Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

Volume XX, Number 118 | 14th Waning of Second Waso 1374 ME | Thursday, 16 August, 2012

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

Success would be achieved only when Union ministries set legal framework and Region/State governments supervise respective departmental personnel

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug— Third day session of the second Planning Commission was held at the meeting hall of President Office, at 9.20 am today, attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Union Ministers, the Union Attorney-General, the Union Auditor-General, the chief ministers of Region/State and chairmen of Self-Administrated Division/Zone.

In his speech, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said that the State formed work committee for rural development and poverty alleviation tasks.

(See page 8)

***Chairman of Planning Commission President U Thein Sein delivers an address at 3rd day session of second Planning Commission.*—MNA**

President U Thein Sein receives Thai Defence Minister

***President U Thein Sein receives Thai Defence Minister Air Chief Marshal Sukumpol Suwanatat at Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received a Thai delegation led by Air Chief Marshal Sukumpol Suwanatat, Minister of Defence of Thailand, at the Presidential Palace here at 10 am today.

Also present at the meeting together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min, Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and departmental heads while the Thailand delegation was accompanied by Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Pisanu Suvanajata and Military Attaché Col Prachern Chaiyakit.

President U Thein Sein said that he warmly welcomed the delegation and expressed his belief that the visit of the delegation would support the bilateral security and rule of law.

The Thai Defence Minister said he paid a courtesy call on the President on his first ever visit to Nay Pyi Taw and also conveyed the courtesy from the Prime Minister of Thailand. He also pledged that the visit would strengthen the bilateral friendship and expressed the willingness to carry out tasks for development of the villages on both sides of the Myanmar-Thailand border and to cooperate in fighting the illegal migration and drug issues.

President U Thein Sein expressed thanks for coordination of the Prime Minister of Thailand and the government in the bilateral friendship and cooperation issues. He also said that his visit to industrial zones in Thailand had become the support for the establishment of two industrial zones in Myanmar. It is necessary to bring stability and development to the border and drug cases would be decreased as the two countries have been cooperatiny to carry out the anti-narcotic tasks effectively, he added. He also expressed a plan to establish opium-substitute crop farms and projects at the border area by the two countries when peace prevailed in the areas, he said.

Afterwards, the Thai Defence Minister pledged that the government of Thailand would make earnest efforts for anti-drugs campaign and thanked Myanma for her cooperation.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein expressed his wishes for good health of the King and the Prime Minister of Thailand. —*MNA*

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 16 August, 2012

Town and village plans

Our drive for well-rounded national development calls for speedy designing of town and village plans for urban-rural development covering the task of conserving the environment along with sustainable progress of the country.

Here we need more district roads including village-to-village roads and village-to-town roads, rapid compilation of the number of farmlands, farm workers, abandoned farmlands and land-less villagers, and jobless people and total sown acreage area-wise for effectively addressing the town and village issues.

As for the formation of reliable township administrative bodies for all-round development of villages, grassroots must be empowered to elect proficient and honest persons free from bribery and corruption into these bodies. Willingness is also an important factor for the people of these administrative bodies as their duty extends from economic, education and health concerns and the rule of law in the respective areas up to the task of helping region and state governments do their work well and realize their goals. These local governments on their part must devise their own Municipal Act within the framework of the constitution and arrangements for the local people to prudently choose the competent representatives for their municipal organizations formed under the administrative bodies.

We also need town and village plans for our people-centered system covering the job of ensuring decent living, sufficient electricity in every part of the country, clean water availability in every town and village, safer and better-quality transport networks, sanitation, and job opportunities.

In fact, local governments are responsible for the development of the whole area under their own jurisdiction. So they also must have the effective budget allotment plans and taxation measures as per the constitution and fair and comprehensive aid distribution programs alongside the given plans and actions for successfully translating town and village development plans into action.

Keep the change, conductor!

Akain *Cartoon*

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Thai Defence Minister

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Thai Defence Minister Air Chief Marshal Sukumpol Suwanatat. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Thai Defence Minister Air Chief Marshal Sukumpol Suwanatat at Zeyathiri Beikman, here this afternoon.

Present at the call together with Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services 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 (Air) General Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe of Commander-in-Chief Office and Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Thura Thet Swe. The Thai Defence Minister was accompanied by Adm Roongrat Boonyaratapan, General Nipat Thonglek of Thai Defence Ministry, officials concerned, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pisanu Suvanajata and Military Attaché Col Prachern Chaiyakit.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on promotion of friendly relationship between the two Tatmadaws as well as peace and tranquility of border affairs, cooperation in eradication of producing, planting and distributing of narcotic drugs and cooperation in security along Mekong River.

After the call, they exchanged gifts and posed for a documentary photo.—*MNA*

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom pose for documentary photo.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom at Zeyathiri Beikman here this morning.

Present at the meeting together with Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing were Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe of the Office the Commander-in-Chief and Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Thura Thet Swe. Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom was accompanied by Rear-Admiral Patchara Pumpiched and Captain Kaorop Lamkom from Royal Thai Navy and officials.

Both sides cordially discussed promotion of friendly ties and communications between the two navies, measures for exchange of views on prevention against natural disasters and cooperation for security of territorial waters of the two countries.

After the meeting, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and the Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy exchanged the souvenirs and had a documentary photo taken.

MNA

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

Wildfires rage in West, destroy 60 homes in Washington state

OLYMPIA, (Washington),15 Aug— Firefighters battled wildfires across the West on Tuesday, including a massive out-of-control blaze that has destroyed at least 60 homes and burned more than 28,000 acres between two national forests in Washington state.

Another 400 homes were evacuated in the rolling hills between the northwest Washington towns of Cle Elum and Ellensburg, at the eastern edge of the Cascade Mountains, prompting Governor Christine Gregoire to declare a state of emergency in two counties.

The massive Taylor Bridge Fire was among more than a dozen wildfires burning across the West, which is wilting under a heat wave that has sent temperatures into the triple digits. Together, the fires have burned some 500,000 acres across Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California.

Across the nation, wildfires have consumed roughly 6 million acres (2.4 million hectares) this year, above the 10-year average of 4.9 million acres, according to figures from the National Interagency Fire Centre in Boise, Idaho.

Authorities said the Washington state fire was started on Monday afternoon by workers at a construction site east of Cle Elum, about 75 miles southeast of Seattle.

"We don't know what the actual cause was. We have no indication it was intentional," said Nancy Jones, a spokeswoman for a state emergency response team.

With strong winds and no rain in the area for three weeks, more damage is likely, said Bryan Flint, spokesman for the Department of Natural Resources.—*Reuters*

Flames surround a house on 14 Aug, 2012, on a hillside above Bettas Road near Cle Elum, Wash. Wildland firefighters on-site advised that the house survived the fire. The fast-moving wildfire has burned 60 homes across nearly 40 square miles of central Washington grassland, timber and sagebrush. No injuries have been reported but more than 400 people have been forced to flee. —REUTERS

Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO)'s tsunami-crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant's reactor buildings one to four (L to R) are seen in Fukushima prefecture, in this aerial view photo taken by Kyodo, on 11 March, 2012, the day marking the first anniversary of the earthquake and tsunami that killed thousands and set off a nuclear crisis.—REUTERS

Japan video shows delay in using seawater to cool meltdown reactor

TOKYO, 14 Aug—A Japanese nuclear power company hesitated before using corrosive seawater to cool the No 2 reactor at the stricken Fukushima plant because it hoped it could be used again, video released by the company shows, contradicting official findings.

The Fukushima Daiichi plant, run by Tokyo Electric Power (Tepco), was struck by an earthquake and tsunami on 11 March last year, crippling cooling systems and triggering fuel rod meltdowns and radiation leaks that led to mass evacuations and widespread contamination.

The video, one of dozens of fraught vignettes of officials and plant workers grappling with the world's worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl in 1986, flies in the face of Tepco assertions that executives didn't delay in using seawater.

The grainy video clips, mostly without sound, provide a picture of the chaos that characterized the early phase of the disaster as workers used everything from car batteries to fire hoses to try to bring the reactors under control as radiation levels rose and explosions rocked the site.

"We think using seawater in a hasty way would be wasteful because materials will be corroded," an unidentified company official at Tepco headquarters in Tokyo is heard telling then plant manager Masao Yoshida two days after the quake.

"We don't have the option to use fresh water. That will cause further delays," Yoshida replies, emphasizing there was no time to find enough fresh water to do the job.

They were referring to reactor No 2. Of the three reactors to suffer fuel rod meltdowns, it was the only one managers hoped could be reused. They had already started using seawater to cool reactors Nos 1 and 3.

Reuters

Gunmen kill eight in hail of bullets at Mexico strip bar

MONTERREY, 14 Aug—Gunmen stormed a strip bar in the northern Mexican city of Monterrey late on Monday, killing eight men in a hail of bullets in an attack which bore the hallmarks of organized crime, state security and law enforcement officials said.

Four victims died on site in the Matehuala bar, a well-known drinking and topless dancing venue in the city centre, and four more died later in the hospital, officials said on Tuesday.

Monterrey is Mexico's most affluent city and was long been seen as a model of economic development in Latin America. But it has been ravaged by drug warfare over the last three years.

Nuevo Leon public security spokesman Jorge Domene said six gunmen arrived in three vehicles and entered the bar with guns blazing. Six of the victims were believed to be employees of the bar.

"These are dives, illegal bars where there could be some drug dealing, that's one of our main lines of investigation," Domene told Milenio television. Monterrey is the capital of Nuevo Leon state, which shares a border with Texas.

In May, 49 headless bodies were dumped near the city and 52 people died in an arson attack on a casino in August last year.

Both attacks were blamed on the notorious Zetas drug gang, which is waging a war against rival groups for control of smuggling routes into the United States, the world's biggest market for illicit drugs.—*Reuters*

Road cave-in kills two in NE China

HARBIN, 14 Aug— Two people died from injuries sustained in the fall into a 10-metre-deep pit caused by a road cave-in in northeast China's Harbin city, local authorities said on Wednesday.

The other two who also fell into the pit are still in hospital, but the injuries are not life-threatening, according to officials with the city government.

The cave-in happened on Tuesday afternoon in Liaoyang Street in Nangang District of Harbin, leaving a 10-square-metre and 10-metre deep pit on the road.

A firefighter rescues a child from an accident site after a road collapsed at Liaoyang Street of Harbin City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 14 Aug, 2012. XINHUA

Investigation into the cause of the accident is underway.—*Xinhua*

Iran finds more bodies after quake, public criticism

DUBAI, 15 Aug—Rescue workers in Iran on Tuesday recovered more bodies three days after two powerful earthquakes struck the northwest of the country, killing more than 300 people, but officials played down reports that casualty numbers may still sharply rise.

The quakes, with magnitudes of 6.4 and 6.3, struck East Azerbaijan Province on Saturday afternoon, flattening villages and injuring thousands of people around the towns of Ahar, Varzaghan, and Harees, near the provincial capital Tabriz. A rescue team using sniffer dogs had pulled out the body of a young woman in the village of Sorkhgav, *Fars* news agency reported on Tuesday, and was close to finding others.

Another report, by Iran's *Labour* news agency, said hundreds of villages had suffered severe damage, raising fears that the number of dead could mount sharply as rescuers reach previously inaccessible areas.

However, officials dismissed the idea that the number of fatalities could rise significantly, saying the eventual figure may in fact be lower than current estimates.

"Many figures are based on speculation and have not been documented," Behram Samadi Rad, a provincial coroner, said. "We cannot give a precise figure for the number of dead but we believe it will be under 300." State TV said two people had been found alive under the rubble in a village near the city of Varzaghan on Tuesday.—*Reuters*

Rescue teams and tents are seen in this undated handout photo at an undisclosed village in East Azerbaijan Province in Iran.—REUTERS

At least 25 killed in northwestern Pakistan clash: military

ISLAMABAD, 14 Aug—At least 20 militants and five soldiers were killed when Pakistani forces and a group of militants clashed in northwestern Pakistan on Tuesday, military officials said.

The skirmish, which took place in the Ghaljo area of the northwestern Orakzai tribal region, began when militants ambushed a Pakistani military patrol.

Officials said 18 soldiers were wounded in the ambush.

The death toll could not be independently verified, and militants often dispute official figures.

