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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann observes courses under Hluttaw capacity enhancement programme

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug— Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann observed Discussion on Drawing Bill organized by UNDP and English Language Training Course coordinated by Myanmar Scholarship Alumini Association (MSAA) with the assistance of Open Society Foundation (OSF) being conducted under Hluttaw Capacity Enhancement Programme at Hluttaw Office No (20) this afternoon.

The Pyithu Hluttaw speaker was accompanied by Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Chairperson of Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee and Hluttaw Capacity Enhancement Steering Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, International Relations Committee Chairman and Hluttaw Capacity Enhancement Steering Committee Secretary U Hla Myint Oo and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

Discussion on drawing bill lasts two weeks with the attendance of 45 representatives from Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw. The four-week English Language Training Course is being attended by the 30 Hluttaw representatives. *MNA*

Union Peace-making Work Committee, ABSDF reach four-point agreement

Union Minister U Aung Min and a responsible person of ABSDF exchange notes at state level peace talks between Union Peace-making Work Committee and ABSDF.—MNA

YANGON, 5 Aug— The state level peace talks between delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min and a delegation led by Chairman of All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) Yebaw Than Khe, Vice-Chairman Yebaw Myo Win and General Secretary Yebaw Hsan Ni took place at the Myanmar Peace Centre, of No 10, Shweli Road in Kamayut Township this morning.

At the meeting, Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min said that since the new government took office, the President had offered peace to the national race armed groups. As a result, altogether 13 ethnic armed groups had entered ceasefire agreements with the government, and the agreement signed between the KIO and government in Myitkyina in May had brought almost conflicts to an end in Kachin State, he disclosed.

He went on to say that the peace policy of the government is not merely a ceasefire as chronic armed conflicts could not be resolved immediately. Political dialogue can be the best solution to the conflicts, and all are thus to work hard for the emergence of a political platform on which conflicts can be addressed through a roundtable discussion, he noted.

The peace process calls for a ceasefire as an initial state. This should be followed by a framework among the stakeholders, and peace talks will be held based on the framework, he said. And therefore, all are to strive for the emergence of a national accord through the peace talks, he added.

The government has the peace policy already, he said and added that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw issued a statement that it welcomed the peace-making efforts and would cooperate in the process. Moreover, the Tatmadaw also disclosed its cooperation in the peace process in line with the guidance of the President, he said.

The national race armed groups are also desirous of making peace

(See page 6)

Food authorities meet importers of tainted milk

BEIJING, 5 Aug — China's food and drug authorities on Sunday met with representatives of three companies that have imported potentially contaminated products from New Zealand dairy company Fonterra.

Fonterra Cooperative Group Ltd promotes its milk powder products at a dairy expo in Beijing. The New Zealand dairy giant said its products are safe after media reported that trace chemical residues were detected in its products.—XINHUA

The State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) asked the companies to stop sales of such products and recall all products produced using potentially tainted materials.

Fonterra said on Friday that some of its whey protein produced in May 2012 has been found to be contaminated with clostridium botulinum, which can cause botulism.

The three importers are Hangzhou Wahaha Health Food Co, Ltd, Coca-Cola (China) and Shanghai-based Dumex Baby Food Co, Ltd, according to the administration.

The SFDA urged the importers to investigate the cause of the incident and take action as soon as possible.

The CFDA on Saturday issued an emergency notice ordering local food and drug administrations in Shanghai and Zhejiang to cooperate with the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine to investigate the incident.

The CFDA said it will pay close attention to the development of the incident and release further information to the public in a timely fashion.—*Xinhua*

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LOCAL NEWS

CONSTRUCTION

Prevention of floods at Bago River inspected

Bago, 5 Aug—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win inspected preparations for floods against houses near the concrete bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Highway at the entrance to Bago on 1 August.

In the rainy season, Bago River overflows road section No 48/7 and 49/0 on Yangon-Toungoo-Mandalay Highway. To prevent the flood, the road was upgraded and the concrete bridge, 84 feet long and 76 feet wide, was constructed by Bago District Public Works from 1-1-2004 to 2-5-2005. It cost K 87.5 million.

Thanks to construction, water that flows into Gaunghsaykyun Lake can easy access to Bago River without any blockage. As a result, the roads and housing wards do not suffer floods in the rainy season.

The Chief Minister gave instructions on necessary preparations for prevention against flood and inundation to the departmental officials and ward administrators.

MMAL-Min Sit Thu

Taung-in Bridge, Nanmagyi Bridge commissioned into service in Mohnyin Township

Mohnyin, 5 Aug—Taung-in Bridge which is 450 feet long and 13 feet wide linking Nanma Village of Mohnyin Township and Kathegon Kyundaw Village in Taungingyi was put into service at 9 am on 31 July.

The facility was built at a cost of K 18 million contributed by Kachin State government and K 21.3 million by the local people.

Present on the occasion were Kachin State Minister for Finance and Revenue U Nyunt Aung, State Hluttaw representatives, Mohnyin District and Township development officials and local people.

The state minister, Deputy Commissioner U Aung Soe Moe of Mohnyin District General Administration Department and village administrator U Thein Htwe formally opened the new bridge.

At 10.30 am, the ceremony to open the Nanmagyi Bridge, 88 feet long and 13 feet wide, was held in Nanma Village.

The bridge links Mohnyin Township and Hopin Sub-Township, built at a cost of K 42 million by Kachin State government.

The state minister, State Hluttaw Representative U Nyi Lay and Mohnyin Township Adminsitrator U Mya Yu formally opened the new bridge.

Thanks to the two new bridges, the local people will enjoy fruits of transport, smooth flow of commodities, education, health and regional development.

MMAL-State IPRD

Tourists observe Bogyoke Bronze Statue in Magway

Magway, 5 Aug—A Mantaw vessel with 10 tourists of Australian citizens arrived at the jetty in the market of Magway on 30 July morning.

The flock of tourists went along Magway Strand Road by trishaw and visited Bogyoke Bronze Statute.

The statue was cast in 1974 by sculpture U Han Tin. It is now 40 years ago. The general and party were assassinated 66 years ago. This year, the local people paid tribute to the general and fallen heroes, explained a tour guide.

The tourists went shopping at Kantha Market. With regard to the tourists, a tour guide said, "They came from Mandalay. It took eight days trip. After stopping over in Upper Minhla, they will visit Minhla Fort and then leave in the evening. They will spend a night in Thayet and then visit the first-ever golf course of Myanmar in Thayet. They plan to visit Thayet market and proceed to Pyay."*MMAL-Magway Hla Myint*

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

Pajero plunges off Sule Railway Overpass

Yangon, 5 Aug—A Mitsushibi Pajero driven by a doctoral student, 25 years old, from south to north along Gyobyu Street in Mingala Taungnyunt Township plunged off the railway overpass on the approach road near Sakura Tower and Traders Hotel at 11.15 am on 4 August after hitting the rails. It plunged into the rail tracks, according to Mingala Taungnyunt Myoma police station.

A person, 55, father of the driver was onboard the car. He suffered cuts and bruises and he is now under treatment at Yangon General Hospital. The woman who drove the car was also injured and is under treatment at Neurosurgical Department of YGH.

Although the Pajero plunged into the rail tracks, there was any delay for transportation because it was on the railroads for shanting of cargos, timber and feel tanks, said Junior Engineer U Than Zaw of Myanma Railways.

"When I was sitting under the overpass, a car suddenly plunged off the overpass. It fell upside down on the ground. The uncle sustained bleeding from his face and his leg was under the car. At that time, Ko Hla Htay was together with me near the incident," said Ko Zaw Min Htaik who sells betels near Yangon Railway Station.

"I saw a car that overturned on the rail tracks from the overpass. A man shouted help. About 14 persons lifted the car to be normal position. A woman was unconscious under the leather sheet near the driver seat of the car," recounted Ko Hla Htay who gave a helping hand to victims of the car accident.

Kyemon-Myat Thanda Maung

DISASTER

Hmawby Creek swollen at Ward 4

Hmawby, 5 Aug—Due to heavy rains, Hmawby Creek inundated the local residences in Ward 4 of Hmawby on 3 August.

The Yamonna A, B and C blocks, 1500 plot and 5000 plot of the ward were inundated 1.5 feet deep water.

A total of 1036 victims from 224 households were served with packet of rice and foods under the arrangement of Region Hluttaw representative U Hla Oo and Ward Administrator U Thein Win and party in cooperation with administrators of nearby wards. Although it does not need to evacaute the people, they face difficulties to cook the foods at home.

Kyemon-Soe Win-MLA

Australian Prime Minister Rudd calls general election for 7 September

CANBERRA, 5 Aug — Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd on Sunday called a general election for 7 September, only weeks after ousting the country's first female leader Julia Gillard as head of the Labour Party in a party-room vote.

"This afternoon I visited the Governor-General and Her Excellency has accepted my advice an election be held on Saturday, the 7th of September," Rudd said at a Press conference at the Parliament House in Canberra.

In starting the election campaign, the prime minister said he will focus on strengthening the economy and that "managing the big economic transition that lies ahead will be difficult, but it is definitely doable."

Referring to the decline in Chinese demand for iron ore and coal, Rudd said, "The boom, of course, has fuelled so much of our nation's wealth. That boom is over." "The election will be about who the Australian people trust to best lead them through the difficult new economic challenges," he said, adding that the new leadership "will require a steady hand, and a clear cut plan for the future."

Rudd, who lost the party leadership to Gillard in June 2010 prior to the last general election, has consistently fared better as preferred leader in opinion polls.

"For me it's pretty basic, it's pretty clear. I simply do not have it in my nature to stand idly by and to allow an Abbott government to come to power in this country by default," Rudd said after winning the Labour leadership vote on 26 June, referring to polls suggesting conservative opposition leader Tony Abbott would win in a landslide over a Gillard-led government.—*Kyodo News*

Rescuers transfer sheep from Datong Island in Changfa County of Heihe City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 3 Aug, 2013. The four villagers who were trapped by flood on Datong Island with 160 sheep, due to the rising water of Heilongjiang River, have been transfered by rescuers.—XINHUA

Spain studies retaliatory measures against Gibraltar

Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo (L) attends a news conference with Algeria's Foreign Minister Mourad Medelci in Algiers on 18 June, 2013.—REUTERS

MADRID/GIBRALTAR, 5 Aug — Spain is studying retaliatory measures against the British territory of Gibraltar in an escalating dispute over fishing grounds, Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo said in an interview published on Sunday.

"The party is over," Garcia-Margallo told *ABC* newspaper, referring to years of softer policy on Gibraltar under the previous Socialist government.

The minister said Spain was mulling a 50-euro border-crossing fee and tax investigations of thousands of Gibraltarians who own property in Spain. A border fee would affect tourists and Gibraltarians who cross the border for work. Spain was also considering closing airspace to planes heading for the airport in Gibraltar and changing rules to wring taxes from on-line gaming companies based in Gibraltar, he said.

Spain disputes Britain's three centuries of sovereignty over Gibraltar, a territory on the southern tip of Spain that is home to close to 30,000 people with an economy dominated by off-shore banking, internet gambling operations and tourism. Under the previous Socialist government Spain softened its stance on Gibraltar, discussing other issues without bringing up sovereignty while agreeing to give Gibraltar a voice in any talks with Britain over its status.

But the centre-right government of Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has taken a harder line regarding its claim on the territory.

The latest tensions between Spain and the British territory began 10 days ago after Gibraltar boats began dumping blocks of concrete into the sea near the territory. Gibraltar said it was creating an artificial reef that would foster fish populations. Spain said the reef would block its fishing boats and ramped up border checks, creating long lines at the border between Spain and the territory.

Reuters

White House: US willing to engage with Iran on nuclear concerns

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug — The United States said on Sunday it is prepared to work with the new government of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to address concerns about Iran's nuclear programme if Iran will engage seriously on the issue. "The inauguration of President Rouhani presents an opportunity for Iran to act quickly to resolve the international community's deep concerns over Iran's nuclear programme," White House spokesman Jay Carney said in a statement.

