President U Thein Sein’s address to be aired on MRTV

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug—A ceremony to take heed of President U Thein Sein’s address and make affirmation will be held at the Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 10 am on 14 August.

This programme will be broadcast live through Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) starting 10 am.—MNA

Appointment of deputy ministers

Under the Sub-sections (a) and (d) of Section 234 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Para (ix), Sub-section (b), Section 16 of the Union Government Law, the following persons have been appointed as deputy ministers of the respective ministries shown against them.

(1) U Tin Oo Lwin
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

(2) Dr Aung Myat Oo
Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development

(3) Daw Le Le Thein
Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

President Office
(Order No. 33/2013)
7th Waxing of Wagaung, 1375 ME
(13th August, 2013)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—A work coordination meeting of presidents of Myanmar Sports Federations for XXVII SEA Games was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Sports, here this morning, with an address by Patron of the Leading Committee for holding XXVII SEA Games Vice-President U Nyan Tun. In his speech, the Vice-President said that it needs to establish good relations between the government and the sports federations, calling for ensuring frequent (See page 8)

Byline: Myint Shwe (Fisheries Department)

It needs to establish good relations between government and sports federations: Vice-President U Nyan Tun

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Byline: Myint Shwe (Fisheries Department)

Breeding giant sea perch with remarkable success in Taninthayi Region

The coast of Myanmar, east of the Bay of Bengal, is 2832 kilometres in length. Taninthayi coastal region is the longest among three coasts of Myanmar and it is 1200 kilometres long. Such coast is adjacent to Mergui Archipelago constituted with over 800 islands. Sea fish farming is the main business of the region, accounting for over 40 per cent of the gross domestic product.

In the business of Taninthayi Region concerning off and onshore fishing industries, sea water fish and prawn breeding, soft crab breeding, sea weed culture, cold storage and shipyards are securing success in their works.

In sea water fish and prawn breeding, giant sea perch is being bred in cage. It has been started by United Myeik Co Ltd in Kyaukpha River near Yaymyitkyi Village in Myeik Township since 2004. Giant sea perch is marketable species. Breeders in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Taiwan are engaged in breeding of giant sea perch on a commercial scale.

Priority is being given to breeding of giant sea perch because the scientific hatching can gain higher growth rate and best genes. Giant sea perch can be bred at sea or fresh water. It can be nurtured with the use of cage or in the pond.

In Taninthayi Region, the breeding system is being practised in Thailand, Malaysia and Taiwan. At present, Myanmar can breed such fish on a commercial scale.

Pyinhtetaw sea fish research of Fisheries Department farm in Kyunsu Township has been conducting the hatching of giant sea perch since 2011-2012 fiscal year. The farm can produce one to two million fingerlings while it breeds species of giant sea perch at its owned farm.

Fisheries Department (Head Office) formed a special team under the systematic plan to extend breeding of fish in case system in Myeik District of Taninthayi Region.

Kyemon: 11-8-2013
Try: TTA

Japan confirms Kenya oil exploration project with new government

Fidel Castro's role in Cuba is chiefly offstage as he turns 87

Latest volcanic eruption shows challenge to Indonesia from its ‘ring of fire’
HRD

Students provided with stipends of Nay Pyi Taw bus lines

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—Nay Pyi Taw All Bus-line Control Committee (Highway) held an ceremony to present stipends to students of staff from bus lines under its control for matriculation examination in 2012-2013 academic year.

The ceremony took place at its office on 10 August. It was attended by Chairman of the committee U Win Swe and members.

Gangaw plans to carry out rural development tasks

Gangaw, 13 Aug—The meeting on development of rural region was held at the hall of Gangaw District General Administration Department on 5 August morning, with a speech by Deputy Commissioner U Hla Min Htut of the district. Plans are underway to carry out 39 road transportation, 35 water supply for drinking purpose, 15 water supply for agricultural purpose, one electrification, six education task and one general task in Gangaw, Htilin, Saw Hmawby and Kyaukhtu Sub-Township in 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Local News

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Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tin Hsan on 10 August viewed training of athletes at the sports camps in Nay Pyi Taw for taking part in the XXVII SEA Games.

In meeting with the athletes at the sports camps, the Union minister stressed the need to speed up their training sessions to be able to win gold medals in all sports events for uplifting the prestige of the State. They were urged to place emphasis on training under prescribed disciplines as stadiums and gymnasiums have been repaired and renovated. They were also urged to secure the gold medals so as to serve the interests of the nation and the people.

Beginning 6 am, the Union Minister looked into training of jockeys at Shwenatha horse race course, practices of men and women boxers in Myanmar traditional (muay) boxing event at training centre -1 in Nay Pyi Taw, men’s and women’s teams at the gymnasium in traditional cane-ball event, those in the hoop Takraw event and players in the men’s and women’s doubles Sepak Takraw event.

National Sports

Training aimed at securing gold medals

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Japan, US have “deep, deep bond”

NARITA, Japan — Outgoing US Ambassador to Japan John Roos said Monday that Japan and the United States have a “deep, deep bond with each other,” calling his four-year term “wonderful amazing years.”

“I hope in small way I was able to contribute to even deepening that bond further,” Roos told reporters at Narita airport near Tokyo before leaving Japan.

“The most important (thing) we have enjoyed is the wonderful people of Japan,” said Roos, who experienced the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that experienced the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that

BAGHDAD, Iraq — At least 16 people were killed and 41 wounded on Monday in a suicide bomb attack on a crowded cafe in Balad, 80 km (50 miles) north of Baghdad, part of the worst wave of violence in Iraq in around five years.

Two roadside bombs — one planted near a play- ground and another near a school — also killed six people and wounded dozens, some of them children, in the town of Muqdadiya, 80 km northeast of the capi- tal.

Those blasts underline a shift in tactics by suspect- ed Islamist militants, who are increasingly targeting not only military checkpoints and marketplaces, but also cafes and recrea- tional areas used by families and children.

The latest bloodshed came as al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for weekend bombings across Iraq which killed dozens of people dur- ing Eid al-Fitr, the festive end to the Islamic fasting month of Ramadan, height- ening fears of even wider sectarian slaughter.

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), formed earlier this year through a merger of al-Qae- da’s affiliates in Syria and Iraq, said on jihadist forums it was behind the attacks against Baghdad and south- ern provinces on Saturday.

It also warned the govern- ment to stop arresting suspected militants or face more violence.

The Islamic State de- ployed some of its security efforts in Baghdad and the southern province and other

 Jakarta, 13 Aug.—A deadly lava flow at the weekend that killed five people and forced hundreds of others to flee their homes illustrates the formi- dable challenges Indonesia faces in coping with the constant threat of eruptions from the world’s largest number of active volca- noes.

Mt Rokatenda at the eastern end of the archi- pelago off the island of Flo- res, on Saturday became the fifth major volcanic erup- tion in just three years.

The island, usually in re- cent memory was Mt Mer- api, near the densely popu- lated city of Yogyakarta in central Java, which erupted in late 2010, killing over 350 people. “Observation centres in Indonesia have equipment that can detect an increase in geophysical or geochemical activity. So, if there are increasing tremors, it might be a sign

Taleban group warns Pakistani government against executions

ISLAMABAD, 13 Aug.—Punjabi Taleban have warned Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif’s govern- ment of revenge if it ex- ecutes convicted militants as scheduled.

“The executions would be regarded as a declara- tion of war (on the Paki- stani Taleban) by Pakistan Muslim League (N) and the party will have to pay its price,” said a letter the group sent to media organi- zations.

The letter asked both the ruling Pakistan Mus- lim League (N) and the Tehreek-e-Insaf party of Imran Khan to be wary of conspiracies with pro-India or pro-United States forces and not to become a part of the war on terror.

Punjabi Taleban is a powerful component of Tehreek-e-Taleban Paki- stan with a sizeable follow- ing in southern Punjab.

The Pakistan Peoples Party government imposed a moratorium on executions in 2008 through an execu- tive order, but it lapsed with the ouster of the govern- ment in general elections in May.

Deadly Iraq bombings target cafe, school and playground

CAIRO, 13 Aug.—Is- lamist supporters of de- posed President Mohamed Morsi have begun to abandon their protest camps in Cairo on Monday and said they would fend off any police crackdown with sticks, stones and their faith.

By nightfall, though, the streets of the capital were relatively quiet as the security forces held back from any action de- spite warnings on Sunday that they were ready to dismantle the camps. For- eign Minister Nabil Fahmy said every effort was being made to resolve the situa- tion through dialogue.

In a political develop- ment, the Nour Party said it could join the assembly writing a new constitution for the country, adding Is- lamist support to the mili- tary’s political transition plan following its over- throw of Morsi last month.

Nour is Egypt’s second largest Islamist party after Mursi’s Muslim Brother- hood.

The crisis brought on by the removal of the Arab nation’s first freely elected president is now focused on the protest camps, where thousands of his support- ers are demanding his rein- statement.

