

Myanmar will assume 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship by ensuring centrality of ASEAN; obtaining ASEAN consensus; representing ASEAN in strengthening, promoting closer relations with external partners

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein sent a message of felicitations on the occasion of the 46th Anniversary of the founding of ASEAN. The full text of the message is as follows:-

Esteemed National brethren of Myanmar,

On the auspicious occasion of the 46th Anniversary of the founding of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), I would like to extend the warm greetings to the people of Myanmar and the people of ASEAN and wish ASEAN all the success in building One vision, One identity, One community.

The political, economic and social situation in the South East Asian region when ASEAN was established in 1967 by the adoption of the Bangkok Declaration was very much different from those of the present time. We all have witnessed the success of the ASEAN as our region becomes the center of attention and the people of ASEAN have enjoyed all-round development. We can see the ten ASEAN Member States in unity have borne fruitful results based on the efforts of an individual state.

Today, the world has been facing the consequences of globalization such as extreme modernization, economic interdependence and unprecedented advance in information technology. No single country can overcome these challenges alone but only collectively. As a regional organization, ASEAN has spared no efforts in maintaining peace and friendship in the region, gaining economic competitiveness and narrowing the development gaps among themselves.

Esteemed National brethren of Myanmar,

We are very encouraged of the successful

implementation of the Blue Prints of the three pillars of the 2015 ASEAN Community, namely the ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).

We commend the achievements of the ASEAN Political and Security Community building, including international recognition of the South East Asia Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC); the progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD); the establishment of ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR); and the cooperation in the non-traditional security matters.

In the ASEAN Economic Community building, the promotion of the economic and trade relations with our Dialogue Partners, which are leading countries of the international economy, have benefitted the ASEAN member states. The increase in intra-ASEAN trade, the establishment of ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) within the region and with the Dialogue Partners, the realization of the Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) and the Public Private Partnership (PPP) in economic sector are contributing to the Economic Community building.

The noble aim of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community is building a people-centered community in a caring and sharing society. It is inclusive, harmonious and enhancing the well-being, livelihood, and welfare

of the peoples. The efforts to achieve equal status of education, health and living standards of children, youths, women and men in ASEAN member states by fairly distributing the outcome of the ASEAN Community are underway.

Accordingly, after 46 years of its existence, ASEAN has been recognized as a rule-based inter governmental organization with legal personality since the adoption of the ASEAN Charter and the successful regional organization in political, economic and social sectors as well. It has been proven by increasing numbers of the Ambassadors accredited to the ASEAN.

Esteemed National brethren of Myanmar,

Myanmar will take the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014 for the first time since she has joined the organization 16 years ago. We will be taking a leadership role in gaining the momentum of ASEAN achievements; in fulfilling the 2015 ASEAN Community targets; and in laying down the ASEAN Vision beyond 2015.

The political, economic and social reforms in Myanmar have given her more opportunity in strengthening the integration with the member states of ASEAN in the ASEAN Community. The people-centered democracy in Myanmar is in line with the ASEAN Charter. It has facilitated the economic development of the country and accordingly helped the increase of social

(See page 9)

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife attend monsoon tree-planting ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug—Second monsoon tree-planting ceremony of the Commander-in-Chief's Office (Army, Navy and Air) was held near Yezin Damin Zeyathiri Township here this morning.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla planted teak saplings.

After that, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe, the Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife, senior military officers from the Commander-in-Chief's

Office and their wives and those present planted saplings at designated places. The Senior General and party looked round the tree planting there.

A total of 5040 teak saplings were planted at today's ceremony, and 5000 Seintalone mango saplings were grown at the first monsoon tree-planting ceremony. As part of environmental conservation, monsoon tree-planting ceremonies were held near Yezin Dam since 2011. Till date, a total of 45,730 saplings have been grown there.

It was also attended by the Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander, trainee officers from the National Defence College and officers from the Commander-in-Chief's Office and their families.

Myawady



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla view servicemen who participated in monsoon tree growing ceremony.—MNA

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Inlay Lake under conservation with greening tasks

NYAUNGSHWE, 7 Aug—As part of Inlay Lake conservation mass activity, a tree growing ceremony was held on the hillock near Layhsutaik Pagoda in North Zaypa Village in Mongthauk Village-tract of

Nyaungshwe Township on 29 July morning.

It was attended by Assistant Director U Kyin Tun of Inlay Lake Greening Project, Staff Officer U Tin Maung Win of Township Forest Department, Deputy

Head of Township General Administration Department U Soe Tint, departmental staff, members of social organizations, hotel staff and local people totalling 430.

They planted 2025 saplings of various species including teak, eucalyptus and others.

In 2013-2014 fiscal year, Nyaungshwe Township plans to distribute and grow 14000 trees, 4000 Seintalon mango species and 90000 saplings under the arrangement of the Shan State government.

Kyemon-Nay Myo Thurein (Nyaungshwe)

CRIME

Illegal electricity supplier taken action

YANGON, 7 Aug—Action was taken against the person who illegally supplied electricity to other houses in Thingangyun Township on 27 July morning.

Acting on a tip-off, Township Manager U Aung Naing of Thingangyun Township Electricity Supply Board together with witnesses searched the

house of Naing Lin Aung (a) Tun Lon Shein on Panyaik Street in Ward 9A of the township.

They checked YE 31163 electric meter of the house and found illegal supply of electricity to other houses taking charges from users. He opened a file of lawsuit against the offender at Thuwunna Police Station.

Kyemon-040

Narcotic drugs seized in Mawlu

MAWLU, 7 Aug—A squad led by SIP Aung Aung Than together with witnesses U Than Gyoung and U Sai Wunna raided the house of Myint Htoo at 8.30 pm on 3 August in Sinkho Village of Punhon Village-tract in Indaw Township.

They saw house owner Myint Htoo together with Win Naing Oo, Myo Win and Kalar. While searching them, the team arrested Win Naing but the remaining Myo Win and Kalar escaped.

In searching the house, the police seized one CDMA phone, K 47000, one bag, one bottle containing white powder believed to be heroin weighing 5.1 grams in the fencing, 1.02 grams of suspected heroin totalling 6.12 grams.

Mawlu Police Station opened files of lawsuit against Myint Htoo, 43 of Sinkho Village and Win Naing Oo, 27 of Tamainglon Village in Bhamo Township.

Kyemon-Ni Toe (Mawlu)

Fallen power line electrocutes woman

THANATPIN, 7 Aug—A fallen power line electrocuted a person who was dead in the incident in Moekhainglay Village of Thanatpin Township at 9.30 pm on 28 July.

On that day, Daw Ohn Kyi of Moekhainglay Village was together with daughter Ma Cherry Thein Hsaung at her home. At that time, Daw Ohn Kyi saw her pig suffering from electrocution in fallen power line. She removed the power line with her hand. So he was dead in electrocution.—*Kyemon-Ko Ye Htut (Minywa)*

AGRICULTURE

KhinU farmers happy with rainwater



KHINU, 7 Aug—KhinU Township of Sagaing Region is mainly relying on the rainwater in agriculture tasks though irrigated water is being supplied from Kaboe and Kindat diversion weirs.

In July this year, the township got only three inches of rainfall. At 4 am on 4 August, there rained

three inches of rainfall in KhinU and its surrounding areas. Hence, the low-lying areas in the urban wards and some compounds were inundated.

Thanks to irrigated water from Kindat diversion weir, canal of Mahananda Lake and Kaboe diversion weir and scattered heavy

rains, the local farmers have completed cultivation of paddy by about 80 per cent.

At present, the local farmers are happy for continuous rains and supply of irrigated water of the Irrigation Department and now they are engaged in farming works daily.

Kyemon-Yaungni Tin Win

HRD

Over 260 educational staff appointed in Yamethin Township

YAMETHIN, 7 Aug—No. 2 Basic Education Department under the Ministry of Education appointed over 260 education staff at Basic Education High, Middle and Primary Schools in Yamethin Township of Mandalay Region for 2013-2014 academic year.

The list of fresher educational staff was

posted at the Yamethin Township Education Office on 2 August.

A total of 155 candidates were appointed as primary assistant teachers, 12 lower division clerks, 45 general workers, six laboratory technicians (science lab attendants, sanitation workers, school/office guards, operator, peons and gardeners),

totalling 267 at the basic education schools in the township.

As Education Department is playing a crucial role in building the new nation, more education funds are allotted to the department for uplifting educational standard with proper ratio of the teachers to the students.

Kyemon-115

Floated firewood penetrates market in rainy season



The rivers which are main arteries of Myanmar namely river Ayeyawady and river Chindwin are raising water levels in the months of Waso and Wagoung.

Especially, the forest and bamboo mangroves located upstream of Chindwin River are in thick foliage. At a time when water level is raising in the river, dried branches and trunks of trees like firewood are floating in the water.

Local people salvage the firewood from the water with the use of boats along the river. The boats that salvage the firewood in Chindwin can be seen

Shwesayway in Budalin Township, around Monywa and Ahlon and Pareinma area of Myaung Township at present. There are at least two persons in boat. One of them is to control the boat and another one is to gather the firewood from the water.

Indeed, they face the challenges of natural disasters. It is because they salvage the firewood when waves and currents are strong in the river. Sometimes, they meet snakes and centipedes which use venom in countering the enemies. In addition, most of the floated firewood are wasted parts of wood and burnt ones.

The floated firewood is marketable among the

people. The firewood on board the boat is equal to one or two volumes of bullock carts. After that, the stockpiles of firewood on the bank of river are sold through bargaining system.

“The floated firewood is sold at K 5000 to K 7500 per cart. It can be used in making jaggery. Depending on the volume of the stockpile, the firewood can fetch K 15000 in maximum,” said a local from Pareinma Village who salvages the floated firewood.

The floated firewood comes from the forests upstream the rivers and creeks when it rains heavily in the rainy season.

