President U Thein Sein calls for hard work

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Aug—President U Thein Sein called for hard work to get the country out of the poverty saying there is no such a heal-all solution in his speech at Nay Pyi Taw Council Area Rural Development and Socio-economic Improvement Meeting held this morning.

The meeting at the hall of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation was also attended by Union ministers, Hluttaw affairs committee members, deputy ministers, officials, representatives of cooperative societies in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and local people.

The President said that the initial capital would be provided to each cooperative society from eight townships in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at the ceremony.

A loan of K 720.67 million would be provided as capital and agricultural machinery worth K 128.245 million would also be facilitated to the cooperative societies by the Ministry of Cooperatives, the President said.

The purpose of disbursing loans is part of eight rural development and poverty alleviation tasks being initiated by the Ministry of Cooperatives, he said.

Despite prospects for economic development, Myanmar still has high poverty rate, he added. Farmers constitute about 70 percent of population in the country and most of them rely on farming, the President said.

The government gave priority to the agricultural development as it is the pre-requisite for the development of the rural area, the President said. He tipped the mechanized farming for higher incomes of the farmers. He assured that the cooperative societies would be tasked to ensure better supply chain.

He called on the cooperative societies to not only grant loans to farmers but also help them process the crops till they reach marketable level.

He said it takes three-five months to make a crop or paddy marketable, carried out in all eight townships in Nay Pyi Taw.

The registration is the certificate of possession like house grant, enabling farmers to lease their farmland as security to ask for bank loans. Therefore, instead of agricultural subsidies, enough bank loans will be provided systematically for farming purpose.

Efforts are being made to build and operate airports, factories, industrial zones and small and medium businesses with local and foreign investments. The larger the number of such factories and industrial zones, the more rural people will move to urban areas where those zones and factories are established, leading to lessen former population. Therefore, agricultural modernization is a must as manpower will be replaced with machine power.

So, it will need tractors, transplanters, harvesters, combined harvester, threshers and dryers. It is hard for farmers to purchase those machines individually because of their prices. Therefore, in cooperation with private businessmen agriculture produce cooperative societies must be set up in villages of 500 to 1000 acres of farmland. These societies would be able to purchase farming equipment with local and foreign loans and assistance and provide planting, harvesting and threshing service to farmers.

The machine power has proved to be more cost-effective and less time-consuming in comparison with manpower. As the time could be saved, the extra time can be used on livestock farming, have no extra money, being obliged to share the certain proportion of the rewards of their grease labour to the owners.

The Cooperatives Ministry is taking actions to help civil servants at lower level to own cars, powered tricycles, motor bikes and sewing machines in short time, providing capital loans to them. They are urged to shape their lives themselves. (See page 9)
**Agriculture**

Agricultural farms to distribute quality and marketable crops and seeds to States and Regions

**Nay Pyi Taw**, 19 Aug—A coordination meeting on agriculture sector development, spending allotted funds of the State under the rules and demanding supplementary fund took place at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, here, on 16 August afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing stressed the need to supervise systematic storage of water at dams in the rainy season and manage irrigated system for cultivation of summer and cold season crops.

He noted that quality and marketable crops and seeds must be distributed from agricultural farms in States and Regions to the farmers across the nation. It needed to set up seed industries on a wider scale with the concerted efforts of private sector and foreign investment sector, he added.

He continued to say that experts are to coordinate systematic use of water depending on type of crops by Irrigation and Water Resources Utilization Department. He urged them to make utmost efforts for implementation of the guidance of the President across the states and regions in addition to Nay Pyi Taw Council.

And, he called for organizing the farmers through broadcasting of farmer channel that will be launched soon. **MNA**

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**Train derailment between Mawlu and Nantsiawng stations**

**Mawlu**, 19 Aug—No 57/58 Mandalay train caused derailment between Mawlu and Nantsiawng stations in Indaw Township of Katha District in Sagaing Region.

Locomotive DF 1342 driven by U Win Ko Ko Aung together with U Aung Aung heading for Myitkyina from Mandalay left Mawlu Station at 8 am on 16 August.

On arrival at mile post 611-6/7 at 8.20 am, the train derailed and stopped at mile post 611-9. Under close supervision of Mawlu Station superintendent U Soe Lin, engineers and rail track workers repaired the derailment together with servicemen of local battalion. Thanking to their concerted efforts, the runs of trains came into normalcy at 1 pm. **Kyemon-Khin Maung Swe (Mawlu)**

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**Take Preventive Measures against Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever**

**HAIPAW**, 19 Aug—A squad led by IP Tin Huy of Lashio Anti-Drug Squad searched an express bus led by U Aik La heading for Mandalay from Namlam at mile post No 87/5 at the entrance to Nawnghkio on 15 August.

The squad seized one packet of raw opium weighing 655 grams in the plastic bag and 200 WY brand stimulant tablets from passenger Ma Khin Huy. The team also searched an express bus driven by U Nyan Lin Aung from Lashio to Mandalay and seized 350 pink stimulant tablets weighing 31.5 grams from passenger Tun Tun Naing.

Nawnghkio Police Station opened files against the drug traffickers under Section 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. **Kyemon-Zaw Lwin (Lashio)**

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**Heroin seized on trains by Myanmar Railways Police Force**

**KAWLIN**, 19 Aug—According to the drug elimination plan of No 2 Company of Myanmar Railway Police Corp in Sagaing Region, a squad together with witnesses searched the suspect namely Aung Hlaing Win, 37 of Bago Village in Mawlu Village-tract in Indaw Township at No 1 seat of No 3 coach of 41-up train from Mandalay to Myitkyina at 11.30 pm on 15 August.

They seized 0.2 gram of heroin which may be heroin from the white plastic bottle hidden in her underwear worth K 2000.

At the same time, the authorities seized 86.5 grams of heroin in seven soap boxes from Nwe Nwe Khaing, 36 from seat No 2 on coach No 3 of 41-up train at 12.30 pm the same day. The seized heroin from her was worth K 8.65 million.

**Myanmar Railway Police Corps (Kawlin)** opened file of lawsuits against the drug traffickers under Sections 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. **Kyemon-Ko Ko Nyein (Kawlin)**

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**Stimulant tablets, opium worth K 3.1 million seized in Lashio**

**LASHIO**, 19 Aug—A squad led by IP Tin Huy of Lashio Anti-Drug Squad of Shan State (North) together with local police force and witnesses raised the house of Sai Kyaw Hlai Nampaung Village of Ward 2 on Thanlwin Street in Lashio Township at 8 am on 15 August.

They seized 688 WY brand stimulant tablets, 1.8 kilos of raw opium, 500 millilitres of opium oil and other materials used in stimulant tablets and opium and K 500,000.

Lashio Myoma Police Station opened a file against Sai Kyaw Hla, 42, of Thanlwin Street in Ward 2 of Lashio Township. **Kyemon-072**
**GIBRALTAR, 19 AUG—** The people of tiny Gibraltar — a wealthy British enclave perched on a rocky outcrop near Spain’s southern tip — have a tradition of griping about their big neighbour, which claims the territory as its own. But the tetchy relationship has taken a sharp nosedive as an escalating spat over fishing has interrupted a decade of relative calm, igniting concerns that Gibraltar’s tourism and port industries could be hurt.

From Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo’s claim that “the party was over” for Gibraltar, to the enclave’s Chief Minister Fabian Picardo comparing Spain’s government to totalitarian North Korea, the rhetoric has turned ugly. “I cannot remember anything quite so tense and language quite so vitriolic,” said Bruno Callaghan, owner of Callaghan Insurance company in Gibraltar. “They’ve set the clock back 50 years. Whatever happens now, the mistrust is there.”

For Gibraltarians and the thousands of Spaniards that stream onto the British outpost every day for work, many of them to build new homes for this overcrowding town of 30,000 people, there is a lot at stake. It has seen its economy grow steadily since the 1990s, fuelled by online gambling operations and investment funds drawn to the low 10 percent tax on corporate earnings.

Across the border in southern Spain, many city halls are broke and bustling joblessness as high as 40 percent. In contrast, Gibraltar has 3 percent unemployment, a budget surplus, and pays tuition for every youngster that gets accepted to a university in the United Kingdom.

Though Britain maintains a military base in Gibraltar, the territory is self-sufficient. One in 10 vehicles in Britain are insured by Gibraltar firms, ships line up to fuel at its port, and 11 million tourists last year enjoyed its balmy weather, rare monkeys and hyper-British pubs feted with Union Jacks.

Stand-offs with Spain in recent years have eroded over the handful of small commercial fishing boats from the neighbouring Spanish town of La Linea, which regularly cross into shared waters that Gibraltar claims it has the right to manage. Then in July, Gibraltar dumped concrete blocks into a shallow part of the bay to form an artificial reef.

About 30 Spanish fishing boats were circling in protest on Sunday.

**Booming Gibraltar fears new era of sour relations with Spain**

**Heaven rain brings floods to Philippines; markets, offices shut**

**MANILA, 19 AUG—** Heavy rain in the Philippine capital forced the closure of government offices, schools, banks and most private companies on Monday, and residents in parts of the city and nearby provinces had to flee from their homes because of floods.

The monsoon rain, intensified by tropical storm Trami, also led to the closure of the Philippine Stock Exchange, the Philippine Dealing System foreign exchange platform and the secondary debt market via the Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corp after government offices suspended their work.

