Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

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True patriotism

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

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

President U Thein Sein attends second day session of Planning Commission Second Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug— The second meeting of the Planning Commission continued for the second day at the meeting hall of the President Office, here, at 9.25 am today.

The meeting was attended by President U Thein Sein, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Union ministers, the Attorney-General of the Union, the Auditor-General of the Union, the Chairman of the Union Civil Services Board, region/state Chief Ministers and chairmen of Leading Bodies of the Self-Administered Division/ Zone.

The second day session of second meeting of Planning Commission in progress.—MNA

At the meeting, Chief Ministers of Taninthayi, Bago and Magway Regions, Mon, Rakhine and Shan States and Ayeyawady Region, chairmen of Naga, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung and Kokang Self-Administered Zones and "Wa" Self-Administered Division reported on urban development, increasing of population in townships, drawing of township development plans for job opportunities, investment for generating and supplying electricity to townships and regions through national grid, establishment of factories blocks, industrial zones and production, brokerages and plantations for creating job opportunities in respective regions, management for allotted lands for establishments, extended investments for better transport of the people, arrangements for easing barriers along the roads, reform plans for betterment of development affairs tasks, hiking of prices for meat and fish due to slaughter licences, difficulties of people in livestock breeding and production on a manageable scale and plans to be solved.

(See page 8)

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and party pose for documentary photo together with US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek James Mitchell, US Ambassador to Singapore Mr David Adelman and party. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham received the American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore which accompanied US Ambassador to Singapore Mr David Adelman, and led by US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek James Mitchell at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 2 pm today.

Also present at the call were Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan and President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore comprises American companies Caterpillar, Citibank, Kraft Foods, GE Energy, Ford Motor Co., Bell Helicopter, Hewlett-Packard Corporation and Arrow Technologies Pte Ltd.

At the call, they focused on investment opportunities for US companies in Asia in service, energy, electricity, transport, communication, health and production sectors of Myanmar.—*MNA*

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (14-8-2012)

Myanaung	**(4.65) inches**
Kawkareik	**(3.90) inches**
Kyaikmaraw	**(3.77) inches**
Mawlamyine	**(3.42) inches**
Putao	**(3.39) inches**
Kyaukpyu	**(3.27) inches**

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 15 August, 2012

The opposition

The number of political parties is still increasing in our country as new groups of people are entering politics even after a year has passed since the historic elections were held in 2010.

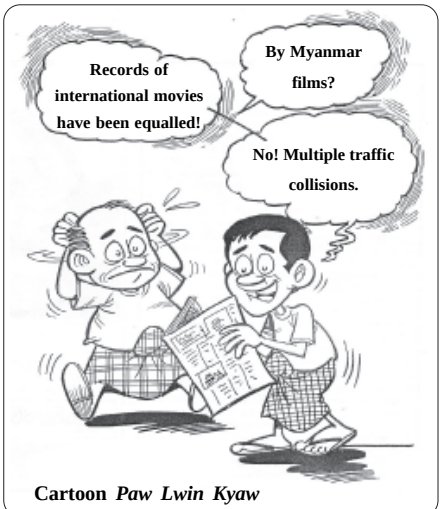
On account of the adoption of democracy that tolerates and also encourages freedom of organization and freedom of thinking for national progress, the country has been witnessing the emergence of more and more political parties holding their own views, ideas and work programmes we fully believe are for national or regional development.

As these parties have different backgrounds, ideologies, objectives and so on, it is natural that they may have their own ways and means for progress and prosperity of the nation where peace and stability and the rule of law flourish.

Besides, it is a normal procedure in a democratic state that parties that do not win enough parliamentary seats in an election to form a government act as opposition criticizing the ruling party or the ruling coalition, pointing out any vital areas if the government misses to notice, informing the government about the public grievances, complaints or requirements and exposing any act of injustice, bribery and corruption, especially in government bodies with the help of fourth estate or at the parliamentary sessions.

But in a society like us where democracy is just in its nascent stage both the government and the opposition must take every step with great care to avoid any unnecessary or negative consequences or results.

In truth, the division between government and opposition is as old as the democracy itself. But without opposition parties, free public criticism and the threat of being thrown out of office, rulers can act with impunity. So, genuine political opposition is a necessary attribute of democracy, tolerance, and trust in the ability of citizens to resolve differences by peaceful means. In truth, sustainable democracy can only grow from within a society and can neither be imposed or prescribed from outside.



Cartoon *Paw Lwin Kyaw*

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Indian Ambassador

***Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar H.E V.S Seshadri at Zeyathiri Beikman.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar H.E V.S Seshadri, at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this afternoon.

Also present at the call together with Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, General Hla Htay Win of Office of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe of Commander-in-Chief Office. The Indian Ambassador was accompanied by Military Attaché Col Rajesh Kumar.

At the call, they cordially discussed matters related to promotion of amity discussed during the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's goodwill visit to India, further cooperation between two armies and follow-up programmes.

MNA

First coord meeting on Communications Consultancy held

***Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Win Than delivers an address at the first coordination meeting on Communications Consultancy Scrutiny and Selection Committee.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—The Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs adopted reform short- and long-term plans with a view to implementing communications sector with transparency and momentum for development of socioeconomic status of people, the ministry invited international-experienced Telecommunications Tender Consultant companies and organizations in inviting JV tender for communications services by taking samples from neighboring countries, Communications Consultancy Scrutiny and Selection Committee members and departmental heads are needed to coordinate for selection of Communications Tender Consultancy, said Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Win Than at the first coordination meeting on Communications Consultancy scrutiny and selection committee at the conference room of the ministry here this morning.

The Managing Director of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications reported on measures for implementation of Communications Tender Consultancy and general manager of MPT clarified Reform Plan to the deputy minister.

Experts of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and officials from departments concerned, department heads of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications exchanged views at the coordination meeting.

MNA

Earthquake News

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—A slight earthquake of magnitude 3.5 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 15 miles southeast of Namsang), about 140 miles southeast of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 17 hrs 52 min 10 sec M.S.T today, announced Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—*MNA*

Drive Safely

Afghan suicide bombers kill 28 people, wound more than 70

KABUL, 14 Aug—Three suicide bombers killed at least 28 people and wounded more than 70 when they blew themselves up in a busy market in southwestern Afghanistan in one of the worst such attacks this year, provincial officials said on Tuesday.

Eighteen civilians including several children and at least three members of the Afghan security forces were among the dead in the town of Zaranj, the provincial capital of Nimroz province next to the border with Iran.

The toll is expected to rise, provincial governor Abdul Karim Barahawi told *Reuters*. "The attackers blew themselves up in crowded markets to target civilians, there was no government installation nearby," Barahawi said. Mohd Musa Rasooli, the Nimroz Police Chief, said three police were among the 28 dead and said the bombers had attacked not only a bazaar, but also the entrance to the local hospital.

Noor Ahmad Sherzad, a health official and hospital doctor, said as many as 100 wounded had been hospitalized. The attack was the worst in the normally peaceful province since 2001 and comes during a surge in fighting this summer ahead of a withdrawal by most Western combat troops and handover to Afghan forces to be completed by the end of 2014.

Despite a decline in civilian casualties in the first half of this year compared to 2011, the United Nations last week said civilians were still bearing the brunt of fighting between insurgents and the foreign-Afghan coalition.

A half-yearly report by the United Nations last week said 1,145 civilians have been killed between 1 January and 30 June this year as well as 1,954 wounded, representing a 15 percent decrease on last year due to a severe winter hampering fighting.

Homemade bombs and suicide attacks remain the biggest killers of Afghan civilians and Afghan and foreign troops.

Violence is at its worst despite the presence of thousands of foreign and Afghan troops fighting Taleban-led insurgency in Afghanistan plagued by three decades of conflict.

Xinhua

Afghan policemen check a damaged vehicle at the site of a blast in Jalalabad city, the provincial capital of eastern Afghan province of Nangarhar on 13 Aug, 2012.—XINHUA

37 NATO soldiers killed in insider attacks in Afghanistan this year

KABUL, 14 Aug— Thirty seven soldiers with the NATO- led coalition have been killed in the so-called green-on-blue attacks since beginning this year across the post-Taleban Afghanistan, a coalition spokesman said on Monday. "So when we talk about insider raid some call green-on-blue incidence, we talk about 27 incidents so far in this year and we had 37 people killed in those incidents," a spokesman with the coalition or International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Brigadier General Gunter Katz told reporters in a regular Press briefing here.

However, he said the ISAF and Afghan army and police officials have been working to check such incidents.

In the latest so-called green-on-blue attacks, a total of six NATO-led ISAF soldiers lost their lives in a single day Friday in the country's southern province of Helmand.

The Taleban insurgents, who have been waging more than a decade-long insurgency and launched spring offensive from 3 May this year to target security forces, have regularly claimed responsibility for the insider attacks or green-on-blue offensives.

The ISAF spokesman said that the Afghan army and police continue to stick in the "eight-point vetting system" which was set up in 2009 for vetting recruits to the rank of national police and the army as a bid to prevent any possible Taleban infiltration into the security entities.—*Xinhua*

Wheat pours into a truck as a French farmer harvests his crop in Bugnicourt in northern France on 9 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

World powers eye emergency food meeting; action doubted

PARIS, 14 Aug—Leading members of the Group of 20 nations are prepared to trigger an emergency meeting to address soaring grain prices caused by the worst US drought in more than half a century and poor crops from the Black Sea bread basket.

France, the United States and G20 president Mexico will hold a conference call at the end of August to consider whether an emergency international meeting is required, aiming to avoid a repetition of the food price spike that triggered riots in poorer countries in 2008.

Yet even as the third grain surge in four years stirs new fears about food supply and inflation, many say the world's powers are no better prepared to rein in runaway prices. Apart from a global grain database, which has yet to be launched, and the Rapid Response Forum that authorities are considering convening for the first time, the G20 has few tools.

Instead, it must intervene through influence, perhaps urging the United States to relax its ethanol policy in response to the crisis — difficult only months before a presidential election that may be won or lost in Midwest farm states — or urging Russia not to impose an export ban, as it did two years ago.

"Beyond words, expect little from the G20 on rising food prices," said Simon Evenett, a former World Bank official who is now professor of international trade and economic development, University of St Gallen, Switzerland. He described the G20's record on trade as "feeble."—*Reuters*

New campaigner Ryan under fire from hecklers and Obama

DES MOINES, 14 Aug—Republican Paul Ryan got a taste of the rough side of a presidential campaign on Monday when protesters heckled him and President Barack Obama accused him of blocking emergency aid to drought-hit farmers.

The new vice presidential hopeful from Wisconsin, who brings Midwestern credibility to White House hopeful Mitt Romney's campaign, mingled with locals at the Iowa State Fair, a popular spot for politicians keen to show their common touch in a state where Obama and Romney will be in tight competition.

Dressed in a checked shirt, Ryan bantered with fairgoers but his first solo campaign speech was interrupted by a small group of demonstrators.

In chaotic scenes, hecklers standing at the front of a large pro-Ryan crowd shouted "Stop the war against the common good," prompting Republicans to shout back and swear at them.

One of the protesters rushed onto the small stage where Ryan was speaking. She was grabbed by three state troopers. Police said one of the protesters punched a volunteer fair worker.

"It's funny because Iowans and Wisconsinites, we like to be respectful of one another, and peaceful of one another and listen to one another," Ryan said. "These ladies must not be from Iowa or Wisconsin."

A hero to conservatives, Ryan has given Romney's campaign a jolt of energy after several difficult weeks marked by gaffes and persistent questions about his personal finances.

But the Republican effort to win back the White House received no immediate poll boost from Saturday's announcement of Ryan as the vice presidential running mate, according to a *Reuters*/Ipsos online survey.—*Reuters*

Republican US presidential candidate Mitt Romney (L) speaks while vice president select US Congressman Paul Ryan (R-WI) looks on during a campaign stop at Absolute Style furniture store in High Point, North Carolina on 12 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

Two killed, two injured in Iraq's violence

BAGHDAD, 14 Aug—Two people were killed and two others injured on Monday in separate gunfire and bomb attacks in central and eastern Iraq, the police said.

Near Baghdad, gunmen stormed the house of an army Lieutenant Colonel in Abu-Ghraib area, some 20 km west of Baghdad, and shot him dead before they fled the scene, a local police source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

In Iraq's eastern province of Diyala, a policeman was killed when gunmen using assault rifles attacked him near the town of Khalis, near the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, a provincial police source anonymously told *Xinhua*.

In a separate incident, a roadside bomb detonated inside an orchard in al-Hadid area, some 10 km northwest of Baquba, killing two farmers, the source said.

Also in the province, Iraqi security forces carried out search operations across the province during the past 24 hours and arrested seven suspects, including four wanted individuals, the source said.

Violence is still common in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease since its peak in 2006 and 2007 when the country was engulfed in sectarian killings.

Xinhua

BAA July traffic down as Britons stay home for Olympics

BAA logos are seen on luggage trollies at Heathrow Airport in west London on 16 Aug, 2010. REUTERS

LONDON, 14 Aug— British airport operator BAA reported a 4.1 percent fall in July passenger traffic on last year as Britons stayed home to watch the Olympics and tourists deferred their holidays until after the Games.

BAA, owned by Spanish infrastructure group Ferrovial, on Tuesday said 9.6 million passengers passed through its five UK airports last month, compared to about 9.2 million in July 2011.

London Heathrow, Europe's busiest airport, handled 6.6 million passengers, down 4.4 percent year-on-year.

