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The New Light of Myanmar

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Our Three Main National Causes * Non-disintegration of the Union * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker comforts, presents aids to local people at relief camps in Rakhine State

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann meets locals at relief camp in Mayyu Hall in Yathedaung.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, accompanied by chairman of committees of Pyithu Hluttaw, Secretary of the committee for unity and peace of national races and representatives from political parties, members of legal affairs and special cases assessment commission and officials of Hluttaw Office, left here for Sittway, Rakhine State, yesterday.

They were welcomed at the Sittway Airport by Lt-Gen Hla Min of Commander-in-Chief (Army)'s Office, Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin, Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko Naing, Speaker of Rakhine State Hluttaw U Htein Lin, ministers of Rakhine State government and officials.

They flew to Alethankyaw Village by helicopter and comforted local people at the relief camp there and presented aids to them.

At Maungtaw District Deputy Commissioner's Office, U Aung Gyi, Head of the border area immigration inspection headquarters reported on riots happened in Maungtaw Township and stability, relief and rehabilitation efforts in the township.

They discussed the relief efforts in the township.

After the meeting, they went to Aungmyay Bawdi Monastery where a relief camp is set up and donated robes and offertories to Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery and distributed relief aids to the local people at the camp.

Afterwards, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and party left Maungtaw for Sittway where they put up for a night.

They flew to Yathedaung today and comforted local people at a relief camp set up at Mayyu Hall in Yathedaung and presented aids to them.

Afterwards, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and party left for Sittway by helicopter and presented aids to local people sheltering at U Ye Kyaw Thu Monastery.

They also visited relief camps and comforted local people at Thakkaypyin relief camp and presented aids to them.

They met with Rakhine State government, departmental officials and townselders.

Lawmakers extend deep sympathy towards ethnic people and local people and wish them not to experience such sufferings again. The people should continue living with patience and mutual understanding. The country is standing on the global stage in harmony with the international community in serving the national interest and ensuring non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty and

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Union Election Commission Chairman honours outstanding students in Htongyi Village

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—"Promotion of education is a long-term challenge which calls for collaborative efforts of the government, parents, teachers and students reviewing the previous curriculums," pointed out Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye at the award presentation to students who matriculated outstandingly from Htongyi Village Basic Education High School, Bago Township, Bago Region this morning.

The chairman noted that the nationwide honouring of outstanding students is indeed aimed to drive the commitment of talented students, arousing the admiration of basic education students whetting their appetite for knowledge.

The government has organized workshops on promotion of education while bolstering the quality of basic and higher education institutions. It has also introduced compulsory education system and is preparing to launch private sector education. In addition, it grants stipends from basic education to higher education level and is assisting needy students to continue their education.

Teachers must possess boundless enthusiasm and infinite patience and are to nurture their students to have a heart of gold and strong Union Spirit, helping them obtain healthy mind and body. Parents are obliged to guide

(See page 9)

Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye honours outstanding headmistress Daw May Thet Nwe. MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 9 July, 2012

No turning back

When we say nation-building, it includes peace, solidarity, stability, the rule of law and dedication which are of vital importance in changing from one era to another and from one system to another. Here the main players are the people of Myanmar as we are building a democratic state or in other words we are in the process of people-centred democratic transition.

As our stable and correct transition is gaining more and more international recognition, we need continuous efforts to win further trust among the global community. Our country is in the transition to a new era and system of democracy with the constitution as the core. In fact, it is the uniqueness of our country and our people.

In all seriousness we understand that the extent of success, stability and durability of the transition process of the government in office will become the legacy for the future successive governments. It is because the present government is a historic beginning for the posterity as well as a decisive moment for the many years to come. Besides, today's accomplishments will be tomorrow's history.

But we still have a lot more to do. We need extra efforts because democratization is a long-term process and an endeavour for eternity and burgeoning of a Myanmar democratic society. Although we are achieving success to a certain degree many challenges also lie ahead.

Whatever comes, we have already committed ourselves to walk on this path paved by all the countrymen in harmony and unison without fail. Our democracy will become firmer and firmer if we walk on this path with the resolve that there will be no turning back while setting aside differences and working together on common ground.

Coord meeting held at Mon State Police Force

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— Mon State Police Force held a coordination meeting at its office on 5 July morning, with an address by Commander of Mon State Police Force Police Col Nay Myo.

Commanders of four township police forces from Thaton District reported on progress of works, Commander of Thaton District Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Ko Oo tasks carried out in respective townships, commanders of township police forces from Mawlamyine District and Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Zaw Min Oo tasks undertaken in his six townships.

Section heads also submitted reports on their respective sectors.

MNA

Commander of Mon State Police Force Police Col Nay Myo addresses coordination meeting of Mon State Police Force.
NLM

Home Affairs Ministry presents prizes and stipends to outstanding students

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— A ceremony to honour outstanding students from staff families under the Home Affairs Ministry who passed 2011-2012 academic year matriculation examination and to provide scholarships for 2012-2013 academic year was held at the ministry here this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko.

On the occasion, the Union minister said that presentation of outstanding awards, scholarships and stationery for students would help reduce cost of students' parents. The Union minister urged the students to pursue their education with strenuous efforts and to try their best in learning. The Union minister called for the staff of the ministry to serve with the sense of responsibility.

The Union minister then presented prizes to a total of 517 outstanding students who passed 2011-2012 matriculation examination with distinctions and provided scholarships and stationery for 2012-2013 academic year through officials.

Altogether 517 outstanding students including seven who passed the matriculation examination with flying colours, 31 five-distinction winners, 68 four-distinction winners, 66 three-distinction winners, 81 two-distinction winners and 264 one distinction winners were honored at the ceremony. The Home Affairs Ministry provided K 56,283,000 and 1000 dozens of exercise books for the students at the ceremony.—*MNA*

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko awards a distinction winner.—MNA

Union Minister for Mines attends monsoon tree growing, releasing fingerlings

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—The Ministry of Mines held both planting monsoon trees and releasing fingerlings at Pyinmana (Branch) of No.2 Mining Enterprise, here on 6 July. Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik planted an ironwood tree and the directors-general, the managing directors and staff other saplings totaling 1200.

The Union minister, departmental heads and staff released 25000 fingerlings into Seinlaekanthar dam in the Ministry.

MNA

Yangon, Mandalay end in stalemate in volleyball finals

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—The final matches of men's and women's volleyball tournaments of the third-batch Regions/States Champion Challenge Cup (2012) took place at Paunglaung Gymnasium in Pyinmana Township, here this morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan.

Mandalay beat Yangon in women's final and Yangon but in men's final saw the reverse result with both regions securing a shield.

Deputy Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Ohn Myint Oo awarded Shan State and Ayeyawady Region which concurrently stood third, second prize winner Yangon and first prize winner Mandalay in women's volleyball tournament. Deputy Director-General U Naw Taung awarded the joint-third prize winners Shan State and Sagaing Region, second prize winner Mandalay Region and the first prize winner Yangon Region in men's event.

The Union Minister then presented trophies to the winners.

MNA

Myanmar, Japan to discuss bilateral trade and investment

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—A Myanmar economic delegation led by Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint left here for Japan this morning.

The delegation will hold talks on promotion of bilateral trade and investment with Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and private profit-making organizations of Japan. The delegation comprises 30 members from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.—*MNA*

Tree planting ceremony marks School Environment Day

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—The tree planting ceremony to mark the School Environment Day for 2012-2013 academic year, organized by Department of Basic Education No.3, was held at No.3, Basic Education High School in Insein this morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and Region ministers gave saplings to Township Education Officers and school heads of Yangon North District.

After that, the Region Chief Minister planted a Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) plant. The Region ministers grew saplings at the designated places. The Chief Minister and party encouraged teachers and students participating in the tree-growing ceremony.

At today ceremony, a total of 1,300 saplings were planted.—*MNA*

Talks on uplifting of disabilities

YANGON, 8 July— Shwemintha Foundation (Myanmar) will hold the literary talks on 65th Azarni Day for broadening horizon of the disabled persons at Doh Yohya Restaurant in Bahan Township on 15 July.

Writers Chit Oo Nyo and Maung Sein Win (Padeegon) will give literary talks.

Enthusiasts may attend the talks. For further information, dial 01-2300329, 23000332 and 215939.

Kyemon

Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda (2nd R) shakes hands with Afghan President Hamid Karzai as they stand with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Japanese Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (L-R) at a photo session at the Tokyo Conference on the Reconstruction of Afghanistan, in Tokyo on 8 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Donors offer $16 billion Afghan aid at Tokyo conference

TOKYO, 8 July—Major donors pledged on Sunday to give Afghanistan $16 billion (10 billion pounds) in development aid over the next four years as they seek to prevent it from sliding back into chaos when foreign troops leave, but demanded reforms to fight corruption.

Donor fatigue and war weariness have taken their toll on how long the global community is willing to support Afghanistan and there are concerns that without financial backing about security following the withdrawal of most NATO combat troops in 2014.

"Afghanistan's security cannot only be measured by the absence of war," US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton told an international donors conference in Tokyo.

"It has to be measured by whether people have jobs and economic opportunity, whether they believe their government is serving their needs, whether political reconciliation proceeds and succeeds."

The Afghan central bank has estimated that at least $6 billion a year in new investment from foreign donors will be needed to foster economic growth over the next decade.

Clinton also stressed the importance of Afghanistan—among the poorest and most corrupt nations in the world—of taking aggressive action to fight graft and promote reforms.

"That must include fighting corruption, improving governance, strengthening the rule of law, increasing access to economic opportunity for all Afghans, especially for women," she said.

US officials provided no monetary figure for their expected aid, but said the administration would ask Congress to keep assistance levels stable through 2017 compared with the assistance Washington has offered over the past decade.

Reuters

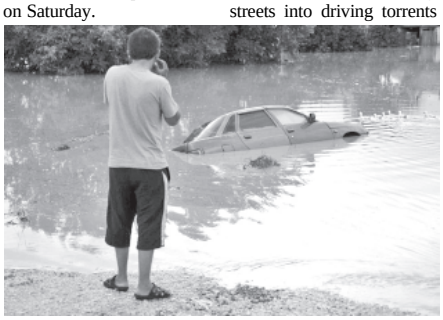
Over 100 killed in floods, landslides in Russia

MOSCOW, 8 July—Floods and landslides killed at least 150 people in southern Russia after two months' average rainfall fell in a few hours, forcing some to climb on to roofs and into trees to save themselves, police said on Saturday.

Many victims were elderly people who were asleep in the town of Krymsk when the storm broke in the agricultural region of Krasnodar overnight.

They drowned as the torrential rain turned hilly streets into driving torrents and water rose above head-height in what one official called the worst flooding for 70 years. Five people were electrocuted when an electric transformer fell into the water in the coastal resort of Gelendzhik and some victims were swept out to sea.

The flooding damaged thousands of homes, blocked railways and roads, and halted oil and grain shipments from the Black Sea port of Novorossiisk. "There are lots of overturned cars, even huge trucks. Brick walls have been washed away," said Vladimir Anosov, a resident of the village of Novoukrainsky near Krymsk, a town surrounded by mountains about 300 km (190 miles) northwest of Sochi where Russia will host the 2014 Winter Olympics.—*Reuters*



A local resident looks at a submerged car in a flooded street in the village of Novoukrainsk, near the southern Russian town of Krymsk, on 7 July, 2012.—INTERNET

Death toll from Pakistan drone attack rises to 19

MIRANSHAH, (Pakistan), 8 July—The death toll from a drone strike in northeastern Pakistan has risen to 19, Pakistani intelligence officials said on Saturday.

Twelve people were originally reported dead in Friday's strike on a compound in the Dhattakel region in North Waziristan.

Public anger over US drone attacks has helped inflame tensions between Pakistan and the United States.

Friday's strike took place a day after two trucks carried NATO supplies across the border into Afghanistan — the first shipments since convoys were halted by Pakistan last November.

Pakistanis say the drone attacks kill civilians and encroach on Pakistani sovereignty. The United States says the attacks are highly selective and that few civilians are killed.

The CIA has stepped up operations in North Waziristan in recent weeks. The area is seen as a hub for militants crossing the porous border to fight US forces and their allies in Afghanistan.

The resumption of the cross-border shipments to Afghanistan gave a boost to the uneasy partnership between Pakistan and the United States.

Pakistan agreed to the resumption after US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton apologized for an air attack that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers last November.

Reuters

Meatball company recalls 300,000 pounds of meat over listeria risk

NEW YORK, 8 July—A New Jersey meatball manufacturer is recalling more than 300,000 pounds (136,000 kg) of meat products due to possible listeria contamination, the US Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service said on Saturday. Bridgeton, New Jersey-based Buona Vita Inc was recalling about 324,770 pounds of frozen, ready-to-eat meat and poultry products produced in May, including meatballs, chicken and beef patties, and loafs of chicken and beef, the agency said in a written statement.

The FSIS described the health risk related to the recall as "high," according to the statement. Representatives for Buona Vita, which says on its website that it produces 200,000 pounds (90,000 kg) of meatballs a day, could not immediately be reached for comment. The possible contamination was discovered through testing by FSIS and the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the FSIS statement said. There have been no reports of illness related to the company's products, it added.—*Reuters*

Extreme heat persists in US but relief arriving Monday

NEW YORK, 8 July—Another day of scorching temperatures blanketed the United States from Iowa to the East Coast on Saturday, but forecasters said some of the areas hit hardest by the prolonged heat wave would soon get relief. The National Weather Service issued excessive heat warnings for cities including Washington, where temperatures reached 103 Fahrenheit (39 Celsius) by 1 pm, New York and Philadelphia, where temperatures hovered near or at triple digits. "It's hotter than hell," said John Ghio, a tourist from St Louis after visiting the White House. "We're going to get a cold drink, catch the subway and go back to our hotel to cool down."