At least three people were killed and two were missing in accidents caused by the rain and flooding, disaster and government officials said. The flooding was the worst this rainy season in the Philippines, which is regularly battered by heavy weather including at least 20 typhoons a year.

The government of Cavite province, southwest of Manila, declared a state of calamity after 395 mm of rain fell on parts of the province in a day, equivalent to 86 percent of a month’s average rainfall. That and a high tide caused flooding in many parts of the province.

Santa Rosa town in Laguna province also declared a state of calamity, with most of its neighbourhoods flooded, said its mayor, Arlene Arcillas.

Weather forecasters said more rain was expected in coming days as tropical storm Trami moved north towards Taipei.

**Google offers online collection of items on display at A-bomb museums**

**HIROSHIMA, 19 AUG—** Internet search giant Google Inc unveiled on Monday an online collection of items displayed at museums in Hiroshima and Nagasaki documenting the 1945 US atomic bombings of the cities.

It is the first time Japanese facilities have been featured on Google’s Cultural Institute multimedia site which provides the public with free access to photos and videos capturing historic moments.

On display are 55 photographs from the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, including one of a pocket watch that stopped at 8:15 am, the time the bomb detonated, and 177 photographs and videos from the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum including some of Urakami Cathedral about 500 meters from the hypocenter.

“It is now possible for people who cannot come directly to Hiroshima to share our desire for the elimination of nuclear weapons,” Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui said at a ceremony marking the online release of the records. A Google official expressed hope that the online collection would be able to permanently preserve “valuable documents.” The project that began last year displays more than 6 million items from 40 museums in 14 countries, including items featuring the Auschwitz concentration camp and the fall of the Berlin Wall.

**Huge donations awaits UK Treasury — but there’s hitch**

**LONDON, 19 AUG—** An anonymous half-million pound bequest to Britain has mushroomed to $546 million ($456 million) since it was made 85 years ago, trustee Barclays Bank said on Saturday — but London lawmakers can not get their hands on it.

The donor left the money in 1928, but said it should only be handed over once Britain had amassed enough funds to pay ofv its entire national debt, which now totals 1.2 trillion pounds.
**Bangladesh scientists decode local jute genome**

Dhaka, 19 Aug—A team of Bangladeshi scientists have successfully decoded the genome sequence of a local variety of jute plant, opening up a new vista in the development of the golden fibre.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made the announcement at a Press briefing amid cheers and desk thumping by officials on Sunday here in capital Dhaka.

Maksudul Alam, a professor of the University of Hawaii, who earlier decoded the genome of papaya in the US and rubber plant in Malaysia, led from the forefront in sequencing the jute genome. “Decoding of the genome is a great success for Bangladesh,” Hasina said congratulating the discoverers of the genome sequence, scientist Alam, and his team members.

With this discovery, she said jute is expected to regain its lost glory of being the golden fibre.

Experts said the discoveries would help improve the fibre length and quality, including colors and strength, and develop high yielding, saline soil- and pest-tolerant jute varieties through genetic engineering.

The group of Bangladeshi scientists have recently also found the genetic history of a fungus which causes at least 30 percent loss in Tossa (Corchorus olitorius) variety of jute.

In 2010, the Bangladeshi scientists had succeeded in unveiling the genome sequencing of Tossa jute.—Xinhua

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**Hungarian new airline’s first leased plane lands in Budapest**

Budapest, 19 Aug—The first plane in the fledgling Solyom (the name means falcon) Hungarian Airways backed by unnamed Omami and Eminair investors landed in Budapest on Sunday.

The Boeing 737-500 is the first of six craft leased from the British company European Aviation Group, and is envisaged to mark the re-start of a Hungarian airline.

Hungary has been without a flagship carrier since early 2012, when the national airline Malev folded. Solyom is privately owned.

Solyom plans to take to the air as a charter carrier initially, until all permits and operator certificates are in hand and all six aircraft are in Budapest, to enable it to begin scheduled flights. Tickets are not yet on sale but scheduled flights are envisaged to begin in early October.

Solyom CEO Jozsef Vago said that the new airline would initially fly its six aircraft to 22 destinations, including six European capitals. According to press reports, Solyom plans to reach full capacity in 2017 with some fifty craft. It is envisaged as a full-service carrier and not a discount airline.

The airline announced early in August that it would be hiring, and after saying that it had received ten times more applications than the number of jobs available, its website reported that it would not accept any further applications.

The start-up Boeings were built in 1990, 1991, and 1992 and have been re-furbished.

One of Solyom’s main competitors will be Hungarian discount airline Wizz Air that has been in operation for a decade and currently owns 43 planes—Solyom plans to fly to 93 destinations in 32 countries. Wizz Air is also based in Budapest.—Xinhua

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**Nine utilities in Japan fail to achieve CO2 emissions cut targets**

Tokyo, 19 Aug—Nine utilities in Japan have failed to meet their self-imposed targets of reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the five years to fiscal 2012 by an average of 20 percent from 1990 levels, an industry body said Monday.

The failure to meet the targets is mainly due to the utilities’ reliance on non-nuclear thermal power generation in the wake of the nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi complex triggered by the 11 March, 2011, earthquake and tsunami in north-eastern Japan.

The nine utilities are Tohoku Electric Power Co, Hokuriku Electric Power Co, Hokkaido Electric Power Co, Tokyo Electric Power Co, Kansai Electric Power Co, Kyushu Electric Power Co, Chubu Electric Power Co, and Chugoku Electric Power Co. Based on the tally of the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan, utilities in Japan have failed to achieve their CO2 reduction rate of Japan’s 10 utilities, including Okinawa Electric Power Co which does not operate nuclear power plants, stood at only 2.6 percent.

Japan is, however, still likely to achieve its target of cutting CO2 emissions by 6 percent from 1990 levels as required by the Kyoto Protocol.—Kyodo News

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**Cuba testing dengue vaccine on animals**

Havana, 19 Aug—Cuba is testing a recombinant vaccine against dengue fever on animals, which is considered to be one of the most advanced projects of its kind, compared to other pre-clinical studies undertaken at the international level, a Cuban scientist said on Friday.

The vaccine is composed of a protein that works by inducing cells to generate neutralizing antibodies, said Aliensys Izquierdo Oliva, a member of the National Dengue Vaccine Project.

“If we have neutralizing antibodies, then we will have protection,” said Izquierdo, who is participating in the ongoing 13th International Course on Dengue and its Control at Havana’s Pedro Kouri Institute of Tropical Medicine.

The vaccine is currently undergoing preclinical studies on mice and monkeys, marking the last stage of testing on animals before clinical trials can begin on humans, the scientist said, adding “so far (the vaccine) has proven to be effective in controlling the replication of the virus in these animals, demonstrating the potential to protect against the disease.”—Xinhua

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**Sony develops new online data accumulation system**

Tokyo, 19 Aug—Sony Corp said on Monday it has developed a new security-enhanced online data accumulation system that will enable pharmacists to check the prescription records of their patients.

Under the new system, a patient’s personal information, such as their name and date of birth, is stored on a FeliCa contactless smart card. This is then used to access their prescription history, which is stored in a cloud system.

Under the existing system, personal information and medical history are stored together in a cloud system, which leaves them both open to hacking.

Around 200 pharmacies in Kawasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture, will introduce the new system on a trial basis this Fall, Sony said.

The new system allows pharmacists to examine the prescription history of their patients and allows them not to duplicate prescriptions if the patient has been to a different clinic, Sony said.

Users can use a mobile device such as their smartphone to get information on their prescriptions, check when to take their drugs and inform the pharmacist of any side effects.

Information on the prescribed drugs and their possible side effects will be accumulated in the cloud computing systems, and can be provided to local governments and pharmaceutical companies, Sony said.—Kyodo News

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**3,000-year-old nomad shields excavated in Xinjiang**

Urumqi, 19 Aug—Archaeologists have excavated a set of stone shields in northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region which they believe were used in sacrifices by nomads nearly 3,000 years ago.

The shields were discovered by Huahaiya (sea of flowers) Lake in the Altai mountains, which borders Mongolia. The lake shore meadow is home to huge stone relics, including what archaeologists believe to be the largest temple of sun on the Eurasian steppe. The area is strewn with numerous deer stones.

The shields are pentagonal stones, one with a circle carved in the center, surrounded by a herringbone pattern.

Initial researches show the shields could date back to the late Bronze Age, roughly 3,000 years ago,” said Lu Yu Enguo, researcher with Xinjiang’s archaeological institute.

Lu describes the discovery as a “breakthrough for research on the life of ancient nomads. Experts from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the cultural relic bureaus of Urumqi Prefecture and Qinghe County started the excavation in July to find ways of better protecting the relics.

Badly affected by earthquake and climate change, the stone complex has been eroded by the lake water, and would further damaged if protective measures are not taken as soon as possible.—Xinhua
**China shares slip after Friday’s gyrations, pulls Hong Kong lower**

HONG KONG, 19 Aug — China shares slipped on Monday morning with investors staying cautious after a trading glitch at a Chinese brokerage caused a chaotic Friday, while Hong Kong shares eased awaiting hints on what direction mainland markets will take.

The CSI300 of the leading Shanghai and Shenzhen A-share listings went into the midday trading break down 0.3 percent to 2,297.74 points. The Shanghai Composite Index was down 0.2 percent.