"The drop was more pronounced in the second half of the month and it is likely that the Olympics played a part, with UK passengers staying at home as well as non-Olympic visitors from overseas choosing to defer their journeys," said BAA's chief executive Colin Matthews.

BAA, which has been criticised in the past for its handling of snow and volcanic ash related disruptions, said years of planning helped it cope well with the influx of passengers flying into London for the Games.

"Seven years of hard work and planning, the warmth and enthusiasm of more than a thousand volunteers and additional Border Force staff produced our strongest ever passenger satisfaction scores," added Matthews.—*Reuters*

'Severe abnormalities' found in Fukushima butterflies

The study found that mutation rates were much higher among butterfly collected near Fukushima.— INTERNET

TOKYO, 14 Aug — Exposure to radioactive material released into the environment has caused mutations in butterflies found in Japan, a study suggests. Scientists found an increase in leg, antennae and wing shape mutations among butterflies collected following the 2011 Fukushima accident. The link between the mutations and the radioactive material was shown by laboratory experiments, they report.The work has been published in the journal *Scientific Reports*.

Two months after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident in March 2011, a team of Japanese researchers collected 144 adult pale grass blue (Zizeeria maha) butterflies from 10 locations in Japan, including the Fukushima area. When the accident occurred, the adult butterflies would have been overwintering as larvae.

By comparing mutations found on the butterflies collected from the different sites, the team found that areas with greater amounts of radiation in the environment were home to butterflies with much smaller wings and irregularly developed eyes. "It has been believed that insects are very resistant to radiation," said lead researcher Joji Otaki from the University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa. "In that sense, our results were unexpected," he told BBC News.

Prof Otaki's team then bred these butterflies within labs 1,750km (1,090 miles) away from the accident, where artificial radiation could hardly be detected.It was by breeding these butterflies that they began noticing a suite of abnormalities that hadn't been seen in the previous generation — that collected from Fukushima — such as malformed antennae, which the insects use to explore their environment and seek out mates.Six months later, they again collected adults from the 10 sites and found that butterflies from the Fukushima area showed a mutation rate more than double that of those found sooner after the accident.

The team concluded that this higher rate of mutation came from eating contaminated food, but also from mutations of the parents' genetic material that was passed on to the next generation, even though these mutations were not evident in the previous generations' adult butterflies.

The team of researchers have been studying that particular species butterfly for more than 10 years. They were considering using the species as an "environmental indicator" before the Fukushima accident, as previous work had shown it is very sensitive to environmental changes."We had reported the real-time field evolution of colour patterns of this butterfly in response to global warming before, and [because] this butterfly is found in artificial environments — such as gardens and public parks — this butterfly can monitor human environments," Prof Otaki said.But the findings from their new research show that the radionuclides released from the accident were still affecting the development of the animals, even after the residual radiation in the environment had decayed.

"This study is important and overwhelming in its implications for both the human and biological communities living in Fukushima," explained University of South Carolina biologist Tim Mousseau, who studies the impacts of radiation on animals and plants in Chernobyl and Fukushima, but was not involved in this research."These observations of mutations and morphological abnormalities can only be explained as having resulted from exposure to radioactive contaminants," Dr Mousseau told BBC News. The findings from the Japanese team are consistent with previous studies that have indicated birds and butterflies are important tools to investigate the long-term impacts of radioactive contaminants in the environment.— *Internet*

The Japanese researchers have been studying the species for more than a decade.— INTERNET

LG's Optimus Vu 'phablet' coming to US by the end of September. INTERNET

LG's Optimus Vu 'phablet' coming to US by the end of September

SEOUL, 14 Aug— Verizon (VZ) customers who have been looking on in envy at AT&T customers' gigantic Samsung Galaxy Notes can rest easy because they will soon have a "phablet" to call their own. Unwired View points to an LG Press release stating that the five-inch Optimus Vu will be released in the United States by the end of September, meaning Samsung's popular Galaxy Note will finally get some competition in the supersized smartphone space.

Although no carrier has been officially named yet, all signs point to Verizon supporting the Optimus Vu on its LTE network when it launches. In addition to its large 5-inch screen, the Optimus Vu will feature a 1.5GHz dual-core processor and an 8-megapixel camera. *Internet*

Arctic sea ice 'melting faster'

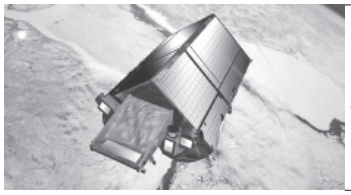
LONDON, 14 Aug — Arctic sea ice is vanishing much faster than generally expected, according to preliminary data from European Space Agency satellite *Cryosat*. UK scientists combined results from *Cryosat*, which uses radar to measure ice thickness, with data from NASA's *IceSat*, which uses lasers. Their preliminary analysis suggests an annual ice loss of up to 900 cubic km a year from 2004. Projections of Arctic ice melt vary widely. But the new results are some 50% higher than projected in most scenarios. The ice loss is pronounced in areas to the north of Greenland where thickness has fallen from 5-6m a decade ago to around 3m last year.

The analysis was done by Dr Seymour Laxon, reader in climate physics at the Centre for Polar Observation and Modelling.

He said the figures might change slightly when all the data had been analysed but that the broad thrust of the research showed a clear and dramatic thinning of the sea ice. At the end of last summer 7,000 cubic km of ice remained. The satellite figures were cross-checked against data from planes over-flying the Arctic and submerged buoys sending sonar signals to measure ice thickness. Dr Laxon said the results were thought to be accurate within 10cm (3.5in).

"We have to be cautious until our data has been properly analysed as part of a climate model, but this does suggest that the Arctic might be ice-free in summer for a day at least by the end of the decade," he told BBC News. "But the past is not always a guide to the future." The Arctic is warming much faster than the rest of the planet and the loss of sea ice affects populations. The light-coloured sea ice bounces back warmth into space. If it disappears, the Arctic Ocean will absorb more heat.That will cause more warming which will in turn contribute to sea level rise. It may also affect Europe's weather because of the link between sea ice and the jet stream which dominates some of our weather patterns.

There are many uncertainties. Scientists cannot be sure how much of the Arctic warming is natural and how much it is being driven by manmade climate change.Last month a NASA news release headlined news of an "unprecedented Greenland Ice Sheet Surface melt". — *Internet*



ESA's Cryosat spacecraft uses radar to measure ice thickness. INTERNET

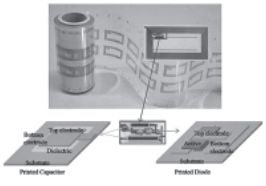
Tiny transmitters that cost a penny to print unveiled

The rectennas use smartphone radio waves to communicate. INTERNET

LONDON, 14 Aug — Researchers in Korea have devised a cheap way of transmitting data from objects to mobile phones when swiped. They have printed small "rectennas", a cross between an antenna and an AC/DC current converter, onto plastic foils using electronic inks.

The rectenna uses radio waves emitted from a smartphone to transmit data to it from a tiny chip. The printed rectennas cost less than one penny per unit to produce and could be used as an alternative to QR codes. The technology behind them, Near Field Communication (NFC), is already used in devices that enable shoppers to make card payments by touch.

They make their debut in the journal *Nanotechnology*, published by the Institute of Physics (IoP) this month.Researchers from Sunchon National University and the Paru Printed Electronics Research Institute spent four years developing the printed rectenna."What is great about this technique is that we can also print the digital information onto the rectenna, meaning that everything you need for wireless communication is in one place," co-author of the study Gyoujin Cho told the IoP. "Our advantage over current technology is lower cost, since we can produce a roll-to-roll printing process with high throughput in an environmentally friendly manner. "Furthermore, we can integrate many extra functions without huge extra cost in the printing process."



The rectenna is printed using five different electronic inks. INTERNET

Augmented reality platforms are also providing alternatives to QR codes, although management consultancy firm Greenwich Consulting says that in America QR code usage has increased by 40% year on year.Marketing company Adido says it is now using Aurasma, an augmented reality application based on visual recognition, rather than QR codes in its campaigns."There are quite a lot of limitations as to what a QR code can do — you can only make it do one thing at a time, it can only contain so much data," said Andrew Moore, business development co-ordinator. He admitted that when presented with an augmented reality logo, people did not necessarily know what to do with it.

"With QR codes this has also been an issue but now there is a much more clear course of action. As the AR industry ages that call to action will also appear." "What I've found is that people who do download the Augmented Reality app are proactively active in finding content that is AR-able," he said.

Fred Huet from Greenwich Consulting UK also believes that QR codes may have a shelf life."The QR scanning process is inherently inconvenient for the user, compared to other technologies such as Near Field Communication (NFCs)," he said. "There is a risk of being replaced in the future by more accessible alternatives." — *Internet*

HTC sees China as key factor in ending sales slump

NEW YORK, 14 Aug — As HTC continues to lose market share to Apple and Samsung, the troubled manufacturer is looking toward China to help stabilize the its plummeting sales. HTC is expanding both its engineering team and sales channels in China, and hopes to become one of the top two smartphone brands in the country by 2015, Ray Yam, head of HTC's China operations, told the *Wall Street Journal*.

In the first quarter of 2012, HTC was No 9 in China in terms of market share at 2.6%, compared to Samsung's 24.9% share. In the second quarter, however, the company tripled its market share from 2.6% to more than 6%, and is hoping to gain another 6% or 8% during the next two quarters.

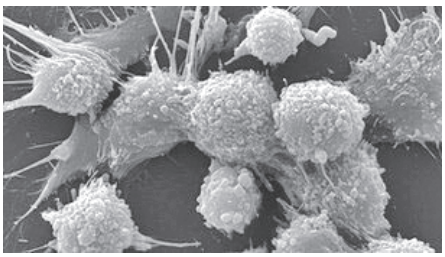
In China, HTC will follow a similar sales model as it has done in Europe and the US, offering devices "around the same price as Samsung's Galaxy and Apple's iPhone," rather than low-end handsets. "I do believe HTC has all the elements for success…but we need to be cautious and we need to make every step right, if we make one wrong step, then it will take us a much longer time to recover," Yam said.— *Internet*

***HTC sees China as key factor in ending sales slump.*—INTERNET**

Prostate cancer drug abiraterone approved by Scottish Medicines Consortium

LONDON, 14 Aug — A drug which can extend the lives of men with incurable prostate cancer has been approved for use in Scotland. Scotland was the only part of the UK where abiraterone was not yet available on the NHS. But the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has now given doctors the green light to prescribe it.

The drug was one of several said to have helped keep Lockerbie bomber Abdelbaset al-Megrahi alive after he returned to Libya. The SMC had previously rejected a submission to allow the drug to be used in Scotland on the grounds that the cost — some £3,000 a month — did not justify the health benefits. But manufacturer Janssen resubmitted its application and the SMC has now reversed its initial decision. It said abiraterone use will be restricted to patients who have received only one prior chemotherapy regimen.



***Prostate cancer is the second most common cause of cancer deaths among UK men.*—INTERNET**

The SMC's website said: "This SMC advice takes account of the benefits of a Patient Access Scheme (PAS) that improves the cost-effectiveness of abiraterone. This SMC advice is contingent upon the continuing availability of the patient access scheme in NHS Scotland." Martin Price, external affairs director at Janssen UK, said: "We have gone to significant lengths to find a solution that allows eligible patients to be treated routinely on the NHS with this innovative, UK-discovered medicine." Janssen are pleased that the SMC has accepted Zytiga (trade name of abiraterone) for restricted use within NHS Scotland.

The decision to allow doctors to prescribe the drug was welcomed by cancer charities.

Prostate Cancer UK chief executive Owen Sharp said: "Today brings a victory for both decency and common sense. Abiraterone has now been approved for use on the NHS UK-wide and I thank and congratulate everyone who backed us and helped us achieve this result." Now that the correct decision has been made, health boards must waste no time in ensuring that men who need abiraterone can access it as soon as possible. "Men with incurable prostate cancer should not be subjected to any further delays at a stage in their life when time is at an absolute premium."

Internet

Kodak extends patent auction deadline as talks continue

NEW YORK, 14 Aug — Eastman Kodak extended its patent auction on Monday, saying it would not announce a winner as planned because it was still in discussions with bidders. Kodak, which filed for bankruptcy in January, said in a statement that the auction was ongoing. It declined to comment further, citing confidentiality agreements. A spokeswoman for the company declined to comment on the length of the extension. The company said it expected later on Monday to submit regulatory filings revealing more information about its business, including financial projections.

Kodak, which has lost more than $600 million so far this year, began an auction of 1,100 digital patents last Wednesday. It had been scheduled to designate a winner on Monday ahead of a Manhattan Federal Bankruptcy court hearing on 20 August. The company, a photography pioneer that has been unable to adapt to the shift to digital imaging, would use the money from the sale to pay back investors. It has borrowed nearly $700 million in bankruptcy financing.

It is unclear how much the patent sale will raise. The *Wall Street Journal* reported on Friday that Apple Inc, Google Inc and Microsoft Corp made bids, but they were significantly below Kodak's estimates for the patents' value. Kodak said early in 2012 that an outside firm had estimated the value of the portfolio at $2.2 billion to $2.6 billion. Kodak's digital patents were grouped into two lots — one of 700 patents and another of 400. They have been for sale for more than a year, but the sale was complicated by the bankruptcy and lawsuits over the ownership and authenticity of the patents. It is in the midst of litigation with several companies, including Apple, Samsung and Research in Motion Ltd.

