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Saturday, 4 August, 1912

Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union | * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity | * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Chief Justice of Union receives UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug.—Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo received visiting UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party at the anteroom of Supreme Court of the Union here this afternoon.

Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party paid separate calls on Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi, Union Minister for Population and Immigration U Khin Yi and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin.

They also called on Deputy Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint and Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin separately at respective ministries.

MNA



Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo receives UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party.—MNA

MMCWA launches World Breastfeeding Week 2012, Nourishment Week Activity

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug.—The ceremony to mark the World Breastfeeding Week 2012 and Nourishment Week Activity organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the hall of the association in Dekkhinathiri Township this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, patrons, responsible persons of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, officials of Ministry of Health and other ministries, responsible persons of UN agencies and guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin said that in the tasks of the Ministry of Health to turn out healthy and fit citizens who are reliable human resources for all-round development of the State, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association is playing a key role in undertaking of public-based nutritious development tasks.

He said that only then, will the people become healthy and fit persons and the human resources develop. As such, he added the national will be a modern and developed one.

It is important that children under six months are to be fed mother milk only. It is necessary to feed the children over six months with nutritious foods to enable them to enjoy the rights of a human with health and fitness, he said.

Next, the Union Minister and guests presented iodized salt, vitamins and diapers to the expectant mothers and viewed documentary photos of MMCWA (Central) and Region/State MCWSCs.

Afterwards, the educative talks followed. President of MMCWA Dr Mon Mon Aung extended greetings and officials gave lectures on dos and don'ts for expectant mothers and care for children.

Later, the president of MMCWA and party held a roundtable talks with 40 MCWA members.

MNA

Vijay Kumar wins men's rapid fire pistol silver at Olympics

LONDON, 3 Aug.—Cuba's Leuris Pupo proved he had the steadiest arm in the Olympic men's 25 metre rapid fire pistol final on Friday, grabbing gold with a record-equalling total.

The 35-year-old hit 34 of the 40 targets to finish ahead of Vijay Kumar of India in second with 30. Feng Ding of China was third on 27 before being eliminated after 35 shots.

The Cuban, ranked 21 in the world, showed little emotion as he shook hands and calmly embraced his five rivals after securing victory by matching the finals world record.

He had showed great consistency in hitting all five targets three times in the eight-round, time-constrained final in which shooters were eliminated as the competition went on.

Having started poorly by hitting three in the opening round, Pupo regained his composure and, after his run of fives, finished with four scores of four to claim victory.

The many Indian supporters at the Royal Artillery Barracks were rewarded for their support when 26-year-old Kumar claimed a surprise silver.

The army serviceman threw both hands in the air and pumped his fists as he was welcomed on to the podium to



Vijay Kumar competes in the men's shooting 25m rapid fire pistol qualification round at the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Royal Artillery Barracks on 2 Aug, 2012. —REUTERS

collect India's second shooting medal of the Games.

There was big disappointment for Russian Alexei Klimov who had scored 592 to improve his qualifying world record mark by one but was eliminated in fourth place after hitting 23 of 30 targets. China's world number three Zhang Jian was another to make an early exit, finishing fifth after hitting 17 of 25 targets.—Reuters

India plans space mission to send a satellite to Mars



India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C-11 blasts off carrying India's first unmanned moon mission Chandrayaan-1 from the Satish Dhawan space centre at Sriharikota, about 100 km (62 miles), north of Chennai on 22 October 2008. —REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 3 Aug.—India plans to send a satellite via an unmanned spacecraft to orbit Mars next year, joining a small group of nations already exploring the red planet, a government scientist said on Friday.

A rocket will blast off from the southeastern coast of India, dropping the satellite into deep space, which will then travel onto Mars to achieve orbit, the senior scientist said, asking not to be named because the project is awaiting final approval. A spokesman for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) based in Bangalore would not confirm the mission, but commented generally on the ambitions of India's space programme. "After the Moon, worldwide attention is now focused on finding out if there (are) habitable spots on Mars," ISRO's Deviprasad Karnik said. ISRO scientists expect the satellite to orbit at less than 100 km (62 miles) above Mars. Cabinet is expected soon to clear the mission, according to media reports this week that said the programme will cost about \$80 million.

The plan has drawn criticism in a country suffering from high levels of malnutrition and power shortages. But India has long argued that technology developed in its space programme has practical applications to everyday life.

India's space exploration programme began in 1962. Four years ago, its Chandrayaan satellite found evidence of water on the moon. India is now looking at landing a wheeled rover on the Moon in 2014.—MNA/Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 August, 2012

Democracy and discipline

Hopes are springing up across the nation one year after the practice of longed-for democracy as the country has made a shift to open-door policy, establishing and fostering ties with new and old partners worldwide.

Why do we want democracy? In practice, the answer is we want the rights from democracy since it is universally supposed to guarantee freedom, equality and justice of individuals.

Discipline of each and every citizen is the basic fundamental in exercise of democracy. Despite the fact that freedom is the essence of democracy, one's practice of freedom should not violate the rights of others for the abuse of democratic rights will lead to mobocracy and anarchy. Discipline is indeed the enjoyment of freedom and equality within the legal and social framework.

It is absolutely required to impose discipline on Myanmar citizens at the very moment. Relevant laws must be strictly enforced to make sure there is no reckless and irresponsible action of the citizens, especially in the public place. It has been a long time that we have lived on regardless.

The role of the schools is crucial for instilment of discipline into young brains. Breach of discipline is like an epidemic and spreads like wildfire among the people. The notion of freedom is often misinterpreted as anti-discipline in modern world. In reality, true freedom cannot be separated from discipline.

The government on its part is striving for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation but discipline is much concerned with self-awareness and self-respect. Therefore, we need to show a sense of discipline if we do not want alien countries look down on us. Furthermore, democracy is a practice and just demanding its rights would not promote it. We also need to honour the statutory and moral obligations.



Bio-diversity and nature conservation talks, organized by Bio-diversity and Nature Conservation Association, in progress in Mohnyin Township of Kachin State.

NLM-001

L&F Minister calls for extensive production of fresh dairy products

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint on 31 July visited dairy product factory in Insein of Yangon Region under Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, calling for production of fresh milk and dairy products.

The Union Minister underscored the need to breed more milch cows in all corners of the country and conducting trainings for production of dairy products.

The Union Minister highlighted the importance of cooperation with international organizations in manufacturing of quality vaccines for foot-and-mouth disease.

The Union Minister met the staff at the meeting hall of the department in Insein Township, urging them to lend helping hands to each other in serving the interest of the country and the people.—MNA

Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint inspects production of milk products.—MNA



DHSHD holds ceremony to assign project duties to companies

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—The Ministry of Construction is taking a leading role in construction of transport infrastructure, development of rural areas and improvement of housings; according to the reform strategy, the ministry assigned duties of main construction tasks and urban and housing development tasks to private entrepreneurs; and the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development is drawing the concept plan, structure plan

and master plan in regions and townships so as to systematically supply necessary housings and

infrastructures in conformity with the increasing number of urban population across the nation, said Union

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint at the ceremony to assign duties of urban housing plans for 2012-2013 fiscal year of DHSHD at the ministry, here, on 1 August.

In his speech, Deputy Minister U Soe Tint stressed the need to emphasize soil test for urban and housing project. Quality control team is to check foundation of the building. Emphasis is to be placed on quality of construction materials at the buildings. He said that it is necessary for Ministry of Construction and companies to ensure undertaking housing projects meeting set standards.

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lwin in his address highlighted construction of low-cost housings for the people, building of advanced structures, drawing of advanced plans in line with set norms and rules and regulations and cooperation of the ministry and companies with added momentum.

MNA

Bio-diversity and nature conservation talked

MOHNYIN, 3 Aug—Bio-Diversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA) gave educative talks on bio-diversity and nature conservation at Ohnsansai Village in Mohnyin Township on 27 July and at Helon Village on 29 July.

Opening a forward camp at Nanmon Village in Mohnyin Township, BANCA is carrying out tasks for bio-diversity and nature conservation in and around Shwe Latt Pan, Leponlay, Lonsant, Ywathit, Manukhaw

Villages starting from eastern bank of Indawgyi Lake.

Besides, the BANCA carried out social work such as opening social educational booths during Shwe Myintzu Buddha Puja days, doing sanitation work in Indawgyi Lake and distributing 700 stoves to locals. Their social work would be extended in ten villages around Indawgyi Lake.

NLM 001

MYANMAR GAZETTE

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointments
(a) U Cho Than Maung	Managing Director Myanma Port Authority Ministry of Transport
(b) U Eikdi Hla	Managing Director Myanma Posts and Telecommunications Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs
(c) Daw Thein Nyunt	Director-General Civil Service Affairs Department Union Civil Services Board

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed General Manager U Than Tun of Myanma Airways under the Ministry of Transport as Managing Director of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.



Ceremony to assign duties of urban housing plans for 2012-2013 fiscal year of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development in progress.—MNA

US nuclear bomb facility shut after security breach

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The US government's only facility for handling, processing and storing weapons-grade uranium has been temporarily shut after anti-nuclear activists, including an 82-year-old nun, breached security fences, government officials said on Thursday. WSI Oak Ridge, the contractor responsible for protecting the facility at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is owned by the international security firm G4S, which was at the centre of a dispute over security at the London Olympic Games.

Officials said the facility was shut down on Wednesday at least until next week after three activists cut through perimeter fences to reach the outer wall of a building where highly enriched uranium, a key nuclear bomb component, is stored. The activists painted slogans and threw what they said was human blood on the wall of the facility, one of numerous buildings in the facility known by

the code name Y-12 that it was given during World War Two, officials said.

While moving between the perimeter fences, the activists triggered sensors that alerted security personnel. But officials conceded the intruders were still able to reach the building's walls before security personnel got to them. Ellen Barfield, a spokeswoman for the activists who called themselves "Transform Now Plowshares," said three were arrested and charged with vandalism and criminal trespass. She said the three, identified as Megan Rice, 82, Michael Walli, 63 and Greg Boertje-Obed, 57, were being held in custody and appeared for a hearing before a US magistrate judge in Knoxville, Tennessee, on Thursday. A detention hearing is set for Friday afternoon, when prosecutors must show the defendants are a flight risk and a danger to the community in order to keep them in custody, according to court officials. —Reuters



The East Tennessee Technology Park, a site within the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is seen in an undated handout photo from the US Department of Energy. REUTERS



Residents wade through a flooded street to buy drinking water during heavy downpour in Malabon, Metro Manila on 1 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

Papua New Guinea's O'Neill endorsed as prime minister

PORT MORSBY, 3 Aug — Papua New Guinea's parliament endorsed incumbent Peter O'Neill as prime minister after long-running national elections on Friday, ending a prolonged period of political uncertainty in the Pacific island country. O'Neill won with support from an overwhelming 94 of the nation's 111 members of parliament after last week joining forces with political rival Michael Somare, ending a feud that left the country with two prime ministers for much of 2011.

O'Neill was also supported by two other former prime ministers, Paias Wingti and Julius Chan, in a move that should give the country a new level of political stability as it manages a boom in investment in resource projects. "The coming together of O'Neill and Somare is likely to see a reconciliation in the political process which the country very much needs," Pacific analyst Annmaree O'Keefe told Reuters. "I think you'll have that economic certainty, or reassurance."

Papua New Guinea (PNG), an often volatile nation of 6.5 million people, is home to a \$15.7 billion Exxon Mobil gas export project, and the

giant OK Tedi copper mine which began production in 1987, as well as the Frieda River copper project, run by Swiss-based global miner Xstrata. Exxon's liquefied natural gas project is expected to start production in 2014 and boost gross domestic product by about 20 percent.

Despite its resource wealth, the country has struggled to pass on development benefits to its people, with about 80 percent of the population living on subsistence village farming and small cash crops. O'Neill, the son of a law officer, was raised in a remote village, northwest of the capital, Port Moresby. As a child, he had to walk 15 km (9 miles) to school. He wore his first pair of shoes when he was 16. His People's National Congress party won 27 seats at the elections, the most of any party, on the back of his push to deliver more free health and education services.

O'Neill's former deputy, Belden Namah, a former military officer who in May led soldiers and police into the nation's courts to arrest the chief justice for alleged sedition, now becomes the main opposition leader.

Reuters

Iran, EU agree to talk again on nuclear dispute

BRUSSELS, 3 Aug — Chief negotiators for the EU and Iran agreed on Thursday to hold more talks about Tehran's nuclear work, but the European Union gave no sign progress was imminent in the decade-long dispute. Six world powers, represented by EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, have sought to persuade Iran to scale back its nuclear programme through intensifying economic

sanctions and diplomacy.

They have failed to reach a breakthrough in three rounds of talks since April. But neither side has been willing to break off talks because of concerns, in part, that this could lead to a new war in the Middle East if Israel attacked its arch-foe. Any deals are likely to be struck only during political talks between Iran and the six — the United States, Russia, China, France, Germany and

Britain. But the sides had been unable to decide when, or whether, to meet since diplomacy hit an impasse in June.

"I ... have explored diplomatic ways to resolve international concerns about Iran's nuclear programme," Ashton said in a statement after a phone conversation with Iran's chief negotiator Saeed Jalili. "I impressed the need for Iran now to address the issues we have raised in order to build confidence. I proposed, and Dr Jalili agreed, that we talk again after further reflection at the end of the month."

