Yangon International Airport to handle 6 million passengers after expansion

To handle the increased number of passengers annually, the Department of Civil Aviation and Pioneer Aerodrome Services Company which has won the contract to upgrade and expand the Yangon International Airport have planned to launch the work within three months and to complete it by 2015.

With traffic figures up to three million in 2012, the airport which currently can handle 2.7 million passengers saw 23 percent rise in annual passengers. It is expected that the airport would see domestic and international passenger figures up to 6 million in 2012, said U Tin Naing Tun, Director-General of the Civil Aviation Department.

The Yangon International Airport lies on over 1000 acres and can be expanded to a facility capable of handling 6 million passengers at most a year. Pioneer Aerodrome Services Co has won the contract to expand the Yangon International Airport and Yongnam CAPE-JGC Consortium has been shortlisted.

Meanwhile, a new international airport will be built in Bago, about 50 miles northeast of Yangon. Upon completion of the expansion of Yangon International Airport and the new airport, Hanthawady International Airport, Yangon International Airport will only handle business airways, charter flights, VIP flights and domestic flights, said U Kyaw Soe, Director of the Civil Aviation Department.

Besides, the department will create opportunities for businesses related to aviation in downtown Yangon.

Byline: Soe Soe Naing (Kyemon) Photo: Khin Maung Win (Kyemon)
Plan to convey Buddha images of Inlay PhaungdawU

**Nyaungshwe, 17 Aug**—Four Buddha images of Inlay PhaungdawU will be conveyed to Inlay region during 21 days period from 5 October to 22 October this year.

The conveyance of the images will arrive in Nyaungshwe on 11 October. While in Nyaungshwe, the Buddha images will be kept up to 13 October for public obeisance. On 22 October, the Buddha images will be re-conveyed to the Yadana Sankyaungdaw of Inlay PhaungdawU.

On 14 October, the Ovadaçariya Sayadaw, township level officials, grassroots level authorities and members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees decided the programme of conveyance of the Buddha images.

**Blocked road section reopened in Mongphyat**

Mongphyat, 17 Aug.—A 240 feet long the approach road to Thayaaye Bailey Bridge on Mongphyat-Monghsat Road was blocked due to bank erosion in Mongphyat Township of Shan State (East) on 10 August.

Thanks to maintenance officials and those of Public Works, the blocked road section has come to normalcy as of 3 pm on 11 August.—Kyemon-Than Zaw (Mongphyat)

**National Sports**

**Water polo team leaves for Singapore**

Yangon, 17 Aug.—A 17-member swimming (water polo) team led by Chairman of Water Polo Sport Committee U Cho Maung together with Coach WOII Tha Zan Hla, International Referee U Than Kyaw Nyunt of Myanmar Swimming Federation left here by air on 15 August.

They will take joint exercise together with players of Singapore from 14 August to 4 September. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials.—Khin Maung Win (Kyemon-

**Myanmar U-23 team to take part in Merdeka Cup 2013**


The Merdeka Cup 2013 will be held on 7 September in commemoration for the Malaysian National Day. Myanmar National U-23 Team will take part in it.

The four teams will play the cup in group matches. The teams in first and second positions are to compete in the final match.

The cup will be held from 7 to 14 September with the participation of Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Myanmar.

On 7 September, Malaysia will meet with Singapore whereas Thailand will compete with Myanmar. On 9 September, Thailand will play against Singapore while Malaysia will meet with Myanmar. On 11 September, Malaysia will compete with Thailand while Singapore will meet with Myanmar. On 14 September, the final and third place matches will be held.

Kyemon-Maung Maung Zaw

**Transport**

**Aungzeya highway bus line launched in Seikpyu**

Seikpyu, 17 Aug.—Aungzeya highway bus line runs from Hamagauk Village of Seikpyu Township to Yangon as of 12 August.

The in-charge of the bus line said that the run of the bus line was aimed at ensuring smooth and convenient transport of the passengers.

“We have get easy access to our village to other places thanks to the bus line. So, we can save time,” said a local.

In the past, the passengers took bus in early morning for Yangon or Mandalay. At that time, the bus passed Chauk to destinations. The bus fare is fixed K 8500 per passenger from Seikpyu Township to Yangon and K 5500 per passengers to Mandalay.

Kyemon-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)
UK to EU: Urgently send monitors to Spain-Gibraltar border

LONDON, 17 Aug—Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron on Friday asked European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso to “urgently” send monitors to Gibraltar’s border with Spain where tightened security checks are fuelling a row between the two countries.

Cameron raised the matter in a phone call with Barroso on Friday, saying he had serious concerns that these extra checks were “politically motivated and disproportionate” and “illegitimate” under European Union laws.

“We believe that the European Commission, as guardian of the treaties, should investigate the issue,” said a spokesman from Cameron’s office.

Cameron’s intervention reflects growing British frustration that a row over an artificial reef built by Gibraltar, a contested British overseas territory, has become one of the worst in years between the two EU member states with no sign of ending.

Spain argued that the reef would disrupt its fishing industry and subsequently tightened up checks at its border with Gibraltar, resulting in delays of several hours for residents and tourists. The EU executive previously said it planned to send a team of monitors to Gibraltar next month to check whether Spain was breaking EU rules on frontier controls, but the spokesman said Cameron had asked Barroso to ensure it was sent “urgently.”

Reuters

APEC to boost forest land by 20 million hectares by 2020

LIMA, 17 Aug—Members of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) pledge on Friday to boost their combined forest land by 20 million hectares by 2020 at a two-day meeting in Cusco, Peru.

The pledge, contained in the Cusco Declaration issued Friday by APEC ministers of forestry after the meeting, also involves developing a policy of sustainable exploitation to protect the region’s natural resources.

As the host of the ministerial meeting, Peru’s Agriculture Minister Milton Hesse said the final declaration signed by the ministers also calls on the members to develop environmental projects that foster the preservation of forests.

The addition of millions of hectares of forest is an “ambitious goal,” said Hesse, adding all members pledged to work toward the common objective.

So far Tokyo has taken a conservative stance over collective self-defence, even if requested to do so by other countries, he added.

The ministers stressed in the declaration the need to respect and recognize the indigenous communities’ ancestral knowledge of their environment and sustainable practices.

Peru is home to Latin America’s second-largest extension of forest land, with 70 percent of its territory forming part of the Amazon.

The APEC groups 21 members in the Asia-Pacific region.

Reuters

Muslim Brotherhood calls for rallies across Egypt after day of bloodshed

CAIRO, 17 Aug—The Muslim Brotherhood defi- nitely called for a week of protests across Egypt starting on Saturday, a day after more than 100 people died in clashes between Islamists and the security forces that pushed the country ever closer to anarchy.

Undeterred by the bloodshed in which about 700 have been killed since Wednesday, the Brotherhood urged its supporters back onto the streets to de- nounce the overthrow of Isl- amist President Mohamed Mursi and a crackdown on his followers.

“Our rejection of the coup regime has become an Islamic, national and ethi- cal obligation that we can never abandon,” said the Brotherhood, which has accused Egypt’s military of plotting the downfall of Mursi last month to regain the levers of power.

Many Western allies have denounced the kil- lings, including the United States, but Saudi Arabia threw its weight behind the army-backed govern- ment on Friday, accus- ing its old foe the Muslim Brotherhood of trying to destabilize Egypt. Violence erupted across Egypt after the Brotherhood, which has deep roots in the prov- inces, called for a “Day of Rage.” Roughly 50 people died in Cairo and more than 20 in the country’s second city, Alexandria, security sources said.

Automatic gunfire echoed around the capital throughout Friday afternoon, army helicopters swooped over the roof tops and at least one office block was set ablaze, lighting up the night sky long after the violence had subsided.

The Brotherhood an- nounced a series of daily rallies over the next six days, starting on Saturday.

“We will not leave the squares. And we will not be silent over our rights, ever,” said Cairo resident Abdullah Abdul Fattah, adding that he was not a Brotherhood voter. “We are here because of our broth- ers who died,” he said.

A interim cabinet, installed by the army after it removed Mursi during rallies against his often chaotic rule, has refused to back down.

Reuters

Death toll from Philippines ship crash rises to 24, with 274 missing

MANILA, 17 Aug—The death toll from the collision of a ferry and a cargo vessel off Cebu in the central Philippines has risen to 24, while nearly 300 people are still missing, a government disaster agency said on Saturday.

“As of 7 am (Satur- day), 24 persons are con- firmed dead, 572 passen- gers were rescued, and 274 are missing,” the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said in a statement.

The passenger ship MV St Thomas Aquinas of 2GO Shipping col- lided with the cargo ves- sel MV Sulpicio Express 7 along Mactan Chan- nel in Cebu Province around 9 pm on Friday. The ferry sank.

The NDRRMC said the 36 crew members of the cargo vessel are “all safe and accounted for.”

A rescuer carries an infant child survivor of the passen- ger vessel MV St Thomas Aquinas that sank after collid- ing with a cargo ship, to a hospital in Talisay, Cebu in central Philippines on 17 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Search and rescue operations are continu- ing, the agency said, add- ing that volunteer groups are also assisting.

Kyodo News

Lifting self-defence stricture won’t lead to military action

Tokyo, 17 Aug—De- fense Minister Itsunori Ono- oda said on Saturday that lifting Japan’s self-imposed ban on exercising the right to collective self-defence would not lead to overseas military deployment of the Self-Defense Forces.

