Myanmar U-19 champions honoured with presidential dinner

NAV Pyi Taw, 29 Aug—President U Thein Sein hosted a dinner in honour of the U-19 Myanmar football team, which emerged victorious in the Hassanal Bolkiah Cup 2014 in Brunei.

The dinner was hosted at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2 here on Friday.

The triumph has marked an important milestone in the history of Myanmar football, displaying the highest level of the team spirit, unity and sportsmanship.

Throughout the Hassanal Bolkiah Cup, Myanmar has secured second place two times. This year, Myanmar won the championship as well as the fair play award.

Speaking at the dinner, Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan said that achievements in sports earn the country and its people international fame. He expressed words of thanks to all people and organizations for their support and encouragement of the team.

U Tint Hsan paid an award bonus of over K255 million to the champions team.

Altogether 50 well-wishers donated K277.4 million to the U-19 team. Myanmar was also the only team unbeaten throughout the cup.

Media accreditation cards for ASCC to be issued on 29 Sept

NAV Pyi Taw, 29 Aug—The 12th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Meeting will be held at the Golden Palace Hotel in Bagan on 29 and 30 September, according to officials.

Media accreditation cards will be issued to local and foreign correspondents, who have to register online of www.asean2014.gov.mm not later than 20 September, at Golden Palace Hotel in Bagan on 29 September.

Population of Myanmar totals over 51 million: Preliminary Population Census

NAV Pyi Taw, 29 Aug —The total population of Myanmar amounts to over 51 million, according to the statement on the preliminary population census by the Central Census Commission.

The CCC released the preliminary population census with the aim of contributing to the setting up of projects and policies of the State and the needs of government organizations in accordance with the international norms, the statement said.

The preliminary population census is based on the number of males and females in families in census taking plots, townships, districts and regions and states.

According to the preliminary population census the population of Myanmar in the territory of Myanmar (including staff in embassies of Myanmar in other countries) taken at midnight on 29 March 2014 totals 51,419,420. Details of the preliminary population census will be announced on 30 August, according to the Central Census Commission.

We encourage and support steps taken by Myanmar government towards democratization: Israeli deputy foreign minister

Interviewer: Kyaw The-ein

Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tzachi Hanegbi made an official visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar from 27 to 29 August 2014. During his three-day visit, he met with Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for the President Office U Aung Min, Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo.

Following his meeting with Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu, he signed together with Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin a cooperation agreement in the fields of culture and sports which will provide the framework for future collaboration between the two countries.

Q: It is known that you are the highest ranking Israeli official to visit Myanmar in over 20 years. Could you elaborate on the main objective of your visit to the country?

A: The main objectives are to further promote friendly ties and investment as well as to support reforms being launched in Myanmar. The interest of the State of Israel in Myanmar is not new. Not like other countries that discovered Myanmar just recently, the State of Israel has long and lasting friendly relations with your country. We still warmly remember that it was your first prime minister, U Nu, who made the first official visit to the newly born State of Israel. Following that visit, our legendary Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion visited your country in 1969.

Q: We have learnt that diplomatic relations between Israel and Myanmar had reached 60 years. How significant will it be in future as Myanmar was the first ASEAN country to recognize the newly formed State of Israel?

A: During the 60th Anniversary, the Israeli embassy in Yangon organized a large number of activities including Logo (See page 3)
South Korea helps Myanmar to attract foreign investment

NAV PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The Myanmar Investment Commission has cooperated with Republic of Korea’s Ministry of Justice in accelerating the third phase of the development of trade and investment.

The two bodies organized a workshop on ‘ease of doing business and enforcing contracts in Myanmar’ at Parkroyal Hotel here on Friday, with an address by U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister at President Office as well as Patron of the Subcommittee for the Development of the Private Sector, sources said. He said better investment policies and regulations will attract foreign investment in the private sector from Asian countries and world nations, thereby creating more job opportunities.

“Rules and regulations are being amended to keep up with changes in the law and keep them up to date,” he said. Help should be sought from international organizations to ease restrictions and make investment flexible at home, he quoted the World Bank as saying. —MNA

Two men detained in Thakayta brawl

NAV PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The police have detained two men while trying to control the situation in a brawl between two groups of people on Khine Shwe Wah Road in Ward-13 in Thakayta Township at about midnight on 28 August.

The brawl broke out between about 8 men including by Myint Aung alias Ko Lay, 55, who live in 1/Hituparyon Ward in Thakayta and about 10 men including Nay Myo Aung. The police seized a six-inch knife and a firecracker from Myint Aung and charged him under five counts of offences. Another man detained by the police, Nay Myo Aung, has also been charged under two counts of offences.

During the brawl, the windscreen of a car owned by Myint Aung was broken and an onlooker, Nay Lin Aung, was injured by a rubble that hit his head and taken to Yangon General Hospital for minor injury. —MNA

University of Computer Studies (Yangon), KOICA celebrates handover ceremony of Digital Library & Library Information System

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 29 Aug—The University of Computer Studies (Yangon) of the Ministry of Science and Technology received a digital library and library information system from Korea International Co-operation Agency to enhance its academic information services for education and research and serve as a top knowledge hub specialized in information technology.

A ceremony marking the handover of Samsung-KOICA Digital Library took place at the university on Friday attended by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ba Shwe, Director-General U Kyaw Zwa Soe of the Department of Advanced Science and Technology, Resident Representative Nam Kwon Hyung of KOICA Myanmar Office, UCSY Rector Dr. Daw Mie Mie Thein Twin and officials.

In his presentation on the Korea Overseas Volunteer Project at UCSY, Dr. Jung-Koon Shin, who took responsibility to implement the project, he said the project to build a digital library, renovate the reading room and develop a library automation system began in July last year with the contributions of $101,800 from KOICA, Samsung, a leading global brand in the world’s digital market, and UCSY.

KOICA Myanmar Chief Nam Kwon Hyung (left), Deputy Minister Dr Ba Shwe (centre) and Director-General U Kyaw Zwa Soe (right) listen to a presentation of a UCSY faculty member. PHOTO: YE MYINT

For the development of Myanmar IT resources, the official suggested that it is required for Myanmar to create many small companies in the IT field.

In his welcome speech, Deputy Minister Dr Ba Shwe expressed his hope of maintaining the new facility as a symbol of friendship between Myanmar and South Korea. Thanks to the state-of-the-art library, he added, it could help to raise the level of academic achievement of the students at UCSY.

Vowing to promote further cooperation with the ministry, Nam, in his address, revealed KOICA is planning to start a new project in establishing the Technical Teachers’ Training Institute with budget allocated at $11 million.

According to KOICA, Myanmar chief, the budget of KOICA’s development assistance to Myanmar for this year is set about $13 million. The number of WFK volunteers in Myanmar will be a total of 105 volunteers and seven advisors with the new arrival of 33 volunteers soon.

With the improved library system providing barcode-based and RFID-based systems, a combination of automation and security activities in the library will enable not only users to have easy access to library materials but also staff to better serve them.

The librarian of the UCSY told The New Light of Myanmar that with the new library system was a development of UNHCR’s vision and reflects true facts and real situation of Myanmar. —MNA

New resident representative of UNHCR presents his appointment to Union FM

NAV PYI TAW, 29 Aug—Mr Giuseppe de Vincentis, new resident representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Myanmar called on U Winna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Thursday and presented his letter of appointment to the Union Minister.