"Should this new government choose to engage substantively and seriously to meet its international obligations and find a peaceful solution to this issue, it will find a willing partner in the United States," he said. The White House congratulated Rouhani, seen as politically more moderate than predecessor Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, on the election, which it said demonstrated a desire by Iranians for change. "We hope the new Iranian government will heed the will of the voters by making choices that will lead to a better life for the Iranian people," Carney said. Rouhani was elected in June and took office on Saturday, promising "constructive interaction with the world" after eight years under Ahmadinejad marked by diplomatic confrontation and damaging sanctions. The 64-year-old cleric's resounding victory raised hopes for a negotiated end to the dispute over Iran's nuclear programme and an easing of the sanctions that have hit the OPEC country's oil exports.—*Reuters*

Russian Sukhoi T-50 5G fighter jets undergo flight tests: The Russian Sukhoi T-50 5G fighter jet is equipped with cutting-edge computerized life support systems, including an oxygen station securing unlimited breathing gas supply and advanced pilot's compensation system. It took five years to shape up the system but all four Sukhoi T-50 PAK-FA 5G fighter jets currently undergoing flight tests near Moscow were already manufactured with this system at a Sukhoi plant in Komsomolsk-na-Amure – a city located in Russia's Far East. The 5G fighters made their way across the country without oxygen tanks onboard.—REUTERS

US documents show Britain supported atomic bombing of Japan

TOKYO, 5 Aug — Britain expressed support for the use of atomic bombs by the United States against Japan in World War II about a month before the first one was dropped on Hiroshima, documents recently declassified by the US National Archives and Records Administration showed. The documents illustrate Britain's involvement as a close ally in the United States' decision to carry out the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, something not widely known in Japan. The British government officially expressed its support for the atomic bombing of Japan in a meeting of the Combined Policy Committee held in Washington on 4 July, 1945, on the development and control of nuclear energy, referring to atomic bombs as Tube Alloys, a codename used for British wartime research on nuclear weapons also used to refer to plutonium.

According to the declassified minutes, British Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson told the meeting chaired by US Secretary of War Henry Stimson that the British government "concurred in the use of the TA weapon against Japan." "The Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States had agreed that TA weapons should be used by the United States against Japan, the agreement of the British Government having been communicated" by Wilson, the minutes said.

The committee was established based on the Quebec Agreement in August 1943 by the United States, Britain and Canada on coordinated development of atomic weapons.

Britain's official agreement to the use of atomic bombs came after US President Franklin Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill agreed in their meeting in New York in September 1944 that an atomic bomb might be used against Japan when it was developed.

Kyodo News

Photo taken in July 2013 shows copies of documents declassified by the US National Archives and Records Administration.—KYODONEWS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Kirobo the talking robot blasts into space on historic mission

Humanoid communication robot Kirobo shakes hands with Tomotaka Takahashi, CEO of Robo Garage Co and project associate professor, research centre for advanced science and technology, University of Tokyo, during its unveiling in Tokyo in this 26 June, 2013 file photo.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 5 Aug— Kirobo, a knee-high talking robot with red boots and a black and white body, has blasted off from Japan for the *International Space Station* to test how machines can help astronauts with their work. The Japanese-speaking robot, equipped with voice- and facial-recognition technology, was packed into an unmanned cargo vessel along with tons of supplies and equipment for the crew of the orbital research base.

The cargo vessel, launched from the Tanegashima Space Centre in southwestern Japan on Sunday, will arrive at the outpost on Friday, according to the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's website. At a recent demonstration, Kirobo said it "hoped to create a future where humans and robots live together and get along".

As it carries on the first robot-human chats in space, Kirobo's main conversation partner will be Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata, who is expected to take off for the space station with six other crew members in November.

Wakata is due to take command of the complex, a $100 billion project by 15 nations, next March. Kirobo — jointly developed by the University of Tokyo, Toyota Motor Corp and Dentsu Inc — will stay in space until late 2014. Standing 34 cm (13 inches) tall and weighing about 1 kg (2.2 pounds), Kirobo is designed to navigate in zero gravity and gets its name from "kibo", the Japanese word for "hope", and "robot".—*Reuters*

TJ Maxx, others look past chaos to e-commerce bonanza

NEW YORK, 5 Aug — Low-price retailer TJ Maxx plans to open an online store this year, as does rival Saks Inc's Off Fifth outlets, making 2013 the year technology may have caught up with the speed of fashion. For such chains, which feature clearance items, last-year's fashions and overruns, their fast-moving and often unpredictable inventory has made selling goods over the web complex. "Retail is chaotic. Off-price retail is even more chaotic," said Fiona Dias, a leading e-commerce expert and chief strategy officer at ShopRunner.

A cardinal sin in e-commerce is to tell customers something is available when it's not, and conversely, having an item in stock but not having it on the website. That is why the retailers are investing in software that manages inventory, tracks it in real time, and continuously updates the websites. This will be TJX Cos Inc's, owner of TJ Maxx, second stab at e-commerce after a 2005 failure. It abandoned its first attempt after only a year following poor sales, turmoil in the corner office, and challenges at its smaller chains. That failure cost

TJX $15 million.

Now, TJX is one of the fastest growing retailers, and T.J. Maxx one of the most popular brands. In 2011, it hired Elaine Boltz, a leading e-commerce executive. Last year, it spent about $200 million to buy online retailer Sierra Trading for its technology and expertise. The revenue potential is huge. Avondale Partners thinks TJX, for instance, can quickly garner annual online sales of $1 billion. The company declined to comment beyond what its chief executive has said on investor calls, but Morningstar analyst Jaime Katz thinks TJX will carve out space at its current distribution facilities to handle e-commerce, rather than spend millions on a fulfillment centre.

Reuters

Warming oceans impact breeding patterns and habitat of marine life: Australian research

CANBERRA, 5 Aug— Warming oceans are impacting the breeding patterns and habitat of marine life, effectively rearranging the broader marine landscape as species adjust to a changing climate, according to a new research statement from Australian national research body, CSIRO, on Monday. The international team led by CSIRO's Climate Adaptation Flagship and University of Queensland marine ecologists Elvira Poloczanska and Anthony Richardson, included 19 researchers from Australia, USA, Canada, UK, Europe and South Africa. They identified more than 1,700 changes, including 222 in Australia.

According to this three-year study published on Monday in Nature Climate Change, marine species are shifting their geographic distribution towards cooler regions and doing so much faster than their land-based counterparts. Despite the ocean having absorbed 80 percent of the heat added to the global climate system, the ocean's thermal capacity has led to surface waters warming three times slower than air temperatures over land, Dr Poloczanska explained. "The leading edge or 'front line' of a marine species' distribution is moving towards the poles at the average rate of 72 km per decade, which is considerably faster than terrestrial species moving poleward at an average of 6 km per decade," she said. "This is despite sea surface temperatures warming three times slower than land temperatures."

She said winter and spring temperatures, over both the ocean and land, are warming fastest, which might advance phenological events such as the start of growing seasons and the timing of reproduction. In addition, anthropogenic carbon dioxide uptake by the oceans is altering seawater carbonate chemistry, which can impact some marine organisms.—*Xinhua*

Scientists to cook world's first in-vitro beef burger

LONDON, 5 Aug—A corner of west London will see culinary and scientific history made on Monday when scientists cook and serve up the world's first lab-grown beef burger. The in-vitro burger, cultured from cattle stem cells, the first example of what its creator says could provide an answer to global food shortages and help combat climate change, will be fried in a pan and tasted by two volunteers.

The burger is the result of years of research by Dutch scientist Mark Post, a vascular biologist at the University of Maastricht, who is working to show how meat grown in petri dishes might one day be a true alternative to meat from livestock. The meat in the burger has been made by knitting together around 20,000 strands of protein that has been cultured from cattle stem cells in Post's lab. The tissue is grown by placing the cells in a ring, like a donut, around a hub of nutrient gel, Post explained.

To prepare the burger, scientists combined the cultured beef with other ingredients normally used in burgers, such as salt, breadcrumbs and egg powder. Red beet juice and saffron have been added to bring out its natural colours. "Our burger is made from muscle cells taken from a cow. We haven't altered them in any way," Post said in a statement on Friday. "For it to succeed it has to look, feel and hopefully taste like the real thing."

Success, in Post's view, would mean not just a tasty burger, but also the prospect of finding a sustainable, ethical and environmentally friendly alternative to meat production. According to a 2006 report by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), industrialized agriculture contributes on a "massive scale" to climate change, air pollution, land degradation, energy use, deforestation and biodiversity decline.The report, entitled Livestock's Long Shadow, said the meat industry contributes about 18 percent of global greenhouse-gas emissions and this proportion is expected to grow as consumers in fast-developing countries such as China and India eat more meat.

Reuters

South Korea says concerned about US decision on some Apple models

SEOUL, 5 Aug—The South Korean government on Monday expressed concerns about the decision by the United States to overrule a sales ban of some Apple Inc (AAPL.O) models. The Obama administration vetoed a US trade panel's ban on the import and sale of some older iPhones and iPads, reversing a ruling that had favoured South Korea's Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS) over Apple in their long-running patent battle. The move was vehemently criticized by the South Korean media as "protectionism."

Visitors look Apple iPad 2 tablets, behind another iPad 2 on display, at a registration desk at South Korean mobile carrier KT's headquarters in Seoul on 13 Oct, 2011.—REUTERS

"We express concerns about the negative impact that such a decision would have on the protection of patent rights," the Ministry of Trade, Industry & Energy, said in a statement. The ministry called on the US trade body and the Obama administration to make "fair and reasonable decisions" as Samsung faces a decision on Friday as to whether some of its phones and tablets infringed on Apple's patents and should be banned from imports into the United States.

Apple and Samsung, the world's top two smartphones makers, have been waging a global patent war since 2011, filing multiple lawsuits against each other over the design, interface and technology of their devices.

Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Vodafone files Telecom Italia suit

BEIJING, 5 Aug — British telecoms provider Vodafone Group is suing Telecom Italia for abusing its dominant position in Italy, seeking damages of more than 1 billion euros (US$1.3 billion).

A Vodafone spokeswoman said in an email yesterday the civil action in Milan stated that Telecom Italia committed a series of abuses from 2008 to 2013 "with the intention and effect of impeding growth in competition in the Italian fixed-line market."

Telecom Italia rejected the claim saying it was confident it would demonstrate the "total correctness" of its behaviour. In May, Italy's competition authority fined Telecom Italia about 104 million euros for abusing its dominant market position as owner and manager of the country's largest fixed-line telephone network.

Telecom Italia has said it would appeal against the antitrust fine, which was decided after a three-year investigation prompted by rival Wind, Italy's third-largest mobile operator, and broadband company Fastweb, a unit of Swisscom.

Vodafone said Telecom Italia had caused a loss of customers, restricted Vodafone Italy's ability to expand its fixed-line business, and forced it to pay artificially high costs to compete in the market.

Vodafone Italy, which filed the lawsuit, is 77 percent owned by Vodafone, with the rest held by the British firm's United States partner Verizon Communications. The lawsuit comes as Telecom Italia is moving ahead with a plan to spin off its fixed-line copper network, which rivals say gives it a competitive edge. Last month, Vodafone posted a 3.5 percent drop in organic service revenue with Italy and Spain posting double-digit falls and competition increasing in its once-reliable markets of Germany and Britain.

Xinhua

Twelve-week-old Miley Buchanan has a large tumour growing on her face. Right now, doctors are injecting medicine into the tumour every four weeks. It's designed to shrink the sacs inside the large mass, but so far nothing has worked.—XINHUA

Japan to consider expanding tax-exempt items list for foreign travellers

TOKYO, 5 Aug — The Japan Tourism Agency plans to propose the addition of food and cosmetic products to a list of tax-exempt items for foreign travellers as part of fiscal 2014 tax reform, agency sources said on Sunday. The proposal is aimed at attracting travellers and mitigating the negative impact of a sales tax hike planned for next April.