Kyemon-Htan Pee Lyan

WORLD

Obama 'disappointed' with Russia, calls embassy threat significant

BURBANK, (California), 7 Aug — US President Barack Obama confirmed on Tuesday that he would go to Russia this fall for a G20 summit but said he was "disappointed" that Russia granted temporary asylum to former US spy agency contractor Edward Snowden.

Speaking on NBC's "The Tonight Show" with host Jay Leno, Obama said Moscow sometimes slipped into a Cold War mentality, despite being cooperative with the United States on some issues, including counterterrorism efforts in the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombing.

Obama was not asked and did not mention whether he would attend a separate meeting with Russian

President Vladimir Putin during his Russian trip. That meeting was put in question after Moscow rejected US pleas and granted Snowden a year's asylum. The White House has said it is evaluating whether a one-on-one with Putin makes sense.

Washington wants Snowden, who was in hiding in Hong Kong before flying to Moscow in June, to be sent home to face criminal charges including espionage for disclosing secret American Internet and telephone surveillance programmes. "There have been times where they slip back into Cold War thinking and a Cold War mentality," Obama said of Russia.

"What I say to President Putin is, that's the past and ... we've got to

think about the future. And there's no reason why we shouldn't be able to cooperate more effectively than we do." During the interview, Obama also said the recent threat that caused the United States to close its embassies throughout the Middle East was significant.

"It's significant enough that we're taking every precaution," Obama said.

"It's a reminder that for all the progress we've made ... this radical, violent extremism is still out there," Obama said. "We've got to stay on top of it."

The US State Department issued a worldwide travel alert on Friday warning Americans that al-Qaeda may be planning attacks in August, particularly in the Middle East



US President Barack Obama sits next to Jay Leno during the taping of "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" comedy show at the NBC Studios in Burbank, California, on 6 Aug, 2013. — REUTERS

and North Africa. It initially announced the embassy closures would be only for Sunday, then extended the closures of some by a week. Asked whether the controversial surveillance programmes helped lead to the intelligence that sparked the warnings, Obama said the programmes were critical to counterterrorism work.

But he said more needed to be done to assure Americans they were not being spied on themselves. "We don't have a domestic spying programme," he said. "What we do have are some mechanisms where we can track a phone number or an email address that we know is connected to some sort of terrorist threat."—Reuters

11 children killed, 24 injured as blast hits Karachi, Pakistan



Rescuers work beside a damaged vehicle at the blast site in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi, on 7 Aug, 2013. At least 11 children were killed and 24 others injured when a blast hit a football ground in Karachi Wednesday morning, reported local Urdu TV channel Geo.—XINHUA

ISLAMABAD, 7 Aug — At least 11 children were killed and 24 others injured when a blast hit a football ground in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi early Wednesday morning, reported local Urdu TV channel Geo.

According to the local media reports, the blast took place at about 2:40 a.m. local time when a bomb fixed on a motorbike went off at a football ground in the city's southern Lyari area.

People were leaving the play ground after a football match between two local teams of children when the blast occurred, said local media.

Most of the killed and wounded were children aged between 12 and 14, said the reports.

Javed Nagori, a member of the Sindh provincial

assembly, who was the chief guest at the match, was also injured in the blast.

Police and rescue team arrived at the scene shortly after the blast was reported.

All the bodies and injured people have been shifted to a nearby hospital.

Hospital sources said that some of the injured were in critical condition.

Bomb disposal squad officers said that an estimated five kg of explosives was used in the bomb which was detonated through a remote-controlled device.

No group has claimed responsibility for the blast.

Wednesday is the second last day of Ramadan in Pakistan, the holy month of Muslims, during which local people usually stay up very late until early morning time.

Xinhua

Gov't set to provide funds to block toxic water at Fukushima plant

TOKYO, 7 Aug — The government is planning to provide state funds to assist Tokyo Electric Power Co's efforts to prevent a further increase in radioactive water at its crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant by freezing the soil around the reactor buildings, government sources said on Wednesday.

The Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry will request the costs in the fiscal 2014 budget. If the re-

quest is approved, it will be the first government funding to help the plant operator tackle the problem of groundwater seeping to mix with contaminated water in the reactor buildings, the sources said.

The ministry believes state financial support is necessary because the method of freezing soil poses technical challenges.

About 400 tons of groundwater seep into the reactor buildings every day.

The costs to build shielding walls in the ground by freezing the soil are estimated to reach tens of billions of yen.

The government has so far allocated taxpayers' money for research and development related to reactor decommissioning at the Fukushima plant, which suffered meltdowns in the aftermath of a massive earthquake and tsunami in March 2011.

Kyodo News

At least 10 dead, 60 injured in Argentine building explosion

BUENOS AIRES, 7 Aug — A strong explosion shook a building in north-eastern Argentina on Tuesday morning, killing at least 10 people and injuring more than 60 others, local authorities confirmed.

The accident occurred at 9:30 am local time (1230 GMT), when gas exploded and triggered a fire in a ten-floor building in Rosario city, 300 km northwest of Buenos Aires. Preliminary reports said the explosion was registered at the building's central heating system and probably caused by a gas leak.

"We were told that electric works were being carried out and that the cauldron was off," said a resident of the building, located in 2000 Salta Street.

"It was like an earthquake," local resident Florencia Papucci told Xinhua.

Nearby residents have been evacuated to safe places, according to local authorities.

Some residents are still trapped inside the building. Mayor Monica Fein was quoted by the *Nation* daily as saying that 26 ambulances "are working" at the site. Authorities recommended the evacuation of nearby buildings.

Fire continued to be battled by firefighters and it's unknown how many people were inside the building and the area when the explosion occurred, according to the daily.

The Litoral Gas Company, which supplies gas to the building, has cut off gas flow to much of Rosario for safe consideration.

Antonio Bonfatti, governor of Santa Fe Province where Rosario is located, visited the area and described the scene around the



Firemen work at the site of a blast at a building in the city of Rosario, Province of Santa Fe, about 300 km near Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 6 Aug, 2013.—XINHUA

tragic explosion in downtown Rosario as "horrific."

"There is no precedent for this kind of explosion," he said, clearly moved by the events that took place in the heart of the Santa Fe Province city.

Other government officials had arrived at the

Indian Parliament reaffirms pledge for WMD-free society

NEW DELHI, 7 Aug — The Indian Parliament reaffirmed on Tuesday its pledge to establish a society free from weapons of mass destruction on the occasion of 68th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

The members of Indian Parliament's Lok Sabha also expressed solidarity with those who lost their lives in the bombing.

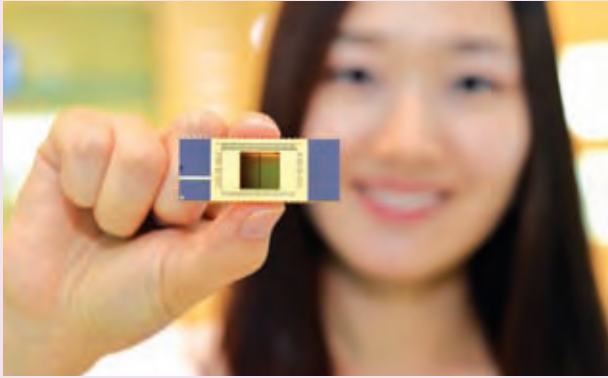
Referring to the attack on Japan 68 years ago, Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar said, "Sixty-eight years ago, atom bombs decimated the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 6th and 9th August, 1945, respectively. Thousands of innocent citizens lost their lives and generations of those who survived continue to suffer from the horrific effects of radiation."

"On this occasion, let us reaffirm our pledge to establish a society free from weapons of mass destruction. The House extends its wholehearted support to all initiatives being taken to eliminate nuclear weapons and ensure global peace," she added.—Kyodo News

she added.—Kyodo News

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Samsung starts to mass produce 3D vertical NAND flash chips



SEOUL, 7 Aug — Samsung Electronics, the world's largest memory chip maker, said on Tuesday that it has begun mass producing the world's first three-dimensional (3D) vertical NAND (V-NAND) flash memory chips. The 3D V-NAND offers the industry's largest 128 gigabit (Gb) density in a single chip, utilizing Samsung's vertical cell structure that links the 3D cell array, the company said in a statement. It can provide over twice the scaling of 20 nanometer-class planar NAND flash.

For the past 40 years, conventional flash memory has been based on planar structures. As manufacturing process technology has proceeded to the 10 nm-class and beyond, concerns for a scaling limit arose due to the cell-to-cell interfer-

ence that causes a trade-off in the reliability of NAND flash products. Samsung's new technology successfully stacks planar cell layers vertically, solving technical challenges. The vertical interconnect process technology can stack as many as 24 cell layers vertically, using special etching technology that connects the layers electronically by punching holes from the highest layer to the bottom.

"The new 3D V-NAND flash technology is the result of our employees' years of efforts to push beyond conventional ways of thinking and pursue much more innovative approaches in overcoming limitations in the design of memory semiconductor technology," said Choi Jeong-Hyuk, Samsung's senior vice president.—Xinhua

IBM forms alliance with Google, Nvidia to boost chips unit

NEW YORK, 7 Aug — Technology services provider IBM is teaming up with Google and a handful of other tech companies to

the chips for cloud data centres. The hardware and software, previously proprietary to IBM, will be available to open development and it



The IBM logo is seen outside the company's offices in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv on 24 Oct, 2011. — REUTERS

license IBM's Power chip technology, in an effort to attract more users.

Under the alliance called OpenPower Consortium, IBM and Google — along with Israel's chip designer Mellanox Technologies, US chip-maker Nvidia Corp and Taiwan-based server supplier Tyan Computer Corp — will build server, networking and storage technology based on

will be licensable to others, IBM said in a statement.

