

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Monday, 23 July, 2012

President U Thein Sein felicitates Egyptian President

NAY PYI TAW, 23 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mohamed Morsi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which falls on 23 July, 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein leaves for Thailand on goodwill visit

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—A Myanmar delegation led by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left here by special aircraft of Myanmar Airways International for Thailand at 9 am today at the invitation of Prime Minister Ms Yingluck Shinawatra of the Kingdom of Thailand.

President U Thein Sein and party were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min, Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Cooperatives and for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, Union Minister at the President Office Nay Pyi Taw Mayor U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Union Minister for Electric Power No 1 U Zaw Min, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Vice-Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Zaw Win, departmental heads, Charge d' Affaires of the Thai Embassy Mr Kallayana Vipattipumprates and embassy officials.

The President was accompanied by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint, Chief Minister of Kayin State U Zaw Min, Chief

Minister of Tanintharyi Region U Myat Ko, Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo of the Commander-in-Chief (Army)'s Office, Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint and departmental heads.—MNA



President U Thein Sein and party being seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and officials.

MNA

Preventive measures taken against DHF in Dagon Myothit (South) Township

YANGON, 22 July—As part of efforts to prevent dengue hemorrhagic fever, the team comprising Township Medical Officer Dr Daw Mya Mya Win, health staff, ward administrator and members of social organizations led by Township Administrator U Myint Lwin performed preventive measures in Ward 20 of Dagon Myothit (South)

Township on 16 July morning.

They put abade into water tanks and pots at over 2500 houses in the ward.

Myanma Alin

Saplings collectively planted in Kyaukkyi Township

KYAUKKYI, 22 July—Kyaukkyi Township Forest Department of Toungoo District in Bago Region held the rainy season tree growing ceremony at the playground of Basic

Education Primary School in Theindan Ward of Kyaukkyi Township on 4 July morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Myint Khaing, Staff Officer of Township Forest

Department U Khin Maung Htwe, departmental personnel, staff of Forest Department, members of social organizations and students planted 500 saplings.—Myanma Alin

Effective supply chain mechanism instrumental in agricultural development: Union Commerce Minister



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Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing library opened



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Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (22-7-2012)

Kyauktaw	(3.03) inches
Shwegyin	(2.56) inches
An	(2.05) inches
Nyaunglebin	(1.97) inches
Taungup	(1.69) inches
Kawkareik	(1.69) inches

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 23 July, 2012

Rising Asia

Some of the Asian economies like Japan, South Korea and Singapore are in the club of developed countries or rich industrialized countries of the world. China now is the second largest economy in the world after the United States and is still growing rapidly. Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong special administrative region of China, and China Taiwan and so on are included in the fast developing economies. Moreover, India and Indonesia are in the G20 together with other Asian economic powers China, Japan and South Korea.

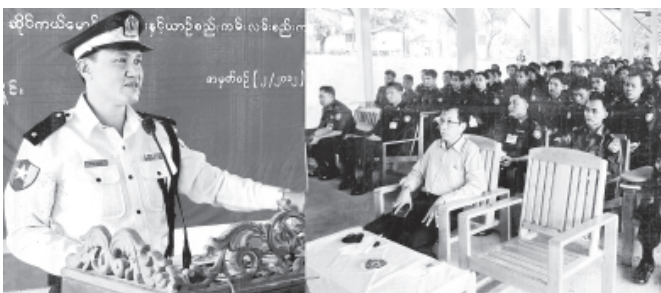
ASEAN as a whole has also become an economic powerhouse with a lot of potentials to offer. Giants like China and India are now termed as the engines of global economic growth. So, Asia is rising and its importance in the global theatre growing more than ever before. In fact, Asia is the largest landmark of the world and most populous continent housing larger number of countries than any other continent of the world.

So there are more opportunities in Asia alone than in any other place on Earth as it has the world's second and third largest economies, economic tigers, global engines of growth and many other fast growing economies apart from a number of countries emerging as new economic frontiers.

At the dinner hosted for the participants of US-ASEAN Business Forum the other day in Siem Reap of Cambodia, President U Thein Sein underscored the growing importance of the development of Asia in the world. As we are also an Asian country and a new frontier we must learn and imitate the ways of means and the spirit of our counterparts that are now the integral part of the rising Asia.

We firmly believe with hard work, responsibility and accountability in every institution especially the government bodies and transparency in the areas to fight any kind of malpractice including bribery and corruption we can be on the right track towards becoming the core part of rising Asia.

Traffic rules course opened in Mon State



NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Mon State Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee and Traffic Police Corps have opened a motorbike driving and traffic rules course for the second time this year in Mawlamyine. The opening ceremony held this day was attended by Lt-Col Than Daing of local station and Tatmadawmen from 17

Effective supply chain mechanism instrumental in agricultural development: Union Commerce Minister



Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint addresses ceremony of Shwese Yaungchi Rice Co to provide inputs to farmers.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye attended the opening of the office of Shwese Yaungchi Rice Co at Taze Township in Sagaing Region on 20 July.

The Union minister and the chief minister addressed the ceremony to provide inputs to farmers by Shwese Yaungchi Co at Taze Township Hall.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union minister said that emphasis is put on enhancement of the social status of farmers that constitutes 70 per cent of the whole population. Taxes have been cut or exempted on agricultural produce and assistance provided too to reduce the production cost in order that farmers can fetch reasonable benefits from their labour.

The Union minister stressed the need for continuous improvement both in terms of quantity and quality, with lower production cost. He called for better market penetration strategies, regular market share retention and higher price. He added that the Ministry of Commerce has

assisted in supply chain management since 2009. The Union minister underscored the need to make a shift to quality marketable strains to guarantee the domestic food security and strong foothold in international market. He called for harmonious cooperation of farmers, traders, companies, departments concerned and the State in supply chain mechanism from provision of technical assistance to farmers to exportation.

The region chief minister also spoke on the occasion. Managing Director of Shwese Yaungchi Co explained mission and work programmes of the co and marketing manager U Soe Moe explained agricultural methods.

The Union minister, the chief minister and personnel presented agricultural inputs to farmers. Shwese Yaungchi Co donated K 20 million for renovation of Maha Thiri Lake.

The Union minister and the chief minister then inspected renovation of Maha Thiri Lake in Taze Township.

MNA

Cash, foodstuff donated to people in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Wellwishers donated cash and kinds and foodstuff to people today in Rakhine State who lost their homes and properties in recent unrest in the state.

The donation ceremony was held at the Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township today. During the ceremony, Tagun non-governmental organization in Dagon Seikkan Township donated over K1.2 million

and 126 packages of clothes, medicines, five bags of rice, one bag of slippers; Myanmar Pharmacy Professionals Association K200,000 and clothes, foodstuff, household utensils and medicines worth K1.5 million; Myanmar nationals in Papua New Guinea K570,000; U Khin Aung from Hmawby K115,000, two packages of clothes and one package of blankets; U Aung Moe and Daw Khin Khin Myo

K100,000 and one package of clothes, Ko Kyaw Tint Swe and Dr Daw Khin Kyi K100,000 each; Police Captain Tun Hla Zan and Daw Shwe Sein K100,000 and one package of clothes; U Sein Hla of Yankin Township K50,000, Daw Khin Ohn Myint and family K30,000 and one package of clothes; U Zaw Win and Dr Daw Myat Than Nwe K20,000 and four packages of clothes; a group comprising 14 friends from the Punhlaing

Housing six packages of clothes and utensils; U Sein Win and Daw Pu Pu two packages of clothes, U Thauang Win and Daw Khin Thandar Tun one package of clothes; Ma Thazin Aye of Kyimyindine Township one package of clothes, Ma Tin Myint Yi and friends two packages of sanitary napkins and U Tin Moe, Director-General of the Fire Services Department, and officials accepted the donations.

Total cash donation to the people has reached over K302 million so far.

MNA

School uniforms provided to students

KATHA, 22 July—As part of efforts to alleviate poverty, a ceremony to provide school uniforms to offspring of vendors from Myoma Market was held at the office of Katha Township Development Affairs Committee on 7 July.

Executive Officer U Tun Tun presented one set each of school uniform to 55 students.—Myanma Alin

Trainees of agricultural course leave for Israel

YANGON, 22 July—Under the arrangements of Myanmar Rice Industry Association and Rama Negiv Institute in Tel Aviv of Israel, nine trainees to attend the agricultural training course left here by air on 16 July.

They were seen off at

Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Myanmar Rice Industry Association U Sein Win Hlaing, Executive U Soe Win of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and officials.—Myanma Alin



Ten dead, 30,000 evacuated in Beijing downpour

BEIJING, 22 July—The heaviest rain in six decades in the Chinese capital has left 10 people dead, Beijing authorities said on Sunday.

As of 4 am Sunday, more than 30,000 residents in Districts of Fangshan,

Huairou, Mentougou and Pinggu as well as Miyun and Yanqing counties were relocated, the city's floods control headquarters said at 9 am.

In Fangshan, where the maximum precipitation

reached 460 mm in Hebei Township as of 6 am, road traffic in 12 townships was disrupted. Mobile telecommunication services and Internet access were cut off in six townships, the headquarters said.

Train services between Beijing and Guangzhou were suspended as the railway line section at Nangangwa, Fengtai District, was soaked in water, the headquarters said.

More than 12,000 people worked for draining 1 million cubic metres of water from streets. Most puddles in the city were cleared by 6 am.



Firefighters pull a submerged car near Guangqumen Bridge in Beijing, capital of China, on 21 July, 2012.

XINHUA

Health worker shot dead in Pakistan

GENEVA, 22 July—The World Health Organization (WHO) on Saturday reported a polio eradication worker being shot dead on Friday evening in the Gadap town area of Karachi, Pakistan.

The victim was identified as Muhammad Ishaq, who had worked with the national polio eradication effort for several months, helping to plan and implement vaccination campaigns to protect local children against the disease.

This is the second shooting incident in a week, which targeted health

workers.

On Tuesday, a WHO staff member and an international consultant working for the health agency were injured in the same region by armed men.

Polio immunization activities were suspended after Tuesday's attack.

Xinhua

Obama vows to ensure public safety after Colorado shooting

WASHINGTON, 22 July—US President Barack Obama has promised every effort will be made to ensure the safety of Americans, a day after a shooting rampage in a Colorado movie theater killed 12 people.

"We are still gathering all the facts about what happened, but we do know the police have one suspect in custody."

And the federal government stands ready to do everything necessary to bring whoever's responsible for this heinous crime to justice," Obama said in his weekly radio and Internet address on Saturday.

Police have detained James Eagan Holmes, 24, who allegedly killed 12 and wounded 59 at a midnight showing of the new Batman movie—The Dark Knight Rises, at

US President Barack Obama during a moment of silence for the shootings in Colorado at an event in Fort Myers, Florida, on 20 July, 2012.—XINHUA



Aurora, Colorado, a Denver suburb. The man surrendered without a fight in a parking lot behind the theater, police said.

The shooting reminded Americans of the Virginia Tech bloodbath in April 2007 in which 33 died. The FBI said there was so far no indication of any links to terror groups.

"We will take every step possible to ensure the safety of all our people. And we will stand by our neighbors in Colorado during this extraordinarily difficult time," Obama said.

Police said 30 victims remained hospitalized Saturday, 11 of them in critical condition.

"And if there's anything to take away from this tragedy, it's a reminder that life is fragile. Our time here is limited and it is precious," the US President said.

However, Obama didn't mention gun control, a sensitive issue for any candidate for the November presidential elections.

Gallup polls showed 39 percent of Americans owned a gun in 2010, while the National Rifle Association, a pro-gun lobby group, said almost half of US households possess guns.

Xinhua



Students train in mud by a sandbank at a summer military camp in Ansan, south of Seoul on 20 July, 2012. INTERNET

US F-16 fighter crashes off coast of Japan

TOKYO, 22 July—A US F-16 fighter jet crashed into the Pacific Ocean off the coast of northern Japan on Sunday and efforts are underway to rescue the pilot, a spokeswoman for the Misawa Air Base said.

The jet took off from the US air base in Aomori and crashed about 11:30 Japan time (0230 GMT) some 200 miles northeast of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island, the spokesperson said.

"One person, the pilot, was on board. Efforts are currently underway to retrieve the pilot," she said, reading from a statement.

"The aircraft was en route to North America when the incident occurred. The cause of the incident is unknown at this time."

The F-16 is made by Lockheed Martin Corp.

Reuters

Blast rocks Egypt's gas pipeline to Israel, Jordan

CAIRO, 22 July—An explosion on Sunday rocked the Egyptian pipeline built to carry natural gas to Israel and Jordan, the 15th time it has been attacked since the start of the uprising in early 2011 that toppled President Hosni Mubarak.

The blast occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning at al-Tuwail, east of the coastal Sinai town of al-Arish, at a point before the pipeline splits into separate branches to Israel and Jordan, security officials and witnesses said.

Gunmen in a small truck drove up to the pipeline, dug a hole and placed explosive charges under the pipeline that they detonated from a distance, a security official and witnesses said.

A large boom echoed across the area and residents up to 30 km (18 miles) away said later they could see flames of burning gas lighting the sky.

An official in the company that manages the pipeline said exports of gas to both Israel and Jordan had been halted since an explosion that hit the pipeline in April and that the flames were caused by residual gas.

Residents in al-Arish, however, said gas shipments had begun three days ago through the pipeline, which at one point supplied Israel with about 40 percent of its natural gas.