Nearby, a family from China posed for photos in front of the US Treasury. They were debating whether to go on to the Washington Monument or wait until the sun went down. "Too hot," said Xiao Duan, 30, of Beijing. "My father says it's like we're being burned by flames."—*Reuters*

Boys play at a fountain outside Public School 20 in the Lower East Side neighborhood of New York on 7 July, 2012.—INTERNET

The battleship USS Iowa approaches the Ital Contessa cargo ship as it is moved to its final berth in the Port of Los Angeles, where it will become a floating museum, in the San Pedro section of Los Angeles, California, on 9 June, 2012.
INTERNET

Thousands visit battleship USS Iowa as museum opens in LA

LOS ANGELES, 8 July— Thousands of visitors climbed aboard the *USS Iowa*—its sides draped in red, white and blue ribbons - as the storied battleship that served during World War Two and the Cold War opened as a museum on Saturday at the port of Los Angeles.

A *B-25* bomber, a *P-40 Warhawk* and a *P-51 Mustang* flew over the ship in a triangle formation to mark the first day of public visits.

The 887-foot-long (270-meter) *Iowa* was commissioned in 1943 and decommissioned in 1990. It was mothballed in a Northern California port until it could be towed to Los Angeles this year to serve as a museum.

The battleship underwent a $7 million restoration that included $3 million from the state of Iowa.

During World War Two, the *Iowa* ferried President Franklin D Roosevelt across the perilous Atlantic waters to a historic meeting with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin.

It was known as "The Battleship of Presidents" and also as "The Big Stick" for its actions in combat in the Pacific Ocean.

Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Ancient mosaic depicting fiery bible story discovered

NEW YORK, 8 July — A glittering mosaic of coloured stones once decorated an ancient synagogue floor with scenes of the Biblical hero Samson getting revenge on the Philistines.This newly excavated discovery in the ancient Jewish village of Huqoq not only depicts an unusual scene — Samson tying torches to foxes' tails in order to burn his enemies' crops — it's also remarkably high-quality, said dig archaeologist Jodi Magness of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

A female face depicted in mosaic on an ancient Jewish synagoge. Archaeologists uncovered this high-quality artwork in June 2012.— INTERNET

In a mosaic, "the smaller the cubes, the finer the work," Magness told LiveScience. "Our cubes are very small and fine."The mosaic decorates part of a synagogue dating back to about AD 400 to 500. So far, Magness and her team have excavated only part of the eastern wall of the structure, so they don't yet know how big the synagogue was. But the building appears to be made of large, "beautifully cut" blocks of stone, Magness said, suggesting an expansive structure.

The mosaic, which is incomplete, depicts several scenes. In one, two female faces flank a Hebrew inscription about rewards for people who perform good deeds. In the other, Samson, of the biblical story Samson and Delilah, ties torches to pairs of foxes, an event described in the Book of Judges in both the Christian and Hebrew Bibles. As the story goes, Samson falls in love with a woman of Philistine origin, a people who ruled the city-states of Gaza, Askelon, Ashdod, Ekron and Gath in the ancient Middle East. The Philistines are depicted as enemies of the Israelis in the Bible.—*Internet*

Thousands of computers at risk of losing Internet access

WASHINGTON, 8 July — Thousands of people may lose Internet service on Monday unless they check their computers for malware that could have taken over their machines a year ago. The number of infected computers is probably more than 277,000 worldwide. People with infected computers will have to call their service providers for help deleting the malware. The problem was caused by international hackers who took control of 570,000 computers before the FBI broke up the operation. People can see if their computers are infected at www.dcwg.org.—*Internet*

Meteosat-10 (MSG-3) being placed on top of its Ariane launcher.
INTERNET

Meteosat launches to maintain Europe's weather services

LONDON, 8 July — The latest spacecraft in Europe's long-running Meteosat series has just gone into orbit on an Ariane rocket. It is now being manoeuvred into a position some 36,000km above the Earth from where it can keep a constant watch on developing weather systems. The spacecraft is the 10th Meteosat platform to go into service since 1977. Its pictures will soon be feeding into the daily forecasts provided to the public by national meteorological agencies right across Europe."Verification and testing of the satellite's systems will take two months. We expect to publish the first image on 6 August," said Alain Ratier, the director-general of Eumetsat, the intergovernmental organization based in Darmstadt, Germany, that is charged with operating Europe's weather platforms. Thursday's ascent to orbit from the Kourou spaceport in French Guiana lasted some 34 minutes. When it came off the Ariane's upper-stage, the satellite was moving in a stretched ellipse around the planet, running from an altitude of 250km out to 35,950 km.

Controllers at the European Space Operations Centre (Esoc), also in Darmstadt, will need to circularise that path in the coming 10 days.

They are targeting a geostationary observing position at zero degrees longitude, over the Gulf of Guinea on the Equator.The satellite's orbital speed will be matched to that of the Earth's rotation, giving the platform's sensors a constant view of Europe and Africa. The Meteosats are now into the "second generation" (MSG) of design. This was introduced in 2002 to substantially increase the flow and quality of information to Europe's forecasters.

And Meteosat-10 is the third in that particular series (MSG-3). As on the two antecedents, the primary instrument on the two-tonne Meteosat-10 is the Spinning Enhanced Visible and Infrared Imager, or Seviri.

It builds its pictures of evolving meteorological systems, line by line, by spinning across the field of view. Data is acquired at 12 different wavelengths, tracing information such as cloud movement and changing temperature.

"Meteosat gives you a very good view of the weather happening right now," explained Dr John Eyre, head of satellite applications at the UK's Met Office.

Internet

The robot built from a Playstation and household junk which could one day help sweep for underwater mines

LONDON, 8 July — University students have built an underwater robot from household junk that will help detect mines. Seven students from University of the West of England were responsible for designing and building the £20,000 vehicle from recycled materials. The camera on the vehicle came from a PlayStation 3, an broadband router was used as well as fan guards from an old computer and a reversing light from a Land Rover.

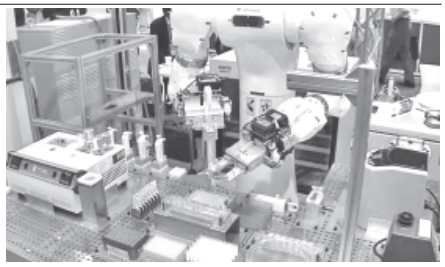
The robots are used primarily for defence purposes such as mine detection, but could also be used for inspecting oil rigs or cleaning the base structures of sea wind farms. The Autonomous Underwater Vehicle uses sensors and sonar to map out where it is and carry out pre-programmed tasks.The students have entered the robot an international competition for AUVs at La Spezia in Italy this week. Team leader Gareth Griffiths said: 'Currently there is a human element in detecting mines which is both dangerous and very costly.' An application of the AUV is to carry out mine detection and clearing.'Wherever possible we have recycled materials to ensure that we are working to a sustainable agenda.'

Gareth Griffiths and Alex Sleat working on the robot, which includes a camera from a Playstation 3 and fan guards from an old computer.— INTERNET

He added: 'A key part of the challenge is to build an AUV that will be robust enough to cope with a fairly hostile environment yet incorporating sophisticated equipment in a watertight and lightweight encase-ment.' AUVs are frequently required to operate in environments such as murky deep waters we need to equip them with tracking and vision sensors that enable safe but accurate movement.

'This year we are focusing on making the vehicle as lightweight as possible with an ability to localise in its environment.'

Internet



Mahoro mixes it up with its seven-jointed arms.
INTERNET

Two-armed robot takes on risky lab work

TOKYO, 8 July — This modified assembly robot has been put to work in the lab, where it's handling dangerous materials to keep people out of harm's way.

We've seen robot pharmacists before. Here's a robot lab technician whose speed might make "CSI" plots a little more believable. Developed by automation giant Yaskawa and Japan's National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), co-creator of the HRP series of humanoid robots, Mahoro is a two-armed droid that looks like a modified Yaskawa Motoman assembly robot. Unlike most assembly robots, its arms have seven joints, allowing it to use human tools and to perform humanlike motions easily.

It automates lab work and can do tasks such as culturing more quickly and accurately than human lab techs, DigInfo News tells us in the vid below. It can work on things like flu testing as well as handle biohazards, keeping human technicians out of harm's way, according to AIST's Tohru Natsume.

The droid can be easily taught what to do by using a virtual lab bench created with CAD software. The system also lets programmers set up the tools in the most efficient arrangement for maximum speed. Recently shown off at the Interphex pharmaceutical trade show in Tokyo, Mahoro is being used by drug companies and universities. AIST wants to improve it so humans can work alongside the robo-tech. I think that might just improve the acting on "CSI," too. — *Internet*

Solar system's "Grotesque" twin found

The Gliese system is one of several newfound solar systems, including GJ676A (not pictured).
INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 8 July — Astronomers have detected our "grotesque" twin: A planetary system arranged much like our own solar system, a new study says. Dubbed GJ676A, the system has two rocky planets orbiting close to its host star, and two gas giants orbiting far away. This means the system is arranged like our system—though in GJ676A, everything is much larger. For instance, the smallest rocky planet in GJ676A is at least four times the mass of Earth, while the largest gas giant is five times the size of Jupiter.

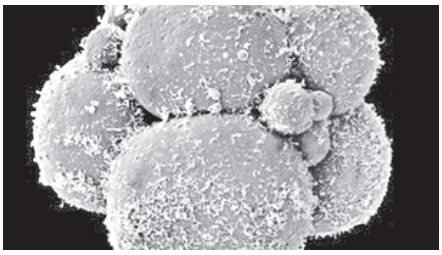
Other multiple-planet systems have been discovered, such as HD10180, which has been called the richest exoplanetary find ever because of the seven to nine planets orbiting its host star. But HD10180's planets are all gas giants in relatively close orbits, while GJ676A has both rocky and gas planets—and its "Neptune-like" planet takes 4,000 days to make one orbit, said study leader Guillem Anglada Escudé, a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Gottingen in Germany. The long orbits of GJ676A's gas giants and the short orbits of its close-in, extremely hot super Earths are what led the astronomers to dub GJ676A our solar system's twin.—*Internet*

Smoking mothers' embryos grow more slowly

ISTANBUL, 8 July — Time-lapse photography has shown that embryos of smoking women develop more slowly.French academics in an IVF clinic took regular pictures of an egg from the moment it was fertilized until it was ready to be implanted into the mother. At all stages of development, embryos from smokers were consistently a couple of hours behind, a study showed. The lead researcher, from Nantes University Hospital, said: "You want a baby, quit smoking".

Smoking is known to reduce the chances of having a child. It is why some hospitals in the UK ask couples to give up smoking before they are given fertility treatment.As eggs fertilized through IVF initially develop in the laboratory before being implanted, it gave doctors a unique opportunity to film the embryos as they divide into more and more cells.

Researchers watched 868 embryos develop — 139 from smokers.In the clinic the embryos of non-smokers reached the five-cell stage after 49 hours. In the smokers it took 50 hours. The eight-cell stage took 62 hours in smokers' embryos, while non-smokers' embryos reached that point after 58 hours.Senior embryologist and lead researcher, Dr Thomas Freour, told the BBC: "Embryos from smoking women, they behave slower, there is a delay in their development. On average it is about two hours, it is significant and nobody knew that before."



***Smoker's embryos took 62 hours to reach the eight-cell stage, compared to 58 hours in non-smokers.*— INTERNET**

This study cannot say what impact the slower development has, or if this affected the chances of having a child.Dr Freour speculated that "if they go slower, maybe something is starting to go wrong and they wouldn't implant."His advice was simple: "You should quit smoking, it couldn't be easier. What else can I say? You want a baby, quit smoking."Dr Allan Pacey, senior lecturer in andrology at the University of Sheffield, said it was an "interesting" study which pioneered the use of new technology.—*Internet*

Protein may boost immune system, keep flu away

NEW YORK, 8 July — Everybody knows that a good immune system helps to fight the flu. Now a new animal study, published in the journal *PLoS One*, found that a synthetic protein called EP67 can activate the immune system and help fight the flu if it is administered within 24 hours of exposure to the virus. Researchers from San Diego State University and the University of Nebraska Medical Centre tested the protein in mice by first infecting them with the flu virus and then giving them a dose of the protein within 24 hours.

Mice normally lose about 20 percent of their body weight when exposed to the flu, but the mice treated with the protein lost an average of only 6 percent. Some didn't lose any weight at all. Even more important, researchers said that mice infected with a lethal dose of influenza did not die after receiving the protein. "EP67 can protect from a lethal dose of influenza even when treatment is delayed for a full day after the time of infection," said Joy Phillips, lead author of the study. "This protection is not limited to a single strain of influenza, as is the case for the vaccine, but should protect against all strains of influenza A or influenza B."