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

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

Verdict handed down on Submission No. 1/2012 submitted by Attorney-General of the Union on behalf of the President of the Union

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug—*The full bench of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union comprising the Chairperson of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and all members heard the Submission No. 1/2012 at its office at 10 am on 28 March 2012 and handed down the verdict.*

The full text of the verdict is as follows:-

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Constitutional Tribunal
Submission No. 1/2012

The President of the Union	Vs.	1. The Speaker, The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
(On behalf of The President of the Union		2. The Speaker, The Pyithu Hluttaw
The Attorney General of the Union)		3. The Speaker, The Amyotha Hluttaw
(the Applicant)		(the Organization which is entitled to explain)
For the Applicant	-	U Myint Win, Director General, The Office of the Attorney General of the Union
For the Organization which is entitled to explain	-	1. U Mya Nyein, The Deputy Speaker, The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and The Deputy Speaker, The Amyotha Hluttaw
	-	2. U Nanda Kyaw Swa, The Deputy Speaker, The Pyithu Hluttaw

"**Whether the interpretation relating to the Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by each Hluttaw regarded as Union Level Organizations is constitutionality or not.**"

Verdict

Dated: 28 March, 2012

It is to submit to the Constitutional Tribunal for the implementation of the Constitution by the Attorney General of the Union by clear expression since there is no separate definition provided for the term "**Union Level Organizations**" in the Constitution but there is provision in it that the Attorney General of the Union is entitled to form the Organizations of the Union Level and the Level of the Region and State and to appoint the members of those organizations as separation of power on behalf of the President of the Union under the Constitution, and therefore the Constitutional Tribunal is put up this submission to interpret the term in accordance with Section 322 Sub-Section (a) and Section 325 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution.

In the submission, it is stated that there are organizations formed by the Constitution, the organizations formed under the Constitution and the organizations formed by the respective Hluttaws at different levels in accord with the provisions of the Constitution, that in the organizations formed by the Constitution there are the Union Government formed under Section 200, the National Defense and Security Council under Section 201, the Supreme Court of the Union under Section 294, Financial Commission under Section 229 Sub-Section (a), the Constitutional Tribunal under Section 320, the Union Election Commission and the Union Civil Services Board formed by the President under Section 398 and Section 246 of the Constitution respectively. Moreover, there are Civil Services Personnel Organizations of the Union formed by the Union Government in accord with the Constitution under Section 227 which are the Union Ministries, the Office of the Attorney General of the Union and the Office of the Auditor General of the Union. After constituting the respective Hluttaws, it can be seen that the following Bodies may be formed; Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee, Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertaking Vetting Committee formed with representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw under Section 115 Sub-Section (a) and Section 147 Sub-Section (a), that legislature, executive, national races affairs, economics, finance, social and foreign affairs committees formed with the Hluttaw representatives for a limited time under Section 115 Sub-Section (c) and Section 147 Sub-Section (c), if necessary and apart from above mentioned matters, in order to study some other matters, the Commission and Bodies, if necessary, formed with suitable citizens or Hluttaw representatives under Section 118 and Section 150, Joint Committees formed under Section116 and Section 117. The formation and purposes of those Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by the Hluttaw concerned under the Constitution are different. The formation of Union Level Organizations, terms of them, rights and duties are in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution. However, the Committees, Commissions and Bodies in each Hluttaw are formed by Hluttaw concerned and formation, terms, duties, rights and powers of these said organizations are designated by Hluttaw concerned. Furthermore, though rights of the performance under the provisions of Section 77 Sub-Section (c), Section 90, Section 91, Section 97, Section 100 Sub-Section (a), Section 140 and Section 160 are vested in the Union Level Organizations formed by the Constitution, such rights are not vested to the Committees, Commissions and Bodies of each Hluttaw by the Constitution. Thus, the Union Level Organizations formed by the Constitution are different from the Committees, Commissions and Bodies of each Hluttaw in term of significance and their form. However, before this Constitution comes into operation, the State Peace and Development Council separately interpreted the term "Union Level Organization" in the enacted laws as a prior action to implement the Constitution and Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw are also interpreted, but such interpretations in some laws cannot affect any other laws or Constitution and since the term, "Union Level Organization" is included in other laws and the Constitution, there may be limitation in using it.

U Mya Nyein, Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw counterargued on behalf of the Pyidaunsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw that-

The term, "Union Level Organization" in Constitution is mentioned in Section 77 Sub-Section (c), Section 90, Section 92 Sub-Section (b), Section 97 Sub-Section (a) (i), Section 100 Sub-Section (a), Section 101, Section 103 Sub-Section (b) (i), Section 112 Sub-Section (c), Section 138 Sub-Section (a), Section 140, Section 158 Sub-Section (a) and Section 160 of Chapter IV under the heading of Legislature. However, the term, "Union Level Organizations" is not clearly defined, stating which kinds of organization they are. According to Section 453 of the Constitution, **"In the interpretation of expressions contained in this Constitution reference shall be made to the existing Interpretation law".** As it is stated in Section 3 Sub-Section (b) of the Interpretation of Expressions Law **"Any provision of law shall be interpreted in conformity with the intention of the legislative authority which enacted the said law",** in interpreting any law, it must be consistent with the purpose of the Pyiduangsu Hluttaw as legislature. In addition, it should be carried out in accord with Section 4 of the Interpretation of Expressions Law which states that **"In interpreting any provision of Law the proceedings of the law drafting commission or of the legislative authority before enactment of such law the drafts of the law and the statement of objects and reasons for enacting the law may be taken into consideration."** Sections 115 to 118 of the Constitution provided to organize the Committees, Commissions and Bodies of Pyithu Hluttaw and Sections 147 to 150 of the Constitution also mentioned to form committee, Commission and Bodies of Amyotha Hluttaw. Section 118 Sub-Section (b) and Section 150 of the Constitution states that **"In forming the above Commissions and Bodies, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw shall determine the number of members, duties, powers, rights and the terms of the said Commissions and Bodies"**. Likewise, Section 140 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution provides that **"Members of the organization representing any Union Level Body formed under the Constitution are entitled to explain, converse and discuss Bills or matters relating to their Bodies when they are attending sessions of the Committees, Commissions and Bodies of the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the Head of the Committee, Commission or Body concerned."** Section 160 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution also states that the Committee, Commission and Bodies of Amyotha Hluttaw are entitled to attend sessions to discuss as well. The functions relating to the rights, duties and powers of Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw determined by the Constitution and Committee, Commission and Bodies formed by the respective Hluttaw designated under Section 118 Sub-Section (b) and Section 150 of the Constitution respectively are carried out in line with the provisions of Constitution. As Section 74 of the Constitution states that Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw comprise of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, there is no controversial issue whether Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw are of the Union Level Bodies. Speakers and Deputy Speakers elected by Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, Committee, Commission and Bodies formed by Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw and also representatives of each Hluttaw are Union Level Bodies and Union Level Personnel, and not otherwise. Committees, Commissions and Bodies of each Hluttaw are formed with different purposes so their structure and purposes are quite different. There is no limitation for the performance due to the following reasons:

- performing the functions of Legislature, Executive and Judiciary in unison respectively,
- performing the functions by exerting reciprocal control, check and balance among themselves.

The submission that it could cause difficulties is merely an assumption. Preamble of the Section 140 and Section 160 of the Constitution states the usage **"Members of the organizations representing any Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution",** Bodies formed by the Hluttaw under the Constitution are also the Union Level Bodies. It should not be interpreted against the usage **"Any Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution"** under Section 140 and Section 160. If there is a need to amend it, it should be amended in line with the provisions of Sections 433, 434, 435 and 436 of the Constitution. As the laws relating to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw are promulgated by the State Peace and Development Council, it is stated in the preambles of the said laws that those laws were promulgated under Section 443 of the Constitution. Section 443 of the Constitution provides that "The Preparatory work done by the State Peace and Development Council, before this Constitution comes into

(See page 5)

Verdict handed down on Submission...

(from page 4)

operation, to bring the Constitution into operation, shall be deemed to have been carried out in accord with this Constitution. Likewise, Section 445 of the Constitution states that **"All policy guidelines, laws, rules, regulations, notifications and declarations of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and the State Peace and Development Council or actions, rights and responsibilities of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and the State Peace and Development Council shall devolve on the Republic of the Union of Myanmar"**. In addition to the usage of "any Union Level Body formed under the Constitution" in Section 140 and Section 160 of this Constitution, there is an interpretation of "any Union Level Organization" by each Hluttaw respectively. If any change is made to the interpretation, it will also be necessary to make changes to those three laws and they shall be amended by the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. It is obvious that forming joint Committee, Committee, Commission and Bodies is a strong practice as the forming of Committee, Commission could be found under the Constitution 1947 and 1974 of the Union of Myanmar and that kind of forming Committees and Commissions is also an International practice. If it is held that Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, and Amyotha Hluttaw under the Constitution are not Union Level Bodies, it seems that only the narrow sense of the Constitution is taken.

On behalf of Pyithu Hluttaw, Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa reexplained that under the Constitution, in the exercise of the three branches of sovereign power-Legislative, Executive and Judicial. The Constitution also separately provides the functions of each organ of the three branches of sovereign power. Sections 115, 118 and 150 are related to Hluttaw. Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by respective Hluttaw are the organizations formed under the authority conferred by the Constitution. Union Level Organization means Union Level Legislature, Union Level Executive and Union Level Judiciary and they are separately organized by the respective Sections. There is no express provision in the Constitution that National Defence and Security Council, Financial Commission, the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and Union Election Commission mentioned in the submission are Union Level Organizations. The term "Union Level Organizations" is used in the Law relating to Hluttaw and the Law relating to Union Government as it is necessary to designate Bodies which are Union Level Organizations and responsible Bodies of the whole country formed in accord with the Constitution. Therefore, Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by respective Hluttaw became Union Level Organizations. As each body differs in nature, their purposes, powers, duties and terms cannot be the same. Since they are formed by the respective Hluttaw according to their functions, the definition of the term, Union Level Organization will be fully mentioned in the notification of respective Hluttaw in detail. The forming of those Committees, Commissions and Bodies has been already approved. Such matters have been provided in the Section 115, Sub-Section (d), Section 118, Sub-Section (a) and Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution. Although the submission mentioned that the Constitution does not confer the power to the Hluttaw's Committees, Commissions and Bodies, Section 140 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution **"Members of the organization representing any Union Level Body formed under the Constitution are entitled to explain, converse and discuss Bills or matters relating to their Bodies when they are attending sessions of the Committees, Commissions and Bodies of the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the Head of the Committee, Commission or Body concerned."** Likewise, Section 160 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution provides that **"Members representing any Union Level Body formed under the Constitution are entitled to explain, converse and dicuss Bills or matters relating to their Bodies when they are attending sessions of the Committees, Commissions and Bodies of the Amyotha Hluttaw with the permission of the Head of the Committee, Commission or Body concerned."** Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law, Pyithu Hluttaw Law, Amyotha Hluttaw Law are promulgated as the laws to implement the Constitution under the power conferred by Section 443 of the Constitution. Since the term, "Union Level Organization" is mentioned in the Constitution generally, the Administrative Organizations defined by Section 9 of the Union Government Law, Union Level Organization of Hluttaw defined by the Section 2 Sub-Section (f) of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law, Section 2 Sub-Section (h) of the Pyithu Hluttaw Law and the Amyotha Hluttaw Law is not ultra vires of the Constitution. There is no difficulty for the performance due to the following reasons:

- by performing the functions of Legislature, Executive and Judiciary in unison respectively,
- by performing the functions by exerting reciprocal control, check and balance among themselves.

In interpreting any law, it must be consistent with the purpose of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as Legislative authority. Otherwise, such interpretation may disregard the provision of Section 453 of the Constitution. If it is held that Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw under the Constitution do not comprise the Union Level Bodies, the Constitution is interpreted in a narrow sense. Although Section 322 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution was referred to decide 2 issues by the Constitutional Tribunal, it is actually concerned with Section 322 Sub-Section (b). Since it is the wrong submission, there is no need to interpret by the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union under Section 322 Sub-Section (a). Under Section 322 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitution and Section 12 Sub-Section (b) of the Constitutional Tribunal Law, one of the functions and duties of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union is **"vetting whether the laws promulgated by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Region Hluttaw, the State Hluttaw or the Self-Administered Division Leading Body and the Self-Administered Zone Leading Body are in conformity with the Constitution or not."** The laws vetted at present are the Law relating to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw promulgated by the State Peace and Development Council. It is explained that such laws are not enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, so Constitutional Tribunal has no power to vet them and this submission should be rejected from the preliminary stage.