Egypt in April terminated its agreement to supply gas to Israel because of what it said was a business dispute. The 20-year gas deal, signed in the Mubarak era, was unpopular with many Egyptians, with critics accusing Israel of not paying enough for the fuel.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks on the installation that crosses the increasingly volatile Sinai Peninsula. Security in Sinai was relaxed after the fall of Mubarak as the police presence thinned out across Egypt.—Reuters

Airstrikes kill 15 militants in northwest Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 July—Pakistani military jets struck militant hideouts in the northwest of the country on Sunday, killing 15 militants and wounding several others, military officials said.

The airstrikes targeted four hideouts in the remote Ghaljo and Dabori areas of the northwestern Orakzai tribal region, the officials said. The locations were being used by members of the Pakistan Taliban.

The death toll could not be independently verified

and militants often dispute official figures.

The Pakistan military has been conducting operations against militants in Orakzai for months.

Several militant groups are active in Pakistan's northwestern semi-autonomous tribal regions, near the border with Afghanistan, including the Pakistan Taliban, responsible for many of the bombings across the country in recent years.

Reuters

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Foxconn looks for a board seat at Sharp as Apple HDTV nears

NEW YORK, 21 July — Manufacturing heavyweight Foxconn is reportedly interested in acquiring board seats at Sharp Electronics, *DigiTimes* reported on Friday. The company received three non-executive board seats at Sharp Display earlier this month after it acquired a 46.48% stake in the company, equivalent to 1.32 million shares.

In response to reports that it was seeking a board seat at Sharp Display's parent company, Foxconn reportedly said that "the company's focus in cooperating with Sharp is to help complement each's weakness to allow each side to achieve maximum benefits."

"The company did say "a board seat is not really the main focus of Foxconn," however, adding that it's "hoping to have more substantial influence to help Sharp improve its management and sales and raise the panel maker's



Foxconn looks for a board seat at Sharp as Apple HDTV nears.—INTERNET

profitability." Sharp Display currently supplies display panels used in Apple's latest iPad, and it is rumored to be building TV panels for Apple's rumored HDTV, which is expected to launch early next year.— *Internet*

Leaders say climate is changing Native way of life

WASHINGTON, 22 July—Native American and Alaska Native leaders told of their villages being under water because of coastal erosion, droughts and more on Thursday during a Senate hearing intended to draw attention to how climate change is affecting tribal communities.

The environmental changes being seen in native communities are "a serious and growing issue and Congress needs to address them," Tex Hall, chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation of New Town, ND, said on Wednesday.

Mike Williams, chief of

the Yupit Nation in Akiak, Alaska, said in the informational Senate Indian Affairs Committee hearing, that villages are literally being wiped out by coastal erosion. Williams said he can cast a net and catch salmon at his childhood home because the home is under water, he said. He also described how the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, in which he participates, has been moved because of lack of snowfall and that dogs must run at night to stay cool.

"We've always lived off the land and off the waters and continue to do that. But we're bearing the burden of

living with these conditions today," Williams said. Sen. Daniel Akaka, committee chairman, acknowledged that environmental changes are widespread, but the Hawaii Democrat said native communities are disproportionately impacted because they depend on nature for traditional food, sacred sites, and for cultural ceremonies. Several tribes already are coming up with plans to adapt to the changes and federal agencies are assisting with resources, Akaka said.

Members of several West Coast tribes and Alaska communities have been in

Washington this week for a symposium at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian on the impact of climate change on indigenous people and their communities.

The symposium, titled First Steward, brought together tribal leaders, people experiencing the changes and scientists. Williams said Congress needs to come up with a strategic plan to address the impact to help ensure Alaska Natives and American Indian tribes continue to exist.

He said in coming up with the plan, Congress should consider Native practices and traditional knowledge.— *Internet*

Internet

Facebook acquires mobile app maker Acrylic

VANCOUVER, 22 July — The engineer behind Canadian startup Acrylic said on Friday that he was closing up his one-man shop and joining the design team at leading social network Facebook. Facebook confirmed that it has bought Acrylic in an "acqui-hire" that brings on board founder Dustin MacDonald, the creator of mobile gadget applications for newsfeeds and digital wallets.

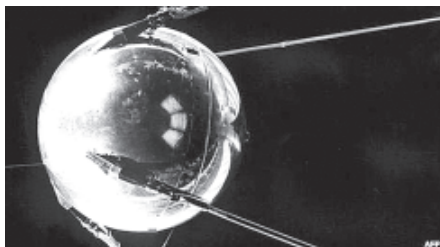
"Facebook is an invaluable service that we all use daily, and a company I believe is one of the most innovative and important around today," MacDonald said in a blog post announcing his move to California. "After visiting late last year, I discovered that we shared many of the same core product design goals and principles, and it soon became obvious that it was a natural fit."

Acrylic's best-known applications — Wallet and Newsfeed — were not acquired by Facebook in the deal. Buying promising startups for the talent and not its products has become common in the competitive Internet technology world. Facebook recently bought startups Spool and TagTile in "talent acquisitions" aimed at helping it stay in synch with users as they shift increasingly to using smartphones and tablet computers.



The engineer behind Canadian startup Acrylic said that he was closing up his one-man shop and joining the design team at leading social network Facebook. INTERNET

RAF leader sought evidence of Highland Sputnik crash



Russia's launch of the Sputnik 1 is credited with sparking the space race. INTERNET

LONDON, 21 July — A former RAF Kinloss Mountain Rescue Team leader has told how he sought evidence that a Russian satellite crashed in the Highlands 50 years ago. David "Heavy" Whalley was intrigued by a story from the 1960s that a shepherd found the remains of a Sputnik on a moor above Ardgay in Sutherland. An RAF Kinloss Mountain Rescue Team member sent to the scene later told Mr Whalley of finding unusual debris. Team members involved were allegedly told to "keep quiet" about it.

After becoming Kinloss's rescue team leader in the late 1980s, Mr Whalley tried to find a record of the search in the team's logs. He believes the information was deliberately suppressed. Sputniks were a series of satellites built and launched by the former Soviet Union. The first was launched in 1957 and was the first man-made satellite to orbit the Earth. The achievement has been widely credited with starting the space race between Russia and the US. In 1962, a shepherd reported finding wreckage from a Sputnik in the hills above Ardgay.

The late Jack Baines, an experienced climber who later became an RAF Kinloss MRT leader, was among military searchers sent to investigate. For the first time, Mr Whalley has revealed publicly that he looked for records of what they recovered. He said: "They found various bits and pieces. "They included a part with Russian and pictures on it explaining what to do if the satellite was found crashed, and that a reward would be given for its return."

"Jack said the team were told to keep quiet about what they found. "When he told me the story I first thought it was an urban myth, but he convinced me and I believe they definitely found a crashed Sputnik." Mr Whalley added: "There is no incident report, or mention in the team archives, as I checked when I became the team leader in the late 80s." The story of the crash is recalled in a section of Frank Card's 1993 book *Whensoever*, which marked 50 years of RAF mountain rescue.

Internet



The monkeys were endangered grey-shanked douc langurs.—INTERNET

Vietnamese soldiers held over deaths of rare monkeys

HANOI, 22 July — Vietnamese authorities have detained three soldiers suspected of torturing and killing two rare monkeys, state-run *Voice of Vietnam* newspaper reports. One of the men had posted photos on Facebook showing how the monkeys were killed, triggering a public outcry. The monkeys were endangered grey-shanked douc langurs (*Pygathrix cinerea*), reports say. The soldiers, stationed in Vietnam's Central Highlands area, are now under investigation.

One of them, Nguyen Van Quang, who is serving in the Tay Nguyen Command of the Vietnamese army, posted photos of the monkeys on his Facebook page last week. The photos showed one of the monkeys, believed to be pregnant, being made to smoke a cigarette before it was tortured and killed. Col Nguyen Van Hai, head of Tay Nguyen Command's

Military Prosecutor's Office, told the *Voice of Vietnam* that the soldiers had been detained and were being questioned.

"We're still continuing our investigation into the case. When we have enough evidence, they [the soldiers] will be dealt with in accordance with Vietnamese military laws," he said. He added that the three had admitted killing the monkeys and said they had bought them from locals. The men, who were identified on Thursday, are set to appear in a military court on an as yet unspecified date.

What is more worrying about the incident is that the young soldier who posted the photos on Facebook did not think he did anything wrong, says Nga Pham from BBC Vietnamese.

Authorities now realise that they need to do something to educate people, especially the young, about animal welfare and protection, she adds.— *Internet*

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Gene therapy nears approval in Europe



Gene therapies alter a patient's DNA.
INTERNET

LONDON, 22 July — Europe is on the cusp of approving a gene therapy for the first time, in what would be a landmark moment for the field. Gene therapies alter a patient's DNA to treat inherited diseases passed from parent to child. The European Medicines Agency has recommended a therapy for a rare genetic disease which leaves people unable to properly digest fats. The European Commission will

now make the final decision. The idea of gene therapy is simple: if there is a problem with part of a patient's genetic code then replace that part of the code. The reality has not been so easy. In one gene therapy trial a US teenager, Jesse Gelsinger, died, and other patients have developed leukaemia. There are no gene therapies available outside of a research lab in Europe or the US. The European

Medicines Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use has considered the use of Glybera to treat lipoprotein lipase deficiency. One in a million people have the deficiency. They have damaged copies of a gene which is essential for breaking down fat. It leads to fat building up in the blood, abdominal pain and life-threatening pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas). The only way to manage the condition is by having a very low-fat diet. The therapy uses a virus to infect muscle cells with a working copy of the gene. It was recommended for patients with severe pancreatitis, who cannot control the disease through diet.

The manufacturer, UniQure, said the decision was a "major breakthrough" for patients and medicine as a whole. UniQure chief

executive officer Jorn Aldag said: "Patients with lipoprotein lipase deficiency are afraid of eating a normal meal because it can lead to acute and extremely painful inflammation of the pancreas, often resulting in a visit to intensive care." Now, for the first time, a treatment exists for these patients that not only reduces this risk of getting severely sick, but also has a multi-year beneficial effect after just a single injection.

"Restoring the body's natural ability to break down fat particles in the blood, in order to prevent pancreatitis and excruciating abdominal pain suffered by patients, is what gene therapy is all about: curing disease at the genetic level." Dr Tomas Salmonson, from the agency's Committee, said the use of Glybera should be restricted to patients "with greatest need".

Internet



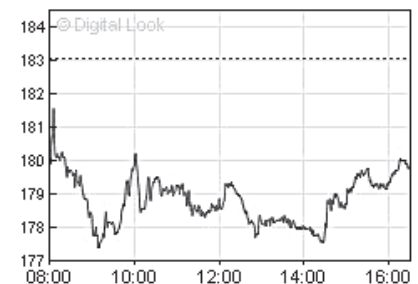
A GE logo is seen in a store in Santa Monica, California, on 11 Oct, 2010. — REUTERS

GE second quarter profit tops Wall Street view

WASHINGTON, 22 July — General Electric Co on Friday reported a 2.5 percent rise in profit from continuing operations, topping Wall Street expectations, as solid demand in the United States and emerging markets offset weakness in Europe. The largest US conglomerate by revenue stuck with its forecast for the rest of 2012, saying it would increase earnings at a double-digit percentage rate by pushing profit margins higher. In a move intended in part to cut costs, GE said it will break up its big energy division into three separate units. "The environment continues to be challenging," Chief Executive Jeff Immelt said on a conference call with investors. He said the US economy was stable, adding that "Europe remains very tough, but within our expectations." GE's industrial sales in Europe were down 7 percent in the quarter, but up 6 percent in the United States and 24 percent higher in China, said Chief Financial Officer Keith Sherin. Overall revenue rose 2.5 percent, but missed expectations.

The company, the world's biggest maker of electric turbines and jet engines, posted profit of 38 cents per share, excluding one-time items, a penny above analysts' average estimate, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. It excludes 5 cents in charges from its former US subprime mortgage unit and Japanese consumer finance business. GE's report followed two days of stronger-than-expected earnings from other industrial companies, including Tectron Inc and Honeywell International Inc, indicating multinational companies were finding a way to manage through a rough economy. — Reuters

Vodafone sees revenue growth slow



LONDON, 22 July — Vodafone has seen its sales growth slow in the first quarter, dragged down by a weak performance in Europe. Group service revenue grew 0.6% on an organic basis to £9.98bn. In the fourth quarter it had recorded growth of 2.3%. Sales in Italy and Spain shrank, as conditions remained "challenging". UK growth was weak due to "increased competition and a weak economy". Vodafone outperformed its peers over the previous year, paying a record dividend to shareholders. Shares in the mobile operator closed down 2% on Friday trading in London. Vodafone's strength in emerging markets, Germany, Turkey and — until recently — the UK has helped offset a slump in southern Europe. But in recent months the downturn on the Continent has begun to take its toll.

In May, the company wrote down the value of its assets in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece by £4bn. Vodafone, the world's largest mobile operator by revenue, provides its growth figures on a reported basis and on an organic basis. Organic revenue growth reflects performance on a comparable basis, by stripping out the effects of mergers and acquisitions and of movements in foreign exchange rates. — Internet

Rural Chinese get online as mobile overtakes desktop

LONDON, 22 July — Mobile phones are now the most common way for people to connect to the Internet in China, a report has said. For the first time, desktop computers are no longer the leading method for the country's 538 million connected citizens to get online. The report from the China Internet Network Information Center (CINIC) said over 50% of the year's new internet users were from rural areas. A fall in smartphone costs has been the key cause of growth, experts said.

