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Adolescent Pregnancy: Timing make a difference

Myanmar marked silver jubilee of World Population Day on 11 July with the theme of "Adolescent Pregnancy".

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Russia gives Snowden asylum, Obama-Putin summit in doubt



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Vice-President U Nyan Tun provides assistance to flood victims in Kawkareik Township



Vice-President U Nyan Tun presents cash assistance to flood victims in Kawkareik Township of Kayin State.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Chairman of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Vice-President U Nyan Tun, accompanied by Union Minister U Win Myint, the Kayin State Chief Minister and deputy ministers, heard reports on location and area of Kawkareik District, water course at the river, rainfall, opening of relief camps for flood victims, floods at monsoon paddy

and temporary closure of schools presented by Deputy Commissioner U Than Shwe of Kawkareik District at the hall of the local station in Kawkareik this morning.

State Minister for Transport U Saw Khin Maung Myint reported on landslides on Kawkareik-Myawady hilly road and clearing of debris on the road by Tatmadawmen. The Kayin State Chief Minister gave supplementary reports

on undertakings in the state.

The Vice-President attended to the needs.

At the relief camp in the precinct of Zina Thukha Lawka Tharaphu Pagoda in Kawkareik, the Vice-President consoled the victims. The Vice-President presented K 15000 each, rice, medicine and relief items to households at the relief camp of the pagoda and that of Saddham-mayanthi Dhammayon.

On his way back from Kawkareik, the President flew over inundated area of Kayin State.

Thanks to immediate response of the Union Government and the State government, there remain only 31574 people from 6399 flood victim households in Kayin State. Moreover, small vehicles will be able to use the Kawkareik-Myawady hilly road as of 3 August.—MNA

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Thai king leaves hospital in "good health" after four-year treatment



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China needs strengthened army, though it seeks no hegemony



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Bayern Munich bounce back to floor Manchester City



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Alma Mater of computer technicians in Myeik

University of Computer Studies (Myeik) turning out

software and hardware technicians who are reliable for building the

modern and developed nation is located in Shwedu Village of

Sandawut Village-tract, near Myeik-Taninthayi Road, about nine miles from Myeik.

The institution was launched as a government computer college at the office of Myeik Township Union Solidarity and Development Association on 4 September, 2000 and then it was moved to Sandawut Village-tract on 4 March, 2002. The college was upgraded to University of Computer Studies (Myeik) on 20 January, 2007. On 31 March, 2013, Yuzana Construction finished the three-storey main

Byline: Khaing Htoo (Myeik)

building of the university.

Under the supervision of Principal Dr Thanda Win, faculty members are training 133 students of first, second and third years and honour classes in hardware and software technologies, applied computer science and maintenance services. At the university, all students have the opportunity to use computers four hours a week.

The university has produced 345 BCSc graduates, 120 BTech graduates, 104 BCSc (Hons), 30 BTech (Hons), 57 DCSc, 10 DCA, nine

MISc, seven MCSc, three MCTech, one MASc and three DCM graduates from 2002 to 2012.

Moreover, the university conducts the short-term courses such as basic applied computer course, advanced applied computer course, basic and advanced computer maintenance courses 14 hours per week at every weekend. Up to now, the computer university is placing emphasis on turning out of qualified human resources in computer science.

Trs: TTA

Kyemon: 31-7-2013



NATIONAL SPORTS

Nay Pyi Taw FC to host Yangon United FC at Wunna Theikdhi Stadium

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug — A season-end match of between Nay Pyi Taw FC and Yangon United FC in Myanmar National League 2013 will take place at Wunna Theikdhi Stadium, here, at 6 pm on 4 August.

After the match, a

ceremony to award the MNL 2013 Championship Trophy to Yangon United FC will be held.

Champion Yangon United FC and Nay Pyi Taw FC who stood second place at this year's league tournament qualified for AFC Cup 2014.

Hanthawady United FC and Rakhine United FC that stood eleventh and twelfth in the table this year were relegated to MNL 2 while Chin United FC and GFA were promoted to MNL 2014 at the end of the season.

Kyemon

former selected players of Bago Region took place at Toungoo District sports ground at 3 pm on 29 July. Football fans in Bago came in flocks to see the match.

Actor Star team led the first half, scoring three goals, but Bago team got two equalizing goals in the second half. After the final whistle, Actor Star team won by three goals to two. Zarni, Thu Htoo San and Zin Min Tun scored for Actor Star team. Before and during the interval, vocalists entertained football fans with songs. — Kyemon-Kyaw Swa (Toungoo)

Charity football match for Toungoo Education Network



TOUNGOO, 2 Aug — Aimed at raising the funds for Toungoo Education Network, a football match

between Actor Star football team of Myanmar Motion Picture Association and a football team formed with

CRIME

Suspect of stealing top-up cards at mobile shop arrested

YANGON, 2 Aug — North Okkalapa police station said a theft of top-up cards from a mobile shop in Ward (I) in North Okkalapa Township, here, took place at about 4.15 pm on 23 July.

Police were reported

that Ma Thida (a) Man Ju, 29, of South Dagon Township arrived at KMD Mobile Shop at the corner of Thudhamma Road and Ayeya street and asked a shop assistant to show her handsets she wanted to buy. While selling and buying

activity was in progress, the shop assistant noticed she hid 29 top-up cards worth K 145,000 under her dress.

Now, investigation is ongoing after the suspect was taken into police custody. — Kyemon-31

Man under arrest in stabbing of policeman



NGASUTAUNG, 2 Aug — A man who fled after stabbing a policeman on the

Man dies from electrocution in Hlegu

HLEGU, 2 Aug — Police said they were called at about 4.30 pm on 29 July to Hlegu hospital where a man was taken there after he died from electrocution. He was identified as Yan

village road at about 9.30 pm on 26 July was arrested the following day.

Police member Myint Thein Tun of Ngasutaung police station was stabbed by Aung Soe of Hlayhlaw-in village when he came across the latter who had a quarrel with him over a chicken theft case on the village road during his way to his parent's house. Aung Soe fled the scene and the victim with life-threatening injuries was taken to Hlegu

hospital.

Ngasutaung police in cooperation with police members of North District Special Crime Reduction Squad caught the suspect together with a 10 inches long knife at a farm where he took refuge from police's arrest in Hlayhlaw-in village in Hlegu Township. He was charged with stabbing the policeman of Ngasutaung police station.

Kyemon-Soe Win-MLA

as a power line fell on his back and then he stepped on it while he was walking along the main road of the village.

Police opened a case and investigation is ongoing to expose whether there is foul play or not. Kyemon-Zaw Shin (Ottha)

Victorious Myanmar Judo team back home

YANGON, 2 Aug — A Myanmar Judo sports contingent led by Secretary of Myanmar Judo Federation Assistant Director U Aung Naing Swe of Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports took part in International Invitational Judo Tournament held in Bangkok of Thailand from 25 to 29 July.

Myanmar team bagged two gold, four silver and six bronze medals at the tournament and stood third while host Thailand and Republic of Korea first and second among teams representing 11 countries



at the tournament. Gold medalists are Aye Aye Aung and Zin Lin Aung, silver medalists Kat Ciin Paung, Hein Latt Zaw, Saw Maing San and Thinzar Soe and bronze medalists Sel

Wee, Aye Aye Thin, Zaw Naing and Khin Myo Thu.

The victorious Myanmar Judo team arrived back in Yangon on 29 July.

Kyemon-Khin Maung Win

Three fishing boat crew die while cleaning oil tank

ACCIDENT



YANGON, 2 Aug — An incident that claimed lives of three crew members

occurred at about on 1 August on Shwe Hlyan Toe fishing boat berthed

at Haing Long jetty in Pazundaung Township.

Tun Lay, 33, Myo Tun, 42, Min Naing, 30, and Min Min, 33 suddenly went unconscious while they were cleaning the oil tank of the fishing boat. Tun Lay, Myo Tun and Min Naing were declared dead on their way to Yangon East District Hospital, but Min Min is being treated in critical condition at the hospital. No information was immediately available about the cause of the fatal incident.

Kyemon-Soe Win-MLA

Container truck dips its head into drain water

YANGON, 2 Aug — A tractor-trailer skidded out of control and plunged into a drain on Bago River road in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township at about 10.30 am on 31 July.

The truck with Naing Lin Tun (a) Ko Ko Aung, 27, at the wheel swerved off the road and ended up plunging into the drain on the right side of the road while making a turn into Yadana street on Bago River Road.

Police charged the diver over reckless driving.

Kyemon-081



Man found dead in Magway highway bus terminal

MAGWAY, 2 Aug — A man was found dead at a passenger lounge in Magway highway bus terminal at about 6 am on 30 July, police said.

No (2) police station said they were called to the scene and found the man who was identified as Ko Min Min, 36, of Aung Myitta Ward (C) in Magway

Township was found dead with no external injuries. He was so drunk and believed to have died from an illness. — Kyemon-Kyaw Wint Thu (Magway)

WORLD

Obama speaks to Abbas about peace talks

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — US President Barack Obama on Thursday called Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to reaffirm his administration's support for a two-state solution through peace talks with Israel.

Obama "reaffirmed that the United States stands ready to support the parties in achieving a just and lasting peace based on the two state solution, and will continue to work closely with

the Palestinian Authority to achieve this goal," the White House said in a statement. The president also commended Abbas for his "leadership and courage" in resuming final status negotiations with Israel.

The two sides agreed to begin formal final status negotiations within two weeks either in Israel or the Palestinian territories after their chief negotiators met in Washington on Monday and Tuesday to set the

agenda and procedures for the negotiations. And they agreed to put all the final status issues — Jerusalem, security, the Jewish settlements, borders and refugees — and all other issues on the table. US Secretary of State John Kerry, whose intensive shuttle diplomacy restarted the peace talks, said on Tuesday that "our objective will be to achieve a final-status agreement over the course of the next nine months." — *Xinhua*



Kerry hopes Pakistan drone strikes to end 'very soon'



US Secretary of State John Kerry (L) meets with Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari in Islamabad on 1 Aug, 2013. — REUTERS

ISLAMABAD, 2 Aug — US Secretary of State John Kerry told Pakistanis on Thursday he hoped US drone strikes in their nation would end "very, very soon," a message meant to ease anti-American resentment in the strategic country.

After meeting Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Kerry said they had agreed to re-establish a "full partnership", hoping to end years of acrimony over the drone strikes and other grievances including the May 2011 US raid that killed Osama bin Laden. In a television inter-

view later, Kerry said of the drone strikes, "I think the programme will end as we have eliminated most of the threat and continue to eliminate it." "I think the president has a very real timeline and we hope it's going to be very, very soon," he told Pakistan Television, when asked whether the US had a timetable for ending drone strikes aimed at militants in Pakistan.

Kerry's comments went further than those of President Barack Obama, who said in a 23 May speech that the need for drone strikes would decrease in "the Afghan war theater" as US troops withdraw by the end of 2014. But Obama did not speak of ending drone strikes entirely and his speech offered a detailed justification

for the tactic "against terrorists who pose a continuing and imminent threat to the American people, and when there are no other governments capable of effectively addressing the threat."

US drone missiles have targeted areas near the Afghan border, including North Waziristan, the main stronghold for various militant groups aligned with al-Qaeda and the Taliban, since 2004. Pakistanis have been angered by reports of civilian casualties and what they see as an abuse of their sovereignty. US drone strikes in Pakistan have fallen significantly over the past 2 1/2 years, totaling 17 so far this year, versus 48 in all of 2012 and 73 in 2011, according to a tally kept by the New America Foundation. — *Reuters*

US to close some embassies Sunday for security reasons

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — US embassies that would normally be open this Sunday — including those in Abu Dhabi, Baghdad and Cairo — will be closed that day because of unspecified security concerns, the US State Department said on Thursday.

