Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

Volume XX, Number 123 | 4th Waxing of Wagaung 1374 ME | Tuesday, 21 August, 2012

True patriotism

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

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

It is up to two agencies to choose whatever political line of struggle of their own volition as both are independent ones formed in line with the constitution

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw sends a message dated 14 August to President

President sends back a message dated 20 August to Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug — The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw sent a message dated 14 August, 2012 to the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

In the message, the Speaker said he sent the message to the President to advise him so that actions would be fair and could be at a least loss to those who concerned as the representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw did not accept the decision of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union.

The Speaker said that 301 representatives which makes up the majority of the Pyithu Hluttaw, proposed him to impeach the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union through the Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee on 8 August, 2012, for the second time as they did not satisfy and accept the decision of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union over the submission No. 3/Nya Ma (1) 3-1 (92) Na Pa Ta (72) made by the Union Attorney-General, on behalf of the President, on 2 February, 2012,

On 26 April, 2012, 191 representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw filed the petition and sought approval from his through the Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee at the third regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw to submit a proposal to the Hluttaw to impeach Chairman and member of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, and he suspended the issue, and he and chairmen of the Pyithu Hluttaw committees and Secretary of the Union Solidarity and Development Party presented the issue to the President. The chairmen of the Hluttaw committees and secretaries retold the representatives about what the President replied to them saying that the President would settle the issue satisfying all. Though negotiations were made with those who were concerned in the issue in an attempt to find the best solution for the issue, still, the issue was not yet settled, he added in the message. Therefore, 301 representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw filed the petition and sought approval from him to impeach the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union on breach of the provisions prescribed in the Sub-section (a) (ii) of the Section 334 of the Constitution and inefficient discharge of their duties assigned by law as prescribed in Sub-section (v), he added.

He did not want to reach such situation but he assumed that the suitable and best way to settle the issue is to withdraw the submission made by the Union Attorney-General, on behalf of the President, and resigning of the chairman and members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union at their own wish by 21 August, 2012, the Speaker said. Regarding the issue, Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission also suggested the Hluttaw that such action was suitable and fair and could be at least loss to the dignity of the State and the Hluttaws and those who were concerned in the issue.

Therefore, he sent the message to the President so that he could review and handle the situation, he said.

Regarding the above the message, the President replied the message to the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw on 20 August.

In his message to the Pyithu Hluttaw, the President expressed his thanks to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker for his suggestions for bringing about fair and just actions with least trauma to the personalities concerned as Hluttaw representatives disapproved of the verdict of the constitutional tribunal of the Union.

In his response to the suggestion by the Pyithu Hluttaw to withdraw the proposal submitted by the Union Attorney-General on behalf of him, the President explained the so-called designation of committees, commission and organizations formed by the respective Hluttaws. The government is responsible to manage appropriate financial and administrative matters if those committees, commission and organizations are designated as Union level organizations. Such management needs to be within the framework of laws and rules and regulations. It was asked to the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union to define the meaning of Union level organizations so as to make sure whether committees, commission and organizations formed by respective Hluttaws are under the name of Union level organizations.

That asking the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union to define the provision of the constitution within the framework of regulations is in fact aimed to ensure legal rights and duties of members of the Hluttaw committees, commission and organizations.

As regards to the case, the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union delivered a verdict on 28 March, 2012, deciding that connotation of committees, commission and organizations formed by respective Hluttaws as Union level organizations is not in conformity with provisions of the constitution. It is the final verdict in accordance with Section 324 of the constitution and Article 23 of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union. The case is not on trial but final verdict has been delivered and thus it is impossible to withdraw the proposal under the tradition and procedures of the courts. The President requested the pardon of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker asking him to put himself in government's shoes.

(See page 9)

Constitutional Tribunal of the Union holds press conference

PAGE 2

China to open int'l institute for Arctic studies

PAGE 4

All publications exempted from being scrutinized in advance by Press Security and Registration Division

Two categories on politics and religion placed under publish-after-check system according to press scrutiny policies changing plan

PAGE 7

Course on implementation of prevention of military recruitment of underage children opened

PAGE 9

Tough MoI Team take a lead in Group DD match of the Last 16

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug— Ministry of Information team led Ministry of Electric Power-2 in the first half through striker Aye Min Phyo's 17th-minute-goal in the Group DD match held at Nay Pyi Taw football ground No.2 this evening. The first half ended 1-0 with MoI in the lead. The second half seemed more harder. Both teams vied for possession of the ball and at 62nd minute, unexpected kick of Nyein Soe of MoI touched the net of EP-2 while tussling the ball in the box. Soccer Star and MoI's team captain Wai Pyar Soe lost the chance to score while kicking from the top of the box because of the bounce of the ball which going high. The game ended 2-0.

In another match of Group DD at Ground No.1, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement team beat Ministry of Defence 1-0. MoI will meet against MSWRR on 24 August at Ground No.2.—*NLM*

Flood Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—According to the 12:30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ngawun River at Ngathainggyoung 1159 cm has exceeded by 29 cm (about 1ft) above its danger level. It may fall about 15 cm (about 0.5foot) during the next 3 days and may remain above its danger level 1130 cm, Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced.—*MNA*

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 21 August, 2012

A worthwhile visit

The first Myanmar month 'Tagu' marks the New Year with the most wonderful festival during which people pour water on one another with the goodwill of making others feel cool and merry in the middle of summer in the country located in the tropical region of the world.

Normally celebrated for five days, the grand New Year festival is not just for fun, as people keep Sabbath, hold donation services, practice vipassana or meditation, seek Dhamma knowledge from monks, help the aged, and pay respects to the elders, expressing deep devotion to Sasana and philanthropic spirit.

In fact, we Myanmar people celebrate our New Year also as a signal indicating that we are ushering into another 12-month period of pure fun, religious devoutness, cultural revitalization, social integration, amity and unity during which annual festivals come one after another in turn the whole year round according to traditional calendar.

We have many other wonderful festivals including Bo tree watering festival in Kason (May), Tipitaka Festival in Nayon (June), the Dhamma Sakka Day marking the anniversary of Buddha's first sermon on the Four Noble Truths in Waso (July), Taungbyon Nat festival in Wagaung (August), Regatta Festival in Tawthalin (September), Festival of Lights in Thadingyut (October), Ritual feasts honoring festival in Natdaw (December), Equestrian festival in Pyatho (January), Harvest Festival in Tabodwe (February), and nationwide pagoda festivals in Tabaung (March). As we are a Union, we also have many festivals of our brethren such as Manaw Festival and Naga New Year celebrations.

Like our New Year celebration itself, all other festivals mostly focus on religion have their own uniqueness, significance, cultural and social values, traditional beliefs and historical background.

With all these amazing festivals plus ancient monuments, amicable people, cultural diversity and natural wonders, every tourist coming to our country will find his or her Myanmar visit really worthwhile.

Hla Htut Oo

Constitutional Tribunal of the Union holds press conference

Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe answering queries raised by media men.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—The Constitutional Tribunal of the Union held a press conference, at its meeting hall at 1 pm today, attended by Chairman and members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, local and foreign media men, reporters from local-based foreign news agency and guests.

Firstly, Chairman U Thein Soe of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union explained the purpose of holding the press conference. After that, the Chairman replied to the quires raised by local and foreign media men. The press conference came to an end with concluding speech by the Chairman. After the press release, Constitutional Tribunal of the Union released the statement No.1/2012. The following is the full translation of the statement.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Constitutional Tribunal of the Union
Statement No. 1/2012
3rd Waxing of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(20th August, 2012)

The Constitutional Tribunal of the Union gave its final verdict on a letter of submission made by the Union Attorney-General to Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, dated 2-2-2012, on behalf of the President on 28-3-2012.

Under the provisions of the Section 320 of the Constitution, the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union was set up to decide on disputes relating to the Constitution in accord with Basic Principles of Union under Chapter (1) and the Basic Principles of the Constitution. Under the provisions of the Section 322 of the Constitution, the following functions and duties of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union are conferred.

(a) interpreting the provisions under the Constitution;
(b) 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;
(c) vetting whether the measures of the executive authorities of the Union, the Regions, the States, and the Self-Administered Areas are in conformity with the Constitution or not;
(d) deciding Constitutional disputes between the Union and a Region, between the Union and a State, between a Region and a State, among the Regions, among the States, between a Region or a State and a Self-Administered Area and among the Self-Administered Areas;
(e) deciding disputes arising out of the rights and duties of the Union and a Region, a State or a Self-Administered Area in implementing the Union Law by a Region, State or Self-Administered Area;
(f) vetting and deciding matters intimated by the President relating to the Union Territory;
(g) functions and duties conferred by laws enacted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

In line with the functions and duties conferred by the Constitution, The Constitutional Tribunal of the Union gave its final verdict on a submission made by the President to define the meaning of a Union-Level Organization which is formed in accord with the Constitution. Under the Section 324 of the Constitution and Section 23 of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, the resolution of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union is final and conclusive.

The Constitutional Tribunals in the world countries decide Constitutional disputes while it is decided by Supreme Court in the countries that have no the Constitutional Tribunals. Chairman and members of The Constitutional Tribunals took oath of safeguarding the Constitution, obeying the State's laws and the loyalty to the Constitution. So, the verdicts on the submissions are being given by the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union in accord with the Constitution in a loyal and fair manner.

The Constitutional Tribunal of the Union shall continue to carry out its functions and duties conferred by the Constitution by upholding the interests of the State and people, as they have sworn in.

MNA

Cash and clothes donation for locals of Rakhine State continues

YANGON, 20 Aug—Cash and clothes donation ceremony for locals in Rakhine State who lost their homes and property due to unrest occurred in there took place at Maykhalar Hall of Fire Services Department (Head Office), here this morning.

At the ceremony, Agga Maha Thiri Thudhama Theingi Daw Khin Ngwe Yee, son Dr U Tint Soe Lin, U Myint Aung, doughter Daw Pwint Mar Khaing and family (Shwepazun Family) donated K 1,000,000, Ko Win Thein- Kin J Bunn, daughter Samantha S. Thein, Allison Sanda Thein, USA US$ 200, Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) women war veterans plastic water cup 10320, U Aung Lin- Daw Hla Hla Soe and daughter Ma San San Yee Mon from Yankin Township K 100,000 and one bale of cloth, U Kuthala Seiktathuka monastery Yekyiai from Mingaladon Township one set of robe and one hand-made fun, Daw Nyo Kyi and family two bale of cloth, Daw Nyunt Nyunt Aye from Pabedan Township K 20,000 and three bale of cloth, Daw Kyi Kyi San from North Okalapa Township K 10,000 and three bale of cloth. Director-General of Fire Services Department U Tin Moe and officials accepted the donation.

Up to date, the donation at the Fire Services Department amounted to K 332,846,523 and US$ 200. A total of K 322,836,523 which accepted yesterday have been transferred to Rakhine State government.—*MNA*

Drive Safely

CONTEXT
Up to 31 people, including at least one Sudanese minister, were killed when their plane crashed in the mountains near Talodi, Sudan, on Sunday.

Sudan plane crash kills 32 including minister

KHARTOUM, 20 Aug—Thirty two people including a Sudanese government minister and other officials were killed when a plane taking them to an Islamic festival crashed in the south of the country on Sunday, state media said.

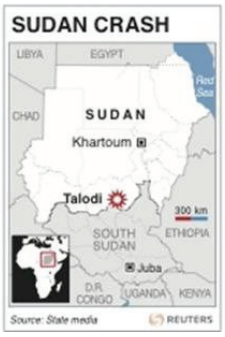
The plane went down in mountains around Talodi, a town in the border state of South Kordofan, while taking a delegation there to celebrate the Eid al-Fitr festival marking the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, state news agency *SUNA* said.

The report blamed the crash on "bad weather conditions" but did not give further details.

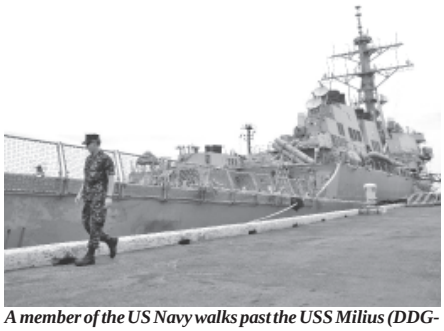
The country's Guidance and Endowments (religious affairs) Minister Ghazi al-Sadeq was killed in the crash, along with Mahjoub Abdel Raheem Toutou, state minister for youth and sports, and Eissa Daifallah, state minister for tourism, antiquities and wildlife, it said.

Several people associated with the country's military, state security and state media also died in the crash, the agency added.

Abdel Hafiz Abdel Rahim, a civil aviation spokesman, had earlier told *Reuters* 31 people had been killed including the crew, but had no other details of their identities.—*Reuters*



***Map of Sudan locating Talodi, close to where a plane crashed and killed up to 32 people, including a Sudanese minister, on Sunday.—*INTERNET**



***A member of the US Navy walks past the USS Milius (DDG-69) at the south harbour in Manila, the Philippines on 18 Aug, 2012. The Aegis guided missile destroyer will dock at the harbor for a four-day visit.—*XINHUA**

Two killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 20 Aug—At least two people were killed in a US drone strike launched on Sunday afternoon in Pakistan's northwest tribal area of North Waziristan, reported local media Dunya.

According to the report, the attack took place at about 3:15 p m on Sunday when two missiles were fired by US drones at a house suspected of being a militant hideout in the Shawal area of North Waziristan.

This is the second US drone strike in the afore-said area on Sunday and the third of its kind over the past two days.

Earlier on Sunday morning, US drones fired four missiles at two vehicles suspected of carrying militants in the same area, killing at least five suspected militants on the spot.

At about noon time on Saturday, US drones fired four missiles targeting a house and a vehicle in Shawal area, killing six suspected militants and wounding two others.

US drones have launched a total of 25 strikes (counted on daily basis) in Pakistan this year, killing at least 184 people.

The repeated US drone strikes in North Waziristan over the last two days came at a time when local media reported on Friday that the Pakistani army chief General Kayani had ruled out any joint operations with the US forces in North Waziristan, a tribal area bordering Afghanistan from which militants often launch cross- border attacks on the NATO troops and Afghan forces in Afghanistan.