"Mobile phones are a cheaper and more convenient way to access the internet for [residents in] China's vast rural areas and for the enormous migrant population," said the report from the state-linked CINIC. Mobile internet users now number 388 million, up almost 10% since the start of the year.

"Mobile phone prices continued to drop," the report said. "The emergence of smartphones under 1,000 yuan [\$157, £100] sharply lowered the threshold for using the devices and encouraged average mobile phone users to become mobile web surfers."

The total number of those online has risen 5% since the



The number of people accessing the internet via mobile has risen 10% since the end of 2011. — INTERNET

end of last year, many of whom are very active in cyberspace.

Bill Dutton, professor of Internet studies at the University of Oxford, told the BBC that the trend followed similar growth in other parts of the world. "We're moving to what we call next-generation users," he said.

"They're likely to have three or four devices in their homes, therefore they're able to integrate computing into their lives wherever they are." He added that the rapid adoption of mobile among the rural community was one of necessity over desire. "There's a wave of people coming online that would not otherwise be able to afford to be there." — Internet

People feel 'healthier' on the English coast

LONDON, 22 July — People living on the English coast are more likely than those living inland to say they are fit and well, an analysis of census data suggests. The researchers said living in areas such as Skegness, St Ives or Scarborough was linked to a "small, but significant" improvement in health.

Lower stress and more opportunities to exercise were suggested as possible explanations. The findings were published in the journal *Health and Place*.

The researchers looked at data from 48 million people in England from the 2001 census. They compared how close people were to the bracing sea air and their answer to a question about

their own health. The study was conducted by the European Centre for Environment and Human Health at the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Exeter. It found people living less than 1km from the sea were more likely to say they

were in "good health" than people living further away.

The effect was small but the researchers said that when magnified across 48 million people it could have a large impact on public health. The lead researcher Dr Ben Wheeler said loads of explanations had been

suggested, although they had not yet been tested. "One of the most obvious is the opportunity for physical activity or being more motivated to go for a walk along the coast," he said. There are also ideas about 'being beside the seaside' being a more relaxing environment.

However, there is another explanation. Healthier and healthier people might be more able to move to the coast. "They are possibly moving to the coast and bringing their good health with them," Dr Wheeler told the BBC. The study also found that people from the poorest backgrounds benefited most from a coastal home. There was little or no benefit to the most affluent people.

Internet



Are areas like the Wirral coastline good for health?

INTERNET

Chinese navy escort ships complete first joint escort operation

GULF OF ADEN, 22 July — The Chinese navy's 11th and 12th escort groups accomplished their first joint escort operation here on Friday.

The groups escorted six merchant ships from China, Singapore, Norway, South Korea and Portugal.

The two fleets held a

handover ceremony on the destroyer "Qingdao" before the joint escort operation. The farewell ceremony of the 11th group will be held on 23 July. Then the flotilla will leave the Gulf of Aden and Somali waters and embark on a goodwill visit.

The 11th group has

escorted 184 ships in 43 operations since it started the mission on 27 Feb. A total of 126 pirate vessels in 58 incidents were successfully driven away by the fleet.

To date, the Chinese navy fleets have escorted 4,727 ships from countries all over the world. —Xinhua



Indian election observers (L) watch officials sort ballot papers from an emptied box as they begin tallying the presidential election results, at the Parliament in New Delhi on 22 July, 2012. —INTERNET

Pentagon eyes drones for Kenya to fight militants nearby

WASHINGTON, 22 July — The Pentagon is seeking to send hand-launched drones to Kenya as part of a \$40 million-plus military aid package designed to help four African countries fight al-Qaeda and al-Shabaab militants, notably in Somalia, the *Wall Street Journal* reported. Kenya would get eight "Raven" unmanned aerial systems—an unarmed drone that can be used to identify targets for strikes by ground forces or other aircraft.

"This assistance will improve the tactical effectiveness and operational reach of the Kenyan National Defence Forces engaged in CT (counter-terrorism) operations against al-Shabaab in Somalia," the newspaper quoted a Pentagon document as saying.

The Ravens for Kenya would be part of an initial \$41.4 million package that also would include trucks, communications gear and rifles for Burundi, Djibouti and Uganda,

the newspaper said. The United States provided Ravens to Uganda last year, it added, citing officials and documents. The Defence Department and the State Department had no immediate comment. US government-to-government arms transfers are presided over by the State Department, subject to an often-lengthy congressional review process.

The newspaper cited officials as saying the military aid package would be meant to help key African allies in the region go after al-Shabaab and other al-Qaeda supporters.

The Raven is built by Monrovia, California-headquartered Aero Vironment Inc Weighing 4.2 pounds (1.9 kilograms) and with a wingspan of 4.5 feet (1.37 metres), it is described as capable of sending real-time color or infrared imagery to ground controllers and to remote viewers day or night.

Reuters



The USS Nimitz, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier which is currently supplemented by biofuel, sails about 150 miles north of the island of Oahu during the RIMPAC Naval exercises off Hawaii on 18 July, 2012. —INTERNET

101-year-old Fauja Singh to run Olympic torch relay

LONDON, 22 July — Fauja Singh, the world's oldest marathon runner at 101, will be running the Olympic torch through the streets of east London later on Saturday.

Singh, who carried the torch in Athens eight years ago, was born in Punjab in 1911 and has been stayed in UK since 1992.

He ran his first marathon at the age of 89 and has since completed six London marathons.

Xinhua

Putin signs Russia's WTO accession protocol



Russian President Vladimir Putin

MOSCOW, 22 July — Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed into law a protocol ratifying the country's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Kremlin announced here on Saturday.

The bill was approved by the State Duma, or the lower house of the parliament, on 10

June and passed by the upper house on 18 July ahead of its summer break, according to a statement issued by the President's Office.

In light of the Russian law, the country will officially become a member of the WTO 30 days after the parliament's approval and the president's ratification.

In December 2011, the WTO decided to grant Russia its membership, thus ushering in the last major economy outside the global trade club.

The WTO accession has triggered heated debates in Russia, though the country has been seeking it for more than 18 years.

Those against it claim that the move would negatively impact domestic economy, and even undermine national sovereignty and security. After the WTO accession, Russia will have to gradually lower its average tariff ceiling to 7.8 percent from the current 10 percent, with the agricultural tariff down from 13.2 percent to 10.8 percent. Tariff for industrial products will also be reduced from 9.5 percent to 7.3 percent. —Xinhua

Three students selected to attend 2012 APEC summit

BEIJING, 22 July — Three university students have been selected to attend the 2012 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Vladivostok, Russia, in September on behalf of all of the country's university

students.

The three representatives were chosen from nearly 10,000 contestants after several rounds of competition, which were conducted through mock summits held in key universities across the

country.

The competition was started in 2010 to broaden students' international knowledge and improve their understanding and analytical abilities regarding politics and economics. —Xinhua



Kenya clinches 8 cooperative documents with E China's Jiangxi. XINHUA

NANCHANG, 22 July — African country's Prime Minister Raila Amollo Odinga. Five of the documents were reached by Kenya and Jiangxi Corporation for International Economic and

Technical Cooperation on projects of upgrading Kenya's highways and the construction of diesel-solar hybrid power supply system. Meanwhile, the other deals are stroke between Kenya and Jiangxi Zhongmei Engineering Construction Co Ltd, covering three highway construction projects worth of 600 million US dollars.

Kenya clinches 8 cooperative documents with E China's Jiangxi

Odinga paid the visit after attending the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) held in Beijing from Thursday to Friday. Statistic shows that a total of 21 contracts worth over 5 million US dollars each had been inked between Jiangxi's companies and Kenya from 2009 and 2011. —Xinhua

to resolve the Moro Question and the armed conflict in Mindanao.

EU to continue joining peace effort in S Philippines

MANILA, 22 July — The European Union (EU) will continue to participate in the Malaysian-led International Monitoring Team (IMT) in conflict-stricken areas in southern Philippines after its term expired last month, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) disclosed on Saturday.

MILF said that the decision to continue EU's role in the IMT was made late last month by the European Commission. "The decision also outlined a new programme of support for the peace-making in Mindanao by the EU," the MILF said.

Muhammad Ameen, head of the MILF Secretariat, welcomed EU's move, saying it was a positive development that would give inspirations to the parties to strive further

"This is an indication of the EU strong commitment to provide support to the GPH (Government of the Philippines)-MILF peace negotiation," he stressed.

IMT, composed of representatives from Malaysia, EU, Brunei, Indonesia, Norway and Japan, has been overseeing the ceasefire agreement between the government troops and the MILF and the development aspects in the conflict-affected areas.

The GPH and the MILF have been engaged in a peace process with the goal of forging a final peace pact to end the decades-old conflict in Mindanao.

Xinhua



An aerial view shows Kansai Electric Power Co's Ohi nuclear power plant's No 4 reactor (front) in Ohi, Fukui prefecture, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 19 July, 2012. Kansai Electric Power Co said its 1,180-megawatt No 4 reactor at its Ohi nuclear plant resumed supplying electricity to the grid on Saturday, Japan's second nuclear unit to regain power since last year's Fukushima crisis led to the shutdown of all units. —REUTERS

HELLO TOURISM

By Ba Than

Tourism has come to our Land of a million pagodas and smiling peoples. It is indeed a hearty welcome for the global tourists who have now chosen this beautiful haven to enjoy the still virgin landscape, the magnificent pagodas and temples of a thousand years of heritage, the yet unexplored nooks and corners, swaying coconut trees, silver sands, and unspoiled clear seas. The time has never been more opportune. A constellation of factors and events have converged to affect a glorious boom: the multi-party election resulting in the opening of democracy and civil society, resurged interest of the Western hemisphere towards the country overlooked through passage of decades, and not yet ready for the hospitality services.

The spate of catastrophic disasters in the years 2008 onwards had caused havoc for the regular tourist-friendly host nations of Japan, Thailand, Chinese Taipei in South East Asia such as severe storms, floods, earthquakes and attending *tsunami* deadly deluges, at one time or the other. Even in Myanmar the deltaic fertile flatland once the granary of Asia, was utterly devastated by Nargis following Aceh, as hundreds of thousands of lives perished, uncountable thatched huts demolished, mangroves and paddy fields wasted. Continuing calamities followed off and on as a result of turbulence caused by man compounding nature's miseries in the wake. Only now the situation had somewhat calmed due to the efforts of the State and the sympathetic public, NGOs and many generous donors who came to the rescue of the afflicted, out of sublime compassion.

There is also a welcome climate of change visible in the overall landscape and socio-economic spectrum. This is the mom of Democracy, openness pervading in the overall environment, and the voice of the people, from the electorate and constituency to representation for the people becoming more articulate. The dawn of the New Year 2012 augurs spreading the red carpet to the distinguished statesmen, celebrities and friends from the West, followed in its heels in rapid progression by the people with warming of relations amity and trade. There is also an active interchange as we also reach out beyond to the ASEAN, the ASPAC and the wide world. Never has our aspiration been so brimming as we look forward with pride and dignity to the years ahead.

Global tourists who used to plan yearly summer tours months ahead with regularity, were now faced with disrupted tour plans never before experienced, with their jaunts almost totally wiped out. Thereupon, as an alternative they swarmed to Myanmar to explore the land quite adjacent but seldom frequented. Only now in just two years the tourist industry and its complementarities started to gain momentum. Hotel bookings rose to cater to unprecedented demands as tourists from UK, EU, the America, Australia and New Zealand, as well as traditionalists from our Asian neighbours thronged in frenzy to make the most of the time available in the tail-end of the holiday season. As with the economics of demand and supply, rentals rose erratically as the hoteliers lolled on windfall gains with near-full

occupancy. Shortage of hotels, and rooms in hotels were never more critically felt and tariffs skyrocketed, as scruples got the better of reason and conscience and the souvenir items intrinsic to the host country in a wide array such as paintings, exquisite tapestry, elaborate lacquer wares, sculpture, figurines crafted in genuine precious and semi precious jewels plain or inlaid with gold and silver, right down to small figurines made of teak and a variety of hardwoods enjoy brisk sales too. Clothing and apparel woven in silk with elaborate designs descending from the ancient heritage of Myanmar kings are also displayed for the nouveau riche with the sky as the limit.

The first magnificent sight for the incoming tourist by air is the majestic Shwedagon Pagoda, epitome of pristine perfection, a 326 feet glittering golden stupa inlaid with thousands of priceless gems of heritage value of the ancient kingdoms, now 2600 years old this March 2012. Then there is the ancient city of Bagan of more than a thousand-year standing with over 2000 relic pagodas, stupas, temples, caves and ancient library of Buddhist canonical scriptures. Then there is the Shit-thaung Pagoda complex of Rakhine maritime nation on the west coast of the Bay of Bengal enjoying prosperity around the same millennium. For millions of Buddhists around the religious world and particularly for the devotees and disciples of 5 Theravada Buddhism: *Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia*, they are the sacred repositories of the enduring faith. Intrinsically also they are the marvels of art, culture and architecture of bygone centuries, for many to wonder at the state of preservation witnessed today in spite of iconoclastic vandalism, and wanton destruction, over and above the vagaries of tropical weather of the centuries. What remains are indeed treasure troves which the tourists will eagerly scout with zest and enthusiasm.