During the meeting, they discussed matters of further cooperation between Myanmar and UNHCR and releasing news that reflects true facts and real situation of Myanmar. —MNA

Commerce minister receives deputy director-general of AQSIQ

NAV PYI TAW, 29 Aug—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received a delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr Li Qilei of General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People’s Republic of China in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

They held discussions about promotion of trade and investment and cooperation in food safety for crops exported to China from Myanmar.

Present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan and officials of the ministry. —MNA
**Myanmar, Russia agree to start inter-governmental economic cooperation**

**NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug** — The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has reached an agreement with the Russian Federation to form an intergovernmental commission for trade and economic cooperation, with Vice President U Nyan Tun attending the signing ceremony at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2 here on Friday.

Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and Minister for Economic Development of Russia Mr Alexey V Ulyukaev signed the contracts, followed by the first meeting of the commission. Their discussions involved bilateral cooperation in trade and investment, and the development of sectors such as energy, industry, aviation, agriculture, information, technology, communications, and tourism.—MNA

**Lab sample of suspected Ebola patient sent to lab in Europe**

**NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug** — The suspected Ebola patient at Waiabi Specialist Hospital is getting remarkable improvement day by day while other four people who had close contact with him were found no health problem, the Ministry of Health announced on Friday.

The suspected patient receiving malaria treatment by the specialist as they believed that the patient suffers from severe and complicated malaria with mixed infection of plasmodium falciparum and plasmodium vivax. According to the specialists, the patient has not experienced bleeding symptoms.

The samples for laboratory of the patient and four people who had close contact with the patient have been sent to the lab in Europe on Friday under coordination between the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization and IATA, according to the Ministry of Health.—MNA

**Release of information for emerald green project discussed**

**NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug** — Activities of village from emerald green project in each township are to be disseminated to the people, said Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint at a coordination meeting to release community-centred development tasks being undertaken by the ministry of through media to the people at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on Thursday.

The Union minister expressed his opinion for inviting participants to submit short video drama depicting the emerald green projects. The attendees discussed release of information on activities of the project.—MNA

**Prospects for signing MoU with Myanmar, Russia discussed**

**NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug** — Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Bu Shwe held talks with Russian Federation Ambassador Mr Vesly B Pospolov and party at the ministry on Thursday.

The talks focused on signing of MoU between Myanmar’s Ministry of Science and Technology and the Russia’s Ministry of Education and Science, and one more MoU on peaceful use of atomic technology with the State Atomic Energy Corporation “ROSATOM” of Russia at the ministry.

The ceremony was attended by the director-general of the Myanmar Science and Technology Research Department and officials.—MNA

**We encourage and support . . .**

(from page 1) Competition which involves students from Myanmar universities, the first Israeli Film Festival, the renewal of bilateral visits of high officials between the two countries and the “Soul Bird” book translation project & donation to public libraries and schools. I would like to mention that we encourage and support the steps taken by the Myanmar government towards democratization, peace-building and national reconciliation. Those changes allow us to expand those relations into many fields such as agriculture, health, education, telecommunication, science and technology and others.

Q: It is learnt that there had been a great deal of interest from Israeli companies looking to invest in Myanmar. Please tell us which sectors would Israel like to help?

A: There had been a large amount of interest from Israeli companies looking to invest in Myanmar ranging from telecommunications and health systems to education. Water system was another area Israeli companies are likely to contribute strongly. We believe that we can share our innovation and advanced technologies to the benefit of Myanmar people. And just to give a good example, both of the companies that won the telecommunication tender have contract Israeli companies to help them build the infrastructure of their systems.

Q: Although senior Myanmar officials have visited Israel frequently their Israeli counterparts did not come here. So, we strongly believe that your visit will be very significant and will bring about fruitful outcomes to the country. How about that opinion?

A: Since we have complementary economies and we are not competing on the same market, we believe that we can combine our innovation and advanced technologies with your necessities and needs. Meikorot, Israel’s national water company, signed an MoU with Yangon Region to improve the water supply to the region, and there are many more to be mentioned Israel’s intention to extend the current training programs in the fields of agriculture, health and education provided by Israel’s Agency for International Development and Cooperation (MASHAV), of which hundreds of Myanmar alumni from the public, private and NGOs have enjoyed in the last 60 years. As Israel is a first-tier innovation hub as well as the undisputed world leader in drip irrigation and holds the edge of in crop technologies, we strongly believe that Hanegbi’s visit will contribute much to the country and its people.
Capacity enhancement of IPRD staff in Bago Region

Bago, 29 Aug—The staff capability building course, organized by Bago Region Information and Public Relations Department, was conducted at its office from 25 to 27 August. Deputy Director Daw Khin San of Bago Region IPRD explained the purpose of conducting the course and policy of the department. “The training course will improve our capability to give public service media to the people,” said Head of Yedashe Township IPRD Daw Wint Nan da Htay.

The deputy director presented prizes to Town-

Methods of rubber budding shared to farm workers and owners in Thaton Tsp

Thaton, 29 Aug—With the aim of sharing correct methods of growing rubber and producing quality rubber saplings, the Township Industrial Crops Development Department and Rubber Producers Association jointly conducted the rubber plant nursery and budding course 2/2014 at the hall of the department in Thaton of Mon State on Thursday.

Thaton Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Saw Ba Thein made a speech and Chairman of the Township Rubber Producers Association Dr Than Myo explained the domestic rubber farming works. Assistant Director Daw San San Wai of ICDD explained the aims of the training course to collect latex of rubber plants at full capacity.

Head of Township Department U Kyaw Swa Hlaing and officials gave lectures and practical train-

Fire drill practised at fuel station in Mandalay

Mandalay, 29 Aug—The talks about fire prevention was given in conjunction with the fire drill at HSD fuel station at the corner of 59th and Theikpan streets in South Yemon Ward of Mahaungmye Township in Mandalay on Thursday.

Staff Officer U Htet Aung of the Township Fire Services Department gave fire preventive measures. Deputy Commanding Officer U Kyaw Min of Township Fire Services Battalion, company commanders and members participated in fire drill in front of the fuel station with the use of fire extinguishers.

Central Command team beat Former Upper Myanmar team 5-3 in football friendly

Mandalay, 29 Aug—The upper Myanmar former selected footballer team played a friendly match with the selected team of the Central Command at Balto Stadium in Mandalay on Thursday.

The selected team of the Central Command won over the Upper Myanmar former selected players 5-3. Former selected goalkeeper of the Upper Myanmar team U Than Hut-Daw Thuza Maung donated K500,000 to mark the 100 days of their baby to the team through patron of the team U Sein Win Gyi (former selected player) and chairman U Zaw Win.
Electricians under training of refresher course

Meiktila, 29 Aug—In accord with the directives of the Ministry of Electric Power and Mandalay Region Minister for Electricity and Industry, the on-job refresher course No. 2/2014 for electricians of Meiktila and Yamethin Districts was held at Kandaw Mingala Hall of Meiktila on Friday.

Deputy Commissioner of Meiektla District U Tint Wai Thon made a speech.

Head of Meiktila District P yin O O l win ,

Electricity Inspection Unit U Than Sein explained prevention against danger of electricity.

Yamethin District Electrical Engineer U Khan Maung Win and Meiktila District Electrical Engineer U Mon Aung Zay explained the purpose of opening the refresher course.

The on-job refresher course will last up to 31 August. Altogether 74 electricians from Yemethin and Meiktila Districts of Electricity Supply Enterprise attended the training course.

The first refresher course was conducted from 22 to 24 August, attended by 69 electricians from two districts.

Chan Thar (Meiktila)

Garry (Pony cart) on the verge of extinction in PyinOoLwin

PYINOOLOWIN, 29 Aug — As number of tuk-tuks and motorcycle taxis are on the increase in PyinOoLwin of Mandalay Region day by day, pony carts also known as garry face difficulties to attract passengers.

