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True patriotism

* It is very important for every one of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.

* Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

President U Thein Sein visits agricultural research farms in Tatkon, Yamethin Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—President U Thein Sein, accompanied by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries and for Cooperatives U Ohn Myint, Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Aung Min, visited agricultural research farm in Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area at 7.50 am this morning.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing explained that Tatkon agricultural research farm was established in 1912. A total of 162 out of 200 acres of the farm were put under sunflower, maize, green gram and groundnut as farmer educative farms and quality crops farms. Measures are being taken to distribute seeds in time to help farmers sow them in cultivation season.

Then, the President and Union ministers inspected seeds of maize, sunflower, green gram, groundnut and soybean.

The President said in meeting with farmers in Tatkon that priority was given to increasing income of farmers since the new government took office. The agricultural loan disbursed by the former government was K 20,000 per acre and the incumbent government increased to K 50,000. It has increased the capital of the farmers and the Cooperatives Ministry is also fulfilling the agricultural fund requirements of the farmers by establishing rural microcredit societies, he said. He called on the farmers for cen per cent commitment to self-improvement utilizing the farmlands. He also urged them to cultivate profitable pulses and beans, oil crops and cotton plus paddy in farmlands through multiple cropping patterns. They are to have confidence in quality strains supplied by Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry and to generate more incomes through scientific approaches, he said. He highlighted the need to realize the goodwill of the State and make strides in pursuit of wealth. He urged them not to be swayed by instigations and provocations which are designed to undermine the stability of the country. He concluded his speech with the call for conveying the genuine goodwill of the government towards one another.

President U Thein Sein inspects 10-acre 65-day old sunflower seed production farm in Sibin agricultural research farm.—MNA

The President and party then viewed maize, sunflower, green gram and groundnut plantations.

The President and the Union ministers then visited Sibin agricultural research farm of Agricultural Research Department near Sibin Village, Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region and looked round 10-acre 65-day old sunflower seed production farm.

In the farm, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and Director-General U Kyaw Win gave an account of the success of hybrid sunflower seed production through pollination. The President, in response, called for extensive cultivation of sunflower for edible oil security of the State.

(See page 8)

President U Thein Sein meeting farmers at the briefing hall of agricultural research farm in Tatkon Township. MNA

Second World Media Summit ends in Moscow, next possibly in Bahrain

The photo taken on 6 July, 2012 shows the scene of the plenary session of second World Media Summit (WMS) held in Moscow, capital of Russia.

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California gives green light to high-speed rail plan

An artist's rendition courtesy of the California High-Speed Rail Authority shows a high speed train in a station in the Bay Area in California.

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Serena Williams faces Radwanska in Wimbledon final

Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland plays a return to Angelique Kerber of Germany during a semifinals match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England, on 5 July, 2012.

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PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 8 July, 2012

Political awareness, key to combat against poverty

Scholars use two different ways to define the word 'poverty'. The first economic one is shortage of funds, incomes and material assets. Another broader definition of 'poverty' is lack of poor people's political awareness, confidence, skills and connections. Severe shortage of these things is assumed as one important dimension of 'poverty'.

The incumbent government is implementing sweeping reforms, deviating from top-down management style and adopting bottom-up approach. The reformist administration keeps poverty alleviation on the front burner.

The representatives elected by the people are debating public issues in parliamentary sessions. But the problem that remains is the grass roots are not educated enough to extract the most from the new system.

The people, especially the rural population, are being accustomed to thinking politics as the thing that does not concern them. They used to argue that politics does not feed them. It is true as long as they do not get themselves involved in politics, informing their difficulties to the elected representatives of their constituencies.

Lawmakers are questioning administrative officials at fourth regular Hluttaw session on how the government's measures could best profit their constituents, echoing the voters' voices. They are also discussing bills that may impact on the majority of the population.

So, the people should not turn a blind eye to the fast changing political process of the country. Closely monitor the political process and have your say.

International Day for Cooperatives marked

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—It is required to spread cooperative works among the public by undertaking rural development and poverty alleviation scheme from the point of political, economic, social and international outlooks in line with the theme of International Year of Cooperatives for 2012 "Cooperative enterprise build a better world", said Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint at the ceremony to mark International Year of Cooperatives at the ministry here this evening.

The Union minister noted that the United Nations has designated 2012 as International Year of Cooperatives in honour of the success of cooperative enterprises, adding that they are playing a crucial role in the global economic and social development.

There are a total of 11481 cooperatives at different levels including the central cooperatives association. The Directorate of Small Industries is facilitating the development of small industries and providing technical assistance to industrial productive cooperatives while conducting lecturers on lacquer arts and weaving at Lacquer Arts College (Bagan) and Saungda Weaving Training School preserving Myanma traditional cultural heritage.

As to microfinance works in cooperation with the UNDP, 54.68 billon kyats have been in circulation from 1999 to date in 5697 villages of 25 townships in three zones helping enhance employment opportunities and incomes of 350086 households.

Trainings have been conducted under the theme of "one village, one product" for rural development and promotion of employment opportunities for rural people. A total of 58 courses have been conducted in 2011-2012 fiscal year, training 1775 people.

Export/import cooperative enterprise has been established with a view to boosting exports in the interests of business partners, exporting more items, importing necessary materials for government institutions, cooperatives and private businessmen with dollar income, and contributing to domestic commodity supply.The government has called for accelerated efforts of government sector, private sector and cooperative sector for better economic performance in building the nation as industrialized one from agro-based economy.

The Union minister then awarded prizes to persons and organizations for their outstanding performance in 2011-2012 fiscal year.—*MNA*

Union Minister U Ohn Myint presents prize to a winner at ceremony to mark International Day for Cooperatives.
MNA

U Kyaw Zwar Minn presents credentials to Swiss President

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—U Kyaw Zwar Minn, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Swiss Confederation, presented his Credentials to Her Excellency Ms Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf, President of the Swiss Confederation, on 26 June 2012 in Bern, Switzerland.—*MNA*

Outstanding students, teachers honoured in Launglon Township

DAWEI, 7 July—A ceremony to honour outstanding students and teachers was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the parent-teacher association at Basic Education High School (Branch) in Thakyettaw Village of Launglon Township in Dawei District of Taninthayi Region on 29 June afternoon.

Headmistress Daw Gin Yu of Basic Education High School (Branch) made a speech. Patron of the School Board of Trustees U Nyan Soe explained the purpose of ceremony.

Officials presented prizes to outstanding students who won distinctions in the matriculation examination and the headmistress and 37 teachers. Among 38 candidates in the matriculation examination in 2012, 27 students passed the exam. The school stood second in the best pass rate in the region in 2010-2011 academic year.

Myanma Alin

Ayeyawady region chief minister attends prize awarding of Universities volleyball tournament

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung and wife Daw Khin Htay Myint yesterday morning arrived at Nagayon Yayle Pagoda in Hsupkwin Village, Hsupkwin Village-tract of Kangyidaunt Township in Pathein District and donated flowers, water and light to the pagoda.

Then the chief minister went to Pathein University gymnasium of Pathein where 2011-2011 academic year Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) universities zone level (Men's volleyball) tournament and prize awarding ceremonies were held. The chief minister enjoyed the men's volleyball final match between Pathein University Volleyball Team and Pyay University Volleyball Team.

At the prize awarding ceremony, Commander of Region Police force Police Colonel Myo Than presented consolation prize to Hinthada University, Region Development Affairs Minister U Kyaw Win Naing third prize to Maubin University, Acting Chief Justice of the region U Than Tun second prize to Pyay University and Region Social Affairs Minister U San Maung first prize to Pathein University. Region ministers and deputy region hluttaw speaker presented men of the match and player of the tournament awards to the winners.

The chief minister awarded championship trophy and duplicate trophy, cash awards to players from Pathein University.—*MNA*

Non-Formal Primary Education launched in Mohnyin

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—The Non-Formal Primary Education is being realized with the assistance of UNICEF as of 2012-2013 academic year with the aim of enabling all the children to pursue primary education.

The NFPE programme was launched at Basic Education High School in Hopin on 27 June, attended by Mohnyin Township Administrator U Sai San Win and departmental officials, members of social organizations, townselders, donors, NFPE supervisors and 45 NFPE students.

At the opening ceremony, wellwishers donated books and stationery worth K 650,000 to students.

Township Education Officer Daw Khin Khin Nwe told township correspondent of the New Light of Myanmar Daily that six NFPE bases will be opened in Mohnyin Township in 2012-2013 academic year to give primary education to 118 youths between aged 10 to 14 years including those of working at tea shops, restaurants and worksites.

NLM 001

Myanmar Rice Industry Association to hold AGM

YANGON, 7 July—Myanmar Rice Industry Association will organize the first Annual General Meeting at Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road of Mayangon Township at 1.30 pm on 14 July.

At the meeting, the booths on rice and paddy will be displayed. The Miss Farmer Contest in commemoration of the annual general meeting will be staged at the ceremony from 2 pm to 5 pm on 15 June.—*Myanma Alin*

Second World Media Summit ends in Moscow, next possibly in Bahrain

MOSCOW, 7 July—The Second World Media Summit (WMS), a grand gathering of global media organizations, concluded here on Friday, with organizers announcing the establishment of a working group to prepare for the next summit — possibly to be hosted by Bahrain.

At the closing ceremony of the Moscow summit, Bahrain's Information Minister Samira Rajab proposed that her country play host to the next summit in 2014. "I hope that Bahrain will become the next country to host the World Media Summit. It's vitally important that it (the summit) will take place in an Arab country.

The Arab world needs media attention because it has become a scene for events that are crucial for the whole world," Rajab was quoted as saying by *ITAR-TASS*. Vitaly Ignatenko, director general of *ITAR-TASS* and co-chairman of the summit, welcomed the proposal.

A meeting will be held in November to discuss the technical issues related to the hosting of the next summit, and a final decision made before the end of the year, said Ignatenko.

During two days of discussions at the Moscow summit, hundreds of media representatives exchanged views on media development around the theme of "Global media: meeting challenges of the 21st century." Many media leaders acknowledged that the industry has undergone some profound reshuffle and transformation, and that traditional media are facing mounting pressure from new media and the Internet. World media organizations should readjust themselves in face of severe challenges in the industry and the fast-changing world, especially by adapting themselves to the development of information technology and remodeling their businesses, noted Li Congjun, president of *Xinhua News Agency*, during the discussions.

Xinhua

The photo taken on 6 July, 2012 shows the scene of the plenary session of second World Media Summit (WMS) held in Moscow, capital of Russia. Facing severe challenges in the media industry and the fast-changing world as a whole, major international news organizations should make historical choices, President of China's Xinhua news agency and WMS executive president, Li Congjun said during the session here on Friday.—XINHUA

Suicide bomb attack kills 10, injures 38 in cental Iraqi city

BAGHDAD, 7 July—Ten people were killed and 38 others wounded when a suicide bomber blew up himself in Ramadi, a city some 100 km west of Iraqi capital Baghdad late on Friday, a police source said.

The police source, on condition of anonymity, told *Xinhua* that the incident took place at the wedding party of a local police officer in the centre of the city of Ramadi, capital city of the central Anbar Province.

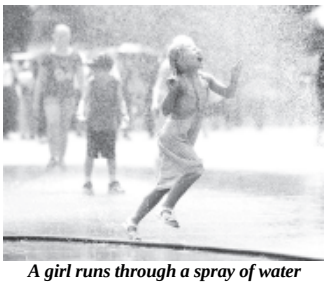
No one so far has claimed responsibility for the attack, said the police officer, adding that as many of the injured in serious situation, the death toll could rise later.

Anbar Province, a Sunnie-dominated region, has been the hotbed of insurgency in the war-battered Iraq.

Xinhua

Iraqi men walk past the bombed remains of vehicles in Khaldiya, 10 km east of Ramadi, in June 2012. A suicide bomber blew up a car packed with explosives near an anti-Qaeda militiaman's home in western Iraq on Friday, killing six people, the latest victims of a spike in nationwide unrest.—INTERNET

Huge swaths of US swelter amid prolonged outages, new storms



A girl runs through a spray of water leaking from a hose outside the Lincoln Memorial on the Washington Mall on 5 July, 2012.—INTERNET

LEWISBURG, (West Virginia) , 7 July—Weary West Virginians dumped rotting food from their refrigerators and tried to clear fallen trees from the roads on Friday as new storms prolonged the power outages that have already lasted a week.

The forecast for the weekend called for more record-breaking heat across the Midwest and into the Eastern United States, with heavy rains and severe storms in the upper Midwest, the National Weather Service said.

The temperature in Chicago hit 100 Fahrenheit (37.7 Celsius) for the third day in a row on Friday, while Nashville, Tennessee, was expected to hit 103 F (39.4 C). For Saturday, forecasters predicted the heat on Saturday in Washington may reach the all-time record for the city of 106 F (41 C).

At least 406,000 people were without electricity on Friday in West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and Ohio, power companies said. New storms knocked out power to parts of West Virginia on Thursday, while other areas have been without electricity since violent storms hit a week ago.

Utility companies warned that some residents in the worst-hit areas could be without power and air conditioning until early next week.

A powerful storm felled hundreds of trees and killed two people on Thursday as it whipped through Tennessee's Great Smoky Mountains National Park.—*Reuters*

US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, second from right, speaks as Afghan President Hamid Karzai, right, listens during a Press conference at the Presidential Palace on 7 July, 2012 in Kabul, Afghanistan. Clinton arrived earlier in the day on an unannounced visit to meet Karzai ahead of the Tokyo conference on Afghanistan's reconstruction.
INTERNET

US declares Afghanistan major non-NATO ally

KABUL, 7 July—Visiting US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said here on Saturday that US President Barack Obama has designated Afghanistan as a major non-NATO ally of the United States.

"I am pleased to announce today that President Barack Obama has officially designated Afghanistan as a major non-NATO ally of the United States," Clinton told reporters in a joint Press conference with Afghan President Hamid Karzai in the Presidential Palace.

She said, "There are a number of benefits that accrue to countries that have this designation, they are able to have access to defence supplies .. they can be part of certain kind of training and capacity building."

Clinton, who is in Kabul for a surprise visit before a key conference on the country to be held in Tokyo, Japan on Sunday, said the US is pledged to continue its support and will work with Afghanistan to get more international support.