The alliance is open to any company that wants to participate and innovate on the platform, IBM said. IBM competes with Intel Corp and ARM Holdings' chips, which dominate the market. Revenue from IBM Power Systems was down 25 percent in the second quarter compared with the previous year.—Reuters

Signs of new climate 'normal' apparent in hot 2012

WASHINGTON, 7 Aug — Last year was one of the 10 hottest on record, with sea levels at record highs, Arctic ice at historic lows and extreme weather in various corners of the globe signaling a "new normal," scientists said on Tuesday in the 2012 State of the Climate report.

Meant to be a guide for policymakers, the report did not attribute the changes in climate to any one factor, but made note of continued increases in heat-trapping greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. "Our planet as a whole is becoming a warmer place," said Kathryn Sullivan, acting administrator of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The report was edited by NOAA scientists and drew contributions from 384 scientists from 52 countries.

The report's data indicate "new normal" conditions that can inform planning decisions, instead of relying on models that "count on the future being statisti-

cally a lot like the past," Sullivan said at a news briefing. Global surface temperatures — land and water — were the eighth or ninth warmest, depending on which data set was used, since recordkeeping began in the late 1800s, the report found.

However, in the decade leading up to 2012, global temperatures actually declined by .09 degree F (.05 degree C), according to Thomas Karl, director of NOAA's National Climatic Data Center. Karl said the 50-year trend indicates global temperatures have consistently increased about .27 degree F (.15 degree C) per decade. The recent decrease in temperatures has been noted by climate change skeptics who question the impact of human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels that emit carbon dioxide, on climate.

However, other changes detailed in the report paint a more complex picture:

— Sea levels reached

a record high, after a sharp decrease in 2011 possibly linked to the Pacific Ocean phenomenon La Nina, which can have a cooling effect;

— Arctic sea ice shrank to its smallest summer minimum since satellite records began 34 years ago, while Antarctic sea ice reached a record high;

— More than 97 per-

age;

— Average sea surface temperatures rose, but not much, making 2012 among the 11th warmest years on record;

— Ocean heat was near record high levels in the upper half-mile of the water, and temperatures also increased in the deep ocean.

The State of the Climate report is being pub-



Sea ice of Greenland is pictured as captured by the MODIS instrument on NASA's Aqua satellite in this 16 Oct, 2012 handout photo. — REUTERS

cent of the ice sheet covering Greenland melted at least a bit in the summer of 2012, four times greater than the 1981-2010 aver-

lished as a supplement to the August Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society and is available online.—Reuters

Disney projects up to \$190 million 'Lone Ranger' loss



The signage at the main gate of The Walt Disney Co is pictured in Burbank, California.

REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug — Walt Disney Co expects to lose between \$160 million and \$190 million on its expensive summer movie bomb "The Lone Ranger," the media giant said on Tuesday as it reported a small gain in quarterly profit that beat Wall Street forecasts. The loss for "The Lone Ranger," a Western starring Johnny Depp, will be recorded for the quarter that ends in September, Chief Financial Officer Jay Rasulo said on a conference call with analysts. Disney shares dropped 1.9 percent in after-hours trading to \$65.79 from a \$67.05 close on the New York Stock Exchange.

"Lone Ranger" opened on July 3 with a dismal \$29 million in US and Canadian ticket sales over its first weekend. "There has been a lot said, I know, about the

risk of basically high cost, tent pole films," Disney CEO Bob Iger said, "and we certainly can attest to that given what happened with Lone Ranger." "We still think the tentpole strategy is a good strategy," he said. "That one way to rise above the din and the competition is with a big film, not just big budget, but big story, big cast, big marketing behind it."

For the quarter that ended in June, operating income at Disney's film studio declined 36 percent as hit film "Iron Man 3" failed to match the spectacular success of last year's "The Avengers." Overall, net income for the quarter rose 1 percent to \$1.85 billion. Adjusted earnings-per-share reached \$1.03, beating the \$1.01 average forecast from analysts polled by Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Reuters

Microsoft slashes price of flagship tablet by 100 dollars for flat sales

BEIJING, 7 Aug — Microsoft on Sunday announced that it will cut the price of the 64GB Surface Pro tablet from 899 US dollars to 799, after dropping the price of the Surface RT tablet to 350 a few weeks ago from 499 as Microsoft's tablets did not sell well. The 64GB tablet is currently available for 799 dollars, either directly from Microsoft or several big box retailers.

Microsoft's family of Surface tablets — the Surface RT and Surface Pro — were supposed to challenge Apple's iPad by providing a blend between tablet and traditional computers. However, sales numbers and recent price drops on the tablet indicate that Microsoft's strategy hasn't been as successful as it had hoped. The Surface RT's price drop was widely interpreted as evidence of the failure in the market for Mi-

crosoft. To cover the losses, Microsoft reported a 900 million dollar write-down in its most recent quarterly report, and CEO Steve Ballmer later admitted the company overestimated Surface RT demand.

Analysts argue that the price cut arrives in time to take advantage of the back-to-school rush, which is traditionally a heavy period for device sales. It could also persuade on-the-fence business users to finally take the plunge, and might also indicate that an updated Surface Pro is imminent. The Windows 8, the operation system for Microsoft's tablets, was not well-received by users and that also impacted the sales of the tablets, which were heavily marketed by Microsoft as two of the halo Windows 8 devices in television and billboard advertisements.—Xinhua



LOCAL NEWS

COMMUNICATIONS

First batch of GSM SIM cards sold in Mawlu



MAWLU, 7 Aug—The first batch of 210 GSM SIM cards were sold to the local people in Mawlu of Indaw Township on 3 August.

The low-cost SIM cards were sold by lots in lottery-style sale in Dekhinarama Phayagyi monastery in Mawlu village in Indaw Township in Katha District in Sagaing Region.

A total of 66 cards were distributed to departmental personnel in Mawlu and

remaining 134 cards were sold to the public.

Township Deputy Administrator U Kyaw Swa Win, Mawlu village-tract administrator U Win Sein and officials supervised the sale of Sim cards.

SIM cards were sold to the departmental personnel by lots as well.

There are 1900 applications for the low-cost SIM cards in the region.

MMAL-Ni Toe (Mawlu)

GSM SIM cards presented to education staff in Pyinmana



PYINMANA, 7 Aug—GSM SIM cards were presented to education staff in Seikphutaung school in Pyinmana on 5 August.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than gave away GSM SIM cards to the teachers and staff of the school.

He called on the teachers to report education,

health and social difficulties and promised to fulfill the needs of the teachers as per directives of the Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council.

SIM cards were presented to 56 teachers from 44 schools in hilly region.

More SIM cards would continue to be presented to education staff.

MMAL-Zaw Myo Naing

Percussion lock firearms seized in forest reserve



KANBALU, 7 Aug—Percussion lock firearms were seized in a forest reserve in Sagaing Region on 28 July.

A combined team formed with foresters, members of Myanmar Police Force and firefighters seized 15 guns in Chatthin forest reserve on 28 July when they patrolled around the reserve. The guns were hidden under leaves in Inpetletaye area of the forest reserve. The owner of the guns is still unknown.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Kalay starts monsoon paddy plantations

KALAY, 7 Aug—Farmers in Kalay Township are preparing to plant monsoon paddy as farmlands have been well fed by heavy rain since earlier May.

They prepared for monsoon paddy in earlier July and started planting monsoon paddy in later July.

The farmers suffered

loss in the last year due to low paddy price in Kalay Township but have pinned high hopes on monsoon paddy this year.

Kalay is a region that becomes major rice supplier for oil fields in Kalay and Chindwin and Chin State.

MMAL-Shin Nay Min

NATURAL DISASTER

Wards, villages in Kyaunggon affected by flood

KYAUNGKON, 7 Aug—Downtown wards and villages in Kyaunggon in Patheingyi District in Ayeeyawady Region were deluged with flood after several days of rainfall in later July.

The water level rose

by more than one foot on 29 July as Dhaka River swelled and rain poured.

Nos (1), (2) and (3) wards and villages in Myoma market village-tract were inundated after the last of July.

MMAL-091



HRD

Educative talk on census-taking organized

BUTHITAUNG, 7 Aug—Buthitaung Township General Administration Department, Immigration and National Registration Department, and Information and Public Relations Department organized an educative talk on census-taking at the office of Township General Administration Department in the township of Rakhine

State on 4 August.

Township Administrator U Than Shwe, Head of Township Immigration and National Registration Department U Khin Maung Myint and Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Yu Yu Nwe gave educative talks on census-taking.

MMAL-Township IPRD

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug—Paddy husks from rice mills in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area are sold to brick factories, paddy dryers and restaurants that use paddy husk in stoves or power-generating on a manageable scale in operating their works by Taungnyo road which is located west of Nay Pyi Taw.

The current price of one truck of husks is K 10000.

The rice mills in Nay Pyi Taw are milling summer paddy.

MMAL-Karan Kha



Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw being welcomed by Swiss Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Christoph Burgener at the reception to mark the National Day of the Switzerland at Sedona Hotel on 6 August.—MNA

CONSTRUCTION

Wabo Station Hospital expected to open soon



SITTWAY, 7 Aug—Megawady Construction is implementing the construction of 16-bed station hospital in Wabo village in Sittway Township with the state budget of K 390 million. Chairman of Township Healthcare Facilities Construction Committee Sittway Township Administrator U Tin Myint and committee members visited the construction site on 3 August to inspect the progress in construction of the building.

The government allotted K 20 million in 2009-2010 fiscal year, K 55.814 million in 2010-2011 fiscal year, K 150 million in 2011-2012

fiscal year and K 170 million in 2012-2013 fiscal year for the construction of the hospital.

The main building and staff quarters for physicians have been completed 100 percent. The staff quarters for nurses have been completed 80 percent and the construction has been delayed by budget deficiency. Some finishing touches need to be put to the building.

The hospital is expected to open soon and will provide healthcare services to the people in Wabo village and surrounding villages.