According to a survey by the agency, food and cosmetic products dominated the list of the top three popular Japanese souvenirs in 2012, with 58.2 percent of foreign travellers buying confectionery, 51.4 percent buying other food products, alcohol and cigarettes and 38.5 percent buying cosmetics and pharmaceutical products.

Of the 1.09 trillion yen spent by foreign visitors in Japan last year, 31 percent was spent on shopping, the survey showed. At present, food products bought by foreign travelers are subject to sales tax because stores cannot be sure whether such items will be consumed in Japan or taken abroad.

In many parts of the world, including member countries of the European Union, all products bought by foreign travellers are tax exempt and tax refunds are made on departure. The tourism agency will also propose making procedures for tax-free purchases easier. — *Kyodo News*

Sugary drinks tied to obesity among preschoolers

NEW YORK, 5 Aug — Five-year-olds who drink sugar-sweetened sodas, sports drinks or juices every day are more likely to be obese than those who have sugar-sweetened beverages less often, according to a new study.

Although the link between sugary drinks and extra weight has been well documented among teens and adults, researchers said that up until now, the evidence was less clear for young children.

"Even though sugar-sweetened beverages are relatively a small percentage of the calories that children take in, that additional amount of calories did contribute to more weight gain over time," said Dr Mark DeBoer, who led the study at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

He and his colleagues surveyed the parents of a nationally-representative group of 9,600 children when the kids were two, four and five years old.

The children were all born in 2001. Parents reported on their income and education, as well as how often children drank sugary beverages and watched TV.

The children and their mothers were weighed at each survey visit. The proportion of kids who had at least one soda, sports drink or sugar-sweetened juice drink each day ranged from 9 to 13 percent, depending on their age. Those children were more likely to have an overweight mother and to watch at least two hours of TV each day at age four and five.

After accounting for those influences as well as families' socioeconomic status, the researchers found five-year-olds who had at least one sugary drink each day were 43 percent more likely to be obese than those who drank the beverages less frequently or not at all.

Kids were considered obese if they had a body mass index — a measure of weight in relation to height — above the 95th percentile for their age and gender, as calculated by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 15 percent of five-year-olds in the study were obese.

Reuters

India partly revokes Roche cancer drug patent

ZURICH, 5 Aug — India has partly revoked patents granted to Roche Holding AG for its breast cancer drug Herceptin, a spokesman for the drugmaker confirmed on Sunday. Swiss newspaper *Schweiz am Sonntag* reported that the Kolkata Patent Office had lifted divisional patents for Herceptin on 17 July on the grounds they had not been properly submitted.

"I can confirm that the Assistant Controller of Patents at the Kolkata Patent Office has revoked divisional patents of Herceptin and that we are now considering the further course of action," a spokesman for Roche said. The decision is the latest in a series of rulings on intellectual property and pricing in India that have frustrated attempts by Western drugmakers to sell their medicines in India's fast-growing drugs market.

On Friday, India revoked a patent granted to GlaxoSmithKline's for breast cancer drug Tykerb, following on from a landmark court ruling in April disallowing patents for incremental innovations. Roche has already adapted its business model in India to increase affordable access to drugs and try to stave off trouble from India's patent authorities.

In August 2012, it introduced cut-price versions of Herceptin and another cancer drug MabThera, under an alliance with Indian generics firm Emcure Pharmaceutics.

Last year, India revoked patents granted to Roche's hepatitis C drug Pegasys, Pfizer Inc's cancer drug Sutent, and Merck & Co's asthma treatment aerosol suspension formulation. All were revoked on grounds that included lack of innovation.

Reuters

Child care in Australia booming

CANBERRA, 5 Aug — A new report released on Sunday shows unprecedented growth in Australia's child care sector as record numbers of families take advantage of government fee assistance to return to work. The Child Care in Australia report also confirms that fee increases have remained stable for nearly a decade. "Child care is booming in Australia," Early Childhood and Child Care Minister Kate Ellis said.

"The report shows record numbers of children and families in record numbers of child care services across the nation. Of course more needs to be done, but this is a testament to Labour efforts over the past six years." The report finds that more than 1 million children are in child care and more than 726,000 families are using child care. There are more than 15,000 child care services in Australia and the average child care fee increase across the sector last year was 7.3 percent, lower than the previous year's 7.4 percent.

It also reports that average families with annual income of 75, 000 AU dollars (66,750 US dollars) spent 8.4 percent of their disposable income on child care in 2012, compared to 13 percent of their income in 2004. Ellis said not only were more families using child care than ever before, they were using child care on more days of the week for longer hours. "Nearly half of all 3 to 5 year-olds in Australia are now in child care, up from 43.5 percent six years ago," she said.

Ellis said while the report was encouraging, challenges remained for the sector, particularly relating to availability. "While there's been strong growth in the number of places, there are still unacceptable shortages in many highly populated centers, particularly Sydney and Melbourne," she said. "Our government is tackling these shortages on a number of fronts but it will take partnerships between all levels of government and the private sector."— *Xinhua*

NATIONAL

Union Peace-making…

(from page 1)

through a political dialogue which is supported by the people as well as the international community. The country was now in a position to bring about a full-fledged political domain for peace.

It is firmly believed that the ABSDF as a force will be able to actively participate in the peace process, development and democratization and all the parties need to be rational and pragmatic in making the peace process a success, he said. In his conclusion, the Union minister said that the pace talks are to be regarded as the first step for cooperation in democratization rather than a dialogue between the government and ABSDF and wished all those present to push ahead with the process till reaching eternal peace.

Next, Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw National Races Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee U Thein Zaw, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and U Khin Yi stressed the need of all-inclusiveness in Union level peace talks, peace for development, ongoing peace process being implemented by the government with momentum, ceasefire agreements with 13 national race armed groups, progress in Kayin and Kachin States where the sound of gunfire fell silent and expressed their belief in the today's meeting that could bring better outcomes.

Next, Chairman of ABSDF Yebaw Than Khe, Vice-Chairman Yebaw Myo Win and General Secretary Yebaw Hsan Ni expressed their belief in conflict resolution through negotiation for the sake of the people, their readiness for cooperation with those who love the nation and successful implementation of internal peace and national reconciliation, their hope for the today's meeting where future plans for ensuring internal peace could be laid down and their views on requirements for peace process.

Then, both sides exchanged views on ceasefire, regional peace and stability and development in a frank manner and leaders of both sides signed agreements.

After the meeting, the Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee presented a peace bell, U Thein Zaw and the Union ministers, gifts to ABSDF chairman and party.

The meeting was also attended by Union Ministers U Ohn Myint and U Zeyar Aung, the advocate-general of Kayin State, the Kayin State minister for security and border affairs, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, responsible persons of Myanmar Peace Centre, CEC members, the military affairs in-charge and members of ABSDF. Also present as observers were U Zin Aung of Myanmar New Society Democratic Party, U Kaung Myat Htut of Myanmar National Congress Party, U Min Ko Naing and U Mya Aye of "88" Generation Students Group and representatives of Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPCS) and Nippon Foundation.

Next, a press conference on agreements resulting from the meeting was held. Both sides answered the queries raised by local and foreign media persons and posed for documentary photos.

At the today's state level peace talks, both sides agreed to cease fire as of 5 August, 2013 for ensuring a nationwide ceasefire and holding a political dialogue, to take measures in order not to occur conflicts and fighting between ABSDF and Tatmadaw and to allow unarmed ABSDF members to travel to other places in accord with the law except designated area ("designated area means bases of ABSDF in the areas of national race armed groups), to open a liaison office in which arms are not allowed in Myawady which is acceptable to both sides and to continue to hold talks on places for opening of more liaison offices at the Union level meeting, to form an official delegation to hold a Union level peace talks and to begin the Union level peace talks as of 10 August, 2013. To be able to sign agreements at the today's meeting, ABSDF accepted the invitation of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and held informal meetings with Vice-Chairman U Aung Min for three times and preparatory work committee for two times totaling five.

MNA

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw receives Korean delegation

***Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa receives Chairman of Korea-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Song Kwand Ko of ROK.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug— Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by Chairman of Korea-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Song Kwand Ko of the Republic of Korea at the Pyithu Hluttaw Hall (I-1), here, this morning.

At the call, they discussed establishment of friendship associations between Korea and Myanmar Hluttaws and cooperation in enhancing the capacity of departments, further strengthening of friendly relations between two peoples, participation of Korea in development of political and economic sectors of Myanmar and exchange of more goodwill delegations from two Hluttaws of both countries.

MNA

MOFA conducts Basic English and Foreign Service Skills Course for LDCs

YANGON, 5 Aug—The opening of Training Course No. 1/2013 for Basic English and Foreign Service Skills, conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was held at Wunzinminyarzar Hall of the ministry, here, this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Director-General U Myint Lwin, responsible officials of the Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department, retired ambassadors, professors and lecturers. The ten-week course is intended for the newly recruited lower division clerks of the ministry and it includes subjects related to English Proficiency and Diplomatic Skills and 70 lower division clerks are attending the course.—*MNA*

Tatmadawmen clear debris on Ye-Dawei railroad section

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—A landslide caused near mile post No 281 on Ye-Dawei railroad section in the border of Mon State and Taninthayi Region yesterday morning.

The 100 ft long, 16 ft high soils were heaped on the railroad and blocked. Tatmadawmen from local battalion in cooperation with railroad maintenance workers from Chaungtaung cleared the debris.

Myawady

Health care services given to flood victims in Taninthayi

TANINTHAYI, 5 Aug— As incessant rains and Taninthayi River was swollen, the flood-hit victims from Monsu (2), Chaunggyi, Shwe Leikpya, Chaungnge and Myathida Wards in Taninthayi Township were moved to the four relief camps on 1 August.

Mobile medical team of Coastal Region Command provided health care services to 70 flood victims who are taking shelter at the relief camps yesterday.—*Myawady*

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Press Release Team
Press Release (12/2013)
14th Waning of Waso, 1375 ME
(5 August, 2013)

Press release on relief and rehabilitation works in flood-hit regions

1. Some townships in Kayin State and Mon State and Taninthayi Township in Taninthayi Region had experienced floods as of 27 July 2013 due to heavy rains and swollen rivers.
2. While accommodating 33409 flood victims of 6733 households in Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Kawkareik, Kyar-in Seikkyi and Myawady Townships and Kamamoung sub-township at 79 relief camps, only 16579 flood victims of 3440 households still remain at 47 relief camps up to date and necessary assistance is being given to them. Regular traffic resumed on 2-8-2013 on Thingan Nyinaung-Kawkareik road where officials of Kayin State government and the Public Works under the Ministry of Construction and local Tatmadawmen carried out clearing road blocks. Flash floods in Kayin State left six persons killed and one still missing so far. Four bridges were destroyed and 367 basic education schools closed temporarily and 3675-acre of paddy farmlands are still under water.
3. Likewise, a total of 4680 flood victims of 1050 households in Bilin, Kyaikmaraw and Ye Townships in Mon State were accommodated at 34 relief camps. As flood waters receded, flood victims in Bilin and Ye Townships returned home. A total of 1600 flood victims of 361 households in Kyaikmaraw are being provided with necessary assistance at three relief camps. Flash floods destroyed one bridge in Mudon Township and one school building in Paung Township and 58 schools were subject to temporary closure in Kyaikmaraw Township.
4. Flooding occurred in Taninthayi Township on 2 August 2013, forcing 1670 people of 324 households to move to three relief camps where they are being provided with necessary assistance.
5. During Vice-President U Nyan Tun's rescue and relief tour, 7181 households in Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Kawkareik, Kyar-in Seikkyi, Myawady and Papun Townships were provided with rice, medicines and relief supplies including K 15,000 each to flood victims totaling K 107,715,000 as wellwishers donated K 200 million for flood victims.
6. Under the arrangement of Kayin State government, flood victims were provided with 337 bags of rice, 86 viss of edible oil, 8364 eggs and 13478 packets of instant noodle including K 8.85 million.
7. It is hereby to inform that sanitation, health care services and rehabilitation works in the regions where flood waters receded are being carried out by the Union government in cooperation with respective state/region governments, social organizations, Tatmadawmen, police members and local people after rescue and relief works for flood victims had been performed in Kayin and Mon States and Taninthayi Region.

Press Release Team

LOCAL NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Monsoon tree planting ceremony held in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—A monsoon tree planting ceremony was held in No (1) Basic Education High School in Pyinmana in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

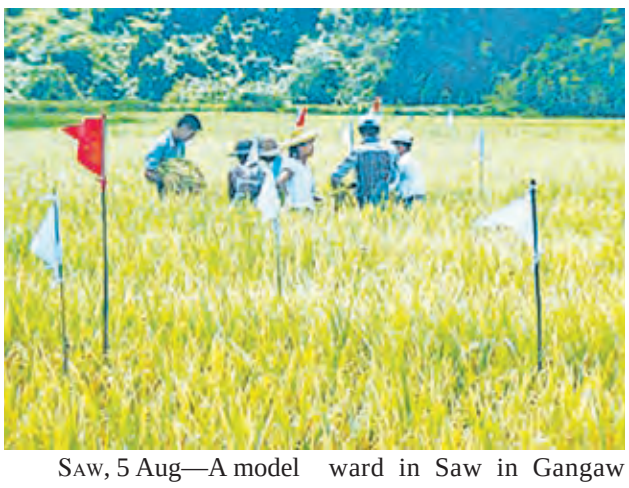
Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than, Director of Forest Department U Kyaw Lwin, Pyinmana Township Administrator U Hsan Maw, Commander of Pyinmana Township Police Force Police Major Than Myint, Deputy Director of Education Department U Aung Kyaw Soe and Headmistress Daw Khin Mar Win attended the ceremony.

Students, staff of forest department and village-tract/ward administrators planted about 170 various species of saplings including teak and hardwood in the yard of the school.

MMAL-Zaw Myo Naing

AGRICULTURE

Palethwe paddy yield 159 baskets per acre in Saw Township



SAW, 5 Aug—A model one-acre Palethwe paddy plantation in Saw Township yielded 159 baskets of paddy. The harvest of farmland of farmer U Win Pe of Zeyar ward in Saw in Gangaw District was carried out on 23 July.

The plantation was where the Good Agricultural Patterns were applied. The harvest was attended by Head of Gangaw District Agriculture Department U Khin Maung Myint, Township Administrator U Naing Tun, Head of Township Settlement and Land Records Department U Nyunt Aung, staff, Head of Township Agriculture Department U Zaw Min Naing, agricultural staff and farmers.

A total 137 acres of farmlands were put under Palethwe paddy in 2012-2013 fiscal year. A total of 2170 acres of farmland were put under summer paddy in the township.

The district head of Agriculture Department and party discussed the planting of high-yield Palethwe paddy.—*MMAL-101*

Tree planting ceremony held near Ananda Temple in Bagan

MANDALAY, 5 Aug—Monsoon tree planting ceremony was held in southern yard of Ananda Temple in Bagan on 31 July for greening the Bagan archaeological site, attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint.

The region chief minister presented saplings to departmental personnel, members of social organizations and ward/village tract administrators.

He planted a star-flower plant and region Hluttaw representatives planted star-flower plants and sandalwood plants at designated places.

The departmental personnel, members of political parties and the people planted about 800 saplings.

The chief minister also visited the construction site of NyaungU Highway Bus Terminal by NyaungU-Kyaukpadaung road at the entrance to NyaungU.

Later, the Chief Minister of the region viewed the construction of shops and other buildings at the construction site.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Tourism

A flock of globetrotters seen in front of City Hall in downtown Yangon near Sule Pagoda on 3 August.—SHWEINTHA KHIN MAUNG WIN

A tentatively selected Myanmar women's hockey team that will take part in the XXVII SEA Games left for Thailand by air on 2 August evening. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by President of Myanmar Hockey Federation U Htin Zaw Win, the vice-president and officials of the Ministry of Sports. The team comprised Malaysian chief coach, coach, goal coach and 20 players led by the manager. After taking joint training with Thai women's team, the Myanmar team will take part in the Pre-SEA Games in Thailand together with Thailand, Singapore, Cambodia, Pakistan, Sri Lankan women's teams.

REPORTER THAN SHWE (PABEDAN)

Books donated to Sagaing Cooperative University

SAGAING, 5 Aug—Nyein Chan Kaungkin Printing Materials Trading Cooperative Society donated note books to Cooperative University (Sagaing) at Mya Tharaphi Hall of the university on 29 July.

Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan delivered an address at the ceremony. Chairman of Nyein Chan Kaungkin Printing Materials Trading Cooperative Society (Mandalay) U Thein Myint donated 600 dozens of note books through Rector in-charge Dr Yi Yi Win of Cooperative University (Sagaing).

Nagamin General Trading Company also donated 210 publications to the library of the university through the rector.

The cooperative society also donated 60 dozens of books to Saungda vocational education school through the principal of the school. Donors were presented the certificates of honour at the ceremony.

MMAL-137

Educative talk on drugs given in Kengtung University

KENGTUNG, 5 Aug—An educative talk on drugs, traffic rules and human trafficking was organized in Kengtung University on 1 August under aegis of the Commander of Kengtung District Police Force.

Commander of Kengtung District Police Force Police Lt-Col Kyaw Win gave talks on drugs and police officers on traffic rules and human trafficking.

Pamphlets were distributed to students of the university at the talk.

MMAL-Naing Naing Aung Wai

Korean Taekwondo team, K-Pop band to perform in Yangon

YANGON, 5 Aug—To strengthen friendly ties between Myanmar and South Korea, an acclaimed Taekwondo team and a K-Pop band will visit Myanmar and perform their talents and songs soon, according to secretary of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation U Zaw Win.

"Myanmar Taekwondo Federation and World Taekwondo Peace Crops Foundation will jointly organize Wonderful Taekwondo! Beautiful Korea! Event in Theinbyu Stadium on 10 August evening. A famous Taekown team and a K-Pop band will perform," U Zaw Win said in a press conference in Central Hotel.

The Taekwondo team is the winner of Taekwondo exhibition contests for two successive years in 2011 and 2012.

They will display Poomsae, Kyuk Pa and Sparring talents.

The K-Pop band will display many famous K-Pop songs like Oppa-Gangnam Style and Korean traditional songs.

MMAL-Kyandaing Aung

The New Light of Myanmar

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 6 August, 2013

We cannot allow transformation to fail

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

The first component of our transformation is political. We have a new constitution. We have had elections and by-elections. Media censorship and restrictions on the Internet have ended. New laws protect the freedom of association and expression. Thousands of prisoners have been freed. A special committee, comprised in part of former prisoners, is working diligently to ensure that no one remains in prison due to his or her political beliefs or actions. We are reviewing all cases.

The government is aiming for nothing less than a transition from half a century of military-rule and authoritarianism to democracy. It is beyond doubt that this is no easy thing. We see elsewhere the dangers of any sudden political shift, with which institutions are unable to cope, and where the habits of democracy are not yet engrained, and the dangers of violence and anarchy. We must manage this transition in a way that moves fast but prudently, grounded in our own realities.

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

We have embarked on a transformation that we believe is unparalleled in modern times. It is a multi-faceted transformation that must be successful in all its parts. Anyone who visits Myanmar today will see the great energy that has been thrown up by the transformation of competing ideas and robust debate. This is because all Myanmar people know that we cannot allow this transformation to fail.

ARTICLE

LESSONS FROM THE HORRORS OF HIROSHIMA

Maung Hlaing

It was on the morning of 6 August in 1945, a B-29 bomber of the United States Army dropped the first Atomic bomb on the centre of the City of Hiroshima, Japan.

According to the records of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, the bomb emitted mysterious flashes of light in the air about 1,800 feet above the ground and then produced a gigantic fireball which swelled rapidly into a tremendous explosion. A horrifying column of flames hit the earth and rose in the form of a swifty-bulging mushroom cloud to a height of 27,000 feet almost instantaneously.

The atomic bomb destroyed about 13 square kilometres of the city. Between 70,000 and 100,000 people are estimated to have been killed and more people died later from the effects of atomic radiation.

Three days later, the Americans released a second atomic bomb on the City of Nagasaki. Thus, Japan surrendered to the Allied Forces on 2 September in 1945.

Why did they use the atomic bomb?

"Horrors of Hiroshima emerged due to the translation error. Instead of writing the news title as 'US ultimatum postponed,' the journalist wrote the title as 'US ultimatum ignored," said Sayagyi Thakin Ba Thaung while I was studying translation under him. However, historians concluded that although it was an immediate cause, the world had heard the war cry and seen the dark colors of war since 1939.

After the first test explosion of an atomic bomb in the United States in July, 1945, the then US President Harry S. Truman informed the other leaders of the Allied Forces. Then the Allied Forces issued a statement threatening to destroy Japan unless it surrendered unconditionally. In spite of the warning, Japan went on fighting. So the bomb was dropped. The historians concluded so.

Before the atomic bomb was used, the US bombing of Tokyo took place in March, 1945. According to the *Kyodo* news of 8 May, 2013, more than 300 B-29 bombers dropped a large number of incendiary bombs above Tokyo on 10 March, 1945, about five months of Japan's surrender that year turning the Japanese capital to ruins. The US raids of Tokyo also came in April and May that year.

The then Japanese government had filed a protest with the US government shortly after the March 1945 air raid. However, the US said the war with Japan in the Pacific theatre of the global war was one against fascism.

Actually, war is war. If a war breaks out, it is followed by social evils.

A year after the bomb was dropped, among those who survived the nuclear holocaust, some were cripple and some were destitute. People had lost the buildings which had taken them to many years to acquire, and had no prospects or rebuilding them. Let me introduce a letter from my jottings to you. Just before the anniversary of the dropping the bomb, Mr. Tanimoto wrote in a letter to the Americans:-

"What a heart-breaking scene this was the first night! About midnight, I landed on the river bank. So many injured people lay on the ground that I had to make my way by striding over them. Repeating 'Excuse me!,' I went forward, carrying a bucket of water and giving a cup of water to each of them. They raised their upper bodies slowly, accepted the water with a bow, and drunk quietly. One of them said, "I couldn't help my sister, who was buried under the house'. Another murmured," I lost my home and family'. The next morning, I found many men and women dead, people whom I had given water the night before. But to my surprise, I never heard any one cry in pain and sorrow even though their anguish and agony must have been beyond words..."

On 9 August, 1945, Nagasaki, which is on the west coast of the island of Kyushu, was destroyed by the second atomic bomb used in warfare. The blast destroyed 4.7 square kilometres in the heart of the city. It injured 40,000 people, and 40,000 were killed or missing.

According to the *Kyodo* news appeared in the New Light of Myanmar of 5 June, the Nagasaki City Office began the annual task of adding names to the list of victims of the 1945 US atomic bombing of the city. The newly confirmed victims, who died between, 1 August last year and 31 March, told 1, 178. The names and dates of death of the deceased, along with those of more victims likely to be found by the end of July, are to be added to the list, which contained 158,765 names as of 9 August, 2012. Their details will be inscribed by two citizens with ink brushes in time to be dedicated on 9 August at a ceremony commemorating the 68th anniversary of the bombing.

"I feel anew the cruelty of atomic weapons," said Masahiro Tanigawa, 75, a hibakusha, or atomic bombing survivor, and former officer of the city government.

The list of names, which is contained in 160 volumes as of 'last year, is usually kept at the Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims.

In Hiroshima, the Atomic Bomb Dome, a building left unconstructed after the war, has become a symbol of the peace movement.

A service is held there each year on the anniversary of the bombing, in memory of the victims. And in the month of August every year, war opponents and peace lovers recall an unhappy chapter in the history of mankind.

Wars—war for land, war for wealth, war for power, war for security—settle nothing. Millions of men, women and children were killed, or died of diseases, famine and untold sufferings. As we hate wars or conflicts, peace prevailing activities or movements will have to be encouraged. We must take lessons that in a warfare, the loser suffers and so does the winner.

Wars—never, never once again!

May peace prevail throughout the world!

New Legs, New Life for Myanmar Disabled

YANGON, 5 Aug— Mr. Nutthakrit Sivasri, Vice Chairman of Charoen Pokphand Group (CP), presented the cash contribution of 11 million kyats to H.E Mr. Pisanu Suvanajata, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar today. The ceremony is witnessed by U Hla Win, Representative of Aung Sat Kyar Mogok Vipassana Meditation Center.

The cash contribution, raised through a charity event and proceeds from sales of CP products, is part of the commitment of the Government of Thailand and the Thai private sector as one of the Royal Thai Embassy's Social Responsibility Initiative to return to the Myanmar society. The fund will be managed by the Embassy for use to support Myanmar children to get their new prosthetic legs at the Prostheses Foundation of H.R.H the Princess Mother in Thailand, as well as to support the improvement of prosthetic service in Myanmar. The Aung Sat Kyar Mogok Vipassana Meditation Center will help the Embassy get in touch with Myanmar children who are in need of the new legs.

The prostheses project will carry on from the charity work of the Prosthesis Foundation of Thailand which provided free prosthetic service to 134 Myanmar patients in October 2012. CP also provided free food service to the patients and their families as part of its commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Myanmar.

This prostheses project will continue as funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand as part of Thailand's public diplomacy to bring Thai and Myanmar people closer, as well as to celebrate the 65th anniversary of Myanmar and Thailand diplomatic relations. At the initial stage, the project will support the upgrading of the Prostheses Unit of National Rehabilitation Hospital in Yangon with new equipment and training for the staff, as well as the transfer of Thailand's widely recognized prosthetic technology. At a later stage, it is planned to be extended to other major cities such as Mandalay.—*NLM*

ARTICLE

On Conflicts

By Pyay Oo (Ayeyarwady)

Everyone desires the fulfilment of their basic needs such as making a living in peace and harmony under affluent socio-economic conditions, and the attainment of their life goals in peace and happiness, without any loss of their fundamental rights and human rights. Everyone also likes to contribute as much as they are able to beneficial activities not only for themselves but also for their families, friends and loved ones, the community which includes the neighbourhood or village or township where they live and for the country and the people, as well as for the people of the world.

In working for the betterment of socio-economic life, stability and peace would be a prerequisite for any efforts to be successful. Essentially, "stability and development" capture the aspirations of all of us. Stability and development would be essential not only for individuals but also the families, communities, citizens and people of the world. They constitute the vital need that our communities, our neighbourhoods, villages, townships, Regions and States, our country and the entire world have.

There can be no controversy or dispute on the impossibility of development work without stability and peace. My colleagues and I have stability and peace as our underlying aim in all our work. And it is only natural that we will inevitably face challenges, difficulties, obstacles, hindrances and conflicts in making our efforts towards the accomplishment of such worthy aims.

In our own minds, each of us has opposing forces vying for dominance. We have our own **internal opposition between greed and selflessness, ill will and good will, wholesome motivation and unwholesome motivation, altruism and self-interest, doubt and decisiveness, vagueness and clarity, strong will and lack of will**.

As opposing forces vie for dominance, one side may at one time become dominant over the other. While two opposing forces coming into conflict may often be in equilibrium, it can only be temporary. Eventually, one side always becomes stronger and wins out over the other.

From a political perspective, this process involving opposing forces may be seen as the contradictions. While there are many different kinds of tensions, they may be classified into 3 main categories: internal and external contradictions, fundamental and non-fundamental contradictions, and conflict-causing and non-conflict-causing contradictions.

To start with internal and external contradictions, individuals or organizations or groups may have tensions internally between the wholesome desire to do good things and the unwholesome desire to do bad things, normal desire and extreme greed, malice and benevolence, high spirits and low spirits, drive and lack of will, good will towards others and lack of it, indecision and resoluteness. These would be internal contradictions. External contradictions, on the other hand, occur in the interactions that individuals or organizations or groups have with their surroundings. When we resolve our own problems, we are resolving our internal contradictions. But the contradictions between us and others would be an external contradictions. Here, internal contradictions are more primary than external contradictions. Resolution of internal contradictions would make it easy to resolve external contradictions.

Similarly with fundamental and non-fundamental contradictions, it would be crucial to prioritise fundamental contradictions for resolution.

In every society, contradictions of opposites (processes involving opposing forces) give rise to conflicts to a greater or lesser extent. Not all tensions lead to conflict, as there are conflict-causing and non-conflict-causing tensions. While we are building a new democratic nation, it is vital to show restraint and avoid adversarial conflicts.

Conflicts stem from differences or opposition of concerns and views between individuals, between organisations, between groups and between nations. Differences are generally caused by different approaches to a particular phenomenon, different values, different norms and criteria, different policies and ideologies, and differences in the educational qualifications or experience between those who are making evaluations and judgements. Conflicts are inherent in human nature and human affairs, and can be expected at all times. Depending on the method of conflict resolution, some conflicts may be resolved while some others may escalate into open warfare.

Those specialising in the study of international relations have analysed international conflicts, past and present, into **two main categories: conflicts of ideas and conflicts of interests**. Examples of the first category would be ethnic conflicts, religious conflicts and ideological conflicts, while examples of the second category would be territorial disputes, problems involving control of governments and economic conflicts.

No one can deny the negative potential impact that conflicts may have, from undermining the political stability and economic development that a country has already achieved to stalling or even reversing them. In world history and Myanmar history and also in the current affairs of the world and those of Myanmar, there are prominent examples of such negative impact. In the period immediately after gaining independence in Myanmar, while Myanmar was a parliamentary democracy, ideological biases, personal prejudices, egos, and party biases gave rise to multicolour politics with differing hues even among those with the same political colour. Extreme nationalism displaced the sense of citizenship and the desire to work together for the Myanmar nation. National unity was undermined, and armed conflicts appeared in the end, leaving no space for effective development work, from which a political lesson needs to be learned.

Conflicts do have the potential to delay or stall the achievement of political, economic and social objectives that have been adopted for national development. Attention must be paid to the fact that inability to control or reduce rivalries and tensions based on conflict may give them an opportunity to escalate into disputes, open warfare and other forms of destructive conflict.

On the one hand, conflicts may provide an opportunity to conduct negotiations and find solutions collaboratively, resulting in mutual understanding. They may be the starting point for lasting peace and development as conciliation may be achieved through mutual compromise. Once the door is open to negotiation, it would certainly be supportive of the political, economic and social processes. In addition, **conflicts may be constructive and beneficial** when they produce capable managers and effective leaders.

All conflicts have underlying causes. As everything that has a beginning must also have an end, all conflicts have a resolution. It will be necessary to make an effort to find optimal conflict resolution methods best suited to the realities so that conflicts can be brought to an end. Conflict management is an important matter so that conflicts can be brought to an end in a mutually satisfactory manner that is directed toward serving the interests of the country and the people.

We need to minimize the damage and pain caused by conflict and at least learn lessons for the local areas, for the country and for the national people. The next stage would be to manage it to bring about advantages and benefits.

Only then will we be able to compensate for the lost time, energy, morale, finances and good prospects. Then we will have implemented our optimal conflict resolution.

It is only natural that differences in sentiments, goals and beliefs will continue to exist. It is important to recognize mistakes for what they are. Our work can be correct only when we have the correct outlook, correct views and correct concepts. Every one experiences ridicule and praise. It is also natural to be offended by ridicule and blame and to be pleased with praise. It is necessary to follow the correct path calmly and steadily without being moved too much by either praise or ridicule. It is also human nature to want to take revenge. But it is necessary to remember that revenge would make it impossible to rise above the level of the other side. We have already worked to overcome numerous challenges for more than a decade to achieve the path to multiparty democracy. At present we have favourable conditions to achieve stability and development for the nation and the people through multiparty democracy that we have strove for. We may still have challenges and conflicts to overcome, and we can overcome them through a worthy spirit, correct motivation and good will, constant awareness, unity and concerted efforts. **Rather than responding emotionally** to every incident that is encountered **with excessive ego, excessive pride and a high level of jealousy, it is necessary to act on the basis of rationality and analysis**. It is our wish and earnest hope that all those currently participating in the nation-building process and all the young people who will shoulder the responsibilities of the State in the future will sagaciously contribute to the continuing process of nation-building in any capacity or role.

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Plan to take deterrent action against trafficking of narcotic drugs…

(from page 16)

buy the drugs, expose the cases of arms, comfort the people who are worried about trading of arms and to take action against the organizations related to the money laundering. Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint replied that special plans are being implemented to eliminate drug trafficking in Tamu and Kalay regions. Actions are being taken against the offenders in time.

The Money Laundering Central Committee is taking action against the illegal property. Kalay and Tamu Anti-Drug Squads are reestablished for undertaking the drug elimination in cooperation with the local police corps.

The Hluttaw approved the Early Child Care and Development Bill paragraph by paragraph.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Daw Su Su Hlaing submitted the proposal to approve the Early Child Care and Development Bill, and the Hluttaw approved it.

MNA

Foodstuffs and household goods provided to flood victims in Kyain-Seikkyi

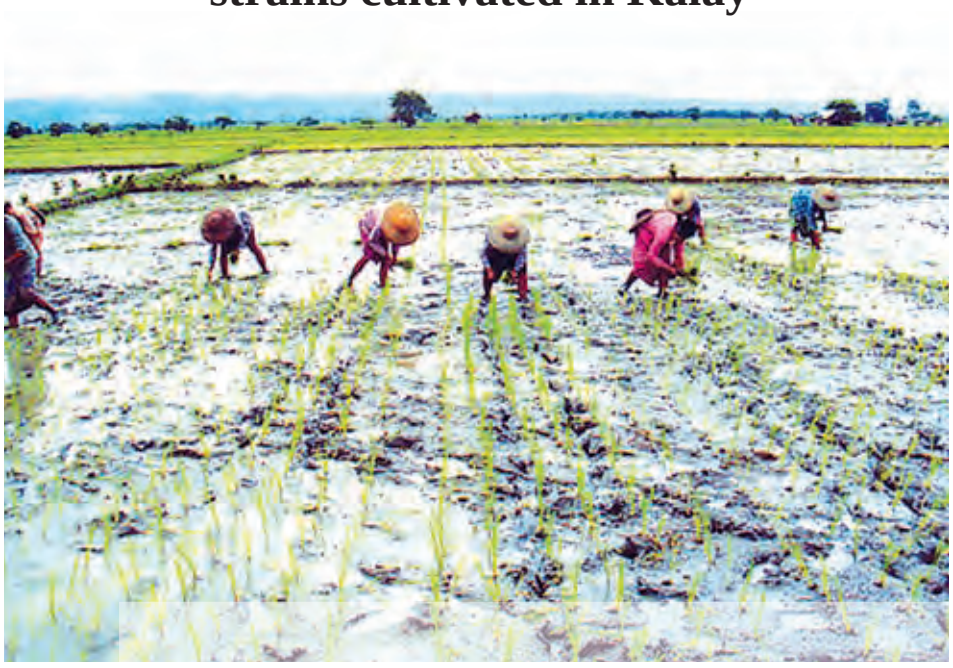
Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Aug— Due to nonstop rains in Kayin State, the wards in Kyain-Seikkyi Township were inundated and the state government members and Tatmadawmen assisted in moving the flood victims to the relief camps. Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win and officials met with the flood victims at the relief camps and presented foodstuffs and household goods to them yesterday.

Myawady

LOCAL NEWS

AGRICULTURE

Model plot of Ayeyarmin quality paddy strains cultivated in Kalay



Local farmers transplant monsoon paddy at paddy field.