CBS News reported that the embassy closings were tied to US intelligence about an al-Qaeda plot against US diplomatic posts in the Middle East and other Muslim countries. CBS said the intelligence did not mention a specific location.

"The Department of State has instructed certain US embassies and consulates to remain closed or to suspend operations on Sunday, 4th August," State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told reporters at

her daily briefing.

"Security considerations have led us to take this precautionary step," Harf declined to detail the "security considerations" or name the embassies and consulates that would be closed, but a senior State Department official told reporters later they were those that would normally have been open on Sunday.

A quick search of the State Department website showed that those included several US missions in the Muslim world, including the embassies in Abu Dhabi, Baghdad and Cairo. CBS News said US embassies would also be closed in Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

— *Reuters*

Bangladesh's High Court declares Jamaat-e-Islami party illegal

DHAKA, 2 Aug — Bangladesh's High Court on Thursday declared the country's biggest Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami illegal, banning it from participating in the next general elections, slated for early next year.

A three-member High Court panel headed by Justice M Moazzam Husain pronounced the verdict at about 2:45 pm, with two members declaring the party's registration with the Election Commission illegal.

In response to the verdict, Mahbub-ul-Alam Hanif, joint general secretary of the ruling Awami League, told local media, "The court's verdict is correct. Jamaat is no longer a political group, but just a criminal front."

Referring to crimes committed by Jamaat

members during the Bangladesh war of independence in 1971, Hanif said, "I welcome the verdict of the High Court."

Jamaat-e-Islami was involved in war crimes and later became a criminal group feared for their violent activities."

Jamat was opposed to Bangladesh's quest for independence from Pakistan, with several of its top leaders recently sentenced to death or long prison terms for their involvement in war crimes, including torture, rape and murder.

On 4 Nov, 2008, Jamaat was registered as a political party by the Bangladesh Election Commission. Challenging the EC's decision, several political groups filed a writ on 25 Jan, 2009, saying Jamaat does not

believe in independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh and should therefore not be registered as a political party of the country.

The party would also not comply with the provisions of the Representation of People Order, according to which political parties must not discriminate against religions, sexes and castes when selecting its leadership.

Jamaat does not allow non-Muslims or women to lead the organization, the petition said. The party was banned after Bangladesh's independence until 1975, when Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the country's founding leader, was assassinated. Following his death, subsequent governments paved the way for Jamaat's revival in politics. — *Kyodo News*

France to cut military staff by 12 percent in six-year budget



French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian listens to a reporter's question before addressing a gathering at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in New Delhi on 26 July, 2013. — REUTERS

PARIS, 2 Aug — France will cut nearly 34,000 military personnel under a proposed six-year defence budget to be unveiled on Friday, as government belt-tightening and a desire for more nimble forces alters the makeup of Europe's second-largest army. Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian will present the

190 billion euro (\$251 billion) budget in a cabinet meeting. The defence ministry warned in April that its budget would remain largely static in coming years when it outlined its 2014-19 priorities in a strategic blueprint that anticipated the 12 percent cut in staff.

The government wants to cut state spending by 60

billion euros over its five-year term to meet deficit targets but steered clear of drastic cuts to military spending after armed forces officials and lawmakers said that would hamper France's ability to react to global security threats. Still, the military job cuts will bite at a time of rising unemployment and dissatisfaction over Socialist President Francois Hollande's inability to revive the sputtering economy. Under the draft budget, the military will also slow the pace at which it takes delivery of Rafale jets ordered from Dassault Aviation, only taking 26 of the planes over the six years, down from a normal pace of some 11 planes a year. The move will delay promised payments of the planes, worth roughly \$120 million a piece, easing pressure on state coffers. — *Reuters*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Vodafone restructures to create one European unit



The Vodafone logo is seen at the counter of the shop as customers look at mobile phones in Prague on 7 Feb, 2012. British telecommunication firm Vodafone is expected to post fourth-quarter results on 9 February.

REUTERS

LONDON, 2 Aug—Vodafone said on Thursday it would merge its northern, central and southern European regions into one unit which will be led by Philipp Humm.

Under the reorganization to take place on 1 October, the group's successful Turkish division will fit into the Africa, Middle East and Asia-Pacific unit.

Paolo Bertoluzzo, cur-

rently the head of southern Europe, will become the group's commercial and operations officer. Humm had been the head of northern and central Europe for the British mobile operator.

"These organizational changes will allow us to improve the customer experience and develop our commercial strategy more quickly and consistently," Chief Executive Vittorio Colao said.—Reuters

Security expert says mobile carriers moved fast to fix SIM bug



LAS VEGAS, 2 Aug—A well-known security expert said mobile carriers have quickly protected customers from a security bug that he revealed 10 days ago and that he estimated had put more than 500 million phones at risk of cyber attacks.

Karsten Nohl, chief scientist with Berlin's Security Research Labs, led a research team at the German firm that figured out a way to remotely gain control of and also clone some mobile SIM cards.

"Pretty much every carrier we have spoken to has fixed it," Nohl said in advance of a talk late

Wednesday afternoon at the Black Hacking conference in Las Vegas.

The team was the first to accomplish the hacking feat, which has long been a Holy Grail of mobile hackers. The tiny, highly secured devices are located in phones and allow operators to identify and authenticate subscribers as they use networks.

He discussed that three-year research effort late Wednesday afternoon in one of the most anticipated talks at Black Hat, a conference where some 7,000 security professionals gathered to hear about the latest risks posed by hacking.

LAS VEGAS, 2 Aug—Apple Inc's next software update for its iPhones and iPads will fix a security flaw that allows hackers to engage in spying and cyber crimes when the victim connects the device to a fake charging station, the company said on Wednesday.

Apple's devices are vulnerable to attacks until the company releases its iOS 7 software update, which is slated for this fall.

Three computer scientists, who alerted Apple to the problem earlier this year, demonstrated the security vulnerability at the Black Hat hacking convention in Las Vegas on Wednesday where some 7,000 security professionals are learning about the latest threats posed by computer hacking. Apple said the issue had been fixed in the latest beta of iOS 7, which has already been released to software developers.

"We would like to thank the researchers for

Nohl said at a news conference prior to that talk that he would not be able to demonstrate part of his technique for attacking SIM cards because he had prepared to show it on SIMs from five carriers, but that all five carriers had made changes to prevent them from being hacked.

Nohl is a so-called "white hat," or a hacker who figures out how to attack things in a bid to find vulnerabilities so that companies can fix bugs before criminals can exploit them.

He told Reuters that he was pleased that they had implemented the fix before his demonstration because that means they are ahead of criminal hackers, who could use compromised SIMs to commit financial crimes or engage in electronic espionage.

Nohl said that carriers have used methods to fix the bug in SIM cards without having to physically replace them, which would have been quite costly. He said he was not sure whether all carriers around the world have fixed the bug, but that he had checked with many major carriers and that they had gone ahead and taken care of the security problem.—Reuters

Apple fixing bug that allows fake charging stations to 'hack' iPhones and iPads

their valuable input," Apple spokesman Tom Neumayr said.

The work was done by Billy Lau, a research scientist at the Georgia Institute of Technology, and graduate students Yeongjin Jang and Chengyu Song.

In a demonstration at the hacking conference, they plugged an iPhone into a custom-built charger they equipped with a tiny Linux computer that was programmed to attack iOS devices. They said it cost about \$45 to buy and a week to design.

It infected the phone with a computer virus designed to dial the phone of one of the researchers, which it did.



They said that real-world cyber criminals might build viruses that would give them remote control of the devices. That would enable them to take screen shots for stealing banking passwords and credit card numbers. They could also access emails, texts and contact infor-

mation or track the location of the phone's owner, Lau said. "It can become a spying tool," said Lau.

Lau said they were publicizing the issue in the spirit of "white hat" hacking, which is finding security bugs so that manufacturers can fix them before criminals exploit them.—Reuters

Telefonica, Yoigo to share 4G, broadband in Spain

MADRID, 2 Aug—Spain's biggest telecoms operator Telefonica (TEF.MC) signed a deal with No 4 provider Yoigo (TLSN.ST) on Thursday allowing it to use its rival's superfast mobile Internet frequencies in exchange for access to its broadband assets.

Telefonica, the only operator in Spain that does not currently provide 4G services, will have full use of Yoigo's superfast spectrum, while the smaller player will now be able to compete in

the attractive market of bundling fixed-line and mobile telephone services.

The agreement is expected to come into force in the fourth quarter of the year and also includes the extension of contracts that grant Yoigo access to Telefonica's 2G and 3G networks in areas of the country where it does not have coverage until 2016, according to statements from the companies.

However, the deal drew fire from the country's No 3 operator, Orange Spain

(ORAN.PA), which asked competition and government authorities to look into the tie-up. Spain's telecoms regulator could not immediately be reached for comment.

Telefonica and Yoigo said they had also sold mobile towers to infrastructure firm Abertis (ABE.MC) for 385 million euros (\$511 million). Abertis said the deal would contribute 60 million euros to its earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA).

Reuters

Sony expected to reject entertainment spin-off

NEW YORK, 2 Aug—Sony Corp's board is expected to reject a proposal from activist investor Daniel Loeb, whose fund is the company's largest shareholder, to spin-off part of its entertainment division, the Nikkei newspaper reported.

Many directors argued, citing a report from financial advisers, that Sony could compete better by maintaining close links between the entertainment and electronics divisions, the Japanese business daily

said. Sony's board has yet to finalize its position but is leaning toward a rejection, it said.

Daniel Loeb proposed in May that the company sell off as much as a fifth of the group's money-making entertainment arm — movies, TV and music — to free up cash to revive the electronics business.

Sony's US-listed shares were down 2 percent at \$21.19 in afternoon trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Sony declined comment on the Nikkei report, saying in an email to Reuters that its board and management continued to review the Third Point proposal. Third Point did not respond to a request for comment.

Last year Sony was Hollywood's strongest studio with 16.6 percent of the US box office. But it released two bombs this summer and its market share has dwindled to 8 percent so far this year.

Will Smith's film, "After Earth", and "White House Down", starring Jamie Foxx and Channing Tatum, both opened well below industry expectations for such big budget productions.

It had enjoyed a boom-er year last year, boosted by blockbusters "The Amazing Spider-Man" and the James Bond film, "Skyfall".—Reuters



BUSINESS & HEALTH

Half of babies in US now breastfed: CDC



WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — The number of US babies who are breastfed has continued to rise over the past decade, according to new data released on Wednesday by the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Between 2000 and 2010, the rate of babies breastfeeding at six months increased from 35 percent to 49 percent and the rate of babies still breastfeeding at 12 months rose from 16 percent to 27 percent, the data showed.

Overall, 77 percent of new mothers at least tried to breastfeed at first during the same time period, the CDC said.

Babies who are breastfed are less likely to have ear and gastrointestinal infections, and less likely to be obese and have diabetes, while mothers who breastfeed are less likely

to have breast and ovarian cancers, according to the CDC. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that newborns get nothing but breastmilk for the first six months of life and that mothers continue to breastfeed, along with giving other food, for at least a year or even longer “as mutually desired by mother and baby.”

“Breastfeeding lowers health care costs. Researchers have calculated that 2.2 billion dollars in yearly medical costs could be saved if breastfeeding recommendations were met,” CDC Director Tom Frieden said in a statement.

“It is critical that we continue working to improve hospital, community and workplace support for breastfeeding mothers and babies and realize these cost savings,” Frieden said. *Xinhua*

Costs hit Big Oil; shale surge lifts smaller producers

LONDON/HOUSTON, 2 Aug — Some of the western world's top oil companies abandoned output targets and missed profit forecasts on Thursday as they promised to clamp down on rising costs that hurt quarterly results. Costs for workers and materials are climbing as the industry scrambles to bring new wells and pipelines into operation.