Since political talks reached an impasse in June in Moscow, experts from the two sides have held technical discussions aiming to clarify aspects of Iran's nuclear work, which the world powers fear aims at producing weapons. However, the technical talks have produced scant results, diplomats say. —Reuters



A general view of the Bushehr nuclear power plant, some 1,200 km (746 miles) south of Tehran on 26 Oct, 2010. — REUTERS

Indonesia, Australia to strengthen cooperation on fighting human trafficking

JAKARTA, 3 Aug. — Indonesian Defence Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said the Indonesian and Australian governments will strengthen military cooperation in humanitarian fields, media reports said here on Friday. Minister Purnomo said that both countries even had concern for humanitarian cooperation such as in emergency cases that occur in the waters bordering the two countries.

Activities could be in the form of emergency treatment in case of a ship accident, he said. Cooperation will also be done in dealing with cases of illegal immigrants, said Purnomo. If these immigrants are stranded in the Australian waters but the signal is

received by Indonesia, then Indonesia would handle it," he was quoted by Antara news agency as saying, he efforts would be taken by both countries through joint patrols that have been carried out in the Timor Sea.

Secretary General of the Ministry of Defence, Vice Marshal Eris Herryanto, said that in such cooperation efforts, Indonesia would deploy the National Search And Rescue Agency team. The cooperation will be further carried out at the meeting scheduled in September 2012. The meeting will also discuss details of cooperation, including the placement of the troubled ship," he said. Indonesia and Australia had signed a

bilateral agreement of the Lombok Treaty agreement on jointly fighting illegal human trafficking. — Xinhua

Senate approves new ambassador to Afghanistan

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The Senate on Thursday confirmed career diplomat James Cunningham as ambassador to Afghanistan, replacing Ryan Crocker, who stepped down because of ill health.

Cunningham has been serving as deputy ambassador at the US embassy in Kabul since June 2011. Earlier, he was the US ambassador to Israel; he also held senior US posts in Hong Kong, NATO and the United Nations.

He was confirmed on a voice vote. Crocker said in May that he was leaving the demanding Kabul post for health reasons after a long career in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait and Lebanon.

Reuters

Girls queue to buy bread at the only bakery serving the outskirts of Idlib Province on 1 Aug, 2012.

REUTERS



Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology



The stabilization scenario may present a rainbow of hope for Greenland's ice.—INTERNET

LONDON, 3 Aug — Ice loss from Greenland's vast sheet may happen mainly in short bursts, research by Danish scientists suggests. They used aerial photos dating back to the 1980s to plot shrinking of glaciers around the island's northwest coast. In the journal *Science*, they show that most of the ice loss happened in two periods — 1985-1993 and 2005-10 — with relative stability in between. They say it will be hard to project sea level changes from Greenland ice melt until these patterns are deciphered.

A complete melt of the ice sheet would raise sea levels globally by about 7m, but it

Greenland's ice 'melts in spurts'

could take centuries for this to occur. Last month, NASA released evidence showing that ice melting had been observed across virtually the whole extent of the Greenland ice sheet, unprecedented in the satellite era. Days earlier, an iceberg twice the size of Manhattan broke away from the Petermann glacier in northwest Greenland. Dramatic though those events were, neither means much on its own for the long-term picture. The last global climate assessment by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 2007 said that "dynamic" melting — where ice loss suddenly accelerates, for example because sea temperatures rise — was too poorly understood to be accurately modelled.

The new Danish paper is one of a number that have emerged since in an attempt to improve understanding.

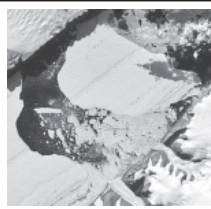
In recent years, satellites have found fast rates of retreat in a number of Greenlandic glaciers, as well as an overall loss of mass as measured by the Grace mission, which detects minuscule changes in the Earth's gravitational field.

But other studies suggested the rapid retreat was not consistent. With the two most important satellite missions — Grace and ICESat — dating back less than a decade, there is obviously a danger that scientists will decipher accurately what is happening now and assume this is a constant pattern.

The Danish team realised they could effectively extend the measurement record back in time, by using images obtained during aerial survey missions to compile a model of how the coastal region of the ice sheet behaved over time.

"We've used a combination of old aerial photographs from the 1980s to construct a digital elevation map, and recent satellite data," said Shfaqat Abbas Khan of the Technical University of Denmark, one of the project team. "In this way we've been able to gain an overview of the thinning of the ice sheet over the last 30 years in northwestern Greenland."

The overall trend is a "pronounced" thinning — by 100-150m in most of the glacier outlets, by much less in between them. In parallel, the



The giant slab that broke off the Petermann glacier is continuing its journey.—INTERNET

glacier snouts have retreated by up to 12km.

Within that there is a lot of variation, with many examples where one glacier has thinned much more than its neighbour. About three-quarters of the ice mass lost across the northwest region during the second period of rapid decline — 2005-10 — occurred in the coastal zone.

The researchers were able to show that there was a relatively stable spell in between the two periods of rapid loss, and suggest that this part of Greenland may be entering another stable interlude.

Until the long-term pattern is resolved, they suggest, it will not be possible to forecast sea level rise from Greenland's water store with any accuracy. — *Internet*

Samsung to unveil new Galaxy Note in late August

SEOUL, 3 Aug — Samsung Electronics is set to take the wraps off a sequel to its popular Galaxy Note smartphone at an event on 29 August, about two weeks before the possible debut of Apple's new iPhone. The two arch rivals are bracing for a full-blown battle with the expected rollouts of the two key models coming as they lock horns in a high-stakes patent trial in the United States. "We plan to unveil the next Galaxy Note at the Samsung Mobile Unpacked event in Berlin on 29 August," a Samsung spokesman said on Friday, without elaborating. The event will take place two days before the opening of Europe's biggest consumer electronics trade fair IFA.

South Korean media reports speculate the new Galaxy Note may feature an unbreakable, 5.5-inch display — slightly larger than the current one — as well as a faster processor and a much better camera. Samsung, once a laggard in the smartphone market, overtook Apple last year to become the world's

largest smartphone maker. The South Korean firm is looking to defend its supremacy by refreshing its line-up ahead of the launch of the fifth version of Apple's iPhone, widely expected to be released in October. Samsung launched its flagship Galaxy S III in May, while Apple is planning a major product launch on 12 Sept, stoking speculation the company may announce the sale of its redesigned iPhone.

Samsung is estimated to have increased smartphone shipments to 50.5 million in the April to June quarter of this year, nearly double the 26 million iPhones sold. Apple shipments in the June quarter tumbled 26 percent on the previous quarter as the European economy sagged and consumers held off on buying ahead of the release of the iPhone 5. The two tech titans also started a trial in a US court this week in a patent battle triggered by Apple's lawsuit last year claiming that Samsung slavishly copied Apple's smartphones and tablets. Samsung has countersued. — *Reuters*

US resists control of Internet passing to UN agency

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The US has confirmed it would resist efforts to put the internet under the control of the United Nations. At present several non-profit US bodies oversee the net's technical specifications and domain name system. They operate at arms-length from the US government but officially under the remit of its Department of Commerce. There has been speculation that other nations will push for a change later this year, but they cannot force the US to comply. The US has set out its position in documents filed with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) — the UN agency responsible for encouraging the development of communications technologies.

The ITU is hosting a conference in December in Dubai to which representatives from 178 nations have been invited to review the International Telecommunications Regulations (ITR). The ITR is a 1988 treaty which set out rules for how traffic should flow between different telecom networks, and how to calculate charges for traffic exchanged between carriers in different



The UN's Dr Toure says any change to governance of the Internet must be supported by all countries.—INTERNET

countries. The rise of the internet and mobile devices has led to calls for it to be revised, but countries are expected to disagree over the changes needed. The US's ambassador to the conference, Terry Kramer, outlined his worries in a statement published by the country's Department of State.

"The US is concerned that proposals by some other governments could lead to greater regulatory burdens being placed on the international telecom sector, or perhaps even extended to the internet sector," he wrote. "The United States also believes that existing multi-stakeholder institutions, incorporating industry and civil society, have functioned effectively and will continue to ensure the health and growth of the Internet and all its benefits."

The ITU does not publish submissions by each country — leaving it up to the individual states to decide which material to release. But a site called Wcileaks.org has posted proposals leaked to it. They include a submission from Russia suggesting the ITU could become responsible for allocating at least some of the internet's addresses as well as the "determination of the necessary requirements". At present US-based Icaann (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) co-ordinates the codes and numbering systems, deciding which new internet address endings should be allowed as an alternative to .com. It then leaves it to ISPs (Internet service providers) to assign

individual addresses.

President Vladimir Putin has signalled Russia's final submission could go further. In 2011 he said he was keen to discuss "establishing international control over the Internet using the monitoring and supervisory capabilities of the International Telecommunication Union". The *Russia Today* news service has since reported that China and India had backed this stance. But the ITU has made it clear that any changes to the treaty must have unanimous support, and it would block members trying to put any matter to a vote. "We never vote because voting means winners and losers and you can't afford that," Dr Hamadoun Toure, the ITU's secretary-general told the BBC. — *Internet*



The ITU conference will take place in Dubai from 3 to 12 December.—INTERNET

A man uses his mobile phone at a Samsung Electronics store in the company's main office building in Seoul on 27 July, 2012.
REUTERS



Deforestation in Brazil's Amazon rainforest down 23 pct

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 Aug — Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon rainforest fell 23 percent in the 12 months ending in July 2012 from the previous year, the Brazilian government announced on Thursday.

According to the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment, 2,040 square km of woods were cut down from August 2011 to July 2012, meaning that almost 700 square km of woods were spared, compared to the same time frame last year. Logging in almost all states within the Amazon rainforest area in Brazil fell with Roraima in the northern border as the only exception, where deforestation rose 218 percent in this period. The

sharpest decrease, 67 percent, was registered in Maranhao state.

According to Environment Minister Izabella Teixeira, the reduction in deforestation was a direct result of the enforcement of laws against illegal logging and the improvement of monitoring systems. The minister explained that the satellite monitoring system to verify deforestation in some regions did not function well last year due to clouds. Brazil's National Institute for Space Research will launch a new satellite, which is scheduled to be operational by January 2013. With the new equipment, monitoring is expected to improve further. — *Xinhua*

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Apple applies for patent on iPad Smart Cover with embedded display



Apple applies for patent on iPad Smart Cover with embedded display.
XINHUA

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Aug — Documents made public on Thursday showed that Apple has applied for a patent on an iPad Smart Cover with an embedded secondary display designed to enhance the functionality of the tablet computer.

"A tablet device with a flexible cover is disclosed. Thin flexible display technology can be integrated into the flexible cover without affecting the overall form factor of the cover or tablet device.

Adding the integrated display to the flexible cover greatly enhances the overall functionality of the tablet device," said Apple in a patent application released by the US Patent and Trademark Office.

According to the file, at least one portion of the future Smart Cover's flexible flap will take power and data from a connector on the side of the iPad and present visual information.

The embedded display

could be used to show some extra icons, operate as a separate media control interface or display notifications, said Apple in the file.

Meanwhile, a battery could be incorporated within the Smart Cover to cut down battery recharging, and this battery could take many forms, such as solar panels and radio frequency energy collection antennas.

Resembling Microsoft's new Surface tablet cover that has a keyboard, parts of Apple's flexible flap in the future may also include a keyboard or serve as a separate touch pad to bring the tablet experience closer to a conventional laptop computer.

Some analysts noted that patents like the new Smart Cover can offer a glimpse into Apple's fancy ideas for its products in the future, although they don't always lead to a final product.

Xinhua

Sharp shares fall 30% after it warns losses will grow

TOKYO, 3 Aug — Shares in Japanese television maker Sharp have dropped 30% after it warned that losses this year would be eight times bigger than first thought.

The firm said it now expects a full-year loss of 250bn yen (\$3.2bn; £2.05bn), up from its earlier estimate of 30bn yen.

Sharp and other Japanese firms have been hit by a strong yen and tougher

foreign competition.

On Thursday, Sharp said it would cut 5,000 jobs to reduce costs. Sharp announced its loss adjustment as part of its quarterly earnings report.

During the three months running from the start of April to the end of June, the firm reported a net loss of 138.4bn yen, compared with 49.3bn yen the previous year.

Internet



Japanese electronics firms have been losing ground to rivals from South Korea and China.

INTERNET

ECB signals may buy euro zone bonds

FRANKFURT, 3 Aug — The European Central Bank indicated on Thursday it may again start buying government bonds to reduce crippling Spanish and Italian borrowing costs but the conditions it set and the dissenting voice of its key German member disappointed markets. In the latest move to contain the euro zone crisis, ECB President Mario Draghi indicated that any intervention would not come before September — and only if governments activated the euro zone's bail-out funds to join the ECB in buying bonds. "The Governing Council ... may undertake outright open market operations of a size adequate to reach its objective," Draghi told a news conference after the central bank's monthly meeting, using the central bank's code for bond-buying.

The ECB kept euro zone interest rates at a record low 0.75 percent but Draghi said

the council did consider a further rate cut on Thursday amid signs that an economic recession in peripheral European countries is spreading across the continent. A Reuters poll of nearly 50 economists after Draghi spoke found that most expect the ECB to start buying Italian and Spanish bonds in September and to cut rates to 0.50 percent. Draghi was under intense pressure from investors, European leaders

But shares and the euro fell after the ECB chief's remarks, and Spanish and Italian bond yields jumped, with Spain's 10-year paper vaulting over the 7 percent danger level. "It is quite disappointing ... There is a lack of any action so he has basically passed the buck back on to politicians," said Ioan Smith, strategist at Knight Capital. Draghi said three ECB committees would now work on detailed methods of intervention and



The headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB) is pictured in Frankfurt on 30 July, 2012.
REUTERS

and the United States to deliver on a pledge he made last week to do whatever it takes to preserve the euro by bringing high borrowing costs down.

a decision on whether to go ahead would be taken at a later stage.