Regarding the submission of the President of the Union, Constitutional Tribunal of the Union shall mainly make decision on the following problem;

"**Whether the interpretation relating to the Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by each Hluttaw regarded as Union Level Organizations is constitutionality or not."**

In analysing the above mentioned issue, the term "Union Level Organization" is defined by Section 2 Sub-Section (f) of the Law relating to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Section 2 Sub-Section (h)of the law relating to Pyithu Hluttaw and Section 2 Sub-Section (h) of the Law relating to Amyotha Hluttaw respectively as follows;

"Union Level Organization means the Union Government, the National Defense and Security Council, the Financial Commission, the Supreme Court of the Union, the Constitutional Tribunal, the Union Election Commission, the Office of the Auditor General of the Union and the Union Civil Services Board formed under the Constitution and the Committee, Commission and body formed by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw."

Although Union Level Organization is defined by the law relating to each Hluttaw as mentioned above, there is no interpretation of the expression Union Level Organization under the Constitution. However, Section 77 Sub-Section (c), Section 90, Section 91, Section 92 Sub-Section (b), Section 97 Sub-Section (a) (i), Section 100 Sub-Section (a), Section 101, Section 103 Sub-Section (b) (i), Section 112 Sub-Section (c), Section 138 Sub-Section (a), Section 140, Section 158 Sub-Section (a), Section 160 and Section 230 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution use the expressions as "any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing any of the Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution".

Therefore, in order to resolve the issues stated in this submission, the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are to be mainly scrutinized.

According to the provisions of the Constitution, the expression "Union Level Organization" is stated in the Chapter IV of the Constitution under the heading of "Legislature". Section 77 Sub-Section (c) of the Constitution, functions of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw provides as follows:

Section 77 (c) The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to invite organizations or persons representing any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution to attend the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session and give clarifications on matters relating to ongoing discussions, if necessary.

As Section 91 of the Constitution also provides the same as mentioned above, Section 112 of the Constitution under the heading of functions of the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw provides as follows:

Section 112 (c) The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw shall have the right to invite members of the organizations or persons representing any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution to attend the Pyithu Hluttaw and give clarifications on matters relating to ongoing discussion of the Pyithu Hluttaw session, if necessary.

Section 144 of the Constitution provides that "The duties of the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw shall be subject to the provisions relating to the functions of the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw under Section 112".

Members of the organizations representing any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution have the right to explain, converse and discuss the Bills and other matters relating to their Bodies when they are attending the respective Hluttaw, if it be the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, if it be the Pyithu Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, if it be the Amyotha Hluttaw with the permission of the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw. These entitlements of the Members representing any Union Level Body formed under the Constitution to explain, converse and discuss at their respective Hluttaw are provided in Sections 90, 140 and 160 of the Constitution respectively. When these provisions are scrutinized, there is no reference that "Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing such Union Level Organizations" are the representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.

The expression "Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" is inserted and provided in provisions relating to submission of Bills under Chapter IV of the Constitution under the heading of Legislature. Section 100 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution provides that **"The Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution shall have the right to submit the Bills relating to matters they administered among the matters included in the Union Legislative List to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures".** In connection with this provision, clearly enumerated matters, from Union Defence and Security Sector to Judicial Sector which can be administered and managed by the various different Ministries can be found in Schedule One of the Union Legislative List. In other words, these legislative lists are that of the lists administered by the executive sector and judicial sector. It has been already provided in Section 96 that "The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall have the right to enact laws related to every bill administered by executive sector and judicial sector".

Section 101 of the Constitution states that "The Bills submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw by the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution, except the Bills that are prescribed in the Constitution to be discussed and resolved exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, are entitled to begin to be discussed at either the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures". The expression, "the Union Level Organizations" mentioned in Section 101 shall also be interpreted in accordance with Section 100 of the Constitution.

Concerning with the submission of the Bills to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw under the Constitution, not only the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution, but also the representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw and representatives of the Amyotha

(See page 6)

Verdict handed down on Submission...

(from page 5)

Hluttaw, except the Bills that are prescribed in the Constitution to be discussed and resolved exclusively at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, are entitled to be discussed at either the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw in accord with the prescribed procedures. It can be clearly seen that the expression, "any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" is not the same with that of the Pyithu Hluttaw or Amyotha Hluttaw or Representative of the Pyithu Hluttaw or that of the Amyotha Hluttaw because of the provisions of Section 138 Sub-Section (a) & (b) and Section 158 Sub-Section (a) & (b) regarding the right to submit the Bills to respective Hluttaw is not only in the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution, but also in the representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

Referring to the above mentioned provisions of the Constitution and in conjunction with contents of the each Section, it should be interpreted that "any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" are not the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw and that of their representatives respectively.

There are two ways of interpreting law. The First one is the method of interpretation of law (The Statute) literally which can be availed by itself. The Second one is the method of interpretation law (The Statute) based on the consideration of those provisions construed with the intention of the drafters.

Moreover, in order to interpret the Constitutions and its sections and provisions, there are certain custom and usages which are to be followed. Among them, to be in line with the intention and attitude of the drafting organization of the Constitution, some of them should be interpreted after considering similar reasons and other related provisions. If any one section or provision is ambiguous and cannot give insight definition, other similar sections and provisions are to be considered for better and clear understanding.

If laws are interpreted in accord with the above mentioned constitutional provisions concerning with the right to explain, converse and discuss the Bills and other matters at Hluttaw and the right to submit the Bill, it can be seen that the expressions "any of the Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing such Union Level Organization" do not have the same meaning as the expression "organization of each Hluttaw and representatives of these Hluttaw."

Formation of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees, Commissions and Bodies and that of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees, Commissions and Bodies are provided separately in Chapter IV of the Constitution under the heading of Legislature. Sections 115 to 118 are concerned with formation of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees, Commissions and Bodies, and Sections 147 to 150 deals with the formation of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees, Commissions and Bodies. It will be necessary to scrutinize whether "any of the Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution" has the same organization as Hluttaw Committees, Commissions and Bodies or not. According to the expressions used in the provisions of the said Chapter, the term, "Union Level Organization" is the organizations formed under the Constitution and it is different from the Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by each Hluttaw. According to the literal interpretation method, Union Level Organization is the organizations formed under the Constitution. Committees, Commissions and Bodies are the Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw respectively under Section 115 and Section 147 of the Constitution. Because of the different nature of formation of the Union Level Organization and that of Hluttaw Committees, Commissions and Bodies, there are distinct and separate definitions of the organizations of each Hluttaw under Section 2 Sub-Section (g) of the Law relating to Pyithu Hluttaw and Section 2 Sub-Section (g) of the Law relating to Amyotha Hluttaw. It can be seen that, though the definition of the organization of Hluttaw has already been defined, Committees, Commissions and Bodies which are the organizations of Hluttaw are placed again under the definition of Union Level Organization under the Laws relating to each Hluttaw.

In the interpretation of the Constitution and its sections together with their essence, as each section or each provision shall be directly and literally interpreted, it shall also be interpreted to be in line with the intention of the drafting organization of the Constitution.

The Interpretation of Expressions Law, 1973 provides such general concepts as follows:

Section 3 (b) **Any provision of law shall be interpreted in conformity with the intention of the legislative authority which enacted the said law.**

In drafting the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, it is necessary to study the historical background of the Myanmar Constitutions in order to get the true intention of the drafting organization of the Constitution. In order to gain independence speedily, the Constitution was hastily drafted, and it was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 24th September 1947. After attaining the independence, Parliamentary Democracy System was practised in the State in accord with the Constitution of the Union of Myanmar.

In 1974, the new Constitution of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Myanmar was drafted based on the single party system after holding a National Referendum. The Constitution came to an end because of the situation that occurred in 1988.

As an enduring Constitution, that guarantees long-term benefits, was essential for the future nation, the State Peace and Development Council convened the National Convention in 1993. Persons who are well experienced in various aspects of politics, sectionurity, administration, economics, social and law took part in the National Convention. And national races representatives of all townships in the Nation also participated in this Convention. The National Convention was able to adopt the basic principles and detailed basic principles for formulating a Constitution. The Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (2008) was adopted in accord with the basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.

These basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention are the intention of the drafter of the Constitution. One of the significant provisions of the Basic Principles of the Union is Section 11 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution which reads as follows:

Section 11 (a) **The three branches of sovereign power namely, legislative power, executive power and judicial power are separated, to the extent possible, and exert reciprocal control, check and balance among themselves.**

Hence, interpreting in line with the basic principles of the National Convention, Chapter IV of Constitution under the heading of Legislature provides the formation, designation of their duties, legislation, submission of Bill of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw in order to exercise their legislative power. In such heading of Legislature, the expression, "Union Level Organization" formed under Constitution is separately mentioned to differentiate between each Hluttaw which is as a legislative body and Committee, Commission and Bodies formed by the respective Hluttaw.

Regarding the detailed basic principles to be laid down for sharing of legislative power to be included in drafting the State Constitution, the clarification of U Aung Toe, Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee should also be considered.

There is also the provision of Section 4 of the Interpretation of Expressions Law, 1973 which reads as follows:-

Section 4 **In interpreting any provision of law, the proceedings of the law drafting commission or of the legislative authority before enactment of such law the drafts of the law and the statement of objects and reasons for enacting the law may be taken into consideration.**

Among the clarification delivered by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, the expression, "Union Level Organization" formed under the Constitution is as follows:-

"Included in the detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention are the matters that must be carried out by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. When the President submits the matters concerning the amendment of the Union boundary, the amendment of the boundaries of regions or states, the number of ministries and ministers, to designate of the number of members of the Union Level Organizations to be formed under the Constitution, these matters shall be discussed and decided at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.[1]"

According to the clarification delivered by the Chairman, "Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons of such organizations" are the organizations or persons appointed by the President of the Union with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Moreover, the clarification delivered by the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee can also be seen as follows:-

"Thus, in enacting a law, and the authority to issue rules, regulations and bylaws concerning that law should be vested in the Union Level authorities, formed under the new Constitution. The authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures should be entrusted to the representative organizations and administrative authorities.[2]"

Section 97 Sub-Section (a)(i) & (ii) of the Constitution is provided in accord with the above mentioned clarification. According to this clarification, any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution is not the same organization of Hluttaw formed under the respective Hluttaw concerned and it is the Union Level Organization appointed by the President of the Union with the approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

It is obviously stated that any of "the Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution" and "the members or persons representing any Union Level Organizations under the Constitution" is not the same Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by each Hluttaw.

What the Attorney General of the Union on behalf of the President of the Union submitted is an application for the interpretation of the expressions contained in the Constitution, namely "any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing any of such Union Level Organization";

It is not an application to provide the interpretation of the expression "Union Level Organization" contained in the laws relating to the each Hluttaw enacted by the State Peace and Development Council in accord with Section 443 of the Constitution.

Whether the definitions given under the laws relating to Hluttaw are constitutionality or not is the main issue to resolve. Therefore, it is not necessary to review the provisions contained in Section 443 and Section 445 of the Constitution.

Similarly, it is not necessary to repeal or amend the provisions of Section 140 and Section 160 because it is clearly stipulated in the very first sentences of the Section 140 and Section 160 of the Constitution that the phrase "Members of the organization representing any Union Level Body formed under the Constitution" are Union Level Organizations.

The submission made by the President of the Union is not to interpret the clauses contained in the respective existing laws relating to each Hluttaw, but to interpret the expression of the Constitution "Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution".

The provision of Section 3 Sub-Section (b) of the Interpretation of Expressions Law, 1973 is as follows:

(See page 7)

1 Clarification address by U Aung Toe, Chairman, National Convention Convening Work Committee on The Legislation concerning the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and Region or State Hluttaws, P.-11,35(36).
2 Ibid, P. 20.

Verdict handed down on Submission...

(from page 6)

Any provision of law shall be interpreted in conformity with the intention of the legislative authority which enacted the said law.

According to the submission, the provisions contained in the Constitution have to be interpreted and but not the provisions contained in any other existing laws. The authority which ratified and promulgated the Constitution is not the present Pyidaungsu Hluttaw which is entitled to legislate. This Constitution shall only have to be interpreted in accord with the basic principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention.

Taking in consideration what have been discussed, according to the interpretation made in connection with each section of the Constitution contained in the Chapter IV of the Constitution under the heading of Legislature, "any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing any of the Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution" are "the Union Level Organizations or persons appointed by the President with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by each Hluttaw having separate sub-headings in the same Chapter IV of the Constitution under the heading of Legislature, are the organizations of Hluttaw.