Companies owning refineries, from smaller independents to majors that have operations in all aspects of the oil business, also had profits squeezed by price shocks, maintenance work, and the rising cost of ethanol credits they often buy to comply with cleaner-fuel rules in the United States.

In contrast, smaller US producers, which tend to have more of their operations inside the United States and relatively more exposure to shale deposits, reported surging output.

“It’s a difficult time for

the big integrated. They are not seeing production growth, refining margins are deteriorating, and costs are going up. That’s not a good combination,” said Brian Youngberg, an oil analyst with Edward Jones in St Louis.

Among a slew of quarterly results on Thursday, Royal Dutch Shell (RDSA.L) and Exxon Mobil (XOM.N) disappointed Wall Street.—*Reuters*



A view of the Exxon Mobil refinery in Baytown, Texas on 15 Sept, 2008. — *REUTERS*

Factory, jobless data point to firming economy

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — Factory activity jumped to a two-year high in July and first-time applications for jobless benefits hit a 5-1/2-year low last week, bolstering views economic growth would accelerate in the second half of the year.

The burst of strength in the economy as the third quarter started keeps on track expectations that the Federal Reserve will start reducing its monetary stimulus later this year.

“The future growth outlook remains on a highly positive trajectory, keeping the September tapering timeline firmly intact despite the Fed’s nod to below-target inflation,” said Gennadiy Goldberg, an economist at TD Securities in New York. The Institute for Supply Management said on Thursday its index of national factory activity rose to 55.4 last month from 50.9 in June, buoyed by a surge in new orders and production.

A reading above 50

indicates expansion in the sector, which hit a soft patch in the spring.

The pick-up in manufacturing was also corroborated by financial data firm Markit, which said its US Manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index rose to a four-month high in its final July reading. Measures of factory jobs rose in both reports, with the ISM employment index reaching its highest since June last year.

The improvement in employment dovetailed with a separate report from the Labour Department showing initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 19,000 to a seasonally adjusted 326,000 last week, the lowest since January 2008.

While claims are usually volatile in July due to auto plant shutdowns, economists who had expected new filings to rise to 345,000 said the general tone of the report was consistent with a pick-up in job growth. The four-week moving average

for new claims, which irons out week-to-week volatility, fell 4,500 to 341,250.

“This suggests the labor market is still expanding. There is no sign that it’s slowing. It might actually be picking up a bit,” said David Sloan, senior economist at 4Cast in New York. Automakers traditionally close assembly plants for retooling in July but they have now either shortened the shutdown

period or forgone closures altogether, throwing off the model that the government uses to adjust the data for seasonal variations.

Stocks on Wall Street pushed higher, with the Standard & Poor’s 500 index topping the 1,700 level for the first time. US Treasury debt prices fell, while the dollar rallied against a basket of currencies.

Reuters



Corporate recruiters (R) gesture and shake hands as they talk with job seekers at a Hire Our Heroes job fair targeting unemployed military veterans and sponsored by the Cable Show, a cable television industry trade show in Washington, on 11 June, 2013.— *REUTERS*

Quitting smoking post-angioplasty tied to longer life

NEW YORK, 2 Aug — People who quit smoking after a balloon angioplasty to improve blood flow to the heart live an average of two years longer than those who keep smoking, a new study suggests. Researchers found people who were undergoing balloon angioplasty in their 50s, on average, and quit smoking within one year after the procedure lived another 18.5 years. In contrast, those who continued to smoke lived about 16.4 years, on average, after angioplasty.

“Most (smokers) start smoking in their youth and have a smoking history of 40-50 years,” said Ron van Domburg, the senior author of the paper and a clinical epidemiologist at Erasmus Medical Centre in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.



Students pose for pictures with “big cigarette models” during a campaign ahead of the World No Tobacco Day, at a primary school in Handan, Hebei province, on 29 May, 2013. — *REUTERS*

“Most patients think it is too late to quit smoking, but the major message of our study is that it is never too late to stop smoking,” he told *Reuters Health* in an email. “Even if you’re not willing to stop smoking (for) yourself, do it for your grandchildren. They can enjoy their grandparents for an additional two years.”

Previous studies have shown that smoking contributes to an increased risk of heart-related illness and death. But others reflect just how tough it can be to quit smoking. Relapse rates are high, even with medications and behavioral therapies developed to help people kick the habit.

According to a US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention analysis of 2010

survey data, about 69 percent of smokers want to stop smoking, and about half of these make quit attempts each year. But of those, only about six percent successfully stay off cigarettes.

To determine whether or not quitting smoking is tied to increased life expectancy after heart surgery, van Domburg and his colleagues collected data on 806 patients who underwent balloon angioplasty at Erasmus Medical Centre between 1980 and 1985.

During coronary balloon angioplasty, also known as percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), a balloon-tipped catheter is threaded through blood vessels and the balloon is inflated to clear one or more narrowed vessels.

The researchers asked patients about their smoking habits before and one year after surgery and followed them for up to 30 years. Of the patients, 309 were non-smokers, 210 quit smoking after their surgery and 287 smoked before and after. Non-smokers and people who had smoked but quit after surgery were equally likely to die during the follow-up period, but death rates were significantly higher among those who continued smoking.

Reuters

US initial jobless claims fall to five-year low

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — The number of Americans initially applying for unemployment aid fell to the lowest level in more than five years last week, the Labour Department reported on Thursday.

In the week ending 27 July, the advance figure of seasonally adjusted initial claims for jobless benefits fell by 19,000 to 326,000, the fewest since January 2008, from a revised figure of 345,000 for the previous week. Jobless claims are volatile in July because carmakers usually take this time to remodel their vehicles and temporarily lay off workers. School closings in summertime could also influence the figures.

The four-week moving average, which helps smooth out week-to-week volatility, declined by 4,500 to 341,250, a two-month low, and stayed well below the benchmark level of 375,000, which indicates a sustained recovery in employment.

The advance figure of seasonally adjusted insured unemployment during the week ending July 20 stood at 2.951 million, down 52,000 from the previous week.—*Xinhua*

WORLD

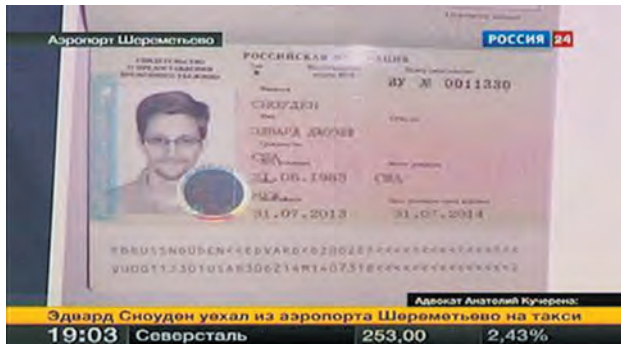
Russia gives Snowden asylum, Obama-Putin summit in doubt

MOSCOW/WASHINGTON, 2 Aug—Russia rejected US pleas and granted American fugitive Edward Snowden a year's asylum on Thursday, letting the former spy agency contractor slip out of a Moscow Airport after more than five weeks in limbo while angering the United States and putting in doubt a planned summit between the two nations' presidents. The United States wanted Russia to send Snowden home to face criminal charges including espionage for disclosing in June secret American internet and telephone surveillance programmes. The White House signaled that President Barack Obama may boycott a September summit with President Vladimir Putin in Moscow.

Snowden, whose dis-

closures triggered an international furor over the reach of US spy operations as part of its counterterrorism efforts, thanked Russia for his temporary asylum and declared that "the law is winning." Anatoly Kucherena, Snowden's Russian lawyer, said the 30-year-old had found shelter in a private home of American expatriates. Putin's move aggravated relations with the United States that were already strained by Russian support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in that country's bloody civil war and a host of other issues.

"We see this as an unfortunate development and we are extremely disappointed by it," White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters in Washington. "We are evaluating the util-



A picture of fugitive former US spy agency contractor Edward Snowden in his new refugee documents granted by Russia in Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport on 1 Aug, 2013, is seen in this still image taken from a video filmed by Rossiya 24 TV Channel.—REUTERS

ity of a summit, in light of this and other issues, but I have no announcement today on that. Other high-level US-Russian talks were also put in doubt. Discussions planned for next week between US Secretary of State John Kerry, Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel and their Russian counterparts are now "up in the air," according to a US official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Snowden, a former

National Security Agency contractor, has avoided the hordes of reporters trying to find him since he landed at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport from Hong Kong on 23 June. He gave them the slip again as he left the transit area where he had been holed up. State television showed Snowden, wearing a backpack and a blue button-up shirt, getting into a gray car at the airport, driven by a young man in a baseball cap.—Reuters

Even when jobs return, Detroit's workers fall short on skills

DETROIT, 2 Aug—Detroit emergency manager Kevyn Orr has a long list of things to fix in the city and among them is one that may sound surprising: there are not enough skilled workers to fill job openings as they become available. Every problem in this city revolves around jobs," said Lindsay Chalmers, vice president of non-profit Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit. "That's at the heart of the issue for Detroit."

The decline of manufacturing jobs, above all in the automotive industry, has played a major role in the slide of the Motor City's population to 700,000 from a peak of 1.8 million in the 1950s. Despite recent gains, Michigan has 350,000 fewer manufacturing jobs than in 2000. Seismic shifts in the local labour market have left many unskilled workers behind.

"In the old days you could graduate on Friday, get hired at the Ford plant on Monday and they'd train

you," said Sheldon Danziger, a professor of public policy at the University of Michigan. "But in Detroit as in other manufacturing cities, employers are demanding that workers come to jobs with more skills than they used to have."

There are jobs on the horizon for Detroit, with some \$8 billion in potential infrastructure investments including a light rail line and a new bridge to Canada, which alone is expected to generate 25,000 jobs. Once these projects begin, they are expected to fuel a surge in service-related jobs.

But Pamela Moore, chief executive of Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC), a non-profit focused on retraining the city's unemployed, said Detroit's labour force is unprepared for the jobs that may be coming. "The question is whether we can prepare a lot of people in Detroit for those jobs," Moore said. "Right now, a lot of them don't have the necessary skills."—Reuters



Valecia Carrithers checks small automotive parts for quality control during her job training at Goodwill Industries in Detroit, Michigan on 4 June, 2013.—REUTERS

Members of the Muslim Brotherhood and supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi attend a funeral for two people killed in recent clashes at Rabaa Adawiya Square, where they are camping in Nasr city area, east of Cairo on 1 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS



CAIRO, 2 Aug—Egypt's army-backed government warned supporters of deposed President Mohamed Mursi on Thursday to abandon their Cairo protest camps, promising them a safe exit if they gave up without a fight. The appeal, made by Interior Ministry spokesman Hany Abdel

Egypt's rulers tell pro-Mursi protesters to quit camps

Latif on state television, followed the government's declaration on Wednesday it was ready to take action to end two weeks of sit-in protests by thousands of Mursi supporters at two

elevision station reported. It quoted him as saying efforts should be made to reach a political solution by reaching out to moderates on both sides. Since the army ousted the Islamist Mursi on 3 July, police have rounded up many leaders of his Muslim Brotherhood, mostly on charges of inciting violence. The latest warnings raised the possibility of a potentially bloody showdown.