If the central bank did step in to buy bonds, it would act to assuage investors'

US researchers find potential target for treating diabetes, obesity

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — US researchers at Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis have identified a potential target for treating diabetes and obesity, according to a study published online on Thursday in the journal *Cell Metabolism*. Studying mice, the researchers found that when the target protein was disabled, the animals became more sensitive to insulin and were less likely to get fat even when they ate a high-fat diet that caused their

littermates to become obese.

They studied how the body manufactures fat from dietary sources such as carbohydrates. That process requires an enzyme called fatty acid synthase (FAS). Mice engineered so that they

don't make FAS in their fat cells can eat a high-fat diet without becoming obese. "Mice without FAS were significantly more resistant to obesity than their wild-type littermates," said first author Irfan Lodhi. "And



US researchers find potential target for treating diabetes, obesity.
XINHUA

it wasn't because they ate less. The mice ate just as much fatty food, but they metabolized more of the fat and released it as heat."

To understand why that happened, the researchers analyzed the mice's fat cells. Mice have two types of fat: white fat and brown fat. White fat stores excess calories and contributes to obesity. Brown fat helps burn calories and protects against obesity. In mice genetically blocked from making fatty acid synthase in fat cells, the researchers noticed that the animals' white fat was transformed into tissue that resembled brown fat.

Xinhua

'Spray-on skin' helps heal leg ulcers

LONDON, 3 Aug — A "spray-on skin" which coats a wound with a layer of skin cells could help healing, according to US and Canadian researchers. The spray was tested on 228 people with leg ulcers, which are painful open wounds that can last for months. The findings, published in the *Lancet*, showed that ulcers treated with the spray were more likely to heal and did so more quickly. Experts said faster healing could save money despite the cost of the spray.

Leg ulcers are hard to treat. The best treatment, compression bandages, will heal only about 70% of ulcers after six months. Other options include taking skin from somewhere else on the body and grafting it over the wound.

Instead the spray puts a coating of donated skin cells and blood-clotting proteins over the ulcer. In the study, patients who were given the spray-on-skin every 14 days showed the most improvement.

The researchers said the size of the wound "began to decrease rapidly" as soon as the treatment started. In the patients who had the spray, 70% were healed after three months compared with 46% who received other treatment. The spray was developed by Healthpoint Biotherapeutics in the US, which also funded the research.

One of the scientists involved, Dr Herbert Slade, said: "The treatment we tested in this study has the potential to vastly improve recovery times and overall recovery from leg

ulcers, without the need for a skin graft. "This means not only that the patient doesn't acquire a new wound where the graft is taken from, but also that the spray-on solution can be available as soon as required—skin grafts take a certain amount of time to prepare, which exposes the patient to further discomfort and risk of infection."

The study largely tested the safety of the spray and the best dose to use, further studies will decide if it is a practical treatment for leg ulcers. Leg ulcers are most commonly caused by high blood pressure in the veins of the legs which damage the skin, causing it to break down and develop into an open wound. —Internet



A "spray-on skin" which coats a wound with a layer of skin cells could help healing, according to US and Canadian researchers. —INTERNET

Facebook shares dive as deadline for insider sales nears



Pedestrians walk near the NASDAQ Marketsite at the start of the listing for Facebook in New York on 18 May, 2012.—REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Aug — Facebook shares crumbled again on Thursday, sending the once-feverishly sought-after name below \$20 for the first time as investors scrambled to get out of the way of a potential share deluge in coming weeks.

Thursday marked a five-day losing streak for the stock. Facebook has shed almost \$50 billion in value since its debut — more than the total

valuation of Hewlett-Packard Co or Starbucks Corp. The stock debuted at \$38 and has headed south since, pummeled by growing doubts about its lofty valuation, growth prospects, high-profile departures.

Now, investors are struggling to understand the impact of the expiry on 16 August of a lockup period on insiders' sales. That's when the first restrictions barring

employees and early investors from selling goes away, opening a spigot to roughly 1.88 billion additional shares for trading by year's end. Some investors said the stock's downward slide may actually lessen the deadline's impact as insiders opt to wait. But at the very least, doubts about Facebook's business permeating Wall Street will keep the shares constrained for some time. "Just because the lock-ups expire doesn't mean people are going to rush to the exits," said Topeka Capital Markets analyst Anthony Victor. But he saw little upside in the near term. Predicting whether Facebook insiders will sell their shares, even as the stock plumbs new lows, is a tricky. Most Facebook employees have restricted stock units — considered a major draw in fast-growing Web powers' drive to attract top-flight talent — but are given years to sell them.—Reuters

Apple seeks severe punishment for Samsung lawyer's actions

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Aug — Apple Inc asked a US judge on Thursday to punish Samsung Electronics Co Ltd for a Samsung attorney's conduct by ordering that the South Korean company has infringed Apple's phone design patents, according to a court filing. However, Samsung called Apple's demand "frivolous" and "unprecedented" in a legal brief filed later in the day. Trial began this week in a high stakes litigation between the two companies. Apple sued Samsung last year in San Jose, California federal court, accusing Samsung of copying the iPhone and iPad. Samsung has countersued.

US District Judge Lucy Koh on Tuesday had barred

Samsung's attorneys from presenting some evidence during opening statements. Later that afternoon, Samsung emailed reporters links to that material, along with a statement that "fundamental fairness requires that the jury decide the case based on all the evidence." Samsung attorney John Quinn, of the law firm Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, acknowledged in a court filing this week that he authorized the press statement but said it was not designed to influence the jury.

"The members of the jury had already been selected at the time of the statement and the transmission of these public exhibits, and had been specifically instructed not to

read any form of media relating to this case," Quinn wrote. Apple called his



Attendees sit in front of an Apple logo during the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference 2012 in San Francisco, California on 11 June, 2012.—REUTERS

conduct "egregious, because it impugned the integrity of the court," according to its legal brief on Thursday.

A typical sanction for attorney misbehavior is a

monetary fine, but Apple is asking Koh to rule that Apple's phone design patents in the case are valid, and that Samsung has infringed them.—Reuters

Oklahoma is so hot that street lamps are melting

NEW YORK, 3 Aug — It's hard not to be concerned with global warming when its effects are right in front of your eyes. Sure, it's one thing when the ocean begins to reclaim islands, but when you can see the effects in your hometown, well, that's another story altogether. Case in point: KFOR TV in Stillwater, Oklahoma is reporting that temperatures are so high that the street lamps have begun melting. To be sure, Stillwater is suffering from one heck of a heatwave. It's expected to reach 115 there today, 108 on Friday, and 109 on Saturday.

And warmer temperatures are nothing new: July represented the 23rd month out of the last 28 that came in warmer than average.

It's possible the heat itself isn't responsible for the event — it's being reported on Facebook that a nearby dumpster fire may have been the cause of the melting plastic light housings. Still, that dumpster fire was caused and aggravated by the record heat and dryness. And if dangerous, spontaneous fires aren't reason enough to go green, we don't know what is.—Internet



Iraqi police and internal security forces stop cars at a checkpoint in central Baghdad in July 2012. Iraq attacks mainly targeting security force personnel killed at least 33 people on Thursday.

INTERNET

BAGHDAD, 3 Aug — Iraq attacks mainly targeting security force personnel killed at least 33 people on Thursday, officials said, after government figures showed July was the

NASA confident ahead of nail-biter Mars landing

HOUSTON, 3 Aug — NASA said all was well ahead of its nail-biting mission to Mars, with its most advanced robotic rover poised to hunt for clues about past life and water on Earth's nearest planetary neighbour.

On a two-year journey to seek out signs of environments that once sustained life, the landing of the Mars Science Laboratory and the largest and most sophisticated rover ever built, Curiosity, is set for 1:31 am 6 August (0531 GMT). "The mission is going extremely well," said Pete Theisinger, director of the Engineering and Science Directorate at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

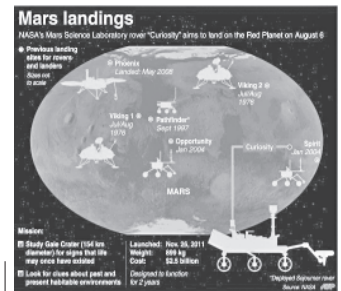
"Everything is really on track... so we are really good to go three days out. "If all continues to go well, the unmanned rover will touch down in Gale Crater, one of the lowest points on Mars, where scientists believe the waters of ancient rivers flowing downhill once pooled.

The crater also contains a mountain that rises higher than any in the 48 continental US states, and should provide loads of information about the past through its sedimentary layers.

"When we do (land), we will have started an era of a whole new dimension of space exploration on the surface of another planet, and this is the dimension of deep time," said

John Grotzinger, project scientist for the Mars Science Laboratory. Describing Mars as a "planet that is kind of like our cousin," Grotzinger said he was hopeful that many questions would be answered on the mission, including how the once wet planet became so dry. The mountain, Mount Sharp, is near Mars' equator and may hold as much as a billion years of history in its layers, dating back some three to four billion years ago "when the planet may have been more like Earth," he told reporters.

Internet



NASA's Mars Science Laboratory landing site as well as previous touchdowns for rovers and landers on the Red Planet.—INTERNET

Knight's future in balance after trading disaster

NEW YORK, 3 Aug — Knight Capital Group Inc fought for survival on Thursday after a \$440 million trading loss caused by a software glitch wiped out much of its capital, forcing Knight to seek new funding as its shares plunged as much as 80 percent in two days. Many of the company's biggest customers, including TD Ameritrade, the No 1 US retail brokerage by trading volume, and fund giants Vanguard and Fidelity Investments, stopped routing orders through Knight. One of the biggest fears is that the company will collapse, landing trading clients and creditors with losses.

"They have about 48 hours to shore up confidence," said James Koutoulas, head

of an advocacy group for former customers of failed brokerages MF Global and Peregrine Financial. Knight said it is "actively pursuing its strategic and financing alternatives," raising the likelihood the firm will be sold or face bankruptcy because of the loss, which is about four times its annual net earnings, and the subsequent damage to its business as customers



A trader works at the Knight Capital kiosk on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on 1 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

and others question its stability. As one of the leading market makers in US stocks, Knight is among the firms that are critical to smooth, orderly trading. Market makers match orders from buyers and sellers and often provide liquidity by stepping into the market themselves. The speed at which Knight has unraveled has been particularly unnerving for investors and markets. It resulted from problems with the firm's trading software that sent bogus, rapid-fire trades into the market for 45 minutes on Wednesday and left Knight with big losses on numerous stocks it bought at inflated prices.—Reuters

Iraq attacks kill 33 people

bloodiest month in almost two years. At least 39 people have been killed in violence in the first two days of August, which have seen a number of attacks on security forces and their facilities, including a prison, a military site and checkpoints. At least nine people were killed and at least 32 wounded in a car bombing in the Husseiniyah area of north Baghdad, medical officials said.

In the northern oil city of Kirkuk, militants attacked the home of a Turkmen family, cutting the throats of a father, mother and two daughters, an AFP correspondent reported. Gunmen killed seven soldiers

and wounded 11 others in three separate attacks south of the city, according to security and medical officials and Shalal Abed Ahmed, mayor of Tuz Khurmatu, where one of the attacks took place. Gunmen also shot dead four police in Tikrit, north of Baghdad, while three members of the Sahwa anti-Qaeda militia were killed by a bomb near Balad, also north of the capital, security and medical officials said.

And gunmen attacked a checkpoint near a police station northeast of Samarra, killing one police and one Sahwa member, a police captain and a hospital source in Samarra said.—Internet

MY POETIC RECOLLECTIONS

By Ba Than

Learning of English for me, is indeed a life-long study beginning from early years of childhood through high school, continuing to the four-year first degree and supposedly ending with post-grad Masters academic courses in the Universities. Actually real life learning did not end with the University degree Q.E.D! Whimsically it starts where the other ends and still continues, enriched by nature's teachings around us. In my prime years of adulthood and maturity, after years of reading, I took up writing to broaden my outlook and also to share with other like-minded learners in devoted self-improvement.

The university had opened up my adolescent mindset to exciting new avenues of learning scope and discipline. In my two-year intermediate course in the newly opened *Anyar University College* of Mandalay (1947-49), English was my favourite subject, Sayagyi John Moonie was the English Lecturer, Saya Ko Ko Gyi was the Tutor, and English poetry was my passion. In fact poetry was introduced in the high school years with two texts: *'Poetry for Pleasure'* and *'The Golden Gate'*. Our generation of oldies who attended post war matriculation classes and ensuing 1947 University will not forget *'The Lady of Shalott'* by poet Tennyson or *'La Belle Dame Sans Merci'*, by poet Keats.