MMAL-Lay Wadi Tun Saw Khaing

Husks fetches high price



NATIONAL

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker attends Debate on AFPFL and Panglong Conference



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint delivering address at Debate on AFPFL and Panglong Conference.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— and Panglong Conference Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint delivered an address at the Debate on AFPFL morning.

Writer Dr Myint Thein explained matters related to the debate. Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Strategic Studies

and Research Committee Col Maung Maung Htoo spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Navy helps foreign vessel at sea

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— from Malaysia Port to GLADYS (JAKARTA) Bangladesh Port on cargo ship from BBN 26 July, was anchored at (Bintika Bangunusa) about 13 miles southwest of Minpyin Beach in

Kyaukpyu Township in Myanmar waters due to its engine problems on 26 July. As Tatmadaw (Navy)

provided necessary assistance and helped repair the vessel's generators, it gained recovery yesterday evening.

Myanma naval vessels are still watching to give a helping hand to it.

Myawady

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Press Release Team

Notification No (14/2013)

7th August, 2013

1st Waxing of Wagaung, 1375 ME

Press release on the matter related to enactment of Region/State Hluttaw Bill 2013

1. Out of 22 laws promulgated by the State Peace and Development Council in order to implement the necessary matters before the Constitution came into effect, Region/State Hluttaw Law was enacted under the State Peace and Development Council Law No (14/2010) dated 21-10-2010.
2. Discussions were held and approval sought for abolishing the law and promulgating a new law at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. Then, the **Region/State Hluttaw Bill 2013** was sent to the President to be able to sign it on 13-2-2013. The President sent back the bill, putting remarks on nine points to be amended to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 22-2-2013 and the remarks were shown in detail in the third column of the table in the third paragraph. The President's remarks were sent to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with the aim of ensuring the sustainable use of the law in accord with the Constitution and other existing laws after holding discussions with the Attorney-General of the Union, legal experts and scholars on the subjects to be able to approve and sign the bill.
3. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw rejected all remarks after discussions on the nine remarks sent by the President and approved the bill as before and sent back it to the President to be able to sign and enact as a law. Regarding the bill, initial approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the remarks of the President and final approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are shown against each as follows:-

Sr	Initial approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw	President's remark	Final approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
1	2	3	4
(a)	2 (h) Region (or) State level organization means Region (or) State government, Region (or) State High Court and Region	As sub-section (h) of Section (2) says that Region (or) State level organization means Region (or) State government,	It was approved as before.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office

(Notification No. 53/2013)

1st Waxing of Wagaung, 1375 ME

(7th August, 2013)

Appointment of Presidential
Advisors

The following persons have been appointed as members of the Presidential Advisory Teams formed under the Notification No. 1/2011 dated 19-4-2011 and assigned duties shown against each.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Dr Aung Tun Thet | Economic Advisory Team |
| (b) Dr Zaw Oo | Economic Advisory Team |
| (c) U Nyan Naing Win | Legal Advisory Team |

By order,

Zaw Than Thin

Secretary

Union Government

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office

(Notification No. 52/2013)

1st Waxing of Wagaung, 1375 ME

(7th August, 2013)

Resignation allowed

U Ye Tint, member of Political Advisory Team of Presidential Advisory Teams formed under the Notification No. 1/2011 dated 19-4-2011, has been permitted to retire from his post.

By order,

Zaw Than Thin

Secretary

Union Government

	(or) State auditor-general and committee, commission and group formed by Region (or) State Hluttaw.	Region (or) State High Court and Region (or) State auditor-general and committee, commission and group formed by Region (or) State Hluttaw, it is inappropriate to be included in the law as there is no provision that says committee and group formed by Region (or) State Hluttaw are Region (or) State level organizations in the Constitution.	
(b)	2 (k) Hluttaw Representative Office means an office being kept open at respective constituencies to be able to perform functions and duties of Hluttaw representatives.	Sub-section (k) of Section (2) states the meaning of Hluttaw Representative Office and Section 81 allows to set up the offices. It is inappropriate to be included in the law as opening of Hluttaw representative offices can create unwanted situations like discriminations which are contrary to democratic practices, need of money for expenses including appointments of office staff, occurrence of disputes brought about by opening of such offices as Hluttaw representatives are allowed to do party politics. Hluttaw offices of Region and State are able to carry out the tasks on behalf of the representatives.	It was approved as before.

(See page 7)

NATIONAL

Press release on the matter related to enactment of Region/State Hluttaw Bill 2013

Sr	Initial approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw	President's remark	Final approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
1	2	3	4
(c)	9(e). Holding coordination with respective authoritative bodies or authorities concerned for development of the constituency and the State without contrary to the Constitution.	Regarding the matter of holding coordination with respective authoritative bodies for development of the constituency and the State stated in sub-section (e) of Section 8, the right to coordinate matters stated in the provision of sub-section (a) of Section 11 is only for ensuring check and balance in use of power by Hluttaw, Union Government and Supreme Court of the Union. No power vested in each person. If check and balance is necessary, coordination can be made in accord with the Constitution if there arise matters to be coordinated with other organizations while the matter is under implementation by the organizations concerned. So, it is not appropriate to be included in sub-section (e) of Section (9).	It was approved as before.
(d)	10(c). Enquiring, discussion and getting facts related to issues brought to the Hluttaw and undertakings carried out by the region or state level organizations or groups representing the organizations.	Regarding the word "getting facts" expressed in the "enquiring, discussion and getting facts" in the Section 10, Sub-section (d), except the documents and facts prohibited by the constitution and current laws should be added to the paragraph as there are documents and facts which are prohibited for borrowing under the constitution, Hluttaw laws and other current laws.	Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the previous approval.
(e)	12(f). A Hluttaw representative can coordinate with local authority when he has to make arrangement by himself to meet with voters in his constituency and can seek assistance for security from the local authorities.	Section 12, Sub-Section (f) is the special right for a Hluttaw representative regarding to make arrangement for revenue and security. Going to his constituency by a Hluttaw representative can be considered as his friendly relations with the voters through thick and thin in accordance with the democratic practices. A Hluttaw representative has rights for not to be appeared at a court as a witness and not to be arrested. According to the constitution, the relation system between the Hluttaw and administrative bodies can help a representative to ensure its meeting with voters in his constituency. Therefore, the provision should not be included in the bill.	Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the previous approval.
(f)	13. A respective Hluttaw representative can use a yearly fund allocation for respective constituency in conformity with rules and regulations after coordinating with respective local people.	Section 13 has allowed a Hluttaw representative to discuss and to give suggestions to drafting national planning bills proposed by respective Union ministries at Hluttaw meetings regarding to a yearly budget allocation for respective constituency and administrative bodies can only use budget allocations only after the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw. Therefore, Section 13 should not be included in the bill. In Section-23, it is stated that	Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the previous approval.

(g)	23. The Hluttaw in order to present legislation invested in it, national race affairs as well as other matters when necessary shall form the Hluttaw committees with Hluttaw representatives. As necessary measures between one meeting and another arise, the speaker would choose representatives to be included in the Committee and shall seek approval at the nearest meeting.	the Hluttaw in order to present legislation invested in it, national race affairs as well as other matters when necessary shall form the Hluttaw committees with Hluttaw representatives. Under Sub-section (a), Section 167 of the Constitution, the expression "other matters" and "time limited" are not in conformity with provisions of the Constitution as they are not prescribed in it.	The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues to approve it as before.
(h)	24. When it is necessary to observe the remaining matters except of those to be observed by the Hluttaw Committee, the Hluttaw shall form the organizations with Hluttaw representatives and suitable citizens. As necessary measures between one meeting and another arise, the speaker shall form the organizations with Hluttaw representatives and suitable citizens. And the formation is to be presented to the nearest meeting for approval.	In Section-24, it is stated that when it is necessary to observe the remaining matters except of those to be observed by the Hluttaw Committee, the Hluttaw shall form the organizations with Hluttaw representatives and suitable citizens. Under Sub-section (a), Section 167 of the Constitution, as it is stated that the committees and organizations could be formed with the Region or State Hluttaw representatives when it is necessary to present legislation and national race affairs, it should not be prescribed as it is not in conformity with the Constitution.	Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continue to approve it as did before.
(i)	84. Elected Hluttaw representatives represent their constituencies and are reputable persons. So, respective authorized organizations or persons may regard them as reputable persons in drawing regional development plans in their constituencies, fulfilling the desires of people regarding the administrative, social and economic sectors	The addition of Section 84 is the behavioral prescription pertaining to the dignity. The behavioral qualification cannot be assumed. Hluttaw representatives' codes of conducts are prescribed in the Section 11 of the Bill. They would become reputable ones if they abide by these codes of conducts. It is not suitable to enact the qualifications of their dignity as a law. So, that section should not include in the bill.	The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues to approve it as before.

4. Some descriptions in the Bill which was sent back for the President's sign still need to comply with the Constitution, the existing laws and main democratic practices: having no discrimination; sharing use of three branches of the State's sovereignty as much as possible and ensuring the check and balance. That's why, the following message was sent to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 5-8-2013 to see that it can not be signed by the President.

1. The message described in reference No.1 was sent so as to be signed by the President for passing "the 2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill". The nine-point message described in reference No.2 was sent back.
2. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sent back it without amendments.
3. It can be assessed that Bill's some descriptions need to be in accord with the Constitution, the existing laws and main democratic practices: having no discrimination; sharing use of three branches of the State's sovereignty as much as possible and ensuring the check and balance.
4. Thus, the message is sent for taking necessary measures on "the 2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill".

5. Regarding the prescribed laws that need to be in comply with the Constitution, the Section 322 (a) states that "vetting whether the laws promulgated by Legislative Hluttaws or the Self-Administered Division Leading body and Self-Administrated Zone Leading Body are in conformity with the Constitution or not". According to it, the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union is in charge of vetting it.