The insurgency-hit country would be the 15th such country that the US has declared as a major non-NATO ally.—*Xinhua*

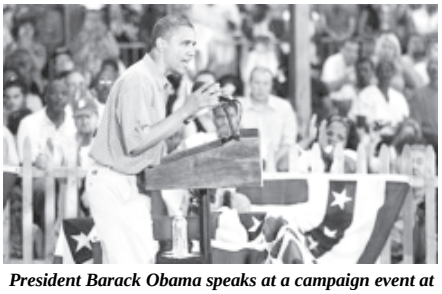
Obama chides Romney for flip-flopping on healthcare

POLAND, 7 July—President Barack Obama accused Republican rival Mitt Romney of kowtowing to conservatives when he changed his position on what to call the healthcare reform provision that requires people to buy insurance.

Obama said Romney had defended the "individual mandate" as a penalty when he backed it as part of healthcare reform in Massachusetts as governor, but changed his tune on the national healthcare law after criticism from fellow Republicans.

"The guy I'm running against tried this in Massachusetts and it's working just fine, even though now he denies it," Obama told a campaign event during a two-day bus tour of Ohio and Pennsylvania, battleground states that will be vital to the outcome of the 6 November election.

Reuters



President Barack Obama speaks at a campaign event at James Day Park in Parma, Ohio on 5 July, 2012.
REUTERS

Seven arrested in British anti-terrorism raids

LONDON, 7 July—Seven men have been arrested on suspicion of terrorism offences in Britain after weapons were found in a vehicle stopped on a motorway, police said on Friday, as security forces are on high alert ahead of the London Olympics.

The vehicle was pulled over in a routine stop on the M1 motorway in South Yorkshire, northern England, on Saturday and impounded on suspicion of the driver having no insurance.

The suspects were believed to be linked to militant Islamism and were still being questioned but it was unclear what they planned, a security source said.

Firearms, other weapons and other unspecified material were later found inside which prompted police to trace and arrest the driver, passenger and other suspects.

"As soon as the items were discovered in the impounded vehicle, our priority was to protect the public by pursuing and arresting those we believed to be involved," said Detective Chief Superintendent Kenny Bell, Head of the West Midlands region's Counter Terrorism Unit.

A police source said there was nothing to suggest any link to the Olympics, which start in three weeks' time.

Reuters

Alaska aquarium cares for abandoned beluga calf

SEWARD, 7 July — Marine mammal specialists from across the country have descended on an Alaska aquarium to help care for a baby beluga whale that became separated from its mother shortly after its birth. The male calf is under 24-hour care at the Alaska SeaLife Centre in Seward, being fed by a stomach tube while learning how to suckle from a bottle.

"He's currently doing very well, swimming on his own and he has been from the first time he got here, learning to take food from a bottle, which has been challenging," said Tara Riemer Jones, the center's president and CEO.

It's believed to be the first baby beluga rescue in the United States, at least since federal record keeping began in 1972, she said. Other attempts at rescue resulted in calf deaths or in one case, the calf being returned to its pod. It's such a rare event that specialists have been helping with the animal's care, including staff members from the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, Shedd Aquarium in Chicago and SeaWorld in San Diego.

"It's actually a pretty unprecedented event in certain ways," said Dennis Christen, the Georgia Aquarium's director of animal training who was in place 29 hours after the calf arrived in Seward.

The whale was estimated to be 2 days old when it was found near South Naknek, in Alaska's Bristol Bay, on 18 June. Officials believe a storm likely separated the calf from its mother.

Tim Lebling, the Alaska SeaLife Centre's stranding coordinator, flew to South Naknek that afternoon to retrieve the calf. It was flown 90 minutes back to Seward in dry transport. Lebling said the calf was placed on an air mattress in the plane, positioned so its weight wouldn't put pressure on vital organs, and then constantly covered with wet towels.

Lebling said it was touch-and-go for the first part of the flight, probably because of stress. "We thought he took his last breath at one point," Lebling said, but then he breathed again.

This photo taken on 4 July, 2012, at the Alaska SeaLife Centre in Seward, Alaska, shows Elizabeth Davis from the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, left, and Dennis Christen of the Georgia Aquarium feed a bottle to a baby beluga calf being rehabilitated at the centre.— INTERNET

Even though the beluga is still in critical care, caregivers are guardedly optimistic about his rehabilitation. Survival odds for an animal this age coming into a stranding program are low, said Brett Long, the husbandry director at the centre.

"We take it a day at a time," he said. "We're very happy to see that we appear to be meeting its nutritional goals and that it's maintaining its weight, and we're seeing slow, incremental weight gain." The calf is now about 5 feet long and weighs 115 pounds, up 5 pounds since his arrival.

The biggest worry now is the calf's immune system, which is insufficiently developed because it did not receive any of its mother's milk. "We are working with other aquariums to provide supplements that will help aid the development of that immune system, but it's a waiting game," Long said. Jones said there is nothing specifically wrong with the calf medically "other than he's young and at high-risk."

Internet

US to begin new phase of hypersonic flight programme

LOS ANGELES, 7 July — The Defence Department's research arm will seek proposals next month for solutions to technology hurdles in super high-speed flight with a goal of testing a full-scale hypersonic X-plane in four years. The Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency said on Friday it will host a so-called Proposers' Day on 14 Aug to lay out technical areas for which proposals are being sought.

DARPA has tested highly experimental versions of a rocket-launched unmanned glider designed to fly at speeds 20 times the speed of sound, or 20 Mach. The goal is to give the US a defence capability of reaching any spot on Earth in an hour. But such aircraft have to endure blast-furnace heat and require extraordinary controls. The last test launch from California ended with the glider's skin peeling away.— *Internet*

Hawking's rival says Higgs wager win is icing on cake

British physicist Peter Higgs (R) shakes hands with Belgium physicist Francois Englert before a scientific seminar to deliver the latest update in the search for the Higgs boson at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Meyrin near Geneva on 4 July, 2012.— REUTERS

LONDON, 7 July — The US scientist who won a $100 wager with Stephen Hawking over whether the Higgs boson would ever be found said on Friday winning was the icing on the cake of a major scientific discovery. Scientists at Europe's CERN research centre announced on Wednesday that they had found a new subatomic particle which appeared to be the boson imagined and named half a century ago by theoretical physicist Peter Higgs. Hawking, Britain's most famous living scientist, said the discovery should earn Higgs the Nobel Prize, but admitted in an interview that it would make him $100 poorer.

"I had a bet with Gordon Kane (of the University of Michigan) that the Higgs particle wouldn't be found," Hawking told BBC News on Wednesday. "It seems I have just lost $100." Kane told *Reuters* Hawking had thrown down the gauntlet and he had quickly accepted. "I was confident a Higgs boson would be found. The Higgs discovery feels fantastically wonderful. It completes the description built up over several centuries, and points the way to strengthen the foundations of the Standard Model. Winning the bet is a very nice frosting on the cake," he said.

Kane recalled the bet was made at a conference where several physicists were discussing over dinner whether CERN would extend the life of its Large Electron Positron collider, a forerunner to the Large Hadron Collider in which the new particle was found. Kane was canny. The bet was about the discovery of the particle — a basic building block of the universe and key to the formation of stars, planets and life itself — not about which machine would do it. Higgs said Hawking had contacted him in the wake of the announcement and confirmed the cheque was in the post. "I'm not the one he owes money to. I think he is sending a hundred dollars to Gordy Kane at Michigan," Higgs said.

Higgs confessed that he was given the news the night before it was unveiled to the world, when a bottle of champagne was opened at a dinner organized by CERN researchers on Tuesday. His celebration after the event was more low key, according to physicist Alan Walker, who offered him a glass of Prosecco on the plane home. "He said 'I'd rather have a beer'," Walker said. Kane said he plans to spend his winnings wisely. "All funds go toward research. I would love to have other bets but I can't find anyone to bet against me," he told *Reuters*.— *Reuters*

The Nokia Lumia 910 could be the first Windows Phone 8 device.— INTERNET

The Nokia Lumia 910 could be the first Windows Phone 8 device

AMSTERDAM, 7 July — File this under "wild speculation," but Dutch blog NieuweMobiel has spotted the Nokia Lumia 910 on Nokia's application testing program for developers and says that the device may be the first to run on Windows Phone 8.

For those who don't remember, the Lumia 910 was originally rumored to launch this past May but Nokia hasn't put out any official word on the device even after months of rumors.

But now that it's popped up on Nokia's app-testing programme it's fair to guess that Nokia does indeed have some plans for it and that those plans might include Windows Phone 8 since Windows Phone 7 is basically a dead operating system walking at this point.

The WMPoweruser blog, for what it's worth, was skeptical that the Lumia 910 would be Nokia's flagship Windows Phone 8 device and says that it's "much more likely it is a Lumia 900 variant, possibly with a differentiator like 32 GB storage, to keep the market going while we wait for the real Windows Phone 8 handsets to arrive."

Internet

Apple to continue dominating ultra-thin notebook market following Windows 8 launch

NEW YORK , 7 July — Despite the launch of Windows 8 later this year and the wave of ultra-thin Microsoft-powered notebook computers that will accompany the new operating system, Apple will continue to dominate the ultra-thin portable PC market through 2012 according to a new report. Digitimes Research, the analyst arm of industry watcher Digitimes, on Thursday issued a report suggesting Apple's popular MacBook Air series of laptops accounted for 50% of global ultra-thin notebook shipments last quarter in spite of the continued ultrabook push across numerous PC vendors.

While the buzz surrounding Microsoft's Windows 8 platform continues to grow, Digitimes Research still expects shipments of Apple's MacBook Air to outnumber the combined shipments of all Windows-powered ultrabooks following the launch of Microsoft's new OS.

"Apple's ultra-thin MacBook series products (MacBook Air) already account for 50% of global notebook shipments that feature an ultra-thin design in the second quarter and Apple's MacBook Air shipments in the fourth quarter are still expected to surpass the combined shipments of the non-Apple notebook brand vendors' ultrabook and ultra-like notebook products," Digitimes Research senior analyst Joanne Chien noted.

Internet

Apple to continue dominating ultra-thin notebook market following Windows 8 launch.— INTERNET

Samsung wins bid to sell Nexus in Apple court battle

An employee of South Korean mobile carrier KT holds a Samsung Electronics' Galaxy tablet 10.1 (R) and Apple Inc's iPad at a registration desk at KT's headquarters in Seoul, in this 10 Aug, 2011 file photo. — REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 7 July — Samsung Electronics scored a partial victory against arch-foe Apple Inc on Friday after a US appeals court lifted a freeze on sales of its Galaxy Nexus smartphones but upheld a lower court's decision to temporarily halt sales of its Galaxy 10.1 tablet computer. Apple accused its Asian rival, the leader in global mobile device sales, in lawsuits of blatantly copying its hot-selling iPhones and iPads. Last week, a San Jose court granted rare, temporary injunctions against the sale of the Galaxy mobile devices in question, a triumph for the Silicon Valley consumer electronics giant that had asked for the bans until their trial begins on 30 July.

Apple has waged an international patent war since 2010 as it seeks to limit the growth of Google's Android system, the world's most-used mobile operating platform. Opponents of Apple say it is using patents too aggressively in a bid to stamp out competition. Apple and Samsung Electronics, the world's largest consumer electronics companies, are waging legal battles in about 10 countries, accusing each other of patent infringement as they vie for supremacy in a fast-growing market for mobile devices. The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit said it would temporarily stay the smartphone injunction while it considers Apple's arguments, the court said in a brief order. It gave Apple a 12 July deadline to respond.

The decisions are the latest in a long-running battle between Samsung and Apple in US courts but are unlikely to severely depress the Asian tech-power's bottom line since it is rolling out new tablet and smartphone models. On Friday, Samsung announced that soaring sales of its smartphones helped drive a record $5.9 billion quarterly profit. Earlier this week, US District Judge Lucy Koh in San Jose, California, rejected Samsung's request to lift her June 26 order to halt sales of the tablet, which runs on Google Inc's Android operating system and goes toe-to-toe with the iPad. Koh also slapped a pre-trial ban on sales of Samsung's Galaxy Nexus phone a week ago.

Apple sued Samsung last year, accusing the South Korean electronics maker of "slavishly" copying the iPhone and iPad. Samsung denies the claim and countersued. Samsung's Galaxy touchscreen tablets are considered by many industry experts to be the main rival to the iPad, though they are currently a distant second to Apple's devices. Apple sold 13.6 million iPads from January through March to control 63 percent of the global tablet market, according to research from Display Search. Samsung sold 1.6 million tablets, giving it 7.5 percent of the market.— *Reuters*

Health Tip: If your child has a nightmare

Everyone has bad dreams, but they can be especially frightening for young children. The Lucile Packard Children's Hospital offers these suggestions for the parents of children who have just had a nightmare:

* Offer plenty of cuddles, comfort and reassurance to your child.
* During the day, talk about your child's bad dream, and make sure to avoid frightening TV programmes and movies.
* Leave the door to the child's bedroom open, and offer a favorite toy or blanket for comfort.
* Avoid spending a lot of time looking for the "monster" that scared your child. Let your child go back to sleep in his or her own bed.
* Read a book about coping with nighttime fears.
* Before bed, talk about funny and happy topics.

Internet

Job seekers wait in front of the training offices of Local Union 46, the union representing metallic lathers and reinforcing ironworkers, in the Queens borough of New York, on 29 April, 2012.— REUTERS

Wall Street Week Ahead: Stimulus moves, profits to be focus

NEW YORK, 7 July — Wall Street has been running in circles for the past two months, and the pattern may continue despite the upcoming start of the earnings season. Quarterly report cards from blue-chips Alcoa and JPMorgan next week could fade into the background as traders jockey for position before key data from China and more central bank headlines next week.

After three major central banks eased monetary policy this week, investors will comb through the minutes of the latest Federal Reserve policy meeting, which will be released on Wednesday, to see what officials said about a further round of asset purchases. US stocks face headwinds from a slowing global economy. Europe's debt crisis has drawn much of the attention, but little clarity has emerged about how the euro zone's debt and banking problems will be fixed despite numerous meetings. The uncertainty has left the market in the hands of traders, who look for opportunities for quick returns, while investors, who are in the market for the long haul, watch from the sidelines.