Over the last couple of years, the US has been pressurizing Pakistan to launch military operations against the militants hiding in North Waziristan, but the army of Pakistan has refused such demands, leaving the US with no choice but to strike the militants with unmanned aircraft.—*Xinhua*

Four killed, 12 missing in Nigeria's beach disaster

LAGOS, 20 Aug—Four people have been confirmed dead while 12 others were still missing on Sunday afternoon due to the Atlantic Ocean surge which swept away residents of a beach resort in southwest Nigeria's Lagos State on Saturday, authorities of the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA) have said.

General Manager of LASEMA Femi Osayintolu told *Xinhua* on Sunday that divers and other rescuers had a hectic time trying to recover bodies of the 16 residents of the popular Kuramo Beach resort, noting those affected were mainly people occupying illegal shanties at the beach front.

"We have just recovered four bodies since the disaster occurred and we are still on a frantic search for about 12 people still missing," he said, adding body of a six year old girl was among those recovered.

One person was earlier confirmed dead in the overnight incident, when the Atlantic Ocean charged into the Lagos Kuramo Beach.

According to Osayintolu, residents of the beach resort were asleep at midnight when the disaster occurred at about 2 am local time. Saying the Kuramo Beach and other waterfront resorts in the area had been cordoned-off by security officials and personnel of emergency agencies, the top rescue official advised residents of waterfront settlements in Lagos to vacate such places immediately, for fear of a recurrence of the tragedy. Meanwhile, a resident of Iru community where the surge occurred, Femi Salawu, said the problem had been compounded by abandoned vessels in the beaches in the state.

"Ship wrecks in the beaches in this area could be the main problem and cause of the surge," he lamented, while appealing to the Nigerian government to assist the Lagos State government to remove the wrecks in order to address the problem and avoid its recurrence. Coastal areas in Nigeria's Lagos State, particularly communities surrounding the beach, have recently been sacked by ocean surges.—*Xinhua*

***Wooden shacks are pictured in Lagos in 2000. An ocean surge crashed into waterfront shanties in Nigeria's economic capital of Lagos, leaving at least one person dead and 15 missing, officials said on Sunday.—*REUTERS**

Sightseeing vessel runs aground in Alaskan bay, 76 rescued

ANCHORAGE, 20 Aug—Seventy-six people were rescued on Sunday from a sightseeing vessel that ran aground in Alaska's Glacier Bay and began filling with water, the US Coast Guard said. None of the passengers and crew members aboard the 79-foot (24.1-metre) Baranof Wind was seriously hurt, though some minor injuries were reported, Coast Guard Petty Officer David Mosley said.

Most of the passengers were safely transferred to a large Holland America cruise ship, the Vollendam, which was in the area and responded to the emergency, and two people were taken aboard a National Park Service vessel, the Coast Guard said.

A Coast Guard cutter and helicopter also were dispatched to the scene. Four crew members from the Baranof Wind remained aboard the tour boat and worked with Coast Guard personnel to pump water out of the vessel and keep it from sinking, the Coast Guard said. The boat was stabilized after the accident, and there were no immediate signs of spills or other pollution, Mosley said.—*Reuters*

Another Afghan insider shooting as US talks to Karzai

KABUL, 20 Aug—Another NATO soldier was killed on Sunday by an Afghan police officer, raising the coalition death toll from so-called "green on blue" shootings to nine in 11 days as the United States urged Kabul to step up screening of recruits.

The growing insider threat has eroded trust between NATO and its Afghan allies, causing a headache for Western powers who are planning to pull out most of their troops by the end of 2014.

US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta and Afghan President Hamid Karzai agreed to boost vetting of Afghan recruits to try to put an end to the spiraling attacks, now averaging one a week and far surpassing last year's toll.

Panetta also urged the president during a telephone call to work with NATO to boost counterintelligence efforts and speak more to village elders who have ties to the army and police, the Pentagon said in a statement.

"They expressed shared concern over this issue and agreed that American and Afghan officials should work even more closely together to minimize the potential" for future attacks, it added.

The latest killing took place in the Spin Boldak district of southern Kandahar said an official from the provincial governor's office. Another foreign soldier was wounded in the attack, which was also confirmed by Afghanistan's NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

Internet

Northern California fire forces evacuation of some 2,000 homes

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 Aug—Alightning-sparked wildfire roared unchecked on Sunday through tinder-dry grass, brush and timber in north-central California, where an estimated 3,000 people were forced from their homes in several small, rural communities, authorities said. The blaze, which erupted on Saturday amid some 900 lightning strikes unleashed by thunderstorms that rolled through Northern California, has scorched at least 12,000 acres of private and public land along the border of Shasta and Tehama counties, officials said.

***A wooden structure sits on the side of the road near Pine and Featherville, Idaho as flames from the Trinity Ridge Fire in the Boise National Forest engulf trees in this 17 Aug, 2012 handout photograph made available to Reuters on 19 Aug, 2012.—*REUTERS**

There were no reports of injuries, but the so-called Ponderosa blaze has destroyed at least seven homes and was threatening about 3,000 more, said Mary Anne Aldrich, a spokeswoman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

She said about 2,000 homes in several communities, including the towns of Manton and Shingletown, about 125 miles north of Sacramento, the state capital, were ordered evacuated starting on Saturday night.

A rough estimate of 3,000 people were believed to have displaced by the evacuation, but precise numbers were hard to come by, Aldrich said.

So far, a force of nearly 1,000 firefighters, 20 water tenders and three helicopters had yet to curtail the fire's growth, officials said.

Hundreds of miles to the northeast in Idaho, a separate wildfire raged for a ninth day through rugged, sun-baked terrain in the Boise National Forest, where firefighters kept up a battle to prevent flames from reaching a newly evacuated town east of the state capital.

The Trinity Ridge blaze has swallowed well over 88,000 acres of sagebrush and timber in south-central Idaho since it was ignited on August 3 by an off-road vehicle that caught fire, authorities said.—*Reuters*

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

China to open int'l institute for Arctic studies

REYKJAVIK, 20 Aug — China will launch its first international Arctic cooperation and research institute in Shanghai, sources attending a Sino-Iceland workshop told reporters here. The workshop on Arctic studies was held on Friday as part of the first formal visit to an Arctic country by China's fifth Arctic expedition team, aboard the icebreaker *Xuelong*, or "*Snow Dragon*".

The new Sino-Northern Europe cooperation and research institute for Arctic studies will cover issues like adaptation to climate change and sustainable development, cooperation between Northeast Asia and North Europe on Arctic economic development and cooperation strategies and policies. The institute, to be founded by the Polar Research Institute of China with the support of an Icelandic research centre, will initiate research projects, arrange exchanges of scholars, organize meetings and publish annual reports among other activities.

During the expedition team's four-day visit, China and Iceland also signed a cooperation memorandum to set up a joint polar light observation station in northern Iceland, which experts say will significantly boost space science studies and improve polar environmental change forecasting.

China's 120-member expediton team, including researchers, coordinators, support staff, reporters, the ship's crew, four scientists from France and Denmark and another from China's Taipei, arrived in the Icelandic capital Friday afternoon.

The A-2 class icebreaker, capable of breaking ice 1.2 metres thick, will be open to the public. Iceland's president and government officials are also expected to visit. Expedition leader Yang Huigen said it was of great importance for China to cooperate with arctic countries like Iceland, which provided significant help to China's Arctic research. *Xuelong* set out from the port city of Qingdao on 2 July and will travel an estimated 17,000 nautical miles during its 90-day voyage. It is scheduled to return to Shanghai on 29 September.

Xinhua

***China to open int'l institute for Arctic studies.*— XINHUA**

***The 7cm Coronation rock offered a smooth face to Curiosity's laser instrument (ChemCam).* INTERNET**

NASA's Curiosity rover zaps Mars rock called Coronation

WASHINGTON, 20 Aug— NASA's Curiosity rover has zapped its first Martian rock. The robot fired its ChemCam laser at a tennis-ball-sized stone lying about 2.5m away on the ground. The brief but powerful burst of light from the instrument vapourised the surface of the rock, revealing details of its basic chemistry. This was just target practice for ChemCam, proving it is ready to begin the serious business of investigating the geology of the Red Planet. It is part of a suite of instruments on the one-tonne robot, which landed two weeks ago in a deep equatorial depression known as Gale Crater.

Over the course of one Martian year, Curiosity will try to determine whether past environments at its touchdown location could ever have supported life. The US-French ChemCam instrument will be a critical part of that investigation, helping to select the most interesting objects for study. The inaugural target of the laser was a 7cm-wide rock dubbed "Coronation" (previously N165). It had no particular science value, and was expected to be just another lump of ubiquitous Martian basalt, a volcanic rock. Its appeal was the nice smooth face it offered to the laser.

ChemCam zapped it with 30 pulses of infrared light during a 10-second period. Each pulse delivered to a tiny spot more than a million watts of power for about five billionths of a second. The instrument observed the resulting spark through a telescope; the component colours would have told scientists which atomic elements were present. "We got a great spectrum of Coronation — lots of signal," said ChemCam principal investigator Roger Wiens of Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico. "Our team is both thrilled and working hard, looking at the results. After eight years building the instrument, it's pay-off time."

The first science target for ChemCam will be bedrock exposed on the ground next to Curiosity by the rocket-powered crane used to lower the vehicle to the crater floor on 6 August (GMT). Exhaust from this descent stage scattered surface grit and pebbles to reveal a harder, compact material underneath. The crane made four scour marks in the ground - two either side of the rover. These have been dubbed Burnside, Goulburn, Hepburn and Sleepy Dragon — names taken from ancient rock formations in Canadian North America. Goulburn Scour will be zapped by ChemCam once the mission team has reviewed fully the Coronation performance and results.— *Internet*

Asia's fastest data cable links Tokyo to Singapore

TOKYO, 20 Aug — A new high-speed undersea data cable has opened to traffic in Asia. The 7,800km Asia Submarine-cable Express (ASE) connects Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines. It transfers data via an optical fibre system at 40 gigabits per second, and is three milliseconds faster than any other cable between Singapore and Tokyo.

The gain in speed may sound small, but could prove critical to financial trades made out of the region. So-called "high frequency trades", controlled by computers, involve making what may be hundreds of thousands of transactions in less than a second — all determined by a programme that tracks market conditions.

With banks and hedge funds competing against each other, the size of the profit or loss can come down to a matter of beating the competition by a fraction of a second, explained Ralph Silva, a strategist at Silva Research Network. "High frequency trading is basically computer trading — your programme a set of rules and as events happen — the computer decides buy or sell commands," he said. "As all incoming data is received by all banks at the same time, and because the computers are all the same with the same speed of processors, the length of time the command takes to get to the exchange makes a big difference."

"So if all banks come to the same trading decision at the same time, the one to get the transaction to the master computer first wins. Three milliseconds in computer time is an hour in human time." The route for the new cable was chosen to be as straight as possible, reducing the time to get information from one end to the other to 65 milliseconds. The data transfer capacity of 40Gbps is the equivalent of downloading a high-resolution DVD in about two seconds.

The new facility adds to a web of undersea cables in the waters around Japan. These include ones run by Australian operator Telstra International; China's Taipei's largest phone operator Chunghwa Telecom; and the global telecommunications service provider Pacnet, based in Singapore and Hong Kong. Many were damaged by a powerful earthquake near Japan's northeast coast in March 2011.An earlier earthquake in December 2006, off the south-west coast of China's Taipei, also broke several cables, disrupting telecommunications in Asian countries.

***The route for the new cable avoids Taipei, where earthquakes are common.*— INTERNET**

***Many undersea cables were damaged by a powerful earthquake that hit Japan in March 2011.*— INTERNET**

The problems helped influence where the new cable was laid, said Japan's biggest telecommunications provider."We avoided the area around Taipei, where earthquakes are common, and laid the route near the Philippines instead, making the cable very safe and reliable," said Hiroyuki Matsumoto, senior director of network services at NTT, one of the four partners involved in the project.

After 2011's earthquake and tsunami his firm reported that half a million telephone circuits and about 150,000 internet circuits went down in Japan because of subsea cable damage.

To repair the cable network, telecoms operators had to send out ships equipped with remotely controlled robots, able to dive to a depth of 2,500m (8,200ft).

The other companies involved in the project are PLDT, the Philippines' main telecom company; StarHub, the second-largest mobile phone operator in Singapore; and Telekom Malaysia. PLDT said that the venture was the first direct cable connection between the Philippines and Japan, and "the largest-capacity international submarine cable system ever to land in the Philippines".

Internet

Sony unveils successor to Xperia S Smartphone: the Xperia SL

TOKYO, 20 Aug — Sony has quietly introduced the successor to its Xperia S smartphone, the Xperia SL. The Xperia SL boasts a faster processor — it has a 1.7 GHz dual-core processor, versus the S's 1.5 GHz — but few other improvements.

Reviewers of the S complained both about its "pokey" processing speed and its uninspiring 4.3-inch display, but unfortunately, the XL offers no improvement for the latter. Other parts of the XL's hardware, including its 12.1-megapixel camera, are the same as the S's.

The smartphone is now listed on Sony's website with a "coming soon" sticker. The site also shows a full list of specs for the device, as well as images. The phone comes in four colours — silver, black, white and pink — and runs Android 4.0 (Ice Cream Sandwich). There's no word yet on pricing, carriers or availability date.

Xperia sl 600

Internet

Chinese firm to send Spanish rover to moon in 2014

MADRID, 20 Aug — China Great Wall Industry Corporation will send a Spanish rover to the moon in June 2014, according to the Galactic Suite company which heads the "Barcelona Moon Team" that is competing in the Google Lunar X Prize contest to the moon.

The rover will be launched by a *Long March 2C/CTS-2* rocket from China's Xichang Satellite Launch Centre.

The Barcelona Moon Team is the only team based in Spain to take part in the Google Lunar X Prize, which challenges participants to create a robot that can move over the lunar surface and send live images back to Earth before December 2015.

Xinhua

E-shopping fuels domestic consumption

BEIJING, 20 Aug — With an Internet population larger than that of the United States and Japan combined, China saw its online shopping maintain an annual growth of 140 percent in sales since 2004, making it a powerhouse in driving up domestic consumption. Online shopping in China has an immense Internet consumer base, said Liang Da, an expert with the National Bureau of Statistics.The number of online shoppers has grown at an annual rate of nearly 50 percent since 2008. Sales of online retailers accounted for 4.3 percent of the country's overall retail sales of consumer goods in 2011, up from 0.08 percent in 2004, according to the bureau's statistics. Chinese shoppers spent 511.9 billion yuan online in the first six months of this year, up 46.6 percent year-on-year, according to a report by the China e-Business Research Centre, a market analysis company based in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province.

China was home to 214 million online shoppers by the end of June, up 23.7 percent year-on-year, the report said. Chinese online shops, such as 360buy.com, Tmall.com and Suning.com, are providing a variety of goods and services for customers, sometimes at a discount price that make them attractive to netizens, market experts said.Many online shops have less inventory pressure and all have lower operational costs, enabling them to set lower prices to compete with traditional shops for custom. For example, books sold at online shops are usually 30 to 40 percent off the regular prices and cosmetics are usually 20 to 30 percent off.The burgeoning of online shopping is also related to the quick pace of modern life and people's desire to follow new and trendy patterns of consumption. That is why online shopping is especially popular with younger people and those who have advanced degrees.

Among them, many look to purchase luxuries online.

Considering the increasing weight of consumption in China's gross domestic product, online shopping has great room for future growth. The number of the country's online shoppers has grown at an annual rate of nearly 50 percent since 2008.— XINHUA

A report by McKinsey & Co says that China's luxuries market is growing at a rate of 18 percent every year and is expected to take up 20 percent of the global market share by 2015. According to statistics from China e-Business Research Centre, sales of online luxuries amounted to 10.7 billion yuan in 2011, increasing by 67.2 percent. The figure is expected to rise to 23.8 billion yuan by 2013.Increases in people's income, the popularization of personal computers and advances in Internet technology set the stage for China's booming online retail market.The disposable income of urban residents averaged 21,810 yuan in 2011, representing an annual growth rate of 9.2 percent after taking inflation into account. The income of rural residents averaged 6,977 yuan, an annual increase rate of 8.1 percent.Disposable income refers to the amount of money that households have available for spending and saving after income taxes have been accounted for. Disposable personal income is often monitored as one of many key economic indicators used to gauge the overall state of the economy.

China's per capita gross domestic product exceeded $5,400 last year. In big cities such as Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Shanghai, per capita GDP has reached $10,000. The accumulation of wealth has greatly boosted people's purchasing power, driving the growth of online shopping and domestic consumption as a whole, according to the NBS Savings deposits of urban and rural residents will be the major force in pushing economic growth.

The per capita savings deposits in China are very high, reaching more than 20,000 yuan at present. By contrast, residents in the US each owe an average of $15,000 to the banks, Liang said.

The savings of residents are the prerequisite for online shopping and they also make personal computers and advanced Internet technology accessible to more and more people, thus providing the essential tools to accelerate the upward trend. *Xinhua*

Samsung Electronics shares fall 3 percent, cooling after 23 percent surge

SEOUL, 20 Aug — Shares in Samsung Electronics, South Korea's most valuable firm, fell 3 percent in early trade on Monday, extending falls into a second day as investors took profits following a one-month surge.

Samsung shares soared 23 percent from its most recent trough registered on July 12, outpacing gains in the main board by nearly three-fold. *Reuters*

The logo of Samsung Electronics is seen at the company's headquarters in Seoul on 6 Jul, 2012. REUTERS

Euro woes tilt financial power in Asia's favour

A man walks past a euro symbol painted in red on a branch of Santander bank in central Madrid, on 13 Sept, 2011.— REUTERS

LONDON, 20 Aug — As European banks retrench to recover from the global financial meltdown, they are finding ready buyers in Asia for everything from loans to entire insurance and broking operations.

There are other tell-tale signs of a shift in power: this year's two biggest initial public offerings after Facebook were launched not in the United States or Europe, but in Malaysia. Yet perhaps what is more striking is that, with one or two exceptions, Asian financial firms are not doing more in Europe itself to capitalize on the euro zone's festering debt and banking crisis.

Take China. The economy has more than doubled in size in five years. It has some of the biggest banks in the world. And its appetite for snapping up natural resources is undiminished: witness last month's $15.1 billion agreement by state oil company CNOOC Ltd to buy Canada's Nexen Inc, the biggest foreign acquisition to date by a Chinese company.

When it comes to the financial sector, however, the glass is half-empty, not half-full, said Andre Loesekrug-Pietri, chairman of A Capital, a China-Europe investment fund."There's a front-cover story every other month about China buying up the world, but China is still a very small player in international M&A," he said.— *Reuters*

Infections among homeless could fuel wider epidemics: study

LONDON, 20 Aug — Homeless people across the world have dramatically higher rates of infection with tuberculosis (TB), HIV and hepatitis C and could fuel community epidemics that cost governments dear, a study showed on Monday.With an estimated 650,000 homeless people in the United States and around 380,000 in Britain, experts said high levels of infection would not only cause yet more poverty and distress for those without homes, but could also become a wider problem.

"Infections in homeless people can lead to community infections and are associated with malnutrition, long periods of homelessness and high use of medical services," said Seena Fazel, a senior research fellow in clinical science at the University of Oxford who led the study. Fazel and his team analyzed more than 40 research papers on levels of HIV, hepatitis C and TB among homeless people from 1984 to 2012. They found that in the United States, for example, TB rates were at least 46 times greater in the homeless than in the general population, and the prevalence of hepatitis C viral infection was more than four times higher.

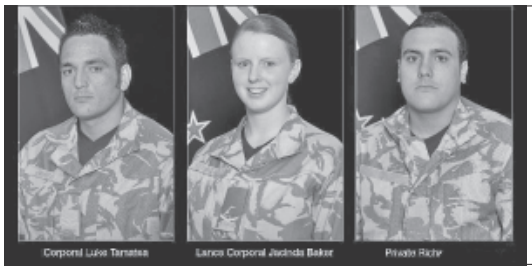
In Britain, TB rates were about 34 times higher in homeless people than in the general population, and the prevalence of hepatitis C viral infection was nearly 50 times higher. For HIV, rates of infection were typically between 1 and 20 times higher in homeless people in the United States than the general population, but no studies were found for Britain. Fazel said his findings suggested the best way to fight back against these and other infectious diseases was to focus on the homeless as one of the highest risk groups."Because ... numbers of homeless people are high in some countries, improvements in care could have pronounced effects on public health," he said.

Fazel, whose study was published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* journal, said similar patterns were found in most other countries where data were available. Other countries covered in the study included France, India, Sweden, Ireland and Brazil.According to United Nations estimates, about 100 million people worldwide are homeless.

It is well known that rates of illness and premature death are particularly high in this group.TB kills an estimated 1.4 million people annually, and about 9 million people are newly infected each year around the world.Because it is a bacterial infection that spreads through the air in droplets when infected people cough and sneeze, it can develop into community outbreaks.

Anyone with active TB can easily infect another 10 to 15 people a year, and because successful treatment for TB requires months of antibiotics, patient care can be expensive.In the United States, nearly 60,000 new cases of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS are reported nationally every year. The researchers said this research focused on HIV, Hepatitis C and TB because their initial work suggested these were the most heavily studied infections among homeless populations.But they noted the homeless also have high rates of other infectious diseases, including hepatitis A and B, diphtheria, foot problems and skin infections.— *Reuters*

A homeless man sleeps on a cement bench in the downtown of Valparaiso, about 121 km (75 miles) northwest of Santiago, on 7 July, 2012. REUTERS



The photo provided by the New Zealand Defence Force shows the three members of the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team killed in action. XINHUA

New Zealand signals earlier exit from Afghanistan

WELLINGTON, 20 Aug— New Zealand Prime Minister John Key announced on Monday that the country will withdraw its troops from Afghanistan earlier in 2013 than planned. He said the move is not prompted by the deaths this month of five New Zealand soldiers, including three who were killed on Sunday by a roadside bomb.

August's deaths account for half of all fatalities suffered by the small contingent of New Zealanders in the nine years they have been stationed in central Bamiyan Province, which was comparatively stable until a recent upswing in violence.

Key said it was "highly likely" the remaining soldiers from the contingent of 145 would be withdrawn in April 2013. He said discussions for the earlier withdrawal began before the five deaths this month. Murray McCully, New Zealand's foreign affairs minister, had announced in May the troops would be withdrawn "in the latter part of 2013."

Key said he wants to bring home the troops as fast as practicable within a timetable that fits in with the coalition partners.

"We'll do it as fast as we can, and we'll do it in the way that protects our people as best we can," he said.

The US-led NATO forces in Afghanistan plan to end their decade-long combat mission and withdraw almost all troops by the end of 2014. The US this year has been withdrawing a planned 23,000 troops, which would leave 68,000.

Key rejected calls to end New Zealand's role in Afghanistan immediately.

"Yes we need to make it the shortest timeframe we can now logistically, but we have to do it with our partners. If we don't, then the message we send to the rest of all of Afghanistan is that it's time to run for the exits," he said. "And if we do that, then the thousands of people who have lost their lives have been in vain.—*Xinhua*

*A New Zealand soldier with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) walks during a patrol in Bamiyan Province in 2008.—*XINHUA

Experts hope to shield cars from computer viruses

BOSTON, 20 Aug—A team of top hackers working for Intel Corp's security division toil away in a West Coast garage searching for electronic bugs that could make automobiles vulnerable to lethal computer viruses.

Intel's McAfee unit, which is best known for software that fights PC viruses, is one of a handful of firms that are looking to protect the dozens of tiny computers and electronic communications systems that are built into every modern car.

It's scary business. Security experts say that automakers have so far failed to adequately protect these systems, leaving them vulnerable to hacks by attackers looking to steal cars, eavesdrop on conversations, or even harm passengers by causing vehicles to crash.

"You can definitely kill people," said John Bumgarner, chief technology officer of the US Cyber Consequences Unit, a non-profit organization that helps companies analyze the potential for targeted computer attacks on their networks and products.

To date there have been no reports of violent attacks on automobiles using a computer virus, according to SAE International, an association of more than 128,000 technical professionals working in the aerospace and the auto industries.

Yet, Ford spokesman Alan Hall said his company had tasked its security engineers with making its Sync in-vehicle communications and entertainment system as resistant as possible to attack.

"Ford is taking the threat very seriously and investing in security solutions that are built into the product from the outset," he said.

And a group of US computer scientists shook the industry in 2010 with a landmark study that showed viruses could damage cars when they were moving at high speeds.—*Reuters*

Assange berates United States from Ecuador Embassy balcony

LONDON, 20 Aug— WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange berated the United States on Sunday from the balcony of the Ecuadorean Embassy where he has sought refuge from arrest, demanding President Barack Obama end what he called a witch-hunt against his whistle-blowing website.

Speaking from within the London mission to avoid being detained by British police who want to extradite him to Sweden for questioning over rape allegations, Assange said the United States was fighting a war against outlets like WikiLeaks.

Comparing himself to Russian punk band Pussy Riot and the *New York Times* newspaper as also deserving protection from oppression, Assange said the United States risked dragging the world into a dangerous era in which journalists would fall silent. He did not mention the rape allegations.

"As WikiLeaks stands under threat, so does the freedom of expression and the health of all of our societies," Assange said, dressed in a maroon tie and blue shirt, and flanked by the yellow, blue and red Ecuadorean flag. Dozens of British policemen lined up on the pavement below.

"I ask President Obama to do the right thing: the United States must renounce its witch-hunt against WikiLeaks," Assange said in a 10-minute speech which he ended with two thumbs up to the world's media.

Ecuador's socialist President Rafael Correa, a self-declared enemy of "corrupt" media and US "imperialism," granted the former computer hacker political asylum last week, deepening a diplomatic standoff with Britain and Sweden.

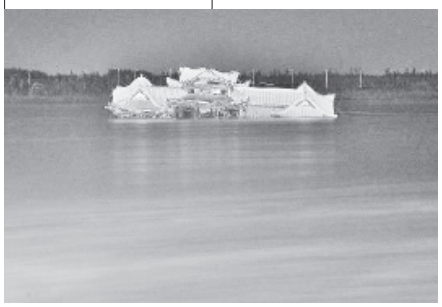
Foreign ministers from across South America strongly supported Correa's stance at an emergency meeting in Ecuador on Sunday, saying countries had a sovereign right to grant asylum.—*Reuters*

*WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange speaks to the media outside the Ecuador Embassy in west London on 19 Aug, 2012.—*REUTERS

Photo taken on 20 Aug, 2012 shows the leisure boat on the Yellow River in Wuzhong, northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. XINHUA

Three missing as leisure boat capsizes in NW China

YINCHUAN, 20 Aug— Three people were missing after a leisure boat capsized in the Yellow River in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region on Sunday evening, the local government said.



The 25-metre-long boat carrying seven people capsized in the Wuzhong section of the Yellow River, China's second longest waterway, at 7:23 pm, a spokesman with Wuzhong city government said.

Four people were saved in time, he said.

August is the flood season and the water level in the Ningxia section of the river has kept rising.

When the accident happened, the water flow was around 2,380 cubic meters per second, the official said.

The city government sent five rescue vessels and nearly 500 people to search for the missing passengers.

An investigation is underway.

Xinhua

India's anti-tank missile fails

NEW DELHI, 20 Aug— India's anti-tank missile Nag has failed in its user trial recently, local media reported on Monday.

The missile, developed by state-owned Defence Research and Development Organization for the Indian Army, failed to hit the target thrice during its user trial fourth times, held in the western state of Rajasthan's deserts, unnamed sources were quoted as saying.

Unhappy with the user trial, the Indian Army has asked the state-owned DRDO to come better prepared in the future, the sources added.

The anti-tank missile is part of India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme initiated in 1980s.—*Xinhua*

Storm Kai-Tak death toll rises to 27 in Vietnam

HANOI, 20 Aug— Twenty-seven people have died since tropical storm Kai-Tak hit northern Vietnam on Friday, according to the National Committee for Search and Rescue of Vietnam on Sunday.

Among those dead, five people were in northern provinces of Bac Giang, Yen Bai, respectively, four in Vinh Phuc, three in Phu Tho, two in capital Hanoi, Son La and Lang Son, respectively while Hai Duong, Lao Cai, Bac Ninh, Thai Nguyen confirmed one death each.

Three others remained missing, with one in Yen Bai, one in Hanoi and one in Vinh Phuc.

Authorities of the affected provinces and the government are speeding up efforts to find missing people and deal with the aftermath of the storm, said Vietnamese state-run news agency *VNA* on Sunday.

Although the storm had weakened into a low pressure system and is dissipating, it is forecast to cause heavy rains in the coming days.

Vietnam's northern mountainous localities are warned against flash floods and landslides.

Xinhua

All publications exempted from being scrutinized in advance by Press Security and Registration Division

Two categories on politics and religion placed under publish-after-check system according to press scrutiny policies changing plan

YANGON, 20 Aug—Categories on politics and religion which were published under check-after-publish system have been put under publish-after-check system according to the fifth wave of press scrutiny policy changing plan of Press Security and Registration Division under the Ministry of Information. As a result, all publications have already been exempted from being scrutinized in advance by the PSRD.

The ceremony was held at the PSRD this morning and attended by officials from the department, publishers and chief-editors of local news and religious journals and magazines, publishers of books on political and religious subjects, calendars, postcards, messages, song producers.

An official of the PSRD in his clarifications, said that the new government has laid down two policies with regard to printers and publishers, and the first one is to promulgate a new media law and the second one is to change press security policies included in the orders and directives issued under the 1962 printers and publishers registration law and rule step by step to be in conformity with transitional period before the new press media law is enacted.

He continued to say that the Ministry of Information launched the first wave of press scrutiny policy changing plan on 10 June 2011 and 82 journals and 96 magazines on arts, health, child, technology, sports were placed under publish-after-check system. It launched the second wave on 9 December 2011 and 32 journals and 22 magazines on economy, crimes and law as well as books, story, cartoon, state lottery list were placed under publish-after-check system, three journals and ten magazines on education, books and journals on educations were placed under publish-after-check system according to the third wave launched on 1 March 2012, manuscripts on story were placed under publish-after-check system according to the fourth wave launched on 15 May 2012. **Now, 86 journals and 55 magazines on politics and religion and other publications on politics and religion including calendar, postcard, message, song manuscripts, embassy publications have been placed under publish-after-check system, meaning that all publications have been exempted from being scrutinized in advance by the PSRD.**

To change press scrutiny policies step by step, 38 directives and 20 instructions out of directives and instructions included in the 1962 printers and publishers registration laws were revoked, and there remain only 13 directives and six instructions. Those directives are the ones issued in the past for printers and publishers to follow, and those instructions are number of publications to be submitted to the PSRD and categories of publish-after-check and of check-after-publish.

He went on to say that in order to enact a new print media law, the Ministry of Information submitted the print media bill to the President Office on 7 August. If the president office approves it, granted permission, it will be submitted to the cabinet meeting for seeking approval. When it has been approved, it will be submitted to the Hluttaw being held at present.

He added that in the transitional period, those from the press world will be able to enjoy the right of freedom of expression if it is contrary to the laws enacted in line with the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Enjoying freedom of expression, the pressmen must strictly abide by code of ethics. Likewise, they are also to follow the five norms often stated by the Ministry of Information, that is, not to be biased, to express from all views, to ensure freedom and accountability and freedom and rationality, to implement unity in democracy and to uphold national interest. **The 1962 printers and publishers registration law is still in force. Therefore, its directives and instructions need to be abided by. Moreover, codes of criminal procedure concerning press media need to be followed.** Should contraries and problems occur, they are to be handled through coordination in accordance with code of ethics or according to the law.—*MNA*

Launching MPU Card and security exchange laws discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—A ceremony to launch Myanmar Payment Union Card and boom capital market was held at Yangon (branch) of Central Bank of Myanmar yesterday morning, with the attendance of Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun.

The meeting focused the matter on launching MPU Card in public and security exchange laws.

On-going task currently practise concerning Myanmar Payment Union and future plan were given by Secretary U Ye Min Oo of Management Committee. Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein and Director of the Central Bank of Myanmar Daw Than Than Swe and Executive Director of MSEC U Soe Thein discussed the matter on implementing capital market and on-going tasks.

The union minister urged the officilas to launch MPU Card smoothly. And necessary arrangement are being prepared for use of card from abroad before 2013 SEA Games and preparations should be made for enacting the security exchange law and the security exchange committee, to the union minister said.—*MNA*

Health care services in Bago Region (west) inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—Deputy Health Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin on 16 August inspected Thayawady District People's Hospital, Thayawady Traditional Clanic, Minhla Township Hospital and Okpo Township Hospital where she met with head of region health department, medical superintending, specialists, doctors, nurses and health staff. In meeting with staff, the deputy minister clarified that National Health Committee Meeting 1/2012 participated by union ministers and deputy ministers held at the health ministry on 18 August and regional policy and procedures drawing coordination programme for economic development have been carried out.

The deputy minister made field trip to Gyobingauk Township Hospital, Zegon People's Hospital and Wataw rural health center in Shwedaung Township and donated medicines for rural area development.

On 17 August, the deputy minister met with head of region health department, medical superintending, specialists, doctors, nurses and health staff at the meeting hall of Pyay People's Hospital (200-bed). She also met with principal, teachers and trainees from Nurse and Midwifery Training School and called for progress of human resources and communication skill.

The deputy minister donated medicines for Padaung Township Hospital, Padaung Traditional Clinic and Hsinmyeswe station hospital. She proceeded to Thegon People's Hospital, Padegon Station Hospital and Natalin Township Hospital where she comforted the patients.—*MNA*

Myanmar selected volleyball team scores victory

YANGON, 20 Aug—The second match of Myanmar-New Zealand Goodwill Friendly Matches Men's Volleyball Tournament as making preparation for celebration of XXVII SEA Games was held at Thuwunna Stadium, here, this evening.

It was also attended by officials of Asia Volleyball Federation, Vice-President of Myanmar Volleyball Federation U Thein Win and the executive members, inviting guests and enthusiasts.

The Myanmar selected volleyball team rooted New Zealand team with points 25-22, 25-20 and 25-19.

On 22 August, the 17th South East Asian Junior Men's Volleyball Championship 2012 will be held at the same stadium at 2 pm.—*MNA*

Prize awarding for outstanding trainees in RBAFA Course held

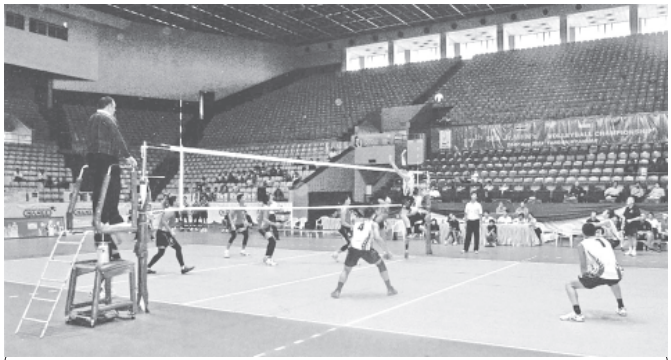
NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—Jointly-organized by International auditor-general office development centre and United Nations institute for Training and Research, a prize awarding ceremony for outstanding trainees from Risk Based Approach to Financial Audit Course which lectured through online was held at the meeting hall of the Union auditor-general office here this morning.

On the occasion, Union Auditor-General U Lun Maung said in his speech that auditing carried out to benefit good governance, stability and development of the State, transparency and clean government.

Four audit officers successfully passed at Risk Based Approach to Financial Audit Course, and arrangements are made to honor those trainees, he added. The union auditor-general went on to say that he was pleased for uplift of the State dignity in United Nations Human Resources Development Programme and trainees are needed to beneficially apply at their work for the State.

Union Auditor-General U Lun Maung and Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint presented completion certificates and prizes to award winning trainees.

MNA



***The second match of Myanmar-New Zealand Goodwill Friendly Matches Men's Volleyball Tournament in progress.*—MNA**

MPs call for uprightness ...

(from page 16)

on the report is not valid to take action in a legal bound. And actions are being taken by mean of departmental enquiry regarding the finding as evidences to take charges.

In case of ordinary matters which needs legal actions, another option is chosen occasionally if there is better prospect.

If the organization which is under investigation did not take necessary actions on Township account offices' reports during the appropriate time or they did not finish it, it has to be presented to State/ Region Auditor-General Office through district account office. The State/ Region Auditor-General Offices have to present it to their governments and push them to take actions through management way.

It needs to be presented to Union Auditor-General's Office if the case is not finished in this stage. Union Auditor-General's Office also presents Union government to take actions in accord with management rules. Account office concerned has to scrutinize actions taken and recheck acceptable points in the next inspection period.

With respect to the actions taken by organization which is under investigation on the findings of Union Auditor-General's Office and region account offices which are external auditors, the said-measures are being taken.

With regard to the question of U Sai Thiha Kyaw of Mongyal Constituency about the continued firing between the government and the armed groups in spite of the ceasefire agreement with armed groups, Union Minister for Rail Transportation Vice-chairman of Peace-making Work Committee U Aung Min replied that the issues of national races armed groups and national races date back to the independence of the country. It is required bilateral efforts to clear the cloud of doubts between the two sides to uncover the truth. It is simply not easy to solve the six-decade old problems at one sitting over night. The President has instructed to implement three steps respectively at region/state level, Union level and Union Assembly level in bringing about internal peace.

Though ceasefire agreement out of five points in region/state level agreement has been reached with national races armed groups, other points such as stationing in places under bilateral agreement, prohibition of going other places with arms except within the designated places, opening of liaison offices at suitable places (without arms) are still under negotiation.

It is concluded that armed engagements in Shan State was because there has not been designated places for armies of the two sides and opened liaison office. Such problems would vanish after step by step implementation of peace-making polices adopted by the President. The Union Peace-making Work Committee would carry out peace process as early as possible.

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Sein Win of Maubin Constituency asking questions.—MNA

Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint of the Auditor-General of the Union replies to questions.—MNA

The Pyithu Hluttaw received **Occupation and Competency Bill** sent by Amyotha Hluttaw on 13 August and copies of the bill have been distributed among Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee and Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

Date for discussion of the bill will be announced later and MPs willing to discuss the bill are to register by 1 pm 23 August.

Members of Bill Committee Dr Soe Moe Aung and U Khin Maung Myint submitted reports on **the bill revoking the law against threat to peaceful hand-over of State's responsibility and successful operation of National Assembly and the bill revoking Public Welfare Services Protection Act**.

MPs willing to discuss the bills are to register by 1 pm 23 August.

U Thaung of Mawleik Constituency, U Ba Shein of Kyaukpyu Constituency, Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhein Constituency, U Win Myint of Pathein Constituency and U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Constituency discussed the report of the Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee submitted on 24 day session of the Hluttaw. Chairman of Judicial and legal Affairs Committee Thura U Aung Ko explained intention and stances of the report, followed by discussion of other MPs.

This was followed by a general round of discussion.

They argued that uprightness of the judicial sector calls not only for duty consciousness of judges but also for participation of the entire public. Only with the checks and balances among the three supreme powers of the nation, can discipline-flourishing multi-party democratic nation emerge with good governance and clean government.

It is desperately required to correct the judicial system of the country, argued the MPs recalling the memories of judicial system with three or five judges at court in the time of Socialist Programme Party, citing that there was no corruption those days like these days. It is of useless to point a finger at the civil servants in service from 1989 to date. Hluttaw represen-tatives need to seriously consider what laws should be enacted to prevent corruption.

In the time of People's Council, judges were just the representatives of people, which called for protection of law. In modern times, judges are scholars with a strong sense of rationality and no more protection should be given to them. Conditions are different in other countries. If wished to see the results in shortest time, it is advisable to provide the civil servants with sufficient and revoke all the protective laws and again to enact these laws when civil servants have enough sense of responsibility and accountability. It would be more appropriate to make a shift to trial by jury beginning from the level of township judges together with people's representatives. It would fulfil more wishes of the people.

Member of Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee U Than Tun read report of the committee and the report was approved by the Hluttaw.

Three questions were answered, reports submitted, one report discussed and approved by the Hluttaw at today's session.

The session came to an end at 4.10 pm and the 31st day session continues at 10 am tomorrow.—*MNA*

Objectives of 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

(1) To uplift the morale and morality of the entire nation,

(2) To uplift national prestige and integrity and preserve and safeguard cultural heritage and national character,

(3) To ensure flourishing of Union Spirit, the true patriotism,

(4) To bring about new generations capable of preserving and promoting cultural heritage and national character through innovations to meet international standards,

(5) To participate in the building of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation through traditional cultural performing arts,

Farmers ran into trouble with flood and flood victims provided with bags of paddy strain and cash assistance

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—A ceremony to provide bags of rice, paddy strains and cash assistance for farmers who ran into trouble with flood and flood victims in Ayeyawady Region was held at Ayeyawady Government Office yesterday morning.

It was also attended by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, region ministers, CE Members of Myanmar Rice Industry Association, responsible personnel from firms and local media.

At the ceremony, Myanmar Rice Industry Association donated 30000 baskets of paddy strain , 500 bags of rice and K 3 million, Ayeyawady Region Myanmar Rice Industry Association 200 bags of rice, Max Myanmar Co., Group (Ayeyawady Foundation) 500 bags of rice and K 3 million, Farmer Phoe Yazar Co., 500 bags of rice, Myaungmya Rice Mill Entrepreneurs Association K 10 million, Gold Delta Co., K 3 million, Sima Co., K 3 million, Zalunayar Rice Miller Co., K 2 million, Toeayar Co., K 3 million and 30000 basket of paddy strain, 1700 bags of rice and K 27 million. The officials responded to the questions asked by the local media. *MNA*

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung addresses at paddy strain and cash assistance donation ceremony.—MNA

Farmers in flood-hit areas provided with paddy strain and cash assistance

YANGON, 20 Aug—A ceremony to present farmers who got into trouble with flood with paddy strain and cash assistance was held at Yangon Region Government Office, here, on 19 August.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing together with Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe attended the ceremony.