6. On 6-8-2013, under the Section 106 (c) and Section 98, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has enacted "the 2013 Region or State Hluttaw Law" as Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No.22. The full text of it was described in the State-owned newspapers on 7-8-2013.

7. President's undertakings on the enactment of "the 2013 Region or State Hluttaw Bill" as a law are made public.

A Study on the History of the Shwedagon Pagoda

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 8 August, 2013

Going to SEA Games?
For what?

Myanmar will host SEA Games in coming December in three major cities and one beach. It would profit the country in more ways than one. The biggest sports event in the Southeast Asian would bring in many tourists. The country would be able to reclaim its glory by hosting the major sports event for the first time in decades. Myanmar was denied such an opportunity in the past at least for security concerns.

Only four months to go, almost all sports venues in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay and Ngwehsaung Beach have been completed. Various subcommittees are seemed wrapping up their tasks. The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has prepared 27 hotels in Nay Pyi Taw for accommodation of athletes from ASEAN countries. The Ministry of Culture also invited tenders for spider cameras for use in opening and closing ceremonies.

There arise concerns that the games would rather like washing dirty linen in public following the recent violence between supporters in a Myanmar National League match in Nay Pyi Taw Wunna Theikdhi Stadium, one of the major venues for the SEA Games. Myanmar supporters are known to be twelfth player in football matches and for notorious violent behaviors these years. The international matches in Myanmar were banned for a moment due to violence in a World Cup qualifier.

It is all clear that we have heavily invested in the SEA Games. And we need to make profits from the event. Our country in transition cannot afford a loss as we ever had for many years. The profit may be the economic profits, glory of the nation and even management experiences as we have to host ASEAN Summit next year. We have many infrastructures to develop. But we opted to host the SEA Games and develop sports facilities. So, we need to try to make the most of it.

Concrete jetty handed over
to MPA in Kyaukpyu

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug—A ceremony to hand over a concrete jetty to Myanma Port Authority was held in Kyaukpyu by Daewoo E&P International Ltd on behalf of Shwe Construction on 12 July.

Daewoo built the concrete jetty with the advice and approval of

MPA for the convenience of local populace in Kyaukpyu. The project commenced in the first week of October 2012 and completed in the second week of July 2013. The jetty is 225 ft in length, 12 ft in width and its platform 70 ft in length and 24 ft in width.—NLM

www.27seagames2013.com for
sports information

According to the XXVII SEA Games Organizing Leading Committee, the organizing committee has posted an official website namely www.27seagames2013.com for enabling the international communities and the entire people of the nation to know information about the XXVII SEA Games and competition information in time.

The Shwedagon Pagoda standing magnificently on Singuttara Hill in Yangon is a credit to Myanmar. However, due to limited scientific research on it and its antiquity, its history is still shrouded in legends and uncertainty. Myanmar and Mon chronicles and oral traditions claim that two merchant brothers Taphussa and Bhallika from Ukkalapa of Rammanadesa in Lower Myanmar crossed the ocean, came upon the newly-enlightened Buddha in Majjhimadesa, got his eight hair relics and built the Shwedagon Pagoda with the enshrinement of them on their arrival back at their town. But some modern scholars, with the shoulders shrugged, reject this deeply-ingrained traditional claim on the pretext of the then difficult and forbidding maritime access between India and the eastern coast of the Bay of Bengal. Therefore, if it can be proved that there existed some maritime contacts between the eastern and western coasts of the Bay of Bengal and Ukkalapa town in Lower Myanmar during the life time of the Buddha, this persistent age-long Shwedagon Pagoda tradition should be regarded as possible at the very least and the blame put on the traditionalists by the modern scholars for their acquiescence in this tradition will be dislodged.

To be able to explore the answer to this challenging problem, it is required to examine the materials contained in the tradition. It is found under the scrutiny of this tradition that it is a patch-work of Pali texts and their commentaries and local traditions. The names of Taphussa and Bhallika first appeared in the *Anguttara Nikaya*. The *Vinaya Pitaka* (*Mahavagga Pali*) makes mention of their meeting with the newly-enlightened Buddha on the way between Rajagaha and Ukkala and their establishment in Dvevacika (taking refuge in the Buddha and the Dhamma). Its commentary compiled by Buddhaghosa adds the Buddha's giving his hair relics to them and their enshrinement of them in a shrine on a hill at the gate to their town Asitanjana. It is noticed that the Pali texts and their commentaries do not describe the voyage made by the two merchant

brothers and place Ukkala on the eastern coast of the Bay of Bengal. Only the Shwedagon Pagoda Stone Inscription erected by King Dhammaceti in 1485 A.D started to mention the oceanic voyage of these two brothers in a ship to Majjhimadesa. However, this stone inscription was put up about 1000 years later than Buddhaghosa's time (Buddhaghosa was alive during the 5th Century A.D). Therefore, the validity of this epigraphic record is weaker than Buddhaghosa's work, thereby precipitating traditionalists into lapsing into silence.

However, erudite Ven. Cakkapala, better known as Taung Pauk Sayadaw, came to their rescue by voicing the two claims in his *magnum opus* entitled "*Buddha-sasanikapathaviwun Kyan*". The first one is that the two brothers from Ukkala town of Orissa on the north-western coast of India made a commercial contact with Ukkalapa town in Ramannadesa of Lower Myanmar, bringing the hair relics obtained from the Buddha via their town Ukkala in India, and enshrined them in the Tigumba Ceti. The second is that one or two hundred years before the enlightenment of the Buddha, Mon Daings, the earliest of the three types of Mon immigrants from India, came over to Lower Myanmar and entered the Yangon River and built a town at a confluence of three creeks, which became subsequently known as Ukkalapa. The above claims suggest that there were two Ukkala towns—the original Ukkala in Orissa, India and the later Ukkalapa in Lower Myanmar. The two brothers were probably the descendants of these Indian Mon immigrants. They, bringing the hair relics, went back to Ukkalapa of Myanmar via Ukkala in India which was the nativity of their forefathers. It is also accepted that the original town of Ukkalapa was Trihakumbha, which was already inhabited by Mon-khmers who had reached Lower Myanmar long before the birth of Christ from Yangtzi River Valley in China through Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. With the increasing number of Indian immigrants in it, its name would have changed to Ukkala first and Ukkalapa then, adding a suffix "pa". (Indian immigrants used to

borrow their Indian names but they changed slightly later in Myanmar. For example, "Ravi" changed to "Irravati" and then to Ayeyawady", "Orissa" to "Ussa" and then to "Ukkala", etc.)

This Indian Mon immigration is corroborated by the Mon nursery songs which say that three types of Mon-Mon Daing, Mon Da and Mon Na-migrated to Triakumbha (Yangon), Bilungyun (Island of Demons) and an ancient laterite city near Mt. Kelasa in Lower Myanmar from

Dr. Saw Mra Aung

the Gange River Valley, the Godhi River Valley and Talingana between one or two hundred years prior to the birth of the Buddha and one thousand years ago. It is said that the Monkhmers from the Yangtzi River Basin started to spread over South-east Asia including Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, etc and to India through Yunnan before 2000 B.C. These Mon-khmers are called Monda in India (According to the 1931 Census, Monda speakers still numbered 4.3 million in India). Coedes states that when Aryans and Dravidians pressed into India between the ten and twenty centuries before the birth of Christ, some aboriginal peoples (including Mondas) were pushed into the South India and thence to South-east Asia. Therefore, the immigration of forefathers of Taphussa and Bhallika from India before the time of the Buddha can be acceptable. Coedes says in his book "*The Indianized States of South-east Asia*", that glass beads of Indian origin were abundantly discovered in Neolithic strata in Further India (South-east Asia). So it is undeniable on the strength of the discovery of these solid evidences that the communication between India and South-east Asia must have taken place since Neolithic Period. Therefore, there is no inherent impossibility in a voyage across the Bay of Bengal during the life time of the Buddha.

Moreover, the Buddha in the *Mahaniddesa Pali* says that Indian merchants reached a series of sea-ports such as Tigumpu, Takkola, Takasila, Kasamukha, Purapura, Vensunga, Javam,

Tammali, Vanga, etc. Modern scholars identify Tigumpu (Trihakumbha) with Yangon and Vesunga with Taikkala near Thaton in Lower Myanmar, Takkola with Takaupa and Tammali with Ligor in the Malay Peninsula, Purapura with Dhannavati in Rakhine and Javam with Java Island in Indonesia. Another Pali text named "*Milindapanha*", one of 18 treatises of the *Khuddaka Nikaya* also makes mention of the names of the ancient sea-ports between the coast of India and China reached by Indian merchants long before the advent of the Christian Era such as Vanga, Takkola, Sovira, Surat, Alexandria, Kolapattana, Suvannabhumi, China, etc. Vanga is identified with Bengal, Sovira with Gujarat, Kolapattana with Coromandal, Surat with Kathiawar and Suvannabhumi with somewhere in Lower Myanmar or Indonesia. *The Suyonandi Jataka* also describes that a minister of king Benares reached Nagadipa Island after his shipwreck in the ocean. Modern scholars apply this island to Nicobar Island in the Andaman Sea. In view of this extract, it can be said that there must have been some maritime contacts between India and the eastern coast of the Bay of Bengal during the life time of the Buddha. This can also further strengthen the truth of the traditional claim of Taphussa and Bhallika.

A Greek pilot by the name of Hippalus discovered the periodic alteration of the Monsoon winds in about 45 B.C. Only after that, people could traverse the high sea under the favourable Monsoon winds. The above extract from the *Mahaniddesa Pali* and the *Milindapanha* shows that Indian merchants coasted along the India continent and the coasts of the Bay of Bengal long before the birth of Christ. It is, therefore, thought that Taphussa and Bhallika merchant brothers might have plied between India and Lower Myanmar on littoral voyages. So they had to hug the coast and to stop over at Jethadipa (Chaduba Island off Rakhine coast where two relics had to be paid to *Myosa* as tax and those relics were enshrined by King Candasuriya in a (See page 9)

NATIONAL

Myanmar will assume 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship by ensuring centrality of ASEAN; ...