In 1949 I moved to the Yangon University to attend the two-year Bachelor of Arts course (1949-51), taking English Literature as one of the subjects. The foremost scholar and Rector, the late Dr. Htin Aung was teaching us Poetry. This was my first year B.A. class in the Yangon University of regional fame and the first time to face the famous *guru* of the world of letters. I was tense and thrilled knowing not what to expect. There was a little ruffle outside, and a short portly lecturer with black flowing academic gown and thick rimmed glasses entered the classroom. He climbed the raised platform and stood at the lectern facing the class. Hundreds of eyes focused on the eminent teacher and waited expectantly. He gave a casual glance, opened the poetry text: *'The Golden Treasury'* and began his lecture on Omar Khayyam beginning with the first line: *'Awake! For Morning in the Bowl of Night...'*

For the entire 50 minutes he read the verses, explained simple understandable prose for all to follow. Presently the bell rang. The teacher looked up, stopped his lecture, closed his textbook and quietly left the classroom to move on to another class. I was completely enthralled. The class, so silent and attentive, was now full of din and commotion as all rushed out to attend other subject combinations. I also moved with the jolting students, but the poetic melody and magic still chimed deep in my mind. Day after day for weeks on end Sayagyi taught us the classical verses, the rhythms flowing sometimes like gentle streams, sometimes like roaring waterfalls, sometimes so calm without ripples, following the mood, tempo, meter and rhyme of the poems. The Persian philosopher poet Khayyam totally bewitched me with the beautiful strains of verses, pulsated my heart

and showed me his Paradise:

*A Book of Verses underneath the Bough,
A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread—and Thou
Beside me singing in Wilderness—
Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow!*

Many more of Omar's philosophy indulging in the ecstasy of poetry with appeal to enjoy the pleasures of life without too much reflections, were taught wittily by Sayagyi with unmatched eloquence. Omar was better known as mathematician and astronomer than as a poet. He had composed around 500 *rubais* or quatrains in Persian language during his life time. An English country gentleman Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883) translated *Rubaiyat* into English 50 years later and brought instant fame.

It was too precious to let the magic and eloquence of the Scholar fade away. Thus I attentively followed the lectures as quick as my hands could write. Back in the hostel after class, I fair-copied the lectures into an orderly form in a new exercise book. The note was already lost but the lectures remained, to readily recall will. It was amazing that Sayagyi brought only the textbook he was to teach at the class. All these marvelous stanzas, paraphrases and explanations came out like tinkling bells naturally; clear, precise and to the point. There was no dictation, no handouts, no language drills. He might have been prophetically teaching us, guiding us to the methodology of the universal open university he had studied in institutes of higher learning years before, for development of our future students not yet born. He showed us the ideal path and wisely left us to our own means to perfect ourselves.

'Listen to the Brook', the famed Teacher might have said in his mind as he called us to follow Lord Tennyson's Brook from source, *'through coot and fern; then, slip, slide, gleam and glance among skimming swallows'*; as southward bound it goes. I followed the magical musical chimes, rhythm and rhymes, meter and melody of the beautiful verses. Then along the landscape he toured us to the river thus:

*I chatter, chatter as I flow
To join the brimming river;
For men may come and men may go,
But I go on forever.*

I was so absorbed with Omar and Tennyson that I did not notice the shuffle of feet, the swish of the gown and momentary silence in the room. I looked up. Sayagyi had already left a little early before the class bell had rung.

Recalling my dimmed memory of the past sixty years I had never missed Sayagyi's poetry sessions for the two years of the B.A. classes. The same routine followed where he taught us classical poems composed for posterity by famous poets: Shakespeare, Milton, Lord Tennyson, Byron, Shelley, Wordsworth, Keats, Brownings (Robert and Elizabeth), and the Rossettis (Dante and Christina), Thomas Hardy and many others.

In our University students' days of the '50s, campus life was part and parcel of our social activities. There were so many to move around apart from the academic studies: in hostels, sporting grounds where students excel in tennis (blues and half-blues); football where Varsity X1 team were venues for upcoming talent, and won many cups and shields in national tournaments with the chorus *'Varsity, varsity...ra..ra..ra'* echoing the AungSan Stadium as spectators boisterously cheered. There were also debates where students displayed their wits and Promote Hall always emerging as leaders. All these extra-curricular activities, point out to the fact that the University was good training ground to make a University graduate an all-round adult in the work years ahead. There were other co-ed activities too as two ladies' dorms, Inya and Benton receive their counterparts from central hostels, Wellington, North, Promote and Tagaung. Social dinners followed where dainty damsels, dressed in all their finery *a la mode* attended, and in turns reciprocated, entertained by *A-Nyeint dances and jokes*. It was also here that boy met girl, made steady date for future partner to live happily ever after.

There were also intellectual activities such as *Brain Trust sessions* where professors, public dignitaries, scholars sat at the panel to answer questions posed by students amidst much fun and laughter. It was also a well-rounded training to groom students to meet any challenges and eventualities. On one session where I attended a jovial student challenged the panel to compose an impromptu verse about Pho Toke, wearing a ragged pasoe and going to Mogok. He might have spotted the unmistakable Sayagyi Dr Htin Aung among the illustrious panel. Sayagyi willingly obliged thus:

*'My name is Pho Toke,
Wearing a pasoe-zoke;
I go to Mogok,
With gyo-gyogyokegyoke,
And I play with my gyo-yoke...'*

Tumultuous roar of laughter and applause echoed the open ground cheering the witty versification, joined by the great scholar poet and panel members. It was indeed a never-to-be-forgotten experience. In addition to Poetry I learned Shakespeare's classical dramas, modern plays, and prose taught by equally excellent teachers.

All these academic and intellectual pursuits has laid in limbo since 1953 till 2010 when I started to translate classical English poems into Myanmar verse for *Thuta Padetha* monthly magazine. This was my eulogy. In deep devotion I paid obeisance to the Late Sayagyi Dr Htin Aung my perpetual Guru for making me what I am today, *albeit* a mere ripple in the vast expanse of the uncharted ocean.

May he enjoy the virtues of Pyinnya charity and attain peace through end of suffering!

Breastfeeding Week and Nourishment Week kick off in Yangon Region

YANGON, 3 Aug—World Breastfeeding Week and Nourishment Week of Yangon Region kicked off at University of Nursing in Lanmadaw Township, here on 1 August, with an address by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Head of Yangon Region Health Department Dr Aye Ko Ko explained activities of World Breastfeeding Week and Nourishment Week. Deputy General Manager of Yangon Region Myanmar Salt and Marine Chemical Enterprise U Ohn Mya

explained ongoing work plans under nationwide iodization programme.

Patron of the region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Thet Htay awarded members who won prizes in quiz in commemoration of the weeks.

The region chief minister and party viewed the commemorative booth on activities of breastfeeding week and nourishment week and sample testing of the quality of iodized salt. They fed Vitamin-A tablets to U-5



children and distributed iron tablets and Vitamin B-1 tablets to expectant mothers.

MNA

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe speaking at launching ceremony of World Breastfeeding Week and Nourishment Week of Yangon Region.—MNA

Palethwe paddy, high yield groundnut plantations inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspected thriving 100-acre Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation of KMA Co in the irrigated area of No.2 canal of Ngalaik Dam, here, this morning.

The Union Minister viewed preparation for cultivation of groundnut on 10 acres of farmland and thriving Palethwe hybrid paddy plantations on 17 acres and 10 acres of farmlands.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union Minister stressed the need to accelerate agricultural educative works to farmers in this

cultivation season while establishing the paddy plantations in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. He said that 100-acre model paddy plantations in all eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area to enable the local farmers to observe the advantages of paddy farms. Depending on the market, farmers are to be organized for cultivation of groundnut as cash crop in addition to paddy, he said. At present, monsoon groundnut is to be grown on 10-acre farmland in time to be able to use it as quality strain for cold season crop, he added. He urged the farmers of regions and states to cultivate cash crops in addition to paddy.—MNA



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing visits 100-acre farmland of Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation of KMA Co.

MNA

Quality strains key to higher per acre yield, says chief minister

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint addressed agricultural development workshop of Mandalay Region at Region Agriculture Department on 1 August.

He said cultivation of

quality strains suited for the land of the region would boost per acre yield. Although the region has only 65 per cent of food sufficiency, the cultivation of cotton, beans and pulses, and edible oil crops would be encouraged.

The chief minister said the region is an agro-based one. Agriculture could boost its chances for economic development. Requirements of the people and farmers must be fulfilled.

The shift to quality strains could generate more incomes for farmers than that of conventional farming.

Their industrious efforts deserve right prices. Mechanized farming could save labour, cost and time, facilitating agricultural development which also demands associations. He tipped that the workshop would profit the farmers.

Region Agriculture and Livestock Minister U Myint Than, who chaired the workshop, also delivered an address. Officials, agriculturalists and farmers participated in discussion where increasing yield and mechanized farming were put on table.

MNA



Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi receives UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana and party. (News on Page 1)—MNA

Fire Brigade members of Mandalay Region honoured

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—A ceremony to honour the members of Fire Brigade in Mandalay Region for their contributions to rehabilitation of Rakhine State was held at Yunnan Buddhist Temple on 80th street between 31st and 32nd streets in Mandalay on 30 July.

Mandalay Region Planning and Economic Minister U Aung Zan on behalf of the Mandalay Region Government expressed his thanks for those participating in rehabilitation of Rakhine State. Deputy Head of Mandalay Region Fire Services Department U Htet Aung recounted his experiences in rehabilitation.

After that, Secretary U Win Sein donated K 2 million for the members of Mandalay Region Fire Brigade, the Board of Directors of Zaygyodaw Cooperative Ltd gifts worth K 120,000 and Company Commander U Aye Ko of Eindawya Fire Brigade of Chanayethazan Township 150 bottles of soft drink to the officials.—MNA

Cash donation for locals of Rakhine State continues

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Relief and Resettlement Department (Head Office) under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement accepted donations for the people in Rakhine State who lost their houses and property in order to relieve their sufferings.

Ma Khin Pa Pa Win donated K 50,000 to mark the ninth birthday on 29 July, Ko Ye Yint Aung-Ma Moe Thida Aung and family K 40,000 in memory of late Daw Khin Kyi on 30 July, Daw Tin Tin Aye (helper of copying machine) of Relief and Resettlement Department various clothes worth K 2,500 on 31 July, U Than Win (Retd Staff Officer of Irrigation Department)-Daw Than Than Myint and family various sorts of clothes worth K 218,200 on 1 August, Dr Khin San Nwe (Assistant Director) of the Department of Atomic Energy, Ministry of Science and Technology, K 20,000.

Officials of Relief and Resettlement Department accepted cash and kind donations, gave certificates of honour to the wellwishers and spoke words of thank.—MNA

Local people of Rakhine State provided with cash and foodstuff

YANGON, 3 Aug—Wellwishers continued to donate cash and foodstuff for locals of Rakhine State, at Fire Services Department (Head Office) in Mayangon Township here this morning.

Dr U Aung Myat Kyaw and Dr Daw Shin Moe Thu contributed K 210,000 and three bales of cloth, U Thway Myint and Daw Htay Htay of Dagon Myothit (North) Township K 100,000, U Tin Maung Lwin and Daw Kyin Win of Sangyoung Township K 50,000, U Aye Tun and Daw Mya Mya Kyi of Dagon Myothit (North) Township K 30,000, Padaung Township Fire Services Department members K 10,000, Social Vision Service items, story books and clothes worth K 2,354,000, U Myat Moe (a) U Oo Kyin Hla of Kyauktada Township K 10,000 and two bales of cloth and U Maung Maung and family of Dagon Myothit (North) seven bales of cloth. Director-General of Fire Services Department U Tin Moe and personnel accepted the donations and returned them certificates of honour. The donations so far made at the Fire Services Department (Head Office) has amounted to K 313037823.

MNA

Myanmar National Sports Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu enjoys inter-ministry football tournament opener.

MNA



Inter-ministry men's football tournament 2012 kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—The inter-ministry men's football tournament 2012 kicked off at the pitch of Nay Pyi Taw FC in Paunglaung Sports ground, Pyinmana Township this evening, attended by Secretary of Myanmar National Sports Committee Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu, deputy ministers of various ministries, officials and staff personnel and special guests.

The tournament is the sixth of its kind with a view to creating relaxing environment and unity and friendship among the staff of ministries, contributing to national health and refreshing the staff to be able take more duties.

Players of 28 contending teams took positions in the pitch and the deputy minister made an opening address.

Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation team played against Ministry of Immigration and Population team in the debut in which the former beat the latter 2-1.

MNA



South Okkalapa BEPS No 10 facilitated with new building



YANGON, 3 Aug—A ceremony to hand over new school building namely Kyanyopan was held at No 11 Basic Education Primary School in Ward 10 of South Okkalapa Township of

Yangon Region on 22 July morning.

Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Director U Myint Soe of No 3 Basic Education Department and wellwisher

Daw Khin Kyi formally opened the new school building.

The donor explained the purpose of donation and handed over documents related to the school building to Township Education Officer U Ye Tint.

The school building is 120 feet long and 30 feet wide one-storey RC facility.

The building was constructed at a cost of K 65 million.

Myanma Alin

Supply of electricity extended in Meiktila

YANGON, 3 Aug—A ceremony to launch self-reliant supply of electricity was held in Mahasi extended ward in Htamonkan Village-tract of Meiktila Township of Mandalay Region on 26 July.

Chairman of Ward Electricity Supply Committee U Chit Hla explained the tasks for the committee and townselder U Zaw Htay spoke words of thanks.

Next, officials formally launched the electricity

supply.

The local people installed a 315WA 11/0.4KV 11000 voltage transformer on a self-reliant basis at Mahasi Extended Ward by spending K51.8 million.

Kyemon

Taxation knowledge shared to teachers, students in Nattalin

NATTALIN, 3 Aug—Nattalin Township Internal Revenue Department of Bago Region and Township Education Office jointly gave a talk on taxation at Basic Education High School No 2 in Nattalin of Bago Region on 18 July.

At the talk, Head of Township Internal Revenue Department Daw Oo Shwe Yin and Deputy Head of Department Daw Tin Tin Htay explained tax system of Myanmar, purpose of levying taxes, responsibility of every citizen to pay tax, matters related to commercial tax, income tax, stamp tax and Aungbalay Lottery tax to teachers and students.