A sign is seen on Wall Street near the New York Stock Exchange on 15 June, 2012.— REUTERS

The S&P 500 flirted with going negative for the year shortly before posting its best week since December. The benchmark index is less than 0.1 percent above where it was two months ago. "Traders are happy going in and out of the market within a range, but for the average investor it's a market in which the path is still unclear," said Quincy Krosby, market strategist at Prudential Financial in Newark, New Jersey. On Friday, the S&P 500 closed down 0.55 percent for the week. The index has posted four weeks of gains and four of losses in the last eight.— *Reuters*

Dismal hiring shows economy stuck in low gear

WASHINGTON, 7 July — US employers hired at a dismal pace in June, raising pressure on the Federal Reserve to do more to boost the economy and dealing another setback to President Barack Obama's reelection bid. The Labour Department said on Friday that non-farm payrolls grew by just 80,000 jobs in June, the third straight month below 100,000.

Job creation was too weak to bring down the country's 8.2 percent jobless rate and the report fueled concerns that Europe's debt crisis was shifting the US economy into low gear." We're just crawling forward here," said Nigel Gault, an economist at IHS Global Insight in Lexington, Massachusetts.

While Obama holds a narrow lead in most national polls, many voters are critical of his handling of the economy. Speaking at a campaign rally in Ohio, Obama said the pace of job creation needs to pick up.

"It's still tough out there," he said. Mitt Romney, Obama's Republican challenger, assailed the president for not doing enough to get people back to work.

"This kick in the gut has got to end," Romney told reporters in New Hampshire. US stocks closed about 1 percent lower, while yields on US government debt fell on bets the Fed would launch a new round of bond purchases to lower borrowing costs and spur hiring. The dollar fell against the yen, but rose against the euro as investors sought a safe haven.

Last month, the Fed extended a programme aimed at keeping long-term interest rates down and said it was prepared to do more to spur the economic recovery if needed. —*Reuters*

UNAIDS says record number of Africans get AIDS drugs

WASHINGTON, 7 July — A record number of Africans now have access to drugs to control the HIV virus, but the continent must work harder to strengthen the lifeline, the head of UNAIDS says. At the end of last year, 6.2 million people in sub-Saharan Africa were taking antiretroviral treatment, an increase of 1.1 million over 2010, UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibe said in an interview on Thursday. It means that 56 percent of Africans in need of the drugs now have access to them, he said.

"Ten years ago, nobody would have imagined that such a result would be possible," he said. he cost of the drugs has plummeted from around $15,000 per head a dozen years ago to some $80 today, and many treatments are far simpler for patients than in the past. idibe — visiting Paris ahead of the 22-27 July International AIDS Conference in Washington — said he was worried that African countries remained so dependent on foreign help.

"With the exception of South Africa, 80 percent of Africans with HIV have access to drugs via funding from outside Africa. This is not sustainable. It's even dangerous," he said. Budget constraints in donor countries since the 2008 financial crisis have caused funding to stagnate, falling by 13 percent between 2009 and 2010 alone. China now totally funds its domestic AIDS programme and the figure for fellow emerging giant India is 95 percent, but in Africa some countries are 100-percent dependent on foreign help, Sidibe sdaid.

Another problem is that Africa is 80-percent dependent on India for its drugs, Sidibe said. He added he would call for an African Medicines Regulatory Agency at an Africa Union summit, taking place in Addis Ababa from 13 to 15 July. The proposed agency would vet drugs, given the widening problem of fake or below-quality medications that are being sold in Africa, and encourage local production of AIDS pills.— *Internet*

A nurse at an anti-retroviral clinic gives medicines to a patient in the town of Winterton, South Africa, 2008. INTERNET

Gunmen kill 18 bus passengers in Pakistan

QUETTA, 7 July—Gunmen on motorcycles attacked a bus in southwestern Pakistan near the Iranian border on Friday, killing 18 people and wounding two, Pakistani police said.

The attack occurred when the bus, which was heading for Iran, stopped at a roadside shop in the Kech area of Baluchistan Province, the police said. They said six gunmen were involved.

No further details were immediately available.

Several militant groups are active in Baluchistan, Pakistan's biggest but poorest province.

Much of the violence in the past has been blamed on ethnic Baluch separatists, who are fighting a protracted insurgency, demanding more autonomy and control over the natural resources of the province.

Pro-Taleban militants are active in the province, which borders both Afghanistan and Iran.

Sunni Muslim militants also regularly carry out attacks on Baluchistan's Shi'ite minority. They have stepped up attacks in recent months.

Reuters

***Pakistani security personnel search a car at a checkpoint in Baluchistan in 2011. Unidentified gunmen in southwest Pakistan late Friday killed 18 people who were trying to illegally cross into neighbouring Iran in three vehicles, officials said.—*REUTERS**

US drone kills 12 suspected militants in Pakistan

MIRANSHAH, 7 July—A US drone aircraft killed at least 12 suspected militants on Friday when it fired missiles at a compound in Pakistan near the Afghan border, Pakistani intelligence officials said.

The death toll from the strike in the Dattakhel region in North Waziristan could rise, the officials said.

Many Pakistanis say drone attacks that kill civilians are a violation of Pakistani sovereignty. The attacks are one of several factors straining ties between Pakistan and the United States.

The United States and Pakistan resolved one of their most heated disputes this week when US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton apologised for an air attack that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers last November.

The apology paved the way for Pakistan to permit trucks carrying NATO supplies to cross into Afghanistan for the first time in more than seven months.

The CIA has stepped up drone attacks in North Waziristan in recent weeks in an area seen as a hub for militant groups who attack US forces and their allies in Afghanistan.

Eight people were killed there in a drone strike on Sunday.—*Reuters*

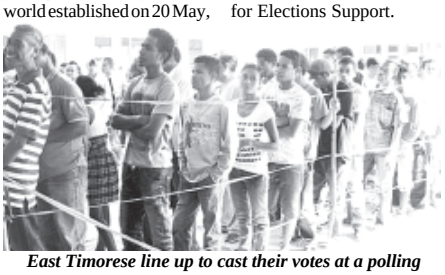
***A US Predator drone sets off from its hangar at Bagram air base in Afghanistan. A US drone attack on a militant compound in Pakistan's northwestern tribal area killed nine insurgents and injured three late Friday, security officials said —* INTERNET**

Timor-Leste holds parliamentary elections

DILI, 7 July—Timor-Leste's parliamentary elections started at 7 am local time Saturday and a total of 21 political parties are competing for 65 seats in the unicameral National Parliament.

The elections will produce the third parliament of Timor-Leste, the second youngest country in the world established on 20 May, 2002.

A total of 880 polling stations have been opened in the 13 districts across the country, including eight mobile polling stations — six hospital polling stations and two prison polling stations, said Cesarina Karceres, the official in charge of public information at the Technical Secretariat for Elections Support.



***East Timorese line up to cast their votes at a polling station during the nation's parliamentary elections, in Dili, on 7 July.—*INTERNET**

At the Meli-Aut polling station in Dili, voting process has been going on peacefully and smoothly. Observers from the European Union and the Asia Foundation were overseeing the voting procedures. Across the country, there are together 586 international observers from 33 international organizations and 2,618 Timorese observers from 46 organizations overseeing the voting, said Karceres.

Newly-inaugurated President Taur Matan Ruak cast his vote at the Meli-Aut polling station at around 10 am.

The elections "show the world that democracy of Timor-Leste has its feet to walk, demonstrate the restability in the country, and show the determination and will from every citizen to fight against the greatest risk of poverty," said the president.

Every citizen aged above 17 has the right to vote. As illiteracy rates are high in the Southeast Asian country, ballot tickets are specially designed with colorful flags of each of the 21 parties competing in the elections. Timorese who do not write can use a nail to punch on the ballot tickets of the party they support.

"I hope the next government can maintain peace and stability, and build a fair and equal society," said Elmenezild Da Silva who works for a non-government organization.

In Timor-Leste, parliamentary members are elected by proportional representation for a five-year term. There is a 3 percent threshold for entering the parliament.—*Xinhua*

HK customs smash record South American cocaine syndicate

HONG KONG, 7 July—A joint operation by Hong Kong and US authorities, nicknamed 'Surfing Coke', has helped net the city's largest cocaine haul, worth around HK$760 million ($98 million).

In a statement released late on Friday, the Hong Kong government said its customs department had discovered 649 kg (1,425 pounds) of cocaine in a container shipped from Ecuador.

Disguised as blocks of laurel wood, officers found 22 nylon bags containing a total of 541 slabs of cocaine, with each slab weighing about 1.2 kg.

Three local men have been arrested and were to appear in court on Saturday. If convicted, they could face life imprisonment and a fine of HK$5 million for trafficking in a dangerous drug.

Lee Cheung-wing, head of Hong Kong's Customs Drug Investigation Bureau, said the city had been working with the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and US Customs and Border Protection this year to combat the rising frequency of narcotics being transported to Hong Kong.

"Between April and June this year, the DEA has referred a batch of Hong Kong-bound containers exported from South American countries to Hong Kong Customs for follow-up action," he said in the statement.

Reuters

Owner of restaurant where Obama ate breakfast dies

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE, 7 July—The elderly owner of an Ohio restaurant where President Barack Obama ate breakfast on Friday died of natural causes just hours after meeting him.

Josephine "Ann" Harris, 70, owner of Ann's Place where Obama was served eggs, bacon, toast and grits, died at a hospital in Akron, Ohio. The president called her daughter from Air Force One to express his condolences.

A hospital spokesman said Harris had complained of fatigue and a tingling feeling. White House press secretary Jay Carney said Harris apparently had not been well and was believed to have had a heart attack.

The Summit County medical examiner's office said Harris died of natural causes. Hospital spokesman Jim Gorsky said she died five hours after Obama's visit.

"The president expressed his sorrow," Carney said aboard Air Force One at the end of a two-day campaign swing through the election battleground states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. "Very sad event. He was very honored to meet her this morning and passed on his feelings that the whole family is in his thoughts and prayers," he said.

Harris's encounter with Obama took place outside her diner, where the president ordered two eggs, over medium, with bacon and wheat toast and accepted a waitress' offer of grits. Harris, a great-grandmother, hugged Obama and posed with him for photographs, local media said. "I'm sure this was her highlight," Harris' sister, Frankie Adkins of Tulsa, Oklahoma, told the *Akron Beacon Journal* newspaper.—*Reuters*

Chicago-area couple killed by train derailment

GLENVIEW, 7 July—A successful lawyer and his wife who planned to celebrate the Fourth of July with dinner, watching a movie or perhaps visiting a botanical garden were killed when a suburban Chicago railroad bridge collapsed, sending train cars and tons of coal crashing onto their car on the road below, attorneys for the victims' family said Friday.

Burton and Zorine Lindner were driving under the railroad bridge about 1:45 pm Wednesday when the train derailed. Twenty-eight of the rail cars piled up on the bridge, causing it to collapse over a road between the suburbs of Glenview and Northbrook — twisted train cars and coal filling the gap where the bridge had been.

Officials initially said that no one was injured, but workers clearing debris discovered a bumper on Thursday morning.

Then, as they cleared away yet more debris, they uncovered the crushed black Lexus with the Glenview couple inside.

Burton Lindner, 69, was a lawyer with a practice in downtown Chicago, where he worked with his oldest son, Robert. His 70-year-old wife was a retired a high school guidance counselor.

With their children out of town and Burton Lindner's talk about taking his wife out for the Fourth of July, no one had reason to suspect the worst after news broke of a railway accident in their hometown — especially since authorities sounded so confident there were no victims, said attorney Michael LaMonica, who knew the Lindners for years and once worked for Burton Lindner's law firm.

***Emergency vehicles are shown at the scene in Northbrook, Ill, on 6 July, 2012, where a train derailment Wednesday caused the collapse of a bridge, killing two people in a car traveling under the bridge. —*INTERNET**

Still, LaMonica said it registered in his mind that the accident was close to the Lindner's home, and he felt an urge to call Burton Lindner's cell phone at 10 am Thursday — more in jest than from fear.

"I told his voice mail, 'Hey what's up? You sleeping in?'" recalled LaMonica. He said he expected to see Burton Lindner later that day and for him to poke fun at the younger lawyer for letting a connection to the train wreck even cross his mind.

But two hours after he left the message, LaMonica, whose legal practice is in the same building as Lindner's, got a call himself. The message: Lindner had been found dead in the wreckage.

"We lost two great people," LaMonica said.

Internet

UNIQUE ACARIYA PUJA

By *Ba Than*

In 1920 the Rangoon (Yangon) University was opened amid much fanfare and celebration. In 1925 a small Intermediate College was opened in Mandalay, land of the Anyathars in a quiet ceremony without glamour and pomposity. There were only 31students at its inception. Its very existence was subject to much bickering for its shaky survival. Finally with the blessings of well intentioned members it was given a lease on life till the Second World War.

The Post War years witnessed a momentous political upheaval of national spirit and spontaneous movement of the entire population for total Independence from British colonial rule. Tragedy struck when the national leaders were martyred in 19th July 1947 while working for Independence within reach in less than ayear's time: January 1948 and the entire nation mourned their loss.

On the education front in no less spectacular movement, the aspiration for upgrading the existing but shaky Intermediate College of Mandalay into a four-year Degree College was also actively propagated. The pioneer spearheading this ambition for a separate University in Anyar land of culture and seat of Myanmar kings was Sayagyi U Razak and his disciple U Ko Lay. Eventually in 17thJuly 1947 the Mandalay Intermediate College was reopened with Sayagyi U Ko Lay as its first Principal and 23 teaching staff for Arts, Science and Agriculture. The existing Mandalay Agriculture College was affiliated into the main College. The 1947 first year Intermediate student intake in Arts and Science were less than a hundred. The 1946 batch was permitted to attend the Second Year Intermediate, our immediate seniors by all count. Sayagyi U Ba Toke was warden of men hostel with 40 boarding students. Sayamagyi M.A. Daw Ohn was warden of women's hostel with 6 boarders. The relations between the students and faculty members were reverential and friendly couched by *Anyar tradition.*In 1948 the Intermediate College was upgraded into a four-year degree college MUC.

Many first year students graduated from MUC in four years' time (1951) and became the first home-grown tutors and demonstrators. The author attended the two-year intermediateclass in MUC, and moved to Yangon University for the B.A class in Literature, PS, History and graduated from Yangon together with like mindedfriends Ko Hla Nyunt (later Ko Hla Moe) and Ko Maung Maung (Myitthar). However the author returned to Mandalay and served as English Tutor for two academic years before joining the BCS Administrative Service.