(from page 1)

status of the people. At the same time, Myanmar's efforts to implement the ASEAN Community Blueprints have positive effects on the country's political, economic and social objectives.

The willingness and participation of the entire Myanmar people to strive for a modern and developed nation and to achieve the goals of ASEAN Community are of vital importance. The member states in the ASEAN family, while trying to develop individually, have to cooperate each other hand in hand. Myanmar is committed to try her best in contributing towards ASEAN Community by taking advantage of the position as a land bridge between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners.

We will assume the 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship by ensuring the centrality of ASEAN; by obtaining ASEAN consensus; and by representing ASEAN in strengthening and promoting closer relations with external partners. Myanmar has determined with might and main to undertake successfully the role of Chairmanship with the support of ASEAN member states and its Dialogue Partners.

Esteemed National brethren of Myanmar,

On the auspicious occasion of celebrating the 46th anniversary of ASEAN, I wish to urge the people of Myanmar-

-To take part actively in assuming the 2014 Myanmar ASEAN Chairmanship,

-To strive for the emergence of people-centered, peaceful and prosperous ASEAN Community for ASEAN People.

Myanmar discharges 68 underage soldiers

YANGON, 7 Aug—A ceremony to hand over 68 discharged underage soldiers to their parents was held at No.1 Transit Centre here this morning. Under the arrangement of the Commander-in-Chief's Office (Army) and a Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR), underage soldiers are allowed to discharge from respective commands across the country.

Maj-Gen Than Soe of the Commander-in-Chief's Office and Co-chair of CTFMR Mr Ashok Nigam delivered speeches on the occasion. Afterwards, officials handed over resignation letters and Citizenship Scrutiny Cards to the minors and handed over them to their parents and relatives.

After the ceremony, Tatmadaw has transported those to the transit care camps which are arranged by CTFMR and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. Plans

are underway to help those under 18 contact their parents, pursue their education, get job, provide necessary health care and make arrangements for their return trips.

This is the fourth time since the handover of 42 children under 18 years of age on 3 September, 2012 for the first time; 24 on 15 February, 2013 for the second time; and 42 on 7 July, 2013 for the third time. On 27 June, 2012, Myanmar and UN signed an action plan to prevent the recruitment of minors by Army forces.

Arrangements are being made to discharge all underage soldiers from Tatmadaw within 18 months. Tatmadaw has been scrutinizing the recruitment and discharge of underage children. Action is being taken against those who commit the cases in accord with military rules.

It was also attended by senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief's Office and, deputy

Maj-Gen Than Soe of Commander-in-Chief's Office speaking at ceremony to hand over 68 discharged underage soldiers to their parents.—MNA



ministers, managing directors and directors from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Ministry of Labour, Employment

and Social Security, the Union Attorney-General's Office, responsible persons from UNICEF, UNHCR, ILO, Save the Children, World Vision, World Food Programme and UNDP, parents of underage soldiers.

MNA

Blockage on Kutkai-Muse Union Highway cleared

KUTKAI, 7 Aug—A landslide blocked the Kutkai-Muse Union Highway in northern Shan State yesterday.

The landslide occurred about 6 am between Mile posts No. 231/6 and

231/7, causing the pile of mudslides reaching 150 ft in length and 30 ft in height on the road.

The road was cleared at 7 pm and traffic has returned into normalcy.

Myawady

ARTICLE

A Study on the History...

(from page 8)

pagoda which was subsequently known as Sandaw Shin Pagoda in Pauktaw township) and at Nagaris Cape near Pathein (where two relics were also stolen by Jeyyasena Naga king) and made a coastal voyage along the Dala Tawgytan sea-coast (where a series of nine Sandawgyo cetis, pagodas welcoming the hair relics, were built). This coastal voyage made by the two brothers can also serve as a *prima facie* evidence explaining that their sea journey might have taken place before the advent of Christian Era, that is, before the discovery of the periodic alteration of Monsoon winds.

Besides, with regard to the existence of the Shwedagon Pagoda and commercial contacts between Lower Myanmar and India thousand years ago and before the full development of the Ayeyawady Delta, Dr. Htin Aung, in his book "*A History of Burma*", says:

"... There is no inherent impossibility in the legend, first because the particular spur on which the pagoda now stands was high above water level long before

the Irravati (Ayeyawady) formed its delta thousand years ago, and second because there must have been at least coastal trade between the opposite shores of the Bay of Bengal..."

According to Mr. Chibber, writer of "*Geology of Burma*", it is known that the Ayeyawady Delta started to be formed some 300,000 years ago but developed fully over one thousand years ago. In view of this, it can be assumed that Singuttara Hill where the pagoda today stands and must have been existent long before one thousand years ago and so must have been the maritime traffic between Lower Myanmar and India.

Some scholars are baffled at the name of the town of Taphussa and Bhallika, for it appears in different names- Ukkalapa, Trikumbha, Pokkharavati and Asitanjana. The commentaries mention their town as Pokkharavati and Asitanjana but Mon and Myanmar chronicles and Pali texts mention it as Ukkala or Ukkalapa. Mon and Myanmar chronicles also describe it as Trikumbha. In India,

Asitanjana is an old name for Ukkala. In Myanmar, it is traditionally believed that Trikumbha (later Ukkalapa), Pokkharavati and Asitanjana are the three of the four towns encircling Singuttara Hill where the Shwedagon stands. Trikumbha lies to the north of the hill, Pokkharavati to the south and Asitanjana to the east. Trikumbha is identified with Myogon, Pokkharavati with Twantay and Asitanjana with Thanlyin. Therefore, it can be assumed that the town of the two brothers might be either Twantay or Thanlyin or Myogon. But Forchhammer says that Ukkala comprised the regions south and southwest of the Bago Yoma and the low land extending from the foot of the Shwedagon Hill westwards to the Irravati (Ayeyawady) River up to the 7th century A.D. So Ukkalapa can be said to have extended from the foot of the Bago Yoma up to the Ayeyawady River. The archaeological excavation conducted at Tadargalay north of Singuttara Hill around 1920 yielded an ancient ruined building, bronze Buddha images, bronze mirror plates and rings and votive tablets datable to between the 5th and

the 12th centuries A.D. It is convinced by some scholars that it was the site of an old town, probably of Ukkalapa. At any rate, it does not matter which one was the native town of the Taphussa and Bhallika-Trikumbha or Pokkharavati or Asitanjana or the old town at Tadargalay, it will fall in the domain of Ukkalapa. It is, therefore, justifiable to say that these two brothers were the natives of Ukkalapa which might have been in existence in Lower Myanmar during the life time of the Buddha. Very recently, many finger-marked bricks have been discovered in the environs of a Sandawgyo pagoda named Phayagyi (which are believed to have been built to welcome the eight hair relics of the Buddha brought by Taphussa and Bhallika) in Kawhmu Township. The finger-marked bricks are tentatively dated to Maurya Period (3rd century B.C to 1st century A.D). This archaeological discovery moved the tradition of the Shwedagon pagoda some steps close to the truth. (Only the spade of archaeologists can determine its exact location and the date of its founding).

In brief, in the absence

of contemporarily decisive evidence, it is difficult to conclude that there were maritime contacts between India and Myanmar during the lifetime of the Buddha. However, on the strength of the glass-beads of Indian origin discovered in Neolithic strata in South-east Asia, the littoral voyages of Indian merchants made along the coast of the Indian continent and the eastern coasts of the Bay of Bengal mentioned in the Pali texts such as *Mahaniddesa*

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Shwe Naw, U., *Chronicle of the Mons and Collection of Histories of Their Pagodas*, Yangon, 1899

Interview with U San Win who led a field trip made to Kawhmu and Twantay Townships during June 2013

Pali, Milindapanha, and Suyonandi Jataka and recent discovery of the finger-marked bricks in the neighbourhood of the Phayagyi Pagoda, one of the Sandawgyo pagodas, in Kawhmu Township, it can be surmised convincingly that Taphussa and Bhallika might have brought back the Buddha's hair across the ocean to Ukkalapa somewhere in the environs of Singuttara Hill and enshrined them in the Shwedagon Pagoda.

HRD

SLCC-MDY opens Shan language, literature course



MANDALAY, 7 Aug—Shan Literary and Culture Committee, Universities-Mandalay (SLCC-MDY), conducted Shan spoken and literary course at the History Department of Mandalay University in Mandalay on 3 August.

At the opening, Associate Professor of the History Department of Mandalay University Dr Saw Pyone Naing made a speech. Head of the department Dr Sai Naw Khay extended greetings.

The course is divided into spoken and literary classes. It starts at 1:30 pm and is over at 3:30 pm every weekend.

The six-week course is being taken by over 100 students from Yadanabon University, Mandalay University, University of Nursing, Mandalay

University of Medicine, and Mandalay Technological University.—Kyemon-002

Outstanding student needs assistance in Gangaw Township



GANGAW, 7 Aug—Student Maung Nyi Nyi Lay passed the matriculation examination with five distinctions with roll No Pha Ya Ya/9 in the 2013 academic year at Shonshi Basic Education High School exam centre in Gangaw

Loans disbursed to bus lines in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 7 Aug—A ceremony to disburse loans to owners of highway express buses at Shwe Mandalay Hall of Mandalay Region Highway Bus Supervisory Committee Office on 5 August afternoon.

The committee disbursed K 1 million each to 21 highway buses from 13 bus lines, totally amounting to K 21 million.

They have to pay back the loans to the committee within ten months.

Up to now, the committee has disbursed the loans to the bus lines

for 16 times and has issued K 63.2 million to 98 buses.

The interests obtained from the disbursement is being spent on awarding the outstanding students, giving stipends to the students, providing cash assistance to bus workers who were injured in the traffic accidents and who died of traffic accidents.

