Press release on actions of ministries on recommendations submitted to Public Service Capacity Assessment Committee

1. Regarding the complaint about renewing of visa by Myanmar workers at Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia, under the guidance of the head of State, staff were sent to Myanmar embassy to issue passports to illegal Myanmar workers who have registered under 6P of Malaysia government during the designated period. As of October, 2011, Myanmar visas were issued to about 150,000 illegal Myanmar workers there and of I, to about 10,000 illegal Myanmar workers who want to go back home. During 6P period, passport was issued to the complaint who applied for Myanmar passport (M 572073) with issued date (2-12-2011).

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is ready to help Myanmar people in Malaysia. Those who need help may contact the Minister-Counselor in Kuala Lumpur, Myanmar Embassy (Ph- 603 425 14455) and Labour Officer from the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (Ph- 603 425 15595).

3. Respecting the complaint about floods on Myawady Road in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon Region and garbage in the back of Kyaukkasasen Housing in Tamway Township, Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) cleared the canal along Myawady and Tabinshwehti roads. On 5-7-2013, damaged culverts at the junctions of P Moe Nin and Hninisi Roads and Myawady and P Moe Nin Roads were replaced with box culverts.

4. The garbage pile in the complaint letter is not YCDC’s, but Roll on/ off container. Small garbage collector cars have to put collected garbage into the garbage containers. When the containers are full, garbage are disposed to last garbage cans. This system has been implemented since many years. YCDC is strictly supervising garbage disposal.

5. With respect to Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications’ bill, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology replied: MPT has changed its service charges collected with FEC as of 1-6-2013.

(a) services collected in Myanmar kyat
(1) overseas calls by government departments and private
(2) sale of prepaid Top-up cards and One time cards for overseas calls
(3) overseas postal charges, receipts from overseas parcels and overseas telegraph

(b) services collected with USD only
(1) foreign embassies, UN agencies, foreign companies/organizations and initial installation costs collected from foreign citizens and domestic and overseas calls (Auto, Mobile, ADSL, Internet and IP Star which are installed with All in FE)
(2) International Private Lease Line

6. As of 1-6-2013, service charges are collected in USD in place of FEC in accord with the points described in the above Para-5. It has been announced at the receipt counters.

7. Complaints and inquiries about the actions of Ministries can be sent to Public Service Capacity Assessment Committee.
Zeyathiri Tsp launches World Breastfeeding Week and Nutrition Week

Kaythi, Superintendent Dr Kaythi made speeches. MCWA Daw Hla Hla Win Chairperson of Township Daw Kyi Kyi Yin and Maternal and Child Welfare Council Area on 20 August. Township of Nay Pyi Taw General Administration was held at the hall of Week and Nutrition Week the World Breastfeeding Aug—A ceremony to launch bullets.

Police Captain Swe Oo of Township Police Station Tin Win and Commander Commander Police Major ammunition. of finding the rounds of foot deep ground and 325 At 2 pm on 15 August, they Thitsa region of Ward 3. water near Thitsa Farm in drain for proper flow of of the guard of orange farm.

The people informed the township Police Force of finding the rounds of ammunition. Township Police Force Commander Police Major Tin Win and Commander of Township Police Station Police Captain Swe Oo and members accepted the bullets.

Survey conducted for construction of Yangon-Dala suspension bridge

Dala, 22 Aug—Survey works were carried out for topographical map of Yangon-Dala suspension bridge, said in-charge of Survey Team of Top Company Chief Surveyor U Than Lwin.

“We conduct ground survey for construction of the bridge with the use of theodolite. After that, we will create the design for the bridge. Depending on the design, we will consider on construction of the bridge.” Chief Surveyor U Than Lwin.

Kyemon—Than Huy (Dala)

Stimulant tablets seized in Hpa-an, Muse, Kalaw

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Aug—A team from Hpa-an Anti-Drug Squad of Kayin State raided the house of Aye Naing (a) Saw Bhu (a) Bay Lu Wa, 45 in Thayagon Village-tract in Hpa-an Township on 18 August afternoon and arrested him with 191 stimulant tablets worth K 668,500, one handmade pistol, five rounds of ammunition of carbine and one grenade.

File against Aye Naing was opened at Eindu Police Station under the law.

In the afternoon, members of Muse Anti-Drug Squad searched the house of Ma Aye Saw, 35 of Tonkhon Ward of Hopong Township from the Yangyiung Bus at the combined checkpoint at the exit of Kalaw. They seized five grams of opium from his shirt and 200 grams of opium from the sharp bottle, totalling 205 grams worth K 133,250 and 104 stimulant tablets worth K 10.4 million.

Kyemon Myoma Police Station filed him over the stimulant and stimulant tablets cases under the law.

Myanmar National Team, U-23 team to meet in tune-up match

Yangon, 22 Aug—Myanmar National Football Team and Myanmar U-23 Team will hold the tune-up match at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna at 4 pm on 1 September.

The senior team is under training for taking part in the international football matches and SEA Games. The senior team will participate in the final stage of the AFC Challenge Cup in 2014 and meet with Hong Kong team as an international tune-up match of FIFA on 6 September.

The U-23 team will take part in the Merdeka Cup as of 7 September in Malaysia and in the SEA Games. The fee for the tune-up match of the two teams is K 500 per head at ordinary stand and K 1000 at grand stand. TV broadcast is under coordination.

Kyemon—Zaw Min Aung
Italy’s Letta meets centre right, fails to resolve problems

April in autumn, Berlusconi, a four-time prime minister, faces a vote in the Senate on whether to remove him from parliament and prevent him from standing for election.

The 76-year-old billionaire recently relaunched Forza Italia, the party that first swept him to victory in 1994. His allies are lobbying hard to guarantee his freedom to campaign, desperate to protect a charismatic leader who has dominated Italian politics for almost two decades.

The PDL wants Letta’s center-left party to give an earlier signal of how it plans to proceed in the vote, and Alfano warned Letta on Wednesday that the PDL would not be able to stay in a coalition with a party that votes to eject its leader from parliament, PDL sources said.

Letta believes the matter is now firmly up to parliament and not something his Cabinet can get mixed up in, the government source said.—Reuters

Fukushima fishermen delay resuming business due to toxic water leak

FUKUSHIMA, 22 Aug — A fisheries cooperative in Iwaki city, Fukushima Prefecture that has been voluntarily suspending business since the March 2011 disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, decided Wednesday to postpone a trial operation that had been set for 5 September.

The cooperative has yet to set a new date. Masakazu Yabuki, head of the cooperative, told reporters after a meeting that, “We believe that (the decision to postpone the operation) is logical as we hear about issues over the leakage into the ocean of contaminated water day in, day out. We intend to conduct the trial operation if the situation settles down.”

The cooperative originally planned to start the test operation in waters off the city from 5 September, aiming to ship their goods after checking them for radioactive materials to confirm their safety.

The majority of meeting participants said that starting the operation on 5 September would be difficult after it came to light in July that radioactive water has been spilling into the Pacific Ocean from the nuclear power plant.

Fisheries operations have been voluntarily suspended in the prefecture facing the Pacific following the 2011 accident. In June last year, the Soma Futaba fisheries cooperative started a test operation off the coast of Soma city, north of the crippled plant.

Iwaki City is located south of the plant.

Norway’s ruling Labour party on comeback trail as election nears, poll shows

OSLO, 22 Aug — Norway’s ruling Labour party is making up ground on the center-right opposition, raising the prospect of a close parliamentary election on 9 September, polls showed on Thursday.

Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg’s Labour is now the most popular party, taking away votes from the Conservatives, its main challenger, the poll by television channel TV2 showed.

A strong campaigner and debater, Stoltenberg scored an unexpected comeback victory in the previous national election four years ago. This time around his coalition, which also includes the Centre Party and hours on Wednesday evening, but failed to reach any agreement on how to proceed regarding Berlusconi.

“In terms of the Berlusconi question, the meeting did not go well. Positions remain distant,” the government source said, adding that some progress was made towards a deal on property tax reform.

PDL leaders have presented a list of demands to Letta as the price for their continued support of an awkward coalition of traditional rivals, forced to rule together to end months of post-election stalemate in

Voting in Pakistan’s by-elections begins

ISLAMABAD, 22 Aug — Voting started in Pakistan’s by-elections that will test popularity of the ruling and opposition parties, officials said.

Elections are being held on 41 seats including 15 National Assembly seats and 26 Provincial Assemblies seats across the country. These seats were vacated by those members who had won more than one seats in the 11 May elections and on those seats where candidates had been killed and disqualified over fake education degrees.

Nearly 500 candidates representing different political parties are in the run. Over 8 million people are eligible to cast votes.

Egypt’s Mubarak to be released, put under house arrest, as authorities detain Islamist leaders

CAIRO, 22 Aug — An Egyptian court ordered the release of ex-President Hosni Mubarak after his petition on his last corruption case was accepted, and he is set to be put under house arrest, while the authorities continued detaining supporters of his successor Mohamed Morsi, who was ousted by the military in early July.

Mubarak will be freed in the case of Abram institution, in which he was charged along with his two sons with misusing power and accepting gifts from governmental institutions via his information minister.

For his age and after Mubarak paid 18.3 million Egyptian pounds (2.61 million US dollars) — the value of the gifts, “There is no justification for keeping Mubarak in jail,” the court said.

But Mubarak is still banned from travelling abroad as he still faces a retrial on charges of involvement in the killing of protesters during the 2011 unrest that eventually toppled him. The next hearing is slated for Saturday.

Mubarak’s lawyer, Farid al-Deeb, told Xinhua that the former president would be freed Thursday.

“Mubarak will be freed unless he is charged with other crimes,” legal expert Aly Mashallah said, adding that the prosecution is the sole authority to determine his final release.