KALAY, 5 Aug—Ten-acre Ayeyarmin paddy strain was cultivated at the plot No-800 (e), holdings No-24 owned by farmer U Maung Tint in Chinhsaing Village in Kalay Township on 30 July for export.

Myanmar's rice standard would share in international market at a time when Myanmar was regarded as rice bowl of Asia. Myanmar had exported its rice to South Korea, Japan, China, Laos, India, Bangladesh and western countries. Due to various reasons such as lack of high technology and modern agriculture methods, Myanmar has lagged behind in agricultural development, said a farmer.

With a view to securing a deserved position in Myanmar and exporting Ayeyarmin rice produced in Kalay region to foreign countries, Staff Officer U Tin Maung Swe and staff from Township Agriculture Department cultivated Ayeyarmin paddy strain through good agriculture patterns. Over 100,000 acres of monsoon paddy including 50,000 acres of Ayeyarmin paddy were cultivated in Kalay region last year.—*Kyemon-Wunyankha-Tekkatho*

Mandalay Region MCWSC launches nutrition week activity

MANDALAY, 5 Aug—Mandalay Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee held the demonstration on cooking as part of efforts for launching the 2013 nutrition week at its office on 1 Augut morning.

Chairperson of Mandalay Region MVWSC Daw Htay Htay Aung, Chairperson of District MCWSC Daw Thin Thin Khaing, the chairperson and members of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and in-charges of the pre-primary schools.

The demonstration was aimed at feeding the pre-primary students with nutritious foods and enabling the household maids to have skills in cookery.

In-charge of the nutrition of the region MCWSC Daw Thanda Phone Win explained nutrious cooking for household maid, nurse Daw Mu Mu Soe Lwin of Nutrition Control Unit of Region Health Department, nutrition for pre-primary students, member Daw Myint Myint Thein of Dagundaing Ward, egg and health, Daw Khin San Tint of Ward A, important of rice cooking and Daw Nwe Nwe Aye of Thinpangon Ward knowledge about cooking oil for household maids.

Next, Daw Thanda Phone Win explained nutritious food for pre-primary students and demonstrated cooking.

On the occasion were 70 attendees from nutrition units and pre-primary schools from townships in Mandalay District.

Kyemon-Myint Maw Tun

HRD

Knowledge share about hosting XXVII SEA Games in Myeik

MYEIK, 5 Aug—A talks on sports events in commemoration of the XXVII SEA Games was given at Pyinnya Yadana hall of Basic Education High School No 3 in Myeik on 2 August afternoon.

Staff Officer Daw Hla Hla Htay of Myeik District Information and Public Relations Department explained youth and sports, and opportunity for the youth and athletes to lift the prestige and integrity of the State with the victory of sports.

Staff Officer U Tun Shein of Myeik Township Sports and Physical Education Department gave lectures on facts about coming SEA Games to be hosted in Myanmar from 11 to 22 December this year.

After the talks, Headmistress Dr Daw Thin Thin Khaing spoke words of thanks.

The talks was attended by teachers and students totalling about 380.

Kyemon-Myeik District IPRD

ANTI-NARCOTIC DRIVES

132 grams of heroin seized in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 5 Aug—According to information given by a dutiful people, the person who owned 132 grams of heroin was arrested in Myitkyina on 30 July.

IP Kyaw Win and party of Myitkyina Anti-Drug Special Squad, acting on tip off, discharged duty on the ring road near Agricultural Mechanization Department in Myothitgyi Ward of Myitkyina at 10.30 am.

They searched a white van from Yazar Min bus line that will leave for Phakant and arrested passenger Sai Tin Aye with 16 grams of heroin in one soap box and 14 grams each in four boxes, 12 grams each in five boxes, totalling 132 grams in 10 soap boxes from the packets of pickled mustard in the polyethylene bags. The heroin was worth K 10,560,000. Myitkyina Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against drug possessor Sai Tin Aye, son of U Paw Hong of Waingmaw Township, under Section 15/19(a) of the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Kyemon-Moe Kya (Myitkyina)*

Sai Tin Aye seen with packets of heroin.

Complaints for bribery and corruption

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

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

RELIEF

Flood victims provided with rice and clothing in Thaton

THATON, 5 Aug—The flood-hit families in Duyinseik Village in Thaton Township of Mon State were provided with rice and clothing by the township management committee and wellwishers at Basic Education Middle School (branch) of the village yesterday. A total of 68 bags of rice and 72 packets of clothing were donated to 249 families.

"We are fishermen and our business mainly depends on Donthami creek. We can't search fish as inundation occurs immediately. Although we can take shelter at the monastery now, we are facing difficulties for food. I wish to express thanks for donation and it benefits us a lot," said a flood victim. Due to incessant rains and inundation, No (2), No (5) and No (6) plots in Duyinseik Village were flooded.

The wellwishers donated cash and kind to the flood victims who are taking shelter at the monastery and their relatives for the fifth time.

Kyemon-Thet Oo (Thaton District IPRD)

Over 247,000 people affected by flooding in S Philippines

MANILA, 5 Aug — Over 247,000 individuals or nearly 50,000 families in southern Philippine Province of Maguindanao were affected by flooding due to heavy rains brought by low pressure area and intertropical convergence zone, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said on Sunday.

The displaced families came from 185 villages in 20 municipalities, the state agency said, adding that it is yet to receive report from the towns of Datu Odin Sinsuat and Datu Saudi Ampatuan.

Sultan Kudarat has remained as the place to have the most number of affected people at 41,700, it said.

The government has already extended over 4 million pesos (92, 170 US dollars) to the affected families, the NDRRMC said.

Xinhua

A Nepali boy makes handprints on a painting to celebrate the International Friendship Day in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 4 Aug, 2013. Every first Sunday of August is celebrated as the International Friendship Day all over the world.
XINHUA

DPJ to leave talks with ruling bloc on Japan's welfare reforms

TOKYO, 5 Aug— The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan is set to break away from talks with the ruling bloc on social security reforms, in protest at the likelihood that its own policy goals cannot be achieved, lawmakers said on Monday.

In June 2012, under the initiative of the then DPJ-led government, the party agreed with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party and its junior coalition partner, the New Komeito party, to discuss welfare system reforms and also to increase the nation's sales tax from next April to help finance the system.

They planned to streamline the social security system, which has been increasingly under pressure due to Japan's aging population, and the DPJ specifically pressed for introducing a guaranteed minimum monthly pension and ending the public medical insurance system for people aged over 75.

While the deadline for concluding the talks is set for 21 Aug, significant gaps remain between the DPJ and the two other parties, which regained control of the government in December's general lower house election and strengthened its grip on power in last month's upper house election.

Kyodo News

Search continues for 3 missing passengers in Vietnam shipwreck

HANOI, 5 Aug — Search and rescue teams on Sunday continued combing the area off the coast of Vietnam's southern Ho Chi Minh City to look for three missing passengers after a motor boat capsized last Friday, local media reported.

The accident, which happened on Friday night due to strong wind, has claimed the lives of six passengers, including the boat operator. Another 21 passengers were rescued and being treated, according to state-run *Vietnam News Agency*.

The motor boat, with a maximum capacity of 18 passengers, was found to have carried 30 passengers on a passage that crossed Long Hoa village in Can Gio District of Ho Chi Minh City when the deadly accident occurred.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung instructed the National Committee for Search and Rescue and relevant agencies to work closely together in search for the missing passengers and to provide assistance to the survivors.

Xinhua

Passengers read an announcement about train services at JR Sendai Station in Miyagi Prefecture on 4 Aug, 2013, after a M6 earthquake hit parts of the prefecture in northeastern Japan.
KYODO NEWS

Two killed in elephant attack in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 5 Aug — Two people were killed when an elephant went on rampage at Haripur-1 in the Sarlahi District of Nepal, locals said on Sunday.

The elephant killed Upendra Mahato, 30, and two-and-half-year- old Hiriya Mahato in the district. Upendra had gone to water his field and slept in the field when the elephant attacked him. Hiriya was attacked and killed outside her house while sleeping. Other members of her family had fled the scene during the attack.

"When we are sitting in front of house, (the) elephant suddenly came and began to attack, we ran away but I failed to rescue my daughter," Hiriya Mahato's father Nathuni Mahato told *Xinhua*.

Another local Prameshwor Mahato said one people was also injured in the elephant attack.

According to local police, four people have died in elephant attack in the district in the past two months.

Xinhua

A plane skids off the runway at Yiwu Airport in Yiwu, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 4 Aug, 2013. The CA4538 flight operated by Air China, with 74 passengers aboard, slid off the runway during taxi and the tires of the landing gear sank into a pitch-covered area, during its take-off preparation at around Sunday noon. No casualties were reported, according to the airport.—XINHUA

S Korea to receive final bid for 7.4 bln USD fighter jet deal

SEOUL, 5 Aug — South Korea's arms procurement agency planned to receive a final bid next week for an 8.3 trillion won (7.4 billion US dollars) deal to buy 60 fighter jets, the largest arms import contract in the nation's history, an official said on Monday.

"The final bidding will be held between 13 and 16 Aug, except for the 15 Aug Liberation Day holiday," an official at the Defence Acquisition Programme Administration (DAPA)'s spokesman office said by phone.

Three combat planes, including Lockheed Martin's *F-35 stealth* jet, Boeing's *F-15 Silent Eagle* and the *Eurofighter Tranche 3 Typhoon* of the European Aerospace Defence and Space Company (EADS), have been competing for the contract.

All the three aerospace giants have failed in the previous biddings due to higher prices than the 8.3 trillion won budget approved by the parliament.

The DAPA official told *Xinhua* that possible failure of the planned bidding may lead to re-examination of the project from the starting point, noting that all options would be available such as the cut in the number of jets to be bought, purchases in installments and an increase in state budget.

Xinhua

ADB provides loan for transport link in Vietnam

MANILA, 5 Aug—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will lend 410 million US dollars to Vietnam to build projects for the second arterial highway connecting Ho Chi Minh City to the Mekong Delta and southern coastal regions, ADB said on Monday. "This transport link will help open up Vietnam's western provinces in the Mekong River Delta and support its economic and industrial development,"said Rustam Ishenaliev, transport Specialist in ADB's Southeast Asia Department.

The projects will comprise two cable-stayed bridges with a combined length of 5 km and associated access and interconnecting roads totaling 26 kms.

The two bridges and the interconnecting road will cut travel time between Ho Chi Minh City and Long Xuyen, capital city of An Giang Province in the Mekong Delta region of southwestern Vietnam, from 3.5 hours to 2.5 hours. The highway is expected to be open to traffic by the end of 2017.

In addition to these transport benefits, the project is expected to support more inclusive development, improve access to basic social and health services, increase national food security and facilitate private sector investment in the region.

The project is expected to cost 860 million US dollars, which will be provided by the ADB, Australia and South Korea.

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(6/2013)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB -051(2013-2014)	3.3 KV High Tension Auto Transformer Type Motor Starter Complete Set	(1) Set	US $
(2)	IFB -052(2013-2014)	Spares for Komatsu Dozer	(15) Items	US $
(3)	IFB -053(2013-2014)	Spares for GM 6V 71 Engine (Ex Cooper Servicing Unit)	(13) Nos	US $
(4)	IFB -054(2013-2014)	20" Factory Made Hot Bends	(8) Items	US $
(5)	IFB -055(2013-2014)	10" Steel Ball Valves and Pipe Fittings	(l) Lot	US $
(6)	IFB -056(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT D 379 Engine	(9) Items	US $
(7)	IFB -057(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT D 399 Engine	(1) Items	US $
(8)	IFB -058(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT D 399 Engine	(20) Items	US $
(9)	IFB -059(2013-2014)	Over Running Clutch for Gefco Rig	(2) Nos	US $
(10)	IFB -060(2013-2014)	Spares for GM 8 V 71 Engine	(11) Items	US $
(11)	DMP/L-026(2013-2014)	7:00 x 16 & 7:50 x 16 Tyres	(2) Items	Kyat
(12)	DMP/L-027(2013-2014)	Electronic Cards for Mud Pump Field Thyristor of Main PCR Unit Ex D3 T2 Drilling Rig	(2) Items	Kyat
(13)	DMP/L-028(2013-2014)	Insert Bowl For ZP-375 Rotary Table Ex ZJ 70L Drilling Rig	(1) Pair	Kyat

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 2-9-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5th August, 2013 at the Material Planning Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (214)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (214) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ER TURKU VOY NO (023)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ER TURKU VOY NO (023) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2013 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 HANJIN SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NINOS VOY NO (1002)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.8.2013 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 CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (331)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (331) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

The best time to grow a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (077)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (077) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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(For. Domnern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law,
Thailand)
Dated 6 August,2013.