Latif said that if protesters left the sites peacefully, they would be guaranteed a safe exit. No deadline was set. "There is no specified date. We will continue to study the situation on the ground," Latif told Reuters. The protesters remained defiant and prepared for the worst. At the Rabaa al-Adawiya camp, ground was cleared of rubbish to allow easier ambulance access. Buckets of

sites. European Union envoy Bernardino Leon, who has been trying to defuse political tensions on a trip to Cairo, said the EU would not easily accept the use of violence to break up the protest camp and that such action would have to be explained to the international community, Al-Hayat tel-

US envoy Roos to attend A-bomb ceremony in Hiroshima

HIROSHIMA, 2 Aug—US Ambassador to Japan John Roos will attend an annual ceremony next Tuesday in Hiroshima to commemorate the 68th anniversary of the 1945 US atomic bombing of the city, marking his third attendance since 2010, before shortly leaving his post, sources close to Japan-US relations said on Friday.

The US government is also arranging Roos' schedule to take part in another ceremony in Nagasaki on 9 August, and the schedule for both attendances will be officially announced soon, the sources said. Roos made the first-ever appearance by a US Ambassador to Japan at the 2010 ceremony in Hiroshima, which fell on the 65th anniversary,

and attended the Nagasaki ceremony last year for the first time. Behind these attendances is US President Barack Obama's desire to push for a world without nuclear weapons. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida are scheduled to attend both ceremonies in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Kyodo News

ISLAMABAD, 2 Aug—Visiting US Secretary of State John Kerry and newly elected Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in talks here on Thursday pledged to support talks between the Afghan government, the United States and the Taliban in order to realize peace in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Details of the talks were disclosed at a joint Press conference in the capital Islamabad given by Kerry and Sartaj Aziz, Sharif's adviser on foreign affairs. Pakistan has a history of supporting the former Taliban government, and is still regarded as maintain-

US, Pakistan pledge support for talks with Taliban

ing contact with the Taliban. Washington aims to restart talks with the Taliban through the intermediation of Pakistan.

As for the scheduled drawdown of US-led troops in Afghanistan in 2014, Kerry said he was confident the United States would reach an agreement on future troop levels in a timely way. "We are drawing down, not withdrawing," he said, adding that a certain number of US troops will remain behind to train local Afghan security forces. Sharif voiced support for an Afghan-led dialogue on reconciliation by the Afghan government and Taliban,

while calling for an end to US unmanned drone strikes against terrorist targets in Pakistan's tribal areas.

Kerry also announced at the joint news conference that both sides agreed to revive their "strategic dialogue." The dialogue was halted following a 2011 NATO air attack in which 24 Pakistani soldiers were killed. Kerry arrived in Pakistan late Wednesday on an unannounced visit. It is his first visit to Islamabad as secretary of state, although he has a long history of dealing with Pakistan as former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.—Kyodo News

LOCAL NEWS

Shwedagon Pagoda replica under construction in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 2 Aug—Foundation has been laid for replica of Shwedagon Pagoda, Myanmar's most famous pilgrimage site, in the yard of Sasanavapura monastery in Yan Myo Aung ward in Meiktila.

The construction of the pagoda named Maha Yan Myo Aung Pagoda has completed the first stage yesterday.

The monastery also known as Pali Tekkatho accommodates some 300 monks studying Buddhist literature.

The pagoda with the height of 74 ft is built as there was no appropriate worshipping place for those



monks and visitors to the monastery, said residing monk of the monastery and Patron of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Kovida.

For donations to the construction, one could

contact Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kovida (Ph: 2201248), Yekha Monastery Abbot Bhaddanta (Ph: 092026561). MMAL-435

Contributors honoured for fund-raising entertainment

YANGON, 2 Aug—The fund-raising entertainment and concert to mark the 31st respect paying ceremony of Myanmar Medical Association was held at its hall on 29 July.

Chairman of MMA Prof U Kyaw Myint Naing and Chairperson of Women's Chapter Daw Khin Mar Aye made speeches.

The fund-raising entertainment and concert fetched K 24 million. Officials presented certificates to contributors of the programmes.

MMAL-Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

Taung-in and Nanmagyi bridges opened in Mohnyin Township

MOHNYIN, 2 Aug—The opening ceremony of Taung-in bridge linking Nanmagyi village and Taungthin, Kyagyikwin, Tahtegon, Kyundaw villages in Mohnyin Township in Mohnyin District in Kachin State was held on 31 July.

Kachin State Finance Minister U Nyunt Aung, Mohnyin District Deputy Commissioner U Aung Soe Moe and Taung-in village-tract Administrator U Thein Htway formally opened the bridge.

The bridge has the length of 450 ft and the width of 13 ft. The Region government funded K 18 million for the construction of the bridge and the local people contributed K 21.3

million.

The opening ceremony of Nanmagyi bridge on the motor road linking Mohnyin Township and Hopin Sub-Township was held on the same day.

Kachin State Finance Minister U Nyunt Aung, State Hluttaw Representative U Nyi Lay, Township Administrator U Myat Thu formally opened the bridge.

The bridge has the length of 88 ft and the width of 13 ft. The state government funded the construction by including in the 2012-2013 budget.

The estimated cost of the construction is K 42 million.

MMAL-State IPRD

BUSINESS

10th China-ASEAN Expo to be held in Nanning of China

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—10th China-ASEAN Expo will be held in Nanning of Guangxi Province in China from 3 to 6 September and Myanmar participated in the expo yearly starting from 2004.

The purpose of expo is to support in establishing China-ASEAN Free Trade Area and boosting China-ASEAN investments. Together with the expo, China-ASEAN Business & Investment Summit-CABIS are jointly held yearly.

City of Charm was

chosen and displayed in the expo by ASEAN member countries through rotation system in accord with the theme regarded by the expo committee starting from 2nd China-ASEAN Expo.

The designated theme for City of Charm this year was Regional Cooperation and Development: New Opportunities, New Impetus and New Stage.

Myanmar is arranging to select and exhibit the name of town in line with the theme.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce

and Industry and its brother associations, the entrepreneurs from Muse (Namkham) Border Trade Association exhibit Myanmar's marine products in the expo yearly.

The Myanmar entrepreneurs wishing to attend the expo are to register at the International Trade Promotion Division, Trade Promotion Department, Ministry of Commerce ph-067-430128, 408239 and fax-067-430141 and UMFCI Head Office, expo section ph-01-214344.

MNA

Union FM receives Bangladeshi Advisor on Health Affairs



NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Prof. Dr. Syed Modasser Ali, Adviser on Health Affairs to the Prime Minister of the People's

Republic of Bangladesh, paid a courtesy call on U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry, here, at 11:30 am yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed health issues in the region and cooperation between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

MNA

SEMINAR

Myanmar-US anti-human trafficking seminar organized

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—First Myanmar-US anti-human trafficking seminar was organized at Areindama Hall of Myanmar Police Force Headquarters in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 31 July.

Secretary of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win and central committee members, members of the presidential advisory board, Chief of Staff of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-Gen Khin Maung Si and police

officers, UN agencies engaging in anti-human trafficking efforts, NGOs, INGOs, US Anti-Human Trafficking Envoy Mr Luis Cdebaca. A total of 47 representatives attended the seminar. The seminar is part of Myanmar-US joint plan for combating human trafficking released by US Department of State on 18 November, 2012.

The representatives from Myanmar and US sides discussed challenges facing anti-human trafficking efforts, future plans, US aids in human trafficking efforts and past experience.

MMAL-Zaw Myo Naing

HRD

English Language course given to MPs, officials of Hluttaw Office

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—According to the Hluttaw capacity enhancement programme, the English Language Course, was opened at Hluttaw Office No. 20, here, yesterday afternoon.

Chairman of International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo made an opening address.

Altogether 30 Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives and

responsible persons of Open Society Foundation (OSF), Myanmar Scholarship Alumni Association (MSAA) and the Hluttaw Office attended the training course.

The training course was conducted with the assistance of Open Society Foundation (OSF) and Myanmar Scholarship Alumni Association (MSAA).

MNA

Saplings distributed to villagers in Patheingyi



PATHEINGYI, 2 Aug—Under aegis of Mandalay Region Forest Department, Patheingyi Township Forest Department in Mandalay District distributed more than 15000 saplings to people in the township on 25-30 July.

Villagers in Kyeegon, Bugon, Kankauk, Sinywagyi, Nyeinchanthazan, Nayrein zaya, Nat Sein, Kantha, Kankwe, Manayama, Patheinkalay,

Kalamataung, Kaungmon, Sagataung and Mya Kan Tha villages received saplings.

The campaign was led by Staff Officer U Lin Thu Ko of Township Forest Department and staff.

The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is providing saplings for greening of the environment.

MMAL-Aung Kyaw Tun (Patheingyi)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 3 August, 2013

Silence is golden

Opportunities and dangers are two sides of the same coin, existing side by side regardless of the passage of time. Myanmar whose democratization process is in its initial stage is bound to face difficult hurdles in its road to peace and prosperity and the public participation would be the key to actualization of its objectives.

Despite the groundswell of opposition from media world to draft printing and publishing law and public service media, media freedom is taking shape gradually, at least shifting from former status with a number of private newspapers covering the news stories of political dissidents and some cartoonists even mocking lawmakers and public debates increasing.

The Fourth Estate is on the same plane of importance with three branches of power in a democratic nation with the role of the free press to hold the government accountable. The media freedom is of crucial importance to assure check and balance between three branches of power and balance of power. But, is the pen really mightier than the sword?

In Myanmar society, there is a saying, "to act like the earth" which means not to respond to strident criticisms and assault toward you with the patience of Job. It is our pride and joy that such kind of persons is not rare in our country where people are being trained to exercise patience through regular blackouts, occasional communication outages, and daily traffic chaos. It is without question the great attribute of some to act like the earth in face of harsh criticisms.

It is the welcoming change that the voices of dissidents are being louder with some starting to speak but some have been speaking and some not at all both in and outside the parliament. Nearly three years have elapsed since Myanmar has put up her new face. Time flies. Criticisms are not just enough, solution must be found together. Is silence the golden and speech, silver?

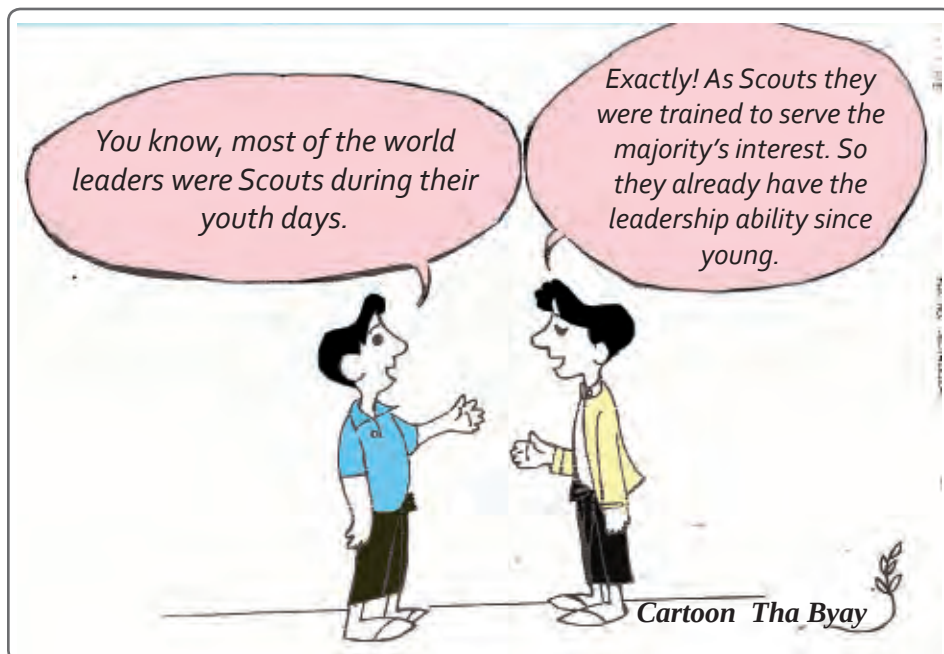
Sagaing Region Hluttaw continues third day

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—The sixth regular session of first Sagaing Region Hluttaw continued for third day at the hall of

Region Hluttaw on 31 July, attended by Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, the deputy Hluttaw speaker, region ministers and MPs.