The Hang Seng Index edged down 0.1 percent to 22,479.44 points, while the China Enterprises Index eased 0.2 percent.

On Friday, mainland indexes unexpectedly soared after heavy buying by China Everbright Securities Co. — blamed on a trading-system glitch — and then prices collapsed.

"Investors have already digested the impact from Everbright and treated it as a single incident," said Ben Kwong, chief operating officer at KGI Asia Ltd.

Chinese securities remained weak in the wake of Friday’s volatility, during which the Shanghai Composite Index was up more than 5 percent at one point. Trading in Everbright’s shares will resume on Tuesday.

Everbright said it will not sell shares purchased as a result of Friday’s internal trading error until further notice.

Southwest Securities led declines in brokerage on Monday with a 6.3 percent drop. Huatai Security fell 3.3 percent to its lowest since January, while Haitong Security was down 3.5 percent.

Chinese property counters were down due to renewed concerns Beijing may take further steps to cool the market after Beijing and Shanghai’s July home prices posted their fastest annual growth this year.

China Vanke, the country’s largest developer by sales, fell 0.8 percent, while smaller rival China Overseas Land was down 1.6 percent and Longfor Properties declined 2.4 percent.

In Hong Kong, Russia’s United Company RUSAL Plc fell 4.9 percent to a record low of HK$2.32 per share after the world’s largest aluminium producer saw its quarterly profit tumble by 42 percent.

Zimbabwean banks were hit by another check to their profits as the country’s general elections in Harare, on Monday, 2013. Zimbabwean began voting in a fiercely contested election pitting President Robert Mugabe against Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai, who has vowed to push Africa’s oldest leader into retirement after 33 years in power. —Reuter

**Indian, Indonesian currencies come under fire**

SYDNEY, 19 Aug — India’s currency caved-off to historic lows on Monday while markets in Indonesia took a spill, evidence of how rising US yields are making it harder for emerging nations to fund their current account deficits.

The turbulence heightened investor caution ahead of Wednesday’s minutes of the Federal Reserve’s last policy meeting, with many fearing they might only add to the confusion about when it might scale back stimulus. That helped gold reach its highest in two months, while keeping share markets constrained across Asia.

In Europe, Britain’s FTSE futures inched up 0.2 percent in early deals. The German DAX futures were down 0.04 percent, as bund yields climbed to the highest since early 2012.

The Indian rupee slid as far as 62.50 per dollar, emotionally breaching the previous low of 62.03. The share market lost 1.4 percent, on top of a 4 percent drop. Huatai Security fell 3.3 percent to its lowest since January, while Haitong Security was down 3.5 percent.

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The currency has been hurt by investor frustration at the slow pace of economic reform in India, which has made it harder for the country to finance its hefty current account shortfall.

The Reserve Bank of India has tried to restrict how much Indian residents and companies can send offshore, but that only raised fears of outright capital controls that would further undermine the confidence of foreign investors.

“The foreign investor community want tangible and ambitious reforms that look and feel like a worthy ‘second generation’ to the fundamental measures adopted in the early 1990s,” Westpac analysts said in a note. They also found it “curious” the central bank would be fighting against a depreciation in the rupee given that it would help boost exports and limit imports over time.

Indonesia’s rupiah shed 0.9 percent to four-year lows at 10,475 per dollar, with share and bond markets weakening in the wake of data showing a sharp widening in the country’s current account deficit.

The task of attracting funding for these shortfalls has become ever tougher as investors priced in a start to Fed tapering and pushed up US market rates.

Yields on 10-year Treasury debt were up near two-year highs at 2.87 percent on Monday, putting upward pressure on borrowing costs across the globe.

The strain showed in MSCI’s broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan which fell 0.3 percent. It had ended last week with gains of 1.45 percent, but that merely recovered ground lost during the previous two weeks.

Stocks in Shanghai rebounded to be up 0.6 percent. The Korean market eased 0.1 percent but Thai shares shed 1.2 percent as data there showed the economy slipped into recession last quarter. —Reuter

**BPA, phthalates tied to kids’ weight, diabetes risk**

NEW YORK, 19 Aug — Children exposed to two chemicals commonly used in food packaging are more likely to be obese or show signs of diabetes precursors than those with lower exposure, new research suggests.

Researchers found urine levels of one type of phthalate, used to soften plastic, were tied to a higher risk of insulin resistance among teenagers.

Based on data from the same large nutrition survey, another study group linked bisphenol A, or BPA — used to line aluminum cans — to obesity and larger waist sizes in youth. —Reuters

**New ban on New Zealand dairy products bound for China**

WELLINGTON, 19 Aug — More New Zealand milk products bound for China have been halted after elevated levels of nitrates were found, raising further concerns over quality and testing in the world’s largest dairy exporter in the wake of a contamination scare earlier this month.

New Zealand’s agricultural regulator said on Monday it has revoked export certificates for four China-bound consignments of lactoferrin manufactured by Westland Milk Products after higher-than-acceptable nitrate levels were found by tests in China. —Reuters

**Fed minutes, euro zone surveys to point the way**

LONDON, 19 Aug — A blend of past and present holds the key this week to gauging global economic prospects.

Month-old minutes from the Federal Reserve could offer hints on when the US central bank will scale back its extraordinary stimulus and up-to-date sentiment indicators will help track momentum in the reviving euro zone.

The single currency area ended an 18-month recession last quarter, growing 0.3 percent, and August business surveys are likely to show the modest recovery is slowing down.

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World

Greek current account surplus widens in June, helped by tourism

ATHENS, 19 Aug — Greece’s current account surplus widened in June, helped by a smaller trade gap and growing tourism receipts, the Bank of Greece (BOGr.AT) said on Monday.

The current account balance, a key measure of economic competitiveness, showed a surplus of 663 million euros ($864 million) from 73.1 million euros in the same month last year.

Tourism receipts, the country’s biggest money earner, rose 21 percent year-on-year to 1.59 billion euros in June. This brings total tourism receipts in the first half of the year to 3.32 billion euros, up 18 percent compared with the same period last year.—Reuters

Texas issues measles alert

HOUSTON, 19 Aug—Health authorities in the US state of Texas have issued a measles alert due to a sharp increase in cases this year.

About a dozen people have been confirmed to have measles in Texas so far this year, local media outlet Houston Chronicle said on Sunday quoted state health authorities as saying.

Texas had six reported cases of measles in 2011, while no cases were reported in 2012, according to the report.

Given the alarming rise, state health officials are urging immunization and asking health care providers to watch for potential exposures and patients with measles symptoms, especially in North Texas.

Measles can be spread by contact with an infected person through coughing and sneezing. Symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose and red eyes.

The disease is highly contagious, and 90 percent of people without immunity sharing living space with an infected person will catch it, according to health officials.—Khinhua

High levels of toxic PCBs found in mongoose near US bases in Okinawa

TOKYO, 19 Aug — Japanese researchers have detected high levels of toxic polychlorinated biphenyls in mongoose found near two US military bases in Okinawa in a recent study.

The team of researchers from Ehime University and Okinawa’s Meso University told Kyodo News the source of the pollution was likely to be transformer oils and said further studies are necessary given that nearby residents and other creatures could have been contaminated as well.

The discovery points to the need for a thorough investigation into how products containing PCBs have been and are currently used. US bases in Okinawa are said to have a lot of equipment that still contains PCBs.

The team studied seven mongooses that were either killed in traffic accidents or captured for studies on their habitats near the US Marine Corps’ Futenma Air Station and Makinamoto Service Area (Camp Kinser), both on Okinawa Island, in August and September 2008. Their bodies were preserved for the purposes of future study.

The researchers found up to 390 nanograms of mono-ortho PCBs, a specific type of PCB with high toxicity similar to dioxin, per gram of liver fat, and an average of 310 ng, both higher than levels reported in mongooses in other parts of Okinawa or in cats, wild boars and raccoons elsewhere in Japan.

Mongooses were chosen for the study because they have a relatively narrow range of movement and are thought to be more likely to reflect local pollution, and also because they live close to residential areas in Okinawa.

Dioxin was also detected in all seven mongooses, but the concentration was almost the same as in land mammals in other areas, leading the group to assume that areas around their habitats are contaminated with the toxic PCBs.

PCBs are known for their non-flammability, high boiling point, electrical insulating properties and chemical stability and were widely used in transformers, paints and plastic, carbonless copy paper and a host of other applications.

Their manufacture and use were banned in most countries, including Japan, in the 1970s due mainly to their toxicity, but there have been some environmental problems with PCBs in products made before the ban.—Kyodo News

S Korea allows four N Koreans’ entry to attend UN event

Seoul, 19 Aug—South Korea has decided to allow three North Korean young people and their adult leader to visit the southern city of Gwangju this week to attend a United Nations event for international youths, South Korea’s Unification Ministry said Monday.

The North Koreans are scheduled to arrive in South Korea by air via Beijing on Wednesday and to leave on 4 September, said the ministry in charge of handling relations with North Korea.

The event will run at a university in the South Korean city from 21 Aug to 3 Sept.

The event they are to take part in is the Youth Leadership Program to be jointly organized by the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the 2015 Gwangju Universiade.—Kyodo News

Taipei, Japan museums to sign contract for exhibits in Japan

Taipei, 19 Aug—Taiwan and Japan will sign a contract in Taipei next month to allow exhibits in Japan of ancient Chinese artifacts from Taipei’s National Palace Museum next year, officials said on Monday.