Now, the pony carts can attract globetrotters, but in the future, their survival will not be sure.

“The number of pony carts in PyinOoLwin declined to 60 from 153. Due to various difficulties, the pony cart drivers will have to give up their business,” said a pony cart driver (Garry Wahlah).

Garry are the symbol of PyinOoLwin once famous as Maymyo in the British colonial era. PyinOoLwin residents have been preserving such a lovely tradition for many years.

Travelling around the city by pony cart will cost K15,000. Depending on the distance of trips, the pony cart drivers can earn from K7,000 to K10,000 per day. Each cart can accommodate four passengers of local people and two of globetrotters.

To go sightseeing and visit colonial buildings and significant places, pagodas and parks in PyinOoLwin, the globetrotters hire the garry.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

Myingyan Degree College welcomes fresher students for 2013-14 academic year

MYINGYAN, 29 Aug—Myingyan Degree College in Mandalay Region held the respect paying ceremony and fresher welcome ceremony for 2013-14 academic year at its hall recently.

Principal Dr Ko Ko Myint and Professor/Dean of the Chemistry Department Dr Daw Mya Hnin Kyang gave speeches. The students paid respects to the faculty members.

The professor presented prizes to outstanding students for their excellent skills in education and sports sectors.

At the fresher welcome ceremony, students performed dance and songs to the attendees.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

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The professor presented prizes to outstanding students for their excellent skills in education and sports sectors.

At the fresher welcome ceremony, students performed dance and songs to the attendees.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)
**UN says ‘not possible’ to finish Afghan vote audit by 2 September**

KABUL, 29 Aug — Afghanistan’s UN representative told President Hamid Karzai on Thursday that the audit of a disputed election would not be finished by on 2 September, when Karzai had hoped to see a new leader inaugurated.

The United Nations is supervising the audit of votes from a run-off ballot between the two candidates, Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani. Both men have claimed victory in an election meant to mark the country’s first democratic transfer of power.

In a meeting with Karzai, UN envoy Ján Kubíš told the outgoing president a “rigorous and credible audit required time, but could be completed around 10 September,” said a UN statement.

In a previous statement, Karzai had said the inauguration of Afghanistan’s new president must take place a month after the original inauguration date of 2 August.

“President Karzai is truly in a hurry for a quick conclusion of the election process,” Karzai spokesman Aimal Faizi told Reuters. “He has already done his packing. He is exhausted, like many other Afghans.”

The audit of votes hit a snag on Wednesday when Abdullah’s team pulled its observers from the process, citing dissatisfaction with the way that allegedly fraudulent votes were being handled.

Ghani’s team subsequently also withdrew its observers at the UN’s request. “The audit must not only have integrity, it must provide insurance to the millions of accounts to provide insurance to the country’s poor people, in New Delhi, on 28 Aug. 2014. Xinhua

**Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi holds brochures at a campaign rally amid opening millions of accounts to provide insurance to the country’s poor people, in New Delhi, on 28 Aug. 2014.**

**Indian PM launches massive banking account - insurance programme**

NEW DELHI, 29 Aug — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday launched a massive banking programme by opening 15 million bank accounts to provide insurance to the account holders, most of whom are the country’s poor people.

“One-and-a-half crore (15 million) insurance policies on a single day, and 1.5 crore bank accounts opened in a day would never have happened before. This is a big record in banking and insurance history,” Modi said at the launching ceremony. Over 77,000 camps were set up for opening accounts, the prime minister said.

The programme is aimed at providing 75 million households in the country with a bank account and insurance policy within one year. Each account has 5,000 rupees (83 US dollars).

“Thus whole exercise is aimed at lifting the poor out of the poverty line. After today’s breakthrough momentum, I don’t think it will stop,” said the prime minister. Xinhua

**S Korea regrets North’s decision to not send cheerleading squad**

SEOUL, 29 Aug — South Korea on Friday voiced regret over North Korea’s decision to not send a cheerleading squad to accompany its athletes to the Asian Games in South Korea next month.

“It’s a deeply regrettable decision. North Korea twisted the fact we had taken issue with the dispatch of a cheering squad and that the North unilaterally announced its decision it would not send the cheering squad,” South Korea’s Unification Ministry spokesman Lim Byeong Cheol said at a press briefing. In a reversal of its earlier decision, Son Kwang Ho, vice chairman of North Korea’s National Olympic Committee, said no cheerleaders will be dispatched to the games, to be held in the western city of Incheon from 19 September to 4 October, the official Korean Central News Agency said on Thursday.

Lim dismissed as “untrue” the North’s claim that South Korea does not want the cheering squad to attend.

“We welcome North Korea’s athletes and cheering squad and will apply international practices in providing conveniences to them and in a way to make a positive contribution to the improvement of relations between the South and the North,” Lim said.

Son said that the committee’s decision to call off the plan was made because South Korea does not wish to host a cheerleading squad from the North. Talks broke down after Seoul complained of the size of the squad and raised the issue of travel expenses, according to Son.

North Korea had earlier planned to send a 350-member cheerleading squad. This cheerleading squad, called an “army of beauties” by South Koreans, have showed up at international events in South Korea in the past.

The North is still expected to send a 273-member delegation made up of athletes and sports officials to the Asian Games. Kyodo News

**Former Australian PM defends Iraq invasion as “right decision”**

CANBERRA, 29 Aug — Former Australian Prime Minister John Howard is still sticking by his decision to send troops to Iraq in 2003 in spite of growing public outcry over the invasion.

Speaking on Friday at the opening of a reading room in his name at the University of New South Wales, Canberra, Howard said he remained convinced the joint military operation was the right thing to do to help the war-torn country.

“I remain of the view that the decision that the government took of that time to join the United States and the United Kingdom was the correct decision and nothing has happened since has altered my view,” Howard told reporters. The Australia’s second-longest serving PM refused to buy into the current situation directly, insisting it would not be “fair” to the conservative government led by Tony Abbott. —Xinhua

** Australian PM to visit India, Malaysia**

SYDNEY, 29 Aug — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced on Friday he will travel to India and Malaysia next week. On Abbott’s first visit to India as prime minister, he said he will visit New Delhi and India’s financial capital Mumbai to strengthen the strategic partnership between the two countries.

India is Australia’s fifth largest export market, with total exports of 11.4 billion Australian dollars (10.6 billion US-dollars), and there is potential for further cooperation in resources, science, technology and education.

“Your visit will be an opportunity to promote trade and investment and promote our G20 objectives ahead of the Brisbane summit in November.”

Abbott will be accompanied to India by a group of business leaders who will discuss opportunities for further business partnerships between the two countries. Following India, Abbott will travel to Malaysia for talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak. “Australia’s defence ties with Malaysia are amongst our closest in South East Asia and we feel a deep connection to Malaysia given shared experiences arising from the MH370 and MH17 disasters,” he said.

Last year two-way trade between Australia and Malaysia was worth almost 18 billion Australian dollars (16.8 billion US-dollars). “Hundreds of thousands of Malaysian students have studied in Australia and we will soon see more Australians travelling the other way when Malaysia joins the New Colombo Plan in 2015,” Abbott said. —Xinhua

**Kabul, 29 Aug —** Afghani-
US officials visited N Korea before joint exercise

SEOUL, 29 Aug — A group of US officials made a secret trip to Pyongyang shortly before a South Korea-US military exercise, known as the Ulchi Freedom Guardian, started on 18 August, a Seoul daily reported on Friday.