Myanma Alin

Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation thriving in Ponnagyun Township



PONNAGYUN, 3 Aug—Under the arrangements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Rakhine State, Palethwe hybrid paddy are put on farmlands and now the saplings are

thriving.

On 21 July, Head of Rakhine State Agriculture Department U Khin Maung Win showed the saplings to observers at the farmlands of farmer U Thein Maung in

Yebyukan Village in Ponnagyun Township.

Later, the head of state department explained advantages of the paddy strain.

Myanma Alin

Monsoon paddy grown through good agriculture pattern in Kalay

KALAY, 3 Aug—A demonstration on cultivation of monsoon paddy through good agriculture pattern was held on the farmland of farmer U Khun Hsat in Mauklin Village-tract in Kalay Township on 15 July.

Head of District Agriculture Department U Thaik Soe explained use of ways and means for boosting production of paddy per acre yield.

Head of Township Agriculture Department U

Maung Maung briefed those present on 14-point good agriculture pattern.

Staff of the department together with female paddy transplanters participated in demonstration of growing paddy.—Myanma Alin

Heavy rains hit Mongyu of Mongpyhat

MONGYU, 3 Aug—Heavy rains hit Mongyu of Mongpyhat District from 24 to 26 July.

In consequence, ten houses on both sides of the road, communication

station, Forest Department and Pre-Primary School were flooded with two feet deep water.

A total of 39 flood victims were evacuated to the safe places with the

assistance of the Sub-Township Administrator, departmental personnel and local people. At present, duties are assigned to personnel and people for water sentry.—Kyemon

COMBINE HARVESTER PRESENTED: Township Administrator U Maung Maung presented a combine harvester for farmers in paddy production in Ingyinkan Village of Yamethin Township on 21 July. The chairman and party of Farming Development Group accepts donation.

MYANMA ALIN



District News

Outstanding students, teachers honoured in Shwegyin

SHWEGYIN, 3 Aug—A ceremony to honour outstanding students in the 2011-2012 academic year matriculation examination and outstanding teachers who turned out outstanding students was held at Pyinnya Yadana Hall in Shwegyin Township of Bago District in Bago Region on 20 July.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Khin Thein Maung explained conditions of education and social sectors in line with the

process of reform period.

The Township Education Officer reported on progress of township education.

After that, wellwishers donated cash to the township administrator and officials who returned certificates of honour.

Next, the township administrator and officials presented prizes to 35 outstanding students and 28 outstanding teachers.

Myanma Alin

Book Fair staged in Myingyan District

MYINGYAN, 3 Aug—Myingyan District Information and Public Relations Department of Mandalay Region organized the book fair at its office on 16 July morning.

Chairperson of Myingyan District Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Hla Wai and Staff Officer of District IPRD Daw Mya Win Kyi formally opened the

book fair.

After that, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Win Tin, Township Administrator U Shwe Maung, district and township level departmental personnel, members of district and township WAOs and Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, ward administrators and local people visited the book fair.

Myanma Alin

Dyna plunges into roadside, leaving one dead in Sagaing Township

SAGAING, 3 Aug—A Toyota car plunged into the roadside and went upside down due to out of brake control in Bagan ward of Sagaing on 23 July.

A Toyota Dyna driven by U Kyaw Win, 60 of Nyaungbinwun Village of Sagaing Township, together with bus conductors Zaw Oo, 24, son of U Hmi and U Shwe Maung, 65, left Nyaungbinwun

Village for Mandalay.

In front of the monastery in Bagan Ward of Sagaing on Monywa-Mandalay Road, the car could not control the brake and then plunged into the left roadside. Bus conductor U Shwe Maung was under the car and died on the spot with the injuries of ear, head and face and fracture of leg.

Myanma Alin



Accident on the road

Bank eroded in Singu, Madaya townships

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Due to change of water course in Ayeyawady Region, bank erosion occurred in Singu and Madaya townships of Mandalay Region.

Bank of the river is being eroded in Singu Township. The water eroded 15 houses in Sagyet Village and 98 houses in Hinthama Village in Singu Township, seven houses in Nandawgon

Village, seven in Kondonlay Village, two in Thaphandaunt Village and 400 feet wide area in Thonzepay Village in Madaya Township.

Mandalay Region Government provided assistance for reconstruction of houses for eroded villages and evacuation of eroded victims and prevention against change of water course.—Myanma Alin

Rare baseball cards from Ohio sell well at auction

TOLEDO, 3 Aug — Century-old baseball cards found in an Ohio attic have been sold at auction for a combined \$566,132. The sale on Thursday night at the National Sports Collectors Convention in Baltimore, Md, featured cards depicting Hall of Famers Honus Wagner and Ty Cobb. The 37 baseball cards exceeded the \$500,000 they were expected to fetch. The prices included buyer's premiums.

Family members cleaning out their grandfather's attic earlier this year in Defiance, Ohio, came across what experts say is one of the most exciting finds in the history of sports card collecting. The cards are from a rare series issued around 1910 that was given out with candy. The family that discovered the stockpile is



This undated file photo provided by Heritage Auctions of Dallas, shows a 1910 Honus Wagner baseball card found in the attic of a house in Defiance, Ohio.—INTERNET

evenly dividing the cards and money among 20 cousins. *Internet*

Top US commander in Afghanistan visits Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 3 Aug — The top US commander in Afghanistan discussed border coordination with Pakistan's army chief on Thursday during his first visit since Islamabad ended its seven-month blockade of NATO troop supplies. Pakistan closed its Afghan border to NATO in November in retaliation for American airstrikes that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers, and the two sides have held a series of meetings since then to try to prevent such an incident from occurring again. Pakistan reopened the route in early July after the US finally apologized for the deaths, which Washington said were an accident. Both countries have made public statements since then about the need to move forward and patch up their troubled relationship, but major disagreements continue.

"We are making significant progress toward building a partnership that is enduring, strategic, carefully defined, and that enhances the security and prosperity of the region," a press release quoted Gen John Allen as saying after his meeting with Pakistan's army chief, Gen Ashfaq Parvez Kayani. The US has long been frustrated by Islamabad's refusal to target Afghan Taliban militants and their allies using Pakistani territory to stage attacks against troops in Afghanistan. Many analysts believe Pakistan is reluctant to target groups with which it has strong historical ties and could be useful allies in Afghanistan after foreign forces withdraw. Pakistan has denied this, saying its forces are stretched too thin fighting Pakistani Taliban militants at war with the state.

It has also criticized

NATO and Afghan forces for not doing enough to stop Pakistani militants holed up in Afghanistan from launching attacks across the border into Pakistan. Pakistan has also demanded the US stop drone strikes targeting militants in its northwest tribal region, although officials within the government and the military have supported these attacks

in the past. The strikes are unpopular in Pakistan because many people believe they mostly kill civilians — an allegation denied by the US. The months-long dispute over the deaths of the Pakistani troops in November and the subsequent closure of the NATO supply line intensified feelings of anger and distrust on both sides.—*Internet*



Pakistani NATO oil tanker drivers, break their fast on top of the tankers, during the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, in a compound in Karachi, Pakistan, on 31 July, 2012.—INTERNET

Residents waded through a flooded street in the town of Navotas in suburban Manila on 2 Aug, 2012, after heavy rains and strong winds were brought about by Typhoon Saola.

INTERNET



Philippine typhoon death toll rises to 37

MANILA, 3 Aug — The death toll in the Philippines from Typhoon Saola has risen to 37 and is expected to go even higher as new rains worsened flooding, the government said on Friday. Monsoon rains continued to batter the northern and central parts of the Philippines with some towns remaining flooded for the sixth day in a row, despite the typhoon having moved away from the archipelago. Earlier reports

said 23 had been killed but civil defence chief Benito Ramos said more deaths had been reported, including 11 youths who drowned in four different parts of the country on Thursday.

"They were probably enjoying the big waves, riding on them. They did not expect a storm surge," he told AFP. The death toll is likely to go even higher, he added, citing four more swimmers who went missing in the

north.

The Ramos-led National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said that although Saola had passed, it was still enhancing the monsoon rains and warned of continued possible flash floods and landslides. In the coastal districts near Manila, knee-high floods persisted Friday, said Jeremy de Ocampo of the capital's flood control office.—*Internet*

Togo cotton output seen up 25 pct amid higher prices

LOME, 3 Aug — Togo will produce 100,000 tonnes of cotton during the 2012-13 growing season, up from 79,700 last year as prices have risen and planting area has increased, according to NSTC, the firm that oversees the industry in the West African state. Output could reach 150,000 tonnes within the next five years, according to Essowe Batana, deputy managing director of NSTC, which is run jointly by the state and producers.

"This increase is due to growing popularity of cotton production and to returning confidence in the sector, all helped by an improvement in prices during the 2012-13 season," Batana said. Cotton, alongside phosphates, is one

of Togo's key export earners. Its production has leaped from a low of 29,000 tonnes in 2009-2010. Prices for the current season, which began at the end of May, have been fixed at 230 CFA francs per kg for top quality cotton and 210 CFA francs for second-grade cotton.

The top price last year was 215 CFA francs per kg, which was an improvement

on the level of 185 CFA francs in the 2010-11 growing year. Batana said 110,000 hectares were dedicated to cotton farming during the current crop year, up from just under 100,000 hectares last year. "Within two years production should hit 130,000 (tonnes) and reach 150,000 tonnes in five years," he added.

Reuters



A farmer shows cotton on a farm in Egypt, on 22 Sept, 2011.

REUTERS



One of five crushed Newport, Vt, police cruisers.

INTERNET

Vermont man arrested after crushing five police cruisers with giant tractor

NEWPORT, 3 Aug — A Vermont farmer, apparently unhappy with his arrest last month, crushed five police cruisers parked at a police station with a giant tractor on Thursday. The man, 34-year-old Roger Pion, was arrested by Newport police two miles away after he abandoned the red tractor and attempted to flee on foot. According to the *Burlington Free Press*, at least eight police vehicles, included an unmarked car and transport van, sustained damage. "It's more than half our fleet," Phil Brooks, Orleans County sheriff's deputy, told the *Burlington Free Press*. "We have 11 cars."

According to Burlington's WCAX-TV, there were no injuries. According to the *Newport Express*, the tractor weighed approximately 15 tons. Pion was arrested on 3 July for marijuana possession and resisting arrest. Vermont state police and the US Border Patrol are assisting in the investigation. Newport, Vt, is approximately five miles from the Canadian border.—*Internet*

Megabus crash in Illinois: At least one dead, more than thirty injured

CHICAGO, 3 Aug — At least one person was killed after a double-decker Megabus crashed on Thursday on a highway between Chicago and St Louis with more than 60 people aboard, said the bus company. Illinois State Police said the dead passenger was a woman who had been seated in the front upper section of the bus, above the driver. More than 30 people were transported to area hospitals. Authorities told ABC News that they believed the cause of the wreck was a blown tire.

The bus, which had 64 passengers listed on its manifest, according to the state police, slammed into a concrete bridge support on Interstate 55 on Thursday



First responders work the scene of a charter bus crash on Interstate 55 near Litchfield, Ill, on Thursday, on 2 Aug, 2012.—INTERNET

afternoon near the town of Litchfield, Ill. The company said it was headed to St Louis and then Kansas City. Police said they expected the highway to remain closed until late Thursday evening and possibly into Friday morning. Thirty ambulances, five helicopters and seven fire departments were sent to the scene, the state police said. A spokesperson for St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield told ABC News that it had received 21 patients. Three other passengers were taken to Staunton Hospital and another three to Hillsboro Hospital. In addition, some passengers were taken to Memorial Hospital in Springfield.

The bus, according to a Megabus spokesperson, was traveling along a route between Chicago, St Louis, Columbia and Kansas City. Litchfield, the site of the wreck, was about 55 miles north of St. Louis. The National Transportation Safety Board said it was monitoring the situation, but had yet to make a decision on whether to launch a full investigation. In a statement, Megabus said: "Safety remains our number one priority. The thoughts and prayers of our entire staff go out to the passengers involved. Megabus.com will continue to provide more details as they become available."—*Internet*

Senate panel passes tax bill in rare bipartisan show

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — Senate tax writers approved a \$205 billion package of tax breaks in a rare show of bipartisan unity on Thursday, but across Capitol Hill in the House of Representatives, sniping over taxes between Democrats and Republicans was in full force. Hours before leaving for a five-week break, the Senate Finance Committee passed legislation including a \$15 billion business research tax break. It also contained a popular \$132 billion provision to prevent the alternative minimum tax, targeted at the rich, from

hitting the middle class.

"This is a strong sign that we mean business," said Republican Senator Pat Roberts who voted for the legislation, that passed 19-5 in a committee hearing filled with mutual praise. The bill would need to be substantially changed, however, to stand a chance of winning approval in the more partisan House of Representatives, where Republicans hold a big majority. There, while senators praised one another, the usual bickering was in high-gear during the debate over a Republican effort to

"fast track" tax reform with a bill that would slash the top income tax rate to 25 percent from 35 percent and impose other changes that are anathemas to Democrats.

Democratic Representative Barney Frank said the bill would give too much power to Republican Ways and Means Committee Chairman David Camp, and criticized its specificity on tax cuts and vagueness on paying for them without bloating the deficit. Camp will "single-handedly put on his cape and fly down here with this bill that will help the rich and do some



File photo shows the US Capitol building is seen as the sun begins to set under heavy cloud cover in Washington.