At the al-Nahda camp, cen- tered round a traffic cir- cle and extending down a palm tree-lined boulevard next to the Cairo zoo, the mood was solemn but not fearful.

Asked about the threat of a crackdown, Ahmed Shargawy, a 23-year-old translator, said: “They said that 15 days ago too. They always say they are going to finish it.”

A block away, half a dozen armoured troop car- riers and a few squads of soldiers were positioned outside a police station, but they did not look like part of a strike force ready to move.

The authorities are keen to end the protests but they held off from acting over the Eid al-Fitr holiday after the Islamic fasting month of Ramadan. The holiday ended on Sunday.

A security source said the delay was also because crowds had swelled the camps after reports of an imminent crackdown.

Army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi is un- der pressure from hardline officers to end the sit-ins, security sources say. But Western and Arab envoys and some senior Egyptian government members have pressed the army to avoid using force.

Fahmy said the right to peaceful protest would be guaranteed. But he sug- gested there was a limit to the government’s pa- tience.

“It is not reasonable for any democratic gov- ernment to have to accept sit-ins where violence is being used and the security of citizens and the country is being threatened,” state news agency MENA quoted him as saying.

Mursi supporters stand firm, brace for Egypt crackdown

A member of the Muslim Brotherhood and sup- porter of deposed Egyp- tian President Mohamed Mursi walks near tents in front of the main gate of Cairo University, which has been boarded up for protection from riot police, around Nahdet Misr Square where Mursi supporters are camping in Giza, south of Cairo on 12 Aug, 2013. —Reuters

People gather at the site of a car bomb attack in Kerbala, 110 km (70 miles) south of Baghdad, on 11 Aug, 2013. —Reuters

Reuters

New Light of Myanmar

Wednesday, 14 August, 2013

3
California billionaire lifts lid on ‘Hyperloop’ futuristic transport

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Aug — Billionaire US entrepreneur Elon Musk unveiled plans on Monday for a futuristic “Hyperloop” transportation system to whisk passengers between San Francisco and Los Angeles in under half an hour.

The highly anticipated announcement put to rest some of the questions surrounding the ambitious project, which the Tesla Motors Inc founder and CEO has hinted at for months but declined to discuss in detail. Musk said the Hyperloop would cost less than $6 billion in total and could transport 7.4 million people each way each year.

He said it would take 7-10 years for the project to be completed.

The solar-powered system, which Musk previously described as a cross between a Concorde, rail gun and air-technology table, would shoot as many as 28 passengers in each enclosed capsule through a low-pressure steel tube at up to 800 miles per hour, according to the 57-page design plan. Musk, who made his name as a PayPal founding member before going on to start SpaceX and Tesla, envisioned capsules departing every 30 seconds and traversing the roughly 400 miles between Los Angeles and San Francisco — the busiest traffic corridor on the West Coast — along an elevated tube erected along the I-5 interstate highway.

The capsules ride a cushion of air blasted from “skis” beneath, propelled via a magnetic linear accelerator. Major questions remain, notably whether the California state government will ever approve the massive project, and whether any private companies are willing to step in and build it. The design remains theoretical and has yet to be tested in the field. Musk has said he is too busy running electric-car company Tesla and rocket manufacturer SpaceX to build the Hyperloop himself. He said the design plans were open-source, meaning others can build on them. On Monday, however, he told reporters on a conference call he could kick off the project. “I’ve come around a little bit on my thinking here,” he said. “Maybe I could do the beginning bit... and then hand it over to somebody else,” he said.

He said he would be willing to put some of his personal fortune toward the project but stressed that building the Hyperloop was a low priority for him as he continues to focus primarily on SpaceX and Tesla. He also asked the public for help improving the design. Corporations have resorted in the past to public assistance on their products. In 2009, Netflix Inc awarded a cash prize to a team that succeeded in improving by 10 percent the accuracy of its system for movie recommendations.

Musk is floating the Hyperloop as an alternative to the state’s planned high-speed train line, which he has said will be too expensive to build and too slow.

US horse association will be ordered to allow clones on registry

New York, 13 Aug — A US horse association soon will be required to add cloned horses and their offspring to its prestigious registry, a federal judge in Texas ruled on Monday. The decision could encourage cloning and open the way for the animals to participate in lucrative horse races. US District Court Judge Mary Lou Robinson said she will sign an order requiring the American Quarter Horse Association to begin allowing cloned animals to be placed on its registry, according to the organization.

Two Texas breeders, rancher Jason Abraham and veterinarian Gregg Veneklasen, sued the American Quarter Horse Association last year, asserting the group was operating a monopoly by excluding clones. A jury last month ruled that the horse association violated anti-monopoly laws by banning cloned animals. The judge did not rule on the plaintiffs’ request for an award of nearly $900,000 in attorney fees, according to the horse association. No other horse breeding registry allows cloned animals, although the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association allows cloned horses to compete in rodeos.

Some quarter horse owners and breeders have complained that cloned animals have an unfair advantage because they are selected according to superior genetic characteristics.

US sets up intelligence surveillance technology review body

WASHINGTON, 13 Aug — The Obama administration Monday launched a formal review of its electronic intelligence gathering that has come under widespread criticism since leaks by a former spy agency contractor. The Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies will examine the technical and policy issues that arise from rapid advances in global telecommunications, the White House said in a statement. The group will assess whether US data collection “optimally protects our national security and advances our foreign policy while appropriately accounting for other policy considerations, such as the risk of unauthorized disclosure and our need to maintain the public trust,” the statement said. The high-level group of outside experts has 60 days to deliver its interim findings. A final report and recommendations are due on 15 December.

A separate statement by Director of National Intelligence James Clapper confirmed the review. Neither the White House nor Clapper released details on the size or composition of the panel. In a news conference at the White House on Friday, President Barack Obama vowed to improve oversight of surveillance and restore public trust in the government’s programmes. The formal review is one of four measures unveiled by Obama, who said he had ordered a review of the surveillance programs before ex-National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden leaked secret documents to The Guardian and The Washington Post.

Facebook plans to buy voice recognition app maker

San Francisco, 13 Aug — Facebook Inc plans to buy the maker of a speech recognition and language translation app, providing technology that could bolster the social networking company’s mobile efforts.

Facebook did not disclose the financial terms of its deal for Pittsburg-based Mobile Technologies. Facebook Management Director Tom Stocky said in a blog post on Monday, “Voice technology has become an increasingly important way for people to navigate mobile devices and the web.”

The deal comes a week after Motorola, which is owned by Facebook rival Google Inc, unveiled its Moto X phone which has built-in voice recognition capabilities. Apple Inc’s Siri feature, which functions as a personal assistant for iPhones, also uses voice recognition.

Mobile Technologies, founded in 2001, was the maker of the free Jibjibgo Translator mobile app that automatically translates speech from more than 20 languages.
Eyes may hold clues to stroke risk

WASHINGTON, 13 Aug — Eyes may someday be used to assess if you’re more likely to develop a stroke.—WASHINGTON, 13 Aug — Eyes may someday be used to assess if you’re more likely to develop a stroke. Researchers reported Monday in the American Heart Association journal Hypertension, Researchers from the National University of Singapore tracked stroke occurrence for an average of 13 years in 2,907 patients with high blood pressure who had not previously experienced a stroke. At the start of the study, each participant had photographs taken of the retina, the light-sensitive layer of cells at the back of the eyeball. Damage to the retinal blood vessels attributed to hypertension, called hypertensive retinopathy, evident on the photographs was scored as none, mild, moderate or severe. During the follow-up, 146 participants experienced a stroke caused by a blood clot and 15 by bleeding in the brain. After adjusting for several stroke risk factors such as age, sex, race, cholesterol levels, blood sugar, body mass index, smoking and blood pressure readings, the researchers found the risk of stroke was 35 percent higher in those with mild hypertensive retinopathy and 137 percent higher in those with moderate or severe hypertensive retinopathy. Even in patients on medication and achieving good blood pressure control, the risk of a blood clot was 96 percent higher in those with mild hypertensive retinopathy and 198 percent higher in those with moderate or severe hypertensive retinopathy, they said. “The retina provides information on the status of blood vessels in the brain,” said Mohamud Kamran Ikram, lead author of the study and assistant professor in the Singapore Eye Research Institute at the National University of Singapore. “Retinal imaging is a non-invasive and cheap way of examining the blood vessels of the retina.” Worldwide, high blood pressure is the single most important risk factor for stroke. However, it’s still not possible to predict which high blood pressure patients are most likely to develop a stroke.—Xinhua

Machinists top Teamsters in vote to represent US Air mechanics

US Airways jets are seen at Reagan National Airport in Washington on 12 July, 2013. — Reuters