Questions were answered and proposals and bills submitted at the Hluttaw session.

MNA



Cartoon Tha Byay

Adolescent Pregnancy: Timing make a difference

Myanmar marked silver jubilee of World Population Day on 11 July with the theme of "Adolescent Pregnancy". Teenage pregnancy is seen as the practical challenge facing girls in the global community as a consequence of lack of education, discrimination, violence and arranged early marriage.

The immature pregnancy is not only the health issue but the social problem. Early pregnancy could have adverse impacts on their whole lives and affect future

generations. Especially, it cuts opportunities to continue their education and options for the future.

The social problems derived from immature pregnancy could also turn their lives upside down.

Today, there are about 500 million girls living around the world. Myanmar is home to 29 million girls, nearly half of the entire population of 60 million. They could be assumed as quite a huge workforce. We can effectively reduce teenage pregnancy by creating educational opportunities for them,

providing vocational trainings and generating jobs for them, thereby developing their social lives.

Reduction of under-18 marriage and under-20 pregnancy, prevention against unsafe abortions, promotion of universal access to information health reproductive health and services, adequate healthcare in pregnancy and post-delivery would prevent adverse consequences of the teenage pregnancy.

Myanmar girls should themselves value their youthfulness and avoid

By Moe Thu

unnecessary violence by preserving traditions and customs while catching up with the modernized society.

It is important that teens are convinced that they have a wide range of opportunities and energies and they make their lives better practically. They would create better lives if they enter into their marriage with a perfect timing.

Trs: HKA

UEC's Bridge Course concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Concluding of Bridge Course which is jointly conducted by the Union Election Commission (UEC) and The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES-Myanmar), was held at the Assembly Hall of the UEC here this afternoon.

It was attended by UEC Chairman U Tin Aye, members U Myint Naing, U Aung Myint, Dr Daw Myint Kyi, U Win Kyi, U Nyunt Tin and U Win Ko, Secretary U Tin Tun, responsible persons from USAID, IFES and EU, the Ministry of Education, Foreign Economic Relations Department, UEC Office and 23 trainees.

In his speech, the UEC Chairman said that the UEC plays a crucial role in

country's electoral process. He called for cooperation between the commission and voters so as to get exact list of eligible voters. It needs to widely disseminate knowledge on voting system to national races voters in their languages. He urged trainees to share knowledge on electoral process by opening multiplier courses in regions and states and to make efforts for becoming the backbone of the UEC.

After that, Director Ms Jennifer Link from USAID extended greetings. The UEC chairman and officials presented concluding certificates to the trainees.

MNA

UEC Chairman
U Tin Aye presents
concluding certificate
to a trainee.—MNA



Myanmar, US to cooperate in combating trafficking in persons

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko met with Officer to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons Ambassador Luis CdeBaca of the US

Government and party at the hall of the ministry, here, this morning.

They discussed matters on cooperation in prevention against human trafficking.

The Union minister also met Ms. Mariko Tomiyama from International Organization for Migration who had completed her tour of duty at the same venue.—MNA

Monthly weather forecast on August, 2013

Bay of Bengal condition

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Two low pressure areas may form and one may further intensify a depression in the Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Rain conditions and

rainy days

Rain conditions are likely to be above normal in Upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and about 15 to 19 days in the remaining Regions and States. Rainy

days are expected about 23 to 27 days in Upper Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and about 15 to 19 days in the remaining Regions and States.

NLM

NATIONAL

Union FM receives US guest

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Ambassador Luis CdeBaca, office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons of the United States of America and delegation paid a call on U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry, here, this

noon.

Matters relating to the cooperation between Myanmar and US Governments on combating human trafficking and matters of mutual interests were discussed during the call.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) yesterday arrived back home by RTAF Headquarters wing 6 flight after attending the 27th Myanmar-Thailand Regional Border Committee Meeting.

Myanmar-Thai border meeting successfully concluded

They were seen off by Military Region (3) Commander Lt-Gen Preecha Jan-O-Cha, senior military officers from Thai Royal Army, the Thai Ambassador to Myanmar and the military attaché and officials

concerned.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed back by Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye and officials concerned at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and senior military officers and others also arrived back on the same flight.

Myawady

Union Industry Minister on inspection tour of Mandalay Region

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint visited No (7) garment factory (Myittha) in Myittha township, No (2) Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyang), household goods factory (Minsu) and No (18) Heavy Industry (Inngon) in Kyaukse Township

in Mandalay Region yesterday. The factory managers reported on production and distribution of the factories to the Union minister.

The Union minister called for manufacturing quality but fair-priced goods, striking a balance between production and sale

and striving for competency not only in quality but also in price when market economy is practising. The Union minister urged them to effectively apply media for production and selling goods manufactured by the factories and form after sale service teams to offer services.—MNA



Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint visits a factory on his inspection tour.—MNA



Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) greets Military Region (3) Commander Lt-Gen Preecha Jan-O-Cha.—MWD

Human trafficking combating discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin held discussions with Officer to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons Ambassador Luis CdeBaca of the US Government and party, at her office, here, this morning. During the meeting, both sides discussed providing assistance to human trafficking victims who are

facing with social problems in foreign countries, sending the victims to relief camps or back home, providing them

with vocational education, and preventing against the recruitment of minors.

MNA

Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) donate foodstuff ...

(from page 16)

52 cartons of canned fish and 45 packets of clothing donated by Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) were distributed to 25730 flood victims in Kawkaeik, Kyondoe,

Kya-in-Seikkyi, Kyeikywa, Chaungzon, Bilin, Hpa-an, Myawady, Hlaingbwe, Shwegun, Kamamaung, Duyinseik, Kyaikmaraw and Htilon on 2 August.

Myawady

Police helping flood victims



Myanmar Police Force members joining hands with respective organizations in rescue works for flood victims.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Myanmar Police Force is joining hands with respective organizations in rescue works for flood victims—evacuating the victims, giving hands to victims

from flood-hit areas, clearing landslide blocks and fallen trees due to strong winds, handling traffic jams, setting up traffic signs for safety, establishing water sentry posts, taking measures for

safety of houses, buildings, streets and bridges, and other social welfare tasks, when some States/Regions in the country are experiencing floods caused by heavy rains.—MNA



Myanmar Police Force members clearing the fallen trees for safety the road.

MNA

LOCAL NEWS

COMMUNICATIONS

Low-cost SIM cards distributed in Katha



KATHA, 2 Aug—A total of 200 low-cost SIM cards were distributed in Katha Township, Katha District on 31 July.

Of them, 70 GSM SIM cards were distributed to the district/township departments—one for each on 30 July, and 130 GSM

SIM cards—13 cards for dwellers of each ward.

GSM SIM cards were distributed through draw lots system in a transparent manner at the Ward Administration Office at 1 pm on 31 July.

Kyemon-IPRD (Katha)

Low-cost SIM cards sold in Gangaw

GANGAW, 2 Aug—The first sales of low-cost SIM cards for departmental personnel was held at the hall of General Administration Department in Gangaw on 30 July morning.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Hla Win Aung made a speech, and in-charge of the exchange U Khin Maung Tint explained the disciplines for the sales.

In July 2013, a total of 400 low-cost SIM cards were allotted to Gangaw Township. Of them, 20 cards were shared to regiments and

units, 120 to departments and 260 to the local people.

A total of 1223 departmental personnel who submitted applications to hire the SIM cards to the Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications had to take 120 SIM cards through draw lots system at the sales.

Gangaw Township has been facilitated with 720 line phones, 1600 CDMA mobile phones and 1100 GSM mobile phones and 2250 telephones through installment system.

Kyemon-465

Farming machinery driving course conducted in Nyaunglebin

NYAUNGLEBIN, 2 Aug—With the purpose of enabling the farmers to have skills in farming machinery operations and to have knowledge about systematic reclamation of mechanized farming, the basic farming machinery driving course, organized by Agricultural Mechanization Department, was opened at Zigongyi Model Village of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region, on 29 July morning.

It was attended by Head of Bago Region Agricultural Mechanization Department, Head of Township AMD U Kyaw Min Oo and staff, township

level departmental officials, village administrators and townselders.

On the occasion, Head of the region department U Lu Myint delivered a speech. Head of township department U Kyaw Min

Oo explained the purpose of conducting the training course.

Altogether 30 trainees from villages are attending the 12-day theoretical and practical course.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)



NyaungU District organizes monsoon tree growing ceremony

NYAUNGU, 2 Aug—A monsoon tree planting ceremony took place near the plot south of Ananda Pagoda in Bagan, NyaungU District, yesterday and Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint and region ministers attended it.

At the ceremony, the Chief Minister presented saplings to Director U Naing Win of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department (Bagan Branch) on behalf of district/township level departments, Chairperson Daw Soe Soe

Ei of Township Women's Affairs Organization and Secretary Daw Myint Myint Than of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association on behalf of social organizations and ward administrators for the local people.

Later, the Chief Minister and party viewed participation of local people and departmental personnel, totaling about 850 in tree growing ceremony.

They grew 800 saplings of various species at the ceremony.—Kyemon-Ye Thura Aung (NyaungU)

CRIME

Indians who illegally entered Myanmar arrested

TAMU, 2 Aug—Officials of Tatmadaw and those of combined operation team arrested six Indians who illegally entered Tamu of Sagaing Region with the purpose of excavating the artefacts in the nation.

Myoma Police Station in Tamu opened a file of lawsuit against them on 25 July. Those Indian citizens who entered Myanmar via Imphral of India will be taken action under the Immigration Law.

An official said, "At present, they confessed that they illegally entered the nation to unearth artefacts. Acting on tip-off, the authorities arrested them.

They are under investigation for their purpose what they wanted to excavate the artefacts."

The authorities team that arrested the Indians comprised members of Tamu District Police Force, Township Immigration and National Registration Department and servicemen of local battalion. Six Indians went to Kuntaung Village along Tamu-Myothit Road without any permission. Then, they went back to Tamu. When they hired the motorcycle from the 100-household head, the combined operation team members arrested them.

An official of Immigration and National Registration Department remarked, "Now, the foreigners who entered the nation through illegal route were arrested under the Immigration Law. We have informed the Indian government of putting six Indian citizens under interrogation."

Kyemon-Chindwinthar

Head of the region department U Lu Myint speaking at opening of basic farming machinery driving course in Nyaunglebin.

Chin State government official and locals meet in Falam



FALAM, 2 Aug—A meeting between the secretary of Chin State government and district/township departmental officials, State Hluttaw representatives, townselders, township development supportive committee members, members of township DACs and ward/village administrators was held at the township hall in Falam yesterday.

First, Chin State

Human trafficking, census taking educative talks given in Singaing

SINGAING, 2 Aug—Singaing Township Information and Public Relations Department held educative talks on human trafficking and taking census, at Taungyin Village of the township on 29 July.

On the occasion, Daw Tin Tin Htwe, Staff Officer of the township IPRD, explained purpose of the talks and shared knowledge on human trafficking and role

Government Secretary State Commissioner U Myint Aung made a speech and State Hluttaw Rep U Nu Htan and officials of Township DSC and Township DAC raised questions and took part in the discussions. The state commissioner and township administrator made clarifications on the reports.

Kyemon-District IPRD

of the public in participation of taking census in 2014, which is the first time in 30 years.

She then distributed pamphlets and donated publications to the library of the village.

The Township IPRD plans to give monthly educative talks to four wards and 164 villages of Singaing respectively.—Kyemon-Tun Tun Naing (IPRD)

NATURAL DISASTER

House collapses under heavy rains in Myeik



MYEIK, 2 Aug—Heavy rains flattened a house in Myeik of Taninthayi Region at 8.45 pm on 31 July.