REUTERS

unmentioned things regarding popular tax breaks that they don't want to mention," Frank said in his typically blunt style. The House bill would set up

procedures to let lawmakers move quickly to revamp the tax code in 2013. It passed the House with backing from not one House Democrat on Thursday. — Reuters

Chinese navy training vessel visits French Polynesia

PAPEETE, (French Polynesia), 3 Aug — A Chinese Navy training vessel arrived at the capital city of French Polynesia for a four-day good-will visit on Thursday. The visit to the French overseas territories in the southeastern Pacific Ocean is part of Zhenghe's five-month global voyage, the second of such sails organized by the Chinese Navy in a decade.

Zhenghe, named after a famed Chinese maritime explorer about 600 years ago, has a scheduled route of more than 30,000 nautical miles (58,000 km) and is expected to pay port calls to 11 countries and working visits to three countries during its global voyage. Before its arrival at Papeete, Zhenghe has already made a number of stops at Italy, Spain, Canada, Jamaica, Ecuador, and others. — Xinhua



James Penman (C), the city attorney of San Bernardino, California, talks to the media at the city council chambers in this 11 July, 2012 file photo. — REUTERS

Pension debt overwhelms bankrupt San Bernardino, California

LOS ANGELES, 3 Aug — San Bernardino, the third California city to seek bankruptcy protection since June, is saddled with huge pension debt and will produce details of those unfunded obligations within 15 days, its mayor said on Thursday. The city filed for bankruptcy protection on Wednesday, citing over \$1 billion in estimated liabilities and up to 25,000 creditors, many of whom are the city's own employees. The city, 65 miles east of Los Angeles, also listed estimated assets as over \$1 billion. Patrick J. Morris, San Bernardino's mayor, said in a telephone interview that the bulk of the city's debt was due to "unfunded liabilities related to pension and benefits" for the city's employees, and "obligations to employee groups in labor contracts."

In the past two months, the cities of Stockton and Mammoth Lakes have also filed for Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection, a special bankruptcy provision for municipalities. Stockton, which like San Bernardino has suffered from the housing crash that was particularly acute in southern California, filed for bankruptcy in June, becoming the largest US city to do so. Other cities in California are also in deep fiscal trouble. Richard Larkin, senior vice

president and director of credit analysis at bond underwriting firm HJ Sims and an expert in municipal bonds, concluded in a recent study that "because of the fiscal environment in California ... many of those defaults yet to come this year are likely to be in California."

In late July, San Bernardino reported that it had \$56 million in indebtedness payable from its general fund, the main budget, including payments on a \$50 million pension bond. There is an additional \$195 million in unfunded pension obligations, \$61 million in unfunded retiree healthcare, and \$40 million of workers compensation, compensated absences and general liabilities. The city is not alone in struggling to meet pension obligations, particularly for police and firefighters. In other California cities and in municipalities nationwide, retirement costs promised to city employees in good times are wreaking havoc with budgets in the wake of the housing market crash and high unemployment.

The city of about 210,000 residents declared a fiscal crisis last month after a report that local government had tapped out its reserves and projected that spending would top revenue by \$45 million in the fiscal year that began on 1 July. — Reuters

Jobs seen weak in July, may help push Fed to act

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — US employment probably only inched up in July as the economy struggled to regain momentum, strengthening expectations of additional monetary stimulus from the Federal Reserve. Nonfarm payrolls likely rose 100,000 last month, according to a Reuters survey, after gaining 80,000 in June. The closely watched employment report comes two days after the US central bank sent a stronger signal that a new round of major support could be on the way if the faltering recovery does not pick up. Job growth in recent months missed expectations and economists say other employment indicators

recently suggest that July will show a similar picture.

"If the data comes in weaker-than-expected, it's going to give the Fed political cover, given how close we are getting to the November elections, for them to ease monetary policy," said Sam Bullard, a senior economist at Wells Fargo Securities in Charlotte, North Carolina. Most economists expect the Fed will launch a third round of bond purchases, possibly at its next policy meeting on September 12-13. That's despite the approach of the US presidential and congressional elections in November which could leave the central bank open to criticisms from Republicans

who have made the weak economy a centerpiece of their campaigning. The Fed has held interest rates close to zero for nearly four years and pumped about \$2.3 trillion into the economy. By the time of the Fed's meeting in September, policymakers will also have had a chance to see August's payrolls report.

Reuters

Yemen tribesmen release Italian officer: official

SANAA, 3 Aug — An Italian embassy security officer kidnapped by Yemeni tribesmen has been released unharmed, a government official said on Thursday, the same day the country's information minister survived an assassination attempt.

The incidents highlight continuing instability in Yemen five months after former leader Ali Abdullah Saleh was formally replaced by his deputy under a plan designed to forestall a slide into lawlessness.

During the uprising that toppled Saleh, militants associated with al-Qaeda strengthened their position in areas of south and east Yemen, further testing central

government control in a country riven with tribalism and regionalism.

The Italian diplomat was handed over to the governor of Ma'rib and he is in good health and will be transferred to Sanaa later to be handed over to the Italian ambassador, the official told Reuters.

The abductors who detained the security officer in the oil-producing province of Ma'rib had demanded to be compensated for the detention of one of their relatives and the return of land they say they own in the capital Sanaa, a tribal source said, adding they were promised their demands will be met.

Reuters



Police troopers guard outside the Italian embassy in Sanaa on 30 July, 2012. REUTERS

People speak with recruiters from jewelry and gem companies during the Gemological Institute Of America (GIA)'s Jewelry Career Fair in New York on 30 July, 2012. — REUTERS

Philippine police arrest four suspected kidnappers of Japanese boy

MANILA, 3 Aug — Police said on Friday that they had arrested four people allegedly involved in the kidnapping of a Japanese boy in Balanga city in the northern Philippine province of Bataan. Bataan provincial police spokesman Dennis Orbita identified the suspects as Jonathan Benicarilo, his father Pedro, his sister Veronica and one Clarita Benicarilo whose relation with the three was not immediately known. Police filed charges of kidnapping and serious illegal detention against the suspects for the abduction of six-year-old Paul Kajiwaro at Cupang village last Tuesday.

Kajiwaro was taken along with the daughter of Veronica. Orbita said the boy's Filipina mother, Amelia Ranin who is married to a Japanese, received a text message initially demanding a ransom of 150,000 pesos (3,584 US dollars). The ransom was then reduced to 30,000 pesos (717 US dollars). Ranin reported the abduction of her son to police and an entrapment operation was set up. Jonathan Benicarilo was the first to be arrested after he agreed to meet the boy's mother for the payoff.

The Japanese boy was later rescued and underwent debriefing under the care of his mother. "Investigators later discovered that Jonathan is the son of Pedro Benicarilo and brother of Veronica. Soon the investigators tied pieces of information linking the Benicarilo family to the kidnapping with the supposed kidnapping of Veronica's daughter to hide their involvement," said Orbita. The three other suspects were arrested in succeeding follow-up operations. — Xinhua

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Transport
Myanma Port Authority
Invitation to an Information Session Regarding
the Upgrading and Renovation of Sule Pagoda
Wharf No. 1 to 4 including Related Port
Terminal Facilities and the Other Port
Development Projects in Yangon Port**

Myanma Port Authority, Ministry of Transport is planning to implement the up grading and renovation of the Sule Pagoda Wharf No. 1 to 4 comply with International Standard and the construction and development of other port related infrastructures and marine structures in Lammadaw Foreshore Area, Pansodan Jetty Compound and Botataung Foreshore Area with Private Participation through Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) or Joint Venture (JV).

In order to clarify and make transparent the basic requirements for implementation of the above projects under the Myanma Port Authority, interested foreign and local investors and/or firms are invited to attend an information session to be held according to the following program:

Date/Time : 9, August 2012 (Thursday), 10:00 AM

Venue : Meeting Room (1), Myanma Port Authority, No. 10, Pansodan Street, Yangon, Myanmar.

**Managing Director
Myanma Port Authority**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TRANS PACIFIC 5 VOY NO (335)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TRANS PACIFIC 5 VOY NO (335) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: FORTUNE SHIPPING AGENCY
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

**Bahrain says 3 arrested over
'terrorist activities'**

MANAMA, 3 Aug — Bahraini police have arrested three suspects over "terrorist activities" after seizing materials that can be used to manufacture explosives, the public security chief said on Wednesday. Major General Tariq al-Hassan said in remarks to the Press that police are still searching for three other suspects. "Bahraini police and Scotland Yard are investigating the issue," Hassan said.

Following a raid on a residential area in a Shiite village, "police have seized more than five tonnes of materials that could be used to manufacture explosives," he added.

Hassan acknowledged, "some police officers could have acted inappropriately," after the Shiite opposition accused the public security of abuse. "Any officer that is found guilty of violating appropriate procedures will

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV HANNA MARIE VOY NO (1232)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HANNA MARIE VOY NO (1232) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (103)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (103) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



**THE ASEAN COORDINATING CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT
(AHA CENTRE)**

**urgently invites the best, most-talented and highly-motivated
individuals from ASEAN Member States to apply for the following vacancies:**

- 1. Head of Operations Division**
Reporting directly to the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, the Head of Operations Division will establish and manage the operational functions and process of AHA Centre activities pertaining to preparedness, response and monitoring of disasters, as well as manage the AHA Centre Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and operational decision making during a potential or actual disaster.
- 2. Head of Corporate Affairs and Programme Division**
Reporting to the Executive Director of the AHA Centre, the Head of Corporate Affairs and Programme Division will manage and supervise activities pertaining to corporate affairs, i.e. finance, administration, human resources, and programme development.
- 3. Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer**
Support the Head of Operations Division in carrying out activities pertaining to disaster preparedness and response as well as supporting the EOC operations.
- 4. Senior Disaster Monitoring and Analysis Officer**
Support the Head of Operations Division in carrying out activities pertaining to disaster monitoring and analyses, including setting up and maintaining disaster monitoring systems.

The ASEAN Leaders at their 19th ASEAN Summit on 17 November 2011 officially launched the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) to facilitate co-operation and coordination among ASEAN Member States, and with relevant United Nations and international organisations in promoting regional collaboration in disaster management (for more info please visit www.ahacentre.org). ASEAN Secretariat is to manage the recruitment of the above vacancies with the support of Australia under the ASEAN-Australia Cooperation for the Implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Work Programme 2010-2015.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE VACANCIES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES,
PLEASE VISIT THE ASEAN WEBSITE: www.asean.org/opportunities**

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS ON THE ABOVE VACANCIES SHALL BE COB 20 AUGUST 2012.

**1.9 mln people
affected by
E China
rainstorms**

JINAN, 3 Aug — Nearly 1.9 million people in east China's Shandong province have been affected by heavy rains since 29 July, local authorities said on Wednesday.

Downpours have battered the eastern province since last Sunday, killing two people, according to the provincial civil affairs department. In the city of Dezhou, heavy rains have affected more than 1.23 million residents and caused direct economic losses of 650 million yuan (102 million US dollars), the civil affairs department of Dezhou said. According to statistics released by the department, 137,500 hectares of crops have been damaged and 2,213 houses have been destroyed. A total of 6,200 residents in Pingyuan county of Dezhou have been relocated to avoid possible natural disasters triggered by rainstorms. —Xinhua

Photo taken on 1 Aug, 2012 shows a flooded road in Chipping County of Liaocheng City, east China's Shandong Province.—XINHUA



be punished," he said. "Such abuses, if they are proved, are unacceptable.

They contradict the mission of the interior ministry," Hassan said. 10 out of 14 complaints against police and the ministry "have been referred to competent authorities, including the courts.

The other four are still being probed. "In July, more

than 240 people were arrested, while dozens were hurt in clashes with the police, the main Shiite opposition group, Al-Wefaq, said.

The authorities accuse young Shiite protesters of using petrol bombs against security forces during frequent demonstrations in villages outside the capital Manama.

Internet

Bahraini Director of Public Security Tariq Al-Hassan holds a Press conference in Manama. Bahraini police have arrested three suspects over "terrorist activities" after seizing materials that can be used to manufacture explosives.

INTERNET



'Goat man' was hunter in disguise

A Utah wildlife official said the mysterious "goat man" photographed crawling near some goats was a California hunter testing out a goat stalking disguise.

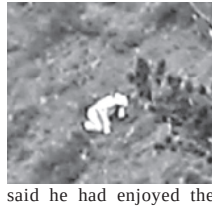
Phil Douglass, conservation outreach manager for the Division of Wildlife Resources, said he was contacted recently by a 57-year-old California man who revealed he had donned a goat suit on 15 July and appeared in Coty Creighton's photograph near Ben Lomond

Peak just north of Ogden, the Ogden Standard-Examiner reported on 31 July.

Douglass said the man, who did not give his name, gave information substantiating his claims and said he was testing out the goat suit for an upcoming hunting trip.

"He gave me details that convinced me it was him," Douglass said.

"I'm satisfied that this was a person preparing for a hunt and did it with knowledge and experience," Creighton



said he had enjoyed the mystery about the goat man's identity.

"I thought I wanted answers, but I was naive. I should have left well enough alone.

Now I just want the mystery back," he said.

Woman arrested trying to get into jail

Authorities in Ohio said they arrested a woman accused of trying to break into a jail while shouting, "I want to be arrested."

The Butler County Sheriff's Office said Tiffany

Hurd, 36, was spotted attempting to climb over a barbed wire fence early morning of 29 July at the jail in Hamilton and a corrections officer was unable to convince her to leave, the

Cincinnati Enquirer reported on 30 July.

"I want to be arrested," Hurd allegedly shouted. Deputies said she appeared to be intoxicated. Hurd was arrested on misdemeanor

charges of criminal trespass and disorderly conduct.

"Prisoner arrested trying (to) get back (into) jail ... She got her wish.

Not the norm. Got it backwards," Sheriff Rick Jones posted on his Twitter account.

Fake \$100 bills had Lincoln watermark

Police in Arizona said they were trying to identify a suspect who allegedly tried to pass two counterfeit \$100 bills bearing a watermark of Abraham Lincoln.

Prescott police said the man first attempted to use a phony \$100 bill about 8 pm on 18 July at a Goodwill store.

A worker noticed the security strip was incorrect and the watermark bore the image of Lincoln instead of

Benjamin Franklin, The Daily Courier, Prescott, reported on 30 July.

Police said the man left the store before officers arrived and attempted to use a similar bill less than a half hour later at a Safeway

store, where a manager noticed the flaws in the forgery.

The suspect again left before police arrived. The Safeway manager said the man left in a black, four-door passenger car.



A real \$100 bill.

News Album

Steve Harvey to perform last stand-up show

LAS VEGAS, 3 Aug—Author and actor Steve Harvey says he will perform his final stand-up comedy show on 2 August at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

Harvey's 2-hour farewell show will air live on Pay-Per-View telecast available on cable systems around the United States.

After the live programme, fans will still be able to access the special via cable PPV for several months

unforgettable moments and jokes we've shared," Harvey said in a statement. "It's been a wild ride over these years on stage, radio, TV and more, and taking the stage for my final show, I will have a special blowout performance in store for everyone in Las Vegas and watching at home that will be bigger than any show I've done so far."

Harvey is the host of radio's "The Steve Harvey Morning Show" and is the best-selling author of "Think



Robert Pattinson and Reese Witherspoon

OJAI, 3 Aug—Robert Pattinson is staying at Reese Witherspoon's ranch in Ojai, Calif., after Kristen Stewart publicly confirmed she cheated on him, UsMagazine.com said.

Pattinson and Witherspoon co-starred together in 2011's "Water for Elephants."

Pattinson has been staying at Witherspoon's vacation home since news

Pattinson staying at Witherspoon's ranch

broke last week that Stewart, his longtime girlfriend and "Twilight" leading lady, had an affair with film director Rupert Sanders, who is married with two children.

It is unclear whether Witherspoon, who is pregnant, and her husband and two kids are also at the Ojai estate or if Pattinson is there by himself.

A source close to Pattinson and Stewart told UsMagazine.com the 26-year-old actor is "a total

mess."

"He's questioning everything," the insider said. Stewart, meanwhile, is "inconsolable" and has been trying to reach Pattinson by text message and phone after publicly declaring her love for him and begging for his forgiveness last week.

"She's dying to save the relationship. It's the only thing she cares about," a source close to the 22-year-old actress told the magazine.

Internet



Radio and TV personality Steve Harvey

and also on Video On Demand, beginning on 3 August. "The road to this final show has been an amazing journey doing stand-up for the past 27 years, and I can't thank fans enough after reflecting on all those years on stage, and the

Like a Man." His relationship guide was adapted as a hit film set to premiere on 28 August cable's Movies On Demand. He also is host of the game show "Family Feud" and upcoming new daytime programme "Steve Harvey."

Internet

Producer Hawk Koch elected Academy president

BEVERLY HILLS, 3 Aug—Producer Hawk Koch has been elected president of Hollywood's Academy of Motion Picture Arts and



Hawk Koch elected Academy president.

Sciences. The organization's board of governors selected Koch on Tuesday night. This will be his first term in the office.

Koch's producer credits include "Losing Isaiah" and "Gorky Park." He recently served as executive producer on "Source Code" and is executive producer on the upcoming "Very Good Girls."

The Academy honors the year's best in film with its Oscars each winter.

Internet

Report: Swift dating RFK's grandson

NEW YORK, 3 Aug—Country music star Taylor Swift has been seen enjoying dates with Robert F Kennedy's grandson, Conor, in Hyannis Port, Mass., witnesses told the New York Post.

The pair recently have been spotted kissing, holding hands, eating pizza, jumping on a trampoline, sailing,



Musician Taylor Swift

attending a party and going to church in Kennedy's hometown, the newspaper said on Tuesday.

Swift, 22, previously dated singer John Mayer and actor Taylor Lautner.

Conor Kennedy, 18, is the son of Robert F Kennedy Jr. and his ex-wife, Mary, who committed suicide in May.

Internet

Vince Vaughn, a cast member in the motion picture sci-fi comedy "The Watch", attends the premiere of the film at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles on 23 July, 2012.

INTERNET



'Brady Bunch' reboot on the way

LOS ANGELES, 3 Aug—Vince Vaughn and Peter Billingsley are producing an updated version of the classic sitcom "The Brady Bunch" for CBS, The Hollywood Reporter said.

The multicamera comedy

will focus on Bobby Brady, a character from the original show, who is now a divorced dad starting a new family with his second wife, the entertainment industry trade newspaper said.

The original ABC sitcom

about a widower with three sons—the youngest of whom was Bobby—marrying a divorced woman with three daughters ran from 1969-74.

No casting for the contemporary version has been announced.—Internet

Rep slams Culklin drug addiction report

NEW YORK, 3 Aug—Macaulay Culkin's publicist is denying a tabloid report that the US actor is battling an addiction to heroin and prescription drugs.

The National Enquirer said the 31-year-old former child star of "Home Alone" only has six months to live, but Culkin's representative told E! News on Wednesday the report is "not only categorically without merit, but it is also impossible and ridiculously fictitious." "We beseech the responsible media to consider the source and its reputation, and to please not perpetuate this



Actor Macaulay Culkin and actress Mila Kunis

destructive and insulting story by pursuing it any further," the publicist said.—Internet



US gymnast Gabrielle Douglas performs on the balance beam during the artistic gymnastics women's individual all-around competition at the 2012 Summer Olympics, on 2 Aug. 2012, in London.— INTERNET

Douglas wins all-around title, giving her 2nd gold

LONDON, 3 Aug — Make it a pair of golds for Gabby Douglas, who added the all-around title to the one she won with the US team two nights ago.

Douglas became the third straight American to win gymnastics' biggest prize, taking the lead on the very first event on Thursday night and never really letting anyone else get close. She

finished with a score of 62.232, less than three-tenths ahead of Viktoria Komova of Russia.

Douglas brought the house down with her energetic floor routine, and US teammates Jordyn Wieber, McKayla Maroney and Kyla Ross jumped to their feet and cheered when she finished. Douglas flashed a smile and coach Liang Chow lifted her off the podium.— *Internet*

Athletics: Battle of distance queens highlights day one



Tirunesh Dibaba of Ethiopia runs in the women's 5000 meters race at the Diamond League New York Grand Prix athletics meet on 9 June, 2012.— REUTERS

LONDON, 3 Aug — The big men of the shot put open 10 days of athletics action at the London Olympics on Friday morning with the more slender frames of the East African distance runners closing out the day in the much-anticipated women's 10,000 meters final. Distance queens Vivian Cheruiyot of Kenya and Ethiopia's Tirunesh Dibaba will go head-to-head for the second gold medal in athletics in what is expected to be a thrilling final at the Olympic Stadium. Dibaba won the 5,000-10,000m double at the Beijing Olympics before taking a couple of years off but looked back at her best when her fearsome finish drove her to the fastest time of the year in Oregon in June.

Cheruiyot matched Dibaba's double at the world championships last year and she and Sally Kipyego, who is also running both races in London, are gunning for Kenya's first Olympic gold medal in the event. Jamaica and the United States will renew their rivalry in the women's sprints in London with Olympic champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce and world champion Carmelita Jeter spearheading their respective bids for the 100m title. The top women will have

the morning off, however, with the preliminary round sorting out the also-rans before the big names get going in the first round of heats in the afternoon. Britain's Jessica Ennis will be looking to the home crowd to give her a boost as she begins her quest for heptathlon gold in the first four of the seven events.

The former world champion should get a good start in the 100m hurdles and is expected to fight for the title with Ukraine's defending Olympic champion Nataliya Dobrynska and Beijing bronze medalist Russian Tatyana Chernova. The first gold medal of the Games will be won by a shotputter and Reese Hoffa, Christian Cantwell and Ryan Whiting are all out to win the title back for the United States. The Americans also went to Beijing four years ago with high hopes of gold only for relative unknown Pole Tomasz Majewski to steal their thunder. Germany's world champion David Storl should also be in the frame, while Majewski returns to defend his title.— *Reuters*

International Sports

Premier League Trophy Tour comes to Manchester

Interactive experience arrives in England to celebrate the beginning of the 2012/13 campaign

LONDON, 3 Aug — Fans are now being invited to sample the Barclays Premier League experience for themselves when the Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour comes to Manchester later this month. The Trophy Tour is a free interactive family-friendly event that gives fans of all ages the chance to get up close and personal with the world's most popular football league. Over the last two years the Trophy Tour has visited nine cities across the Middle East and Asia and it is now stopping off in England for the first time to mark the start of the 2012/13 Barclays Premier League season.

Supporters are taken through four zones where they can learn more about the League, its clubs, its players and its history while they will also have the opportunity to get a picture of themselves lifting the iconic Barclays Premier League Trophy with the help of green screen technology. The Tour will take up residence in Albert Square, Manchester from 16th-19th August — opening from 11am-7pm each day — and you can be there. To book your free priority place for this unique event, visit the Trophy Tour website: www.bpltrophytour.com

"Tens of thousands of

fans across the globe have already enjoyed the Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour, now it's the chance of supporters in England to experience what is at the heart of our competition: the Trophy itself, as this is what every player and manager competes to get their hands on," said Premier League Chief Executive Richard Scudamore."

The Tour also celebrates the fantastic football played by our clubs, because that is what excites hundreds of millions week-in week-out at home and abroad; and the history and tradition of English football, as this is a fundamental part of what drives the huge interest in the Barclays Premier League."

David Wheldon, Head of Brand, Reputation and Citizenship at Barclays, added: "It is fantastic news that Manchester, a hotbed of English football and club rivalry, is the first port of call for the Tour this season."

The Barclays Premier League Trophy is a global icon, so this tour is a great opportunity for our customers, clients and our colleagues to get closer to one of the most sought after trophies in football. "The Tour is part of a weekend of events celebrating the start of a new thrilling



The Barclays Premier League Trophy Tour has been a big success with fans of all ages.— INTERNET

season of the Barclays Premier League. As well as the numerous interactive displays, including the opportunity to test your speed against Arsenal winger Theo Walcott, Barclays Premier League legends will also be in attendance, including former Manchester United and Manchester City goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel.

The Great Dane, who won the League title five times in a glittering career in England, will be at the event on Friday, 17th August from 11am. "My link with Manchester goes back for decades and I love the city," he said. "Local fans will get to understand more of the history and experience all the aspects of the most exciting league in the world. I'm looking forward to

meeting some of the Barclays Premier League's most passionate fans in Manchester." There will also be a fan zone around the Trophy Tour which will give fans the exclusive opportunity to play the brand new EA Sports FIFA 13 game, which is not released in England until October. A Sky Sports News pod will feature a replica of their studio, so supporters can pretend to be Jim White or Kirsty Gallagher.

Manchester City will bring the spirit of City Square to Albert Square as 'Fan Zone Danny' gives out City goodies, Manchester United will be offering performances from its official choir, and both the Liverpool and Everton street dance crews will be attending.— *Internet*

Fish advances to quarterfinals in Washington



Mardy Fish

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — Mardy Fish knows what he'd have to do for his ankle to heal. He's just not interested in doing it. Still feeling the effects of a right ankle injury sustained two weeks ago in Atlanta, the top-seeded American beat Ricardas Berankis 6-3, 6-1 on Thursday night to advance to the Cit Open quarterfinals. Fish said the injury doesn't hamper his movement, and he can play through the discomfort. "That's a tough thing, because it needs rest and I'm just not going to give it rest," Fish said. "I can't give it rest. I'm not going to miss these tournaments."

Fish already missed time this year after he underwent a heart procedure in May to

correct an arrhythmia. Now he's more concerned about regaining his match fitness than about his ankle. "I need matches," he said. "I need to play." Fish will face Xavier Malisse on Friday. Malisse beat sixth-seeded Jeremy Chardy 6-3, 6-2.

The No 13-ranked Fish knows he isn't at top form, but he also believes he's not too far away. "I feel like I can go out against someone like I played tonight and not lose," he said. "That's important. You'd be surprised, in years past I felt like I could really beat anyone, but I could also lose to anyone on any given day. And I feel like if I play relatively normal right now—I have the confidence, anyway, it might not be true—I have the confidence that I don't lose many matches like that anymore." Eighth-seeded Sam Querrey also advanced, finishing off Benjamin Becker with his eighth ace of the match in a 6-4, 6-3 victory. Querrey, the Farmers Classic winner in Los Angeles on Sunday for his first title of the year, won all 24 of his first-serve points and on 22 of Becker's 33 second serves.— *Internet*

Phelps wins 20th medal, Hoy tops British gold rush

LONDON, 3 Aug — Michael Phelps stormed to a 20th Olympic Games medal on Thursday while British cyclist Chris Hoy claimed a record-equalling fifth career gold to top off a memorable day for the hosts. Phelps won the 200m individual medley to become the first man to take the same individual swimming gold at three straight Games. The US star, denied trebles in London in the 400m medley and 200m butterfly, delivered a vintage performance to win in 1min 54.27sec and collect his 20th career Olympic medal—and



Gold medalist US swimmer Michael Phelps listens to his national anthem on the podium after winning the men's 200m individual medley swimming event at the London 2012 Olympic Games in London.

INTERNET

his 16th gold. "It is a relief to win an individual gold. I fell short in the first couple of events, it is cool to do something no other male swimmer has done," said Phelps.