The British had been here since 1824 in three waves culminating with total occupation in 1886. Foreign Christian missionaries of various denominations made early incursions followed by war, and then by trade. Colonies were the source of raw materials, cheap exploited labour and market for finished goods for the colonial industrial power. Mercantilism, Laissez-faire economics and monopoly capitalism were the order of the times till 1939 the outbreak of the Second World War, when the British Government made hasty mass retreat by motor road along Mahamyang forest from Tamu border to India.

Colonial architecture, representative of massive colonnaded commercial buildings lined the Strand Road with the Strand Hotel as the flag bearer of the British Raj in Myanmar. Viewed from vantage point in 2012 the faded buildings along Strand Road, the Secretariat, coupled with Christian cathedrals and churches with lingering old grace, have become history, which had stood witness to a bygone era of heritage value and themes for research and study for scholars, historians and tourists.

A scintillating panorama opens up to the tourist on his first visit in a number of ways: the sights he sees, the air he breathes, the water he drinks, the earth he treads, the esoteric

food he tastes. *The Sacred Shwedagon* is unique, comparable to none, in its breath-taking aura, pomp and pageantry. Then there are many others too for sheer beauty in their own beautiful renditions. You may climb *the Golden Rock Pagoda*, perched precariously on the tip of a boulder, defying gravity. For curiosity if not for anything else you can push the Golden Rock and be amazed that it rocks. There are two famous lakes, the Inle in the Southern Shan State and the Inn-Daw-Gyi in the Kachin State in Northern Myanmar where "*Mount Khakhaborazi*" with snow capped peak amidst virgin surroundings will captivate you ravishingly. There are so many to explore that the author leaves you to your imagination tailored to your own itinerary.

There are also national and ethnic food to savour at will. Being ethnically linked since the beginning of migration to the main Mongolian races, the foods are natively similar with distinct flavor, aroma and mixture of spices, sweets, and condiments to accentuate the national credo. Here the sojourn of a tourist will not be complete without the two Myanmar national snacks: *mohingar*, and *lephet*. Being rice-eaters, rice in all its varieties *japonica* and *indica* are consumed as the staple food. And almost all snacks, delicacies and finger foods are mostly rice-based. Preparation of curry and snacks vary with its regional or ethnic preferences. Hinthada Mohingar, Mandalay taw win (Royal) Nangyi Monti, Shan khaukswe and Tofoo, Rakhine Monti salad, Bhamo Myee Shay and Anyar crisp fried flour parata with boiled mash peas etc are most eagerly sought. Then there is a variety of fried fritters with succulent fresh gourd leading the finger food treat with potatoes a distant second. And there are also fruits of many varieties to the bargain. While we Asians indolently consume delicious oranges, bananas, mangoes, exotic pungent durians and tropical varieties, we tend to crave for apples luxurious and high priced. Little will our common folks imagine that what we take as ordinary is indeed treasured as exotic as is the other way round *mutatis mutandis* indeed.

All these preconditions positively point out to rosy days ahead for boom of long term tourism. Tourism here, in spite of a certain head-start 20 years ago seemed to be not as it should have been so. Much will still need to be done in terms of infrastructure, investment, recruitment, training in the hospitality industry, and above all the mindset and ambience to make it going. Start from the basics such as clean and fragrant toilets encompassing standard toilet culture and rise in progression to the ladder of efficiency, courtesy and service with a smile, a real one, not a plasticized copy. Both forward and backward linkages, spread effects and backlash will have to be carefully noted. Experiences will have to be nurtured and outsourcing worked out. Setting high vision for the future with open environment, transparency and allure of tourists, Myanmar may yet set its place as one of the rising attractions in the global map of tourism.

Palethwe hybrid paddy harvested on model plot of Pyawbwe Township



PYAWBWE, 22 July—Under the supervision of Pyawbwe Township Agriculture Department, the harvesting of Palethwe hybrid paddy was held in Thitseintpin Village

Agricultural Development Bank disburses loans to farmers in Myanaung Township

MYANAUNG, 22 July—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank of Myanaung Township disbursed agricultural loans to local farmers for cultivation of monsoon crops in 2012.

The ceremony was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Myanaung on 12

of the township on 14 July.

Head of Mandalay Region Agriculture Department U Hla Myint Aung explained 10-point good agriculture patterns for production of over 100 baskets per acre.

The paddy harvesting work on 0.10 acres of farmland in field No 364/A of Thitseintpin Village of Chaungmagyi Village-tract produced 171.68 baskets per acre in dry status.—Kyemon

July. Township Administrator U Aye Kyu explained effective spending of loans on cultivation of monsoon paddy through 14-point good agricultural patterns.

It was attended by administrators of 57 village-tracts, secretaries of village-track banks and farmers of Kwantaw Village. Manager of the Township Myanma Agricultural Development Bank Daw Khin Myint Yi explained matters related to loans for cultivation of monsoon paddy.

After that, Township Administrator U Aye Kyu presented K 66850000 for 1337 acres of farmlands to 213 farmers from Kwantaw Village-tract.

Myanma Agricultural Development Bank of Myanaung Township has disbursed K 4625 million for 92500 acres of farmlands in 2012.—Myanma Ailin

**The best time to plant a tree
was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

YANGON, 22 July—A ceremony to open Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing library sponsored by Myanmar Libraries Foundation took place at Walai village, Meelaung village-tract, Shwedaung Township, Pyay District, Bago Region this noon with an address by Patron of MLF Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan.

Also present on the occasion were Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin, Bago Region Development Affairs Minister U Ye Myint Tun, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Htut and officials, Chairman of Myanmar Writers Association U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) and executives, Chairman of MLF U Maung Maung, Vice-President U Nyunt Swe and executives, film stars and musicians, social organizations, local people, students and wellwishers.

Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin, Bago Region Development Affairs Minister U Ye Myint Tun and Chairman of MLF U Maung Maung formally opened the library.

Next, Patron of MLF Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan unveiled the signboard of the library.

Afterwards, the Union Minister and party looked into the library and signed in the visitors' book.

Making a speech on the occasion, Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan said that it was a great pleasure for the Ministry of Information and MLF to witness the opening of a library at the native of Patriotic Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing who had devoted all his efforts to anti-imperialist, national liberation and internal peace.

He added that the Ministry of Information launched the opening of self-reliant rural libraries since 2004, and it has opened libraries at over 50,000 villages so far. The villages covering the opening of libraries include those of noted writers and well-known personalities.

Those libraries were established by locals as a token of paying gratitude to their villages or by families in memory of their late parents or by locals in admiration of their noted and well-known persons. A report of IPRD in 2010 revealed that there was no library in Walai village, Shwedaung Township, the native of well-known Sayagyi

Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing library opened



Patron of MLF Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan unveils the singboard of Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing library.—MNA

Thakin Kodawhmaing and in Mangyitone village, Wetlet Township, the native of Sayagyi Shwe Oo Daung. Hence, the library was established by the Ministry of Information and MLF in cooperation with wellwishers and local people.

The Union Minister said that the newly-opened library was built at a cost of over K 21 million and stressed the need for local people to try their utmost to ensure its perpetual existence and to transform it into an e-library complete with online media network while turning it into a second monastery. He also stressed one more point to bear in mind the patriotism and brilliant endeavours of Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing and expressed his thanks to MLF, well-wishers and local people who contributed their shares for the emergence of the facility.

Next, Chairman of Myanmar Libraries Foundation U Maung Maung clarified the purpose of the opening of the facility.

Afterwards, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win family donated a generator for the library and 50 dozens of exercise books for students of Walai village. Chairman of Library Funds Raising Committee U Khin Maung Than accepted the donations.

Later, Chairman of MLF U Maung Maung handed

over the related documents to member of Library Committee U Myo Kyi while Vice-Chairman of MLF U Nyunt Swe presented publications to Librarian U Nyi Nyi Zin.

Next, Shwe Than Lwin Co donated a set of SkyNet and a LCD TV; musicians led by Academy Khant Sithu donated a set of computer, DVD and a wall watch; U Myo Kyi (Walai village) a plot of land for the library worth 2 million; Bago Region USDA K 100,000; Ledi Pitakattak Library (Shwedaung) K 100,000; Newloktha Motor Gate (Pyay) K 100,000; Printing Entrepreneurs (Pyay) K 50,000; Yadana Filling Station K 50,000 and Ayeyashwewar K 50,000. Officials accepted the donations and U Myo Kyi, on behalf of the wellwishers, spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, the Union Minister cordially greeted those present on the occasion.

The newly-opened library was established by MLF with the contributions of wellwishers. Situated on a 67 feet x 175 feet, the RC type-facility is 40 feet long, 30 feet wide and 16 feet high. The construction of the library started on 16 May 2012 and it costs over K 21.27 million.

MNA

Myitkyina University welcomes freshers

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Myitkyina University Kachin National Literature and Culture Committee extended a welcome to freshers of 2011-2012 academic year at the convocation hall of the university yesterday morning, attended by Myitkyina University Rector Dr Aye Ko and committee chairman Dr Zaw Jab.

The committee chairman presented Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, the State Hluttaw speaker and the rector with gifts.

Next, officials presented cash to the committee and undergraduates staged music shows and Kachin traditional dances, extending welcome to the freshers.—MNA

Survey on rural development, poverty alleviation undertaken

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—The rural development and poverty alleviation survey and implementation teams made field trips for the third time to Region 7 of Aungzabu Ward in Zabuthiri Township.

This morning, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myo Nyunt looked into the tasks of the survey teams.

In meeting with local people, he explained purpose of the survey teams and comforted the patients.

Members of Township Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigade joined hands with the survey teams in their undertakings.—MNA



Taninthayi Region Transport Minister Dr Kyaw Hsan presenting stipend to a university student. Owners of Thiha Min, Kyal Sin Hein and Min Htet Hein Express, a major transportor from Yangon to the region granted stipends to offspring of staff at Mya Sein Hall in Dawei on 14 July.—MNA

Deputy Electric Power No. 1 Minister calls for utilization of renewable energy

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Recycling, Environmental Conservation and Renewable Energy Promotion Sub Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Myint Zaw met villagers of Singwin and Sinkun villages in Pekhon Township of Kayah State yesterday and presented 101 sets of 92 watt solar packages inclusive of solar bulbs to the villages and stationary to the schools in those villages.

The deputy minister then addressed the

fourth meeting of the recycling, Environmental Conservation and Renewable Energy Promotion Sub Committee at Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project. The deputy minister on the occasion called for promotion of solar energy use, small-scale hydropower plants and wind power utilization, highlighting the importance of systematic waste disposal and environmental conservation.

MNA

Flowery plants blooming in farms of Yamethin Township



A local grower shows various species of flowery plantations.

YAMETHIN, 22 July—Flowery plants are grown in Nyaunglebin, Hseto, Zaygon and Kokkagon villages of Hthilaing Village-tract in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region.

The plantations of flowers that bloom in Thadingyut and Tazaungmon, (October and November) fetched good prices. Local growers in Yamethin send their flowers to markets in Nay Pyi Taw, Tatkon, Yamethin, Pyawbwe and Meiktila.

Blooming flowers in Yamethin Township contribute to environmental conservation in one way or another.

Kyemon

Duties of projects assigned in Mansi Township

MANSI, 22 July—A ceremony to assign annual duties of projects for 2012-2013 fiscal year was held at the hall of Mansi Township General Administration

Department of Bhamo District on 16 July afternoon.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Thein Zaw Oo made a speech. Staff Officer U Zaw Min Htay

of Planning Department assigned duties to Head of Township Agriculture Department U Hla Peon behalf of township level departmental officials.—*Township GAD*

Collection of taxes explained in Patheingyi

PATHEINGYI, 22 July—Ayeyawady Region Internal Revenue Department held a ceremony to make clarification matters related to various taxes to entrepreneurs at the hall of the Region Internal Revenue Department in Patheingyi on 15 July.

The clarification was aimed at levying taxes from entrepreneurs of hotels, inns and restaurants under the rules of commercial tax law.

The clarification was attended by entrepreneurs from Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung regions of Patheingyi Township.

At the ceremony, Head of Ayeyawady Region Internal Revenue Department Thura U Khin Kyaw Moe explained matters related to taxes and replied to queries raised by entrepreneurs.

Myanma Alin

Trees collectively planted in rainy season



NAMHSAN, 22 July—The rainy season tree growing ceremony 2012 was held in

Namhsan Township of Loilem District on 12 July morning. The ceremony was held

at Myenigon of No 5 Village-tract. The Assistant Director of Loilem District Forest Department, Township Administrator U Khin Maung Lwin, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Thein Thin and the commander of Township Police Force presented saplings to local people.

After that, the local people planted over 1000 saplings at the designated places.—*Myanma Alin*

Shwegyin Township keeps itself green and clean

SHWEGYIN, 22 July—The ceremony to mark the School Environment Day was organized in the compound of Basic Education Primary School in Yontaing Village of Thayetchaung Village-tract in Shwegyin Township of Bago Region on 15 July

morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Khin Thein Maung and departmental officials, teachers and students of the school participated in cultivation of over 1000 saplings.

Myanma Alin

Taxation talks given at BEHS No 1 in Yamethin

YAMETHIN, 22 July—A talk on taxation was organized by Yamethin Township Internal Revenue Department of Mandalay Region on 18 July.

At Anawrahta Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Yamethin, Staff Officer of Yamethin Township

Internal Revenue Department U Aung Kyaw Hsan explained facts about taxation being managed by the township IRD.

Deputy Head of Department U Kyi Thein and staff distributed pamphlets to the students.