Therefore, it could be interpreted that "any of the Union Level Organizations formed under the Constitution" and "organizations or persons representing any of the Union Level Organization formed under the Constitution" mentioned under Section 77 Sub-Section (c), Section 90, Section 91, Section 92 Sub-Section (b), Section 97 Sub-Section (a)(i), Section 100 Sub-Section (a), Section 101, Section 103 Sub-Section (b)(i), Section 112 Sub-Section (c), Section 138 Sub-Section (a), Section 140, Section 158 Sub-Section (a), Section 160 and Section 230 Sub-Section (a) of the Constitution are "the Union Level Organizations or persons appointed by the President with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."

For all these above reasons, the submission of the President is allowed and this Constitutional Tribunal answered this issue as follows: -

"The interpretation relating to the Committees, Commissions and Bodies formed by each Hluttaw regarded as Union Level Organizations is unconstitutionality".

****

xxxxx
(Thein Soe)
Chairman

xxxxx
(Khin Hla Myint)
Member

xxxxx
(Dr Tin Aung Aye)
Member

xxxxx
(Tun Kyi)
Member

xxxxx
(Soe Thein)
Member

xxxxx
(Khin Tun)
Member

xxxxx
(Hsan Myint)
Member

xxxxx
(Myint Kyaing)
Member

xxxxx
(Mi Mi Yi)
Member

UEC Chairman receives foreign guests

***Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye receives Director Mr Desaix Myers of US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Senior Electoral Advisor Mr Peter Erben from International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES).*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug— Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye received Director Mr Desaix Myers of US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Senior Electoral Advisor Mr Peter Erben from International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) and party at the UEC chairman's guest hall of the Union Election Commission Office here at 1 pm today.

Present at the meeting together with UEC Chairman U Tin Aye were members of UEC U Myint Naing, U Aung Myint, U Win Kyi and Secretary U Win Ko.

At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on experiences of international electoral systems, cooperation programmes for knowledge dissemination on Myanma electoral systems.

MNA

New building of BEPS Branch handed over

PYU, 15 Aug—A ceremony to hand over the land plot Basic Education Primary School (Branch) and furniture to Education Department was held at the new school building in Zeekhon Village of Meikthalin Village-tract in Kanyutkwin Region of Pyu Township in Bago Region on 1 August.

After the ceremony, wellwisher of the school building U Myint Htay, wellwisher U Aung Myint and Project Director U Tun Myint of TZTM Co donated K 100,000 each and furniture and Education Promotion Committee, five desks.—*Myanma Alin*

Information for anti-human trafficking

Nowadays, the government is accelerating its tasks in taking preventive measures against trafficking in person.

In so doing, telephone numbers are announced as the connections with authorities concerned for enabling the people to actively participate in taking the anti-human trafficking measures.

These telephone numbers are 067-412555 and 067-412666 in Nay Pyi Taw, 09-49555666 in Muse, 09-49555777 in Mandalay and 09-49555888 and 09-49555999 in Yangon.

District News

Agricultural loans disbursed to local farmers in YeU

YEU, 15 Aug—Myanma Agricultural Development Bank Branch in YeU Township of Sagaing Region disbursed loans to local farmers for cultivation of crops in 2012 rainy season.

The bank has so far disbursed loans to 8135 farmers from 46 village-tracts of the township.

Myanma Alin

Health knowledge disseminated to people in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 15 Aug— Tachilek District Health Department of Shan State held the talks about health knowledge at its office on 25 July morning.

At first, Deputy Commissioner U Thet Lwin of District General Administration Department made a speech. Head of District Health Department Dr Saw Lwin talked about malaria-like fever and HFM virus, Pediatrician Dr Moe Kyaw prevention against DHF and effectiveness of Abate medicine and Shan State malaria disease controller U Aung Pe on outbreak of malaria in Shan State (East) and its reduction.—*Myanma Alin*

Citizenship scrutiny cards issued in Nyaunglebin

NYAUNGLEBIN, 15 Aug— Head of Nyaunglebin Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Tun Tun of Bago Region and staff held the ceremony to present citizenship scrutiny cards to the local people at the office of Pyuntada Myoma 2 Ward on 29 July.

An official presented 265 cards to Ward 2 Administrator U Soe Tint for the local people.

Myanma Alin

OUTSTANDING STUDENT HONOURED: ***Headmistress Daw Than Than Aye of Basic Education High School in Htantabin Township of Yangon Region presented trophy to Ma Myinzu Aye who won five distinctions in 2011-2012 matriculation examination.*—MYANMA ALIN**

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham makes discussion.—MNA

matters related to general matters.

In his concluding speech, Chairman of Planning Commission President U Thein Sein said that Region/State Chief Ministers and the Union Ministries discussed implementation of urban and rural development projects for ensuring systematic economic development and people's daily existences.

In summary, he said that the first requirement was to have multifaceted plan and to draft the plan with the help of local and foreign experts if it can not be drafted with experts from departments.

The second requirement was that advices were to be taken from departments, townselders, people, scholars and associations and Hluttaw representatives after drafted plan has been publicized. When master plan came out, it needed to get comments on whether sector-wise plans were in conformity with laws, by means of implementing current project that can make yearly projects change significantly by 2015.

It needs to implement urban infrastructures with yearly short-term plan based on the availability of State's Budget, tax, revenues, foreign loans and local and foreign investment.

For future growing population, it needs to implement vertical and horizontal extension of urban with long-term plan. While making implementations with current plan, it needs to divide long-term master plan into residential zone for wards, industrial zones for extended industries and investment and commercial zone. And priority should be given to these zones, car parking, recreation center and public transportation and local circular trains, which is the current need for people, investment and job opportunities.

In making practical efforts, region level departments of respective ministries for Yangon and Mandalay cities must be reorganized under supervision of Region/State governments. As the Union ministries directly control both the policy and the staff, there are difficulties to take measures for urban development collectively with added momentum. The success would be achieved only when the Union ministries set the legal framework and the Region/State governments supervise the respective departmental personnel.

In dealing with the public, there are many land and property ownership issues. Lands and property, except those under committees directly formed by the government, in the compound of the ministries would be transferred to urbanization projects proposed by Region/State governments to the Planning Commission.

As the land and property management is complex, the region/state governments should not manage without acquiring remarks of the respective Union ministries which govern the laws and rules and should apply for the use of the land and property to the Union government with those remarks.

As there were problems facing the public derived from lack of information of allotment of lands for investments, extensive construction of religious edifices and filling stations by the township authorities, the region/state governments should enforce rules and regulations regarding the land and property strictly in accord with the legal framework set by the Union ministries. Previous issues must be reviewed and settled systematically and unresolved cases must be informed.

The government formed Land Allotment Scrutiny Committee which is planning to draft laws and rules as soon as possible as these are important for urbanization projects.

One issue was the lack of prior urbanization plan causing delay in land allotment for foreign investors.

As the order had been issued that land allotment for foreign investments must be commensurate with the urbanization plan, the region/state governments must comment on whether the investment site is suited with the urbanization plan, whether it will harm the socio-economy of the people, whether it will spoil the environment, and whether it will contribute to the generation of job opportunities and regional economic development. The comments should be made in light of the field survey, rather than the unconfirmed report of township level officials.

The reports from everywhere were heard that it took time and money of the people dealing with a number of offices. Foreign countries open combined offices to provide one-stop services to the people. Yangon Region and Mandalay Region governments and Union ministries must make plans to open region level offices at the government-owned buildings in Yangon and Mandalay for providing one-stop services to the people. Only when commerce, customs, banking and port processes could be completed in a region or township level combined office and passport, visa, oversea, information corps, immigration affairs could be done in a township level combined office, will the people overcome difficulties facing them today and will the Good Governance and Clean Government be ensured.

In conclusion, the Union ministries and the region/state governments are to coordinate the policies adopted by the commission in detail and report to the next commission meeting.

The meeting came to an end in the evening.

MNA

Success would be achieved only when...

(from page 1)

Now, it turned one year. The tasks have achieved success to a certain extent. In its effort to implement rural development and poverty alleviation tasks, supervision and policy matters were being undertaken by Central Committee and respective work committee, implementation of tasks by Regions and States and literal assistances by Union Ministries.

In reviewing work implementation submitted by Regions and States, it could be seen that there were a mixed presentations of regular works being undertaken by the Union Ministries and rural development undertakings, by regions and states. The Vice-President discussed sector-wise reviews on rural development and poverty alleviation data.

After that, Union Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Ohn Myint, U Thein Htaik, U Khin Maung Myint, Lt-Gen Thein Htay, Thura U Myint Maung, U Thein Nyunt, U Zaw Min, U Aung Kyi, U Nyan Tun Aung and U Thein Tun discussed the matters related to implementations that should be given priority for rural development and poverty alleviation projects, community-based job opportunities and quick win businesses with the help of foreign grant/loan. The meeting was adjourned at noon.

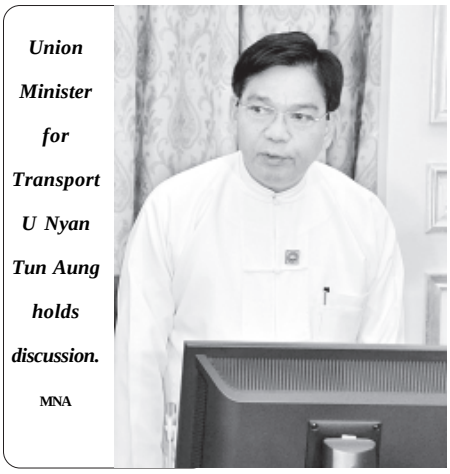
The meeting resumed at 1.15 pm. It was attended by President U Thein Sein, Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, the Union Ministers, the Union Attorney-General, the Union Auditor-General, the Region/State Chief Ministers and the chairmen of Self-Administrated Division/Zones.

At the meeting, Union Ministers U Than Htay, U Khin Yi, U Aye Myint, U Khin Maung Soe, U Tint Hsan, U Tin Naing Thein, U Hla Tun, Dr Pe Thet Khin and U Soe Thein discussed the implementations that should be given priority for rural development and poverty alleviation projects, community-based job opportunities and quick win businesses with the help of foreign grant/loan. After that, those present submitted policies and procedures of Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Home Affairs, admin departments, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Ministry of Finance and Revenue, Ministries of Education, Health and Rail Transportation. It needed to get green light to implement the plan after the comments were submitted to Planning Commission.

After getting the approval of Planning Commission, it needs to be described in short- and long term regional projects and yearly regional projects. Then, it need to sent to Hluttaw and seek the approval of Hluttaw.

As practical implementation is enormous and long,

It needs to handle accommodation, danger of fire, lack of city characteristics, electricity and water supply shortages and transportation



Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung holds discussion. MNA

Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint in discussion.—MNA

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin makes discussion.—MNA

Vice-President elected to fill vacant…

(from page 16)

Navy 1196, Admiral Nyan Tun for the Vice-President post in accordance with the President, Vice-Presidents Election Rule 24, Sub-section (b) and sent the nomination to the Speaker on 27, July, 2012, he added.

In accordance with the President, Vice-Presidents Election Rule 26, a committee was formed to scrutinize the qualifications for the President, and in accordance with the Rule 27 and 28, works on scrutinizing the qualifications of the nominee was carried out and completed on 13, August, 2012 the Speaker said.

The scrutiny committee made a decision that Admiral Nyan Tun who was elected by the Defence Services Personnel Group for the vacant Vice-President possesses the qualifications prescribed in Section 3 of the President and Vice-Presidents Election Law and the Section 59 of the State Constitution and the committee had put the decision on record, the Speaker said.

Afterwards, the Speaker declared that Navy 1196, Admiral Nyan Tun elected by the Defence Services Personnel Group was the Vice-President to fill the vacant Vice-President.

Afterwards, Vice-President U Nyan Tun was sworn in as Vice-President in accordance with the Section 65 of the State Constitution and Section 37 of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law in the presence of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The meeting ended at 10.15 am. The fourth regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue for ninth day at 1 pm tomorrow.

MNA

***Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives seen at eighth day fourth regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.*—MNA**

NGOs play a key role in handling…

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhein Constituency makes discussion.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw representative Daw Nan Sae Ohwa of Hpa-an Constituency holds discussion.

MNA

(from page 16)

Natural Disaster Risk Management Bill approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw.

U Ye Tun of Hsipaw Constituency, U Tun Aung Kyaw of Ponnagyun Constituency, U Mahn Maung Maung Nyan of Pantanaw Constituency, Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhein Constituency, U Khaing Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency, Daw Nan Sae Ohwa of Hpa-an Constituency, Dr Zaw Myint Maung of Kyaukpadaung Constituency, Daw Phyu Phyu Thin of Mingala Taungnyunt Constituency and Daw Khin Thanda of TadaU Constituency discussed the proposal submitted by U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency on 30 July "**urging the Union government to draft Non-Governmental Organization registration law commensurate with the age as the President called for cooperation with civil societies in democratic transition**". They discussed that there are many associations formed by wellwishers and volunteers for welfare of their own regions, humanitarian groups and religious associations. There are also environmental conservation, human resources development, education aid and natural disaster prevention groups.