ATLANTA, 13 Aug — The machinists union on Monday won an election to represent nearly 5,000 US Airways Group (LCCN) mechanics, beating back an attempt by the Teamsters to gain a foothold at the carrier ahead of its merger with American Airlines. The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers received 1,903 votes, or 57 percent of votes counted, in the month-long election, based on certified results from the US National Mediation Board. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters garnered 1,418 votes, or 42 percent of ballots counted. In a statement, the Teamsters said it hoped the US Airways workers who supported its union would be heard. The US Air mechanics have been represented by the machinists union since 1949. “Hundreds of mechanics and related (workers) at US Airways had the courage to launch a campaign and more than 1,400 voted for change,” said Bret Caldwell, communications director for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. They reached out to the Teamsters because they are the lowest-paid mechanics and have the lowest standards in the industry and wanted a strong alternative to their failed representation,” Caldwell added in a statement. The Teamsters made a big push this year to displace unions at both US Airways and its merger partner American. In May, it filed with the US mediation board seeking an election for mechanics at American, who are currently represented by the Transport Workers Union.—Reuters

Kids’ chronic stomach pain tied to anxiety disorders

New York, 13 Aug — Children with chronic or recurring stomach pain without a clear medical explanation were also more likely to have an anxiety disorder than those without stomach problems, in a new study. By the time kids with stomach pain reached age 20, just over half had symptoms of an anxiety disorder at some point, most often social anxiety, researchers noted. Anxiety tended to start in early childhood, around the same time as the chronic stomach problems. Past studies suggest between eight and 25 percent of all youth have chronic stomach pain, researchers noted. When there’s no clear medical cause for the pain, such as inflammatory bowel disease or celiac disease — it’s known as functional abdominal pain. “It’s very prevalent, and it’s one of the most common reasons kids that children and adolescents end up in their pediatrician’s office. It’s one of the most common reasons kids are missing school,” said Dr Eva Szigthey, head of the Medical Coping Clinic at the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Inflammatory Bowel Disease Centre. One small study of children with that type of pain found they were at a higher than average risk of anxiety disorders as young adults. To build on those findings, Lynn Walker from the Vandenberg University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee, and her colleagues followed 332 children who visited a doctor for unexplained stomach pain between age eight and 17.—Reuters

Singapore’s water firm Hyflux inks eco project in Sichuan

SINGAPORE, 13 Aug — Singapore’s leading water treatment firm Hyflux said on Monday that it has inked an exclusive strategic cooperation framework agreement for an eco project in China’s Sichuan Province. The project, named Hejiang Fohao Yulanshan Mountain Wetlands project, is planned to “be a world-class ecological and environmentally friendly development consisting of residential, commercial, recreational and tourism developments.” Hyflux, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Hyflux Management and Consultancy Pte Ltd signed the agreement with Hejiang County People’s Government and Sichuan Hengxin Weiyi Investment Co, Ltd. The Hyflux said during the six-month validity period of the agreement, it will conduct feasibility studies with Hengxin Weiyi Investment. The two companies will also work with local government of Hejiang County “on the features and other details of the project, including the design and development of sustainable water infrastructure and other environment related facilities.” The Hyflux Management and Consultancy will leverage on the Hyflux’s “extensive expertise and experience in water treatment solutions and environment technology,” the company said in a statement. Xinhu

US FDA approves GlaxoSmithKline’s HIV drug Tivicay

WASHINGTON, 13 Aug — The US Food and Drug Administration said on Monday it has approved GlaxoSmithKline Plc’s drug Tivicay to treat the most common strain of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The once-daily drug, known generically as dolutegravir, belongs to a novel class known as integrase inhibitors that block the virus from entering cells. Tivicay is owned by ViV Healthcare, an HIV joint venture between GSK, Pfizer Inc and Shionogi & Co Ltd in which GSK is the largest shareholder, with a 76.5 percent stake. Analysts on average expect sales of the drug to reach about $900 million by 2017, according to six analysts polled by Thomson Reuters. Tivicay can be used to treat infected adults who have been treated with other drugs or are new to treatment. The FDA also approved the drug for use in children aged 12 years and over, who weigh at least 40 kg (88 lbs) and who have not received treatment with a drug that has the same mechanism of action. About 50,000 people in the United States are infected with HIV each year and about 15,500 died in 2010, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Common side effects of Tivicay in clinical trials included insomnia or they received Atirpla, a fixed-dose combination of three HIV drugs made by Gilead Sciences Inc. A fifth trial evaluated the safety of the drug in children. Last week the FDA approved Alere Inc’s HIV test which is designed to diagnose HIV infection earlier.—Reuters

A no entry sign is pictured outside the GlaxoSmithKline building in Hounslow, west London on 18 June, 2013. — Reuters

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US FDA approves GlaxoSmithKline’s HIV drug Tivicay

WASHINGTON, 13 Aug — The US Food and Drug Administration said on Monday it has approved GlaxoSmithKline Plc’s drug Tivicay to treat the most common strain of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The once-daily drug, known generically as dolutegravir, belongs to a novel class known as integrase inhibitors that block the virus from entering cells. Tivicay is owned by ViV Healthcare, an HIV joint venture between GSK, Pfizer Inc and Shionogi & Co Ltd in which GSK is the largest shareholder, with a 76.5 percent stake. Analysts on average expect sales of the drug to reach about $900 million by 2017, according to six analysts polled by Thomson Reuters. Tivicay can be used to treat infected adults who have been treated with other drugs or are new to treatment. The FDA also approved the drug for use in children aged 12 years and over, who weigh at least 40 kg (88 lbs) and who have not received treatment with a drug that has the same mechanism of action. About 50,000 people in the United States are infected with HIV each year and about 15,500 died in 2010, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Common side effects of Tivicay in clinical trials included insomnia or they received Atirpla, a fixed-dose combination of three HIV drugs made by Gilead Sciences Inc. A fifth trial evaluated the safety of the drug in children. Last week the FDA approved Alere Inc’s HIV test which is designed to diagnose HIV infection earlier.—Reuters

K ids’ chronic stomach pain tied to anxiety disorders

New York, 13 Aug — Children with chronic or recurring stomach pain without a clear medical explanation were also more likely to have an anxiety disorder than those without stomach problems, in a new study. By the time kids with stomach pain reached age 20, just over half had symptoms of an anxiety disorder at some point, most often social anxiety, researchers noted. Anxiety tended to start in early childhood, around the same time as the chronic stomach problems. Past studies suggest between eight and 25 percent of all youth have chronic stomach pain, researchers noted. When there’s no clear medical cause for the pain, such as inflammatory bowel disease or celiac disease — it’s known as functional abdominal pain. “It’s very prevalent, and it’s one of the most common reasons kids that children and adolescents end up in their pediatrician’s office. It’s one of the most common reasons kids are missing school,” said Dr Eva Szigthey, head of the Medical Coping Clinic at the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh Inflammatory Bowel Disease Centre. One small study of children with that type of pain found they were at a higher than average risk of anxiety disorders as young adults. To build on those findings, Lynn Walker from the Vandenberg University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee, and her colleagues followed 332 children who visited a doctor for unexplained stomach pain between age eight and 17.—Reuters

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**Japan confirms Kenya oil exploration project with new government**

NAIROBI, 13 Aug—Japan’s Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshimitsu Motegi said on Monday that he has confirmed with the Kenyan government that Japan will deal with jointly undertake oil exploration in the southwestern part of the country.

The two countries’ state-owned resource developers—Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corp. and National Oil Corp. of Kenya—will work together for the first time in a project that has been expected to last by 2024.

Two companies have been requested to get their offers in by 2024.

President Uhuru Kenyatta, who came into power in April this year, according to Motegi.

Motegi, who met Deputy Prime Minister William Ruto in Nairobi on Sunday, told Kyodo News that “it is important for Japan to secure oil interests in Kenya eventually.”

Exploration is expected to be undertaken through the fall of 2014 in a project that has been requested Japanese companies be given concessions for test drilling if an oil deposit is confirmed.

During his visit to Kenya, Motegi unveiled a Japanese plan to accommodate 30 people for training in the petroleum business over the next five years. He also visited the Olkaria geothermal project for power generation in Naivasha.

Motegi visited Tanzania and Kenya from Friday through Monday. In Tanzania, he held talks with President Jakaya Kikwete and promoted the participation of Japanese businesses in seaport and railway infrastructure development.

**Gov’t security panel to discuss Japan’s response to cyberattacks**

TOYKO, 13 Aug.—A government panel of experts tasked with considering lifting Japan’s self-imposed ban on exercising the right to collective self-defense will discuss the country’s response to cyberattacks, a government source said on Monday.

The panel on the legal framework for Japan’s security issues will examine whether Tokyo should exercise the right to coming to the defense of an ally in the event of international cyberattacks targeted at computer systems of the allied country, the source said.

It will also consider how Japan will deal with progress in space development, according to the source.

Japan and the United States have cooperated on space security issues in view of China’s expansion of its activities allowed in the area outside the earth’s atmosphere.

Under its current interpretation of the pacifist Constitution, Japan does not permit itself to exercise the right because doing so would go beyond the self-defense allowed under the war-renouncing Article 9 of the supreme law.

**Spying scandal sets back US chances for fighter jet sale to Brazil**

BRASILIA, 13 Aug.—US hopes of landing a coveted deal worth more than $4 billion to sell 36 fighter jets to Brazil have suffered a setback with recent revelations that the United States collected data on Brazilian Internet communications.

When US Secretary of State John Kerry sits down with Brazilian officials in Brasilia on Tuesday to prepare a state visit to the White House by President Dilma Rousseff, the sale of the warplanes will not be on the agenda, a Brazilian source said.

“We cannot talk about the fighters now—you cannot give such a contract to a country that you do not trust,” a high-level Brazilian government official told Reuters on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

The official said Kerry’s one-day visit to Brazil will focus on restoring the trust between Washington and Brasilia that was shaken by the spying disclosures, which set off a political uproar in the largest US trade partner in South America. Last month, Brazilian newspaper O Globo published documents leaked by fugitive former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden that revealed US surveillance of Internet communications in Brazil and other Latin American countries.—Reuters

**Fidel Castro’s role in Cuba is chiefly offstage as he turns 87**

Former Cuban leader Fidel Castro sits at the inauguration of the Vilma Espin Guillotis school in Havana in this picture taken on 9 April, 2013, and released by Cuban website Cubadebate on 11 April, 2013.

Israel says it intercepts rocket launch near Egypt’s Sinai

JERUSALEM, 13 Aug.—Israel intercepted a rocket near Egypt’s Sinai Peninsula early on Tuesday, exploding it in the air over the southern Israeli city of Eilat, a military official said.

No damage or injury was reported in the incident, but explosions reverberated in the dark skies over the desert hills surrounding the Israeli resort city, where it also set off air raid sirens, witnesses and Israeli news media said.

Israel’s Ynet website said it was the first time Israel’s Iron Dome interceptor had struck a missile fired at Eilat. The military official declined to say from where the missile had been fired.

Israel briefly shut its airport in Eilat on Thursday citing threats from militants in Sinai involved in a standing confrontation with the Egyptian military.

The violence picked up after former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, an ally of Israel, was toppled from power in 2011. It has increased again since last month’s military ouster of Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohamed Mursi as Egypt’s president.

Four Islamist guerrillas in Egypt’s Sinai were killed on Friday by a missile strike that al-Qaeda blamed on Israel. Israel dismissed the reports saying it respected Egypt’s sovereignty.—Reuters

Photo taken on 13 Aug, 2013, shows water spouting from the sea as the Maritime Self-Defense Force disposed of a mine in the Kammon Straits off Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture. The mine, found buried in the seabed off Shimonoseki in June, was dropped by a US bomber around the end of World War II. Kyodo News

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Kyodo News
CONSTRUCTION
Sanitation tasks carried out along Kalay-Gangaw railroad section

Kalay, 13 Aug—Bushes by Kalay-Gangaw railroad section were cleared and the conditions of the railroad were inspected by railway engineers and workers on 8 August.

The mission was led by two junior engineers of Myanma Railways and carried out by 40 workers.

The sanitation efforts covered the areas around Hnanka, Mwelal, Gangaw, Myinya and Kan railway stations.

Assistant Engineer U Thaung Nyunt inspected and supervised the works. Kalay-Gangaw railway section was opened on 5 February 1996 and has more than 20 railway stations on the railroad. The length of the road is 82 miles.

The budget of K 223.9 million for the major repair of the road section has been requested at the parliament, according to the Kalay Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Tin Hlaing—MMAL-Sin Nay Min.

Water supply facilities in Mahaunmye Tsp repaired

Mandalay, 13 Aug—Mandalay City Development Committee is regenerating the water supply facilities in the second largest city of Myanmar.

The committee sank new artesian wells and replaced old pipelines with new ones in Mahaunmye Nos. (1) and (2) wards in Mahaunmye Township in Mandalay.

Water supply facilities in the area are outdated and dilapidated, causing leakage along the pipeline. The MCDC effort is aimed at ensuring safe water supply in the city.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)

Killer alligator captured dead

Bogale, 13 Aug—A killer alligator has been captured dead by villagers in Phondawgyi jetty in Satkyun village in Bogale Township.

The alligator named “Mae Lone” killed a novice, 11, taking bath in the creek on 4 August morning. It is 18 ft long and seven ft round. The body was discovered near Thanbaung village on the other side of the village.

It reportedly killed a primary school student, 11, in 2012.

There is still another alligator, even larger than Mae Lone, is also running here and there in the creek.

MMAL-Myint Lwin (Bogale)

Experts seek ways for implementation of Brahmaputra-Salween Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (BSL)

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—Experts from Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry and from International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Nepal held a meeting to compile a report on the Brahmaputra-Salween Landscape Conservation and Development Initiative (BSL) yesterday.

In his opening address at the meeting at the Forest Research Department (Yezin), Director-General of the Forest Department Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw called for stepping up efforts for conservation of Brahmaputra basin, which is one of the world’s 34 key biodiversity conservation sites, saving the biodiversities in danger of extinction due to the climate change and increasing in population.

Plans are underway to make survey and compile report which would ensure success of the strategies and project of the BSL.

The meeting focused on supporting information to the report by related departments, ensuring participatory approach of the related departments and stakeholders and seeking ways for compiling report and implementation strategies.

Stipends granted to offspring of members of Pyinmana All Bus Lines Supervisory Committee

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—Pyinmana All Bus Lines Supervisory Committee (Highway) in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area granted stipends to offspring of members at the ceremony held at its office in Bawgathiri Highway Bus Terminal on 10 August.

The chairman of All Bus Lines Supervisory Committee delivered an address at the ceremony, saying the committee had granted K 1.9 million since the start of his reign.

He promised that the stipends would be granted each year to the schoolchildren from the families of buslines workers. He stressed the importance of the education.

Water Supply

Water tanks donated to primary school in water-scarce village

Sagang, 13 Aug—Water tanks and pots were donated to a Basic Education Primary School in water-scarce area in Ywathaya village in Sagang Region on 8 August.

At first, Township Development Committee Chairman U Zaw Win explained the purpose of donation of the tanks with the capacity of 2800 gallons for Ywathaya villagers who have occasionally experienced drought.

After that, Township Development Supervisory Committee Chairman U Myint Maung gave educative talks on utilization of rainwater.

Other facilities to tap rainwater were also presented to the school by town leaders.

The water tanks were donated by U Zaw Win, Dr Daw Hnin Hnin Sein, U Nyunt Hlaing and wife Daw Khin Swe Win and Dr Myint Myint Sein (Mandalay), U Zaw Win Aung and U Soe Win and other donors.

Health

Drug stores in Pyinmana inspected

MMAL-137

Crime

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MMAL-Myint Lwin (Bogale)

Electricity

Power plants built in Mandalay District

Mandalay, 13 Aug—Region industry minister Dr Myint Kyu and officials visited Thinpangon power plant in Pyinmana Township in Mandalay Region and inspected the operation of the power plant.

He urged the staff there to complete the installation works on schedule and for supply of more electricity to end users.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)

MMAL-Zaw Myo Naing

Madhav Singh, 7 August, 2013

HRD

Teachers invited to participate in 2013 World Teacher’s Day article contest

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—The article contest will be held in four categories—higher education, basic education high school, middle school and primary school—to mark World Teacher’s Day 2013 which falls on 5 October.

Faculty members from the universities and colleges and retired officers are to take part in higher education level, township education officers, staff officers, BEHS heads and SAT in basic education high school level, BEMS heads and JAT in basic education middle school level and BEPS heads and PAT in basic education primary school level.

The 2013 World Teacher’s Day article title is “uplift teachers’ qualification, to promote education standard.” The participants may send the soft copy (between 3,000 and 4,000 words) with related documents to Daw Khin Wai Myint (Principal), Yankin Education College, Yangon, not later than 13 September.

MMAL

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MMAL-137

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MMAL-Myint Lwin (Bogale)
PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 14 August, 2013

Drought and anxiety of farmers

Mandalay and Magway Regions in central Myanmar are arid zones with frequent scarcities of water. Water is as precious as gold for those living in the arid zones. Local people in those regions are at the mercy of rain which is a decisive factor for improving their socio-economic status. However, most of the local people there are at best subject to drought which brings with it misery and anxiety.

Drought that occurred recently in the southern part of Myanmar had caused damage to a vast stretch of crops such as gram, sesame, maize and cotton. Local farmers of the region who rely largely on good rain felt deeply wounded by the unusual weather. With drought, some farmers remain uncommitted to repaying agricultural loans as their cultivation drags on for weeks and later meets with failure.

The only way of taking remedial measures against the frequent drought is the construction of dams and reservoirs in those regions. Tapping underground water and extended building of irrigated systems are also another option. The full water supply for agricultural purpose could release the distress of the local farmers to a greater extent.

President U Thein Sein at a meeting held out the prospect of concrete steps to be taken for full supply of irrigated water in the remaining 30 months of government’s five-year term. When the plan is successfully translated into reality, local farmers in those regions including the west areas of Meiktila District will be overcome with joy and happiness, for irrigated water is simply their lifeblood and their lifeblood is simply irrigated water.

Myanmar-Japan

Ministerial level meeting on natural disaster held

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug—Myanmar-Japan Ministerial level meeting on natural disaster took place at Thingaha Hotel, here, yesterday morning, with an address by Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Minister of Japan Mr. Akhiro Ohta.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung said that Japanese government has been providing technical assistance related to weather and earthquake and equipment. The three weather radars provided by Japanese government will be installed in Yangon, Mandalay and Kyaukpyu, he added. He invited investments and official development assistance (ODA) from Japan.

It needs to establish good relations...

(From page 1) relations, cooperation and mutual respects. He urged those officials to take accountability and responsibility for finance and sports system. It is heartening to see strenuous efforts of all sports federations. It needs to overcome the challenges by turning into golden opportunity through the efforts of all federations. He called for systematically drafting strategy and plans by all federations, he added.

After that, the Sports Federation Presidents and delegates reported choosing selected sportmen, training and all-round preparations.

Afterwards, member of Financial Raising and Prize-awarding Committee Deputy Minister Dr Lin Aung, Deputy Ministers U Zaw Win and U Thuang Htike also presented sector-wise reports.

Chairman of the Leading Committee for holding XXVII SEA Games Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan urged those present to make more efforts and collaboration for the success of the SEA Games.

In his concluding speech, Vice-President U Nyan Tun called for collaboration for success of the SEA Games.

AIBD’s Annual Gathering and General Conference and Associated Meeting held

Union Information Minister U Aung Kyi poses for documentary photo together with those present at 39th Annual Gathering and 12th AIBD General Conference and Associated Meeting.—MNA

It was also attended by Deputy Minister U Ye Htut, AIBD Director Mr Yang Binyuan, responsible persons from Forever Group and 67 delegates from 19 countries and guests.

The conference which is organized by Asia Pacific Broadcasting Development (AIBD) and jointly arranged by the Ministry of Information and Forever Group, will go on till 15 August.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin received a delegation led by Professor Mr Ho Peng Kee, Retired Deputy Minister of State for Law and Education from National University of Singapore (NUS) at Union Attorney-General Office, here this morning. They cordially discussed more investments in Myanmar in coming September and capacity building of lawyers.

The Attorney-General of the Union also met Mr Michael Wright of UK aid Organization at the same venue in the afternoon and discussed sharing of experience on drafting law.—MNA

Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin receives Retired Deputy Minister of State for Law and Education from NUS Professor Mr Ho Peng Kee.—MNA
HRD

Crops protection undertaken in Taninthayi

Taninthayi, 13 Aug—Staff Officer Daw Aye Thanda Soe of Myeik District Agriculture Department of Taninthayi Region, together with Head of Taninthayi Township Agriculture Department and staff and those of Township Development Affairs Committee made field trips to grassroots level in Taninthayi Township on 9 August. They checked pesticides and other drugs for crops at the shops and gave educative talks to the sellers on rules of the pesticides and pesticide lists banned by Pesticide Registration Committee under the notification No 1/2013. They checked the shop of Daw Nyunt Nyunt Tin on Thukha Street in Chaunggyi Ward and other four shops and urged them not to sell the strong pesticides to the customers and to attend the pesticide control training course.

Kyemon-Htein Win

Landslide blocks Tachilek-Monghsat Road

Tachilek, 13 Aug—The heavy rains caused landslides at the exit of Tachilek on Tachilek-Monghsat Road at 3 pm on 11 August. The landslide area was over seven feet high and 60 feet long on the road. Township Administrator U Ye Htoo and officials supervised clearing of soils with the use of heavy machinery from Thawda Win Construction Co as soon as possible. There was no casualty in the landslides.

Kyemon-Maung Swe Nyein

Yangon Region ABCC (Central) opens basic course for bus workers

Yangon, 13 Aug—The All Bus-line Control Committee (Central) of Yangon Region conducted the opening of basic course No 21/2013 for bus workers at its office on 12 August. Chairman of the committee U Hla Aung made a speech. Departmental officials gave lectures to the trainees. The bus workers under two years service are allowed to attend the training course.

About 140 trainees from bus lines running in downtown Yangon attended the course that last 9 am to 5 pm the same day.

Kyemon-Kalaungmon

Sports

Men’s Table Tennis Invitational Cup kicks off

Mandalay, 13 Aug—With the aim of turning out University selected players on whom the State can rely, the University/College Men’s Table Tennis Invitational Tournament, organized by Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar), commenced at Open Shed of Mandalay University on 12 August. The tournament is held under the supervision of Sports Plus Education Leading Committee of the Ministry of Education.

It was attended by Deputy Director-General Dr Thnin Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar), Chairman of the Leading Organizing Committee of the tournament Rector of Mandalay University of Foreign Languages Dr Tin Maung Hla, Pro-Rector of Mandalay University of Foreign Languages Dr Tin Tint, umpires, guests, organizing committee members, team captains of the universities and degree colleges, coaches and managers, faculty members and students.

At first, 14 contending teams from universities and degree colleges took the positions at the designated places. The deputy director-general made an opening address and launched the competition. The athletes took the sports oaths.

The sports teams in five groups are taking part in the group matches of the tournament at the Open Shed of Mandalay University on the opening day. The tournament is categorized as inter-club, doubles and singles events on 13 August.—Kyemon-MUFL

Natural Disaster

Creek overflows villages in Hsipaw Tsp

Hsipaw, 13 Aug—Due to heavy rains, the torrential water caused floods at Manli Creek as of 9 August evening in Hsipaw Township of northern Shan State. Three feet deep water inundated the land of 57 houses in Mamonthin, Ayechantha, Seinpan and north Konnyaung wards in Namlan Village-tract.

Township Administrator U Myo Tin Zaw, Commander of Township Police Force ordered the authorities supervised pumping out the spoiled water from all wells from the compound of the houses and chlorinated the wells. At present, the water at the region subsided and there was no loss and damage.

Kyemon-Sai ThaHuang

Government Employees Cooperative holds meeting

Katha, 13 Aug—Katha Township Government Employees Cooperative (GEC) held the annual general meeting for 2012-2013 fiscal year and the executive election at the hall of Township Cooperative Department in Katha on 10 August morning.

Meeting chairman U Aung Huay and Staff Officer U Aung Min Oo made speeches.

Head of the department Daw Myint Myint Shin read the executive committee report and future tasks. Head of department Daw Ohmna Toe read the financial statement.

Members of the GEC approved the reports and future tasks. At the ceremony, officials presented prizes to outstanding students of members and elected new executives of the GEC who took oaths at the ceremony.

Kyemon-District IPID

Business

Small loans disbursed in Taninthayi Tsp

Taninthayi, 13 Aug—A ceremony to disburse K 5 million loans was held at the guest house of Taninthayi Township Cooperative Syndicate on 9 August afternoon.

The loans were given by Taninthayi Region Cooperative Syndicate with the aim of realizing rural development and poverty alleviation and developing cooperative societies.

Chairman of Township Cooperative Syndicate U Win Tin handed over the loans to Chairman of Aung Zabu Cooperative Ltd U Sein Lwin headquartered at No 3 on Thiri Street in Chaunggyi Ward of Taninthayi Township. The chairman of the Aung Zabu Cooperative Ltd presented K 100,000 each to 50 members through microwave disbursement plan.

Later, officials urged them to abide by the prescribed rules and regulations.—Kyemon-Htein Win
Merkel’s chief of staff says US spies did not break German law

Berlin, 13 Aug — Angela Merkel’s chief of staff said on Monday that fears of mass US spying on Germans were unfounded, hoping to end a controversy that threatened to damage the chancellor as she seeks re-election next month. Media reports of the US National Security Agency’s (NSA) electronic spying operation enraged Germans and put Merkel and her officials on the defensive when pressed to explain what, if anything, they knew.

Emerging from the latest in a series of confidential hearings by a parliamentary committee, Ronald Pofalla, responsible for Germany’s intelligence agencies, said talks last week in Washington and London had brought clarity and the assurances Berlin wanted. “The NSA and the British intelligence agency have assured us they uphold German law in Germany, as indeed do Germany’s foreign intelligence agency and the domestic intelligence agency,” Pofalla said.

In June the United States confirmed the existence of an operation code-named Prism, after ex-NSA contractor Edward Snowden revealed data mining of Americans’ information by Google, Facebook, Skype and other US companies. Since June, a stream of new allegations — that the British were also spying and that German agents were in cahoots with their foreign peers — had kept public anger simmering.

“The allegation of a supposed blanket surveillance in Germany is now, after information given by the NSA, British intelligence and our intelligence forces, off the table,” Pofalla said. “In Germany there are no infringements of fundamental rights by the millions, as has been continuously, falsely alleged,” he added.

Pofalla said that cooperation between intelligence agencies was essential and that data acquired by German spies had stopped 3-4 attacks per week on troops in Afghanistan, and 19 attacks against German soldiers since January. He added the NSA had offered to strike a “no spy deal” with the Germans, which would be explored. He did not elaborate on what such a deal might entail.

Thomas Oppermann, an opposition Social Democrat who chairs the committee, called the offer a “face-saving confession” by the United States which in itself showed that surveillance had taken place. Merkel’s conservatives are still tipped to win the 22 September federal election, with opinion poll ratings at 41 percent, some 16 points ahead of the SPD. It is less clear whether Merkel can renew her centre-right coalition with the Free Democrats (FDP), who are on just 5 percent.—Reuters

US eyeing Syrian opposition alliances, chemical weapons moves

Tel Aviv, 13 Aug — The United States is gaining more insight into Syria’s moderate opposition, but must watch carefully to determine when occasional collaboration with Islamist radicals might turn into real alliances, the top US military officer said on Monday. The comments by General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the US military’s Joint Chiefs of Staff, came at the start of a trip to close US allies Israel and Jordan and likely Jordan to be dominated by discussions about Syria’s conflict and broader regional unrest.

Syria’s Western-backed rebels have been clamoring for the United States to make good on promises to provide weapons. But the Obama administration has been slow to act because of concerns that American arms could find their way to al-Qaeda-linked fighters.

Dempsey, who did not discuss in any detail the issue of weapons in his remarks to a small group of reporters in Tel Aviv, said some amount of collaboration between moderate and extremist rebels was “unsurprising” given their shared goal to oust President Bashar al-Assad. “The real challenge for the intel community, frankly, is to understand when they’re collaborating just for a particular issue at a particular time and when they may actually be allied with each other,” he said.

“And to this point, I think, we’re not exactly certain where that fine line of distinction might reside.” Dempsey said perhaps the single greatest point of collaboration between the United States, Israel and Jordan on Syria centered on the threat from Assad’s chemical weapons as the civil war rages.

Dempsey renewed US assertions that Assad’s forces were sometimes moving the chemical weapons. “We know for a fact that it is moving from time to time,” Dempsey told reporters, adding the US believed Assad’s forces were moving the weapons to keep them secure.—Reuters

India successfully test-fires nuclear-capable missile

New Delhi, 1 Aug — India on Monday successfully test-fired its indigenous nuclear-capable Prithvi II missile, according to Press Trust of India. The surface-to-surface missile with a range of 350 kilometres was tested from the integrated test range at Chandipur in the eastern state of Orissa.

The Indian army regularly carries out tests of the Prithvi II. Kyodo News
S Korean A-bomb victims file compensation suit against gov’t

SEOUL, 13 Aug—Seventy-nine South Korean victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki filed a suit with the Seoul District Court on Monday, seeking compensation worth 10 million won (about $8,990) for each person from the South Korean government.

The group of survivors said in a statement that the South Korean government has not taken any action since the Supreme Court ruled in 2011 that it is unconstitutional for the government not to try to arrange negotiations with the Japanese government.

“The South Korean and Japanese governments should hold talks to clarify whether responsibility for compensating (for the South Korean victims) rests with the Japanese government or had been transferred to the South Korean government,” said Choi Bong Tae, a lawyer for the plaintiffs.

Japan has maintained that all compensation issues arising from Japan’s colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula have been settled by a 1965 treaty that normalized relations.

Kyodo News

Yoshinoya arm to start pizza eateries, aims at opening 100 shops

TOKYO, 13 Aug—Peterpan Comoco Co, a subsidiary of fast-food group Yoshinoya Holdings Co, is planning to open a pizza eatery in Tokyo in late September and build a franchise of 100 such outlets in Japan in several years, a company official said on Monday.

The company is planning to offer margherita in Japan in several years, managing director of 100 such outlets—Peterpan Comoco Co, a subsidiary of Yoshinoya Holdings, is known for beef bowl chains in and out of Japan.

Kyodo News

Philippine FDA intensifies monitoring of dairy products from firm in New Zealand

MANILA, 13 Aug—The Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) vowed on Monday to heighten its monitoring of three batches of whey protein concentrate (WPC80) produced in Fonterra manufacturing site in New Zealand after the product was found to contain with hazardous substance.

FDA Acting Director General Kenneth Hartigan-Go said that his office would be collecting samples in the market for testing as part of its monitoring and surveillance activities.

“All consumers are advised to buy dairy products and infant formulae that are registered with the FDA. Moreover, all consumers are hereby informed that whey protein concentrates are also found in high-nutrient food or dietary supplements for body builders. They are advised to make sure that the products they buy have passed FDA safety and quality evaluation,” he said.

Three batches of whey protein concentrate produced at a single Fonterra manufacturing site in New Zealand were found positive for the presence of Clostridium botulinum on 31 July, 2013. Clostridium botulinum is a species of harmful spore-forming bacteria that produce preformed toxin in processed food products, especially when manufacturing or processing plants fail to implement proper food hygienic practices and sterilization of canned goods or any tightly sealed food products. Ingestion of preformed toxin may result to symptoms like double vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing and muscle weakness that is symmetric and descends through the body and possibly death, usually due to respiratory failure.

FDA, however, assured that so far consumer products imported by local importers and distributed by Fonterra Brands (Philippines) Inc do not contain the batches of WPC80.

Xinhua

Extradition treaty between Vietnam, India takes effect

HANOI, 13 Aug—The extradition treaty between Vietnam and India officially took effect on Monday after the exchange of the documents ratification, the state-run news agency VNA reported.

The event marked a milestone in the India-Vietnam comprehensive partnership which has grown in all fields since its establishment five years ago, said Indian Ambassador to Vietnam Raja.

This is an important move forward of the two countries’ law enforcement agencies, which are about to put a treaty of criminal transfer into practice, Rae said.

Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Ho Xuan Son expressed his hope that both sides will continue working closely to implement the document effectively to reinforce the traditional friendship and comprehensive cooperation for both countries’ prosperity as well as regional and global peace and stability.

The extradition treaty between Vietnam and India was signed during a visit of Vietnamese President Tran Tan Sang to India in 2011.

Xinhua

Flash floods hit parts of Cambodia, killing seven people

PHNOM PENH, 13 Aug—Flash floods have been hitting some parts of three provinces in Cambodia and have claimed seven lives so far, officials said on Monday.

Koo Vy, chief of the Cabinet of National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), said northwestern Banteay Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces as well as northern Kampong Thom province have been flooded with heavy rains since last week and some 450 families have been evaluated to higher grounds.

He added that some 230 houses and around 3,000 hectares of rice paddies have been submerged.

Governor of Banteay Meanchey province Try Narin said that seven people including 3 children in the province have drowned since last week.

Xinhua

Ishihara to close Singapore plant for titanium dioxide

Tokyo, 13 Aug—Diversified chemical product company Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha Ltd said on Monday that it will close the titanium dioxide production plant in Singapore, citing challenges such as a strong local currency and rising material prices.

ISK Singapore Pte Ltd will terminate production in August and around 200 employees will be dismissed, according to Ishihara Sangyo. Production of titanium dioxide, used in paint, ink and plastic products, will be consolidated into the company’s factory in Yokkaichi, Japan.

Ishihara Sangyo subsequently took a charge of 11.2 billion yen and revised down its estimate for net loss to 7.8 billion yen for the year through March 2014 from 5.8 billion yen.

Kyodo News
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 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>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>IFB -060(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Spares for CAT D 3512 B Engine</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
<td>US $</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>IFB -062(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Spares for Kenworth Truck Engine</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>IFB -063(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Spares for High Clutch</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
<td>US $</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>IFB -066(2013-2014)</td>
<td>41/2” Tri Cone Rock Bits</td>
<td>(2) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>IFB -067(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Stand Line Gate Valves &amp; Accessories</td>
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<tr>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>IFB -068(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Over Running Clutch &amp; Spares</td>
<td>(18) Items</td>
<td>US $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

for D3 T2 SR- I&II

Heat Shrink Tube and Wire Cable for HDD Rig

(2) Items | Kyat |

Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L

Drilling Rig

(4) Items | Kyat |

- Tender Closing Date & Time -

11-9-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12th August, 2013 at the Material Planning Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

Second Time Invitation for Open Tender
Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited

With the intention to be obvious of modern development of business in line with the international standards, required for the country and its citizen, and the development of employment opportunities, the open tender for leasing and operating, with Annual Management Service Agreement for 15 years term, of the whole building of the under mentioned Commercial Centre, built by Forest Joint Venture Commercial Centre Co., Ltd, a subsidiary company of Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited is, for second time, invited to all local private entrepreneurs:

1. The building to be leased and its address
Forest Joint Venture Commercial Centre
No. 422-426, corner of Botataung Pagoda Road and Strand Road, Botataung Township, Yangon Region

2. Tender form and terms can be bought for K 100,000 (Kyat One Hundred Thousand Only) at the above mentioned address within office hour from 9 - 8 - 2013 to 30 - 8 - 2013.

3. Tender Working Committee
Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation Limited

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DAHIATUL KALBI VOY NO (04)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAHIATUL KALBI NO (04) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.8.2013 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: MV BAY LINE SHIPPING
PTE LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1002)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MS CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256080/378316/376797

Fall in New Zealand’s overseas visitor spending levels off

WELLINGTON, 13 Aug — Chinese visitors buoyed up a flat New Zealand tourism market as they increased their spending in the country by 24 percent in the year to the end of June, according to government figures out on Tuesday. Total visitor spending remained constant at 5.49 billion NZ dollars (4.39 billion US dollars), but the rise in Chinese visitor spending offset a large fall in spending and visitor numbers from the United Kingdom, according to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

A record 223 million Chinese visited New Zealand in the year to the end of June, spending a total of 645 million NZ dollars, according to the ministry’s International Visitor Survey.

Australia continued to be New Zealand’s largest tourism market, with Australian residents spending 1.6 billion NZ dollars in the same period. The latest survey results show the decline in international visitor spending slowing, following a 2 percent fall in the year to the end of March and a 6 percent drop in the year to the end of December 2012.—Xinhua

Vietnam to welcome SEA youth ship programme

HANOI, 13 Aug — As many as 329 delegates from 10 country members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Japan will attend the Ship for Southeast Asian Youth Programme (SEA-YP 2013) in Vietnam’s southern Ho Chi Minh City from 14 to 17 November.

The event aims to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding among the youths of SEA countries and Japan, as well as helping them understand more about Vietnam, local state-run Voice of Vietnam quoted Le Quoc Phong, secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Youth Union, as saying on Monday. It is expected to improve local young people’s international communication skills, broaden knowledge and share experience in youth activities with foreign delegates, Phong said.

During the four-day event, participants will take part in cultural exchanges with local youth and experience home-stay matching. About 160 families will join the home-stay program, in which each family will play host to two SEA-YP delegates.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 12 Aug, 2013 shows a dried-up field in Jishan District, east China’s Shanghai. Linger- ing heat wave hit Shanghai recently, damage crops of local farmers. —Xinhua
**Matt Damon thriller ‘Elysium’ flies above ‘Planes’ at box office**

**LOS ANGELES/New York, 13 Aug**—Matt Damon’s futuristic thriller “Elysium,” the story of an elite space outpost locked in battle with poor invaders from a ruined Earth, won a crowded box-office race among four new films at US and Canadian theaters over the weekend. “Elysium” grabbed $30.5 million in domestic ticket sales from Friday through Sunday, according to estimates from distributor Sony Pictures. The movie added $10.9 million from 17 international markets, for a combined global opening of $41.4 million.

“Elysium” edged the Jennifer Aniston comedy “We’re the Millers,” which took in $26.6 million, while “Planes,” a spin-off of Walt Disney Co’s Pixar franchise “Cars,” took off with $22.5 million at domestic theaters, finishing in third. The other newcomer, fantasy movie “Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters,” landed fourth with $14.6 million. Effects-filled action movie “Elysium” came in at the low end of pre-weekend forecasts for a debut in the low $30 million range. The movie portrays two distinct worlds in the year 2154 — a diseased and overpopulated Earth and Elysium, a space station where the elite live. Damon stars as Max, a blue-collar worker with a criminal past who needs medicine from Elysium to survive. Jodie Foster plays the Elysium defense secretary sent on keeping Max and all other illegal immigrants out. The $115 million production was produced and financed by Media Rights Capital. The movie was distributed by Sony, which stumbled earlier this summer with big-budget releases “After Earth” and “White House Down,” although its other summer releases have fared better.—Reuters

**Filmmaker George Lucas, wife welcome baby girl via surrogate**

**LOS ANGELES, 13 Aug**—“Star Wars” filmmaker George Lucas and his wife Mellody Hobson became parents to a baby girl born via surrogate, his representatives said on Monday. Everet Hobson Lucas was born on 9 August and is the first biological child for Lucas, 69, and Hobson, 44, the director’s representatives said. Lucas also has three adopted children, Amanda, 32; Katie, 25; and 20-year-old Jett Lucas.

Lucas, the creator of the “Star Wars” and “Indiana Jones” franchises, wed Hobson, the president of Ariel Investments, in Cali-

**Actor Lea Michele dedicates award to Cory Monteith**

**NEW YORK, 13 Aug**—Actress Lea Michele, in her first public appearance since the death of her boyfriend and cast mate Cory Monteith, dedicated her Teen Choice Award on Sunday in Los Angeles to the actor who died of an accidental drug and alcohol overdose last month.

With tears in her eyes and her hand on her chest, Michele, 26, thanked fans for the best actress in a TV comedy award for her role as Rachel Berry in the musical series “Glee” and for their support in dealing with Monteith’s death.

“He was very special to me and also to the world, and we were very lucky to witness his incredible talent, his handsome smile and his beautiful, beautiful heart,” she told the audience at the Gibson Amphitheatre.

Monteith, 31, was found dead in a Vancouver hotel room on 13 July. The actor, who played high school athlete turned glee club singer Finn Hudson in the Fox musical comedy, had struggled with substance abuse and was in rehab in April.

**Film producer George Lucas walks to his seat after US President Barack Obama awarded him the 2012 National Medal of Arts during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington on 10 July, 2013.—REUTERS**

Ron Howard were among the guests. This is the second marriage for Lucas, who was previously married to Oscar-winning film editor Marcia Loeflin from 1969 to 1983. “Star Wars” has become a cultural phenomenon, making characters such as Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia and Darth Vader, and phrases like “May the force be with you” part of popular culture. Lucas sold his production company Lucasfilm Ltd to Walt Disney Co for $4.05 billion in October 2012. Since then, Disney has announced plans for three new “Star Wars” films and an animated TV series set to air in 2014.—Reuters

**Angelina Jolie scared kids in Maleficent costume**

**LOS ANGELES, 13 Aug**—Hollywood star Angelina Jolie says she frightened numerous little kids in her devilish Maleficent costume on the sets of Disney movie. Jolie, 38, said while playing the lead in movie which is the depiction of Sleeping Beauty story from the perspective of the villainous Maleficent, she scared many kids, reported E! online. “These little kids would visit the set, and I would think, ‘Oh, I am a Disney character,’ so I would go over to them, and say, ‘Hi there.’ They would just scream. One little kid even said, ‘Mommy, please make the mean witch stop talking to me,’” she said. However, her daughter Vivienne was the only one girl, who was not perturbed by her looks. “Vivienne was the only four-year-old who didn’t scream when she saw me,” she said. Maleficent hit theatres next year.—PTI

**Mel Gibson, Antonio Banderas to star in Sylvester Stallone’s ‘The Expendables 3’**

**LONDON, 13 Aug**—Mel Gibson and Antonio Banderas have joined veteran star Harrison Ford in Sylvester Stallone’s action movie The Expendables 3. Gibson will play Stallone’s adversary, while a representative for Banderas said that he and Stallone worked well together in Assasins. The third film, to be directed by Patrick Hughes, will reportedly feature a younger group of action heroes who clash with the older generation before eventually coming together and saving the day.

The rest of the cast for The Expendables 3 has yet to be confirmed. However, a release date of 15 August next year has already been announced. The Expendables 2 starred Stallone alongside Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Statham and Jet Li.

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**Dufner’s Oak Hill win underlines golf’s depth in strength**

**Belgrade, 13 Aug—** Serbian Nemanja Nedovic is thrilled to be heading to the NBA with the Golden State Warriors but says he is first focused on bringing glory to his national team in next month’s European Championship. The Warriors plucked the versatile guard from relative obscurity in the first round of the 2013 NBA draft and will be closely watching his progress at the tournament in Slovenia.

Nedovic, who can play either as a point guard or shooting guard, spent four years at Red Star Belgrade until 2012 before catching the eye of NBA scouts in one season with Lithuanian Amts Lietuvos Rytas, even though his team made little impact in the Euroleague.

“Being drafted to the NBA in the first round is the best thing that’s happened to me and it has given me a tremendous confidence boost,” Nedovic told Reuters in an interview. “I am overjoyed and looking forward to my first season with the Warriors, but right now I am completely focused on the national team,” he added after Serbia’s 91-66 rout of Slovenia on Sunday in the final of a four-nation tournament.

The 22-year-old’s taking again came to the fore in that win which was a build-up to the 24-team European Championship where the Serbians will look to finish in the top eight and qualify for the 2014 World Championship in Spain. “It was very important to win this tournament and it will be an incentive to keep working hard in order to peak in time for the European Championship,” Nedovic said after scoring a game-high 20 points, garnished with several spectacular assists and iron-clad defence.

“The Slovenians will be fired up in front of their noisy home fans at Eurobasket 2013, while we have switched off regarding expectations where we might finish although the primary objective is to reach next year’s World Championship in Spain.”

Nedovic made his Serbia debut last year in the European Championship qualifiers when the 2009 runnners-up struggled for long spells before squeezing through with a last-gasp win over Israel.—Reuters

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**Warsriors-bound Nedovic targets Euro success**

**Moscow, 13 Aug—** Yelena Isinbayeva, the greatest ever Russian pole vaulter, is ready for a lift from her home crowd in what will probably be the Russian’s last major championship on Sunday.

Isinbayeva, who holds the outdoor world record of 5.06 metres and was virtually unbeatable in the discipline between 2003 and 2008, has not won a global title since Olympic gold five years ago in Beijing.

The 31-year-old had said she will end her illustrious career after the competition at the Luzhniki stadium, although she rowed back from that after qualifying by saying her mind was not yet made up. While Isinbayeva contemplates retirement, the precocious Ki rani James, 20, is set to continue his global domination of the men’s 400 metres by adding a second world gold. The Olympic champion has American LaShawn Merritt — the only man to beat the Grenadian this season — to compete with.

In the absence of injured Olympic champion and world record holder David Rudisha, the men’s 800m title is wide open, although Ethiopia’s 19-year-old world indoor winner Mohammed Aman has enjoyed an impressive season. Americans Duane Solomon and Nick Symmonds, along with Saudi Arabia’s Abdulaziz Ladan Mohammed should provide the main threat to the African. The women’s 3000m steeplechase final has also been robbed of a marquee name after Russia’s Olymp ic and world champion Yuliya Zaripova of Russia had to withdraw after suf fering a season-ending leg injury in training.

Ethiopian duo Sofia Assefa and Hirvot Ayalew, Kenya’s African record-holder Milcah Chemos Cheywa — the last woman to beat Zaripova — and compatriot Lydia Chepkur u might fight it out for the medals. Briton Mo Farah, having secured 10,000 me ters gold on Saturday, starts his bid to repeat his Olym pic distance double when he lines up in the morning’s 5000m heats.—Reuters

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**Big names begin final US Open tune-up in Cincinnati**

**CINCINNATI, 13 Aug—** Former US Open champi on Samantha Stosur continued her buildup to the season’s final grand slam with a convincing 6-1, 7-5 win over Russia’s Svet lana Kuznetsova in first round action at the Western and Southern Open on Monday. The Austral ian 11th seed is among a host of former-grand slam winners making an ap pearance on the Cincinnati hardcourts this week, the joint event likely to be the final tune-up for the top players from both the WTA and ATP ahead of the US Open later this month.

American world number one Serena Williams, fresh off her win in Toronto, headlines a star studded women’s field that will feature the top 20 ranked players. The men’s side of the draw is no less impressive with world number one Novak Djokovic, Wimbledon champion Andy Murray, Rafa Nadal, also a winner in Canada on Sunday, and Roger Federer taking center stage. With the top seeds receiving first round byes some of the bigger names will begin to ease into the action on Tuesday with Federer, seeking to add to his five Cincinnati titles, opening his account against Germany’s Philipp Kohlschreiber.—Reuters

**Pole vault queen Isinbayeva set for final curtain call**

**Russia’s Yelena Isinbayeva talks to her coach (not pictured) during the women’s pole vault at the IAAF Diamond League Athletics meet in Shanghai on 18 May, 2013.—Reuters**

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**IOC awards broadcast rights in 17 nations and regions for Sochi 2014 and Rio 2016**

**GENEVA, 13 Aug—** The International Olympic Committee announced on Monday that it has reached an agreement with Japan-based advertising agency Dentsu for the Olympic broadcast rights in 17 Asian countries and regions for the 2014 Sochi Winter Games, 2016 Rio de Janeiro Summer Games, and the 2014 Nanjing Youth Olympic Games.

According to the IOC, Dentsu has acquired exclusive rights for the three editions of the Games and “will now seek broadcast partners”. The value of the deal was not disclosed. Earlier this month, the IOC awarded Dentsu the broadcast rights in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
Two air force men killed in small plane crash in Brazil

Rio de Janeiro, 13 Aug—Two Brazilian Air Force officers were killed on Monday in the crash of a small plane in Prassunumau, Sao Paulo state, according to local authorities. The victims, captains Joao Igor Silva Piovor and Fabrício Carvalho, were the pilot and copilot of a Smoke Squadron plane which crashed onto the ground during training, authorities informed.

The accident took place near the country’s Air Force Academy. The two captains tried to eject from the plane, an A-29 Super Tucano model, but did not manage to escape successfully, the authorities said.

The Smoke Squadron is a famous Air Force demonstration squadron which performs air shows all over Brazil and abroad. The A-29 Super Tucano was manufactured by Brazilian aircraft maker Embraer and is also used in border patrol in Brazil.

The Smoke Squadron was founded in 1952 and rarely registers any lethal accidents. The Air Force is investigating the cause of the accident.—Xinhua

Masterful Fraser-Pryce completes Jamaican double

MOSCOW, 13 Aug—Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce obliterated the field as Jamaiica completed a 100 metres double at the world championships on Monday and it has the edge in the battle of sprinting’s superpowers. The United States had four athletes in the final for the first time, including defending champion Carmelita Jeter, but they had no answer to Fraser-Pryce who took gold with the biggest winning margin in world championship history.

It was a second title for the 26-year-old, who won in 10.70 in 2009, and followed hot on the heels of compatriot Usain Bolt’s victory in the men’s final on Saturday. Fraser-Pryce’s lightning-quick run on the bright blue track at the Luzhniki stadium was Boletesque in its dominance as she set a world leading time of 10.71 seconds and finished streets ahead of her rivals. Murielle Ahoure was second in 10.93 to give Ivory Coast its first world championship medal and she became the first African woman to finish on the podium in a sprint.

Jeter was the best-placed American in third with 10.94. “I was just focused on getting that start,” Fraser-Pryce, who is renowned for her devastating ability out of the blocks, told a news conference. “I knew I had to do that to actually do well and when I crossed the line I didn’t know I was that far ahead. I was just completely in that zone and trying to do my best I wasn’t focused on anybody else.” From the moment twice Olympic champion Fraser-Pryce shot out of the blocks there was only going to be one winner.

The Jamaican, whose compact frame gives little indication of the power she can produce, was ahead in the first few strides and her rivals were left watching the soles of her bright pink spikes and matching hair extensions as she pow- ered to the line. “It was an amazingly fast race and I am still pleased to be on the podium,” said Jeter. “This has to be a medal that means a little more than my others because this has been a tough year,” added the 33-year-old who has struggled with injury. Jamaica has missed out on just one global 100 meters title since the 2008 Olympics and that was Jeter’s world victory in Daegu two years ago.

Bolt made sure the Jamaiicans drew first blood in Daegu two years ago.

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Wednesday, 14 August, 2013
Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Chairman of Myanmar Press Council (Temporary)

**NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug—**Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Chairman U Khin Maung Aye of Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) and party at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw in Hluttaw Complex, here, at 3.45 pm today.

Also present at the call were Committee Chairpersons Thura U Aye Myint, U Htay Oo, U Thein Zaw and U Thein Swe, member of Commission U Khin Maung Tun and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves K 410.972 billion allocation to give loans to state-owned enterprises

**NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug—**To give loans to ministries which have budget deficiency, the Union Government has made allocation of funds to give loans to them, setting aside K 410.972 billion to lend to ministries through the Myanmar Economic Bank with the interest rate of 4%, said Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein today.

In his clarification at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw here today, the Union minister said the Ministry of Finance has already made the plan in accordance with the Union Budget Law 2013 and Ministry of Information, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, Ministry of Electric Power and Ministry of Industry would borrow the loans and they would give it back at the end of the budget year.

During the meeting, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the re-setting up of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint-Bill Committee and appointment of members of the board of director of the Central Bank of Myanmar. Regarding the second biannual report on the implementation of the loans and the projects, the Union minister said the ministry concerned would give it back at the end of the budget year.

He also urged ministries concerned to mention projects in their reports and to have transparency.

The commission for investigating grievances of people over land also present at the call were Committee Chairpersons Thura U Aye Myint, U Htay Oo, U Thein Zaw and U Thein Swe.

Safety of tourists discussed in NyaungU

**NAY Pyi Taw, 13 Aug—**A coordination meeting on safety of tourists was held at the hall of NyaungU District Administrator’s Office in Mandalay Region on 10 August.

The attendees discussed arrangements for safety of tourists and crime reduction. Members of Tourists Security Squad and local policemen are making regular patrols with the use of three vehicles, 18 motorcycles and 20 bicycles.—MNA

Foreign exchange rates to be put on www.cbm.gov.mm, 01-8605100

1. To ensure smooth flow of foreign currency in the economic system of the State and to encourage the development of banking services with foreign currency, the Interbank Foreign Exchange Spot Market for authorized dealers was established on 5, August 2013.

2. As from 12, August 2013, foreign exchange rates will be put on the website of the Central Bank of Myanmar www.cbm.gov.mm and will be replied at the automatic answering phone number 01-8605100.

   The Central Bank of Myanmar