“The US officials aboard a military airplane entered Pyongyang on 16 August and returned back after staying there for nearly 18 hours,” the Kyunghyang Shinmun reported from Washington, citing multiple diplomatic sources.

The secret contact between the two countries was the first of its kind since two trips made in April and August 2012, the daily said.

A source told the daily that the US officials were from the White House and the Directorate of National Intelligence, adding the US side “seemed not to have achieved visible results through the visit.”

North Korea has strongly criticized joint military exercises between South Korea and the United States, saying they are aimed at launching attacks into the North.

Meanwhile, the United States has informed South Korea of its secret visit to North Korea, saying it was aimed at discussing the release of an American detainee, Kenneth Bae, held since November 2012.— Kyodo News

UN Secretary-General’s Message on the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances

New York, 30th August 2014

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s message for the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, to be observed on 30 August:

The enforced disappearance of individuals by States constitutes an unacceptable violation of human rights. Acts tantamount to enforced disappearance of individuals by armed and terrorist groups also constitute a gross abuse of human rights. This abhorrent practice places people outside the protection of the law, and thus, potentially in great danger of physical violence and sometimes barbaric execution. In addition to causing unimaginable worry and anguish for the victims and their loved ones, this creates a generalized climate of fear and terror across entire societies.

Enforced disappearance was once employed mainly by military dictatorships. Increasingly, it has become a tool of many States around the world, some operating under counter-terror strategies, or fighting organized crime, and others seeking to quash dissent and human rights activism.

On this solemn Day, I reiterate in the strongest possible terms that under international law, no one should be kept in secret detention. Any person deprived of his or her liberty must be held safely in officially recognized and supervised locations that observe the rule of law. States should provide full information about the whereabouts of persons who have been disappeared. And they must effectively implement the right to the truth, justice and reparation for all victims and their families.

Enforced disappearance is a practice that cannot be tolerated in the 21st century.

To date, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which entered into force in December 2010, has been signed by 93 States and ratified by 43. It provides a sound foundation for fighting impunity, protecting disappeared persons and their families and strengthening the guarantees provided by the rule of law, including investigation, justice and redress.

I urge all Member States to sign and ratify the Convention without delay. It is time for the universal ratification of the Convention and a final end to all enforced disappearances.

UNIC/Tango
Is property boom in Yangon safe?

By Myint Win Thein

A plan to expand Yangon, the largest and most populated city in Myanmar, was announced recently. The expansion plan has attracted property investors and land prices have risen dramatically recently. However, property agents are predicting the expansion plan would bring down skyrocketing Yangon land prices.

Land prices in Yangon are rising not because of the shortage of land but because of the demand for land. The demand for land in Yangon is growing due to speculation on land. Yangon has a vast area of land. There are many un-inhabited land plots in new townships in Yangon such as Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (East), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha townships although the plots were developed about 20 years ago. These plots have changed hands with spiraling prices although there is no infrastructure and no one to settle on them. It is clear that land prices are rising on speculative demand, which cannot be trusted over the long run.

Although property agents are predicting a drop in land prices in Yangon, land prices are unlikely to fall, as we have already seen now. This is because the newly developed land is fed into the speculative demand. A new speculative land market has emerged for investors in land. In addition, top developers will construct high-end residences to sell at best prices, which is also likely to increase the already skyrocketing property prices. Unless the expansion plan places emphasis on providing land and affordable housing for those who cannot afford to buy a house or an apartment of their own due to current property prices, the expansion plan will create another speculative market and overheat the property market.

The collapse of a property market has a wide ranging impact on the entire economy, especially banks that give loans to those with property as collateral and are still grappling with competition they will have to face when foreign banks enter Myanmar in the near future. Therefore, it is important that the new expansion plan for Yangon city places emphasis on providing land and affordable housing for the poor rather than feeding the speculative demand.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions.

If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish articles that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your article will be edited.

How much it expresses ! How chastening in the hour of pride — how consoling in the depth of affliction !

-Abraham Lincoln.

THE SECRET

Someday I hope to enjoy enough of what the world calls success so that somebody will ask me, ‘What’s the secret of it?’ I shall say simply this ‘I get up when I fall down.’

-Panel Harvey

MIND AND HEART

“’And what is as important as knowledge?’ asked the mind.

‘Caring and seeing with the heart,’ answered the soul.

-Anonymous

HOPE

Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings while the dawn is still dark.

-Tagore

OPPORTUNITY

When one door closes, another opens but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.

-Alexander Graham Bell

Source : More Stories for the Heart

by Alice Gray

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co.,Ltd.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I would like to comment on your article entitled “Myanmar in need of better public transport system” by Aung Khin, which appeared in the Tuesday issue of the New Light of Myanmar, 26 August 2014.

My guess is that the traffic jam in Yangon is largely due to parents doing the school run in their cars. The traffic jam around high schools is more terrible when school is over.

I walk across Pyay Road when I go to a swimming pool at weekends. Cars never stop at the pedestrian crossing. It is very dangerous for pedestrians. I don’t think schoolchildren will be able to cross the road safely without the help of their parents. This is why parents find it necessary to take their children to school and bring them home.

If drivers obeyed the traffic rules and stopped for pedestrians to cross the road at the zebra crossing, parents can stop driving their children to and from school. This will dramatically reduce the traffic congestion near schools.

Mr. Ko Aur KOTOZAKI

Milk and Honey for the Heart

Kyi Mun

- Launch Yourself to Success with the Power of Belief
- Win Success by Believing You Can Succeed
- Defeat Disbelief and the Negative Power It Creates
- Get Big Results by Believing Big
- Make Your Mind Produce Positive Thoughts
- Develop the Power of Belief
- Use Your Mind for Thinking -Not Simply as a Ware -
- Develop Power by Believing It Can Be
- Power by Believing It Can Be
- Use Creative Thinking to Cure Fear and Build Confidence
- Overcome Your Fear of Other People
- Think Confidently by Acting Confidently
- Discover That Success Is Measured by the Size of Your Thinking
- Think Big by Visualizing What Can Be Done in the Future
- Add Value to Things, to People, and to Yourself
- Test Yourself - Find Out How Big Your Thinking Really Is
- Use Creative Thinking to Find New and Better Ways to Get Things Done
- Develop Creative Power by Believing It Can Be Done
- Do More and Do It Better by Turning on Your Creative Power

Source : The Magic of Thinking Big
by David J. Schwartz, Ph.D.

- “ I want to make the simple-minded wise ! ”
- “ I want those already wise to become the wiser and become leaders.”

-King Solomon

- The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won’t face facts.
- A short-tempered man is a fool. He hates the man who is patient.
- Only a simpleton believes what he is told. A prudent man checks to see who he is going.
- The simpleton is crowned with folly; the wise man is crowned with knowledge.
- A life of doing right is the wisest life there is.
- Never forget to be truthful and kind. Hold these virtues tightly. Write them deep within your heart.
- The man who knows right from wrong, and has good judgment and common sense is happier than the man who is immensely rich. For such wisdom is far more valuable than precious jewels. Nothing else compares with it.
- A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes.
- A relaxed attitude lengthens a man’s life; jealousy rots it away.
- Have two goals: wisdom-knowing and doing right — and common sense. Don’t let them slip away.
- Cling to wisdom-she will protect you. Love her — she will guard you.
- From a wise mind comes careful and persuasive speech.
- There is treasure in being good.
- Only the good can give good advice.
- Wisdom is enthroned in the hearts of men of common sense.
- The diligent man makes good use of everything he finds.
- Joy fills hearts that are planning for good.
- Kind words are like honey-enjoyable and healthful.
- Determination to be wise is the first step toward becoming wise ! And with your wisdom, develop common sense and good judgment.
- Wisdom and good judgment live together, for wisdom knows where to discover knowledge and understanding.
- The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them.
- Wisdom is the main pursuit of sensible men.
- A Wise man’s words express deep streams of thought.