Don't Smoke

Retirees on edge as Detroit bankruptcy cuts loom

BEIJING, 5 Aug—Thousands of pensioners already struggling to get by are afraid they will be pushed into poverty if the United States city of Detroit is able to slash their benefits in a bankruptcy court.

Retired fire chief Jerry Franklin Smith spent 39 years battling blazes in a city filled with abandoned buildings and too many arsonists. He's worried that if a bankruptcy judge allows the city to wipe out its obligations to his pension fund he'll need to somehow find a job at the age of 78.

"I've only done physical things all my life. But I really can't do them anymore," Smith said. "It makes you nervous."

Police and firefighters don't qualify for the federally-run Social Security pension plan, which has an average payout of US$1,268 a month. So their city-run plan is the only thing keeping them out of food banks or even homeless shelters.

Luckily it is better-funded than a separate plan run for Detroit's other municipal workers. But it is still owed millions and the city is hoping to slash all pension and retiree health care benefits in order to wipe out debt and reduce future costs.

Emergency manager Kevyn Orr was in court last Friday urging a federal judge to find the city eligible for bankruptcy in the second such hearing since the birthplace of the US auto industry became the largest US city to go bust on 19 July.—*Xinhua*

ENTERTAINMENT

David Beckham offered movie role

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug— Retired soccer star David Beckham has been offered a cameo role in new movie The Secret Service as a villain.

Beckham, who announced he was quitting the sport earlier this year, has been asked by Colin Firth to star in The Secret Service and director Matthew Vaughn is so confident he will agree to appear, he has already had a villainous part written for him, reported Sun online.

"Becks was asked by Colin Firth if he'd like to be in the movie but he is yet to fully commit. He loves movies and fancies appearing on the big screen — but just as a one-off, not a full-time career," a source said.

The film, which is based on a spy graphic novel by Mark Millar and Dave Gibbons, stars Colin and Michael Caine as super agents fighting a team of villains headed by Samuel L Jackson and will also feature cameo appearances from stars including singer Elton John.

Beckham, who has children Brooklyn, 14, Romeo, 10, Cruz, eight, and Harper, two, with wife Victoria, has previously been tipped for movie success by his spouse.

"I think he would be really good at acting. He'd be a great James Bond," Victoria had said.

PTI

David Beckham has been asked by Colin Firth to star in The Secret Service.

Ellen DeGeneres to host 2014 Academy Awards

Ellen DeGeneres has previously hosted the Oscars in 2007.

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug—Comedienne Ellen Degeneres has been chosen to host the upcoming 86th annual Academy Awards. This would be the second stint for DeGeneres, 55, the star of her own daytime talk show Ellen, who previously hosted the Oscars in 2007, reported Ace Showbiz.

"I am so excited to be hosting the Oscars for the second time. You know what they say — the third time's the charm," she said. Producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron said, "We are thrilled to have Ellen DeGeneres host the Oscars. As a long-time friend, we had always hoped to find a project for us to do together and nothing could be more exciting than teaming up to do the Oscars."

The 2014 Academy Awards will take place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood on 2 March, 2014. Actor Seth MacFarlane previously hosted the prestigious event.

PTI

Prince William sings Coldplay songs to son

LONDON, 5 Aug— Prince William has reportedly found a unique lullaby solution for newborn son Prince George Alexander Louis. He sings English band Coldplay's songs to him.

Williams' wife Kate Middleton gave birth to their son on 22 July, but George's mid-night activities, especially crying, are giving everyone a hard time.

"William had no idea it would be this tough. He's using a bizarre tactic of belting out Coldplay anthems at all hours of the night even though he can barely hold a note," dailystar.co.uk quoted a source as saying.

"It's even keeping Kate's parents awake. His favourite song is Paradise and he also loves doing Yellow. Coldplay aren't even his favourite band, but George responds to their songs the most and settles back down," the source added.—*PTI*

Prince William and wife

Jennifer Aniston up for steamy strip scenes

Jennifer Aniston will be seen next in We're The Millers.

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug— Director Rawson Marshall Thurber says actress Jennifer Aniston was totally up for steamy stripping scenes in her new comedy We're the Millers.

The Friends actress plays a saucy dancer in the new comedy, which centres on a drug dealer, reported Contactmusic.

"I just thought it would be a fun moment. It didn't take any persuasion to get her to do it. She really liked the script and wanted to play the part."

"She was up for it... It's this bizarre moment of the 'mum' being able to save her family by stripping. We were shooting it in a shack in 120-degree heat and it was a long day for her, but she's a pro. She's in great shape and comfortable in her own body, and she nailed it," he said.

The director hints there may be a sequel to the films also.

"With good characters I think it's always a good thing to continue a story," he added.—*PTI*

'2 Guns' shoots past 'Smurfs,' 'Wolverine' to claim box office

Actor Denzel Washington arrives for the premiere of the movie "2 Guns'' in New York, on 29 July, 2013.—REUTERS

LOS ANGELES/NEW YORK, 5 Aug—"2 Guns," starring Denzel Washington and Mark Wahlberg as rival federal agents, shot through its weekend competition at movie theatres, collecting $27.4 million to lead the North American box office, according to studio estimates released on Sunday.

"The Wolverine," last weekend's box office leader, finished second with $21.7 million in ticket sales and has totaled $95 million during its two weeks in theatres.

Sony's "Smurfs 2," the newly released sequel to its 2011 movie "The Smurfs" starring Neil Patrick Harris and a band of small blue elf-like creatures, was third with $18.2 million in ticket sales.

The horror film "The Conjuring," about a house possessed by a demon, continued its strong run and was fourth with ticket sales of $13.7 million. The animated "Despicable Me 2" was fifth after five weeks with $10.4 million in ticket sales.

"2 Guns," an adaption of the graphic novel by the same name published by Boom! Studios, fell somewhat short of some industry projections that it would generate about $30 million in ticket sales in a summer in which a number of films have failed to live up to expectations.

Walt Disney's (DIS.N) "The Lone Ranger" and Sony's "White House Down" and "After Earth" bombed earlier this summer.

"We're thrilled" with the numbers, said Nikki Rocco, president for domestic distribution at Universal Pictures, which distributed "2 Guns" and chalked up its seventh number-one opening this year. She added that "this was a very healthy box office weekend" at a time when "people used to talk about the August doldrums."

Rocco said the studio had anticipated "2 Guns" would open "somewhere in the twenties" of millions, so "we're very satisfied."

"Smurfs 2" fell short of the $35.6 million in ticket sales for Sony's 2011 original film, which was released in late July. The film is based on a Belgian comic first published in 1958 that has been expanded into movies, a TV series and even an Ice Capades show.—*Reuters*

SPORTS

Manchester United have given up on Fabregas — Barca chief

Cesc Fabregas

BARCELONA, 5 Aug—Barcelona sporting director Andoni Zubizarreta has claimed that Manchester United have abandoned their interest in Cesc Fabregas, according to reports in the Spanish media.

United, who have yet to make a major signing since David Moyes succeded Sir Alex Ferguson as manager, have already had two bids for the Spanish international rejected by La Liga champions.

"Manchester United were interested in the player, but they have also understood our stance that we don't want to sell him," the former Spain goalkeeper was quoted as saying by Barcelona based daily Sport. "They have given up on signing him."

Despite claiming the first league title of his career last season, Fabregas has endured a largely frustrating time in the two years since he returned to the club he left as a 16-year-old to join Arsenal.

His opportunities in Barca's midfield have been limited by the presence of international teammates Xavi, Andres Iniesta and Sergio Busquets, while his role lying behind the main striker is occupied by four-time world player of the year Lionel Messi.

However, with the sale of Thiago Alcantara to Bayern Munich and the 33-year-old Xavi expected to play fewer games this season, Zubizarreta insisted Fabregas will be a key part of the squad.

"Cesc is an extraordinary player, we are counting on him. He has vision, he helps in defence, he is our number four and we are not going to sell him."

Fabregas scored twice on his first appearance of the season for the Catalans in their 8-0 hammering of Santos on Friday and has travelled with the squad to take part in coaching clinics in Palestine and Israel before they embark on a tour of Asia.—*PTI*

Daddy Tiger Woods gifts 'his first win' to Charlie

AKRON, (United States), 5 Aug—Tiger Woods savored an eighth Bridgestone Invitational success and a 79th PGA Tour triumph on Sunday. But for his young son, Charlie, it was a first chance to see his father win.

Woods was observed arriving at the course near lunchtime and walking hand-in-hand with the four-year-old from the players car park to the Firestone clubhouse.

And Charlie was there when Woods walked off some hours later a seven-shot winner. Woods said his daughter, Sam, is old enough to understand his profession, but for Charlie "it was the first win he's ever been at."

"That's what makes it special for both of us. He's never seen me win a golf tournament," Woods said.

"Sam was there when I won the US Open in '08, and she loves to look at the YouTube videos and look back to Daddy."

But "Charlie's never had that, never felt what it's like to be with the trophy," he added. Woods said his children always ask "Daddy, when are you going to win the tournament?"

"So this week was nice to be able to get the lead and I held it, and it was awfully special for me to have (Charlie) here to witness it because he understands it now," he said.

"He understands when I make a birdie, when I make par, and he understands the difference," Woods added. "It's awfully special to be able to share that kind of moment."

As Woods now heads to the PGA Championship a red hot favourite to finally end a five-year major title drought, the world No 1 said he won't push his son into the game.

"Charlie likes playing golfer, he likes going out there and giving it a hit," Woods said. "It's like what my dad did and that's keep it fun. Go out there, no lessons, and just have fun."

Tiger Woods

But Woods said he wouldn't put any pressure on his son. "Yes, it would be cool but I am not going to be pushing him and if he wants to do it, so be it," he said. "If he wants to go and play another sport then that would be great, too."

While Charlie is already emulating his father, Woods was asked if the youngster might model himself on some of the US tour's younger talents, such as the often flamboyantly attired Rickie Fowler. Woods laughed and said: "My kid is not going to wear a flat bill (cap)."—*PTI*

Azarenka pulls out of Rogers Cup

CARLSBAD, (California), 5 Aug—Victoria Azarenka, who lost in the Carlsbad Open final to Sam Stosur on Sunday, has pulled out of the Rogers Cup in Toronto with a lower back injury, the tournament announced.

The world number two had been playing in her first tournament since Wimbledon, where she was forced to pull out of her second round match due to knee and hip injuries. "I'm so disappointed that I can't make it to Toronto as I added it to my schedule knowing what an important event it is," said Azarenka. The tournament begins on Monday.—*Reuters*

Samantha Stosur holds the trophy after winning the Carlsbad Open.

Arsene Wenger fears slow progress on transfers

LONDON, 5 Aug—Arsene Wenger admits Arsenal may be forced to go into their crucial Champions League qualifier without further additions to the squad.

Wenger has experienced a frustrating close season in the transfer market with France under-20 international Yaya Sanogo the only new arrival at the Emirates Stadium.

Wenger's interest in Luis Suarez, his principal target, is ongoing but so far Arsenal have failed to persuade Liverpool to part with the striker with a bid of over £40 million (46,038,504 euros) falling short of the Anfield club's valuation. (Also read: Arsene Wenger hits back at Rodgers)

The start of season is less than two weeks away with the Gunners set to face a testing Champions League qualifier first leg on 20 or 21 August, a handful of days after the Premier League opener against Aston Villa on 17 August.