A new study found a synthetic protein may help fight the flu before it starts. **INTERNET**

Phillips said the protein has not been tested against highly pathogenic strains like the avian H5N1 influenza, but it's possible it would also protect against such strains. "EP67 should be effective against a wide variety of pathogens," said Phillips. "Since EP67 works by stimulating local innate immunity, it should prove effective against viral, bacterial and fungal diseases." While the protein requires much more pre-clinical research before it can be expected to be used in real-world application, Phillips said, in the future, it may be used as an emergency therapeutic for emergency workers, family members and close contacts of patients.—*Internet*

UBS note deepens UK political row over rate-fixing

***The logo of Swiss bank UBS is seen at the company's office at the Bahnhofstrasse in Zurich in this 1 July, 2009 file photo.* — REUTERS**

LONDON, 8 July — A political row in Britain over fixing of interbank lending rates deepened on Saturday after the publication of confidential advice from UBS to the previous Labour government on how to reduce the key Libor rate at the height of the financial crisis in 2008. The Conservative-led coalition, trailing in opinion polls, has tried to pin part of the blame for the rate-fixing by bank traders on the government of former Labour Prime Minister Gordon Brown, questioning whether it directly or indirectly sanctioned the manipulation.

The chairman and chief executive of Britain's Barclays Plc both resigned this week after the bank agreed to pay nearly $450 million for its part in rigging the Libor rate between 2005 and 2009, which is used to settle interest rates on trillions of dollars of contracts globally. The scandal has reignited anger in Britain against bankers, who are blamed for a deep recession the country is struggling to escape. Labour, now in opposition, said the coalition government had tried to smear the party by insinuating that the confidential advice was about the deliberate manipulation of the Libor rate. The advice, in a note titled "Reducing Libor, improving lending conditions", was sent from Swiss-based bank UBS to the Treasury at a time when lending between banks had all but dried up over fears they might collapse.Instead, the document, published in the *Financial Times*, "simply proposes legitimate policy improvements" to reduce the cost of banks lending to each other during the credit crunch, Labour said.

It called on the coalition's finance minister George Osborne to withdraw "false allegations" that people close to Brown were at fault over the rate-fixing scandal."There is absolutely nothing in this note about the deliberate fixing of the Libor rate, which Barclays traders were involved in," said Labour finance spokesman Chris Leslie. No immediate response was available from either Osborne or Gordon Brown.

Reuters

Wedding bells for VW, Porsche, last chance for Opel

BERLIN, 8 July—The road to success for German automakers, one of the key engines driving Europe's biggest economy, is a bumpy one and while Volkswagen and Porsche are tying the knot, Opel is fighting to survive. The courtship between Europe's biggest auto group VW and its long-time partner, luxury sports carmaker Porsche, has not always been an easy one. It has long been the dream of Ferdinand Piech, VW's supervisory board chief and patriarch of the Porsche family, to integrate the two businesses in a bid to overtake US giant General Motors as the world's number one.

But when Porsche first tried to swallow the much larger VW, it failed, and then when VW acquired 49.9 percent in Porsche in 2009 with a view to a full merger, the complex deal ran into numerous legal and tax hurdles. Accordingly, it came as a surprise last week when the two announced they had finally found a way to bring the merger forward by two whole years, with the deal unlocking hundreds of millions of euros in untapped synergies. Under the terms of the agreement, VW will buy the 50.1 percent in Porsche that it does not already own from holding company Porsche SE for 4.46 billion euros ($5.5 billion) plus one VW share.

The deal, which VW and Porsche say will generate 320 million euros in economies of scale, is being structured in such a way that VW will not have to pay vast amounts of tax. The fact that part of the payment is being made in a single VW share means the deal counts as a corporate reorganisation rather than a straightforward sale, therefore saving VW as much as 1.5 billion euros in taxes. —*Internet*

***The road to success for German automakers, one of the key engines driving Europe's biggest economy, is a bumpy one and while Volkswagen and Porsche are tying the knot, Opel is fighting to survive.*— INTERNET**

Child heart surgery fight goes on

LONDON, 8 July — The fight to save child heart surgery at three leading units will go on, the hospitals and their supporters say. An NHS review concluded on Wednesday that Leicester's Glenfield Hospital, Leeds General Infirmary and London's Royal Brompton should stop doing operations from 2014 on safety grounds. But discussions are getting under way about how the decision could be challenged. Experts said the changes were needed as expertise was spread too thinly. But the NHS trusts involved believe they are being unfairly treated, warning that other parts of the hospitals could be affected by the loss of child heart surgery. The actual units will not be closing as staff will still be providing care before and after operations.

Legal action by the hospitals themselves is considered unlikely. The Royal Brompton went to court last year and lost and was criticised for wasting taxpayers' money in what was essentially a case where the NHS was challenging the NHS. Instead, the focus this time seems to be whether patient groups and charities could mount a challenge.

Local councils could also get involved by asking the Health Secretary to overturn the ruling made by a special committee set up to represent all England's primary care trusts. In Leeds, a motion has already been drawn up calling for such a move and will be discussed at a council meeting next week.

"We cannot allow the lives and health of these children and families to be determined by this flawed decision," said a joint statement issued on behalf of the leaders of all the political parties. Meanwhile, in London the Royal Brompton has already indicated it wants to fight the decision. Trust chief executive Bob Bell said he would be meeting with his board and governors' council.

Internet

Israelis and Palestinians trade blame for peace deadlock

JERUSALEM, 8 July—Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas said in an interview broadcast on Israeli TV on Saturday that Israel's continuing settlement building was worsening the chances for two states at peace with one another.

"The Palestinians support a two-state solution but the Israeli government settlement policy makes many Palestinians say that there will be no territory left to discuss for a Palestinian state," he told commercial Channel 2, in an interview recorded at Abbas's Ramallah headquarters earlier in the week.

"Israel needs to understand that what it is doing works against the two-state solution," he said, speaking Arabic which the station translated into Hebrew.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office responded with a counterattack on Twitter.

"Even after PM Netanyahu made unprecedented steps such as freezing construction in the settlements, Abbas kept on refusing to hold talks," it said, referring to a partial freeze which expired in September 2010.

***Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas, pictured on 6 July, said in an interview broadcast on Israeli TV on Saturday that Israel's continuing settlement building was worsening the chances for two states at peace with one another.—*INTERNET**

"Even now, PM Netanyahu calls upon president Abbas to meet soon in order to promote the peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians," it added.—*Internet*

Cuba's Castro set to meet Hanoi leaders

HANOI, 8 July—Cuban President Raul Castro is due to meet Vietnamese leaders on Sunday following a visit to China, as Havana looks to old communist allies as it attempts to push through historic economic reforms.

Castro, who arrived Saturday in his first visit to Hanoi as head of state, is in the country to "consolidate and reinforce relations" between the two states, Vietnam foreign ministry spokesman Luong Thanh Nghi said.

The Cuban leader's appearance in China and Vietnam, some of the few remaining communist countries in the world, comes as Havana seeks to emulate their achievements in economic reform towards a system that incorporates elements of capitalism.

Castro is fresh from a four-day visit to China, during which he met President Hu Jintao and secured pledges from Beijing of financial aid, among other measures, to help the country in sectors such as technology and healthcare.

In Hanoi, Castro is set to meet the top three figures in the autocratic regime — Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, Communist Party secretary general Nguyen Phu Trong and President Truong Tan Sang.—*Internet*

***Cuban President Raul Castro (C) is seen getting into a limousine upon his arrival at Hanoi's Noi Bai international airport, on 7 July. The Cuban leader flew in from China for the second leg of his tour to Cuban's two Asian communist allies.—*INTERNET**

Ukrainian rescue workers and police experts study a bus which crashed in northern Ukraine on Saturday. Fourteen Russian pilgrims on their way to a monastery in Ukraine were killed and 29 injured when the bus overturned.
INTERNET

14 Russian pilgrims die in Ukraine bus crash

KIEV, 8 July—Fourteen Russian pilgrims on their way to a monastery in Ukraine were killed and 29 injured when their bus overturned in the north of the country Saturday, the emergency situations ministry said. The ministry said the bus carrying 43 Russians, including two drivers, swerved across the road and overturned on the verge near Chernigiv on its way to the Orthodox monastery in western Ukraine from the Russian town of Velikiye Luki.

The dead included a 17-year-old girl and six of the injured were in serious condition, the ministry said. Authorities said a plane had been sent from Moscow to repatriate the survivors.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich expressed condolences to the families in a message to his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin and ordered a thorough inquiry into the cause of the crash, his office said.—*Internet*

E Timor PM set to stay in power as party takes poll lead

DILI, 8 July—East Timor resistance hero Xanana Gusmao looked likely to remain prime minister after preliminary results on Sunday showed his party took the largest number of votes in parliamentary elections.

His centre-left National Congress for Timorese Reconstruction (CNRT) won 36.6 percent of the votes in Saturday's poll, an official tally showed. The electoral com-mission did not give a firm indication of how many seats in parliament each party had won in the poll, a key test for the young democracy and likely to determine whether UN peacekeepers can leave by the end of 2012.

But it remained almost certain that the CNRT would need to form a coalition, amid concerns violence could be reignited in the energy-rich but impoverished state if there is drawn-out wrangling to form a government.

The main opposition left-wing Fretilin party was in second place with 29.8 percent, according to the preliminary count of 100 percent of the votes released by the electoral commission.

The Democratic Party (PD), a member of the current ruling coalition, won 10.3 percent of the vote, according to the tally. Final results were not expected for several days but the preliminary figures indicated that Gusmao's five-year term was likely to be extended.—*Internet*

An East Timor parliamentary election official holds up a ballot paper during the counting proces in Dili, on 7 July. E Timor Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao's party looks set to win this weekend's parliamentary elections, according to preliminary results published on Sunday.
INTERNET

Bombs, attacks kill 23 in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, 8 July—Roadside bombs and insurgent attacks killed 16 Afghan civilians, five policemen and two members of the US-led coalition in southern Afghanistan where militants are trying to reclaim territory, Afghan and NATO authorities said Sunday.

A surge in Afghan and coalition forces during the past two years routed Taleban fighters from many of their strongholds in the south, but the insurgents stepped up their attacks this summer to take back key areas.

The civilians, including women and children, were killed in a trio of blasts in Arghistan district, along Afghanistan's border with Pakistan.

Kandahar province spokesman Ahmad Jawed Faisal said one bomb exploded when a minivan ran over it Sunday morning. A second went off when other civilians riding a tractor arrived to help the wounded. A third explosion occurred about two hours later when a civilian vehicle hit a roadside bomb in another area of the district, killing two women. At least 10 other civilians were injured in the three blasts. According to the United Nations, last year was the deadliest on record for civilians in the Afghan war, with 3,021 killed. The number of Afghan civilians killed dropped 36 percent in the first four months of this year compared with last year, but the UN says that too many are still being caught up in violence.

Internet

This file photo shows soldiers and villagers walking down a road in Afghanistan's southern Kandahar Province, in 2011. Roadside bombs on Sunday killed 23 civilians travelling in two vehicles in Kandahar, close to the Pakistan border, according to police.
INTERNET

Two dead in crane collapse on UT-Dallas campus

RICHARDSON, 8 July—A crane collapse on the University of Texas at Dallas campus killed two construction workers on Saturday, officials said, leaving a mangled chunk of the crane laying atop an unfinished building where workers were heard screaming as the accident unfolded.

The crane collapsed while being dismantled, the university said in a statement posted on its website. There were no immediate reports of other injuries.

Arnand Gayapershad told reporters he and others in the nearby library on campus were startled by the sound of screaming. "Then we heard a loud crashing sound, like metal from the sky," said Gayapershad, in an interview posted on the website of Dallas television station WFAA. "Then we heard more screaming."

Gayapershad said another person at the library reported seeing "something similar to scaffolding" tip over when a big gust of wind came through. A band of thunderstorms moving into the area on Saturday afternoon brought sudden wind gusts that reached upward of 40 mph, said Matt Bishop, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

The crane was being used during construction of an arts and technology building on campus. The school encouraged students and the community to stay away from that side of campus after the accident.

Internet

Paddy transplanting machine demonstrated in Kyaukse

KYAUKSE, 8 July—The demonstration on cultivation of 15-day paddy plants was held with the use of paddy transplanting machine in the farmer educative farm of farmer U Po Thein in Inyaung Village of Kyaukse Township in Mandalay Region on 27 June morning.

At the ceremony, Agricultural adviser U Kyaw Tint to Good Brother Co Ltd, Marketing Manager U Khaing Thin and Sale Agent U Nyan Win demonstrated use of paddy transplanting machine.

The machine took two and a half hours for growing 154,800 paddy plants on one acre.—*Myanma Alin*

High yield paddy seeds sown in Danubyu Township

DANUBYU, 8 July—A ceremony to sowing Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds was held 10-acre paddy farm of five farmers in Yayle Village-tract in Danubyu Township of Ayeyawady Region on 1 July.

Head of Township Agricultural Department U Hla Myint demonstrated nurturing of saplings through good agriculture pattern.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Sein Maung Win, departmental officials, village administrators and farmers viewed the demonstration.

Danubyu Township has nurtured special yield Palethwe hybrid paddy for 35.00 acre of farmlands.

Township Agriculture

Agricultural loans disbursed to farmers in Bogale Township

BOGALE, 8 July—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank of Bogale Township in Ayeyawady Region disbursed agricultural loans to local farmers for 2012 cultivation season at the hall of Township General Administration Department on 29 June.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Htain Kyaw gave a speech. Manager of the bank U Zaw Lwin explained the disciplines of lending the loans.