“We will never go to other countries for military actions,” Onoeda said in a Tokyo Broadcasting Sys- tem Television programme.

Japan “will also deter- mine by itself if it should exercise the right to collec- tive self-defence,” even if requested to do so by other countries, he added.

The remarks come as the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe plans to review its interpretation of the war-renouncing Con- stitution to pave the way for Japan to exercise its right to collective self-defence.

So far Tokyo has taken the position that while Ja- pan has the right to come to the defense of an ally under armed attack, it cannot ex- ercise the right because of the limits imposed by the country’s pacifist Constitu- tion.

Onoeda said, “It would be extremely dif- ficult under the current in- terpretation to address a case in which a US warship deployed to protect Japan were to come under attack on the high seas,” appar- ently stressing the need to promote debate on the plan.

The plan has come un- der fire not only from op- position parties, such as the Japanese Communist Party and the Social Democratic Party, but also the New Komeito party, the junior coalition partner of Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party, on the grounds that it will allow Japan to use force overseas.—Kyodo News
**China produces world’s heaviest freight train**

**HARRIS, 17 Aug** — A leading Chinese rolling stock manufacturer said on Friday it has produced the world’s heaviest freight train with a maximum loading capacity of 200 tonnes per wagon. CNR Qinghai Railway Rolling Stock Co, Ltd delivered the train to global mining giant Rio Tinto on Friday. The maximum axle load of each wagon is 44 tonnes and the train has a total carrying capacity of 30,000 to 50,000 tonnes.

The train shows that China is a global leader in freight train research, development and manufacturing, according to the company. Based in the city of Qinghai in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, Qinghai Railway Rolling Stock is a leading domestic freight train manufacturer under China CNR Corporation Limited. In 2012, Qinghai Railway Rolling Stock realized export contracts for trains and parts totaling nearly 400 million US dollars. The company’s products have been sold to more than 20 countries or regions.

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**Chinese e-commerce company Alibaba buys stake in online shopping firm ShopRunner**

**New York, 17 Aug** — Chinese e-commerce company Alibaba Group, which is preparing for an initial public offering in Hong Kong, has bought a minority stake in online shopping company ShopRunner, the ‘Financial Times’ reported on Friday.

The acquisition is part of a string of investments by Alibaba, the world’s largest e-commerce group, as it prepares for its IPO, the FT said, citing people familiar with the transaction.

Alibaba is paying $75 million for the stake in ShopRunner, run by former Yahoo Chief Executive Scott Thompson, the FT reported. The investment will add to a long relationship between Alibaba and Yahoo, the FT said. Yahoo owns almost a quarter of Alibaba, the newspaper said.

Spokesmen for Alibaba and ShopRunner could not be reached for comment. Alibaba has said that no final decisions have been made about where it will list its shares, but bankers expect the IPO to take place in Hong Kong, the FT said.

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**Virus targets the social network in new fraud twist**

**BOSTON, 17 Aug** — In the world of cyber fraud, a fake fan on Instagram can be worth five times more than a stolen credit card number. As social media has become increasingly influential in shaping reputations, hackers have used their computer skills to create and sell false endorsements — such as “likes” and “followers” — that prompt to come from users of company or individual, according to cyber experts at RSA, the security division of EMC Corp. These fake “likes” are sold in batches of 1,000 on Internet hacker forums, where cyber criminals also flog credit card numbers and other information stolen from PCs.

According to RSA, 1,000 Instagram “followers” can be bought for $15 and 1,000 Instagram “likes” go for $30, whereas 1,000 credit card numbers cost as little as $6. It may seem odd that fake social media accounts would be worth more than real credit card numbers, but online marketing experts say some people are willing to spend heavily to make a splash on the Internet, seeking buzz for its own sake or for a business purpose, such as making a new product seem popular. “People perceive importance on what is trending,” said Victor Pan, a senior data analyst with WordStream, which advises companies on online marketing. “It is the bandwagon effect.”

Facebook, which has nearly 1.2 billion users, said it is in the process of beefing up security on Instagram, which it bought last year for $1 billion, Instagram, which has about 130 million active users, will have the same security measures that Facebook uses, said spokesman Michael Kirkland. He encouraged users to report suspicious activity through links on Facebook sites and apps. “We work hard to limit spam on our service and prohibit the creation of accounts through unauthorized or automated means,” Kirkland said.

The modified Zeus virus is the first piece of malicious software uncovered to date that has been used to post false “likes” on a social network, according to experts who track cybercrime. Fraudsters most commonly manipulate “likes” using automated software programmes.

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**Myanmar Handicrafts**

The traditional toys of Myanmar children are made of papier mache, clay and palm leaf. Papier mache page-boys, tigers, elephants, cows, buffaloes, griffes, horses, zebras and birds are sold at pagoda walkway shops and Pagoda festivals. The knock-about Pyt Taing Daung is the most famous papier mache figure, shaped with a body smiling face. Owls made of gold paper are kept in pairs in homes or shops to bring good luck. Mobiles are made for baby selfies and Wishes for fish are made from very small palm fronds. Toys include clay leafy figures of birds, masks and hats made of papier mache, and painted wooden swords.

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**Bronze Casting**

Bronze Casters work in the Tampawaddi quarter of Amarapura. Apart from electric tools used in the final stages to polish the surface, the traditional techniques have been retained. First, the image to be cast is roughly formed from a mixture of red clay and sandy husks. The entire surface is covered with sheets of wax over which a layer of softer wax is applied. The softer layer is carved and shaped into detailed features. This final form is covered by a thick coat of clay with two or more holes in the bottom for the smelted wax to flow out and the smelted metal to be poured in. When the clay is dry, a kiln is built over the figure and it is fired for nearly twenty-four hours. The wax melts away and at the same time the mould is kept hot. The moulds are carried with large tongs to a ready-dug pit, placed upside down, and smelted metal is poured into a hole in the bottom. After three days of cooling, the mould is set right side up. Then it is broken apart and after a final cleaning and polishing it is ready to grace yet another shrine.

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**Gold Leaf**

The thin square gold leaf tissues used to gild Buddha images, pires, shrines, boxes, musical instruments and other objects are hand-made in Mandalay. First, 24 carat gold is fashioned into thin strings of wire which are then pulled through a press to form a ribbon before being cut into squares. Each square is placed between thin sheets of bamboo paper and the resulting layered package is wrapped in deer skin. The package is then beaten with heavy hammers. The work on the package is then taken over by girls who separate the gold from the paper and cut into six pieces and each pieces is again placed between bamboo papers. The package is wrapped again in deer skin and the process is repeated until the gold is wafer thin. Lastly, the girls cut the fragile gold leaf into neat squares and placed them between thin cardboard paper. The gold leaf is sold in packets of tens.

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**Sculpture**

Quarries at Sagyin near Mandalay produce large quantities of excellent marble. The marble is sculpted in shops near the Maha Muni Pagoda in Mandalay. The first stage of the Sculptures are usually hewn by apprentices and the final cutting is done by a master sculptor, who can carve stone to look as if made of the softest silk. Lastly, a soft piece of chamois is used to bring out the sheen in the almost translucent surface. The shops also accept order to carve Chinese deities or other images.
Poor sleep tied to kids' lower academic performance

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTRE IN NEW YORK CITY NOTED THAT THIS STUDY FILLS A RESEARCH VOID. "THERE'S GROWING INFORMATION, MAINLY IN ADULTS, THAT YOU NEED GOOD QUALITY SLEEP TO PROCESS AND LEARN NEW INFORMATION," BAZIL TOLD REUTERS HEALTH.

"IT STANDS TO REASON THAT, IF ANYTHING, SLEEP WOULD BE MORE IMPORTANT IN CHILDREN, BUT THERE'S VERY LITTLE INFORMATION IN CHILDREN ABOUT SLEEP DISTURBANCE AND LEARNING." RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT SLEEP DEPRIVATION MIGHT AFFECT CERTAIN PARTS OF THE BRAIN, ESPECIALLY THE FRONTAL LOBES.

"THE FRONTAL LOBES CONTROL EXECUTIVE FUNCTION, WHICH IS THE ABILITY TO MAKE DECISIONS, FORM MEMORIES, PLAN FOR THE FUTURE AND INHIBIT SOCIAILY UNDESIRABLE BEHAVIOR -- LIKE LIGHTING A CLASSMATE. HOWEVER, THE NEWER STUDY SAYS DEEP SLEEP PROBLEMS WERE TO blame for poor grades, researchers said.

"THIS STUDY DOESN'T PROVE THAT SLEEP DISTURBANCES CAUSE DECREASED ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE," Bazil said, "but it shows an association. Basically every category of sleep disturbance the authors looked at was correlated with decreased academic performance."

The researchers relied on parents' reports of their children's sleeping rather than bringing kids into a sleep lab overnight, for example.

The study is "far from perfect," Bazil said. But, "It's a first step in emphasizing that sleep in children is something that's important, not only to prevent them from being sleepy but to make sure that they learn. I think this study will help raise awareness that sleep is particularly important in children." -- Reuters

United Technologies responsible for faulty Dreamliner fire extinguishers

NEW YORK, 17 Aug — United Technologies Corp (UTX.N) on Friday said one of its units was responsible for a problem with fire-fighting systems discovered in some Boeing Co (BA.N) Dreamliner extinguishers. Japanese airline ANA Holdings (9202.T) said on Wednesday that it had found an electrical wiring problem in the fire extinguishers of the engines on three Boeing 787s.

