

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XX, Number 111 7th Waning of Second Waso 1374 ME Thursday, 9 August, 2012

True patriotism

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

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

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Singaporean counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug—On the occasion of the 47th Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore, which falls on 9 August 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam, President of the Republic of Singapore.—MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Singaporean PM

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug—On the occasion of the 47th Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore, which falls on 9 August 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore.—MNA

Signing MoUs and agreements with international news agencies beneficial to improvement of programme sector, development of human resources and cooperation with international community

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—The fourth regular session of the Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the 22nd day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.10 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 402 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives together with UNDP Resident Representative, UN Resident/Humanitarian Mr Ashok Nigam and party as observers.

U Khin Maung Win of Lanmadaw Constituency asked he wanted to know seven matters concerning the Supreme Court of the Union. Supreme Court Judge of the Union U Aung Myint replied to the questions.

With regard to question No 1 that he wanted to know number of writs of certiorari, number of dismissed cases through

motion mind in defendant, number of reviewing cases after hearing applications of both sides and number of revocation of cases under the writ of quo warranto, the Supreme Court Judge replied that the Supreme Court of the Union accepted 133 writs of certiorari, dismissed 24 cases through motion mind in defendant, reviewed 109 cases after hearing the applications of both sides and revoked seven cases under the writ of quo warranto.

As No 2 question whether the decree on motion mind in defendant of only Supreme Court Judge who heard the writ application to the Supreme Court of the Union is in conformity with the definition of the writ or not, the Supreme Court Judge replied that the verdict made through motion mind in defendant by single Judge is

Photo shows representatives attending 22nd day session of Pyithu Hluttaw. MNA



in conformity with the definition of the writ, rules and procedures.

As No 3 question whether verdicts of the Supreme Court of the Union is final decision was not described in the year 2000

Judicial Law is correct or not, the Supreme Court Judge replied that it is correct that verdicts of the Supreme Court of the Union is final decision was not described in the year 2000 Judicial Law.

Regarding the question No (4) on whether vesting power only to a judge to serve the writ prescribed in the constitution could represent true essence of the provision, the Supreme Court Judge answered that the initial scrutiny of a judge of the Supreme Court of the Union over applications for writs in accord with the procedure could represent essence of the provision.

Regarding the question No (5) on whether the Motion by a Defendant to one-judge court, which is not tribunal, could be regarded as the final hearing, he answered that the final hearing is complete only when plaintiffs and defendants have made presentations to the tribunal comprised of one or more judges of the Supreme Court of the Union.

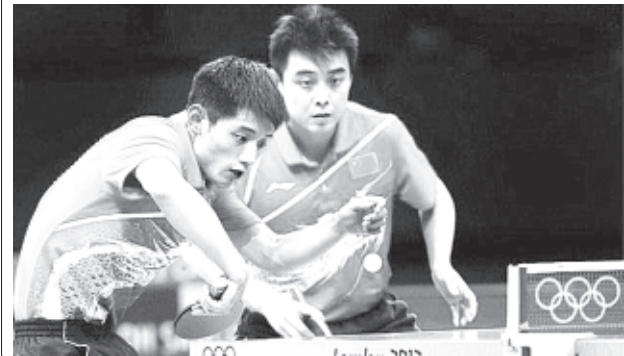
Regarding the question No (6) on whether the description not to serve the writ if not applied for within three months from the date order or lawsuit or action is made could limit the power to issue (enforce) writ vested under the constitution, he said it does not limit the power to issue (enforce) the writ.

Regarding the question (7) on whether it is true that no provision could limit enforcement power included in the judiciary power invested by the constitution, he answered that it is true that no provision in an ordinary act could limit the enforcement power.

U Ye Tun of Thandwe Constituency asked that whether MRTV retransmission station in (See page 7)

China sweep up Table Tennis golds

LONDON, 8 Aug—China completed a second successive clean sweep of Olympic Table Tennis gold medals as Ma Long, Zhang Jike and Wang Hao eased past Republic of



Korea in the men's Team final.

Profiting from being on home soil in Beijing four years ago, the Asian powerhouse won every top prize on offer. That has proved to not just be a flash in the pan following more domination at the London 2012 Games.

Indeed, China has achieved a maximum haul of four golds and two silvers following the efforts of their men today.

Republic of Korea's trio of Ryu Seung-min, Joo Sae-hyuk and Oh Sang-eun had no answer to their opponents and fell to a comprehensive 3-0 defeat.

The victory followed up the Team success of China's women yesterday as well as the Individual golds claimed by Zhang and Li Xiaoxia.

Germany took the bronze medal as their trio of Timo Boll, Dimitrij Ovtcharov and Bastian Steger beat Hong Kong 3-1.

London-2012

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 9 August, 2012

Foreign investment law a crucial one for the country

Nowadays, Hluttaws (Parliaments) are in full swing, and political, economic and social issues can now be extensively debated and discussed in the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw in accordance with the country's parliamentary system.

As the second wave of reform strategy is at the crossroads, high on the agenda at the parliaments' discussions are economic development, national reconciliation, poverty alleviation, reducing income gap among the people and creating job opportunity.

Since economic and investment policies and investment laws are under review to be compatible with other countries in ASEAN and the region, foreign direct investments into the country are in the offing. Foreign investments are much more likely in the energy sector, which could trigger a widespread concern over ecological balance. In that sense, laws to ban toxic chemicals, reduce air and water pollution and protect endangered species and habitats are inevitable.

A coordination meeting on foreign investment law by Pyithu Hluttaw Committee, Commission, entrepreneurs and scholars was held at Zabuthiri meeting hall of the Hluttaw Complex the other day. Addressing the meeting, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann said that as foreign investment law was a crucial one for the country, those present are to discuss it frankly in the interest of the State and people. He added that Pyithu Hluttaw is making relentless efforts for the emergence of a complete foreign investment law whose para and subpara are ready to be discussed and it could be approved in 15 days if there was no any comment on it by the President.

As most economic sanctions against the country have been lifted, foreign investments are flooding into the country in pursuit of business prospects, and it is an encouraging sign which reflects a better future of the State and people.

Books on world maritime law donated to MMU

YANGON, 8 Aug— Managing Director Mr Tetsuya Kinoshita of Class NK (the world largest classification society) in the world mercantile sector

45th Anniversary ASEAN Day marked, ASEAN Flag hoisted

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug— The 45th Anniversary ASEAN Day and ASEAN Flag Hoisting Ceremony were held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here this morning.

The ceremony was attended by the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Deputy Ministers, Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General, officials and other invited guests from the focal ministries of the three pillars of ASEAN Community; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Anniversary the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and the Ministry of Culture.

The ASEAN Flag was hoisted while the ASEAN Anthem was played at 8.30 in the morning in front of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Subsequently, the 45th Anniversary ASEAN Day was marked by the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs conveying the ASEAN Day congratulatory message of the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and delivering the Commemorative ASEAN Day Speech at the Assembly

Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the ceremony, a cultural exhibition displaying handicrafts and products of ASEAN was also held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



The 45th Anniversary ASEAN Day in progress.—MNA

In his speech, the Union Minister stated that ASEAN has achieved success in many areas since its foundation on 8 August 1967 and now has become a rules-based organization in conformity with the ASEAN Charter which came into force in 2008. He stressed that the significance of Myanmar in taking the chairmanship of

FM sends message of felicitations to Singaporean counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug—On the occasion of the 47th Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore, which falls on 9 August 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr K Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore.—MNA

ASEAN in 2014. ASEAN is striving to build an ASEAN Community in 2015. On the subject of successful hoisting of ASEAN Chairmanship, the Union Minister asserted that the Myanmar-ASEAN National Steering Committee, Working Group Committees and ASEAN-Myanmar National Secretariat have now been

established to work among Government Ministries and related organizations. In his conclusion the Union Minister emphasized that we all must work together for the success of Myanmar's ASEAN Chairmanship and to actively cooperate with ASEAN members in building ASEAN Com-munity by 2015.—MNA

16th Myanmar-Thai Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation

The 16th Myanmar-Thailand Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation in progress at Amazing Bagan Resort.—MNA

11 representatives.

At the meeting, both sides discussed on conditions of drug in Myanmar-Thai border area, reviewing of trans-boundary drug abuse tasks, watching and arresting the movement of drug culprits, exchange on drug news, drug control course, reviewing of excursion trips and cooperation in development of substitute tasks of Myanmar-Thai.

Deputy General Secretary of Thai Drug Control Committee handed

over documents matters related to 10 motorcycles to use drug fight tasks in

Myanmar to Secretary of CCDAC.

MNA

Workers injured in traffic accident in Yedashe Township

YEDASHE, 8 Aug—A trawlergyi carrying workers caused upside down at 8.20 am on 4 August on Thagara-Koebin Yoma crossing road in Yedashe Township of Bago Region.

The vehicle driven by Than Win, 37 of Magway from the west to the east carrying about 20 daily

waged workers plunged into the roadside between mile posts 1/0 and 1/1 on the road.

A total of 19 persons on board the vehicles were injured in the accident. The injured were rushed to Swa Station Hospital. Thagara Police Station opened a file of lawsuit for the traffic accident.—Kyemon

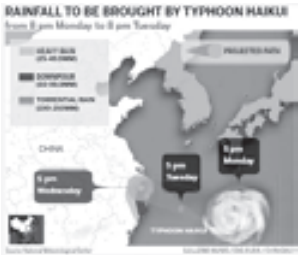
Iraqi Kurdistan resumes oil exports

BAGHDAD, 8 Aug — Iraq’s autonomous Kurdistan region resumed oil exports on Tuesday, a top Kurdish official said, after stopping them for more than four months during a row with Baghdad. Kurdistan halted its oil exports via the federal government on 1 April over \$1.5 billion it said is owed to foreign oil companies working in the region, that Baghdad has allegedly withheld. “We started exporting oil at noon today,” Ashti Hawrami, the minister of natural resources in the Kurdistan region’s

government, told AFP. Hawrami said that the exports were currently less than 100,000 barrels per day, but that they would reach that figure within the next two days. Kurdistan announced on 1 August that it would resume exports, in a statement that quoted a natural resources ministry spokesman as saying that “exports would remain at 100,000 bpd for a month and if payments were forthcoming, they could move swiftly up to 200,000 bpd.” Hawrami said in the statement that the move was aimed at building

“confidence with the federal government,” and “squaring up all the oil and gas issues in Iraq.”—Internet

An Iraqi welder works at an oil refinery near the village of Taq Taq in the autonomous Iraqi region of Kurdistan in 2009. INTERNET



SHANGHAI, 8 Aug — China was braced on Monday for a record third typhoon within a week as torrential rains and floods brought by two powerful storms still affected many regions. The country is faced with a tremendous burden from floods and other disasters due to frequent typhoons since mid-July, Chen Lei, minister of water resources, said on Monday. “It is the first time that the country will have been

hit by three typhoons one after another within seven days,” he said in a statement posted on the ministry’s website. While the country is still dealing with the impact of typhoons Saola and Damrey that caused extensive damage over the weekend, typhoon Haikui is fast approaching, said Chen, who is also deputy commander-in-chief of the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters. New tropical cyclones will be formed in the next two days, which may continue to challenge the country’s flood control capacity. Haikui strengthened into

a fierce tropical storm on Sunday and further strengthened into a typhoon on Monday afternoon. It is approaching the coastal area of East China’s Zhejiang Province. The centre of Haikui was in the ocean, about 580 kilometers southeast of Shanghai by 3 pm on Monday. Heavy rainstorms brought by Haikui are expected to hit Shanghai and Zhejiang, Anhui, Fujian and Jiangsu provinces in next three days, according to the China Meteorological Administration. According to the Shanghai Meteorological Bureau, Haikui is moving

northwestward at 15 kilometres an hour. The bureau issued a blue typhoon alert on Monday. Haikui is expected to move over the central and northern coastal areas of Zhejiang between midnight on Tuesday to noon on Wednesday, wind speed may reach 108 to 119 kilometres per hour as the centre of the storm moves across the coast. Shanghai is expected to be lashed by rainstorms brought by Haikui from Tuesday to Thursday, with heavy rains in some areas, said Yao Jianqun, deputy director of the Shanghai Central Meteorological Station.—Xinhua

Third typhoon in week expected

AirAsia opens ASEAN headquarters in Jakarta

JAKARTA, 8 Aug — AirAsia, the largest low-cost carrier in Southeast Asia, has officially launched its ASEAN headquarters in Jakarta to further spread its wings in Southeast Asia, an official said here on Wednesday. AirAsia Group’s CEO Tony Fernandes said in Jakarta the AirAsia ASEAN regional office would help the company better prepare itself for the implementation of the ASEAN Open Sky policy and the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015. “We are here not to control the market, but to grow the aviation business and we hope AirAsia ASEAN will help spur ASEAN integration,” he said, quoted by the Jakarta Post. Tony said he picked Jakarta as the center of the group’s expansion because the city was very vibrant, full of tremendous culture, opportunity, and the fact that it was the location of the ASEAN Secretariat headquarters. “The establishment of the AirAsia ASEAN office in Jakarta as our regional base is to help to more fully deliver our pledge ‘Now Everyone Can Fly’ to all the people of ASEAN and beyond,” Tony said. He said that by focusing on regional growth, AirAsia expanded its market base to 600 million people and brought ASEAN closer, within a four-hour flight radius, to the massive populations of China and India as well as Japan and South Korea. The new office will operate very much like the Ryanair office in Dublin, Ireland, which serves as the strategic planning center of Europe’s largest budget airline.—Xinhua



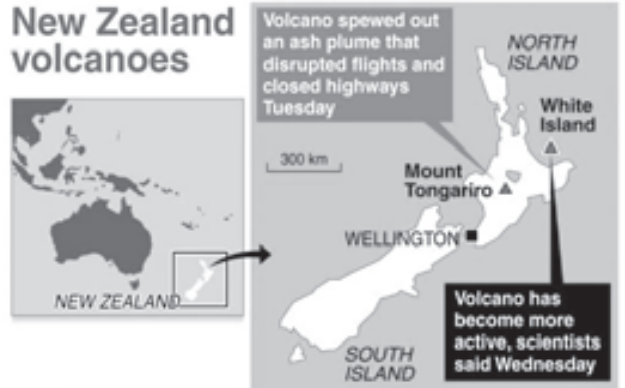
Photo taken on 4 Aug, 2012 shows a helicopter of the Singapore Air Force hauling its national flag during the preview of the National Day celebrations in Singapore. The country will celebrate its 47th anniversary of independence on 9 August. XINHUA

US stocks continue to climb wall of worry

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — US stocks ended higher for the third straight session on Tuesday as market sentiment was still lifted by euro zone stimulus hopes. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 50.86 points, or 0.39 percent, to 13,168.37, led by Cisco and Boeing. The Standard & Poor’s 500 added 7.12 points, or 0.51 percent, to 1,401.35, the first time for the average to settle above 1,400 since May. Most S&P sectors were in positive territory, led by energy and financials, while defensive sectors such as utilities and telecoms were in the red. The Nasdaq Composite Index also topped the key 3,000 level, rising 25.95 points, or 0.87 percent, to end at 3,015.86. Over the past three sessions, the blue-chip Dow has rallied about 300 points, which was seen as “totally irrational” by some analysts. However, stocks continued to climb the wall of worry despite of all the uncertainties. Investors seemed optimistic after remarks from Mario Draghi, president of the European Central Bank (ECB), helped lower borrowing costs of Spain and Italy. They believed the ECB will unveil even more policies to deal with the region’s debt crisis. Meanwhile, German industrial orders fell more than expected in June, further supporting the idea of more action from the ECB. Also adding to the hopes, Boston Federal Reserve President Eric Rosengren reiterated his call for the central bank to expand monetary policy and called for more quantitative easing. Although Rosengren is not a voting member on the Fed’s Open Market Committee this year, his remarks still fueled the speculation that more and more central bankers were supportive for further easing. Tuesday’s domestic economy data was not drawing much attention, lacking the strength to set the tone for the market.—Xinhua

Second New Zealand volcano ‘burps’ after eruption

WELLINGTON, 8 Aug — A second volcano in New Zealand threatened to rumble to life on Wednesday, a day after a long-dormant mountain that was the backdrop to “The Lord of the Rings” movies erupted. GNS Science reported no fresh convulsions at the Mount Tongariro volcano, which sent a plume of ash 20,000 feet (6,100 metres) into the atmosphere, showering the North Island and disrupting domestic air travel. But a monitoring camera showed White Island, just off the coast, had experienced a small eruption that was probably unrelated to Tongariro, said Craig Miller, a volcanologist with GNS, the official monitoring body. “The crater-rim camera appears to be splattered with mud/ash this morning, so it seems there has been some kind of burp,” he said. Around the remote Tongariro volcano — which officials say could erupt again without warning at any time — residents cleaned up the ash that spewed early Tuesday. Heavy rain washed away much of the fine silt, causing streams to run grey, but residents said the powdery substance seeped into homes even when doors and windows were sealed. Air travel, which was disrupted across much of the North Island because of the risk posed by volcanic ash, returned to normal, as the remnants of the cloud washed out to sea overnight. In Wellington, more than 250 kilometres (155 miles) from the volcano, a smell of sulphur from gases expelled by the volcano hung in the air for most of the morning. “It was like sewage, really unpleasant,” Wellington resident Carole Burke said.—Internet



Map locating Mount Tongariro and White Island volcano in New Zealand.—INTERNET

Yemen foils Qaeda plot, seizes 40 explosive belts

SANAA, 8 Aug — Yemen has foiled a plot by an al Qaeda-linked cell to carry out attacks inside the capital Sanaa and seized 40 belts packed with explosives, the mayor said on Wednesday, highlighting the risks posed by Islamist militancy in the impoverished Arab state. The Defense Ministry said seven militants had also been detained in the southern town of Jaar, where a suicide bomber killed 45 tribal fighters earlier this week and threatened further attacks on a bigger scale. Yemen declared victory in June over militants calling themselves Ansar al-Sharia (Partisans of Islamic Law), following a US-backed military campaign that drove Islamist fighters from their strongholds in the southern province of Abyan, where they had gained a foothold. But militants have shown they continue to pose a serious threat, despite losing control over several towns they had seized while former leader Ali Abdullah Saleh was grappling with protests that eventually toppled him. “A group of the cell’s members was arrested and the rest are being pursued,” the mayor of Sanaa, Abdul Qader Hilal, told Reuters. The seven men arrested separately in Jaar included a Somali national and a militant leader known as Abu Musaab who was responsible for al-Qaeda’s Defence Ministry said on its website. Ansar al-Sharia is linked to al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, which US officials have described as the most dangerous offshoot of the global militant network. MNA/Reuters

Donate blood

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Dying star screams as it falls into Black Hole

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — As a doomed star spirals closer and closer to a black hole that's about to gobble it up, it lets out periodic bursts of light that scientists liken to dying screams, scientists say. The star is falling into a gigantic black hole in the center of a distant galaxy that lies 3.9 billion light-years away in the direction of the constellation Draco. As the remains of the star get pulled in, it releases blips of light about every 200 seconds, with occasional lags.

"You can think of it as hearing the star scream as it gets devoured, if you like," Jon Miller, a University of Michigan astronomer, said in a statement. Miller was part of a team that detected the

light blips using two orbiting X-ray telescopes: NASA and Japan's Suzaku, and Europe's XMM-Newton.

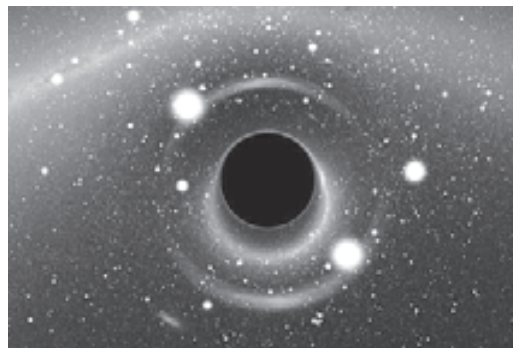
The researchers think the star has been pulled apart by the black hole's gravity into a disk of material that orbits the black hole.

"In order for the black hole to feed from a star that its gravity has broken apart, the remains of the star must form an accretion disk surrounding the black hole," said the study's leader, University of Michigan astronomer Rubens Reis. "The disk gets heated up and we can see emissions from the disk very close to the black hole in X-rays. As this matter is falling in, it gives a quasiperiodic wobble and that's the signal we detected."

Though the dying star's signal comes to us in the form of light, the researchers liken it to sound because it comes at a characteristic frequency that, if converted to sound, would make an ultra-low D-sharp. Similar oscillations have been observed in matter falling into smaller black holes in our own galaxy, and a huge black hole like this one in the center of a nearby active galaxy.

Never before have such screams been heard from a star falling prey to a black hole so distant, or one that had been thought to be dormant, like this one.

"This is telling us that the same physical phenomenon we observe in stellar mass black holes is also observed in black holes a million times the mass of the sun, and also for black holes that were previously asleep," Reis said. "It speaks to the invariant nature of physics, which I think is very beautiful." The findings are described in a paper published in the 3 August issue of the journal *Science*. *Internet*



Dying star screams as it falls into Black Hole.
INTERNET

Schmallenberg virus 'may spread across UK'

LONDON, 8 Aug — Schmallenberg virus is present in the UK this summer and could spread throughout the country, scientists say. Staff from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) and Institute for Animal Health (IAH) found the virus in animals on the RVC's farm in Hertfordshire in June. The scientists say this proves the midge-borne virus survived the winter and will spread as midge numbers rise. Schmallenberg causes severe deformities in lambs and calves born to infected mothers, but adults recover quickly. It poses no threat to human health. Since its first detection in the UK in

January, cases have been documented on 276 farms, mostly in the south and east of England, Chief Veterinary Officer Nigel Gibbens told reporters at a briefing in London.

However, many infections are missed because the symptoms in cows are mild, while infected sheep often show no signs at all.

The first sign is usually when the animals begin giving birth to deformed or dead young — which can be months after the actual infection. Animals on the RVC farm were initially tested in March for antibodies to the virus, which would show they had been infected at some

point. "We found low numbers of animals in March — 4% of cattle, none with clinical signs, and 1.5% of sheep," said John Fishwick, head of dairy herd medicine at the college. "We also found two of our 10 alpacas had it as well, though none showed clinical signs — we believe this is the first time it's been found in alpacas. "We tested everything in June again and found that one cow had shown signs of developing antibodies, and two sheep — these are very small numbers, but it is evidence that the virus is circulating."

It is believed that Schmallenberg initially arrived in the UK last year in



Sprint to launch HD Voice by the end of the year. — INTERNET

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — Sprint (S) is planning to launch its HD Voice service for the HTC EVO 4G LTE by the end

Sprint to launch HD Voice by the end of the year

of the year, according to PhoneScoop. The feature, which was demonstrated at the company's EVO 4G LTE launch event this past April, dramatically improves call quality but it requires both handsets support the service in order to be used.

To ensure the quality of HD Voice, Sprint will need to

upgrade a "critical mass" of its markets with various network improvements and launch additional smartphones that are compatible with the new feature. HD Voice will initially launch in select markets in 2012 and won't become widely available until 2013 and 2014. — *Internet*

Google's self-driving cars have logged more than 300,000 accident-free miles

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — Google (GOOG) on Tuesday announced another milestone for its driverless car program. The Internet giant revealed that its self-driving cars have now logged more than 300,000 miles across a wide range of traffic conditions, and no vehicle has suffered from an accident while under computer control. The driverless program combines the company's Street View technology with artificial intelligence software that fully controls the vehicle with the help of numerous cameras

Google's self-driving cars have logged more than 300,000 accident-free miles.
INTERNET



and sensors.

The program has come a long way and was recently granted a license from the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles to perform tests on public streets. Google notes that while "there's still a long road ahead," it will soon allow

some of its team members to drive the cars solo, rather than in the traditional pairs, for their daily commutes. The Mountain View-based company also announced the newest addition to its autonomous fleet, a Lexus RX450h hybrid. — *Internet*



The virus is carried by midges of the Culicoides genus, found all over Europe. — INTERNET

midges blown from the continent. The new finding shows the virus has survived the winter, when midge numbers fall very low.

Internet

Satellite-tracked cuckoo takes surprise route to Africa

LONDON, 8 Aug — A satellite-tracked male cuckoo has taken a "surprising" route on his way back to Africa this summer. The team from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) monitoring his movements thought he would follow the same route as last year. However, instead of flying west around the Sahara Desert he was tracked 1,000km east on the Algerian coast, ten days earlier than his 2011 route. The team think favourable conditions could be responsible for the change.

The cuckoo known as Lyster is one of five cuckoos that were satellite tagged by the BTO in May 2011 to record their migratory patterns. The study has already shown how little time these birds spend in Britain and where in Africa they spend the winter. Experts hope it may also provide insights into why there has been a 50% decline in British cuckoos over the last 25 years. In 2011, Lyster was tracked from the Norfolk Broads to north east Morocco before skirting around the Sahara on his journey to the Congo Basin's rainforest.

The route included a short 10km crossing of the open ocean between Europe and North Africa at the Strait of Gibraltar. Paul Stancliffe,

part of the cuckoo-tracking team, told BBC Nature that they "expected Lyster to follow the same route as last year". "But to our surprise it was 1,000km east after an extraordinary 500km crossing of the Mediterranean Sea," Mr Stancliffe said.

A potential reason for this change in route is that he found it a suitable habitat after having travelled through the same region of Algeria earlier



Lyster has taken an unexpected route back to Africa from the UK.
INTERNET

in 2012 during his journey from Africa to the UK. Another explanation is that he simply drifted off course. Lyster arrived in Algeria on 1 August and remained there for two days before setting off in the late afternoon of 3 August. He headed south west, flying diagonally across the Sahara Desert and is currently in southern Mauritania.

"It will be interesting to see if he makes his way to his 2011 stopover location," Mr Stancliffe told BBC Nature.

Internet

The Apple-made version of the YouTube app has been on iOS since 2007.
INTERNET



NEW YORK, 8 Aug — The app for video clip service YouTube is missing from the next version of Apple's iOS6 operating system. Apple said the app had been removed because its licence to produce the program had expired. The Apple-made version of the YouTube app has been a staple on the iPhone's iOS since the

YouTube app vanishes from Apple's next version of iOS

device was first launched in 2007. Apple said Google was developing its own version of the app which should appear soon.

The fourth test, or beta, version of iOS6 was released by Apple on 6 August.

The final public version is expected to be ready in September prior to the rumoured launch of a new iPhone. Soon after the software was released many tech news sites noticed it lacked the YouTube app, even though the Apple-made version of this

program has been available for years.

Not all YouTube functions have disappeared from iOS6 beta, said Apple in its statement, as users can still play video by visiting YouTube with a web browser. They can also still upload films to YouTube from a phone or tablet.

Financial terms of the licensing deal that let Apple create the YouTube app have not been disclosed. Apple would not be drawn on whether it would be replacing the YouTube app with another pre-

installed video sharing service. It has already taken a similar step with Google Maps, as iOS6 will use its own mapping app.

No date has been given for when Google's version of the YouTube app will appear."

This is all about Apple removing Google from its operating system completely," said Stuart Miles, founder and head of tech news site Pocket-lint. He wondered if the end result of this strategy would be for Apple to drop Google as its default search engine on iOS.

Internet

Business & Health Business & Health Business & Health

Health Tip: Help prevent baby bottle tooth decay

Yes, baby teeth are only temporary. But they're still susceptible to the pain and discomfort of tooth decay — often dubbed "baby bottle tooth decay." The American Dental Association suggests how to prevent the problem and keep your child's mouth healthier:

- * Don't share utensils with your child or put a pacifier in your mouth, which could transfer germs to your child.
- * Until the teeth start coming in, wipe baby's gums with a damp cloth.
- * Once the teeth start coming in, brush with a child-size toothbrush and water. Do not use fluoride toothpaste until age 2, or as recommended by the pediatrician.
- * Use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste between ages 2 and 6.
- * Carefully monitor your child when brushing teeth until about age 6 or 7, until you're sure the child won't swallow toothpaste.
- * Never send your child to bed with a bottle.
- * Make sure your child's pacifier is always clean, and never dip it in honey or sugar water.
- * Promote healthy eating habits and encourage your child to drink from a cup by the first birthday.

Internet



Analyst projects iPhone 5 sales could reach 250 million units. INTERNET

Analyst projects iPhone 5 sales could reach 250 million units

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — If each new generation of Apple's (AAPL) iPhone sells roughly the same number of devices as all the previous generations combined, then what does that say about how well the soon-to-be-announced "iPhone 53" will sell? Asymco analyst Horace Dediu crunched some numbers and projects that while sales of Apple's next phone might not add up to all previous-generations iPhone sales, it will still be able to sell an impressive 170 million units over its first four quarters on the market.

What's more, Dediu says that iPhone 5 sales could top 200 million units sold if the company keeps the device in production for as long as it did the iPhone 3GS. Dediu also notes that if Apple can maintain the growth rate it has seen up to this point, the company will "easily" sell at least 250 million units of its next-generation iPhone.— Internet

Avengers featured Thor and Captain America, both with their own movie franchises.— INTERNET

Disney profits lifted by Avengers

driven by the success of films such as The Avengers. Net



LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug — The Walt Disney Company has reported higher profits,

income for the three months to June rose 24% to \$1.83bn (£1.17bn) from the previous

year. "We had a phenomenal third quarter, delivering the largest quarterly earnings in the history of our company," said Robert Iger, Disney's chief executive.

Revenue at its parks and resorts increased 9% to \$3.4bn. At its film studio, operating income increased more than six-fold to \$313m. "Higher worldwide theatrical results reflected the performance of the current quarter releases including Marvel's The Avengers and Brave compared to Pirates of

the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides and Cars 2 in the prior-year quarter," the media giant said. In May, superhero movie The Avengers smashed the record for the biggest US opening weekend, taking \$200m. Operating income at Cable Networks increased due to growth at the Disney and ABC Family channels in the US, offsetting a drop at sports channel ESPN. Its theme park in Paris, Euro Disney, is also celebrating its 20-year anniversary. — Internet

Pfizer pays \$60m to US government to settle charges

LONDON, 8 Aug — Drug firm Pfizer has paid the US government \$60m (£38m) to settle charges alleging it paid millions of dollars in bribes to build its business in Europe and China. Employees made the payoffs to secure sales contracts for Pfizer products, according to court filings. Healthcare officials "improperly rewarded", the Securities and Exchange Commission said. The US drugs giant does not admit any guilt.

"Pfizer subsidiaries in several countries had bribery so entwined in their sales culture that they offered points and bonus programmes to improperly reward foreign officials who proved to be their best customers," said Kara Brockmeyer, chief of the SEC's foreign enforcement division, which made the allegations. The countries involved are Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Serbia.

However, the SEC said Pfizer officials had not been aware of the payments, and that its good co-operation over the charges meant there was no need for criminal prosecution. Pfizer first disclosed the misconduct to SEC and Justice Department officials in October 2004, and cooperated with the government's investigation.

The charges against Pfizer were brought under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which bars publicly traded companies from bribing officials in other countries to get or retain business. In the past five years, the Justice Department has investigated a number of pharmaceutical and medical device companies that operate overseas in connection with the law. Last year, Johnson and Johnson agreed to pay \$70m to settle civil and criminal charges of bribery brought by the Department of Justice.— Internet



The US drugs giant does not admit any guilt by paying to settle the charges.— INTERNET

Chronic fatigue syndrome: Brain training is most cost-effective treatment

LONDON, 8 Aug — Exercise and behavioural therapies are the most cost-effective and successful ways to treat Chronic fatigue syndrome, also known as ME, an analysis shows. A study of 640 patients showed these treatments had the potential to save the economy millions of pounds if they were widely adopted. The findings were published in the journal PLoS ONE. However, another treatment favoured by patients' groups was shown to offer little

value. Nobody knows what causes the condition, yet a quarter of a million people in the UK are thought to have it. The symptoms include severe tiredness, poor concentration and memory as well as muscle and joint pain and disturbed sleep.

An earlier version of this research, published last year, showed that cognitive behavioural therapy (changing how people think about their symptoms) and graded exercise therapy (gradually increasing the

amount of exercise) were the most effective treatments. However, the study provoked anger from many patients' groups which argued that pacing therapies (learning to live within limits) were both better and safer for patients. Using data from the same set of patients, researchers compared improvements in levels of fatigue and activity with the cost to the NHS of providing the treatments.

It concluded that only cognitive behavioural therapy and graded exercise therapy could be considered cost-effective. When the wider cost to society was considered, such as lost work or the cost of carers, those two therapies provided an overall saving. Prof Paul McCrone, a health economist from King's College London, said: "There is now a strong case for the NHS to invest in providing these therapies."

Internet



The cause of Chronic fatigue syndrome is unknown. INTERNET

Campaigners say the young don't know enough about HIV

LONDON, 8 Aug — Sexual health experts and leading HIV charities say not enough is being done to raise awareness of the dangers of the virus for young people. It's claimed infection rates are still high and many people don't understand what it's like living with the illness. Figures from the Health Protection Agency (HPA) show there were nearly 6,000 confirmed cases in adults across the UK in 2011. In the last five years nearly 3,500 16 to 24-year-olds have been diagnosed. Paul Steinberg is a sexual health expert based in Lambeth, south London. He said: "I think it's a fair point to say awareness of HIV generally has dropped off the radar for a lot of people in this country."

Paul believes the medical advances made in treating HIV over the past decade have led to people becoming more complacent and taking more risks. He also says the increased focus on other,

more common, STIs like chlamydia and gonorrhea means young people aren't as educated as they should be on HIV. "If someone is diagnosed with chlamydia then we can give them some antibiotics and they will be cured," he said. "Although HIV is not a death sentence any more, if someone does get diagnosed it's a long-term, long-lasting condition. "It's not the same as having chlamydia or gonorrhea which can be treated."

Sarah, which is not her

Internet



Sexual health experts and leading HIV charities say not enough is being done to raise awareness of the dangers of the virus for young people.— INTERNET



Teenagers cool off at a fountain in Kiev, capital of Ukraine, on 7 Aug, 2012. Temperatures reached a record 37 degrees Celsius Tuesday afternoon in the Ukrainian capital, eclipsing the former high of 33.6 degrees for the day set 112 years ago, the weather service said.
XINHUA

China launches rare earth trading platform

BAOTOU, (Inner Mongolia), 8 Aug — China on Wednesday launched a physical trading platform for rare earth metals as part of its efforts to regulate the sector and strengthen its pricing power for the resources.

The rare earth trading platform is located in the city of Baotou in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, home to more than half of the world's light rare earth output.

The Inner Mongolia Baotou Steel Rare-Earth (Group) Hi-Tech Co, China's top rare earth producer, launched the platform together with nine other firms and institutions with a total investment of 100 million yuan (15.77 million US dollars).

Each shareholder invested 10 million yuan and holds a 10-percent stake in the exchange.

As the world's largest

producer of rare earth metals, China now supplies more than 90 percent of the global demand for rare earth metals, although its reserves account for just 23 percent of the world's total.

Rare earth metals, a group of 17 metals, are vital for the manufacture of high-tech products ranging from smart phones and wind turbines to electric car batteries and missiles.

Xinhua

US man pleads guilty to Tucson shooting spree

LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug — Jared Lee Loughner on Tuesday pleaded guilty to 19 counts of charges including wounding former US congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson, Arizona during the January 2011 shooting rampage, and the prosecution has agreed not to seek death penalty, local media outlets reported.

US District Judge Larry Burns found Loughner, 23, mentally competent during a hearing held at the court, saying: "My personal observations of him leave no questions in my mind that Loughner knows what's going on today," according to Azcentral.com. The suspect

pleaded guilty to 19 of the 49 charges against him. He admitted that he planned to use his handgun to kill Giffords and others attending an event Giffords held for her constituents on 8 Jan, 2011, outside a supermarket near Tucson.

The plea arrangement, struck between federal prosecutors and defence attorneys, comes after a prolonged legal wrangling over Loughner's mental capacity. The development is the latest in a string of sagas in the wake of a deadly mass shooting in Tucson, Arizona on 8 Jan, 2011. The plea agreement sets the stage for a likely prison sentence of life

without parole. Six people including US District Judge John Roll and Giffords staffer Gabe Zimmerman were killed and 13 others were wounded.

During the hearing, Dr Christina Pietz, Loughner's forensic psychologist, testified that she believed Loughner was competent to stand trial after spending months in a prison psychiatric hospital in Missouri. According to Pietz, Loughner wanted a job since his imprisonment, which Pietz said was a sign for competency. Pietz concluded she believed Loughner to have a factual, rational understanding of the role of jury, a judge, prosecutors and

Nearly 2 million evacuated as Typhoon Haikui hits China

SHANGHAI, 8 Aug — Typhoon Haikui struck China on Wednesday, packing winds of up to 110 km per hour (68 mph), prompting officials to evacuate nearly 2 million people and grounding hundreds of flights to and from Shanghai and other cities.

More than 1.5 million people in the eastern province of Zhejiang and 252,000 residents of outlying parts of Shanghai were evacuated after Haikui landed early in the morning, causing flooding and stranding hundreds of people, the official Xinhua news agency reported. More than 500 domestic and international flights to and from Shanghai's two airports, Hongqiao and Pudong, have been cancelled as of 10:30 am

(0230 GMT), the Shanghai Airport Authority said on its microblogging account.

China's top three carriers — Air China, China Eastern Airlines and China Southern Airlines Co Ltd — have also cancelled all flights to and from Hangzhou and Ningbo, both south of Shanghai, until noon, they said. No ships had been allowed in or out of Shanghai's ports, the world's busiest by container volume, since Tuesday night, an official at the Shanghai Water Authority said. Another key port in Ningbo, in Zhejiang province, has also been

shut.

Some trains to and from Shanghai, the country's commercial hub, have also been cancelled. The city's financial markets remained open, however.

By late evening, the centre of the typhoon is expected to have moved northwest although wet and windy conditions are likely to persist, according to Tropical Risk Storm's website <http://www.tropicalstormrisk.com>. Haikui forced nearly 270,000 people in the Philippines to flee their homes, prompting authorities to close schools, financial markets and offices.—Reuters



A car drives past a damaged traffic sign as Typhoon Haikui hits Hepu township, Zhejiang Province, on 8 Aug, 2012.— Reuters

Canada's Enbridge restarts Line 14 oil pipeline

EDMONTON, 8 Aug — Enbridge Inc on Tuesday restarted an oil pipeline that ships Canadian crude to Chicago area refineries, 11 days after it spilled more than 1,000 barrels of crude onto a Wisconsin field.

The 318,000 barrel-per-day pipeline resumed operations after receiving approval on Monday from the US Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the Canadian company said in a statement.

The shutdown caused a brief spike in Chicago gasoline prices that eventually drove up prices

on the Gulf Coast and US Northeast as supplies were diverted to meet the shortfall.

PHMSA last week issued Enbridge a corrective action order, calling for measures to be taken before it would allow the resumption of flows along Line 14, which was halted after a leak was discovered on 27 July.

"Enbridge will continue to coordinate its efforts with PHMSA as necessary," Enbridge said. "We will conduct site restoration in compliance with all government regulations and our own stringent safety and environmental standards."

Reuters

US computer programmer Mike Senna recently unveiled a life-sized, working Wall-E replica that can trundle around on its treads, wave both hands, raise its eyebrows, and warble its own name. Senna has spent two and a half years on this project, toiling for about 25 hours each week while holding down a full-time job at a biometrics company in Orange County. — XINHUA



Brazil deploys troops to fight cross-border crimes

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 Aug — Brazil has reinforced its southern borders with 9,000 additional troops as the fifth stage of an ongoing crime-busting operation, local media said on Tuesday. The security reinforcement, officially named Operation Agatha 5, started on Monday and will last for 20 to 30 days along the nation's borders with Paraguay, Argentina and Uruguay. The troops were

backed by several helicopters, patrol ships, jets and armored vehicles. Agatha 5 is mainly designed to stem criminal activities such as drug trafficking, contraband and illegal mining, according to Defence Minister Celso Amorim, who is expected to travel to southern Brazil on Wednesday to inspect the operation in person.

Amorim said Brazil's

neighbours were informed of the operation in advance and invited to send observers.

In four previous stages of the operation, Brazil seized more than 2.3 tons of illicit drugs, along with 302 boats used by traffickers and 59 firearms.

Authorities also destroyed illegal landing strips used for shipping drugs, and illegal mining and logging sites.—Xinhua

Thunderstorms cause blackouts for over 20,000 people in Oklahoma

HOUSTON, 8 Aug — More than 20,000 people were without power on Tuesday after powerful thunderstorms swept through Oklahoma City, capital of the US state of Oklahoma.

Firefighters evacuated 11 people from six homes in far northwest Oklahoma City after power lines fell on them, according to the website of the English daily The Oklahoman. Downed power poles and tree branches on power lines could be seen across the city. Blackouts were also reported in the areas surrounding the Oklahoma City.—Xinhua



The Enbridge Tower is pictured on Jasper Avenue in Edmonton on 4 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

Signing MoUs and...

(from page 1)

Thandwe of Rakhine State can retransmit MRTV and Myawady programmes on regular schedules or MRTV-4 channel can be transmitted in Thandwe like Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon through free to air. Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win replied that with regard to the first question, depending on Thandwe Electricity Supply Committee and results in coordination of meter bills and the budget of the Ministry of Information including transmission of TV, retransmission works may be carried out.

Concerning the second question, he replied that if programmes are broadcast through free to air, one set of transmitter, feeder and antenna is to be bought for the proposed area. At present, MRTV-4 channel is being broadcast through free to air in populous Yangon, Sagaing and Taunggyi. Efforts are being made for extending the broadcasting area step by step. At present, there is no plan to transmit the MRTV-4 channel to Thandwe.

U Aung Hsan of Pabedan Constituency asked he wanted to know **successful implementation of MRTV for the agreements signed with international news agencies; whether the ministry has a plan to broadcast a separate TV channel depicting Myanmar cultural heritage and customs; whether the Myanmar Libraries Foundation has a plan to extend self-reliant libraries and provide furniture and books to the libraries.** Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win replied that as the first question, MTRV has signed agreements with 10 international news agencies. According to the news

exchange programme, TV news from China Central Television (CCTV), Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK) and Deutsche Welle (DW) are inserted into the international news of MRTV. Reciprocally, the news sent by Myanmar are inserted into the programme of news of partner news agencies like CCTV.

Under the staff exchange programme, officers and staff of MRTV have the



Dr Myo Aung of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Constituency makes discussion.—MNA

opportunity to observe and pursue respective proficiency course in the agreement-signed countries. Cooperation in broadcasting of TV programme and TV programme exchange programmes are successfully undertaken.

It can be seen that signing the MoUs and agreements with international news agencies is beneficial to improvement of programme sector, development of human resources and cooperation with international community. In the future, plans are under way to sign more MoUs and agreement with international news agencies.

With regard to the second question, TV channels of Myanmar in free to air are

being broadcast through analogue system. Thus, one TV transmitter can broadcast one TV channel. It is necessary to spend time and money on construction of Analogue TV transmission network. Therefore, there is no plan to extend one more TV channel through analogue system. According to the reminder of International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a plan is being implemented to switch off Analogue system and shift to digital system and to extend TV channels in the future.

As the third question, Myanmar Libraries Foundation has spent K 104.5 million including 88 libraries and over 11000 books during the two years period. The foundation was funded with over K 700 million by wellwishers. Its interests are being spent on development of the libraries and raising reading habit. According to the disciplines of the foundation, the libraries that need building, furniture and books may submit applications to the foundation with the endorsement of the respective Township Information and Public Relations Departments. The Foundation Executive Committee scrutinizes the applications and provides assistance for them.

Dr Soe Yin of Kamayut Constituency submitted a proposal **urging the authorities through the Hluttaw to open the hostels for undergraduate and post-graduate students at various universities in Myanmar and implement hostel system.**

With regard to the proposal, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Education Promotion Committee Dr Chan Nyein replied that most of the international universities are not facilitated with hostels. He suggested that universities should have hostels at the best of times.

The Hluttaw decided to record the proposal.

In **the bill submitting session**, U Maung Toe of Minhla constituency submitted the bill amending **the Union Attorney-General Law** and U Soe Yel, member of the bill committee, read the report of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee.

The date for discussing the bill will be announced and the Hluttaw urged those representatives who want to submit a proposal to amend the bill to exactly mention “paragraph, sub-paragraph and subject” and to enlist by 11 August.

During **the proposal discussion session**, U Sein Win of Maubin constituency, U Kyaw Min of Latpadan constituency, Daw Phyu Phyu Thin of Mingala Taungnyunt constituency, U Kyaw Myint of Myanaung constituency, Daw Myint Myint San of Wakema constituency, Dr Zaw Myint Maung of Kyaukpadaung constituency, Dr Myo Aung of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) constituency, Defence Services personnel representatives Col Khin Maung Tun and Col Aung Myint, Dr Sai Ohn Kyaw Ohn of Namhkam constituency, U Soe Win of Sangyoung constituency and U Aung Zin of Pazundaung constituency discussed **the proposal to declare movable and immovable assets and interests of persons assigned to Union Government members, Region or State government members for emergence of Good Governance and Clean Government** submitted by U Win Myint of Patheingyi constituency during the 14-day meeting.

They said that the proposal would support the democratic practices and encourage the transparency, gaining the trust from the people, respect from the international community and producing democracy leaders and decreasing the corruption.

To get rid of corruption in the country, those who concerned are to do their true declaration of their assets.

To flourish the democratic practices, such kind of action has happened in other countries.

As the corruption tarnishes the image of the country, it is necessary to declare orders and enact laws and to bring the check and balance to the governmental services in an attempt to control the corruption. The people would acknowledge the honesty of those who declare their assets which they earned honestly. That practice is the sine qua non for building a democratic nation.

It is found that the proposal to declare and put the assets and interests of persons assigned to the Union Government members, Region or State government members comprising in the executive branch on record reaches beyond the Section 68 of the State Constitution. Therefore, the proposal should be reviewed.

To be able to translate the proposal into action, it is necessary to amend the Section 68 of the State



Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin making discussion.

MNA

Constitution. To be fair and equitable, not only persons assigned to the Union Government members, Region or State government members but also members of the commissions and committees who are members of the legislation and judiciary branches should declare their assets within and without the country.

In response to the proposal, Dr Tun Shin, the Union Attorney-General, quoted the Section 68 of the State Constitution saying that the President and the Vice-Presidents shall furnish a list of family assets under his declaration, namely land, houses, buildings, businesses, savings and other valuables together with their values to the Head of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. He also quoted the Section 100 of the Union Government Law, saying that the President and the Vice-Presidents shall furnish a list of family assets under his declaration, namely land, houses, buildings, businesses, savings and other valuables together with their values to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and quoted the Section 101 saying that the personnel who are assigned by the President with the approval of the Hluttaw shall furnish a list of their businesses and assets together with their values to the President.

The provision of the Section 100 of the Union Government Law is in conformity with the State Constitution as it is the same with the provision of the Section 68 of the State Constitution. However, the provision of the Section 101 of the Union Government Law is not included the State Constitution. The State Constitution is the main law and the existing laws which are multipliers of the constitution take effect as far as they are not in conformity with the State constitution. A

law can be enacted for constitutionally desirable for certain purpose allowed by the constitution, and unconstitutionality or illegality of the statute of a law is against the State Constitution. Therefore, to enact a law, it should be constitutionally desirable for certain purpose.

Regarding the declaration of the assets of those who are assigned by the President with the approval of the Hluttaw and those who are assigned by the President without the approval of the Hluttaw, those who are members of the Union-level legislation branch set up in accordance with the State Constitution, Dr Tun Shin suggested that to be fair, equitable and all inclusive, all political exposed persons of the executive, legislation and judiciary branches should declare their assets. Therefore, consideration should be given to whether it is suitable or not to record the businesses and assets of the President and the Vice-presidents, those who are assigned by the President with and without the approval of the Hluttaw, the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw, the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw.

He also suggested to put the proposal on record as it is reasonable and to seek the decision of the Hluttaw over whether the proposal should be all inclusive and all political exposed persons or not.

The proposal was put to the vote and was objected.

During the meeting, three questions were answered, one new proposal was submitted, one bill was introduced and one proposal was discussed.

The meeting ended at 4.15 pm and continue its 23rd meeting tomorrow.

MNA



In memory of late colleagues and the 25th Anniversary of paying respects to the teachers of No. 13 Apprentice Course, K 550,000 donated to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Secretary of EC U Win Swe recently.

NLM

Three threats to Myanmar's democracy

Maung Aye Chan
(Harvard)

New democracy reader

Myanmar expats like me are heartened and swollen with pride by news of encouraging political configuration and check-and-balance system and increased transparency of today's Myanmar in transition.

It is also heartening to hear "Myanmar" speaking with slight lisp from those who once persistently referred to our country as "Burma". Introducing ourselves as Myanmar citizens in the past was the act of inviting negative comments. But now, we start to get bombarded with questions interestingly about the President and the Hluttaw Speakers. A remark of my law professor is noteworthy.

"Mr Chan, your country's transition to democracy is quite smart. Your spring, Myanmar's spring, is very beautiful, neither shedding blood nor leading to a revolution. I dare say you country will become a democratization reader."

The professor has overwhelming influence in the political sphere of the United States and is a democracy guru respected by both Republicans and Democrats. I have already noticed that a new democratization idea would emerge if such person took our country's democratization process into serious consideration. Myanmar's democratization has become a new reader and a new success story for worldwide democracy promotion process of the United States.

The major threat

Our conversation moved on to news reported by the media. We could fall into deep conversation because I, myself, am a law professional who earned my doctorate with specialized research on international constitutions. Our country is new to sharing of and check and balance among three powers. Sharing and balancing powers have different meanings. We need to understand it well. Another important aspect is that democracy can not be replicated.

But our country is lucky. There are various versions of democratization, either bad or good, in the world. Some are suitable for our country while some are not. **We need to establish Myanmar version of democracy in the light of the study of the most appropriate framework for our country. The strength of the government is the lifeblood of the transition process in various steps of relaxations and building democracy. That's why the constitutions lay emphasis on executive power.**

Despite equal share of powers by the constitutions, there are challenges posed by any other pillar to the executive pillar. It is an experience every democratization process has to come across. Another one is the misinterpretation of the constitution and putting misinterpreted concepts into practice. These are false steps the countries on the road to democracy used to take.

The United States I am now living in has come across many years to reach today's status. The thorough check-and-balance system was built around its experiences through a series of amendments. Some amendments mistakenly approved might be revoked. Some provisions which had once been revoked might be added. It is also the nature of the law. No law is perfect. We need to understand the laws, especially the constitution, well. Even we, the legal professionals, and the lawmakers start to understand the constitution more only when it comes to the actual application. We arrive clear understanding by debates on the constitution.

According to researches, such possible misinterpretations could cause major damage to the whole democratization process. When learnt, costly mistakes that could turn over the democratization around the world were found to start with such misinterpretations. The misinterpretation is the biggest threat before the country is not accustomed to the democracy.

Even worse, the import of democracy is commonly found in the country with immature democracy. The persons who misinterpret the constitution also promote the international practices that are not prescribed in the

constitution. Foreign democratic practices are imported by the persons who want to be regarded as lecturers on democracy and others who really demand the true democracy. Above 70 percent of infant democracies experienced the import of foreign democracy. It is also a huge threat to the country with democracy in its infancy. Three threats to democratization

Democratization around the world formed three waves along the course of the history. There were 115 times of democratization in 86 countries beyond 1955. Only 17 percent were succeeded. Another wave is the revolutionary cycle of democratization and coups like in our neighbour Thailand. Thirty two countries have experienced such cycle for 44 times. Forty countries have experienced civil wars and conflicts in the aftermath of democracy. Another one is return to authoritarianism after the democratization. Forty four countries were sunk in the democracy backward wave. The backward wave follows the civil wars.

I would like to present a legal review that could be fit for Myanmar's landscape from various historical lessons and theories of democratization. **There are three threats that could commonly repeat endless cycles of dilemmas in immature democracies or three threats to democratization. (Other scholars may have different definitions from different points of view. I am looking from legal standpoint.)**

Those threats are as follows:

- (a) there is no a firm legal framework in transitional period**
- (b) misinterpretation of democratic essence included in the Constitution**
- (c) emergence of unlawful practices as foreign democratic practices are imported**

Myanmar democracy and threats

Myanmar is now in the sensitive position as its democracy is in initial stage. In this context, it needs a firm framework. Some countries ended up in misery as they did not have a complete, firm framework since they went through democracy by means of unrest, demonstration and overthrow of the government. This is a great danger in the democracy transition. But **our country had been able to formulate a firm framework in its process of transition. This framework is none other than the 2008 Constitution which helps make the transition process systematically. In view of President U Thein Sein's actions, statements and goals in detail, it can be found that he is marching on democracy path with the constitution.** So, it is safe to say that our country had overcome **the first threat** which was used to be encountered by countries whose democracy is not fully fledged.

We need to be well aware of the fact that whether there is any misinterpretation of democratic essence included in the Constitution which is **the second threat**. Although this is an insignificant one that cannot be apparent, it could trigger a huge conflict at a later time. As there used to be misinterpretation in the country, special attention should be paid to it. At a time when democracy is still in its infancy in the country, misinterpretation could beget a spate of evil consequences.

Here, I would like to present an obvious example. This is what was frequent in discussions of Hluttaw representatives at the parliamentary sessions held in Nay Pyi Taw and answers to local and foreign media by Hluttaw representatives. This is none other than the word "Pyidaungsu Hluttaw which exercises legislative power that is the highest among the State's three sovereign powers". It is to be noted that the provisions under Section-11, Sub-section (A) of the Fundamental Principles, Chapter (1) of the 2008 Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar stated only that there are three branches of the State sovereign power—legislative power, executive power and judiciary power, and there is no statement that the legislative power is the highest.

Here, I would like to elaborate the origin of the word "the highest". The provisions under Section-41, Pyithu Hluttaw Chapter, Chapter (4) of the Constitution

of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma states **"The Pyithu Hluttaw is the highest organ of the State power. It exercises the sovereign powers of the State on behalf of the people."** Here the point to be noted is that the 1974 Constitution represented only one party system, socialism and only one Hluttaw. The State power was in the hand of organizations at different levels such as party, Hluttaw, government. Another point is that the parliamentary government that exercised democracy the earliest in the country is different from the present system. In the parliamentary system, the prime minister was in the parliament. Article-116, the Union Government under Chapter (7) of the Constitution of the Union of Burma states **"A member of the government who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of the Parliament shall at the expiration of that period cease to be a member of the Government."**

The word "the highest" emerged from that and has become popular in the country. This is just a misinterpretation. This is completely contrary to the contents of the 2008 Constitution. The one who exercises the executive power is the President. It is to be noted that there was no longer the prime minister in the parliamentary period and programme party period. The present Constitution is the Presidential administration. This is just a proof I have presented. Special attention should be paid to that, and misinterpretation of the contents of the Constitution must be avoided.

Meanwhile, here I would like to confirm which institution is the highest. Section-57 of the Constitution stated that the President and the Vice-President represent the State; Section-58 stated that the President is on top of the entire people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Those provisions provide clear senses.

It is necessary to observe the emergence of unlawful practices in Myanmar as foreign democratic practices are imported which is **the third threat**. This is found in the country which is importing democracy. This is every dangerous. To be exact, the words **"Union Government legislative body, Union Government executive body and Union Government judiciary body"** are being extensively used among Hluttaw representatives. This can be understood as part of the Union Government. But those who used such words should take times to study the contents of the Constitution.

I who was in the United States of America was well aware of the origin of those words. This was just a version imported by democracy masters. (Some of those democracy masters were no longer in existence. But their lectures still exist.) Those words are totally contrary to our Constitution. The formation of the government was clearly prescribed in Section-200 of the Constitution. Under the Section, the Union Government is made up of President, Vice-Presidents, Union Ministers and Attorney-General of the Union. **If they thoroughly study the contents of the Constitution they no longer use the words "Union Government legislative body, Union Government executive body and Union Government judiciary body. Another point is that the use of what was not in the Constitution in the democratization can pose a great threat to a country whose democracy is in the initial stage.**

Conclusion

To me, I take a great honour for ongoing new models in the world history thanks to democratization in Myanmar. It is just my warning over threats to the country whose democracy is still in its infancy and those threats could not be born into great dangers. I would like Myanmar democracy go down in the annals of Myanmar history as Myanmar democracy. And I wish all to be able to march on the new controversial Myanmar democratization path.

Translation: HKA+TS

HIV/STD Control Project implemented...

(from page 16)

electricity, multiplying of electricity without permissions of respective state-level organizations, electricity consumption for businesses that are not allowed through general household meter or household power meter, overloaded use of industry-based power meter. In addition, they will have to compensate current values of damaged equipments or to pay designated amounts to respective state-level organizations for the consequences of losses and damages.

Power consumption for businesses through general household meter amounts to illegal use of power. Regarding it, the directives are: to collect commercial meter bills, to ask for compensation, to calculate meter bills based on installed-load business if meter is not tampered, to ask for compensations calculated on installed-load in addition to businesses and designated fines of 50,000 if meter is tampered, to ask for replacement value if the meter burn, to allow small enterprises that install household meter to continue using it and collect K 75 per unit for all power consumption, to install a separate meter for business by letting them to pay designated amounts if consumers want to pay household and commercial meter bills separately, to install a separate meter for the businesses with overloaded consumptions by letting them to pay designated amounts, to remind them of carrying out permanent power cut if they commits such acts again and to take pledges from them.

With respect to the question of U Kyaw Thu Oo of Magway Region Constituency No.5 on **“there is a plan to build a sub-power station in Sagu of Minbu Township”**, he said:

Power is being supplied to Sagu, Minbu District, Magway Region through Mann power station and 11 KV Sagu feeder. At present, electricity is being supplied to nine villages. For supply

of power to seven villages, installation of power lines and construction of sub-power station will be carried out in 2013-2014 financial year.

After that, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin replied to the questions of three hluttaw representatives on health sectors.

With respect to the question of Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 6 on **“he would like to know the research on HIV/AIDS outbreaks at border trade camps (Muse and Tachilek) and in Kawthoung or treatment and prevention”**, she said:

Department of Health under the Ministry of Health started finding out HIV infection in 1988. Since then, HIV/STD Control Project was launched as a national concern in region/state/district/township, including border towns—Muse, Tachilek and Kawthoung after HIV/STD Control teams were formed.

In 2011, HIV infection of pregnant mothers was 4.5 percent in Muse, 1.3 percent in Tachilek and 1.5 percent in Kawthoung. HIV infection of male patients with STD was 8.7 percent in Muse, 4.1 percent in Tachilek and 4.7 percent in Kawthoung. HIV infection of IV administration of drug was 29 percent in Muse and new TB patients, 8.5 percent.

The number of HIV patients who are taking ART is 15 in Muse, 157 in Tachilek and 91 in Kawthoung. Patients living with STD are 51 in Muse, 144 in Tachilek and 200 in Kawthoung. Pregnant women who underwent medical check-up for HIV antibody is 1940 in Muse, 4511 in Tachilek and 1729 in Kawthoung. The number of pregnant women living with HIV antibody is 29 in Muse, 40 in Tachilek and 31 in Kawthoung. Ministry of Health is carrying out HIV/AIDS prevention and control tasks.

Regarding the question of U Maung Tha Khin of Rakhine State Constituency No.8 on **“there is a plan to upgrade**

Maungtaung People’s Hospital into 100-bed one”, she replied:

Ministry of Health has opened a 50-bed Township hospital, four station hospitals (16-bed), nine rural health centers and 35 rural health branches in Maungtaung Township of Rakhine State.

On 15-7-2012, 16-bed Maungtaung Township hospital has been upgraded into 50-bed one with the staff strength of 81. On 7-10-1997, it was equipped with six specialists. There is no any plan to upgrade



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Kyun Khen of Chin State Constituency No 1 makes discussion.

MNA

50-bed hospital into 100-bed one at present.

“With respect to the question of U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 on **“he would like to know the standards for opening of private pharmacy training schools and how to control trainees who have completed private pharmacy course”**, she said: according to the existing laws, opening of private pharmacy courses is not allowed. And Union Minister for Health has urged all region/state government offices to inform opening of private pharmacy courses. Arrangements are being made to take legal actions against them.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Kyaw Kyaw submitted the report of the committee on Bill on Board of Examinations 2012 sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments to be considered at Amyotha Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw representatives wishing to take part in the discussions

may enlist their nominations, not later than 13 August.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Hmat Gyi submitted the report of the committee on Bill Revoking Foreign Relations Act sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments to be considered at the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw representatives wishing to take part in the discussions may enlist their nominations, not later than 13 August.

U Win Naing Shein of Bago Region Constituency No 5, U Htay Win (A) U Zayard Raw Man of Rakhine State Constituency No 7, Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No 9, Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No 4, Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No 8, U Nyunt Tin of Yangon Region Constituency No 2, Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No 6, Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No 1, U Zaw Myint Pe of Mandalay Region Constituency No 5 and U Kyun Khen of Chin State Constituency No 1 discussed the report of Amyotha Hluttaw Monetary and Revenue Committee. They discussed that taxes had been levied exactly in Myanmar monarchical period. Despite changing systems and eras, the taxation system did not change, so the financial sector of the State faced some problems. At present, as international investment flows into the country, the State needs to get deserved taxes fully. Not only government service personnel but also staff members of companies are to pay individual taxes. Companies, restaurants and hotels are to pay corporate tax. Some persons evade duty of paying tax. Their acts may harm the correct economic competitiveness. Thus, it should practise the system that anyone cannot evade duty of paying tax and it should practise the system to honour those who discharge duty of paying tax correctly. Indeed, the tax is playing a key role in enhancement of socio-economic status of the State. It is necessary to



Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win makes clarification.

MNA

urge all the citizens to willingly pay the taxes. The tax rate must be fair and it should not be burden for the tax payers. The collected taxes should not be lost. Every citizen is to take responsibility of dutifully paying tax for development of the State. All the citizens are to understand that paying the tax is the duty for all citizens.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw decided that the participants in the discussions are to re-compile the report and to carry out the necessary tasks according to the decision of the Amyotha Hluttaw Monetary and Revenue Committee.

With regard to the proposal urging national entrepreneurs to join hands with the State in contributing to rural development tasks in Chin State which is the most poverty area throughout the nation, U Salai Khwe Yan of Chin State Constituency No 12, U Nein Khin Paung of Chin State Constituency No 7 and U Thein Hlaing of Sagaing Region Constituency No 8 seconded the proposal.

With regard to the proposal, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win replied that plan has been set to annually construct 120 miles long earth roads, 45 miles long gravel road, 20 miles long asphalt roads, 2600-foot concrete bridges, 1000 feet long wooden bridges, 50 concrete conduits, 700 feet long culverts, 23 schools, one 16-bed hospital, two clinics, three rural health centres, five rural health branches, 65 water supply works, one veterinary office, five breeding farms and 20 facilities of rural electricity in Chin State from 2013-2014 to 2015-2016 financial years of the fifth five-year plan for development of border

regions and rural areas.

According to the bilateral cooperation programme between Myanmar and India, Myanmar signed an MoU with India on 28 May to provide US\$25—US\$5 million each for five years plan so as to carry out border region development in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Zone. By implementing the plan, assistance will be provided to Chin State for construction of infrastructures to enhance transport, education, health and social-economic sectors of Chin State beginning 2012-2013 fiscal year.

The approval was sought through voting machine.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No 4 submitted a proposal **urging the Union Government to adopt a special plan as a national duty to ensure prevalence of law and order for taking action against infiltration of foreigners from neighbouring countries and holding of citizenship scrutiny cards through misconduct ways** and a Hluttaw representative seconded it.

As there was disagreed representative, the approval was sought through way of standing up of the representatives. As the number of representatives standing up at the Hluttaw did not reach 40, the proposal was not accepted to be discussed.

The Hluttaw session came to an end at 3.55 pm and the 23th day session will be held at 10 am tomorrow.

At the today’s session, six questions were replied, two bills submitted, one report discussed, one proposal discussed and approved and one new proposal submitted.—MNA

Yangon Region Hotels and Tourism Development discussed

YANGON, 8 Aug—A workshop on Yangon Region Hotels and Tourism Development, organized by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, was held at Innaya Lake Hotel, here, this morning.

At the workshop, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan said that under the leadership of the government, the reform strategy is being carried out in accordance with political and economic reforms in Myanmar and it is aimed at developing of tourism industry.

He called on entrepreneurs to practice Public, Private and Partnership (PPP) in order to grasp the chance of economic success that will lead to stand tall in regional and ASEAN membership countries. To develop



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Tint Hsan addresses workshop on Yangon Region Hotels and Tourism Development.—MNA

lucrative tourism industry, the private sector is involved in it under the supervision of the ministry, he said.

Upon the results of holding workshop, it will go ahead till the reach of National Level in cooperation with region and state governments. With the assistance of region and state

governments, such kind of workshops will be held at Mandalay, Bagan and Innlay, the destination of the tourists, he remarked.

After national five years plan, the ministry is expected to arrive 1.4 million tourists in 2015-2016 fiscal year and necessary arrangements are being provided to be

convenient for those tourists, he assured.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe made addresses and Deputy Minister U Htay Aung explained work process.

The deputy minister and officials responded to questions.

MNA

Meeting on development of private microcredit societies held

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—“The development of private microcredit societies play a crucial role in implementing of rural development and poverty alleviation task for the people in rural and low income people and region and state small private microcredit societies development committee permitted to form small microcredit societies,” said Chairman of Private Microcredit Societies Development Committee Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun at the meeting 4/2012 on development of private microcredit societies committee held at the meeting hall of the ministry here this noon.

Committee Secretary Managing Director of Myanmar Microfinance Institution Supervisory Enterprise U Htein Lin explained matters related to submit application to get license of the microfinance institutions and those attendees participated in discussion.

In his concluding remarks, the Union Minister said that the staff need to prepare in capacity-building basic when international organizations offer technical assistance concerning small microfinance societies and the application of the small microfinance institutions are to scrutiny in detail. Up to date, a total of 77 small microfinance institutions including 23 companies, 41 cooperative societies, 5 INGOs and 8 NGOs have been permitted to get licenses.—MNA

Flood Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaing Chaung (1193) cm has exceeded by (63) cm (about 2.1 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1130) cm during the next three days.

The water level of Sittoung River at Toungoo is (600) cm which is its danger level. It may continue to rise (10) cm (about 0.3 ft) during the next 24 hours commencing noon today and remain above its danger level, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Deputy Minister for Education enjoys school health week activities in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu looked around the booths in the exhibition hall of school health week activities at No.20 Basic Education High School, Pobbathiri Township this morning.

The deputy minister called on the school children to do personal hygiene as always, keep the school health knowledge that accustomed to school children till the end of their lives, have meals that included three groups of food

and use fly proof latrines.

The health staff of school health department enjoyed talks on educative school health week.

The deputy minister then inspected the school health week activities that carried out in line with five objectives at No. 13 BEHS in Pobbathiri Township, No.12 in Ottarathiri Township and OTT No.5 BEMS.

MNA



DHF PREVENTED: Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever preventive measures were held at drains along Khabaung and Dhammayon Streets in Ward 10 of Hline Township on 30 July. Township Administrator U Myat Soe and officials supervise DHF preventive measures.

MYANMA ALIN

District News

Cash donated for undertaking environmental conservation

YANGON, 8 Aug—A cash donation ceremony was held at the hall of City Mark Supermarket on Bagaya Road in Sangyoung Township of Yangon Region on 3 August for ensuring environmental conservation.

It was attended by entrepreneurs and responsible persons from Forest Resource Environment and Conservation Association (FREDA) that is

focusing on the environmental conservation.

In commemoration of the mothers' day, wellwishers donated K 73.9 million and K 13.4 million for poor children and organizations.

FREDA donated K 10 million for forestry works of Mingala Myanmar Mangrove Plantation Rehabilitation and growing local people-owned forest project.

Myanma Alin

Cash donated to free clinic for Sangha in Bago

BAGO, 8 Aug—A ceremony to donate K 1 million to the fund of free clinic east of Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago was held at the clinic on 6 August.

Wellwisher U Win Shwe and siblings of 4th Street in Kyitawgon B of Nandawya Ward donated K 1 million to Treasurer U Kyaw. Despite providing health care to members of the Sangha, the clinic can give treatment to nun.

The clinic is kept open for members of the Sangha from Monday to Friday from 8 am to 10 am and from 3 pm to 5 pm.



Four doctors are giving treatment to the patients in rotation.

The clinic costs K 2.3 million for salaries and medicine.

Padamya Sayadaw donated K 300,000 to the fund monthly. If necessary, the Sayadaw makes more donations.

Wellwisher may contact Chairman of the Clinic U Myint Oo, Tel: 052-24613 and Treasurer U Kyaw, 09-5300618.—Kyemon

Pseudo-ephedrine worth K 869.24 million seized in Kalay

YANGON, 8 Aug—A combined team comprising member of Sagaing Region Police Force and those of Tahan Police Outpost, acting on a tiff-off, took the positions on Hsedaw U Sanpya Road and Thaphan-ang Road.

They stopped the suspected blue colour TE Hino with Number plate 2A/---. Before inspection, the driver and conductor managed to escape from the

vehicle.

The authorities took the vehicle to Kalay Police Station.

After that, they opened 11 iron boxes and inspected them.

The authorities saw 11 barrels containing 5,795,000 white tablets of Pseudo-ephedrine potent weighing 869.5 kilos worth K 869.25 million.

According to the further investigation, the vehicle

departed Tamu without any commodities at 12.30 pm on 29 July.

Driver was Naing Oo and conductor, Soe Naing They live in Kalay.

Kalay Police Station filed a lawsuit for taking action against them on 30 July.

Now, the authorities concerned are striving for seizing the respective crime breakers.

Myanma Alin

Crime News



Local people use boats to go to market and schools as Myoma Ward 1 and 2 were flooded due to rising water level of Sittoung in Madauk of Nyaunglebin Township on 1 August.—KYEMON



Plume of smoke emits from a commercial centre in central Brussels, Belgium, on 7 Aug, 2012. XINHUA

Taleban bomb kills eight in Afghan capital: ministry

KABUL, 8 Aug — Up to eight civilians were killed and four others injured on Tuesday morning when a bomb planted by the Taleban insurgents targeted a bus in Afghan capital of Kabul, the Interior Ministry said.

“Eight civilians were killed and four others injured as a bomb planted by the Taleban terrorists went off near a bus in Khaldari area of Paghman district in west of Kabul at around 5:20 am Tuesday,” the ministry said in a statement. A suspect was

arrested by the police and a remote-control device used in detonation of the bomb was found in his possession.

Earlier, a police source told *Xinhua* that the bomb exploded when a bus carrying government employees was running along a road, killing seven government employees.

Kabul police found two bombs planted to target government employees buses in Sheena district in east of Kabul on 2 August.

Xinhua

Nine buried in landslide as north Philippines immersed in floods

MANILA, 8 Aug — Intermittent heavy rains flooded large parts of Metro Manila and surrounding nine provinces on Tuesday, causing a landslide which buried nine people in Quezon city. The landslide occurred at 7 am near Litex Road in Commonwealth village of Quezon City on Tuesday morning. Nine people are believed to have been buried under the mud. One family had already been dug up and rushed to a nearby hospital. Rescue workers are continuing digging, according to local radio broadcast.

Traffic in Metro Manila came virtually to standstill as flood water had made many roads impassable, forcing government offices and schools to suspend normal operations. Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr announced on Tuesday morning the suspension of classes and work in government offices and private firms in Metro Manila and the neighbouring provinces of Zambales, Bataan, Pampanga, Pangasi-

nan, Tarlac, Laguna, Cavite, Reza and Bulacan.

The Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) announced on its website trading would be suspended on Tuesday due to inclement weather. The Philippine Congress and courtrooms also suspended their operation on Tuesday. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) has updated rainfall warning over Metro Manila from green to red, which means heavy rains in the next two hours and high risk of serious flooding.

PAGASA said that from 8 am Monday to 8 am Tuesday, the Administration recorded 323.4 mm of rainfall, 91.6 mm of which were dumped in just five hours. The rainfall in Quezon city came to 222.6 mm in the last nine hours. PAGASA estimated Metro Manila's average rainfall in

A resident wades through floodwater in Marikina City, the Philippines, on 7 Aug, 2012. — XINHUA



August at 504.2 mm. As of 6 am, La Mesa Dam in Quezon City, Metro Manila, has overflowed and was at 80.54 m, above its spilling level of 80.15 m. Ipo Dam in Bulacan province has opened two gates after its water level reached 101.10 m, beyond its spilling level of 100.80 m.

The water level in Marikina River has reached critical levels, prompting forced evacuation for residents in the area. In some parts of

low-lying Marikina city, Metro Manila, flood water has climbed to neck-deep by Tuesday morning, forcing at least 700 families to move into various evacuation centers. Nationally, statistics from the Social Welfare Department showed, 4,489 families with 20,792 people are in 100 evacuation centers. PAGASA forecast torrential rains in Metro Manila and other parts of Luzon region would last till Wednesday. — *Xinhua*

Israel's ambassador to US accuses Iran behind Sinai attack

JERUSALEM, 8 Aug — Israel's envoy to the United States on Monday blamed Iran for Sunday night's attack by Sinai militants against both Israel and Egypt, which left at least 15 Egyptian security personnel dead, the Israeli army on high alert, and thousands of Israelis in nearby communities in a night-long lockdown. “Iranian-backed terrorists again struck at our southern border today killing 15 Egyptian guards and attempting to massacre Israeli civilians,” Ambassador Michael Oren wrote in a Twitter

post, according to *The Jerusalem Post*.

“Terrorists also shelled Israeli farms and towns along the border” earlier in the day, Oren wrote. The salvos of rocket and mortar shells came after Israeli Air Force aircraft struck two global jihad members, killing one and wounding a second. The attackers, which Israel believes were Bedouin members of the global jihad, commandeered an Egyptian armored personnel carrier and a truck during a raid on an Egyptian police station. They

fired rocket-propelled grenades and small arms at the policemen.

One booby-trapped vehicle exploded at the Kerem Shalom border terminal, which connects Israel, Gaza and Egypt, before it could enter Israeli territory.

Israeli Air Force aircraft destroyed the second vehicle, and its fleeing occupants before they could get far into Israeli territory and reach dozens of farms and towns in the vicinity. There were no casualties to Israeli forces or civilians. — *Xinhua*

Megaupload founder accuses NZ police of beating him

WELLINGTON, 8 Aug — Kim Dotcom, the founder of the Megaupload online file-sharing site embroiled in US piracy and fraud investigations, said on Tuesday New Zealand police punched and kicked him during a raid on his mansion. Dotcom, a German national who is fighting extradition to the United States from New Zealand, said he was terrified during a raid in January by armed police using helicopters.

He said when he heard shouting and banging he went to a safe room, where police found him. “And then they were all over me. I had a punch to the face, boots kicking me down to the floor,” Dotcom said in court. “I was



Megaupload founder Kim Dotcom and his wife Mona Schmitz arrive at New Zealand's High Court in Auckland on 7 Aug, 2012. REUTERS

screaming and I was in pain ... I told them there was no need for punching me or hurting me and please stop.”

Acting on a request from the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), New Zealand authorities raided Dotcom's rented estate outside Auckland, confiscating computers and hard drives, art work and luxury cars. However, the

raid and seizure of evidence has since been ruled illegal and the court hearing this week is to determine what should happen to the seized material.

The FBI says Dotcom led a group that has netted \$175 million since 2005 by copying and distributing music, movies and other copyrighted content without authorisation. — *Reuters*

Eighteen insurgents killed in operations in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 8 Aug — At least 18 insurgents have been killed in operations conducted by the Afghan forces and the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in eastern Afghan provinces within 24 hours ending on 7 August, the ISAF's Regional Command-East (RC-E) said in a statement on Wednesday. “Afghan and coalition forces killed 18 insurgents, detained one and cleared four improvised explosive devices (IEDs) during operations in eastern

Afghanistan throughout the past 24 hours, on 7 August,” said the statement.

“A coalition air strike killed 10 insurgents in Tagab District of Kapisa province in response to Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) and coalition forces receiving direct fire,” according to the statement. “ANSF and coalition forces killed six insurgents during a small arms engagement in Kharwar District (Logar Province),” it said. Two other insurgents were killed in Ghazni and Logar provinces,

the statement said. However, the Taleban insurgent group, which announced the launching of an annual spring offensive from 3 May against Afghan and NATO forces, has not to make comments yet.

Operations in RC-East are still ongoing, the statement further said. The Afghan forces and some 130,000 NATO-led ISAF troops have stepped up operations against Taleban and other militants throughout the country recently. — *Xinhua*

Hurricane Ernesto lands on Mexican coast

CHETUMAL, 8 Aug — Hurricane Ernesto crashed into Mexico's Yucatan peninsula on Tuesday, flooding streets of the city of Chetumal, unleashing powerful gusts of wind and sending thousands of residents and tourists into shelters. Ernesto had top sustained winds of 85 miles per hour (140 km per hour) as it landed on the Mexican coast near the town of Mahahual, about 40 miles east northeast of Chetumal, the US National Hurricane Centre in Miami said in its 11:15 pm EDT (0300 GMT) advisory.

Civil Protection officials in the state of Quintana Roo said about 2,300 people were evacuated from Chetumal up the coast to Tulum. This southern part of the state is



The beach front of Mahahual is seen as Hurricane Ernesto approaches the southern part of the Yucatan peninsula on 7 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

known for its scuba diving and eco-tourism attractions. Rain was also pouring down further north on the resort of Cancun, although people stayed in their homes and hotels there. Ernesto is a Category 1 hurricane, the lowest on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale. In Chetumal, the state capital of Quintana Roo, authorities set up 35 shelters, which were filled with a mix of tourists and residents.

Patricia Footit, a Canadian tourist who was evacuated from her Mahahual beach-front hotel Tuesday afternoon, said she was enjoying the experience. “I’m absolutely fine. This is an adventure,” said Footit, sitting on a mat on the floor reading a book to pass the time. “I was just on the beach chilling out when the loudspeaker said we had to evacuate.” Chetumal's working class neighbourhood of Lazaro Cardenas was flooded with water, but many residents said they preferred to stay in their cinder block and wood homes.

“This is normal. It is not the first time that a hurricane has come through here,” said Carmen Salis, 19, standing outside her house. Ernesto is forecast to push across Yucatan and reemerge Wednesday in the southern Gulf of Mexico, where state oil company Pemex has port facilities and offshore platforms.

Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (005)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (005) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.8.2012 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 INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PHILIP VOY NO (031)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHILIP VOY NO (031) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.8.2012 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797



Fireboat John J Harvey sails in the Hudson River during a public trip around the waters of Manhattan in New York, the United States, on 5 Aug, 2012. Built in 1931 and with 130 feet long and 268 gross tons, the boat is among the most powerful fireboats ever in service in New York, capable of pumping up to 18,000 gallons of water per minute. The story of the boat is the subject of countless news articles. She served the FDNY until her retirement in 1994. On 11 September, 2001, John J Harvey was reactivated for rescue work during the 9/11 terrorist attack. — XINHUA

Qantas pilot tests positive for alcohol

SYDNEY, 8 Aug— A Qantas Airways pilot failed an alcohol test after being removed from the controls of a passenger flight just minutes before take-off over concerns she had been drinking, officials said on Monday.



A Qantas Airways pilot failed an alcohol test after being removed from the controls of a passenger flight just minutes before take-off over concerns she had been drinking, officials said on Monday.— INTERNET

The female captain was suspended following the incident last week on a Boeing 767-300 jet that had been about to take off from Sydney for the flight to Brisbane, the Australian carrier said. "A Qantas captain was withheld from service for administrative reasons," an airline spokesman said.

"The matter is being investigated and it would be inappropriate to comment further." Reports said the pilot was ordered off the plane as it started taxiing towards the runway after cabin crew alerted the flight operations manager that she may have been under the influence of alcohol. The jet reportedly returned to the domestic terminal and a replacement

pilot was found to take charge of the flight. The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) said it had been advised of the incident by Qantas, which was dealing with the matter under its drug and alcohol management policy.

"Qantas confirmed to us that it was a positive test," CASA spokesman Peter Gibson told AFP, adding that the pilot would remain suspended until a full investigation had been carried out. While airlines in Australia have their own drug and alcohol management programmes, CASA also conducts random testing across the industry. Gibson said that over the last three years 51,000 tests had been carried out with only 45 positive results.

Internet

Turkey: 115 Kurdish rebels killed in offensive

ANKARA, 8 Aug — Turkey's security forces have killed as many as 115 Kurdish rebels during a major security offensive over the past two weeks, the country's interior minister said on Sunday.

Idris Naim Sahin said the rebels were killed in an airpower backed offensive near the town of Semdinli, in Hakkari province which sits on the border with Iraq.

He said the offensive began on 23 July. Sahin provided few other details on the ongoing operation but said the security forces were trying to block the rebels' escape routes into northern Iraq.

Private NTV television said earlier that as many as 2,000 troops were taking part in the offensive and that public access to some roads in the area were blocked. Earlier Sunday, rebels fired on military posts in Hakkari province that borders Iraq, including the paramilitary station near the village of Gecimli, some 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the frontier, according to a statement from the Hakkari governor's office.

Gov Orhan Alimoglu said the attack near Gecimli triggered clashes that claimed the lives of 22 rebels, soldiers and village guards.

At least 15 soldiers, another village guard and five civilians were also injured in the attack.

There were no reports of any casualties in the attacks on the other posts.

The attack comes some six weeks after a similar raid on a military unit, also in Hakkari province, killed 18 rebels and eight soldiers, prompting Turkey's military to send warplanes and attack helicopters to hit Kurdish rebel targets inside Iraq.

Internet



Three dead in east China workshop blast

WENZHOU, 8 Aug — An explosion rocked a family-owned leather workshop in east China's Zhejiang Province on Sunday afternoon, killing three people and injuring more than a dozen, local fire authorities said.

The accident happened in a village in Guoxi township of Wenzhou city's Ouhai district about 4:50 pm. From 20 to 30 people were buried under

the collapsed house and a fire raged in an area of 200 to 300 square meters, rescuers said. A total of 15 people have been rescued and many are severely injured. Three others died.

More than 300 rescuers including fire fighters, police, local officials and residents are still searching for the people who remain buried. Workers with the workshop said the accident was caused

by the explosion of a boiler. The exact cause of the accident is being investigated.—Xinhua

Rescuers search for trapped people at the blast site of a workshop in Dianshang Village of Ouhai District in Wenzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 5 Aug, 2012.— XINHUA



South Africa's Nottingham Road was dressed in a white blanket of snow that fell intermittently throughout the day on 7 Aug, 2012. Local residents said it was the largest snowfall in the past 15 years. By Tuesday afternoon, the South African Weather Service said eight of the nine provinces—all but Limpopo—were experiencing the snow.

XINHUA

Experts call to improve monitoring of organ trade

BEIJING, 8 Aug — Experts called on Sunday for authorities to improve hospital supervision to prevent the trade and trafficking of human organs. Police announced on Saturday that 137 suspects had been caught in the latest crackdown on human organ trafficking. The investigation was conducted around the end of July by 18 provincial authorities who rescued 127 potential organ suppliers, according to a statement from the Ministry of Public Security. In April, police in Shijiazhuang, Hebei province, uncovered a gang suspected of organizing and trafficking

in human organs with other "black agencies" in Beijing, Shandong and Anhui provinces, the statement said.

The gangs coordinated with each other and formed a large network for human organ sales, the ministry said. The suspects illegally recruited suppliers over the Internet, facilitated the deals and made huge profits from the transactions, which endangered the health of the suppliers and placed a heavy financial burden on the recipients, the ministry added. The 2011 amendments to China's Criminal Law introduced three clauses

related to the illegal organ trade. Convicted offenders face prison terms of more than five years and fines, said Zeng Xinhua, a researcher in criminal law at Beijing Normal University.

Criminals convicted of "forced organ removal, forced organ donation or organ removal from juveniles" could face homicide charges under the law. "We've always paid great attention to human organ sales, because organizing such a trade has greatly damaged the social order and people's health," said Zhao Qiming, deputy director of the criminal investigation bureau

of the ministry. Some experts said authorities have difficulty solving human organ trading cases. "Some gangs get organs from people in great need of money and provide the organs to those who urgently want an organ transplant surgery," said Liu Tao, an associate professor specializing in criminal investigation with the Chinese People's Public Security University.

"These hidden trades can be conducted smoothly because both the buyers and sellers are willing to do the deal."

Internet

Possible da Vinci painting found in Scottish farmhouse; could be worth \$150 million

Fiona McLaren, 59, had kept an old painting in her Scottish farmhouse for decades. She reportedly didn't think much of the painting, which had been given to her as a gift by her father. But after she finally decided to have the painting appraised, some experts are speculating that it may in fact be a 500-year-old painting by Leonardo da Vinci and potentially worth more than \$150 million.

"I showed it to him [auctioneer Harry Robertson] and he was staggered, speechless save for a sigh of exclamation," said Ms McLaren, according to The People. The Daily Mail says the painting may be of Mary Magdalene holding a young child. The painting is now undergoing further analysis

by experts at the Cambridge University and the Hamilton Kerr Institute, who will attempt to uncover its exact age and origins.

Even if the painting is not a da Vinci original, it is believed to at least be from the da Vinci school, created by one of the master's pupils during the 16th century. A papal bull was found attached to the back of the painting and is believed to have originated from the era of Pope Paul V, head of the Catholic Church in the early 17th century. McLaren says the word "Magdalene," is visible on the faded paper. McLaren says she hopes the painting is sold to a museum, and she plans to donate a percentage of the painting's sale value after it is auctioned.



Experts say the six highlighted points indicate this may be a da Vinci original.

News Album

Girl, 6, found clinging to dead body in NY lake

Police say a 6-year-old was seen wading with a woman before the little girl was found clinging to her corpse in a New York lake. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection identified the woman Tuesday as 59-year-old Pamela Kaner of Brewster.

Commissioner Carter Strickland says Carmel, NY, authorities notified DEP police Monday about a possible drowning in Lake Gleneida (glehn-EYE'-duh). Two men and a woman in a row boat found the child and the corpse in the middle of the Putnam County lake around 5 pm.

The girl was crying for help. The boaters put a life vest on the child, brought her to shore and called 911. An autopsy on the woman is planned. The Journal News says the woman was a friend of the girl's mother.



Randy Blythe has flown back to the US after posting bail.— INTERNET

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — Rock singer Randy Blythe, who fronts US band Lamb of God, has vowed to "fight to clear [his] good name" after being released on bail from a Prague jail. Blythe was in prison for a month while police investigated his role in the death of a fan who fell off the

Lamb of God singer Randy Blythe vows to clear name

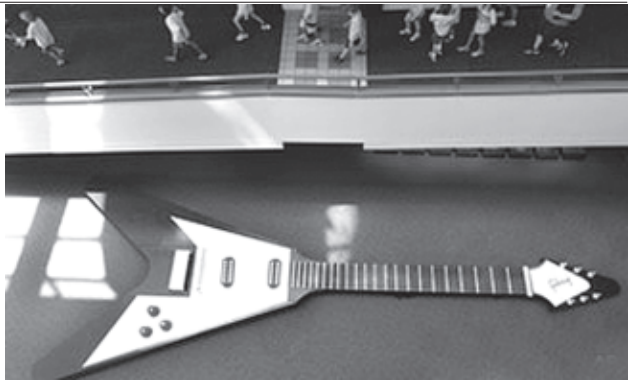
stage at a gig in the Czech capital in 2010. On returning to the US, he said: "If it is deemed necessary for me to do so, I will return to Prague to stand trial."

He said it would be "irresponsible and immoral" not to return for any trial. In a statement he said: "While I maintain my innocence 100%, and will do so steadfastly, I will not hide in the United States, safe from extradition and possible prosecution." He added that he sympathised with the family of the fan, to whom he referred

as Daniel N, who had suffered "the indescribably tragic loss of their child".

"I was raised to face my problems head on, not run from them like a petulant child. I feel very strongly that as an adult, it would be both irresponsible and immoral for me not to return to Prague if I am summoned." Blythe, 41, also thanked his supporters after being released on bail of eight million Czech koruna (£254,000). The prosecution had requested that he be banned from leaving the country.

Blythe was arrested when the band flew into Prague to play a gig, apparently unaware that there was an outstanding warrant for the singer's arrest. He was accused of pushing the teenage fan off the stage at the concert in 2010. The fan hit his head when he fell to the concrete floor and died of his injuries 14 days later. Virginia-based Lamb of God, who received Grammy nominations in 2007 and 2011, played at the Download festival at Donington Park in the UK in June.— Internet



A huge model Gibson "Flying V" was displayed in the National Guitar Museum this year.— INTERNET

Gibson settles discord on timber

NEW YORK, 8 Aug — The US government has settled its legal case against the iconic Gibson Guitar company over use of illegal timber from Madagascar in its instruments. Nashville-based Gibson, whose products are used by artists in every genre of music, will pay a \$300,000 (£190,000) fine and a \$50,000 community payment. Gibson admitted violating the Lacey Act, which requires firms to know that timber they use is legally obtained.

Deforestation is a huge issue affecting Madagascar wildlife such as lemurs. Gibson's premises were raided by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in 2010 and 2011, with agents impounding ebony and rosewood imported from Madagascar and India.

The FWS found evidence that an employee

had told Gibson two years previously that its Madagascan imports might be illegal, but that the company had nevertheless ordered further stocks.

"As a result of this investigation and criminal enforcement agreement, Gibson has acknowledged that it failed to act on information that the Madagascar ebony it was purchasing may have violated laws intended to limit overharvesting and conserve valuable wood species from Madagascar, a country which has been severely impacted by deforestation," said Assistant Attorney General Moreno following the settlement.

The ebony was mainly in the form of strips that would be fashioned into fretboards for guitars, mandolins and banjos.— Internet

Batman sequel holds off Recall remake challenge

LOS ANGELES, 8 Aug — The Dark Knight Rises is top at the North American box office for a third week, holding off a challenge from Colin Farrell's remake of Total Recall. Industry estimates suggest the Batman sequel took \$36.4 million (£23.4m) between Friday and Sunday. Farrell's version of the 1990 Arnold Schwarzenegger hit made its debut in second place, bringing in an estimated \$26m (£16.7m) over the same period.

In third came Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days, which opened with \$14.7m (£9.4m). The conclusion to Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy easily saw off its rivals, taking its overall box office tally in the US and Canada to \$354.6m (£227.8m).

In contrast, the Total Recall "reboot" failed to connect with moviegoers, making the same amount as the original film did when it opened two decades ago — a lesser sum once ticket price inflation is taken into account. Ice Age: Continental Drift, the fourth instalment in the popular animated series,



Colin Farrell plays Arnold Schwarzenegger in the 2012 remake of Total Recall.— INTERNET

claimed fourth place this week with three-day takings of \$8.4m (£5.4m).

It was followed at five by The Watch, a comedy starring Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn, which brought in \$6.5m (£4.1m) over the weekend. Overall North American ticket sales were down roughly 28% compared with the same weekend last year, when Rise of the Planet of the Apes made more than \$50 million in its opening weekend.— Internet

Battle for Monte Cassino told in new film by John Irvin

LONDON, 8 Aug — A film about the battle for Monte Cassino — one of the most bitterly-fought land campaigns of World War II — is being made to coincide with the battle's 70th anniversary. Its British director John Irvin told the BBC he didn't want to make a film that was "merely a bloodbath". "It's a moving story of tenderness, love and hope with a sense of salvation within it," he said. Irvin's previous films include Hamburger Hill and



US troops make their way up into the hills. From the book Monte Cassino: Ten Armies in Hell by Peter Caddick-Adams.— INTERNET

The Dogs of War.

Over several months in 1944, Monte Cassino was the focal point of a series of German defensive positions stretching across the Italian peninsula that prevented the Allied advance to Rome. During the harshest Italian winter on record, the mountainous terrain around the world-famous abbey provided the ideal protection for the German Army. The abbey was destroyed by aerial bombing in February 1944, but not before the German troops had rescued its treasures from destruction.

With nearly 200,000 soldiers participating from over 30 different countries, there were heavy losses on both sides. Some 55,000 Allied and 20,000 German soldiers were injured or killed. Irvin said his fascination with Monte Cassino dated back to his school days, when he had been taught by a history master whose brother had died there.— Internet

Unfinished ghost story by MR James: Children's endings sought

LONDON, 8 Aug — Children are being invited to complete a previously unknown unfinished work by ghost story writer MR James to mark the 150th anniversary of his birth. James, who was brought up in Suffolk and worked as a medieval scholar at Cambridge University, often featured East Anglian locations in his stories. The competition, which is being organised by Suffolk Coast, will be judged by novelist Susan Hill. She is best known for her ghost novel The Woman in Black.

Titled The Game Of Bear,

the unfinished story was discovered in the archives of King's College, Cambridge. The handwritten manuscript concerns the curious case of Henry Purdue, a man preyed upon by a sinister cousin who considers herself somehow wronged by the family. One of Purdue's school friends, now an elderly man, recounts the uncanny tale to another friend, while grandchildren cause havoc playing "the dreadful game of Bear" up and down the staircase.

Novelist Hill, whose books include I'm the King of the Castle (1970) and The Mist



Mr James's stories were often illustrated by his friend James McBryde.— INTERNET

in the Mirror (1992), said: "MR James was a master — a master of the classic English ghost story, a master of setting a scene, creating an atmosphere and telling a tale. "To have a previously unknown short story of his is a real treat."— Internet

Cazorla signs for Arsenal

LONDON, 8 Aug — Arsenal have completed the signing of Spanish midfielder Santi Cazorla. The Gunners have announced that the 27-year-old has signed a long-term contract after joining from La Liga side Malaga for an undisclosed fee. Cazorla, who has made 45 appearances for Spain, was a member of his country's victorious squads at UEFA Euro 2008 and 2012. "I'm so happy to be joining Arsenal," he told the official Arsenal website. "This is a club with great players, a fantastic stadium and huge support."

"The club has one of the best managers in football and their style of play is recognised and admired all over the world. I'm so excited to be joining one of the greatest teams in Europe and

also in the Premier League. I will do my best to help Arsenal challenge for trophies and make all the supporters happy." Cazorla said his switch to Arsenal was in part influenced by Arsenal legends Robert Pires and Cesc Fabregas.

"I have spoken to Robert Pires because he played with me at Villarreal," he added. "Obviously he knew about the rumours of me coming here and always encouraged me to sign. He told me it was a very good club and I was going to enjoy London, the city and the move. The same with Cesc Fabregas. He said this was a big club and that I was going to be very happy here, he said I would adapt easily. And I can feel that." Cazorla joined Malaga last year and scored nine times in

38 league appearances as the club secured an impressive fourth-place finish in La Liga.

He started his career at Villarreal, making his debut in 2003, and had two spells at the club either side of a season at Recreativo in 2006/07. Cazorla made a total of 181 appearances for Villarreal, helping the club finish second in La Liga in 2007/08. He was also voted Spanish Player of the Year in 2007. Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said he was delighted with his third signing of the summer, following the captures of Olivier Giroud and Lukas Podolski.

"Santi Cazorla is a great signing for us," added Wenger. "He is a player with good experience at both club and international level, who will add significant quality to our squad. He is a versatile, attacking midfielder who can play comfortably on either side of the pitch or centrally."

He has good pace, is technically gifted and will be a huge asset to Arsenal Football Club. "We are delighted that he is joining us." Arsenal begin their Barclays Premier League campaign at home to Sunderland on August 18th. — Internet



New Arsenal signing Santi Cazorla has played for Malaga and Villarreal in Spain.
INTERNET

Jamaicans seek their place in

LONDON, 8 Aug — Jamaica will seek to extend its sprint dominance at London 2012 on Wednesday when Usain Bolt sets out to book his place in the men's 200 meter final and Veronica Campbell-Brown attempts to become the first woman to win three golds at that distance. On Day 12 of competition, the United States is guaranteed gold in an all-American women's beach volleyball final, and China looks set for a clean sweep of table tennis medals.

China extended the gap at the top of the medals table on Tuesday, leading the Americans by 34 golds to 30, while third-placed Britain advanced to 22, its best haul for more than a century.

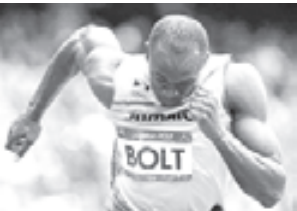
On a cold, wet night at the Olympic Stadium, Taoufik Makhloufi ran a scorching last lap to take gold for Algeria in the 1,500 meters and attributed his victory to "the will of God", a day after dropping out of an 800m heat with what his team said was a knee injury.

Makhloufi had been disqualified from the 1,500 final for not trying in his heat at the shorter distance, but was reinstated on the eve of the race thanks to a medical report. Evidence provided by two doctors said "the athlete suffered from a painful injury, which however, with

appropriate treatment, may allow him to compete in 24 hours." Showing no ill effects, Makhloufi broke away on the back straight of the final lap and accelerated around the last bend to win comfortably from American Leonel Manzano and Moroccan Abdalaati Iguider.

"It's the will of God. Yesterday I was out, today I'm in," Makhloufi told reporters. "This is a gift for the Algerian people and for the whole of the Arabic world." Injury also struck China's Liu Xiang, who left the Olympic stadium in a wheelchair after hitting the first barrier in a 110 meters hurdles heat.

Liu suffered a cruel echo of his early exit from Beijing four years ago, and indications



Jamaica's Usain Bolt starts his men's 200m round 1 heat during the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium on 7 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

were that it was the same Achilles injury that led to his fall on a cool, cloudy morning in London. In his absence,



Jamaica's Veronica Campbell-Brown (L) finishes first in her women's 200m semi-final ahead of Carmelita Jeter of the US (R) and Britain's Margaret Adeoye during the London 2012 Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium on 7 Aug, 2012. — Reuters

Cuba's defending Olympic champion Dayron Robles and American Aries Merritt should fight it out for 110 meters hurdles gold in Wednesday's final.

After Jamaican 100m golds for Bolt and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, Campbell-Brown, who took bronze in the 100 on Saturday, lines up in the 200 against three-times world champion Allyson Felix of the United States, whom she beat into silver at the last two Games.

Also in the field are Fraser-Pryce, Olympic 400 champion Sanya Richards-Ross and 100 silver medalist Carmelita Jeter. The

Canada's Raonic advances to last 16 at Toronto Masters

TORONTO, 8 Aug — Canada's Milos Raonic defeated Serbia's Viktor Troicki 6-3 6-4 at the Toronto Masters on Tuesday to set up a potential third-round showdown with Olympic champion Andy Murray while eighth seed John Isner survived a tough test. Playing in his hometown tournament for the first time since cracking the world's top-25, Raonic was not at his best but held serve throughout the 69-minute match while a rowdy crowd waved red signs with "Go Canada" splashed across in white letters.

"I'm proud with the way I competed, with the way I played, I did a lot of important things well but I have some space for improvements for my next match," Raonic told reporters. "I was pretty fluid and relaxed most of the match ... but I got a bit sloppy, maybe trying to force a little bit too much in the last few return games on his serve, and I was making some sloppy errors and giving away too many points at that point." The big-serving 21-year-old, who will join forces with Troicki for a doubles match on



Milos Raonic (R) of Canada shakes hands with Viktor Troicki of Serbia after their second round match at the Toronto Masters tennis tournament in Toronto on 7 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

Wednesday, broke his opponent in the eighth game of the opening set for a 5-3 lead and remained in relative control the rest of the way.

The match was Raonic's first since his 6-3, 3-6, 25-23 loss to Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga last week in what was at the time the longest three-set match in Olympic tennis history. Raonic, who as the tournament's 16th seed had a first-round bye, will play the winner of Wednesday's match between Murray and Italian qualifier Flavio Cipolla for a spot in the quarter-final

of the tournament.

Isner, playing his first match since losing to world number one Roger Federer in the quarter-finals at the London Olympics, needed one hour and 48 minutes to secure a 7-6, 7-5 victory over a plucky Pablo Andujar of Spain. Andujar, the world number 44, managed to frustrate Isner by chasing down an array of shots but ultimately ran out of answers as Isner, who recorded 17 aces, relied on his power and his big serve to advance.

Reuters

Raisman finishes Olympics in style with floor gold

LONDON, 8 Aug — Two Olympic gold medals are just fine with Gabby Douglas. Same for Aly Raisman, though that bronze was pretty sweet, too. While the all-around champion failed to add to her medal haul Tuesday, Raisman wrapped up the London Olympics in style.

Her gold on floor exercise was the first for a US woman, and her bronze on balance beam was a bit of karmic payback. Douglas may have won the most prestigious gymnastics title — all-around champion — but Raisman leaves as the most decorated of the Fierce Five with three medals.

"To say that I even almost had four medals, that makes me even more happy," the US captain said, referring to an earlier tiebreak that snatched away a bronze. "It definitely went better than I thought it would." Good thing, too, because the American medal count needed a boost.

The six US medals are the fewest since 2000, and the men were a bust. After all the big talk about challenging China and Japan for the team gold, Danell Leyva's all-around bronze was their only medal.

But the three golds — team, all-around and floor —

are the most for the US since the boycotted games of 1984, and the women got the prizes that really matter: their first team titles since the Magnificent Seven in 1996, and a third straight all-around champion. "Overall I think the competition went really well," said Douglas, the first African-American to win gymnastics' biggest prize. "I'm so happy, going home with two Olympic gold medals and a couple of titles under my belt. I'm so happy for Aly. She deserves to be up on that podium."

Internet



US gymnast Alexandra Raisman acknowledges the crowd after winning the gold medal for the floor during the artistic gymnastics women's apparatus finals at the 2012 Summer Olympics, on 7 Aug, 2012, in London. — INTERNET

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(9-8-12 09:30 am ~ 10-8-12 09:30 am) MST

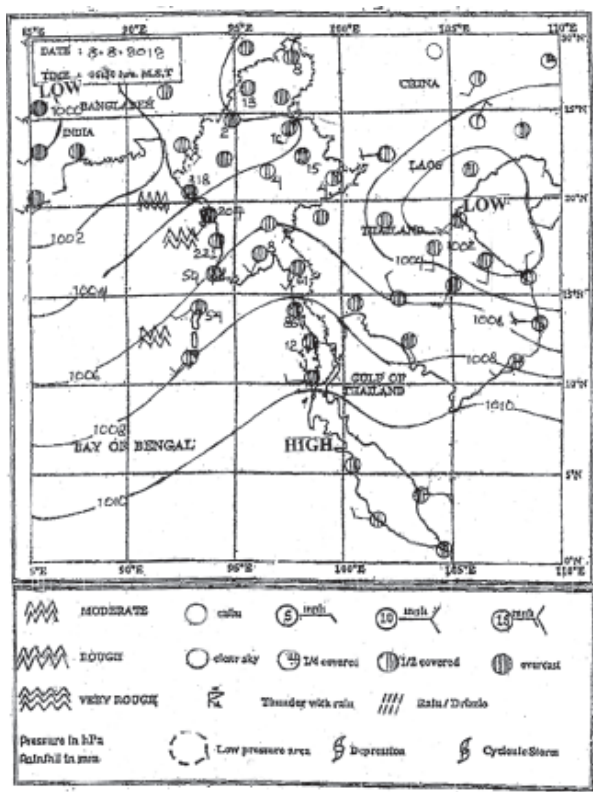
- * News
- * Mid Year Review 2012 Workshop
- * News
- * What makes a Man Perfect
- * News
- * Strenuous Steps (Ladies)
- * News
- * The World Bank
- * News
- * "Myanmar orchestra" The Magic of Melodious Music (Episode-3)
- * News
- * Singapore Education Exhibition
- * News
- * A Visit to Naga Mye Ya Pyi Shwe Bo
- * News
- * Holy Waso Full Moon Day
- * Myanmar Movie "Love was Born"

MYANMAR TV

(9-8-2012) (Thursday)

- 7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:40 am
3. Dhamma Puja Song
- 7:50 am
4. Nice & Sweet Song
- 8:00 am
5. Health Programme
- 8:15 am
6. Dance Variety
- 4:00 pm
7. Martial Song
- 4:10 pm
8. Musical Programme
- 4:20 pm
9. Cute Little Dancers
- 4:30 pm
10. Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions
- 4:40 pm
11. Dhamma Sekka Thutta Reciting Competition (2nd Prize Winner) (Botahtaung) (B-E-H-S-6)
- 5:15 pm
12. Songs For Upholding National Spirit
- 5:30 pm
13. Teleplay (Health)
- 6:20 pm
14. Myanmar Series
- 6:35 pm
15. Approaching Science Discovery World
- 8:00 pm
16. News
 17. Documentary
 18. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 9th August, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	32/90	24/75	Fairly Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	25/77	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	26/79	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
4	Chin	22/72	17/63	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	28/82	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Taninthayi	26/76	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
8	Bago	28/82	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
9	Magway	33/91	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	35/95	23/73	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	28/82	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	28/82	20/68	Widespread rain or thundershowers (RH)	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	21/70	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	30/86	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	28/82	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	27/81	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	30/86	23/73	One or two rain or thundershower	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	29/84	22/72	Some rain or thundershower	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	35/95	23/73	Isolated rain or thundershower	(80%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, weather has been cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Bago and Taninthayi Regions, Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagaing Region, Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittwe (13.58) inches, Thandwe (9.69) inches, Kyaukpadaung (9.02) inches, Manauang (7.72) inches, Myauk-U (5.63) inches, Taunggyi (5.31) inches, Launglon (4.49) inches and Sagaing (2.23) inches.

Bay Inference

Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea

Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days

Likelihood of increase of rain in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Traffic rules talked at Yedashe BEHS

YEDASHE, 8 Aug—A talk on traffic rule was held at Basic Education High School in Swa of Yedashe Township on 30 August with the aim of ensuring reduction of traffic accidents and salient points of traffic rules.

In-charge IP Myint

Aung, SIP Myo Lwin and Sgt Zaw Lin Aung of Toungoo District Traffic Police Force gave talks on traffic rules and then distributed pamphlets on traffic rules to the students.

It was attended by over 600 teachers and students.

Kyemon



Brazil's Leandro Damiao celebrates with Brazil's Romulo (L) and Marcelo (R) after scoring a goal against South Korea during their men's semi-final soccer match at the London 2012 Olympic Games at Old Trafford in Manchester, on 7 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

Soccer: Brazil move step nearer elusive gold

MANCHESTER, 8 Aug — Brazil's dream of winning an elusive Olympic soccer gold came a step closer when they thrashed South Korea 3-0 in the semi-finals at Old Trafford on Tuesday. The victory sets up a title decider against Mexico at Wembley Stadium on Saturday after the Mexicans beat Japan 3-1 in the earlier last four clash. Brazil, whose obsession with winning gold is matched by few other countries, won with second-half goals from forward Leandro Damiao, now tournament top scorer with six, after a 38th minute opener from Romulo in front of a 69,389 crowd.

Damiao said: "I'm so happy, we have made a huge effort to reach the final. We are here to win the gold medal — it was a tough match but we are a great team. We are

Brazil — we are here for the gold." Defender Rafael, who plays for Manchester United, added: "It was an amazing feeling to be playing for Brazil on my home ground. "We were confident, the coach was confident - and the final will be different to every other match we have played."

The pre-tournament favorites, who have been trying to win the Olympic title for 60 years, coming closest with silver in 1984 and 1988, have now won all five games at the London Olympics scoring three goals in each with a tally of 15 to 5. South Korea caused them problems at the start and had an early penalty claim turned down when Juan Jesus's foot clumsily connected with Ji Dong-won's face in the six-yard box but, apart from a few chances from Ji, they never

really threatened.

Korea now face Japan in what is likely to be a lively battle for the bronze medal at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on Friday (1845 GMT) while Brazil will hope to be crowned Olympic champions at last against Mexico on Saturday (1400 GMT). The Koreans, who squeezed into the semis after beating hosts Britain on penalties, defended stubbornly until the 38th minute, showing why they had only conceded two goals all tournament.

But Korea lost the ball on the halfway line to Neymar and Brazil, who became more imperious as the game wore on, broke away with the playmaker feeding Oscar, who glided past a line of hapless defenders before finding Romulo on his right.

Reuters

All that sand, and no bunkers at Kiawah Island

KIAWAH ISLAND, 8 Aug — This major has 206 fewer bunkers than the last one. Even though Kiawah Island has a lot more sand. In a decision that the PGA of America said was consistent with past tournaments on the Ocean Course, all sandy areas have been declared "through the green." In layman terms, that means no bunkers at Kiawah Island for the final major of the year.

Several holes have what look to be sand traps that run all the way down fairways or stretch behind the greens. There are some cases where the sand areas are surrounded

by grass, making them look like a regular bunker. But they won't be considered bunkers. Players will be able to ground their clubs and even take practice swings, which would be a two-shot penalty if those areas were treated like real bunkers.

"This is exactly the same way that it was played in '91 at the Ryder Cup and at our two major champions that we played here at the Ocean Course," said Kerry Haigh, the PGA's managing director of championships. "We think it's the fairest and the best way to play. It's certainly a unique golf course, which

warrants this." The PGA of America posted the decision in the locker room: "NOTICE TO COMPETITORS. NO BUNKERS."

Of course, now it has to make sure Dustin Johnson reads it. Johnson is famous for having a one-shot lead on the final hole at Whistling Straits in the 2010 PGA Championship. He didn't realize he was in one of hundreds of bunkers, perhaps because spectators could stand in part of them and children were building sand castles in them. He grounded his club, and after making bogey, was assessed a two-shot penalty that kept him out of a playoff.

Johnson, who grew up in Myrtle Beach, is familiar with Kiawah. He didn't see the coincidence in the ruling after what he went through two years ago. "They've always done it," Johnson said. "If you look at the past, every tournament they've ever had here, they've always done it. And you kind of need to around this place, just because most of them aren't manicured, with rakes, all the time, and there's a lot of sand out here." — Internet



Phil Mickelson, foreground, and Rickie Fowler walks past a puddle during a stormy practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament on the Ocean Course of the Kiawah Island Golf Club in Kiawah Island, SC, on 7 Aug, 2012. — Internet

HIV/STD Control Project implemented as a national concern in region/state/district/township, including border towns Muse, Tachilek and Kawthoung after HIV/STD Control teams were formed
Every citizen to take responsibility of paying tax for national development

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—Amyotha Hluttaw Session continued for 22nd day, at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 205 MPs.

At the session, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo replied to the questions on electric power sector raised by three MPs.

With respect to the question of U Hnin Wai of Kayah State Constituency No.12 on “**he would like to know when sub-power stations will be built in Loikaw, Bawlake and Pasawng townships and the power distribution will start for full supply of electricity to Shardaw, Ywathit, Meisei and Mawchi Townships in Kayah State**”, the deputy minister said: for the supply of electricity to Shardaw, a 45-mile Loikaw-Shardaw (33 KV) power grid and a sub-power station(33/11) KV (3 MVA)in Shardaw are to be built. Construction of these stafacilities has been put in 2015-2016 financial year.

For supply of electricity to Ywathit, a 22-mile (11) KV power grid from Bawlake to Ywathit and a (33/11) KV (1 MVA) sub-power station are to be built in Bawlake. Construction of these facilities has been put in 2013-2014 financial year. Supply of power in Mawchi needs (33/11) KV (1 MVA) power station in Pasawng and a 21-mile 11 KV power grid to Mawchi from Pasawng. It will be implemented in 2015-2016 financial year.

Supply of power in Meisei calls for building a (33/ 11) KV (1 MVA) sub-power station in Pasawng and installing a 25-mile power grid (11 KV) from Pasawng to Meisei. Installation of this power grid also includes a Thanlwin River-crossing tower. Due to the facts that there occurs low voltage as Lawpita-Pasawng (33) KV power grid is about 77 miles long and it is not suitable for supply of power through 11 KV power grid to Meisei, electricity will be supplied by means of increasing the capacity of the existing diesel engine and seeking every possible ways.

Regarding the question of U Min Oo of Bago Region



The 22nd day session of Amyotha Hluttaw in progress.

MNA

Constituency No.7 on “**Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE)’s Law on collecting electricity bills for businesses and household**”, he replied: MEPE does not collect electricity bills. Electricity Distribution Enterprise carries out collecting of electricity bills in regions and states expect Yangon Region. Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB) collects electricity bills in Yangon Region.

As of 1 January, 2012, Ministry of Electric Power No.2 collects K 35 per unit for government departments; K 35 per unit for house holds and K 75 for industries and US\$ 0.12 per unit for consumers with foreign currency. In doing so, it was publicized in advance through newspapers and journals, announcements.

Household electricity consumptions include the consumption of electricity for light and the use of electrical

equipments. Single phase meter is installed for light and there phase meter, for electrical equipments. Electric wares, main switch box and fuse boxes are to be installed separately. Industries use means electricity consumption for businesses. Single phase is for household business, three phase for small and medium enterprises and own transformers and C.T meter for heavy industries.

Regarding the businesses that have no rights to use electricity through general household meter or house use power meter, the law amending Electricity Law (1984) prescribed on 7 March, 1990 states that electricity consumers will be charged with the destruction of state-own electrical equipments, handing over of state-own electrical equipments to others without permissions of respective state-level organizations, illegal use of

(See page 9)

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa receives guests



Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa receives UNDP Resident Representative, UN Resident/Humanitarian Mr Ashok Nigam and party.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by Resident Representative of UN Resident/Humanitarian Mr Ashok Nigam at the meeting hall of the Hluttaw complex here this morning.

The meeting focused on UNDP’s assistance to Myanmar and the Hluttaws.

The meeting was also attended by Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo, Chairman of Social Development Committee U Maung Maung Swe, Chairman of Public Accounts Committee U Thurein Zaw, Committee Secretaries Dr Soe Yin and U Maung Toe, and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

London 2012 Olympics medal tally
Day 12, 23:45 hrs MST

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	People’s Republic of China	35	21	19	74
2	United States of America	30	19	22	71
3	Great Britain	22	13	13	48
4	Republic of Korea	12	6	6	24
5	Russian Federation	10	18	20	48
6	France	8	9	11	28
7	Germany	7	15	10	32
8	Italy	7	6	4	17
9	Hungary	6	2	3	11
10	Kazakhstan	6	0	2	8
11	Australia	5	12	9	26
12	Netherlands	5	4	6	15
13	Islamic Republic of Iran	4	3	1	8
14	DPRK	4	0	1	5
15	Cuba	3	3	1	7
16	New Zealand	3	2	5	10
17	Belarus	3	2	4	9
18	South Africa	3	1	0	4
19	Ukraine	3	0	6	9
20	Japan	2	13	14	29
21	Romania	2	5	2	9
22	Denmark	2	4	3	9
23	Brazil	2	1	6	9
24	Poland	2	1	5	8
25	Jamaica	2	1	1	4
26	Croatia	2	1	0	3
26	Switzerland	2	1	0	3