Daw Hla Tin, 94, and Ma Zin Mar Hlaing, 11, were in the house at No. 24 in Payakaing Street, Payakaing Ward in Myeiktaung Village-

tract, Myeik at the time of the incident.

Daw Hla Tin suffered from minor injury at her wrist as a wardrobe fell over her.

Local authorities concerned performed clearing debris.—Kyemon-Myeik IPRD

REGIONAL

HK cabinet member quits after dodging corruption charges

HONG KONG, 2 Aug — Hong Kong leader Leung Chun-ying on Thursday accepted the resignation of cabinet member Franklin Lam, who quit the Executive Council even though he was cleared by the government prosecutor of corruption allegations. A Chief Executive Office statement said Leung welcomed a statement by the territory's graft buster, the Independent Commission Against Corruption, that Lam was no longer under investigation, and accepted his resignation "with regret."

Lam had been on leave since November, facing allegations he used privileged information for personal gain when he sold two apartments shortly before a new market-cooling housing policy was implemented.

The ICAC said it had completed its investigation and submitted the findings to the Justice Department, which in turn decided not to prosecute Lam for alleged misconduct in public office and offering illicit advantages.

"There was no evidence to support the complaint that Mr Lam had used confidential information that he may have obtained in his capacity as a member of the Executive Council," Director of Public Prosecutions Kevin Zervos told the Press.

"Mr Lam didn't do

anything wrong. He put his properties up on the market before he became a public official and before the announcement or before he was in a position to know about these new measures to be implemented," Zervos said. The finding has spared further embarrassment for Leung, who has suffered low popularity amid a string of scandals involving himself and several of his cabinet members since being sworn in July last year for a five-year tenure. Leung has been criticized for unauthorized structures added to his residence.

Former development minister Mak Chai-kwong has been found guilty of fraud over housing allowance claims he made in the 1980s as a civil servant, while his incumbent successor Paul Chan stands accused of operating illegally partitioned units that charged high rents for subdivided housing units, driving while drunk and spearheading a land reclamation project in a way that benefited his in-laws.

In May, Leung's top aide Barry Cheung resigned from all his public offices, including his Executive Council post, amid a police probe into financial irregularities involving Hong Kong Mercantile Exchange Ltd, a short-lived commodities trading house majority-owned by Cheung.

Kyodo News

Thai king leaves hospital in "good health" after four-year treatment

BANGKOK, 2 Aug — Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit on Thursday were discharged from a Bangkok hospital and cheered by ecstatic crowds who flocked to the streets of the Thai capital, chanting "long live the king."

A team of doctors said at a Press conference earlier, that the king and queen have both recovered from sickness and are in good health, but will continue to receive medical treatment.

At 85 the world's longest reigning monarch,

the king was admitted to the Siriraj hospital in September 2009, suffering from fever. He later developed other ailments, including lung inflammation.

Queen Sirikit suffered a stroke in July 2012 when she was taking care of the king at the hospital. The king and queen left the hospital to recover at a royal palace located at the popular beach resort of Hua Hin in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, around 150 kilometres south of Bangkok.

Kyodo News



Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej

Abe to name Japan's envoy to France as head of legislation bureau



Ichiro Komatsu

TOKYO, 2 Aug — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is planning to appoint Japanese Ambassador to France Ichiro Komatsu as head of the Cabinet Legislation Bureau,

which examines legislative bills and offers legal advice to Cabinet members, government sources said on Friday.

Abe's decision to pick Komatsu, 62, is expected

to be finalized on Thursday with Cabinet approval. The premier is believed to want to push forward his goal of lifting Japan's self-imposed ban on the right to exercise collective self-defence by naming Komatsu, who is positive about reviewing the current government interpretation on the right.

The appointment of a diplomat would be an unusual move because it is customary for the bureau's deputy director general to be promoted to director general. Komatsu will succeed Tsuneyuki Yamamoto, 63, as its head. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a Press conference on

Friday that the Abe Cabinet in principle tries to "put the right person in the right place" rather than appointing officials based on seniority.

Under the current interpretation of the pacifist Constitution, Japan does not permit itself to exercise the right because doing so would go beyond the self-defence allowed under the war-renouncing Article 9 of the charter. The right allows a country to come to the defence of an ally under armed attack. He had set up in 2007 during his first stint as prime minister to resume discussions on lifting the self-imposed ban on exercising the right.—Kyodo News

China needs strengthened army, though it seeks no hegemony



Linglong concept art drawn by an internet user. The Chengdu J-20, China's first stealth fighter, may be modified into a carrier-based fighter for the PLA Navy with the new name of Linglong, Global Times said on 27 July.—XINHUA

BEIJING, 2 Aug — Eighty-six years since its foundation, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) has become a relatively modern power. Although China does not intend to

seek hegemony, it needs a stronger army to safeguard its development. Thursday marks the 86th anniversary of the establishment of the PLA. From 1 August, 1927, the army has experienced

revolutionary and warring years, and a number of conflicts with China's neighbours after 1949.

With the present 2.3 million personnel, the PLA has risen from rags to a strong power corresponding to the country's more than three decades of economic boom times. It is now equipped with a newly-commissioned aircraft carrier, while other advanced weaponry, including a J-20 stealth fighter jet and large military transport aircraft, are in development. The increased military power of the PLA has stirred up unease among some of China's neighbouring countries and the traditional power—the United States.

Xinhua

New Zealand's South Island targets China tourism market

WELLINGTON, 2 Aug — Chinese visitors are to be enticed off their beaten New Zealand tourist trail as the South Island makes a push for a greater share of the Chinese tourism market. The South Island's 13 regional tourism organizations have banded together with Christchurch Airport to form the South initiative, a move to expand its Asian tourism markets with a focus on China.

"We're seeing increasing numbers of Chinese visitors coming to the South Island, but we're currently getting only about 25 per cent of the total 220,000 Chinese coming to New Zealand each year," South manager Dave Hawkey told Xinhua.

The New Zealand government's Tourism New Zealand agency earlier this year began a programme to encourage Chinese operators to promote New Zealand as a primary destination, rather than a short adjunct to an Australian holiday. But with the vast majority of Chinese visitors arriving at Auckland, in the upper North Island, tourism providers have faced a challenge in luring them away from Auckland and the thermal resort of Rotorua.

Last month, the South appointed the South Island's first key trade representative to China, working out of Shanghai to market the South Island as a destination to Chinese tour organizers.

"We're looking to develop more tour itineraries and persuade them of the benefits of a holiday in the South Island," Hawkey said in a phone interview. Some visitors were focused on specific areas, such as education, but "we're a touring destination first and foremost," said Hawkey. "The South Island is easy to get around; we have the great open spaces and great food and wine," he said.

"A lot of the mature visitors are still traveling in groups, but we're getting more and more FITs (free independent travelers). The younger ones are getting into camper vans and driving around and staying in caravan parks."

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

TUN FOUNDATION BANK LIMITED VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR AREA SALES MANAGERS

Tun Foundation bank is a Private Bank, which has operating in Myanmar since 1994. The network has grown and now has branches around the country. The bank is currently undertaking a major modernisation program, and as part of that process the Bank needs to appoint a Area Sales Manager.

Purpose of the job

Historically the Bank has focused upon serving existing customers at its counters. The Bank is aiming to boost the effectiveness of its marketing and sales activities. This involves restructuring the branches to improve both in-branch sales and out-branch activity. The branches will primarily become sales booths for both Corporate and Personal Banking. The job holders will be responsible for the sales activity in the branches, within their designated area. This is both in Yangon and in the states and regions of Myanmar.

Job Functions

1. Increasing the number of customer (within the target groups) and business done with the bank from both new and existing customers.
2. Training and developing staff, both sales and services as well as products.
3. Monitoring and enhancing activity, both quality and volume.
4. Business includes both Corporate and Personal, including credit, deposits, cash management facilities and encouraging usage of alternative distribution channels.
5. Show flexibility, while adhering to Central Bank Rules.
6. Good negotiation and people skills.

Who can apply

We are looking for a professional sales manager. No need to have banking experience, but would be an advantage. We are looking for a motivated self starter, who has an opportunity to set and grow a business. This may well suit a returning Myanmar national with sales experience working in the hospitality or commercial industry. Please submit your CV together with a paragraph about why you think you would be suitable for this job and want to do it. tunfoundationbank@gmail.com Application deadline Friday the 16th of August.

TUN FOUNDATION BANK LIMITED VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR CREDIT RISK MANAGER

Tun Foundation bank is a Private Bank, which has operating in Myanmar since 1994. The network has grown and now has branches around the country. The bank is currently undertaking a major modernization program, and as part of that process the Bank needs to appoint a Credit Risk Manager.

Purpose of the job

As banks are increasingly deregulated Tun Foundation Bank needs to improve the quality of its risk assessment and management, particularly as banks start to lend on an unsecured basis. The job holder will be responsible for setting up and manage a new Credit Risk Department, who's primary goal is to help the Bank achieve its targets through expanding its credit book, through making quality lending decisions, both in personal and corporate banking. The job holder will not be conducting marketing. The job holder would be part of the Top Team of the Bank.

Job Functions

1. Improve the credit making process by improving the analysis of customers' cash flow, balance sheet and P&L
2. Understand different types of credit products; ie trade finance, overdrafts, personal loans, corporate loans, FEX and bank risk.
3. Recommending and approving and loans, within given limits.
4. Establish and manage industry sector risk; ie, construction, trading, hotels, agriculture and manufacturing.
5. Coordinate training activities and development of staff in the department.
6. Coordinate recruitment.
7. Compliance with Central Bank Rules on lending and represent the bank in dealings with the authorities.
8. In charge of collections and management of delinquent loans and NPLs.
9. Good negotiation and people skills.

Who can apply

We are looking for a professional credit risk manager with experience in corporate banking. Personal lending experience would be a benefit, but is not a requirement. We are looking for a motivated self starter, who has an opportunity to set and grow a new department. This may well suit a returning Myanmar national with credit experience working in banks overseas. Please submit your CV together with a paragraph about why you think you would be suitable for this job and want to do it. tunfoundationbank@gmail.com Application deadline Friday the 16th of August.

TUN FOUNDATION BANK LIMITED VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR MANAGER HUMAN RESOURCES

Tun Foundation Bank is a Private Bank, which has operating in Myanmar since 1994. The network has grown and now has branches around the country. The bank is currently undertaking a major modernization program, and as part of that process needs to improve the management of its staff, with its primary focus being on the development and performance management of its staff. To that end the Bank wants to hire a new Manager Human Resources.

Purpose of the job

To date Tun Foundation Bank has had a limited Human Resources Department, which as we modernize has been found wanting. The job holder will be responsible for setting up and managing a new Human Resources Department, who's primary goal is to help the Bank achieve its targets through the development of its staff and putting in place a fair and transparent performance management processes. The job holder would be on the Top Team of the Bank.

Job Functions

1. Manage the new appraisal process and ensure fairness in its implementation including handling disputes.
2. Help identify and retain talent.
3. Manage development plans and training needs for staff. Ensure follow up on action plans.
4. Coordinate training activities.
5. Coordinate recruitment.
6. Monitor the pay, terms and conditions of staff within the wider banking market.
7. Confidentiality in dealings with staff.
8. Help staff with personal issues (family, illness, money etc.)
9. Ensure the bank understanding and complies with the labour laws of Myanmar.
10. Standardise promotion and job grades across the bank and facilitate greater opportunity for staff to move between jobs and locations within the Bank.