Assistant Interior Minister for Prison Affairs, Mostafa Baz, said Mubarak could not be released from prison on Wednesday as government offices had already closed. After his release, Mubarak, who ruled Egypt for three decades, will be put under house arrest.—Reuters
Google in early talks with NFL on ‘Sunday Ticket’ service

New York, 22 Aug—Google Inc has opened discussions with the National Football League to buy the rights to the “Sunday Ticket” subscription TV service now owned by DirecTV, tech blog AllThingsDigital reported on Wednesday, citing sources familiar with the matter.

The acquisition, if consummated, would dramatically boost the media efforts of the Internet search company, which is trying to ramp up original programming and earn subscription revenue as opposed to advertising income. The “Sunday Ticket” service allows NFL fans to watch a wide variety of football games outside of their local markets. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and league officials called on Google, Facebook Inc and several other key Silicon Valley companies in recent days, as part of efforts to improve their new NFL spokesman Alex Reithmiller confirmed on Wednesday. He did not elaborate.

But the tech blog cited sources saying Google CEO Larry Page and YouTube content chief Robert Kyncl specifically discussed acquiring the rights to the popular Sunday Ticket package with Goodell and his delegation.

Google’s YouTube last year expanded its stable of original content by promoting and investing in hundreds of dedicated channels, hoping to shed its image as a repository for grumpy home videos and to start putting out quality content to boost advertising sales and earn subscription revenue.—Reuters

Ottawa watching BlackBerry carefully, wishes firm well

Ottawa, 22 Aug—The Canadian government is watching smartphone maker BlackBerry Ltd closely as it explores options including sale of the company but will not comment on its affairs, Industry Minister James Moore said on Wednesday.

Loss-making BlackBerry, which has bled market share to Apple Inc and phones using Google’s Android operating system, said last week it was weighing options that could include an outright sale.

The company’s new results, introduced earlier this year, have sold less quickly than expected and BlackBerry expects more red ink for the current quarter at least.

Speaking in an interview with Reuters, Moore said it was “unfortunate” that BlackBerry’s new Q10 and Z10 smartphones had not taken off with consumers.

“I know that they’re facing their challenges and they’re adjusting their firm internally in the way that best suits their interests,” he said. “And all I can say is, we wish them well, and we’re keeping a close eye on the situation.”

Moore declined to speculate about whether a foreign bid for BlackBerry could run afoul of national security regulations. Asked if the government wanted BlackBerry to stay Canadian, he replied: “We want them to do well, keep employing Canadians, keeping putting out innovative technologies and platforms, and we’re paying close attention.”

BlackBerry, formerly known as Research In Motion, made on-your-hip email possible with its first pagers and smartphones, coupled with strong security features.

But the company was slow to embrace the important consumer market and rivals are rapidly pushing into the corporate and government market that BlackBerry used to own. —Reuters

Nokia to launch large-screen smartphones next month

Helsinki, 22 Aug—Nokia plans to unveil new, large-screen mobile handsets next month to revamp its Lumia smartphone lineup and challenge rival Samsung’s dominance in increasingly popular phablet devices, sources said.

Nokia has developed more than one device and is due to announce them at an event in New York in late September, said the sources familiar with the plan.

The sources would not elaborate on details such as specifications and price but said the new models will include a phablet, a common name for smartphones with screens over 5 inches. Technology blogs have also said that Nokia plans to launch a tablet device.

Nokia officials were not immediately available for comment. The move comes as the Finnish mobile phone company, which has fallen behind Samsung and Apple in smartphones, has stepped up its pace of product launches in the past year in a bid to stem a decline in sales.—Reuters

Climate change major challenge for Pacific

Suva, 22 Aug—Climate change is one of the greatest barriers to sustainable development in the small island countries (PICs) as it greatly affects the survival of people through the impact it has on resources. Speaking at the “First Open Discussion Workshop about Climate Engineering: Perspectives of Pacific Small Island States” held in Suva on Wednesday, Nayasi highlighted the need for research, scientific studies, data and even climate engineering in addressing the impact it will have on these nations.

“As PICs, it is incumbent on us to endeavor to advance our interest within the international community and we need science, we need research, we need data and we need climate change engineering,” the Ministry of Information quoted Nayasi as saying. According to Nayasi, Fiji has long recognized that individually it cannot achieve change but need to use collective strength to persuade communities on the absolute imperative for action on climate change. The workshop is a joint effort of the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies and the University of the South Pacific’s Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development where experts from both institutions would share their findings with the participants over the three-day meet.—Xinhua

Ottawa watching BlackBerry carefully, wishes firm well

Ottawa, 22 Aug—The Canadian government is watching smartphone maker BlackBerry Ltd closely as it explores options including sale of the company but will not comment on its affairs, Industry Minister James Moore said on Wednesday.

Loss-making BlackBerry, which has bled market share to Apple Inc and phones using Google’s Android operating system, said last week it was weighing options that could include an outright sale.

The company’s new results, introduced earlier this year, have sold less quickly than expected and BlackBerry expects more red ink for the current quarter at least.

Speaking in an interview with Reuters, Moore said it was “unfortunate” that BlackBerry’s new Q10 and Z10 smartphones had not taken off with consumers.

“I know that they’re facing their challenges and they’re adjusting their firm internally in the way that best suits their interests,” he said. “And all I can say is, we wish them well, and we’re keeping a close eye on the situation.”

Moore declined to speculate about whether a foreign bid for BlackBerry could run afoul of national security regulations. Asked if the government wanted BlackBerry to stay Canadian, he replied: “We want them to do well, keep employing Canadians, keeping putting out innovative technologies and platforms, and we’re paying close attention.”

BlackBerry, formerly known as Research In Motion, made on-your-hip email possible with its first pagers and smartphones, coupled with strong security features.

But the company was slow to embrace the important consumer market and rivals are rapidly pushing into the corporate and government market that BlackBerry used to own. —Reuters

Nokia to launch large-screen smartphones next month

Helsinki, 22 Aug—Nokia plans to unveil new, large-screen mobile handsets next month to revamp its Lumia smartphone lineup and challenge rival Samsung’s dominance in increasingly popular phablet devices, sources said.

Nokia has developed more than one device and is due to announce them at an event in New York in late September, said the sources familiar with the plan.

The sources would not elaborate on details such as specifications and price but said the new models will include a phablet, a common name for smartphones with screens over 5 inches. Technology blogs have also said that Nokia plans to launch a tablet device.

Nokia officials were not immediately available for comment. The move comes as the Finnish mobile phone company, which has fallen behind Samsung and Apple in smartphones, has stepped up its pace of product launches in the past year in a bid to stem a decline in sales.—Reuters

Climate change major challenge for Pacific

Suva, 22 Aug—Climate change is one of the greatest barriers to sustainable development in the small island countries (PICs) as it greatly affects the survival of people through the impact it has on resources. Speaking at the “First Open Discussion Workshop about Climate Engineering: Perspectives of Pacific Small Island States” held in Suva on Wednesday, Nayasi highlighted the need for research, scientific studies, data and even climate engineering in addressing the impact it will have on these nations.

“As PICs, it is incumbent on us to endeavor to advance our interest within the international community and we need science, we need research, we need data and we need climate change engineering,” the Ministry of Information quoted Nayasi as saying. According to Nayasi, Fiji has long recognized that individually it cannot achieve change but need to use collective strength to persuade communities on the absolute imperative for action on climate change. The workshop is a joint effort of the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies and the University of the South Pacific’s Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development where experts from both institutions would share their findings with the participants over the three-day meet.—Xinhua
Line to launch mail order business in Japan this fall

New technologies, nimble fashion rivals squeeze top US teen chains

Influenza vaccine reduces heart attack risk

Japan manufacturers’ optimism hits three-year high

9 anti-aging foods to keep you healthy

Smartphone messaging company Line Corp holds a Press conference in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture, near Tokyo, on 21 Aug, 2013.—Kyodo News

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

“Many people want to count calories as a way to avoid gaining weight, but they have no way of knowing how many calories are in restaurant food or even food they prepare themselves,” said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks figure out how many calories their recipes deliver. We encourage both restaurant cooks and home cooks to use this tool and prepare food with calorie counts that fit into a healthy diet.”

Xinhua

Tokyo, 22 Aug — Smartphone messaging company Line Corp said on Wednesday it will begin mail order business for smartphone users this fall in Japan, in an attempt to counter US online retailer Amazon.com Inc and Japanese online shopping mall operator Rakuten Inc.

The envisioned new service to be called “Line Mall” will enable users of Line applications and its business partners to sell and purchase commodities and clothing through smartphone, the Tokyo-based company said.

Method of payment and other details have yet to be decided, it added.

Linc CEO Akira Morikawa said at a Press conference in Chiba Prefecture near Tokyo that the number of users of Line applications has topped 230 million worldwide as of Wednesday, marking an almost fivefold increase since last August. Domestically, it has around 47 million users.

Xinhua

Tokyo, 22 Aug — Japanese manufacturers’ optimism improved to the highest level in three years, a Reuters poll showed, as a weak yen boosted earnings for exporters of textiles, chemicals, steel and other metals.

The index of sentiment derived from a monthly Reuters survey of manufacturers rose by 3 points to plus 16 in August, which matched the level it was at in November 2010.

A positive readings shows optimism outnumbered pessimists.

The index is expected to rise again to plus 18 in November. In the Reuters survey, which is strongly correlated with a closely watched quarterly Bank of Japan tankan survey.

Makers of cars and electronics, however, were less upbeat due to worries about slowing growth in emerging markets.

Comments from the Reuters Tankan survey in August suggest that a turnaround in business investment is still distant.

“Europe’s economy is in the doldrums and domestically companies feel they still have excess capacity,” said one machinery maker.