Lee Chia-chin, chairman of the Association of East Asian Relations — the semi-official agency handling the island’s relations with Japan in the absence of diplomatic ties — told Kyodo News that Taipei’s National Palace Museum and the Tokyo National Museum will sign a contract on the upcoming exhibits at the Taiwanese museum on 25 September. According to Lee, the chairman of the Intercultural Association in Japan, Mitsuji Ohashi, has been invited to the event.

About 200 Chinese artifacts will be selected for the exhibitions, which will be held at the Tokyo National Museum for 12 weeks from June to September 2014 and eight weeks at the Kyoto National Museum in Fukuioka Prefecture from October to November the same year, according to the officials.

During a visit to Japan last month, Taipei’s legislative speaker Wang Jin-pyng told reporters that the upcoming exhibits might include a century-old jadite carved into the shape of a cabbage or the Meat-shaped Stone, two of the museum’s so-called “Three Treasures,” should the Tokyo National Museum in return lend some of its best artifacts and artwork for a 2017 exhibition in Taipei.—Kyodo News

US, S Korea forces begin joint exercise

Seoul, 19 Aug—South Korea and the United States on Monday began their annual two-week joint military exercise, according to the two countries’ Combined Forces Command.

The exercise, Ultra-Forward Guardian, is scheduled to last 12 days. Yonhap News Agency said the exercise mobilizes about 50,000 South Korean forces and approximately 30,000 US servicemen, including some 3,000 from the mainland and other bases in the Pacific region.

It is intended to examine the combined forces’ ability to ensure security on the Korean Peninsula and maintain the joint defense capacities between the two allies. The training is expected to include defense drills against North Korean provocations and cyber attacks that target the military network as well as contingencies involving weapons of mass destruction.

Meanwhile, President Park Geun Hye convened a National Security Council meeting Monday in conjunction with the start of the joint military exercise.

“Preparing for national contingencies is the most essential part for national security and the safety of the people,” Park said during the meeting held at the presidential office, according to Yonhap.

“We cannot be negligent on that even for a moment,” she told attendants at the meeting. Top-ranking officials responsible for national security attended Monday’s meeting.—Kyodo News

A woman visits the ancient Temple of Zeus in Athens on 2 July, 2013.—Reuters

Damaged houses are seen at the flooded area in Billi Wala, a village near eastern Pakistan’s Gujranwala on 18 Aug. 2013. At least 10 people have been killed and several others injured in separate accidents triggered off by incessant rains across Pakistan since the beginning of this month, officials said on Sunday evening.—Khusha

New Light of Myanmar
Sinking tube-well at Meiktila
BEHS No 1

Meiktila, 19 Aug—For the students to have access to safety water, Meiktila District Water Resources Utilization Department of Basic Education High School No 1 is sinking a tube-well in the compound of Basic Education High School No 1. We are sinking one-four-inch diameter and 500 feet deep tube-well at BEHS No 1. The district department has spent K 1.6 million and fuel on sinking the tube-well. It was aimed at enabling the students to sufficiently get safety water,” said Assistant Director U Aye Myint of District Water Resources Utilization Department. A natural water tank and one modern water purifier have been installed at Meiktila Basic Education High School No 1 with the use of water from Meiktila Lake.

Monsoon football tourny kicks off in Putao Tsp

Putao, 19 Aug—A ceremony to launch the inter-village-tract/ward monsoon football tournament for the cup of Machanbaw Township Administrator of Kachin State was held at the township general sports ground on 15 August afternoon. A total of 13 men’s football teams from wards and village-tracts are taking part in the tournament.

Automobile donated to Pathein Sasana Service Group

Pathein, 19 Aug—A ceremony to donate Alphard vehicle was held at Daw Hla Yin Dhammayon at Shwemokhtaw Pagoda in Pathein on 11 August. Thiri Pyanchi U Maung Maung Swe (Chairman of Social Development Committee of Pyithu Hluttau)-(Daw Tin Tin Nwe and family donated the car to be used in religious affairs to Pathein Township Sasana Service Group. Kontha Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vilasa and Sayadaws shared merits gained.

Nation-building Endeavours

Feasibility studies conducted for construction of Pathein deep seaport

Yangon, 19 Aug—Myanmar has planned to construct deep seaports to be able to transport commodities and import goods. At present, feasibility studies will be conducted in Ayeyawady Region to build Pathein Deep Seaport. “We have signed an MoU with a company from Singapore to build a deep seaport recently. Feasibility studies will be conducted in coming November by the Singaporean company,” said an official of Myanmar Port Authority. The MoU signing ceremony was held on 5 August. According to the MoU, the feasibility studies must be conducted within three months.

The Singaporean company will spend the cost on study works.

Rural development tasks clarified

Gangaw, 19 Aug—A ceremony to clarify progress of rural development tasks in Gangaw Township of Magway Region was held at the Township General Administration Department on 15 August. Township level officials explained development tasks of the township.

Outbreak of Fire

Fire engulfs 22 houses in Mayangon Tsp

Yangon, 19 Aug—An outbreak of fire in Mayangon Township at 00.15 am on 17 August caused 251 people young and adult from 28 households homeless. The fire started at the house of U Khin Aung at No 82 on Mya Sabey Street in Ward 8 in Mayangon Township of Yangon Region. The house was 10 x 40 feet two-storey building. A dutiful people informed the Fire Brigade of the outbreak of fire at 00.20 am. In a few minutes, fire trucks from Yangon Region arrived at the scene one after another to put out the fire. A total of 22 houses were destroyed in the fire. In addition, U Aye Hlaing, 48 and Maung Win Tun, 35 were injured in the fire. They were sent to North Okkalapa Township Hospital by members of Red Cross Brigade.

Under the supervision of Deputy Director-General U Ko Ko Hlaing of Myanmar Fire Brigade, over 400 members of Fire Services Department and Auxiliary Fire Brigade put out the fire with the use of 44 fire trucks, two fire engines, four management vehicles and Red Cross vehicle, four supporting vehicles and over 100,000 gallons of water. Outbreak of fire could be controlled at 00.40 am and totally put out at 00.50 am.

Mayangon Township Police Force opened a file against house owner U Khin Aung.

Fire victims are being accommodated at the relief camp at State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) on Waizayanta Street in Ward 8 of Mayangon Township.

Self-reliant road under construction

Singaing, 19 Aug—An earthen road between Htanthzin Village and Thabyeyoe Village in Singaing Township is under construction. For construction of the road, under the aegis of Htanthzin Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Matila and Moeyeye Reservoir KANU Zedi Pagoda Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumana in Pekhon Township, U Kyaw Win-Daw Myint Myint Than (Mann Myay Yazar Service Family) donated K 5 million and local people.

The inter-village road is about 7000 feet long and 14 feet wide. For the first phase, the road section from Htanthzin Village to University of Computer Studies (Taohn) will be built. The construction will be completed on 21 August. Lamp-posts will be erected along the road for electrification of the local people.

The construction committee has received the permits from the Township Administrator and the Mandalay Region Chief Minister.

Wellwishers are ready to make donations for the construction.

Local people are actively taking part in the construction.

Upon construction of the road, the local people will have easy to Htanthzin Village of Singaing Township in a short time.

MMAL-160

MMAL-Maung Maung Myint Swe

MMAL-101

MMAL-Tin Win Lay

MMAL-160

MMAL-101

MMAL-160

MMAL-101

MMAL-Tin Win Lay (Kymyindine) and Myo Min Thein (Mayangon)
For regional and global peace and security

The government in office welcomes international assistance to strengthen civil-military relationship in the country as the current transition to democracy from military rule calls for adjustment from security sectors, including from the Armed Forces. This is of vital importance for the accomplishment of the country’s ongoing political reforms and transition.

In actual fact, the transformation of Myanmar is beyond compare. Maybe it is a very rare event that a country trying to change from authoritarianism to democracy and from a state-dominated -isolated economy to a free economy tied to global markets, whereas at the same time is on its mission of ending a number of diverse armed conflicts.

Under such circumstances and hardships, one of most imperative motive and motivation in this reform process is to create a better future for our new generation. In this regard, the country will go forward with its people-centered development programs and lay necessary foundations for the new government that will be democratically elected in the coming 2015 elections.

The incumbent government is so much keen for international engagement in boosting security cooperation regionally and globally. This is the government’s dedication towards promoting greater ties between Myanmar and many other nations. Under the current transition, Myanmar will enshrine its cooperation with international community not only to strengthen its internal security institutions but also to actively involve in international security. Enhancing technical capability in ceasefire implementation will be helpful to develop the current peace process.

In 2014 Myanmar will undertake the chairmanship of ASEAN. It is a great responsibility. And it signals Myanmar’s eagerness to rejoin fully with the family of nations. In this context, the country is looking forward not only to managing its own transformation but becoming a responsible member of the international community, helping to do its share for regional and global peace and security and economic prosperity.

Mandalay Job Fair to be organized on 24-25 August

Mandalay, 19 Aug

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Welfare and Pan Yazarwin Company will jointly organize 2013 Mandalay Job Fair at the city hall on 24-25 August, according to Director U Pyae Phyo Maung of the Pan Yazarwin Company.

“Experienced lecturers will give talks on legal affairs, ethics and expectations on employers and employees. We will provide free employment services. The Labour Exchange Office will provide labour registration services,” he added.