Who can apply

We are ideally looking for an HR professional with past HR experience, however it is not a requirement. We are looking for a motivated self starter, who believes in the importance of development and performance management. This may well suit a returning Myanmar national with work experience in either HR, or related business lines. A good understanding about how HR departments are run overseas would be an advantage. Please submit your C V together with a paragraph about why you think you would be suitable far this job and want to do it. tunfoundationbank@gmail.com Application deadline Friday the 16th of August.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (565)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (565) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Shipping services suspended as tropical storm Jebi strengthens

HAIKOU, 2 Aug — Shipping services on the Qiongzhou Strait, a waterway that connects south China's island Province of Hainan and Guangdong Province on the mainland, have been suspended due to the arrival of strong tropical storm Jebi.

Local authorities ordered boats in the strait to return to harbour at 8 pm Thursday before the tropical storm strengthened to a strong tropical storm three hours later, according to the marine affairs bureau of Haikou, capital of Hainan. The bureau has issued a yellow alert and initiated an emergency response for the storm.

As of 7 am Friday, the storm was moving north-west at a speed of 15 km per hour. It is expected to land near Hainan's city of Wenchang or Lingshui Li Autonomous County on Friday afternoon or night, according to the Hainan provincial weather forecast station.—Xinhua



Donate Blood

Dancers perform at the opening ceremony of the 3rd Dunhuang Travel — Silk Road International Tourism Festival in Dunhuang City, northwest China's Gansu Province, on 1 Aug, 2013. The one-month festival opened here on Thursady.

XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Heard: I want to be an artist, not a celebrity

LOS ANGELES, 2 Aug—Actress Amber Heard does not want her personal life to make headlines and wants to be known for her work as an artist.

Heard's relationship with actor Johnny Depp has recently been in the limelight.

"It's not part of my professional life. I want to be an artist. I don't want to be a celebrity," femalefirst.co.uk quoted her as saying. "You can find pictures of me pumping gas, picking up dry cleaning, walking my dog, but nowhere are you going to find pictures of me hanging around at some nightclub," she added.

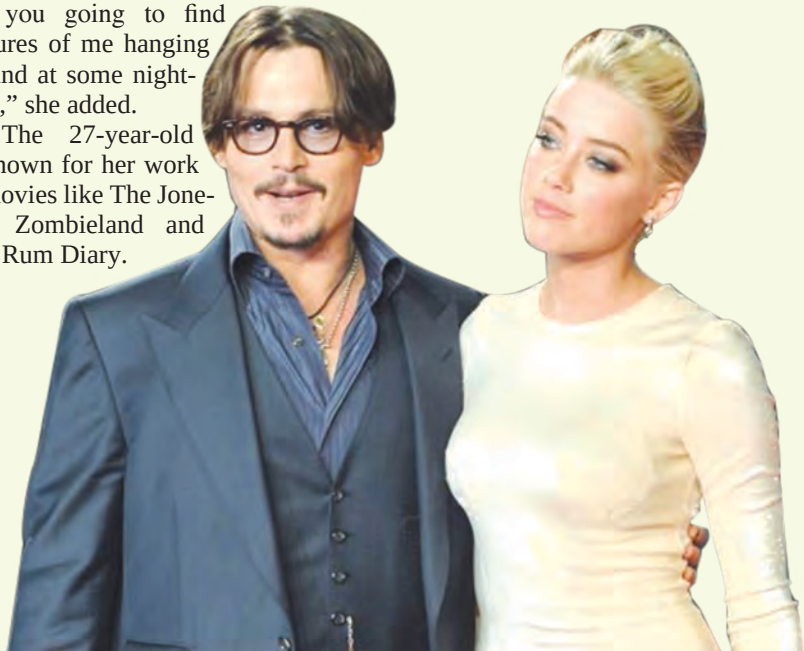
The 27-year-old is known for her work in movies like *The Joneses*, *Zombieland* and *The Rum Diary*.

"Can you ever imagine yourself in a situation like Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie or Kim Kardashian and Kanye West, where the world feels like they have a stake in your private life? I would never want it," she said.

Amber made it clear that she won't change her basic nature either.

"I guess, I could not hold hands with who I want to, but what kind of life would that be? I don't want to change just because people are watching," she said.

PTI



Amber Heard's relationship with Johnny Depp has been the talk of the town for quite some time.

Miley Cyrus: Britney Spears understands me

LONDON, 2 Aug—Pop star Miley Cyrus says fellow child star Britney Spears is the only person who understands her.

The 20-year-old former Disney star said adjusting to growing up in the spotlight has been difficult and only Britney, who started her career on the Mickey Mouse Club, understands the pressure she is under, reported *Digital Spy*.

"Everyone goes through a time in their life where they don't want their picture taken everyday. She (Britney Spears) just never had that time where she could say, 'I'm going through something right now and need to shut down'," said Miley.

"I also don't have that, so it's good to have that one person in my life who gets it," she added.

Cyrus' engagement to Liam Hemsworth has been the subject of much specu-

lation with constant reports of fighting and splits.

The Hannah Montana star says Britney, who has been married twice and ended her engagement to Jason Trawick earlier this

year, understands having her career overshadowed by her personal life.

"I just think it's never blaming you or making you feel like, 'You've got all this going for you,' it's

like she knows. Sometimes life just steps in the middle of your career the way life always does for anyone — it's just ours is a little more 24/7," she added.

PTI



Miley identifies with Britney's life in showbiz

Shakira planning to sell beach house for \$14.95 million

LOS ANGELES, 2 Aug—Singer Shakira plans to sell her Miami beach house and the asking price is \$14.95 million.

The 36-year-old purchased the house for \$3.38 million and has remodelled it and the property now has an all-white modern Zen sanctuary with spacious rooms, high ceilings, multiple glass walls and a large pool outside, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Shakira, who has six-month-old son Milan with her Barcelona soccer player

boyfriend Gerard Pique, has a huge master bedroom, which also has a nursery.

The home also boasts guest quarters and a gym as well as a pool with a hardwood deck and has access to the bay and dock.

According to real estate website redfin.com, Shakira has added three bedrooms, three bathrooms and almost 2,000 square feet to the property.

Her neighbourhood currently includes Matt Damon's mansion.

PTI



Shakira had purchased the house for \$3.38 million.

Bollywood's Priyanka Chopra targets stereotypes in Hollywood

LOS ANGELES, 2 Aug—Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra has a higher mission than just making it in Hollywood: she wants to break down stereotypes of Indians in Tinseltown's eyes and maybe make things easier for her compatriots who live in the United States.

Here's her first lesson: "We don't travel on elephants, there aren't any snake charmers on the side of the road, everybody doesn't talk like Apu from 'The Simpsons,'" the actress says, with a bit of a laugh.

Chopra, 31, is one of the biggest stars to emerge

in Indian film in recent years, alongside Bollywood heavyweights Shah Rukh Khan and Hrithik Roshan, with big budget franchises such as "Krrish" and "Don." She has also won plaudits for taking on unconventional

Miss World beauty pageant and transitioning into Bollywood film. But the journey has not come easily for the actress, who said she had to learn the ropes of acting.

"I was 17 years old, I didn't know anything. I



Cast member Priyanka Chopra

roles, most recently playing an autistic woman in 2012's "Barfi!"

But in her latest role as an eye-catching animated racing airplane in Disney's global adventure "Planes," Chopra said she is hoping to cross the boundaries of Bollywood to Hollywood.

"This is a very global movie. You have characters from all across the world, and I think for kids, it's great to understand that there's so many different kinds of culture and people out there," the actress told *Reuters* on Thursday.

Chopra first rose to fame in 2000, winning the

just went with my gut and I wanted to take a chance," she said, adding "I've made so many mistakes along the way."

Chopra is currently in production on a biopic about Indian Olympic boxing champion Mary Kom, and learning to box herself, Chopra said the role was "the most difficult film I've ever done."

"Mary is a national icon. She's a five-time world champion, a mother of three kids, an Olympic medalist and she has an incredible story," the actress said.

Reuters

SPORTS

Bayern Munich bounce back to floor Manchester City

Winner Audi Cup 2013



The players of Bayern Munich celebrate with the trophy after the Audi Cup football final match Bayern Munich vs Manchester City in Munich, on 1 Aug, 2013.

BERLIN, 2 Aug—Pep Guardiola's Bayern Munich came from behind to beat Premier League side Manchester City 2-1 in the final of the European champion's pre-season tournament on Thursday.

"We're at a good level, but against a top team like Manchester City we had a few problems putting our chances away," admitted

Bayern star Thomas Mueller who set up the winning goal and netted a penalty.

Both teams have new managers at their respective helms as ex-Barcelona boss Guardiola experiments with his starting line-up, including Germany star Bastian Schweinsteiger, who celebrated his 29th birthday.

Likewise, new City boss Manuel Pellegrini is

still looking for his best line-up after succeeding Roberto Mancini.

Eight days before Munich kick-off the new Bundesliga season at home to Moenchengladbach, Croatia striker Mario Mandzukic headed home Bayern's 73rd-minute winner.

City's Spanish striker Alvaro Negredo had given the guests the lead with an

hour gone when he slotted his shot into the bottom left corner after France's Sami Nasri unlocked the Bayern defence.

Champions League winners Bayern got back on level terms just five minutes later when City's Pablo Zabaleta gave away a handball penalty after a tussle with Mandzukic and Mueller slotted home the resulting

spot-kick. Mandzukic, who scored Bayern's first goal in the 2-1 Wembley victory over Borussia Dortmund to give them their fifth European crown, then got on the end of Mueller's cross to drill home the winner as Guardiola's side bounced back from Saturday's 4-2 defeat to Dortmund in the German Super Cup.

Bayern's Germany

goalkeeper Manuel Neuer came to the hosts rescue a minute from the final whistle when he denied City striker Edin Dzeko with a superb save.

On Wednesday, Bayern had qualified for the final with a 2-0 win over Brazil's Sao Paulo, while City had one through after a 5-3 win over AC Milan in an eight-goal thriller.—PTI

Real Madrid confirm Gareth Bale talks

PARIS, 2 Aug—Real Madrid are in talks to try to sign Gareth Bale, coach Carlo Ancelotti has revealed, amid speculation that the Spaniards could be prepared to break the world transfer record for the highly rated winger.

"It is difficult to talk about Bale because he is not a Real Madrid player at present," Ancelotti told a news conference in Los Angeles on Wednesday evening.

"I think the club is negotiating to try to find a solution and we will see what happens," he added according to a report on the club's official website.realmadrid.com.

Bale's club Tottenham Hotspur have faced persistent questions about their star winger, who was voted player of the year last season by his English Premier League peers af-

ter scoring 26 goals.

Spurs manager Andre Villas-Boas said during the club's pre-season visit to Hong Kong last week that they were in talks with the 24-year-old about a new contract.

But he fuelled speculation by revealing that no



Gareth Bale

deal had been signed yet.

Since then reports have emerged in Britain and Spain that Real were prepared to go well beyond the £80 million (\$122 million, 92 million euros) they paid Manchester United for Cristiano Ronaldo in 2009.

Spanish sports daily *Marca* claimed that Spurs have demanded a fee of £125 million for the player.

Bale spent five hours at Spurs' Enfield training ground north of London on Wednesday and told Villas-Boas that he was keen to join Real, Sky Sports television reported, quoting unnamed sources.

Real are currently in the United States to play in a pre-season tournament involved England's Chelsea, both AC and Inter Milan of Italy, Valencia and Los Angeles Galaxy.

PTI

Steven Gerrard urges Luis Suarez to give Liverpool another year

LONDON, 2 Aug—Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard on Thursday urged unsettled striker Luis Suarez to stay with the club for one more season to help them regain Champions League status.

Suarez is "the best footballer I've ever played with", Gerrard told the *Daily Telegraph*, launching a renewed plea for the Uruguayan to spurn moves from Arsenal to sign him.