After that, Township Administrator U Htin Kyaw presented K 142.8 million for 4958 acres of farmlands of 589 farmers from Thazingon village form Bogale Township and K 105.1 million for Thonhtet Village through village administrators.—*Myanma Alin*

Thanbyuzayat Township plants trees for second time

THANBYUZAYAT, 8 July—The tree growing ceremony for second time was held by Thanbyuzayat Township Forest Department on the hill near Kyaikkhami Layle Pagoda in Kyaikkhami of Thanbyuzayat Township on 30 June.

At the ceremony, Mon State Minister for Forest and Mines U Win Maw Oo, State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Myo Nyunt, and State Minister for Religious Affairs and Transport U Tun Hlaing presented saplings to departmental personnel, ward administrators and social organizations.

The state ministers, together with Assistant Director of Mawlamyine-Thaton District Forest Department U Aye Cho, Township Administrator U Ye Kyaw Khaing, departmental staff and local people, planted 610 saplings.

Township Forest

School uniforms provided to offspring of vendors

SHWEGYIN, 8 July—A donation of providing school uniforms to students of vendors who lent loans from Rural Development Bank of Shwegyin Township Development Affairs Committee was held at the hall of Township DAC on 2 July morning.

Township Executive Officer U Win Hlaing presented one set of school uniforms to offspring of vendors.—*Myanma Alin*

Duty of project assigned to departments in Bahan Township

BAHAN, 8 July—The duty assigning ceremony for 2012-2013 fiscal year was held at the hall of Bahan Township General Administration Department on 3 July.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Zaw Win Htay made a speech. Head of Township Planning Department U Nay Win explained the target of annual plans.

Next, the Township Administrator presented letters of assignment to departmental personnel.

Township GAD

DISTRICT NEWS

Official remittance from Malaysia to Myanmar through private banks

YANGON, 8 July—Bank users may remit money from May Bank of Malaysia to Kanbawza Bank officially.

A large number of Myanmar migrant workers are in Malaysia. As of 2 July, the official remittance can be made for their convenience. The bank users may remit US$ 3000 in maximum. Remittance rates are set as 1-500 US$ per 15 ringgits, 500-2000 US$ per 30 ringgits and 2000-3000 US$ per 60 ringgits.

Those wishing to remit their money do not need to open the bank account at May Bank and Kanbawza Bank. They may transfer their money across Myanmar through Kanbawza Bank safely. Likely, those wishing to draw money can enjoy smooth process, according to Kanbawza Bank.

Kanbawza Bank Ltd has signed banking agreement with Siam Commercial Bank of Thailand.

Ei Shwe Sin Win

Myingyan Township observes International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

MYINGYAN, 8 July—The 15th ceremony to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Ayeyawady Hall of Basic Education High School in Myingyan on 26 July.

Commander of Myingyan District Police Force Police Lt-Col Kyaw Zeya read the message sent by the Chairman of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control. Township Medical Officer Dr Chit Htoo gave talks on drugs and health, Township Law Officer U Hsan Win laws related to narcotic drugs and Commander of Myingyan Township Police Force Police Captain Aye Myint on drug elimination.

Deputy Commissioner U Hla Win Tin of Myingyan District General Administration Department, Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Kyaw Zeya, Township Administrator U Shwe Maung and Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Aye Myint presented prizes to the winners in the high and middle school level essay, painting, cartoon and poster contests.—*Township GAD*

Flower arrangement, orchid cultivation courses invite trainees

YANGON, 8 July—Myanmar Floriculturists Association will organize the Advanced Flower Arrangement Course No 1/2012 from 9 to 19 July and the Commercial Orchid Cultivation Course No 1/2012 from 20 to 30 August.

Each course will admit 50 trainees. The training course will be conducted at the hall of the association at the People's Square in Yangon.

Only those who completed the basic course may attend the advanced flower arrangement course. Those of advanced course have to pay a fee of K 30,000 and of commercial orchid cultivation course K 20,000. The duration for the advanced course is set from 12 noon to 3 Pm and the commercial cultivation course from 1 pm to 4 pm.

Enthusiasts may dial 379361.—*Kyemon*

FOOTBALLS DONATED: ***A ceremony to honour Yangon West District Women's Football Team that stood first in Yangon Region Chief Minister's Cup Inter-District Football Tournament was held at MS Restaurant in Bahan Township on 6 July. Ayeyawady Bank donates 50 footballs for Yangon West District General Administration Department through Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein.***

MYANMA ALIN

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker…

(from page 1)

stability. The country must abide by internationally recognized conventions and treaties and also existing laws of the country in serving the national interest.

The violence in Rakhine State should have been stopped in accod with the existing laws since its start. The President had to declare state of emergency in agreement with National Defence and Security Council. The state government, state Hlutttaw representatives, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, civil servants, the people, political parties got involved in the campaign to restore peace and stability in the state. Peace is absolutely restored in the region. Any individual or organizations should not undermine the prevailing stability.

Now is time to focus on relief, resettlement and rehabilitation tasks. Any one should cooperate in the tasks to restore agricultural and other activities to normalcy and resume schools and public health, social and socio-economic services.

It is heard that the local people thanked security and defence officials for their responses with sense of responsibility and demand more. The officials should try to win more confidence of the people. Lessons must be taken from the happenings to heal such sufferings, worries and scares derived from unrests and prevent such unrests. The lawmakers must review relevent laws while emphasizing the fundamental rights of citizens and safeguarding the interest of the national people, he discussed.

The Hluttaw representatives presented three-day allowance of the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives plus K 12, 930,000; Union Solidarity and Development Party, K20 million; the state Hluttaw speaker, K 2 million donation of state Hluttaw representatives through the state chief minister and the state Hluttaw speaker who returned certificates of honour.

The Pyithu Hluttaw speaker and party flewed back to Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.

MNA

***Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann presents aids to local people at relief camp in U Ye Kyaw Thu Monastery.*—MNA**

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives present aids to local people at relief camp in U Ye Kyaw Thu Monastery.

MNA

Kawpalan Village in Kawkareik Township gets new school building

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min attended a ceremony to hand over a school building to a basic education primary school in Kawpalan Village in Kawkareik Township, Kayin State, on 27 June.

During the ceremony, the chief minister delivered an address and an representative of NRC group handed over documents related to the building to Kawkareik Township Education officer.

The chief minister viewed a collective ploughing on rain-fed field at Myaingkalay Model Village on 28 June.

Afterwards, the chief minister attended a ceremony to present an agricultural loan from Myanmar Agricultural Bank to farmers for the 2012 rainy season.

During the ceremony, the chief minister, state ministers, the manager of the bank and officials concerned presented loans to 142 farmes at the rate of K50,000 per acre. The bank disbursed K50.6 million for 1012 acres at the ceremony.

After the ceremony, the chief minister went the Hpa-an University and enjoyed the final matches of men's and women's soccer tournaments of the university. He awarded the champions of the tournaments.

MNA

220 drug-related cases exposed, 283 persons arrested

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Altogether 220 drug cases were exposed across the country in the month of June. They are 17 opium cases weighing 8.2020 kilos, 71 heroin cases weighing 4.2416 kilos, six opium oil cases weighing 9.8680 kilos, three low-grade opium cases weighing 1.6803 kilos, eight marijuana cases weighing 7.1606 kilos, 102 stimulant tablet cases with 1,055,128 tablets, two opium speciosa cases weighing 0.3950 kilo, two opium liquid cases weighing 0.12 litre, one Ice case weighing 0.6925 kilo, raw opium weighing 1.3885 kilo, three caffeine cases weighing 303 kilos, one stimulant powder case weighing 0.1940 kilo, amprazolam with 212002 tablets, four psudo-ephedrine cases weighing 657.0350 kilos and 50 tramadol tablets.

Concerning with the cases seized, legal action was taken against 283 persons—231 men and 52 women—according to the law.

MNA

REDD+ pilot project launched in Saira forest reserve of Yedashe Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun inspected teak plantations in Yedashe Township Saira forest reserve and pilot project area of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) being carried out jointly by the Forest Department and Forest Department of Korea, beside Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon Highway yesterday.

On his inspection tour, the Union Minister said REDD+ is also forestry-related green economy. Low carbon market has great potentials for development and thus it is required to grasp opportunities for generating income through forest conservation and afforestation based on natural resources of the country. REDD+ is an instrumental work programme for protection and effective management of forest resources in developing countries with carbon tax facilitating to rural development and poverty alleviation scheme and sustainable development.

It must be focused on reducing carbon emissions from deforestation, forest conservation, sustainability of forests, and afforestation as part of REDD+ work programmes. In addition, measures must be taken to enhance the socio-economic status of local rural people within the project area and increasingly promote climate change and environmental conservation awareness.

Such works of the project as establishment of rural multi-purpose woods and forest park and forest reservation must be accomplished and human resources development and education programmes carried out. The Union Minister in conclusion called for the similar projects in other regions, making the pilot project a success.

MNA

Yangon Region Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Work Committee meets

YANGON, 8 July—Yangon Region Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Work Committee held the coordination meeting at the hall of the region government on 4 July, with an address by Chairman of the Work Committee Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

The region ministers and departmental officials submitted reports on respective sectors of the subcommittees.

This morning, the Chief Minister delivered an address at the rainy season tree growing ceremony on the campus of Yangon University.

The Chief Minister and region ministers presented saplings to faculty members.

After growing saplings at the designated places, the Chief Minister and the region ministers viewed participation of faculty members and students in the tree growing ceremony.

So far, Yangon University has planted 1,182 saplings.

MNA

Bilin Township grows saplings at rainy season activity

BILIN, 8 July—Bilin Township Forest Department organized the rainy season tree growing ceremony in the compound of the Township People's Hospital in Bilin on 26 June morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administration U Myo Lwin, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Aung Tun, departmental personnel, ward administrators and members of social organizations participated in cultivation of teak, ironwood, mahogany, Gangaw, starflower and eucalyptus plants numbering over 1000.

Township Forest

Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye awards a distinction winner in 2011-2012 matriculation examination.

MNA

Union Election Commission…

(from page 1)

their offspring along the right path.

Next, Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin and the chairman of the school board of trustees spoke words of honour. The committee chairman presented prizes to the headmistress and outstanding students and so did the Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker and wellwishers.

The school stood fourth in examination pass rate out of 16 basic education high schools in Bago Township in 2011-2012 academic year.

MNA

Ministry of Immigration and Population

World Population Day

Universal Access to Reproductive Health Services

11 July, 2012

Coord meeting of senior engineers held

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—A coordination meeting for senior engineers of 69 districts of Public Works under the Ministry of Construction was held at the ministry, here, on 5 and 6 July.

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint urged senior engineers from 69 districts to place emphasis on works, especially in the sectors of roads, airports and bridges. Moreover he stressed the need to keep in touch with modern technologies and to carry out the tasks meeting the set standard.

Next, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lwin made a discussion on financial matters and the managing director, deputy managing directors, superintending engineers and senior engineers explained road and bridge works.

MNA

Blood donation ceremony held at No. 2 Military Hospital (500-bed)

YANGON, 8 July— A blood donation ceremony took place at No. 2 Military Hospital (500-bed) in Mayangon Township here this morning.

A total of 60 Pathana recitation group members of Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda involved in their 12th donation activity for the patients receiving medical treatment at the hospital.

MNA

Union Hotels and Tourism Minister calls on CEC members of UMTA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan delivered an address in meeting with CEC members of Union of Myanmar Travels Association at the Ministry here, on 6 July morning.

On 25 June, he met general managers and in charge persons of the hotels with foreign investment and called them on to keep stable of the room rate of foreign investment hotels and to have reasonable room rate in comparison with that of ASEAN hotels including neighbours countries, for the first point. To make reservation between foreign direct investment and tourism industry solving the problems of contract is the second point. It is necessary to carry out four tasks adopted by tourist convenience committee.

In the meeting, five tasks to be followed by the foreign direct investment hotels were discussed and action will be taken against those who break the tasks through seven rules.

Meeting with CEC members of UMTA, the Union minister mainly focused on seeking the ways of solving problems of foreign investment hotels and tourism industry.

The Union minister responded to the queries on contract exceeding the fixed room rate, the hotels that amended contracts four times, hotels and tourism industry issues asked by the Vice-Chairman of UMTA and CEC members. He then invited the matters on Eco Tourism sooner at the meeting among region/states ministers.—*MNA*

Artistes of theatrical drama troupes donate cash, clothes for locals of Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—A ceremony to hand over cash and clothes donated by artistes of theatrical drama troupes of Mawlamyine Township for local people of Rakhine State was held at the hall of Mawlamyine Township Thabin Artistes Asiayon in Mawlmayine yesterday.

Secretary of the township Asiayon U Kyaw Shwe explained the purpose of donations and handed over K 540,000 and 12 bales of clothes worth K 1.2 million for local people of Rakhine State to Myanmar Thabin Artistes Asiayon (Central).—*MNA*

Secretary of Mawlamyine Township Thabin Artistes Asiayon accepts donations from wellwishers.—NLM

Outstanding students honoured in Loikaw

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—A ceremony to honour outstanding students who passed the matriculation exam with flying colours for 2011-2012 academic year was held at the city hall in Loikaw, Kayah State, on 6 July morning.

Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo gave a speech and presented prizes to three townships with best pass rate in the exam and two six-distinction winning students.

After that, State ministers awarded the school with best pass rate and other outstanding students.

MNA

Uniforms presented to bus workers of Nay Pyi Taw APBCC (Local)

PYINMANA, 8 July—A ceremony to provide uniforms to drivers and bus conductors from bus lines such as Shwe Myodaw, Ahman Thit, Taungnyo Moeswe and other commodity transport bus lines under control of Nay Pyi Taw All Private Bus-line Control Committee (Local) was held at the hall of the committee in the yard of Bawgathiri Bus Terminal in Pyinmana on 6 July.

It was attended by Chairman of the committee U Win Htein and members, bus line in-charges, bus drivers and conductors. At the ceremony, Chairman U Win Htein made a speech and then presented uniforms worth K 4,088,000 to 584 bus workers.—*Kyemon*

Rainy season tree planting ceremony held in Taninthayi Township

TANINTHAYI, 8 July—To mark Myanmar Women's Day, Taninthayi Township of Myeik District held the rainy season tree planting ceremony near the bridge in Taninthayi on 3 July.

The ceremony was jointly organized by Taninthayi Township Forest Department and Township Women's Affairs Organization.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Kyaw Thu, Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Thein Naing, the chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Thet Wai and staff, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people totalling over 450 participated in growing of 1100 saplings.

District IPRD

Traffic rules explained at basic education schools in Taunggyi

TAUNGGYI, 8 July— Talks on traffic rules, organized by Shan State Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee, were given at eight basic education schools in Taunggyi from 22 to 28 June.

In-charge of the State Traffic Police Force Police Captain Maung Maung Win talked about disciplines for motorcycle drivers, Inspector-II U Zaw Ko Ko Pe of Directorate of Road Administration issuance of motorcycle licences and rules for road users and SIP Myat Tun traffic accidents.

Officials distributed pamphlets on traffic rules to teachers and students.

The departmental team will give more talks at schools under the Basic Education Department.

Road Transport

Yedashe illuminated with electricity round the clock

YEDASHE, 8 July—People in Yedashe Township in Bago Region are now delighted at supply of electricity round the clock.

Factories, workshops, buildings and residences of dwellers are enjoying electricity. Shortage of electricity caused difficulties to the local people in the past. At present, all the people are pleased with supply of electricity round the clock.—*Ko Lwin (Swa)*

DHF preventive measures taken in Mogaung

MOGAUNG, 8 July—As part of taking preventive measures against DHF, a combined team comprising Township Administrator U Tin Swe Myint, the Township Education Officer, the headmaster, teachers, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association and social association members fumigated the Basic Education High School No.1 in Mogaung of Mohnyin District in Kachin State on 29 June.

They also carried out sanitation tasks at the school.—*Township GAD*

Training course of settlement and land records officials concludes

YANGON, 8 July—The refresher course No 2/2012 for deputy head of Settlement and Land Records Department concluded at the central land records development training school in Taikkyi Township on 27 June.

On behalf of the director-general, Director (Admin) U Thein Win made a speech. The training course lasted from 4 to 27 June. The trainees were provided with farmland law, vacant, virgin and fallow land management law, correctness of accounts, modern survey, collection of farmland accounts, civil service management and departmental works.

Kyemon

Palethwe hybrid paddy nurtured in Nyaungdon Township

NYAUNGDON, 8 July—The systematic nurturing of Palethwe hybrid paddy was demonstrated on the farmland of farmer U Kyin Hlaing from Hsamalauk Village of Nyaungdon Township in Maubin District of Ayeyawady Region on 1 July.

It was attended by Head of Ayeyawady Region Agriculture Department U Myint Thein, Head of District Agriculture Department U Maung Maung Aye, Township Administrator U Khin Min, Head of Township Agriculture Department Daw Aye Aye Si and local farmers.

At first, the educative talks on agriculture was held at the educative farm in Hsamalauk Village. Nyaungdon Township Administrator U Khin Min spoke on the occasion.

Next, Head of Region Agriculture Department U Myint Thein explained techniques for boosting production of monsoon paddy per acre.

After that, officials demonstrated nurturing of paddy on the dykes of farmer U Kyin Hlaing. Later, they all participated in the sowing of paddy seeds.—*Myanma Alin*

Development of industrial human resources discussed

YANGON, 8 July—Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Japanese International Cooperation Agency held a workshop on entrepreneurs proficiency at UMFCCI Office Tower on Minye Kyawswa Road in Lanmadaw Township on 2 July.

Private sector development adviser to JICA Mr Toru Homma discussed assistance for human resources development in the industrial sector. Expert from JICA Mr Tetsuo Fukuyama explained ways for uplifting the qualification.

Joint Secretary of UMFCCI Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe discussed supporting for development of worksite and survey on Myanmar garment factories.

CEC member Dr Aung Thein submitted the five key points for uplifting the economic sector.

UMFCCI

Winners awarded in IOD Boxing Contest

YANGON, 8 July—The prize presentation for boxing contest in commemoration of 2012 International Olympic Day was held at the boxing gymnasium in Thingangyun Township on 23 June. It was attended by General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Comittee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik and officials, Secretary of Myanmar Boxing Federation U Tin Hlaing and executives and boxing fans.

Twelve classes of boxing events were held in the contest. General Secretary U Tin Hlaing of MBXF presented prizes to the winners.—*Kyemon*

Trading of fish requested to apply cash down or short-term payment

YANGON, 8 July—Myanmar Fish Breeding Entrepreneurs requested to buy the fish through cash down or short-term payment, as of 3 July.

The association informed Central Sanpya Fish Market committee, Fisheries Department and Myanmar Fisheries Federation including Myanmar Marine Product Entrepreneurs and Exporters Association. "It is not order but request," said Chairman of the association U Than Lwin.

Due to loss and wastage in works and least amount of investment, the request was made for applying the cash down or short-term payment systems.—*Kyemon*

Collective tree planting ceremony held in Mingin Township

MINGIN, 8 July—The tree planting ceremony took place on Kyakhat Pagoda Hill in Mingin Township of Sagaing Region on 3 July.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Nay Lin Tun, departmental officials, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Ni Ni Win, members of social organizations and local people planted 750 saplings.

Township GAD

Myanmar boxing team back from Kazakhstan

YANGON, 8 July—Under the arrangement of Myanmar Boxing Federation, the Myanmar selected boxing team led by manager U Tin Maung Pe that secured gold, silver and bronze medals in the invitational boxing tournaments in Almaty of Kazakhstan from 28 May to 6 July arrived back here by air on 6 July evening.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by General Secretary of MBXF and Organizing Commission Secretary of Asian Boxing Confederation U Tin Hlaing and officials.

While taking joint exercises, the Myanmar team participated in the youth invitational boxing contest in Chilit of Kazakhstan from 7 to 9 June. Myanmar boxers Lin Htut Paing secured gold medal in 48-kilo event and Aung Pyae Phyo in the 60-kilo event. Baw Za bagged one silver medal in 52-kilo event. Bronze medalists were Kyaw Myo Htut in 57-kilo event, Naing Lat in the 52-kilo event and Aung Swe Mon in 75-kilo event.

Myanmar team comprised coaches U Soe Soe, U Khin Maung Thein and U Kyaw Swa Aung together with 13 boxers.

Zin Lin Tun (Kyemon)

DISTRICT NEWS

Sandy standing Buddha image donated to Ananda Pagoda

NYAUNGU, 8 July—A ceremony to donate a sandy standing Buddha image sculptured as a replica of the standing Buddha from northern archway of Ananda Pagoda by stone sculptor Ko Kyaw Soe from Diamond Star Group stone sculpturing industry of Yesagyo to Pagoda Board of Trustees was held at the pagoda on 1 July.

U Kyaw Sein, leader of Diamond Star Group donated the Buddha image to Chairman of Bagan Ananda Pagoda Board of Trustees Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Aye and members.—*District IPRD*

Airshow: How plane giants descended into global "price war"

FARNBOROUGH, 8 July— Airbus and Boeing head into next week's Farnborough Airshow locked in their fiercest market share battle for up to a decade, slashing prices to win key orders for their latest narrowbody jets and storing up potential trouble for future profit margins.

From Australia to Indonesia, the United States to Norway — and most recently, *Reuters* has learned, Turkey — the marauding plane giants have spent months taking or defending market share, with world No1 Airbus aiming deep inside Boeing's territory and its rival publicly vowing to defend a traditional 50-50 split.

While Airbus unveiled an assembly plant in Boeing's backyard this week, the battle behind the scenes - described as "hand-to-hand fighting" from airline to airline by one participant — has implications for the business case of the *A320* jets to be built on US soil as well as the profitability of Boeing's rival 737.

Its outcome could shape the leadership of new bosses at both jetmakers: Frenchman Fabrice Bregier of Airbus and Boeing's Ray Conner, cautious and publicity—shy insiders who reach the 9 July —15 pageant facing pressure to draw a line under a period of risk and give investors a sober ride with predictable margins.

The latest firefight involves a back-and-forth battle for 40-50 jets worth $4-5 billion sought by Istanbul-based budget carrier Pegasus Airlines, with Boeing resisting Airbus efforts to poach one of its customers in a duel known as a "flip fight," according to several sources familiar with the matter.

The airline is one of many looking to jump on a 15 percent improvement in fuel burn and therefore a significant reduction in costs offered by the latest revamped models of jets offered by Europe's Airbus and its US rival Boeing.

As with a series of other duels in the last year, according to multiple sources who spoke on condition of anonymity, Boeing has been fighting back after seeing one of its clients targeted by its competitor. Airbus maintains this is normal competition.

Contacted by *Reuters*, Ali Sabanci, Pegasus chief executive, said, "we are negotiating; no decision has been taken".—*Reuters*

***Workers prepare Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo ahead of the Farnborough Airshow 2012 in southern England on 7 July, 2012.*— REUTERS**

Alaska man missing after 4 July mountain footrace

ANCHORAGE, 8 July— Rescuers scrambled across rough Alaska terrain on Friday looking for a man who vanished while competing in a grueling Independence Day mountain footrace in which he was last seen about 200 yards from the race's 3,022-foot summit.

Michael LeMaitre of Anchorage was reported missing after he failed to finish Wednesday's Mount Marathon Race in Seward, an Alaska 4 July tradition that is billed by local officials as the nation's second-oldest footrace, Alaska State Troopers said.

One of the nation's most famous mountain races, it requires runners to climb up and down 3,022 feet on a steep trail that averages 38 degrees in pitch.

Racers scramble up and down cliffs, through loose mountain scree and down a mountain creek.

LeMaitre, 66, had last been seen at about 6 pm on Wednesday during the race, which has never seen a race fatality although competitors have suffered broken bones, heat stroke and other injuries.

On Friday, around 30 to 40 ground searchers, rescue dogs and a helicopter pilot searched for LeMaitre after steady rain and cloudy conditions hampered efforts on Thursday, especially at higher-elevation points, trooper spokeswoman Beth Ipsen said.

"Of course, the terrain is steep and rocky," she said in an email.

Reuters

Laos vows to address Mekong dam fears

VIENTIANE, 8 July— Laos has pledged to stall construction of a controversial multi-billion dollar dam on the Mekong river until all its neighbours' environmental concerns have been answered, state media said on Friday. The $3.8 billion hydroelectric project at Xayaburi, led by Thai group CH Karnchang, has sharply divided the four Mekong nations — Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand — who rely on the river system for fish and irrigation.

"The Xayaburi project will develop one of the most transparent and modern dams in the world," Deputy Minister of Energy and Mines Viraphonh Viravong told state-run *Vientiane Times*.

He promised that construction would not start until all the concerns of neighbouring countries have been resolved. The minister said changes to the project will address the two major issues — fish migration and sediment flow — by including a passage to allow 85 percent of fish to travel along the river and a "flushing system" to prevent sediment build up.

The mooted 1,260 megawatt dam, the first of 11 on the key waterway, has become a symbol of the potential risks of hydropower projects in the region and the Mekong nations have tussled over its varying impact.

Communist Laos, one the most world's under-developed nations, believes the dam will help it become "the battery of Southeast Asia" by selling electricity to its richer neighbours.

Thailand has agreed to buy most of the electricity generated by the project, but Cambodia and Vietnam fear the dam could decimate their farming and fishing industries. Environmentalists say the dam would be disastrous for the 60 million people who depend on the river for transportation, food and economy. They fear Mekong fish species will become endangered as vital nutrients are trapped and dozens of species are prevented from swimming upstream to mating grounds.—*Internet*

***A Laotian fisherman casts his net in the Mekong river in May 2012.*— INTERNET**

Northeast India floods kill 121, displace 6 m

NEW DELHI, 8 July—The death toll from heavy monsoon rains which have caused massive flooding in India's northeast has risen to more than 120, with six million forced to flee their homes, officials said Saturday.

The weather office forecast that more rains during the next 24 hours would lash the region, which is suffering from its worst flooding in recent years.

Assam state has been hardest hit by the annual rains with the mighty Brahmaputra river overflowing its banks, while flooding has also struck the nearby states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya.

"So far a total of 121 people have died in separate incidents in which 105 were drowned while trying to escape the gushing waters and 16 more were killed in landslides caused by heavy rains," an Assam government statement said.

An estimated six million people have been forced to leave their homes to escape the floodwaters and find higher ground, a separate Central Water Commission bulletin said.

The monsoon, which sweeps across the subcontinent from June to September, is crucial for India's farmers but also claims many casualties from flooding every year.

Assam state officials were struggling to cope with the huge number of people displaced by the flooding, with makeshift relief camps sheltering some of those forced to leave their homes.