Government organizations could well function with NGOs in cyclone Nargis, cyclone Giri and Rakhine State incidents. The aids of NGOs have made distinct contribution in these efforts. The Section 354 (c) of the constitution allows "to form associations and organizations" if not contrary to the laws. It takes three to six months to apply for registration by non-governmental civil societies. The groups which will render welfare assistances with goodwill could be allowed to register as official organizations without facing delay.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker requested the Home Affairs Ministry and the Union Attorney-General Office to send existing NGO registration law, bylaws, rules and regulations, orders and directives to the Hluttaw Office by 16 August for more effective consideration in discussing the proposal.

Today's meeting came to an end at 3.50 pm and the session continues for 28th day at 16 August.

MNA

Corrigendum

Please read Section 334 (a) (ii) in 12th line at 4th paragraph of 4th column on page 9 in the news of Pyithu Hluttaw instead of Section 334 (d) (ii) in the New Light of Myanmar Daily on 15 August.

MNA

Speed of service doubled for ADSL Internet…

(from page 16)

U Sai San Min of Shan State Constituency No. 3 asked **whether ADSL Internet system will be improved in Lashio meeting international standard or whether line fee and premium for ADSL Internet will be collected**. Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Win Than replied that there are over 120 ADSL Internet users in Lashio through 4xE1 (8Mbps). Present 4xE1 link was substituted with FE (100Mbps) link on 1-8-2012.

Speed of service is doubled as trial without changing fee in the proper uplink transmission places of Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay as of 15 July. At present, the 256kbps of users were improved to 512 kbps, 512kbps to 1Mbps, 1Mbps to 1.5 Mbps in Lashio as of 1 August. High speed services will be given to the users in remaining townships after extending transmission bandwidth step by step. Detailed calculation is being carried out for decreasing the ADSL fee.

U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 6, U Nu of Yangon Region Constituency No. 10, U Ohn Tin of Rakhine State Constituency No. 10 and U Maung Aye Tun of Rakhine State Constituency No. 9 discussed matters related to the Bill on Board of Examinations 2012 sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendment.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker decided that Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee is to re-hear the discussions of the Hluttaw representatives on the bill.

Next, U Nu of Yangon Region Constituency No. 10, U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 6, U Ohn Tin of Rakhine State Constituency No. 10 and Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No. 7 discussed matters related to 2012 Basic Education Bill sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendment.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker decided that Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee is to re-hear the discussions of the Hluttaw representatives on the bill.

U Thein Win of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 9, U Khet Htein Nan of Kachin State Constituency No. 1, U Tin Maung Win of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 3, U Thein Hlaing of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 8, U Win Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 2 and U Aung Cho Oo of Bago Region Constituency No. 11 discussed the report of Amyotha Hluttaw Mines and Resources Committee.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw decided that the committee is to re-compile the report in cooperation with the Hluttaw representatives who participated in the discussions and to carry out the tasks if necessary.

Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw National Planning Committee U Zaw Myint Pe submitted a proposal **urging the Union government to consider the proposal of National Development Plan and its 15 main points and calling for drawing of a National Comprehensive Development Plan**. A Hluttaw representative seconded the proposal.

The Hluttaw approved it.

Today's session of the Amyotha Hluttaw came to an end at 3.55 pm and the 18th day session will be held at 10 am on 16 August.

Chairman of National Planning Affairs Committee U Zaw Myint Pe puts forwards proposal.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Thien Win of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 9 making discussion.

MNA

Today, session, two questions were answered, two bills discussed, one report discussed and one new proposal submitted and approved.—*MNA*

U Min Lwin presents his Credentials to Indonesian President

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug—U Min Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Indonesia, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia on 7 August 2012 in Jakarta.—*MNA*

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Hluttaw committee chairmen, Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann addresses meeting with Chairmen of the committees and Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 August— Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann held a meeting with Chairmen of the committees of Pyithu Hluttaw and Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission at Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Complex here at 10.50 am today.

He said in his speech that it is the Hluttaw that carries out the main duty on legal affairs; that the Hluttaw's committees have been formed to review laws laid down so as to protect the nation and civilians and to be flexible practically; that the commissions have also been formed with the Hluttaw representatives including departmental experienced officers (Rtd), those law officers who served in the supreme court and Attorney-General's Office, professors of universities, heads of departments, faculty members and those from practical fields; that the committees of the Hluttaw need the commission's suggestion so their performances could be in line with the law, and to implement their tasks with check and balance system and ensure the rule of law in the country; that the country has never practised democracy system before following absence of such parliamentary system; that Hluttaw representatives need not to have party attachment, dogmatism, localism , racism, religionism and personality cult for sound foundation of the Hluttaws ; that any Hluttaw representatives have a chance to raise any questions they wish; and that for ensuring the ability of the Hluttaw, its undertakings need to be lawful.

Afterwards, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Chairman of the Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission U Nanda Kyaw Swa gave supplementary reports on undertakings of the commission, and followed reports presented by the commission members respectively.

Those present participated in the discussions.

Then, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw gave a concluding remarks reviewing the reports.

The today's meeting was intended to carry out matters related to drawing bills and review the laws laid down as soon as possible.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives delegation of American Chamber of Commerce

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug— A delegation of 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 called on Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, at Zabuthiri Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw in the Hluttaw Complex here at 9 am today.

Also present at the call together with Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann were chairpersons, secretaries and members of Pyithu Hluttaw committees and the members of the Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and head of Singapore-based companies of Southeast Asia.

During the meeting, the two sides openly discussed matters related to business, economy, health, information technology sectors and cooperation in high-tech sector.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek James Mitchell, US Ambassador to Singapore Mr David Adelman and the American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore.—MNA

Symposium on neglected tropical diseases 25 Aug

NAY PYI TAW,15 Aug—The Microbiology Society, under the aegis of the Myanmar Medical Association, will hold a symposium on "Neglected Tropical Diseases" from 9 am to 12 noon on 25th August (Saturday) at the MMA Auditorium A, Theinbyu Road.

Speakers include Professor Kyi Kyi Thinn (Microbiology), Professor Ne Win (Medicine) and Rector Professor Nay Soe Maung (Public Health). All those interested may register at the Department of Microbiology, Universities of Medicine 1, 2 and Defence Services Medical Academy during office hours or on-site on the day of the symposium.

MNA

Diplomatic relations established between Myanmar and Luxembourg

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug— The Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, desirous of establishing friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of International Law in accordance with the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations and on Consular Relations, established diplomatic relations at Ambassadorial level with effect from 31 July 2012.

The Joint Communiqué on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg was signed by the Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Belgium and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in Brussels on 31 July 2012.

Myanmar has been making efforts to expand diplomatic relations with countries all over the world and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has become the 107th country with which Myanmar has established diplomatic relations.

MNA

Ambassador appointment agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Aug— The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of H E Mr Damien Cole as the non-resident Ambassador of Ireland to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

H E Mr Damien Cole was born in December 1966. He obtained Bachelor of Arts (English & History) at the University College of Cork. He joined the Department of Foreign Affairs as a Third Secretary on 9 October 1995 and served in various capacities at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland and at diplomatic mission in Moscow and Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations in New York. Since August 2011, he has been serving as the Ambassador of Ireland to Vietnam and concurrently accredited to Cambodia and Laos.

He will concurrently serve as the Ambassador of Ireland to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Hanoi, Vietnam. He is married with two children.

MNA

UN starts food airdrops in South Sudan for Sudan refugees

JUBA, 15 Aug—The United Nations said on Tuesday it had started airdrops to deliver emergency food to a camp in South Sudan packed with people fleeing fighting on the Sudan side of the joint border. Fighting broke out between the Sudanese army and rebels of the SPLM-North in South Kordofan state around the time of South Sudan's independence in July 2011. It then spread to nearby Blue Nile state in September.

Sudan accuses South Sudan of supporting the SPLM-North, which says it is marginalized in the Arab country. The South denies any links to the rebels, but some Western diplomats say they find Khartoum's claims credible.

The United States and aid groups have warned there is a risk of famine in both states, especially in areas held by rebels. More than 170,000 people have fled to South Sudan, where they stay in crowded makeshift camps near the border, the UN World Food Programme said. "As we speak, we've started an airdrop operation into Maban (camp). The planes have started flying today from Gambella, Ethiopia, with food dropping into Maban," Chris Nikoi, country head of WFP in South Sudan, told *Reuters* in Juba.

He said food was running short in the camp due to a new influx of refugees from Blue Nile state, where some 120,000 people have fled since the outbreak of the fighting.

Reaching refugees was difficult as many parts of South Sudan are not accessible by road during the summer rain season. "They have arrived in very poor nutritional condition. The children need nutritional support to quickly boost up their resistance to opportunistic diseases," Nikoi said.

***Boxes and sacks of food are unloaded from a UN helicopter in Pibor on 12 Jan, 2012.*—REUTERS**

South Sudan is one of the least developed countries in the world after a decades-long civil war with Khartoum, which ended with a 2005 peace agreement. The WFP is already delivering food to around 1.7 million South Sudanese without counting the refugees. Sudan has agreed to allow aid into rebel-held areas on its territory, but UN officials say they are still in talks over how to deliver food. Khartoum insists on supervising any food deliveries.

Reuters

Rescuers find two bodies in Ugandan copter wreck

NAIROBI, 15 Aug—Rescuers have spotted the bodies of two Ugandan military airmen at the wreckage of one of three attack helicopters that came down high on the slopes of Mount Kenya on Sunday, a mountain rescue leader said on Tuesday.

The three Ugandan *Mi-24* helicopter gunships disappeared from radar screens as they navigated around the southern edge of Mount Kenya in bad weather on their way to reinforce African troops battling Islamist militants in Somalia.

Uganda said early indications were the weather was to blame and that an enquiry into the incident would be launched.

"The helicopter is badly damaged and an operation is underway to recover the bodies. One body has been flung clear of the cockpit, the other is still trapped inside," Simon Gitau, senior warden at the Mount Kenya National Park and a mountain rescue leader, said.

Ugandan troops form the backbone of an African Union (AU) peace keeping force (AMISOM) battling Somali rebels aligned with al-Qaeda. Kampala was sending the four helicopters to Mogadishu to add to its firepower there, AMISOM spokesman Ali Houmed said.

***A Somalia-bound Ugandan attack helicopter is pictured at Mount Kenya, on 13 Aug, 2012. Uganda said on Monday the pilot and four crew of the helicopter that made an emergency landing in Kenya had been rescued but two other gunships and ten crew members were still missing in the same area.* —INTERNET**

The AU force is preparing for a planned assault on the al Shabaab stronghold of Kismayu, the nerve centre of the militants' southern operation during a five year insurgency to overthrow the Western-backed Somali government.

Rescue teams found the first of the stricken Russian-made attack helicopters on Monday and airlifted its seven-strong crew from the mountain's forested slopes after the pilot put out a distress call following an emergency landing.

Uganda's army spokesman Felix Kulayigye said on Tuesday there had been 14 crew flying in the two other helicopters.—*Reuters*

India's PM forecasts GDP growth over 6.5 percent this year

NEW DELHI, 15 Aug—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh forecast economic growth of more than 6.5 percent for this fiscal year on Wednesday, a more optimistic take than a recent spate of private projections that saw growth slowing to as low as 5.5 percent.

"Last year our GDP grew by 6.5 percent. This year we hope to do a little better," Singh said in his annual Independence Day speech, promising that faster infrastructure development would boost growth.

"Recently we have taken new measures to accelerate infrastructure development. Ambitious targets have been fixed in roads, airports, railways, electricity generation and coal production," he said in his speech from Delhi's Red Fort.

***India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh speaks during the 'Hindustan Times Leadership Summit 2010' in New Delhi on 20 Nov, 2010.* REUTERS**

Last week, global ratings agency Moody's became the latest organization to lower its growth forecast for India, predicting an expansion of 5.5 percent in fiscal 2012/13. That would be India's lowest growth in a decade.

Singh accepted the economy was going through a difficult phase and blamed the global financial crisis and domestic politics. He likened the economy to national security in terms of priorities and called on political parties to help the government pass key reforms to boost growth and investment.—*Reuters*

British government bids for post-Olympic tourism boost

LONDON, 15 Aug—The British government on Tuesday said it hopes the London 2012 Olympics would give a boost to tourism to the country, particularly from China.