Sayagyi U Ko Lay had envisioned the MUC to grow into a full-fledged Mandalay University in the not too distant future. So he sent homegrown crop of graduate faculty staff abroad for post graduate Masters and Ph.Ds. There was increase of students from Upper Myanmar due to less cost of higher education and friendly Anyar cultural mix. By 1958 MUC became a full fledged University. The homegrown faculty staff had returned with Ph.Ds and Masters to stand at par in academic excellence. Eventually the old founding generation had to give way to the new as they faded into oblivion.

But not quite! The grateful students, many of whom became affluent and successful in their middle age, organized obeisance ceremonies to honour these old teachers, who had become lean ' *full of piti but without one pya'*, frail, senile and forgotten. Thus the Mandalay University Acariya Puja was held, eagerly graced by the surviving original founders and the new retiree teachers. Sayagyi U Ko Lay was all smiles as he greeted his old pupils many of whom still remained in his memory. And there were others too sitting in the front row of MU puja ceremony: Saya Ko Ko Gyi, Saya Thein Maung, Ma Ma Ohn, Sayagyi U Ba Toke, etc. There was so much to talk, reviving nostalgic memories that they forgot to stop, and the organizers cheekily faced the constraint of time.

Then came the golden anniversary of the MUC in 1997, and that of Mandalay University in 2008. Sadly, with muffled grief the front seats where the founding teachers usually sat grew vacant year after year, as we all mourned their loss. And now by 2010, there was only one founding teacher left: Sayagyi U Ba Toke, aged 90. The Mandalay University continues celebrating retired teachers' obeisance ceremonies, year after year, the latest one in 23rd December 2011. The various subject departments also hold puja ceremonies for their retired teachers, and the author regularly attend the English Department Teachers' puja ceremony, regular speaker and regular contributor of English articles in Annual magazine too. Sayagyi U Ba Toke missed all puja ceremonies held in Mandalay as he was too old to attend.

Around April 2010, the 1947 batch students who have settled in Yangon gathered to hold a modest puja to Sayagyi U Ba Toke. Only 15 could be around to attend. Sayagyi was overjoyed to see us all and the informal meet ended well. And Sayagyi reciprocated with a return treat well attended by his devoted pupils.

Around March 2012 a group of MU old students led by U Nyunt Maung came to the author and Sayagyi Dr. Maung Di, retired Deputy Minister of Education and Rector of RU to discuss about holding Puja ceremony to the only surviving founder Sayagyi U Ba Toke. Originally the plan was to invite Sayagyi and hold the ceremony in Mandalay. But it was found that Sayagyi could no longer travel to Mandalay due to immobility and failing vision. Therefore an alternative arrangement had to be improvised to hold the ceremony simultaneously in Mandalay and Yangon by video-conferencing media. For us it was the first of its kind. Sayagyi agreed to the proposal and decided to attend at Mya Yeik Nyo Hotel in Yangon accepting puja from MUC students living in Yangon and representation from Mandalay. The Mandalay venue was at Computer Campus attended by Mandalayan old students. The twin puja ceremony began at 9 am and ended at 11 am. The author acted as MC fine-tuning the ceremony to proper harmony and satisfaction. It was truly the manifestation of modern IT network that made this unique occasion a resounding success.

The Mandalay University is now 65 years old (1947-2012). Many students have graduated from this *alma mater*, by the thousands so to say. Many have achieved renown in various fields: academic, professions, politics, administration law and business. All these virtues had their beginning in the foresight and vision of Sayagyi U Razak, Sayagyi U Ko Lay and the founder teachers. The sublime obeisance to the only surviving Sayagyi U Ba Toke encompasses all these founders who are now no more with us, as Sayagyi U Ba Toke wisely mentioned in his admonition.

May we all living alumni, the present teachers and students pray for the better after-life for those who are dead and gone, respect and pray for Sayagyi U Ba Toke for longevity and health as our beacon, and keep on this noble puja tradition to perpetuity.

Cash for tube-well, exercise books donated to BEPSs

INGAPU, 7 July—A ceremony to donate cash for tube-well and exercise books to Basic Education Primary School was held in Layeindan Kwetthit Village in Thetketan Village-tract of Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 30 June.

Wellwisher U Soe Naing of Thakayta Township of Yangon Region, Assistant Director U Tun Wai of the Office of Attorney-General of the Union and wellwisher Daw Swe Swe Win handed over donations to officials.

At the ceremony, wellwisher U Soe Naing presented 40 dozens of exercise books, 50 women's clothes and cash donation for the tube-well.

Moreover, they donated 40 dozens of exercise books and 50 school uniforms to BEPS in Thayasu Village of Thetkebyin Village-tract.

Myanma Alin

Prizes awarded to outstanding students in Hinthada

HINTHADA, 7 July—The cash assistance for 2012-2013 academic year and prize presentation for outstanding students was held at Basic Education Primary School No 19 in Ledikwin Ward of Hinthada in Hinthada District of Ayeyawady Region on 22 June.

At the ceremony, the ward administrator explained the purpose of providing cash assistance. The headmaster and ward administrator presented stationery and cash assistance K 20700 to the students.—*Myanma Alin*

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Tamu District

TAMU, 7 July—The rainy season tree growing ceremony of Khampat Sub-Township Forest Department of Tamu District was held between Nankateik and Nankhaukkhauk villages on Kalay-Tamu Road on 5 July morning.

Khampat Sub-Township Administrator U Chan Piyaan and departmental officials, Senior Forester U Kyaw Kyaw Hsint of Tamu Township Forest Department and staff, students and local people planted 600 saplings.

Myanma Alin

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Hlaingbwe Township

HLAINGBWE, 7 July—According to Moe Pwint-3 Plan, Head of Hlaingbwe Township Immigration and National Registration Department and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to the local people free of charge at Daingpya Monastery in Daingpya Village on 29 June.

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Than Tun Nyunt, Director of Kayin State INRD U Thaung Zaw and Mr Refeal of NRC encouraged their works.

On that day, they issued the cards to 257 people.

Township Immigration

International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking observed in Monghsat

MONGHSAT, 7 July—Organized by Monghsat District Police Force of Shan State, the ceremony to mark International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Thanlwin Hall of Basic Education High School in Monghsat on 26 June morning.

Chairman of District Committee for Drug Abuse Control Deputy Commissioner U Thaung Tin Htway made a speech.

At the ceremony, the message of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Chairman Union Minister for Home Affairs was read, narcotic drug law and health and danger of drugs talked. Officials presented prizes to winners in the essay contest to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.—*Myanma Alin*

DISTRICT NEWS

TAXATION TALKED: ***A talk on taxation was held at meeting hall of Township General Administration Department in Insein Township on 28 June. Head of Township Internal Revenue Department U Aung Moe Kyaw gives talks on taxation.*—MYANMA ALIN**

President U Thein Sein views edible oil production process from sunflower seeds at the briefing hall in Sibin agricultural research farm in Yamethin Township.—MNA

President U Thein Sein visits agricultural…

(from page 1)

At the briefing hall near the farm, the director-general of the Agriculture Department and agriculturalists from Agricultural Research Department explained the characteristics of hybrid sunflower, saying that one acre of sunflower seed production farm can yield 25 baskets of quality seeds which can be grown for 125 acres of sunflower plantation; that one acre of sunflower plantation can yield above 50 baskets of sunflower seeds; that 50 baskets of sunflower seeds can produce 220 viss of oil; that if the oil consumption is calculated as four viss per household, one acre of sunflower plantation can provide edible oil for 50 to 60 households.

The President called on meeting the domestic edible oil demand by extensively growing sunflower, which is wholesome for human consumption, across the country, demanding nationwide cultivation of sunflower to cut multimillions dollars expenditure on annual edible oil import from abroad.

The President pointed out that sunflower oil is wholesome and sunflower pulp also can be used as animal feed, contributing a great deal to livestock breeding sector of the country. He gave detailed instructions on making researches on boosting sunflower productivity by breeding bees on sunflower plantations in cooperation with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.

The President then presented 15 agriculturalists discharging duties at Tatkon research farm and Sibin research farm.—*MNA*

President U Thein Sein views maize, sunflower, green gram, groundnut and soya bean seeds displayed at the briefing hall of agricultural research farm in Tatkon Township.—MNA

Union A&I Minister attends prize awarding of staff and students of the ministry

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July— Prize presentation ceremony for staff who served the best in 2011-2012 growing season and the outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination in 2011-2012 academic year was held at the auditorium of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation here yesterday morning with an address by Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing.

Union Minister U Myint Hlaing awarded the outstanding trainees and the first prize winner who displayed brilliant performance in 2011-2012 growing season.

Next, Deputy Ministers U Khin Zaw and U Ohn Than awarded three second-prize winners and three third-prize winners.

The Union Minister presented the six outstanding students who passed the 2011-2012 matriculation exam with flying colours. Wife of the Union Minister Daw Khin Thant Sin awarded six five-distinction students and Deputy Minister U Ohn Than six five-distinction students. Then , departmental heads and officials presented three-distinction and under students.

Deputy Minister U Ohn Than accepted the donation from Kyaw Htet Kyaw Co, K 10 million, Super Coffee Mix Co K 5 million and Myanma Awba Co, Ltd K 1 million for the education fund of students of the staff. On behalf of the students, a student spoke words of thank.

At today's ceremony, a total of K 123,603,00 were awarded to the outstanding staff and students.—*MNA*

Loan benefits dairy farming in Nawnghkio

YANGON, 7 July— Dairy farmers in Nawnghkio Township in Kyaukme District have been assisted in farming cattle and making value-added dairy products to increase their daily income.

At the meeting with the farmers, Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye also called for promoting the farming with the assistance of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

During the meeting, 50 farmers from Ohnmakhar Village, Panlan Village and Buta Ward took out K50,000 as a loan from Mandalay Region Cooperative Syndicate.— *MNA*

Myanmar Chess delegation leaves for Indonesia

YANGON, 7 July— A four-member Myanmar chess delegation left here on 5 July evening for Indonesia to attend the Myanmar traditional chess sport talk and to participate in the ASEAN University/Collage Chess Tournament in Jakarta of Indonesia from 7 to 13 July.

The delegation comprised President of Myanmar Chess Federation U Maung Maung Lwin, Vice-President U Win Aung and Executive U Toe who will talk about Myanmar traditional chess sport and Nyi Hlaing Soe (Technological University-Sagaing Region) as competitor.—*MNA*

Sports Ministry hires Sail for marketing XXVII SEA Games

YANGON, 7 July— Myanmar National Sports Committee, sports federation and Sports and Physical Education Department met to coordinate preparations of sports federations for the XXVII SEA Games, at the meeting hall of Sports and Physical Education Department in Kyaikkasan Stadium in Tamway Township, Yangon Region today, attended by MNSC Secretary Deputy Sports Minister U Aye Myint Kyu.

Director-General U Thaung Htaik of SPED elaborated on overall preparations and so did the respective sports federations. The deputy minister then addressed the signing ceremony of MoU between the ministry and Sail Marketing Communication Co Ltd for marketing the XXVII SEA Games to ensure its success.

The CEO of the company explained preparations for the SEA Games and the director-general and the CEO of the company signed the MoU.

MNA

Cash and kind provided for locals in Rakhine State

YANGON, 7 July— Cash and kind donation ceremony for locals in Rakhine State who lost their homes and possessions and suffered bitter pains due to recent riots in Rakhin State was held at Maykhelar Hall of Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township here this morning.

At the ceremony, First Private Bank Ltd executive directors and staff donated K 1,530,000, U Tha Tun- Daw Myint Myint and family K 300,000, Daw Nyunt Nyunt and family K 250,000, director of No 1 region/state fire services supervisory division and members K 31,000, head of Meiktila Township FSD and members K 100,000, head of Mandalay region FSD and members K 12,000, Cap Khin Zaw (retd) K 10,000, Ko Thu and staff from Great Mobile K 100,000, U Min Aung (Assistant Administrator, YCDC)- Daw Malar Myint Htoo (Nawarat jewelry) and sister Dr Nilar Myint Htoo and family K 10,000, one bag of cloth, one package of detergent and Mamma noodles, Ko Myo Thant K 30,000. Director-General U Tin Moe of Fire Services Department and officials accepted the donation and spoke words of thanks.

Up to date, the donation amounted to K 237,997,816.

MNA

New BEPS building handed over in Thaton Township

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July— The opening ceremony of new building of Basic Education Primary School was held at Inni village in Thaton Township, Mon State on 5 July.

Township Administrator U Aye Naing gave a speech and UNHCR Additional Officer U Soe Moe Oo explained emergence of the new building, aim of construction and Dr.Ye Myint from Myanmar Red Cross Society raising the capital.

Township Education Officer Daw Kyi Kyi Mar and officials concerned accepted documents of new building from officials of UNHCR and MRCS and K 1.13 million from MRCS regional in-charge U Kan Htoo Zaw. UNHCR and MRCS jointly built new building of BEPS for Inni village at a cost of K 55.4 million.—*MNA*

Tonhon bridge in Nyaungshwe commissioned into service

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—Tonhon Bridge on Taungyi-Ayethaya-Nyaungshwe-Tonhon-Pinlaung road in Nyaungshwe Township in Taunggyi District of Shan State (North) was commissioned into service this morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, state ministers, officials of Public Works, state, district and township level officials, reps of various associations, teachers, schoolchildren, ethnic troupes, cheerleaders, townselders, locals which accounted for 25000.

Union Minister U Khin Maung Myint said in his address that the construction of the bridge started on 28-5-2011. The original wooden bridge could bear the load of only small vehicles and the newly opened bridge would be able to withstand the designated loads and allow passage of various vehicles.

Once, Nay Pyi Taw-Taunggyi trip through Meiktila had the length of 209 miles. The bridge could reduce the length of the trip by 61 miles and one furlong to 147 miles and seven furlongs.

State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, State Finance and Revenue Minister U Khun Thein Maung spoke words of thanks.

Chairman of Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Leading Body U Khun San Lwin expressed thanks. He said. The bridge is the fourth one opened in the zone. The first one was the wooden bridge near Hmawby market and built with the manpower. The second one is the original Tonhone bridge which is the wooden one which could not be passed by vehicles. The third wooden bridge was built as the border area development bridge. The newly opened RC bridge was built by the Construction Ministry, allowing local national people to travel and transport commodity in all weathers. It would facilitate development of the region. The chairman finally called for collaborated efforts to ensure prolong existence of the bridge.