U Aye Kyu, U Myint Than, Daw Mya Kay Thway Maung, U Ye Myat Thu, U Zarni and U Aung Kyaw Soe will give talks on employment.

Fore more information, one may contact U Pyae PhyoMaung(at)991049802.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Devil to be cast out from archaeological zone

Bagan was established around AD-900, comprising 19 large villages and 250 small areas. The first city-state of Bagan was established at Yone-Hlut Island east of Tu-wyn Mountain, the second city-state at Thiri-pisaya and the third one at Phwar-Saw (Thamaht).

There are 55 kings in the Bagan Dynasty. King Anawratha, (AD 1044-1077), (416-439 ME), the 42nd king of Bagan Dynasty, founded the first Myanmar at Bagan-NyaungU and pagodas and stupas representing Buddhist cultural heritage were built during his reign. Therefore, Bagan Region has become the cultural heritage of Myanmar today, attracting tourists.

Tourist arrivals to Bagan reached at 102587 in 2011, 162946 in 2012 and 107554 from January to August 10 in 2013. Meanwhile, crimes targeted at tourists were dismantled in the archaeological zone. A crime is contrary to Myanmar’s culture and Myanmar’s society is intolerance to the crimes.

Tour (FIT) than packaged tour arranged by tour companies. Independent foreign travellers tour around famous pagodas and ancient ones located in deserted areas by bicycle, and sometimes, they, putting their bags in the basket of their bicycles, ride bicycles along the streets where no lampposts are erected.

In one case, a female tourist from France was attacked by a looter and sustained injuries in the clash with the looter around 6.50 pm on 3 August, confessed that he struck a female tourist three times near the Sulegon Pagoda and exchanged the dollars he took from her with Myanmar kyats at NyaungU Myoma Market. The team also seized the dollars from the market.

It is found that looters have been preying on female tourists and looted them while they are touring individually the deserted places not to be defended against them. People near the scenes cannot easily understand the situation due to language barrier when a

By Ye Gone Myint

Police women on patrol at Bagan ancient region.

The criminal cases in Bagan archaeological zone have tarnished the Myanmar’s centuries-old reputation such as hospitality, honesty and openness. As the country has opened up, foreign visitors are going to flow into tourist attractions in Myanmar.

In attempts to prevent such kind of crimes in Bagan-NyaungU, a team comprising police officers from the security force for tourists, met with local authorities, responsible personnel from the Hoteliers Association, tour guides society, tour agencies and NGOs, and sought their cooperation for providing security to tourists. Besides, the team also sent more three vehicles, 10 motorbikes, 10 bicycles and mobile phones and communication equipment to the security gurads in Bagan-NyaungU and has reinforced them. Security guards are making regular patrols by day and night, providing security to tourists in Bagan-NyaungU and foreign travelers are touring around Bagan peacefully.

As part of efforts for development of tourism industry and achieving success in providing security to tourists, local authorities, NGOs and people are also obliged to take part in implementing the rule of law in Bagan-NyaungU. Only when foreign travelers enjoy safety and peace during their visits, will the tourism industry be booming and benefit the local people who are relying on tourism for their livelihood.

Tin: AMS
President U Thein Sein awards winners in Central Level English Language Competition for Students

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug—The prize-presenting ceremony of the Central Level English Language Competition for Students from Universities, Degree Colleges and Colleges was held at MICC, here, at 3 pm today. It was attended by President U Thein Sein, Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Union ministers and deputy ministers, Pyithu Hluttaw Education Promotion Committee members, social organizations chairman, UN agencies and representatives from the development for Education Dr Mya Aye said that the ministry has introduced 13 programmes that will promote quality, access, diversity and international collaborations and that will enhance technical and vocational education. Besides, two native lecturers from British Council, Australia have been teaching Myanmar teachers of English at the National Centre for English Language in Yangon. To develop the quality of the students, the Straighforward Course Book published by Macmillan Limited in UK has been prescribed for the first year and second year university students. To develop the English language skills of the students, university level competitions on essays, impromptu talk, round-table discussion and debate are held at all universities in every semester. The prize winners of the university level competition and the Department of Higher Education Level Competition can participate in the Central Level Competition. The Central Level Impromptu Talk Competition was held in Nay Pyi Taw on the 21st of January, 2013. Every participant is to compete in the essay, round-table discussion and impromptu talk competitions.

Then, President U Thein Sein awarded the first-prize winners, and Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, UEC Chairman U Tin Aye, Union Ministers Dr Mya Aye and Dr Ko Ko Oo, second-prize winners in the competitions. A total of 40 students—16 at post-graduate level and 24 at under-graduate level—participated in the competitions.---MNA

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye gives a prize to a winner in English Language Competition for Students.---MNA

President U Thein Sein calls ...

(from page 1) respecting the goodwill of the government, working hard with honesty and repaying their loans in full on schedule.

Myanmar has over 64,000 villages and the government is making efforts to ensure smooth transportation, potable water and electricity supply and promote education, health and economic status in rural regions with local and foreign assistance. Village administrators, elected by people are key to development of rural villages. They are obliged to enforce law, to ensure there are no gambling, bootlegging, two- or three-digit gambling, and illicit drugs. Only then, the rural villages will be free from crimes, rapes, thefts, and robberies under the rule of law, necessary for economic, education, health and social development drive. No progress can be made without peace and stability, the rule of law and unity. The authority is not granted to abuse it but to give the leadership for development of an institution. People-centered administration is in practice now. Apart from township and village administrators in townships and villages, there are townships and village cooperation committees made up of town elders, community leaders and elected persons from township development committees. In addition, there are Hluttaw representatives in townships. If they work for development of own townships, wards and villages with a sense of cooperation and coordination and in unity, townships, wards and villages would develop by leaps and bounds. The Union government, the region/state governments are ready to help and fulfill what they can. Citizens are required to work on their own for development of their own townships, wards and villages and are to be self-reliant without depending on others for self-improvement.

In conclusion, only when there is rural development, would township development follow. Only when townships are developed, the regions and states would see progress, leading to national development. Myanmar has high potential for development and the quick win could be achieved if everyone works hard in unison.

Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan called on villagers for organizing five-member groups to form basic cooperative societies in villages to seek small loans from the ministry. At present, K 100,000 as loan was disbursed to each household. Depending on amount of loans paid back by farmers, the loan will be raised to K 500,000. Those who had borrowed K 500,000 must save K 50,000. When the scheme is in full swing, they will be allowed to take out savings for capital.

The Union ministry launched the micro-credit schemes to help the people enjoy sustainable development within four or five years, selling cars, motorbikes and sewing machines to the people at grass-root level through installments.

The Union ministry sets its aim of conducting the micro-credit schemes across the country in 2015 as part of efforts for improvement of socio-economy of the people and poverty alleviation.

Being the second pillar of the State economy, the cooperative societies are to be upgraded in striving for growth of State economy through market economic system. Depending on regional conditions and wishes of farmers, cooperative societies are to be upgraded, he said.

Moreover, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and other relevant ministries are to join hands in undertaking underground water tapping, dredging of lakes, production of quality strains of crops and establishment of commodity supply chains.

Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Union Minister U Thein Nyunt reported that 6339 acres of land have been reclaimed and 252 agricultural machinery are being used on the farmland and 462 farmers have been trained to use the machinery. A total of 81428 farmers from 187 village-tracts in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area have already been granted certificates for land ownership and 203 basic cooperative societies have already been set up in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. Nay Pyi Taw Council and cooperative societies have disbursed agricultural loans to the farmers. The total amount of loans granted to the people during the ceremony has reached over K 720 million while 20 saloon cars, 14 tricycle-motorized vehicles, 70 motorbikes, 20 trishaws and 150 sewing machines were sold to the people through installment.

Besides, as part of efforts for promoting cooperative societies, 87 agricultural machinery worth K 204.675 million were sold to the societies by installment.

After the ceremony, the President and dignitaries watched the documentary photos and vehicles, sewing machines and agricultural machinery sold to the people on hire purchase at the ceremony.---MNA
First settlement reached in Penn State sex abuse civil case

WASHINGTON, 19 Aug —Pennsylvania State University has agreed to a set- tlement with a 25-year-old man who claims he was sexually abused by former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky in a campus shower, the man’s attorney said late on Saturday.

It is the first of 26 claims to be finalized in the Sandusky scandal, Phila- delphia attorney Tom Kline told Reuters. He declined to give details of the settle- ment but the university has approved spending $60 mil- lion for the payouts.

The man, known as Victim 5 in court proceed- ings, was assaulted by San- dusky in August 2001, six months after then-graduate assistant Michael Mc- Queary reported to univer- sity officials that he saw Sandusky rape a boy in a campus shower.

“My client is relieved.”

Afghan official says attorney general sacked over secret Taleban meeting

KABUL, 19 Aug—Afg- hani President Hamid Kar- zai has sacked his attorney general after the chief law officer held an unsanc- tioned meeting with Tale- ban peace negotiators in the United Arab Emirates, a senior Afghan official said on Monday.

Attorney General Mu- hammad Isaq Aloko met mem- bers of a Taleban peace negotiation team in Dubai despite being told by the President’s Palace not to attend the meeting, the official said.

“He was instructed not to go,” said the official, who declined to be identified.

A prominent mem- ber of parliament also said Aloko had been sacked.

