President U Thein Sein felicitates Malaysian King, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 31 Aug—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Majesty Almu’ Tasimu Billahi Muhibbuddin Tuanku Alhaj Abdul Halim Mu’ adzam Shah ibni Almarhum Sultan Badlishah, the Yang di Pertuan Agong of Malaysia XIV and His Excellency Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, on the occasion of the 56th Anniversary of the Independence Day of Malaysia which falls on 31 August 2013.—MNA

Findings and suggestions on Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR) clarified

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—A ceremony to clarify findings and suggestions on Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR) (1) was held at Myanmar International Convention Center (MICC) here this morning, with an address by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

Mr. Vijay Nambiar meets all faiths in Meiktila

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—“Reconciliation can be fostered through friendly cooperation between interfaith and dialogue is good hope for future,” said UN Secretary-General’s special advisor on Myanmar Mr. Vijay Nambiar in meeting with interfaith at communications guest house in Meiktila yesterday evening.

In his speech, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said that the new government led by the President is making sweeping reforms in education, health and social sectors through the principles for people-centered approach. And the government is implementing long-term projects for the emergence of life-long learning society, having equal access to education and emergence of the center of excellence.

Under the exchange programme, Yangon University, Yangon Institute of Economics and Mandalay University which are members of ASEAN Universities Network are jointly making cooperation in courses, discussions and research with other member countries.

As of 2012-2013 academic year, scholarships and stipends for basic education and universities have been granted. The State is annually increasing (See page 9)

Mr. Vijay Nambiar meets with interfaith at communications guest house in Meiktila.—MNA

Aungmingala Bus Terminal sees progress

A plan is underway to complete roads in Aungmingala Highway Bus Terminal in Yangon in coming December, according to the Revenue Department under the Yangon City Development Committee.

Seven roads of 20 were upgraded in August. If the weather is fine, all the tasks would be completed by 2013, said Deputy Head of the department U Nyan Tun Aung.

“Some of roads will be expanded and some repaired. We set a plan to complete all 20 roads in December. Except bad climatic conditions, we will overcome all the difficulties,” he added.

Under the guidance of the Yangon Mayor, 22 feet wide Aungmingala Road is being upgraded to 72 feet wide one. Upon completion, all the roads will be used as two ways system. It will be a solution to traffic congestion in the terminal, said an official of the in-charge office of terminal.

Two time sessions—the arrival from 3 am to 7 am and the departure from 2.30 pm to 7 pm—are the most traffic congestion in the terminal.

As of 19 August, the arrival terminal has been launched for the express buses. Moreover, the plan has been set to construct a departure terminal.

On completion of both arrival and departure terminals, the Aungmingala express terminal will become an international standard bus terminal in the nation, said those in the transport services at the terminal.

Byline: Ye Khaung, Myat Thanda Maung; Photo: Po Htaung

UN Secretary-General’s special advisor on Myanmar Mr. Vijay Nambiar meets with interfaith at communications guest house in Meiktila.—MNA

A ceremony to clarify findings and suggestions on CESR.—MNA

President U Thein Sein’s radio message on air

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug.—A radio message to be delivered by U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, will be broadcast through radio programmes from 1 to 3 September. Myanmar Radio, Mandalay FM, Pyinawady FM, Shwe FM, Cherry FM, Padmya FM, FM Bagun and Thazin Radio will broadcast the message at 7 am, 11 am, 6 pm and 8 pm.

MNA
Paper-reading session marks centennial of Mandalay University Vice-Chancellor

MANDALAY, 30 Aug—In commemoration of the centennial anniversary of Vice-Chancellor Sayagyi U Ko Lay who founded Mandalay University, meals and alms were offered to members of the Sangha at Mandalay University Dhammayon on 22 August morning.

On 23 August, a paper-reading session on biography of the Sayagyi and literature created by the Sayagyi was held at the convocation hall of the university.

Director-General (Rtd) of Upper Myanmar Higher Education Department U Kyaw Aung Kyaw Oo, the Development Affairs U Region Minister for Taninthayi Region Minister, morning.

The opening ceremony of No. 25th battalion of Thailand, speaking on the occasion were Chin State. The school opened the gates.

Htangon station under maintenance for rural development

KANBALU, 30 Aug—Shwebo-Mohnyin railroad section was put into service in 1893. The railroad section comprises 31 railway stations that turn more than 100 years. Of them, Htangon station is contributing to development of rural people relying on railroad.

Htangon Village is engaged in agriculture and livestock breeding. Products of the villages are transported to various regions and states by train and car. Before building the railroad, the local people relied only on railroad. As Myanmar Railways Division 2 (Ywahtaung) is carrying out maintenance of the railroads and rail tracks spending the fund allotted in 2013-2014 fiscal year, the railroad of the Htangon Station has been substituted with new concrete sleepers and gravels for ensuring smooth transportation of the passenger trains and wagons.

“About 150 passengers and commodities are being transported to Upper Myanmar. In addition, chicken bred in the region is also transported to the upper areas,” said the station superintendent of Htangon Station, U Kyaw Win of Htangon Village said, “We thank Myanmar Railways for maintenance of the railroad station.”

The overseer of the railroad section said, “Our railroad section is constituted with 74 railway stations. We organize the local people to maintain the respective stations.”

Kyon Min Chan Mon

Vocational training courses for women commence in Haka

HAKA, 30 Aug—Women’s Vocational Training School has been turning out trainees with vocational courses in Haka of Chin State.

The school opened the basic domestic training course No. 53/2013, advanced tailoring course No 36/2013 and basic weaving course No. 22/2013 at its hall on 26 August.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister of Chin State U Hong Nga said that understanding the goodwill of the government that gives priority to the human resource development of local women by providing vocational courses, the female trainees are to abide by the disciplines of the training courses and try their best in learning the training courses.

The trainees who commence using visa to cross Myanmar-Thai border launched

KAWTHOUNG, 30 Aug—The opening ceremony of using visa to cross Myanmar-Thai border by Immigration and National Registration Department under the Ministry of Immigration and Population was held at Myoma Jetty in Kawthoung on 28 August morning.

It was attended by Taninthayi Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Zaw Lwin; Region Minister for Development Affairs U Aung Kyaw Kyaw; U, the Deputy Commissioner of Kawthoung District U Kyaw Win Bo explained immigration matters of foreigners through border gates.

Head of Taninthayi Region INRD U Hsan Lwin and Deputy Commissioner of Kawthoung District U Kyaw Swa Tun formally opened the ceremony. Officials from both sides and guests crossed the border and visited the office of the border cross camp. Foreigners can take visa from Myanmar embassies in respective countries to pass the border gates such as Tachilek-Mae Sai, Myawady-Mae Sot, Kawthoung-Ranong and Htilaeh-Namphurawn of Dawei region as of 28 August.

Anti-Narcotic Drives

1.5 million pseudo-ephedrine tablets seized in Kalay

NAV Pyi Taw, 30 Aug—Pseudo-ephedrine tablets worth over hundreds of million kyats were seized in Kalay of Sagaing Region on 24 August.

A combined team comprising members of Kalay District Police Force and Kalay Anti-Drug Special Squad searched the fuel bowser driven by Kyaw Naing Win together with Htet Naing Lin hearing for Kalay from Tamu at Indainggyi toll gate in Kalay Township at 6.15 pm.

The policemen seized 1.5 million pseudo-ephedrine tablets worth K 154 million used in making narcotic drugs in the empty fuel barrel on the vehicle. —Kyemon-Maung Maung Min

HRD

Kawthoung District U Kyaw Hsan Lwin was explained taking care of the criminal cases, in-charge of Bago Region Traffic Police Captain Thet Lwin, traffic rules, Nayangbin

Anti-Human Trafficking

Talks on prevention against trafficking in person held in Nyaunglebin

Nyaunglebin, 30 August—“We thank Myanmar Railways for maintenance of the railroad station.”

The overseer of the railroad section said, “Our railroad section is constituted with 74 railway stations. We organize the local people to maintain the respective stations.”

Kyon Min Chan Mon

Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Tin Aung gives talks on prevention against trafficking in person.

Township Police Station Police Captain Thet Lwin crime reduction, IP Maung Maung Win of Bago Region Anti-Human Trafficking Squad prevention against trafficking in person.

Township Education Officer Daw Naw Chit May spoke words of thanks. Later, pamphlets were distributed to those present.

