

We cannot let ethnic or religious differences become an excuse to revert to authoritarianism



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein delivers speech at roundtable discussion on Myanmar's complex transformation at Chatham House in London. —MNA

LONDON, 16 July—President U Thein Sein addressed the roundtable discussion on Myanmar's complex transformation: prospects and challenges held at the Chatham House in London yesterday.

Following is the full text of the address delivered by the President.

I am extremely pleased to have this opportunity to address you at Chatham House today as part of my first ever visit to London and the United Kingdom.

As you all know, the histories of our two nations

have been intertwined for over two centuries.

In the years that have followed independence we have had periods of good relations as well as more recently periods of difficult relations as well.

I am confident however that we are now turning a page, that we are entering a new era of close Anglo-Myanmar relations, and that Myanmar and the United Kingdom will not only be able to work together to the benefit of both our countries, but will be able to partner across

a range of international challenges.

And in moving towards a new and lasting partnership, we will be able to build on the very deep connections that actually already bind us together. Even during the colonial era, and despite the evils of colonialism many friendships were formed between the Myanmar and British peoples and many individuals bridged our two cultures. And in our history we have dozens of great men and women who studied in England and

that to be successful must be successful in all its parts. Anyone who visits Myanmar today will see the great energy that has been thrown up by the transformation, of competing ideas and robust debate. This is because all Myanmar people know that we cannot allow this transformation to fail.

The first component of our transformation is political. We have a new constitution. We have had elections and by-elections. Media censorship and restrictions on the Internet



Cubic watermelons from Kagawa Pref. catch on among wealthy Russians

Moscow, 16 July—Watermelons grown into cubic shape in plastic containers from Japan's Kagawa Prefecture are catching on among wealthy Russians, selling for 28,000 rubles (about \$856) apiece at a luxury supermarket in Moscow.

Recent media coverage boosted their popularity, with the price rising by 5,000 rubles in a few days, the Interfax news agency reported Sunday.

"People who like exotic items buy them as a kind of joke," said a staff member with the retail

chain Azbuka Vkusa that has imported a few dozen by air from Japan.

Because cubic watermelons are harvested before they are ripe, they are intended for ornamental purposes. But since they are not clearly marked so at Russian outlets, some customers actually eat them, people familiar with the matter said.

Ordinary watermelons each weighing about 6 kilograms, about the same as cubic watermelons, will be sold at about 100 rubles apiece in Moscow during the season in August.—Kyodo



Photo taken at a exclusive supermarket in Moscow, Russia, on 14 July, 2013, shows cubic watermelons from Japan's Kagawa Prefecture sold for 28,000 rubles (\$857) each. KYODO

then came back to serve their country, including as leaders of the nationalist movement and as prime ministers and presidents.

We must be sensitive to our past, but acknowledge that our ties run deep.

We have a shared heritage, a shared past, and a familiarity with one another than we must use as an asset.

I speak to you at a pivotal moment in the history of Myanmar. My government came to office in April 2011 and over the past two and half years we have embarked on a transformation that I believe is unparalleled in modern times. It is a multi-faceted transformation

have ended. New laws protect the freedom of association and expression/Thousands of prisoners have been freed. A special committee, comprised in part of former prisoners, is working diligently to ensure that no one remains in prison due to his or her political beliefs or actions. We are reviewing all cases. I guarantee to you that by the end of this year there will be no prisoners of conscience in Myanmar.

We are aiming for nothing less than a transition from half a century of military-rule and authoritarianism to democracy. I believe you understand well that this is (See page 8)

Mobile Team-2 in operation at Sittoung-DaikU junction



BAGO, 16 July— Under the supervision of Bago Region Government, activities of Mobile Team(2) comprising representatives of General Administration Department, Ministry of Commerce, Customs Department, Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Bago Region Journalists Association are being undertaken at the junction of Sittoung-DaikU road in Waw Township of Bago Region as of 9 July.

Up to date, illegal goods worth estimated K

138,843,750 were seized on 61 counts of smuggling, it is learnt.

As smugglers are taking various ways and means to avoid search and arrest, avoiding checkpoints and running between Moppalin and Phayagyi on the shuttle with the use of vehicles with tainted glasses, suggestions come out to take alternative measures at Waw Township police station checkpoint and Shwe Thanlwin toll gate near Phayagyi village in interrupting flow of illegal commodities so that more seizures and arrest will be made. — Kyemon-403

Accident

No detail available about two men involved in motorbike crash on Yangon-Bago road

HLEGU, 16 July— No details were available about two men who were critically wounded in a collision between a stationary vehicle and a motorbike on Yangon-Bago road. Police said one of the victims who is appeared to be about 23 years old is being treated with intensive care at Yangon General Hospital as his condition is life-threatening while the other victim who is also believed to be about 23 years old was pronounced dead on his way to Hlegu Hospital.

The motorbike carrying

two men with no licence plate ploughed into the back of the stationary vehicle, Hino, of U Aung Myint Sein, 50, of Nyaunglebin Township of Bago Region on Yangon-Bago road in Hlegu Township at about 8 pm on 11 July. At the time when the fatal crash occurred, the vehicle was parked by the block on the median of the road, it is learnt.

Hlegu police station said the investigation is ongoing.

Kyemon-040

Photo News



Recent photo shows nose-to-tail buses moving at a snail's pace near a traffic lights on Theinbyu street on which passengers are always caught in the rush hour snarl-up.

KYEMON-SHWE THANLYAN

Shwepyitha woman sentenced to 15 years in human trafficking

YANGON, 16 July— A 46-year-old woman accused of being involved in trafficking persons to Chinese border via Shan State(North) was sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labour and two others were declared as fugitives at Yangon North District Court on 12 July.

Police said they made investigations over a tip-off that Daw Myint Myint Kyi (a) Myint Kyi Ma, 46, of ward-11 in Shwepyitha Township was transporting women to the Chinese border where she is in contact with Wa Toke Ma (a) Khin Hla Yu who used to live in Shwepyitha.

Further investigations revealed that two women victims of ward-1 were taken to Shan Ma (a) Ta Yoke Ma who lives near Chinese border through Muse by Daw Myint Myint Kyi and Wa Toke Ma in October 2011. Shan Ma and Wa Toke Ma sent K 300,000 for Daw Myint Myint Kyi and K 1 million for the mother of the victims.

So, Shwepyitha police station charged Daw Myint Myint Kyi, Shan Ma and Wa Toke Ma with trafficking in person and Daw Myint Myint Kyi was taken into police custody.

Kyemon-31

Two small arms found ownerless near Meiktila Lake



MEIKTILA, 16 July— Two small arms were found ownerless by a resident at mile post No (337/2) on Meiktila-Thazi road section of Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Yadana Manaung ward in Meiktila on 14 July evening.

The man who first discovered the two small arms near the bushes at Meiktila Lake was U Naing Lwin Oo, 37, of Meiktila District Sports Ground relief camp who found them on the way to his mother in

Yadana Manaung ward on that day.

As the man informed the police of his discovery of the arms, police officers and local authorities rushed there where they found a China-made percussion locked arm that bears No. 95034 (A) 753 and a UK- made Carbine with No.301772 with no bullets.

The two small arms were handed over to Meiktila No (1) police station. — Kyemon-Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

Wellwishers invited for new elevator installation at Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine



MAWLAMYINE, 16 July— Installation of one more elevator at historic Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine is in progress with the contribution of over K 500 million by Mon State Government. So far 75 per cent of the work has been completed and wellwishers are invited to contribute their donations for construction of the remaining works, accounting for 25 per cent.

Installation of the new elevator that will be the second of its kind in the

pagoda started in the second week of February in 2012. The elevator building will be 140 feet in height and 12 feet in width and the way connecting to the elevator building will be 200 feet long. Wellwishers are invited to continue construction works for timely completion. Those who are willing to contribute to the remaining works may contact the Mon State Government and the treasurer of the construction committee. — Kyemon-Kyaw Than (Mawlamyine)

Unearthed silver coins, stones handed over to Archaeological Department

KYAIKTO, 16 July — It was learnt that those who ancient silver coins and silver stones were handed over to Mon State Archaeological Department through the village administrator by those who unfortunately discovered it in a drain at Mopalin village in Kyaikto Township of Mon State.

Daw Tin Aye (a) Kadon Ma, Ma Pyu Pyu Win, Ko Kyaw Swa Win and Daw Sein Aye unearthed a pot with silver coins and stones in it in the drain in front of U Than Htaik, husband of Ma Pyu Pyu Win, on 3 July and the unearthed items were shared among the relatives.

According the information that ancient items were found, an

official of Mon State Archaeological Department went to the village and invited them to hand over the unearthed items to the government if they wish to do.

So, they presented 35 silver coins which are in original condition, two silver coins which are partially-damaged and two silver stones that weigh 60 ticals each to village administrator U Aung Kyaw who handed over the items to Assistant Director U Aung Naing Soe of Mon State Archaeological Department.

The silver coins and stones will also be handed over to the Archaeological Department (Nay Pyi Taw), it is learnt. — Kyemon-Ye Khaung Oo



Photo shows two men with no crash helmets on a motorbike passing through Hledan overpass in Kamayut Township in Yangon where motorbike ride is banned on 12 July morning. (Punitive action should be taken against traffic rules violators by officials concerned).

KYEMON-THADOE NWE

Sense of duty makes a person strong and tall.

WORLD

Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy gestures during a joint news conference with his Polish counterpart Donald Tusk (not pictured) at Moncloa Palace in Madrid on 15 July, 2013.—REUTERS



MADRID, 16 July—Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy on Monday rejected calls for his resignation over a ruling party financing scandal and said he would not allow the matter to deter his reform plans. The pressure mounted on Rajoy as the former treasurer of his People's Party gave new testimony before

Spanish prime minister rejects calls to step down over scandal

a judge looking into the affair, saying he handed envelopes of cash to Rajoy and other party leaders in 2008,

cal stability and I will fulfill the mandate given to me by Spanish voters." He said the scandal would not derail his political reform programme, aimed at combating a deep recession and a huge hole in the budget. But the opposition demanded he quit, and some members of his own party also said it was time for him to go. "The PP may have an absolute majority but it has lost moral authority," said the opposition Socialists' Deputy Secretary General, Elena Valenciano. "We are going to work with all the parties to make the prime minister step down."

At the heart of the scandal is former party treasurer Luis Barcenas, 55, who was jailed in June and charged with bribery, money laundering, tax fraud and other crimes. A High Court judge questioned Barcenas behind closed doors for more than three hours on

Monday after he was transported from jail in a white and black van. A lawyer involved with the case told Reuters that Barcenas, a once-trusted aide, turned over documents showing how he ran a secret slush fund at the party for many years, and provided details of years of cash payouts to party leaders.

Over his more than 20 years handling PP finances, Barcenas accumulated as much as 48 million euros in Swiss bank accounts that prosecutors say he has failed to adequately explain. Rajoy is not charged with any crime and has repeatedly denied that he or other party leaders received illegal payments. However, text messages between Rajoy and Barcenas published in *El Mundo* newspaper over the weekend showed the two were personally in touch as recently as March and that the prime minister tried to limit potential damage from the former party official, who he made treasurer in 2008.