***Kodak World Headquarters is pictured in Rochester, New York on 19 Jan, 2012.* REUTERS**

Kodak has said it wants to be out of bankruptcy by early 2013. To stick to that timeline, it will need to present a bankruptcy reorganization plan towards the end of this year.—*Reuters*

***Swiss pharma giant Roche said on Monday it will sell in the United States a drug that treats a diabetes-related illness linked to blindness after getting the regulatory green light.*—INTERNET**

Roche 'gets US green light to sell diabetes eye drug'

GENEVA, 14 Aug — Swiss pharma giant Roche said on Monday it will sell in the United States a drug that treats a diabetes-related illness linked to blindness after getting the regulatory green light. The US Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) decision means that Roche can take Lucentis to the US to treat diabetic macular oedema (DME), a condition that causes swelling, blurred vision and blindness in people with diabetes.

In a statement Roche called the development the "first major treatment advance in more than 25 years for (the) sight-threatening condition." "For the first time, Americans with diabetic macular oedema will have access to an FDA-approved medicine shown to help many patients rapidly regain substantial amounts of lost vision," said Hal Barron, global product development director at Roche.

Lucentis is described by Roche as the "first and only FDA-approved medicine" to help those with the condition, which is otherwise treated with limited success by laser surgery. Nearly 26 million Americans have diabetes which is the principal cause of blindness in America, Roche said in a statement.—*Internet*

Hearing test benefits unknown in older adults: panel

NEW YORK, 14 Aug — There's not enough evidence to say whether older adults should be screened for hearing loss if they don't have any symptoms, according to a new statement from a government-backed panel. The recommendation, released on Monday, should not stop people over 50 years old from telling their doctor about hearing problems, according to the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF).

It also shouldn't stop doctors from screening patients with symptoms of hearing loss. "If you have a hearing problem, you should absolutely bring it up with your doctor," said Dr Albert Siu, of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and co-vice chair of the USPSTF.

"This is not about fancy audiometric screenings," he told *Reuters Health*. "This is just about simple screenings that doctors and clinicians can do in the office." Those office-based screenings can be as simple as asking whether a person is having trouble hearing or testing whether the patient can hear a whisper or the tick of a watch from a specific distance. They can also involve longer questionnaires or handheld testing devices. Despite the lack of a recommendation from the USPSTF, Dr Ronald A. Hoffman, medical director of the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary's Ear Institute, said he thinks doctors should still ask whether patients are having trouble hearing, ringing in their ears or trouble balancing.

"If you don't ask, you won't find out," he said. It's estimated that hearing loss affects between 20 percent to 40 percent of people 50 years old and older, and almost 80 percent of people over 80 years old.

One of the problems with screening older adults, however, is that there's no guarantee they'd wear hearing aids or seek treatment for hearing loss they didn't know they had - especially since hearing aids can be costly and are often not covered by insurance. "Ask them how they're doing. If they say they're fine, just leave it there," said Ellen O'Neil, associate director of audiology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston.—*Reuters*

Motorola Mobility to cut 4,000 jobs

SAN FRANCISCO, 14 Aug — Google on Monday confirmed that Motorola Mobility, now a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Internet search giant, will cut about 4,000 jobs or 20 percent of its workforce. Two-thirds of the reduction is set to occur outside of the United States, Google said in a regulatory filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

According to the filing, Motorola Mobility also plans to close or consolidate about one-third of its 90 facilities worldwide, and will simplify its mobile products offering by shifting the emphasis from low-end phones to more innovative and profitable devices. The layoff is expected to cost Google nearly 275 million US dollars as the process incurs severance-related and other charges, which the company said will be largely recognized in the third quarter of this year.

Google closed the acquisition of Motorola Mobility in May 2012 with a hefty price tag of 12.5 billion dollars, in a bold move to beef up its strength in mobile computing. Since the completion of the purchase, Google has taken a series of measures to turn around the money-losing cellphone maker. The new changes including the layoff are designed to return Motorola Mobility's mobile devices unit to profitability, after it lost money in 14 of the last 16 quarters, Google noted in its filing.—*Xinhua*

All threats "dwarfed" by Iran nuclear work: Israel PM

JERUSALEM, 14 Aug— Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that most threats to Israel's security were "dwarfed" by the prospect of Iran obtaining nuclear weaponry, which local media reports charged Teheran had stepped up its efforts to achieve.

The comments at a weekly cabinet meeting and the front-page reports in the liberal Haaretz, a frequent Netanyahu critic, and in the conservative, pro-government Israel Hayom came as Israeli debate intensified about whether to go to war against Iran—and soon—over its disputed atomic projects.

The debate seemed to defy appeals by US President Barack Obama, seeking re-election in November, to allow more time for international diplomacy. Teheran says its nuclear ambitions are peaceful and has threatened wide-ranging reprisals if attacked.

In comments also broadcast live by Israeli media, Netanyahu said that "all the threats currently being directed against the Israeli home front are dwarfed by another threat, different in scope, different in substance."

"Therefore I say again, that Iran must not be permitted to obtain nuclear weapons," Netanyahu said. Netanyahu also said Israel was "investing billions in home-front defence," and holding emergency drills, alluding to a military exercise being held this week in cities across Israel to test a text message warning system against missile strikes.

Reuters

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem on 12 Aug, 2012.—REUTERS

10 killed, almost 100 injured in Brazilian highway accident

RIO DE JANEIRO, 14 Aug— At least 10 people were killed and 99 others were injured in a highway accident in Brazil' s southeastern state of Parana on Saturday night, a local fire brigade said on Sunday.

The accident occurred on the PR-323 highway, between Paicandu and Doutor Camargo, in northern Parana, when two buses collided before a van, a car and a motorcycle crashed into them. One of the buses was rented by a religious group traveling to Maringa, 115 kilometers from the accident site, while the other was from a tourism company which travelled from Umuarama-Maringa.

The fire brigade said that 99 people, of whom six were seriously injured, were taken to three local hospitals.

Xinhua

Four killed, 17 trapped in NE China coal mine accident

CHANGCHUN, 14 Aug— Four people were killed and 17 others trapped in a coal mine accident in northeast China's Jilin Province on Monday, local authorities said.

The accident, believed to be triggered by gas, happened around 6 am at Jisheng Coal Mine in the city of Baishan, according to the authorities.

A total of 116 miners were working underground when the accident occurred, and 95 of them were lifted out of the mine safely.

Rescue work for the trapped miners is underway.

The Jilin provincial government has ordered a thorough work safety check in the province.—*Xinhua*

Two badly injured in paramotor crash in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, 14 Aug— A paramotor crashed on Sunday after takeoff in eastern Sweden, leaving two people on board badly injured.

The paramotor crashed on ground of the airfield after flying into the ridge of a hangar building due to a gust of wind, according to the Swedish media.

The witnesses started the rescue immediately afterwards and the two people had been sent to the hospital. One of them was in critical conditions.—*Xinhua*

Northeast apple growers optimistic about crop

In this Friday, 10 Aug, 2012 photo, ripening apples hang from a tree at Burtt's apple orchard in Cabot, Vt. Apple orchards in Northern New England dodged a bullet this spring when trees got an early start and then were hit with frost that decimated crops in big producing states like Michigan.—INTERNET

MONTPELIER, 14 Aug— At the mercy of Mother Nature, apple growers in northern New England are often pessimistic at the start of the season. So when an early spring was followed by a frost, they watched closely in the coming months for signs of damage.

Instead, they have been pleasantly surprised.

Turns out, not only was the damage not nearly as bad as in some big apple states like Michigan, but this year's apples are expected to have more intense flavor, said Terry Bradshaw, president of Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association.

"By all the textbooks, we shouldn't have any apples in the state," he said.

The news hasn't been all good — the yield is expected to be down about 10 to 20 percent. Still, Bradshaw said, "people are fairly optimistic about the season."

Low-lying areas in Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and northern New York or orchards surrounded by dense stands of trees were more susceptible to the frost that hit in March and then at the end of April, killing some flower buds, including a number at Highmoor Farms, the University of Maine's agricultural experiment station in Monmouth.

"Everyone was (affected) to some extent, but where an orchard only lost 10 percent of their flowers, they're not likely to notice," said Renae Moran, tree fruit specialist for the University of Maine.

Around the region, damage was scattered. It depended on where the apple trees were in their development at the time of the cold weather.

Everyone has apples. I haven't heard of anybody that's been wiped out.

Internet

More rhinos killed in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 14 Aug— Seven rhino carcases have been found at a private park and a game reserve in North West Province, raising to more than 300 the total number of rhinos poached this year in South Africa, authorities said on Sunday.

Five were found in Zeerust at Borakalalo and in another incident at Marikana, two rhino were killed after being dehorned, said Vishnu Naidoo, spokesman for the special anti-crime unit Hawks.

The Hawks are searching for those who are behind the poaching which all took place in the last three weeks.

All of the scenes has been visited with as much evidence collected as possible, Naidoo said. "We hope this can assist us in establishing those responsible for the killing of the seven rhinos. "

Since the beginning of this year, a total of 312 rhinos have been lost to illegal killings in South Africa, according to the latest official figures.

The continued efforts by the South African government to curb rhino poaching have resulted in a total of 187 arrests for 2012 thus far, 164 of the arrested suspects being poachers, 10 receivers or couriers, six couriers or buyers and seven exporters.

South Africa is home to approximately 22, 000 white and black rhinoceros of which 12,000 are found in the Kruger National Park. This represents 93 percent of the world's total rhino population.

The South African rhino population is one of the last viable rhino populations in the world which makes it vulnerable.

South Africa is the remaining hope for the rhino conservation globally and recognizes that the global community support and cooperation must be enlisted to address the scourge, the government said.

Xinhua

Three dead in shooting near Texas A&M University

SAN ANTONIO, 14 Aug— A man killed two people, including a law enforcement officer who was serving him an eviction notice at a home near Texas A&M University, on Monday before police fatally shot the suspect in a gun battle that lasted half an hour, officials said.

Four people also were injured, police and city officials in College Station said. The shooting comes at a time of national concern over gun violence after two recent mass shootings.

The dead officer was identified as Brazos County Constable Brian Bachmann, said Scott McCollum, assistant chief of the police department in College Station.

McCollum said Bachmann, 41, was shot in front of the house, about two blocks from the Texas A&M campus, and was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Police identified the gunman as Thomas Caffall, 35, and the bystander killed as Chris Northcliff, 43, of College Station.

College Station city spokesman Jay Socol said authorities were still investigating Caffall's background. It was unclear whether Caffall was renting the home or was being evicted for nonpayment of a mortgage, he said.

Officials said the wounded included a 55-year-old woman, who underwent surgery, and College Station police officer Justin Oehlke, who was in stable condition after being shot in the leg.

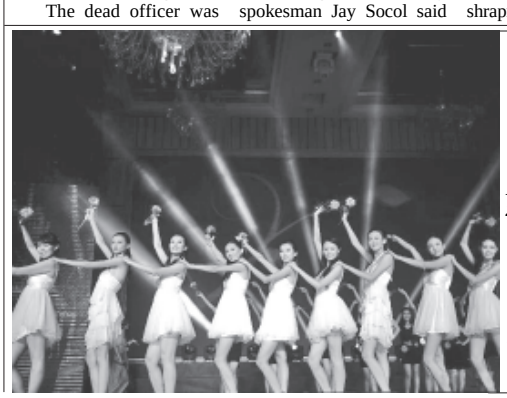
Officers Brad Smith and Phil Dorsett were injured by what police called gun shrapnel. Smith was treated at a hospital and released and Dorsett was treated at the scene.

"We had officers respond to a 'shots fired' call," McCollum said at a news conference. "Once the officers arrived, they began to trade fire. The officers defended themselves and called in additional officers."

College Station police officers shot and killed the gunman, said Jason James, a sergeant with the police department in nearby Bryan, Texas.

Reuters

Shooting suspect Thomas Caffall, 35, is shown in this City of College Station, Texas Police Department handout photograph on 13 August, 2012.—REUTERS



Participants stage a beauty show during an opening ceremony of Miss Tourism Contest in Taiyuan City, north China's Shanxi Province, on 13 Aug, 2012. The 2012 Miss Tourism International Final Contest in China will start at Manghe scenic area in Shanxi's Yangcheng County on 24 August.—XINHUA

RRD, Solidarites International (Myanmar) sign MoU

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug— A signing ceremony of MoU between Relief and Resettlement Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Solidarites International (Myanmar) for seeking the cooperation of vocation, rehabilitation tasks, distribution foodstuff, emergency providing tasks for disaster-hit victims was held at Zabuthiri Hotel, here, yesterday noon.

Deputy Minister for SWRR U Phone Swe made a speech. The director-general of Relief and Resettlement Department and the resident representative of Solidarites International (Myanmar) signed the MoU.—*MNA*

***The signing ceremony of MoU between Relief and Resettlement Department and Solidarites International (Myanmar) in progress.*—MNA**

Union Construction Minister inspects road works

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint together with Mandalay Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Hsan on 11 August inspected tarring of PyinOoLwin-Mogok motor road (82 miles and 2 furlongs) and conditions of road/bridge construction along the road.

The Union Minister and party viewed maintenance of Mogok-Phawttaw road section, stockpiling of stones, conditions of paving gravel on the section of Mandalay-Madaya-Latpanhla-Phawttaw-Mogok road and related road works at Phawttaw toll gate.

Between mile posts 69/4 and 69/5, he looked into paving of tarred road.