Myanma Alin



CSC ISSUED: The issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards was held at the administrative office in Kyuchaung Village of Malit Village-tract in Dagon Myothit (East) Township recently. Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Set Shwe issues citizenship scrutiny cards to 60 eligible citizens.

MYANMA ALIN

DISTRICT NEWS



SCHOOL EQUIPMENT DONATED: U Thein Myint-Daw Lay Kyi and family of Yangyiaung Ward in Ye of Mon State donated 50 sets of desks and chairs worth K 1.25 million for No 1 Basic Education Primary School in Ye on 10 July. The Headmistress accepts donation.—*MYANMA ALIN*

APBCC of Yangon Region training bus workers

YANGON, 22 July—Yangon Region All Private Bus-line Central Control Committee conducts training courses to the drivers and bus conductors with the aim of reducing traffic accidents and abiding by the rules and regulations.

On 8 July, the basic training course No 9/2012 for bus workers was opened and it was attended by 91 trainees. The refresher course No. 7/

2012 will be opened on 27 July.

So far, a total of 821 bus workers have attended the training courses up to course No. 9/2012. Likewise, altogether 585 bus workers have completed the refresher courses up to No 6/2012.

"The training courses are aimed at changing the characteristics of the bus workers. Some of bus workers keep themselves away from

training courses due to difficulties of their basic needs. Actually, all the bus workers must attend the training courses. It is sure that those who completed the training courses show off their moral and mental characters with better attitudes," said an official of Yangon Region All Private Bus-line Central Control Committee.

Myanma Alin

Thai Ambassador donates Taraflex Floor to Myanmar Volleyball Federation

YANGON, 22 July—Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Sinau Suwanajata donated Taraflex Floor to Myanmar Volleyball Federation at National Indoor Stadium in Yangon on 17 July evening.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-President of Myanmar Volleyball Federation U Thein Win, General Secretary U Nyi Nyi Lwin and Myanmar selected volleyball athletes who are being trained for XXVII SEA Games and international volleyball tournaments.

Speaking on the occasion, the Thai Ambassador said that his donation will contribute to development of volleyball



Thai Ambassador, Vice-President of Myanmar Volleyball Federation seen with players after donation of Taraflex Floor.

sports in Myanmar by securing medals for selected Myanmar men's and women's volleyball athletes in the XXVII SEA Games and international volleyball tournaments and to training

courses for the Myanmar volleyball teams.

After that, Vice-President of the federation U Thein Win spoke words of thanks.

Myanma Alin

Myanmar Libraries Foundation invites cash, book donations

Myanmar Libraries Foundation is giving encouragement to broadening the horizon of the people and developing self-reliant libraries across the nation.

Those wishing to donate cash and books to the libraries may contact Myanmar Libraries Foundation at No. 228 on Theinbyu Street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 01-371342, 01-201936 and 01-398756.

Books, publications donated to library in Kangyidaunt Township

KANGYIDAUNT, 22 July—A ceremony to donate books and cash to Pinyin Pyokkhin Library was held in Myinkaseik (Seebuchaung) Village of Kangyidaunt

Township in Ayeyawady Region on 12 July morning.

At the ceremony, Township Information and Public Relations Department donated books and publications, departments and NGOs cash to the library.

The library with the measurement of 20 feet long and 18 feet wide brick noggin was built at a cost of K 1 million funded by the State

and K 800,000 by four wellwishers.

The library building was formally opened by Township Administrator U Myint Sein, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Zin Mar Oo, Village Administrator U Thein Soe and townselder U Tun Aung.

Myanma Alin

Employees Cooperative Society holds annual general meeting

GANGAW, 22 July—Gangaw Township Employees Micro-credit Cooperative Society of Magway Region held the annual general meeting for 2011-2012 fiscal year at the hall of Gangaw Township Cooperative Department on 1 July afternoon.

Chairman of the society U Khaing Tun, Township Administrator U Hla Win

Aung and Staff Officer U Myo Aung of Township Cooperative Department made speeches.

Secretary of the society U Chit Wai read the annual report of the society. The meeting adopted future tasks and decisions. Later, the chairman presented prizes to outstanding students in the matriculation examination.

Myanma Alin

Drive Safely

NATO soldiers killed in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 July—Three NATO soldiers have been killed in two separate incidents in restive eastern Afghanistan, the NATO-led coalition confirmed on Sunday morning.

“Two International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service members died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in eastern Afghanistan

today,” the NATO-led ISAF said in a statement issued here.

Another ISAF soldier was killed in an insurgent attack also in eastern part of the country on Saturday.

The brief ISAF statement gave neither the nationalities of the victims nor the details about the incidents under the ISAF policy.

Troops mostly from

United States have been stationed in eastern Afghanistan within the framework of ISAF to curb Taliban-linked insurgency there.

Violence has been on the rise since Taliban launched an annual spring offensive on 3 May. A total of 247 foreign soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan so far in 2012.—Xinhua



Motorists negotiate a flooded street following a heavy monsoon rain spawned by a tropical depression in Manila, Philippines. INTERNET



Police display counterfeit money during a news conference in Lima, on 18 July, 2012. Police seized counterfeit \$2 million in US dollars, 1.5 million in Euros as well as printing machines and other counterfeiting equipment during a raid on Wednesday, according to local media reports.—INTERNET

Moderate quake hits Hokkaido, Japan region

TOKYO, 22 July—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale jolted Hokkaido, Japan region at 0441 GMT on Sunday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 57.70 km, was initially determined to be at 42.5113 degrees north latitude and 142.9201 degrees east longitude.

Xinhua

9 killed in suicide bomb attack in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 July—At least nine people including five children were killed and 15 others were injured when a suicide bomb hit a militant headquarters in Pakistan's northwest tribal area of Kurram Agency on Saturday afternoon, local media reported.

Earlier reports said that the attack was launched in Kurram Agency's neighbouring area of Hangu.

In a report, local state-run TV channel PTV said that the incident took place at about 1:00 pm (local time)

when a suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden vehicle into the wall of a house used as headquarters of a Molana Nabi Hanfi-led militant group in Speen Tall area of Kurram Agency, a restive semi-autonomous tribal area at Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

The suicide blast killed nine people including four militants and five kids who were passing by the blast site after attending their school.

Outer wall of the militants' headquarters was completely

destroyed and four nearby houses were also damaged in the blast.

No group claimed responsibility for the blast.

The attack seems to be an outcome of internal conflict between two militant groups lead by Molana Hafiz Ziaur Rehman and Molana Nabi Hanfi.

Both groups have been at odds with each other for the last two years and they are often involved in killing and kidnapping of rival fighters in Kurram Agency. Xinhua

Afghan soldiers stand guard next to a destroyed vehicle after a roadside bomb in Nangarhar province eastern of Afghanistan on July 21, 2012. At least four civilians killed and two others wounded after a vehicle hit to a roadside bomb in Nangarhar police on Saturday, police official said.—XINHUA



One missing, two injured in helicopter crash in SW China

KUNMING, 22 July—One person was missing and two others injured after a helicopter crashed into a reservoir in the city of Chuxiong in southwest China's Yunnan Province, local authorities said on Sunday.

The accident happened

at around 5:45 pm on Saturday at the Qingshanzui reservoir, local authorities said.

Three people were on board when the helicopter crashed, two of them having been rescued and sent to hospital for treatment. They are currently not in critical

conditions, according to local authorities.

Initial investigation showed the helicopter belonged to the Yunnan General Aviation Co, Ltd Rescuers are searching for the missing person. Probes to the cause of the accident are underway.—Xinhua

16 killed, 27 injured in bus collision in South Africa

JOHANN RESBURG, 22 July—A running bus collided with the other one in the southern South Africa on Saturday, leaving at least sixteen people dead and 27 hurt, local news agency reported.

The accident occurred on the route R61 in the southern province of the Eastern Cape, the South African Press Association (SAPA) reported.

One of the two buses was carrying schoolchildren to an event as it collided with the other one with passengers, said the SAPA.

Among the injured, four are in a critical condition, according to the SAPA.

Police are investigating the fatal incident.

Xinhua

Italy shipwreck hearing postponed to 15 October

GROSSETO, 22 July—Experts investigating the Costa Concordia shipwreck, which killed as many as 32 people, need more time to gather evidence and will present their findings at a pre-trial hearing on 15 October, lawyers said on Saturday.

The panel of experts investigating the January 13 cruise line disaster off the Italian coast are expected to complete their work by September.

Saturday's pre-trial hearing, which considers evidence ahead of a full trial, was postponed after the

experts asked for more time to answer some 50 requests from information by the prosecutors, lawyers said. It was the second hearing since the procedure opened on 3 March. “It was a simple technical delay,” said Bruno Leporatti, a lawyer representing the ship's captain Francesco Schettino, who is accused of causing the accident and who faces charges including multiple manslaughter.

Leporatti said the investigators had not been able to gather all the evidence “given the complexity of the questions”.



The Costa Concordia cruise ship lies on its side, half-submerged during sunrise at Giglio Island on 14 July, 2012.—REUTERS

The huge Costa Concordia, with some 4,200 passengers and crew aboard, ran aground and half capsized after a rock tore a hole in its hull when it approached the tiny Tuscan island of Giglio during a

cruise of the western Mediterranean.

At least 30 people died during a chaotic nighttime evacuation of the 114,500-tonne ship, and another two bodies have still not been recovered.—Reuters

13 killed in road mishap in northern India

NEW DELHI, 22 July—In a tragic incident, 13 people, including 11 women, were killed when a speeding truck mowed them down while they were sleeping on the roadside slums and pavement in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh late Saturday night, a senior police official said on Sunday.

“The mishap happened in the state's Etawah district. Some 17 people were sleeping when 13 of them were run over by the truck after its driver lost control of the vehicle. All the victims died on the spot while others who sustained injuries have been rushed to a local hospital,” he said, on condition of anonymity.

The driver of the truck has managed to flee but efforts are on to nab him, the official said, adding that a probe has been ordered into the incident.

A large number of homeless people sleep on pavements in cities and towns across the country, often becoming victims of road mishaps.

Xinhua

Lawmakers in Japan outline denuclearization bill

TOKYO, 22 July—Former Japanese prime minister Naoto Kan and other governing party lawmakers have announced an outline of a bill that would end Japan's reliance on nuclear energy by 2025.

The draft outline says nuclear power generation could lead to infinite damages in the event of an accident. It adds that lack of final disposal measures will end up leaving

future generations piles of radioactive waste.

It calls for establishing alternative power sources and reducing the number of operating nuclear power plants to zero.

The draft also calls for promotion of solar, wind, and other sources of renewable energy to cut carbon dioxide emissions.

The outline also mandates the central

government to create jobs in communities that host nuclear plants.

The secretary general of the governing Democratic Party, Azuma Koshiishi, has been asking Kan to compile a plan on future energy sources.

The former prime minister said he intends to seek support within his party and that he wants to submit the bill with support from the opposition.—NHK



Cui Yonggu, 62, a garbage collector, takes a break from cleaning the water surface to the west of the Three Gorges Dam. By scooping up waste from the river, Cui earns 40-50 yuan (\$6.3-\$7.8) a day this summer.
XINHUA



A robot Ultraman lookalike shaves noodles at a restaurant in Jilin, Jilin Province on 17 July. The owner said the robot cost him 20,000 yuan (\$2,973) and it works twice as fast as a human and conserves energy. The lights, in place of eyes, signal the robot is working. Many people visit the robot noodle restaurant to have a bite made by the machine. China is undergoing an invasion of Ultraman robots serving noodles to customers. In November 2011, one was pictured making noodles in Shijiazhuang city, capital of North China's Hebei Province. In March 2012, another one appeared at a restaurant in Xuchang, Central China's Henan Province.—INTERNET

China to seek "early, proper" solution with Russia on detained Chinese ships

BEIJING, 22 July—China here on Saturday voiced the will to maintain close contacts with Russia for an early and proper solution of the dispute on the detained Chinese fishing ships, which left a fisherman missing.

Such events are "sudden and individual" cases, and China hopes the two sides can solve them while bearing China-Russia friendship in mind, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei when commenting on a relevant question. According to the Chinese Consulate in Vladivostok, Russia's Far-East region, two Chinese fishing ships from China's eastern Shandong province were recently seized by the Russian side respectively.

Media reports said that a Russian coast guard vessel fired shots to one of the two Chinese fishing ships that had been fishing in Russia's exclusive economic zone. A Chinese fisherman went missing after the boat he was aboard collided with a Russian ship that chased the Chinese one.

China had lodged

representation over Russia's improper actions, Hong said.

"China hopes peoples of the two countries can view the event in an objective and calm way," he said. China, Hong said, is working on the consultation with Russia to set up an emergency response and cooperation mechanism, so as to prevent similar events from reoccurring and avoid such incidents to affect the overall situation of bilateral ties.—Xinhua

A train-turned hotel sits on the tracks waiting for its first group of guests in Xifeng county, Southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 18 July, 2012. —XINHUA



Boy attacked by hyenas receiving treatment

WAJIR, 22 July—A 10-year-old Kenyan boy left with several long scars on his face from an attack by hyenas has been flown to Nairobi for treatment, officials said.

The pack of hyenas attacked Musa Jelle on 10 June as he and his family slept in their home in the northern Kenya town of Wajir, the BBC reported.

The attack left two children in the family dead and 10 other people injured. The Kenya Wildlife Service, which manages the country's game parks and wildlife, is covering Musa's medical expenses and paying compensation of about \$230 to his family.

KWS has killed the hyenas involved in the attack.