Kyemon

Complaints about taxation system invited

GANGAW, 7 Aug — Gangaw Township Internal Revenue Department recently announced inviting tax payers to hold talks



with the Head of Gangaw Township IRD in person if there arises complaint about on law, bylaws, rules and regulations regarding the taxation system operated by Internal Revenue Department.

Moreover, suggestions and complaints about taxation system can be addressed to Magway Region Internal Revenue Department (Ph: 063 23212) by anyone with his/her name and address.

Kyemon-465

SANITATION

Bayintnaung Market fumigated



YANGON, 7 Aug—With the aim of taking prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever and carrying out sanitation at Bayintnaung Market in Ward 1 of Mayangon Township in Yangon Region, in-charge of the market U Tin Tun Wina and workers of the market

fumigated all parts of the market including drains and undertook sanitation at drains for proper flow of water on 5 August afternoon.

The sanitation tasks will be carried out at the market weekly, said the in-charge of the market.

Kyemon-Zaw Gyi (Panita)

Hill ringroad expanded for public safety



KYAUKME, 7 Aug—ShwepheU hill ringroad is located on Kyaukme-Mogok Road in Tilin Ward of Ward 9 in Kyaukme.

The road is narrowing on the downhill and uphill sections. The local people, teachers and students from Tilin Basic Education High School No 2 are worried about traffic accident daily.

Last three years, a teacher died of traffic accident on the road.

Therefore, the local people wish to extend the hill ringroad.

The Township Support Committee and Township Development Affairs Committee expanded the road with three feet wide each on both sides and dug the drains along the road on 5 August.

The local people have wishes to erect concrete posts along the banks of the hill.

Kyemon-563

CRIME

Seizure of snatcher exposes more snatching cases on the buses

YANGON, 7 Aug—Members of No 2 Company of Reserved Branch of Yangon Region Police Force were on duty to arrest the snatchers on 31 July.

On board the bus of No 54 bus line, they arrested Shine Htet Aung (a) Hnit Taung, son of U Thet Aung of Taungthugon Ward in Insein Township who put a mobile phone into his bag after snatching it from the napsack of a girl passenger at the bus stop on Than Street in Hline Township.

Hline Myoma Police Station took action against the snatcher under the law and then put him under interrogation.

According to the investigation, the snatcher had taken from one Samsung GTS 5360 mobile phone from a woman who got down from the bus of No 188 bus line at Sanyeknyeiny bus stop, one Huawei C 8650 mobile phone from a man at Hledan bus stop, one Samsung I930 mobile phone from a man at Hsinyedwin bus stop, Huawei T 8828

mobile phone and Huawei Y 210 mobile phone from passengers in June 2013.

He threw the SIM cards to away and sold the handsets.

In July, he snatched six mobile phones from passengers in buses of No 226, No 45, No 48 bus and Shwe Inwa lines severally and sold the handsets after throwing the SIM cards away.

The authorities gathered the snatched handsets from the various places.

Kamayut Myoma Police Station and Hline Myoma Police Station are preparing to open more files of lawsuit against him over the cases.—Kyemon-Soe Win (MLA)



Take preventive measures against dengue haemorrhagic fever

ACCIDENT

Phone post falls down, leaving woman cyclist injured

YANGON, 7 Aug—A woman cyclist got injured as her bike was hit by cables from a fallen concrete phone post on 3 August.

Ma Nwe Ni Aye, 29, of No. 381 in Nilar 1st Street of Ward 8, was shocked in the accident.

The injured is receiving

medical treatment at North Okkalapa Hospital.

The fallen phone post is being repaired by Head of North Okkalapa Township Post Office U Than Linn, in-charge U Sein Toe and staff of the township telephone exchange.

Kyemon-Zaw Gyi (Panita)

REGIONAL

Singapore's Lee, in new book, warns Japan of bleak future

SINGAPORE, 7 Aug — Singapore's former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has warned in a book launched on Tuesday that Japan's future will be bleak if it does not address its aging population problem by opening its doors to immigration. "The most serious challenge facing Japan is demographic," he wrote in his latest book "One Man's View of the World."

Lee, who turns 90 next month, said Singapore is facing a similar problem but the difference is that while Singapore has been willing to open up to immigrants "Japan has been remarkably intransigent about accepting foreigners."

"The idea that the Japa-

nese race must be kept pure is so deeply ingrained that no attempt has been made to publicly discuss alternatives," he writes.

He warned that without solving the problem in "another 10 to 15 years, they would have gone down the slippery slope, and it may be too late to recover."

"More likely than not, this is a nation strolling into mediocrity. The country is technologically advanced and the people are well-educated, but eventually Japan's problems will catch up with it," Lee writes, adding, "If I were a young Japanese and I could speak English, I would probably choose to emigrate."

But he praised the Japanese for being able to maintain a sense of "calm, order



Singapore's former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew attends a ceremony in Singapore on 6 Aug, 2013, marking the publishing of his book "One Man's View of the World."

KYODO NEWS

and discipline" during the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, adding, "The Japanese are also peerless in the way they strive for perfection in everything they do." "The sense of teamwork in the Japanese workforce gives them that edge over other countries. The Koreans and the Chinese may be able to match them individual for individual, but team for team, the Japanese are unequalled," he writes.

Lee, who was Singapore's first prime minister and stayed in the job for more than three decades until he stepped down in 1990, is seen as Singapore's founding father and credited with Singapore's economic success.

He resigned from his Cabinet post after the ruling party's poor showing in the May 2012 general election, but he still maintains his post as a legislator from his constituency.—Kyodo News

Vietnam, New Zealand speed up education cooperation

HANOI, 7 Aug — Cooperation in education between Vietnam and New Zealand has constantly developed in recent years, becoming the prime priority area in New Zealand's bilateral ties with Vietnam.

The remark was shared by Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan and New Zealand's Governor-General Jerry Mateparae when they attended a ceremony here on Tuesday to celebrate achievement in educational cooperation between the two countries.

The event was held during Mateparae's visit to Vietnam on 3-8 Aug at the invitation of Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang.

Education is one of five

areas given strategic priority in the action plan to implement the New Zealand-Vietnam comprehensive strategic partnership, said Mateparae.

Over the past 20 years, more than 400 Vietnamese trainees attended the English training programme in New Zealand, and many others completed training courses held by New Zealand's universities and their Vietnamese partners.

In 2012, more than 2,000 Vietnamese students went to New Zealand for study, up 90 percent from 2008.

Vietnam ranks ninth in number among foreign students studying in New Zealand.

Kyodo News

Vietnamese state-run paper prints ad opposing Japan reactor exports



Photo shows an opinion ad (R) objecting to planned nuclear reactor exports by Japan, published on 6 Aug, 2013, by Vietnam's state-run English-language daily Viet Nam News.—KYODO NEWS

HANOI, 7 Aug — Vietnam's state-run English-language daily Viet Nam News published an opinion ad on Tuesday objecting to planned nuclear reactor exports by

Japan. The ad, sponsored by DAYS JAPAN, a monthly photo journalism magazine led by 69-year-old editor Ryuichi Hirokawa, states, "The Japanese people are opposed

to Japan's export of nuclear technology due to the immense dangers involved."

The ad was published to coincide with the 68th anniversary of the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Japan secured contracts in October 2010 to build two nuclear reactors in Vietnam, prior to the nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi complex triggered by the 11 March, 2011, earthquake and tsunami in northeastern Japan. It is rare for Vietnamese newspapers to publish an opinion ad, especially one contradicting government policy, with press freedom restricted under Communist Party rule.

The ad included images of a devastated reactor building at the Fukushima Daiichi complex and an explosion

at the plant's No 3 reactor building. "It is estimated that 150,000 evacuees from the Fukushima nuclear disaster remain in temporary accommodation," it states, adding, "The quantity of radiation-contaminated water collected from the reactor buildings is increasing at a rate of 400 tons per day."

The ad also states, "Did you realize there is a danger that nuclear power could deprive you of your precious hometown...forever?"

Hirokawa told Kyodo News, "It is our duty to communicate to people abroad that there is opposition in Japan to the export of nuclear reactors, which is being implemented despite our country's failure to bring the crisis under complete control."

Kyodo News

New Zealand coordinates operation to rescue Austrian yacht crew

WELLINGTON, 7 Aug — An Austrian couple were rescued from their yacht in the Pacific in an international operation coordinated in New Zealand on Wednesday.

The Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ) said the skipper of the 12.8-metre yacht, Gobo, made a distress call at about 11 pm on Tuesday, after the vessel encountered difficulties around 407 km east of American Samoa.

A fishing boat, FV Taimana, was close by and the couple were successfully transferred at around 9 am on Wednesday, said RCCNZ search and rescue mission coordinator Mike Roberts.

"This was a serious situation in a largely empty area of ocean, and to successfully transfer the pair to the safety of the FV Taimana was a good result," Roberts said in a statement.

Gobo made another distress call on 31 July to maritime rescue authorities in Germany, reporting a leak, damage to rigging supporting the mast, and an overheating engine.

The German authorities contacted RCCNZ, which arranged for Canadian sail training ship Picton Castle to rendezvous and assist with the repairs.

The couple are expected to be delivered to Pago Pago in American Samoa in the next two days.—Xinhua

Games will help time fly for young held-up passengers

BEIJING, 7 Aug — Young passengers unlucky enough to be delayed can see time fly at Shanghai Pudong International Airport.

They can let their imagination take flights of fancy with the help of an interactive LED game screen which was installed in the departure lounge at Terminal 2 this summer. "They can play by moving their bodies, hands or legs," said Zhan Chengge,

head of service management. The game zone was opened on 1 June, International Children's Day.

At first, two games were available to play on the LED screen, one of them soccer. Fruit Ninja and Horsey Run Run were then added.