The Agriculture and Irrigation Minister said that both the nation and well-wishers should provide necessary assistance for farmers whose farms were flooded by torrential rain in Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon regions in this rainy season.

Even the provisions were not sufficient for those farmers, the officials need to make efforts in producing regional high-yielding crops as well as timely distribution, knowing the goodwill attitude of the nation and well-wishers, said the agriculture and irrigation minister.

The Agriculture and Irrigation Minister presented 300 baskets of paddy strain and Dr Naing Tun Aung and wife Dr Wai Wai Yin and son Mg Yan Nyein Aung, son Mg Moe Myat Aung, niece Ma Aye Nanda and family and the staff of International Gate Way Co., Ltd and staff of Myohla Sugar Mill K 30.1 million and fifty thousand, U Maung Kyee of Green Asia K 10 million to U Myint Swe, Region Chief Minister.

The commerce minister also presented K 20 million, US$ 100 and Yum Yum instant noodle donated by well-wishers and entrepreneurs.

Chairman of UMFCCI Dagon International Co., U Win Aung presented 200 baskets of paddy strain, MD U Myint Lwin of Kitsapanadi Express Co., Ltd 72000 loaf of One Tea cake worth K 5 million to Speaker of Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win.

Today donation amounted to K 78.1 billion fifty thousand, US$ 100 and 500 baskets of paddy strain.—*MNA*

It is up to two agencies to choose whatever...

(from page 1)

The President then explained about allowing the chairperson and members of the constitutional tribunal of the Union retire before 21 August, 2012 of their own volition. The provision in sub-para (a) of Section 11 of the constitution is just aimed for possible most separation of three branches of national sovereignty—legislative power, executive power and judicial power and checks and balances. It would be against the law and unfair if the President would force the chairperson and members of the constitutional tribunal of the Union to resignation for the constitutional tribunal of the Union has acted freely to assume its responsibility vested by the constitution. Therefore, it cannot be forced the chairperson and members of the constitutional tribunal of Union to resign.

Members of the constitutional tribunal of the Union are nominated by the President and two Hluttaw Speakers and then appointed with the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The members are legal experts with long judicial experiences, some of whom even dutifully took part in the National Assembly held from 2004 to 2007 for drafting the constitution. It is believed that they would not make reckless decision either by mistake or due to impartiality.

All the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives including the President himself have taken affirmation or sworn in to uphold and abide by the constitution and adhere to the laws of the State in the presence of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker. So, the president has to abide by the verdict of the constitutional tribunal of the Union according to the provisions of Section 324 of the constitution and provisions of the Article 23 of the law of the constitutional tribunal of the Union.

Myanmar has just taken step forward to global stage with infant democracy. So, in order not to impede the strides of reforms undertaken by the legislative, executive and judicial pillars for democracy promotion in Myanmar because of the disagreement at present time, and in consideration of the 60 million population, and in order not to undermine the unity of the three pillars, it is advisable for the Hluttaw to exercise the legal rights vested by Chapter (12) of the constitution rather than pointing a finger at someone. It is supposed to be appropriate approach without causing disadvantages to anyone.

The President in conclusion said that it is up to two agencies to choose whatever political line of struggle of their own volition as both are independent ones formed in line with the constitution.—*MNA*

Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts to be...

(from page 16)

promote Yewai basic education high school (branch) in Meiktila Townshp", raised by U Soe Aung of Mandalay region Constituency No. 11, the deputy minister said that the plan to promote the school (branch) would be underway in coming academic year as Yewai basic education high school (branch) has 262 students.

Regarding the query on **"whether there is any plan to promote the affiliated school in Houngpa Village in Phakant Township as a basic education high school (branch)"**, raised by U Mya Ohn of Kachin State Constituency No. 8, he said that the plan to promote the affiliated school as a basic education high school (branch) is underway as there were 69 students at high school level.

Afterwards, member of the bill committee of Amyotha Hluttaw U Kyaw Kyaw read out the report on the bill on 2012-year examination board with amendment, sent by Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw proved each paragraph of the bill.

U Min Oo of Bago Region Constituency No. 7, U Hmat Kyi of Mandalay Region ConstituencyNo. 9 and Daw Khin Wai Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency participated the discussion about the proposal on farmers and labour affairs committee of Amyotha Hluttaw.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw decided to continue creating the proposal again in cooperation with the representatives who partook in the discussion in accord with the decision of the committee.

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Soe Aung of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 11 makes question.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Htay Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 12 raising question.

MNA

U Saw Ohn of Mon State Constituency participated in the discussion about the report of the Grantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee.

Member of the Grantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Ohn submitted the proposal to the Hluttaw to be under discussion. The Hluttaw announced that it was approved.

U Tin Shein of Thaninthayi Region Constituency submitted the proposal on urging the Union Government for conducting Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts to be held only by respective region and state governments. A representative agreed with it.

Afterwards, the Hluttaw announced that as another proposal was approved to be under discussion, any representatives wishing to participate in the discussion might register when the meeting was over.

U Nain Khin Paung of Chin State Constituency No. 7 submitted the proposal on urging the Union Government to plant industrial crops more and more as it makes social standard high. A representative agreed with it.

The Hluttaw decided to put the proposal into discussion.

The today's meeting came to an end at 2 pm, and the 31st day meeting continues tomorrow.

There were five queries answered, one bill approved, one report discussed, one report approved, two proposals submitted.

MNA

Course on implementation of prevention of military recruitment of underage children opened

Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win of the Commander-in-Chief's Office makes a speech at the ceremony.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug— A course on implementation of prevention of military recruitment of underage children according to the MoU on prevention of military recruitment of underage children signed by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and UNCTFMA on 27 June, was opened at Defence Services Recruiting Unit in Yangon today.

The course was arranged by the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and UNCTFMA.

At the opening, Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win of the Commander-in-Chief's Office and Mr. Ramesh Shrestha of UN gave opening speeches.

Present at the opening were officials concerned of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Attorney-General of the Union's Office, service personnel, as well as officials from UNICEF, UNHCR, ILO, Save the Children, World Vision, World Food Programme and UNDP.

The 22-day course covers sharing knowledge on measures against military recruitment of underage children and giving lectures on implementation of plans of action, citing that the trainees have to spread their knowledge at multiplier courses.

MNA

Buddhist conference between Myanmar and Thailand held

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—A Buddhist conference between International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University (ITBMU) and Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University was held on 14 August.

The faculty members led by the Pro rector (teaching) Sayadaw and Pro rector (Admin) Sayadaw of ITBMU and the faculty members led by Sayadaw Phrarajsithimuni of MCU, Mrs Dr Sudarat Bantaokul & Mr Tanakom Bantaokul and 40 members attended the symposium.

They discussed the matters of Buddhist missionary of Thailand, prescribed pali texts, subjects, and the rules for exams in Myanmar.

MCU members donated offertories to Abbot U Kawtinnya of Myanmar-Thai Friendship Monastery. The fund of Dr Bhaddanta Ahsapha Mahathera (Dhammasariya, Agga Maha Khammahtanasariya) was donated to Mahasi Meditation Centre Sayadaw and officials of religious Nuggaha team.

MNA

Rakhine State Chief Minister meets Islam religious leaders

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—A work coordination meeting between Rakhine State government and State level departmental heads took place at the state's Hluttaw Hall on 18 August morning.

At the meeting, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin delivered a speech citing that it needs to follow the guidelines given by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, who recently paid a trip to Rakhine State, to make strenuous efforts in advancing social standard fulfilling public needs such as electricity supply, purified drinking water, smooth transportation, environmental greening and employments.

In the afternoon, the Chief Minister, Commander of Western Command and state ministers met with Islam religious leaders at the state's Hluttaw hall. The meeting focused on fulfillment of the public needs at relief camps.

MNA

Mortorcyclists gets fines for breaking traffic rules

KYAUKME, 20 Aug— As part of efforts for traffic rules enforcement in Shan State (North), a local traffic police squad carried out the surprise check at Kyaukme in Shan State (North) on 17 August and arrested 40 motorcyclists.

Action was taken agains the drivers for not obeying traffic rules.

They were brought to the court on the same day and got fines for breaking traffic rules.

Kyemon

Over 400 pirate DVDs seized

NYAUNGLEBIN, 20 Aug— Four hundred and twenty pirate DVDs were seized from a shop at Myoma Market in the Ward-3 in Nyaunglebin, Bago Region, recently.

A combined team comprising officials from the township video-based association and members from Nyaunglebin Police Station searched the shop, acting on a tip-off, and discovered the illegal DVDs.

Action is being taken against Ma Win Myint, 41, the owner of the shop, under Section (pa) 311/2012 Television and Video Act 32 (1).

Kyemon

All Myanmar Arts, Sculptures Show in December

YANGON, 20 Aug — Myanmar Traditional Artistees Association (Central) has invited its member artists to exhibit their works in the All Myanmar Arts and Sculptures Show scheduled to be held in December in Yangon.

The associating has requested the member artists to send each work first to the School of Arts (Chinchaung) in Bahan Township from 25 August to 10 September to be printed on the catalouge of the show.

The artists are requested to mention their names, title for their works, medium, contact number and address when they send their works to the association.

Kyemon

***Fire Brigade members from Yangon Region Fire Brigade volunteered for clearing debris and bushes and dredging drains in the compound of Yangon People's Hospital on 18 August, 2012. A total of 550 members participate in the voluntary works.*—MNA**

Flood ruins betel farms in Pantanaw Township

PANTANAW, 20 Aug — Flood caused by recent torrential rains has destroyed betels farms in Pantanaw Township while the leaves has got strong market this rainy season.

The flood had flowed over the dykes built by the betel farmers around the betal farm in Tawkyaung, Yepawgyi, Kazinngu and Bawai village-tracts in the township.

The farmers earned good income thanks to the high prices of the betel at the market this rainy season.

The flood ruined the betel farms while the price of the betels reached K5000 to K6000 increased from K 1000 in the summer.

A farmer grows from 30000 to 40000 betel plants, earning about K 400,000 per month in rainy season.

Kyemon

Palm Wood replaces hard wood in central Myanmar

YESAGYO, 20 Aug — Farmers in central Myanmar has turned to palm wood to build homes due to the hike price for hard wood.

"We used palm wood beams in the past. But, today, we have to widely used in building houses as the hard wood is rare and its pirce is high," said U Win Maung who has used palm wood in building his house at the Village of Hsinthay Chaung in Yesagyo.

The use of palm wood has helped lower the cost for building houses and prevent the forest depletion in the central Myanmar.—*Kyemon*

Rice planted in 98 per cent of rain-fed field in Pyu

PYU, 20 Aug — Ninety-eight per cent of the 153926 acres of rice field in Pyu Township has been put under rice.

Farmers from 61 village-tracts from Pyu Township, Bago Region, have made efforts to meet the target of rice plantation for the 2012-2013 rice growing season, meeting 98 per cent of rice plantation of the township on 15 August.

Though the plantation started late due to unsufficient rain in early rice planting season, the heavy rain fall in the middle of the monsoon season has helped the rice to grow well.

Kyemon

Electric fishing down fish population in Yedashe

YEDASHE, 20 Aug — Battery fishing is booming in the creeks, rivers, lakes and fields in Yedashe Township at night.

Local people in Yedashe Township, threating the extinction of fish in the township.

Local people has hardly caught fish in the creeks and rivers in Yedashe Township and put the blame on the illegal fishing.

There are about 20 to 30 groups who did electrict fishing at night, a witness said.

The illegal fighing technique discriminately kills both small and big fishes.

Myanmar farmers caught fish while working in the rice field in the rainy season in the past.

As there is no effective law enforcement to control the electrict fishing in the township, the number of illegal fisherman who do the electric fishing has increased in rural areas, a local people said.

Kyemon

District News

Bus Fares don't up despite flood

PATHEIN, 20 Aug — Bus fares from Pathein to Yangon do not up despite the flood on some portions of the road.

The overflow water from the Ngawun River has flooded the road section between the Mile Post 21/0 and 24/2 and Gon Min Road Section on the road, causing hindrances to bus drivers.

The flood has limited the journey time and it takes seven hours for the divers between Yangon and Pathein though it takes only three hours normally. —*Kyemon*

120000 stimulant tablets seized

PYINOOLWIN, 20 Aug— PyinOoLwin Township Anti-drug squad seized 120000 stimulant tablets hidden in nine biscuit cans in a car recently.

Acting on a tip-off, the anti-drug squad, stopped and searched the white van at the village of Wutwon in PyinOoLwin Township and discovered nine packs of the stimulant tablets worth K513 million and arrested Aung Ko Latt, 37, the driver of the car.

The anti-drug squad also confiscated a moble phone, K120,000 and the car.

Action is being taken against Aung Ko Latt under Section 15/19 (A)/20(A)/21 of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substance Law.—*Kyemon*

People ride bikes during the fifth annual Summer Streets event on Park Avenue, New York, the United States, on 18 Aug, 2012. Summer Streets is an annual celebration of New York City's most valuable public space — streets. On three consecutive Saturdays in the summer, nearly seven miles of NYC's streets are opened for people to play, walk, bike, and breathe. Summer Streets provides space for healthy recreation and encourages New Yorkers to use more sustainable forms of transportation. XINHUA

US health panel likely to make HIV tests routine

WASHINGTON, 20 Aug— A US health panel may soon make HIV testing as standard a practice as checking cholesterol levels, a move that would fundamentally change how the virus is detected and treated.

The US Preventive Services Task force, a government-backed group of clinicians and scientists, is expected to make a new recommendation on HIV screening available for public comment before the end of the year.

Health officials close to the panel, speaking on condition of anonymity, see it making a positive recommendation for routine screening, updating their current position, issued in 2005, which leaves the decision up to doctors.

Under President Barack Obama's healthcare law, passed in 2010, insurers are required to cover preventive services that are recommended by the task force.

"This would be one of those major sea changes ... moving away from what has been somewhat the segmentation of HIV - either by population, by geography," said Michael Kharfen, chief of community outreach for the Washington, DC, Department of Health. Kharfen, who worked on the frontlines of the HIV epidemic in New York in the 1980s, recalls when the prognosis for the disease was "practically certain you were going to die.

"It still will take culture change for medical providers, but this will be a tremendous leap," he said.

The HIV/AIDs epidemic remains a significant health challenge in the United States, with an estimated 1.2 million people living with the disease. Of this group, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 20 percent are unaware of their infection. Nearly 60,000 new cases of the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS are reported nationally every year.

The CDC and other prominent groups have already called for routine HIV screening as a way to reach a much broader population and reduce the stigma some associate with showing up at an HIV clinic. But a recommendation from the task force would carry greater weight, as the US health reform law of 2010 will require insurers to cover preventive services it endorses.

Reuters

India to hold meeting on nuclear disarmament

NEW DELHI, 20 Aug— Indian External Affairs Minister SM Krishna will inaugurate on Tuesday a nuclear disarmament conference here, according to local media.

The National Outreach Conference on Global Nuclear Disarmament is an initiative of the prime minister's informal group on global disarmament chaired by Mani Shankar Aiyar of the Congress and is organized by the Indian Council of World Affairs and supported by the external affairs ministry, said Indo-Asian News Service on Sunday.

The meeting is also held to commemorate the 68th birthday of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, who presented a plan for a nuclear-weapons-free world order at the United Nations General Assembly in June 1988. Indian Vice President Hamid Ansari and National Security Adviser Shivshankar Menon will address the conference.—*Xinhua*

HK airport traffic sets new records in July

HONG KONG, 20 Aug— Passenger traffic and aircraft movements at Hong Kong International Airport set new monthly records in July, Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) announced on Sunday.

The Hong Kong International Airport handled more than five million passengers and 29,880 aircraft movements in July, up 0.5 percent and 3.4 percent respectively over a year earlier, the AAHK said.

The growth in passenger volume was driven primarily by Hong Kong residents, which rose 6 percent over the same month last year.

Cargo volume declined 1.6 percent to 335,000 tons. Although imports grew by 4 percent in July, the cargo decline was mainly attributed to the 4 percent year-on-year drop in exports, together with a 3 percent decrease in transshipments. Cargo activity with Southeast Asia outperformed other key regions.

Stanley Hui, Chief Executive Officer of AAHK, said both passenger and air traffic movements have once again set records, and he believes the growth trend will continue in the coming months.

During the first seven months of the year, the airport recorded 5.9 percent and 5.4 percent year-on-year growths in passenger volume and aircraft movement, reaching 32.7 million and 201,760, respectively. Airfreight handling declined 0.2 percent to 2.3 million tons during the period.—*Xinhua*

A ship carrying tourists moves on the Lijiang River in Guilin, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 19 Aug, 2012. According to local government, Guilin, a famous tourist destination in south China, attracted a record of some 14.8 million person times by the end of June this year, which brings the city a revenue of about 11.1 billion yuan (about 1.74 billion US dollars). —XINHUA

Drought hampers rice cultivation in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 20 Aug— Cambodia has cultivated 1.93 million hectares of land, only 82 percent of its 2.36 million hectare target, due to a delay in monsoon rains which hampered rice sowing in the country, according to a media release from the Ministry of Agriculture on Sunday.

The report said that drought has been hitting Cambodia for more than five weeks and tens of thousands of hectares of rice seedlings in some 14 out of the 24 cities and provinces have been affected.

To date, the drought has damaged 10,690 hectares of rice seedlings and affected other 135,450 hectares.

Rainy season begins in May and lasts until October. But this year, there is a lack of rain, said Keo Vy, chief of the Cabinet of the National Committee for Disaster Management. "If the rains delay for another one or two weeks, the damage will be bigger," he said.

Cambodia is an agrarian country with more than 80 percent of the population being farmers. This Southeast Asian nation produced some 8.25 million tons of paddy rice last year, said a report of the Ministry of Agriculture.—*Xinhua*

More divers in C Philippines join rescue for missing senior gov't official

BORACAY ISLAND, 20 Aug—More divers and coast guards in central Philippines' Boracay Island were added to augment forces in search for the Department of Interior and Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo and his two aids in Masbate Bay on Monday, a former local diving schools association head said.

Divers coming from this resort island had pledged to join the search and rescue operation efforts to locate Jessie Robredo and two of his companions who were reported missing after the ill-fated private Piper Seneca plane crashed in the sea of the Masbate on Saturday afternoon, said Mike Labatiao, former president of the Boracay Association of Scuba Diving Schools (BASDS).

He said he attended a command conference organized by the Philippine Coast Guard in central Philippines in Iloilo City on Sunday night. "We are still determining the number of volunteers who will be joining and are preparing necessary equipment right now for the immediate dispatch for search and rescue operation," said Labatiao.—*Xinhua*

People take bath and splash with water in a fountain in Berlin, Germany, on 19 Aug, 2012. Temperature of Berlin rose over 35.2 degrees Celsius on Sunday. —XINHUA

Estimated 30,000 antiques to be salvaged from sunken ship

GUANGZHOU, 20 Aug— More than 30,000 pieces of antiques are expected to be salvaged from Nan'ao-1, an ancient merchant vessel that sank about 500 years ago off the coast of Guangdong Province.

Upon the conclusion of an underwater archaeological mission, about 10,000 pieces of newly salvaged antiques will be exhibited in the Nan'ao Museum in Shantou, said Huang Yingtao, director of the museum.

The salvage operation, which started in June, was suspended due to the effects of typhoon Kai-Tak, which made landfall in the coastal area of Guangdong at noon on Friday.

This round of underwater archaeological work on Nan'ao-1 will finish by the end of September, said Cui Yong, head of the team of archaeologists.

Archaeologists conducting the underwater work will measure the length of the wreck after the antiques are salvaged.

Archaeologists had previously recovered over 20,000 antiques, including porcelain and copper coins, and identified 25 cabins.

The ship sank in the Sandianjin waters off Nan'ao County, Shantou, during the mid- or late-Ming Dynasty (1368-1644).

The ship is believed to have been bound for the Philippines and Malaysia, said Cui.

Guangdong was a major center for sea trade in ancient China.

Local fishermen found the wrecked ship, estimated at 25 meters in length and seven meters in width, in May 2007. It was buried in silt 27 meters underwater and about 5.6 nautical miles from Shantou.

Xinhua

A migrant rides a motorcycle with his child in the newly-built resident areas in the Shujiagou Village of Liupo Town in Yunxian County, central China's Hubei Province, on 18 Aug, 2012. Over 20,000 migrants from Yunxian County and Danjiangkou City will move to the resettlement site due to the construction of the middle route of the South-to-North Water Diversion Project. The relocation of migrants is expected to be finished by September, 2012. —XINHUA

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (154)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (154) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.8.2012 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 PHULSAWAT SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGSAPHAN VOY NO (100)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAPHAN VOY NO (100) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (4) 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 CHOLLADA NAREE VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHOLLADA NAREE VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.8.2012 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: M/S SEANET SHIPPING CO LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ALAW VOY NO (EALO 7)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ALAW VOY NO (EALO 7) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W (2) 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: EASTERN CAR LINER S'PORE PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV TUSON VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TUSON VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2012 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 RK SHIPPING & TRADNS PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (122)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (122) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

GM, Isuzu recall 258,000 SUVs to fix power windows

DETROIT, 20 Aug—General Motors and Isuzu are recalling more than 258,000 SUVs in the US and Canada to fix short-circuits in power-window and door-lock switches that can cause fires.

The recall covers Chevrolet TrailBlazer, GMC Envoy, Buick Rainier, Isuzu Ascender and Saab 97-X SUVs from the 2006 and 2007 model years. The SUVs were sold or registered in 20 US states, Washington, DC, and Canada, where salt and other chemicals are used to clear roads in the winter.

GM has reports of 28 fires. It doesn't know of any injuries caused by the problemme.

Fluid containing the road-clearing chemicals can get inside the driver's door and cause corrosion in the power-window and door-switch circuit boards, according to documents posted on the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website. The corrosion can cause short-circuits, knocking out the switches and causing fires.

The recall affects SUVs sold or registered in the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Dealers will replace the power-window switch for free, according to NHTSA documents posted on Saturday.—*Internet*

***In this 27 Aug, 2006 file photo, a trio of unsold 2006 Buick Rainier sports utility vehicles sits in front of a Buick dealership in the southeast Denver suburb of Lone Tree, Colo.*—INTERNET**

A 63-year-old engineer and Japan's 'Last Ninja'

TOKYO, 20 Aug—A 63-year-old former engineer may not fit the typical image of a dark-clad assassin with deadly weapons who can disappear into a cloud of smoke. But Jinichi Kawakami is reputedly Japan's last ninja.

As the 21st head of the Ban clan, a line of ninjas that can trace its history back some 500 years, Kawakami is considered by some to be the last living guardian of Japan's secret spies.

"I think I'm called (the last ninja) as there is probably no other person who learned all the skills that were directly" handed down from ninja masters over the last five centuries, he said.

***Performancers show off their skills during a show at at the Iga Ninja Museum.*—INTERNET**

"Ninjas proper no longer exist," he said as he demonstrated the tools and techniques used in espionage and sabotage by men fighting for their samurai lords in the feudal Japan of yesteryear.

Nowadays they are confined to fiction or used to promote Iga, some 350 kilometres (220 miles) southwest of Tokyo, a mountain-shrouded city near the ancient imperial capital of Kyoto that was once home to many ninjas.

Kawakami, a former engineer who began teaching ninjutsu — the art of the ninja — ten years ago, said the true history of ninjas was a mystery.

"There are some drawings of their tools but we don't always find all the details," which may have been left deliberately vague, Kawakami said.

"Many of their traditions were passed on by word of mouth, so we don't know what was altered in the process."

And those skills that have arrived in the 21st century in their entirety are sometimes difficult to verify.

"We can't try out murder or poisons. Even if we can follow the instructions to make a poison, we can't try it out," he said.

Kawakami first encountered the secretive world of ninjas at the age of just six, but has only vague memories of first meeting his master, Masazo Ishida, a man who dressed as a Buddhist monk.—*Internet*

UN expresses concern over influx of refugees at Kenya's Kakuma camp

NAIROBI, 20 Aug—The UN humanitarian agency has expressed concern over the number of refugees from South Sudan arriving at the Kakuma camp in northwestern Kenya which it said has surpassed the capacity of 100,000.

The UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said more funds will be required to set up a new camp that could accommodate more refugees in the East African nation.

"Kakuma refugee camp in north-western Kenya has surpassed its capacity of 100,000 residents," OCHA said in its Humanitarian Bulletin released in Nairobi on Saturday.

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) reports that 12,123 new people were registered in the camp in 2012, with the majority coming from South Sudan's Jonglei State and Sudan's South Kordofan State. "In view of ongoing instability and conflict in Sudan and South Sudan, there is a high likelihood that more asylum seekers will make their way to Kakuma by year end," OCHA said.

Kakuma refugee camp hosts more than 90,000 refugee population from different African countries hit by civil strife and is the second largest refugee camp in Kenya after Daadab.—*Xinhua*

Brazilian worker survives iron bar piercing skull

This tomography scan released on 16 Aug, 2012 by the Miguel Couto hospital, shows the skull of 24-year-old construction worker Eduardo Leite pierced by a metal bar in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Doctors say Leite survived after a 6-foot metal bar fell from above him and pierced his head.

A 24-year-old construction worker survived after a 6-foot metal bar fell from above and pierced his head, doctors said.

Luiz Alexandre Essinger, chief of staff at Rio de Janeiro's Miguel Couto Hospital, said doctors successfully withdrew the iron bar from Eduardo Leite's skull during a five-hour surgery.

"He was taken to the operating room, his skull was opened, they examined the brain and the surgeon decided to pull the metal bar out from the front in the same direction it entered the brain." Essinger said.

He said Leite was conscious when he arrived at the hospital and told him what had happened.

He said Leite was lucid and showed no negative consequences after the operation.

"Today, he continues well, with few complaints for a five-hour-long surgery," Essinger said. "He says he feels little pain."

The bar fell from the fifth floor of a building under construction, went through Leite's hard hat, entered the back of his skull and exited between his eyes, Essinger said, adding: "It really was a miracle" that Leite survived.

The accident and surgery took place on Wednesday.

"They told me he was lying down (in the ambulance) with the bar pointing upward," said Leite's wife, Lilian Regina da Silva Costa. "He was holding it and his face covered in blood. His look was as if nothing had happened. When he arrived he told the doctors he wasn't feeling anything, no pain, nothing. It's unbelievable."

Ruy Monteiro, the hospital's head of neurosurgery, told the Globo TV network that Leite escaped by just a few centimeters from losing one eye and becoming paralyzed on the left side of his body.

He said the bar entered a "non-eloquent" area of the brain, an area that doesn't have a specific, major known function.

Leite is expected to remain hospitalized for at least two weeks.

Driver swerves to avoid moose, hits bear instead

A Norwegian driver who swerved his car on a rural road to avoid running into a moose hit a bear instead, authorities said.

The driver spotted the moose on a country road near Hanestad, 225 kilometers north of Oslo, around midnight on Wednesday, and tried to go around the animal, not realizing that a bear was also nearby.

"The driver had lost a bit of speed as he tried to avoid the moose before hitting the bear," said Svein Erik Bjorke of the local wildlife authority, who was out in the forest searching for the wounded animal.

"We are currently tracking the bear and we have found traces of blood indicating internal injuries," he said.

The driver escaped uninjured while his car suffered some damage.

Norway's rugged mountains are sparsely populated and full of wildlife. The country, nearly the size of Germany but home to just five million people, has around 100,000 moose and 150 brown bears, authorities said.

News Album

Wynonna Judd postpones shows after husband's crash

HILL CITY, 20 Aug— Country singer Wynonna Judd announced on Sunday that she is postponing concerts scheduled in Canada next week after her husband was hurt in a motorcycle accident in South Dakota. Judd and her husband, Michael "Cactus" Moser, were riding separate motorcycles north on US Highway 16 in the Black Hills on Saturday when Moser crossed the center line and hit a car. Moser, 55, of Nashville, Tenn, was airlifted to Rapid City Regional Hospital with serious but not life-threatening injuries.

Judd was riding ahead of her husband and was not involved in the crash. The car's driver was not injured.

Moser was cited for crossing the center line and not having a motorcycle license. Judd canceled her Saturday night show in Deadwood, a resort town in the Black Hills. Her website showed four concerts scheduled next week in Canada. "The outpouring of prayer and support from friends, family and fans has been a blessing to both Cactus and I," she said on Sunday in a statement. "Cactus is a champion. I love him deeply and I will not leave his side."

***This 4 April, 2011 file photo shows country winger Wynonna Judd from The Judds, performing at the Girls' Night Out: Superstar Women of Country in Las Vegas.*—INTERNET**

The couple was married in a private family ceremony in June in Leipers Fork, Tenn. Judd rose to fame with her mother, Naomi, as the country duo The Judds, before she embarked on a solo career in the 1990s.—*Internet*

John Lennon's killer to get seventh parole hearing this week

NEW YORK, 20 Aug— Mark David Chapman, who shot and killed former Beatle John Lennon 32 years ago, will have his seventh parole hearing this week, New York state's Department of Corrections said on Saturday.

A decision on whether to release him will likely be made public by the end of the week, said department spokeswoman Linda Foglia.

Chapman's interviews with the parole board will take place at Wende Correctional Facility, a maximum-security prison in Alden, New York, where he is being held, she said.

Chapman, 57, is serving a prison sentence of 20 years to life for shooting Lennon four times in the back outside the musician's New York City apartment building on 8 December, 1980. He pleaded guilty to second-degree murder. He has come up for parole every two years since 2000 and has been turned down each time.

After his last hearing in 2010, the three-member parole board cited in written comments to Chapman, the "disregard you displayed for the norms of our society and the sanctity of human life."

Ahead of that hearing, the parole division received dozens of letters arguing against Chapman's release, including one from Lennon's widow Yoko Ono, who said she believed Chapman posed a risk to her, Lennon's two sons, the public and himself.

Chapman was transferred in May to Wende from Attica Correctional Facility, where he had been held for 31 years.

A corrections spokesman said at the time that Chapman was placed in protective custody at Wende but the reason was not made public. Wende is located in western New York state, east of Buffalo.—*Reuters*

A mug-shot of Mark David Chapman, who shot and killed John Lennon, is displayed on the 25th anniversary of Lennon's death at the NYPD in New York 8 Dec, 2005.
REUTERS

'Expendables' tops weekend US box office

LOS ANGELES, 20Aug— "The Expendables 2," starring Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Sylvester Stallone, was No 1 at the US box office this weekend.

The film raked in $28.75 million in gross US receipts.

"The Bourne Legacy," with Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz and Edward Norton, was No 2 with $17.02 million.

All studio estimates of gross box office receipts are via Box Office Mojo.

"ParaNorman" was third with $14 million; "The Campaign" fourth with $13.385 million; "Sparkle (2012)" fifth with $12 million; "The Dark Knight Rises" sixth with $11.14 million; "The Odd Life of Timothy Green" seventh with $10.909 million; "Hope Springs" eighth with $9.1 million; and "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days" ninth with $3.85 million. "Total Recall (2012)" was 10th with $3.5 million.—*Internet*

This film image released by Lionsgate shows, from left, Yu Nan, Terry Crews, Sylvester Stallone, Randy Couture and Dolph Lundgren in a scene from "The Expendables 2."
INTERNET

Nicki Minaj performs on the NBC Today Show at Rockefeller Center in New York City on 14 Aug, 2012.
INTERNET

Minaj cancels due to vocal chord damage

HOLLYWOOD, 20 Aug— Pop star Nicki Minaj canceled her weekend concerts in England because of vocal chord damage, the singer's publicist said in a statement.

The statement said she "regretfully canceled" her shows at the V Festival on Saturday and Sunday because of "strained vocal chords."

"Despite doctor's orders, she performed on a bruised vocal chord in [New York City] on 14 August. As a result, the chord has gotten worse," the statement said.

Meanwhile, Minaj is currently being considered for the open seat on the judges' panel for the 12th season of "American Idol," The *Hollywood Reporter* reported on Saturday.

The fact that Minaj is the new face of Pepsi while rival Coca Cola sponsors the singing contest could cause conflict, an unnamed source close to the show told THR.

Internet

Bieber, Gaga, Obama join Beyoncé for campaign

NEW YORK, 20 Aug— Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga and Michelle Obama are giving a helping hand to Beyonce.

Beyoncé performs onstage during the filming of the "I Was Here" video at the General Assembly at the United Nations in New York, in this 10 Aug, 2012 handout photo
REUTERS

Obama and the pop stars have signed on to support the global campaign for World Humanitarian Day which Beyonce marked on Sunday with the release of a new video for her song "I Was Here," filmed at the United Nations in New York last week.

The campaign asks that on Sunday people help others through such acts as making sandwiches for the homeless or volunteering at a local charity. The goal is to share 1 billion messages of hope. A representative for Beyonce says that Bieber, Gaga, Obama, Rihanna, Shakira, Jay-Z, Gwyneth Paltrow, Chris Martin and others will participate.—*Internet*

Tony Scott leaps to death off LA bridge

LOS ANGELES, 20 Aug— Tony Scott, who directed "Top Gun" and "The Taking of Pelham 123," jumped to his death from a Los Angeles bridge on Sunday, officials said.

The Los Angeles County coroner said the 68-year-old Brit went off the Vincent Thomas Bridge spanning Los Angeles' San Pedro port district and Terminal Island about 12:30 pm. His body was recovered about 4 hours later, TZM reported. *The Los Angeles Times* reported a suicide note was found in Scott's office and a note listing contact information was found in his car, which was parked on the bridge. The newspaper said law enforcement sources said several witnesses saw Scott climb over a fence on the bridge and leap.—*Internet*

Director Tony Scott

Everton sign Belgium forward; Liverpool sign winger Assaisi; QPR capture Bosingwa

Everton have signed Belgium forward Kevin Mirallas from Olympiacos for an undisclosed fee. INTERNET

LONDON, 20 Aug — Everton have signed Belgium forward Kevin Mirallas from Olympiacos for an undisclosed fee. The 24-year-old, whose signing was completed too late to feature in Monday night's Barclays Premier League encounter against Manchester United, has agreed a four-year deal with the Goodison Park club.Mirallas scored 20 goals in 25 league appearances in the Greek Super League last season and can play either as a shadow striker or on either wing.

The former Standard Liege, St Etienne and Lille front man, who will wear the No 11 shirt for his new club, has been capped 28 times by his country, including Belgium's 4-2 defeat of the Netherlands on Wednesday, scoring five international goals."I am very happy because Everton is a big club and for me it's a very good opportunity," Mirallas told the club's official website. "I know this is a great club with great supporters and a club that has the ability win a lot of games in the Premier League. That's why I came."

Liverpool sign Assaidi

Across Merseyside, Liverpool have also added to their ranks by signing winger Oussama Assaidi from Heerenveen for an undisclosed fee. The Moroccan international, who has scored 20 goals in 68 appearances for Heerenveen and has been capped 22 times, signed a long-term deal at the Barclays Premier League club."When I watch Liverpool it's always a good atmosphere," said the 24-year-old. "The fans are fantastic and I'm happy to be here. I had offers from other big clubs but I've been waiting for this moment."

Assaidi has become new manager Brendan Rodgers' third summer signing after acquiring striker Fabio Borini from Roma and midfielder Joe Allen from Swansea City. "He's a young player who has done very well, in particular in the last couple of seasons, in Holland," said Rodgers, whose side lost 3-0 to West Bromwich Albion on Saturday. "He fits our style perfectly. He's an exciting player who is very good in one-versus-one situations and I think he's a player who will excite the crowd."

QPR capture Bosingwa

Queens Park Rangers' recruitment drive continued apace with the West London club confirming the arrival of Jose Bosingwa on a three-year deal. The Portugal right-back, who helped Chelsea win the UEFA Champions League last season, arrived on a free transfer on Friday after being released by the Blues this summer.

The 29-year-old was not registered in time for his side's opening match of the Barclays Premier League season – a 5-0 defeat by Swansea City."Jose has a lot of versatility which is something I like my players to have," said QPR manager Mark Hughes, who has signed eight players this summer. "He can operate right across the back and can also play the holding role in midfield."

"He's another Champions League winner, the third in the squad now with Park Ji-sung and Djibril Cisse, and will add invaluable experience to the group. His experience is really important to us. He understands the Barclays Premier League and he understands what it takes to win games. He has got a winning mentality and that is what I want to have around the place."

Jose Bosingwa

Swansea swoop for duo

Swansea have also been busy in the transfer market with Preston striker Jamie Proctor arriving at the club for an undisclosed fee, as did Arsenal defender Kyle Bartley.The 20-year-old Proctor has signed a two-year contract at the Liberty Stadium and becomes Michael Laudrup's sixth signing following the acquisitions of Michu, Chico Flores, Jonathan de Guzman, Itay Shechter and Kyle Bartley.

Swansea are awaiting international clearance for the move, and Proctor will initially feature in the Barclays U21 Premier League and is set to feature in their season-opener on Monday."I'm delighted to join Swansea," said the striker. "The club has enjoyed a lot of success over the last few years and their style of football has really caught the eye."He added: "I'm looking forward to being a part of things and trying to impress the new manager enough to force my way into his plans."

The move for Proctor came soon after the Swans completed the signing of Bartley, 21, who joins on a three-year deal.Speaking to Swansea's website, Bartley said: "I spoke to Arsene Wenger briefly last week and he said that my game-time would be at a minimum. For that reason, I wanted to at least go out on loan but when Swansea came in for me it was too good an opportunity to turn down."— *Internet*

Li Na of China holds up the championship trophy after defeating Angelique Kerber of Germany at the women's Cincinnati Open tennis tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio on 19 Aug, 2012. REUTERS

China's Li beats Kerber to win Cincinnati title

MASON, (Ohio) , 20 Aug —China's Li Na showed plenty of character as she fought back to beat German Angelique Kerber 1-6, 6-3, 6-1 and win the Cincinnati Open title on Sunday. The victory ends Li's run of three defeats in finals this year, including a loss to Petra Kvitova in Montreal last week, and is a major boost for her ahead of the US Open later this month.

The 30-year-old Li's win was her sixth career title and her first since her French Open triumph last year and came after the Chinese teamed up with Argentine Carlos Rodriguez, the coach of multiple grand slam winning Belgian Justine Henin, earlier this week.Li won nine straight games from a set and a game down to take the second set and then a 3-0 lead in the third and she gave plenty of credit to her new coach."Thanks Carlos, you are good," she said during the prize-giving ceremony.

"I think we have a good beginning to our work. Before the match we talked a lot about yesterday's game and also about today," she told reporters."Working with him I feel more comfortable, relaxed, not stressful."Li consulted with Rodriguez after the first set where she had failed to break through Kerber's solid defence."He told me to concentrate on my own game and some other things. He's my secret weapon," she said.

Kerber, looking for her third title this year, appeared shell-shocked by the turnaround and was close to tears during discussions with her coach.The 24-year-old said she had become emotional during the run of games where she couldn't find a way to deal with Li."She was playing so well. I tried to hit the ball deep but she was bringing back every ball and also playing the ball so deep herself, so I couldn't do anything," Kerber told reporters."I tried, I gave all I could but it was not enough to win."— *Reuters*

Motorcycling: Pedrosa wins Indianapolis MotoGP

INDIANAPOLIS, 20 Aug — Dani Pedrosa claimed his second victory of the season as the Spaniard won the Indianapolis MotoGP in emphatic fashion on Sunday. The Honda driver led a Spanish one-two, finishing 11 seconds ahead of compatriot Jorge Lorenzo while Italy's Andrea Dovizioso completed the podium. Australian world champion Casey Stoner, riding with a pain-killing injection due to his fractured right ankle and torn ligaments, finished fourth.

***Honda MotoGP rider Dani Pedrosa of Spain leads Yamaha rider Ben Spies of the US during the Indianapolis MotoGP at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, Indiana on 19 Aug, 2012.*— REUTERS**

It was Pedrosa's 17th career victory and puts him on 207 points in the world championship standings, 18 points behind Lorenzo. "It was a good weekend. I think the bike was working well. We were spinning all of practice, but we had a good feeling. So today for the race I was confident," Pedrosa told reporters. Pedrosa started on pole but was challenged in an eventful race that saw Ben Spies take control in the opening laps before the American's hopes ended with 22 laps remaining when his engine blew forcing him to pull off the track.

Pedrosa had a scare of his own when his bike wobbled with 12 laps to go and ran into the grass, but he soon recovered. "When I shifted again to first, the bike had a good kick on me and yeah, I almost lost control," Pedrosa said. "But I kept the bike on the track. I lost one second on that lap." Stoner fought through the pain of his injuries to finish fourth having only been declared fit to race on Sunday morning. In qualifying on Saturday the twice world champion was thrown off his bike and rolled across the grass. He tried to walk off the track but had to call for medical attention and was taken away on a stretcher.— *Reuters*

International Sports

PSG in dark as Ancelotti frustration boils over

AJACCIO, (Corsica), 20 Aug — Paris Saint Germain struggled to a 0-0 draw at Ajaccio on Sunday with the big-spending French club's poor start to the season perfectly illustrated by a floodlight failure in injury time.PSG had been held 2-2 by Lorient in their season-opener last weekend and despite the presence of Jeremy Menez, Ezequiel Lavezzi and Javier Pastore, back from suspension, they were unable to find a way through the Ajaccio defence. It was all too much for coach Carlo Ancelotti.

Paris Saint-Germain's Argentina forward Ivan Lavezzi (L) vies with Ajaccio's French midfielder Ricardo Faty during the French L1 football match Ajaccio vs Paris Saint-Germain in the Francois Coty stadium in Ajaccio, Corsica. Paris Saint Germain and Ajacco drew 0-0.— INTERNET

Without injured striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic and with defender Thiago Silva also missing, the former Chelsea boss was sent to the stands for kicking out at a water bottle, his anger fired by the sending-off of Lavezzi on the hour mark.The result left PSG on two points and in mid-table with testing encounters against Bordeaux and Lille coming up.Meanwhile, Marseille made it two wins in two games to go joint top as the former European champions put a little more distance between them and their dismal 10th-place finish last season.— *Internet*

US swimmer Nyad making progress on Cuba-to-Florida swim

Endurance swimmer Diana Nyad

MIAMI, 20 Aug — Long-distance swimmer Diana Nyad battled jellyfish and choppy seas on Sunday during the second day of her attempt to swim the 103 miles from Cuba to the United States. Nyad, an American who will turn 63 on Wednesday, began her fourth attempt to swim across the Florida Straits on Saturday afternoon, jumping off from Havana's Hemingway Marina. She is accompanied by five boats and 50 crew members, some of whom posted blog updates on her website (www.dianany-ad.com/blog).

During the night, jellyfish stung Nyad on the lips, forehead, hands and neck, they said. She also battled choppy waves, but the sea was calmer on Sunday as she swam north toward Key West, Florida. "Today is more like swimming. I don't know what you would call last night ... probably surviving," Nyad was quoted as saying. By 3:20 pm EDT (1920 GMT) on Sunday, she had swum nearly 24 miles and was marking the time by singing Beatles tunes, the blog said. Nyad hopes to reach the Florida Keys on Tuesday.

Reuters

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(21-8-12 09:30 am ~ 22-8-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* The First General Assembly of Myanmar Seamen's Federation
* Straw Embossed Painting
* News
* B.O.T System Precise and Speedy for the People Cooperate Shall we... (Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway) (Part-2)
* News
* 27th SEA Games "Sepaktakraw"
* News
* Products of Myanmar "Shin Ma Taung Thanakhar"
* News
* Classic Meets JAZZ Concert
* Singapore Scholarship Awards 2012
* News
* The Hills of Phowin Taung and Shwebataung
* News
* ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Workshop On Millennium Development Goals: Acceleration Strategies and Priorities beyond 2012
* News
* Today's Efficient Youths
* Myanmar Movie ''Misdeed''

MYANMAR TV

(21-8-2012) (Tuesday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:40 am
3. Nice & Sweet Song

7:50 am
4. Health Programme

8:05 am
5. Songs Of Yester Years

8:25 am
6. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Classical Song) (Amateur (Firts) Division) (Level Men & Women)

5:05 pm
7. Songs For Upholding National Spirit

5:10 pm
8. The Mirro Images of The Musical Oldies

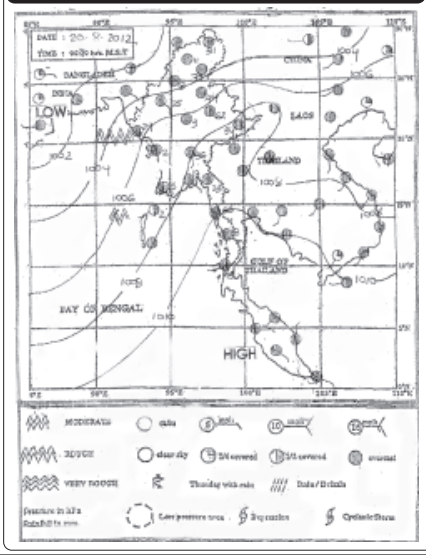
5:25 pm
9. Sweet Melody

5:40 pm
10. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Classical Song) (Amateur (Second) Division) (Level Men & Women)

6:20 pm
11. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

8:00 pm
12. News
13. Bakery World
14. TV Drama Series
15. India Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 21st August, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	31/88	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
2	Kayah	23/73	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
3	Kayin	27/81	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	23/73	17/63	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	29/54	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	32/90	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
7	Tanintharyi	27/81	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
8	Bago	26/79	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	33/91	25/77	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	28/82	24/75	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	26/79	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	28/82	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	29/84	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	20/68	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	22/72	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	24/75	21/70	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	28/82	23/73	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	28/82	23/73	One or two rain or thundershower	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	28/82	21/70	Some rain or thundershower	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	28/82	24/75	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 fairly widespread in Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Kachin State and isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions and Mon State. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Ye (7.08) inches, Myitkyina (4.93) inches, Mogok (3.82) inches, Katha (3.73) inches, Monyin (3.11) inches and Pinlaung (2.87) inches.
Bay Inference	Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.
Outlook for sub-sequent two days	Continuation of increase of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Stefani wins first Web.com Tour title in Kansas

OVERLAND PARK, (Kan), 20 Aug— As Web.com Tour rookie Shawn Stefani said minutes after his victory on Sunday, "when you win a lot of good things go your way." Well, a lot of good things went the former mini-tour performer's way, especially his second shot at No 18.

Tied with Russell Henley at 16-under and hitting his second shot at No 18, Stefani's lob wedge went flew over the flag, bounced off the mesh fencing at the base of the sky boxes and rolled back on the green, a mere three feet from the hole and a possible birdie.

His good fortune resulted in a birdie moments later and the outright lead which was never relinquished. He finished two strokes better than Henley and Luke List for his first Web.com Tour victory.

"That ball at 18 could have kicked several ways, but it broke right for me. Today it went my way," said Stefani, whose previous best finish was a T9 at the Panama Claro Championship in his second start of the campaign. " The win hasn't really sunk in yet, but this is something you dream about as a kid. This is the best thing that has ever happened to me. When the year started I had a couple of goals. One was to win a tournament and the other was to finish in the top 25 and earn my PGA TOUR card," Stefani continued. "I was a little pumped up when I hit that second shot. The adrenaline was going, but the hardest part was making the putt after my shot."

Stefani had been playing on the mini-tour circuit for much of the previous five years after finishing his college career at Lamar University in Texas. The Houston resident played on the NGA Hooters Tour and the Adams Golf Pro Tour Series prior to earning a spot on the Web.com Tour this year at the PGA TOUR Qualifying Tournament.

Internet

Rookie Shawn Stefani picked up his first Web.com Tour title at the Midwest Classic.— INTERNET

Messi, Villa fire Barca to 5-1 win, Real held

Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates his second goal against Real Sociedad during their Spanish first division soccer match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 19 Aug, 2012.— REUTERS

MADRID, 20 Aug — Lionel Messi's double and a David Villa goal on his return from injury helped Barcelona hammer visitors Real Sociedad 5-1 to give new coach Tito Vilanova the perfect start to their La Liga campaign on Sunday. Carles Puyol and Pedro also scored to as Barca claimed an immediate lead in the standings over arch-rivals Real Madrid who were held 1-1 at home by a feisty Valencia side.

The champions had earlier dominated the match at the Bernabeu, but were frustrated by a new-look Valencia and some outstanding saves from goalkeeper Diego Alves. World Player of the Year Messi, who scored a league record 50 goals last season, carried on where he left off by settling Barca down with quick strikes to give them a 3-1 lead inside 15 minutes at the Nou Camp.Pedro volleyed in a fourth just before the break but the biggest cheer was reserved for Spain striker Villa when he was brought on in the 74th minute after eight months out with a broken leg and then stroked home the fifth goal near the end.

"It's always important to start with a win," Vilanova, who has stepped up from assistant to replace Pep Guardiola, told a news conference."It has been a perfect night because David (Villa) has returned with a goal. I am very pleased but this is only the beginning." Although it is the first round of matches, Barca's two-point advantage over Real is significant because Jose Mourinho's side only dropped 14 points in their 38 games last term on their way to a league record tally of 100.

Reuters

Federer beats Djokovic for fifth Cincinnati title

MASON, (Ohio), 20 aug — Roger Federer tightened his grip on the world number one ranking after a crushing 6-0, 7-6 (9/7) defeat of Novak Djokovic to win a sixth title this season at the Cincinnati Masters.

The Swiss will take a healthy points lead of nearly 900 into the US Open, where number two Djokovic is defending the title, starting on 27 August.ATP calculations show that the 31-year-old Federer will maintain the top spot through the end of the season's last Grand Slam.

He begins his record 292nd week atop the table on Monday flushed with his fifth career title in Cincinnati from as many finals.

The Swiss top seed got through a perfect week without losing serve to capture his 76th career trophy. It was also his 16th win in 28 meetings against world number two Djokovic and it means he will go into New York as the clear favourite having become the first man to win five titles at the Cincinnati event.

The Swiss described his effort as "another amazing week". "I've had a magical summer (seventh Wimbledon title, London Olympic silver medal). I feel good about New York - but I'm going to savour this one for a bit. "I've been able to win five. It's obviously incredible because I remember the first few here I struggled." Now looking back it's just unbelievable. Plus this was probably the best week ever here in Cincinnati for me never dropping my serve and beating Novak in the final.

This was very sweet. No doubt about it." Federer said the victory proved to himself that his resilience remains.

"For me to come here somewhat rested, to be honest, and then to play a great final after playing a not very good one at the Olympics where I went on to lose, what, nine games in a row (against Andy Murray)? "But I came here and never dropped my serve. That's the kind of reaction I want to see from myself.

I didn't have a letdown." The 31-year-old is now taking serious aim at a sixth US Open title."It's important for me to push forward and give myself the best possible preparation for New York," he said. "I'll take anything as long as I'm getting through my early rounds. It's a completely different atmosphere in New York, the pressure is going to be different."— *Internet*

Ronaldinho sets up two goals in 3-2 victory

RIO DE JANEIRO, 20 Aug — Ronaldinho's Atletico Mineiro remained top of Brazil's Serie A standings with a 3-2 victory over Botafogo on Sunday. The two-time FIFA world player of the year set up two of his team's goals at the Independencia Arena in Belo Horizonte and had the better of his duel with former AC Milan teammate Clarence Seedorf.

"It was a great performance by everybody but we have to keep our feet on the ground and working as a team because there is still a long way to go," Ronaldinho said. Seedorf, who joined Botafogo in July after ending his 10-year career at the San Siro, lamented his team's poor defending."I think we played well but we can't afford to give away goals like we did because it makes life difficult for us," Seedorf said.—*Xinhua*

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

p15(20).pmd 15 12/1/2009, 3:46 PM

MPs call for uprightness of judicial system, right to trial by jury

30th day meeting of Pyithu Hluttaw in progress. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—Pyithu Hluttaw continued its 30th day session, at Pyithu Hluttaw hall of Hluttaw Complex, at 1 pm today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, 391 MPs and members of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission and the deputy speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw.

At the question-and-answer session, with respect to the question of U Sein Myint of Botahtaung Constituency on **"If there is a plan to have a stone inscription for Thirty Comrades",** Union Minister at President Office U Soe Maung replied:

The State has put the Thirty Comrades' history on record. At present, there is no plan to erect any monument in their honour who took a leading role in Myanmar Independence struggles.

Deputy Auditor-General U Myo Myint of the Union Auditor-General Office replied to the question of U Sein Win of Maubin Constituency on **internal accounting and external accounting that can check and monitor transactions and expenditures of Township-level departments.**

He said that according to the Union Auditor-General Law, the Union Auditor-General's Office and region account offices had to serve as external auditor for inspecting works and accounts of government departments and organizations. They had to disclose the actions taken in their audit reports.

After the report is issued, the period to inform by respective organizations in the suitable period had been set since the report is sent. When there are immediate actions to be taken by respective organizations, based on findings, they would have to attempt to stop losses, damages and misappropriations. In the cases of money or property misappropriations, interim report is sent to second party, the respective Region/State Auditors-General, respective Region/State governments, the Union Auditor-General and respective Union Governments so as to take prompt action without waiting for the report.

If the matters need legal actions, legal actions are to be taken against misappropriations, and the departmental enquiries are to be made.

If the cases need departmental enquiries, preliminary inspections will not be needed again when the losses and damages are due to his or her lack of duty in the cases that respective heads assume that a finding disclosed

(See page 8)

Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts to be held only by region and state governments

Representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw attend 30th day meeting of Amyotha Hluttaw. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—The 30th day meeting of Amyotha Hluttaw was held at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw Complex here at 10:20 am today, in the attendance of 201 representatives including Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint.

During the meeting, concerning the query on **"whether there is some success in exploring natural gas and condansate at Aungthinkha (2) test well with the use of machinery of Thai company,"** raised by Dr Ba Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 6, Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay said the test well is situated in Motttama Offshore Field No. M-3, 185 kilometers southwest of Yangon. The test well was being carried out by Myanma Oil and Natural Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy and PTTEPI oil company of Thailand on a profit-sharing basis since 7 August, 2004.

On 26 March, 2011, limestone layer with potential deposit of oil and natural gas was found between the depth of 9138 and 9413 feet. On 4 March, 2011, it could be confirmed the deposit of oil and gas in M-3 Field as the test well produces 25.14 million cubic feet of natural gas and 145 barrles of condansate per day.

In December 2011, further surveys were made to test the economic viability of the field and to measure the accurate amount of oil and gas deposits. After the analysis of the survey data, five wells under feasibility study will be run on trial at the end of 2012 and then size of the natural gas deposits would be calculated for its economic viability.

Concerning the query on education sector, raised by the four representatives, Deputy Education Minister U Ba Shwe answered.

Regarding the query on **"whether there is any plan to upgrade Basic Education High School (Branch) in Yinmabin Village in Thazi Township into basic education high school,"** made by U Htay Maung of Mandalay Region Constituency No. 12, the deputy minister said that there was no plan to upgrade the school into a basic education high school for there were only 140 students at high school level at the school according to the record.

Concerning the query on **"whether there is any plan to upgrade the basic education post-primary school in Ywama Village in Chauk Township into basic education middle school (branch)",** made by U Aung Nyein of Magway Region Constituency No. 2, the deputy minister said that there is no plan to upgrade the post-primary school into basic education middle school (branch) for there were only 64 students at the post-primary school.

Regarding the query on **"whether there is any plan to**

(See page 9)

Infections among homeless could fuel wider epidemics: study

PAGE 5

Motorcycling: Pedrosa wins Indianapolis MotoGP

PAGE 14

PSG in dark as Ancelotti frustration boils over

PAGE 14

Three missing as leisure boat capsizes in NW China

PAGE 6