The BBC noted wild animals are a major tourist attraction in Kenya but confrontations with humans have increased recently.

KWS is trying to stop the killing of wildlife in local communities.

Internet

At least 18 killed in bus accident in India

NEW DELHI, 22 July—A bus plunged into a gorge after landslides in India's northeastern state of Mizoram, killing at least 18 people and injuring dozens, a police official said on Sunday.

The accident took place on Saturday near Keifang village, close to the border with Myanmar and more than 100 km (60 miles) from the state capital Aizawl, the official, L.R. Sailo, said.

"Seventeen people died on the spot and a 10-year boy died in the hospital," Sailo said by telephone from Aizawl.

Reuters



Children are treated with a "sanfutie" plaster at the Huaibei Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Anhui Province on 18 July. "Sanfutie" dates back to the Jin Dynasty (AD 265-420) and is believed to be useful in relieving chronic illnesses.—XINHUA

Mitsubishi to use EVs as emergency batteries

TOKYO, 22 July—Mitsubishi Motors has introduced a system to use electric vehicles as an emergency power source in the event of outages at its headquarters in Tokyo.

Mitsubishi experienced power cuts following last year's earthquake and tsunami that hit northeast Japan. The auto company's headquarters building has been refurbished so that electric vehicles can be connected by cable to switch boxes.

The company says that in the event of a power outage, stored electricity will be used to feed power to communications equipment and a teleconference system at a disaster response task force. The company says the system will allow it to confirm safety of employees and give instructions to production sites across Japan.

Mitsubishi says it will make the stored electricity available for workers stranded at the company by traffic disruptions. It plans to connect 4 electric vehicles to the building, which it says can provide enough electricity to maintain the system for 3 days.

Another Japanese auto firm, Nissan, started preparations to use electric cars as emergency power sources at its dealerships nationwide this month. More Japanese companies are expected to follow suit.—NHK

Rescued Taiwan fishing vessel crew members arrived in Tanzania

DAR ES SALAAM, 22 July—The 26 rescued Taiwan fishing vessel XuFu 1 crew members, transferred by a Chinese navy warship, arrived in Dar es Salaam, the capital of Tanzania on Saturday morning.

All crew members looked well and were transported immediately to hotel for medical examines by a Chinese medical team waiting there.

They crew members have also received medical and psychological examines when

they were on the Chinese navy warship for three days after freed by Somali pirates.

An official with China's Ministry of Foreign affairs said the Chinese navy warship sent a helicopter to airlift the crew members to the warship after they were freed, due to the difficulties caused by strong wind and seawave at the rescuing spot. Chinese ambassador to Tanzania Lv Youqing expressed his gratitude to the Tanzania government for its help during the transferring and Customs

clearance process.

The Vietnamese crew members were received by officials with Vietnam embassy to Tanzania after arriving at the port. The Chinese crew members were expected to fly back home on Monday.

XuFu 1, with 13 crew members from the Chinese mainland, one from Taiwan and 12 from Vietnam, was hijacked by Somali pirates in December 2010 off the Madagascar coast and taken to Somalia.—Internet

Boat escapes wave caused by crumbling iceberg

TOKYO, 22 July—A small sightseeing boat narrowly escaped a large wave created by a piece of crumbling iceberg in the Arctic. The boat carrying a tourist was approaching a gigantic iceberg off the coast of western Greenland on Thursday when the wave was created.

A video taken by a crewmember shows the iceberg creaking and cracking and a massive wave closing in on the boat. The boat barely stayed ahead of the wave as its captain steered it at full speed.

NHK



China's icebreaker Xuelong, or "Snow Dragon", arrives at Chukchi Sea in the Arctic Circle on 19 July, 2012. A Chinese expedition team entered the Arctic Circle on Wednesday, beginning a scientific exploration of the Arctic Ocean. Xuelong, an A-2 class icebreaker capable of breaking ice 1.2 meters thick, is estimated to travel over 17,000 nautical miles during its voyage. It is scheduled to return to Shanghai on 29 September.—XINHUA

UN body praises Bolivia's stable economy amid global crisis

LA PAZ, 22 July—The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on Thursday praised Bolivia's economic stability and resilience amid the global financial crisis.

Speaking at a banking forum held by Bolivia's Central Bank here, Juan Alberto Fuentes, director of the ECLAC's Economic

Development Division, said Bolivia's macroeconomic indicators proved to be solid.

"The sustainability of Bolivia's public finances makes it less vulnerable to the global crisis," said Fuentes.

Bolivia successfully weathered the 2008-2009 financial crisis, becoming one of the few Latin American countries that had avoided

negative growth at the time, the ECLAC official noted.

Even today, compared with most Latin American countries, Bolivia has less foreign debt, and a current account and balance of payments surplus that make it less likely to suffer from the global slowdown, said Fuentes.

Besides, Bolivia has substantial foreign currency

China, Russia to test Cuban diabetes drug

HAVANA, 22 July—Cuba is set to begin advanced stage-three tests in China and Russia of a new biotech drug designed to prevent diabetes-related foot amputations, the official daily *Granma* reported on Thursday.

According to the officials, the tests of Heberprot-P, which has already proven effective in healing diabetic foot ulcers, would begin sometime this year.

Along with China and Russia, the phase-three trials are also slated for 100

hospitals throughout the European Union, marking the first time that Cuban scientists undertake advanced trials in developed countries, said Dr. Luis Herrera, director of Havana's Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology.

Herrera said the trials represent the first large-scale testing of a drug designed to treat diabetic foot ulcers.

"That decision is an evidence of the level of the acceptance and effectiveness of the product, which has prevented the amputation of

lower limbs in thousands of diabetic patients," Herrera said.

More than 70,000 patients from different nations have been treated so far with Heberprot-P, which is meant to complement, not replace, conventional therapies.

Cuba's biotech industry was founded in 1979 by Cuban revolutionary leader Fidel Castro, who saw science and technology as important engines of economic and social development.

Xinhua

Bodies of missing Ukrainian climbers found on Mt Ushba

TBILISI, 22 July—Georgian rescuers had found the bodies of the missing Ukrainian climbers on Mount Ushba and were now trying to recover the bodies, according to reports reaching here on Thursday.

The bodies of Sasha Taranik and Dima Volodin were found at an altitude of 3,500 meters above sea level.

"We did our best," said Temur Giorgadze, chief of the Georgian government emergency situation department, "but unfortunately could not save the lives of the Ukrainian climbers." The chief told local media that Georgian rescuers would try to bring down the bodies to the base camp and then to Tbilisi.

The incident occurred when the safety rope on Sasha Taranik and Dima Volodin had snapped broken during descent.

Fog-caused poor visibility problem forced Georgian rescuers to withdraw from their search job on Wednesday, shortly after the rescue was launched.

According to reports

reaching here, Sasha Taranik and Dima Volodin went missing from the Ukrainian mountaineering team, after their safety rope had snapped broken at an altitude of 3,600 meters above sea level. The mountain sits at 4,710 meters above sea level.

The remaining members of the Ukrainian climbing team have joined the Georgian rescuers in the search.

Though not high on the Major Caucasus Mountain Range, Mount Ushba is famous for its difficulty for climbing, especially the southern of its twin summits.

The northern Ushba summit was first surmounted in 1888 by John Garford Cokklyn and Ulrich Almer while the southern summit was first conquered in 1903 by a German-Swiss-Austrian expedition led by Rickmer-Rickmers.

The routes leading up to the northern summit are graded as French AD+ (fairly difficult) while the routes leading to the southern summit are graded as French ED (extremely difficult).

Xinhua

Australia's Maritime Union calls for investigation into cancer rates at workplaces

SYDNEY, 22 July—The Maritime Union of Australia is calling on the New South Wales (NSW) Government to investigate cancer rates at all workplaces in the NSW Hunter region, local media reported on Friday.

A study by the University of Newcastle released on Thursday found workers at the Newcastle site were nearly twice as likely to be diagnosed with cancer than the general population of NSW, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) reported.

The study of 859 employees at the Port Waratah Coal Service facility at Kooragang Island over a 23-year period found that 63 employees had been diagnosed with cancer, with the most common being melanoma, prostate and colon cancers. John Attia, professor of Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology from the university said further investigation was recommended as the study did not identify the cause of the high incidence of cancers.

The Maritime Union's Newcastle Branch Secretary Glen Williams said on Friday that the union was concerned about the results at Kooragang. "Our members are concerned for their safety... more work needs to be done in the form of a fully independent inquiry to find out why our members keep getting sick," Williams said in a statement.—Xinhua



A veterinarian performs a medical check to a green sea turtle (Chelonia Mydas) at the Uruguay's Sea Turtles Rehabilitation Center, in Montevideo, capital of Uruguay, on 17 July, 2012. Recently, non-government environmentalists organizations, have rescued over 50 sea turtles from the Uruguayan seashores. Turtles swam to the shore, after suffering the low temperatures of La Plata River and Atlantic ocean. In order to avoid them to drown or die on hypothermia, turtles must not go back to water until they are fully recovered.—XINHUA



A contestant shows his original designed robot at the opening ceremony of "China Adolescent Robotics Competition" held in Tianjin, north China, on 18 July, 2012. The China Adolescent Robotics Competition opened on Wednesday, with the participation of nearly 3,100 contestants from some 500 teams.—XINHUA

Dollar trades at upper 78 yen level in early Tokyo trading

TOKYO, 22 July—The US dollar was traded at the upper 78 yen level early Friday in Tokyo.

At 9 am, the dollar was quoted at 78.74-75 yen compared with 78.54-64 yen in New York and 78.59-60 yen

in Tokyo at 5 pm on Thursday.

The euro fetched 1.2276-2278 dollar and 96.66-68 yen against 1. 2274-2284 dollar and 96.43-53 in New York and 1.2294-2295 dollar and 96.62-66 yen in Tokyo late Thursday afternoon.—Xinhua

ChiNext Index opens lower on Friday

BEIJING, 22 July—The ChiNext Index, tracking China's Nasdaq-style board of growth enterprises, opened at 707.83 points on Friday, down 1.33 points, or 0.19 percent from the previous close.

The index, together with the Shenzhen Component Index and the Shenzhen SME (small and medium-sized

enterprises) Board Index, makes up the three core indices reflecting the performance of China's stocks listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange.

The ChiNext Board, which started trading on Oct. 30, 2009, mainly lists hi-tech companies and those with high growth potential.

Xinhua



Customers experience products at an Apple retail store in Sanlitun of Beijing, capital of China, on 19 July, 2012. Apple announced earlier that the new iPad, the third generation of its tablet line, will arrive in China on 20 July. According to Apple's Press release, the new iPad will be available through Apple's online store, select Apple authorized resellers and by reservation from Apple retail stores in China. Reservation requests will be accepted daily beginning on 19 July for pick up the following day, the company said, adding that the previous generation of iPad 2 will also be available in China with a reduced price.—XINHUA

Police: Teen tried to grab Olympic torch

Police in England said a 17-year-old boy was arrested for attempting to snatch the Olympic torch while it was being carried through his town.

Kent police said the torch was passing through Gravesend about 9:55 am Friday when the teenager attempted to grab it from torchbearer Anna Skora, 23, of Poland, *The Sun* reported on 20 July.

A police spokeswoman said members of the 70-strong team protecting the torch quickly took the teenager into custody and the procession continued without delay.

News Album



A Utah 11-year-old bound for the Pokemon Trading Card Game World Championships in August said he practices with his mom for 3 hours every day.

Boy, 11, trains for Pokemon championship

A Utah 11-year-old bound for the Pokemon Trading Card Game World Championships in August said he practices with his mom for 3 hours every day.

Daniel Sargent, of Roy, Utah, said he has been training with his mother for 3 hours each day to prepare for the August world championships

in Hawaii, KSTU-TV, Salt Lake City, reported on 20 July.

"My mom overpractices me," the boy said.

Sargent said his strategy for winning doesn't involve a lot of secret tricks.

"My strategy is I like to practice a lot and to play calmly. If you play too fast, you'll make mistakes," he said.

Driver seeks help with bomb in trunk

A parking garage at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., was shut down for hours Thursday after a visitor drove to the clinic with a pipe bomb in the trunk. The driver, a Winona, Minn., resident told security personnel at the garage about the bomb and offered to drive it away from the property, *The Rochester*

Post-Bulletin reported. The bomb was allegedly found in the driver's yard in Winona.

"They said, 'We've got this thing, and we don't know what to do with it. We'd like to get rid of it,'" Rochester Police Sgt Steve Thompson said.

Police were also asked for suggestions on dismantling the bomb, an idea they

discouraged. Instead, the bomb squad from Bloomington, Minn., was summoned. Officers used a machine to open the trunk and a robot to remove what appeared to be a 3-foot-long bomb weighing 50 to 60 pounds. The bomb was detonated at a quarry. No arrests had been made late Thursday.

Police: Mom left girl in car while in bar

A Florida woman is charged with child neglect for allegedly leaving a young girl in her pickup truck while she went to drink at a bar, authorities said.

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office said a deputy responded on 14 July to a bar in Fort Walton Beach on a report of a child, approximately 7 or 8 years old, sitting alone in a pickup truck while her mother was inside the bar, the *Northwest Florida Daily News* reported Friday.

The deputy arrived to find a woman, Sarah Elizabeth Morrison, in the driver's seat of the vehicle and the child in the back seat.

The arrest report said Morrison had a strong odor

of alcohol on her breath.