State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, State Transport Minister U Sai Naw Kham, State Finance and Revenue Minister U Khun Thein Maung, Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman U Khun San Lwin, Inntha National Race Affairs Minister U Win Myint and Managing Director of Pubic Works U Kyaw Lin formally opened the Tonhon bridge.

8th July 2012 (Sunday)

School Environment Day

Participation is for Basic Education Schools.

Ministry of Education

***Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint presses the button to unveil stone inscription of Tonhon Bridge.*—MNA**

Union Minister U Khin Maung Myint unveiled the stone inscription of the bridge and the Union minister, the state chief minister and the state ministers strolled along the bridge.

The bridge is 16th of its kind whose length is over 180 feet opened in time of the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The bridge has the length of 240 ft with 24 ft wide motorways flanked by three feet and six inches pedestrian ways.—*MNA*

Photo shows 10 acres of thriving 65-day sunflower seed production plantation at Sibin Agricultural Research Farm in Yamethin Township.

(News on page 9)**—MNA**

Union Education Minister back from Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July— Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye arrived back here by air this evening after attending 7th ASEAN Education Ministers meeting, 1st ASEAN+3 Education Ministers meeting, 1st East Asia Summit Education Ministers meeting held in Republic of Indonesia.

The Union education minister attended the meetings held on 4 and 5 July together with education ministers from ASEAN countries and heads of educational organizations from Japan, Korea, China, America, Australia, Russia, India and New Zealand.

At the meetings, they discussed matters related to mutual dispatch of students, teachers and staff of universities from ASEAN and East Asian countries, exchange of experiences, cooperation in conducting research and certificate courses, diploma courses.

The Union Education Minister met his counterparts from Thailand and the Philippines separately and discussed promotion of education standards and prospects of cooperation.—*MNA*

Hotel service courses opened in Taunggyi, Kalaw

YANGON, 7 July—Under the supervision of Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Taunggyi Hoteliers Association conducted the hotel services training courses at Taunggyi Hotel in Taunggyi at 9.30 am on 2 July and at Kalaw Hotel in Kalaw at 12 noon.

On behalf of the Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Managing Director U Hla Htay of Myanma Hotels and Tourism Services made an opening address. The ceremony was attended by Shan State ministers, departmental heads, instructors, those from Taunggyi Hoteliers Association and trainees.

A total of 41 trainees are attending the food and beverages catering courses and 48 trainees the food and beverages course at Taunggyi Hotel, 40 trainees the hotel reception course and 53 trainees the room-keeper course at Kalaw Hotel.

MNA

Sagaing Region Chief Minister inspects regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July— Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye on 3 July morning inspected Monywa People's Hospital and Traditional Medicinal Hospital in Sagaing Region, where he comforted the patients receiving medical treatment and looked around the herbal plantation.

On 5 July, the Chief Minister delivered an address at the coordinating meeting of the Forest Department in Monywa, Sagaing Region.

On 6 July, the Chief Minister attended the ceremony to add an additional room to the basic education middle school (branch) in Ywathitshwelatt Village in Budalin Township and opening of Pyinya Beikman School Building. At the event, region social minister Dr Myint Thein, Representative of Region Hluttaw U Sein Win Hlaing, Region Education Officer U Hla Thein cut the ribbon to put the newly-built school building into service.

The Chief Minister unveiled the stone inscription of the building and inspected inside it.

At the handing-over ceremony of the building, the Chief Minister made a speech and Headmistress Daw Htay Yin gave an explanation on the building and the education officer received the documents handed over by member of the school board of trustees U Nyunt Hlaing.

The Chief Minister and his entourage provided Ywathitshwelatt Village Basic Education Middle School (branch) with one set of computer, exercise books, sports gear and publications.

Pyinya Beikman two-storey building is about 140 feet in length, 30 feet in width and 23 feet in height, which has been built at a cost of K 56.17 million.

The Chief Minister held a meeting with teachers, members of the school board trustees at Kutaw Village Basic Education Primary School. He provided the Nyein Chan Myay Library with publications and met with townselders at Yayle Monastery.

He proceeded to his inspection tour of the Station Hospital of Maunghtaung Village, where he comforted the patients receiving medical treatment, and inspected sanitation work around the hospital, before he met the teachers and members of the school board trustees at Maunghtaung Village Basic Education High School.

MNA

Rainy season tree growing ceremony held in Mawgyun

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 7 July—The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held along both sides of Mawlamyinegyun-Bogale Road in Nwayegyaw Nyaunglan Village-tract in Mawmayinegyun Township on 30 June.

Chairman of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Thin Thin Aye, executives and members grew 210 teak and eucalyptus saplings.—*Myanma Alin*

BEMS upgraded to BEHS Branch in Shwepyitha Township

YANGON, 7 July—A ceremony to upgrade the school to Basic Education High School branch was held in conjunction with the cash donation ceremony at Basic Education Middle School No. 3 of No. 3 Basic Education Department in Shwepyitha Township on 3 July.

Assistant Director U Ohn Thwin of the department, Township Education Officer in-charge U Thet Oo, Headmaster U Thet Myint and ward administrator U Kyaw Kyaw Aung formally opened the school branch.

After that, wellwishers donated school equipment worth K 1.81 million and 50 dozens of exercise books for all-round development of the school and for needy students. The officials accepted the donations.

Myanma Alin

Cash assistance provided to students in Kyaukpyu

KYAUKPYU, 7 July—A ceremony to provide cash assistance for offspring of members of Kyaukpyu Township War Veterans Organization for 2012-2013 academic year was held at its office on 27 June morning.

Officials explained the purpose of providing cash assistance.

Chairman of the Township War Veterans Organization Captain Thet Lwin Oo (Rtd) and officials gave K 2.2 million as cash assistance to 77 students.

TWVO

PRIZES AWARDED: ***The scholarship and cash assistance presentation ceremony of No. 3 Basic Education Department of Yangon Region was held in Tamway Township on 2 July. Township Education Officer U Myint Zaw presents scholarship award to Ma Shoon Le Wun (Tamway BEHS No. 4) at middle school level.*—MYANMA ALIN**

DISTRICT NEWS

Myanmar Women's Day celebrated in Kalay

KALAY, 7 July—The Myanmar Women's Day was observed at Nayrinzara Hall of Kalay Township General Administration Department on 3 July.

Chairperson of Kalay District Women's Affairs Organization Daw Aye Aye Lwin made a speech.

Dr Win Thida Maung of School Health Department explained facts about common diseases in rainy season, Deputy Township Law Officer Daw Ohnma Aung legal affairs for women and IP Daw Khin Hla Win matters related to prevention against human trafficking.

Officials presented prizes to winners in the essay contest to mark the Myanmar Women's Day and outstanding students who passed the 2011-2012 matriculation examination.—*Myanma Alin*

Collective tree growing ceremony held in Shwebo

SHWEBO, 7 July—The tree growing ceremony took place in the southern part of Mahananda Lake in Shwebo Township on 30 June morning.

Chairperson of District Women's Affairs Organization Daw Shwe Si, Assistant Director U Hsan Aung of Shwebo District Forest Department, Shwebo Township Administrator U Thet Lwin Tun, Staff Officer U Ye Lwin of Forest Department, district and township level departmental officials and staff, members of WAO and social organizations planted over 1300 saplings.—*Myanma Alin*

CITIZENSHIP CARDS ISSUED: ***Head of Kamayut Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Ko Ko and staff issued citizenship scrutiny cards to students in implementing Moe Pwint-3 Plan on 27 June.*—MYANMA ALIN**

Border Affairs Ministry provides school uniforms worth K 45.5 million to students

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—As part of efforts to implement rural development and poverty alleviation, Progress of Rural Region Department of the Ministry of Border Affairs and Rural Region Development Bank jointly give microfinance services to vendors, slow-moving vehicle drivers, pony-cart driver and others from rural regions.

The department and the bank urge them to give back repayment for their loans to the bank. The interests from their repayment are provided to offspring of subsidies. Ministry of Border Affairs provided school uniforms worth K 45.5 million to 11457 students of regions and states as of 1 June 2012.—*Soe Thura*

Trees grown in rainy season in Laymyethna Township

LAYMYETHNA, 7 July—With a view to greening the environment, Laymyethna Township of Ayeyawady Region held the rainy season tree growing ceremony along both sides of Pandawgyi-Khatu Road in Laymyethna Township on 27 June.

Region Hluttaw representative Thein Tun and Acting Township Administrator U Soe Myint Hlaing made speeches. They presented saplings to the Staff Officer of Township Forest Department, staff and members of social organizations. They all grew 1800 saplings at the ceremony.

Laymyethna Township plans to grow 52,500 saplings of teak and hardwood plants in 2012 for greening the township.

Township Forest

Books, cash donated to library in Mudon Township

MUDON, 7 July—The cash and book donation ceremony was held in front of Pinle Alinyaung Library in Kinchaung Village of Mudon Township on 26 June morning.

The Staff Officer of District Information and Public Relations Department donated 10 plastic chairs worth K 42,000, the head of Township IPRD 100 assorted books, U Win Maung on behalf of Withokdi Monastery Sayadaw of Kinchaung Village K 150,000, U Naing Tun K 500,000 in memory of late U Thaung Shein, village administrator K 300,000, U Aung Niang Win and family 300 books, Township Internal Revenue Department journals, Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Thein Zaw Oo, ward/village administrators and U Thaung Shwe (Myitta Mon Furniture) K 60,000.

Chairman of the library committee U Teik accepted the cash and kind donation.

The library was opened by Staff Officer of District IPRD Daw Hla Hla Oo, Township Administrator U Myint Aung and Village Administrator U Win Soe.

The staff officer explained durability and development of the library.

District IPRD

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Singaing

SINGAING, 7 July—Staff of Singaing Township Immigration and National Registration Department led by the Staff Officer under the supervision of Head of Kyaukse District INRD U San Aung of Mandalay Region made field trips to grassroots level in their township.

They issued citizenship scrutiny cards to 94 eligible persons and household registration certificates to 16 people at the Dhammayon of Theinnigon Village Monastery on 28 June.—*Myanma Alin*

Trees planted as rainy season activity in Dedaye Township

DEDAYE, 7 July—The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held along both sides of Dedaye-Kyaiklat Road near Chaungphya Village in Dedaye Township of Pyapon District in Ayeyawady Region on 3 July.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Tin Shwe, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Hla Thaung, Senior Forester U Myo Hein of Township Forest Department and staff, members of Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people planted over 1500 saplings.

Township Forest

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Ottwin

OTTWIN, 7 July—As part of efforts to implement Moe Pwint-3 Plan, staff members of Toungoo District Immigration and National Registration Department issued citizenship scrutiny cards to local people from Magyibin Village, Wedaunt Village-tract, Ottwin Township, on 29 June.

Deputy Director U Khin Maung Kyaw and staff of the District INRD with the help of Bago Region Hluttaw representative U Than Htaik and Assistant Director of Toungoo District INRD U Saw Naing carried out the tasks.

Township Immigration

Hitler protected Jewish World War I veteran

BERLIN, 7 July,—Adolf Hitler personally intervened to protect a Jewish man who had been his commanding officer during World War One, according to a letter unearthed by the Jewish Voice from Germany newspaper.

The letter, composed in August 1940 by Heinrich Himmler, head of the Nazis' feared paramilitary SS, said Ernst Hess, a judge, should be spared persecution or deportation "as per the Fuehrer's wishes".

Hess, a decorated World War One hero who briefly commanded Hitler's company in Flanders, worked as a judge until Nazi racial laws forced him to resign in 1936. The same year he was beaten up by Nazi thugs outside his house, the paper said.

In a petition to Hitler at that time, Hess wrote: "For us it is a kind of spiritual death to now be branded as Jews and exposed to general contempt."

Hess and his family moved for a time to a German-speaking area of northern Italy but were then forced to return to Germany where he discovered Hitler's protection order had been revoked.

He spent the rest of World War Two doing slave labour but he escaped death partly thanks to the fact that his wife was a Gentile. Hess's sister died in the Auschwitz death camp but his mother managed to escape to Switzerland.

Hess remained in Germany after the war, becoming head of the Federal Railway Authority based in Frankfurt. He died in 1983.

Hess's daughter Ursula, now 86 and still living in Germany, told the paper in an interview her father had benefited from a chance encounter with another World War One comrade, Fritz Wiedemann. He became Hitler's adjutant and used his influence to win concessions for Hess, she was quoted as saying.

Ursula Hess also recalled her father saying that as a young corporal in World War One, Hitler had had no friends in their regiment and had kept himself very much to himself. *Reuters*

Ireland's designer Paul Martin poses for photos in his gold award-winning garden for Landscape Gardens category, "The Path of Life", during a media preview of the Singapore Garden Festival in Singapore, on 6 July, 2012. The 4th Singapore Garden Festival will open to the public at Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre on Saturday.
XINHUA

Mexico's Pena Nieto 'likely' to win tax reform by end-2013

MEXICO CITY, 7 July—Economists see a decent chance that Mexico's next president will be able to push through tax reform during his first year but are sceptical about a quick overhaul of the state-run oil industry.

Incoming president Enrique Pena Nieto won last Sunday's vote after promising a clutch of fiscal, energy, Labour and competition reforms which aim to lift Mexico's economic growth to 6 percent a year.

According to the median of 13 analysts polled by *Reuters*, the new administration, which will take office on 1 December, should make fiscal and energy reforms its top priority.

Pena Nieto's Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, will not have a majority in either the lower house of Congress or the Senate, the latest projections show, meaning he will have to negotiate with opposition parties on reforms.

Fiscal reform is seen as "likely" during the first year of Pena Nieto's term, along with the establishment of a new state bank, but analysts thought other reforms would take longer.

***Mexico's President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto delivers a speech to the media at a hotel in Mexico City on 2 July, 2012.*—REUTERS**

"The mandate in Congress is not very strong and Pena Nieto will have trouble negotiating the reforms," said Pedro Tuesta, an analyst at consultancy 4Cast in Washington.

Mexico desperately needs to jump-start growth after its economy languished behind other emerging markets during the last decade.

Excluding oil revenue, Mexico has one of the lowest tax takes in Latin America and is heavily reliant on oil sector revenues, although state oil monopoly Pemex lacks the resources to properly exploit big off-shore fields.—*Reuters*

Airshow - Travellers want to fly more, but greener

LONDON, 7 July—Over 60 percent of people worldwide want to fly more by 2050, but almost all - 96 percent - believe aircraft need to be more environmentally efficient, according to a study from aircraft-maker Airbus.