Also present at the talks were Chairperson of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Moe Aye and members, departmental personnel, social organizations and students.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)
Britain says no to Syria intervention as US considers actions

BRUSSELS, 30 Aug — Britain will not join any military action against Syria after a stunning parliamentary defeat on Thursday of a government resolution on the issue, dealing a parliamentary defeat on Thursday. The security forces arrested Mohamed Morsi's supporters are defending the people's right to live a free and dignified life and their will to choose their leader, condemning on what he described as a "military coup" that led to the ouster of Morsi. The arrest came one day before the massive protests called by the National Alliance for Supporting Legitimacy, a pro-Morsi bloc, in an attempt to press for the reinstatement of the "legitimate leader." The alliance, comprising 33 Islamic movements including the Brotherhood, also announced a "peaceful civil disobedience plan" which will start from Friday.—Xinhua

Asia-Pacific ministers seek "practical measures" to avoid conflicts at sea

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 30 Aug — The defense ministers or representatives of ASEAN and eight countries — Japan, the United States, China, Russia, India, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand — on Thursday said they agreed to establish "practical measures" to avoid maritime conflicts in the region. In a joint declaration issued at the end of the one-day "ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus," the ministers also stressed the need to renounce threats and use of threats in dealing with security issues plaguing the region. Thursday's four-hour talks covered maritime security and ways to tighten defense and military cooperation among the 10 ASEAN members and their eight "dialogue partners," consisting to enhance peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region. Brunei's Energy Minister Yasmim Haji Umar, who chaired the meeting, said the ministers "forged practical cooperation among the defense forces." "We look forward to the upcoming exercise on maritime security, counter-terrorism and peacekeeping operation," he told a news conference, stressing the need to "emphasize the strategic importance of the ADMM-Plus defense and security dialogue for cooperation." The declaration signed by the defense ministers or representatives said they discussed ways on how to "encourage the cooperation within the ADMM-Plus defense and military establishments to establish practical measures to reduce vulnerability to miscalculations, and avoid misunderstanding and undesirable incidents at sea." —Kyodo News

Syrian army moves Scud missiles to avoid strike

ASSAD, 30 Aug — President Bashar al-Assad's forces have removed several Scud missiles and dozens of launchers from a base north of Damascus, possibly to protect the weapons from a Western attack, opposition sources said on Thursday. The move from the position in the foothills of the Qalamoun mountains, one of Syria's most heavily militarized districts, appears part of a precautionary but limited redeployment of armaments in areas of central Syria still held by Assad's forces, diplomats based in the Middle East told Reuters. They said rebel raids and fighting near key roads had blocked a wider evacuation of the hundreds of security and army bases that dot the country of 22 million, where Assad's late father imposed his autocratic dynasty four decades ago.

With US air strikes looming in response to poison gas attacks last week on rebel-held Damascus suburbs, some of the formations on the move are accused by Assad's opponents of firing the chemical weapons. The Syrian government blames rebels for releasing gas but Western powers hold Assad responsible.

Japanese Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera (facing) and Chinese Defence Minister Chang Wanguan (R) have a brief conversation in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, on 28 Aug, 2013, at a dinner ahead of a meeting of defence ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and other countries.—Kyodo News

US envoy set to leave Friday on mission to free American in North Korea

TOYO, 30 Aug — A US envoy was set to leave Japan on Friday to secure the release of an imprisoned and ailing American missionary in North Korea, a move that could signal the start of a gradual thaw in relations between Washington and Pyongyang.

Robert King, special envoy for North Korean human rights issues, is scheduled to return from Pyongyang on Saturday after a one-day trip, an official at the US Embassy in Tokyo said. The official was unable to specify exact times.

The State Department has termed the trip a “humanitarian mission” and played down any connection between Bae’s release and the North’s sanctioned nuclear weapons programme, although the planned release follows a pattern of previous periods of tension and thaw.

King secured the release of another Korean-American missionary, Jung Young Su, in 2011 as part of a trip to assess North Korean food aid.

Relations between Washington and Pyongyang have been in deep freeze since the collapse of a food deal in early 2012, when North Korea broke its promise to end its long-range rocket launches and prevented nuclear inspectors from examining its nuclear stockpiles and production.

Bae, 45, was sentenced to 15 years hard labour for attempting to overthrow the North Korean state by spreading anti-government propaganda, according to North Korean media. His health has deteriorated since he was jailed and he has diabetes.

Robert King, US special envoy for North Korean human rights issues, holds a meeting with Japan's Minister-in-Charge of the Abduction Issue and head of the national public safety commission Keiji Furuya (not in picture) in Tokyo on 28 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

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They said rebel raids and fighting near key roads had blocked a wider evacuation of the hundreds of security and army bases that dot the country of 22 million, where Assad’s late father imposed his autocratic dynasty four decades ago.

With US air strikes looming in response to poison gas attacks last week on rebel-held Damascus suburbs, some of the formations on the move are accused by Assad’s opponents of firing the chemical weapons. The Syrian government blames rebels for releasing gas but Western powers hold Assad responsible.

Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad (C) chats with military personnel during his visit to a military site in the town of Daraa, southwest of Damascus, on the 68th anniversary of army day, in this handout photograph distributed by Syria’s national news agency SANA on 1 Aug, 2013. —Reuters

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Syrian army moves Scud missiles to avoid strike
Ariane 5 launches with two communications satellites

Operating from a position of 25.5 deg. East, EUTELSAT 25B/Es’hail 1, will provide coverage of the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia for both Eutelsat and Es’hailSat, delivering Ku-band television broadcasting, telecommunications and government services for this area, while its Ka-band capability will open new business opportunities for the two operators. The GSAT-7, developed by the Indian Space Research Organization is based on India’s 1.2-km spacecraft bus and will provide relay capacity in UHF, S-band, C-band and Ku-band from 74 deg. East longitude for the Indian subcontinent, during its design life of seven years.

Facebook considers adding profile photos to facial recognition

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook Inc is considering incorporating most of its 1 billion-plus members’ profile photos into its growing facial recognition database, expanding the scope of the social network’s controversial technology. The possible move, which Facebook revealed in an update to its data use policy on Thursday, is intended to improve the performance of its “Tag Suggest” feature. The feature uses facial recognition technology to speed up the process of tagging or “tagging” friends and acquaintances who appear in photos posted on the network.

The technology currently automatically identifies faces in newly uploaded photos by comparing them only to previous snapshots in which users were tagged. Facebook users can choose to remove tags identifying them in photos posted by others on the site. The changes would come at a time when Facebook and other Internet companies’ privacy practices are under scrutiny, following the revelations of a US government electronic surveillance programme.

Facebook, Google Inc and other companies have insisted that they have never participated in any programme giving the government direct access to their computer servers and that they only provide information in response to specific requests, after careful review and as required by law.

Facebook Chief Privacy Officer Erin Egan said that adding members’ public profile photos would give users better control over their personal information, by making it easier to identify posted photos in which they appear. “Our goal is to provide tagging so that people know when there are photos of them on our service,” Egan said.

She stressed that Facebook users uncomfortable with facial recognition technology will still be able to “opt out” of the Tag Suggest feature altogether, in which case the person’s public profile photo would not be included in the facial recognition database.

Facial recognition technology has been a sensitive issue for technology companies, raising concerns among some privacy advocates and government officials.

Chinese researchers identify key protein behind depression

WASHINGTON, 30 Aug — Chinese researchers said on Thursday that they have identified a key protein in the brain responsible for the development of depression, offering a fresh avenue in the search for therapies to treat depression. Previous studies have found that cells in a brain region called lateral habenula (LHB) are hyperactive in depressed individuals, but scientists haven’t known what triggers them.

Curious about molecular-scale activity in the LHB of depressed people, the researchers from the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, part of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, used a technique called quantitative proteomic screening to examine the proteins in the LHB tissue of regular rats and rats that had been depressed since birth.

The researchers reported in the US journal Science that a protein called CaM was nearly twice as abundant in the depressed rats. When the researchers gave depressed rats antidepressant drugs, not only depressive symptoms of the animals improved significantly, but also the amounts of the protein in the LHB tissue dropped significantly.

To understand what level of the protein might be required in the LHB to cause depressive behaviour, they injected variable levels of this protein into regular rats and mice using viral vectors and found LHB cell activity spiked in both animals. After 10 days, the researchers tested the engineered animals’ attentiveness to sugar, a substance typically of interest to rodents, and also put them in forced swim tests to see how willing they were to fight to stay afloat. They found that animals with very high CaM levels showed less interest than their counterparts in the sugar, and exhibited less “fight” in the swim test — both symptoms of depression.

Furthermore, depressive symptoms were reduced in the rodents when the researchers reduced CaM expression using a technique called RNA interference.

China’s Xiaomi poaches Google’s Barra to power global drive

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Aug — Xiaomi Tech, a fast-growing Chinese maker of cheap smartphones, has hired senior Google Inc executive Hugo Barra to spearhead its nascent global expansion.

Xiaomi founder Lei Jun said on his Weibo feed late on Wednesday that Barra, who led product development for Google’s industry-leading Android mobile software, will join the Chinese company in October as head of international business development.

“Barra will be responsible for Xiaomi’s global business expansion,” Lei said on Weibo, a Twitter-like Chinese service. Xiaomi is known for portraying itself as China’s answer to Apple Inc, an image its billionaire founder has fostered since he started the company in 2010. Lei often dresses in the black tops, jeans and sneakers favoured by the late Steve Jobs.

Along with fellow Chinese smartphone makers Huawei and ZTE Corp, Xiaomi has aggressively seized market share by combining lower prices with quality gadgets, helping pressure margins and market share at Apple and Samsung.

Xiaomi’s latest smartphone, the Hongmi, sells for $130, much less than the $770 iPhone 5 or the $470 for the latest Samsung Galaxy model, the market leader in China. Xiaomi sold more smartphones than Apple in the second quarter in China, the world’s biggest smartphone market, according to IT consultancy Canalys. —Reuters

NASA’s Mars rover spies solar eclipse

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 30 Aug — NASA’s Mars rover Curiosity turned its cameras skyward to snap pictures of the planet’s moon, Phobos, passing in front of the sun. NASA released three pictures, taken three seconds apart, of the eclipse, taken with the rover’s telephoto lens.

“This one is by far the most detailed image of any Martian lunar transit ever taken. It was even closer to the sun’s centre than predicted, so we learned something,” Curiosity scientist Mark Lemmon of Texas A&M University said in a statement. Curiosity is scheduled to make a few further observations from a distance of 60 km from Phobos. —Xinhua

A man is silhouetted against a video screen with an Facebook logo as he poses with an Dell laptop in this photo illustration taken in the central Bosnian town of Zenica, on 14 Aug, 2013. —Reuters

Facebook users can choose only to previous snapshots of faces in newly uploaded photos of them on our service, the social network’s communications satellites

PARIS, 30 Aug — Ariane 5 rocket took off Thursday at 22:30 local time (20:30 GMT) from the Space Centre in Kourou, French Guiana, and carrying two communications satellites.

This is the fourth launch of the Ariane 5 in 2013, which had put into orbit the EUTELSAT satellite 25B/Es’hail 1 and GSAT-7, said statement released by the European launch company Arianepace.

According to Ariane-space, EUTELSAT 25B/Es’hail 1, is a ground-breaking partnership between Eutelsat and the Doha-based Es’hailSat, the Qatari Satellite Company — marked a historic moment for the Qatari operator as it is the first satellite of its planned global fleet.

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**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Daimler’s Mercedes-Benz set to beef up sales network in China**

**WASHINGTON**, 30 Aug —Daimler AG’s Mercedes-Benz will try to reach deeper into China’s inland-west region and small “low-tier” cities for growth as part of a broader turnaround plan for the world’s biggest auto market, according to people familiar with the matter. The initiative, due to be detailed by top Mercedes-Benz China executives at the Chengdu auto show on Friday, is a key component of Daimler’s (DAIGn.DE) strategic plan to invest 2 billion euros ($2.67 billion) in China over the next two years.

The German brand aims to boost sales of Mercedes-Benz cars by a third to more than 300,000 cars a year by 2015, from this year’s forecast sales of 230,000 cars. If achieved, the target would make China Mercedes-Benz’s biggest market globally. Currently, China is the brand’s No 3 market behind Germany and the United States. The sale network plan, according to two sources close to the company, calls for increasing the number of Mercedes-Benz dealer retail outlets to 300 covering more than 150 cities by the end of this year, compared with 285 the brand operates currently.

This year, Mercedes-Benz is aiming to add a total of 75 stores, about 45 percent of them sited in lower, third-tier and fourth-tier cities, the individuals said. In addition to Mercedes-Benz stores, the German auto maker currently has about 90 Smart dealer-shops. It was not clear how many additional Smart outlets Mercedes-Benz plans to add by year’s end. One of the 20 or upgraded products Mercedes-Benz plans to launch in China through 2015 is the E-Class sedan specially redesigned for China, which the company is due to officially launch at the auto show in Chengdu, southwest China.

On Tuesday, Daimler’s new China chief, Hubertus Troska, told Reuters in Beijing about the planned new product blitz and noted Mercedes-Benz was going to expand its manufacturing capacity in Beijing, as part of an effort to make its cars more affordable and expand their appeal in China amid a slowdown in economic growth. In order to be the world’s No 1 luxury auto brand by volume, which is Daimler’s objective for Mercedes-Benz, Troska said the brand needed to improve its performance in China.

If we are not more successful in China, then our goal of global position No 1 will be difficult to achieve,” the German executive said in Beijing on Tuesday. “There is a recognition that we need to improve our performance in China vis-à-vis some of our competitors.” One factor behind Mercedes-Benz’s struggle in China was a lack of market coverage. “If you compare us to our competitors, they cover more cities. They have more outlets,” Troska said. “The expansion of dealer network and bringing more new products to market are going to drive our growth momentum.”

**New York, 30 Aug—** Children from poor regions with clean water, hygiene and sanitation programmes tend to be slightly taller than those who grew up in similar areas without such programmes, according to a new review. Kids ages four and younger who washed their hands, drank clean water or used well-functioning toilets—on some combination of the three—were on average 0.2 inches taller than those lacking protocols, the findings show.

However, researchers led by Alan Dangour of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine reported that trend was not consistent among all 14 studies included in their review. “The absolute difference in height is not large, but stunting is associated with many negative health and economic outcomes,” Dr Anna Bowen, a medical epidemiologist at the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, told Reuters Health in an email. “Therefore increasing the median height of the population even slightly could have benefits,” she added, Bowen was not involved in the new review.

All 14 studies were originally designed to test the effectiveness of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions on the prevention of diarrhoea and other among children in low-income countries. In 2011, the US and United Kingdom allocated $626 million in aid for such interventions. Dangour and his colleagues were interested in whether those programmes had any secondary benefits on children’s height and weight. In comparing children in regions that did and didn’t receive the programmes, they found no WASH-related benefits on weight, but a small benefit on height, according to findings published by The Cochrane Collaboration, an international organization that evaluates medical research.—Reuters

**US economy picks up pace on housing revival, consumption**

**WASHINGTON**, 30 Aug —The real gross domestic product (GDP) of the United States expanded at an annual rate of 2.3 percent in the second quarter this year, the best performance since the third quarter of last year, boosted by ongoing recovery of US housing market and household consumption, showed figures from the Commerce Department on Thursday. It has beaten market expectations and is a welcome acceleration from an initial estimate of 1.7 percent released last month. In the first quarter of the year, the US real GDP grew at a meager 1.1 percent, the department said in a report.

The increase in real GDP in the second quarter primarily reflected positive contributions from personal consumption expenditures (PCE), exports, private inventory investment, nonresidential fixed investment, and residential fixed investment that were partly offset by a negative contribution from federal government spending, said the department. Real personal consumption expenditures increased 1.8 percent in the second quarter, with durable goods including motor vehicles leading the advance by growing 6.1 percent from April to June. Personal consumption accounts for about 70 percent of the overall US economic activity, thus being the main engine of the nation’s economic growth. With a housing market recovery, real residential fixed investment surged 12.9 percent in the second quarter, after increasing 12.5 percent in the first quarter, said the report. Experts held that US housing market started to gain ground since last year, boosted by pent-up demand, an improving job market and low mortgage rates.

“Very low mortgage rates and some improved availability of mortgage credit have provided a sizable boost to the demand for housing. That boost to demand from low mortgage rates and a relatively small inventory of homes on the market has resulted in rising house prices,” David Stockton, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute for International Economics, told Xinhua, adding that prospective buyers are less fearful now of buying into a falling market against the backdrop of the firming of home prices.

Better export performance also helped support US economic growth. Real exports of goods and services increased 8.6 percent in the second quarter, compared with a decrease of 1.3 percent in the first quarter. Xinhua

**Hygiene, sanitation tied to small effects on growth**

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**Nasdaq says software bug caused trading outage**

**New York, 30 Aug—** Nasdaq OMX Group’s (NDAQ.O) massive trading halt last week was due to a software bug and other internal technology issues triggered by problems at NYSE Euronext’s (NYXY.N) Arca exchange, a Nasdaq executive said on Thursday. The halt was due to a software bug that led a key backup system to fail, the exchange operator said on Thursday.

Nasdaq said it was “deeply disappointed” by the three-hour outage on 22 August, and while it pointed to connection problems between rival NYSE’s electronic exchange Arca and the Nasdaq-run system that receives all traffic on stock symbols to the SIP, it did not work, Bob Greifeld, Nasdaq’s chief executive, said in an interview. “There was a bug in the system, it didn’t fail over properly, and we need to work hard to make sure it doesn’t happen again,” he said, referring to the inability of the system to fully revert to backup mode. New York Stock Exchange parent NYSE declined to comment.

Nasdaq said it was in the process of identifying potential design changes to make the Securities Information Processor, or SIP, more resilient, “including architectural improvements, information security, disaster recovery plans and capacity parameters.” The exchange plans to present its initial recommendations for change to the SIP governing committee, made up of US exchanges and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, within 30 days. Nasdaq said that on the morning of 22 August, Arca connected and disconnected to the SIP more than 20 times, eating up capacity. It said the SIP’s capacity was further eroded as Arca sent a stream of inaccurate stock symbols to the SIP, generating numerous rejection messages.

Each data port connecting to the SIP can handle 10,000 messages per second, Nasdaq said. But in this case, the traffic from Arca was more than double that, the exchange said. The confluence of these events vastly exceeded the SIP’s planned capacity, which caused its failure and then revealed a latent flaw in the SIP’s software code,” the Nasdaq report said.—Reuters
Tokyo, 30 Aug—The government and Tokyo Electric Power Co will present a clearer picture in September on ways to address the massive accumulation of radioactive water at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, a government official said on Thursday. “We hope to compile countermeasures for the contaminated water at the earliest possible date in September,” the official said amid growing calls within the country for the government to address toxic water buildup from September.

A national fishermen’s organization pressed TEPCO the same day to ensure there will be no further leaks of radioactive water from the plant, where three reactors suffered meltdown during the 2011 nuclear crisis.

Your company’s radioactive water management has failed,” the National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations told TEPCO President Naomi Hirose after it summoned him to its office in Tokyo.

“We want the problem to be fundamentally resolved as early as possible under the state’s leadership,” the federation said in a statement. Hirose apologized for the recently confirmed leak of highly toxic water from one of the huge water storage tanks at the nuclear complex, some of which may have flowed into the adjacent Pacific Ocean.

“We would like to make sure that we will no longer generate (public) concern as early as possible,” Hirose said. The federation also said in the statement that local fishermen are “hugely disappointed” by the escalating toxic water problem as they have been waiting to resume fishing operations.

On Wednesday, the federation confirmed a leak of radioactive water at the utility’s crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.

Colombian president calls for calm as farm protests reach Bogota

Bogota, 30 Aug—Thousands of Colombian farmers and state workers marched through Bogota on Thursday, banging pots and pans as they converged on the capital after 11 days of increasingly violent protests against agricultural and trade policies they say have left them impoverished.

Students wearing balaclavas pelted shop windows with rocks near the capital’s main square and clashed with riot police who fired tear gas to disperse them.

Bogota imposed a curfew in three of the more populated areas of the city after violence continued into the night. “Long live the farmers’ strike! Food sovereignty,” protesters chanted as they waved anti-government banners.

President Juan Manuel Santos, who has been unable to end the so-called national strike that has united potato growers, milk producers and teachers, acknowledged agriculture is in crisis, but called for peaceful dissent while talks about possible solutions are going on.

“The farm sector has been abandoned,” the centre-right president said in a televised address early on Thursday. “The protests are valid ... but, via dialogue, we will resolve the problems ... We are in a storm, but we will persevere.”

Protesters, wearing typical farmer attire of wooden ponchos, brimmed hats and rubber boots to show their solidarity, marched in 15 columns toward the Plaza Bolivar, where the presidential palace and Congress are located. There were also protests in Medellin, Cali and elsewhere across the nation.

Farmers have blocked roads, snarling city-bound traffic and piling pressure on Santos three months before he must decide whether to run for a second term.

The government’s tough peace negotiations with Marxist FARC rebels are creating their own contentious national debate at the same time.

Al-Qaeda claims responsibility for Iraq bombings

Baghdad, 30 Aug — An al-Qaeda affiliate claimed responsibility for a series of bombings in Baghdad and other areas of Iraq in retaliation for the execution of Sunni Muslim prisoners, according to an Internet statement on Friday.

Hundreds of people have been killed in attacks across Iraq in recent weeks in the worst wave of sectarian bloodshed in the country for at least five years. Just last week, car bombs, roadside bombs and shootings have killed at least 100 people.

The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) said in a statement it had acted in response to the prisoner killings, an apparent reference to the execution of 17 people in Iraq this month, most convicted on terrorism charges.

“We will avenge the blood of our brothers,” they said in the statement, posted on a website used by Islamic militants. An insurgency by Sunni Islamist militants, including the local branch of al-Qaeda, against Iraq’s Shi’ite-led government, has been gaining momentum 18 months after the last US troops withdrew.

The Islamic State of Iraq has significantly increased its attacks this year. More than 1,000 Iraqis were killed in July, the highest monthly death toll since 2008, according to the United Nations.

More than two years of civil war in neighbouring Syria have aggravated deep-rooted sectarian divisions and shaken Iraq’s fragile coalition of Shi’ite, Kurdish and Sunni factions.

The renewed violence has sparked fears of a return to the large-scale sectarian slaughter in 2006 and 2007.

Radio broadcaster killed in S Philippines

Davao City, (Philippines), 30 Aug—Unidentified gunmen killed a radio broadcaster in southern Philippines late on Thursday, the second attack against journalists in the region this month, officials said on Friday.

Fernando Soljon was killed shortly after visiting a friend in Buruun village, Lanao del Sur Province.

Soljon, a public affairs commentator for the DMLS radio station, sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the body and head. The suspect fled on a motorcycle after the shooting.

Early this month, a photojournalist for a local newspaper in General Santos City was also shot dead by motorcycle-riding gunmen.

International media watchdogs tagged the Philippines as one of the most dangerous places in the world for journalists, with over a hundred media workers already murdered since democracy was restored in the country in 1986.

The worst attack against Filipino journalists occurred in 23 November, 2009 when gunmen loyal to a powerful political clan kidnapped and killed over 50 people, including 33 journalists, in the province of Maguindanao.

Gov’t, TEPCO to reveal measures to address toxic water buildup in September

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**LOCAL NEWS**

**Union Rail Transportation Minister meets guests from ROK, Japan**

**NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—** Union Rail Transportation U Than Htay received Honorary Consul-General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Busan of Republic of Korea Mr. Won De-Dahn and party at the ministry, here, on 28 August evening. They discussed matters on solving traffic congestion problems in Yangon in cooperation with three Korean companies, establishment of transportation network system that links and controls all transport networks of rail, city bus, taxi and river ferry.

Then, the Union minister met a delegation led by Dr Maki Morikawa and Sadanki NURODA from JICA of Japan at the same venue. The meeting focused on upgrading of 41-mile Yangon-Bago section and 120-mile Bago-Toungoo section as first phase of Yangon-Mandalay Railroad, railroad safety and technical transfer for promotion of services.

**SEAMEO TROPMED Network 52nd Governing Board Meeting at Parkroyal Hotel**

**YANGON, 30 Aug—** The SEAMEO TROPMED Network 52nd Governing Board Meeting took place at Parkroyal Hotel, here, yesterday morning.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin addressed the meeting.

He said that Myanmar is pleased to host the SEAMEO TROPMED Network 52nd Governing Board Meeting. The Ministry of Health joined hands with SEAMEO TROPMED in taking effective measures against malaria, HIV infectious diseases and worm infections, and undertaking school health activities in the country he said.

He pledged that the ministry continues cooperating with SEAMEO TROPMED in doing research on tropical infectious diseases, combating worm and parasitic diseases and malaria, and capacity building for human resources development in medical field.

Next, Director Dr. Witaya Jeradechakul from SEAMEO and Coordinator Prof. Dr. Pratap Singhasivanon extended greetings.

**HRD**

**Educative talks on violence against young women given**

**HLEGU, 30 Aug—** An educative talk on prevention of violence against young women was held at Basic Education High School in Hlegu on 24 August.

The event was organized by Yangon North District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw San San Mar delivered an address at the event.

Health Staff Grade-1 of the Township Health Department Daw Than Aye, Deputy Law Officer Daw Myint Myat Mon and Police Inspector of Traffic Police Corps gave educative talks on violence against young women.

**Myanmar, ROK sign Assistance Framework Arrangement on Grant Aid for 2013**

**NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—** Assistance Framework Arrangement between the governments of Myanmar and the Republic of Korea was signed at the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, here, yesterday afternoon.

On behalf of the Union Government, Deputy Minister Daw Le Le Then and Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. KIM, Hae-yong signed the agreement in the presence of Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

The agreement would serve as a platform for constant development of socioeconomic status of the two countries. Provision of assistance to implementation of projects in the country would contribute to development and further cement amity between the two countries.

**Kalewa-Yagyi road section scheduled to complete by 2016**

**KALAY, 29 Aug—** Equipment procurement for construction has started for the upgrading of 75.5-mile Kalewa-Yagyi road section with the consultation of the Ministry of External Affairs of India.

The road would be upgraded with the assistance of the Indian government, according to Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Tin Hlaing. Upon completion, the road would become a tarred one. The estimated cost of construction is K 20 million and it is scheduled to be completed by 2016.

**Mandalay job fair help half of job seekers get employed**

**MANDALAY, 30 Aug—** The third Job Fair 2013 in Mandalay could help almost 900 job seekers, half of the attendance, find jobs at one stop on 24-25 August.

A total of 1913 job seekers applied for employment at the fair at Mandalay City Hall and 899 found their employers.

“Mandalay could successfully host three job fairs, one of which was organized by our company. I am happy beyond compare that young people get decent jobs seekers to help resolve unemployment problem, especially in rural areas. Two foreign companies and 33 local companies participated in the event.—MMA L-Tin Maung

(Mdy Sub-Printing House)
**Promote tourism**

With the gradual opening-up and dramatic changes in its political landscape, Myanmar has been back on the list of top tourist destinations, attracting more foreign visitors both from Asian and western countries. More than 1 million foreign tourists visited Myanmar in 2012 and the number is expected to reach 1.8 million by the end of 2013.

While the tourist arrivals are increasing, Yangon and Mandalay are facing shortage of hotel rooms. Given her unexplored regions and exploited nature, Myanmar has no reason not to become a popular destination for globetrotters. But shortage of hotel rooms is just one aspect of the problem Myanmar needs to overcome if it is to generate income from tourism industry.

To Myanmar, most of potential visitors would make their first time visit, which means first impressions would count much in their decision to come and visit Myanmar again. There have been reported cases of mugging of foreign tourists in Bagan, the mystical archaeological showcase in central Myanmar, where the thefts of pilgrims’ shoes was never heard before there.

This if continues would threaten the national image and damage the tourism industry that is starting to develop. It should be borne in mind that negative publicity travels fast and reaches more people than positive stories.

While the smokeless industry has become a major source of income for many countries, the environmental and social impacts it has exerted should not be neglected. In Myanmar, famous places like Inlay Lake and U Pein Bridge have started to bear the brunt of ecological impact following the increase in tourist arrivals there.

To create tourism boom while minimizing ecological and environmental impacts, nothing is better than ecotourism or green tourism. It can bring equal development opportunities to remote regions where as the modern tourism only benefits mega cities. Sustainable development would be created should Myanmar manage to turn her new visage green.

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**Basic Diplomatic Skills course concludes**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—The concluding ceremony of the Basic Diplomatic Skills course (31/2013) conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunziminzar Hall of the Ministry in Yangon this morning. Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint expressed thanks for sharing knowledge and skills, international law, international economic relations, international etiquette, diplomatic and official correspondence and communication skills.

The 12-week course was taken by 176 trainees. MNA

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**Myanmar-Japan Building and Housing Conference held**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Myanmar and Japan Building and Housing Conference jointly organized by Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development and Public Works under the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan was held at the hall of the Ministry, here, this morning.

At the conference, Deputy Minister Dr Win Myint expressed thanks for sharing knowledge and technology.—MNA

Mr Kimihiro Hashimoto of MLIT extended greetings.

Both sides discussed construction of buildings and maintenance of two countries through modern technology, geographical conditions, expertise and technology.—MNA

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**Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives guests from ILO**

Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyen meets Technical Specialist of ILO Patrick Quinn. MNA

Mr Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives a delegation led by Patrick Quinn, Technical Specialist of International Labour Organization (ILO) at the hall No. 20 of the Hluttaw Committee building, here, this morning.

At the call, they frankly discussed commission’s activities and detailed studies.—MNA
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives UN Secretary General’s special advisor on Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a delegation led by Mr. Vijay Nambari, the UN secretary general’s special advisor on Myanmar.

Nay Pyi Taw, 30 Aug—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received UN Secretary General’s special advisor for Myanmar Mr Vijay Nambari at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw at Hluttaw Complex, here, today.

MNA

Findings and suggestions ... (from page 1)

education budget, he added. Under a free and compulsory primary education system, the State has distributed reader books worth K 1723.46 million and exercise books worth K 5500 million free of charge as from 2012-2013 academic year. For development of education sector, a two-year Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR) will be carried out from 2012 to 2014.

Thura U Shwe Mann meets Mr. Vijay Nambari

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received UN Secretary General’s special advisor for Myanmar Mr Vijay Nambari at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw at Hluttaw Complex, here, today.

MNA

same letter numbers and ... (from page 16)

the Pyithu Hluttaw is to approve the bills in line with Sub-Sections (a) and (c) of Section 138 but not to suspend the bill. Thus, the report gave suggestions to go on the discussion over the bill by abiding by the constitution and emphasizing fundamental rights of voters. U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency expressed his opinion that MPs should deeply review the letter of UEC. The presentation of UEC is in line with the constitution, he said.

U Saw Hla Tun, Secretary of Bill Committee, said that seven MPs have submitted the amendments for the bill. Depending on decision of Hluttaw, the bill is ready to be enacted. MPs must face the recall of voters if they fail to perform out their tasks dutifully, he said.

In his speech, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann said that Pyithu Hluttaw’s main functions cover question-and-answer session, submitting of proposals and approval of the bills. The question-and-answer session reflects people’s expectations and wishes in a democratic way. It is heartening to see the reply to MPs’ questions by respective administrative bodies, judicial bodies and other organizations.

The report shows that there are 440 asterisked questions and 172 questions (under way) and 884 non-asterisked questions and 682 questions (under way), 75 approved motions and 40 (under way) left.

He understood that MPs have to raise the questions through the Hluttaw Speaker as MP’s questions reflect people’s necessities and difficulties. That’s why, every MP should have rights and local and foreign donors. He urged those present to give advice on findings on CESR’s first-step six areas: early childhood education, informal education, primary education, higher education, teachership education and technology and vocational education for attaining State’s educational goals and keeping abreast of ASEAN education standard. After that, Union Minister Dr Mya Aye explained the matters related to the clarification and displayed documentary video.

Afterwards, National Advisor U Tin Nyo and CESR Secretary Dr Myo Myint Gyi discussed CESR’s findings and suggestions. The groups held discussions on the six areas.

It was also attended by Union Ministers U Soe Maung and Dr Ko Ko Oo, Deputy Ministers, MPs, departmental officials and enthusiasts.

MNA

Discussion on rural development task of Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Union Ministers at the President Office U Soe Thane and U Tin Naing Thein met local people at City Hall in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning to carry out regional development tasks.

Union Minister U Soe Thane discussed progress of reform process being made based on requirements of the people for development of the nation and experience on obstacles and future potential. Moreover he pledged that the Union government will perform socio-economic development based on people-centered approach consulting with organizations. Actively participated by the people, the regional development tasks would achieve more successful, he added.

Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein in his speech saying that today’s discussions would bring successful results not only to the people but also to the nation. He stressed that requirements should be fulfilled in line with the people’s voices according to eight points of rural development and poverty alleviation. To overcome challenges while implementing the rural development tasks, the members of supportive committee for development and departments are to cooperate with each other, he said. Also present at the meeting were Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, region level authorities, responsible persons and townsenders.

MNA
**LOCAL NEWS**

**Yamethin Township MCWA presents uniforms to members**

YANGON, 30 Aug—A ceremony to provide uniforms, permanent membership cards and brooches by Yamethin Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 28 August. Chairpersons of Yamethin District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Htar Htar Win and Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Yi Yi Thuang made speeches. The chairpersons presented uniforms, permanent membership cards and brooches to members of the wards of the township. Also present on the occasion were members of wards in Yamethin, Kyemon-Hlaing Thwin and Kyemon-465.

**Talks on census taking process held in Dekkhinathiri Tsp**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—The talks on census taking process was held at the administrative office in Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 28 August, with an address by Township Administrator U Wai Lwin Phyo.

Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Zaw Min Tun explained matters related to census taking process and tasks of the people, Staff Officer U Aung Soe of Township Immigration and National Registration Department facts and figures for taking census to be given by the people. Later, the pamphlets on knowledge about taking census were distributed to those present.

**Samsung launches volunteer activities in Myanmar**

YANGON, 30 Aug—The ICT technicians and medical team from Samsung Electronics arrived in Myanmar on 24 August under the arrangements of KOICA’s World Friends, KOICA Volunteer (WEF-Volunteer) programme.

ICT technicians from Samsung will share knowledge at University of Computer Studies (Yangon) in programming, software engineering, mobile application, developing Samsung-KOICA Digital Library in cooperation with KOICA’s WEF-Volunteers. In addition, Samsung’s medical team provides health care services to the local people in Shwepyitha Township from 26 to 30 August. Prof Dr Shin Jan Koon of KOICA has developed his pilot project worth US$ 50000 to be able to contribute to improvement of education activities of UCSY and the cost was funded by ICT group of Samsung.

**Malaysia Exhibition 2013 at Tatmadaw Hall on 5-8 Sep**

GANGAW, 30 Aug—Organized by Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation, Malaysia Exhibition 2013 will be held at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on Wisara Road from 5 to 8 September. At the exhibition, over 60 companies from Malaysia will display not only construction materials, electronic and technological items, machinery, personal goods, food and clothing but also handicraft and jewellery.

**Theft of cables worth K 5.1 million seized in few days**

Nay Pyi Taw Police Force acce- lerates its tasks of crime reduction as the construction site finished the works in the projects. So, some of the labourers became jobless and some committed crimes.

**MPF launches emergency, complaint-handling phone lines**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Aug—Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs has put hot lines into place at Myanmar Police Force HQ and region/state police stations to enable the public to submit tip-offs and complaints over illegal acts, mis-appropriation and corruption.

The public may reach the number for its information and complaints but are requested to avoid manners causing dissolutions to these phone lines. Both Police Force HQ, Nay Pyi Taw Police Force, and Shan State Police Force are Myanmar Police Force (074-234701), Kayin State Police Force (058-23355), Sagaing Region Police Force (071-249986), and Ayeyawady Region Police Force (059-239988), Bago Region Police Force (052-23999), Magway Region Police Force (063-28099), Mandalay Region Police Force (02-61444), and Shan State Police Force (081-2125455) and Ayeyawady Region Police Force (042-23844).

**Work coord meeting held in Gangaw**

GANGAW, 30 Aug—The departments in Gangaw Township held a coordination meeting at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 28 August. Deputy Commissioner U Hla Min Htut of Gangaw District spoke on the occasion. Departmental officials discussed progress of their tasks.

**Magway Region Hluttaw representative U Myint Aung, district level departmental officials and township management committee, development support committee and development affairs committee officials participated in the discussions in their respective sectors.**

**Talks on crime reduction in Gangaw**

YANGON, 30 Aug—The 594 ft long cables worth K 5.1 million lining Ayemyintthaya Bridge No 1 and No 2 lost in Zeyathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 22 August.

Under the supervision of Nay Pyi Taw Police Force Col Aung Aung, policemen from Ottara District and Zeyathiri Township and Yezin police station exposed the case.

They arrested the suspected persons Po Lon (a) Aung Htay Hlaing, Po (a) Aung Win Hlaing, Khin Maung Nyunt, Hsan Win Naing, Tayoke Kyi (a) Thha and trafficker Nyetin Chan (a) Nay Zar and Win Hlaing from Ayemyintthaya Village who all were mechanics, together with stolen cables on 24 August.

Action was taken against them under the law at Yezin Police Station.

**Free medical check-up in Gangaw**

GANGAW, 30 Aug—U Aung Soe of Township general took an address by Township Nay Pyi Taw Council District, in Chaing Village of the administrative office taking process was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 28 August. Chairpersons of Yamethin District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Htar Htar Win and Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Yi Yi Thuang made speeches. The chairpersons presented uniforms, permanent membership cards and brooches to members of the wards of the township.

Also present on the occasion were members of wards in Yamethin, Kyemon-Hlaing Thwin and Kyemon-465.

**SGP, KOICA sign MOU for digital library**

YANGON, 30 Aug—The Singapore government and KOICA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the establishment of a Digital Library that will be used in Myanmar’s education system.

**Yaw Min Tun**

**Zaw Min Tun**

**Information and Public**
Indian police arrest key terror suspect

NEW DELHI, 30 Aug — Indian police have arrested a key terror suspect and founder of the country’s major terror group Indian Mujahideen, Yasin Bhatalk, at the Indo-Nepal border, said local media reports on Thursday. Bhatalk, who is also a key suspect in several terror blasts since 2008, has been arrested in a joint operation between the central intelligence agencies and police in the eastern state of Bihar, said The Times of India online.

Yasin Bhatalk has been traced and detained at the Indo-Nepal border in Bihar. He is presently in the custody of Bihar police. His interrogation is going on,” Union Home Minister Sushilkumar Shinde was quoted as saying.

The arrest of Yasin, alias Ahmed Siddiquappa alias Shahrulk, is being seen as a major breakthrough in the agencies’ protracted efforts to break the back of the Indian Mujahideen, suspected to be the masterminds of a series of major blasts in the country, which killed dozens of people. Another Indian Mujahideen operative, Asadullah Akhtar alias Hadji, is reported to have been detained along with him.—Xinhua

TPP talks on tariffs advance as Brunei round ends

BANDAR SERI BEGA-
wan, 30 Aug — Twelve Pacific Rim countries wrapped up the 19th round of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade negotiations in Brunei on Friday, saying they have advanced work on tariffs and other key subjects while agreeing to hold more working-level negotiations in coming weeks.

Chief negotiators from the countries will meet in Washington in mid-September, a negotiator source said, adding the Brunei round is the last for full-scale negotiations, and the countries are expected to focus on intersessional meetings that involve only one or two working groups from now on.

Marking the end of the 9-day round that started on 22 August, the countries released a statement that said, “Negotiators advanced their technical work this round on the texts covering market access,” which deals with tariff cuts, and numerous other fields such as fishing subsidies and intellectual property.—Kyodo News

One killed in S Philippine landslide

DAVAO CITY, 30 Aug — Landslide hit anew a mining village in southern Philippines, killing one and injuring three others, police said on Friday.

The latest disaster happened in Ngan village, Compostela Valley Province on Thursday around 9 am, local time according to Senior Superintendent Camilo Cascolan, provincial police chief.

Cascolan said villagers dug the body of a 43-year-old miner and rescued three others after loose earth and boulders rolled down the hillside in Bango, burying the four victims. Disaster and police officials believe days of continuous rains in the area triggered the landslide.

Cascolan said the body of the lone fatality was brought to a local funeral parlor while those injured are now undergoing treatment at a local hospital.

On Tuesday, a miner was also killed and three others hospitalized after an avalanche of earth and boulders cascaded down a gold mining community in Agusan del Norte Province.

Landslides, cave-ins and other disasters are common in mineral-rich Philippines, where thousands of people are into unregulated and sometimes hazardous mining activities.

In one accident, at least 50 people were killed when a landslide buried a mining community in Pantukan town, also in Compostela Valley, in 2011.—Xinhua

Thailand pledges to further foster China-ASEAN relations

BANGKOK, 30 Aug — Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra said on Thursday that Thailand is committed to further strengthening the strategic partnership between China and ASEAN under the framework of China’s Gansu Province with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua, Yingluck expressed her satisfaction over the decade-long cooperation between China and ASEAN under the framework of strategic partnership, which has brought peace and prosperity for both sides.

She pledged that Thailand would give full play to its role as country coordinator between China and ASEAN by working with “hard effort” and on the principle of trust to cement the strategic partnership between the two sides.

According to the prime minister, the trade volume between China and ASEAN, which currently stands at about 300 billion US dollars, could reach 500 billion US dollars in 2015 when the bloc’s 10 economies integrate under one roof, the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).

Speaking highly of the time-honoured China-Thailand ties, Yingluck underlined the importance of people-to-people exchanges between the two nations, especially in the form of tourism.

Yingluck cited with great interest “Lost in Thailand”, a Chinese hit comedy in the kingdom, as a good channel to connect the two peoples. She said Thailand, a country full of natural wonders and cultural heritages, hopes to increase tourism exchanges with China.

“I would like to thank all the Chinese tourists to Thailand. All Thais welcome the Chinese people coming to Thailand because we have been close to each other for a long time,” she said.—Xinhua

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (C) chairs the special Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-China Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Beijing, capital of China, on 29 Aug, 2013. Wang Yi and his Thai counterpart Surapong Tovijakkackal were co-chairs of the special meeting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the formation of the China-ASEAN strategic partnership.—Xinhua

Budiman appointed as Indonesia army chief of staff

JAKARTA, 30 Aug — Lieutenant General Budiman has been appointed as the new Indonesian Army Chief of Staff, State Secretary Sudirman said here on Thursday.

Budiman will be officially sworn in at his installation at the State Palace on Friday, said Sutijadi. Budiman was Secretary General at the Defence Ministry and Deputy Chief of the Indonesian Army. He is to replace General Moeldoko. General Moeldoko has been appointed as Indonesia Military Commander. He will be also installed on Friday.

Terrorism, transnational crimes and insurgency are among the main challenges of the Indonesian military.—Xinhua

Two people killed in restive S Thailand

BANGKOK, 30 Aug — Two people were killed in Thailand’s restive southern provinces of Pattani and Narathiwat on Thursday, Thai News Agency reported.

The first attack occurred in Pattani’s Kapho District around 8 am local time when a 49-year-old defence volunteer was shot while riding his motorcycle home.

Seriously wounded, he was later pronounced dead at hospital. Another incident took place in Narathiwat’s Range District.

Also on Thursday morning, a durian grower was shot dead in the neck while collecting produce on his farm. Local authorities said the motivation for the two shootings could be insurgency and/or personal conflict. More than 5,000 people have been killed and more than 9,000 injured in over 11,000 incidents, about 3.5 incidents a day, in Thailand’s provinces — Yala, Patani, Narathiwat and four districts of Songkhla — since separatist violence erupted in January 2004, according to Deep South Watch, which monitors the regional violence.—Xinhua

A series of exhibitions are being held in the city of Hezuo to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Gannan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in Northwest China’s Gansu Province. A Thang-ka painting exhibition is ready to receive visitors in Hezuo, Gannan Autonomous Prefecture in Northwest China’s Gansu Province on 28 Aug. 2013. —Xinhua

Saturday, 31 August, 2013

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New Light of Myanmar

REGIONAL
Invitation for Cooperation with Lease (or) Joint Venture in High Grade Paper Mill (Thabaung) under Paper and Home Utility Industries, Ministry of Industry

High Grade Paper Mill (Thabaung) under Paper and Home Utility Industries, Ministry of Industry is intended to cooperate with Locals and Foreign entrepreneurs as Lease (or) Joint Venture in it.

Companies who interested in those cooperation are required to submit their draft proposal of Lease (or) Joint Venture, not later than 3 PM (Myanmar Standard Time), on 30th September, 2013 to Material Planning Department, Paper and Home Utility Industries, Ministry of Industry, Office No (41), Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Interested companies can submit the draft proposal at above office coming from (29, 2013) by presenting document of company profile.

Document of Company Profile
- Value Certificates of ownership
- Records and Regulation of Company
- Name of Foreign’s Technical Cooperator
  (For more information: 95-67-408293/408375/408352)

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV POSITIVE PIONEER VOY NO (78)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV POSITIVE PIONEER VOY NO (78) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: EASTERN CAR-LINER S’PORE LTE**

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (012)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (012) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S’PORE) LTE**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Moldovan people hopeful to travel freely in Europe next year**

**BUCHAREST, 30 Aug —** Moldovan authorities expected the country’s citizens will be able to travel freely in Europe as early as next year, visiting first deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Natalia Gherman said on Wednesday, at the Annual Meeting of Romanian Diplomacy in Bucharest.

“We expect a positive decision on visa liberalization for the Moldovan people in the first half of 2014,” said the Moldovan official, who is paying a working visit to Bucharest.

Gherman stressed that Moldova is about to complete the fulfillment of the EU preconditions for visa liberalization. “Moldova expects a decision on the fulfillment of preconditions at the Vilnius Summit and the final decision on visa liberalization for the Moldovan people in the first half of 2014,” she said, explaining that “it is important that we translate the visa liberalization provisions into life during this term of office of the European Parliament and European Commission and Moldovan Parliament as well.”

According to the minister, the reforms in the justice and home affairs, migration management and investments are a priority for the Moldovan authorities. Gherman said that the negotiations on Moldova-EU Association Agreement are over. She expressed hope that this agreement will be initialed at the Vilnius Summit and stressed that “this is just a milestone.”

The post-Vilnius period, when the Association Agreement is expected to be signed, will be a more important phase, she stressed. The Annual Meeting of Romanian Diplomacy takes place on Tuesday through Thursday in Bucharest, the event being attended also by Linas Antanas Linkėvičius, the foreign minister of Lithuania, the country which will host the Eastern Partnership Summit this autumn. – Xinhua

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (353N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (353N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.9.2013 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 EVER ABLE GREEN SHIPPING**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Donate Blood**
Australian trek, Sicilian stand-off feature at Venice film fest opening

VENICE, 30 Aug—The real-life story of a young woman’s trek across the Australian desert with four camels and a film about a stand-off between two female Sicilian motorists opened the competition for the 70th Venice film festival on Thursday.

The 10-day cinema circus showcases 3,470 feature-length and short films, of which 20 new works have been selected to compete for eight awards including the coveted Golden Lion for best film.

“Tracks”, based on Robyn Davidson’s 1979 book about her own journey, shows a young woman, bored with city life and haunted by the deaths of her dog and her mother, travelling almost 2,000 miles (3,200 km) from Alice Springs to the Indian Ocean.

“I’d always been drawn to the purity of the desert, its hot wind and wide open spaces,” Davidson, played by Waskowska, says early in the film. She sets out on her trip with four camels, brought to Australia by early settler of two, her nickname “Camel Lady”.

“I think it would be hard for an Australian not to respond to the film on a visceral level,” Hollywood Reporter critic David Rooney told Reuters after the debut screening. “I found it quite transporting actually, like I was there in the desert with her.”

Davidson’s quest for solitude—interrupted by Driver as National Geographic photographer Rick Smolan and the more welcome company of aboriginal Mr Eddy—resonates in the Internet age, director John Curran said.

“A young person’s desire to disconnect and get away and be on their own is probably more relevant now than 10 years ago,” Curran said at a news conference.


Harper completed a tour promoting her new autobiography “I. Rooney: A Memoir” shortly before going public with her illness. Last year she starred on Broadway as actress Tallulah Bankhead in “Looped”, for which she earned a Tony nomination.

Reuters

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Actress Valerie Harper’s brain cancer nearing remission

NEW YORK, 30 Aug—Actress Valerie Harper’s brain cancer is nearing remission, her physician said in an excerpt of a documentary that was shown on NBC’s “Today” show on Thursday.

“I’d say that we’re getting pretty close to remission,” neuro-oncologist Dr Jeremy Rudnick said in a documentary that will air next month on the US network.

“It defies the odds,” he added, as Harper sat listening to the results of tests conducted in June.

Harper, 74, won four Emmy Awards for her signature role of Rhoda Morgenstern on the hit 1970s sitcoms “The Mary Tyler Moore Show” and spin-off “Rhoda.” The actress said in March that her diagnosis of leptomeningeal carcinomatosis—cancer in the membrane of her brain—meant she had as little as three months to live. In June, NBC announced that it was shooting a documentary about Harper and her treatment.

Rudnick cautioned that the segment that resistance to treatment is all-but-assured, saying, “it’s not a matter of if, but of when.” The actress has received treatment ranging from chemotherapy to acupuncture.

“Scenic Route” at the Chinese 6 theatre in Hollywood, California on 20 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Sheryl Crow finds new ‘home’ in country music’s Nashville

NASHVILLE, 30 Aug—Sheryl Crow has spent the past seven years living the country life in country music’s capital with her country music friends, but the Grammy-winning rocker has only now come around to recording a country music album.

“This album feels very natural,” Crow said in an interview at her 50-acre (20-hectare) estate on the outskirts of Nashville, where she keeps 11 horses, two head of longhorn cattle and three No 1 hits in the United States.

“It’s an extension of who I am, where I live. It doesn’t seem like too big of a departure. I’ve been absorbed into the city limits of Nashville for a while.”

But it was just 20 years ago when Crow catapulted to pop-rock radio sensation with her debut album “All I Wanna Do,” proclaiming that “I want to do is have some fun until the sun comes up over Santa Monica Boulevard,” the street that traverses Los Angeles.

Crow has sold upward of 20 million albums and has managed to make the transition from 1990s’ bar-room rocker to polished pop singer in the first decade of the 2000s and now to a new residence in country.

In that time, she credits Rock and Roll Hall of Famers The Rolling Stones and Tom Petty, both of whom she has worked with, for helping her find her country voice, namely the Stones’ 1969 song “Country Honk” and Petty’s “Southern-bred storytelling.”

“After 25 years of songwriting, some of my best is on this record,” she said. “Nashville’s breathed new life into my songwriting career.”

Crow has already scored a top 30 single on Billboard’s country music chart with “Easy,” an up-tempo love song about domestic happiness.—Reuters

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Child models present creations at a release fair of Lining’s new children’s collections in Beijing, capital of China, on 29 Aug, 2013.—XINHUA

Singer Fergie, actor Josh Duhamel welcome first child together

LOS ANGELES, 30 Aug—Fergie, the singer of pop-rap group the Black Eyed Peas, has given birth to a boy in Los Angeles on Thursday, a representative for her actor-husband Josh Duhamel said.

Axl Jack Duhamel weighed 7 lb and 10 ounces (3.5 kg), Duhamel spokeswoman Ruth Bernstein said.

It is the first child for both Fergie, who recently changed her first name from Stacy to her stage name, and Duhamel.

Fergie, 38, rose to prominence when her addition to the Black Eyed Peas lineup coincided with a string of breakout hits for the group from their 2003 album “Elephunk.”

Her 2006 solo album, “The Dutchess,” scored three No 1 hits in the United States.

Duhamel, 40, is best known for his roles in the “Transformers” film franchise and romantic comedies “Safe Haven” and “New Year’s Eve.”

The couple married in 2009. —Reuters

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Sheryl Crow performs “Boys Round Here” at the 48th ACM Awards in Las Vegas, on 7 April, 2013.—Reuters

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Singer Fergie Duhamel poses at the premiere of “Scenic Route” at the Chinese 6 theatre in Hollywood, California on 20 Aug, 2013.—Reuters
Guardiola and Mourinho lock horns again in Prague

**New Light of Myanmar**

**SPORTS**

PRAGUE, 30 Aug—Pep Guardiola and Jose Mourinho renew their long-standing rivalry when European champions Bayern Munich take on Europa League winners Chelsea in the UEFA Super Cup on Friday.

New Bayern coach Guardiola and Mourinho, back for a second stint at Chelsea, have tangled repeatedly in their careers especially when the Spaniard was at the helm at Barcelona and the outspoken Portuguese held the reins at Real Madrid. Both clubs are unbeaten in their respective leagues this season but Mourinho knows his team will have their work cut out to repeat their 2012 Champions League final win over the Bavarians.

The Chelsea coach hailed Bayern’s “fantastic” feat in landing a Champions League-Bundesliga-German Cup treble last season. “Only great teams with a great mentality, with fantastic football qualities ... manage it,” said Mourinho, who also captured a Champions League-Serie A-Italian Cup treble with Inter Milan in 2009.

“To play against the best team in the world last year ... is a big challenge for us. It is good for us to measure where we are in terms of playing against the best,” he told www.uefa.com.

The Chelsea squad are still adapting to life under Mourinho, who left Real for Stamford Bridge in the close season to succeed Rafael Benitez.

The Londoners have had an extra day to prepare for the Super Cup after drawing 0-0 at Premier League title rivals Manchester United on Monday.

Mourinho can call on Brazil defender David Luiz for the first time this season following a hamstring injury while Spain playmaker Juan Mata could come back into the side after being left on the bench at Old Trafford.

Frustrated Kaka says he wants to leave Real Madrid

**Madrid, 30 Aug**—Real Madrid’s Brazilian playmaker Kaka has told the Spanish club he wants to leave after deciding he will not get sufficient playing time under new coach Carlo Ancelotti.

The 31-year-old has had an abdominal injury. The world number one has been out of action for a series of treatments for his knees in pain with a weight of expectation, Errani crashed to a 6-3, 6-1 loss to compatriot Flavia Pennetta and made the startling admission that she had choked under pressure.

“I don’t know why, but I’m not enjoying going on the court,” she told reporters. “And that is the worst thing a player can have.” Victoria Azarenka, last year’s runner-up, continued her love affair with the New York City hardcourts with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Canada’s Aleksandra Wozniak.

“I would say it’s my best result,” she told reporters. “I don’t want to talk about clubs because I have none at this stage.”—Reuters

Evans, one of the surprises of the tournament, continued his impressive run with a 6-6, 6-4, 6-3 win over Australia’s Bernard Tomic.

The Englishman, who said he was suffering from an unusual affliction in sore nipples, also revealed he was recently given a juicy incentive to beat Tomic by the Australian’s father.

“It was quite funny, actually,” Evans said.

“I was there playing qualies. His dad sort of fobbed me off and said I wasn’t good enough to practise with him. I remembered that.”

Evans, ranked 179th in the world, had no problems finding a practice partner at Flushing Meadows, however, with even Federer joining him for a hit.

Tiger’s practice may be restricted by ailing back

**Norton, (Massachusetts), 30 Aug**—Tiger Woods is undergoing a daily routine to treat his back troubles and the FedEx Cup points leader may be forced to restrict his practice sessions at this week’s Deutsche Bank Championship.

Woods collapsed to his knees in pain with a spasm on the 13th hole during Sunday’s final round of The Barclays in New Jersey and though he recovered to nearly force a playoff, his ongoing back issues have forced a change of plans this week.

The world number one pulled out of his good friend Notah Begay III’s charity event on Wednesday and kept himself away from practice sessions at the TPC Boston until Thursday’s pro-am competition.

That cautious approach came after Woods received a series of treatments for his back, some of which will continue for the rest of this week.—Reuters

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That cautious approach came after Woods received a series of treatments for his back, some of which will continue for the rest of this week.—Reuters
Pentagon opens criminal probe of Russian helicopter deals

The Pentagon has opened a criminal investigation of an Army aviation unit that awarded tens of millions of dollars worth of contracts to Russian and US firms for mainline and other areas of Russian-made helicopters, according to people familiar with the matter. The investigation, which has not been made public before, is led by the Defence Criminal Investigative Service. Investigators are examining potentially improper payments by the Army aviation unit and the Pentagon has touted the deal as a way to beef up the Afghan Air Force’s special mission wing before US troops withdraw next year.

Boston Marathon to accept another 9,000 runners in 2014

Boston, 30 Aug—Next year’s Boston Marathon will include an additional 9,000 runners, amid a groundswell of support and interest in the wake of the bombing attack this year which killed three people and cut the event short, the marathon’s organizers said on Thursday.

Boosting the field size to 36,000 runners at the 21 April, 2014, race would make for the second-largest turnout in its history, since 35,708 runners toed the starting line in Hopkinton, Massachusetts at the race’s 100th anniversary in 1996.

“The bombing last year which cut the race short is undoubtedly the major reason for the surge in interest,” said Bill Iffrig, executive director of the Boston Athletic Association, which organizes the race. The increase, a one-time break from the race’s normal cap of 27,000 runners, will help to accommodate the 5,624 athletes who were still on the course this year, when a pair of homemade pressure-cooker bombs exploded amid thousands of spectators, volunteers and athletes at the finish line and brought the race to a halt.

The attacks prompted an intense investigation, with law enforcement officials combing both the scene and thousands of still and video images received of Boston’s best-attended sporting event.

Officials released photos of two men they believed were responsible for the bombing in a plea for the public’s help in identifying the suspected bombers. The pair, later identified as brothers Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, tried to flee Boston that night, first as brothers Tamerlan and Dzhokhar fleeing the scene.

Boston Marathon as an explosion erupts near the finish line of the race in this photo ecountered with the Boston Globe. Reuters by photographer Dan Lampariello after he took the photo in Boston, Massachusetts, on 15 April, 2013. Reuters
The UEC has sent letters to the UEC that at letter, some complaints Hluttaw. With regard to Constituency at today's term at every MP office numbers and seals in equal across the country asked by U Than Oo of Myawady Constituency at today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw. At the meeting, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw said that the Union Election Commission sent a letter to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. With regard to the letter, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sent back a letter to the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw. In the letter, some complaints were sent to the UEC that at least one percent of voters would like to recall MPs elected in their respective constituencies in line with the constitution. The UEC needs to carry out the complaints of the voters as tasks must be undertaken in accord with provisions of the constitution. Section 397 of the constitution states the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall enact the necessary laws on matters relating to ‘Election’ and on matters relating to ‘Recall’. The UEC has sent letters two times to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw so as to dutifully carry out its tasks enshrined in the constitution and to protect the fundamental rights of the voters.

The commission has submitted the bill under Sub-Section (a) of Section 100 of the constitution. After the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee held discussions, the bill was submitted to the fifth regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw on 6-11-2012. Due to invitation of Hluttaw, seven MPs came out to send the proposals to amend the bill. According to the Sub-Sections (a) and (c) of Section 138 of Constitution, Pyithu Hluttaw must discuss and decide any bill and then send the approved bill or the bill approved with amendments to Amyotha Hluttaw. However, the Bill Committee submitted the report to the seventh regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw held on 23 August for suspension of the MP Recall Bill, and the Hluttaw approved it.

The report of the Bill Committee stated main reason to suspend the bill that due to the provision that a minimum of one percent out of the original voters of the electorate of the constituency concerned shall submit the complaint to the UEC in the provision of Sub-Section (b) of Section 396 of the Constitution, the defeated candidates may organize the voters to make complaints to the UEC. So, undesirable problems may come out. Other democratic countries do not practise the system of “Right to Recall” by one percent voters. That is why, as the Constitution Review Joint Committee needs to review the Sub-Section (b) of Section 396 of Constitution, the Hluttaw decided to suspend the bill.

In studying the bill, although the provision in the constitution states minimum of one percent out of the original voters of the electorate of the constituency concerned shall submit the complaint to the UEC in accordance with Sub-Section (b) of Section 396, the complaints will not immediately recall the MPs. The complaint will be put under investigation in conformity with the law. The MPs will have right of defence. The incorrect complaints will be cancelled. If it is correct, election will be held in the respective constituencies, and the MP will be elected with over a half of votes. The final decision must be laid down through over 50 percent majority vote. The UEC has submitted the bill to implement the provisions of the constitution in line with Section 100 (a) of Constitution. According to Section 397 of the Constitution, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall enact the necessary laws on matters relating to ‘Election’ and on matters relating to ‘Recall’. Due to assignment by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, (See page 9)

Amyotha Hluttaw approves Media Bill

10th Waning of Wagaung 1375 ME

Same letter numbers and seals to be used at every MP office

Nay Pyi Taw, 30 Aug—Secretary of Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee Dr Soe Yin replied that coordination is being undertaken for use of letter numbers and seals in equal terms at every MP office across the country asked by U Than Oo of Myawady Constituency at today’s session of Pyithu Hluttaw. With regard to the letter, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sent back a letter to the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw. In the letter, some complaints were sent to the UEC that at least one percent of voters would like to recall MPs elected in their respective constituencies in line with the constitution. The UEC needs to carry out the complaints of the voters as tasks must be undertaken in accord with provisions of the constitution. Section 397 of the constitution states the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall enact the necessary laws on matters relating to ‘Election’ and on matters relating to ‘Recall’. The UEC has sent letters two times to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw so as to dutifully carry out its tasks enshrined in the constitution and to protect the fundamental rights of the voters.

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Amyotha Hluttaw approves Media Bill

Nav Pyi Taw, 30 Aug—Member of Bill Committee U Aung Nyin read the report of the committee over the discussions of MPs concerning the Media Bill and the Hluttaw approved the bill at today’s session of Amyotha Hluttaw.

The report stated that as discussions of the MPs on Media Bill were appropriate, the Hluttaw should approve the amendments. Officials of the Ministry of Information and Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) have reached agreement except some differences after a series of meetings. The Bill Committee has no particular suggestion on the agreed points. As the different points have been coordinated and amended, the bill was submitted to seek the approval from the Hluttaw.

U Phone Myint Aung from Yangon Region Constituency No 3 submitted the proposal to pass the Media Bill, and then Hluttaw decided to approve the bill with amendments.

Hluttaw approved the report on the case of Daw Ma San from Kyaungsu Village in Koete Village-tract in Laymyetha Township in Hinthada District reviewed by Supreme Court of the Union.

Next, the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw explained the undertakings in the seventh regular session of the First Amyotha Hluttaw. From 25 June to 28 August, Union level organization members replied to 304 questions. Ten MPs submitted 14 Twenty-four bills were also submitted. The Hluttaw sought approvals for the reports of Government Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vetting Committee and Relief and Victims Care Committee of Amyotha Hluttaw. The Hluttaw approved the Media Bill, and then Hluttaw decided to approve the bill with amendments.

U Phone Myint Aung from Yangon Region Constituency (3).—MNA

The seventh regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw came to an end in the morning.