Twenty-six of the 27 districts in the tea-and-oil-rich state have been hit by flash floods since 24 June as a result of the torrential rains while the Brahmaputra river has breached its banks in at least nine places.—*Internet*

***Residents wade through waterlogged roads in Dhantola village on the outskirts of Siliguri. The death toll from heavy monsoon rains which have caused massive flooding in India's northeast has risen to more than 120, with six million forced to flee their homes, officials said Saturday.*— INTERNET**

Boy, four, dies after tombstone falls on him in Utah

PARK CITY, 8 July—A 4-year-old boy is dead after a large tombstone toppled onto him while his family and some friends gathered to take pictures at a historic cemetery in a Utah ski resort town.

Carson Dean Cheney was at the Glenwood Cemetery in Park City on Thursday evening when the 6-foot-tall headstone detached from its base and fell on him, Park City police Capt Phil Kirk said Friday. The headstone was about 4 inches thick and weighed hundreds of pounds.

"There's still so much disbelief and sorrow and anguish," the boy's grandmother Geri Gibbs told *The Associated Press*. "We just keep waiting for the door to open up and Carson to come through, a happy little boy."

She said Carson was just about to enter kindergarten, loved to ride his bike and was "full of life." Investigators were still probing the incident on Friday.

Gibbs said the boy and his family were visiting from Lehi, about an hour away, and were at the old cemetery while his father took photos of friends and relatives.

The boy was holding onto the headstone when some metal connecting it to the pedestal broke, Gibbs said. She said it took three men to pull the slab off the boy, and rescuers "did everything they could possibly do."

The child suffered injuries to his head, chest and abdomen and was taken to the nearby Park City Medical Centre, where he died a short time later. Curtis Morley is a family friend and works with the boy's father, Zac Cheney, at a professional services firm in Salt Lake City. He said Zac Cheney does photography in his spare time and was shooting portraits at the cemetery because of its extensive landscaping.

Internet

***This undated photo provided by the family via Park City Medical Centre shows Carson Dean Cheney, 4, who died 5 July, 2012.*— INTERNET**

Three killed in NE China hotel fire

HARBIN, 8 July—Three people have been killed and several others injured in a hotel fire on Saturday morning in Harbin, provincial capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, according to local police. The accident occurred at around 10 am, firemen said.

Witnesses said a middle-aged man carried a gasoline can into the Longfei Inn, set it on fire and left quickly. The small hotel, located in Harbin's Daoli district, is in the basement of a seven-floor residential building.

But it has no fire fighting equipment, according to residents living in the building. The fire has been extinguished, and the injured rushed to hospital for treatment. Local police are investigating the case.—*Xinhua*

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFICATION

Date of Issue : 9th July, 2012
Name of Project : Hanthawaddy International Airport Project

The Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Transport, will accept submissions for pre-qualification from Prime Contractors interested in bidding on the Hanthawaddy International Airport Project (hereinafter referred to as the "Project") at a location 48 miles north-east of Yangon City in Bago Region, Myanmar. The Prime Contractors may form consortia of related engineering disciplines in which case the executed consortium agreement is to be included in the prequalification documents. The prequalification procedure will be as follows:

1. The Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Transport, intends to prequalify international firms or consortia in collaboration with local contractors for construction of the Hanthawaddy International Airport and its related airport facilities in accordance with international standards and best practices.
2. The main scope of works for the Project will include:
   (i) Master planning including design criteria;
   (ii) Preliminary and detailed design;
   (iii) Construction of Control Tower and Operation Building, Terminal Building(s), Runway, Taxiway, Apron and Drainage System;
   (iv) Installation of Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) System, Airfield Lighting System;
   (v) Fire Fighting Building & Facilities;
   (vi) Water Supply and Sewage Treatment System;
   (vii) Electrical Power Supply and Distribution System;
   (viii) Fuel Storage and Distribution System including fuel hydrant system;
   (ix) Security System;
   (x) Environmental Impact Study (EIS);
   (xi) Social and Cultural Impact Study (SIS, CIS);
   (xii) Construction of road and rail access and car parking;
   (xiii) Construction of cargo facilities, hotel and other ancillary infrastructure;
   (xiv) Management, Operation and Maintenance of the Airport;
3. It is expected that the prequalified firms/consortia will be invited to submit bids for the Project in October, 2012.
4. The Project will be implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP), Joint Venture or Build Operate Transfer (BOT), in accordance with the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law.
5. The Prequalification Documents in the English language may be purchased by interested firms on the submission of written application and evidence of payment of a non-refundable fee of US$ 1,000 by means of bank transfer to:
   Current Account No. MD 010019, MEB through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
6. To obtain further information, applicants should contact the address indicated below:
   Deputy Director General,
   Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
   Telephone: 951 533001, 951 533013 Fax. 951 533016
   Email : dydg@dca.gov.mm, ddassd@dca.gov.mm
7. Deadline and address for submission of Prequalification documents;
   Deadline for application submission: 9th September, 2012 at 15:00 hrs
   Myanmar Standard Time.
   Addressed to:
   Director General,
   Department of Civil Aviation
   Yangon International Airport, Yangon, Myanmar
   Telephone: 951 533015 Fax. 951 533016
   email: dgdca@dca.gov.mm

Thais warned of heavy rain, flash flood

BANGKOK, 8 July—Thailand's Meteorological Department on Friday issued a warning for people in all regions to prepare for widespread scattered rain with heavy falls in some areas and the danger of floods in the next few days.

The department said strong monsoon is now prevailing over the North and Northeast and the southwest monsoon prevails over Thailand, the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea.

This will cause widespread scattered rain in all regions.

People living near hillsides and waterways across the country should prepare for heavy rain and flash flooding, it warned.

Xinhua

Photo taken on May 2010 shows the giant panda "Sijia" playing in Yunnan Safari Park in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province. Three giant pandas who were brought here from southwest China's Sichuan Province after the Wenchuan Earthquake in 2008 will return to their hometown soon to breed offsprings.
XINHUA

Six injured in Spain's Pamplona running of the bulls

PAMPLONA, 8 July—One elderly thrill-seeker was gored in a leg and five others slightly injured as thousands of adrenaline-fueled runners raced ahead of six fighting bulls in the streets of the northern Spanish city of Pamplona in the first running of the bulls of this year's San Fermin festival, officials said on Saturday.

Runners, in traditional white clothing and red kerchiefs around their necks, tripped over each other or fell in the mad daredevil annual rush along early morning dew-moistened slippery streets to the city's bull ring.

One youth got the top of his shirt and kerchief caught on a bull's horn, inches from his face, and was dragged several yards (meters) along the ground, but was seen to get up and run away.

The gored runner, a 73-year-old Pamplona resident, was taken to a local hospital and five others were treated for cuts and bruises, the regional government of the province of Navarre said in a statement.

Among those who received medical attention were a 21-year-old Japanese person from the city of Ikeda and a 26-year-old Australian national, the statement said.

The San Fermin running of the bulls festival became world famous with the publication of Ernest Hemingway's 1926 novel "The Sun Also Rises." It is also known around the world for its wild all-night street parties which commemorate the city's patron saint.

On Saturday, the massive bulls belonging to the Dolores Aguirre breeding ranch raced from a holding pen on the outskirts of town, where they spent the night before the run, along a 849-meter (928-yard) course to the ring in 2 minutes, 53 seconds, a relatively slow time. Last year's opening run was completed 23 seconds faster.

The last bull in the pack became disoriented and charged into the ring several seconds after the leaders. Once in the bullring it caused panic as it chased several runners around before being coaxed into the safety of stables by cape waving attendants.

"Running with the bulls was the best experience I've had, so much adrenaline," said Mark Martinez, 27, a student from Los Angeles, California, who said he was in Spain on a 10-day vacation. "I couldn't touch the horns, I might try that tomorrow," he said.

Serious runners, referred to by the cognoscenti of the fiesta as "los divinos" — the divine ones — because of their ability to survive close brushes with death, would never attempt to touch the animals. The ornery beasts used in this centuries-old fiesta can weigh some 500-plus kilogram (1,100-pounds) and have killed 15 people since record keeping began in 1924.—*Internet*

A reveler is tossed by a Dolores Aguirre Yabarra ranch fighting bull during the running of the bulls of the San Fermin festival, in Pamplona Spain, on 7 July, 2012.
INTERNET

Casualties feared as explosion rocks W Afghanistan

FARAH, (Afghanistan), 8 July—An explosion rocked Farah city, the provincial capital of western Afghan province of Farah with feared casualties, the police said on Saturday morning.

"A blast took place near the provincial governor office building in Farah city and investigation is under way to determine the incident," a police official told *Xinhua*.

The nature of the blast, which occurred at around 11 am local time, is still unknown.

There might be casualties but details will be released to media after investigation, the police source said in condition of anonymity.—*Xinhua*

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs

Invitation for Tender to "Telecommunications Tender Consultant" Companies/ Organizations which have international experience to implement preparation for tender, bidding tender, scrutinizing and selection at international tender bidding in order to provide communication services by joint venture among Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Yatanarpon Teleport and domestic/foreign companies which are providing communication service.

1. It is under process to bid tender and scrutinize by Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and Yatanarpon Teleport with the good will of distribution international status of communication services (Mobile, PSTN, IT, Internet) to public in order to provide communication service by joint venture with domestic/foreign companies which are providing communications service.
2. In such an implementation, in order to comply with international rules and regulations for tender bidding, and international standards, to be transparent, it is intended to implement with the international experience and suggestions of Telecommunications Tender Consultant companies and organizations existing with international experience which could conduct as Telecommunications Tender Consultant in the process of tender preparation, tender bidding, scrutinizing and selection, thus Telecommunications Tender Consultant companies and organizations which are interesting to implement these works are invited to submit the proposals.
3. This is to announce that Telecommunications Tender Consultant companies and organizations intended to implement, can submit the tender proposals to the following address before 2:00 pm of 1-8-2012.

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications
Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs
Office No. (2), Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Ph: 00-95-67-407056
E-mail : myanmarmptjv@mpt.net.mm
Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs

Italy's sculpture capital honours Botero

***An employee of the Mariani artistic foundry works on a sculpture by Colombian artist Fernando Botero. An exhibition of 80 works looks back over Botero's career and pays homage to his mix of Columbian and European styles in paintings and sculptures.*—INTERNET**

ROME, 8 July—Colombian artist Fernando Botero is celebrating his 80th birthday in the renowned sculpture centre of Pietrasanta in Tuscany with a new exhibition of statues, including huge cats, horses and large women. "I feel at home here, the mountains and flowers make me think of Antioch" in Colombia, Botero told *AFP* in the medieval Saint Augustine church, where six of his sculptures and 40 drawings and watercolours from the 1970s are on show.

Six of his giant sculptures tower over visitors in the cathedral square in the dusty town, which has been home to master artisans down the centuries. The exhibition of 80 works looks back over Botero's career and pays homage to his mix of Columbian and European styles in paintings and sculptures always united by their proportionally exaggerated figures — the master's trademark. "My paintings have nothing of 'magic realism' about them, no-one floats in space or is chased by yellow butterflies. It's an improbable style, but not impossible," said Botero, whose works capture the world with a humourous slant.

"I work eight to 10 hours a day, every day, without listening to music because it disturbs me," said the Colombian, who has lived in Pietrasanta, in a house perched on a hill, for two months a year for the past 38 years.

Celebrating his "first 80 springs," the artist emphasised how important contributions from other artisans have been in creating his famed sculptures.

Internet

Spanish police arrest four for offering fake Picasso

MADRID, 8 July—The Interior Ministry says police have arrested four people for trying to sell a forged Pablo Picasso oil painting for up to •1.2 million ($1.5 million).

The canvas, a counterfeit version of a 1964 work called "The bust of Jeune Garcon" was accompanied by false authenticity documents bearing the signatures of Paloma, one of the Spanish painter's daughters, and a renowned French art expert.

Investigators sought professional advice from museum experts and determined that the real painting, which is slightly different to the offered fake, carries official certification by Maya Widmaier, the Malaga-born painter's soldest surviving offspring.

The ministry said in a statement on Saturday that officers arrested three art brokers involved in the offer for sale and the current owner, a well-known Madrid antiquarian.—*Internet*

In this photo released by the Spanish Police, a police officer holds a forged Pablo Picasso oil painting in Sevilla, Spain, on 7 July , 2012. The Interior Ministry says National Police have arrested four people for trying to sell a forged Pablo Picasso oil painting for up to 1.2 million euros ($1.5 million). The canvas, a counterfeit version of a 1964 work called "The bust of Jeune Garcon" was accompanied by false authenticity documents bearing the signatures of Paloma, one of the Spanish painter's daughters, and a renowned French art expert.
INTERNET

Movies, TV and yes, toys, draw fans to Comic-Con

LOS ANGELES, 8 July—Football fans have the Super Bowl. Soccer enthusiasts have the World Cup. Cinephiles have the Academy Awards. For pop-culture lovers — the self-professed geeks and nerds who delight in fantasy-inspired fun from anime to zombies — there is Comic-Con, the Olympic-sized celebration of movies, TV, video games, costumes and pop art that began as a humble comic-book convention 43 years ago and is now an annual marketing extravaganza.

From Thursday to Sunday, more than 100,000 pop-culture aficionados will flood the San Diego Convention Center, showing off their Storm Trooper suits, playing yet-to-be-released video games and attending panels featuring A-list filmmakers like Peter Jackson and such hot TV shows as "Game of Thrones."