"After several versions of why she was there and how long she had been there, Morrison stated, post Miranda that she had been inside the bar for approximately four hours and that she would check on (the girl) every 15 minutes or so," the deputy wrote.

The deputy said Morrison was also in possession of four oxycodone pills she claimed as her own and admitted she didn't have a prescription to take.

Morrison was charged with felony counts of child neglect and possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. She is due back in court on 21 Aug.

Spice Girls to play Olympics Closing Ceremony



Spice Girls Melanie Brown, Emma Bunton, Melanie Chisholm, Geri Halliwell and Victoria Beckham (L-R), arrive for the Victoria's Secret fashion show at the Kodak Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 15 November, 2007.—INTERNET

LONDON, 22 July—British pop group Spice Girls are reuniting to perform at the London 2012 Olympic Closing Ceremony, *The Telegraph* reported on Friday.

This will be the first time Geri Halliwell, Emma Bunton, Melanie Chisholm, Melanie Brown and Victoria Beckham will take the stage together since 2008. They are expected to sing two songs, the newspaper said.

Also booked for the 12 Aug event are George Michael, The Who, Take That and Jessie J.—*Internet*

McCain to guest star on 'Parks and Rec'

NEW YORK, 22 July—US Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., is to guest star on the NBC sitcom "Parks and Recreation" next season, *The New York Times* reported on Friday.

The one-time presidential candidate, as well as



Sen John McCain

Sen. Barbara Boxer of California and Sen. Olympia J. Snowe of Maine, taped a cocktail party scene with the show's stars, Amy Poehler and Adam Scott, at the Hay-Adams hotel in Washington on Thursday, the newspaper said.

Last season wrapped with Poehler's character Leslie being elected to the Pawnee, Ind., City Council, while Scott's character Ben, her love interest, goes to work for a congressman in Washington.—*Internet*



Aaron Sorkin arrives for the New York Film Critics Circle Awards at the Crimson Club in New York on 9 Jan, 2012.

INTERNET

Lopez didn't quit 'Idol' over salary

LOS ANGELES, 22 July—Jennifer Lopez did not quit the US singing contest "American Idol" over a salary dispute, *People* magazine reported.

A source close to Lopez

—whose name was not revealed—told *People* reports that the star asked for a \$2 million raise to continue judging the Fox show are untrue.

Fox approached Lopez with a "comparable offer to last year's salary" for her third season, but Lopez never gave a counter offer, the source said. Lopez earned \$15 million for her first season judging the show and was given a raise to \$20 million for her second season after Fox saw the value she brought to the show, *People* said.

Ultimately Lopez, 42, said she decided to leave the show to focus on her family, film and music careers and her fashion business.

"I could do Idol for the rest of my life," Lopez said of her departure, "but that would be giving up a bunch of other things...I have my movies and my music and my this and my that. It all kind of worked together for a while, but then it gets more complicated."

Internet



Actress and singer Jennifer Lopez, a cast member in the motion picture romantic comedy "What to Expect When You're Expecting", attends the premiere of the film at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 14 May, 2012.—INTERNET

Ford, Hemsworth to star in 'Paranoia'

BEVERLY HILLS, 22 July—Filming is set to begin in New York and Philadelphia on Robert Luketic's "Paranoia," starring Liam Hemsworth, Gary Oldman



Actor Harrison Ford

and Harrison Ford, producers said.

Collaborators Reliance Entertainment, Demarest Films and IM Global said principal photography on the high-tech corporate espionage thriller is scheduled to begin Saturday.

The cast also includes Lucas Till, Amber Heard, Embeth Davidtz, Julian McMahon, Josh Holloway and Richard Dreyfuss.

"The creative team behind 'Paranoia,' as well as

our producing partners at IM Global and Kintop Reliance, will no doubt bring this thriller to life on the big-screen," producer William D. Johnson of Demarest Films said in a statement on Friday.

"This is the type of film Demarest is looking to get involved in—commercially viable projects which will evoke audiences in the US and abroad." The film is set to debut in US theaters 27 Sept. 2013.—*Internet*

'Hunger Games' big seller in US

NEW YORK, 22 July—Publisher Scholastic says more than 50 million print and digital copies of Suzanne Collins' "Hunger Games" novels are in circulation in the United States.

"Readers across the nation are captivated by the rich world and strong characters Suzanne Collins has created," Ellie Berger, president of Scholastic Trade Publishing, said in a statement on Thursday. "It's thrilling to see teen and adult

readers enthralled by the same story and engaged in conversation about these books." "The Hunger Games," the first installment of the series, was published in September 2008 and became an "instant bestseller," Scholastic said.

It was followed by the hit sequels "Catching Fire" and "Mockingjay."

"The Hunger Games" was also adapted as a big-screen blockbuster recently.

Internet



Elizabeth Banks, Josh Hutcherson, Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Hemsworth attend the European premiere of "The Hunger Games" at O2 Arena in London on 14 March, 2012.

INTERNET

New 'Newsroom' writers set for Season two

LOS ANGELES, 22 July—HBO has confirmed new writers are being hired for the second season of Aaron Sorkin's US television drama "Newsroom."

"Every year, each show reassesses the needs of its writing staffs," HBO said in a statement issued to EW.com. "This process is nothing out of the ordinary."

Exactly how many writers and who will be replacing them were not reported.

The show stars Jeff Daniels as a television news anchor trying to revive his career and Emily Mortimer, Alison Pill and Dev Patel as members of his production staff.

Internet

Man Utd hit by Smalling injury blow

Defender could be out until October after breaking metatarsal in foot



Chris Smalling has impressed in a Man Utd shirt since signing from Fulham in 2012.—INTERNET

LONDON, 22 July — Manchester United have been hit by an injury blow to their defender Chris Smalling less than a month before the start of the 2012/13 Barclays Premier League season. Smalling, 22, suffered a foot injury in training on Wednesday and has had to undergo an operation. Man

Utd manager Sir Alex Ferguson has revealed the versatile former Fulham defender could now be out of action until October.

"He got an injury on the Wednesday and, straight away, we decided to have the operation so he's out," Ferguson is quoted as saying

on the official Man Utd website. "It's difficult to say with a metatarsal but it could be 10 weeks." He's not carrying any luck, the kid, but he's young and we've done the right thing in getting it done immediately and getting him back on the road as quickly as we can."

Smalling was just on his way back after a groin injury he suffered in May kept him out of the England squad for Euro 2012 during the summer and also kept him out of the Great Britain Olympic squad. He played in 19 Barclays Premier League matches for Man Utd last season, scoring in the 3-1 win over Chelsea at Old Trafford. Ferguson's men did receive a boost this week when it was revealed Nemanja Vidic would be fit for the start of the new campaign.

INTERNET

Rodgers opens Liverpool tenure with draw

TORONTO, 22 July — Brendan Rodgers' first game as manager of Liverpool ended in a 1-1 draw against FC Toronto thanks to Adam Morgan's equaliser for the English giants in a World Football Challenge friendly. Quincy Amarikwa, acquired by Toronto from Major League Soccer rivals the New York Red Bulls on early Saturday, wasted no time contributing to his new team, seizing a rebound from a Peter Gulacsi save to give the hosts the lead in the 58th minute. The advantage was short-lived however, as Morgan knotted the score at 1-1 in the 69th

minute, taking advantage of a fine run by Raheem Sterling and salvaging the draw for Liverpool in the opening match of their pre-season North American tour.

After Sterling eluded three defenders, Toronto keeper Quillan Roberts managed to deflect his shot, but Morgan was there to tap it home. Liverpool were further buoyed by the return to action of Brazilian midfielder Lucas Leiva, who has been sidelined since November with a serious knee injury. Rodgers went with a mix of experience and youth to open the contest, with veterans including Jose

Enrique and Jamie Carragher joined on the starting side by prospects such as Dani Pacheco and Nathan Eccleston. Toronto manager Paul Mariner fielded close to a first-choice lineup, with the only change in the team that beat the Colorado Rapids on Wednesday coming in goal, where Freddy Hall replaced Milos Kocic.

Mariner's side featured captain Torsten Frings in midfield, although leading scorer Danny Koevermans was absent after suffering a season-ending knee injury in a league fixture last Saturday — the reason for Amarikwa's acquisition. Mariner was pleased with his team's performance, but noted that Liverpool were not at full strength. "You've got to temper your thoughts with where Liverpool are at, the squad that they brought over, but all you can do is your best and I thought we did well under the circumstances," Mariner said. "Let's not get carried away. If Liverpool brings their first squad and they're further on in their pre-season or the season, they're a top-class team with top-class players."

After a first half that featured few scoring opportunities, Rodgers made



Quincy Amarikwa (L) of Toronto FC celebrates his goal with Sergio Camargo against Liverpool during the World Football Challenge friendly match at Rogers Centre in Toronto. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.

INTERNET

Ronaldinho scores in Atletico's 4-1 victory over Sport

RIODE JANEIRO, 22 July — Ronaldinho scored a trademark goal as Atletico Mineiro stayed top of Brazil's Serie A standings with a 4-1 victory over Sport on Saturday. The two-time FIFA world player of the year ran onto a defence-splitting pass from Bernard before dribbling

past Edcarlos and then curled an angled shot beyond the reach of goalkeeper Magrao.

It was Ronaldinho's first goal in open play since February when he scored during former club Flamengo's 3-1 victory over Resende. The result maintained Atletico's two-

point buffer at the top of the championship standings with 28 points from 11 matches. "We're focused on what we have to do and know that it's still early in the season. It's been a great start but there is still a long way to go," Ronaldinho said after the match.—Xinhua

Hodges joins QPR coaching staff

Welshman links up again with Rangers manager Mark Hughes at Loftus Road

LONDON, 22 July — Queens Park Rangers have announced the addition of Glyn Hodges to the club's coaching staff. The Barclays Premier League side have brought Hodges on board as Head of Coaching and Coach Education. The 49-year-old Hodges has worked with QPR manager Mark Hughes before at Blackburn Rovers, Manchester City and Fulham and they will link up once again.

Hodges will work alongside Steve Gallen and Marc Bircham in west London and he will oversee the coaching structure at reserve and academy level, working closely with Technical Director Mike Rigg. "This is another key appointment for the club," Rigg told QPR's official website.

"We are building for the

future, as well as the present at QPR, and Glyn's arrival further strengthens what we are trying to achieve here." He is a vastly-experienced coach, who knows the manager and his backroom staff, so we are

all delighted to have him on board." Hodges made 51 Premier League appearances in the 1990s for Sheffield United and Nottingham Forest, scoring six goals in the process.—INTERNET



Glyn Hodges played in the Premier League for Sheffield United and Nottingham Forest.—INTERNET

International Sports

Stallings leads at weather-hit True South

MADISON, 22 July — American Scott Stallings seized a four-shot lead before darkness halted the third round of the rain-plagued US PGA Tour True South Classic. Stallings shot to the top of the leaderboard after four birdies and an eagle in his first eight holes and had an 18-under total through 10 holes of the third round at Annandale Golf Club. Inclement weather has been a problem every day, including a delay of more than three hours on Saturday.

When the third round resumes on Sunday morning, Stallings will be chasing a second US PGA Tour title. He claimed his first victory at the Greenbrier Classic as a rookie last season, but has battled rib and back injuries this year. "I'm just happy to be playing," Stallings said. "All the birdies and stuff are great, but at the end of the day, just to be out here and be competitive — that's all I'm really focused on." After birdies at the third and fourth, Stallings rolled in

a 40-foot eagle putt at the par-five fifth hole then nabbed back-to-back birdies at seven and eight.

Heath Slocum, Billy Horschel and Jason Bohn were all at 14-under. Slocum had seven birdies and one bogey in his first 13 holes. Horschel and Bohn were both through nine holes, having shared a one-shot lead when the second round wrapped up earlier on Saturday.—INTERNET



Scott Stallings of the US plays a shot on the 8th hole during the third round of the True South Classic at Annandale Golf Club, on 21 July, in Madison, Mississippi. Stallings seized a four-shot lead before darkness halted the play.—INTERNET

Inter wins Trofeo TIM with victories over AC Milan and Juventus

MILAN, 22 July — Inter have won their third consecutive Trofeo TIM title after recording victories over both Juventus and AC Milan in the traditional preseason tournament on Saturday.

It was the Nerazzurri who landed the first blow of the night, beating Juve in the opening 45-minute fixture thanks to a 12th-minute goal from Philippe Coutinho. The Brazilian took advantage of an error by former teammate Lucio, who hesitated as the ball took a wicked bounce near the six-yard box, allowing the attacker to fire confidently past Marco Storari. The Italian champion bounced back with a 1-0 success of its own in the second fixture against Milan. Mirko Vucinic picked himself up to fire home a penalty 14 minutes from time having been brought down in the area by Bakaye Traore.—INTERNET



Brendan Rodgers, manager of Liverpool FC, acknowledges the crowd after his side won the World Football Challenge match against Toronto FC on 21 July. Rodgers' first game as manager of Liverpool ended in a 1-1 draw against FC Toronto thanks to Adam Morgan's equaliser.—INTERNET

a wholesale change for the second half, with Martin Skrtel and Joe Cole anchoring another group of young players. In the 75th, Lucas was sent on to replace Krisztian Adorjan, his first appearance since suffering an injury to the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee.