With findings drawn from a 10,000-strong survey, the planemaker also consulted with 1.75 million people in 192 countries over a two-year period to better understand the public perception of air travel's future.

Released three days before the Farnborough International Airshow, the study indicates that quieter aircraft are important (backed by 66 percent of respondents), while almost 40 percent felt the air-travel experience is increasingly stressful.

Respondents' gripes included queues at passport control; slow check-in and baggage collection; sitting on the tarmac; and circling in holding patterns around airports.

"Capacity constraints are a sign of things to come unless the industry can work together to cut delays, and with aviation set to double in the next 15 years, that's what we're looking at," Airbus executive vice president, engineering Charles Champion said in a Press statement.

Airbus, part of European aerospace group EADS, carried out the research alongside development of a "Concept Plane" which illustrates what air transport could look like as early as 2030, though more likely by 2050.

The graceful, spaceship-like prototype brandishes long, slim wings; semi-embedded engines; a U-shaped tail and light-weight fuselage. The result, Airbus says, will be lower fuel burn and a significant cut in emissions.

Airbus has also rethought cabin configuration, replacing first, business and economy classes with personalised zones. Passengers would be able to stargaze through a transparent wall membrane from "morphing" seats that harvest body heat for power. *Reuters*

5.7 magnitude earthquake hits New Zealand North Island

WELLINGTON, 7 July—An earthquake rattled New Zealand's North Island on Saturday and police said there were no reports of injures or damages. GeoNet is reporting that a magnitude 5.7 quake struck 10 kilometres south of Turangi at 12.50 pm (00:50 GMT). The quake was 90 km deep and was felt across the North Island, said GeoNet, the website of the New Zealand government's geological agency.

It came four days after a magnitude 7 earthquake centered offshore from western North Island's Taranaki region rattled residents from the Bay of Plenty to Canterbury, but caused little damage.—*Xinhua*

Sri Lankan, Indian navies discuss fishing issue

COLOMBO, 7 July—Navies from both India and Sri Lanka met and discussed over bilateral interest including the contentious fishing issue, the Sri Lankan navy said on Saturday.

A navy statement said that navy delegations from Sri Lanka and India met along the Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Line off Sri Lanka's northern Kankasanthurai shore.

This was the 21st International Maritime Boundary Line meeting between Sri Lanka and India and it took place on a Sri Lankan naval ship.

"The meeting is held to strengthen the naval relationship between the two neighbouring countries. During this session, matters of mutual interests related to naval operations and fishing activities were discussed," the Sri Lankan navy said.

Crossing over of fishermen into the territorial waters of both countries has been a long standing sensitive issue between Sri Lanka and India with both countries engaging in several rounds of talks to repatriate individuals and boats.

Last week, Indian Defence Advisor S Menon held discussions on the topic during a brief visit to Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister of southern Indian state Tamil Nadu J Jayalalithaa had this week urged Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to take up the issue of 13 Indian fishermen arrested by the Sri Lankan navy recently and secure their immediate release.—*Xinhua*

California gives green light to high-speed rail plan

SACRAMENTO, 7 July—California lawmakers gave final approval to a high-speed rail plan on Friday in a make-or-break vote for $8 billion in funding to start construction on a 130-mile (210-km) section of track through the state's central agricultural heartland.

The 21-16 vote in the state Senate was a substantial win for Democratic Governor Jerry Brown, who says a bullet train network will boost job creation and provide an alternative to car and plane travel in the country's most populous state. Unions also lobbied hard for the network, the most ambitious public works project to date in California. Republicans opposed it, saying the $68 billion project would be a massive financial burden that could jeopardize state spending on basic services such as education and healthcare.

"The Legislature took bold action today that gets Californians back to work and puts California out in front once again," Brown said in a statement after the vote, which passed with the minimum number of required 'yes' votes in the Democratic-led Senate.

Outside the Senate chamber, union representatives counted votes closely and cheered when it became clear the bill would be approved. The state and federal financing approved by the legislature includes the issuance of $2.6 billion in state bonds, which would in turn unlock $3.2 billion in federal funds for construction of track in the Central Valley that was expected to begin at the end of 2012 or the start of 2013.

***An artist's rendition courtesy of the California High-Speed Rail Authority shows a high speed train in a station in the Bay Area in California.*— REUTERS**

The bill, which passed the Democratic-controlled Assembly by a 51-27 vote on Thursday, also approves spending over $2 billion in federal, state and local funds on rail projects in urban areas to prepare to link them to a statewide system.

The bullet train network, expected to take decades to complete, would eventually connect Sacramento and San Francisco to Los Angeles, with stops along the way.

"Literally, this project means tens of thousands of jobs," said Mark Kyle, director of government affairs for the Operating Engineers Local Union No 3, which was among the bill's supporters. *Reuters*

Mexico, N Zealand pressed to save marine mammals

AUCKLAND, 7 July—A scientific body urged Mexico and New Zealand to take immediate action to prevent the extinction of small marine mammals that are being killed by gillnets set by the fishing industry.

The International Whaling Commission voiced fears for Maui's dolphins — some of the world's smallest dolphins found only on New Zealand's North Island — and the vaquita, a 1.5-meter (five-foot) porpoise in the Gulf of California. The Commission's scientific committee estimated that New Zealand had just 55 Maui's dolphins left that are at least one year old and that Mexico had no more than 220 vaquitas, with the number declining despite conservation methods. In a report at an annual meeting in Panama City, the committee voiced "extreme concern" over the future of the vaquita and urged the immediate elimination of gillnets that could entangle the cetaceans. In New Zealand, the committee also called for a prompt ban on gillnets and for establishing a safe corridor for Maui's dolphins between North and South islands. The two countries both said that they were taking action. Gerard van Bohemen, New Zealand's commissioner, pointed to a recent decision to expand a ban on fishing nets along North Island's western Taranaki coast. Mexico's commissioner, Lorenzo Rojas Bracho, said that his country had cracked down on illegal fishing and that a working group in charge of shrimping was considering a net ban from next year.—*Internet*

***File photo shows dolphins off the coast of Auckland, New Zealand. The International Whaling Commission voiced fears for Maui's dolphins — some of the world's smallest dolphins found only on New Zealand's North Island — and the vaquita, a 1.5-meter (five-foot) porpoise in the Gulf of California.—*INTERNET**

Life-size characters are seen performing on stage at the Yanagase shopping district in Gifu, on June 30.
INTERNET

Japan's pursuit of cute spawns $30 bln industry

TOKYO, 7 July—Police forces use them; shops can't do without them; power companies have them — and sack them when they become unpopular. No marketing or public information campaign is complete without them. Cute, cuddly — or startling — characters are everywhere in Japan.

While marketers the world over have long understood the value of an oversized cartoon animal who can persuade children to part with their pocket money, those in Japan know it is also an effective way to reach their parents.

And despite the tepid economy, there is money to be made.

The licenced character industry, including copyrights and merchandising, is worth a whopping $30 billion a year — more than Japanese people spend on books annually.

But it's not just the big names — Hello Kitty or Pokemon — that draw the crowds and their cash.

A two-day "grand assembly" in the central Japan city of Gifu attracted around 120,000 visitors who were entertained by 47 adult-sized mascots, one from each prefecture, who treated visitors to songs, dances and endless photo opportunities.

The "yuru-kyara" (suggesting "laid back character") often represent regions or towns, taking their inspiration from locally famous foods, personalities, animals, industries or occasionally a combination.

Characters roamed shopping arcades, chased by children holding balloons — and adults with cellphones — who were eager to shake hands and take pictures.

Internet

Moderate quake hits Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 7 July—An earthquake with magnitude 5.0 jolted Lampung province of Indonesia's Sumatra island on Saturday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Afgency reported.

The quake rocked at 11:34 am Jakarta Time (0434 GMT) with epicenter at 149 km southwest West Lampung of the province and with the depth at 10 km, the agency said.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called "the Pacific Ring of Fire."—*Xinhua*

Britain readies 'Fortress London' for Games

LONDON, 7 July—Britain is girding itself for the biggest peacetime security operation in its history featuring anti-aircraft missiles on rooftops and a warship in the River Thames for the London Olympics.

A security force of more than 40,000 military and civilian personnel, backed by a huge intelligence operation, will turn the British capital into a fortress to protect venues, athletes and millions of visitors.

The £553-million ($877-million, 662-million-euro) operation will watch for a range of scenarios, from "lone wolf" terror strike to cyber-attacks, protests, riots, transport breakdowns and even extreme weather.

Security has already been tight around the Olympic torch as it has made its way around the United Kingdom in the past month. The only incident of note has been a protest as it went through Northern Ireland.

Britain's Defence Secretary Philip Hammond announced that Rapier surface-to-air missiles would be deployed across the capital to guard against 9/11-style attacks, despite opposition from residents.

The missiles — Rapier and smaller high-velocity systems — will be deployed at six sites including on the rooftops of blocks of flats in east London near the Olympic Park.

Hammond said recently a major nine-day military exercise codenamed Exercise Olympic Guardian that took place in May had "achieved its objectives". The exercise simulated a terror attack and included the huge helicopter carrier *HMS Ocean* taking up station near Greenwich, while Royal Air Force fighter planes were deployed near London at RAF Northolt for the first time since World War II.—*Internet*

A man walks his dog past a Rapier missile defence system, which could play a role in providing air security during the Olympics, at Blackheath in southeast London on 3 May, 2012.
INTERNET

Flood warning issued for large swathes of UK

LONDON, 7 July—Severe flood warnings have been issued for large parts of Britain on Friday after forecasters warned that a month's rain could fall in the next 24 hours.

The Environment Agency said two bands of very heavy rain are expected to cross the country with Yorkshire, the North East, the Midlands and East Anglia set to bear the brunt of the heavy downpours.

"We are expecting some very significant flooding in the coming days across large parts of the country and would strongly urge people to sign up to flood warnings, keep a close eye on the forecasts for their area and be prepared for flooding, said Craig Woolhouse, head of flood incident management at the Environment Agency.

"We would also ask that people stay safe, by keeping out of dangerous flood water and not attempting to walk or drive through it.

"The Environment Agency has already opened incident rooms and has teams out on the ground checking on flood defences and clearing any blockages in order to reduce the risk of flooding as much as possible," he added. An amber warning from the Met Office which urges people to "be prepared" was followed by flood alerts from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency for Tayside, Ayrshire and Arran.

Tony Waters, deputy chief forecaster at the Met Office, said: "We are expecting spells of very heavy and thundery rain across a wide area of the UK in the next few days, with worst affected spots likely to be in central and northern parts of the country.

Internet

***A car drives through a large puddle on a road amid persistent rain in the village of Winchfield in Hampshire, June 2012. Severe flood warnings have been issued for large parts of Britain after forecasters warned that a month's rain could fall in the next 24 hours.—*INTERNET**

Yacht capsizes off New York's Long Island, three drown

NEW YORK, 7 July—A private yacht ferrying 27 friends and family to watch Fourth of July fireworks capsized off New York's Long Island and three children drowned, Nassau County Police said on Thursday.

The children's bodies were found in the cabin of the submerged boat in the waters off the town of Oyster Bay after a 911 call was placed at about 10:10 pm on Wednesday (0210 GMT Thursday), police said.

"These individuals were out observing a fireworks show. They were returning from this fireworks display," Detective Lieutenant John Azzata of Nassau County Police said at a news conference on Thursday.

Investigators were trying to determine what caused the 34-foot (10.4-metre) boat to sink, including overcrowding, a strong thunderstorm in the area at about the same time, a mechanical problem and wakes from other boats.

"We are looking into possible overcrowding, there were 27 people on the boat," Azzata said.

Also under investigation is whether the 1984 Silverton cabin cruiser was equipped with 27 life preservers for all onboard, as required by law. Children under age 12 are required to wear a life jacket while on board, except while in the cabin, Azzata said.

Police scuba divers and other authorities found the bodies of a 12-year-old boy, an 11-year-old girl and an 8-year-old girl in the cabin of the sunken boat. None of the children has the same last name but it was unclear whether they were related, Azzata said.—*Reuters*

Man pays off mortgage with pennies

A Massachusetts man said he collected pennies for 35 years so he could make his final mortgage payment with 62,000 of the coins.

Thomas Daigle said he decided to make the final payment "memorable" when he and his wife, Sandra, moved into their Milford home in 1977 and purchased it with a mortgage from Milford Federal, *The Milford Daily News* reported.

"It was something I wanted to do," Daigle said. "I always follow through."

"I was just praying I didn't die first," he said.

Daigle said he collected an average of 2.5 pennies per day and at first he kept them in a grape crate, but he had to move the change to a pair of steel military rocket launcher ammo boxes when the wood of the crate began to break under the weight of the coins.

Daigle, who delivered the pennies April 24, the same day as his 35th wedding anniversary, said he gave Milford Federal notice that his final payment was going to be in penny form.

"They were 100 percent for it," he said.

Tom and Sandra Daigle show off the pennies they brought to the bank to make their final mortgage payment.

Zoo wants orangutan to quit smoking

An Indonesian zoo's orangutan may be moved to a small island with her mate to help her quit smoking, officials said.

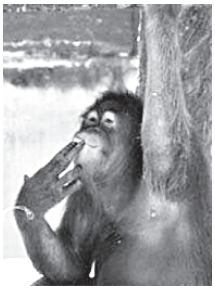
The Centre for Orangutan Protection and officials at Solo's Taru Jurug Zoo said getting Tori the orangutan to quit smoking has been difficult due to zoo visitors throwing cigarettes into her cage, the *Jakarta Globe* reported.

"We have proposed that the zoo place her on the island, in the middle of the lake, to keep her away from visitors," COP coordinator Daniek Hendarto said.

Zoo officials, who said they are considering the COP's island scheme for Tori and her mate, Didik, said they have tried to curb Tori's habit, which she learned from watching zoo visitors, but forcing her to quit has proven difficult as patrons continue to throw lit cigarettes into her cage.

"Animal keepers have warned the visitors several times, but they keep on giving cigarettes, as the animal keepers are not watching them all the time," Daniek said.

However, officials said Didik refuses to smoke and will stamp out lit cigarettes when he is able to reach them before Tori.



Tori the smoking orangutan.

Pre-Prohibition booze found in Mo attic

A Missouri man suspects the vintage pre-Prohibition whiskey he found hidden in his attic was stashed there by a former resident before he went off to rehab.