Internet

***In this 5 July, 2012 photo, the Marvel Universe SHIELD Super Helicarrier, at centre with a Captain America figure on the foredeck, is seen with, from left background, a DC Comics Vertigo Death figurine, the Polly Pocket DC Comics Villain set, and a Dana as Zuul "Ghostbusters" figure, all special-issue Comic-Con 2012 collectibles, shown in Los Angeles.*—INTERNET**

U2 star's ex-aide jailed for 2.8 million euro theft

DUBLIN, 8 July—A former personal assistant to U2 bass player Adam Clayton was jailed for seven years Friday after embezzling 2.8 million euros ($3.4 million) from the star, the Irish courts service said.

Carol Hawkins, 48, was found guilty last week of 181 counts of theft from Clayton, who has played on hits including "Where The Streets Have No Name", "With Or Without You" and "Beautiful Day".

A court in Dublin heard how Hawkins had worked for Clayton for 17 years, starting off as a housekeeper at his mansion in the Irish capital, Danesmoate House, before rising to be his assistant, Irish media reported.

***U2 bass player Adam Clayton performs in 2011 in East Rutherford, New Jersey. A former personal assistant to the U2 bass player was jailed for seven years Friday after embezzling 2.8 million euros ($3.4 million) from the star, the Irish courts service said.*—INTERNET**

But she used her position of trust to take money which she used to fund a lavish lifestyle including racehorses, exotic holidays and designer clothes, the court heard. "The court ordered that the accused be imprisoned for a period of seven years," said Gerry Curran, a spokesman for Ireland's Courts Service.

U2's representatives in London were not immediately contactable for comment on the case.

Since forming in Dublin in 1976, U2 have become one of the world's biggest-selling rock acts but retain deep ties to their home city.

One of their most successful albums, 1987's "The Joshua Tree", was recorded at Danesmoate House.—*Internet*

Norwegian film wins Czech festival prize

***(From L) Norwegian actress Janne Heitberg Haarseth, director Martin Lund and actor Henrik Rafaelsen pose on 30 June before their film "The Almost Man."*—INTERNET**

PRAGUE, 8 July—Norwegian film "The Almost Man" won the 47th edition of the Czech Republic's Karlovy Vary international film festival on Saturday, the organizers said.

The film by director Martin Lund beat another 11 movies to win the Crystal Globe prize worth $25,000 (20,344 euros) at a gala ceremony on Saturday.

US actress Susan Sarandon won a Crystal Globe for her contribution to world cinematography on Saturday, joining British actress Helen Mirren who was awarded the same prize as the festival opened on 29 June.

Some 220 films — including four world and eight international premieres — were screened during the festival.

The festival jury was led by Richard Pena, programme director at New York's prestigious Film Society of Lincoln Centre.

More than 120,000 cinemagoers visited the festival in the western Czech spa town of Karlovy Vary, about 120 kilometres (75 miles) west of the Czech capital Prague.

Internet

LeBron, Kobe return to US team for London Games

LOS ANGELES, 8 July — Five members of the gold medal winning lineup at the 2008 Bejing Games were included in the 12-man US Olympic basketball team announced by USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo on Saturday. LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Carmelo Anthony, Chris Paul and Deron Williams return for another bid for Olympic glory and will spearhead a potent roster in London where the US are favourites.

Colangelo announced the selections after two US team training sessions in Las Vegas, though final approval is still required by the US Olympic Committee. "We projected we would have difficulty getting down to a roster of 12, regardless of the number of injuries that have taken place, because they are such an outstanding group of people and athletes," Colangelo said in a statement.

"The final selections keep us in concert with our game plan to have athleticism, versatility and strong depth on our roster. I think our final roster epitomizes all of that." The US team had been hit by a recent rash of injuries to several leading candidates, including Derrick Rose of the Chicago Bulls, Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic and Miami Heat players Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh.

"We have benefited so much from having a pool of outstanding players who are committed, and as a result the selection is difficult," US coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "But it's the best challenge that you could have because everyone has been so committed."The 2012 US Olympic team: Carmelo Anthony (Knicks), Kobe Bryant (Lakers), Tyson Chandler (Knicks), Kevin Durant (Thunder), Blake Griffin (Clippers), James Harden (Thunder), Andre Iguodala (76ers), LeBron James (Heat), Kevin Love (Timberwolves), Chris Paul (Clippers), Russell Westbrook (Thunder) and Deron Williams (Nets).

Reuters

East All-Star LeBron James of the Miami Heat (L) and West All-Star Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers exchange words in the fourth quarter during the NBA All-Star game in Orlando, Florida, on 26 Feb, 2012.
REUTERS

Korean Choi takes control of US Women's Open

KOHLER, 8 July — South Korea's Choi Na-yeon obliterated the field with a stunning seven-under-par 65 to surge six shots clear in Saturday's third round of the US Women's Open in Kohler, Wisconsin. On a breezy day with tricky hole locations at Blackwolf Run where only four other sub-par scores were recorded, Choi put herself in prime position to win her first major title. The 24-year-old Korean, who has triumphed five times on the LPGA Tour, seized control of the tournament in masterly fashion with eight birdies and a sole bogey to finish at eight-under 208.

"I hit a lot of good shots today, my 14 clubs worked very well," a beaming Choi told reporters after totaling 26 putts on fast-running greens.

Choi Na-yeon of South Korea watches her drive from the 18th tee during the third round at the US Women's Open golf tournament at Blackwolf Run in Kohler, Wisconsin on 7 July, 2012.
REUTERS

"I had a birdie on the first hole and a birdie on the second hole, then I got some good vibes from there, good confidence from there. It was really fun out there."I couldn't believe how I got eight birdies today, but I did," she grinned. "I'm very happy, I'm very satisfied and I'm very excited." Choi's 65 was the 11th carded at a US Women's Open where only four lower rounds have ever been posted.

Compatriot Amy Yang was alone in second after carding a 69, the next-best score of the day, with American teenager Lexi Thompson (72), Japan's Mika Miyazato (73) and Germany's Sandra Gal (74) a further stroke back at one-under 215. Overnight leader Suzann Pettersen of Norway endured a difficult day, battling to a 78 that included a pair of double-bogeys to finish a distant nine strokes off the pace. Pettersen, who had led by one shot after the second round, briefly doubled her advantage when she birdied the par-five second.

Reuters

Williams sisters win Wimbledon doubles crown

Serena Williams (L) and her sister Venus pose with their trophies after winning their women's doubles final match against Czech Republic's Andrea Hlavackova and Lucie Hradecka on Day 12 of the 2012 Wimbledon Championships at the All England Tennis Club, southwest London, on 7 July. Williams sisters won 7-5, 6-4.— INTERNET

WIMBLEDON, 8 July — Serena Williams claimed a fifth Wimbledon title on Saturday and paid an emotional tribute to big sister Venus whose career, badly affected by recent illness, is slipping into its twilight. Serena, 30, and Venus, two years older, have won 10 of the last 13 singles titles at the All England Club. Saturday's win over Agnieszka Radwanska took Serena to 14 Gramd Slam trophies and a new ranking of four in the world. But in sharp contrast, Venus, whose first round defeat to Russia's Elena Vesnina on the opening day was her worst at Wimbledon since 1997, is battling to still remain a contender.

The last of Venus's 43 career titles came in Dubai in 2010 while her last Grand Slam title was in 2008. Furthermore, she was diagnosed with the fatigue-related illness Sjogren's Syndrome last year which kept her off tour from the US Open until the Miami tournament in March this year. Many in the sport expect Venus, now down at 58 in the world, to quit after this year's US Open and having had another shot at the Olympics, which will be held at Wimbledon. "I don't know what I would have if Venus didn't exist. I don't even know if I would own a Grand Slam title or if I would play tennis, because we do everything together," said Serena.

"Growing up I copied Venus, everything she did. She was a real big influence for me. So when she started winning, I wanted it so bad. When she became number one I had to be number one. I had to work harder. I had to do everything in my power to get there. I have no idea what would happen if she wasn't around." Serena said that just as Venus had rallied round her when she was battling life-threatening blood clots which kept her off the tour for a year, now she repays the favour. She believes that support will be crucial when the sisters team up again in London later this month in an attempt to capture a third Olympic gold medal following wins in Sydney in 2000 and Beijing four years ago.

Internet

Title holder Vladimir Klitschko of Ukraine (C) celebrates next to his brother Vitali (R) after defeating contender Tony Thompson of the US during their world heavyweight championship title fight at the Stade de Suisse in Bern opn 7 July, 2012.
REUTERS

BERNE, 8 July — Vladimir Klitschko retained his world heavyweight titles when he knocked down challenger Tony Thompson in the sixth round of a one-sided contest on Saturday. The 36-year-old Ukrainian, who knocked out Thompson when they met four years ago, extended his unbeaten run to 16 fights, his last defeat coming when he challenged Lamon Brewster for the WBO title in 2004. Klitschko, who has won 58 and lost three of his professional bouts, holds the WBA, IBF, WBO, IBO titles while his older brother Vitali holds the WBC title.

Thompson was never in the contest and was floored for the first time in the fifth round with a big right hook. The American, the mandatory challenger nominated by the IBF, survived the count but looked groggy and struggled to hang on until the bell. Dr Steelhammer wasted no time in finishing off the 40-year-old in the next round, knocking him over again with a flurry of punches to the head, prompting the referee to stop the fight. "I didn't have a doubt from the beginning of the fight that I would defend my titles," Klitschko told reporters.—*Reuters*

Klitschko stops Thompson in round six

Title holder Vladimir Klitschko of Ukraine (L) exchanges blows with contender Tony Thompson of the US during their world heavyweight championship title fight at the Stade de Suisse in Bern on 7 July, 2012.
REUTERS

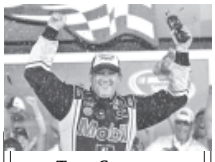
Webb Simpson leads Greenbrier Classic

Webb Simpson watches his tee shot on the third hole during the third round of the Greenbrier Classic PGA Golf tournament at the Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, WVa, on 7 July, 2012.
INTERNET

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, 8 July— Webb Simpson likes the way he's avoiding bogeys and figures he'll need to play smart again at the Greenbrier Classic to get his second win in three tournaments. The US Open champion shot a 5-under 65 in the third round Saturday to take a two-stroke lead into the final round. Simpson had his second straight bogey-free round to reach 14 under on The Greenbrier Resort's Old White TPC Course.

Troy Kelly was second after a 62. Rookie Charlie Beljan, J B Holmes and Ken Duke were 11 under. Beljan had a 67, Holmes a 66, and Duke a 65.Simpson isn't disappointed that Tiger Woods isn't around to challenge him. Woods missed the cut for only the ninth time in his PGA career. "When he's not lurking around on Saturdays and Sundays, it makes it a little easier I think for other guys," Simpson said.

Internet



Tony Stewart celebrates after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Daytona International Speedway, on 7 July, 2012, in Daytona Beach, Fla.
INTERNET

Tony Stewart makes late move to win at Daytona

DAYTONA BEACH, 8 July—There was no fire or rain. Still, another frantic finish at Daytona International Speedway. Tony Stewart emerged the winner, charging past Daytona 500 winner Matt Kenseth on the last lap and holding on as the challengers stacked up behind him Saturday night in one of Daytona's trademark wrecks. "I don't even remember what happened that last lap," Stewart said.Stewart has 18 victories at Daytona, second only to the late Dale Earnhardt's 34 wins.

None of Stewart's wins are in the Daytona 500, though. Stewart is 0 for 14 in NASCAR's biggest race of the year and was a non-factor in February, when the race was delayed a day by rain and then stopped more than two hours for a massive jet dryer fire. "I wish I could trade a couple of these races in for just one Sunday race in February," he said of the Daytona 500.

But he's always strong in the summer race at Daytona, and this visit was no different. Stewart qualified second but dropped back to 42nd at the start of the race because his time was thrown out by NASCAR after his Chevrolet failed inspection. He quietly rode around — which is his style at restrictor-plate races — and let Roush Fenway Racing teammates Kenseth and Greg Biffle control the front. "We were going to try to win the thing and be there at the end," Biffle said. "We were right there."— *Internet*

International Sports

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(9-7-12 09:30 am ~ 10-7-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Every Blood Donor is a Hero
* News
* The more you see, the more you learn (Episode - 4)
* News
* Music Programme
* News
* Journey To Unimageable Spot (Episode - 12)
* News
* Modest Appearance and Colourful Beauty of Myanmar Ben self
* News
* The Treasures in a Small Village (Part-1)
* News
* The Treasures in a Small Village (Part-2)
* News
* Myanmar Movie "A Fragrant Flower From Bagan"

MYANMAR TV

(9-7-2012) (Monday)

7:00 am
1. Myitta Pawana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi - Uppatasanti Paritta

7:40 am
2. Dhama Puja Song

7:50 am
3. Nice and Sweet Song

8:00 am
4. Health Programme

8:15 am
5. Teleplay (Health)

8:20 am
6. Cute Little Dancers

8:30 am
7. Musical Programme

4:05 pm
8. Dance Variety

4:35 pm
9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Law)

4:55 pm
10. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

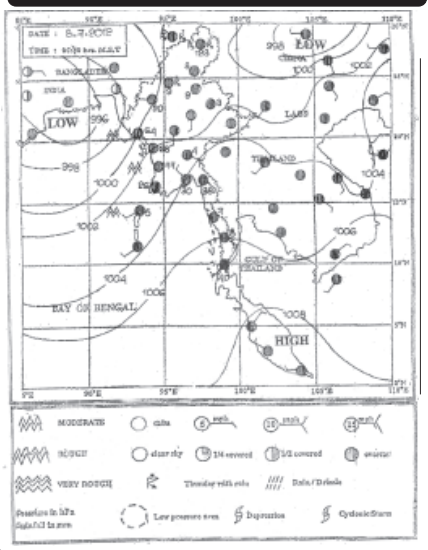
5:25 pm
11. Myanmar Language

6:20 pm
12. Sing & Enjoy

7:00 pm
13. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
14. News
15. World's Stars
16. TV Drama Series
17. India Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 9th July, 2012

Sr. No.		Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	30/86	26/79	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
2	Kayah	26/79	21/70	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	26/79	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	23/73	17/63	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	30/86	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Taninthayi	28/82	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
8	Bago	25/77	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	33/91	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	27/81	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	28/82	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	27/81	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
13	Rakhine	28/82	22/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	23/73	19/66	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	28/82	22/72	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	30/86	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	28/82	23/73	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	33/91	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	27/81	22/72	Some rain or thundershowers	(80%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	27/81	Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing, rain or thundershower have been scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Bago Regions, Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with Regionally heavy fall in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls In Kachin and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (5.04) inches, An (5.00) inches, Theinzayat (4.45) inches, Taungup (4.37) inches, Maungdaw (3.93) inches, Thandwe (3.78) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.19) inches, Chaungzon (2.44) inches and Kyaikkhami (2.13) inches.
Bay Inference	Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at-times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.
Outlook for sub-sequent two days	Likelihood of increase of rain in Lower Myanmar areas.