But an official in Aloko’s office denied that his boss had been dis- missed, saying he was at the Presidential Palace “celebrating Independence Day” on Monday.

Peace talks between the Karzai administra- tion and the Taleban are seen as crucial to averting another round of war as Afghan- istan’s NATO-led force prepares to end its military mission by the end of next year.

Spirit of boom-time mortgages lives on in Europe

ATHENS/Berlin, 19 Aug—Remember the days when you could take a mortgage big enough to buy the house and furnish it, to park outside and a holiday to celebrate — all on a repayment schedule that only Methuselah could honour?

Those days have never gone away in pockets of Europe. While countries like Spain and Ireland battle to reform the boom-era mortgage lending that has left millions of borrow- ers at risk of losing their homes, corners of the contin- ent better known for their sturdy finances seem to be still lending as if the finan- cial crisis never happened.

In the AAZ-rated Netherlands, home to one of the earliest and biggest bailouts of the crisis — ABN Amro’s 2008 rescue ultimately cost 30 billion euros — first-time buyers can still borrow up to 105 percent of the value of their new home and can get up to five and a half times their gross salary. A deflating housing bubble means the Dutch government is now cutting back on some of the riskier mortgage products so the maximum amount lent will fall by 2018, but still only to 100 percent.

And in AAZ-rated Sweden, a mortgage will outlast the youngest buyer, and their grandchildren.

Such disparities show the lack of coherence in the 28 lending markets that will become part of the re- gion’s grand banking un- ion, which is designed to create a more harmonised financial system, though it is unlikely to have a direct impact on access to credit for citizens.

In Greece, banks will now only fund 70 percent of the house price com- pared with 100 percent before the crash, putting home purchase beyond the reach of most after six years of recession.

With an unemploy- ment rate of nearly 27 per- cent, twice the euro zone average, young Greeks have to rent, if they can, or lean upon the hospitality of their parents — an uncom- fortable compromise in a country that traditionally has had one of the highest home ownership rates in Europe.

“You have dreams and plans of starting a life to- gether, and then reality hits you,” said Vasiliki Dimi- triadou, who lives with her husband in her par- ents’ small, three-bedroom apartment in Athens.

Vasiliki, 32, lost her job at a nursery a year ago, and her husband, who works at a small construc- tion firm, was let go for his job, too. Without cash, they can’t afford to rent, let alone buy. “There were things we took for grant- ed, like having your own house, that are now a lux- ury,” she said. “I don’t see any light, our generation has been destroyed.”

New Zealand announces plans for Fonterra tainted dairy inquiry

WELLINGTON, 19 Aug— New Zealand on Monday announced plans for a gov- ernment inquiry into how ingredients made by dairy gi- ant Fonterra became contam- inated with a botulism-caus- ing bacteria, as the country tries to salvage its reputation as an exporter of safe agricul- tural products.

The inquiry, to be held alongside two internal Fonterra investigations and another by the country’s agriculture ministry, will examine how the potentially contaminated products en- tered the international market and whether adequate regu- latory practices were in place to deal with the issue. “This will provide the answers needed to the questions that have been raised about this incident, both domestically and internationally,” said Primary Industries Minister Nathan Guy, who is leading the inquiry along with Food Safety Minister Nikki Kaye.

“Our generation has been destroyed.”

—Vasiliki Dimi- triadou
Thai economy expands 2.8% in second quarter of 2013

BANGKOK, 19 Aug — Thailand’s gross domestic product in the second quarter of 2013 grew 2.8 percent on the year, compared with 5.4 percent growth in the first quarter, a government agency said on Monday.

Akorn Termpritaya-paisit, secretary general of the National Economic and Social Development Board, told a Press confer- ence that factors such as a slowdown of household consumption and internal investment were behind the second quarter result. He said people who received refunds from the government’s “first-car” tax rebate program had already spent a lot of money in the previ- ous quarter, resulting in re- duced growth in the second quarter. The country’s eco- nomic growth also depends on tourism, in which the number of tourists is still increasing, according to the NESDB chief.

“It is good that the number of tourists is con- tinuing to increase, but we have to monitor the po- litical situation...If we have political turmoil, tourism would be directly affected, the government has to man- age it well,” he said.

Due to some risk fac- tors, the NESDB also pro- jected that GDP in 2013 will expand between 3.8 percent to 4.3 percent, down from its earlier projection of be- tween 4.2 percent to 5.2 percent.—Kyodo News

China bans more New Zealand dairy products on new contamination scare

WELLINGTON, 19 Aug — More New Zealand milk products sold to China have been banned after elevated levels of nitrates were found, raising further con- cerns over quality and test- ing in the world’s largest dairy exporter in the wake of a contamination scare earlier this month.

New Zealand’s agri- cultural regulator said on Monday it has revoked export certificates for four China-bound consignments of lactoferrin manufactured by Westland Milk Products after higher-than-accept- able nitrate levels were found by tests in China.

Two of the four con- signments had been shipped to China but had not reached consumers, New Zealand’s Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) said.

“All food safety risk to Chinese consumers is negligible because the quantities of lactoferrin used in consumer products was very small, meaning the nitrate levels in those products would easily be within acceptable levels”, Scott Gallacher, the act- ing director general of the MPI, said in a statement. The announcement comes just weeks after Westland’s much bigger competi- toren, Fonterra, said some of its dairy ingredients were contaminated with a botu- lamism-causing bacteria. This prompted a recall of infant formula products, sports drinks and other products in China, New Zealand and other Asia-Pacific nations.

“All of the product has been located, none of it has entered the retail chain,” Westland Chief Executive Rod Quin told Reuters. “We’re well aware of the wider context of the issue and related concerns, so we’ve acted to make sure the product doesn’t go any further.” China’s top qual- ity watchdog said it had halted all imports of the product from Westland and asked other New Zealand dairy companies exporting lactoferrin to provide nitrate test reports.

Designed to bring together the 10 ASEAN countries, Japan, China, South Korea, India, Aus- tralia and New Zealand, the successful conclusion of the RCEP will result in a free trade zone covering over 3 billion people and a third of the global economic output, according to the Japanese government. ASEAN is comprised of Brunei, Cam- bodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

As the nations are at various stages of econom- ic development, bridging the differences for a deal that involves deeper en- gagement than existing ASEAN-related free trade agreements appears to be a difficult task.

While many mem- bers of the TPP negotia- tions overlap with those of RCEP, the TPP does not involve key economies such as China and India.—Kyodo News

First minister meeting for 16-nation free trade pact to begin

BANDAR SERI BEGA- WAN, 19 Aug — Sixteen Asia-Pacific nations in- cluding Japan and China will begin on Monday their first minister-level negotia- tions toward the creation of one of the world’s largest free trade blocs.

In the meeting in Brunei, ministers of the 10 members of the Asso- ciation of Southeast Asian Nations and their six re- gional partners are expect- ed to discuss ways to pro- ceed with negotiations on lowering and eliminating tariffs for the envisaged Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

The latest meeting comes just days before Brunei hosts a round of talks for another free trade pact, the Trans-Pacific Part- nership. Japan joined the TPP talks last month as the 12th member.

The RCEP economies announced the start of talks in November 2012 and held the first round of working- level negotiations in May, aiming to conclude a deal by 2015.

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While many mem- bers of the TPP negotia- tions overlap with those of RCEP’s, the TPP does not involve key economies such as China and India.—Kyodo News

Rescuers search for survivors and bodies near a damaged cargo vessel, which collided with a ferry on Friday, in Tullisi, Cebu on 17 August, 2013. A Philippine ferry sank after colliding with a container ship owned by a company involved in the world’s worst peacetime maritime disaster, killing at least 24 people and leaving more than 200 missing, the coast guard said on Saturday.— Reuters

Samoa may reopen casino process after China bid falters

CANBERRA, 19 Aug — The tiny South Pacific nation of Samoa could re- open the bidding for a ca- sino licence, a move likely to upset religious leaders, after halting talks with a Chinese tourism group that is facing allegations of corruption.

China’s Exhibitions Tourism Group (ETG) had planned to build a 500- room hotel and casino in the cash-strapped country of 190,000, which is heav- ily reliant on foreign aid and money sent home from citizens working overseas.

The plan hit a snag when ETG’s chairman, Dong Hong, came under investigation for corrup- tion by Chinese Communist Party officials over land deals in mainland China, according to Chinese and Samoan media reports.

The Samoan govern- ment withdrew the licence earlier this month.

“We need to make a decision about whether we go back to market for the licence or whether we just continue on with one with a licence given to a local firm,” Samoa Gambling Control Authority chief executive Robbie Kearney told Reuters.

“We may want to go back to market straight away.”

The government passed laws in 2010 for two casino licences, including one for Samoan hotel firm Aggie Grey’s, as a way to help re- cover from a 2009 tsunami that wiped 30 percent off the country’s economy.

The Samoan was also hit by cyclone in 2012 and a drop in tourism in the wake of the 2008 global financial crunch. Its economy was worth $677 million in 2012.— Reuters
**CAUTIONARY NOTICE IN RESPECT OF “I LOVE MYANMAR”**

Please let it be known to all that the following Name and Marks have been originally created and having been used by Ms Levi Sap Nei Thang, holder of NRC No. 4/Fa La Na (N) 000060 to promote a national and international movement of love towards the nation of Myanmar, namely “I Love Myanmar” since 2001.