Reuters

Egypt prosecutor orders arrest of Brotherhood figures



Members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi perform afternoon prayers near a defaced poster of US President Barack Obama, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the head of Egypt's armed forces General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi at the Rabaa Adawiya square, where they are camping, in Cairo, on 15 July, 2013.—REUTERS

CAIRO, 16 July—Egypt's public prosecutor ordered the arrest of seven senior Muslim Brotherhood and Islamist figures on Monday over violence between Brotherhood supporters and opponents in the days before and after Mohamed Mursi was deposed as president.

The list includes leading Brotherhood figures Essam El-Erian and Mohamed

El-Beltagi, both of whom were attending a demonstration on Monday, according to the Brotherhood. They were also included in a similar list last week of people charged with inciting violence, but have not been arrested.

The latest charges accuse them of "inciting violence, funding violent acts, and thuggery".—Reuters

Pakistani president not to seek second term

ISLAMABAD, 16 July—Pakistani President, Asif Ali Zardari, will not seek the second term, presidential spokesman, senator Farhatullah Babar, said on Monday. The term of Zardari, who was elected president in September 2008, will complete in the second week of September this year. "President Asif Ali has decided not to contest election for the second time," Babar told reporters in Islamabad. President Zardari is currently in Dubai on his private visit to meet his children and is likely to visit London later to meet his daughter who studies there.

The spokesman denied Pakistani media reports that the president will not return to the country before the



Pakistani President, Asif Ali Zardari

election. He said that the president will not resign before the elections and will come back by end of July. Local media reports that Zardari wants to play an active role in politics from the platform of his Pa-

kistan People Party (PPP), which faced defeat in the 11 May elections. The PPP President Makhdoom Amin Fahim said that the PPP has not yet decided to take part in the presidential elections.

Xinhua

Two Koreas end talks on suspended industrial zone without agreement

SEOUL, 16 July—North and South Korea ended without an agreement on Monday a third round of working-level talks on resuming operations at a joint industrial zone at the North's border city Kaesong that has been shuttered for nearly three months, according to South Korea's Unification Ministry. A fourth round of talks has been set for Wednesday. On Monday, a three-member

delegation from each side began a full session of the talks in the morning in Kaesong and head delegates held talks in the afternoon in a failed effort to work out an agreement.

Earlier the sides showed differences in their positions on how to resume operations at the joint industrial zone. South Korea's head delegate had demanded North Korea implement legal and insti-

tutional measures to ensure the safety of South Korean personnel making trips to the zone and also to protect the property of South Korean companies, according to a pool report on the 90 minutes of morning talks in Kaesong. South Korea also stressed the suspension of the industrial zone never should happen again, the report said.

The head delegate also raised the necessity of de-

veloping the industrial zone into an international zone in which business activities of an international level are guaranteed for South Korean and international companies. The North Korean side did not offer concrete measures as requested by the South and reiterated its position that operations at the industrial zone should be resumed at the earliest possible date.

Kyodo News

Russia, China block UN condemnation of Iran missile tests

UNITED NATIONS, 16 July—A UN Security Council committee is split over whether Iran's missile tests last year violated UN sanctions imposed on Teheran because of its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, Australia's UN envoy said on Monday. That division effectively rules out any expansion of sanctions against Teheran over the tests for the time being, UN envoys said on condition of anonymity.

Diplomats said it was Russia, backed by China, that refused to declare Teheran's missile launches a violation of the UN restrictions, as a UN Panel of Experts on Iran

said was the case. The rift on the Iran sanctions committee, which consists of all 15 Security Council members, highlights the difficulties Western powers face in persuading Russia and China to join them in keeping up the pressure on Teheran to halt banned nuclear and missile work.

Iran rejects allegations by the United States, European powers and their allies that it is developing an atomic weapons capability. It says the UN sanctions against it are illegal and refuses to comply with them. As long as the sanctions committee remains divided, it will be difficult for the Security

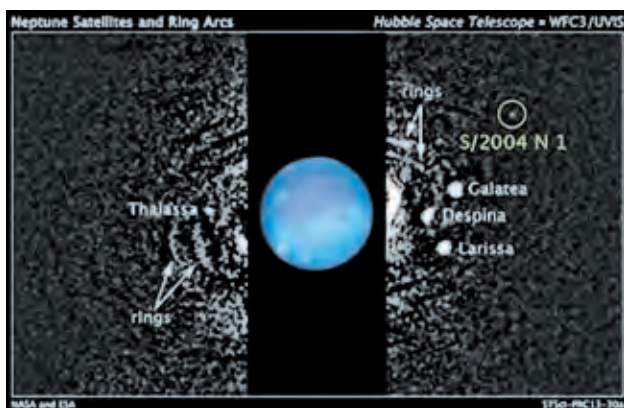
Council to add names of any Iranian individuals or entities linked to the missile tests, Security Council diplomats said on condition of anonymity. Australia's UN Ambassador Gary Quinlan, chairman of the Iran sanctions committee, told the council that "a number of committee members expressed the view ... that the launches constituted a clear violation of (UN sanctions) and that therefore all member states should redouble their efforts to implement ballistic missile-related sanctions on Iran." "At this stage some committee members cannot share this view," he added in his latest three-month report to the council.—Reuters



A new medium-range missile is fired from a naval ship during Velayat-90 war game on Sea of Oman near the Strait of Hormuz in southern Iran on 1 Jan, 2012.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Astronomer finds new moon orbiting Neptune



The location of a newly discovered moon, designated S/2004 N 1, orbiting Neptune, is seen in this composite Hubble Space Telescope handout image taken in August 2009.—REUTERS

CAPE CANAVERAL, 16 July—An astronomer studying archived images of Neptune taken by the Hubble Space Telescope has found a 14th moon orbiting the planet, NASA said on Monday.

Estimated to be about 12 miles in diameter, the moon is located about 65,400 miles from Neptune.

Astronomer Mark

Showalter, with the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California, was searching Hubble images for moons inside faint ring fragments circling Neptune when he decided to run his analysis programme on a broader part of the sky.

“We had been processing the data for quite some time and it was on a whim that I said, ‘OK, let’s just

look out further,” Showalter told *Reuters*.

“I changed my programme so that instead of stopping just outside the ring system it processed the data all the way out, walked away from my computer and waited an hour while it did all the processing for me. When I came back, I looked at the image and there was this extra dot that wasn’t supposed to be there,” Showalter said.

Follow-up analysis of other archived Hubble images of Neptune verified the object was a moon.

Showalter and colleagues are mulling over a name to propose to the International Astronomical Union, which has final say in the matter.

“We haven’t really gotten far with that. What I can say is that the name will be out of Roman and Greek mythology and it will have to do with characters who

are related to Neptune, the god of the oceans,” Showalter said.

Neptune’s largest moon, Triton, was discovered in 1846, just days after the planet itself was found. Nereid, Neptune’s third largest moon was found in 1949.

Images taken by NASA’s *Voyager 2* spacecraft unveiled the second largest moon, Proteus, and five smaller moons, Naiad, Thalassa, Despina, Galatea and Larissa.

Ground-based telescopes found Halimede, Laomedeia, Sao and Nestor in 2002. Sister moon Psamathe turned up a year later.

The newly found moon, designated S/2004 N 1, is located between Larissa and Proteus. It orbits Neptune in 23 hours.

A paper on the discovery is pending.

Reuters

Telecom Italia wants favourable regulation to go ahead with spinoff

MILAN, 16 July —Telecom Italia said on Monday it wanted to secure favourable regulatory conditions before taking any steps forward in its plan to spin off its fixed-line network after the local regulator cut tariffs its rivals pay to access the grid.

“The company’s board acknowledged that the uncertainties introduced by recent decisions taken by AGCOM might affect the feasibility” of the spinoff, the Italian phone company said in a statement late on Monday following an extraordinary board meeting.

Telecommunications regulator AGCOM on Thursday tentatively approved lower fees for rivals who rent space on Telecom Italia’s fixed-line copper network, sparking criticism from Telecom Italia, but plaudits from competitors

like Vodafone which does not own fixed lines.

Telecom Italia was pondering its options, including whether to halt the spinoff, a source familiar with the matter told *Reuters* on Monday.

A failure for the project would be another setback for Chairman Franco Bernabe’s efforts to revive the debt-laden group, following the collapse earlier this month of tie-up talks with Hutchison Whampoa.

Telecom Italia’s board in May approved a plan to separate fixed-line access assets into a new company, a move that could free up resources to cut its more than 28 billion euros (\$36.5 billion) of debt.

The project would take several months to complete, the company said at the time. Telecom Italia has said the fee cut decided by the AGCOM jeopardizes the planned spinoff of the network and would reduce its annual income by 110 million euros.

AGCOM plans to reduce the local loop unbundling (LLU) fees by 6.5 percent to 8.68 euros ahead of a broader regulatory review for the three years to 2016.

Reuters



A man uses a Telecom Italia phone booth at a bus stop in Rome on 3 Dec, 2008.—REUTERS

Tech mogul Elon Musk to release Hyperloop design in August

LOS ANGELES, 16 July —Tech mogul Elon Musk says he will soon release the design of a solar-powered transportation system that can send people from San Francisco to Los Angeles in 30 minutes. “Will publish Hyperloop alpha design by 12 Aug. Critical feedback for improvements would be much appreciated,” Musk tweeted on Monday.

Musk, the founder of

space exploration company SpaceX, has said that the Hyperloop transport system will be a cross between a railgun, Concorde and air hockey table and will be crash-proof and unaffected by weather.

The inventor, who also founded electric vehicle maker Tesla Motors, hinted that the Hyperloop will not be a vacuum tunnel, a concept for high-speed rail transportation that sucks the air

out of tunnels so that trains can move quickly with little power. People, Musk has said, will need only about 30 minutes to travel from San Francisco to Los Angeles, a distance of about 600 km, by using the Hyperloop.

He said that the cost of the Hyperloop will be far less than that of bullet trains and will be “the fifth mode after train, plane, automobile and boat.”—*Xinhua*

Apple to probe death of Chinese woman who used iPhone when it was charging

SINGAPORE, 16 July—Apple Inc is investigating an accident in which a Chinese woman was killed by an electric shock when answering a call on her iPhone 5 while it was charging, the US technology company said on Monday.

Last Thursday, Ma Ailun, a 23-year-old woman from China’s western Xinjiang region and a flight attendant with China Southern Airlines, was electrocuted when she took a call on the charging mobile telephone, the official *Xinhua* news agency quoted police as saying on Sunday.

“We are deeply saddened to learn of this tragic incident and offer our condolences to the Ma family.

We will fully investigate and cooperate with authorities in this matter,” Apple said in an e-mail.

Apple declined to comment on details, such as whether this was an isolated case.