Malian midfielder Keita quits Barcelona

Barcelona's Mali international Seydou Keita, pictured in March 2012, has quit Barcelona after his four-year contract ended, having won 14 titles with the team, the club said on late Saturday.
INTERNET

BARCELONA , 8 July — Mali midfielder Seydou Keita has quit Barcelona after his four-year contract ended, having won 14 titles with the team, the club said on late Saturday.

"Seydou Keita has announced this evening that he won't be staying at the club next season," said a statement published on the club's website.

"FC Barcelona thanks Seydou Keita for his services to the club over the years and wishes him professional and personal success in the future."

The Barcelona sports press reported that Keita, 32, was planning to move to Chinese club Dalian Aerbin.

Keita previously played for French clubs Marseille, Lorient and Lens before moving to Spain where he played for Seville for one season.

He moved to Barcelona in 2008 as the first signing by coach Pep Guardiola, who quit at the end of last season. *Internet*

Dental and oral health care services given in Tagaung

THABEIKKYIN, 8 July—The dental health care services was given to people of Tagaung Sub-Township and Khanhyat Village-tract of Thabeikkyin Township at Tagaung Sub-Township People's Hospital on 29 June.

Head of Township Health Department Dr Kyaw ZinOo and 16 dentists from Myanmar Dental Association (Mandalay) gave dental care to 1277 patients in Tagaung on 29 June and 476 patients at Shwemale Monastery in Kyahnyat Village on 30 June.—*Township Health*

CSC ISSUED: ***Officials of Htantabin Township Immigration and National Registration Department present citizenship scrutiny cards to local people at monastery in ward 3 in the township on 27 June.***
MYANMA ALIN

Research finds algae extract increases good cholesterol levels

DETROIT, 8 July — A Wayne State University researcher has found that an extract from algae could become a key to regulating cardiovascular disease.In a study funded by Health Enhancement Products of Bloomfield Hills, Mich, Smiti Gupta, Ph D, assistant professor in the department of nutrition and food science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has found that dietary intake of ProAlgaZyme increased the level of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in an animal model.

While medications for the control of high plasma cholesterol levels such as statins and numerous dietary supplements primarily function by lowering levels of low-density lipoproteins (LDL), or "bad cholesterol," Gupta's research explores the effects of raising levels of HDL, or "good cholesterol," which work in part by carrying cholesterol out of the arterial wall. Results of her study, titled "ProAlgaZyme and its Sub-fractions Increase Plasma HDL-Cholesterol via Up Regulation of ApoA1, ABCA1 and SRB1 and Inhibition of CETP in Hypercholesterolemic Hamsters," were published recently in the *Journal of Nutrition and Dietary Supplements*.

"The cholesterol mechanism is crucial to heart disease," Gupta said. "Very few agents increase good cholesterol, but we found that this algae extract does. The ratio of total to HDL cholesterol improved significantly. This result, if replicated in humans, would be consistent with a decreased risk of heart disease." ProAlgaZyme, a clear liquid, was administered as part of the drinking fluid over four weeks. In addition to increasing HDL levels, the group found that it also changed the expression of genes involved in the reverse cholesterol transport mechanism. And while they don't know exactly how it will function in humans, Gupta said other research suggests a similar outcome.

"Its biological effect over time and toxic effects, if any, need to be further investigated in a long-term study in an animal model before testing its effects in humans," she said. "But this is a step in the right direction, since increased HDL is considered an important therapeutic target for improvement of the lipid profile and thus reduction of the risk for cardiovascular disease." — *Internet*

Britain's Wiggins takes Tour de France lead

LA PLANCHE DES BELLES FILLES SKI STATION, 8 July— With two weeks left in the Tour de France, the two-man showdown that many predicted is taking shape, with Britain's Bradley Wiggins already in the yellow jersey — and driver's seat — while Cadel Evans isn't.

The 31-year-old Briton and his Team Sky dominated the race's first summit finish Saturday, with Christopher Froome winning Stage 7 ahead of Evans and Wiggins close on the Australian defending champion's back wheel.

New overall leader Bradley Wiggins of Britain, right, grimaces in the last climb towards La Planche des Belles Filles, as he rides with Cadel Evans of Australia, left, during the seventh stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 199 kilometers (123.6 miles) with start in Tomblaine and finish in La Planche des Belles Filles, France, on 7 July, 2012.— INTERNET

In the 123-mile trek from Tomblaine to La Planche des Belles Filles, Wiggins took the overall lead from Switzerland's Fabian Cancellara and gave Britain its first yellow jersey in 12 years — and the first for Sky. "It's a great day for the team, we won the stage and took the yellow jersey," Wiggins said in French.

"This is my first time in the yellow jersey. It's incredible — it's been a dream of mine since I was a kid." As the pack disintegrated on the final climb, Evans tried an attack just before the super-steep patch in the last half-mile, but Froome beat him and made it look easy, leading Evans to wonder what he might be in for later.

Cancellara, a time-trial and one-day classics specialist who had worn yellow since winning the prologue a week ago, was 1 minute, 52 seconds behind Froome — but more importantly 1:50 back of Wiggins. The Sky leader, who began the day 7 seconds behind Cancellara in second place, leads Evans by 10 seconds.

Vincenzo Nibali of Italy was fourth to climb to third overall, 16 seconds behind. Wiggins, a three-time Olympic track gold medalist looking to become Britain's first Tour champion, became the pre-race favourite after winning the Paris-Nice, Tour de Romandie and Criterium du Dauphine stage races this year.— *Internet*

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Union Education Minister participates in School Environment Day activities

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—Accompanied by Deputy Minister U Aye Kyu, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye this morning viewed 2012-2013 academic year School Environment Day activities held at No.6 Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri.

The Union minister planted a starflower sapling in commemoration of 2012-2013 academic year School Environment Day in front of the school. Deputy Minister U Aye Kyu and Director-General U Bo Win of Education, Planning and Training Department planted saplings and encouraged officials, teachers and students who were planting saplings at the ceremony.

The deputy minister proceeded to Inpu basic education post-primary school, No.2 Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe and No.18 Basic Education High School in Nay Pyi Taw Dekkhinathiri Township where the deputy minister viewed the 2012-2013 academic year School Environment Day tree planting activities.

According to the academic calendar, 8 July is designated as School Environment Day for 2012-2013 academic year. The schools and education colleges nationwide launched those activities this morning.—*MNA*

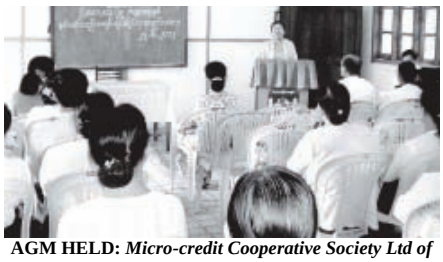
Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye grows a starflower tree in commemoration of 2012-2013 academic year School Environment Day at Zabuthiri BEHS-6.
MNA

Cash and kind donations for locals of Rakhine State continue

YANGON, 8 July—The cash and foodstuff donations for locals of Rakhine State who lost their property in various situations occurred in the state were held at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township this morning.

Presiding Nayaka of Tawkyaung Monastery of Thanlyin Sayadaw Bhaddanta Adiçça donated K 310,000 and 40 sets of robes, U Myo Aung and family K 500,000 in memory of late Daw Mya Mya Win, U Kyaw Zaw-Daw Phyu Phyu and family K 500,000, U Aung Mon Thein-Daw Thet Thet Thein and family K 200,000, U Kyaw Kyaw-Daw Khin Soe Win and family K 100,000, U Denial Bwint, Daw Ni Ni Thein Bwint K 100,000, U Khin Maung Myint and family of UA Kyaukphu K 30,000 and one packet of food carrier, Gandawin Heart Parahita Group eight bales of clothes, U Myo Myint-Daw Hla Myint and family K 50,000 and one bale of cloth. Director-General of Fire Services Department U Tin Moe and officials accepted cash and kind donation.

Up to now, the donations to the local people of Rakhine State amounted to K 239,787,816.—*MNA*



AGM HELD: ***Micro-credit Cooperative Society Ltd of Kamayut Township Basic Education Schools held annual general meeting at No 3 Basic Education High School on 27 June. Township Education Officer Daw Sanda Aung explains duty and functions of the society.***
MYANMA ALIN

Tree planting ceremony held in Zigon Township

ZIGON, 8 July—The collective tree growing ceremony was held in Zigon Township of Thayawady District in Bago Region on 30 June morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Kyaw Myint Hlaing, Region Hluttaw representative U Htoo Khaing, Staff Officer of Township Forest Department U Hsan Win-2 and staff, departmental personnel, the chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization and party, members of social organizations and local people planted teak, gim-kino, mahogany, ironwood, starflower, Gangaw and others totalling 1350 saplings.

Township GAD

Giggs to captain UK football team at London 2012

LONDON, 8 July—Welsh winger Ryan Giggs will captain Britain's soccer team at the London Olympics, head coach Stuart Pearce said on Sunday.

The 38-year-old, oldest of the three over-age players in the 18-man squad, is taking part in his first international tournament and will captain the side for the first time when they play Brazil in a warmup at Middlesbrough on July 20. Pearce said at an Olympic presenation: "He is been a fantastic professional over the years and he was the standout candidate in a group that has got Aaron Ramsey the Wales captain, and Micah Richards who has captained Manchester City, and one or two other candidates.

Manchester United's Ryan Giggs (R) hugs Gary Neville after being substituted for Neville during Neville's testimonial soccer match against Juventus in Manchester, northern England, 24 May, 2011.
INTERNET

"He has got the respect of all the members of the group and I am looking forward to working with him." Giggs added: "Obviously I have the experience and there are a lot of younger players in the squad, so as captain hopefully I can pass that on to the younger players. "It's a tremendous honour to be part of the Olympics and I am really proud to be involved. Different nations have got different views about the Olympics, but as a player I am going to enjoy it and try and win it."Giggs has won 12 Premier League titles, five FA Cups and two Champions Leagues with Manchester United and is the most decorated player in English soccer history.

However, he never played in a major championship because of Wales' failure to reach either the World Cup or European finals during his international career which brought him 64 caps between 1991 and 2007.

The match against Brazil will be the first time Britain have fielded an Olympic squad since they played Bulgaria in a qualifier in 1971 ahead of the Munich Olympics the following year. They last played in the finals in 1960.—*Internet*

With four-page supplement on Bill Amending the Limitation Act, Bill Amending the Contempt of court, Bill Amending the Transfer of Immoveable Property Act, Bill Amending the Code of Civil Procedure and Bill Amending the Penal Code attached.

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (8-7-2012)

Putao	**(5.04)**	**inches**
An	**(5.00)**	**inches**
Theinzayat	**(4.45)**	**inches**
Taungup	**(4.37)**	**inches**
Maungtaw	**(3.93)**	**inches**
Thandwe	**(3.78)**	**inches**
Kyaukpyu	**(3.19)**	**inches**
Chaungzon	**(2.44)**	**inches**
Kyaikkhami	**(2.13)**	**inches**

Thousands visit battleship USS Iowa as museum opens in LA

The battleship USS Iowa approaches the Ital Contessa cargo ship as it is moved to its final berth in the Port of Los Angeles, where it will become a floating museum, in the San Pedro section of Los Angeles, California, on 9 June, 2012.
PAGE 3

LeBron, Kobe return to US team for London

East All-Star LeBron James of Miami Heat (L) and West All-Star Kobe Bryant of Los Angeles Lakers exchange words in quarter during NBA All-Star game in Orlando on 26 Feb.
PAGE 14

Korean Choi takes control of US Women's Open

Choi Na-yeon of South Korea watches her drive from 18th tee during third round at US Women's Open at Blackwolf Run in Kohler, Wisconsin on 7 July.
PAGE 14

Klitschko stops Thompson in round six

Title holder Vladimir Klitschko of Ukraine (L) exchanges blows with contender Tony Thompson of US in world heavyweight C'ship title fight in Bern on 7 July.
PAGE 14

Malian midfielder Keita quits Barcelona

Barcelona's Mali international Seydou Keita, pictured in March 2012, has quit Barcelona after his four-year contract ended.
PAGE 15