**“I Love Myanmar”** under the leadership of Ms Levi Sap Nei Thang has endeavoured in various humanitarian and social welfare works commencing in 2001. This is especially so during the Cyclone “Nargis” relief works in the Arak area from 2008 and has continued in various Regions and States of Myanmar; coordinating and working along with its members, private volunteers and government officials.

The donations towards the construction of schools, monasteries, hospitals, roads, relief supplies and other infrastructures have amounted to billions of Kyats, which permanently benefited thousands of people, and subsequently becomes well known and is highly recognized by the public at large and the government.

Along with its activities, starting from its establishment in 2001 until now, above-mentioned name and marks are used in attachment to various items including T-shirts, caps, bags, books, etc., not only as clothing and utensils of its members and volunteers but also as gifts, donations and souvenirs for the people.

In addition, Ms Levi Sap Nei Thang has hosted [www.iloveMyanmar.org](http://www.iloveMyanmar.org) on the internet since 2006 till today. This website has high traffic and is being visited by thousands all over the world.

Ms Levi Sap Nei Thang, despite her use of above-mentioned marks extensively for such a long time, she never files or registers them for her proprietorship because in her honest opinion those name and marks with the very profound essence should not be monopolized by anyone for commercial or non-commercial purpose, better to let them be free in public domain for the sake of all Myanmar people.

However, in recent time, some trademark cautionary notices were seen in local newspapers claiming proprietorship of “I Love Myanmar” as name and trademarks or designs by some personnel or companies, and alleging others using those name or marks as infringers and threatening to take legal action against.

According to the established principles of Myanmar trademark law, merely registration alone confers no exclusive right of a trademark. Exclusive right to proprietorship of one’s trademark can only be obtained by earlier use in actual regardless of registration or non-registration, of neither earlier nor later registration.

Therefore, we do request hereby to stop such like irrational publications against use of above-mentioned name and marks in either identical or similar nature. Otherwise, we shall take all the appropriate actions, criminal or civil, against any person making dilution, confusion or degradation to “I Love Myanmar” and its name, marks or designs of Ms Levi Sap Nei Thang.

By Instruction of Ms Levi Sap Nei Thang

U Than Maung, Advocate
Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd. International Law Firm
Rooms 1505-1508-1509, Sakura Tower,
Bagoyoke Aung San Road, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Date 20 August 2013

email: utm@kcyangon.com

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV FEWEN SHAN VOY NO (131)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FEWEN SHAN VOY NO (131) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.T. T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be discharged 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 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S EASTERN CAR LINER S’PORE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV SIMA PERFECT VOY NO (1003)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SIMA PERFECT VOY NO (1003) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.T. T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be discharged 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 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO LTD**

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Four Kenyan Policemen Killed in suspected al Shabaab raid

Garsisa, (Kenya), 17 Aug—Four Kenyan police officers were shot dead in the border county of Garissa when 40 heavily armed men, suspected of belonging to Somali militant group al Shabaab, attacked a police post, a senior regional government official said on Saturday.

The east African nation, which sent its troops into Somalia in late 2011 to pursue the al-Qaeda-linked militants, has suffered a string of gun and grenade attacks claimed by al Shabaab group as retaliation.

“Four administration police officers were killed during the attack and we are now preparing to transport their bodies from the scene,” Garissa County Commissioner Rashid Khatir said.

“Our initial assessment points to the attackers being Somalis who crossed over the border and carried out the hit and run attack,” he said.

A local teacher was also injured in the attack at Magalla late on Friday, Khatir said.

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A local teacher was also injured in the attack at Magalla late on Friday, Khatir said.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TRANS PACIFIC-5 VOY NO (352)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV TRANS PACIFIC-5 VOY NO (352) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: FORTUNE SHIPPING & AGENCY PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (078)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (078) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
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No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GOLDEN FAN VOY NO (7)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV GOLDEN FAN VOY NO (7) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: SEALS CO LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ER TURKU VOY NO (024)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV ER TURKU VOY NO (024) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2013 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
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S HANJIN SHIPPING LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (011)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (011) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
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No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S’PORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

Royal favorite
Goulding grabs first UK chart number one
LONDON, 19 Aug—Singer-songwriter Ellie Goulding hit the top of the British singles charts for the first time on Sunday—with her song “Burn,” the Official Charts Company said. Goulding, 26, who performed at the wedding reception of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on 29 April 2011, sold 117,000 copies of her single to take the number one spot from US singer and actress Miley Cyrus. —Reuters

Models present wedding outfits at a summer wedding fair in Beijing Exhibition Center, Beijing, China, on 18 Aug, 2013. The wedding fair, featuring environmental protection and fraudulence, was held here on 17 - 18 July.

Oprah’s ‘Butler’ cleans up with $25 million at box office
LOS ANGELES, 19 Aug—“Lee Daniels’ The Butler,” a civil rights drama starring Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey, surpassed expectations and easily won the weekend box office battle, debuting with $25 million in US and Canadian ticket sales through Sunday, Jennifer Aniston comedy “We’re the Millers” finished in the No 2 slot, earning $17.8 million in its second weekend, according to studio estimates. Last weekend’s box office leader, Matt Damon sci-fi thriller “Elysium,” fell to third place with $13.6 million.—Reuters

New York, 19 Aug—Weeks after finishing her sixth trip to rehab, actress Lindsay Lohan said in an interview broadcast on Sunday that she was an addict and realizes she needs “to shut up and listen” because her approach to dealing with personal problems had not worked. “I’m my own worst enemy, and I know that and I admit it,” Lohan, 27, told Oprah Winfrey in an interview on the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN).
She said she only realized she had a problem “over a period of time” rather than at any one moment. —Reuters
Arsenal fans call on club to halt Wenger contract talks

LONDON, 19 Aug—Disgruntled Arsenal fans have stepped up the pressure on under-fire manager Arsene Wenger by telling the club’s board it would be ‘inappropriate’ to offer the Frenchman a new contract.

Wenger’s deal expires at the end of the season but having failed to win a trophy in the last eight years, the 63-year-old is facing more heat than ever before in his 17 years in North London. Many of the grievances come from Wenger’s recruitment policy, with young French forward Yaya Sanogo the only addition of the close season despite the board’s assurances the club had money to spend and could compete financially with the elite.

Fans called for investment throughout the disappointing 3-1 home loss to Aston Villa in their Premier League opener on Saturday, with the Arsenal Supporters Trust (AST) saying contract talks for the manager must be put on hold.

“In recent weeks (chief executive) Ivan Gazidis has spoken of the club’s intent to offer Arsene Wenger a new contract. The AST believes this is inappropriate,” the group of more than 800 members, who own a handful of shares in the club, said in a statement on Sunday. “There remain important questions about the way player identification, recruitment and remuneration processes are managed at Arsenal. “The failings we highlighted in Arsene Wenger holding too much power have only been amplified in recent weeks. These must be addressed as a matter of urgency.”

Bolt, Fraser-Pryce and Farah light up Moscow

MOSCOW, 19 Aug—Toppling Usain Bolt from his sprint throne could take a while yet with the un触able Jamaican star of track and field still looking down on those who seek to challenge his reign. While his jet engine still roars, Nadal beats Isner to win first Cincinnati crown

CINCINNATI, 19 Aug—Rafa Nadal continued his sizzling hardcourt form beating John Isner 7-6 (8), 7-6 (3) in the final of the Western and Southern Open on Sunday, setting up the Spaniard as the red-hot favorite heading into the US Open.

Unbeaten on the surface in 15 matches this year and coming off a win in Montreal, the third ranked Nadal, who will move up to number two on Monday, won back-to-back hardcourt finals on consecutive weeks for the first time in his career.

Miami doping scandal casts pall over Dominican baseball

BOCA CHICA, (Dominican Republic), 19 Aug—The crack of bat on ball rings out as lithe young men dart around a baseball field hoping to catch the eye of Major League scouts looking for the next multi-million-dollar prospect.

When it comes to talent on the baseball diamond, there is nowhere like the Dominican Republic, a country which has almost 40 percent of all foreign-born players in the US major leagues.

Azarenka beats Williams for Cincinnati title

CINCINNATI, 19 Aug—Victoria Azarenka won a showdown between the world’s top two players by beating number one Serena Williams in a three set 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 thriller in the final of the Western and Southern Open on Sunday. For two hours and 30 minutes, Azarenka and Williams engaged in a seesaw battle before the Belarusian finally clinched the victory, winning a nervy tiebreak 8-6 to prevent the Ameri can from ticking a Cincinnati crown off her ‘bucket list’. Reuters

Wallaby Cooper deserves better than Kiwi jeers

MELBOURNE, 19 Aug—Given time and opportunity, Australia flyhalf Quade Cooper will silence the ‘unreasonable’ jeering from All Blacks fans in the country of his birth, according to his Wallabies team mates.

Cooper was controversially benched for the Wallabies’ loss to New Zealand in the Rugby Championship, with new coach Ewen McKenzie handing Matt Toomua the number 10 shirt at Sydney’s Olympic Stadium.

Although Toomua had a solid test debut in the stinging 47-29 defeat, some Australian pundits have called on McKenzie to reinstall the mercurial Cooper at flyhalf for Saturday’s return match in Wellington.

Regardless of where he starts, Cooper can expect another frosty reception from All Blacks fans, who have never forgiven the Tokoroa-born 23-year-old for alleged ‘cheap shots’ on skipper Richie McCaw in previous matches.

“I think it’s something Quade’s dealt with quite well because I think it’s quite unreasonable what the All Blacks supporters are doing to him,” flanker Hooper told reporters in Melbourne on Monday.

“He’s a great player and a really good guy. I think everyone who enjoys footy wants to see him do well and I think the booing is a bit below the belt sort of stuff.

“He deserves more than that as a player and I think he’s got more to bring. With time on the field and the sort of performances he can put on there, that’ll change and the booing will go because people want to see him play. (“A reception) like that would spur you on to prove them wrong, so I think he’s got it under control.”

Having never played his best rugby against New Zealand, Cooper came on for the last 18 minutes in Sydney and struggled to make an impression with the game already out of reach. He was not alone, however, with a number of his backline team mates failing to breach the All Blacks line while also making costly defensive errors.

The loss will ensure Australia slump to fourth in the world when new rankings come out later on Monday, with England leapfrogging them into third.

Keepers sent off in Brazil for kicking ball into crowd

SAO PAULO, 19 Aug—Atletico Mineiro goalkeeper Victor was sent off angrily a kicking a ball into the crowd after his team’s goal-less draw at Internacional in the Brazilian championship.

Corinthians forward Alexandre Pato was jeered by his own fans in a 1-0 win over Coritiba and six-time champions Sao Paulo missed another penalty as they extended their winless run to 12 matches in other matches on Sunday.

South American champions Minei ro played for more than one hour away to former Brazil coach Dunga’s Internacional with 10 men after Fernandinho was sent off for elbowing an opponent and still managed to hang on for a point. After the final whistle, goalkeeper Victor immediately collected the ball, turned around and hoofed it into the Internacional fans behind him.

As he left the field, Vic tor, who had already been booked for time-wasting during the game, was given a second yellow card and sent off. “It wasn’t a big deal,” he told reporters, adding he had been provoked. “There are matches where you are spat for the whole match and they throw other liquids which you can’t identify.”

Corinthians fans lost patience with former AC Milan forward Alexandre Pato after he missed two good chances against Coritiba and jeered him off the field when he was substituted by Peru forward Paolo Guerrero.

Guerrero later scored from a penalty to take Corinthi ans up to fourth with 25 points from 15 games while Coritiba, fading after a good start to the championship, dropped to sixth (24 points). Reuters

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David Storl of Germany competes during the men’s shot put final at the IAAF World Athletics Championships at the Luzhniki stadium in Moscow on 16 Aug, 2013.—Reuters
Flyhalf injury concerns for All Blacks

Wellington, 19 Aug—New Zealand have further concerns at flyhalf ahead of Saturday’s Rugby Championship return match against Australia, with Aaron Cruden and Beauden Barrett picking up injuries in the 47-29 win over the Wallabies.

Cruden, who replaced injured veteran Dan Carter for last Saturday’s opener in Sydney, was nursing a sore knee after his man-of-the-match performance, while his stand-in Barrett had sustained a calf injury, the team said on Monday.

Uncapped back Tom Taylor and 10-test flyhalf Colin Slade have been brought into the squad as cover for the pair, who missed training on Monday and were to have scans.

The rash of injuries in the pivotal position has revived memories of New Zealand’s struggles at the 2011 World Cup, where first-choice flyhalf Carter and back-up Slade were both sidelined.

Cruden, third in line, came off injured early in the final, and his replacement Stephen Donald eventually kicked the winning penalty to hand the All Blacks an 8-7 win over France.

“We are happy with what we’ve got and we’ve been here before,” assistant coach Ian Foster told reporters in Wellington.

“Quite honestly, whilst it’s disappointing for the guys that have got niggles it’s a great opportunity for the other two and it’s going to give us a good chance to get a read on them this week. Injuries have also struck the forwards, with Liam Messam confirmed to miss Sunday after being a late withdrawal for Sydney with a hamstring injury and Luke Romano a doubt after suffering a groin injury.

“Of course people are going to have a read on them this week,” All Blacks coach Steve Hansen said of 22-year-old Luatua.

“It’s one thing coming on and having a cameo when the test match is all over,” All Blacks coach Steve Hansen said of 22-year-old Luatua.

“Just to get chucked in the deep end like that, you hope you get what we’ve got and we’ll get a lot of confidence out of tonight and there’s a lot more in him.

“And that’s the job of the coaching staff, to help him become an even better player.”

For ‘Biggest Loser’ trainer, diet trumps exercise in weight loss

New York, 19 Aug—Celebrity trainer Bob Harper, of the weight-loss TV show “The Biggest Loser,” has built a career putting very obese people through some grueling fitness paces but if he’s learned anything from the experience, it’s that diet trumps exercise every time.

The Los Angeles-based trainer, who was born on a cattle farm in Tennessee and arrived in California some 20 years ago, said gone are the days when he believed it was possible to just exercise the pounds away.

“It is all about your diet,” Harper, 48, said during a break from filming Season 15 of the long-running US show. “I used to think a long time ago that you can beat everything you eat out of you and it’s just absolutely not the case.”

Harper has spun his TV fame improving the fitness of people who are 100 pounds (45 kg) or more overweight into an empire with DVD workouts and the best-selling book “The Skinny Rules,” which offers tips to drop excess weight.—Reuters

Rupee, rupiah lead emerging market slide on Fed fears

Mumbai, 19 Aug—India’s rupee crashed to a record low and the Indonesian rupiah hit a 4-year trough on Monday, as the expected withdrawal of US monetary stimulus prompts investors to shun emerging markets burdened by weak external balances, slowing economies and inflation.

It followed a slide on Friday in Brazil’s real, a currency that, like the rupee, has been hammered by investor doubts that actions taken by monetary authorities last week will prove effective in stemming the sell-off. “Our primary concern is that the policy authority still don’t ‘get’ it — thinking this is a fairly minor squall which will simmer down relatively quickly with fairly minor actions,” Robert Prior-Wandesforde, an economist at Credit Suisse in Singapore, wrote in a note on the Indian currency on Monday. Growing expectations that the US Federal Reserve will start scaling back its asset purchases as early as next month, slowing the flow of cheap money into higher yielding overseas assets, have weighed on many emerging markets.

The currencies of countries already struggling with wide current account deficits, such as India and Indonesia, are seen as among the most vulnerable to sudden capital flight and have been hit hardest. “The market is still acting on the negative current account and fiscal deficits,” said Nizam Idris, a strategist with Macquarie Capital, who asked about the two Asian laggards.

The latest blow for Indonesia, where reserves are still delivered by central bank data released late on Friday that showed the current account deficit grew to 4.4 percent of GDP in the second quarter of the year, from 2.4 percent in the previous quarter.

“Although the current level of reserves is still equivalent to a reasonably healthy 5.5 months of imports, the Bank can’t continue to burn reserves at the current rate without the market worrying about a ‘crisis’ scenario unfolding,” Credit Suisse said in a note.

Amlin first-half profit falls on higher catastrophe losses

London, 19 Aug—Insurer Amlin Plc’s first-half profit fell 12.5 percent due to higher catastrophe losses from the recent floods in Europe.

Pre-tax profit for the six months ended on 30 June, fell to 161.4 million pounds ($225 million) from 184.4 million pounds a year earlier.

The insurer reported catastrophe losses of 32.2 million pounds compared to last year when no catastrophe losses were recorded.

Gross written premium rose 1.3 percent to 1.84 billion pounds.

Shares in the FTSE-250 company, Lloyd’s of London’s largest listed British underwriter, closed at 391.3 pence on Friday on the London Stock Exchange. ($1 = 0.6405 British pounds)

Smith to undergo medical as Toulon consider offer

Johannesburg, 19 Aug—Former South African flanker Juan Smith is to undergo a medical on Monday as he negotiates a possible return to the game with French club Toulon just over six months after announcing his retirement, the French sports daily L’Equipe said.

The 32-year-old called time on his playing career in February after aggravating an Achilles tendon injury that had sidelined him for the previous 18 months.

If passed fit, Smith is likely to be offered a one-year contract, joining fellow Springboks Bakkies Botha, Bryan Habana, Danie Rossouw and Joe van Niekerk at the club, the newspaper said.

Smith played 69 times for South Africa and was a member of their 2007 World Cup winning team.
63 double cabs/single cabs provided to units of MPF in June 2013

With regard to question asking that whether there is a plan to build cyclone shelters in appropriate places in Rakhine State by U Ye Tun of Thandwe Constituency at today’s session of Pyithu Hluttaw, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe replied that plans are underway to build 251 multi-purpose cyclone shelters in Pauktaw, Minbya townships and 162 shelters in Yanbye, Minbu (Saku) Township and plan for construction of retaining walls.

With regard to his questions, Deputy Minister at the President Office U Aung Thein replied that the necessary vehicles to the MPF. In June 2013, the ministry received 63 Myanmar double cab/single cabs from Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and distributed them to more units of the MPF.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun replied that after buying the vehicles through open custod, patrol, security and conflict combating vehicles to Myanmar Police Force. Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun replied that after buying the vehicles through open tender, the procurement committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs will fulfill the supervisory committee for the draw lots of the companies whether they put the lots into the products in line with the commercials.

If the cost of draw lots is appropriate for the work load, the value of lots will be calculated for the exemption of tax. If not, the value of draw lots will not affect calculation for taxation.

Arun Myint Tun read out the bill amending Myanmar Trademark Act.