"I'd say to Luis: 'Give it one more year, see if we can achieve that'," Gerrard said.

Gerrard also said Liverpool needed to invest in a world-class defender and forward to bolster a squad which finished seventh last season.

"This club needs to make one or two big signings if we are to compete for the top four — and keep Suarez.

"Alongside Gareth Bale, Luis is the third best player in the world after Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. Luis and Bale are the two hottest properties out there at the moment," Gerrard said.

"When you're in that position, you're going to get all kinds of teams wanting to pull you away, especially when you are at a club not in the Champions League. It's nothing to do with the British media (criticising Suarez).

"Knowing the guy as I do that's probably the thing on his mind: wanting to be in the Champions League."

Gerrard, 33, was speaking ahead of his testimonial match on Saturday against Greek champions Olympiakos, who were the opposition when the midfielder scored a spectacular goal in a Champions League game in 2004.

"If Luis experiences Champions League football here he'll love it. They'll be some of the best nights in his career. To play Champions League football in front of our fans is special. It's an awful lot bigger than doing it at other clubs."—PTI



Luis Suarez

GENERAL



Photo taken on 1 Aug, 2013 shows the dark clouds above the Wanquan River in Qionghai City, south China's Hainan Province. Tropical storm Jebi is expected to land in Hainan sometime Friday afternoon or night.—XINHUA

Oil spill clean-up operation on Thai island nearly complete

BANGKOK, 2 Aug — Most of the oil that blackened a beach of a popular tourist island in eastern Thailand following an oil spill over the weekend has been cleaned up, local authorities said on Thursday. Rayong Gov Wichit Chartpaisit told local media that the cleanup operation at Ao Phrao beach on the island of Koh Samet is 80 percent to 90 percent complete, but several more days would be needed to bring the beach back to normal.

Royal Thai Navy personnel and workers from PTT Global Chemical, the partially state-owned oil

giant that has claimed responsibility for the spill, are involved in the cleanup. PTT executives on Thursday vowed to compensate those who were affected by the oil spill, including private businesses and state agencies. The PTT executives also expressed regret for causing damage to the tourist destination.

Thai Tourism Minister Somsak Phuririsak admitted that the oil spill has affected Koh Samet's tourism, even though there are other beaches on the island. He said a large number of tourists had cancelled their trips to the island as news of

the oil spill spread. Somsak added that he discussed the oil spill with local businesses and Rayong authorities, and would inform PTT of compensation demands.

According to Tourism Ministry, around 500,000-700,000 tourists annually visit Koh Samet, and more than 30 percent are foreign tourists. About 50,000 liters of crude oil leaked Saturday from a pipeline operated by PTT Global on Chemical, spreading into the Gulf of Thailand and washing ashore on Koh Samet. The cause of the leakage is still under investigation.

Kyodo News

Nepal bans transport of live poultry in capital after H5N1 outbreaks

KATHMANDU, 2 Aug — Nepal on Thursday banned the transport of live poultry in the capital Kathmandu and two neighbouring districts following the confirmation of outbreaks of the H5N1 strain of bird flu in at least 20 poultry farms in those districts, officials said.

Ram Krishna Khatiwada, deputy director general of the Department of Livestock Services, said the ban will remain in place for a week, during which it is prohibited to move chickens and other birds between places in the three districts.

"We took this meas-

ure to contain the spread that is threatening to overwhelm animal health personnel.

We determined that prohibition of poultry movement is the best way of containment," he said, adding that there is no ban on the transport or sale of frozen poultry and eggs.

In the past few weeks, officials have culled tens of thousands of chickens in affected poultry farms. There has been no human casualty so far. This is the biggest H5N1 outbreak the capital has seen. The first H5N1 outbreak in Nepal was reported in January 2009.—Kyodo News

Franklin gunning for fifth gold in 100 freestyle



Missy Franklin of the US swims in the women's 100m freestyle semi-final during the World Swimming Championships at the Sant Jordi arena in Barcelona on 1 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

BARCELONA, 2 Aug — American teenager Missy Franklin can match the record for gold medals at a single world championships if she wins her fifth when she competes in the 100 meters freestyle in Barcelona on Friday.

The 18-year-old, who

MYANMAR TV

(3-8-2013, Saturday)

6:00 am	1:00 pm
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	18. Round Up of The Week's Hlut Taw News
6:20 am	2:00 pm
2. Physical Exercise	19. Teleplay
6:30 am	4:00 pm
3. Dance & Song of National Races	20. News
6:40 am	4:15 pm
4. Documentary	21. TV Drama Series
7:00 am	4:40 pm
5. News	22. Business News
7:20 am	4:55 pm
6. Business News	23. Song of National Races
8:00 am	5:00 pm
7. News	24. News
8:25 am	5:15 pm
8. India Drama Series	25. Documentary (SEA Games)
9:00 am	5:25 pm
9. News/ International News	26. Golden Music of Old Star
9:20 am	6:00 pm
10. Mono Classical Songs	27. News
9:35 am	6:25 pm
11. Documentary	28. TV Drama Series
10:00 am	7:00 pm
13. News	29. News
10:15 am	7:25 pm
14. TV Drama Series	30. TV Drama Series
11:30 am	8:00 pm
15. Game For Children	31. News
12:00 pm	8:35 pm
16. News/International News/Weather Report	32. Business News
12:25 pm	9:00 pm
17. Round Up of The Week's TV Local News	33. News
	34. Myanmar Series
	35. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(3-8-13 09:30 am ~ 4-8-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges (Ya Za Gyi Village)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Sport Special Canoeing
- * Local News
- * Shwe Gu Gyi Stupa, a unique of its kind with Cement inscription
- * Product of Myanmar (Strong And Stylish Pakokku Slippers)
- * Lampi Marine National Park
- * World News
- * "Moe Huyin Than Buddh", The Unique Pagoda In Monywa
- * Local News
- * Food Trip (Episode-7)
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Portraiture
- * Local News
- * The precious land of Myanmar (Mandalay Region)
- * World News
- * Temple Stalls
- * Local News
- * The Stories of the Great Souls (Daw Saw Mone Nyin)
- * World News
- * MONASTERY (Shwe In -Pin Kyaung)
- * Local News
- * Five Treasures in the Ancient City of MraukU
- * World News
- * Life Skills
- * Local News
- * A Trip to Mon State
- * World News
- * Fortune Teller: "Yan Moe Aung"

in what she is calling her "hardest final", she will still have another two events to equal or break the record before racing ends on Sunday.

Franklin was fifth-fastest in Thursday's 100 freestyle semi-finals with a time of 53.78 seconds, slower than the personal best of 53.36 she swam in the morning qualifying session.

She has a number of in-form rivals standing in her way, including Olympic champion Ranomi Kromowidjojo of the Netherlands, Australia's Cate Campbell and Swede Sarah Sjöström, the only swimmer to go below 53 seconds in the semis.

"If I can go a 52 that's my goal," Franklin told reporters after anchoring the US to 4x200 freestyle gold.

"I want a 52 more than anything and if it puts me on the podium then that's awesome and if it doesn't that's okay. I think it's going to be a super fast final."

There are four more finals on Friday.

Rikke Pedersen of Denmark will attempt to add gold to the 200 breaststroke world record she set in qualifying on Thursday, while Tyler Clary was quickest in the 200 backstroke semis ahead of decorated American compatriot Ryan Lochte.

Daniel Gyurta of Hungary is aiming to become the first man to win three consecutive 200 metres breaststroke titles before the Americans, French and Australians start as favorites in the men's 4x200 relay.

Reuters

Environmental Conservation and Forestry Ministry to listen to voices of local people while implementing 30-year National Forestry Master Plan



Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun replies to question.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—“The ministry has arranged plans in accord with the laws to deal with illegal settlement and farming by local people without harming them,” said Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun in replying the question of U Hla Tun of Khamti Constituency at today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session.

He continued that a total of 345889.13 acres of 1213 villages which are

included in the list of the Ministry of Home Affairs across the country had been



Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Bo Ni of Yamethin Constituency raising question.

MNA

removed from the list of reserve forest and natural areas except farmlands. But farming would be allowed at the farmlands during the prescribed period and it is planned to establish community forestry plantations, he added.

He vowed to carry out reformation of the remaining areas in accord with rules and regulations after a total of 287138.80

acres of 391 villages which are not included in the list of the Ministry of Home Affairs were taken out of the list of protected



Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung responds to question.

MNA

areas and natural forests. He promised to seek suggestions and hear voices of local authorities, related departments and local people into consideration while implementing the 30-year National Forestry Master Plan.

MP U Hla Tun

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—The bill amending the Eye Donation Law which was sent back by Pyithu Hluttaw was submitted at today’s Amyotha Hluttaw session.

With regard to the question of MP U Hla Swe on the measures for the relocation of local people in three villages of Laungshe, Saw Township in which No.25 Defence Industry is being built, Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt replied that the new 18-acre plot of lands each have been allotted for three

disclosed in an interview that his question is aimed to avoid unwanted clashes between the local authorities and local people that might erupt if reserve forests and sanctuaries were not specifically designated.



Deputy C & IT Minister U Thaung Tin answering the question.

MNA

Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung responded to the question raised by U Bo Ni of Yamethin Constituency that the ministry would perform upgrading of railroads step

by step with momentum as Yangon-Mandalay railroad section was top in the list of priorities in which Mandalay-Myitkyina and Yangon-Mawlamyine railroad sections stood second and third.

He added that competitive bidding and BOT systems would be



U Hla Tun of Khamti Constituency asking the question.

MNA

used in construction of shopping malls, company offices, hotels and parking lots at railway yards with economic potentials in

Yangon, Mandalay and other regions.

Next, Bill Committee submitted its report on Telecommunications Bill which was sent back by Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments to the Hluttaw.

Regarding the bill, Deputy Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Thaung Tin explained works carried out in cooperation with Pyithu Hluttaw Transport, Telecommunications and Construction Committee and the Bill Committee, saying that the draft law would be internationally-recognized one thereby contributing to better opportunities for local entrepreneurs and bring smooth and speedy telecommunication services to the people.

The meeting ended in the afternoon and the 18th-day session will continue on 5 August.—MNA

Tatmadaw (Army, Navy, Air) donate foodstuff to flood victims

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force and department officials are providing necessary assistance to flood victims who have been evacuated to relief camps in some townships in Kayin and Mon

States where flash floods occurred due to heavy rains on 26 July.

A total of 2517 bottles of drinking water, 300 cartons of Tea Mix, 500 cartons of dried noodle, nine cartons of biscuit, (See page 9)



Tatmadawmen wading across waist-deep water in providing assistance to flood victims.—MWD

Bill amending Eye Donation Law submitted at Amyotha Hluttaw



Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt replies to question.—MNA

villages.

Seventy-two plots of lands measuring 60 ft X 60 ft have been reclaimed for Paukpanhsaing village. Plans are underway for land reclamation of the remaining villages. Low-cost housings will be built there. Saw Township Land Compensation Group has already paid

compensations for those villagers. Resettlement of those villages will be carried out in coming open season in coordination with respective



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No (12).

MNA

authorities concerned, he added.

As regards the bill amending the eye donation law, “This bill is a bit



Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Dr Soe Tun of Mandalay Region Constituency No (1).—MNA

complete one. There were a lot of eye losses before the introduction of eye transplants. It can bring too much benefit to the eye patients,” said MP Dr Soe Tun. The 18th Day session continues on 5 August.

MNA

Water levels at Hpa-an, Ngathaingyoung

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Aug—According to the 12:30 hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an in Kayin State rose 126 cm (about 4 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above

its danger level during the next three days.

The water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaing-gyoung in Ayeyawady Region rose 57 cm (about 2 ft) above its danger level.

It may decline 30 cm (about 1 foot) and may remain above its danger level during the next three days, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA