building damage or human injuries as a result of the quake. “The quake shakes were not felt, because the location is far and deep,” he told Xinhua over phone.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-prone zone, or so-called “the Pacific Ring of Fire.”—Xinhua

33 fishers missing, 7,500 stranded as typhoon Utor hits Philippines

MANILA, 12 Aug—At least 33 fishermen in coastal province of Catanduanes were reported missing and 7,581 people were stranded at various ports as Typhoon Utor (locally called labuyo) is approaching eastern coast of the Philippines.

The missing fishermen went fishing on Saturday despite the warning of the upcoming typhoon. The initial missing numbers were put at 40, but seven of whom returned home later, local media reported on Sunday. By 3 pm Sunday (0700 GMT), the centre of Typhoon Utor was 130 km north of Virac in Catanduanes in northeastern Philippines, Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said.

According to the latest report of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre (NDRRMC), 7,581 passengers on board 33 vessels were stranded at ports. Red alert status was placed on a dozen of provinces in Luzon island.

Eight regional centers of the NDRRMC have been on standby to mitigate the effects of typhoon Utor since Sunday morning.

“We have advised local government units in the regions to be affected to prepare accordingly because typhoon Utor is strong,” NDRRMC executive director and concurrent Office of Civil Defense administrator Eduardo del Rosario said.

Del Rosario appealed to fishermen and residents in the eastern seaboard of Luzon and Visayas not to venture into the sea. “It’s too risky and will only endanger our lives,” he said.—Xinhua

Power transmission towers supplying electric power to the inter-Korean Kaesong Industrial Complex from South Korea, are seen at the customs, immigration and quarantine (CIQ) office, just south of the demilitarized zone separating North Korea from South Korea in Paju, north of Seoul on 29 April, 2013.

A tea farmer irrigates tea plants at a tea plantation in Hangzhou City, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 11 Aug, 2013. Many tea plants have wilted due to the continuous scorching weather and drought in the city.

A woman passes a signboard displaying 40 C in Tatebayashi, Gunma Prefecture northwest of Tokyo, on 11 Aug, 2013. — KYODO NEWS

A tea farmer gathers around a fallen house wall in southwest Pakistan’s Quetta on 11 Aug, 2013. At least 15 children were injured as the house wall collapsed due to rain in Quetta on Saturday, local media reported.—Xinhua

A tea farmer with the so-called “the Pacific Ring of Fire.”—Xinhua
THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANNA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(7/2013)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
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<td>Spares for CAT D 3512 B Engine</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
<td>US $</td>
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<td>Spares for Kenworth Truck Engine</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
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<td>Spares for High Clutch (Ex NAT 80 B Drawwork)</td>
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<td>(6)</td>
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<td>(7)</td>
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<td>Stand Line Gate Valves &amp; Accessories</td>
<td>(7) Items</td>
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<td>DMP/L-029(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Heat Shrink Tube and Wire Cable for HDD Rig</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
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<td>(10)</td>
<td>DMP/L-030(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L Drilling Rig</td>
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<td>Kyat</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Tender Closing Date & Time -

  Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12-9-2013, 1300 Hrs.

- Damaged cargo -

  No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

- Consequences of non-adherence -

  Consignees of cargo carried on MV DELIGHT VOY NO (167) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.W.P. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

- Claims -

  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.

SINGAPORE raises growth forecast, but cuts trade projection

SINGAPORE, 12 Aug — Singapore’s economy grew by 3.8 percent year on year in the second quarter, the strongest growth in three years, the Ministry of Trade and Industry said on Monday. It also represents an improvement from the growth of 0.2 percent in the first quarter.

The stronger growth also prompted the ministry to upgrade the official growth forecast for the economy this year from 1.3 percent, to 2.5-3.5 percent, a forecast that has been re- vealed by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong earlier in his national day message.

However, the projections for total trade and exports were cut due to weaker statistics in the first half of the year. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the Singaporean economy expanded by 1.5 percent in the second quarter, significantly higher than the 1.7 percent expansion in the previous quarter, partly thanks to the strength of the manufacturing sector. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the manufacturing sector grew by 32.1 percent, a sharp rebound from the 12.1 percent contraction reported in the previous quarter.

The construction sector jumped 11.2 percent, faster than the 10.3 percent growth in the preceding quarter. The wholesale and retail trade sector expanded by 22.1 percent, in contrast to the 2.6 percent contraction in the first quarter. In the first half of 2013, the economy grew by 2 percent.

“While economic growth in the advanced economies came in slightly weaker than expected in the first half of the year, global macroeconomic conditions are expected to pick up gradually in the second half,” the Ministry of Trade and Industry said in a report. Nevertheless, it also noted risks such as the possible unintended consequences of China’s economic policy adjustment if it results in an excessive tightening of liquidity, and the reaction of the market to a tapering of the quantitative easing programme in the United States.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TOPAZ ACE VOY NO (6)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TOPAZ ACE VOY NO (6) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on ETA15.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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.

- Consequences of non-adherence -

  Consignees of cargo carried on MV OSSIAN VOY NO (13016N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2013 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.

- Claims -

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- Tenders -

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However, the projections for total trade and exports were cut due to weaker statistics in the first half of the year. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the Singaporean economy expanded by 1.5 percent in the second quarter, significantly higher than the 1.7 percent expansion in the previous quarter, partly thanks to the strength of the manufacturing sector. On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the manufacturing sector grew by 32.1 percent, a sharp rebound from the 12.1 percent contraction reported in the previous quarter.

The construction sector jumped 11.2 percent, faster than the 10.3 percent growth in the preceding quarter. The wholesale and retail trade sector expanded by 22.1 percent, in contrast to the 2.6 percent contraction in the first quarter. In the first half of 2013, the economy grew by 2 percent.

“While economic growth in the advanced economies came in slightly weaker than expected in the first half of the year, global macroeconomic conditions are expected to pick up gradually in the second half,” the Ministry of Trade and Industry said in a report. Nevertheless, it also noted risks such as the possible unintended consequences of China’s economic policy adjustment if it results in an excessive tightening of liquidity, and the reaction of the market to a tapering of the quantitative easing programme in the United States.—Xinhua

FLAMINGOS gather in the lake Bogoria in Kenya's Rift Valley Province which is a little north of the equator, on 10 Aug, 2013. Every year Flamingos in Kenya migrate between lake Nakuru, lake Naivasha and lake Bogoria to find abundant cyanobacteria to feed on.—Xinhua

FLAMINGOS gather in the lake Bogoria in Kenya's Rift Valley Province which is a little north of the equator, on 10 Aug, 2013. Every year Flamingos in Kenya migrate between lake Nakuru, lake Naivasha and lake Bogoria to find abundant cyanobacteria to feed on.—Xinhua
Justin Bieber reportedly got into a fight with a male club-goer after a female friend attempted to hit on him in his VIP section.

**London, 12 Aug—Actor Matt Damon says he was always grumpy on the set of Elysium because he was on a strict diet to stay in shape. The 42-year-old actor underwent a tough fitness regime and said giving up treats left him angry and unapproachable, reported Contactmusic.**

> “I was grumpy on this set, because I was on a diet for the whole movie. I think I shut up a little bit and keep to myself. It’s not even that it was as extreme as diets I’ve done before, but it’s like, at my age, I want to eat everything in my path, you know what I mean? I think I’ve become more of a glutton. It was really hard because I love to eat and I love to drink,” he said.

Damon, who raises four daughters Alexia, 14, Isabella, six, Gia, four and Stella, two, said his wife does not mind when he changes shape for movies because she likes the variety.

> “I’m at the point in my life where somebody was silly enough to marry me and won’t leave me if I put on a few pounds. I think my wife likes the variety. When I did ‘The Informant’, I put on 40 pounds, and I was like, ‘You like this guy, too, don’t you?’ I’m trying to talk her into that guy. That’s the guy I’m most comfortable with.”—PTI

**Shraddha Kapoor enjoys vacation with friends**

**New Delhi, 12 Aug—Bollywood actress Shraddha Kapoor, who is riding high on the success of her film Aashiqui 2, enjoyed a short break to treat and pamper herself.**

The 21-year-old had a wonderful time during the 10-day sojourn in Belgium, Amsterdam and Paris, and she even attended the dream music concert Tomorrowland with her friends.

> “The actress recently took a 10-day leave after a very long time to celebrate her success with her close friends. She surely deserved this holiday,” her spokesperson said in a statement. Shraddha, daughter of Shakti Kapoor, was also seen in Lux L.A. The End before she struck gold with director Mohit Suri’s Aashiqui 2.—PTI

**Swiss luxury shop denies racism towards Oprah**

**Zurich, 12 Aug—The owner of a luxury goods shop in Zurich has denied that racism was involved when Oprah Winfrey was discriminated against by the shop.**

The Swiss shop had been refused entry to the shop by a 35,000 Swiss franc handbag.

> “This is an absolute classic misunderstanding,” shop owner Trudie Goetz told Reuters on Friday.

> “This has nothing to do with racism, I am here for everyone and the customer is king,” she said.

The sales assistant, who was set to show a crocodile handbag to Winfrey, had been asked to show her the crocodile handbag, saying it was “too expensive” and steering her towards other, cheaper ones. Luxury shop Trois Pommes denied discriminating against Winfrey, an African-American, who was refused entry to the shop.

> “Of course that’s not the case. Who wouldn’t want to sell a purse for 35,000 francs?” Goetz said.

> “Trois Pommes operates under several US presidents. But when Oprah came, we were not discouraged from buying a purse,” she added.

> “As actors, it is very difficult to perform it the same way every time, for the audience to find it funny,” she said.

> “Comedy is the most difficult. Comic timing is something which you either have it in you, or you don’t. You have to have a good sense of humour to be able to understand it. A split second can make you lose the punch.”—PTI

**Deepika Padukone’s newest comedy film Chennai Express released on 8 Aug, 2013.**

**Mumbai, 12 Aug—After debuting with a blockbuster Om Shanti Om in 2007, Deepika Padukone has hardly lost the taste of success. With Race 2, Yeh Jawani Hai Deewani and now Chennai Express striking gold at the box office this year, one of Bollywood’s star actresses says success is nothing but “relief.”**

> “Is it her year at the box office?”

Deepika’s Chennai Express, featuring her Om Shanti Om co-star Shah Rukh Khan seems to be on its way to breaking records at the box office. The film released on Thursday (8 Aug, 2013) to a roaring opening day response.

> The more the success, the tougher it gets to keep up to it, believes Deepika, who made a rare successful transition from modelling to film.”

> “I have to focus all my energies and hope that the next film is better. It does not get easier to live up to all of that. I want that with every film, the love, success and experience increase,” said the 27-year-old daughter of former national badminton champion Prakash Padukone.

> “In her over-five-year-long film career, the actress has been a part of various movie genres — thriller, romance, action, drama and comedy. She finds comedy the toughest.”—PTI

**Shraddha Kapoor was last seen in Aashqui 2.**

> In her rare interview, the actress said, “As actors, it is very difficult to perform it the same way every time, for the audience to find it funny.”—PTI

But, yes, I think success is relative,” she added.

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Yet, she seems to have given it a shot for Chennai Express, directed by the new age master of Bollywood comedies, Rohit Shetty. In the past, he has made the Golmaal series and comic hit Bol Bachchan. How was it working with him?

> “I believe that he has his own school and style. It was a new style for me. His way of taking shots and directing his actors is different. He always had everything planned,” she said.

But he gave her enough room to try to improvise on her character named Meena in Chennai Express.—PTI
Battling McIlroy sees positive signs after PGA

ROCHESTER, (New York), 12 Aug—A triple bogey may have crushed any remaining chance Rory McIlroy had of defending his PGA Championship crown on Sunday. But the Northern Irishman, who has battled all season, remained hopeful he could end the year on a high.

As McIlroy’s reign ended he chose to look on the bright side of a sometimes dim week, signing off with a level par 70 to finish in a tie for eighth, seven shots back of winner American Jason Dufner. “I saw a lot of great signs out there today,” said McIlroy. “Hopefully I can just bring that through to the next few weeks and have a strong finish to the season.” Struggling through a season that has had more downs than ups after switching his club brand to Nike in a lucrative deal reported to be worth $250 million, McIlroy displayed plenty of fighting spirit during a rollercoaster week.

McIlroy, who coasted to victory by a record eight strokes in last year’s PGA Championship at Kiawah Island, had not given up on his title bid this week, even after flitting with the cutline during the second round. After playing his way back into title hunt with a 67 on Saturday, McIlroy effectively sank his title chance when he hit his second shot at the par-four fifth into water en route to a triple-bogey before hitting back with three birdies to finish with three under par for the tournament. “I actually didn’t hit a bad shot, pitched it just in the place you can’t pitch it I guess,” said McIlroy.

“If I had of been a few feet right or a few feet left, it would have been fine, but just got into a bit of a block and - from the tee I think it was mostly depression and came back into the water.” “I really didn’t hit a bad shot, but obviously it was disappointing. Came back okay at the end.” 24-year-old, who has been desperately searching for form is convinced he saw evidence that he was close to getting back to his best. “I played the week today. I hit some really good drivers and really good iron shots,” enthused McIlroy. “I didn’t quite putt as well as I did the first three days, but really, really happy with my game going into the next few weeks. ‘I didn’t have many chances out there today.’”

Dufner conquers Oak Hill for first major title

JASON DUFNER OF THE US POSES WITH THE WANNAMAKER TROPHY AFTER WINNING THE 2013 PGA CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT AT OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB IN ROCHESTER, NEW YORK ON 11 AUG. 2013.—REUTERS

ROCHESTER, (New York), 12 Aug—American Jason Dufner erased memories of his heart-breaking late collapse two years ago when he clinched his first major title by two shots in the 95th PGA Championship on Sunday. One stroke behind playing partner Jim Furyk overnight, the ultra-laidback Dufner produced some scintillating approach play on the way to a two-under-par 68 and an 11-under total of 268 on the challenging Oak Hill Country Club.

“It probably still hasn’t hit me yet,” Dufner said after being presented with the coveted Wanamaker Trophy which he hoisted high before kissing it. “I can’t believe this is happening to me.” Dufner, 36, seized control with three birdies on the front nine and shut the door on his rivals with a steady display of precise shot-making, backed up by safety-first golf over the difficult closing stretch.

A stunning approach to a foot at the par-four 16th earned him his fourth birdie of the day and he could afford to think this is happening to me. As McIlroy’s reign of a couple of toughest holes on the course, as he secured his third victory on the PGA Tour. After putting out on the last green, Dufner retrieved his ball from the hole before partially raising both his arms in celebration with his eyes closed and a faint smile on his face.

“Hopefully I can just bring McIlroy’s reign of a couple of toughest holes on the course, as he secured his third victory on the PGA Tour. After putting out on the last green, Dufner retrieved his ball from the hole before partially raising both his arms in celebration with his eyes closed and a faint smile on his face. as well as I did the first three days, but really, really happy with my game going into the next few weeks. ‘I didn’t have many chances out there today.’”

Northern Ireland’s Rory McIlroy reacts after missing a birdie putt on the second hole during the final round of the 2013 PGA Championship golf tournament at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York on 11 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

Ajax suffer first defeat of season at AZ

THE HAGUE, (the Netherlands), 12 Aug.—AZ handed Ajax their first defeat of the Eredivisie season on Sunday, by beating the reigning champions 2-1 in Alkmaar. AZ were the better side in the first half, but Ajax took the lead after a free-kick by Christian Eriksen. At the stroke of half-time Roy Beerens equalized after a mistake by Ajax goalkeeper Kenneth Vermeir. Due to sickness the latter was replaced by Jasper Cillessen at the start of second half.

Ajax took control in the second part with captain Sidney van der Heeren leading the visitors the lead again. He headed in a cross by Bojan Jokic. However, a red card for Ajax-defender Ricardo van Rhijn, after stopping Nick Viergever illegally, became the turning point of the match. Aron Johannsson from Joong gave AZ the double break penalty on fifteen minutes from time Viktor Elm earned AZ the victory.

“We were not playing well in the first half,” Ajax coach Frank de Boer reacted. “In the second half we were better and we were waiting for the third goal. After the red card and the penalty things turned around unfortunately. I think it should not have been a red card.”

Also on Sunday Feyenoord led already their second defeat of the season, 4-1 at home to FC Twente. On Saturday PSV Eindhoven as much as I can from it.” Nadal was ruthless from the outset and never allowed Raonic to settle his nerves in front of a partisan capacity crowd in Montreal. The Canadian’s big first serve, normally one of his most reliable weapons, was nullified by Nadal’s aggressive returns, with the Spanish left-hander twice breaking Raonic’s serve in the opening set.

“By contrast, Raonic was unable to make any inroads on Nadal’s serve with the fourth seed giving up just one solitary point on serve in the entire first set, which lasted a mere 32 minutes. Raonic fared better in the second set and earned three breaks points but was unable to convert any of them while Nadal capitalised on the two opportunities to get the double break and secure the title after 68 minutes. “At some points, I wasn’t making him play enough,” said Raonic, who enjoyed a hard-fought win over in-form Argentine Juan Martin Del Potro on his way to the deciding set. “I think I was rushing a lot of the first set and a half. The top four guys, when they get ahead that much, it’s very hard to get back.”

While Nadal’s troublesome knees showed no signs of giving him problems this week, they remain under constant scrutiny, especially when he’s preparing for the US Open, played on the most physically demanding surface of the four grand slam events.
Higher cigarette taxes make people drink less

The result showed that male smokers in states with higher tobacco tax drank about 10 percent less alcohol and reduced seven times of their drunken revelry per year than those in the states with the same tax rate.

Young adult smokers between the age of 18 and 29 in states with higher cigarette taxes skipped nearly one-quarter of their binge drinking per year than the others.

What our analyses show is an association between increasing cigarette tax and decreasing (alcohol consumption) among segments of the population, those being male smokers, male hazardous drinkers, and young adult smokers in particular,” said Sherry A. McKee, associate professor of psychiatry at Yale University Medical School, and one of the study’s authors.

Lab studies with animals have also shown the link between nicotine and alcohol. Researchers found that exposing a key part of the brain involved in reward and motivation to nicotine increases the response of dopamine-emitting neurons to alcohol. In other words, those given nicotine are likely to drink more liquor.

The study was carried out by researchers from Yale, Stanford and the Roswell Park Cancer Institute.—Xinhua

Williams hungry heading towards US Open

TORONTO, 12 Aug.— Even though she did not drop a set winning her eighth title of the season at the Rogers Cup on Sunday, Serena Williams believes she can play even better heading into the US Open. “Definitely can do a lot more,” she said after her 6-2, 6-0 victory over Romania’s Sorana Cîrstea in Sunday’s final. “It’s always about constantly improving and never saying I did great and I can be satisfied.”

Williams won the French Open in June and has lost just three matches all year but the 31-year-old said her defeats to young American Sloane Stephens at the Australian Open and Germany’s Sabine Lisicki at Wimbledon had reminded her she needs to manage her on-court attitude. “That could improve,” she said. “I get so intense and so emotionally charged, and I want it so bad that sometimes it works against me.”

“Cîrstea discovered first-hand just how motivated Williams is when she faced the ruthless world number one on Sunday and the unseeded Romanian said she was impressed by what she saw. She knows when to raise her level,” Cîrstea said. “She knows when it’s enough to play and when she has to step it up.”

Williams rebounded from her shock loss to Lisicki at Wimbledon by winning a tournament in Sweden but was still unhappy at the way she played so returned to Florida to continue working with her coach, Frenchman Patrick Mouratoglou, and her father.

“I was really disappointed in how I played the last month,” she said. “Even though I won Sweden, I was not happy with the way I played.” So I went home and was working with my dad a lot and just going back to the basics. I didn’t show it so much in (Toronto). Hopefully I can continue to bring that game out.”

Her victory on Sunday was Williams’ 54th career WTA singles title, elevating her to outright fifth on the all-time list. Despite her incredible record, the American said she was still suffered from nerves and expected to have more when she starts her US Open defence last month.

Reuter
Pragmatic approach needed to create better future of Kachin State: Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met with Kachin State government, departmental officials, town elders, members of social organizations and local authorities at the city hall in Myitkyina this morning.

At first, the Vice-President delivered an address. He said:

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said Myanmar is a country with 14 regions/states and one Union territory in which Kachin state is one of its family members. The Vice-President praised the beauty of Kachin State where the Maykha and Maliku rivers meet as a confluence of Ayeyawady River, the lifeline of the nation.

He said the state sits on the abundant natural resources above and underground. To be proud, only the state has the ever snow-capped mountain of Khakaborazi in all 10 ASEAN nations.

He said the country has the moderate climate, creating a harmonious environment for biodiversities and forests. Events in Kachin State over the previous year caught international attention while the country was on the track of the most-lauded reforms, he said.

The people from every nook and corner of the nation raised concerns over environmental degradation at Ayeyawady confluence which were now eased, he said.

The armed conflicts made tens of thousands of local people fled their own villages, abandoning their possessions.

(See page 9)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham speaking at a meeting with Kachin State government, departmental officials, town elders, members of social organizations and local authorities.—MNA

Myanmar media development discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—A meeting between Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi and Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) was held at Ruby Hall (5) of Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon, this morning.

The meeting focused on media development in Myanmar.

It was attended by Chairman of MPC (Temporary) U Khin Maung Aye and members, departmental heads and invited persons.

On the occasion, the Union Minister explained the objectives of Myanmar media development and vision of establishing Myanmar media environment to become a social responsibility media.

Press release on the meeting between the Ministry of Information and Myanmar Press Council (Temporary)


2. During the meeting, Union Minister U Aung Kyi discussed vision of establishing Myanmar media environment to become social responsibility media landscape in Myanmar. The MPC (Temporary) agreed to continue the discussion.

3. The Ministry of Information and Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) have agreed to handle the differences and other issues through negotiations.

At a press meet, the Union Minister clarified the press release. The Union Minister, deputy minister and the Chairman of MPC (Temporary) answered the queries raised by media persons.—MNA

Narcotic drugs, arms and ammunition seized

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—Members of Kayin State Police Force together with witnesses raided the hut of Moke Soe (a) Kyar Ku, 51, in Laikar Village of Hpa-an Township at 2.30 pm yesterday.

Moke Soe (a) Kyar Ku and Moe Khang opened fire at the police with M-16. In exchange of fire, Moke Soe (a) Kyar Ku managed to escape though he sustained injuries to his leg. Moe Khang was dead and arrested there.

While searching the hut, the policemen seized one M-16, 13 rounds of ammunition, two magazines, three hand-made short barrel guns, three long barrel guns, three rounds of 9mm ammunition, one round of .45 ammunition, one BA 57 grenade, 3045 pink stimulant tablets worth K 9,135,000, one piece of materials used in producing narcotic drug, K 83000, one bottle of gunpowder, one bottle of lead balls, one dagger, one file and one electrocution machine. Eindu police station opened a file of lawsuit against Moke Soe (a) Kyar Ku under the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Photos show arms and ammunition and narcotic drugs seized in Hpa-an Township.

Liaison Office opened at Letpadaungtaung Project Area

MOYWA, 12 Aug—The liaison office of the committee to solve the difficulties of local people in the Letpadaungtaung Project area was opened in Hsete-Zeedaw (Ywathit) in Salingyi Township of Yinmabin District of Sagaing Region this morning.

It was attended by Sagaing Region Minister for Forestry, Mines and Energy U Than Htaik, Region Hluttaw Representative U Aung Zaw Oo, Director U Tun Tun of Ministry of Mines, in-charge U Hla Sein of Letpadaungtaung Copper Mines Project of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd, local authorities, departmental officials and local people.

The liaison office is constituted with one minister of Sagaing Region, one representative each of the Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Wenbau Co and UMEHL to solve problems of the local people and submit to higher echelons of different levels and make field trips to the villages.

Narcotic substances law enforcement.

The Ministry of Information and Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) was constituted with one minister of Sagaing Region, one representative each of the Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Wenbau Co and UMEHL to solve problems of the local people and submit to higher echelons of different levels and make field trips to the villages.