Any new signings must be registered by 12 August if they are to be eligible to play in the Champions League qualifying round, but Wenger concedes that is unlikely at present.

Speaking after Arsenal lost 2-1 to Galatasaray in the Emirates Cup on Sunday, Wenger said: "Let's count first on what is here and if we can add something, we will do."

"But it's very difficult to predict if something will be sorted out before we play in the Champions League qualifier.

"I think we have enough quality to achieve it with the players we have in at the moment and if we can have some more in before then, it's even better."

Arsene Wenger

The Champions League draw could pitch Arsenal against a number of strong sides including PSV Eindhoven and Real Sociedad.

And Wenger added: "It's difficult. It's a stressful situation but we did fight very hard to be in that situation and now it's time to take advantage of the fact we finished fourth and we have an opportunity to qualify.

"Of course it's always very tricky to qualify but we have the experience of having done it before."

Wenger will continue to target new signings but he played down talk of a move for former captain Cesc Fabregas.

A clause in the player's contract gives Arsenal first refusal should he opt to leave Barcelona but Wenger denied this was likely, insisting he had no knowledge of reports Barca coach Gerardo Martino had said the player's future lay in his own hands.

"I haven't heard that comment at all, and I haven't read it so I'm always a bit cautious to answer what a manager is supposed to have said," Wenger said.

"What I know is Fabregas will stay one more year at least in Barcelona. That's the information I have. If that changes, I don't know. But that's what I have been told."

Wenger also confirmed Gervinho was close to sealing a move to AS Roma, while Marouane Chamakh is expected to tie up a permanent switch to Crystal Palace.—*PTI*

GENERAL

*Two children take part in an activity of the 1st hiking carnival at the Beijing Olympic Park in Beijing, capital of China, on 4 Aug, 2013. The carnival kicked off on Sunday and has attracted more than 4,000 people from home and abroad.—*XINHUA

Greek tourism bounces back to further growth

ATHENS, 5 Aug—After a tough year of 2012 when tourists stayed away from Greece amid economic and political uncertainty, the year 2013 will see the crisis-hit country on the rebound in the tourist industry sector, according to state officials and sector representatives.

As foreign visitors are returning in droves lured by the pristine beaches and wealth of history, Greece is expected to draw an all-time high number of at least 17 million tourists this year, up one million from 2012, they told *Xinhua*.

Hopes that the sector, one of the ailing economy's most significant pillars, will help lift it out of recession are boosted.

Determined to win the battle, Greece has undertaken a massive and well-coordinated strategy in order to spur growth of tourism, looking ahead with optimism and showing the way to other countries.

On 31 July the Greek parliament approved a new tourism ministry-sponsored draft law which included clauses aimed at boosting tourism sector entrepreneurship in the context of this strategy.

"The target for 2014 and onwards is to establish long-term growth: for Greek tourism to be strong in crises and constantly evolving," Tourism Minister Olga Kefaloyannis said, addressing the assembly.

She explained that the new bill will achieve this goal through facilitating investment, ensuring the quality of tourism infrastructure and services, as well as introducing new tourism products.—*Xinhua*

MYANMAR TV

(6-8-2013, Tuesday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:20 am
2. Metta Pawana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi

6:40 am
3. Dance of National Races

6:45 am
4. Documentary

7:00 am
5. News/Weather Report

7:25 am
6. People Talk

8:00 am
7. News/International News

8:30 am
8. Documentary (ASEAN)

8:50 am
9. Nine Precepts Administered

9:00 am
10. News/International News

9:30 am
11. Teleplay (SEA Games)

10:00 am
12. News

10:15 am
13. TV Drama Series

11:15 am
14. Tamyethnar Takwetsar

11:40 am
15. Teleplay

12:00 pm
16. News/International News/Weather Report

12:30 pm
17. Myanmar Video

2:20 pm
18. Traditional Boxing

2:30 pm
19. Milestones in Musical World (Mar Mar Aye)

3:00 pm
20. News

3:15 pm
21. India Drama Series

4:35 pm
22. Dances of National Races

4:45 pm
23. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Economic)

5:15 pm
24. SEA Games Go for Gold (Archery)

5:35 pm
25. Documentary

6:00 pm
26. News/Weather Report

6:25 pm
27. TV Drama Series

7:00 pm
28. News

8:00 pm
29. News/International News/Weather Report

8:45 pm
30. Documentary

9:00 pm
31. News
32. Bakery World
33. Sing A Song
34. India Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(6-8-13 09:30 am ~ 7-8-13 09:30 am) MST

* Local News
* History of Mrauk U Pagoda
* World News
* Myanmar Circular Stone Slab
* Local News
* The Art of Making Glaze Ware
* World News
* Sitagu International Buddhist Acedamy (SIBA) Part-3
* Local News
* Come and Visit, no matter the distance (Pathein)
* World News
* Myanmar Sport Special Canoeing
* Local News
* Distinguished Donations of King Dhamma Ceti (Kyaik Pun Pagoda)
* World News
* Inlay Lake and Its Challenges
* Local News
* Shwe Bo Township bearing five names
* World News
* Products of Myanmar "Velvet Slipper"
* Local News
* Shot & Logs "Ye Pyae"
* World News
* To The Blue Ridge Mountains of Rhododendnons
* Local News
* Myanmar Traditional Wicker Bali (Chinlone)
* World News
* Sweet Delicacy of Pathein
* Local News
* Journey To Unimaginable Spots (Episode-2)
* World News
* A Tea Business : Parkwan

Juan Martin Del Potro beats John Isner to win Washington title

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug—Juan Martin del Potro showed he deserves to be among the favourites to win the US Open by rallying to beat John Isner in Sunday's final of the Washington Open.

The 24-year-old top seed from Argentina shook off a sluggish start to beat the US eighth seed 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 for his third title in six years at the $1.76 million ATP and WTA hardcourt event, a tuneup for the year's final Grand Slam event beginning in New York in three weeks.

"I would have to be a favourite," del Potro said. "I'm playing well. To win tournaments and beat these guys, you have to be fit and in good condition."

"But I have a few more guys playing better than me, and they have been favourites forever."

World number one Novak Djokovic, defending champion Andy Murray, five-time US Open winner Roger Federer and 2010 US Open champion Rafael Nadal were del Potro's picks as the players to beat at Flushing Meadows.

"I would put him the smallest hair behind Djokovic and Murray," Isner said of del Potro. "It would just be those guys right now. He would be third favourite."

In his first event since an epic five-set loss to Djokovic in the longest semi-final in Wimbledon history, del Potro showed his left knee was fine after an injury at Wimbledon.

"Honestly, I'm surprised to win this tournament after a month without competition," del Potro said. "To win my first tournament on hardcourt, it means a lot. It gives me confidence to keep going and get closer to the top guys."

Del Potro stretched his Washington win streak to 14 matches by adding to the titles he won in the US capital in 2008 and 2009. The last time he won in Washington he went on to win the US Open, the only Grand Slam title since the 2005 Australian Open not taken by Federer, Nadal, Djokovic or Murray.

"I'm so glad to win again here," del Potro said. "It felt unbelievable."

Seventh-ranked del Potro won his 15th career ATP title, his second of the year after Rotterdam in February, and improved to 4-0 all-time against Isner, the ATP season aces leader, despite not getting to sleep until 3 am after a rain-interrupted semi-final.

"It was a little frustrating to me to finish so late last night. I started really low in the match," del Potro said.

"I go almost out of the court to take the ball, but I started to return well in the second set. I found a really quick break in the second set and that helped keep me fighting, and in the third set I played my best tennis of the tournament.

"I hit some unbelievable forehands. I played really well from the baseline."

PTI

Juan Martin del Potro

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The New Light of Myanmar

Tuesday, 6 August, 2013

Organizational set-up of enterprises depends on cost-to-income ratio to ensure a healthy financial measure: Deputy NPED Minister

Deputy Minister U Htin Aung answering queries.
MNA

Deputy Minister Dr Daw Khin San Yi responses to questions.
MNA

Daw Za Talang of Thantlang Constituency raising queries.—MNA

U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency questioning.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug — In his response to the question raised by Daw Za Talang of Thantlang Constituency on behalf of Daw Nan Say-awa of Hpa-an Constituency at today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Welfare U Htin Aung said that setting of minimum wage rate that will depend on regions concerned and types of works was being undertaken and it would be made known to the public if there is no objection on it.

Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Daw Khin San Yi replied the questions raised by U Pe Than of Myebon Constituency that organizational set-up of enterprises under the ministries depended on cost-to-income ratio to ensure a healthy financial measure. But, employment of more staff at the enterprises was allowed, if necessary, in accord with their production cost and budget balance.

"Today's government organizations are facing difficulties while implementing the tasks as they are not fully staffed. Officers are always busy with series of meetings and other duties. Security guards and general workers are not operational staff. The middle level of six or seven operational staff are not enough to run the organization. So I raised the question. I am satisfied with the answer of the deputy minister who vowed to adjust the organizational set-up, if necessary," said U Pe Than in an interview with him.

At the today's session, the bill committee read out its findings on the "Association Bill".

The 19th-day session will be held on 7 August.

MNA

Plan to take deterrent action against trafficking of narcotic drugs in Tamu and Kalay regions

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug— The 18th day seventh regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw was held today under 15 agendas.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced the list of Hluttaw representatives to be assigned duty at the Bill Committee and the Public Accounts Committee, the chairmen, secretaries and members of the affairs committees.

The Hluttaw constituted 17 committees namely Workers Rights Protection Committee, International Parliament Friendship and Cooperation Committee, National Planning and Development Projects Committee, Minerals and Natural Resources Committee, Education, Health and Culture Committee, Citizens Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee, Relief and Victims Care Committee, Investment and Trade Committee, Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Committee, National Races Affairs Committee, Women and Child Affairs Committee, International Relations Committee, Peace-Making and Conflict Releasing Committee, People's Complaints Committee, NGOs and INGOs Committee, Farmers Interest Enhancement Committee and Strategic Studies and Research Committee.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint responses to queries.—MNA

U Thein Win of Sagaing Region Constituency No. 9 raising questions.
MNA

After seeking approval, the Hluttaw Speaker announced revocation of the Finance and Legal Affairs Commission.

The Hluttaw constituted Political, Economic and Legal Affairs Commission with Chairman Defence Services Personnel Representative Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin, Secretary U Myint Thein (retired Director-General of Hluttaw Office) and 16 members.

Commission Chairman Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin remarked, "The commission is to focus on economic and political affairs including the amending the constitution. Members of the new commission are more than that of the Finance and Legal Affairs Committee. The committee is aimed at enhancing the capacity of Hluttaw representatives and Hluttaw Office staff."

The Hluttaw Speaker announced U Nay Win Tun of Shan State Constituency No 9 was added as members to the Australia-Myanmar Parliamentarian Friendship Association.

U Thein Win of Sagaing Region Constituency No 9 asked a question on plan to take deterrent action against trafficking of pseudo-ephedrine in Tamu and Kalay regions, those who

(See page 9)

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint attends Debate on Myanmar's Sociopolitics Value and Democratic Transition

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint addresses debate on Myanmar's Sociopolitics Value and Democratic Transition.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—A debate titled "Myanmar's Sociopolitics Value and Democratic Transition" was held at the auditorium of Amyotha Hluttaw complex, here, this afternoon, with an address by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint. Writer U Kyaw Win explained matters related to the debate.

Then, Amyotha Hluttaw Representatives Dr Myint Kyi from Yangon Region Constituency No (8), U Saw Ohn from Mon State Constituency No (9), Professor Dr Mya Oo from Bago Region Constituency No (9), U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No (12), U Zaw Naing Oo of Mon State Constituency No (12), Dr Khin Shwe from Yangon Region Constituency No (9) and Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency No (1) raised questions and participated in the discussions.—*MNA*

State of the Sea

Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) mph.—*NLM*