At the Mandalay-Madaya-Latpanhla road section, the Union Minister viewed both Nyaungpinwun and Tayawpin concrete culverts.—*MNA*

Public notice for remonstration

1. Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, headquartered on Kyishan Road in Ward (1) Tonchan, Laukkai Township, Shan State, applied for registration as a political party on 14-8-2012 in accord with Political Parties Registration Law Section-5. In applying for its registration, the party has submitted its name, flag and logo to be used as mentioned hereunder.
2. It is hereby announced in accord with Political Parties Registration Rule 14 (d) that those who wish to remonstrate with the Union Election Commission about the party name, flag and logo may do so with firm evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement.

Union Election Commission

Flag of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party

Seal of Shan State Kokang Democratic Party

VMS eyes supporting Myanmar telecommunications sustainable development

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug— Vice President of VNPT, Chairman of Vietnam Mobile Telecom Services Company (VMS)—a state-owned company under Vietnam Post and Telecommunication Group (VNPT), was in Myanmar since Jul 28, 2012 for a 4-day visit to Myanmar partners in telecom industry. This visit marked the first move of VMS in its plan to expand horizontally its business into foreign markets.

Founded in 1993 as the first GSM 900/1800 and 3G mobile operator in Vietnam, VMS sells service under the MobiFone brand. Although being voted as "The most favorite network in Vietnam" for 6 consecutive years since the year of 2006 at annual Vietnam Mobile Awards ceremonies organized by VietnamNet. VMS has continuously upgraded its quality to consolidate its top position in the market. Acquired experience from the ten-year successful cooperation with foreign partner and its top-class workforce have been backing VMS to stay on top of Vietnam telecom market in term of high quality and best customer care serviced. In 2008, VMS was recognized "The Excellent Operator" at the ICT Awards 2008 held by Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communications and in 2010, Vietnam General Tax Department have honoured VMS as the biggest tax contribution company in Vietnam for 3 consecutive years (2007-2009) for the state budget.

Mr Le Ngoc Minh—Vice President of VNPT, Chairman of VMS received "Best quality mobile operator" at ICT Awards 2010 from Vietnam Vice President Nguyen Thi Doan.

Mr Minh has passionately shared VMS success experiences in cooperating with foreign partner in building up and in operating MobiFone mobile network during the last 20 years, since the moment when Vietnamese telecom market has just been reformed. VMS business philosophy of "Strive for absolute customer satisfaction, be socially responsible and emphasize win-win relationships" has helped MobiFone to continuously hold its leading role in Vietnam telecom market. Accounted for 35% of the country's total market share on Jun 2012, VMS is serving more than 40 million subscribers through its 150,000 services selling points. In terms of revenues, VMS is predicted to report $ 2 billion in 2012, which reflects annual growth rate of 33% since 2005.

"This visit helps us to get a closer view on the cultural and reform's similarity between the two nations. Myanmar telecom reform will be, without doubt, an important opportunity and an historic turn point not only for telecom industry but also for Myanmar socio-economic development. I hope, and I do believe that our experience and our capabilities will help Myanmar telecom partner to shorten the time to market, and to effectively optimize the workforce in the vision to transform Myanmar mobile services from being a luxury that few could afford to everyday services that all social classes use on regular basis."—Mr Le Ngoc Minh commented on the visit.—*NLM*

DHF preventive measures taken in Mogaung

MOGAUNG, 14 Aug—The activities to take preventive measures against dengue hemorrhagic fever was held in Mogaung Township of Mohnyin District in Kachin State on 28 July morning.

Township Medical Officer Dr Daw Htwe Htwe Win, Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Thet Wai and officials took preventive measures against DHF.

They inspected prevention against common diseases in monsoon and consumption of iodized salts.

Myanma Alin

TRAINING PROVIDED: ***The gold works course (free of charge) No 3/2012, organized by Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association, was held at its office on Shwebontha Street on 10 August. Chairman of Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association U Myo Myint explains purpose of conducting the training course.*—MYANMA ALIN**

Cash, books donated to village library in Hinthada Township

HINTHADA, 14 Aug—A ceremony to donate books and cash to Alinyaung Library was held in Myokwetthit Village in Natmaw Village-tract of Hinthada Township on 26 July morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Zaw Moe Aung made a speech. Staff Officer of District Information and Public Relations Department U Win Shein explained matters related to libraries meeting five-point standard and advantages of reading.

Next, wellwishers donated cash and kind to the library.

The brick noggin library was built at a cost of K 1 million contributed by the State and K 1.5 million by the people.

Myanma Alin

President U Thein Sein...

(from page 1)

Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein submitted reports on firm adoption of policies and procedures by Union ministries for enabling foreign entrepreneurs to put investment, and smooth process of investments in allotted lands in regions and states that cannot harm environment and social economy.

Chairman of Land Allocation and Utilization Scrutiny Committee Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun reported on coordination to be made between region and state governments on land utilization and land management.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing made clarification on facts about Farmland Law and Vacant, Virgin and Fallow Land Management Law interrelated with the urban projects.

Vice-Chairman of Privatization Commission Union Minister for Industry U Soe Thein reported plans to privatize factories and workshops without economic effectiveness among the State-owned ones step by step. Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Tin Naing Thein submitted a report to share US$ 80 million to be granted by the World Bank to establishment of model villages in over 300 townships of regions and states and undertakings of 15 plans for poverty alleviation.

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun presented the report on spending foreign loans on the economically effective tasks to achieve quick win. The meeting came to an end at 4 pm. The meeting continues tomorrow.—*MNA*

***Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing.*—MNA**

***Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun.*—MNA**

***Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win.*—MNA**

***Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung.*—MNA**

"Wa" Self-Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman U Khun Tun Htoo (a) U Tun Lu.
MNA

***Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman U Htoo Ko Ko.*—MNA**

Political parties apply for registration

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—The Union Election Commission is scrutinizing and passing applications of registration for the political parties. Shan State Kokang Democratic Party today applied for registration as political party to UEC.—*MNA*

Miners have no rights to...

(from page 16)

AEC emerge, Myanmar is conducting researches and holding discussions in cooperation with regional research departments, at opportune times.

Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development is making coordination with Yangon Institutes of Economics, Japan Overseas Development Corporation, Japan Overseas Trade Board, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) to hold discussions on ASEAN Economic Community and Free Trade Area, in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay in coming October.

With respect to the U Tin Shan of Taninthayi Constituency No.6 on **"there is a plan to install sport gears for health exercises at suitable places on 3.5 km long concrete platform on Strand road in Myeik",** Deputy Minister for Sports U Aye Myint Kyu said: there is the limitation to enjoy fresh sea wind as Strand road in Myeik of Taninthayi Region is adjacent to jetties. It would be more suitable at grounds and on hills that can get more fresh air for walking and physical exercises. For the installation of public sport gears at suitable places on Strand road, coordination will be made with Taninthayi Region Government.

Regarding the question of Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.6 on **"when the remaining rail road section of Pathein (Begarat)-Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) will be opened as Pathein (Begarat)-Einme rail road section have been put into service"**, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung replied: Pathein (Begarat)-Einme rail road section (20.75 miles) of Pathein (Begarat)-Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) (96.51 miles) was commissioned into service on 20-3-2011.

The remaining Einme-Nyaungdon-Yangon (Hlinethaya) (75.76 miles) rail road is being implemented simultaneously by dividing it into four sections. Earth work (167355 suds), construction of 27 bridges and 23 buildings and laying 61.45 miles of rail road will be finished by April 2013.

Design for 427-ft-long Thonegwa creek bridge between Einme-Kyonedainggyi is in progress. It will be implemented during the above-mentioned period, inviting tender. Pathein-Hlinethaya rail road and rail road section that will join at Sakkaw railway station from Hinthada will be opened by May, 2013. Trains will run on it.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Hsai Paung Nut read out the Bill Committee's report on Bill revoking Land Confiscation (Mines) Act. Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint submitted the proposal to approve Bill revoking Land Confiscation (Mines) Act and U Aung Cho Oo of Bago Region Constituency No.11 seconded it. Hluttaw decided to approve it. Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Tin Yu submitted the committee's report on Contempt of Court Bill. U Tin Mya of Sagaing Region Constituency No.7 discussed the bill, and Hluttaw approved each paragraphs as per amendments of Bill Committee. Member of Bill Committee U Tin Yu submitted the proposal to approve Contempt of Court Bill, and Hluttaw decided to approve it.

Amyotha Hluttaw Farmers and Local and Foreign Labour Committee Chairman Dr Myint Kyi, Secretary U Saw Maw Tun and member U Kan Nyunt submitted committee's report. Then, Hluttaw announced that those wishing to discuss the bill are to register their names by 4 pm on 17-8-2012.

After that, Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.9 and Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No.1 discussed Amyotha Hluttaw Non-Governmental Local and Foreign Organizations Committee's report. The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker decided to prepare it again in cooperation with Amyotha Hluttaw Non-Governmental Local and Foreign Organizations Committee and representatives who discussed the reports, and continue taking necessary actions according to the Committee's decisions.

Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No.1 discussed the proposal submitted by Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency on **"urging the Union Government to extend a special helping hand to protecting SME from monopoly of international market, seeking market shares, providing technological and cash assistances, protecting them by law before AFTA (2015) comes into effect as Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) are major earnings and jobs for grass-root level people"**

Hluttaw decided to discuss it and announced that representatives who want to discuss it are to register their names after the meeting. After that, U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No.12 submitted the proposal on **"urging the Union Government to enable staff to enjoy their rights according to their levels for ensuring Clean Government"** U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No.5 discussed it. Hluttaw decided to discuss it and announced that representatives who want to discuss it are to register their names after the meeting. The meeting came to an end at 3 pm, and the 27th session will go on at 11 pm tomorrow. At today's session, four questions were raised and replied, two bills approved, one report submitted, one report discussed and two new proposals submitted.—*MNA*

Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun receives C-in-C of Royal Thai Navy

***Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun meets Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom at Zeyathiri Beikman.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun met Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom, at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this afternoon.

Present at the call together with Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun were Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander of Taninthayi Naval Region Command Commodore Myint Nwe and senior military officers.

Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom was accompanied by Rear-Admiral Patchara Pumpiched, Captain Kaorop Lamkom from the Royal Thai Navy and officials.—*MNA*

Speaker requests patience of parliamentarian;...

(from page 16)

He urged the representatives to show their benevolence and sympathy. The tribunal informed the Pyithu Hluttaw on 3 February of the submission made by the President. Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, vested with authority by the Pyithu Hluttaw, made a clarification over the President's submission at the tribunal on 17 February. On 28 March, the tribunal passed the resolution that **defining committees, commissions and organizations formed by respective Hluttaws as Union level organizations is not appropriate with provisions under the constitution**.

According to findings and comments of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee and discussions of 10 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, the attitude of the MPs suggests that the tribunal has no authority to make such resolution on provisions under existing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law, Pyithu Hluttaw Law and Amyotha Hluttaw Law which was also made mistakenly beyond the legal framework. The mistake harmed the reputation of Hluttaws and Hluttaws representatives, causing limitations, difficulties and impact on duties of Hluttaws and Hluttaw representatives.

On 26 April, the Hluttaw Rights Committee informed him of the potential submission of the impeachment proposal signed by 191 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives at third regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw, the Speaker said. He suspended the submission and met and urged chairpersons of Pyithu Hluttaw and officials of Union Solidarity and Development Party to make presentation to the President who later informed that the coordination would be made to settle the issue and the submission would be withdrawn if necessary. The impeachment was suspended for that message. The Speaker said, he made negotiations with President and other officials to avoid impeachment. Since 9 August, the attitude of the Hluttaw representatives had been made clear to the President and he was requested to seek the best possible way, except the impeachment, to settle the issue.

As the issue is unsettled till now, the lawmakers face difficulties in discharging duties. Their annoyance became aroused and submitted the proposal signed by 301 representatives to impeach the chairperson and members of the tribunal.

The Hluttaw representatives were urged to wait for the actions of the President in a time limit upon the message. He requested patience of the representatives to do impeachment only if the case is not settled in the time limit.

Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa said in his discussion that Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee and Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee were formed in the first regular session of the Hluttaw and 19 other committees and Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission in the second regular session. The Pyithu Hluttaw Law Section 2 (h) defines these committees and commissions as Union level organizations.

The Union Attorney-General Law and the Union Auditor-General Law also prescribes the same provision. The Chairman of State Peace and Development Council signed and enacted those Union Attorney-General Law and the Union Auditor-General law. The duties, authorities and rights of all committees are the same with four original Hluttaw committees. The deputy speaker elected under the constitution is the chairman of the Hluttaw Rights Committee, the Pyithu Hluttaw Law suggests. The organization led by the deputy speaker, the Union level official, is the Union level organization and the committees and commissions which have the same status with it are inarguably the Union level organizations.

These are inarguably Union level organizations according to both the law and the fact. But, the Union Attorney-General on behalf of the President put forward a submission at the tribunal whether the definition of the Union level organization in Hluttaw Laws is in accord with the constitution. As the tribunal informed the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker of the submission, the deputy speaker made presentation on the fixed date. Another clarification was made by the deputy speaker, on behalf of the Speaker, on 24 March.

The deputy speaker said he, representing the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and 440 Hluttaw representatives, had to stand for about an hour to hear the declaration of the resolution at the tribunal on 28 March.

He had to stand for one hour listening the wrong decision that said that the definition of the Union-level organization prescribed in the laws of the Hluttaws is not in conformity with the State Constitution. He continued to say that it was know to all that the wrong decision is the hindrance to amending the Pyithu Hluttaw Law, the Deputy Speaker said.

On 26 April, about 200 representatives sought approval from the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw through the Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee to submitt a proposal to the Hluttaw to impeach the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union for not dutiful to the tasks assigned to the committee by the State Constitution and for not abiding by the Transitory Provisions of the Chapter-14 of the Constitution.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw requested for the patience and the representatives listened to the Speaker. However, news journals wrongly criticized the Union-level organizations, and some online news attacked the designating the Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as a Union-level organization saying that the designation was not in conformity with the State Constitution. Therefore, over 300 representatives sent the petition to the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw through the Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee for impeaching the Chairman and members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union under Section 136 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Law and under section 334 (d) (2) of the Constitution. The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw requested the representatives to wait and he would settle the issue at the best of his ability, the Deputy Speaker said.

The Deputy Speaker thanked the representatives for their understanding for two times while waiting until the Speaker would negotiate with the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union.

On behalf of the representatives, the Deputy Speaker reiterated what the Speaker told was the best way was to settle the issue through negotiation first before impeachment and requested the Speaker to translate his words into action.

Afterwards, the Speaker replied that he would send a letter to the President in an attempt to settle the issue and discussed what massages should be written in the letter.

During the question and answer session, Daw Su Su Hlaing of Dagon Myothit (South) constituency asked **if there is a plan to help those who are still waiting to install electric meters at their homes due to transitory period from the self-reliance system to the Ministry concerned.**

Deputy Minister of Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo replied that Yangon City Electricity Supply Board has given permission to organize a self-reliance committee in villages and wards which need power supply and to install electric meters at homes with the use of fund contributed by the residents. Self-reliance power supply programme has been finished but still, the committee has to carry out maintenance works as the Ministry has not yet taken back the work for the self-reliance power supply tasks.

As the power supply system in wards close to Yangon City meet set standards, Yangon City Electricity Supply Board has installed electric meters at homes after the consumers have paid the cost, without raising fund by the self-reliance power supply committees of wards. If a power supply system does not meet set standards, a ward or village self-reliance power supply committee concerned has to repair the system until it meets set standard.

U Hsar Mu of Lahe Constituency asked **whether there is a plan to provide surgical equipment to people's hospitals in Layshe and Lahe, Nanyun townships in the Naga Self-administered Zone.**

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint replied that Ministry of Health has already provided one X-Ray Machine-100mA, one X-Ray Machine-35mA (Portable), one set of Obsteric Set and one Patient Trolley to Lashe Township People's Hospital, one Labour Bed and one set of Major Surgical Set (Emergency) to Hsonmara Station Hospital, one Suction Machine, one Generator and one Mobile Lamp to Lahe Township People's Hospital, one X-Ray Machine-35mA, one X-Ray Machine-200mA, one Dental Chair, one set of Major Surgical, four Medicine Trolleys, three Instrument Trolleys and five Drip Stands to Nanyun Township People's Hospital, two medicine trolleys, two instrument trolleys and two patient trolleys to Panhsaung Station Hospital. To fulfill the necessary medical equipment to the hospitals, respective township health departments would proceed the work in accordance with rules and regulations and the Ministry will assist in the hospitals.

After the question and answer session, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw urged the members of the respecitive Union-level organizations to understand that a representative has

(See page 10)

Union I&C Minister attends 2012 first bi-annual coordination meeting of IPRD

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug— Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan addressed at the 2012 first bi-annual coordination meeting of Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information at the meeting hall of the ministry here at 4 pm today.

In his address, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan explained the staffs to carry out the tasks by reviewing strong points and weak points from the past, to priority implement Bottom Up System than Top Down System, to fulfill for achieving Reform Strategy tasks of the State for the national interests as media men from media sector.

The Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department reported on the strong points and weak points of the first bi-annual tasks of the department and staff officers from regions and states completion tasks and future plans to the Union Minister.

Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan heard the reports and made conclusion speech.

The coordination meeting was attended by Deputy Minister for Information U Soe Win, departmental heads and staff officers of Information and Public Relations Department from regions and states.—*MNA*

Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan making a speech at the 2012 first bi-annual coordination meeting of Information and Public Relations Department.

MNA

Speaker requests patience...

(from page 9)

rights to ask the question again according to the law, rules and regulations when he don't clearly understand or he want to ask matters related to the question. Therefore, respective members of the Union-level organizations are to understand the rights of representatives and to answer the questions. It is the rights of the Hluttaw and representatives and the rights is lawful. Representatives on their part are to use their rights correctly, effectively and without errors.

At the proposal submission session, Daw Nann Wah Nu of Kunhein Constitution submitted a proposal to urge the Union Government to define duties, rights and entitlement of the chief ministers and ministers of regions and states as prescribed in Section 264 (d) of the Constitution and to introduce that bill to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as soon as possible.

The Hluttaw invited those representatives who want to discuss the proposal to enlist not later than 1 pm, 15 August.

At the Bill discussion session, the Bill Committee, and Economic and Trade Development Committee, U Thar Win of Yankin constituency, U Soe Tha of Twantay constituency, U Win Oo of Yebyu constituency, Defence Service personnel representative Col Myint Ko Ko, U Win Htein of Meiktila constituency, U Aung Thein Lin of South Okkalapa constituency, Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) constituency, U Win Than of Thabaung constituency, U Kyi Tha of Gwa constituency and U Win Myint of Myingyan constituency who submitted a proposal to amend the Foreign Investment Bill discussed paragraphs and sub-paragraphs and Thura U Thaung Lwin, Joint Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation also discussed the bill. The Hluttaw decided to approve the Bill and amendments to it.

Regarding the bill discussion, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw said the discussion proved the good-will and skills of the representatives and the Hluttaw should put those who discussed the bill on record. He also noted that the Foreign Investment Bill have been introduced at both Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw. However, as the people made suggestions, Pyithu Hluttaw got the bill back from Amyotha Hluttaw to review it. Thanks to the efforts of the representatives for the interests of the country and the people and their skills and experiences, amendments were made to 94 points. Some representative had abilities to discuss even paragraphs that were not included in the amendment list, showing the good-will of the representatives in the interests of the country and the people.

He continued to say that a representative discussed some points of the Attorney-General's Office such as to notice, to follow, regarding making laws. In fact, it is only the Hluttaw which has a solely responsibility to make a law. Therefore, it is important to make and implement the laws which would benefit the country and the people. Similarly, the country should follow the treaties and conventions the country agreed with them. Regarding the issues, representatives from Pyithu Hluttaw and personnel from respective ministries participated in the discussion and the Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission also assisted in the discussion. He also reaffirmed that what the Hluttaw was working was in the interests of the country and the people, not of a person or an organization.

At the informing the Hluttaw session, the Hluttaw was informed that in an attempt to effectively implement the duties of the Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, U Soe Thein, Deputy Director-General (Retd) of the Budget Department, U Kyaw San, Region Comissionar (Retd) of the General Administration Department, U Khin Soe, Director-General (Retd) of the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration, Daw Myat Myat Soe, Director-General (Retd) of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, U Nyunt Win, Police Col (Retd) of office of the Criminal Investigation Department (Nay Pyi Taw) were included in the commission as members. The meeting ended at 4.10 pm and it will continue at 1 pm tomorrow.—*MNA*

Admiral Nyan Tun welcomes Thai goodwill delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug— A goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom and party arrived at Yangon International Airport by air this morning.

They were welcomed at the Airport by Commander of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Commodore Maung Oo Lwin, Naval Dockyard Command Headquarters Commodore Myint Tun and officials.

The goodwill delegation flew to Nay Pyi Taw by Myanma Tatmadaw special flight. Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun welcomed Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom, at Zeyathiri Beikman with the Guards of Honour.

Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom introduced Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun to Thai senior military officers. And Admiral Nyan Tun also introduced Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom to Myanmar senior military officers.

Also present at the call together with Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Nyan Tun were Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander of Taninthayi Naval Region Command Commodore Myint Nwe and senior military officers. Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom was accompanied by Rear-Admiral Patchara Pumpiched, Captain Kaorop Lamkom from the Royal Thai Navy and officials.—*MNA*

***Admiral Nyan Tun and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom and party taking salute of Guard of Honour.*—MNA**

Denmark provides over US$ 8 million to improve livelihoods and health in Myanmar

YANGON, 14 Aug— Denmark signed two agreements with UNOPS of more than $ 8 million dollars today to boost livelihoods of the poor and to improve the health of mothers and young children in Myanmar.

HE Mikael Hemniti Winther, Denmark's Ambassador to Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia and Sanjay Mathur, Director & Representative of UNOPS in Myanmar, signed the agreements. More than $ 4.1 million will be channeled through the multi-donor Livelihoods and Food Security Trust (LIFT) fund managed by UNOPS for livelihood projects. LIFT was set up to work towards the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger in Myanmar, one of the Millennium Development Goals. Denmark along with Governments of Australia, the EC, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK are working together through LIFT to increase food availability, income generation opportunities and food use for up to 2 million people.

Denmark's support to LIFT has ensured that between 2010-11 more than 1.1 million people directly benefitted. An independent evaluation of LIFT's funded projects in the Delta highlights that an overwhelming majority of beneficiaries were of the opinion that incomes had increased substantially after the Nargis collapse. During the time LIFT was in operation, incomes were perceived to have increased by a further third, bringing rice farmers to a level above that of 'self-sufficiency' and casual labourers close to pre-Nargis levels.

In LIFT's programme country wide including the Delta, in the agricultural sector alone, more than 53,000 households were supported. Almost 6,800 small and micro businesses were established and more than 8,700 households were provided credit for both agricultural and income generating activities.

"Denmark contribution will enable farmers to cultivate larger areas and yield better harvests, resulting in increased income for many households and villages across the country." said HE Mikael Hemniti Winther.

Another $4.1million contribution to 3MDG Fund will be part of the basis for a programme to offer health services to populations in Myanmar with the greatest need. It will focus on improving the health of mothers and young children, one of the country's most pressing priorities. Furthermore, it will include components to supplement the Global Fund programme on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, in areas, which it is currently unable to support, as well as to assist the government in strengthening the health systems and capacity to deliver quality basic health to the people of Myanmar. HE Mikael Hemniti Winther concluded "Denmark's contribution will provide a substantial contribution to assist long-term development for livelihoods and health in the poorest areas of Myanmar." —*NLM*

***Denmark Ambassador to Myanmar HE Mikael Hemniti Winther and Director& resident Representative of UNOPS in Myanmar signagreements for providing US$ 8 million to boost livelihoods of the people and health sector in Myanmar.* NLM**

Dead fish are seen ashore along the beach of Galveston, Texas, the United States, on 13 Aug, 2012. Thousands of dead fish have been washing ashore along the Texas coast since Sunday morning. Texas Parks and Wildlife biologists suspect low oxygen levels offshore may be to blame, while further testing of the sea water may take time.— XINHUA

Drought to lift food prices, inflation impact modest: KC Fed

WASHINGTON, 14 Aug— Americans will face higher food prices at the supermarket next year because of the worst drought in half a century, but the impact on overall inflation will be modest, the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank said in a report.

It said the drought, which has cut corn and soy bean yields and sent their prices on the futures market soaring, could add 4 percent more to annual food prices over the next year, drawing parallels with a similar situation in 1988.

"Based on the relationships between the consumer price index for food and farm-level prices for crop and livestock, July's crop price increases and declines in livestock prices could lead to a 4 percent increase in the CPI for food from September 2011 to September 2012," the Kansas City Fed said.

The US Department of Agriculture said on Friday this year's corn crop would fall below 11.0 billion bushels for the first time in six years and the number of bushels yielded per acre was a 17-year low. Soybean production was forecast at a five year low and soy yield per acre nearly a 10-year low.

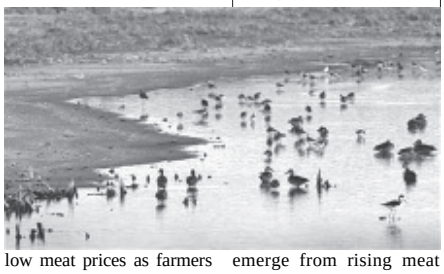
The drought will also affect meat and dairy prices as more than 70 percent of the beef herd is in states where pastures are rated as poor to very poor.

Heat stress has lowered milk production and rising feed costs are also pressuring hog and poultry producers, the Kansas City Fed said.

The initial effect will be low meat prices as farmers bring their animals to the market a bit early to cut losses from the high cost of feeds. In the long-term, however, a shortage of animals for slaughter will push up prices.

"A second wave of higher food prices tends to emerge from rising meat prices. Historically, within a year of a drought, the initial influx of meat supplies disappears and smaller breeding herds produce fewer slaughter animals and meat supplies shrink," the Kansas City Fed said.—*Reuters*

Migrating shore birds feed in one of the few pools that have water at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge in Hudson, Kansas on 7 Aug, 2012.— REUTERS



Somali pirate negotiator receives 12 life sentences in US court

NORFOLK, 14 Aug—A Somali man who acted as a ransom negotiator for pirates who seized an American yacht last year and killed four American hostages was sentenced on Monday by a US federal judge to serve 12 life sentences.

Mohammad Shibin was convicted in April on 15 charges including piracy, hostage taking, kidnapping and conspiracy. He was paid $30,000 to $50,000 in cash for his negotiating services, according to a federal indictment.

In a courtroom in Norfolk, Virginia, US District Judge Robert Doumar sentenced Shibin to serve 10 concurrent life sentences, two consecutive life sentences and two 20-year sentences and ordered him to pay $5.4 million in restitution.