“Going through with new capital expenditure is much more difficult than we thought”.

Japan’s economic growth slowed more than expected in the second quarter, driven by an unexpected fall in capital expenditure in a worrying sign of companies’ reluctance to invest.”

Reuters

New York, 22 Aug — Smartphone messaging company Line Corp (AOR.N) and American Eagle Outfitters Inc (AEO.N) and American Eagle Outfitters Inc (AEO.N) have fallen out of fashion with fickle US teen shoppers and aren’t likely to win back their business anytime soon. The retailers, known as the “3As,” have long been popular for their cool basics like jeans, hoodies and t-shirts. But young shoppers are now less interested in their logo-centric clothing.

“Many people want to cut calories in meals...”

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

Restaurant chefs or home cooks can enter the food they prepare themselves, “said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks...”

Xinhua

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

“Many people want to count calories as a way to avoid gaining weight, but they have no way of knowing how many calories are in restaurant food or even food they prepare themselves,” said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks...”

Xinhua

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

“Many people want to count calories as a way to avoid gaining weight, but they have no way of knowing how many calories are in restaurant food or even food they prepare themselves,” said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks...”

Xinhua

Sydney, 22 Aug — The influenza vaccine can almost halve the chances of a heart attack for people aged 50 to 64, who are at risk for heart disease, according to a new Australian study revealed on Thursday.

The study has been published in the international journal Heart.

Researchers from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) found the

Sydney, 22 Aug — The influenza vaccine can almost halve the chances of a heart attack for people aged 50 to 64, who are at risk for heart disease, according to a new Australian study revealed on Thursday.

The study has been published in the international journal Heart.

Researchers from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) found the

Japan manufacturers’ optimism hits three-year high

Tokyo, 22 Aug — Japanese manufacturers’ optimism improved to the highest level in three years, a Reuters poll showed, as a weak yen boosted earnings for exporters of textiles, chemicals, steel and other metals.

The index of sentiment derived from a monthly Reuters survey of manufacturers rose by 3 points to plus 16 in August, which matched the level it was at in November 2010.

A positive readings shows optimism outnumbered pessimists.

The index is expected to rise again to plus 18 in November. In the Reuters survey, which is strongly correlated with a closely watched quarterly Bank of Japan tankan survey.

Makers of cars and electronics, however, were less upbeat due to worries about slowing growth in emerging markets.

Comments from the Reuters Tankan survey in August suggest that a turnaround in business investment is still distant.

“Europe’s economy is in the doldrums and domestically companies feel they still have excess capacity,” said one machinery maker.

“Going through with new capital expenditure is much more difficult than we thought”.

Japan’s economic growth slowed more than expected in the second quarter, driven by an unexpected fall in capital expenditure in a worrying sign of companies’ reluctance to invest.”

Reuters

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

“Many people want to count calories as a way to avoid gaining weight, but they have no way of knowing how many calories are in restaurant food or even food they prepare themselves,” said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks...”

Xinhua

Tokyo, 22 Aug — Japanese manufacturers’ optimism improved to the highest level in three years, a Reuters poll showed, as a weak yen boosted earnings for exporters of textiles, chemicals, steel and other metals.

The index of sentiment derived from a monthly Reuters survey of manufacturers rose by 3 points to plus 16 in August, which matched the level it was at in November 2010.

A positive readings shows optimism outnumbered pessimists.

The index is expected to rise again to plus 18 in November. In the Reuters survey, which is strongly correlated with a closely watched quarterly Bank of Japan tankan survey.

Makers of cars and electronics, however, were less upbeat due to worries about slowing growth in emerging markets.

Comments from the Reuters Tankan survey in August suggest that a turnaround in business investment is still distant.

“Europe’s economy is in the doldrums and domestically companies feel they still have excess capacity,” said one machinery maker.

“Going through with new capital expenditure is much more difficult than we thought”.

Japan’s economic growth slowed more than expected in the second quarter, driven by an unexpected fall in capital expenditure in a worrying sign of companies’ reluctance to invest.”

Reuters

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

“Many people want to count calories as a way to avoid gaining weight, but they have no way of knowing how many calories are in restaurant food or even food they prepare themselves,” said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks...”

Xinhua

Tokyo, 22 Aug — Japanese manufacturers’ optimism improved to the highest level in three years, a Reuters poll showed, as a weak yen boosted earnings for exporters of textiles, chemicals, steel and other metals.

The index of sentiment derived from a monthly Reuters survey of manufacturers rose by 3 points to plus 16 in August, which matched the level it was at in November 2010.

A positive readings shows optimism outnumbered pessimists.

The index is expected to rise again to plus 18 in November. In the Reuters survey, which is strongly correlated with a closely watched quarterly Bank of Japan tankan survey.

Makers of cars and electronics, however, were less upbeat due to worries about slowing growth in emerging markets.

Comments from the Reuters Tankan survey in August suggest that a turnaround in business investment is still distant.

“Europe’s economy is in the doldrums and domestically companies feel they still have excess capacity,” said one machinery maker.

“Going through with new capital expenditure is much more difficult than we thought”.

Japan’s economic growth slowed more than expected in the second quarter, driven by an unexpected fall in capital expenditure in a worrying sign of companies’ reluctance to invest.”

Reuters

New York, 22 Aug — The Health Department of New York on Wednesday launched a free mobile app that will help cooks calculate how many calories are in the food they prepare and find ways to reduce calorie counts.

“Many people want to count calories as a way to avoid gaining weight, but they have no way of knowing how many calories are in restaurant food or even food they prepare themselves,” said Health Commissioner of New York Thomas Farley.

“Calcutter is a free, simple tool to help cooks...”

Xinhua

Tokyo, 22 Aug — Japanese manufacturers’ optimism improved to the highest level in three years, a Reuters poll showed, as a weak yen boosted earnings for exporters of textiles, chemicals, steel and other metals.

The index of sentiment derived from a monthly Reuters survey of manufacturers rose by 3 points to plus 16 in August, which matched the level it was at in November 2010.

A positive readings shows optimism outnumbered pessimists.

The index is expected to rise again to plus 18 in November. In the Reuters survey, which is strongly correlated with a closely watched quarterly Bank of Japan tankan survey.

Makers of cars and electronics, however, were less upbeat due to worries about slowing growth in emerging markets.

Comments from the Reuters Tankan survey in August suggest that a turnaround in business investment is still distant.

“Europe’s economy is in the doldrums and domestically companies feel they still have excess capacity,” said one machinery maker.

“Going through with new capital expenditure is much more difficult than we thought”.

Japan’s economic growth slowed more than expected in the second quarter, driven by an unexpected fall in capital expenditure in a worrying sign of companies’ reluctance to invest.”

Reuters
Pentagon cuts F-35 operating estimate below $1 trillion

WASHINGTON, 22 Aug—The US government has slashed its estimate for the long-term operating costs of Lockheed Martin Corp F-35 fighter jets by more than 20 percent to under $1 trillion, according to a senior defence official, a move that would boost international support for the programme.

The Pentagon has been under pressure for over a year to revise its estimate of maintaining a fleet of more than 2,000 F-35s over 55 years, with industry and military officials arguing that many of the assumptions were outdated and off base.

The new estimate of $857 billion could help ensure the new plane turns out to be as affordable as advertised and comes days after South Korea determined that only a bid by Boeing Co for its F-15 Silent Eagle came in below a $7.4 billion price ceiling for its plan to buy 60 new fighter aircraft.

Lockheed’s F-35 and the Eurofighter Typhoon remain in the running, but Boeing’s pricing marked a step toward winning the contract, according to sources close to the process. A final decision is expected in mid-September.

It was not immediately clear what impact the lower F-35 operating estimate would have on the South Korean tender, but US officials said Seoul could decide to restart the competition and ask for new bids.

The Pentagon’s revision reflects data about the plane’s performance based on over 7,000 hours of test flights and revised assumptions about how it will be used and maintained, said the official, who was not authorized to speak publicly.

The estimate was provided to the Senate Armed Services Committee by the Pentagon’s F-35 programme chief, Air Force Lieutenant General Christopher Bogdan, the official said.

A revision had been flagged in June when the Pentagon’s acquisition chief said he had expected a review to result in lower operating and maintenance costs. The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter is the costliest weapons program in U.S. history.

Panasonic is selling its television business for $1.8 billion

Panasonic is selling its television business to Quirke Group for $1.8 billion, in a move that will focus its operations on its core businesses of digital, cars, and automotive.

Panasonic, the 100-year-old Japanese electronics giant, announced on Wednesday that it would sell its television division to Quirke Group, a British company that specializes in television manufacturing.

The sale, which is expected to be completed by the end of the year, will allow Panasonic to focus on its core businesses, while Quirke Group will take over the television division.

Panasonic's television division has been struggling in recent years, with a drop in sales and profits. The company has been looking to divest non-core assets to streamline its operations and improve its financial performance.

As part of the deal, Quirke Group will acquire Panasonic's television manufacturing facilities in the United States and Japan, as well as its television distribution network.

The sale is expected to generate approximately $1.8 billion in cash for Panasonic, which will use the proceeds to invest in its core businesses and reduce debt.
Mandalay Football Stadium completed by 97 percent

Mandalay, 22 Aug—The construction of Mandalay Football Stadium started since January, 2011, in Chinnayathazi Township in Mandalay has been completed by 97 percent. We are working with full workforce and machinery day and night to complete the stadium on schedule. We have designated two training grounds and started implanting there. The Mandalay international-standard football stadium is being built over 89.09 acres of land. It is of the same design with this international-standard stadiums in Nay Pyi Taw. We have designed it would withstand 8 Richter Scales of quake. The interior parking lot will be able to handle 400 vehicles and the exterior one 10,000. All the projects will be completed ahead of SEA Games,” said the project manager.

The runway, water supply, lighting, sound system, LED score board, stand, fence and seats have been completed 100 percent. The exterior fence has been completed by 90 percent. The ticket booths have been completed by 97 percent and finishing touches were being put to greening works.

It has the standard size of a stadium with the length of 345 ft and the width of 223 ft as set by FIFA, alongside with two training grounds.—MMAL-040

Educative talks on human trafficking in Ela

Lewe, 22 Aug—An educative talk on human trafficking and traffic rules was organized in No (5) Basic Education High School in Ela in Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 19 August afternoon.

Staff Officer II of Lewe Township General Administration Department U Aye Zaw delivered an address at the ceremony.

Township Law Officer Daw Khin Swe Win gave talks on crime reduction and Additional Township Judge U Kyaw Soe Khang on judicial affairs.


MMAL-Min Min Latt (Mandalay University)

Educative talks on human trafficking in Myinmu

Myinmu, 22 Aug—Sagaing Region Women’s Affairs Organization organized an educative talk on human trafficking and protecting women at the hall of General Administration Department in Myinmu Township on 19 August afternoon.

Chairperson of Sagaing Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Thin Thin Cho gave talks on the law safeguarding the rights of children and women. Police Inspector Khin Moe Than of Sagaing District Police Force gave talks on human trafficking and violence targeted at the women. The event was attended by members of Township Women’s Affairs Organization, members of WAOs of wards and students.—MMAL-Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)

Upgraded school opened in ChaungU Tsp

Sagaing, 22 Aug—Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, accompanied by Region ministers and Region-level departmental personnel, attended opening ceremony of upgraded Basic Education Middle School in Hmancho village in ChaungU Township on 16 August morning.

Region Social Affairs Minister Dr Myint Thein, Region Education Department Director U Phone Pyi, Region Law Officer Kyaw Zaw, Townselder Kyaw Naing and Village Head Kyaw Naing Pyae were also present.

The upgraded school building construction committee handed over the documents related to the school building to the township education officer.

Chief Minister U Tha Aye donated 22-inch Television to the school. The region government donated stationery, publications and sports gears to the school.

The new school building has the length of 120 ft, the width of 30 ft and the height of 12 ft. The estimated cost of the construction of the RC building is K 33.5 million.

MMAL-Region IPBD

Disaster

Laymyo river erosion destroys five buildings

MraukU, 22 Aug—Laymyo River is one of the most important rivers in Rakhine State, second only to Kaladan River. Started from Chin State, it crosses through MraukU, Mbiyha and PaukTaw Townships in Rakhine State and flows into the Bay of Bengal.

Residents in these townships grow crops on alluvial lands left by the river which often causes erosion in rainy season each year. This year’s erosion by the river is greater than any year before.

Letma village in Mbiyha Township is the worst affected area. Five houses have been destroyed by erosion of 2000 ft of the river bank in this August. It caused no casualty because the evacuation could be carried out before the erosion. As the erosion escalates, the people living nearby are moving to safer grounds.

Any erosion caused damages to crops and houses on the river bank. The extraction of sand from the river beyond 1988 has been widely blamed for the erosion.—MMAL-Maung Kyaw Zaw

Pakokku-Htilin road needs urgent repairs

Htilin, 22 Aug—Pakokku-Pauk-Yebyu-Kyin-Htilin road in Magway Region is 95 miles long motor road built in the colonial era. It crosses the twin hill of Pontaung Ponnya at an altitude of more than 2000 ft.

Despite repair works carried out on the road in March and April, the road is still in bad conditions and filled with muds. It is the road the people from Butaung, Nyaung, Akyibin, Alabban, Anyaban and Pyinpa villages and 14 villages in Kyin area rely on. There was no passenger bus on the road more than five years ago. The only passenger operating on the road was Htilin-Kyakhto (Panshan)-Paukulan bus. The people in the region have to rely on tracks that pick up them.

The cars on the road are facing difficulties when the road is inundated in monsoon. It took two hours to get a truck back on track as it slipped off the road on 17 August. Local people in the area are demanding the repairs of the road soon to avoid delays in transportation.

MMAL-Pho Thar Lay (Yaw Myay)

Transport

Disaster

Laymyo river erosion destroys five buildings

MraukU, 22 Aug—Laymyo River is one of the most important rivers in Rakhine State, second only to Kaladan River. Started from Chin State, it crosses through MraukU, Mbiyha and PaukTaw Townships in Rakhine State and flows into the Bay of Bengal.

Residents in these townships grow crops on alluvial lands left by the river which often causes erosion in rainy season each year. This year’s erosion by the river is greater than any year before.

Letma village in Mbiyha Township is the worst affected area. Five houses have been destroyed by erosion of 2000 ft of the river bank in this August. It caused no casualty because the evacuation could be carried out before the erosion. As the erosion escalates, the people living nearby are moving to safer grounds.

Any erosion caused damages to crops and houses on the river bank. The extraction of sand from the river beyond 1988 has been widely blamed for the erosion.—MMAL-Maung Kyaw Zaw

Pakokku-Htilin road needs urgent repairs

Htilin, 22 Aug—Pakokku-Pauk-Yebyu-Kyin-Htilin road in Magway Region is 95 miles long motor road built in the colonial era. It crosses the twin hill of Pontaung Ponnya at an altitude of more than 2000 ft.

Despite repair works carried out on the road in March and April, the road is still in bad conditions and filled with muds. It is the road the people from Butaung, Nyaung, Akyibin, Alabban, Anyaban and Pyinpa villages and 14 villages in Kyin area rely on. There was no passenger bus on the road more than five years ago. The only passenger operating on the road was Htilin-Kyakhto (Panshan)-Paukulan bus. The people in the region have to rely on tracks that pick up them.

The cars on the road are facing difficulties when the road is inundated in monsoon. It took two hours to get a truck back on track as it slipped off the road on 17 August. Local people in the area are demanding the repairs of the road soon to avoid delays in transportation.

MMAL-Pho Thar Lay (Yaw Myay)
Friday, 23 August, 2013

Sweep gold medals

The long-awaited the XXVII SEA Games, which can bring the glory to the State, is drawing near. Myanmar athletes are under intensive training to achieve success in every kind of sports as being a host country.

As the dress rehearsals of the XXVII SEA Games, Myanmar won 175 medals—54 gold, 64 silver and 57 bronze in 33 kinds of sports in 64 times. And Myanmar also won 129 medals (28 gold, 36 silver and 65 bronze) in the test match in June this year.

Myanmar athletes have undergone joint training for 15 times with Turkey, Holland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore and Laos in 12 kinds of sports. Local and foreign sponsors were systematically selected. Myanmar athletes are now undergoing training with the use of sports wears, sports gears, foods, medicine and materials from those sponsors.

Taking the examples of former host countries, authorities concerned are making all-out efforts for successful holding and achieving success in the XXVII SEA Games. In the leadership of the Leading Committee for holding XXVII SEA Games, Sports grounds and gymnasia have been completed by cent per cent and are ready to host the competitions.

A total of 1557 medals (460 gold, 460 silver and 637 bronze) will be awarded to athletes in the XXVII SEA Games. The government is providing necessary assistance to the athletes. Here all athletes are urged to make strenuous efforts to sweep gold medals in every kind of sports.

Mrs Abe visits University of Agriculture (Yezin)

A Japanese delegation led by the wife of the Japanese Prime Minister Ms. Akie Abe observed Bore paddy research plantation and chemical free vegetable plantations of Ngalkire irrigated area in Dekkhinathiri Township, here, this noon. They were conducted round by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing. At University of Agriculture (Yezin), they were clarified by Rector Dr Tin Htun on research activities.

Attorney-General Office, JICA to make cooperation

The Union Attorney-General Office and JICA held a meeting for cooperation in Capacity Development of Legal, Judicial and Relevant Sectors in Myanmar as heads of service organizations shown against each from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name

(a) U Kyaw Swa Soe Rector Technological Development and Cooperation Department Ministry of Science and Technology (b) Dr Aye Myint Rector Yangon Technological University (c) Khin Soe, and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

Myanmar-Gazette.

Issuance of compensation continues for confiscated farmlands

MONYWA, 22 Aug—As tasks are being carried out with added momentum to accelerate the suggestion of the Investigation Commission, it is necessary to give priority to development of socio-economic life of local people in compensation for confiscated farmlands, perennial trees and wells, creating job opportunities for local people and undertaking river water pumping projects for agricultural purpose, said Vice-Chairman Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye at the coordination meeting of the Implementation Committee of the Report of the Investigation Commission for Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project at the hall of the region government office, here, yesterday.

Members of the committee, work committee leaders of regions and region ministers submitted reports for respective sectors. The vice-chairman reviewed their reports.

Myanmar Wenbao Co has issued K 3706.83 million for land and crops compensation and K 348.09 million for perennial trees, totally amounting to K 4054.92 million in April 2011.

According to the suggestion of the Investigation Commission, K 1 million per acre of croplands, K 1.2 million per acre of rain-fed farmland and K 1.5 million per acre of irrigated farmland have been issued for the second time. So far, the compensation K 3197.21 million has been given to the local people. One more compensation issuance centre was opened in Hsete-Zeetaw Village in addition to the administrator office in Salangyi Township. A total of 1238 local people have been appointed at six jobs at Letpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project and 1754 at Kyaysintaung-Sabeitau project of Myanmar Yangtze Co. A plan is underway to appoint 3000 persons at the works within one year. Myanmar-Wenbao Co will spend K 479.8 million on repairing of drains to farmlands in the project area.

The liaison office of the committee is opened at the library of Hsete-Zeetaw Village as of 12 August for ensuring transparency of public-centred development tasks.—MNA
Findings and review of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee on the Messages of the President to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker dated 5-8-2013 and 7-8-2013 and on related Press Releases Nos. 14/2013 and 15/2013 by the Government Information Team

1. “2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill” and “Anti-Corruption Bill” were approved by the Hluttaw at eighth day seventh regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 9/2013-59 dated 31-7-2013.

2. The President sent back the following messages regarding these laws:
   a. One message on “2013 Region or State Hluttaw Law” dated 5-8-2013
   b. One message on “Anti-Corruption Law” dated 7-8-2013

3. Regarding these messages, the Information Team of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar issued press release No. 14/2013 on 7-8-2013 and press release No. 15/2013 on 8-8-2013 through state-owned newspapers.

4. While reading out the two messages of the President at the 13th day seventh regular session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to put them on record on 13-8-2013, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representative U Kyaw Naing Hlay of Indaw Constituency in Sagaing Region suggested that the press releases No. 14/2013 and 15/2013 issued by the Information Team could mislead the public about the legislation activities of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives; the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives were performing duties in accordance with the laws; and the press releases should be discussed widely and put on record. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representative U Aung Myint Thein of Kayin State Constituency No. (9) seconded the motion.

5. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agreed to put the two messages of the President on record and to task the Joint Bill Committee to scrutinize the related press releases and submit report to the Hluttaw.

6. The Joint Bill Committee of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw which scrutinized the press releases followed the findings from the following facts:
   a. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the original provision as regards the ninth comment of the President for “2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill”.
   b. Among 12 comments on the “Anti-Bribery Bill”, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved two suggestions to change the name of the bill and find evidence from a bank and kept other 10 provisions remain unaltered.

7. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker sent the message to the President on enactment of “2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill” with the letter No. 1/PaHta (Session) 9/2013-55 dated 29-7-2013. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker sent the message to the President on enactment of “Anti-Corruption Bill” with the letter No. 1/PaHta 9/2013-59 dated 31-7-2013.

8. The activities of the President on the bills after receiving the messages were as follows:
   a. The President sent a message with the letter No. 107 (1) 8/President Office dated 5-8-2013, seven days after receiving the message of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker on “2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill”, saying, “Some provisions in the bill need to be in accordance with the Constitution, to ensure zero discrimination, sharing of power among three branches of power and check balance which are used in defiance of law, it can cause misunderstanding and undesirable problems, with possible negative impact on the nation and citizens.”
   b. The President sent a message with the letter No. 107 (1) 8/President Office dated 7-8-2013, seven days after receiving the message of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker on “Anti-Corruption Bill”. Paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of the message mentioned three suggestions of amendments, saying, there is a need “to hear some provisions in the bill to make it constitutional by the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union in accord with Section 322 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution” and there is a need to take the comments from legal experts, scholars and enthusiastic citizens in passing the bill as if he had signed it in accord with Section 106 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution. In accord with Section 106 Sub-section (b), although the President had not signed “2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill”, it shall become law as if he had signed it in accord with Section 106 Sub-Section (c) of the Constitution. The joint bill committee has the authority over the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the remarks of the President are shown in the table.

11. Parliamentarians have agreed to changing of the name of “anti-corruption bill” and finding evidence from a bank in line with the democratic practice in response to the remark of the President and decided to remain intact with the name of the original approval of the Joint Bill Committee, concerning the remaining 10 remarks of the President and the decision was also made in line with the constitution. The review and assessment of the joint bill committee on the approval of the parliament and remarks of the President was presented with table so that readers can understand clearly.

12. Though it is required to amend some provisions in the law to reflect the meaning of title of the law when it is changed and enacted as “anti-corruption law”, the parliament failed to change the name in the meantime as the President made no suggestions to do so. Now following the enactment of the law, the joint bill committee has the right to put forward a bill amending the anti-corruption law making necessary amendments and other required supplements to reflect the meaning of the name of the law, the joint bill committee has taken measures to submit the bill amending the law.

13. The parliament places the interests of the nation and citizens at the fore and tries its utmost to be in line with the constitution in passing legislation. In addition, it seeks opinions and suggestions of Union ministries, legal experts, scholars and enthusiastic citizens in passing legislation to ensure emergence of standard laws. Under this circumstance, the Parliament Speaker and the President should increase understanding, cooperation and use other communication links apart from messaging to publicize them for the sake of public’s knowledge.

14. The Section 105 sub-section (c) and Section 106 of the 9-2013 sub-section (a) of the constitution states that if a particular provision in a law enacted or a particular existing law goes against a particular provision in the constitution, the provision in the constitution must be followed”, which are regarded as apparent intervention in legislation process of the parliament and functions of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union.

15. The Section 105 sub-section (c) and Section 106 of the constitutional provision in the constitution must be followed”, which are regarded as apparent intervention in legislation process of the parliament and functions of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union.

16. The parliament failed to change the name in the meantime as the President made no suggestions to do so. Now following the enactment of the law, the joint bill committee has the right to put forward a bill amending the anti-corruption law making necessary amendments and other required supplements to reflect the meaning of the name of the law, the joint bill committee has taken measures to submit the bill amending the law.

17. The parliament places the interests of the nation and citizens at the fore and tries its utmost to be in line with the constitution in passing legislation. In addition, it seeks opinions and suggestions of Union ministries, legal experts, scholars and enthusiastic citizens in passing legislation to ensure emergence of standard laws. Under this circumstance, the Parliament Speaker and the President should increase understanding, cooperation and use other communication links apart from messaging to publicize the laws passed by the parliament for the sake of the public’s knowledge.

18. When rights and power endowed by the constitution are used in defiance of law, it can cause misunderstanding and undesirable problems, with possible negative impact on the nation and citizens. The authorities concerned are required to act in accordance with laws, regulations, disciplines and ethics in discharging their legislative, executive and judicial duties and responsibilities. Therefore, the joint bill committee has submitted its report and suggestions, urging the parliament to approve the above-mentioned suggestions and State-run media to publicize them for the sake of public knowledge.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee

Date: 22 August, 2013.
**Social Activity**

**Nutrition Week launched in Padaung Tsp**

PADAUNG, 22 Aug—Activities to mark the Nutrition Week 2013 were held in Okshiptin Township Health Department, Ward 1 of Hlinethaya Township on 20 August morning.

At the dispensary of Okshiptin Township Health Department, nurses and midwives together with grassroots level authorities, the chairperson and members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the chairperson of Women’s Affairs Organization, Red Cross Society and social organizations fed vitamin and iron tablets and vitamins to expectant mothers. After that, refreshments were fed to mothers and children. In addition, pamphlets on knowledge about nutrition week activities were distributed to them. Kyemon-042

**Accident**

**Fuel bowser and other two vehicles hit one another in series in Bago**

BAGO, 22 Aug—A Nissan truck driven by Tun San Oo, 45 of 133 Ward in Dagon Myothit (East) Township violently bumped with a 10-wheeled Nissan and a fuel bowser on opposite lane in front of Good Brother fuel station in Kaik Village on Yangon-Mandalay Highway near Bago at 3:40 pm on 15 August.

In the accident, three persons in the vehicle were injured (unconscious) and rushed to Bago Hospital. SIP San Yu of Traffic Police Corps opened a file against reckless driver Tun San Oo at Bago Myoma Police Station.—Kyemon-Nay Htet Win

**Transport**

**Myanmar Airways reduce air ticket rate from Sittway to Yangon**

SITTWAY, 22 Aug—Myanmar Airways reduced air ticket rate on the route between Sittway and Yangon as of 18 August.

Air ticket for Sittway-Yangon ART-72 was K 56000 for adult and K 42000 for child, K 5600 per infant and foreigner 85 dollars. Tickets for Embracer 190 flight is K 63000 per adult, K 47250 per child, K 2000 per infant and foreigner 95 dollars. With regard to Sittway-An ART-72 flight, ticket is K 20000 per adult, K 15000 per child, K 2000 per infant and foreigner 25 dollars. Except Thursday, the flight schedules for Sittway-Yangon route have been drawn for six days per week. Sittway-An flight is scheduled on Wednesday and Saturday weekly. Kyemon-698

**Pyaywwe Township forms Anti-Narcotics Association**

PYAYWWE, 22 Aug—Pyaywwe Township Anti-Narcotics Association was set up at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 19 August.

Deputy Township Administrator U Kyaw Soe Lin made a speech. U Min Hein Khant (Crime) of MANA explained purpose of formation and mission and vision of the MANA. Those present took part in the discussions. The ceremony elected five patrons of the township association and 11 executives.

In Yamethin District, all townships have constituted township Anti-Narcotics Associations. Kyemon-Hlaing Than Tin (Yamethin)

**Narcotic drug traffickers arrested in Shwegu Township**

SHWEGU, 22 Aug—A squad led by Police Captain Win Sein of Myoma Police Station of Shwegu Township, Kachin State, together with local authorities Ward 1 administrator U Htein Win and 100-house leader U Aung Kyaw Myint, acting tip-off, arrested four drug traffickers along with two motorcycles at mile post 138/0 on Shwegu-Bhamo Strategic Road, (map ref: KG 794715), five miles southeast of Shwegu Police Station in Bhamo District of Kachin State at 2 pm on 18 August.

One of four drug traffickers managed himself escape from the scene when the authorities arrived there. The authorities arrested and seized them. The team seized 4.01 grams of heroin in the plastic bottle worth K 150,000 and K 41000 of proceeds from Min Khaing (a) Hsan Shay, Kham Htoo (a) Alaung and Po Say.

Shwegu Myoma Police Station opened files of lawsuit against them under Sections 15/19(a)/ 20 (a)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Kyemon

**Anti-Narcotic Drives**

**Pyaywwe Township Anti-Narcotics Drive**

PYAYWWE, 22 Aug—A joint effort by Traffic Police Captain Win Sein of Myoma Police Station of Shwegu Township, Kachin State, together with local authorities Ward 1 administrator U Htein Win and 100-house leader U Aung Kyaw Myint, acted on tip-offs and arrested four drug traffickers along with two motorcycles at mile post 138/0 on Shwegu-Bhamo Strategic Road, (map ref: KG 794715), five miles southeast of Shwegu Police Station in Bhamo District of Kachin State at 2 pm on 18 August.

One of the four arrested drug traffickers managed himself escape from the scene when the authorities arrived there. The authorities arrested and seized him. The team seized 4.01 grams of heroin in the plastic bottle worth K 150,000 and K 41000 of proceeds from Min Khaing (a) Hsan Shay, Kham Htoo (a) Alaung and Po Say.

Shwegu Myoma Police Station opened files of lawsuit against them under Sections 15/19(a)/20(a)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Kyemon

**Local News**

**Pyaywwe Township Anti-Narcotics Drive**

PYAYWWE, 22 Aug—A joint effort by Traffic Police Captain Win Sein of Myoma Police Station of Shwegu Township, Kachin State, together with local authorities Ward 1 administrator U Htein Win and 100-house leader U Aung Kyaw Myint, acted on tip-offs and arrested four drug traffickers along with two motorcycles at mile post 138/0 on Shwegu-Bhamo Strategic Road, (map ref: KG 794715), five miles southeast of Shwegu Police Station in Bhamo District of Kachin State at 2 pm on 18 August.

One of the four arrested drug traffickers managed himself escape from the scene when the authorities arrived there. The authorities arrested and seized him. The team seized 4.01 grams of heroin in the plastic bottle worth K 150,000 and K 41000 of proceeds from Min Khaing (a) Hsan Shay, Kham Htoo (a) Alaung and Po Say. Shwegu Myoma Police Station opened files of lawsuit against them under Sections 15/19(a)/20(a)/21 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. Kyemon
Regional

**Two Koreas to hold talks Friday on reunions of separated families**

SEOUL, 22 Aug — North and South Korea are scheduled to hold talks Friday on arranging reunions of families that remain separated since the 1950-1953 Korean War, South Korea’s Unification Ministry said Thursday.

The schedule was fixed after the North sent a notice to the South in the morning accepting the South’s offer to hold the talks at the truce village of Panmunjeom.

North Korea also said it wants to hold talks with the South on restarting a suspended tourism project in the North’s Mt Kumgang area in late August or early September, according to the ministry. South Korea on Tuesday proposed holding the talks on the tourism project on 25 September.

In a speech delivered on Liberation Day, 15 August, marking national independence from Japan’s colonial rule, South Korean President Park Geun Hye made the proposal for the next round of family reunions to be held on the occasion of Chuseok, the Korean Thanksgiving Day which falls on 19 September this year.

The two Koreas first arranged temporary reunions for separated family members after the landmark inter-Korean summit in 2000, and have so far held 18 reunions, bringing together more than 20,000 family members who had not seen each other since the war. But none has been held since late 2010 due to strained ties.

Yonhap News Agency reported that some 73,000 people in South Korea have requested to meet with their relatives in the North, and about 80 percent of them are over the age of 70, adding urgency to the issue of family reunions.

The programme for South Koreans to tour Mt Kumgang, launched in 1998, has been suspended since 2008 when a South Korean tourist was shot dead by a North Korean soldier.

**Highly toxic water leaked from tank could have flowed into sea**

TOKYO, 22 Aug — Highly radioactive water that leaked from a storage tank at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant could have flowed into the adjacent Pacific Ocean through drainage channels, data provided by Tokyo Electric Power Co showed on Wednesday.

TEPCO is studying the possibility in detail, Executive Vice President Zengo Aizawa told a Press conference.

TEPCO first noticed on Monday puddles with high radiation levels near an area where many storage tanks stand. The seriousness of the situation escalated when the utility later found that 300 tons of toxic water had likely leaked from a tank that should have been holding about 1,000 tons.

**Cambodian FM to attend ASEAN-China foreign ministers meeting in Beijing**

PHNOM PENH, 22 Aug — Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Hor Namhong will lead a delegation to attend the Special ASEAN-China Foreign Ministers’ Meeting to be held on 28-29 Aug in Beijing, according to a statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Thursday.

The special meeting is convened on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership this year.

“It will exchange views on a number of issues to enhance the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership,” the statement said.

On the sidelines, Hor Namhong and other ASEAN foreign ministers will pay courtesy calls on Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, and Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi, it added.

Hor Namhong said the meeting is very important to strengthen and expand the Strategic Partnership of Cooperation between ASEAN and China.

“I hope that the relations between ASEAN and China will be better and both sides will have more mutual understanding through the forthcoming meeting,” he said.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Bruins Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

**Bus falls into ravine in Malaysia, killing 37**

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 Aug — At least 37 people were killed after a tourist bus plunged into a deep ravine near a Malaysian hilltop resort on Wednesday.

Sixteen survived the accident, one of the worst in a decade in the country, and have been sent to nearby hospitals. Some were in critical condition.

Most of those aboard the bus were Malaysians, but at least three were foreigners, including a Chinese national, police said. The nationalities of the killed remained unknown.

The bus was travelling downhill from the Genting Highlands resort in the afternoon when it went off the cliff and plunged some 60 meters into the ravine, according to authorities.

The cause of the accident is yet to be determined. A rescue worker said the driver, who was among the killed, apparently lost control of the vehicle on a downhill bend.

Due to the rugged terrain and thick vegetation at the crash site, rescuers had to install a makeshift pulley system to transfer bodies and injured victims. Police dogs had also been used to search for survivors before the search and rescue work ended late evening.

The bus was a regular shuttle bus that ferries visitors to Kuala Lumpur and the hilltop resort, which is usually capped by thick clouds or fog.

Low Tion Lai, a local parliament member, has requested the authorities to speed up the investigation and present a clear report to prevent such accidents from repeating.

Malaysian Minister of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Abdul Rahman Dahlan said the bus was probably overloaded. Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak has expressed via his microblog his condolences to the victims’ families.

Genting Highlands, located some 50 km from the capital, is a popular tourist attraction for its cool air and the country’s only casino. Yet the road to the resort consists of many steep slopes and sharp turns.

In 2012, two tourists from India died and 20 other passengers were injured when a tour bus overturned near Genting Highlands.

**Philippine gov’t, rebels resume peace talks in Malaysia**

MANILA, 22 Aug — Peace talks between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the largest rebel group in the country, resumed Thursday in Malaysia.

In the 39th round of formal exploratory talks, both sides will discuss power-sharing and normalization, the two remaining annexes of the framework agreement on the Bangsamoro, according to government’s chief negotiator Miriam Coronel-Ferrer.

“in this round, we will prove that we have not been waylaid by these groups’ destructive, desperate ways,” she said. Ferrer was alluding to the recent spate of bombings in southern Philippines, which were allegedly perpetrated by sectors which were out to derail the peace process. “Violence is not strength. It reflects a weakness in ideas, a lack of strength in the moral persuasiveness of one’s beliefs and causes,” she said.

Prior to the ongoing talks, the 38th round of negotiation was held last month and signed the annex on wealth-sharing. Both sides hope to conclude the signing of four annexes of the framework work as well as the comprehensive peace agreement as soon as possible. The pact will pave the way for the formation of a Bangsamoro entity that will replace the existing Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and will end the more than four decades armed struggle in southern Philippines.
**New Light of Myanmar**

**ADVERTISMENT & GENERAL**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (87)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (87) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPIING CO., LTD.**

Phone No: 256908/256919/256921

---

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (021)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (021) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.8.2013 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 256908/257316/376797

---

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (807)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAJIN VOY NO (807) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.8.2013 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 ORINET OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

---

**AFRICA MULLS LEGAL FRAMEWORK TO CURB RISING POACHING**

**Nairobi, 22 Aug—**

African envoys have relented on specific legal framework to control rising poaching in the continent.

The ambassadors who ended their two-day retreat organized by Kenya’s Mission to the UN Office at Nairobi (UNON) were also unanimous on the need for the African Diplomatic Corps (ADC) to take up the issue of combating poaching strongly.

“They viewed this as yet another chapter in which more assertive Africa that seeks to implement solutions to its own challenges comes together,” they said in a joint statement issued in Nairobi on Tuesday.

The envoys welcomed the upcoming Wildlife Bill spearheaded by Kenya. The country has enacted a bill to punish poachers with fines between 120,000 U.S. dollars and nearly 200,000 dollars.

However officials said the pending bill to allow a poacher to be fined up to 200,000 dollars is not stiff enough.

The Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) is punishing poachers with life imprisonment as deterrent measures to protect the two endangered species of elephant and rhino, an official has said.

KWS Director William Kiprono said early this month that the killing of wildlife especially the elephants and rhinos in the county are alarming and required stiff penalties to the perpetrators.

Kiprono said the killing of the two endangered species for their valued tusks is an economic sabotage and punitive measures have to be meted on criminals involved in the vice.

During the meeting, the African ambassadors noted that communities that live close to wildlife should gain resources from wildlife revenue, receive compensation for losses, and have a voice in the ongoing debate on conservation.

Conservation, it was agreed, should become an activity owned by the African public and not directed to them in any fashion if indeed wildlife is to be viewed as a national economic asset and as part of a precious common heritage.

---

**New Zealand sees record number of winter visitors**

**Wellington, 22 Aug—**

The number of overseas visitors to New Zealand last month was a record for July, up 6 percent year on year to 183,700, the government statistics agency announced on Wednesday.

Australia led the way with visitor numbers up by 6.6 percent, or 5,200, from July 2012, followed by China (up 25.2 percent or 3,100), the United Kingdom (up 21.7 percent or 1,500), and the United States up 11.5 percent or 1,000, according to Statistics New Zealand.

In the year to the end of July, there were 2,647 million visitors from all countries, up 1 percent from the previous year.

Meanwhile, the number of New Zealand resident short-term trips abroad in July was the highest monthly figure ever, rising by 15 percent year on year to 237,000, said a statement from Statistics New Zealand.
Marches, events to mark anniversary of King’s ‘dream’ speech

WASHINGTON, 22 Aug — Marches, speeches and global bell-ringing are set to mark the 50th anniversary this month of the Rev Martin Luther King Jr’s “I have a dream” speech, a key event in the struggle of African Americans for racial equality.

The week of commemorations in Washington will culminate on 28 Aug, when President Barack Obama, the first black US president, will speak at the Lincoln Memorial 50 years to the day after King made his historic address at the site.

King, an advocate of non-violence, was among six organizers of the 1963 March on Washington, a rally for jobs and freedom. King led about 250,000.

The March on Washington helped pressure Congress to pass the landmark Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts in 1964 and 1965, respectively. The Supreme Court struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act in June, and Obama has called that ruling a setback.

King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. A white drifter assassinated him in 1968 at age 39.

Events in Washington will kick off on Wednesday with a commemorative service at Mount Auburn Baptist Church. Seminars on women and young people in the civil rights movement and on March on Washington figures Bayard Rustin and A Philip Randolph will take place in the following days.

Civil rights groups the National Urban League and King’s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) will also be holding events in Washington. The SCLC’s international convention on Friday will feature debates on race and poverty and on voting rights.

At douban.com that people should see it in 3D or at the IMAX.

Similarly to “Pacific Rim,” other US movies, including “Fast and Furious 6” and “White House Down,” did well in China but performed poorly in the United States.

Cai Yuheng, a senior at Tsinghua University, admitted that the Chinese elements in “Pacific Rim” attracted him to watch the film.

Many Hollywood films try to cater to the Chinese audience. This is illustrated by Chinese versions of “Iron Man 3” and “Looper” that feature Shanghai.

Zhang Huijun, president of the Beijing Film Academy, said that the Chinese elements added into American films attract a younger audience. Huang Qunfei, chief manager of the Beijing-based New Film Association, said due to a lack of competitive domestic films, US action movies are popular among Chinese moviegoers.

US blockbusters perform in China, but not at home

BEIJING, 22 Aug — US science fiction blockbuster “Pacific Rim” has remained top of China’s box office charts for a third consecutive week, while it performed poorly in the US film market.

According to box office figures by China Film News on Tuesday, the movie about monsters set in the 2020s, had taken 640 million yuan (104.5 million US dollars) by the weekend ending 18 Aug, since it debuted in late July.

However, it only took $5.3 million US dollars in its first week at the US box office and dropped by 57.2 percent in the second week.

One Direction premiere draws screaming fans; Cowell talks of fatherhood

LONDON, 22 Aug — British boy band One Direction was greeted by more than 3,000 screaming fans on Tuesday for the London premiere of its new 3D documentary “This Is Us,” while music mogul and manager Simon Cowell addressed his impending fatherhood for the first time.

Cowell, 53, the owner of music and television production company Syco, which manages One Direction, is expecting a child with his friend’s ex-wife, socialite Lauren Silverman.

The music mogul declined to comment publicly about the events until Tuesday, when he told BBC at the premiere’s red carpet that “things are changing in my life right now, for the better.”

“I’m proud to be a dad,” Cowell said. “It’s something I hadn’t thought of before and then, now I know, I feel good about it. She’s a very special girl.”

Cowell also reported that he would be willing to let his own child become a pop star, as long as he was the manager.

Cowell joined “This Is Us” director Morgan Spurlock to share the spotlight with the boy band that has risen to worldwide fame and success since the five members formed the band on UK television singing competition “The X Factor” in 2010.

The Sony Pictures documentary, out in theatres on 30 August, features concert footage and the group’s life backstage and on the road over the last two years.

Luke Bryan tops Billboard album chart; Perry has No 1 download

LOS ANGELES, 22 Aug — Country singer Luke Bryan’s latest record stormed straight to the top of the Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday, while pop singer Katy Perry scored her biggest digital song debut to date with new single “Roar.”

“The Crash My Party,” the fourth studio album from Bryan, sold more than 52,000 copies in its first week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan, making it his best debut. It is also the third-biggest opening for an album this year, behind Jay Z’s “Magnas Carta...Holy Grail,” which sold 28,000 in its first week in July, and Justin Timberlake’s “The 20/20 Experience,” which debuted with 96,000 in March.

Hip-hop artist K Michelle was the only other new album to enter the top 10 of the Billboard 200 this week, landing at No 2 with her debut album “Rebellious Soul,” selling 71,000 copies.

Pop singer Perry, who released her first single “Roar” from upcoming album “Prism” last week, scored her best sales week as the song sold more than 355,000 downloads and topped the Billboard Digital Songs chart.

The song also notched No 1 on the Hot 100 chart, which measures radio airplay, online streaming and sales, but it was unable to knock off Robin Thicke’s “Blurred Lines” featuring T.I. and Pharrell, which clocked its 11th non-consecutive week at No 1 on the chart. “Roar” beat out stiff competition from Lady Gaga, who released her new single “Applause” from upcoming album “ARTPOP,” which reached No 3 on the digital songs chart with 218,000 downloads and No 6 on the Hot 100 chart.


Actor James Franco poses for photographers at the European premiere of Oz: The Great and Powerful in London on 28 Feb, 2013.— Reuters

James Franco Hosting Ovation Arts show ‘James Franco Presents’

NEW YORK, 22 Aug — James Franco is using his ubiquitousness to further the arts on television. The actor will host and executive produce “James Franco Presents,” a new show on Ovation dedicated to interesting interest in the arts.

Ovation is sticking with its arts mission long after other cable stations, such as A&E and Bravo, have abandoned high-art for reality shows. Franco’s celebrity may help Ovation draw eyes without changing its focus. It debuts this fall.

“James Franco is the ultimate artist, so partnering with James is a dream come true for Ovation,” said Robert Weiss, Ovation’s chief creative officer.

“And, since Ovation’s mantra is ‘art is everywhere,’ James is the perfect person through whom to introduce viewers to a modern, more inclusive definition of art.”

One Direction, (L-R) Harry Styles, Niall Horan, Louis Tomlinson, Zayn Malik and Liam Payne pose for photographers at the world premiere of their film “One Direction: This Is Us”, in London on 20 Aug, 2013.— Reuters
Brazil, Argentina top World Cup ticket requests

RIO DE JANEIRO, 22 Aug—More than 2.3 million fans have applied to attend next year’s World Cup in the first two days of ticket sales, according to football’s governing body FIFA.

Some 1.9 million requests came from Brazil, 207,000 from Argentina and 50,000 from the United States, FIFA said on Wednesday.

The most sought-after game is the tournament opener in Sao Paulo on 12 June with 372,000 requests. The match will feature Brazil against a yet to be determined opponent.

The final in Rio de Janeiro on 13 July has received 340,000 requests.

Almost one million tickets will be available during the first phase of sales, which closes on 10 October. Successful applicants will then be drawn from a lottery.

FIFA marketing director Thierry Weil advised fans to apply during the first phase to avoid higher demand after the World Cup draw is announced on 6 December.—Xinhua

Sara Errani of Italy reacts to missing a point against Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland during their women’s quarter-finals tennis match of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto, on 9 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

Top seed Errani upset in final WTA event before US Open

TORONTO, 22 Aug—Sara Errani’s US Open preparations were jolted on Wednesday when the top-seeded Italian was upset by Russia’s Ekaterina Makarova 7-5, 6-1 in the second-round of the New Haven Open.

World number five Errani double-faulted five times while her 26th-ranked opponent unleashed eight aces and won seven consecutive games on the way to victory in one hour 22 minutes.

The premature exit of Errani followed the elimination of second-seeded Angelique Kerber of Germany in the second round on Tuesday, marking the first time the top two seeds had failed to reach the last eight at the tournament.

In other matches on Wednesday, fourth seed Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark booked her place in the quarter-finals with a 6-1, 7-5 victory over Italy’s Karin Knapp and Romania’s Simona Halep battled past Spainiard Carla Suarez Navarro 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

The New Haven Open is the final tune-up on the WTA Tour before the final grand slam event of the year, the US Open, which starts on 26 August in Flushing Meadows, New York.—Reuters

Maria Sharapova of Russia reacts to her play against Sloane Stephens of the US at the women’s Cincinnati Open tennis tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio, on 13 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Sharapova out of US Open with shoulder injury

NEW YORK, 22 Aug—Third-seeded Russian Maria Sharapova has pulled out of next week’s US Open due to a shoulder injury, tournament organizers said on Wednesday.

The four-times grand slam winner, who triumphed at Flushing Meadows in 2006, fired coach Jimmy Connors last week after just one match together.

The 26-year-old world number three, who is suffering from inflammation in her right shoulder, said withdrawing from the year’s final grand slam was “a really tough decision to make”.

“I have done everything I could since Wimbledon to get myself ready but it just wasn’t enough time,” she said in statement on her Facebook page.

“I have done many tests, received several opinions and it all comes down to taking the proper amount of time to heal my shoulder injury properly.”

“It’s certainly not an easy decision to make ahead of one of my favourite tournaments, but I know it’s the right one that will get me back on the courts soon.”

“I plan on taking the next few weeks off, receiving proper treatment and rehabilitation.”

Sharapova lost to 20-year-old American Sloane Stephens in the second round of the Western and Southern Open in Cincinnati last week in her only match since a second-round exit at Wimbledon.

Her absence from Flushing Meadows at least puts to rest widely reported plans she had to legally change her name for the US Open in a publicity stunt for her candy business.

Defending champion Serena Williams is the top seed for the US Open at Flushing Meadows in New York, ahead of Belarusian Victoria Azarenka and Poland’s Agnieszka Radwanska, who now moves up to third.

Tournament director David Brewer had earlier announced Sharapova’s withdrawal.

“We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to her return to New York next year,” he said in a statement.—Reuters

Woods looks to add to ‘great’ year with FedEx win

JERSEY CITY, 22 Aug—Tiger Woods has gone a fifth season without winning a major but still considers his five tour titles a “great year” and is looking to add more in the FedExCup series starting on Thursday with The Barclays.

Woods, who has long measured success by his hardware from golf’s major championships, sounded philosophical on Wednesday when asked to assess his 2013 season ahead of the opening round at Liberty National.

“You’re going to have years where you don’t win major championships and years that you do,” said Woods, whose stated pursuit of Jack Nicklaus and his record 18 majors has stalled since winning the 2008 US Open at Torrey Pines.

But failure to end his majors drought did not diminish his achievements this year, Woods said.

“This year’s been a great year so far,” the 37-year-old American told reporters.

“I’ve won at two of my favourite venues (Torrey Pines and Bay Hill), plus winning two World Golf Championships and a Players (Championship) in there. It’s been pretty good,” he added with a smile.

The five tournament victories from 12 starts this year have put him firmly atop the world rankings and brought him to a total of 79, three away from the record 82 won by Sam Snead.

Woods said his PGA Tour wins column was something he was very proud of.

“It’s been an amazing, amazing run to get here,” he said. “The consistency is one of the things I’m most proud of, winning five or more tournaments, 10 years. That’s one of the stats that I look at as one of the ones I’m really proud of. This is one of those years.”

“I’m second on the all-time list on both, whether it’s majors or all-time wins. That’s not bad at my age.”

Woods has twice won the FedExCup competition, in the inaugural 2007 series and again two years later, but his 2009 triumph began with a contentious start at The Barclays, which served as the coming-out party for the Liberty National venue.

The American was very critical about the layout, especially the heavily undulating contours of the greens.

Wood remarked to a player in his pro-am group the day before the tournament began that “maybe Tom (co-designer Kite) did this course before his eye operation.”

Kite shed his thick-lensed eyeglasses after having Lasik surgery in 1998, six years after first considering the challenge of turning the former landfill site into a world-class venue.—Reuters

Atlanta Braves Jason Heyward lies on the ground after being hit in the head by a pitch from New York Mets starting pitcher Jonathon Niese during the sixth inning of their MLB National League baseball game at CitiField in New York, on 21 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Braves’ Heyward hit by pitch, breaks jaw

NEW YORK, 22 Aug—Atlanta Braves outfielder Jason Heyward is expected to be sidelined for at least four weeks with a broken jaw after being hit by a pitch from Mets starter Jon Niese in New York on Wednesday.

With two outs in the sixth inning, former All-Star Heyward was struck by a 90 mph fastball and immediately fell to the ground amid groans from the crowd.

Head trainer Jeff Porter and Braves manager Fredi Gonzalez ran out to attend to Heyward, who was then seen by doctors before being taken to a Manhattan hospital to have X-rays and further tests. Two fractures were revealed in his jaw and Howard has been told he could miss the rest of the regular season as he will need between four and six weeks to recover.—Reuters

Woods looks to add to ‘great’ year with FedEx win

Tiger Woods of the US tees off on the third hole during the third round of the 2013 PGA Championship golf tournament at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York on 10 August, 2013.—Reuters
China, Nepal to set up office of consulate general in each other's territory

KATMANDU, 22 Aug—Due to the growing trade and interdependence among each other, Nepal and China have proceeded to set up the office of consulate general in each other’s territory.

Once set up, this will be China’s first office of the consulate general in Nepal land while the latter will have its third office of consulate general in China.

So far, Nepal has three diplomatic missions in China, Embassy of Nepal in Beijing and two consulate general offices in Lhasa and Hong Kong.

Nepal has been preparing to set up its office of consulate general in Guangzhou, China’s third largest city, while the northern neighbour has proposed to establish the office in Pokhara, a tourist hub in central Nepal.

Nepal’s trade with China has significantly increased through Guangzhou, making the city a trade hub for Nepal in the recent decade.

“China has dispatched proposal in this regard several times in the past,” a high level official at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) told Xinhua on Wednesday preferring anonymity.

A bilateral meeting Sunday in Beijing will make a decision in this regard.

“The establishment of office of consulate general in both countries will be the major agenda of discussion,” Nepal’s foreign secretary Arjun Thapa told Xinhua, adding the meeting will also ponder on the jurisdiction and the number of staffs in regards to the proposed offices of consulate general.

Nepal’s Ministry of Commerce and Supplies (MoCS) has been lobbying the government to propose the Chinese government for the establishment of office of the consulate general in Guangzhou.—Xinhua

McEnroe cannot see another grand slam win for Federer

NEW YORK, 22 Aug—John McEnroe finds it hard to envisage Roger Federer adding to his record 17 grand slam titles and believes the Swiss maestro is showing signs of slowing down.

The 32-year-old Federer heads into next week’s US Open seeded seventh, his first time outside the top three in any slam in the past decade, and his recent form offers no suggestion of a quick improvement at Flushing Meadows in New York.

McEnroe, a four-time U.S. Open champion and three-times Wimbledon winner, is not ruling Federer out of contention for the latter stages of the tournament but he feels it may now be too much to expect the Swiss to go all the way.

“To me, it’s obviously going to be a lot more difficult at this stage,” McEnroe, now a television commentator with ESPN, said on a conference call.

“I don’t see at this stage him being able to go through all seven (rounds) and have to beat at least two of these (top) three guys.”

“Maybe he would use that type of thing as incentive. When you’ve won 17, you clearly think you can win another one. To me, there comes a point, even as great as Roger has been for so many years, that it catches up to you a little bit,” McEnroe added.

Beaten by the 16th-ranked Sergiy Stakhovsky in the second round at Wimbledon, Federer also lost to Federico Delbonis in the Hamburg semi-finals and 55th-ranked Daniel Brands on home soil in Gstaad.

He fared a little better in Cincinnati last week, reaching the quarter-finals where he was beaten by eventual winner, and US Open favourite, Rafa Nadal.

McEnroe believes that while Federer’s experience and ability mean he will still be a factor, grand slam win number 18 may be a step too far now.

“There are certainly scenarios where he could easily still get late into an event and even to a final,” McEnroe said. “Andre (Agassi) got to the final of the Open at 35, so there’s no reason to believe he couldn’t do it.”

S Korea's household credit hits record high

SEOUL, 22 Aug—South Korea’s household credit, including mortgage loans and credit purchases, hit a new record high as demand for home-backed loans jumped ahead of the end of temporary cuts for home acquisition tax. Credit Purchases reduced 0.6 trillion won due to a rise in purchases with check cards.

Household loans extended by banks increased 17.5 trillion won during the April-June period as demand for mortgage loans jumped ahead of the end of temporary cuts for home acquisition tax. Credit Purchases reduced 0.6 trillion won due to a rise in purchases with check cards.

Loans extended by banks increased 8.3 trillion won in the second quarter after falling 4.9 trillion won in the prior quarter. Debts owed by households to non-bank deposit takers, including savings banks, credit unions and community credit cooperatives, increased 3.1 trillion won in the quarter after increasing 0.1 trillion won in the previous quarter.

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.
Vice-President U Nyan Tun attends opening of Pre-SEA Games Vovinam Test Match 2013

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Aug—Patron of the Leading Committee for Organizing the XXVII SEA Games Vice-President U Nyan Tun attended the opening of Pre-SEA Games Vovinam Test Match 2013 at Wunna Theikdi Stadium, here, this morning.

First, Chairman of Leading Committee for holding 27th SEA Games Union Minister for Sports U Tin Hsan made an opening speech and launched the tourney.

It was attended by the Union ministers, deputy ministers, President of South East Asian Vovinam (Bando) Federation Mr. Okhna RATSOKHORN, committee members from Myanmar Martial Arts Federation, referees and athletes, fans and guests.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun greeted the athletes and presented gifts to them.

The demonstration of Myanmar’s martial arts and entertainment programme followed.

The teams from Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam and Laos demonstrated the fighting skills.

The Union minister awarded first prize to Myanmar, second to Indonesia and third to Laos teams.

Vovinam sport, Vietnamese traditional martial arts, comprises two categories. One of Vietnamese national formed Vovinam sport in 1938 and its purpose is to pursue self-defence martial arts in a short period. Vovinam (Bando) sport includes fighting and demonstration in the sport events.

Vovinam sport included in 2011 SEA Games and 14 gold medals were awarded in those Games. In 27th SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar, 18 gold medals will be presented in Vovinam event.

The State needs to seek possible means and ways to handle exploitation of workers: Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint said that there would be losses in both sides when an employee or employer one-sidedly terminates its relations with employer or employee. It can hamper State’s economic development and cause loss to those from grass-root level. So, it needs to deal with the employer-employee disputes in accord with democratic norms and standards.

The State needs to seek possible ways to handle the exploitation of workers. He urged those from legislative and executive bodies to keep a watchful eye on labour disputes which can hamper country’s democratization process.

MP Dr Myat Nyana Soe from Yangon Region Constituency No.4 called for Ministry’s effective supports and budgets for effective handling of labour disputes. The Labour Union Laws have been enacted since the emergence of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The implementation of these laws is still weak. There should be organizations that can mediate employees and employers, he added.

The meeting came to an end at 3 pm, and the 17th day session will go on 27 August.—MNA