Bryan Fite and his wife, Emily, received a record of the owners of the house, which was built in St Joseph in the 1850s, and discovered one of the owners had been shipped off to a sanitarium "for alcohol reasons." Fite said the 13 bottles concealed under the floorboards were full and firmly corked and probably were intended for a personal welcome home party. "Unfortunately, he never got the chance," Fite told ABC.

The turn-of-the-century liquor was distilled before World War I and bottled in 1917. It includes four bottles of Hellman's Celebrated Old Crow and a few bottles of Gukenheimer rye. Whiskey made before the 1920s when Prohibition derailed the US distillery business can fetch a good price from collectors.

The Fites aren't necessarily ready to part with the entire collection. They plan to sample some of it in 2017 when the bottles turn 100 years old. "Part of the allure for me is having them in their origina-l state," said Fite, a confirmed bourbon man. "I have high expectations of what they'll taste like, and I'm afraid if I open them I'll be disappointed."

News Album

***People gather outside the site of Spider-Man: Turn Off The Dark the day after the official opening is postponed again as the musical will undergo an overhaul which could delay the opening until June at Foxwoods Theatre in New York City on 9 March, 2011.—*INTERNET**

Body of Broadway stage tech found in river

NEW YORK, 7 July— A 27-year-old video technician for Broadway's "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" and "Ghost" was found dead in New York's Hudson River, police said.

Jason Lindahl disappeared Sunday morning from his Queens apartment after sending suicidal e-mails to friends, police said.

His fully clothed body washed up just north of the George Washington Bridge in Manhattan Wednesday night, the *New York Daily News* reported.

A handwritten suicide note was found at his home, the report said.

An autopsy was being conducted, the newspaper said.—*Internet*

Bieber cited for speeding on LA freeway

LOS ANGELES, 7 July— Justin Bieber is used to attracting crowds. But he had at least one follower too many when somebody tailed him on a Los Angeles freeway, and it led to a speeding ticket for the teen idol.

The singer of "Boyfriend" and "Baby" was cited for driving in excess of 65 mph at about 10:45 am Friday, after calls came in complaining of a freeway chase on southbound US Highway 101 near Studio City, said Officer Ming Hsu of the California Highway Patrol.

The 18-year-old crooner told officers he was being chased by paparazzi, and investigators confirmed he was being followed by at least one vehicle, Hsu said.

"The second vehicle left the area and there's a search to find that driver," Hsu said.

Hsu did not have a description of the other vehicle.

A call and an email to Bieber's publicist weren't immediately returned.

The claim of a chase is backed by an unlikely eyewitness, Los Angeles City Councilman Dennis Zine, who called authorities after seeing Bieber's distinctive chrome Fisker Karma being chased by five or six other cars.

On his morning commute to City Hall, Zine, who spent 33 years as a police officer, said he saw Bieber's sports car drive up behind him and zoom around him, weaving wildly in and out of traffic while five or six other cars gave chase.

***FILE - In this Jan. 28, 2012 file photo, Canadian singer Justin Bieber arrives at the Cannes festival palace to attend the NRJ Music awards ceremony, in Cannes, southeastern France.—*INTERNET**

Zine estimated the chase exceeded 100 mph as paparazzi engaged in wild maneuvers to keep up with Bieber, including driving on the shoulder and cutting off other vehicles.

Zine said Bieber was breaking the law by driving recklessly and speeding, and the paparazzi were breaking the law by hounding him.

"This was very bizarre, very outrageous and showed a total disregard for life and property," Zine said.

Zine, a witness to countless crashes and fatalities during his time as an officer, said he was surprised no one crashed.

"The way (Bieber) was driving was totally reckless, I would have arrested him if I had pulled him over," said Zine. "I wouldn't have given him a ticket and let him go."

Friday's incident isn't the only time the floppy-haired singer has had conflict with paparazzi.—*Internet*

'Titans' tops DVD sales chart

***English-born Australian actor Sam Worthington and girlfriend Crystal Humphries attend the European Premiere of "Wrath Of The Titans" at The BFI IMAX in London on 29 March, 2012.—*INTERNET**

LOS ANGELES, 7 July— The Greek mythology-themed action flick "Wrath of the Titans" is the top-selling DVD and Blu-ray in the United States, Rentrak reported Friday.

Coming in at No 2 on the sales roster for the week ending 1 July is "21 Jump Street," followed by "Mirror Mirror" at No 3, "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" at No 4 and "Project X" at No. 5. Rounding out the top tier are "The Artist" at No 6, "Act of Valor" at No 7, "Safe House" at No 8, "Big Miracle" at No 9 and "John Carter" at No 10.

The No 1 DVD rental for the week ended June 30 is "21 Jump Street."

"Wrath of the Titans is No 2, "Mirror Mirror" is No 3, "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" is No 4, "Safe House" is No 5, "Wanderlust" is No 6, "Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance" is No 7, "A Thousand Words" is No 8, "Project X" is No 9 and "Seeking Justice" is No 10.—*Internet*

Cruise planning to file for divorce

LOS ANGELES, 7 July— Tom Cruise's lawyer says the Hollywood film star plans to file for divorce from his wife Katie Holmes, who legally moved to end their marriage last week.

The couple have been married five years and have a 6-year-old daughter.

"Tactically we can't say where Tom will file a divorce case and if he'll be seeking joint custody of Suri," Cruise's attorney Bert Fields told the BBC.

"We are letting 'the other side' play the media until they wear everyone out," Fields said, "and then we'll have something to say. ... It's not Tom's style to do this publicly. He is really sad about what's happening."

Holmes, 33, filed for divorce from Cruise, 50, 28 June in New York City. She is seeking sole custody of Suri.—*Internet*

***American actor Tom Cruise attends the European Premiere of "Rock Of Ages" at The Odeon Leicester Square in London on 10 June, 2012.* INTERNET**

Onetime Michael Jackson attorney loses license

LOS ANGELES, 7 July— Brian Oxman, who was once an attorney for Michael Jackson, will no longer be able to practice law in California. The California Supreme Court has denied an appeal of a state bar ruling that found Oxman and his wife mixed clients' and personal funds to evade creditors. Oxman's wife is his law partner. The state bar said Oxman was disciplined previously and that was among reasons for seeking revocation of his license. The allegations against Oxman did not involve the late pop star or his family.

Oxman was on Michael Jackson's molestation trial defence team until being dismissed in 2005. He later represented the singer's father and appeared on talk shows as a legal expert.

A phone message left for Oxman's attorney David Clare was not immediately returned Friday afternoon.—*Internet*

Arsenal announce Burton return as coach

Terry Burton was assistant manager at Arsenal in the 1980s.— INTERNET

LONDON, 7 July — Arsenal have announced the appointment of Terry Burton as their reserve team and head development coach. Burton returns to the club he served as a both youth team player and a first-team coach following the departure of Pat Rice as assistant manager at the end of last season and the subsequent promotion of Steve Bould and Neil Banfield. "I'm delighted and proud to be joining Arsenal as reserves and head development coach," Burton told the club's official website.

"Having started my career at Arsenal as a youth player, and then as a coach, I know the history, class and values of this great football club. I can't wait to get started in my new role and to meet the players and my new colleagues. "The Barclays Premier League club's manager Arsene Wenger added: "We are delighted that Terry Burton is joining Arsenal. "I have known Terry for many years and he is someone who is hugely respected and highly regarded in the game. "Terry brings with him a wealth of coaching experience and he will be a great asset for us, working with our reserves and youth development players."—*Internet*

Serena Williams faces Radwanska in Wimbledon final

Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland plays a return to Angelique Kerber of Germany during a semifinals match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England, on 5 July, 2012.
INTERNET

WIMBLEDON, 7 July — More than once during the past fortnight, Serena Williams has won an important point at Wimbledon and then returned to the baseline, her clenched fist leading the way. The ferocity of the gesture is understandable, given the obstacles she has beaten back in the past couple of years. A succession of health issues led to a long layoff that forced Williams to mount a career comeback, and she'll try to cap it Saturday when she plays Agnieszka Radwanska, the first Polish player to reach a Grand Slam final since 1939.

Williams seeks her 14th major title, and would tie her sister Venus with a fifth win at Wimbledon. "I'm so happy to be playing," she said. "I've been through so much in the past year or two years, it has been unbelievable." This week Radwanska has been ailing herself, battling an upper respiratory illness that makes it difficult to speak and forced her to cancel a news conference Friday. "I will do whatever it takes to make sure I'm ready to play the best I can," she said in a statement.

While the No 3-ranked Radwanska seeks to become Poland's first Grand Slam title, the No 6-ranked Williams has a shot at her first major championship since Wimbledon in 2010.

Shortly after that victory, she cut her feet on glass at a restaurant, required two operations and spent more time in the hospital because of blood clots in her lung and a gathering of blood under the skin of her stomach.

Internet

Serena Williams of the United States reacts during a semifinals match against Victoria Azarenka of Belarus at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England, on 5 July, 2012.
INTERNET

Diego Forlan

Forlan signs with Brazil's Internacional

RIO DE JANEIRO, 7 July— Brazilian club Internacional has announced the signing of Uruguay striker Diego Forlan on a three-year contract. The 33-year-old was confirmed as Brazilian football's latest big-name recruit in a statement on Internacional's official website on Friday.

It came just hours after former Dutch international Clarence Seedorf was welcomed by 1500 fans upon his arrival in Rio de Janeiro, where he has signed a two-year deal with Botafogo. Forlan's move comes after a disappointing season with Inter Milan in Italy's Serie A. The winner of the 2010 Golden Ball award for the best player at the World Cup, Forlan managed only two goals in 20 matches across all competitions with the Nerazzurri.

"Diego Forlan is now an Internacional player," the Brazilian club said in the statement. "The Uruguay player is still in Milan and will arrive in Porto Alegre on Saturday. The player will be unveiled tomorrow." Forlan will follow in the footsteps of his father Pablo, who also played in Brazil with Sao Paulo and Cruzeiro.

Xinhua

Federer's record 8th Wimbledon final, Murray's 1st

WIMBLEDON, 7 July— Roger Federer is back in the Wimbledon final for the first time since 2009. If that seems like a long gap for the six-time champion, imagine how all of Britain feels: Andy Murray is the first man from the host country to play for the title at the All England Club in 74 years. Both are playing for history. Already the owner of a record 16 Grand Slam titles, but none in the past 2½ years, Federer can equal two marks held by Pete Sampras with one more victory Sunday: seven Wimbledon championships, and 286 weeks at No 1 in the ATP rankings.

So far 0-3 in major finals, without claiming even one set, Murray can become the first British man to collect any Grand Slam title since Fred Perry won Wimbledon and the US Championships in 1936. "Everyone loves Roger at Wimbledon, but a majority of people are going to want to see Andy win this time. ... They can inspire Andy. They can pick him up. But at the same time, they might make him feel like he's pulling all the hopes and dreams of a nation on his shoulders. That's a lot to deal with," Sampras said in a telephone interview. "And he has to play Roger Federer, so he'll have his hands full."Yes, Federer still has Wimbledon.And Wimbledon still has Federer.

Andy Murray of Britain reacts during a semifinals match against Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England, on 6 July, 2012.— INTERNET

After seeing his grip on the grass-court Grand Slam tournament slip away with a pair of quarterfinal losses the past two years, the third-seeded Federer reasserted himself by beating defending champion and top-seeded Novak Djokovic 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 on Friday.

Djokovic or Rafael Nadal won the nine previous majors, and both surpassed Federer in the rankings. But after losing six of his last seven matches against Djokovic, all on clay or hard courts, Federer had the upper hand on grass, the first time in 27 career meetings they've played each other on that surface."People were like, 'How are we going to survive a Wimbledon final without you?'" Federer joked about his earlier-than-usual exits in 2010 and 2011. "For me, it was no problem. I went on vacation and relaxed. Of course, it feels great to be in the Wimbledon final."

Internet

Roger Federer of Switzerland plays a shot to Novak Djokovic of Serbia during a semifinals match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England, on 6 July , 2012.
INTERNET

International Sports

Tiger Woods misses cut at Greenbrier

Tiger Woods reacts to his tee shot on the 12th hole during the second round of the Greenbrier Classic PGA Golf tournament at the Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W Va, on 6 July, 2012.— INTERNET

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, 7 July— One week after he won for the third time this season, Tiger Woods gets a rare weekend off. Woods missed the cut in the Greenbrier Classic by a stroke Friday, following an opening 71 with a 69 to finish at even par. He missed a cut for only the ninth time in his PGA Tour career, and for the third time in a tournament following a victory.

After winning on Sunday at Congressional, Woods was on a course he'd never seen before."I didn't quite have it," Woods said. "I drove it really good today and I just did not have the feel for the distances. The ball was just going forever. I know we're at altitude, but I just couldn't get the ball hit pin high no matter what I did, and subsequently, I made some bogeys."

Phil Mickelson also failed to advance to weekend play, the first time Woods and Mickelson have missed the cut in the same tournament as professionals.Mickelson shot his second straight 71.US.Open champion Webb Simpson topped the leaderboard at 9 under when play was suspended because of darkness in the round that was delayed because of rain. Simpson made a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-3 18th for a 4-under-66. A dozen players were unable to complete the round.— *Internet*

Pettersen leads, Wie makes big move at Open

KOHLER, 7 July—Even as she climbed into the lead in the second round of the US Women's Open on Friday, Suzann Pettersen took some time to admire Michelle Wie's big move into contention. Pettersen, the Norwegian star ranked sixth in the world, shot a 4-under 68 at Blackwolf Run on Friday and moved to 5 under for the tournament. But Wie was even better on the day, carding a 6-under 66 to move to 4 under and put herself in position to break out of a season-long slump. Wie was tied with Cristie Kerr, the 2007 Open winner, one stroke off the lead.

Michelle Wie waves to fans after her 18th hole during the second round of the US Women's Open golf tournament, on 6 July, 2012, in Kohler, Wis.
INTERNET

Pettersen was playing in the group directly behind Wie, giving her a pretty good view of what turned out to be an impressive display of accurate approach shots and made putts. "She was fist-pumping, every putt she looked at," Pettersen said.Wie said she doesn't spend much time thinking about the attention she received as a high-profile child prodigy in the early 2000s, or whether some fans had written her off since then.