"Mohammad Shibin was a key participant in two of the most heinous acts of piracy in modern memory," US Attorney Neil MacBride said in a statement. Pirates commandeered an American yacht carrying Jean and Scott Adam of California and Phyllis Macay and Bob Riggle from Seattle in February 2011 off the coast of Somalia. All four hostages were killed despite attempts by the US military to negotiate their release.

Prosecutors said Shibin was among an elite group whose skills were needed to negotiate ransoms. According to evidence presented at trial, Shibin researched the background of the hostages over the Internet to determine how much ransom to demand and to find family members to contact for the payments, prosecutors said.—*Reuters*

Iran government criticized over earthquake response

Rescue teams search for victims in the earthquake-stricken village of Varzaqan near Ahar, in the East Azerbaijan Province, on 12 Aug, 2012.— REUTERS

DUBAI, 14 Aug—Iran's government faced criticism on Monday over its response to two earthquakes that killed 306 people, with complaints of a lack of tents and about President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's decision to go ahead with an overseas trip.

Although officials announced on Sunday, less than 24 hours after disaster struck, that search and rescue operations had finished and all survivors had been freed from the rubble, some locals expressed disbelief that authorities could have reached the most remote villages so soon.

"I know the area well. There are some regions where there are villages that you can't even reach by car," one doctor in the city of Tabriz told *Reuters* by telephone on Monday, declining to give his name because of the sensitivity of the issue. "It's not possible for them to have finished so soon."

The doctor said he had worked for 24 hours non-stop, treating patients from villages rushed to Tabriz.

"In the first hours after the quake, it was ordinary people and volunteers in their own cars going to the affected areas," the doctor said. "It was more ordinary people helping out than official crisis staff."

Members of parliament representing the affected areas complained about a shortage of tents, parliamentary news agency *ICANA* said.

"The crisis management headquarters must take broader steps to alleviate these concerns," said speaker Ali Larijani, a frequent critic of Ahmadinejad and possible candidate to succeed him in elections next year.

Vice-President Mohammad Reza Rahimi said after a visit to the quake-hit areas on Monday that Iran was ready to accept international aid.

"In different situations, our country has helped those in need in other countries and under the current conditions, is ready to receive aid ... from different countries," he said, according to *IRNA*, without giving further details.

In the aftermath of the quake, the United States, Russia, Turkey and a host of other nations offered their condolences and said they were ready to offer assistance.

The moderate conservative newspaper *Asr-e Iran* reported that a full 24 hours after the earthquake, some villages had not yet been visited by relief teams.

Reuters

Mobile customer uncovers premium rate 'bug'

LONDON, 14 Aug — An unexplained charge on a phone bill has led a mobile user to uncover a loophole in the sign-up system for some premium rate services. Consultant Mark Hole found he could sign up anyone for some premium rate services from content maker Buongiorno. All he needed to know was a potential victim's mobile number and whether they used the Orange network. Buongiorno said it quickly closed the loophole once it was discovered and had no evidence it had been exploited.

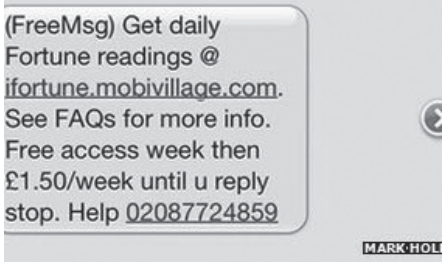
Mr Hole's suspicions were aroused when charges for a premium rate fortune-telling service turned up on the bill for the mobile phones linked to his computer consultancy business. "I went online, got the bill up and there were weekly charges coming up on it," he said. He complained to operator Orange about the charge but it said he must have signed up for it despite his insistence that he was "scrupulous" about keeping the numbers private and that they were only used for business calls. Mr Hole also contacted mobile content firm Buongiorno which ran the iFortune service he was being billed for. It asked him to send details of the disputed charge.

At the same time Mr Hole looked for ways that the phantom charge could have applied. He discovered that it was possible to convince the iFortune site it was being visited by an iPhone. Using add-ons for the Firefox web browser this let him sign up any Orange customer for the service. All he needed to do this was their mobile phone number. Mr Hole demonstrated the loophole by signing up a BBC correspondent's phone for a weekly fortune reading.Gareth Maclachlan, head of mobile security firm Adaptive Mobile, said the loophole arose because Buongiorno was not doing a good enough job of checking which net addresses were making sign-up requests.

"There's a potentially criminal opportunity here," he said. If the loophole became widely known, he said, hi-tech thieves could set up a fake premium rate service, sign people up and then sit back and wait for cash to roll in.Information about Mr Hole's findings have been circulated to the GSMA security working group to ensure other operators are aware of the loophole. "There was a bug in the system," said a spokesman for Buongiorno. "When that was found out, we very quickly moved to pin it down, find out what happened and stop it from happening again."

The spokesman added that exploiting the loophole required a "certain amount of technical knowledge".

Internet



Armed only with a phone number Mr Hole could sign anyone up to the service.— INTERNET

Strong earthquake hits Sea of Okhotsk, no damage reported

BEIJING, 14 Aug—A strong earthquake jolted Sea of Okhotsk on Tuesday, and no tsunami alert has been issued and no damage reported so far.

The temblor, which struck at 0259 GMT on Tuesday with an epicenter 158 km northeast of the Russian town of Poronaysk and 625.9 km deep, measured 7.7 magnitude, according to the latest update by the US Geological Survey (USGS). Meanwhile, the Japan Meteorological Agency placed the magnitude at 7.3, while the China Earthquake Network Center put it at 7.2.

Russian media quoted emergency authorities as saying that the quake was felt by Okhotsk islanders, but no casualties or damage were reported and no tsunami alert was issued.

The Japanese side also said it has not received any reports of damage or casualties and no tsunami alert has been issued.—*Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI MAJESTIC VOY NO (90213)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI MAJESTIC VOY NO (90213) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 GATI COAST TO COAST
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ZAMBALES VOY NO (105)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ZAMBALES VOY NO (105) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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: TOKO KAIUN KAISHA LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (125)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (125) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 PACC CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV VINH LONG 06 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VINH LONG 06 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.8.2012 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: RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Fujirebio Inc., of 62-5, Nihonbashi-hamacho 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan is the Owner and Sole proprietor of the following trademark:

SERODIA

(Reg. No. IV/1456/2003)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical preparations, diagnostic reagents, diagnostic and other preparations for medical purposes, in Int'l Class 5"

This amendment of trademark ownership from the old company, **"Fujirebio Kabushiki Kaisha (Fujirebio Inc.)"** to the new company, namely, **"Fujirebio Inc."** has been duly registered in Myanmar under the Myanmar registration no. IV/5813/2007.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung *B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L* Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 15 August 2012

Israeli soldiers watch as a missile is launched from the Iron Dome defence system in the southern Israeli city of Beer Sheva in March 2012.
INTERNET

Israel tests SMS missile alerts as Iran chatter grows

JERUSALEM, 14 Aug— Israel on Sunday began testing an SMS system for warning the public of an imminent missile attack as chatter over a possible strike on Iran dominated the Israeli Press headlines.

As testing began, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel had chalked up "a significant improvement" in its home front defence capabilities, mentioning its highly-vaunted anti-missile systems such as *Iron Dome* and *Arrow 2*.

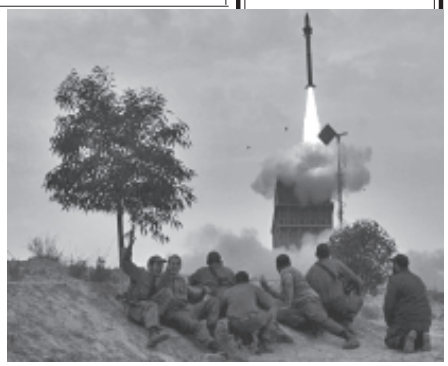
"There has been a significant improvement in our level of defence capacity on the home front: with Iron Dome, with the Arrow, in terms of protection and shelters, in advanced warning systems and in other areas," he said at the start of the weekly cabinet meeting.

"But all the threats which are directed towards the Israeli home front are dwarved by another threat — different in both its scope and its essence. And so I repeat: Iran must never be allowed to get nuclear weapons."

With front page stories in two papers suggesting Teheran had made progress towards the manufacture and assembly of a nuclear warhead, Israel's Home Front Command began final tests of the SMS warning system which is expected to be operational by September.

"The Home Front Command will today start conducting nationwide testing of the 'Personal Message' alert system, which will end on Thursday," said a statement indicating that SMS texts in Hebrew, Arabic, English and Russian would be sent to subscribers on Israel's three main networks: Cellcom, Pele-phone and Orange.

Internet



Uganda military helicopters missing en route to Somalia

KAMPALA, 14 Aug— A number of Ugandan military helicopters went missing in Kenyan airspace on Sunday on their way to Somalia to reinforce African Union peace-keeping forces battling al Shabaab rebels, the Ugandan military said.

The military said a team of helicopters had left a base in the Ugandan city of Entebbe but that only one had landed in the Kenyan town of Wajir, where they were scheduled to refuel before flying on to Somalia.

The Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) did not say how many helicopters were missing or how many people were on board.

"The search is going on, we don't know what exactly happened but we are investigating it and we will let you know when I get adequate information," UPDF spokesman Felix Kulayigye told *Reuters*.

Ugandan troops form the backbone of the African Union peace-keeping force (AMISOM) in Somalia.

The air force said on 7 August that it was deploying transport and combat helicopters to Somalia to beef up the force.

Al Shabaab struck the Ugandan capital Kampala in mid-2010 when suicide bombers from the al-Qaeda-linked group killed more than 70 people who were watching soccer on television, in revenge for the presence of Ugandan troops in Somalia.

Reuters

Two missing after torrential rain hits Japan's Kansai

OSAKA, 14 Aug— Two went missing on Tuesday as torrential rain hit several prefectures of the western Japanese region of Kansai where more than 1,000 people are advised to evacuate from homes, local Press reported.

At least two went missing on Tuesday morning after a landslide caused by the heavy rain hit a house in Uji City of Kyoto Prefecture and its surrounding Kansai region which saw hourly rainfall of about 100 mm on Tuesday morning, according to Japan's public broadcaster Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK).

The report said more than 1,000 people living in three residential zones of Otsu City in Shiga Prefecture have been advised to evacuate since the morning hours due to threats of landslide caused by the continuous rainfall.

In Nara Prefecture, meanwhile, local police started its rescue operation on Tuesday morning after a group of junior students could not move forward in the Kii Mountains, a famous trekking zone in the prefecture, due to bad weather.

Weather authorities warned that heavy rainfall may trigger further floods and landslides in a wide area of Kansai, parts of which may see hourly rainfall of about 80 mm by Wednesday morning.

Xinhua

Family murdered in central Mexico, three children among the dead

MEXICO CITY, 14 Aug— A family of seven, including three young children, were found murdered with their throats slit in a ranch outside the Gulf port city of Veracruz, a local official said on Sunday.

The bodies were discovered after neighbours noted an awful smell coming from the home outside the town of Manlio Fabio Altamirano, the Veracruz state attorney general's office said in a statement. The state of decomposition suggested they had been murdered at least 72 hours before they were found.

Three children aged 9, 7 and 3 were among the victims, said a government official who requested anonymity.

It was the second time in less than a week that a family was attacked by suspected organized crime gangs. On 8 August, gunmen killed a family of five in the Pacific coastal resort of Acapulco.

More than 55,000 gangland murders and execution-style hits have occurred since Calderon took power in December 2006 and declared a national crackdown on drug gangs. Veracruz has experienced increasing violence over the last year.

There has been a rash of deaths and violence since last week in central Mexico, a battleground between rival gangs for control over lucrative smuggling routes to the United States.

Reuters

This photo provided by Sean McAfee from 2 Aug, 2012, shows a dead raccoon that McAfee saw with the road dividing line painted over it before he stopped his motorcycle to take the picture on Franklin Rd in Johnstown, Pa. According to PennDOT traffic engineer John Ambrosini, paint crews know to avoid such animals and usually have a foreman on the job to clear any dead animals off the road before the paint-spraying truck equipment passes by.

Dead raccoon painted by road crew

A Pennsylvania road crew inadvertently granted 15 minutes of posthumous fame to a raccoon that became road kill.

The unlucky raccoon provided a palette for the state road crew, which was painting double yellow lines on a road on 2 Aug in Johnstown. The crew tried to stop the paint gun when they spotted the raccoon, but it was too late.

The painted corpse was still in the road when Sean McAfee came by on his motorcycle. He said he did "a double-take laugh."

"I drove my motorcycle home from work and I told my wife we needed to go back out with the camera gear," he told ABCNews.com Fri. "I thought, 'This will be a great Facebook photo.'"

McAfee posted the pictures on Facebook and then submitted a copy to the local newspaper. The photo was such a hit that he's started selling prints for $15 on Etsy.com.

The corpse has since been removed from the road but a gap in the paint remains, ABCNews.com said.

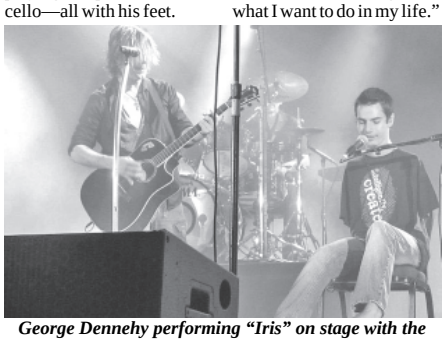
Man without arms plays guitar onstage with Goo Goo Dolls

George Dennehy was born without arms but amazingly has learned to play the guitar using only his feet. On 2 June, the 18-year-old performed a cover of the song "Iris" by the band Goo Goo Dolls at the Ashland Strawberry Faire in Ashland, Va. Video of that performance has been viewed by nearly half a million people on YouTube alone and caught the attention of the band members, who invited Dennehy to performed live with them at the Musikfest 2012 festival in Pennsylvania this past weekend.

"I think people see the willpower and determination and how much that performance meant to me and that song. I guess it touches people's hearts," Dennehy said of his Virginia performance during an interview with What's Trending host Shira Lazar.

And as if that weren't amazing enough, Dennehy tells Lazar that he's actually a multi-instrumentalist, playing the piano, bass and cello—all with his feet.

"Every person has their purpose here," Dennehy said. "We're all here for a reason. Don't let anything get in someone's way to do what they feel called to do. I just want people to see that even though I don't have arms I'm still striving to do what I want to do in my life."



George Dennehy performing "Iris" on stage with the Goo Goo Dolls (George Dennehy Music)

News Album

'Life of Pi' to open New York Film Fest

NEW YORK, 14 Aug—Ang Lee's big-screen adaptation of Yann Martel's best-selling novel "Life of Pi" is to open the New York Film Festival next month, organizers said on Monday.

Lee is a member of a small group of filmmakers — including Robert Altman, Pedro Almodovar and Francois Truffaut — who have had more than one movie open the festival, the festival Web site noted. Lee's "The Ice Storm" kicked off the event in 1997 and "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" closed the festival in 2000.

"'Life of Pi' is a perfect combination of technological innovation and a strong artistic vision," Richard Pena, Film Society programme director and chairman of the NYFF selection committee, said in a statement on Monday. "Ang Lee has managed to make a deeply moving, engrossing work that will delight audiences as much as it will astonish them. We're enormously proud to have this film for our opening night for the 50th NYFF." "I am both delighted and honored

***Image from "Life of Pi," courtesy of the New York Film Festival Web site.—*INTERNET**

to be back at the New York Film Festival with 'Life of Pi,'" Lee said. "I have the deepest respect for Richard Pena and his team and to be selected by them as the opening night film for the 50th anniversary is extremely gratifying. I am also excited because this is my hometown, and to be unveiling this film that I am so proud of here is a real pleasure." "Life of Pi" will be released in theaters on 21 Nov.—*Internet*

Nominees announced for World Soundtrack Awards

LOS ANGELES, 14 Aug—John Williams, Howard Shore and Alexandre Desplat are among the composers nominated for the 2012 International Soundtrack Awards, which will be handed out on 20 October in Ghent, Belgium.

Williams, Shore and Desplat were nominated in the Film Composer of the Year and Best Original Score of the Year categories, as were Alberto Iglesias and Cliff Martinez.

In the individual score category, Williams was nominated for "The Adventures of Tintin," Shore for "Hugo," Desplat for "The Ides of March," Iglesias for "Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy" and Martinez for "Drive."

"Hugo," "Tintin" and "Tinker Tailor" all received 2011 Oscar nominations; the Oscar winner, "The Artist," was not eligible because its 2011 Cannes premiere fell outside the World Soundtrack Awards' eligibility period of 1 July, 2011 to 30 June, 2012.—*Reuters*

***Alexandre Desplat poses after winning the award for Best Original Music for The King's Speech at the British Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) award ceremony at the Royal Opera House in London on 13 February, 2011.—*REUTERS**

***Rihanna goes into the crowd during a performance at the Hackney Weekend festival at Hackney Marshes in east London, on 24 June, 2012.—*REUTERS**

Taylor Swift releasing new album 'Red' on 22 Oct

NASHVILLE, 14 Aug—Multi-platinum superstar Taylor Swift is releasing her fourth studio album called "Red" on 22 Oct.

She announced the upcoming worldwide release during a live web chat from Nashville, Tenn, on Monday before a living room full of fans. She said she named it "Red" because of all the different emotions she explores on the album.

"They're all pretty much about the kind of tumultuous, crazy, insane, intense, semi-toxic relationships that I've experienced in the last two years," she said of the album, which was two years in the making.

"All those emotions spanning from intense love, intense frustration, jealousy, confusion, all of that, in my mind all those emotions are red. There's nothing in between. There's nothing beige about any of those feelings," she added.

The album will have 16 songs, including the title track. It also features collaborations with other artists, producers and songwriters, unlike 2010"s "Speak Now" album written entirely on her own.

Swift confirmed that there is a duet with British singer Ed Sheeran on the album and revealed that they wrote it while sitting on a trampoline.

Wearing a red and white striped dress, red earrings and red lipstick, the Grammy-winning singer took questions from the live audience and online. Fans joined in from places such as New York, Alabama, Ohio, Sweden, Brazil and England, and Montreal, Canada.

Swift played the first single from the album during the web chat.

Internet

***In this March 2, 2012 file photo, Taylor Swift performs on stage at the Burswood Dome during the opening night of her "Speak Now" Australian tour in Perth, Australia. Multi-platinum selling superstar Taylor Swift is releasing her fourth studio album called "Red" on 22 Oct.—*INTERNET**

Rihanna climbs back to top of British album charts

LONDON, 14 Aug—Pop singer Rihanna has returned to the top of Britain's album rankings with her album "Talk That Talk" after a run of 38 weeks in the Top 40, the Official Charts Company said on Sunday.

It is only the second week the album has been in the number one spot as it nears 1 million British sales.

The recording has been a huge hit around the world and helped the Barbadian star to earn an estimated $53 million in the 12 months to May this year, according to *Forbes* magazine. East London rapper Wiley topped the singles charts for a second week with "Heatwave", his first solo British number one.

British pop band Lawson were the week's highest new entry at number three with their single "Taking Over Me".

Redlight, a DJ and producer from Bristol in southwest England, was also new in fifth place with "Lost In Your Love".—*Reuters*

Divorce will never be an option for Lady Gaga

LOS ANGELES, 14 Aug—Singer Lady Gaga believes in a life-long relationship. She says whenever she gets married, she will stick through the relationship even when the going gets tough.

"Divorce is not an option. I'm going to get married and that's it, he's stuck with me. I want to find a man that feels the same," thesun.co.uk quoted Gaga as saying.

The singer, who has been dating Taylor Kinney for over a year, has vowed to make any marriage of her own work, especially after seeing her parents go through a rocky patch. "My grandmother was married to my grandfather for 60 years. My parents have been married for over 30."

"I have seen my mother and father stick it out and there was a time when I was younger when I really thought they might get divorced. They were fighting all the time and they were both a mess, but they stuck it out and now they are more in love than ever. That's what I want," she added.—*Internet*

Lady gaga

Manchester City make Rodwell move

Everton midfielder agrees five-year deal with Barclays Premier League champions

LONDON, 14 Aug — England midfielder Jack Rodwell has completed his move from Everton to Manchester City. The 21-year-old has signed a five-year deal with the Barclays Premier League champions for an undisclosed fee. Rodwell, who can play as a defensive or attacking midfielder, broke into Everton's reserve team as a 15-year-old and played for the Toffees at senior level before his 17th birthday. He made 51 League appearances for David Moyes' side and scored four goals.

"I relish the opportunity of playing with some of the best players in the world and continuing my development," Man City's new No17 told the club's official website. "It will be an amazing experience to make my debut in front of them if I am selected to play next weekend. The hard work starts today as I start to help contribute to the club winning more silverware. The season has started really well with the Community Shield win." The former England Under-16 captain paid tribute to Moyes after completing his move.

"I would like to place on record my thanks to everyone at Everton Football Club. The Manager David Moyes has been brilliant for me and helped make me the player that I am today." "I have a special relationship with the Chairman, Mr Kenwright, who did not want me to leave but this is too good an opportunity for me to refuse." Rodwell has won two full England caps, making his debut as a substitute against Spain and facing Sweden in a friendly. He has also been included in Roy Hodgson's England squad to face Italy on Wednesday. City open their title defence at home against Southampton on Sunday.— *Internet*

***Jack Rodwell is another promising graduate from Everton's football academy.*— INTERNET**

International Sports

Olympic flag arrives in Rio, marking race to 2016

RIO DE JANEIRO, 14 Aug — The Olympic flag touched down on Brazilian soil on Monday, marking the start of four years of preparations ahead of the 2016 games in Rio de Janeiro.

Rio Mayor Eduardo Paes waved the five-ringed flag as he and other top officials disembarked from the flight that brought them back from London, where they attended the games' closing ceremony on Sunday.

Speaking at a packed news conference at Rio's Tom Jobim international airport, Paes called it an "important moment" for Rio and for Brazil at large.

He pledged the games will leave a vast legacy for Rio, the beachside metropolis that suffered from decades of neglect after it lost national capital status to Brasilia in 1960.

"I see the arrival of this Olympic flag as not the start, but the consolidation of an important process of transformation for the city of Rio de Janeiro," he said.

"Rio is a city that spent the lion's share of its history, much more time than it should have, looking toward the past. I'm sure that this process of transformation, this turning toward the future, has been consolidated here."

He added the most important effects of the Olympics "are sometimes, many times, the intangible transformations, the impalpable ones related to the brand of a country, the brand of a city, with the self-esteem of a country."

The Olympic flag, made out of silk for the 1988 games in Seoul, South Korea, will be temporarily housed in the City Hall and will be open to viewings by visitors.

Internet

***Rio de Janeiro's Mayor Eduardo Paes, front left, holds up the Olympic flag upon its arrival in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 13 Aug., 2012.* — INTERNET**

Special One Mourinho now wants to be the Only One

LISBON, 14 Aug — Real Madrid's Jose Mourinho said that he should be labelled the "Only One" instead of the 'Special One', after becoming the only coach to win the top three leagues in European football. Mourinho has won titles in Spain (once, with Real Madrid), Italy (twice, with Inter Milan) and England (twice, with Chelsea), as well as in his native Portugal (twice, with Porto).

"Like me or not, I am the only one who won the world's three most important leagues. So, maybe instead of the 'Special One', people should start calling me the 'Only One'," Mourinho said in an interview with Portuguese television channel SIC. Mourinho, 49, was nicknamed the 'Special One' by the English Press after referring to himself as just that, during a news conference following his arrival at Chelsea from Porto in 2004.

In an interview televised on Monday he explained that, as his career has progressed, he has become less selfish and less focused on his individual goals. "Things have been going well for me, thank God. I am focused on others much more these days.

The pleasure of winning with Inter Milan was seeing a club which had not won for 50 years winning again." That is what entices me more and more, instead of pursuing individual goals.—*Reuters*

Real Madrid's Jose Mourinho

Ireland goalkeeper Given quits internationals

LONDON, 14 Aug — Ireland goalkeeper Shay Given is retiring from international football after winning a record 125 caps for his country, he said on Monday. "After a lot of thought and consideration, I have made the most difficult decision to retire from international football," the Aston Villa player said on his personal Twitter account. "It's been a great honour and privilege to play and on occasion captain the team," added the 36-year-old. "I wish to thank all the players, managers, staff and most importantly the most wonderful fans in the world."

The Football Association of Ireland confirmed Given's decision on its website (fai.ie), explaining that Given had informed Irish coach Giovanni Trapattoni of his decision. The Italian paid tribute to the former Newcastle United and Manchester City player's 16-year international career. "I understand the difficult decision that Shay had to make, and appreciate all of his efforts during his international career," Trapattoni said. "He is a strong player, with a great character and his love of playing for his country always shone through." It has been a pleasure to work with him during my time with the team. I wish him the very best in his future. Given made his international debut under coach Mick McCarthy in 1996 against Russia and quickly established himself as Ireland's first-choice keeper.

Ireland goalkeeper Shay Given

He played in all his country's games at the 2002 World Cup, when Ireland progressed from a tough group before losing to Spain in the first knockout round. Given's other major tournament appearance was at the 2012 European Championship, part of an Irish side that lost all three group games. Trapattoni, keen to try out younger players as he looks towards the 2014 World Cup qualifying campaign, did not pick Given for this week's friendly against Serbia. According to the website, Given has informed the FAI that he would "happily return to assist with goalkeeping duties" should there ever be any squad emergency. Sunderland's Keiren Westwood, who has 10 international appearances to his name, is widely expected to be Given's successor as the Irish number one.— *Reuters*

Roger Federer

Federer will be ready for cement

CINCINNATI, 14 Aug — Roger Federer would have hoped for more than just the few days of pause he managed after the London Olympic final, but will take what he can get as the world number one prepares for his start on Wednesday at the Cincinnati Masters. The top seed said even his few days away to celebrate his 31st birthday with his wife and twin daughters was worthwhile for recuperation as he lays the groundwork for his final sprint of the abbreviated summer hardcourt season going into the US Open.

"The last few years we always had at least a two, three-week preparation for the hard courts," said the seven-time Wimbledon winner and Olympic silver medallist behind Andy Murray. "But this time we've just had two and a half weeks more on grass, so obviously I don't think the preparation is as good as it's been in the previous years.

Internet

Brazil plans big spending to improve medal haul in 2016

RIO DE JANEIRO, 14 Aug — The host nation of the next Olympics had a mixed outing in London and is hoping that a surge in spending on athletes and facilities will ensure it makes the top 10 medals table in 2016 on home soil in Rio de Janeiro. Brazil won 17 medals in London, two more than its previous best in Beijing, finishing 22nd in the overall count.