Addressing tourism industry leaders in London, British Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt said the British government was hoping to create a lasting tourism legacy from the Olympic games.

The British government has set out a strategy focusing on attracting visitors from China. It said there is potential to triple the number of Chinese tourists to Britain to 500,000 a year, which could generate more than 500 million pounds (784 million US dollars) in extra spending and create more than 14,000 jobs in Britain.

About 150,000 Chinese tourists came to Britain last year. The number of Chinese visitors to France, in the meantime, were some 50 percent higher.—*Xinhua*

Rousseff remains popular despite Brazil's sluggish economy

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 Aug—President Dilma Rousseff continues to enjoy high approval ratings as Brazilians remain mostly unaffected by the country's recent economic slowdown, according to a poll released on Tuesday.

Rousseff's centre-left government was described as "excellent" or "good" by 62 percent of those surveyed in a poll by Datafolha, a research institute associated with the Folha de S Paulo, one of the country's biggest newspapers. The rating declined only two points from a Datafolha poll in April and the drop remains within the poll's margin of error.

The high ratings for Rousseff come despite the fact that Brazil's economy, which had grown by as much as 7.5 percent as recently as 2010, slowed to a near halt for the past year. A weekly Central Bank survey released on Monday predicted Latin America's largest economy will grow by less than 1.81 percent this year.

But voters' wallets, analysts say, remain unaffected, in part because of tax breaks, lower interest rates and other government measures to spur consumer demand.

"The approval remains high because the population still hasn't perceived the effects of the economic crisis," said Mauro Francisco Paulino, Datafolha's director. In particular, he added, the slowdown has yet to erode the purchasing power of low-income Brazilians, the largest part of the electorate and the main base of support for Rousseff's Workers' Party.

Recent surveys by other pollsters gauged similar support, also linked to consumer confidence.

Reuters

***(R-L) Brazil's Esquiva Falcao Florentino Men's Middle (75kg) boxing silver medallist, Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes, Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff, Brazilian Olympic Committee President Carlos Arthur Nuzman and Yamaguchi Falcao Florentino, Men's Light Heavy (81kg) boxing bronze medallist pose behind the Olympic flag, after the London 2012 Olympic Games, in Brasilia on 14 Aug, 2012.*—REUTERS**

Singapore gov't to keep close watch on inflation: Deputy PM

SINGAPORE, 15 Aug— Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Tharman Shanmugaratnam, said that the government will continue to keep a close watch on inflation and is prepared to introduce additional measures if necessary, aiming at curb rising cost and help the lower-income group. He made that statement in a written reply to the Parliament. The ministry of finance said on its website that Singapore's 5. 3 percent CPI—All items inflation in June includes imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation. If the figure, which is a statistical concept but has no cash impact on households, was excluded, the inflation was 4.4 percent. "We expect this to moderate towards the end of the year," the ministry added.

For food inflation alone, which is the most crucial figure for households costs, the inflation actually eased to 2.4 percent in Q2. The ministry raised some measures that the government has done to curb the rising cost, including providing affordable goods and cheaper alternatives for more citizens, as well as subsidies for low-income households.

As for high prices for houses and transport costs, Tharman said the government will continue to monitor the situation of the property market and invest heavily in improving public transport. In addition, the Monetary of Singapore (MAS) has continued to implement a calibrated tightening of monetary policy through appreciation of the Singapore dollar to help curb imported and demand-led inflation. MAS will review its monetary policy stance again in October, Tharman added.—*Xinhua*

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

1. Myanma Port Authority is planning to implement the port and port related development projects at the designated areas. Therefore interested Tenderers are cordially invited to submit complete project proposals for the following projects:-
   (a) Upgrading and Renovation of Sule No (1),(2),(3) and (4) wharves as a multipurpose terminal to be accommodated international general/container cargo vessels which shall include, but not limited to, renovations and strengthening of wharves structures, installation of cargo handling equipments, construction port related facilities at the back-up area.
   (b) Expansion of back-up area of Botataung foreshore by constructing revetment and reclamation for implementation of the recreational and commercial buildings at the premises.
2. The Tender Forms together with the Tender terms and conditions will be purchased by the investors, companies or their legal representatives.
3. Tender Form for the item 1(a) can be purchased with 200 FEC and for item 1(b) with 100 FEC at Account Department, Ground Floor of Myanma Port Authority Head Office, No (10), Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon during office hours on 23-8-2012 and 24-8-2012,

Detailed information can be inquired at 01-253358, 01-387116(Ext.303)

Myanma Port Authority

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (113)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (113) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIA INNOVATOR VOY NO (1)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIA INNOVATOR VOY NO (1) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.8.2012 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: SEALS CO LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (013)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERKUR BRIDGE VOY NO (013) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (104)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TURTLE BAY VOY NO (104) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (054)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (054) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 ORIENT OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

***Japan's Isuzu Motors is to spend 30 billion yen ($382 million) to build new factories in China and India to tap rising demand for pickup trucks in the fast-growing markets, according to a report.*—INTERNET**

Japan's Isuzu plans China, India truck plants

TOKYO, 15 Aug— Japan's Isuzu Motors will spend 30 billion yen ($382 million) to build new factories in China and India to tap rising demand for pickup trucks in the fast-growing markets, a report said on Tuesday.

The new plants will together produce about 200,000 trucks a year, boosting Isuzu's annual pickup capacity by about 50 percent to 600,000 by 2015, the *Nikkei* business daily reported without citing sources.

In China, Isuzu will build a factory in the southeastern city of Nanchang with local automaker Jiangling Motors Group, the *Nikkei* report said.

The new facility will be able to produce 100,000 vehicles annually, it said.

Isuzu's planned factory near the southern Indian city of Chennai will also churn out about 100,000 pickups a year, it added. Isuzu could not be immediately reached to comment on the report.

The factories are aimed at not only building Isuzu's brand in the two Asian nations, but also to expand its production base after the company's facilities in Thailand were hit by record flooding last year, the report said.

Internet

CAUTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our client, **Home Box Office, Inc.,** a Delaware Corporation of the address **1100 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036, United States of America** (which shall include its predecessors-in-title, sister concerns, wholly owned subsidiaries, joint ventures and affiliates) is the proprietor in several countries around the world including Myanmar of the following trade marks:

HBO family — 4/1884/2006 (17-3-2006)

HBO HiTS — 4/1885/2006 (17-3-2006)

HBO signature — 4/1886/2006(20-3-2006)

in relation to the following services in International Class 41:

"education and entertainment services, namely, cable televisionprogramming services, premium or pay television programming servicesandtelevision programming services; inter-activeonline services, namely, providing information and graphic images via a global computer network".

HOME BOX OFFICE
Reg Nos. 2151/1993 & 2152/1993

HBO
Reg Nos. 2153/1993 & 2154/1993

CINEMAX
Reg No. 2743/1996

Used in respect of "Motion pictures, films and video-cassettes" in International Class 9; and "Entertainment services, namely, cable television programming services, premium or pay television programming services, and television programming distribution services" in International Class 41.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT OUR CLIENT CLAIMS ALL RIGHTS IN RESPECT OF THE AFORESAID TRADE MARKS IN MYANMAR AND WILL INITIATE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST ANY PERSON OR PERSONS FOUND TO BE USING THE AFORESAID TRADE MARKS OR ANY OTHER TRADE MARKS DECEPTIVELY OR CONFUSINGLY SIMILAR THERETO WHICH IS IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF OUR CLIENT.

U Than Maung, Advocate
Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
1508-1509, 15TH Floor Sakura Tower
Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
For **Home Box Office, Inc.**
By their Attorneys **Lall & Sethi Advocates**
D-17, South Extension Part-II,
New Delhi – 110049, India
E-mail: info@IndiaIP.com

16 August 2012

Rooftop farms flourish in space-starved Hong Kong

HONG KONG,15 Aug— On the rooftop of a tower block above the hustle and bustle of teeming Hong Kong, dedicated growers tend to their organic crops in a vegetable garden.

Against a backdrop of skyscrapers and jungle-clad hills, earth-filled boxes are spread out on the roof of the 14-storey building, where a wide variety of produce including cucumbers and potatoes are cultivated.

It is one of several such sites that have sprung up in Hong Kong's concrete jungle, as the appetite for organic produce grows and people seek ways to escape one of the most densely populated places on earth.

"I am happier eating what I grow rather than food I buy from supermarkets," said Melanie Lam, a 28-year-old nurse, who comes to the "City Farm" in the Quarry Bay district of Hong Kong's main island about twice a week.

"Compared to vegetables from the supermarket, vegetables that I plant are sweeter and fresher. It gives me a greater sense of satisfaction."

Internet

***Osbert Lam, the owner of City Farm, holds a pumpkin he just harvested at his organic farm on the rooftop of a tower block in Hong Kong.*—INTERNET**

Vegas chimp in custody after 2nd escape

Las Vegas police said they captured a chimpanzee that escaped from her owners for the second time in a month.

Police said CJ the chimpanzee escaped from her enclosure at a home in the northwestern part of the city 11 Aug afternoon and officers responded around 4:50 pm to set up a containment area, the Las *Vegas Sun* reported on Monday.

Officers were able to use tranquilizer darts provided by North Las Vegas Animal Control to capture the primate around 5:30 pm near her home.

Police said CJ and her mate previously escaped 12 July and police were forced to shoot and kill the mate before CJ was recaptured. The chimp was returned to her owners, who improved the security on her enclosure.

Police said CJ will not be returned to her home this time. The chimp was taken to Southern Nevada Zoological-Botanical Park while Clark County Animal Control investigates.

***Researchers examine the internal anatomy of the largest python found to date in Florida in this still image captured from video at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, Florida on 10 August, 2012 and released on 14 Aug, 2012.—*REUTERS**

Giant python sets Florida record for size, fertility

A python found in Florida set records as the largest such snake ever captured in the state at 17-feet, 7-inches and the most prolific reproducer carrying a record load of 87 eggs, according to researchers.

The previous Florida record setters were a 16-foot, 8-inch python and 85 eggs. "It was huge," said Paul Ramey, spokesman for the Florida Natural History Museum at the University of Florida in Gainesville. To perform the necropsy, researchers "had to put three tables together and it took at least four people to pick it up and get it on the tables," Ramey said.

Pythons are native to Southeast Asia. The snake was captured in April in the Everglades National Park by researchers studying the impact of the pythons on native species. The eggs were discovered on Friday, university researchers said in a statement.

Ramey said pythons, which have no natural predators in Florida, became established in the state in 2000. Previous studies determined that Florida has the world's worst invasive reptile and amphibian problem, he said.

News Album

French vineyard declared historic

The French government has declared a 190-year-old vineyard, which has seven grape varieties not grown elsewhere, a historic monument.

The Pedebernade vineyard in the village of Sarragachies in southwest France is the first living thing classified as a historic monument, Britain's *The Daily Telegraph* reported. The Pedebernade family believes the vines to be at least 190 years old, meaning they are among the few to survive the phylloxera disease, which wiped out most French vineyards in the late 19th century. Their survival is thought to be because of the sandiness of the soil, preventing the disease from attacking the roots.

Olivier Bourdet-Pees, head of Plaimont wine cooperative, which campaigned for the designation, said this type of listing used to be restricted to stones.

"It's quite simply an exceptional site. It's not just the age of the vines, but also the extraordinary number of grape varieties. Above all there are seven grapes that are completely unknown and exist nowhere else on the planet. They have completely disappeared. We don't even know their names," he said. Eight generations of the Pedebernade family have tended the 600 plants in a small plot, but because of the 20 variety of grapes, no wine is made from the harvest, the *Telegraph* reported. They are sent to a local wine cooperative where they are blended with grapes from other vineyards.

Richard Burton diary chronicles Taylor infatuation

LOS ANGELES, 15 Aug—Previously unpublished extracts from the diary of iconic Welsh actor Richard Burton have revealed his "aching" love for screen siren Elizabeth Taylor, whom he married twice. Passages from the journal, which will be published in full in October, expose a sensitive side to the notoriously hard-drinking actor.