The 33,087 fans on hand included plenty of Liverpool supporters, who chanted and sang songs. Liverpool continue their pre-season tour on Wednesday at Fenway Park, home of Major League Baseball's Boston Red Sox, against Italian club Roma. They face English rivals Tottenham on 28 July in Baltimore.—INTERNET



Ronaldinho

Focus Myanmar TV Programme**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**(23-7-12 09:30 am ~
24-7-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Road to London 2012
- * News
- * Exotic Kha-Yin-Khwa Island
- * News
- * Home Coming (Interview with Mr. Hubert Law)
- * News
- * Orchard Survey in Hponkanrazi
- * News
- * Perspective of Diplomats
- * News
- * World Wide Web in the Future
- * News
- * Social Protection Conference: A Call to Action
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie (The Director)

MYANMAR TV

(23-7-2012)(Monday)

- 7:00 am
- 1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
- 3. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
- 4. Song Of National Races
- 8:15 am
- 5. Cute Little Dancers
- 8:25 am
- 6. Teleplay (Industry)
- 4:00 pm
- 7. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm
- 8. Dance Variety
- 4:20 pm
- 9. Musical Programme
- 5:00 pm
- 10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:10 pm
- 11. Musical Programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
- 5:20 pm
- 12. Myanmar Language
- 6:20 pm
- 13. Sing & Enjoy
- 7:00 pm
- 14. Documentary
- 8:00 pm
- 15. News
- 16. Cartoon Series
- 17. TV Drama Series
- 18. India Drama Series

Aston Villa beats MLS' Fire 1-0 in exhibition

BRIDGEVIEW, 22 July — The Chicago Fire received a lesson in soccer from Aston Villa on Saturday night.

Gabriel Agbonlahor scored in the 29th minute and then left with an injury in the second half as the English Premier League club beat the Fire 1-0 in an exhibition match. Villa thoroughly dominated the match nearly until the final whistle.

It wasn't until nearly three minutes into extra time that the Fire launched their one on-target shot of the night. However, backup goalkeeper Brad Guzan, a Chicago-area native, made the save to preserve the shutout.

Agbonlahor went down clutching his left leg after spinning by a defender in the 63rd minute, screaming in pain.

The trainer for Villa gingerly flexed Agbonlahor's leg, which caused more pain, and the forward was carted off. Villa manager Paul Lambert said he thought the

Agbonlahor could be out for two weeks.

Villa came out attacking, and the push paid off with Agbonlahor's goal. He headed the cross of defender Chris Herd past Chicago goalkeeper Jay Nolly from 10 yards out.

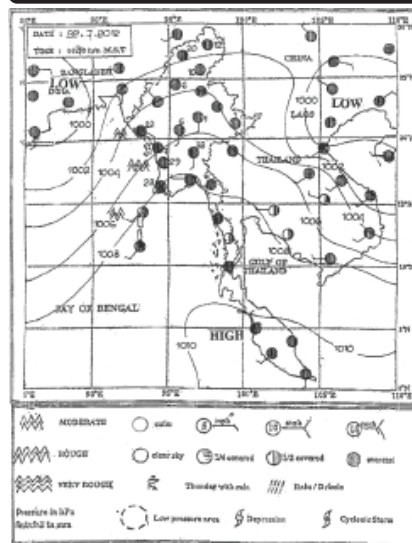
Villa continued pushing after with and without the ball, keeping the Fire players on their heels.

Their defensive movement from side to side was particularly impressive.

"Their quickness," Fire defender Dan Gargan said. "They're an organized, compact unit." Villa went 7-14-17 in the Premier League last year, then brought in Lambert to coach. They're 3-0-0 in their preseason, including two wins against MLS squads.

"This was great for us," Lambert said. "I've got nothing but praise for the players, the way they've gone about it. As a group, our defense is very strong, not just the back four."

Internet

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**Weather forecast for 23rd July, 2012**

Sr. No.		Temperature (C/F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	30/86	25/77	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	27/81	21/70	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	27/81	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	22/72	17/63	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	29/84	26/79	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	37/99	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Tanintharyi	32/90	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
8	Bago	29/84	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	32/90	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	27/81	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	29/84	25/77	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
12	Yangon	30/86	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	29/84	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (H)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	22/72	17/63	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	29/84	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	29/84	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	29/84	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	30/86	23/73	One or two rain or thundershowers	(100%)
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 Region, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Tanintharyi Region, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Ayeyar States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions, Chin and Mon States and sporadic in the remaining Region and States with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukse (3.13) inches, Yangon (2.56) inches, An (2.05) inches, Nyaung-U (1.37) inches, Taungtha and Kawarack (1.68) inches each.			
Bay Infence		According to the observations at (09:30) hr MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay of Bengal become unimportant. Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.			
State of the Sea		Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed is squalls may reach (25) mph.			
Outlook for sub-sequent two days		Moderate monsoon.			

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today: During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Tanintharyi Region, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Regions, Chin and Mon States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kyaukse (3.03) inches, Shwegyin (2.56) inches, An (2.05) inches, Nyaung-U (1.97) inches, Taunggyi and Kawkaik (1.60) inches each.

Bay Inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay of Bengal become unimportant. Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Scott takes 4-shot lead into Open final round

Adam Scott of Australia plays a shot onto the 18th green at Royal Lytham & St Annes golf club during the third round of the British Open Golf Championship, Lytham St Annes, England, on 21 July, 2012. — INTERNET

LYTHAMSTANNES, 22 July — The ball tumbled over the edge of a pot bunker and appeared to put Adam Scott in the worst spot he had been all day at the British Open.

All he saw was opportunity. From the wet sand right of the 17th green, Scott had to clear two more pot bunkers to reach the

green, with the flag only five paces from the edge. Scott was thinking about birdie, not trying to save par, so he confidently told caddie Steve Williams, "I can handle this." The shot came out pure, trickled by the cup and settled a foot away.

The more relevant questions are one round

away. Can he handle a four-shot lead, knowing this is a year when no lead appears safe? Can he handle a leaderboard with four major champions among the top six names, including Tiger Woods? Can he handle the wind that is expected to finally arrive at Royal Lytham & St. Annes? "I'm just happy to be in this position," Scott said. "To be honest, I'm really excited about tomorrow."

Scott has never had a better chance to end his long wait for a major — and he owes much of that to his long putter.

He stayed in the game early with two key par saves, pulled away with three birdies around the turn and was solid at the end Saturday for a 2-under 68 and a four-shot lead over Graeme McDowell and Brandt Snedeker.

It's the fourth time in the last nine majors that a player

had a four-shot lead with one round to go.

Rory McIlroy at the 2011 Masters is the only player who didn't win. Scott has been so steady all week that he has put himself in position to become only the fourth Open champion with all rounds in the 60s.

"It was all pretty solid stuff, considering the circumstances and how much trouble there is on this golf course," Scott said. Scott narrowly missed a 20-foot birdie putt on the final hole that would have given him a share of the 54-hole Open scoring record.

He settled for 11-under 199 and will play in the final group with McDowell, who had a 67 to get into the final group for the second straight time at a major.

Snedeker, who went from a one-shot lead to a six-shot deficit in seven holes, birdied two of his last three holes to salvage a 73.

Internet

Cibulkova charges into WTA Carlsbad final

Carlsbad, 22 July — Second seed Dominika Cibulkova beat the heat to reach the final of the WTA hardcourt tournament, outlasting tiring Russian Nadia Petrova 7-6 (10/8), 6-1. The Slovak "pocket rocket," who stands just 1.61 meters (5 feet, three inches), on Saturday played a big match to impose her game on Petrova, who was attended by the trainer after losing the draining, 63-minute opening set. She then stormed through the second set, wrapping up the victory in just over 90 minutes.

"I'm pretty sure that the tiebreak was the key to why I won the match," Cibulkova

said. "After that, she went down a little bit." Cibulkova, who reached her first final since the clay court tournament in Barcelona in April, next faces either French top seed Marion Bartoli or Taiwanese qualifier Chan Yung-jan. Bartoli went into their evening semi-final after struggling in her last two matches — both three-setters — and has been dealing with a leg injury.

Cibulkova hasn't been taken to three sets this week, a fitness advantage which she hopes will stand her in good stead in the title match. "I feel really fresh and good."

I didn't have a three-set match and all the other girls,



Second seed Dominika Cibulkova beat the heat to reach the final of the WTA hardcourt tournament, the Mercury Insurance Open Presented By Tri-City Medical at La Costa Resort & Spa, outlasting tiring Russian Nadia Petrova 7-6 (10/8), 6-1, on 21 July. — INTERNET

they played crazy long matches. So I'm feeling really good for tomorrow, and I think

it can be my advantage for me." She recovered from an early break to force the first-set tiebreaker with a break in the 12th game.

Petrova raced to a 4-0 lead in the decider, but she was slowly pegged back by her persistent opponent. Cibulkova, thriving as Petrova faded, saved a set point and finally sealed the set on her third opportunity when Petrova sent a tired backhand out.

"When she was up 4-0 I just said to myself, 'I don't want to give it up. I just want to make it as tough as I can for her,'" said the winner. "I fought for every ball."

Internet

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives American guests

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a delegation led by Deputy Governor Dr Ezekiel J Emanuel of University of Pennsylvania from United States of America at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here at 2 pm today.

Also present at the call together with Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham were Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin, Deputy Foreign Affairs

Minister U Maung Myint, Deputy Education Minister U Ba Shwe and departmental heads.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on control of malaria, HIV and AIDS, TB; cooperation in surgical operations, upgrading of libraries in medicines; cooperation in academic matters; uplift of health system; and health education through long-term cooperation.

MNA



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives Deputy Governor Dr Ezekiel J Emanuel of University of Pennsylvania from United States of America at the Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace.—MNA

Librarian multiplier course concludes in Twantay Township

YANGON, 22 July—With the aim of ensuring durability of rural libraries, increasing number of books and maintaining the library, the Twantay Township Administrative Office of Yangon South District and Township Information and Public Relations Department jointly conducted the librarian multiplier course No. 1/2012 at Tawwin Sandaku Hall of the Twantay Township General Administration Department on 8 July afternoon.

At the ceremony, Assistant Director U Myint Swe of Yangon Region Information and Public Relations Department and Township Administrator U Than Zaw Han gave speeches.

After that, the head of Region Information and Public Relations Department presented certificates of honour to contributors of the training course.

Later, officials presented prizes to outstanding trainees.—Myanma Alin

Waingmaw Township Administrator's Cup Football Tourney wraps up

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—The final match of the Waingmaw Township Administrator's Cup Monsoon Football Tournament of Kachin State was held at the People's Sports Ground in Waingmaw on 20 July afternoon.

In the match, Nawnghee Village beat Waingmaw 1-0.

Township Administrator U Win Htay presented championship trophy and cash award to Nawnghee Village team.

Officials gave cash awards and gifts to best goalkeeper award and best player award winners.

MNA

Low pressure area weakens

NAY PYI TAW, 22 July—According to the observations at (09:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over northwest Bay of Bengal has turned unimportant, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

Kaka 'decides to quit Madrid' – England an option

Manchester United, Chelsea & Manchester City target Kaka ready to leave Real Madrid in summer transfer window

MADRID, 22 July—Brazilian legend Kaka is ready to leave Real Madrid this summer and is open to a move to the Premier League, according to Sao Paulo president Paulo de Jesus Lopes.

The former AC Milan star has often been linked with a move to England during a glittering career,



with Manchester City closest to securing an astonishing £100 million deal back in 2009.

Instead, the 30-year-old attacking midfielder moved

to the Santiago Bernabeu, and picked up his first La Liga title last season with a renewed influence for Jose Mourinho's side.

After three years with Los Blancos his time in the Spanish capital could be up however, with Lopes claiming that Sao Paulo can't afford their former starlet, but that he's happy to either stay in Spain or move to England.

"Kaka has decided to

quit Madrid," he told O Globo in Brazil.

"He believes that England or remaining in Spain would be two interesting destinations for him. Sao Paulo can't afford him as his price-tag is astronomical and out of the reality of Brazilian football."

TalkSPORT claims that Manchester United, Chelsea and Manchester City could all renew their interest if the claims are revealed to be true, and Kaka would add an extra dimension to any Premier League side if he were to move in the summer transfer window.—Internet

Olympics: Nadal hopes for another chance to be flag-bearer



Rafael Nadal of Spain hits a return to Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic during their men's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, 28 June, 2012. Nadal says he hopes to lead his country's contingent at the 2016 Olympics after bowing out of the London Games due to injury. —INTERNET

MADRID, 22 July—Tennis ace Rafael Nadal has set his sights on becoming Spain's flag-bearer at the 2016 Olympics after injury deprived him of the opportunity at the London Games.

The 26-year-old announced last week that he was pulling out of the London Olympics due to injury, meaning he would also miss out on the honour of carrying Spain's flag at the opening ceremony on Friday.

'It was the most difficult decision which I have taken in my career and possibly the saddest,' he told Spanish public television on Sunday.

'It was a unique opportunity so obviously I am sad. My goal now is to continue to work hard to try to have another chance in Rio in 2016. I hope I will be prepared to compete there and have another opportunity to carry the flag.'

Internet

The USS Nimitz, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier sails about 150 miles north of the island of Oahu during RIMPAC Naval exercises off Hawaii on 18 July.



PAGE 6

An aerial view shows Kansai Electric Power Co's Ohi nuclear power plant's No 4 reactor (front) in Ohi, Fukui prefecture seen on 19 July, 2012.



PAGE 6

Man Utd hit by Smalling injury blow

PAGE 14



Hodges joins QPR coaching staff



PAGE 14

Glyn Hodges played in the Premier League for Sheffield United and Nottingham Forest.