Ma’s sister tweeted on Sina’s microblog saying that Ma collapsed and died after using her charging iPhone 5 and urged users to be careful, a message that went viral on the site.

In April, Apple apologized to Chinese consumers and altered iPhone warranty policies in its second-biggest market after its after-sales service suffered more more than two weeks of condemnation by the state-run media.

Reuters



An Apple logo is seen at the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference (WWDC) 2013 in San Francisco, California on 10 June, 2013.—REUTERS

Each degree of global warming to raise sea level by two metres

VIENNA, 16 July—The resulting warming of the earth could cause the sea level to rise by more than two metres for each additional celsius degree of warmth, an international research team in Innsbruck, Austria, said on Monday.

The effects of carbon dioxide in the earth’s atmosphere as a result of burning of fossil fuels will long continue to have an

impact on the global climate, the team said in a research paper published in scientific journal “*PNAS*”.

Most of this would result in the melting of the large ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica over the next 2000 years.

In 20th century the expansion of warm water and the melting of mountain glaciers caused the sea level to rise by about 20 centimetres, something the team expects to accelerate in the distant future.

This is because the carbon dioxide remains in the atmosphere for an “awfully long time,” said lead author of the study Anders Levermann, according to an APA report.

This in turn causes the warming effect to occur due to the presence of the emissions remains for a correspondingly long amount of time.

Part of the problem is that once the ice sheets begin to melt it can no longer be reversed unless the temperature falls, he added. The team also said there should be longer-term discussions over what is built close to coastal areas as a measure of countering the rising sea level.—*Xinhua*



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Battery in Honeywell locator eyed in 787 fire



Emergency services attend to a Boeing 787 Dreamliner, operated by Ethiopian Airlines, after it caught fire at Britain's Heathrow airport in west London on 12 July, 2013.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 16 July—Investigators are looking into whether a fire on a Boeing (BA.N) Dreamliner in London last week was caused by the battery of an emergency locator transmit-

ter built by Honeywell International Inc (HON.N), according to a source familiar with the probe.

Passengers and investigators appeared to take the news in their stride, as air-

lines continued to fly the plane and shares in the US company regained most of what they lost on Friday, closing up 3.7 percent at \$105.66 on Monday.

Honeywell said it had joined the investigation into Friday's fire aboard the parked 787 at Heathrow airport but declined to discuss details beyond saying it had no previous experience of difficulties with this type of transmitter.

Boeing declined to comment on the transmitter. In 2009, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) told airlines that a Honeywell transmitter had failed in tests and advised them to replace it, and other global regulators published similar advisories. There was no indication of

fire risk from the unit. Honeywell said it was checking whether the transmitter on the Ethiopian Airlines ETHA.UL jet was the same model as one cited by regulators in 2009.

The 787 transmitter is located in the aft fuselage section and a fire from it was "theoretically possible," said John Hansman, an aeronautics professor at MIT who has been an adviser to the FAA.

But Hansman said it seemed unlikely that the unit had malfunctioned, and that it was at least as likely that a passenger sneaked a cigarette in the lavatory and it smoldered for hours while the plane was parked at a remote stand at Heathrow airport before bursting into flames.—Reuters

Baidu to buy Chinese app store for \$1.9 billion

BEIJING, 16 July—Baidu Inc, China's top search engine, plans to acquire app store 91 Wireless for \$1.9 billion to strengthen its foothold in the country's highly competitive mobile

to enhance further their search capabilities," said Elinor Leung, an analyst with CLSA in Hong Kong.

China's mobile Internet market is expected to double to about 300 billion yuan (\$48 billion) in



The company logo of Baidu can be seen on its headquarters located in Beijing on 24 March, 2010.

REUTERS

computing sector.

Baidu will buy a 57.4 percent stake in 91 Wireless, one of China's earliest appstores, from NetDragon Websoft Inc for \$1.09 billion, and the remainder from other shareholders, both companies said on Tuesday.

"It's good for Baidu because if you look at mobile, currently apps are more popular than mobile sites because Internet download speeds are slow. So with the acquisition of this appstore, Baidu can work more closely with the apps developer and be able

2014 from 150 billion yuan in 2012, with the number of active mobile Internet users rising to 749 million from 521 million during the same period, according to research firm Analysys International.

NetDragon's shares lost as much as a fifth of their value on Tuesday and were down 18 percent at HK\$19.74 at 0305 GMT.

91 Wireless will be spun off and listed on Hong Kong's secondary Growth Enterprise Market, NetDragon said in a statement on the Hong Kong stock exchange.

Reuters

US treasury official sees risks of protracted stagnation in Europe

WASHINGTON, 16 July—The global economy still faces risks of prolonged slump in Europe where stronger actions are needed to boost demand, the senior US treasury department official said on Monday.

"If you look across the global landscape, there are reasons to be concerned that some parts of the world aren't doing enough to bolster domestic demand," said Lael Brainard, treasury un-

dersecretary for international affairs, at a conference hosted by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Brainard said the US economy is now on a stronger footing, with more resilient banking system and an rebounding housing sector, but the world economy still faces risks of protracted stagnation, especially in Europe, which accounts for one-fifth of the global demand.

"Stronger action to sup-



port demand" are needed, she added. Brainard said she continued to see resilience of the emerging economies as a group though there is "substantial diversity" among different countries.

While noting that there are areas where political and

economic risks may coincide and areas where new risk exposures may build up, she said "many of the emerging economies have substantial capacities to support domestic demand and to contribute to global growth."

Xinhua

Sexually transmitted diseases expected to occur more frequently in future

VIENNA, 16 July—Despite a decline until the turn of the century, sexually transmitted diseases could occur more frequently in the future, experts said at a Press conference for the STI and AIDS World Congress 2013 in Vienna on Monday.

Bacterial diseases in this branch of medicine have become increasingly

resistant to antibiotics — in particular "older" sexually transmitted diseases like gonorrhea and syphilis as well as fungal and viral infections like HPV, Herpes simplex and HIV.

According to World Health Organization (WHO) estimates, around 448 million new cases of curable sexually transmitted diseases occurred in

the 19 to 49-year-old age bracket each year. Combined with HIV there is an even higher potential for frequency of transmission.

Congress Chair Angelika Stary said in Austria the resistance in treatment efforts to gonorrhea could be observed, in particular with cephalosporin antibiotics, *Austria Press Agency* reported. Syphilis is able to be treated better, with normal penicillin still proving to be an effective treatment.

Also positive was National Institutes of Health (NIH) HIV/STD International Chief Thomas Quinn. He said the success of the fight against HIV/aids, for which almost 10 million people are currently in treatment, makes the goal of a generation without the affliction possible, though more prevention is required, he added.—Xinhua

It's all about the roll when choosing running shoes

NEW YORK, 16 July—Fitness experts have long advised clients choosing a running shoe to forget fashion and consider the roll or pronation - the way the foot leans inward upon impact.

Analyzing the roll of the foot remains standard practice among fitness and medical professionals in the belief it will lead to a better shoe fit and fewer injuries. "When it comes to shoe choice, the amount of pronation control is extremely important," said Dr Jane Andersen, a podiatrist in private practice in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

"Some people need more than others. It can cause a lot of problems if you have the wrong one."

Anderson, a runner herself and past president of the American Association for Women Podiatrists, said the No 1 cause of the overuse injuries she sees, from stress fractures to tendonitis to

Plantar fasciitis (heel pain), is shoes that are worn out or the wrong fit. There are three basic levels of control for standard running shoes: neutral, stability and motion control.

"Neutral is generally good for a high-arch foot; it doesn't provide extra control for pronation," she said. "The stability shoe works for people who need more support; motion control is for the

super flat-footed."

At Jack Rabbit Sports store in New York City, clients' arches are observed before they hit the treadmill for runs that are videotaped for slow-motion analysis. "The basic premise is that most people land on their heel (and) overpronate or underpronate," said Johanna Bjorken, the store's merchandise director.

Reuters



Mud flies off a competitor's shoes as he runs out of an obstacle during the Tough Mudder at Mt Snow in West Dover, Vermont on 15 July, 2012.—REUTERS



NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein receives British entrepreneurs, Secretaries of State for Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development



LONDON, 16 July— President U Thein Sein met entrepreneurs of Britain at Sofitel St James Hotel at 9 am local time yesterday.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane, U Myat Hein and U Win Shein, deputy ministers and Myanmar Ambassador to Britain U Kyaw Myo Htut, British entrepreneurs the chairman of Roll Royce, the chairman

Lloyds Insurance, the director of Jubilan Oil and Standard Life, the director of Jardine Matheson, the former vice-chairman of Bank of England, the chairman of Diethelm Co and other entrepreneurs.

At 10.15 am local time, the President received Secretary of State for Defence Rt Hon Philip Hammond of Britain at the hall of Sofitel St James Hotel in London.

At 1.45 pm local time,

the President received Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Britain Rt Hon. William Hague at the same venue.

At 2.45 pm, the President also received Secretary of State for International Development of Britain Rt Hon. Justine Greening.

At the calls, they exchanged views on prospects of investment in Myanmar, cooperation in poverty alleviation and rural development, enhancement

President U Thein Sein meets Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Britain Rt Hon. William Hague.

MNA

President U Thein Sein shaking hands with Secretary of State for International Development of Britain Rt Hon. Justine Greening.

MNA



of life of women and children, promotion of education standard in Myanmar, uplift of human rights,

development of agriculture sector, cooperation between armed forces of two countries, assistance for

taking census in 2014 and building of Myanmar human society as transparent and harmonized one.—MNA

Myanmar-Germany Cultural Cooperation briefed

YANGON, 16 July — Under the agreement on cultural cooperation between the Ministry of Culture of Myanmar and Goethe Institute Germany-based, a Myanmar branch of the Goethe Institute would be opened next six months so as to introduce initiatives for bilateral cultural, educational cooperation and conduct language proficiency courses, said Mrs. Cornelia Pieper, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, at the briefing held at the Governor's Residence in Tawwun Street, here, yesterday.

The Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany continued that the Goethe Institute has opened about 150 branches in 95 world countries. It offers Germany's culture and arts, conducts paper-reading sessions on German's culture including language and tourism industry. Besides, it works for Myanmar-Germany cooperation in promoting sports sector through mutual exchange, conducting

courses for youths and seminars of experts on German Language, sending Myanmar scholars to Germany, cultural exchange of musicians and cultural troupes and media exchange.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, it sent 40 students from six BEMSS to Germany, and is inviting faculty members from PhD holders and masters' courses of the universities of foreign languages to Germany. Through cooperation with UNESCO, Myanmar culture would be preserved. At present, Myanmar sees

German companies running tourism industry with the aim of promoting tourism industry of Myanmar. Scholarship programmes for Myanmar students would be granted in March, 2014. Germany continues cooperation in Myanmar's reform process.

Next, officials concerned answered queries on Myanmar-Germany cultural cooperation, raised by media men.

The briefing was attended by the German Ambassador to Myanmar and media men.—MNA



President U Thein Sein greets entrepreneur of Britain at Sofitel St James Hotel.—MNA

Workshop on Crisis Media Management kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July — Deputy Minister for

Information U Pike Htwe delivered an address at the opening of "Workshop on Crisis Media Management", jointly organized by the Ministry of Information and Singaporean Embassy in

Myanmar under Singaporean Cooperation Programme (SCP), at the ministry, here, this morning.

Associate Trainer Ms. Krishnasamy Bhavani of Singaporean Civil Services College led the workshop where lectures on media's role in time of emergency were given theoretically and practically.

Altogether 48 trainees from ministries concerned attended the workshop that continues tomorrow.

MNA

Deputy Minister U Pike Htwe delivering address at workshop on crisis media management.

MNA



LOCAL NEWS

DHF PREVENTION

Anti-DHF campaign carried out in Yanbye



YANBYE, 16 July—Staff of Township Health Department, members of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Township Women's Affairs Organization, staff of Township Education Department, and students carried out drainage works for proper flow of water and other sanitation tasks to prevent Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever in six

wards in Yanbye Township recently.

The campaign gave educative talks and sterilized water sources.

It was initiated by Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Oo, staff of Township Public Works, staff of Township Development Affairs Committee and ward administrators.—MMAL-Township IPRD

Lamp-post fallen in heavy rain



YANGON, 16 July—A concrete lamp-post fell due to heavy rain in Bogyoke Museum in Bahan Township of Yangon Region at 4 pm on 13 July.

No one was hurt and nothing was damaged in the incident.

Township electrical staff have worked to erect a new lamp-post and electrical cable.—MMAL-Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)

Easing Traffic Congestion

Traffic island built in Zabuthiri Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—A traffic island has been built at the corner of Pyinmana-Taungnyo road and Pyigyikshaung road down from 1000-

bed hospital in Zabuthiri Township here on 13 July.

The construction started after the accident in front of Herbal Garden on 29 June.

The construction was

carried out by Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee's Engineering Department.

MMAL-Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)



Bago Township Tamil Hindu Foundation donates robes

BAGO, 16 July—The Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (Bago Township Branch) offered Waso robes to members of the Sangha at Buddha Voice Hall in Bago of Bago Region yesterday.

It was attended by Bago Region Development Affairs and Religious Affairs Minister U Ye Myint Tun, township administrators in Bago District, Chairman of Bago Region Sasana Nuggaha Association U Win Htein, Chairman of Tamil Hindu Foundation (Bago Township Branch) U

Tin Hla, members of social organizations and guests.

They offered robes to 18 members of the Sangha led by Bago Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Abbot of Oakthatheingi monastery Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Bhaddanta Tejaniya.

The foundation chairman donated K 50000 each to the Bago Region Sangha Nuggaha Association and Kalyana Meitta Social Services Group through the chairmen.

MMAL-131

Eroded Loikaw-Aungban road needs repairing

LOIKAW, 16 July—Eroded Loikaw-Aungban in Kayah State needs to be repaired as vehicles found it difficult to use it as two-lane road.

“Loikaw-Aungban has the length of 12 feet. Either side of the road is lowered due to the lack of box culverts,” Kayah State Bamar National Race Affairs Minister education in-charge U Sein Oo said.

“I wish this road would become a 18-foot-wide one,” he continued.

The road is becoming more and more busy with the traffic as the border activities have increased.

MMAL-Kyee Myint Naing (Loikaw)

CRIME

Illegal logs seized in Shwegu



SHWEGU, 15 July—A combined team of township officials from various departments seized illegal logs on a motor boat in Shwegu Township on 9 July.

A team led by Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi, Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Aye

Maung Oo, U Myo Min of Township Forest Department, U Ko Lay and U Pho Maung of Nagmon village raided a boat docked in Zinbon village and seized logs hidden under bags of rice.

Eight people have been charged with illegal transportation of logs.

MMAL-Simeegon Nan Yi

Tiddim Township IRD organizes educative talks on taxation

TIDDIM, 16 July—Internal Revenue Department in Tiddim Township of Chin State gave educative talks on taxation to Basic Education High School students at Kin Hauk Hall in Tiddim on 12 July.

The talks was attended

by Grade 8 and Grade 9 students from Basic Education High School No (1) and BEHS No (2).

Staff officer of Township Internal Revenue Department U Min Swe gave talks on taxation.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Transport

AirAsia to launch Bangkok-Nay Pyi Taw direct flight



AirAsia is planning to launch Nay Pyi Taw-Bangkok direct flight ahead of SEA Games.

YANGON, 16 July—Malaysia-based Air Asia is preparing to launch a direct flight between Bangkok of Thailand and Nay Pyi Taw of Myanmar ahead of XXVII SEA Game.

Myanmar will host SEA Games in coming

December for the first time.

The world's best low-cost airline is applying for official permit to launch the flight. The flight will ply between Don Mueang Airport of Bangkok and Nay Pyi Taw Airport. The flight is aimed at transporting

athletes and audiences from Southeast Asian countries.

According to its CEO, the airline is planning to become the largest regional airline when ASEAN Economic Community comes to life in 2015.

MMAL-Thae Phyu Min

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 17 July, 2013

Let's make concerted efforts

According to the law of nature, things are subject to impermanence as the new ones are taking the place of old ones throughout the passage of time. All living and nonliving things undergo a constant change in a constant changing world.

Men are to leave behind the useless ones which have nothing to do with human beings, contemplating the past events and experiences. Instead, they with new vigor are to serve the interest of human being in a practical way.

Everybody has to work for self-interest while working for others' striking a balance between the two phenomena. They are to bear in mind that they need to serve both self-interest and interest of others since they are obliged to serve the interest of others when serving their own interest.

Serving the interest of others means serving the national interest. And serving the interest of human beings is an auspiciousness to all. Therefore, everybody needs to be imbued with a fine tradition of serving national interest with good-will.

Everybody is said to be serving the duties of history. Political, economic and social issues of the past, whether they are good or bad, are the legacy of the people of today. That's why, all the people are to ward off the evil legacies of the past and to strive for development of human beings. In doing so, they are to make concerted efforts with unyielding sprits until reaching the goal, overcoming a string of obstacles ahead.

Car import policies should not harm national interests : Union Minister for Commerce

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July— Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint has called for adopting car import policies without harming the national interests and for implementing directives to ensure importing cars at reasonable prices by the people.

At the meeting of the Car Import Supervisory Committee here today, Chairman of the Committee Union Minister U Win Myint also urged the committee to announce orders and

directives related to car import timely.

He also urged the committee to draw a future plan to help the people to ensure that they can buy cars at show rooms and to import cars that they can afford.

The ministry adopted new policies allowing owners of cars between 20 and 40 years old to sell them for scrap in exchange of getting licenses to import new ones at one stop service since 19 September, 2011.

MNA

Myanmar consul-general presents cash to monk injured in Bodh Gaya

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—U Kyaw Swe Tint, Consul-General, in Kolkata, India, on 9 July presented 10,000 rupee donated by the State to U Vilasakka who sustained injuries in the blast at the Mahabodhi Temple in Biha State.

The condition of U Vilasakka receiving medical treatment at Gaya Medical College Hospital has improved.

U Kyaw Swe Tint also met with local authorities in Gaya and discussed the blasts and provision of medical treatment to injured Myanmar monks the next day.

In the afternoon, he visited six Myanmar monasteries in Gaya and handed over 10,000 rupee each donated by the government to abbot monks of monasteries.—MNA

We cannot let ethnic or religious...

(from page 1)

no easy thing. We see elsewhere the dangers of any sudden political shift, where institutions are unable to cope, and where the habits of democracy are not yet engrained, the dangers of violence and anarchy. We must manage this transition in a way that moves fast but prudently, grounded in our own realities.

Democracy cannot just be about elections, basic freedoms, and constitutions. It must also include a culture of democracy and a new understanding of citizenship. We cannot be under an illusion that this is not a difficult thing, but I am confident that we will succeed.

We must succeed as well in the second component of our transformation: moving from a state-centered and isolated economy to one that is based on free-market principles and is integrated into world markets.

Myanmar is a country of tremendous natural resources. We occupy an enviable location at the crossroads of Asia, between China, India and the other countries of Southeast Asia. We all know the potential is there. The task of lifting tens of millions of ordinary people out of poverty cannot take a back seat to any other task. We must free our markets and open the doors to foreign trade and investment, but in a way that ensures that poverty is reduced and that the ordinary farmer and worker clearly benefit. We will fight against corruption and we will fight to protect the environment.

We have taken key steps in this direction. We have abolished our old currency exchange regime, restructured our international debt, worked hard to end economic sanctions, changed our investment laws and policies, and focused on rapidly improving key public goods, including the provision of electricity and telecoms.

We are eager to become a signatory to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, or EITI, to ensure maximum transparency as well work to attract new investment and develop

our natural resources. We wish to avoid the so-called 'resource curse' and make sure that revenue from our natural wealth is used to reduce poverty not fuel corruption.

The challenges are tremendous. Land ownership issues for example are extremely complex. As part of our drive to foster growth for all the people of Myanmar, we will develop clear, fair and open land policies. The provision of basic healthcare, education, and financial services remain far from satisfactory. Sectors such as tourism that will likely grow quickly must be well managed, so that we avoid the negative consequences of mass tourism seen elsewhere.

And we have as well the new and pressing challenges of urbanization and urban planning, with our cities projected to grow by another 10 million people by 2030. Yangon our biggest city must become a driver of economic growth, not a drag on development. I would like Yangon to be a city that can compete with any other in the region, that is modern and green, that works for its ordinary citizen and that protects its unique built heritage.

We are very grateful for the aid that the UK government and UK charities have provided over the years and continue to provide. But let me say this: we have no desire to become an aid-dependent country. We need assistance now, especially in training and education during this period of transition in order that we might stand on our own two feet.

But what need most is responsible trade and investment, to grow our economy, create jobs, and lift our people from poverty, investment that will transfer technology and will help us join in the economy success on the region and give our children the same opportunities as in the rest of Asia.

We have as well our third and perhaps most important transformation: from armed conflict to a just and sustainable peace.

There has been armed fighting in Myanmar since just months after

independence from the United Kingdom in 1948. It is the longest-running set of armed conflicts anywhere in the world. Since the days Arnold Toynbee was Director of Chatham House, we have been fighting in Myanmar.

This must end. And it will end. My government has been working tirelessly for peace. This too is not an easy thing. The remaining conflicts all have an ethnic character and are rooted in long-standing ethnic grievances and aspirations. And in Myanmar there is not just one non-state armed group but more than a dozen. Please imagine the complexities of any peace process then multiply it by twelve. There are issues of autonomy and self-determination, of power sharing and resource sharing, of cultural rights and language policy, of protection against discrimination and security sector reform.

Myanmar government is willing to engage with international community to enhance security cooperation. It is our keen desire to foster greater ties between the Myanmar and UK armed forces. Under the current transition, Myanmar will enshrine its cooperation with international community not only to strengthen its internal security intuitions but also to actively involve in international security. Enhancing technical capability in ceasefire implementation will be helpful to enhance the current peace process.

The current transition to democracy form military rule requires adjustment from security sectors, including form Tatmadaw. The government welcomes international assistance to strengthen civil-military relation in Myanmar. This is crucial for the success of the political transition underway.

I am very proud to say that we have not only over the past two years signed ceasefires with all but one of the major armed groups but also that last month we have signed an initial agreement with that last remaining armed group, the Kachin Independence Organization.

I believe will turn a corner soon. Very possibly, over the coming weeks, we will have a nation-wide

ceasefire and the guns will go silent everywhere in Myanmar for the very first time in over sixty years. This will be a watershed worth celebrating. But it will also be only the first step towards the just and lasting peace we will need to achieve. Difficult talks will follow and hard compromises will need to be made. But it must be done.

And our peace process to be successful, it must be connected to the emergence of a more and inclusive national-identity. Myanmar people of all ethnic backgrounds and all faiths—Buddhist, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and others, must feel part of this new national identity. We are a multi-cultural, multi-faith nation. The Myanmar people speak dozens of languages and include people of all the great world religions. The recent communal violence has rightly concerned the world. I promise you that we will take a zero-tolerance approach to any renewed violence and against those who fuel ethnic hatreds.

You know that in any transition towards political openness there are those who will take advantage and stir up troubles. We must deal with this but in the framework of our emerging democracy. We cannot let ethnic or religious differences become an excuse to revert to authoritarianism. We are working to cultivate inter-faith dialogue and increase understanding between communities and I urge you to appreciate the complexities in this task and the patience needed to make it succeed.

I suggest to you as well that you look beyond the headlines and appreciate that despite the recent violence, tens of millions of Myanmar people of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds live together peacefully, as friends, schoolmates, neighbors and co-workers. Go to Yangon and downtown you will see Buddhist pagodas, but also Anglican and Roman Catholic cathedrals, other Christian churches, Sunni and Shia mosques, a Jewish synagogue, Chinese and Hindu temples and even an Armenian church. We have a long history of tolerance. We must build on this to celebrate our nation's special diversity as the strength, not the weakness.

(See page 9)

NATIONAL

We cannot let ethnic or religious...

(from page 8)

I said that the components of our transformation are mutually reinforcing. The United Nations tells us that without peace there can be no development, and without development there cannot be peace, and that without human rights there can be neither. I would add that real progress towards democracy is also essential.

I said as well that our transformation is unparalleled. I can think of no

country that has attempted to move from authoritarianism to democracy and from a state-dominated and isolated economy to a free economy tied to global markets, whilst at the same time trying to end a dozen different armed conflicts.

We do this at a time of weak institutions or institutions that evolved in a very different environment and to serve very different purposes. We do this at a time when after decades of self-imposed isolation and then

sanctions, our people are unused to interactions with the outside world.

In all areas we are not working from a blank slate: there are the mentalities that have grown up over long decades of isolation and sanctions, need to be changed. And for every new dynamic that must be nurtured, a dozen old dynamics have their inertia, inertia that must and will be overcome.

Under such kinds of difficult challenges, one of the most important reasons and aims our government has with this reform process is to create a better for

future for our children. We will move ahead with our people-centered development agendas and lay necessary foundations for the government that will be democratically elected in coming 2015 elections.

In 2014 Myanmar will undertake the chairmanship of ASEAN. It is a great responsibility. And it signals Myanmar's eagerness to rejoin fully the family of nations. We look forward not only to managing our own transformation but becoming responsible members of the international community, helping to do our share for regional and

global peace and security and economic prosperity.

And in this new phase of our history, as we look outward and seek to make new friends, we look to our old friends in the United Kingdom, for encouragement, understanding, constructive criticism, and I hope a lasting friendship. Thank you.

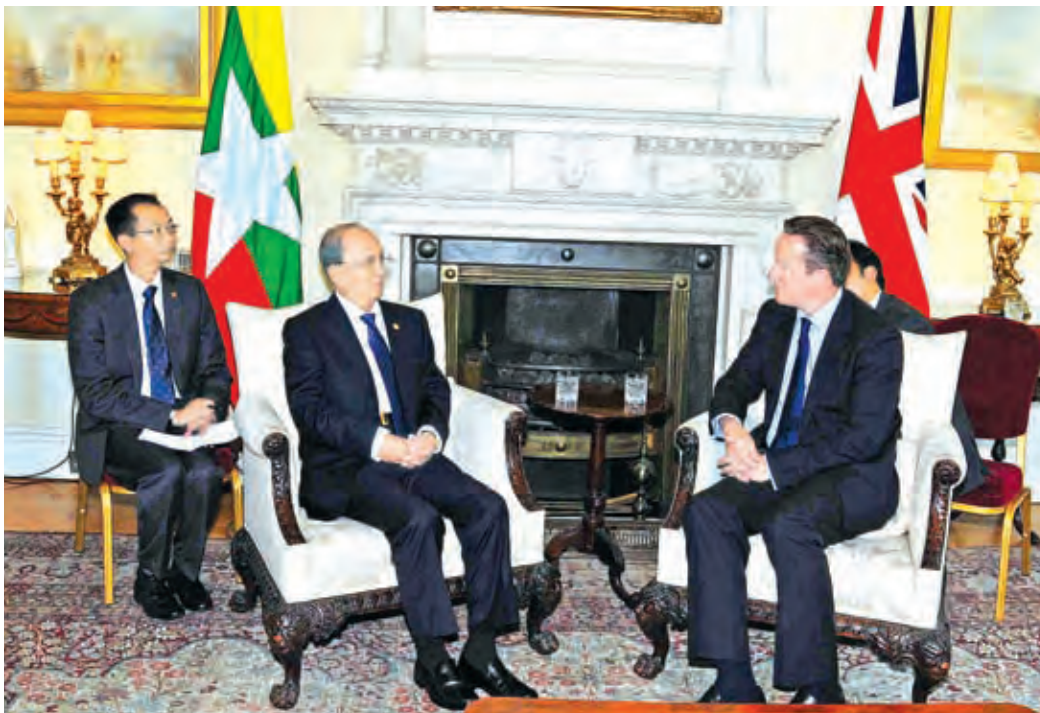
Afterwards, the President answered the queries raised by those interested in Myanmar's reform process and experts about progress of hotels and tourism industry of Myanmar, opportunities for foreign investors and

progress of promoting human rights by Myanmar government, and bilateral relations between Myanmar and Britain.

It was attended by Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win, U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane, U Myat Hein and U Win Shein, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Htay Oo, the deputy ministers and Myanmar Ambassador to Britain U Kyaw Myo Htut, the Chairman of Chatham House and members and those interested in Myanmar's reform process.

MNA

Myanmar thanks British support for withdrawal of EU's sanctions, resumption of access to GSP and democratization process



*President
U Thein Sein
having a conversation with
British Prime
Minister Rt.
Hon David
Cameron.*

MNA

LONDON, 16 July — President U Thein Sein held talks with British Prime Minister Rt. Hon David Cameron at the Whitehall of British Prime Minister's Office, Number 10 Downing Street, here, at 11 am LST yesterday.

At the meeting, President U Thein Sein expressed thanks for invitation of the British PM and hospitality on the first ever visit of a Myanmar President to Britain. He remarked the British Prime Minister's visit to Myanmar last year was a trip to resume better bilateral relations between the two countries that have more than 65-year-old diplomatic ties. He also thanked to Britain's support for withdrawal of EU's sanctions against Myanmar, resumption of Myanmar's access to GSP and to democratization process in

Myanmar. The President articulated his aim to build a peaceful, harmonious and democratic society and expressed his belief that challenges which are usual to see in a transition period could be overcome thanks to strong supports of foreign countries including Britain and Myanmar people on reforms in Myanmar.

Next, the President and the British Prime Minister frankly exchanged their views on poverty alleviation, micro financing, agricultural sector development, investment and trade promotion, British's investments in the sectors of energy and telecommunications and infrastructure projects, matters of human resources development including English language teaching and human rights.

MNA

President U Thein Sein visits downtown London, meets Myanmar families

LONDON, 16 July — President U Thein Sein and party visited development of the port at Thames River, the London Eye roller coaster that can see the whole London, the Parliament Building, Big Ben clock tower, St Paul Cathedral, St Thomas Hospital, Park Plaza, National Theatre and overpasses and bridges by Golden Salamander vessel in London at 3.30 pm yesterday.

At 6.35 pm local time, the President met members of the Sangha from Thantithukha, Thuwunna Theingi Mogok, Titharana Wihara, Sasana Thiwhara, London Wihara and London Shwegyin monasteries and Myanmar families in London at the hotel and made clarifications on reform processes in

Myanmar.

After that, the President together with members of the Sangha dispensed Metta and posed for a documentary photo.

The President and party visited Dorchester Hotel where Bogyoke Aung San stayed in 1947 to hold talks with British for Myanmar independence and observed documentary photos of the Bogyoke Aung San's trip.

Later, the President met embassy staff and Myanmar families at the residence of the Myanmar Ambassador. He explained promotion of Myanmar's international relations and reform process in political, economic, administration and private sectors in building a new democratic nation and presented gifts to them.—MNA



President U Thein Sein goes sightseeing on Thames River.—MNA

Specialists give health care services to locals in Hsipaw



HSIPAW, 16 July—Narrowing the health standard gap between rural and urban areas and health knowledge talks were shared to locals at the Dhammayon of the monastery in Tawkyo Village in Hsipaw Township on 12 July. Team leader Medical Superintendent Dr Nyunt Oo of Township People's Hospital made

an opening speech and the specialists shared about health sector to locals.

Then, the medical team gave health care services to 184 patients.

It is learnt that local people are pleased with the contribution of health care services of the specialists in the rural area.—Kyemon-Sai Tha Hlaing (Hsipaw)



REFRESHMENTS FED: Wellwishers U Hsan Maung-Daw Ma Cho family feed 391 students with the assistance of Headmaster U San Lwin, Village Administrator U Khin Pe, village elders and teachers at Basic Education Middle School (Branch) in Natmahokkale Village of Indaw Township on 11 July morning.

KYEMON-MAUNG CHIT LIN

Complaints for bribery and corruption

Complaints about bribery and corruption can be addressed to the Anti-Corruption Committee, the President Office at Office No. 18, Nay Pyi Taw, by anyone with his/her name, CSC No., address and firm evidence.

Action will be taken against those who got involved in bribery and corruption in accordance with the law after a thorough investigation.

Transport

Minibuses launch Toungoo-Leiktho route



TOUNGOO, 16 July—Passenger minibuses launched maiden trip from Toungoo of Bago Region to Leiktho of Thandaung Township in Kayin State, 32 miles long hilly town from

Toungoo.

Due to smooth transportation of Toungoo-Leiktho Road, the minibuses run the routes with the fare of K 1500 per passenger and K 1000 per bag of rice, said

a local merchant.

Leiktho Sub-Township is over 3000 ft above sea level and lies on Toungoo-Loikaw Road, comprises six wards, 31 village-tracts, 176 villages and has a population

of 38694 peoples and its main regional product crops are coffee, djenko beans, durian fruit, cardamom plant, areca nut, pepper and rubber.—Kyemon-U Kyaw Hla (Toungoo)

Cementing Relationship

Myanmar hands over 75 detainees to Bangladesh

MAUNGTAU, 16 July—Eight members Myanmar side led by Deputy Director U Saw Naing of Maungtau District Immigration and National Registration Department and eight

members Bangladeshi side led by Commanding Officer Lt-Col MD Zahid Hasan of No. 42 Border Guard Battalion held Deputy Director & Commanding Officer Level Flag Meeting

at Dewanadi Hall in Maungtau. After signing agreement, a total of 75 Bangladeshi nationals were handed over to the mother country on 11 July.

Kyemon



Agriculture

Farmland Law, Rules clarified in Kawthoung District

KAWTHOUNG, 16 July—A ceremony to give lecture on farmland law and rules on a short-term period was held at Hanthawady Hall of Township General Administration Department of Kawthoung on yesterday.

Kawthoung District Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Swa Tun made a speech.

Assistant Director U Tun Tun Oo of District Settlement and Land



Records Department explained farmland law

and rules.

The course was attended by clerks from ward and village administrative offices and administrators of Kawthoung District.

The personnel gave lectures on definition of farmers, farmland law, rules and regulations, crops law and horticultural laws, law on farmland management, authorities and procedures, farmland policies adopted by the State, orders and instructions, existing laws and facts about issuance of farming rights certificates to the trainees.

Kyemon-U Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung IPRD)

Knowledge about census taking process, Martyrs' Day shared in Falam

FALAM, 16 July—The talks on census taking process for 2014 in Falam Township of Falam District in Chin State and Martyrs' Day was held at Lonpee Kwetseik of Talanlo Ward in Falam at 2 pm on 14 July.

The talks were attended by local people and students.

At first, Staff Officer U Mann Sein of Falam District Information and Public Relations Department explained raising reading habit

of the people, development of village library and purpose of holding the talks.

A female teacher of Lonpee Kwetseik Basic

Education Primary School gave lectures on Martyrs' Day and Deputy Head of Falam District IPRD Daw Mar Yi on taking census in 2014 for broadening horizons of the people.

A local people spoke words of thanks. On 13 July, activities of talks, mobile library and phow shows were held by personnel of IPRD in Dawthet, Ramthalo and Talanzar in Falam Township.

Kyemon-District IPRD



REGIONAL

Philippine president to push for 10 economic bills in new Congress

MANILA, 16 July — Philippine President Benigno S Aquino III will propose at least 10 bills to answer key economic concerns of both the government and the private sector when a new Congress opens this month, a senior government official said on Monday.

Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary Cesar Purisima said that the economic bills include

Amendments for the Build-Operate-Transfer Law or Republic Act No 7718, the Rationalization of the Mining Fiscal Regime, the Rationalization of the Fiscal Incentives Law, the Tax Incentives Monitoring and Transparency Act (TIM-TA) and the Customs Modernization and Tariff ACT (CMTA).

Other measures to be pushed were Amendments to the BSP (Bangko Sen-

tral ng Pilipinas) Charter; and further Amendments to the Anti-Money Laundering Act; the Removal of Investment Restrictions in Specific Laws cited in the Foreign Investment Negative List (FINL); Amendments to RA 8974 otherwise known as the Act to Facilitate the Acquisition of Right-of-Way, Site or Location for National Government Infrastructure Projects and For Other Purposes and Amendments to the Cabotage Law.

Purisima explained that amendments in the BOT law will accelerate the public-private partnership (PPP) programme by directly addressing obstacles and issues encountered in the implementation. The president is expected to include in his State of the Nation Address (SONA) on 22 July the priority bills that his administration wants to be passed during the remaining three years of his six-year term.

Xinhua



Philippine President Benigno S Aquino III

Cambodian Angkor Wat temples attracts 1.12 mln foreign tourists in first half

PHNOM PENH, 16 July — Cambodia's Angkor Wat temples, one of the world heritage sites, greeted 1.12 million international visitors in the first half of this year, up 6 percent compared with the same period last year, the figures of Siem Reap provincial tourism department showed on Tuesday.

South Ko-

rea, China, Vietnam, Japan and Thailand are the largest tourist sources to the temples. The temples welcomed 202,700 South Koreans during the first six months of this year, up 4 percent year-on-year; 137,820 Chinese, up 76 percent; 78,600 Vietnamese, down 38 percent; 68,780 Japanese, up 6 percent and 54,200

Thais, down 12 percent. "We see a steadily sharp rise in Chinese tourists to the temples in recent years and believe that the upward trend will continue thanks to Cambodia-China

nice-

ties, broader promotion of the Angkor to the world, and more direct flight connection between Cambodia and China," Chhoeuy Chhorn, administration chief of the Siem Reap provincial tourism department, told Xinhua.

The 12th century Angkor arche-

ological park, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1992, is the kingdom's largest cultural tourism destination, which is located about 315 kilometres northwest of Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia.—Xinhua



Cambodia's Angkor Wat temples



Children try to ride bikes in a flooded area after a down-pour in Yonago, Tottori Prefecture, western Japan, on 15 July, 2013. KYODO NEWS

Heavy rain falls in western, northeastern Japan

Tokyo, 16 July — Torrential rain pounded the Chugoku region in the west and part of the Tohoku region in northeastern Japan on Monday, with precipitation of about 100 millimeters per hour observed in Okayama and Shimane prefectures, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Over the 24 hours until Monday evening, more than 200 mm of rain fell in some areas of Tottori Prefecture. In Miyako in Iwate Prefecture, a record 86.5 mm of

rain per hour fell, according to the agency.

The heavy rain flooded a road in Miasa, Tottori Prefecture, causing a car accident in which three people were injured. The rain also triggered a landslide in Yabu in Hyogo Prefecture, blocking a road. Some express train services of West Japan Railway Co were suspended due to the rain. Meanwhile, a heat wave continued across wide areas along the Pacific coast,

with temperatures topping 35 C at 30 of the country's 927 monitoring sites.

A total of six people died in water-related accidents across Japan, according to a Kyodo News tally as of 5 pm Monday. Yu Kaneko, 25, drowned at a fishing port in Onjuku, Chiba Prefecture, while swimming to shore, and a 69-year-old man fishing offshore in Kochi Prefecture was found in a critical condition and subsequently died.

Kyodo News

Gov't to strengthen administration of 400 remote islands

Tokyo, 16 July — The government plans to establish a new council aimed at strengthening administration of Japan's 400 or so remote islands to ensure control over natural resources in surrounding waters, a government source said on Monday.

Japan's fringe islands define the limits of its territorial waters and the government is keen to enhance protection of those areas in the wake of China's increasing maritime activities near Japanese territorial waters.

Using the council for coordination among related ministries and agencies, the government will conduct surveys on the 400 islands, half of which are still not named. The government will collect environmental and other data on the islands and give names to those not yet named. It may nationalize islands without legal owners.

The council will be established after the House of Councillors election on 21 July, the source said.

Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENTS & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (008)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP LARNACA VOY NO (008) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.7.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HAI PHONG 18 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAI PHONG 18 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.7.2013 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: M/S G. LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD
Phone No: 256924/256914



Living Stones: close-up photos of coral rocks.—XINHUA

Sweden aims to attract int'l researchers with high wages

STOCKHOLM, 17 July—Sweden aimed to attract top researchers by offering high wages with the support of the government's grants as a competitive advantage over rivals, Stockholm Business Region announced on Monday.

According to the Swedish Research Council, the grant for one researcher is between five and 15 million Swedish kronor (about 750,000 to 2.24 million US dollars) over seven to 10 years. As a government scheme, the investment would give Swedish high-

er education institutions a long-term opportunity to attract leading international researchers to Sweden." My hope is that this will provide new opportunities to higher education institutions to offer residence to highly qualified international researchers and that these researchers can contribute to creating successful environments and stimulate established colleagues as well as researchers at the beginning of their careers," said Mille Millnert, the Director-General of the Swedish Research Council.

The budget of the Swedish Research Council for grants in 2013 amounts to 150 million kronor and the same amount will be available again in 2014.

The Swedish Research Council is an agency that provides research funding as well as advises the government on research-related issues.

Stockholm Business Region is a municipally held company dedicated to promoting and developing Stockholm as a business and tourist destination.

Xinhua

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE

(INVITATION FOR OPENED TENDER)

(3/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB -021(2013-2014)	Accessories for Ywama Gas Distribution Station	(1) Lot	US \$
(2)	IFB -022(2013-2014)	Accessories for Kanbauk Gas Distribution Station	(1) Lot	US \$
(3)	1FB -023(2013-2014)	Accessories for Kyauk Phyu Gas Distribution Station	(1) Lot	US \$
(4)	1FB -024(2013-2014)	6" ERW API 5L Grade X 42 Steel Line Pipe and accessories (1) Lot	(2414) MTR	US \$
(5)	IFB -025(2013-2014)	428 XL Server 4000 with Monitor (NEC WA - 3.3 KV Induction Motor	(l) Set	US \$
(6)	IFB -026(2013-2014)	Solid Control Unit (Desander Unit, Desilter Unit & Degasser Unit)	(1) Unit each	US \$
(7)	IFB -027(2013-2014)	185 KW, 3.3 KV Induction Motor	(1) No	US \$
(8)	IFB -028(2013-2014)	11 KV Gas Circuit Breaker (or) Oil Circuit Breaker Complete Set	(4) Sets	US \$
(9)	IFB -029(2013-2014)	Derrick Shaker Unit	(1) Set	US \$
(10)	IFB -030(2013-2014)	Water Transfer Pump with Engine Driven	(1) Unit	US \$
(11)	DMP/L-011(2013-2014)	Telephone Cable, Branch Exchange and Cordless Telephone	(1) Lot	Kyat
(12)	DMP/L-012(2013-2014)	(a) Aluminium Conductor Steel Reinforce (ACSR) Wire (b) Hard Drawn Bore Copper (HDBC) Wire	(2.5) Tons (1) Ton	Kyat
(13)	DMP/L-013(2013-2014)	Circular Concrete POST 99) M	(50) Nos	Kyat
(14)	DMP/L-014(2013-2014)	(a) 5 KW Diesel Engine Driven Generating Set (b) 5 HP 3 Phase Induction Motor	(3) Sets (1) No	Kyat
(15)	DMP/L-015(2013-2014)	Spares for F 1600 Drilling Pump Ex ZJ 70 L Drilling Rig	(1) Lot	Kyat
-Tender Closing Date & Time -		12-8-2013, 1300 Hrs.		

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 8th July 2013 at the Material Planning Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 -411097/411206

Ministry of Energy Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise Invitation for Opened Tender

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars (CIF Yangon) and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
1.	MPPE/MCY/CAP/T/2 (2013-2014)	New 4000 Imperial Gallons Capacity Rigid Aircraft Refueller	2 Nos	USD
2.	MPPE/AV/T/1 (2013-2014)	Aviation Gasoline 100LL	400 Drums	USD
3.	MPPE/AV(LUB)/T/1 (2013-2014)	Aviation Lubricating Oil & Grease	6 Items	U2SD
4.	MPPE/LP/MCY/T/1 (2013-2014)	Aviation Fuelling Equipment Spre Parts	3 Items	Kyats
5.	MPPE/LP/CHEM/T/1 (2013-2014)	Shell Water Detector Capsules	890 Boxes	Kyats
2.	Tender Closing Date & Time —		14.8.2013, 12:00 Hrs	
3.	Tender documents are available at our office starting from 15-7-2013 during office hours and for further detail please contact			
Phone: 067-411487				

Planning Department
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, No (6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr No.	Tender No	Description	Quantity
1.	15(T)1/MR(E) 2013-2014	Spare Parts for Automatic Levelling, Lining and Tamping Machine (ED/ALL TM.No.01 and 02)	(192) Items

Closing Date & Time -19.8.2013(Monday)(12:00)Hrs
2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 16.7.2013 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways. Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 291994,

Man injured in shooting near Vienna airport

VIENNA, 16 July —A man was shot and wounded on Monday near the Vienna airport, police said.

The man, a builder,

was forced off the road by two masked gunmen and shot in the leg near the Vienna airport, police said in a statement.

The attackers fled the scene in a black limousine, and the victim managed to drive to the airport to raise the alarm.—Xinhua

Don't Smoke

ENTERTAINMENT



Russell Brand eventually bought a rug too.

When Russell Brand annoyed a rug seller

LOS ANGELES, 16 July—Actor-comedian Russell Brand annoyed a rug seller here by practicing yoga on one of his carpets.

The 38-year-old began meditating at a Persian rug stall and he was so encapsulated with the spiritual exercise that the rug seller was unable to shift him from the carpet, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

“He ignored the long-winded sales pitch, plopped himself down in the lotus position on a four by six antique Persian carpet, closed his eyes, and launched into a droning chant,” National Enquirer magazine quoted a source as saying.

“He kept chanting for about 20 minutes. People were staring in disbelief and the rug merchant tried several times to shake him out of his trance but there was no waking him up,” the source added.

Brand eventually paid 200 pounds for the rug as he believed it had spiritual energy.

“Suddenly he snapped out of it, jumped up and said, ‘I’ll take it,’” the source said.—PTI



The socialite was driving at almost twice the speed limit.

Paris Hilton handed ticket for speeding

LOS ANGELES, 16 July—Hotel heiress Paris Hilton was caught speeding while driving through Beverly Hills in her blue Bentley.

A police officer clocked the socialite for driving at 42 miles per hour (68 kmph) in a 25-mile-per-hour (40 kmph) zone.

Hilton was warned about speeding in residential neighbourhoods and she was handed a traffic ticket, according to TMZ.com.—PTI

Demi Moore in New Mexico for tantric yoga

LOS ANGELES, 16 July—Actress Demi Moore, who is now a certified yoga expert, is reportedly practicing tantric meditation in New Mexico. She is accompanied by her daughter Rumer Willis.

Demi, 50, who was introduced to the yoga practice by comedian Russell Brand, attended a Kundalini yoga Summer Solstice event in the Jemez Mountains, where people spent three days practicing ‘White Tantric Meditation’, reports tmz.com.

The meditation is said to break through the subconscious blocks that enslave the mind. It involves walking with eyes closed in a circle along with 10 people.

The exercise is said to help people become aware of their senses and build trust with others. The actress is reportedly heartbroken after her split with estranged husband Ashton Kutcher in 2011.—PTI



Demi Moore is practising tantric yoga with her daughter.

J.K. Rowling outed as writer of acclaimed crime novel

LONDON, 16 July — Harry Potter author JK Rowling secretly posed as a retired military policeman to write a crime novel that has been hailed as one of the best debut detective stories in years.

Rowling wrote “The Cuckoo’s Calling” under the name Robert Galbraith and kept up the pretence that it was the work of a married father of two and former undercover investigator.

Her cover was blown when the Sunday Times newspaper became suspicious that such an assured piece of writing could have been created by a first-time novelist. An investigation uncovered that Rowling was the real author.

“I had hoped to keep this secret a little longer because being Robert Galbraith has been such a liberating experience,” the 47-year-old said. “It has been wonderful to publish without hype or expectation, and pure pleasure to get feedback under a different name.”—Reuters

Author JK Rowling poses for a portrait while publicizing her adult fiction book ‘The Casual Vacancy’ at Lincoln Centre in New York on 16 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS



Kanye West lashes out at photographer

LOS ANGELES, 16 July — Rapper Kanye West has reportedly been captured on film while he was lashing out at a paparazzi, who complimented him for his work.

The video published by TMZ.com showed West talking to the cameraman in an angry tone, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

“I appreciate that, but don’t talk. Don’t talk to me. I don’t want to hear paparazzi talk to me or anybody I know,” said West.

“Don’t talk to me at all and don’t talk to anyone I know at all and tell every-

body, never talk to anyone that anyone knows. Don’t talk to themselves, don’t talk ever again,” he added.

West also reportedly tried to grab the photogra-



Kanye West has also been arrested in the past for smashing up a paparazzo’s equipment.

pher’s camera after he asked him about his music career.

Five years ago, the 36-year-old musician was arrested for smashing up TMZ.com equipment.

West’s socialite-partner Kim Kardashian gave birth to their first daughter last month. He previously said that he would do everything to protect the privacy of his daughter. “I would do anything to protect my child or my child’s mother. Well, I just don’t want to talk to America about my family. Like, this is my baby. This isn’t America’s baby,” he had said.—PTI

SPORTS

David Beckham not interested in coaching, prefers 'other stuff more'



Retired soccer champion David Beckham

LONDON, 16 July—Retired soccer champion David Beckham says he is in no mood to either coach any team or even manage it.

Beckham announced retirement from football in May this year. Even though his fans expected him to take up the role of a coach, he does not wish to do so, reports thetimes.co.uk. "Management has never interested me at all, I must admit. In five or 10 years, I might turn around and say 'I actually fancy management', but I don't think that's ever going to happen. I enjoy other stuff more," said Beckham.

PTI

England captain Gerrard extends Liverpool love affair

LONDON, 16 July—England captain Steven Gerrard has signed a contract extension that will keep him at Liverpool until 2015, the Premier League club announced on Monday.

Gerrard, 33, has spent his entire 15-year professional career at Liverpool where he has scored 158 goals in 630 appearances.

"I think everyone knows what it means to me," Gerrard said in a statement on Liverpool's website (www.liverpoolfc.com).

"I've been here that long and so to extend, it's a

big day for me and I'm really happy. It's great news.

"I'm glad it's all done and it's happened at the right time before the season, so I can just focus on playing as well as I can," Gerrard added.

Liverpool man-



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard shoots at goal during their Europa League soccer match against Zenit St. Petersburg at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England, on 21 Feb, 2013.—REUTERS

aging director Ian Ayre was hopeful Gerrard would end his career at the club.

"We've said what we'll do in two years' time is review it again and see how happy Steven is," Ayre said. "We seem to always be hap-

py with him, so hopefully we'll just continue in that vein."—Reuters

Real Madrid world's most valuable team

LONDON, 16 July—Real Madrid headed a trio of European soccer clubs at the top of a list of the world's 50 most valuable sports teams released by *Forbes* on Monday which was dominated by National Football League (NFL) franchises.

The nine-times European champions were worth \$3.3 billion (2.1 billion

pounds), up from \$1.88 billion last year, due in large part to increased revenue from deals with Adidas and Emirates Airlines, *Forbes* said in a statement. Manchester United (3.17 billion) swapped places with Real and sit in second spot while Spanish soccer champions Barcelona (2.6 billion) moved up five places to third.—Reuters

Barcelona's Neymar to decide between wearing No11 or No7

RIO DE JANEIRO, 16 July — Neymar has been told he has a choice between wearing the number 7 or 11 for new club Barcelona.

The No11 shirt became available on Monday after Bayern Munich confirmed the signing of midfielder Thiago while No 7 is also free following the departure of David Villa to Atletico Madrid, reports *Xinhua*.

It is understood Barcelona have sought a quick decision from Neymar in a bid to capitalize on soaring demand for shirt sales with the Brazilian's name.

The 21-year-old is expected to choose the No.11 he wore at Santos, where he was the club's most prolific scorer in the post-Pele era with 138 goals. Currently holidaying in Brazil, Neymar is not due to join his new Barcelona team mates until 25 July.—PTI



Maria Sharapova pulls out of Stanford event due to hip injury

STANFORD, 16 July—World No.2 Maria Sharapova pulled out of next week's WTA Tour Stanford Classic with a nagging hip injury.

Sharapova's withdrawal on Monday has robbed the tournament of one of its biggest names. The Russian suffered the left hip injury during Wimbledon which ended earlier this month.

"We understand that a player's health must always come first," said tourna-

ment director Kim Hall.

Hall also said Belgium's Kirsten Flipkens, who is ranked 15th overall, had pulled out. Officials did not give a reason for Flipkens's withdrawal.

With the loss of Sharapova, the top draws in the event now include recently crowned Wimbledon champion Marion Bartoli and world number four Agnieszka Radwanska. Former US Open champion Samantha Stosur, of Australia, and 2010 French Open winner Francesca Schiavone are also in the field.

Sharapova and Flipkens will be replaced in the 28-player draw by world number 46 Daniela Hantuchova and Christina McHale, who is ranked 79th. The tournament, which includes singles and doubles players, runs from 22-28 July.—PTI



Maria Sharapova

Back injury could force Swede Hanson out of British Open

GULLANE, 16 July—European Ryder Cup player Peter Hanson may have to pull out of this week's British Open at Muirfield because of a recurring back problem.

"I am a 50-50 chance of teeing up on Thursday," the 35-year-old Swede told reporters. "I thought the disc problem was getting better but then it starts to feel a lot worse."

The injury was so bad that Hanson was forced to pull out during the final round of the Greenbrier Classic in West Virginia at the start of this month.

"With seven holes to go we had a rain delay and then after the delay I couldn't get up and move so I had to withdraw," he

explained on Monday.

"The big test for me will be tomorrow because if I can play nine holes pain-free then that will be the key to my playing or not."

Hanson, who the BMW Masters in Shanghai in October and the Dutch Open in September, is due to

play alongside Japan's Hiroyuki Fujita and American Bill Haas in the opening two rounds at Muirfield. Dutchman Joost Luiten will be drafted in if the Swede is forced out.

Reuters

Sweden's Peter Hanson tees off on the second hole during the first round of the 2013 US Open golf championship at the Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, on 13 June, 2013.

REUTERS



GENERAL

5,700 still missing in flood-hit northern India feared dead

NEW DELHI, 16 July — Indian authorities said on Monday that more than 5,700 people who remained missing in the flood-hit northern state of Uttarakhand will be assumed dead.

“Over 5,700 people still missing from 18 states will now be presumed dead so that their families can be given five lakh (10, 000 US dollars) compensation. But we will not give any death certificates. The search for the missing will continue,” Uttarakhand Chief Minister Vijay Bahuguna told the media in state capital Dehradun.

He added: “The government should mount one last rescue effort and see — may be people are still stuck in the far reaches of the hills, waiting to be rescued.” So far, more than 120,000 people have been evacuated from the difficult terrains of the hilly state by the Indian army and air force. Monsoon floods swept away Uttarakhand on 16 June, killing thousands and washing away towns and roads.—Xinhua



Photo shows white lion cubs being shown to public on 13 July, 2013, at Himeji Central Park in Hyogo Prefecture, western Japan.

KYODO NEWS

Shells hit Damascus as Syrian troops gain more ground in Homs

DAMASCUS, 16 July — A mortar shell hit a service centre in al-Qaboun district in the Syrian capital of Damascus on Monday, injuring 24 people, while another mortar shell landed in neighbouring Barzeh District, official SANA news agency said. Al-Qaboun and Barzeh lie on the Eastern edge of the capital and border the suburban districts of Harastan, Duma and Jobar, where opposition militias still have an active presence.

Syrian Army on Sunday discovered a factory to manufacture and store toxic chemical weapons ran by the opposition, according to an army source. Among the seized material are containers with chlorine and mortar shells that could be

filled with the substance. The source also identified that some of the material were made in foreign countries, including Saudi Arabia.

In the meantime, the government troops maintained a steady pace in pushing the opposition out of the central city of Homs and rural Damascus, according to state media. SANA said the army has made advances in a dozen of neighborhoods and villages in and around Homs city, which has seen intense fighting since last month between the two sides. Analysts believe that the outcome of the struggle for this strategic city will have a great impact on the course of the conflict, in which now the Syrian government apparently has the upper hand.—Xinhua

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(17-7-13 09:30 am ~ 18-7-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * The stories of the great souls (Daw Mar Mar Aye) (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Life Skills
- * Local News
- * Learn Modesty...at Monastery
- * World News
- * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
- * Local News
- * The Heart Love Influenced (U Hla Tun Cancer Foundation)
- * World News
- * Sticky Shan Snack
- * Local News
- * Jade Industry: Myanmar Rewarding Business
- * World News
- * Myanmar Puppet
- * Local News
- * The Stories of the great souls (Daw Mar Mar Aye) (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * School for the Blind
- * Local News
- * Lucrative Myanmar Rattan Industry
- * Local News
- * History of Mrauk U Pagoda
- * World News
- * Myanmar Circular Stone Slab
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditional Wicker Ball (Chinlone)
- * World News
- * Taste Of Myanmar (Thin Egg Noodle Soup)

MYANMAR TV

(17-7-2013, Wednesday)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6:00 am | 4:00 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | 19. News |
| 6:20 am | 4:15 pm |
| 3. To Be Healthy Exercise | 20. India Drama Series |
| 6:30 am | 4:35 pm |
| 4. Song & Dance of National Races | 21. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Myanmar) |
| 7:00 am | 4:50 pm |
| 5. News/ Weather Report | 22. Gatamahar |
| 7:20 am | 5:00 pm |
| 6. Documentary | 23. News |
| 8:00 am | 5:15 pm |
| 7. News/ International News | 24. Documentary (SEA Games) |
| 8:25 am | 6:00 pm |
| 8. Documentary | 25. News/ Weather Report |
| 9:20 am | 6:20 pm |
| 9. Mono Classical Songs | 26. Shwe Yin Khone Than |
| 10:00 am | 7:00 pm |
| 10. News | 27. News |
| 10:15 am | 7:45 pm |
| 11. TV Drama Series | 28. Wut Hmon Music Troupe |
| 11:30 am | 8:00 pm |
| 12. Bakery World | 29. News/ International News/ Weather Report |
| 11:40 am | 8:35 pm |
| 13. Let the Journey begin | 30. People Talk |
| 12:00 am | 8:45 pm |
| 14. News/ International News/ Weather Report | 31. Documentary |
| 12:25 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 15. Myanmar Movies | 32. News |
| 2:40 pm | 33. My Mind Game My SEA Games |
| 3:00 pm | 34. CHINLONE MAGIC CIRCLE |
| 16. Musical Programmes | |
| 3:15 pm | |
| 17. News | |
| 18. India Drama Series | |

Woods drawn with McDowell and Oosthuizen at Muirfield



Tiger Woods of the US walks across the 18th green during a practice round ahead of the British Open golf championship at Muirfield in Scotland on 15 July, 2013.

REUTERS

GULLANE, (Scotland), 16 July— World number one Tiger Woods has been drawn to play alongside

former US Open champion Graeme McDowell and South African Louis Oosthuizen in the first two

rounds of this week's British Open at Muirfield.

The trio will tee-off at 1445 local time (1345

GMT) on Thursday and at 0944 on Friday.

Second-ranked Rory McIlroy has been grouped with American left-hander Phil Mickelson, last week's Scottish Open winner, and Japan's Hideki Matsuyama.

Woods, who will be making his first competitive appearance since last month's US Open in Pennsylvania, played nine holes in practice on Sunday.

The 14-times major winner said he still needed medication and treatment on his injured left elbow.

He had been suffering with minor discomfort ahead of the US Open at Merion where he aggravated the problem and was seen wincing and shaking his arm on several occasions.

"I started chipping and putting a little over a week

ago and I'm full go for the British Open," the 37-year-old American said on his website (www.tigerwoods.com) on Saturday.

"I'm very confident my elbow strain won't be a problem and I will be able to hit all the shots I need to hit."

"The big thing at Muirfield will be to avoid the rough," added Woods. "Although I have been playing every day I also have to get back into a competitive feel."

Woods is making his second appearance at a Muirfield-hosted British Open after finishing tied 28th in 2002.

"My first visit didn't go very well. I caught the worst of the weather," he said.

"That's just the nature of links golf. Luck plays a big part in it and you never

know what you're going to get."

World number seven McDowell is one of golf's hottest players this year, having won the World Match Play Championship in Bulgaria, the RBC Heritage in South Carolina and this month's French Open in Versailles.

Oosthuizen won the British Open, golf's oldest major, at St Andrews in 2010.

Title holder Ernie Els, US Open winner Justin Rose and American Brandt Snedeker feature in another marquee three-ball at 0911 in Thursday's opening round at Muirfield. US Masters champion Adam Scott has been drawn to play with American Matt Kuchar and Britain's Luke Donald at 1412.

Reuters

Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspects preparation for 27th SEA Games*Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspects sports equipment at gymnasium for 27th SEA Games.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July— Patron of leading Committee for Organizing the 27th SEA Games Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspected progress of construction of Stadiums and gymnasiums for the 27th SEA Games and encouraged the trainees under intensive training at 2 pm today.

On his arrival of Ngalike Dam, the Vice-President heard reports by Union Minister U Tint Hsan on preparedness for each sport events, undertakings for holding the Games, and camp training of trainees.

Next, the Vice-President and his entourage viewed round progress of horse race course at Wunnatheikdi Sports Village, racing horses and their trainings, clinic and mess hall for athletes, progress of constructions

of Wunnatheikdi swimming pool and Wunnatheikdi Sport Complex, and met with trainees under camp training.

At the hall of Wunnatheikdi Gymnasium, the Vice-President gave instructions after hearing reports by Union Minister U Tint Hsan on preparation tasks for the SEA Games and progress of sports grounds and gymnasiums.

The 27th SEA Games with 33 sports events would be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung Beach.

It was learnt that constructions of Wunnatheikdi sports ground, Zeyathiri sports ground, archery range, horse racing course and of Ngalike Dam have been completed cent per cent, and sports village, 99.87 per cent.

MNA

All unused farmlands to be returned to original owners when scrutiny process thorough coordination over

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July — Today's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw documented the President's messages on Declaration of the State of Emergency with Ordinance (1/2013) that will be lifted on 20 July 2013 and allocation of budget from the Special Funds to the Ministry of Border Affairs.

Next, the Hluttaw approved the part-1 and part-2 of the report of the land confiscation investigation commission as the majority was in favour of the commission chairman's proposal.

Then, Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai

Lwin, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, Deputy Minister at President Office U Thant Shin, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint and member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Kan Chun held discussions on the commission's report.

They all vowed to give back unused lands, except that on which implementation of projects are in progress and buildings or designated areas have been set up, to original owners when scrutiny process and thorough coordination with the ministries concerned being

implemented in accord with rules and regulations of the Farmland Law were over.

Afterwards, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the proposal urging the Union government to take quick measures regarding the suggestions of the commission's report in accord with the provision stated in Section 228 (a) of the Constitution.— MNA

*Today's Pyidaungsu**Hluttaw session in**progress.—MNA***Snowden officially asks for temporary asylum in Russia**

Moscow, 16 July—US intelligence whistleblower Edward Snowden has filed an official request for temporary asylum in Russia, lawyer Anatoly Kucherena said Tuesday.

"Because Snowden cannot leave the transit area of the Sheremetyevo (Airport), he completed all necessary forms, wrote a request and gave it to a Russian Federal Migration Service employee invited there for that purpose," the Interfax news agency quoted Kucherena as

saying.

The lawyer said earlier in the day he had explained to Snowden the Russian law on refugees, the president's decree on political asylum and the government's resolution on temporary asylum, hinting the whistleblower will make his decision soon.

Kucherena and a number of other lawyers as well as rights campaigners met with Snowden in the transit zone of Sheremetyevo Airport last Friday.

Xinhua

MRTV, Myanma Radio to air tribute-paying ceremony to fallen national heroes on 19 July

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July — The Myanma Radio and Television and Myanma Radio will broadcast the ceremony to mark the 66th Anniversary of Martyr's Day live and its related programmes on 19 July.

Martyr's Day ceremony will be broadcast live from Martyr's Mausoleum in Yangon at 7.55 am.

Moreover, excerpts of the speeches delivered by Bogoyoke Aung San at the City Hall on 13 July, 1947

and a programme to pay tribute to Bogoyoke Aung San and fallen heroes will be aired after the National News programme at 10 am.

After the National News programme at 7 pm, excerpts of the speeches delivered by Bogoyoke Aung San at the City Hall on 13 July, 1947 and the documentary on State funeral service of Bogoyoke Aung San and fallen heroes will be broadcast in the MRTV and Myanma Radio.— MNA

Kachin State Hluttaw MPs, Taikkyi Tsp USDP delegations visit Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July— A delegation led by Deputy Speaker of Kachin State Hluttaw U Sai Myint Kyaw and a delegation led by Secretary of Taikkyi Township Union Solidarity and Development party visited the seventh session of

the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw here today.

The Kachin State Hluttaw delegation comprises 22 members and the Taikkyi Township USDP delegation, 120 members.

MNA

Low pressure area still persists

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—According to the observation at (12:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's the low pressure area over Northwest Bill still persists, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

NLM