Source : The Proverbs of King Solomon

- There are no hopeless situations in life … only men who have grown hopeless about them.

-A Baralay Comment

- Faith is ….. Remembering I am God’s priceless treasure when I feel utterly worthless.

-Pamela Reeve

AND THIS, TOO …. !

It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence, to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations.

They presented him the words : “And this, too, shall pass away.”
Outlook and opinion of doctors that treated DM patients at Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Sagaing Hills

By Sayar Mya

In the last week of July 2014, I had visited the Face Book (https://www.facebook.com/wachet.hospital?fref=ts) of Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (WJSH) in Sagaing Hills and saw the hopeful and heartening announcement for the marginalised and economically suffering from Diabetes Mellitus (DM).

The announcement was as follows:-

UK based social charity organization named “Brighter Future Foundation” (BFF) is visiting Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospitals in Sagaing Hills to offer treatment to all DM patients from 5 to 9 August 2014.

All DM patients in the areas and elsewhere in the country are asked to register themselves in advance as the “BFF” team and Myanmar senior physicians will treat the patients free of charge.

The message clearly stated that the medical laboratory test of urine and blood namely urea, creatinine, electrolytes, fasting lipid profiles, Hb A, C, urine 10 parameter will be offered free of cost in addition to complimentary medicines as prescribed by senior physicians. With a view to saving time in accommodating more number of patients to see the senior physicians, the people are required to register in advance to check some basic medical condition such as sugar level and clinical test with a nominal registration fees of kyat 2,000 only from 21 to 31 July 2014. They are requested to bring in the medicine (if any) that they have been taking at the time so that adjustment could be made as necessary.

I, interested in the works of Good Samaritans and saviors in the health sector, I sought some information from the Medical Superintendent Dr. U Win Kyang of the Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Sagaing Hills.

According to his reply, as prepared by Accountant Miss Aye Khang Moe, it started with the philanthropic conversation between senior physician Dr. Daw Thinn Thinn Hlaing of Cambridge University Hospital and Italian surgeon Dr. Robin introduced Dr. Daw Thinn Thinn Hlaing with MS Dr. U Win Kyang and a plan to treat the DM patients was drafted. Kyawwa religious resort Sayadaw Dr. Lakkhana in Sagaing Hills, the founder of the hospital, had accorded approval on the proposed plan. (Unfortunately, when the project was actually realized in August, Sayadaw passed away on 4 June 2014).

According to the plan, the expenses incurred for the laboratory tests were borne by the brighter Foundation. It was agreed to pull down the cost for the fasting lipid profiles, urea, creatinine, and electrolytes outstand at kyat 16,000 at the private laboratory and it was fixed at kyat 8,000 only. The BFF had shouldered the cost on behalf of the patients. Total of 260 patients enjoyed the benefits of the laboratory charges.

Before the medical treatment by the physicians, the patients were asked to respond and give answers on the DM. It was done with a view to assess and evaluate the existing awareness and knowledge of the patients towards the DM.

After the initial and basic clinical examination by the local doctors and staff of the WJSH, the patients were systematically grouped for the dates of consultation to avoid long waiting time. The medical treatments for the patients by the senior physicians were slotted in two sessions such as morning and afternoon. Total of (260) patients was slotted into (4) days from 5 to 8 August 2013.

Average examination and consultation time was stretched into (20) minutes for each patient, which could be termed as adequate space. Monks and nuns were accorded with free of charge. The marginalized, vulnerable and poor patients were charged with minimal amount of cash, with the testimonial of local ward / village elders.

Awareness raising and knowledge dissemination were conducted by the senior physicians for the patients and interested persons between 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm at the hall of the hospital during the project period.

Moreover, the guest physicians deployed the expensive apparatus of HbA, C Analyzer which is worth about Pound Sterling 4,000 (equivalent approximately Myanmar kyat 6.4 million). This test costs Myanmar kyat 13,000 at the private laboratory for one patient. Urine test was done with strip test. The patients were complemented with medicine for one week free of charge which was worth Myanmar kyat 30,000 and above for each patient.

The patients gathered round the rally of medical treatment were from various areas such as Mandalay, Myinn, Taunggyi, Pakokku, Myingyan, Salingyi, Magway and even from Yangon, the former capital of the country.

The eye ailments of patients related with the diabetes mellitus were examined and treated by ophthalmologist from the UK.

The visiting medical team was constituted with the following physicians and doctors.

1. Professor Daw Than Tha Aye, Retired Physician, University of Medicine-2, Yangon.
2. Professor U Nyunt Thein, Retired Physician, University of Medicine-1, Yangon.
3. Professor U Ko Ko, Consultant Physician, University of Medicine-2, Yangon.
4. Dr. Moe Wint Aung, Consultant Physician, University of Medicine-2, Yangon.
5. Dr. Khin Swe Myint, Consultant Endocrinologist, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital, NHS Foundation Trust, UK.
6. Dr. Nyi Nye Pe, General Practitioner, UK.
7. Dr. Thinn Thinn Hlaing, Chemical Pathologist & Metabolic Physician, Cambridge University Hospital, NHS Foundation Trust, UK.
8. Dr. Khet Khet Myo, Ophthalmologist, Bromfield Hospital, Chelmsford, UK.
9. Two PhD students, one GP doctor, and five junior doctors from Yangon.

Attitude, opinion and stance of the senior doctors towards the philanthropic works have been spelt out by the senior physicians as follows.

Objective, purpose and goal of the project outlined by the senior physicians treating DM project were as follows.

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France’s Hollande says Assad no ally in fight against Islamic State

PARIS, 29 Aug — French President Francois Hollande said on Thursday opposition forces fighting Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq should get more Western support but ruled out sending arms to President Bashar al-Assad as an ally.

Calling Assad an ally of the jihadists, he said: “There is no choice to be made between two barbarisms.”

“A large alliance is needed, but let’s be clear. Assad is not a partner in the struggle against terrorism,” Hollande said in a speech to an annual conference of French ambassadors.

Syrian rebel forces have been fighting As- sad for more than three years with political back- ing from the West in a war that has cost 190,000 lives. But hardline Isla- mist groups have increas- ingly dominated the anti-Assad struggle, posing a dilemma for Western countries.

“Today, we are see- ing the consequences (of inaction last year). The (Assad) regime contin- ues without holding back its policy of repression, refugees are amassing in neighbouring countries and terrorist groups are gaining ground.”

“The danger is im- mense,” Hollande added. Militant fighters of Islamic State, a radical al-Qaeda offshoot, have seized swathes of both Syria and Iraq in recent months, alarming regional and Western governments, and have vowed to estab- lish a trans-border Sunni Muslim caliphate.

France was the first Western country to rec- ognize Syria’s opposition forces, but was left out on a limb last year when the United States called off planned air strikes against Assad just hours before French planes were due to take off.

French diplomats have said Paris will be prudent before commit- ting to any future direct military action.

“After what happened last year, now when the Americans decide to do something we will need some very strong guaran- tees before committing to anything. The Americans first have to decide what they want to do,” said a senior French diplomat.

The White House said President Barack Obama would meet his top nation- al security advisers later on Thursday to discuss the challenge presented by Is- lamic State militants, the White House announced. He is considering launch- ing air strikes against them in Syria after the be- heading of American jour- nalist James Foley. — Reuters

China, Central-Eastern Europe seek more potentials on cooperation

BRUSSELS, 29 Aug — China and the Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) region are exerting efforts to enhance coopera- tion between the two sides.

In the latest develop- ment, a local leaders meet- ing between China and Central and Eastern Eu- ropean countries (CCEEC) opened Thursday in the Czech capital of Prague which was attended by Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli.

The second edition of this meeting brings together more than 1,000 partici- pants from local govern- ments and companies in China and the 16 Central and Eastern European countries.

A platform for local governments and busi- ness circles, the forum is the second-most impor- tant platform within the mechanism of cooperation between China and Cen- tral and Eastern European countries, after the Chi- na-CEEC leaders meeting.

China has several ex- isting projects in the region in cooperation with local governments.

For example, the Czech Republic — where the meeting is being hosted — and China are celebrat- ing the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplo- matic relations.

During the visit, Vice Premier Zhang met Czech President Milos Zeman and Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka to discuss cooper- ation in areas of manufac- turing, infrastructure devel- opment and investment.

Neighbouring Poland constitutes an important part of the Silk Road Eco- nomic Belt. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk has said: “Relations between China and Central-East- ern Europe have entered the best period in history, with bilateral meetings fre- quently held at all levels.”

Twinning projects ex- ist between more than 30 cities in China and Poland. Both countries collaborate on the “Go China” program to enhance cultural coop- eration, as well as promoting the Silk Road Central Eu- ropean Railway Connect- ion construction to boost tourism and trade.

The president of the Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agen- cy, Slawomir Majman, said: “The two countries have a large space for co- operation in the fields of coal, energy, communica- tions, infrastructure, agricultural products and food processing.”

Over in Lithuania, the “China+16” forum is viewed as complementary to the European Union-Chi- na strategic partnership, said Justas Pankauskas, ad- visor to Lithuania’s prime minister.

He said the forum provides excellent oppor- tunities for bilateral and regional partnership in vari- ous fields such as econom- ics, transportation, educa- tion and culture.

“China treats all the states as equal partners, no matter are they small or big, developed or developing and this is very impor- tant conditions for estab- lishing stable partnership among them,” Pankauskas underlined.

Serbia, meanwhile, will unveil a Chinese-built bridge over the river Dan- ube in its capital Belgrade by the end of the year. Once finished, the six-lane bridge will be 1.5 km long, 30 meters wide and will overarch the Danube at an altitude of 23 meters.

Chinese Ambassador to Serbia Li Manchang said that the bridge, popularly called “Chinese bridge”, is just one of the many large infrastructural projects be- tween Serbia and China.

Chinese firm Shandong High-speed earlier this month started work on a 50 km highway connect- ing the Serbian capital with Montenegro. — Xinhua

Enhanced Russia-Iraq ties pull more US attention to Baghdad

MOSCOW, 29 Aug — Russia’s readiness to offer discounts on arms sales to Iraq has prompted the United States to step up military-technological coop- eration with Baghdad, Iraqi ambassador to Russia Ismaeel Shafiq Muhsin said on Thursday.

“The Iraqi government has been focused on diver- sifying sources of weapons, and we have been open to signing contracts with any suppliers of weapons meet- ing the Iraqi army’s crite- ria,” Interfax news agency quoted Muhsin as saying.

He said Iraq had asked Moscow for more arms supplies amid increasing activities of militants from the Islamic State, an al- Qaeda’s offshoot operating in the Syria and Iraq.

“The response (from Russia) was very quick, and therefore the United States also had to act with the same swiftness and seek to conclude arms con- tacts with us,” said the diplo- mat. — Xinhua

Denmark PM says not a contender for EU council president

COPENHAGEN, 29 Aug — Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt ruled herself out for the po- sition of the European Union council president, say- ing she was happy staying in her current job.

“I am not coming out as the candidate for the po- sition of President of the EU Council,” she told an EU affairs meeting in parlia- ment. “I am very happy being the prime minister of Denmark.”

Thorning-Schmidt had been thought to be a lead- ing contender for the post a month ago, but may have slipped from the favourite spot as politicians try to come to an agreement over top EU jobs.

Thorning-Schmidt had said before she did not con- sider herself a candidate for the post. — Reuters
**Apple working with NXP for pay-by-touch technology in new iPhone**

**San Francisco, 29 Aug —** Apple Inc is working with Dutch chipmaker NXP Semiconductors NV to add secure near-field communications chips that will allow an iPhone to connect with payment terminals or ticketing systems, the daily reported.

NFC technology allows a smartphone to communicate wirelessly with other devices by tapping them together. Apple has invited media to a “special event” in its hometown of Cupertino, California, on 9 September, when the iPhone maker is expected to unveil the latest versions of its best-selling smart-phones. Apple was not immediately available for comment outside regular US business hours, while NXP declined comment.

**Alibaba opens fifth data centre for public cloud business**

**Beijing, 29 Aug —** Alibaba Group Holding Ltd said on Friday it will open a fifth data centre in Shenzhen to service AliCloud, the latest sign of its growing investment in the small but potentially lucrative cloud computing business.

Established in 2009, AliCloud posted $38 million in revenue during the quarter ending June, a relatively small slice of Alibaba’s $2.54 billion in total revenue for the quarter, according to Alibaba’s financial disclosures filed ahead of its imminent initial public offering in New York.

AliCloud, which has been likened to a budding version of the cloud service run by Alibaba’s US rival, Amazon.com’s Web Services (AWS), began as part of the company’s in-house technical infrastructure but has since expanded to lease processing and storage space for small and medium Internet businesses in China, such as gaming companies.

AliCloud’s new data centre will serve “large and small companies, financial institutions and other third parties in southern China,” the company said in a statement on Friday. AliCloud recently opened its fourth data centre in Hong Kong and maintains three other facilities in mainland China.

**US banking group says unaware of any ‘significant’ cyber attack**

**Boston, 29 Aug —** An influential US financial services industry group that shares information about cyber threats has said it is unaware of any “significant” cyber attacks, downplaying concerns about possible breaches at JPMorgan Chase & Co and other banks.

The group, known as the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Centre, or FS-ISAC, includes all major US banks and dozens of smaller ones along with some large European financial institutions.

“There are no credible threats posed to the financial services sector at this time,” the group said in an email to its members.

FS-ISAC told members in the email that it decided not to raise its barometer of threats facing banks during a regularly scheduled conference call on Thursday. During the call, members discussed threats facing the financial services sector, including reports of suspected cyber attacks on JPMorgan and other banks.

It added that it was “unaware of any significant cyber-attacks causing unauthorized access to sensitive information at any member institutions.”

**Scientists solve mystery of moving Death Valley rocks**

**Los Angeles, 29 Aug —** A solution to the long-standing mystery of why rocks move erratically across an isolated patch of California’s Death Valley finally emerged on Thursday, when researchers published a study showing the driving force was sheets of wind-driven ice.

Trails from the movement of the rocks, which show them changing direction suddenly in their movement across the so-called Racetrack Playa, have long befuddled scientists and the general public. People wondered: How were the rocks moved?

Paleobiologist Richard Norris of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, who led the study, saw the rare phenomenon firsthand last December while standing with his cousin, engineer James Norris, at the spot.

They published their findings on Thursday in the journal *PLOS One*, showing that even though the stones can sit for a decade or more without moving, on certain occasions they go on a slow trip that results from an unusual combination of ice and wind in an area normally known for scorching hot temperatures.

That happens when the dry lake bed they are in freezes over with a thin layer of ice which then breaks apart in a light wind, sending large sheets of ice against the rocks with enough force to move them a few yards per minute, Norris said.

Because of the ability of the large ice sheets to catch the wind, and aided by the underlying flow of water, the rocks, which weigh as much as 700 pounds (318 kg), are pushed along in a way that could not occur from the force of the wind alone, he said.

A scientific theory dating back to the 1950s had suggested that thick ice and heavy winds could be behind the movement of the rocks, but the study published on Thursday found the ice was thin and the wind much lighter than first thought.

Popular theories for what kind of rocks have ranged from a sudden tilting of the Earth to the action of giant magnets under the surface of the ground.

“I think it has massive popular appeal because it is one of these things that’s very widely known about but kind of marveled at,” Norris said. — Reuters

**A rock containing a motion-activated Global Positioning System (GPS) unit is seen in the so-called Racetrack Playa of California’s Death Valley in this undated handout photo provided by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.** — Reuters

**A sign outside the headquarters of JPMorgan Chase & Co in New York on 19 Sept, 2013.** — Reuters

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Myanmar Posts & Telecommunications

From 1st September, MPT SIM cards will be available in retail stores across the nation

MPT is making to get SIM cards easier for the people of Myanmar. From 1st September onwards, affordable MPT SIM cards will be sold at a wide network of retail stores in all states and regions across the country. More SIM cards will continue to come every month, and will be made available in more cities and towns across the nation.

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<td>Botataung, Dagon Myothit, Dawbon, Mingalarthaungyin, North Okkalapa, Pazundaung, South Okkalapa, Tamwe, Thaketa, Thingangku, Yankin, Hlaingtharyar, Hlaing, Hmaung, Htanbat, Insein, Mingaladon, Shwegyithar, Taikkyi, Ahone, Bahan, Cokkyun, Dagon, Dala, Hlaing, Kamaray, Kawhmu, Kayan, Kungyangon, Kyauktada, Kyauktan, Kyaemyinsein, Larrmaw, Lath, Mayangone, Pabedan, Sanhaung, Seikkyikinsung, Seikky, Thanlyin Thongwa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shan</td>
<td>Taunggyi, Lashio, Kengtung, Mongphak, Mongton, Taehliik, Haeli, Kuksi, Laukkaing, Mabein, Manton, Mongnitt, Mongyi, Muse, Nanhkan, Nawnghkko, Kaliw, Kuthing, Laliha, Langko, Lawksaw, Lolien, Monghsu, Mongnial, Nansiang, Nyaungshwe, Pekon, Pindaya, Pinlaung, Wanyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyarwady</td>
<td>Pathein, Bogale, Danubyu, Darewe, Eime, Tinphada, Ingapu, Kangyaun, Kyakkal, Kyaukang, Kyaukmyo, Labuts, Lemyethna, Maubin, Mawlamyineygun, Myanma, Myawun, Ngapudaw, Nyaungdon, Pantanaw, Pyapon, Thabaung, Wakema, Yegyi, Zalan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detail informations, please contact to “106”.

Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications
Bahrain denies inviting senior US diplomat expelled for “interference”

MANAMA, 29 Aug — Bahrain officials on Thurs- 
day denied a claim made by a US official saying the tiny 
island nation invited a sen- 
or US diplomat to return to the kingdom after he was 
expelled for “interfering in 
domestic affairs.”

Earlier on Tuesday, US State Department 
spokeswoman Jen Psaki said during a briefing in 
Washington that the top of- 
icial “has received an invi- 
tation to return to Bahrain.”

She added, “there’s a 
trip that’s currently being 
planned, but I don’t have 
details on that yet at this 
point in time.”

However on Thursday, the Bahrain Foreign Affairs 
Undersecretary Abdulla 
Abdulatif said the govern- 
ment had not invited the 
senior diplomat to return, 
calling Psaki’s statements “inaccurate.”

US Assistant Secre- 
tary of State for Democra- 
cy, Human Rights and La- 
bour Tomasz Malinowski was 
declared persona non 
grata by the Bahrain For- 
eign Affairs Ministry on 7 
July and asked to leave the 
country, sparking brief diplomatic tensions 
between the two allies.

The expulsion fol- 
lowed Malinowski’s meet- 
ning with the country’s main 
opposition group al-Wefaq National Islamic Society 
secretary general Shaikh 
Ali Salman and former 
Member of Parliament Ab- 
duljalil Khalil at the oppo- 
sition group’s headquarters 
in Bilad al-Qadeem.

Small island states faced with vulnerable social, 

economic landscape

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Aug — A UN report said 
here on Thursday that small island states are now 
aced with vulnerable so- 
cial and economic land- 
capes. The finding was 
contained in “the State of 
Human Development in 
the Pacific: a report on vul- 
nerness and exclusion in a 
time of rapid change,”

which was launched at UN 
headquarters in New York. 

The report focused on 
small state challenges and 
recommendations for the 
countries that are tackling 
challenges like, weak econo- 
ies, poverty, deteriorat- 
ing social protection and an 
increase in migration.

Briefing the press 
here on the report, Nich- 
olas Rosellini, deputy di- 
rector of United Nations 
Development Programme 
(UNDP) Regional Bureau 
for Asia and the Pacific, 
said, “Across some of the 
(small states), the poverty 
rate of households with 
three or more children 
were found to be between 
27 percent and 63 percent 

higher than the national 
average.”

Rosellini said that 
youth and women deserve 
the most attention in vul- 
nerable states. “Women 
have lower access to em- 
ployment and they often 
work in an informal sector 
with no legal rights, social 
security or welfare,” he 
said.—Xinhua

Cuban VP calls for 
boosting tobacco output

HAVANA, 29 Aug — Cuban Vice President Jose Ra- 
mon Machado on Thursday urged tobacco farmers in his 
country to tap further into the national advantage and 
increase output.

“Cuban tobacco is the world’s best. ... It is an advan-
tage that we cannot afford to waste, so we have to have 
a strong output,” official daily Granma quoted him as 
saying during a visit to the western province of Pinar del Rio, 
Cuba’s tobacco-growing centre.

In order to boost the output, besides securing the mar-
ket, tens of thousands of people in Pinar del Rio are em-
ployed, said Machado.

Another 15,940 hectares of tobacco, about 70 percent 
of the current national total, are to be planted in the prov-
ince for the next harvest season.

Xinhua

Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 
30th August, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be 
scattered in Sagaing Region, Kachin and Chin States, 
fairly widespread in Mandalay and Magway Regions, 
Rakhine and Kayah States and widespread in the re-

mainin Regions and States with likelihood of isolat-
ed heavy falls in Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions, 
Shan, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is 
(100%).

BAY INFERENCE According to the observation at 
(12:30hrs MST today, the low pressure area over 
West Central and adjoining Northwest Bay of Bengal 
still persists. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea 
and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of 
Bengal.

Xinhua
Animation director Miyazaki to receive academy’s honourary award

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug — The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said on Thursday it has picked Japanese animated film director Hayao Miyazaki as one of three recipients of this year’s honorary Governors Award for his lifetime achievements in the film industry.

Miyazaki, 73, is the second Japanese director to receive the award, following Akira Kurosawa who won it at the 62nd Academy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles on 8 November.

Miyazaki’s “Spirited Away” won the Oscar for Animated Feature Film in 2003. His other works include “Princess Mononoke” and “The Wind Rises,” which was nominated for best animated feature at the 86th Academy Awards in March.

In a press release, the academy noted that Miyazaki gained “an enormous following in his native Japan” for such features as “Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind,” “Laputa: Castle in the Sky” and “My Neighbor Totoro.” Miyazaki’s animated films are known for their critical views of modern civilization and a sense of awe toward nature. His works are popular overseas as well as in Japan.

The award will be presented at the 6th Governors Awards ceremony in Los Angeles on 8 November.

American pop singer Redfoo attacked at Australian pub

SYDNEY, 29 Aug — Redfoo, one half of LMFAO the US pop duo behind the hit single ‘I’m Sexy and I Know It’, has been hit with a glass at a pub in an upmarket Sydney suburb and suffered a minor facial injury. Australian police said on Thursday.

The singer and Australian X Factor talent show judge, whose real name is Stefan Kendal Gordy, has been left with a scar above his right eye after a man hurled a glass at him, police said. “He looked at me and taunted me and winked his eye, just to say ‘I got you’ or something,” Redfoo told Australian television.

Police have charged a 21-year-old man over the attack. He will appear in court next month.

Redfoo is the youngest son of Berry Gordy Jr, the founder of Motown Records company.

Lana Del Rey to record Bond theme?

LONDON, 29 Aug — Singer Lana Del Rey is reportedly in talks to record the next James Bond theme. The 29-year-old ‘Young and Beautiful’ singer will face stiff competition for the coveted job from British singer Sam Smith, reported Metro online.

“Producers know it has to be a great song with a killer vocal to rival the phenomenal success of Adele’s ‘Skyfall’. Sam seems like the favourite but Lana could definitely give him a run for his money,” a source said.

Adele’s ‘Skyfall’ — which supported the 2012 film of the same name — ranks as one of the best-selling Bond themes of all time and helped earn the 50-year-old franchise earn its first ever Academy Award for Best Original Song in 2013.

Other Bond songs have been nominated for an Oscar including, Paul McCartney’s ‘Live and Let Die’, taken from the film of the same name. ‘Bond 24’, starring Daniel Craig, is expected to hit theatres in 2015. — PTI

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie say, ‘I do’

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug — Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, Hollywood’s first couple, married in France over the weekend following a two-year engagement, ending nearly a decade of fevered tabloid speculation over whether “Brangelina” would ever tie the knot.

Pitt, 50, and Jolie, 39, were wed on Saturday in a small chapel at Chateau Miraval, the couple’s estate in southeastern France, in a civil ceremony, according to a statement provided by publicist Martin Torres on Thursday.

The couple whose long-rumoured nuptials had been celebrity magic and tabloid fodder and had sent reporters and photographers as far as India and Africa in search of possible secret ceremonies — wed much like they live: quietly and far removed from Hollywood’s spotlight.

The power couple’s six children, all under the age of 14, took part in the ceremony, the statement said.

The “Maleficent” star was walked down the aisle by eldest sons Maddox and Pax, while Zahara and Vivienne threw petals gathered from a garden. Shiloh and Knox were ring bearers.

“It was very much a family affair,” the statement said.

Jolie and Pitt, who had said they hoped to wed once same-sex marriage was legal throughout the United States, were married under California law by a judge who travelled to France for the ceremony.

Lana Del Rey, boyfriend of Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, laughs during her women’s singles match against Sloane Stephens of the US at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 20 Jan, 2014. — Reuters

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

Lana Del Rey

File photo taken in March 2014 shows Japanese animation director Hayao Miyazaki at Studio Ghibli in Koganei, Tokyo. The Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said 28 Aug, 2014, it has picked Miyazaki as one of three recipients of its Honorary Award for the year. — Kyodo News

Singer Redfoo, boyfriend of Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, laughs during her women’s singles match against Sloane Stephens of the US at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 20 Jan, 2014. — Reuters

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Shanghai to hold int’l children’s book fair

BEIJING, 29 Aug — An international children’s book fair will be held in Shanghai in November, organizers said on Thursday.

Over the course of three days, the 21st China Shanghai International Children’s Book Fair (CCBF) will put on show digital and paper books, magazines, CDs, etc. targeting children below the age of 16. Representatives of 250 domestic and foreign participants, including Oxford University Press, Amazon and China Publishing Group Corp, are expected to host exhibitions beginning 20 November.

The time-honoured “Chen Bochui International Children’s Literature Award” will also be awarded, according to Kan NIng-hui, deputy director of the Shanghai Bureau of Press and Publication.

“The event is an attempt to boost international exchange and culture. We hope that it will make more kids fall in love with children’s literature,” Kan said.—Xinhua

Argentine airport strike disrupts 20 flights to Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 Aug — More than 20 Buenos Aires-bound flights from Brazil had to be canceled on Thursday due to a 36-hour strike by Argentine unions opposed to the government.

Several affected airlines said the strike, initiated on Wednesday by the Workers’ Central Union of Argentina (CTA) and other labor groups, has disrupted air traffic at Buenos Aires’ Jorge Newbery Airfield, known as “Aeroparque”.

In Brazil, flights going to and coming from the Argentine capital had been canceled.

Brazilian airlines TAM and Gol, as well as Chile’s LAN and Argentina’s Austral and Argentina Airlines, which operate the Sao Paulo-Aeroparque route, said they were canceling all of the day’s flights to Buenos Aires.

At Rio de Janeiro’s international airport, Argentina Airlines canceled five scheduled flights to Buenos Aires and five return flights.

At Sao Paulo’s Guarulhos airport, the country’s busiest, at least 16 flights were canceled on Thursday morning by various airlines. Brazil-Argentina flights to and from Buenos Aires’ Ezeiza International Airport have not been affected by the strike.

Both airports handle about the same number of flights, but Aeroparque handled more passenger traffic in 2013 than Ezeiza, according to Xinhua.

APEC members calls for ocean partnership

BEIJING, 29 Aug — Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members passed a declaration on Thursday calling for the establishment of a new partnership focusing on maritime cooperation in the region.

The agreement came out of a meeting in Xiamen, a coastal city in southeast China’s Fujian Province.

According to the declaration, APEC members will try to form a partnership to collaborate in areas such as coastal and marine ecosystem conservation and disaster resilience; the role of the ocean in food security and food-related trade; marine science, technology and innovation; and the blue economy, Liu Cigui, executive chairman of the ministerial meeting and head of China’s State Oceanic Administration, said that the partnership is necessary as oceanic development and mitigation of disasters at sea require cross-boarder work.

The meeting is one of nine ministerial ones that will be held in China before November, when leaders from APEC members will meet in Beijing.—Xinhua
Monaco, 29 Aug — Champions League holders Real Madrid will face former European champions Liverpool, FC Basel and debutants Ludogorets of Bulgaria following the group stage draw on Thursday.

The eagerly-awaited event, held at the Grimaldi Forum in Monte Carlo, had a distinct air of deja vu about it. Bayern Munich and Manchester City were drawn in the same group for the second successive season, as were Chelsea and Schalke 04, and Arsenal and Borussia Dortmund.

Barcelona and Paris St Germain, both clubs with strong links to Qatar, will also face each other in a mouth-watering clash.

Real won the title for a record-extending 10th time when they beat Atletico Madrid 4-1 after extra time in Lisbon in May and have the chance to avenge a 5-0 aggregate defeat by five-time winners AC Milan in 1989 and 1990, but Cristiano Ronaldo, who scored 17 goals in the competition for Real last season, sees no reason why they cannot retain their crown.

Speaking at the draw ceremony after picking up an award as the best player in the competition last season, the Portugal winger was asked by compere and former Manchester United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel if Real could win it again.