American Rebecca Soni broke the women's 200m breaststroke world record for the second time in two days while compatriot Tyler Clary won gold in the men's 200m backstroke, denying teammate Ryan Lochte a repeat victory. Ranomi Kromowidjojo of the Netherlands prevented an American swim sweep by taking gold in the women's 100m freestyle. World 100m freestyle champion James Magnussen's Olympic debut suffered another miserable outing when the Australian failed to make the final of the men's 50m freestyle.

On a wild day of records and controversy at the London Velodrome, track cycling king Hoy equalled former rower Steve Redgrave's British record haul of five golds after winning the men's team sprint.

Internet

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(4-8-12 09:30 am ~ 5-8-12 09:30 am) MST

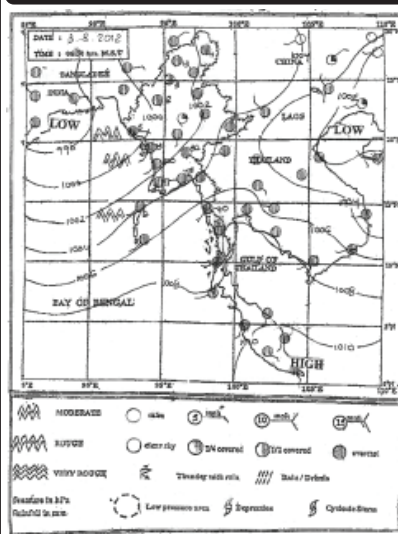
- * News
- * Welcome to Naga Land
- * News
- * Exquisite Silver Jewellery
- * News
- * Youth & Career
- * News
- * Kanbawzathardi Golden Palace
- * News
- * Greenish Beauty from Aried Zone
- * News
- * International Standard of Chef Exam
- * News
- * To Turn Out New Generation Golfers
- * News
- * Myanmar Movie "Lover Between The Devil And The Deep Blue Sea"

MYANMAR TV

(4-8-2012) (Saturday)

- 7:00 am
 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
 - Uppatasanti Paritta
- 7:25 am
 2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
 3. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am
 4. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:15 am
 5. Poem Garden
- 11:00 am
 6. Martial Song
- 11:10 am
 7. Musical Programme
- 11:25 am
 8. Game For Children
- 11:50 am
 9. Round Up Of The Week's TV Local News
- 1:40 pm
 10. Dance of National Races
- 4:20 pm
 11. Cultural Dances
- 5:30 pm
 12. Solo Favourites
- 5:50 pm
 13. Beautiful "ASEAN"
- 6:35 pm
 14. Celebrity and Dinner
- 8:00 pm
 15. News
 16. Cartoon Series
 17. TV Drama Series
 19. Gitaadagale Phwinfbaoahn

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Weather forecast for 4th August, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		Forecast	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	31/88	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	27/81	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	26/79	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
4	Chin	21/70	16/61	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	27/81	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	33/91	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Tanintharyi	26/79	20/68	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
8	Bago	26/79	20/68	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
9	Magway	33/91	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	36/97	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	27/81	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	31/88	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
13	Rakhine	27/81	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	23/73	19/66	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	23/73	19/66	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	23/79	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	30/86	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	31/88	22/72	One or two rain	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	31/88	21/70	Some rain	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36/97	26/79	Isolated rain	(80%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay Region and Kayah State, scattered in Magway Region, fairly widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Tanintharyi Regions, Rakhine, Kayah and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Shwegyin (6.81) inches, Thabinayazun (6.77) inches, Langdon (5.12) inches, Bago (5.50) inches, Thandwe (4.88) inches, Gwa (4.65) inches and Nangunthun (3.54) inches.

Bay Inference: Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of strong monsoon.

Agricultural technology shared to farmers in Pwintbyu Agricultural Institute

PWINTBYU, 4 Aug—At Agricultural Institute in Pwintbyu, Township Administrator U Thet Oo Swe made a speech at the educative talks on 17 August morning.

Principal Daw Yi Yi Htay explained cultivation of Paletwe hybrid paddy through good agriculture patterns, cautions for use of pesticides and breeding of goat and sheep.

After that, the officials presented documentary photos and pamphlets to breeders.—Myanma Alin



Boxing: Singh soldiers on asscoring criticism continues

LONDON, 3 Aug — The poster boy of Indian boxing, Vijender Singh, came through a close battle with American Terrell Gausha on Thursday to make the last eight of the middleweights as the grumbles about officiating at the London Games continued.

The powerful 26 year-old edged a close contest, which could have gone either way, 16-15 with his stiff left jab probably catching the eye of the judges more than the speed of Gausha. Roared on by a partisan crowd at the Excel arena, Vijender admitted to feeling the pressure of carrying the hopes of billion people back home.

"I stayed calm and I fought in very close and I won the fight," said the policeman, who fought in front of former heavyweight champion Evander

Holyfield. "All India watching.

They love me and I love them and long may they support me," added the Indian, whose left cheek was marked from the bout. Gausha said he was proud of his display in defeat, the American team's seventh consecutive loss this week after opening with four wins.

The 24-year-old then replicated his fast footwork in the ring by trying to dance around questions about

whether he thought the result was fair.

"I knew it was a close fight, I wasn't sure which way it was going to go, I was just hoping I got the nod but unfortunately I didn't," he said. "I didn't feel bad as I knew I had given everything I could and the world was watching.

"Not to take away from my opponent, he did good, but I felt I was edging him a little bit."

Internet



DAW HMEE HMEE LIN (VALERIE SAN LIN) ADB (RTD-MANILA) (67) YEARS

Daw Hmee Hmee Lin, daughter of (U San Lin) and Daw Soe Soe (Sally San Lin), sister of Douglas Soe Lin and Myadali, aunt of Wyn Soe Lin and Amara Thiri Myaing, passed away at Pun Hlaing Hospital on August 2, 2012 (Thursday) at 10:00 pm.

Cremation will be at Yay Way on Saturday, August 4, 2012.

India's Vijender (L) leaves the ring after winning in his fight with Terrell Gausha of the U.S. in their Men's Middle (75kg) Round of 16 boxing match during the London 2012 Olympic Games on 2 Aug, 2012.

REUTERS

Beach volleyball—British women eliminated

LONDON, 3 Aug—British women's beach volleyball players Shauna Mullin and Zara Dampney lost a sudden death play-off on Thursday that ended their Olympic tournament, while teams from Brazil and the United States maintained 100 percent records.

Austrian sisters Doris and Stefanie Schwaiger beat the British duo 2-0 (21-15, 21-12) to end the host's participation in beach volleyball, held at Horse Guards Parade, a spectacular venue a stone's throw from London landmark Big Ben.

We'll look back at this and really enjoy it - but we're just a bit dazed and confused now it's over," Mullin said. "We won a match here in our first Olympics — but what we've really achieved here maybe won't be evident until we're able to sit back and look at it."

Britain's men were eliminated on Wednesday. Beach volleyball is not played by many people in rainy Britain. Dampney and Mullin both started out in indoor volleyball and used to played against each other when Dampney was in the England team while Mullin played for Scotland.

The pair have received

attention from the British tabloid press, not least because they sport mini British flags on the back of their bikini bottoms and have painted their nails in elaborate patterns of patriotic blue, white and red."

The Olympics is hopefully a springboard for better things for beach volleyball in this country, we need to start a petition to get a grand slam event here," Dampney said.

Teams from Brazil and the United States maintained 100 percent records on Thursday as they cruised through to the knock-out phase.

Men's favourites



Britain's Zara Dampney reacts as she fails to save a point against Russia's Ekaterina Khomyakova and Evgeniya Ukolova during their women's preliminary round beach volleyball match at Horse Guards Parade during the London 2012 Olympic Games on 2 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

Publication of bills under debate at Hluttaws prior to enactment contributes to listening of public opinion: UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democracy and Human Rights Committee U Htay Oo received UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana at Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Hall No. 1 in Hluttaw Complex here this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Committee Chairman U Htay Oo said that he had to receive the guests together with chairpersons of committees concerned and commission members on behalf of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker as he was on a tight schedule. He said Mr Quintana would know that Hluttaws were actively taking part in democratization process in the form of

legislature since he had often been to Myanmar. He added that Mr Quintana would understand the overall situation in Rakhine State as he had visited there in company with diplomatic corps. Pyithu Hluttaw representatives' team led by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann went to Rakhine State to comfort the sufferers.

Mr Quintana expressed his thanks to Myanmar authorities for the arrangement of observation visit to Rakhine State. He said he learnt that Hluttaws were playing an important role in Myanmar with much enthusiasm. Publication of bills under debate at the Hluttaws to the people prior to enactment is a nice system, contributing to collection of

public opinions wide and far. It had transparency enabling people use their rights.

Mr Quintana put questions about functions of the committee and cooperation with Myanmar Human Rights Commission. Chairman U Htay Oo replied that the committee specifically handled petitions on human rights violation cases. It was learnt that the Human Rights Commission was also taking care of such issues on its own. The committee was also establishing relations with human rights committees from international parliaments.

Mr Quintana then enquired about five detainees at Buthidaung Prison and Chairman U Htay Oo replied that they were detained



Chairman of Fundamental Rights of Citizens, Democracy and Human Rights Committee U Htay Oo receives UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Situation in Myanmar Mr. Tomas Ojea Quintana.—MNA

because they broke the existing laws. They had legal rights to defend at courts. Authorities concerned took action under the law and they would be urged to do so.

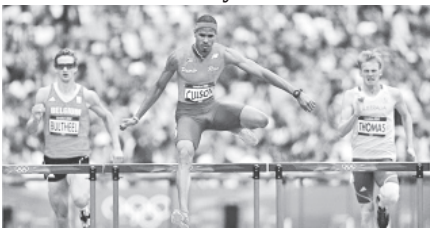
Chairman U Htay Oo elaborated on functions of the National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee and concentrated efforts for restoration of national unity.

Also present at the call were Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe, Chair-

man of Bill Committee U T Kun Myat, members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and personnel of Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Culson leads the way in 400m Hurdles



LONDON, 3 Aug—World number one Javier Culson of Puerto Rico set the fastest time as he qualified for the semi-finals of the men's 400m Hurdles in 48.33 at the Olympic Stadium.

World champion Dai Greene of Great Britain was the fourth fastest in 48.98.

Amantle Montsho, the world champion, and Olympic champion Christine Ohuruogu were among the qualifiers in the women's 400m, with USA's Sanya Richards-Ross only 12th fastest after easing down considerably when winning her heat.

Internet

Dane delivers first Finn blow

LONDON, 3 Aug—Jonas Høgh-Christensen continued his battle with Olympic champion Ben Ainslie for Finn gold today, with the Dane winning the first duel of the afternoon.

The pair are vying for glory at Weymouth and Portland, with Høgh-Christensen leading the way, thanks in no small part

to finishing ahead of his British rival for the first six races.

Ainslie dramatically boosted his chances of gold on Day 6 by narrowing his rival's lead from 10 points to three, although it was the latter who came off the better in race nine this afternoon.

Internet



High tide warning at Bago River

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Bago River at Bago is 881 cm. It may reach its danger level 910 cm during next 24 hours commencing this noon, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

Lower pressure area on Northwest Bay of Bengal

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—According to the observations at 5.30 pm MST today, a low pressure area has formed over Northwest Bay of Bengal.

Under the influence of low pressure area, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States with regionally heavy fall in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin State. Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 m.p.h, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

Slight earthquake hits 280 miles northwest of Myitkyina

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 80 miles northwest of Myitkyina), about 280 miles north of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 1 hrs 35 min 50 sec M.S.T today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

Flood bulletin for Thanlwin River

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an 881 cm has exceeded by 131 cm (about 4.3 feet) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 750 cm during next three days, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

London 2012 Olympics medal tally

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	19	11	9	39
2	United States	18	9	10	37
3	South Korea	7	2	5	14
4	Great Britain & N. Ireland	6	6	7	19
5	France	6	5	6	17
6	Germany	5	8	6	19
7	Italy	4	5	2	11
8	North Korea	4	0	1	5
9	Russian Federation	3	7	8	18
10	New Zealand	3	0	2	5
11	Kazakhstan	3	0	0	3
11	South Africa	3	0	0	3
13	Japan	2	6	11	19
14	Netherlands	2	1	3	6
15	Hungary	2	1	2	5
16	Ukraine	2	0	4	6
17	Australia	1	8	4	13
18	Romania	1	3	2	6
19	Cuba	1	2	1	4
20	Brazil	1	1	3	5
21	Belarus	1	1	1	3
22	Slovenia	1	0	2	3
23	Venezuela	1	0	0	1
23	Lithuania	1	0	0	1
23	Georgia	1	0	0	1
26	Mexico	0	3	1	4
27	Canada	0	2	5	7
28	Colombia	0	2	1	3
29	Sweden	0	2	0	2
29	Czech Republic	0	2	0	2
31	Denmark	0	1	2	3
32	Belgium	0	1	1	2
32	Spain	0	1	1	2
32	Indonesia	0	1	1	2
32	India	0	1	1	2
32	Mongolia	0	1	1	2
32	Norway	0	1	1	2
32	Poland	0	1	1	2
39	Egypt	0	1	0	1
39	Croatia	0	1	0	1
39	Thailand	0	1	0	1
39	Chinese Taipei	0	1	0	1
43	Slovakia	0	0	3	3
44	Qatar	0	0	1	1
44	Greece	0	0	1	1
44	Singapore	0	0	1	1
44	Serbia	0	0	1	1
44	Uzbekistan	0	0	1	1
44	Azerbaijan	0	0	1	1
44	Moldova	0	0	1	1