Internet

Suzann Pettersen hits her tee shot on the first hole during the second round of the US Women's Open golf tournament, on 6 July, 2012, in Kohler, Wis.
INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(8-7-12 09:30 am ~ 9-7-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Road to 27th SEA Games Archery
* News
* Perspective of Diplomats
* News
* Finding One's Soul On Mt. Shwe Myin Tin
* News
* Japan-Myanmar Cultural and Sports Exchange (Part-II)
* News
* MI People's Celebrities "Chit Thu Wai"
* Seminar on Vietnam-Myanmar Business Matching
* News
* Culture Stage
* News
* Mesmerizing Scenes or Images of Japan (Part-II)
* News
* People with differently able
* Travelogue in Popa
* Myanmar Movie "Forgive and Forget"

MYANMAR TV

(8-7-2012) (Sunday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw - Uppatasanti Paritta

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am
3. Nice and Sweet Song

8:00 am
4. Health Programme

11:10 am
5. TV Drama Series

12:00 pm
6. How It's Works

12:25 pm
7. Myanmar Movies

4:40 pm
8. Song Of National Races

4:45 pm
9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Geography)

5:00 pm
10. Songs for Upholding National Spirit

5:20 pm
11. Sing & Enjoy

6:20 pm
12. Cartoon Series

7:00 pm
13. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
14. News
15. Cartoon Series
16. TV Drama Series
17. New Melody

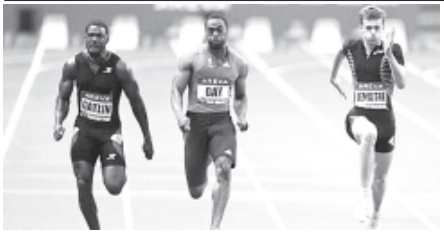
Wunna Kyawhtin U Thet Tun

Ambassador (Ret.)
Director General (Ret.), CSO
Director (Ret.), UNESCO (Asia & Pacific Division)
Part-time Member, Myanmar Historical Commission
Chairman, Tun Foundation Literatary Committe
Aged (86) Years

U Thet Tun of No.531, Marlar Myaing Avenue, Pye Road, Kamayut Township, son of (U Po Thoung - ISE + Daw Sein Toke), son-in-law of (U Ohn -ICS) + Daw Than Nwe Ohn, brother of (U Tin Tun + Daw Than Nwe), (U Kan Nyunt) + Daw Khin Ma Ma, (U Khin Maung Zaw + Daw Than Than Nu), U Myint Ohn + Daw Mu Mu Thinn, beloved father of Dr. Soe Min Tun + Daw Aye Aye Khin, U Lin Win Tun, grand father of three grandchildren, husband of Daw Khin Khi Ohn @ Thelma Ohn, passed away peacefully on Wednesday (4.7.2012), 8:00 pm at Asia Royal Clinic and will be cremated at Htein Pin Cemetery on Sunday (8.7.2012) at 4:00 pm.

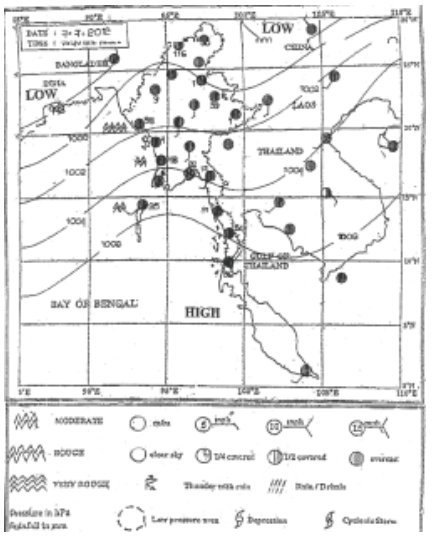
(Transport will be residence at 2:30 pm)

Bereaved Family



***American Tyson Gay (C), American Justin Gatlin (L) and French Christophe Lemaitre compete in the 100m event of the IAAF Diamond League athletics Areva meeting at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis, a Paris northern suburb. Gay won the battle of the US sprint heavyweights, overcoming a terrible start to edge Gatlin on the line for victory in 9.99 seconds.—*INTERNET**

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

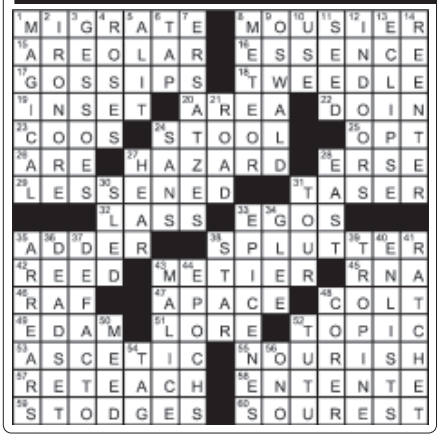


Weather forecast for 8th July, 2012

Sr. No.		Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	31/88	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	29/84	22/72	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	23/73	15/59	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	32/90	25/77	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	39/102	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Taninthayi	29/84	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
8	Bago	28/82	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	36/97	27/81	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	38/100	28/82	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	31/88	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	33/91	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	31/88	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	19/66	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	31/88	23/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	30/86	23/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	30/86	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	36/97	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	33/91	23/73	Some rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	38/100	28/82	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershower have been isolated in Mandalay Region, scattered in Lower Sagaing and Magway Region, fairly widespread in Bago and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with Regionally heavy fall in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Taungup (7.68) inches, Gwa (6.22) inches, Sittway (5.55) inches, Khamti (4.60) inches, Hlegu (3.90) inches, Thandwe (3.78) inches, Manaung (3.31) inches and Hmawby (2.79) inches.
Bay Inference	Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at-times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon - Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.
Outlook for sub-sequent two days	Likelihood of increase of rain Southern Myanmar areas.

Answers for Yesterday's Crossword Puzzle



Gay trumps Gatlin, but Bekele struggles

SAINT-DENIS , 7 July — Tyson Gay won the battle of the US sprint heavyweights at the Diamond League meet here on Friday, overcoming a terrible start to edge Justin Gatlin on the line for victory in 9.99 seconds.

Other stand-out performances came from strong Olympic favourites David Rudisha and Sally Pearson, but Kenenisa Bekele was left ruing his form after a disastrous outing in the 5,000m saw him confirm he would not defend his distance double at the London Games.

Gay left it late to surge past 2004 Olympic champion Gatlin, who clocked 10.03sec, with French hope Christophe Lemaitre finishing third (10.08).

"I wanted to win this race since Gatlin beat me in the US trials," said Gay, the US national record holder and second fastest man of all-time at 9.68sec.

"I made mistakes at the start, but I tried to get it at the end. I was a little bit sluggish, I've got to keep my head down more and push harder."

A first defeat of the season did not dent Gatlin's ever-high confidence levels. "I won the gold in Athens and the same thing should happen in London," said the 30-year-old who came back from a four-year doping ban in May 2011.

Rudisha clocked an electric 1:41.54, streaking ahead of the field on the coat-tails of regular pacemaker Sammy Tangui in a bid to break his own world record of 1:41.01 set in 2010.

Internet

TREES PLANTED: ***Monsoon tree growing ceremony was held at mile post No 99.3 on Pathein-Monywa Road in Ingapu Township of Hinthada District on 29 June. Township Administrator U Hlwan Moe Han, Staff Officer U Win Kyaw of Township Forest Department and departmental personnel plant 1500 teak saplings and 1500 eucalyptus saplings.—*MYANMA ALIN**

Buddhist cultural course concludes in Ahlon Township

YANGON, 7 July—With the sponsorship of local people from Thittaw Ward in Ahlon Township of Yangon Region, the ceremony to present certificates to the students was held in conjunction with the cash assistance presentation at Basic Education Middle School No 3 in Ahlon Township on 28 June.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Than Naing, Township Education Officer Daw Swe Swe Le, Head of Township Religious Affairs Department and Immigration and National Registration Department U Thein Htut Lwin made speeches.

Ward administrator U Aung Soe explained the purpose of donations.

Responsible persons presented certificates, school equipment and cash assistance to the trainees.—*Myanma Alin*

NLM-ner Joke

Begging on Wall Street

There are three beggars begging on Wall Street.

The first beggar wrote "Beggar" on his broken cup. He received $10.00 after one day.

The next day, the second beggar wrote "Beggar.com" on his cup. After one day, he received hundreds of thousands of dollars and an offer to float an IPO on NASDAQ.

The following day, the third beggar wrote "e-Beg" on his cup. Microsoft, IBM, and HP sent corporate vice-presidents to talk to him about strategic alliances and offered him free hardware consultancy. In addition, it was reported on CNBC that e-Beg uses 95% Oracle technology and that I2 announced the launch of BegTradeMatrix; a b2b industry portal offering supply chain integration in the beggar community.—*Internet*

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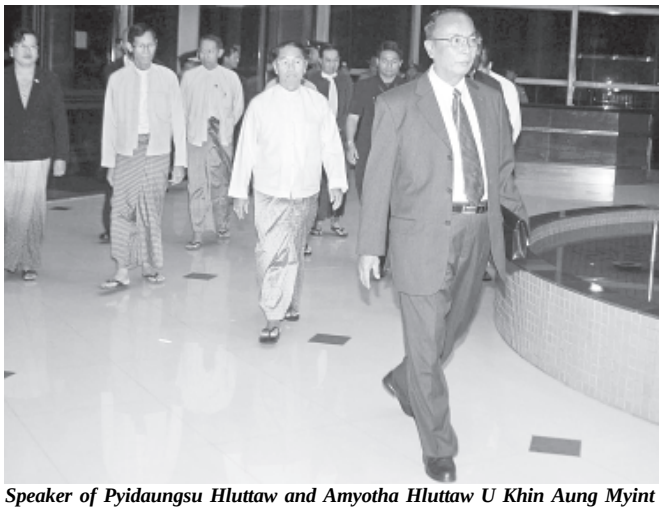
Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw leaves for Indonesia

YANGON, 7 July—A Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint left here by air at 7.45 pm today to attend the ASEAN Parliamentary Assembly, the Executive Committee Meeting and the 9th Meeting of the Fact Finding Committee to combat the Drug Menace to be held in Indonesia from 8 to 12 July at the invitation of Speaker of Indonesian National Parliament HE. Dr Marzuki Alie.

The Myanmar delegation led by the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, members of Amyotha Hluttaw Commission, the Charge d' Affaires ai of Indonesian Embassy to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and departmental officials.

The delegation include Chariman of Amyotha Hluttaw ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee U Nyunt Tin, member of Pyithu Hluttaw Social Development Committee Daw Win Maw Tun, Director-General of Hluttaw Office U Kyaw Soe and departmental officials.

MNA



***Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint being seen off by officials at Yangon International Airport.*—MNA**

Union Transport Minister assists in cross-Yangon River ferry service, Yangon Port extension

YANGON, 7 July—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung inspected the iPay Card system for the cross-Yangon River ferry service at Pansodan Jetty today.

During his tour of inspection, the union minister stressed the need to make the service comfortable for the passengers as over 30,000 passengers from all walks of life have to use the Pansodan-Dalla ferry service daily.

According to the union minister, the iPay Card system which is the intelligent transport system has been used at ferries of the Inland Water Transport and the system will be used at railways and flights in the near future.

Without running for profit, the Inland Water Transport which transports over 24 million passengers every year needs to provide smooth and safety of the transportation services to ships and passengers while operating services not at loss and without running for profit, he added.

As part of efforts for effectively supporting the development of the country, the ministry is drawing plans for reforms at the ministry and employees of the ministry on their part are to carry out their duties transparently, he said.

During the visit, the union minister viewed the lounge where passengers are taking rest, ferry service and the Nanthidar Jetty.

Afterwards, the union minister went to Botahtaung Jetty and inspected measures being taken for extension of Yangon Port and assisted in construction of the embankment at the jetty.

Union Minister Nyan Tun Aung also assisted in construction of a floating hotel and urged officials concerned to invite the tender for works included in the Port Master Plan for extension of Yangon Port.

MNA

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung inspects iPay Card system for the cross-Yangon River ferry service at Pansodan Jetty.

MNA

Educative talks on traffic rules given

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—According to the traffic accident reduction plan of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee, a talks on traffic rules was given at Basic Education High School (Branch) (Nyaungbintha) in Pyinmana on 4 July morning.

Present at the talks were Township Education Officer Daw Mya Win, Headmistress Daw Aye Aye Mu, six teachers and 412 students totalling 420.

Staff Officer of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Police Force Police Captain Win Maung talked about rules for pedestrians and unmotorized vehicles and salient points for traffic rules, and replied to the queries raised by students.—*MNA*

With four-page supplement on Anti-Bribery Bill and Bill Amending the Penal Code attached.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (7-7-2012)

Taungup	**(7.68)**	**inches**
Gwa	**(6.22)**	**inches**
Sittway	**(5.55)**	**inches**
Khamti	**(4.60)**	**inches**
Hlegu	**(3.90)**	**inches**
Thandwe	**(3.78)**	**inches**
Manaung	**(3.31)**	**inches**
Hmawby	**(2.79)**	**inches**

Kalou joins Lille on four-year deal

LILIE, 7 July—Ivory Coast forward Salomon Kalou has signed a four-year deal with Lille after passing a medical on Saturday, the Ligue 1 club announced on its website.

Out of contract following his release from Chelsea, the 26-year-old reportedly agreed terms with the club at the end of June.

"The LOSC (Lille) project, in particular the arrival of the new stadium, is ambitious and really pleased me. From what I've already discovered about the club, it has no reason to envy the big European teams. I am here to have fun and to get to know the fans who I know are very warm," Kalou said.

The Ivorian is expected to serve as a replacement for departed Belgian star Eden Hazard, who moved in the opposite direction at the start of the summer.

Kalou joined Chelsea from Dutch outfit Feyenoord in May 2006 and scored 60 goals in six seasons for the Blues.

Reuters

Tiger Woods misses cut at Greenbrier

Tiger Woods reacts to his tee shot on the 12th hole during the second round of the Greenbrier Classic PGA Golf tournament at the Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W Va, on 6 July, 2012.

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Pettersen leads, Wie makes big move at Open

Suzann Pettersen hits her tee shot on the first hole during the second round of the US Women's Open golf tournament, on 6 July, 2012, in Kohler, Wis.

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Gay trumps Gatlin, but

American Tyson Gay (C), American Justin Gatlin (L) and French Christophe Lemaitre compete in the 100m event of the IAAF Diamond League athletics Areva meeting at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis, a Paris northern suburb.

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