***US actress Elizabeth Taylor and her husband, Welsh actor Richard Burton in Oxford, in 1966. Previously unpublished extracts from the diary of Burton have revealed his "aching" love for screen siren Taylor, whom he married twice.—*INTERNET**

"She has turned me into a model man but not a prig, she is a wildly exciting lover-mistress, she is shy and witty, she is nobody's fool," he said of Taylor in extracts published on Tuesday. "She is a brilliant actress... she can be arrogant and wilful, she is clement and loving." "She is Sunday's child, she can tolerate my impossibilities and my drunkenness, she is an ache in the stomach when I am away from her and she loves me. And I shall love her for ever." In another entry from November 1968 he describes Taylor as "beautiful beyond the dreams of pornography". The couple met on the set of Cleopatra in 1961 but their relationship finally broke down with their second divorce in 1976.

The diaries have been edited by Swansea University professor Christopher Williams, who was given the diaries by Burton's widow, Sally. "The words reveal somebody who is reflective and thoughtful and someone who engaged intellectually with the world around him," said Williams. "It's not just the ale-and-women kind of image," he explained.—*Internet*

***This 10 Jan, 2006 file photo shows bounty hunter Duane "Dog" Chapman star of the Hawaii-based reality show, "Dog the Bounty Hunter," on Waikiki Beach, in Honolulu.—*INTERNET**

'Dog' Chapman denied UK visa because of conviction

HONOLULU, 15 Aug—Duane "Dog" hapman has his bags packed for London, but a murder conviction from the late 1970s is keeping him out of the United Kingdom.

The reality television star from the show "Dog the Bounty Hunter" was to appear on another reality show, "Celebrity Big Brother," but he has been denied a visa.

"It's something that follows you the rest of your life, no matter who you become or who you are," Chapman, 59, said on Monday from Honolulu, where he lives. "I'm not proud of it."

He was 23 in Pampa, Texas, in 1976 when he was in a car outside a house where a friend had gone inside to buy marijuana, he explained. The friend got into an argument with the dealer and shot him.

"In Texas in the '70s, if you were present, you were just as guilty," Chapman said. He and the others in the group were all found guilty of murder. Chapman was sentenced to five years in prison and was paroled after 18 months.

"I shouldn't have went and I shouldn't have been the person I was back then," he said. But he's frustrated that it's keeping him from visiting his fans in the UK. "It feels terrible. I'm dumbfounded. I can't believe it, after all these years, especially when we've been on television for the past nine years."

While he's been denied a visa to visit the UK in the past, his temporary worker visa application notes he has traveled outside the United States, including to Mexico, where he went to capture serial rapist and fugitive Andrew Luster in 2003.

Internet

Olympics most-watched US TV event ever: NBC

NEW YORK, 15 Aug—The London Olympics had more viewers than any other event in US television history, broadcaster NBC said. Despite being widely lambasted for its scheduling choices, NBC's coverage proved a massive hit.

With 219.4 million American viewers on NBCUniversal networks, it set the record as the most-watched event in US television history, surpassing the 2008 Beijing Olympics (215 million), according to data from Nielsen.

NBC, which had sole rights in the United States, broadcast 5,535 hours of the games across its channels, far more than the nearly 2,000 hours aired from Beijing.

"The London Olympics was a wonderful 17 days for NBCUniversal, exceeding all our expectations in viewership, digital consumption and revenue," Steve Burke, the CEO of NBCUniversal, said in a statement Monday.—*Internet*

***People eat as coverage of the London 2012 Olympics is shown on a television screen at a fast-food restaurant on 2 August.* INTERNET**

Fans flock to Graceland in memory of Elvis Presley

MEMPHIS, 15 Aug—Fans of Elvis Presley are flocking to his Graceland estate for Thursday's 35th anniversary of his death, and their enthusiasm for the king of rock 'n' roll is undiminished by the years. Organizers of the annual Elvis Week expect this year's edition to be the largest ever, with his widow Priscilla and daughter Lisa Marie Presley participating.

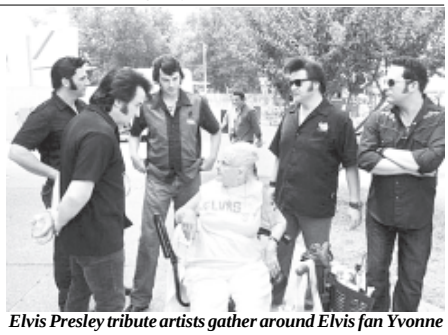
"Elvis is fan-driven," said Joe Guercio, Presley's musical director from 1970 until the star's sudden death on 16 August, 1977 at the age of 42, "and there are not a lot of people (in show business) who are fan-driven."

Actually nine days long, Elvis Week started in Memphis last Friday, centered around a 1,200-seat air conditioned tent across Elvis Presley Boulevard from Graceland and next to the preserved remains of the singer's private jet.

Highlights include an all-night candlelight vigil on Wednesday at Graceland's gates, where fans this year will have the option of lighting real wax candles or switching on virtual candles on a special Elvis Week smartphone app.

On Thursday, a concert at a downtown stadium — featuring Priscilla and Lisa Marie, as well as surviving members of Presley's band — will review the legend's roots in blues, gospel and country music. Folded into Elvis Week is the sixth annual Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest — never, ever call them impersonators — with contestants from as far afield as Australia and Japan. "I always look like this, minus some of the make up — but the hair is always the same, sideburns and everything," immaculately coifed Rick Huntress, an award-winning Elvis tribute artist from New England, said.

Tuesday saw hundreds of Elvis fan club presidents get the lowdown from Elvis Presley Enterprises, which closely oversees the rights to Presley's posthumous image, on his enduring legacy in film, commercials and merchandising.—*Internet*



***Elvis Presley tribute artists gather around Elvis fan Yvonne Robertson during Elvis Week at Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee. This year's Elvis Week marks the 35th anniversary of the death of the King of Rock and Roll, and organizers expect it will be the largest ever.—*INTERNET**

Soccer-Maradona wants China job

TOKYO, 15 Aug — Argentine soccer great Diego Maradona has underlined his desire to coach in China after arriving in the country for an eight-day charity trip, local media reported. The 51-year-old, Argentina's head coach at the 2010 World Cup, was sacked by United Arab Emirates club Al Wasl last month but appears keen on a job in the Far East.

"I would like to coach in China," Maradona told a news conference in Beijing, the *China Daily* reported. "I wish to contribute to the development of China's youth soccer."One of Maradona's coterie of agents had sounded out the Chinese earlier this year with a view of eventually landing the national team job, the newspaper said.

Argentine soccer great Diego Maradona. **INTERNET**

During his visit, Maradona, who led his country to the 1986 World Cup as a player and is regarded as one of the game's greatest ever, will holds talks with Chinese FA boss Wei Di. A controversial figure who has suffered serious health issues and overcome drug addiction, Maradona was fired as Argentina coach after losing 4-0 to Germany in the quarter-finals of the 2010 tournament.

Chinese soccer has seen an influx of big-name foreign players and coaches, including Sergio Batista, the man who took over the Argentina job from Maradona, now coach of Shanghai Shenhua.The big-spending Chinese Super League club boast former Chelsea strikers Nicolas Anelka and Didier Drogba, while other clubs have also been splashing the cash.Shanghai's rivals Guangzhou Evergrande appointed Italy's former World Cup winning coach Marcello Lippi.— *Reuters*

***Venus Williams of the US reacts after missing her shot against Maria Kirilenko of Russia during their first round match in the 2012 Cincinnati Open tennis tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio, on 14 Aug, 2012.*— REUTERS**

Venus shows growing strength to beat Kirilenko

MASON, 15 Aug — Venus Williams showed almost a year after her health scare that she has the stamina needed as she battled for two hours 23 minutes to beat Russia's Maria Kirilenko 6-3, 6-7, 6-2 at the Cincinnati Open on Tuesday.

Sister Serena, fresh from her Olympic gold medal success in London, ground out a 6-3, 6-4 win over determined Greek Eleni Daniilidou.

Venus served for the match twice in the second set, when up 5-4 and 6-5, but Kirilenko, the 12th seed, fought well to push the first-round contest into a third set.

The American was on top throughout the decider, though, showing no signs of the physical ailments which cut short her campaign in the US Open last year.

The seven-times grand slam singles champion pulled out of last year's US Open citing an auto-immune disease, Sjogren's Syndrome, which causes fatigue and joint pain. "I'm doing a lot better than this time last year," Williams told reporters.

"So much better. So much better than a couple months of ago as well. I also am learning to deal with everything a lot better."

If I wake up and I don't feel great, then I would panic and lose my match 2 1. I had a few 2 1's this year, too, but I had to take those losses in order learn and get better.

"Now I realize that I just kind of hang in there if I'm not having the best day and still try to get the win."

Williams had to skip the Australian Open in January and her comeback did not begin in earnest until she reached the quarter-finals at Miami in March.

Not that Williams is out of the woods yet. She continues to work with her medical team to reduce the impact of the disease. "I'm trying different things all the time," she said.

Reuters

England's Walcott out of Italy friendly, Lampard captain

LONDON, 15 Aug— Arsenal winger Theo Walcott has been ruled out of England's friendly against Euro 2012 runners-up Italy on Wednesday because of a bruised thigh. "Walcott ... was unable to train fully so has returned to his club as a precaution," the Football Association said on its website (www.thefa.com) on Tuesday.

England coach Roy Hodgson confirmed the injury was not serious. "He had the same as Alex. Unfortunately Alex turned his ankle and Theo took a kick on his thigh, and we were hoping a couple of days would see him right, but unfortunately he couldn't." Frank Lampard will captain England, who lost to Italy on penalties in the Euro 2012 quarter-finals. "We missed him during the Euros," Hodgson said. "If you have players of Frank Lampard's quality, it is a great pity if they are injured."

***Chelsea midfielder Frank Lampard.*—INTERNET**

The Chelsea midfielder will lead a young, experimental side in Berne against the Azzurri, and Lampard said he was looking forward to the challenge. "It's a very exciting squad," Lampard told reporters. "The manager's picked a very intelligent squad, brought in some young players to give them some experience."The manager only had two months to work with the players [before the European Championship], so this is a great get-together for us, a chance to look to build. The last thing we want to do is lose ground early on in the [World Cup] qualifying campaign.

***Arsenal winger Theo Walcott.*—INTERNET**

Asked about reaching a landmark 100 appearances with the national team, Lampard said: "To be honest it's not something that's completely on my agenda. I'm sure I won't get any favours from the manager, and rightly so. "It's an ambition to stay in the squad; if I can continue to help them all the way to Brazil, I'll be very happy to do so."

Reuters

Roddick hurts back in first round exit at Cincinnati

MASON, 15 Aug— Andy Roddick's US Open preparations took a turn for the worst on Tuesday when he suffered a back injury in a 7-6, 6-3 first round defeat by France's Jeremy Chardy at the Cincinnati Open. Chardy, who took his place in the first round as a 'luck loser', triumphed 7-4 in a first set tie-break but Roddick struggled in the second set during which he had treatment for back spasms.

After receiving attention, Roddick's serve was noticeably slower and he was broken twice by the Frenchman who is ranked 38th in the world. Tournament wins in Atlanta and Eastbourne had indicated an upturn in form for Roddick but now he has to see whether he will be fit to play at Winston-Salem next week or hold himself back for the Open. "I don't know yet. You know, we're going to have to figure this thing out. I don't have all the answers for it yet," Roddick said after his loss.

Andy Roddick of the US serves to Jeremy Chardy of France during their first round match in the 2012 Cincinnati Open tennis tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio, on 14 Aug, 2012. **REUTERS**

The back injury came when the American went for a low shot, he said. "I felt fine early on, and then I had one lunge forehand and, we have all had it, your back kind of goes out or spasms a little bit," Roddick explained. "It got progressively worse. In a perfect world I'd love to play next week. I feel like I'd benefit from that. That's what we're going to try to do," he said, adding he would evaluate the situation in three days. Chardy will take on Russia's Denis Istomin in the second round.— *Reuters*

La Liga begins on schedule but TV dispute unsolved

MADRID, 15 Aug— The 2012-13 La Liga season will begin on schedule this weekend following an emergency meeting between disgruntled clubs and the professional soccer league (LFP) to discuss a TV rights dispute. Officials from a group of 13 clubs said on Tuesday the issues had not been resolved at the LFP assembly in Madrid. But progress was made and the presence of secretary of state for sport Miguel Cardenal had helped calm the situation.

"We discussed issues to do with the league, with governance and with television broadcasts," LFP president Jose Luis Astiazaran told reporters. "There will be games this weekend that will start at the scheduled time." The 13 first division sides are angry that broadcasters Canal+ and Mediapro have failed to settle a dispute over TV rights ownership. The clubs say this has created "a situation of serious legal insecurity" and had threatened to postpone the season's start.

"There will have to be a solution but it won't be ready tomorrow," Miguel Guillen, president of Real Betis, told the club's radio station after the LFP meeting. "It was an extremely important step forward that the secretary of state is perfectly aware of the issues to be addressed."

Reuters

Kompany says Van Persie would improve City

LONDON, 15 Aug — Manchester City captain Vincent Kompany has no doubt the arrival of want-away Arsenal striker Robin van Persie would make the English Premier League champions a stronger side. With just days to go until the start of the new season, Arsenal's reported £20 million asking price for the striker, who scored a mammoth 37 goals last term, has yet to be met.

Manchester United appear to be leading the chasing pack for the Gunners captain but City skipper Kompany said the 29-year-old van Persie would be more than welcome at Eastlands. "It's very easy to say you want to play next to Robin van Persie," Kompany told Sky Sports News. "He's a great player. He's proved it so many times last season and any team he would play for he'd make it stronger."

Van Persie made his only pre-season appearance for Arsenal on Sunday against Cologne.The Dutchman, whose contract expires at the end of the 2012-13 season, was booed by some Gunners fans when he came off the bench, but Arsenal centre-back Thomas Vermaelen was optimistic the star striker would stay with the north London club.

"To me he looks fit and sharp in training," Vermaelen said. "He's working hard. He's working on his fitness. I don't see anything (different) and I hope he stays the next four years as well." I don't know what happens behind the scenes but at the moment I can only say he's a player for Arsenal. "I feel really positive for the new season. If we all stay fit, the squad is strong enough to compete for the title."— *Internet*

***Manchester City captain Vincent Kompany has no doubt the arrival of want-away Arsenal striker Robin van Persie, pictured in June 2012, would make the English Premier League champions a stronger side.*— INTERNET**

International Sports

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(16-8-12 09:30 am ~ 17-8-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Mogok The Colorful Land of Rubies
* News
* Applied Myanmar Traditional Martial Art (Part-I)
* News
* Genius Fashion
* News
* Youth & Volunteer Service
* News
* The Workshop On Curriculum Development and Pedagogy
* News
* Evergreen Classical Music (Part-3)
* Park Royal Yangon's Bridal Show 2012 (Press Conference)
* News
* A Highland with Peace and Charm
* News
* News Tid-Bits
* Myanmar Movie "The Concealed Love"

MYANMAR TV

(16-8-2012) (Thursday)

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

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am
3. Nice & Sweet Song

8:10 am
4. Dance of National Races

8:15 am
5. Dance Variety

8:30 am
6. Documentary

4:00 pm
7. Martial Song

4:10 pm
8. Musical Programme

4:25 pm
9. Cute Little Dancers

4:35 pm
10. Dhamma Sekka Thutta Reciting Competition (3rd Prize Winner) (Hmawbi) (B-E-H-S-1)

5:10 pm
11. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:40 pm
12. Teleplay (Health)

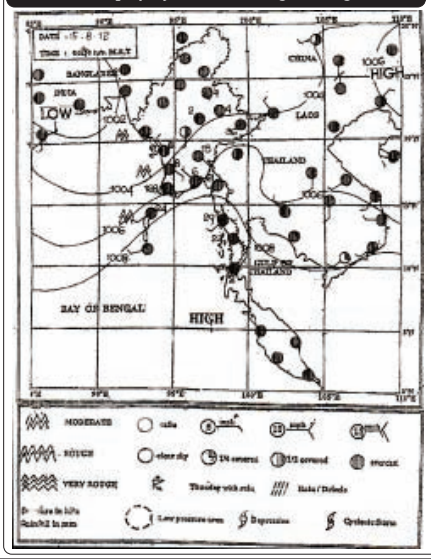
5:50 pm
13. Science and Environment

6:20 pm
14. Myanmar Series

6:40 pm
15. Approaching Science Discovery World

8:00 pm
16. News
17. Documentary
18. TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 16th August, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	33/91	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
2	Kayah	30/86	21/70	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	29/84	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	23/73	17/63	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	33/91	26/79	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	37/99	27/81	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Tanintharyi	27/81	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavy falls	(100%)
8	Bago	31/88	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavy falls	(100%)
9	Magway	37/99	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	27/81	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	26/79	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavy falls	(100%)
12	Yangon	29/84	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	29/84	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavy falls	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	32/90	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	27/81	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers with isolated heavy falls	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	32/90	25/77	One or two rain or thundershower	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	29/84	23/73	One or two rain or thundershower	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	27/81	Isolated rain or thundershower	(80%)
Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today		During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Sagaing and Bago Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Ayeyawady Region and Mon State and isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagaing Region and Rakhine State. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Pathein (6.62) inches, Myaungmya (4.13), YeU (4.02) inches, Gwa (3.94) inches, Kyeikmaraw (3.46) inches, Kyaikkhami (3.35) inches and Pyapon (3.31) inches.			
Bay Inference		Monsoon is generally strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.			
State of the Sea		Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.			
Outlook for subsequent two days		Continuation of rain in Central Myanmar areas.			

CSC ISSUED: ***Head of Pobbathiri Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Bo Wan and staff made preparation for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards at the administrative office of Phyokkhwe Village in Pobbathiri Township on 6 August. Officials issue cards to the eligible people.—*** **KYEMON**

Overspeed express driver faces one-month ban

MANDALAY, 15 Aug— With the aim of ensuring traffic safety on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, Mandalay Region Bus-line Supervisory Committee (highway) adopts discipline for express buses not to exceed 100 km per hour.

On 14 July, U Han Nay Oo, driver of 8H/… express bus of Shwesin Sekkya transport service drove his bus with 120 km per hour at mile post 328. So, members of Expressway Police Station and engineers of Public Works checked the bus and took action against him under one-month licence ban.

Kyemon

Kvitova also fights weather in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, 15 Aug — Former Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitova remains committed to joining the women's elite with the quiet Czech hoping to follow up Monday's title in Canada at the ATP-WTA Cincinnati Masters.

The fourth seed arrived early on Tuesday after beating 2011 French Open winner Li Na Of China in a battle of former Grand Slam champions to claim the crown in Montreal, her first title of the season.

After a bye, Kvitova will open in Cincinnati against German Mona Barthel, who already has a match under her belt from the first round.Kvitova looks upon this final major tune-up prior to the start of the US open as a chance to keep up the improvement on North American hardcourts."I need to be positive.

In the past I didn't have a great result here," said the 22-year-old. "Finally I have won (a title). I hope that it will be continuing in this pre-US Open period and in the US Open."

Kvitova, who had been bothered by breathing difficulties, said her allergies were fine in the chill of Montreal and that she is now hoping for the best in what should be American Midwest summer heat.

"Here it's more humid, so I will see how is it goes," she said. "I'll try my best and try to fight not only with the opponent, but with my asthma also."

Internet

Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic poses with the winner's trophy after defeating Li Na of China in the single's final of the Rogers Cup on 13 August. **INTERNET**

Jamie Donaldson of Britain watches his tee shot on the 16th hole during the second round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at The Ocean Course on Kiawah Island, South Carolina, on 10 Aug, 2012. **REUTERS**

Britain's Donaldson considers playing PGA Tour in 2013

LONDON, 15 Aug — Invigorated by his first top-10 finish in a major at last week's PGA Championship, Britain's Jamie Donaldson says he is contemplating switching his focus from the European Tour to the US circuit next year. The Welshman is competing in his fourth PGA Tour event on US soil at this week's Wyndham Championship in Greensboro, North Carolina, having earned his spot by tying for seventh place at Kiawah Island on Sunday."I'd love to (play full-time on the US PGA Tour)," Donaldson told reporters on Tuesday while preparing for Thursday's opening round at Sedgefield Country Club.

"I'll probably go to the (tour) school at the end of the year." We'll see how we go, see what happens before then. There are lots of different things that might happen to make me go or make me not go, so we'll wait and see. But that's the plan, yeah."Donaldson, who overcame wind and rain to win his first European Tour title in last month's Irish Open at Royal Portrush, has been encouraged by fellow Britons Ian Poulter and Justin Rose to make the move across the Atlantic."They've been over here for a while ... and they just rave on about it all the time, saying it's just great over here; the lifestyle is fantastic; the golf is fantastic," said the 36-year-old from Pontypridd.

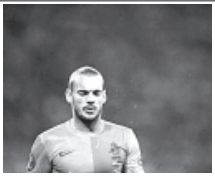
"They've got a lot of positive things to say about America, the tour, the country. I love it over here. It's a fantastic place to live. So when it finally happens, we'll take it from there and look forward to it."Donaldson said a final decision on whether to give the PGA Tour a chance would depend on his young family."We'll wait and see what they want to do and how they want to do things," said the Welshman, whose son Max was born earlier this year. "We'll take it just one week at a time and see what happens." This week, Donaldson plans to make the most of his unexpected spot at the Wyndham Championship.

Reuters

Van Gaal appoints Sneijder as new captain

ZEIST, 15 Aug — Holland's freshly appointed coach Luis Van Gaal has named Inter Milan's Wesley Sneijder as his new captain for Wednesday's friendly against Belgium and for the upcoming World Cup qualification campaign, he said onTuesday. The 28-year-old who won the 2010 Champions League under Jose Mourinho before helping Holland to the World Cup final in South Africa counts 87 caps and 24 goals to his name and takes over from previous captain Mark Van Bommel, who is not included in Van Gaal's latest squad.

He made his international debut in 2003 as a 19-year-old whilst playing for Ajax before going into a two-year spell at Real Madrid, where he won the 2008 Liga crown. He joined Inter Milan in 2009 and helped the club win the treble in 2010 when they took the Serie A crown, Italian Cup and Champions League, ironically winning 2-0 over Bayern Munich at his former home ground in Madrid.— *Internet*



Holland's freshly appointed coach Luis Van Gaal has named Inter Milan's Wesley Sneijder as his new captain for Wednesday's friendly against Belgium and for the upcoming World Cup qualification campaign. **INTERNET**

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.

Vice-President elected to fill vacant Vice-President at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug— The fourth regular session of the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held its meeting for eighth day at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 616 representatives.

Also present at the meeting were Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe, Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Soe Win and Union Ministers.

At the meeting, the Speaker said at the first day meeting of the fourth regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 4 July, 2012, he instructed a representatives group concerned to do a nomination for the vacant Vice-President.

The defence services personnel group led by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services elected

(See page 9)

Elected Vice-President U Nyan Tun takes oath in the presence of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

MNA

NGOs play a key role in handling disasters promptly: MPs

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives seen at 27th day of Pyithu Hluttaw.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug—Pyithu Hluttaw regular session continued for 27th day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here this afternoon, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 403 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

One question was answered, one bill discussed and one clarification made and one proposal discussed.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw answered the query raised by U Ko Gyi of Aungmyethazan Constituency on **whether respective ministries could grant agricultural loans of more than K 100,000 per acre to farmers**. The deputy minister answered that the ministry is increasing agricultural loans year after year. The per acre loan for 2012 monsoon paddy had been increased to K 50,000. A large sum of K 500 billion would be disbursed to the whole country this year. These loans are the revenue of the State and can not be lost. Coordination has to be made with the Ministry of Finance and Revenue for the repayment of the loans and the revenue stream. There is no plan to disburse loans up to K 100,000 per acre.

Regarding the **Bill Amending Union Auditor-General Law** submitted by U Maung Toe of Minhla Constituency on 8 August, the Hluttaw approved the bill as the Bill Committee and Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint of the Office of the Union Auditor-General agreed on Paragraph (11) (a, j, n) amended and added by U Maung Toe.

The Hluttaw was notified of the receipt on 8 August of Bill Revoking the Law Protecting the Peaceful and Systematic Transfer of State Responsibility and the Successful Performance of the Functions of the National Convention against Disturbances and Oppositions and

(See page 9)

Speed of service doubled for ADSL Internet as trial without changing fee in proper uplink transmission places of Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay as of 15 July

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Aug—Amyotha Hluttaw session continued for the 27th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 11 am today, attended by 212 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives including Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint.

U Thaw Zin Oo of Magway Region Constituency No 9 asked he would like to know **the time to get the increased political pensions in applying the political pensions for chairmen/secretaries who discharged duties at ward and village-tract People's Council levels**. Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung replied that with regard to 15 applicants for political pensions from Seikpyu Township, the applications of four persons for family political pensions were sent to Pension Department on 16-7-2012. Copies of citizenship scrutiny cards were remanded from 11 persons of Seikpyu Township. By asking Seikpyu Township General Administration Department to send the CSC of those 11 persons as quickly as possible, the scrutiny will be performed for those persons.

(See page 9)

The 27th day session of Amyotha Hluttaw in progress.

MNA