However, officials were frustrated after Brazil managed only three golds and at the general shortage of medals in the swimming pool and on the athletics track. The 2016 hosts have decided to focus more on individual events in a bid to win more medals in front of their own fans. "Our goal is to get in the top 10 medals table and to do that we need to keep winning medals in the disciplines we've already won at and also win medals in new areas," said Marcos Vinicius Freire of the Brazilian Olympic Committee (COB).

"When you look at the top 10 countries, one of the things they all have in common is that they all win medals in at least 13 disciplines. We need to win medals in five, six or seven disciplines where we've never won medals in before." Brazil has won medals in nine: volleyball, soccer, basketball, track and field, swimming, show jumping, sailing, judo and taekwondo. In London they won medals in most of those events, plus at a few new ones, such as gymnastics and boxing.— *Reuters*

***A giant banner with an image of "Christ the Redeemer" statue is set up on the Copacabana Beach to celebrate the arrival of the Olympic flag in Rio de Janeiro on 12 Aug, 2012.*— REUTERS**

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(15-8-12 09:30 am ~ 16-8-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* BOT System Precise & Speedy For The People Cooperate Shall We (Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway) (Part-1)
* News
* There's A New Horizon
* News
* "Secret Places for Yummy Food" (Myeik Noodle)
* News
* Unique and Motivating Chap Char Kut Festival
* News
* 12 Sign Ascendants in August 2012
* News
* Space Egg Hands-on Workshop
* News
* Ngapali, Unique Spot To Relax
* News
* Tapestry; A Genuine Myanmar Handicraft
* Myanmar Movie "Happy Birthday"

MYANMAR TV

(15-8-2012) (Wednesday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:15 am
2. Dhamma Puja Song

7:40 am
3. Nice & Sweet Song

7:50 am
4. Health Programme

8:00 am
5. Cultural Dances

8:20 am
6. Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions

8:25 am
7. Teleplay (Traffic)

4:00 pm
8. Martial Song

4:20 pm
9. Dance Of National Races

4:45 pm
10. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:25 pm
11. International Science News

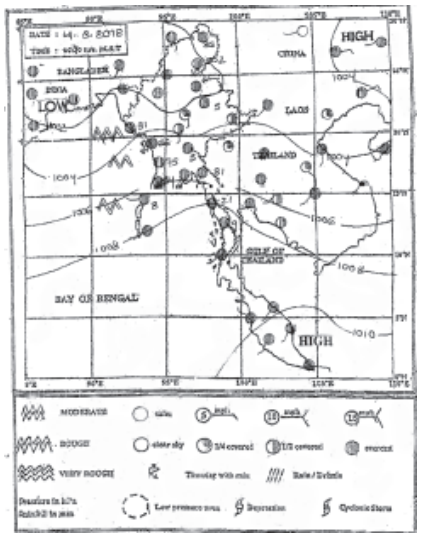
5:50 pm
12. ASEAN "Programmes"

6:30 pm
13. Shwe Yin Chone Than

7:40 pm
14. Alinka Wut Yi Music Troupe

8:00 pm
15. News
16. Korea NG Award
17. TV Drama Series
18. Dramatic Arts Competition (Narration of religious Stories)

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 15th August, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F) Maximum	Minimum	For Tomorrow Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	34/93	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	29/84	20/68	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	26/79	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	24/75	15/59	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	34/93	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	38/100	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Tanintharyi	26/79	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
8	Bago	30/86	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	35/95	24/75	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	25/77	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavyfall	(100%)
12	Yangon	30/86	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	28/82	21/70	Widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavyfall	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	24/75	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	32/90	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	32/90	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	26/79	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	30/86	23/73	One or two rain or thundershower	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	30/86	21/70	One or two rain or thundershower	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershower	(80%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region and Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Scattered in Shan State, fairly widespread in Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Regions, Chin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States and isloated heavy falls in Kachin and Kayin States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Manaung (4.65) inches, Kawkareik (3.90) inches, Kyaikmaraw(3.77) inches,.Mawlamyine (3.42)inches, Putao(3.39) inches and Kyaukpyu (3.27) inches.
Bay Inference	Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and alongMon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere inMyanmar water.
Outlook for sub-	Moderate monsoon.

Li Na, from China, returns to Petra Kvitova, from the Czech Republic, during the final match at the Rogers Cup women's tennis tournament, on 13 Aug , 2012, in Montreal.— INTERNET

Kvitova defeats Li Na for title

MONTREAL, 14 Aug — Winning the women's Rogers Cup was a breakthrough for Petra Kvitova. Not only was it the 22-year-old Czech's first WTA Tour victory of the year, it was also the first of her eight career titles that was won in North America. "I hope it will continue,'' said Kvitova, who said this week she has had trouble winning in North America because the high humidity affects her asthma. ''North America is always tough for me and I'm so glad how I played here this week.'' Kvitova defeated China's Li Na 7-5, 2-6, 6-3 in a 2-hour, 17-minute final on Monday night.

The tournament is also at the start of the hard-court season leading into the US Open at the end of the month. ''It's great,'' said Kvitova, who won six titles last year, including Wimbledon. ''I finally won a title this year. It was a good final, a good fight from both sides.'' The win avenged a loss to Li at Sydney this year and evened their all-time matchup at two victories. ''It was a tough match, this was a tennis war,'' Li said. ''Both players played good. ''She's very tough.

She plays the ball so deep. I felt I was always on defense. The last two matches I felt I could be aggressive on the court, but this one I felt I was 70 percent of the time on defense.''

The match pitted two Grand Slam champions from 2011, as Li took the French Open. Li is 0-3 in tournament finals this year. Kvitova, seeded fifth, struggled at the start, hitting several balls long. She fell behind 3-1 before she found the range with her forehand and charged back to take the lead. Even then, she needed to save three break points to take a 6-5 lead, then won the set on her fifth break point against the 10th-seeded Li. Li took the first 16 points of the second set to grab a 4-0 lead before Kvitova finally held serve. —*Internet*

McIlroy's runaway PGA win ramps up Tiger comparisons

CHARLESTON, South Carolina , 14 Aug — The superlatives are once again being heaped upon Rory McIlroy after the Northern Irishman, for the second time in 15 months, blew away the world's best to win his second major crown. While Tiger Woods failed to add to his career haul of 14 major titles, McIlroy underlined his burgeoning status as the game's most exciting young talent as he romped to victory by a record eight shots in the PGA Championship at Kiawah Island.

Oozing confidence all week, the 23-year-old from Holywood in Northern Ireland reminded golf fans across the globe, as well as his peers, that he is both a man of the people and a player of rare skill. Ever humble with a down-to-earth, almost boyish, approach when dealing with spectators, the media and his rivals on tour, McIlroy is now seen by many as the 'Tiger' of the future. Of course, he and Woods are very different characters. The Northern Irishman is a perpetually smiling golfer who strides the fairways with a swagger and his shoulders back, always completely at home in his environment.

In stark contrast, American Woods has always competed in a cocoon of concentration, never really engaging with fans as he goes about his business with a brooding, steely focus. Already the comparisons are flying but McIlroy's compatriot, 2010 US Open champion Graeme McDowell, believes this is unfair."It's tough to say that Rory is a Tiger Woods-type player," McDowell said after McIlroy stormed to victory at Kiawah Island on Sunday with a closing six-under-par 66 on the longest layout to stage a major championship.

"Tiger Woods is a 'once-in-a-lifetime' type player, and Rory McIlroy is at least a 'once-in-a-decade' type player. "He's that good. I've been saying it for years how good he is. "He showed us at Congressional how good he is, by getting to No 1 in the world this year at the Honda Classic, how good he is, and here we go again." McIlroy clinched his maiden major title by a staggering eight shots in last year's US. Open at Congressional and held off a last-day charge by Woods to become world number one for the first time with a two-shot victory at the Honda Classic in March.

"He's going to be the player that kids look up to, that kids measure their own 'wannabe' games by," said McDowell. "Ten years ago it was Tiger Woods. It still is Tiger Woods to a certain extent, but now we've got superstars like Rory McIlroy for kids to be looking at with the 'double hip snap' or whatever the hell he calls it. He's great for the game and absolute breath of fresh air." *Reuters*

Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland reacts on the 18th green during the final round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at The Ocean Course on Kiawah Island, South Carolina, on 12 Aug, 2012.— REUTERS

A ceremony to honour outstanding students from training schools and centres under Social Welfare Department in 2011-2012 academic year matriculation examination was held at Kyaikwaing Youth Training School of SWD in Yangon on 10 August. U Tun Myint-Daw Aye Aye Nyunt (Excellent Performance in Social Field-Third Class) donate K 200,000 to Director-General U Soe Kyi of SWD.—MYANMA ALIN

Four killed, four injured in central China pileup

YICHANG, (Hubei), 14 Aug—Four people died and four others were injured in a road accident on an expressway in central China's Hubei Province Tuesday morning, local authorities said.

The vehicle pileup occurred at around 8:00 am Tuesday when a truck rear-ended a car and another truck ahead of the car on a section of the Huyu (Shanghai-Chongqing) Expressway in Tujia Autonomous County of Changyang in the city of Yichang, according to the county's traffic police.

Four passengers in the car died at the scene of the accident, and the four people in the two trucks sustained injuries, the police said.

The accident also triggered a fire which has been extinguished.

So far, traffic on the expressway has resumed and the cause of the accident is under investigation. *Xinhua*

Drive Safely

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Speaker requests patience of parliamentarian; row over Union level organization definition to be sent to President

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—Pyithu Hluttaw regular session continued for 26th day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here at 10.10 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, 399 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, and members of Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, and the speakers of Bago Region Hluttaw and Rakhine State Hluttaw as observers.

At today's session, clarification regarding the parliamentary affairs was made, two questions answered, one new proposal submitted and one bill discussed and reported to the Hluttaw.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said he received the proposal to impeach the Chairperson and Members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union on breach of any of the provisions under the constitution as prescribed in Section 334, Sub-section (a) (i) of the constitution and inefficient discharge of duties assigned by law as prescribed in Sub-section (v) of the same section, signed by 301 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives from the Hluttaw Rights Committee for the second time.

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives seen at 26th day regular session. MNA

Despite reluctance to make such impeachment, the Hluttaw speaker would handle requests and duties assigned fairly by the Hluttaw representatives. The Hluttaw representatives would also have the goodwill not lesser than the Speaker. While alternatives, except the impeachment, are being sought, the Hluttaw representatives should exercise patience.

The Speaker said that after informing the attitude of the Hluttaw representatives to the President, he would take action to prevent defamation of the country, the Hluttaw, the impeached person, and the related organizations and persons. His will is to let the President know of the desire and attitude of the Hluttaw representatives and make appropriate actions.

The message would be sent to the President to withdraw a submission, which provoked the case, to the tribunal by the Union Attorney-General on behalf of the President made on 2 February, to urge the chairperson and members of the tribunal to resign at their own wish, and to complete these actions by 21 August. The Speaker informed the Hluttaw of his attitude.

(See page 9)

Miners have no rights to enjoy fixed pension rates like Tatmadawmen as they are not Tatmadawmen

Amyotha Hluttaw regular Session continues for 26th day. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—Amyotha Hluttaw Session continued for 26th day, at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, at 10 am today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 209 MPs.

With respect to the question of U Sai San Min of Shan State Constituency No.3 on **"whether or not retired staff from Namtu Bawdwin who live in Lashio can take out their monthly pensions at Myanma Economic Bank (MEB) in Lashio"** and **"there is a plan to pay fixed salary rates to those staff like those of Tatmadawmen as they have to discharge State's duties like Tatmandawmen"**, Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik replied:

Retired staff from Namtu Bawdwin under No.1 Mining Enterprise could not take out their salaries at MEB (Lashio) as No.1 Mining Enterprise is a State's enterprise. But, account department of No.1 Mining Enterprise transfer pensions for retired staff who apply for taking out their pensions in Lashio to MEB (Lashio) as of July, 2012.

With respect to the second question, all miners have rights to enjoy their salaries in accord with Civil Pension Law and provisions. The miners have no rights to enjoy fixed pension rates like Tatmadawmen as they are not Tatmadawmen.

Regarding the question of Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No.6 on **"whether there is forum with foreign countries that have experience to solve difficulties or challenges that might be faced due to the establishment of ASEAN Free Trade Area in 2015"**, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw replied:

In its bid to implement the emergence of AEC and the establishment of free trade area, Myanmar is holding meetings and discussions in cooperation with the ministries and private organizations.

Promotion of Production and Market competition projects in ASEAN region was drafted in March, 2012. The 15-member work committee led by deputy ministers from respective ministries was formed. To deal with difficulties and challenges that might be faced at a time when AFTA and

(See page 8)

Flood bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug—According to the 12:30 hr M.S.T observations today, the water level of Ngawun River at Ngathainggyoung 1199 cm has exceeded by 69 cm (about 2.3 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 634 cm has exceeded by 34 cm (about 1.1 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 600 cm during the next three days, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced.—*MNA*

Precautionary measures for swollen river

- Pay attention to weather forecasts and warning of flood broadcast daily through TV, radio and FMs. Don't believe rumours.
- Observe locations of buildings free from floods and life-saving hills and high grounds.
- Search the route that quickly reaches safe place.
- Make arrangements for taking indispensable equipment.
- Keep radio, torch light, drinking water, preserved foods and medicines.
- Repair houses to be in a proper structure.
- Note down telephone numbers and addresses for emergency communication with rescue teams and information teams.
- Attend educative courses on danger of floods.
- Participate in rehearsal of precautionary measures for swollen rivers.

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