An assembly error at its service center impacted some refurbished fire extinguisher bottles, a United Technologies spokesman said in an interview. "This error has been corrected and we are working with Boeing and the airlines to complete the necessary inspections, which we expect will be completed over the next few days."

Japanese Airlines Co Ltd (9201.T) also said on Wednesday that it was inspecting its Dreamliner fleet for similar problems. The Wall Street Journal reported late on Thursday that the bottle-assembly at a Boeing supplier facility was responsible for the faulty fire systems.

Reuter's

Too much coffee may increase death risk

WASHINGTON, 17 Aug — Heavy coffee consumption is associated with an increased death risk in people under 55 years old, a new study has shown. The study, published in the journal Mayo Clinic Proceedings, found a statistically significant 21 percent increased mortality in those drinking more than 28 cups of coffee a day, which is 4 cups or 4 coffee a day.

Based on age groups, the risk of death from all causes rose by more than 50 percent for men and women younger than 55 but no adverse effects were found in heavy coffee drinkers aged over 55, it said. In this study, researchers from the University of South Carolina examined self-reported consumption of more than 43,000 individuals aged between 20 and 93 years from 1987 to 2000. During the 17-year median follow-up period, more than 2,500 participants died.

It found that younger men had a trend towards higher mortality even at low levels of coffee consumption, but this became significant at about 28 cups per week where there was a 56 percent increase in mortality from all causes. Younger women who consumed more than 28 cups of coffee per week had double the risk of dying from all causes than those who did not drink coffee, the study said.

For those drinking high amounts, there should be some caution, as this dose was associated with at least a signal for increased total mortality in this large study, especially in those under 55 years of age," Xuemei Sui from the University of South Carolina in Columbia and co-author of the study told Xinhua on Monday.

New Light of Myanmar, Sunday, 18 August, 2013

Sunday, 18 August, 2013

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Wall Street slips, Dow posts biggest weekly loss of 2013

NEW YORK, 17 Aug — US stocks fell slightly on Friday, and the Dow industrials posted their biggest weekly loss since March, as earnings from retailers disappointed investors. The S&P 500 utilities sector, down 1.1 percent, led the day's decline as the index on the benchmark 10-year US Treasury note fell to a two-year high, making the highest dividend-paying stocks less attractive. Nordstrom, which rose 3.3 percent, reported an unexpected 4.9 percent to $56.43. It was a second week of losses for its biggest decline since June 2013. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 30.72 points, or 0.20 percent, to 15,081.47. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 5.49 points, or 0.53 percent, to 1,655.83. The Nasdaq Composite Index was down 3.34 points, or 0.09 percent.

Reuter's

Boeing 787 Dreamliner belonging to Polish airline LOT flies after taking off from the Chopin International Airport in Warsaw on 1 June, 2013. — Reuters

A trader rubs his head as he looks up at informational screens while working on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shortly before the closing of the market in New York, on 15 Aug, 2013. — Reuters

Kuby, chief investment officer, North Star Investment Management Corp, Chicago, said that he would ignore the Dow's biggest decline since June, 12 percent for men and women aged 10.6 percent. It was a third day of declines for the S&P 500, which also ended just below its 50-day moving average of 1,657, which the Dow ended below its 100-day moving average of 15,102. Breaks below these technical levels could add to selling pressure.

Adding to the market's concern, the Thomson Reuters/University of Michigan survey on consumer sentiment in August slipped from July's six-year high. Other data showed annual sales growth started rose 5.9 percent in July, compared with a 9.9 percent drop in June. Homebuilders Pulte Group and Lennar Corp gained on the news. Pulte shares rose 2.3 percent to $16.28, while Lennar advanced 1.8 percent to $33.88.

Reuters

17 Aug — Boeing 787 Dreamliner fire extinguishers were found to have a problem with fire-fighting systems. Japanese airline ANA Holdings found an electrical wiring problem in the fire extinguishers of the engines on three Boeing 787s. United Technologies Corp was responsible for the faulty extinguishers. Japan Airlines Co Ltd also found an electrical wiring problem in the fire extinguishers of the engines on some Boeing 787s. United Technologies responsible for faulty Dreamliner fire extinguishers.
UN chemical weapons team to visit Syria on Sunday

DAMASCUS, 17 Aug—A UN mission to investigate alleged use of chemical weapons in Syria’s civil war tentatively plans to enter the country on Sunday, officials said on Friday.

The team, consisting of weapons experts from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, plans to look into claims of use of sarin gas and other toxic nerve agents. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Wednesday details of the trip had been worked out with the Syrian government and that the team’s departure was imminent.

An official told Reuters on Friday the team would cross into Syria on Sunday, assuming security conditions permitted. A diplomat in the region confirmed the timetable.

One site to be visited by the UN experts is Khan al-Assal in Aleppo, where the Syrian government says rebels used chemical weapons in March. Two other locations have not yet been identified and may be too dangerous for the team to visit, the official said.

The Syrian government and the opposition have accused each other of using chemical weapons during the two-year conflict, and both have denied it. The UN inquiry will try to establish only whether chemical weapons were used, not who used them.

The United States said in June it had concluded that Assad’s forces used chemical weapons against rebel fighters.—Reuters

Iran appoints pragmatist Salehi to head nuclear programme

IRAN appoints pragmatist Salehi to take charge of the new headquarters of the Iranian Embassy in Amman on 7 May, 2013.—Reuters

Dubai, 17 Aug—Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi reacts upon his arrival to attend the official opening ceremony for the new headquarters of the Iranian Embassy in Amman on 7 May, 2013.—Reuters

Atomic Energy Organization on Friday, state media said, replacing a hardliner with a pragmatist to take charge of Tehran’s nuclear programme. Rouhani, a relative moderate who took office on 3 August, has pledged to improve Iran’s ties with the outside world and ease stringent international sanctions on the Islamic Republic over its nuclear programme.

Appointing Salehi is a further signal that Rouhani intends to pursue a more flexible approach to Iran’s nuclear dispute with the West than his predecessor Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Western states and Israel say Iran’s atomic energy programme is in fact an attempt to attain a nuclear weapons capability. Tehran denies that it wants the technology to generate electricity and for medical research.

The head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) is not directly involved in nuclear negotiations with world powers, but is in charge of operating Iran’s nuclear facilities.

He also represents Tehran at the annual member state gatherings of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna each September. Salehi, Iran’s foreign minister under Ahmadinejad from 2005 until March this year, was imminent.

The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) is not directly involved in nuclear negotiations with world powers, but is in charge of operating Iran’s nuclear facilities. Salehi, who took over on 3 August, had been told to be ready to leave at a moment’s notice, said Blaine County spokesman Bronwyn Nickel.

It was unclear how many people were affected by the mandatory evacuations, which were tied to outlying residential developments mostly south of Ketchum and Sun Valley and not in city limits.

“Conditions are changing rapidly, the fire is fast and furious,” Nickel said on Friday night.

Firefighter Henry Munoz sprays down a hotspot at the Elk Complex wildfire outside Boise, Idaho on 15 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Israel official slams “self-righteous” A-bomb ceremonies

JERUSALEM, 17 Aug—A senior Israeli official posted online comments saying the 1945 US atomic bombings of “Hiroshima and Nagasaki were the consequence of Japanese aggression” and that he was “sick” of “self-righteous” commemorations for those killed by the bombings, according to an Israeli news report.

Daniel Seaman, who was scheduled to assume a high-level post in the Israeli government’s division on public relations using the Internet, posted those comments recently on his page on the social networking site Facebook, according to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz.

Seaman was suspended from work in the aftermath of the Haaretz report. “I am sick of the Japanese, ‘Human Rights’ and ‘Peace’ groups the world over holding their annual self-righteous commemorations for the Hiroshima and Nagasaki victims,” Seaman wrote on his Facebook page.

“We went on to say, ‘You reap what you sow,’ referring to Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings as ‘the consequence of Japanese aggression.’

Instead of holding ceremonies on the anniversaries of the atomic bombings, Seaman also wrote, Japan should “be commemorating the estimated 50 million Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Malay, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Indonesian, Burmese and other victims of Japanese imperial aggression and genocide.”

Haaretz said Seaman posted the comments on 8 August, two days after the 68th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, and that Seaman’s comments had already been removed. The Japanese government has filed a protest with the Israeli government over Seaman’s comments after confirming the posting, Japan’s Foreign Ministry said.

Seaman also posted comments insulting Muslims in July when the Islamic month of fasting known as Ramadan started, according to Haaretz.

Kyodo News

Hundreds flee as wildfire menaces Idaho ski resort towns

Salmon, (Idaho), 17 Aug—Firefighters battled on Friday to check a fast-moving wildfire raging near the Sun Valley ski resort in Idaho, where more than 1,000 people were evacuated as flames menaced multimillion-dollar homes in the area, authorities said.

The so-called Beaver Creek Fire, the nation’s top firefighting priority, has raced across 64,000 acres of mountains and canyons intersected by luxury housing developments since it was sparked by lightning in the Sawtooth National Forest on 7 August.

Residents of more than 1,300 dwellings have been ordered to evacuate and the tourist towns of Ketchum and Sun Valley have been told to be ready to leave at a moment’s notice, said Blaine County spokesman Bronwyn Nickel.

It was unclear how many people were affected by the mandatory evacuations, which were tied to outlying residential developments mostly south of Ketchum and Sun Valley and not in city limits.

“Conditions are changing rapidly, the fire is fast and furious,” Nickel said on Friday night.

Firefighter Henry Munoz sprays down a hotspot at the Elk Complex wildfire outside Boise, Idaho on 15 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Police decline to launch probe into BBC pay-offs

London, 17 Aug—British police said on Friday they would not launch a criminal investigation into allegations the publicly funded BBC broadcaster broke the law by giving departing executives huge pay-offs.

Last week, fraud squad detectives announced they were examining whether the pay-offs constituted criminal offences after the government’s spending watchdog concluded the BBC had breached its own policies without good reason. The payments, described by the head of parliament’s Public Accounts Committee as excessive, come as the BBC deals with a 16 percent real terms cut to its budget this year and the wider public sector faces tough government austerity measures.

London’s Metropolitan Police said in a statement: “The assessment, of available material, has concluded there is insufficient evidence of dishonesty or criminal misconduct to begin a criminal investigation.” The National Audit Office (NAO) watchdog said 60 million pounds ($93 million) was paid to senior managers between 2005 and March this year. It found that in 14 of the 60 cases it reviewed, the recipients had been given more cash than they were entitled to, costing taxpayers at least 1 million pounds.

Former BBC Director-General George Entwistle, who resigned after just 54 days in the job in the wake of a child abuse scandal involving the late presenter Jimmy Savile, was given a 450,000 pound pay-off. —Reuters
Agriculture

Talks on seed production given

Yangon, 17 Aug—Farmer U Aye Zaw of Nyaungdon village-tract in Hmawby Township in Yangon North District of Yangon Region put 10 acres of its farm under Ayeyamin quality paddy. The agriculture department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation gave talks on seed production of Ayeyamin high-yield strains to local farmers on 12 August. Director (Seed) U Ye Tin Tun of Agriculture Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Head of Yangon Region Agriculture Department U Win Myint and Staff Officer of Township Agriculture Department U Tun Lwin and invited agriculturalists gave talks on seed production techniques to the local farmers.

The officials and farmers visited the 10-acre paddy seed production farm at the entrance of 10-acre Palethwe plantation. MMAL-Myo Thant

Construction

Residents engaged in paving road in Nyaunglin

Yangon, 17 Aug—Eleven Media Group and Mandalay Media also took the same Golden Myanmar Airlines flight to cover the news. Dr Ang Beng Yi, the neurologist of Singapore General Hospital, will oversee the treatment of the huge man and Dr Khin Lay Yi, Dr Thet Htar Khin, Ma Nyein Nyein and his brother-in-law Ko Ye Thura. MRTV-4.

Pistol seized from Tachilek bike rider

Tachilek, 17 Aug—Some ammunitions were seized in a search by a combined team in the outpost in Mongphone (B) village-tract in Tachilek in eastern Shan State on 14 August.

A pistol and other ammunitions were seized from an unlicensed motorbike driver bound for Pakhok village.

Police Inspector Zaw Lin Tun seized the Beretta Pistol in front of witnesses. In the follow-up raid into the driver Inoak’s house, no further ammunitions were found. MMAL-La015

Dhama School opens teaching skill multiplier course

Yangon, 17 Aug—A Dhama school multiplier course was opened at Yangon City Development Committee Dhammayon on the southern archway to Shwedagon Pagoda on 14 August. It was organized by DhamaSchoolFoundation (Central) and Sansara Lan Nyun Abdihdamma Training School.

TheChairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee patron of DhamaSchoolFoundation Bhano Sayadaw and the patron of the foundation Layeinsu Sayadaw gave sermons.

Dr Naninda and Secretary Nun Daw Ketumala explained the purposes of conducting the course.

Lecturers of the DhamaSchoolFoundation (Central) will give lectures to trainees on 14-20 August. MMAL-Tin Soe (Myana Alining)

Odd News

Myanmar gigantic man leaves for Singapore for treatment

Yangon, 17 Aug—MMAL-Nay Lin

Here comes “Oebok”

Mandalay, 17 Aug—Oeboks are clay pots for kids, little replicas of kitchen wares in Myanmar. Clay toys are also available at Oebok shops usually displayed at the festivals such as pagoda festivals.

Taungpyone is the most famous festival praising the spirits. Nat. Alongside with Taungpyone festival, Oebok festival is organized in Aungmyethazan Township in Mandalay Region.

The festival has the history dated back many years ago.

“We are selling locally-made Oeboks and glaze wares here as a stop on our trip to Taungpyone. It is selling good. It is a tradition that one in five buyers take one extra,” said Ma Hla Myint from Myinn Township who displays an Oebok shop in the festival.

There is no deal between buyers and sellers like “Buy five and take one free”, but Oebok buyers found themselves happy to successful steal one more toy from the shop. The deal is that the shopkeepers know that their customers are stealing but let them go on knowingly to multiply the fun in the festival period. The deal is so solid that no agreement arises from it. MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Winners in inter-university/college table tennis tourney awarded

Mandalay, 17 Aug—Prize Presentation Ceremony for Inter-University/College Table Tennis Tournament organized by Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) was held at Mandalay University Indoor Stadium on 14 August.

Pro-Rector Dr Tint Tun awarded third prize winner Maung Thet Zin of Myingyan Degree College and second prize winner Maung Lin Hein of Mandalay University. Mandalay University of Distance Education Rector-in-Charge Dr Tin Maung Hla awarded the first prize winner Maung Phone Myat Min of Yadanaubon University.

Rector of Mandalay University Dr Khin Swe Mying awarded winners in double: third prize winners Maung Phone Myat Min and Maung Sai Thura Aung of Yadanaubon University, second prize winners Maung Min Min and Maung Phyo Min Maung of Meiktila University and first prize winners Maung Thura Aung and Maung Tun Min Zaw of Sagaing Education University.

National Sports

Deputy Director-General Dr Thein Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) awarded winners in team event: third prize winner Yenangyoung Degree College, second prize winner Yadanaubon University and the first prize winner Mandalay University.

Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Win Hlaing awarded the championship shield to Mandalay University.—MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Prizes being awarded to winning team in table tennis tourney.
There exist inequalities and individual differences among beings. For instance, some are born in higher planes and others in lower planes. Some are superior and others inferior. Some die young and others in their eighties and nineties. Some are sickly and others healthy. Some are more powerful and others millionaires.

What makes them so different and unequal? Does this happen through coincidence, through accident, by chance without any reason? These questions have puzzled philosophers and thinkers for ages. The Buddha, over 2500 years ago, gave a satisfactory answer to these questions with the Pali word “kamma”.

In its general sense, “kamma” means ‘action’. This word is derived from the root “kar” meaning ‘to do or perform or act’. Kamma embraces all actions good or bad. Again, as one has to do actions by body or word or thought, Kamma can be categorized into three types—bodily action (kayakamma), verbal action (vacakkamma) and mental action (manokamma). Technically, kamma denotes ‘volition or intention’. What lies behind its actions, whether bodily or verbal or mental, is nothing but volition or intention. Having been motivated by volition or intention, one has to perform actions by body or word or thought. So the Buddha says in the Sotapanna Nikaya: “What is the root of all our actions? It is volition, bhikkhas, I call kamma (cetanaam Bhikkhave kammad vadam).”

In the light of Abhidhamma, volition (cetana) and its associated mental concomitants (cetasika) perish immediately after serving their respective purposes. However, because they perish, it leaves a mental imprint called a karmic property in the citta-stream. This karmic property is a potentiality. It always produces its due effects in due time. Thus the effects of a certain volitional or intentional action fall upon the doer sooner or later. It is impossible to say where this karmic property is stored. To explain this problem, we should take an example of a tree. A tree has the potential to bear fruits. Actually, there are no fruits in the tree at an early age. However, when the appropriate conditions, fruits appear. Likewise, kamma is stored not in the mind nor in the heart nor in the brain. Only when the time is due, it appears and produces its consequences of his or her past kamma. Every volitional or intention or intensional action results in its corresponding effects. So the Buddha says in the Saccakammapa Nikaya: “According to the seed that’s sown, So is the fruit ye reap therefrom, of doer of good will gather good, Deer of evil, evil reaps. Sown is the seed, and thou shalt taste, The fruits thereof.”

In addition, the Buddha also says in the Dhammapada in support of the Law of Kamma and its consequences as follows:

“If one speaks or acts with evil mind, suffering (dukkha) will follow him just as the wheel follows the hoof-print of the ox that draws the cart. If one speaks or acts with good mind, happiness (sukha) will follow him like a shadow that never leaves him.”

However, it should be noted that the action without volition or intention is not kamma. For example, while practising walking meditation, if we accidentally step on an ant, it does not amount to kamma, for we did not do it on purpose but only by accident. Having no cetana, that action did not have any chance to leave a potential karmic property. Besides, the volitional actions done by Arahats and Buddhas do not also produce any effects, for they do not acquaint themselves with it, because they have already eradicated ignorance (avijja) and craving (tanha), the root of kamma. Their actions are not kammad but kriyad. Some people regard kamma as both the cause and the effect. But in actual fact, kamma never means the effect or the result. It always means only the cause. Therefore, it is important to be able to separate the present kamma from the results of past kamma and cut off the绳.

The present kamma is not the results of past kamma at all. Only what we are now is the results of past kamma, that is, we are now just reaping the consequences of the past kamma. However, only what we are now doing is the present kamma, that is, by doing new actions we accumulate fresh kamma which will yield results in the future. With regard to this point, we should reflect thus: “I am reborn here as the result of my past kamma, And there is nothing I can do about it. By doing good or bad at present, I am accomplishing my future kamma, kusal or akusal, which will give Me bad or good results in the future.”

Another thing which should be noted is that the effects of some of one’s past kammad can be diminished or destroyed by another powerful kamma. To make it clear this point, we should take an example of a case of a seed. By nature, the seed has the potency of producing a seedling. But auxiliary causes such as water, warmth, care, soil, fertilizer, etc. are needed to make the seed sprout out. If it is lack of one of the auxiliary causes, it will take more time to sprout out or the seedling will be lean or sickly. What is worse, if the seed is destroyed, it will have no chance at all to sprout out. Likewise, kamma has a potential to produce effects. But a cause such as circumstances, surroundings, etc. are needed to make it produce its consequences. If it lacks one of the auxiliary causes, it will not be able to produce its consequences.

In addition, it naturally causes so much more to bear fruits or to yield effects. What is worse, if it is influenced or destroyed by another weighty kamma, it will have no chance to produce its effects. For instance, the consequences of the past kamma of king Ajatasatru, who had become to be destined to be born in the third realm of life. In the case of the Buddha, all the five weighty kammad (Pancanantaryya kammas). Consequently, his destiny was changed and fell down to the hell (Niraya) after his death. Here, we should be aware of a fact that the degree of the effects of our past kammad depends much on our present way of living and attitude. Depending on the present attitude and behavior, the effects of our past kammad may be stronger or weaker. For instance, if we live sensibly and wisely at present, our bad kammad will have to take more time to bear fruits and its consequences will be less severe. If we live foolishly at present, our bad kammad will bear fruits much earlier and its consequences will be more serious. On the other hand, if we live sensibly and wisely at present, our good kammad bear fruits much earlier and its consequences will be greater.

If we live foolishly at present, our good kammad will bear fruits later and its consequences will be less. So, here, we should learn a lesson from this point that no one is born in some kind of kamma. We did in the past, what is the most important for us is to do good kammad at present. According to the Buddha, there are four kinds of persons in this world: The person who is born rich and remains rich when he grows up. Such a kind of persons has good past kammad and good present kammad, the person who is born poor but grows up rich. Such a kind of persons has bad past kammad but good present kammad, the person who is born rich but becomes poor when he grows up. Such a kind of persons has good past kammad but bad present kammad, the person who is born poor and also becomes poor when he grows up. Such a kind of persons has both bad past kammad and bad present kammad.

In the Culakamma-vibhanga Sutta, the Buddha explains some actions and their corresponding results thus: Those who used to kill other beings are short-lived (See page 9)
Myanmar mobile monetary service introduced

Member of BOD of Myanmar Mobile Monetary Service U Thant Swe reported on undertakings of the service and mobile monetary service. Managing Director U Yin Sein of Inwa Bank Ltd explained connectivity between banking and accounts sectors of the service and mobile service through mobile phone. CBM Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung and officials participated in discussions.—MNA

WHAT IS KAMMA?

(from page 8) and those who used to avoid torturing others are healthy. Those who used to be short-tempered are foolish. Those who used to have no jealousy have great influence on other and those who used to have jealousy have no great influence on other. Those who used to be stingy are poor and those who used to be charitable are rich. Those who used to be conceived are born into the low lineage and those who used to be humble are born into the high lineage and those who used to inquire about good and bad are born intelligent and those who used not to inquire about good and bad are born foolish.

Classification of Kamma

Kamma can be classified into four kinds according to the time of producing results. The kamma which ripens in this particular life is Dithadhavamedayana Kamma (Immediately Effective Kamma); the kamma which ripens in the next life is Upapajaveditaya Kamma (Obstructive or Counteractive Kamma) and the kamma which destroys the force of existing kamma is Upaghatakana Kamma (Destructive Kamma). There is another classification according to the priority of results. The kamma which develops jhana on the moral side and, on the immoral side, commits one of the five weighty kamma (Pancanantaryaka Kamma)- patricide, matricide, the murder of an Arahat, the wounding of the Buddha, causing a schism in the Order- is Garuka Kamma (Destructive Kamma). There is another classification according to the priority of results. The kamma which develops jhana on the moral side and, on the immoral side, commits one of the five weighty kamma (Pancanantaryaka Kamma)- patricide, matricide, the murder of an Arahat, the wounding of the Buddha, causing a schism in the Order- is Garuka Kamma (Destructive Kamma).

In conclusion, understanding of the Law of Kamma helps us rely upon ourselves. Since kamma is our own property, we can shape our own destiny. We ourselves are responsible for what we encounter. We need not put the blame on others for our misfortunes or thank them for our fortunes, for

AP’s journalism course sharpens reporters’ skills

Byline: Moe Thu

Township reporter Ko Than Htike

A journalism course, jointly conducted by News and Periodical Enterprise (NPE) under the Ministry of Information and US-based AP News Agency was opened at NPE (Head Office) on Theinnyu Road in Yangon on 5-16 August. A total of 30 trainees attended the two-week course.

“The course is aimed at enabling reporters from the Ministry of Information and freelance reporters get practical knowledge about reporting and news coverage,” said course in-charge U Zaw Naing Oo from NPE, regarding the course. This course is very exciting one. I gave practical lectures on basic concepts for news collating and news writing. I found it that all trainees are very active than expected. I’m very satisfied joy wherever one is born, hearing and expounding the Dhamma (Dhammasavana and Dhammadodesana) wisdom and strengthening one’s view (dithijukamma) confidence. The kamma which produces its effects in the Rupa-Brahma plane is Rupavacarakusala Kamma. This moral kamma is done by meditation. According to the jhana factors that involve ecstacy or absorption (jhana), it is five-fold. The kamma which produces its effects in the Arupa Brahman plane is Arupavacarakusala Kamma. This moral kamma is done by meditation. According to the objects of jhanas that involve ecstacy, it is four-fold.

In conclusion, understanding of the Law of Kamma helps us rely upon ourselves. Since kamma is our own property, we can shape our own destiny. We ourselves are responsible for what we encounter. We need not put the blame on others for our misfortunes or thank them for our fortunes, for with the course as they are working in news writing and reporting fields, AP News Agency editor-in-charge Mr Ted Anthony who mainly lectured news writings, US-based AP News

Township reporter Ko Than Htike

AP News Agency editor-in-charge Mr Ted Anthony

started to open its branch in Yangon, “course instructor Daw Aye Aye Win, reporter from AP News Agency. And we had to make a lot of preparations to be an effective course as reporters and editors from AP would conduct the course. We had to take much time for preparations to open the course. I take pride for trainees’ skills, she added. The ministry is now promoting human resource development of state-owned media. These trainees need to apply the lessons learned in the practical filed so as to effectively survive state’s duties.

Trz: MT

Then we can discover total freedom from entanglement of kamma and attain Nibbana.

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**Fingerlings released at Laiva Dam**

**HaKa, 17 Aug—**Under the guidance of Chin State government and supervision of Chin State Fisheries Department, a ceremony to release fingerlings into Laiva Dam was held in Falam Township.

It was aimed at developing meat and fish sector in Chin State. Chin State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Van Thong and departmental officials put fingerlings in the dam.

**Agricultural loans disbursed to farmers in YeU**

**YeU, 17 Aug—**Disbursement of loans for agricultural purpose started in YeU Township of Sagaing Region as of 7 June.

Myanma Agricultural Development Bank disburses loans to the farmers from 67 village-tracts for 2013-14 fiscal year.

In the process, the bank give K 100,000 each per acre for monsoon paddy and K 20000 per acre for groundnut. Up to 15 August, the bank has disbursed K 5124.5 million to 9717 farmers from 46 villages for cultivation of 51107 acres of paddy farmlands and 690 acres of groundnut.

Moreover, the bank did not collect charge from the loans. The loans will be given out to the farmers till 31 August, said Manager of Township Agricultural Development Bank U Myint Swe.

**Kyemon-Than Huik (YeU)**

**Artificial insemination of cows demonstrated in Mawgyun**

**Mawlamyinegyun, 17 Aug—**The cow artificial insemination course No 1/2013, organized by Mawlamyinegyun Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, concluded at 100-cow breeding farm in Kunchanchaung Village, eastern bank of Mawlamyinegyun in Ayeyawady Region on 14 August.

Assistant Director Dr Kyemon-Chin State IPRD Moe Kya (Myitkyina)

**Outstanding students honoured, cash assistant provided**

**Myeik, 17 Aug—**Myeik Education Department Micro-credit Cooperative Ltd held a ceremony to present cash assistance to offspring of staff from Myeik Township.

Chairman of the cooperative Ltd U Tin Maung Swe, Headmaster U Thaung Han of BEHS No 4 gave stipends to the outstanding students.

The cooperative Ltd provided K 20000 for five distinction winners and K 15000 for four distinction winners as cash assistance.

As stipends, K 125,000 went to five distinction winners, K 75000 for three distinctions, K 50000 for two distinctions and K 25000 for one distinction.

Kyemon-Ko Thant (Myeik)

**Sanitation**

**NyAungU, 17 Aug—**Due to heavy rains, some places in Taikkon Area of Ward 4 in NyAungU was inundated.

Not to cause similar inundation, the local people cleared debris along the drains and creek and culverts.

Wellwishers donated cash to the fund for sanitation being undertaken by the local people on a self-reliant basis.

“In last five days, NyAungU lied under heavy rains. The ward in low-lying area suffered floods from the creek. Some places of the ward were inundated. This process happens yearly in the rainy season. The root cause of the inundation is blocking the drains with garbage and silt. Thanks to wellwishers, the local people made concerted efforts for carrying out sanitations on a self-reliant basis. As of 13 August to date, the sanitation has been carried out. The sanitation tasks will be completed soon,” said a local.

Kyemon-Te Thura Aung (NyAungU)

**Agriculture**

**Demonstration on cultivation of Palashwe hybrid paddy in Myeik**

**Wangmaw, 17 Aug—**Acting on tip-off, SIP Myo Win Naing and party of Myoma Police Station from Wangmaw Township in Myitkyina District together with witnesses searched the motorcycle driven by Daw Htu Bu from Sardon to Washaung, near Kakwyn Bridge in Washaung Village at 4 pm on 12 August.

They seized 370.78 grams of opium and 420.22 grams of solid opium worth K 1,186,500.

Wangmaw Myoma Police Station opened files of lawsuit against Zaw Hsia, 40, son of U La Aung and Daw Htu Bu, 50, daughter of U Phaw Je Tu under sections 15/19(a)/21 of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Kyemon-Moe Kyu (Myitkyina)

**Demonstration on cultivation of Palashwe hybrid paddy in Myeik**

**Myeik, 17 Aug—**A ceremony to demonstrate cultivation of Palashwe hybrid paddy was held on 10 acres of model plot in Kyaukphyuauang Village of Sadawut Village-tract in Myeik Township on 15 August.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo of District General Administration stressed the need of departmental personnel as well as village authorities to strive for organizing the local farmers to cultivate Palashwe hybrid paddy strain and urged them to systematically use fertilizer in time and modern paddy transplanting machine due to shortage of paddy transplanting labourer.

Head of District Agriculture Department U Htay Lwin explained use of quality and marketable paddy strains and applying good agriculture patterns.

Head of Township Agriculture Department U Htay Win then demonstrated sorting of quality paddy seeds with the use of salty water.

In the demonstration, teachers and students led by Principal Daw San Myint of Agricultural Institute from Shwedu Village in Myeik Township participated in demonstration on cultivation of paddy.

It was also attended by departmental officials, village administrators from seven village-tracts and local farmers.

Kyemon-Myeik District IPRD
At least one bid qualified for $7.4 billion South Korea fighter jet deal

SEOUL, 17 Aug—South Korea said on Friday that at least one bid came in under budget for its 8.3 trillion Korean won ($7.42 billion) purchase of 60 next generation fighter jets, the country’s biggest-ever defence import programme to replace its ageing fleet.

A spokesman at the government’s Defence Acquisition Programme Administration (DAPA) said at a briefing that a comprehensive evaluation would start and that a winner was expected to be chosen in mid-September.

DAPA resumed the bidding this week after suspending the process in July due to price gaps. Lockheed Martin Corp’s F-35, Boeing Co’s F-15 and EADS’s Eurofighter Typhoon are in the race. spokesman Baek Youn-hyung declined to give the number or name of the companies that had submitted the required price.

“A qualified company that came under the total project budget will be selected finally,” Baek said.

South Korea had originally aimed to pick a winner by October 2012, but last year’s presidential election and criticism that the government had rushed matters slowed the process.

Analysts say the government is unlikely to meet the planned first delivery date of 2017. The programme seeks to partially replace some 150 ageing F-4 and F-5 jets that South Korea plans to retire starting in 2015.—Reuters

India navy says four bodies found in submarine, no chance of survivors

NEW DELHI, 17 Aug—Divers have found the bodies of four sailors who were on board an Indian naval submarine that was badly damaged by a fire after an explosion, but it was unlikely any of the 14 other crew members would be found alive, the navy said on Friday.

The explosion in a weapons store in the forward section of the Russian-built INS Sindhurakshak on Tuesday night caused a fire so hot it melted steel as the vessel lay berthed in Mumbai, resulting in the navy’s worst loss in more than four decades.

“The bodies are severely disfigured and not identifiable due to severe burns. The bodies have been sent to NINS Ashwini, the naval hospital for DNA identification,” spokesman Narendra Vispute told reporters.

In an earlier statement, the navy said the heat of the exploding weapons made it unlikely anybody inside could have survived. The sinking of the diesel-powered submarine is the biggest blow for the navy, both in terms of lives and the loss of a vessel, since a frigate was sunk in the 1971 war with Pakistan.

—Reuters

Panorama photo shows evacuees of Great Kanto Earthquake

Tokyo, 17 Aug—An association to commemorate victims of the 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake has created a 4.6-meter-long panoramic photo panel showing around 300,000 evacuees who gathered at the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace in Tokyo following the deadly quake.

The panel will be exhibited at the Great Kanto Earthquake Memorial Museum in Tokyo’s Sumida Ward from 20 Aug, ahead of the 90th anniversary of the disaster 1 Sept.

The three-photo panel was shot by Hochi Shimbun, one of major newspaper publishers based in Tokyo at the time.

It carried part of the picture on its 7 Sept edition and its photo magazine issued on 15 Sept, but this will be the first time all three pictures have been displayed together. Some of the evacuees shown in the photos had fled fires that engulfed parts of the city. The magnitude-7.9 earthquake, which struck Tokyo and surrounding prefectures, is believed to have resulted in 105,000 deaths.—Kyodo News

Seven wounded in blast in Philippine capital region

MANILA, 17 Aug—Seven people were injured in a blast that took place in San Juan city of Philippine’s capital area on Saturday, police said.

The blast occurred at 1:10 am at a noodle house along Wilson street in San Juan. The wounded included three workers of the noodle house, the driver of a taxi that was passing by, two Pizza Hut workers and a security guard, said Eastern Police District head Miguel Laurel.

The blast also damaged some nearby buildings including a Pizza Hut branch.

The cause of the blast is still under investigation, Laurel said.

“We cannot conclude the cause of the blast yet because the blast site is still being processed by the Scene of the Crime Operatives...We are still conducting investigation,” Laurel said.—Xinhua

Aftershocks continue to rattle central New Zealand

Wellington, 17 Aug—Dozens of aftershocks have rattled central New Zealand overnight following Saturday’s 6.6 magnitude quake, as the capital of Wellington got back to business and South Island town of Seddon, where most of the quakes were centered, started its clean up.

There have been 44 quakes over magnitude 4.0 since Friday’s 6.6 magnitude quake, New Zealand government geological website GeoNet said.

State Highway 1 between Seddon and south of Ward would reopen at about midday after road repair crews fixed cracks in the road, the Fairfax NZ News reported on Saturday.

A Marlborough District Council spokeswoman said the road between Blenheim and Seddon near the epicentre of quakes was open but drivers should take care.

Warara Hospital in Blenheim has treated five people for earthquake-related injuries. Nelson Marlborough District Health Board health emergency controller Mike Cummins said one person had been admitted to hospital and was in a stable condition.

Further north, Central Wellington is open for business as usual, despite some cordoned off areas and continued aftershocks.

Some buildings sustained minor damages but there have been no reports of major structural damage so far, according to the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office.

All roads are open, bus services are operating, trains have resumed normal services, and the Interislander ferries are operating as normal.

The street, Lukes Lane, remained cordoned off pending the demolition of a lift shaft which was damaged in July’s big shake.

Some lift machinery would be removed Saturday, but the bulk of the work would have to wait till a big crane arrives from Christchurch, Wellington Mayor Celia Wade-Brown said.

Council engineers had checked out civic buildings and bridges, while some private building inspections are ongoing.

There were some reports of water damage, but no further structural damage had yet been found.

Seismologists have warned the aftershocks will keep coming.—Xinhua

India navy divers standing on the INS Sindhurakshak submarine prepare to dive into the waters of the Arabian Sea, during a rescue operation in Mumbai on 14 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

New Light of Myanmar

Regional

Sunday, 18 August, 2013

11

Download PANORAMA PHOTO SHOWS EVACUEES OF GREAT KANTO EARTHQUAKE

Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra (C) visits the Royal Thai Army Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on 16 Aug, 2013.—Xinhua

Download SCENE OF THE CRIME OPERA-

Download THE CAUSE OF THE BLAST IS STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION, LAUREL SAID.
Egypt keeps main Gaza crossing point shut for second day

GAZA, 17 Aug—Egypt kept its borders with the Gaza Strip closed for the second day in a row on Friday, preventing Palestinians from leaving or returning to the coastal enclave via its main crossing point at Rafah.

Maher Abu Sabha, director of crossings authorities in the Hamas-run Gaza, said in an emailed press statement that Egypt had informed his authorities that Rafah crossing would remain closed on Friday.

Ihab Al-Ghussein, spokesperson for the Hamas government, has earlier said that the closure of Rafah terminal was a result of “the security incidents that are happening in Egypt.”

His statements were made in reference to the Egyptian military’s recent dispersal of sit-ins in Egypt organized by supporters of ousted President Mohamed Morsi.

Since the Egyptian military overthrew Morsi early July, travelling through Gaza’s main gate to the outside world has been restricted to holders of foreign passports, foreign residency permits and patients.

The working hours at the Egyptian side of the crossing were reduced to four a day and working days were intermittent.

Before July, about 1,200 people used to leave Gaza via Rafah, but these days, Hamas authorities said an average of 300 travellers passed via Rafah crossing to the Egyptian side.

On Wednesday, Hamas, the Palestinian offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood movement, from which Morsi hails, condemned the Egyptian security forces’ clearing of two pro-Morsi encampments, which had been set up some 45 days ago in Cairo and Giza.

A Hamas statement said the dispersal was “a horrific massacre.”

China to further develop elderly care service sector

BEIJING, 17 Aug—Greater reforms and innovation will be used to build a diversified nationwide elderly care service system by 2020, Premier Li Keqiang said on Friday.

A sound elderly care service industry will help to create jobs and facilitate economic restructuring, Li said at an executive meeting of the State Council.

China has a rapidly aging society and the largest population of elderly people in the world, reaching almost 200 million.

There are only 21.5 beds available for every 1,000 elderly people in China’s nursing homes, according to the Social Development Department of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), China’s top economic planner.

Elderly care service facilities should be built in new communities and updated in old ones, the council said, adding that free or inexpensive services should be provided to disadvantaged elderly people, especially those in rural areas.

With about 600,000 children in need of vaccination, “the inability to fully access these areas constitute a major threat to the control of the outbreak. Since the outbreak started in May, 105 children have suffered paralysis as a result of the virus,” OCHA said.

“The fact that this number of children shows sympotms of paralysis means that there are probably thousands more with the virus who do not have symptoms but are capable of spreading it,” the UN agencies said.

South Africa to host grand sports event to honour Mandela

JOHANNESBURG, 17 Aug—A grand sports event will take place this Saturday in Johannesburg to honour ading former South African President Nelson Mandela who remains in a critical condition.

The event, called the Nelson Mandela Sport and Culture Day, will be held at the FNB Stadium, with both the national rugby and football teams playing against international teams on the same day at the venue.

The SA national team Bafana Bafana will take on Burkina Faso, while the country’s rugby team Springboks will play Argentina. The matches will be preceded by a match between South Africa Masters and Italy Masters.

In the evening, a music concert featuring local and international artists will be held.

According to organizers, over 50,000 tickets have been sold for the event which is part of celebrating the 95th birthday of Mandela which falls on July 18.

The proceeds will go towards building the Nelson Mandela children’s hospital in Johannesburg.

“It is a moment we must cherish as a nation. Think about what former President Nelson Mandela has done for the country. Rugby and Football give us as a nation an opportunity to unite,” Sports Minister Fikile Mbalula said.

Winners of Children’s book of year 2013 in Australia come out

MELBOURNE, 17 Aug—The Children’s Book Council of Australia (CBCA) announced the Book of the Year 2013 winners at an award ceremony at the National Library in Canberra today, Australian Associated Press reported on Friday.

According to the winners’ list released by CBCA, winning authors around the nation achieved the award, which is divided into five categories, for the different targeted age groups respectively.

Margo Lanagan who is a New South Wales (NSW) writer of short stories and young adult fiction won Book of the Year in the older readers category, referring to mature readers, through her novel Sea Hearts.

Forty-five-year-old Sonya Hartnett, who has been called “the finest Aus- trian writer of her genera- tion”, an author of fiction for adults, young adults, and children. Her novel Children of the King picked up the award for younger readers category that recommened books to independent younger readers.

And The Terrible Suitcase which was co-worked by Emma Allen and Freya Blackwood who is an illustrator and special effects artist, took out the award in the early childhood category. This category targets the children in the pre-reading to early reading stages.

Meanwhile, according to the CBCA, Ron Brooks and Julie Hunt’s The Coat won the Picture Book of the Year, while the writers behind Tom the Outback Mailman, Kristin Weinelden and Timothy Ide shared the Eve Pownall Book of the Year 2013.

Both two categories covered books mainly for audiences ranging from birth to 18 years. Some books may be for mature readers.

Australia has a rapidly aging population, with about 600,000 people in need of vaccination.

This category targets the children in the pre-reading to early reading stages.

Health authorities lead response activities with the support of UNICEF and WHO. However, the agencies said access in parts of southern and central Somalia is extremely challenging.
Kajol: Waiting for the right script

MUMBAI, 17 Aug—Actress Kajol is looking for the right kind of script that makes her feel it’s worth spending time away from her children if she starts shooting for the film.

“If I have to do a film, then I feel there should be a reason for it. The script should be so good and strong that the time I am not spending with my kids does not seem to be wasted. It should be that good,” said Kajol. The 39-year-old was last seen in a full-fledged role in two 2010 releases—My Name Is Khan and Toonpur Ka Superhero. She later made a special appearance in Karan Johar’s 2012 hit Student Of The Year.

As of now, Kajol, a mother of two kids—daughter Nysa and son Yug—is enjoying time with her family. “To tell you the truth, I am very happy with my life, with my children. I am really happy bringing them up, spending time with them,” said the actress, who is married to actor Ajay Devgn.—PI

Deepika Padukone: I’m a fighter

MUMBAI, 17 Aug—Deepika Padukone is not getting into a comfort zone after two back to back hits Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani and Chennai Express. The actress in fact says she never gives up and will continue to work hard. “I feel ups and downs are a part of one’s career and this totally depends on how you take it. You can either be knocked down by the negative things or you can take it in a positive way and learn from it,” Deepika said. “Maybe because I am from a sports background, I don’t give up easily. I am a fighter,” added the daughter of former badminton champion Prakash Padukone.

After being panned as wooden-faced for years, the 27-year-old’s last two films marked her as a coming of age actress. “It feels nice to hear or to read this. I have been working really hard. I know I have pushed myself and sacrificed a lot of personal and family time. In the end, if the result is like that, you don’t mind. But I think success is relative. If people are saying it’s my year, it depends on my films,” she said. “I have to focus all my energies on my next films and I hope they are better. It does not get easier to live up to all of that. I want love, success with every film and the experience increases,” added the actress, who has delivered duds such as Break Ke Baad.—PI

R&B singer Chris Brown agrees to complete more community labour

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug—R&B singer Chris Brown had his probation reinstated by a judge in Los Angeles on Friday after the Grammy winner agreed to complete an additional 1,000 hours of community labour stemming from his 2009 sentence for assaulting singer Rihanna. Brown’s probation had been revoked last month by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge James Brandlin after he was charged in a May hit-and-run traffic accident, which could have led to possible jail time.

The charges in the hit-and-run case have since been dismissed. In 2009, Brown was sentenced to five years’ probation, 180 days of community labour and domestic violence counseling for assaulting Rihanna, who was his girlfriend at the time. Brown, dressed in a dark suit at Friday’s hearing, must complete the 1,000 hours of community labour before his probation ends on 25 August 2014. He has the option of highway cleanup, beach cleanup, graffiti removal, or general maintenance work.

The singer, 24, came under fire by the Los Angeles County Attorney’s office in February, when he was accused of cutting corners of his community labour sentence, which he was allowed to complete in his home state of Virginia. The community labor involved tasks like cutting grass, picking up trash and removing graffiti.

Prosecutors alleged that Brown was not at the record location of his community labour and was instead performing or traveling, once on a private jet bound for Cancun, Mexico. They also accused Virginia authorities of poor and incorrect management of the singer’s community labour and record keeping, arguing that the ”Turn Up The Music” singer’s community labour case should be transferred to Los Angeles.—Reuters

Eminem releases new track Survival

LOS ANGELES, 17 Aug—Rapper Eminem has released a new track Survival, which hints at the theme of his recently recorded eighth album.

The 40-year-old’s latest song features in the computer game Call of Duty: Ghosts and is also expected to be included in his forthcoming new album, set for release before the end of the year, reported MTV online.

The guitar-heavy track sees the star in a typically angry mood, bragging about his skills and longevity in the rap business. The rapper has been in the studio working on the follow up to his 2010 album Recovery.—PTI

Selena Gomez kicks off Stars Dance world tour in Vancouver.—XINHUA

She has been dismissed. In 2009, she was charged in a May hit-and-run traffic accident, which could have led to possible jail time.

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Djokovic and Murray stunned but Nadal stands tall

CINCINNATI, 17 Aug—World number one Novak Djokovic and number two Andy Murray crashed out of the Western and Southern Open within an hour of each other on Friday, before Rafa Nadal restored order with a win over old rival Roger Federer. With the sprawling Lindner Family Tennis Centre still buzzing over John Isner’s 7-6 (5), 3-6, 7-5 quarter-final upset of Djokovic, another bombshell dropped on the nearby grandstand court as Tomas Berdych swept past US Open champions Murray 6-3, 6-4, creating shockwaves that will carry through to Flushing Meadows.

The upsets of two of the grand slam’s biggest favorites have thrown the tournament wide open and added new contenders to the usual suspects. But world number three Nadal underlined his claims by taming Swiss arch-rival and five-times Cincinnati champion Federer 6-7, 6-4, 6-3. Federer and Nadal, meeting for the 31st time in their storied careers, treated the packed centre court to high-quality tennis that had some convinced that the Swiss maestro, winner of a record 17 grand slams and the muscular Spaniard, 12-time grand slam champion, were still the two top players in the world.

While the rankings say otherwise, there has been little better tennis seen on centre court this week, and the pair proved they are still capable of bringing out the best in each other. Nadal arrived in Cincinnati after sealing the Montreal title and seemingly at the top of his hardcourt game, but it was Federer, struggling with a sore back and searching for form, that produced the more inspired display in the opening set. “It’s happy with my progress along the way,” said Federer, who will drop to world number seven next week, his lowest ranking in nearly 11 years. “Could have won tonight, should have won tonight.”

“But at the end, I think Rafa’s confidence and the way he’s playing at the moment got him through.”

Playing his first event on the North American hard-courts since Indian Wells in March, Federer took the first set when he broke Nadal with a classic forehand and held serve. But as the match wore on Nadal’s hardcourt form began to shine. The Spaniard took the only break of the second to level the match then kept the pressure on by breaking at the first opportunity in the third set.

“Always the emotions are there when we play each other,” said Nadal, who will face Berdych in Saturday’s semi-finals.

“But the emotions in the final are always more special than when you’re playing quarter-finals.”

Putt magic on slick green earns Els a surprise par

GREENBROOK, (North Carolina), 17 Aug—Former world number one Ernie Els needed a moment of magic with his putter to salvage one of the most unusual parts of his career at the Wyndham Championship on Friday. Playing the par-four 10th hole during the second round at Sedgefield Country Club, Els hit his second shot into the back fringe, 37 feet from the cup.

He was above the hole and the lightning-fast green left him with little option but to hit his first putt almost 90 degrees left of the cup, in the hope it would eventually break sharply right and trickle down close to the hole. Unfortunately for the big South African, he slightly misjudged the putt and his ball stayed in the fringe, stopping 26 feet above the hole. It was a somewhat embarrassing misjudgement by the four-times major winner, but he more than made amends by trickling his equally fast second putt into the hole for an unlikelier par. “It was one of those deals where I had absolutely nothing (with the first putt),” Els told Reuters after carding a two-under-par 68.

“I had to go almost 90 degrees and I missed my little target by half a foot and then I was really stuffed. I was trying to lag (my second putt) and not make six and I hit a perfect putt in the hole. Even though Els used his putter twice at the 10th, statistically it will be recorded as a no-putt because the PGA Tour counts only putting strokes made from on the green. Later, a rules official tried chipping a ball from the same spot where Els had hit his first put, and was unable to get the ball on the ultra-slick green. Els made an equally surprising par putt at the last, albeit from less than four feet, to make the cut with nothing to spare.
Hong Kong companies decrease usage of RMB for payments and receivables in Q2

HONG KONG, 17 Aug — Hong Kong local companies decreased the usage of renminbi for payments and receivables due to their cautious outlook about the business and economy and lower expectation of renminbi appreciation. DBS Bank said in a report released on Friday.

The DBS RMB Index for VWinning Enterprises (DRIVE) edged up 0.1 point to 55.2 in the second quarter of 2013 from 55.1 in the previous quarter. The slightly higher reading of the index was due to more renminbi customer orders and trade settlement in the past 12 months by current users.

The report said companies are very cautious about the global business and economic outlook, with over half of the respondents expecting Hong Kong’s general business environment to deteriorate over the next 12 months and more than half expecting their business performance to stagnate.

The cautious outlook and lower expectation of renminbi appreciations may have affected companies’ appetite to use renminbi, the report said.

Chris Leung, executive director and senior economist of the Group Research at DBS Bank (Hong Kong) said the percentage of companies surveyed that used renminbi products dropped by almost half in the second quarter, from 26 percent in the first quarter to only 14 percent.

He said fewer respondents reckoned that renminbi will appreciate against the US dollars in the next 12 months, while more expected renminbi will depreciate.

Sri Lankan court suspends sale of Fonterra products

COLOMBO, 17 Aug — A Sri Lankan court on Friday issued an order suspending the sale or distribution of Fonterra products, a lawyer said. Lawyer Upul Jayasuriya, who appeared on behalf of government nurses who filed the case, said that a court in Gampaha since Fonterra operates from there. The court issued an ongoing order preventing the wholesale distribution or selling Fonterra products in Sri Lanka,” Jayasuriya told Xinhua.

A trade union representing government nurses filed the case against Fonterra following fears some of its products were unsafe for consumption.

Earlier this week the Ministry of Health in Sri Lanka removed unsafe milk powder including infant milk from stores in Colombo. Director General of Health Palitha Maheepala told Xinhua that milk powder containing whey protein had been removed from the stores.

He said that health officers in other parts of the country have also been instructed to remove similar products from stores around the country, “Health officers have been instructed to carry out tests in their areas and implement the circulars issued by the Health Ministry. We carried out tests in the Colombo city. We removed all products with whey protein,” he said. — Xinhua

Europe leads US 5-3 after day one at Solheim

Suzann Pettersen of Team Europe (L) celebrates sinking a long birdie putt to win the sixth hole with team mate Carlota Ciganda during the afternoon four-ball matches against Team USA at the 2013 Solheim Cup at Colorado Golf Club in Parker, Colorado on 16 Aug, 2013.— Reuters

Los Angeles, 17 Aug — Inspired by Norway’s world number three Suzann Pettersen who won her first two matches, holders Europe seized control of the 13th Solheim Cup to lead the United States 5-3 after the opening day in Parker, Colorado. Pettersen putted superbly in the morning’s foursomes at Colorado Golf Club as Europe opened up a surprise 3-1 advantage, then virtually single-handedly paved the way to a second victory in the afternoon fourball, which were split 2-2 overall.

In tandem with Cup rookie Beatriz Recari of Spain, Pettersen won a tight foursomes match 2&1 against Americans Brittany Lang and Angela Stanford before linking up with another Spaniard, Carlota Ciganda, to beat Stacy Lewis and Lexi Thompson one up. “This competition never gets old,” smiled the 32-year-old Pettersen, who is competing in her seventh Solheim Cup along with six other rookies on the European team. “It just brings out the best of you.” I am really enjoying playing with these youngsters. I am proud of them. And Carlota, she was a super star. She hung in there tough. This was a fantastic point.” Pettersen and Ciganda earned Europe’s fifth and final point of the day as they recovered from two down at the turn to beat Women’s British Open champion Lewis and Thompson in the first fourball match out.

The Americans had claimed the first point of the afternoon when Britanny Linicome and Brittany Lang came back from one down after five holes to beat Anna Nordqvist and Giulia Sergas 4&3. “We always play well together,” said Lang, who sank a four-foot putt at the par-five 15th to seal victory. “We have similiar personalities, we have fun out there and we feed off each other. We did a really good job today when one person wasn’t doing too well to pick up the slack. That’s clutch.” — Reuters
Good Local Governance and People Centered Services Workshop held in Nay Pyi Taw

Lt-Gen Ko Ko making a speech at the Good Local Governance and People Centered Services Workshop. MNA

Ko Ko, Union Minister for Home Affairs, expressed his hope that outcomes of the national-level workshop would become the basic and practical ways for administration at region, state, district, township, ward and village-level administrative bodies.

As part of assisting democratic reforms and poverty alleviation efforts in Myanmar, the Country Programme Action Plan (2013-2015) was signed between the National Planning and Economic Development Ministry and the United Nations Development Programmes on 8 April, 2013.

The workshop is part of the Action Plan (2013-15) and will focus on drawing regional development plans, effective and quick people-centered services and improvement of capacity and management for prevention of conflicts.

During the workshop, Mr Toily Kubanov of Norway making assessment of regional good governance

Myanmar-S’pore education cooperation can benefit young generation

Myanmar. The cooperation programme includes providing assistance to entrepreneurs and drawing SAP, EAP Application.

The Yangon Region Chief Minister attended a ceremony to honour the Yangon United FC which won the championship trophy for three years consecutively at the Yangon Region Government Office yesterday evening.

The Yangon United FC has contained the championship trophy for three years from 2011 to 2013, setting a new record in the Myanmar national league history. Speaking on the occasion, he thanked responsible personnel and athletes of the Yangon United FC for their efforts for the achievements.

The UN discussed the programmes of the UN for the local governance and people-centered services in Myanmar and Mr Scott A Fritzen of the New York University discussed good governance system in South-east Asia and reforms for effective people-centered services.

Myanmar Port Authority (Myanma Port Authority) is strong in the Bay of Bengal, fairly widespread and administration. Dr Hoang Giang Dang of Vietnam, presented a paper on public administration undertakings index and Mr Paul Van Hoof of UNDP proposed ways for regional, state, township level administration in Myanmar.

The workshop will continue tomorrow.

Extension work on going at Botataung Port

In making utmost effort for shaping better images of ports in Yangon, Myanma Port Authority is extending Botataung Wharf. A 2440 feet long dyke will be constructed as part of extending 100 feet long port area of Botataung into the river. At present, land preparation and soil filling works have carried out on 2440 feet long and 100 feet wide area for construction tasks.

Upon completion, a plan is underway to build a supermarket and a shopping mall for development of the port area. Now, the pavement to be extended along the riverside has been roofed.

Botataung Port shares its area to No.1 and No.2 inland container yards. No.1 container yard is located on 9.75 acres to accommodate 4000 containers. Moreover, a total of 30 cold storage containers can be kept on the yard.

No.2 container yard is located in 16.45 acres capable of holding 196 containers with full loads, 800 empty containers and 60 cold storage containers, totalling 2822.

In its master plan, Myanma Alinn aims to widespread rain in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States with likelihood of isolated to regionally heavy falls during the next 48 hrs commencing this evening, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

Low pressure still persists

Bay of Bengal has moved to Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

Byline: Wai Yan Oo; Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)