July is a traditional busy month. Average daily flights increased 6.3 percent to 1,060 from June, and were up 1.2 percent year-on-year, according to the

operator, the Shanghai Airport Authority. Apart from the LED game area, the airport is also considering a 4-D movie area at departures. Summer usually has more delays due to holiday traffic and more extreme weather.

Improved recreational facilities might help assuage anger, said Li Lei, an industrial analyst with Minzu Securities.

Although few flight delays are caused by air-

port management, he said, passengers sometimes take their anger out on airport staff.

But Huang Jinxiang, an industrial analyst with Haitong Securities, said the game zone will have a limited effect on delayed passengers' moods.

"Most of the passengers just want to reach their destination as soon as possible, so they prefer punctuality over playthings," Huang said.—Xinhua



Children play an interactive LED game in the departure lounge at Shanghai Pudong International Airport's Terminal 2.

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	(1) 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

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV PORT MELBOURNE VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PORT MELBOURNE VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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: BRIGHTSAIL SHIPPING LTD
CHINA

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (171)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKHONTHI VOY NO (171) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S PHULSAWAT SHIPPING
CO LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (541)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (541) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2013 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



Famous Chinese actor Pu Cunxin, also a voluntary blood donation promotion Ambassador for the Ministry of Health, celebrates his 60th birthday in advance together with 59 voluntary blood donors at a blood donation point in Xidan, Beijing, on 27 July, 2013. It's Pu's 11th and last blood donation since starting out in 2001, as it's now advocated that blood donors should be below 60. Pu, who donated 400ml this time, turns 60 on 31 July.

XINHUA



Guests take a carriage ride in Interlaken, Switzerland, 5 Aug, 2013. Interlaken lies between Lake Thun and Lake Brienz, and at the foot of the snow-clad Eiger, and is the starting point for excursions into the Jungfrau Region and the whole of Switzerland. It has been a holiday destination for guests from all over the world for over 100 years.

XINHUA

HK recalls Nutricia milk products over botulism scare

HONG KONG, 7 Aug — The healthcare division of food giant Danone -- is recalling its Karicare formula products from Hong Kong, following a botulism contamination warning issued by its New Zealand supplier Fonterra. Meanwhile, Beijing has asked a Chinese subsidiary of the US-based Abbott Laboratories to recall two infant formula products sold in mainland China.

The move comes a day after Hong Kong recalled some 140,000 cans of "Cow and Gate" baby formula, which also used potentially tainted whey protein supplied by Fonterra.

The milk product brand

Nutricia — a subsidiary of French food giant Danone -- is recalling its Karicare formula from Hong Kong.

The whole batch of Karicare "Gold+ Follow-on Stage 2 Formula" for six to 12 months-old infants will be recalled, Nutricia's Hong Kong company said.

Karicare "Infant Formula Stage 1" for babies younger than six months is also being recalled worldwide, but has not been sold in Hong Kong, the company said.

"The product is not contaminated, our New Zealand company only ordered the recall as a precaution," Hong Kong's Cable TV quoted a staff member as saying.

Fonterra said last week some of its whey protein, used in baby formula, food and sports drinks, produced in May 2012 was found to be contaminated with the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*.

It could cause illness in babies under one year, with symptoms such as constipation, facial numbness, breathing difficulty and death in the worst case.

"More tests on milk powder are needed," Food and Health Secretary Ko Wing-man said in a radio programme.

"The contaminated (whey protein) is an ingredient used in some food products...The Center for Food

Safety can't rule out the possibility of it entering Hong Kong, contained in different food products," he said.

The warning came after the New Zealand Embassy in China informed the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine that the milk powder may be contaminated, Chinese media reported.

China's own tainted milk powder scandal in 2008 left six infants dead and some 300,000 others suffered kidney illnesses. The problems damaged Chinese consumer confidence in local brands, boosting preference for foreign-branded products.—Kyodo News

ENTERTAINMENT



Director Steven Spielberg and cast members Drew Barrymore and Henry Thomas (R) pose together as they arrive for the premiere of the 20th anniversary version of their film "ET The Extra Terrestrial" on 16 March, 2002 in Los Angeles.—REUTERS

Bob Dylan to exhibit his new artwork in London gallery

LONDON, 7 Aug—New pastel portraits by American singer Bob Dylan will go on show for the first time at London's National Portrait Gallery next month, the gallery said on Monday.

The 12 new works in the "Bob Dylan Face Value" exhibition in September represent the latest portrait studies from the "Blowin' in the Wind" singer who has sketched and drawn since childhood, but only began exhibiting six years ago.

"Bob Dylan is one of the most influential cultural figures of our time," National Portrait Gallery Director Sandy Naime said in a statement.

"I am delighted that we can now share these 12 sketches which were made for display at the National Portrait Gallery."

Ekta Kapoor to host grand iftaar party

MUMBAI, 7 Aug—Film and TV producer Ekta Kapoor is organizing a grand iftaar party on Tuesday, 6 Aug, 2013.

"It's true and I also keep roza (fast) some times. The iftaar party is on 6 August. It's a big night, it's



Musician Bob Dylan (C) waits prior to receiving a Presidential Medal of Freedom in the East Room of the White House in Washington, on 29 May, 2012. REUTERS

The portraits represent characters, with an amalgamation of features Dylan has collected from life, memory and his imagination and fashioned into people, some real and some fictitious.

Dylan, 72, has exhibited previous art collections

of sketches, gouaches and watercolours in the past in other cities around the world.

The singer's ballads like "Blowin' in the Wind" became anthems of the civil rights and anti-war movement in the United States, while the musical innovation and cynical lyrics of "Like a Rolling Stone" established him as a counter-culture symbol.

Reuters

Sandra Bullock: Oscars do not respect comedy

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug—Oscar-winning actress Sandra Bullock feels that the Academy Awards do not show respect to comedy movies.

The 49-year-old has been part of some comedy-drama's like Miss Congeniality, 28 Days, Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood, The Thing Called Love and Love Potion No 9.

She won an Oscar in 2010 for her role in The Blind Side.

"There's no respect for comedies when it comes to the Oscars — absolutely none. But you don't do comedy for awards or credibility. You do it for the joy," dailystar.co.uk quoted Bullock as saying.

The actress was at the red carpet of her forthcoming movie The Heat.—PTI

ET triumphs as British public's favourite childhood film

LONDON, 7 Aug—"ET the Extra-Terrestrial", Steven Spielberg's 1982 science fiction film, is the childhood film of choice for a nostalgic British public, who also voted the 1980s as their favourite film decade.

"It might be the time fashion forgot; but it certainly made an impact on our film choices," said a statement from UK arm of Korean electronics firm Samsung Electronics Co, who commissioned the survey of 1,500 people.

"ET" surpassed competition from Walt Disney's "Bambi" and "The Lion

King", as well as Pixar's "Toy Story" and adventure film "The Goonies", co-written by Spielberg.

The director of hit films such as "Saving Private Ryan" and "Jurassic Park", Spielberg was also voted the Britain's favourite director.

"The Shawshank Redemption", the uplifting 1994 US prison drama starring Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman, was voted as the film that viewers would most like to watch again and again.

"Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn", Clark

Gable's final line from 1939 US hit "Gone with the Wind", came out on top as the public's favourite film quote.

Lines from US thriller "Dirty Harry", 80s musical "Dirty Dancing" and action film "The Terminator" also featured highly.

Just over 70 percent of those surveyed said relaxing and escapism were the main reason they enjoyed watching films.

More than a third of viewers said trial and error was their choice of method for choosing which films to watch.—Reuters

When Kristen Stewart came face-to-face with Robert Pattinson's new girlfriend

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug—Twilight star Kristen Stewart recently encountered her ex-boyfriend Robert Pattinson's rumoured new girlfriend, Riley Keough.

The pair bumped into each other at rocker Joan Jett's recent concert at West Hollywood's House of Blues, reported Showbizspy.

Stewart and Keough first met in 2010 while co-starring in The Runaways, a biopic about Joan's life.

Stewart, 23, starred as Joan in the film, while Keough, 24, played fellow female rocker Marie Currie.

"It was weird when they saw each other, because Kristen didn't look very happy when she walked over to give her a hug," a source said.

"They spoke for like two minutes and then Riley and her girlfriend walked away. Kristen watched the show from upstairs and I am pretty sure Riley kept her distance and was watching



Robert and Kristen were in an on-and-off relationship ever since images of her affair with Rupert Sanders surfaced.

from downstairs," it added.

Recent reports revealed that Pattinson and Keough have been 'hanging out and hooking up'.

"She is the first girl he has liked since Kristen. They're having a lot of fun," the source said.

PTI



SPORTS

Moyes says doesn't need to convince anyone to stay at United

STOCKHOLM, 7 Aug—With speculation over the future of Wayne Rooney continuing, Manchester United manager David Moyes said on Tuesday he did not have to convince the striker to stay at Old Trafford.

Asked what Rooney's reaction had been to Manchester United turning down a reputed bid of 30 million pounds from Premier League rivals

Chelsea, Moyes replied "I don't know, I've not asked him."

Pressed further on whether he would have to convince Rooney to stay with the English champions, Moyes said: "You don't need to convince anyone to play for Manchester United."

Moyes was speaking to reporters after a 1-1 draw in a friendly game against AIK in Stockholm.

There were some positives for the Scottish coach with Angelo Henriquez netting for United from Wilfred Zaha's cross and Robin van Persie completing 90 minutes.

On the downside both Nani (groin) and Jonny Evans (ankle) hobbled off in the first half, but Moyes said neither injury was serious and that he expected both to recover quickly.

Reuters



Manchester United manager David Moyes speaks to his players during a training session ahead of their friendly soccer match against Yokohama F Marinos in Yokohama, south of Tokyo on 22 July, 2013.—REUTERS

Liverpool must keep word and let me go—Suarez



Liverpool's Luis Suarez controls the ball against Thailand's national soccer team during a friendly soccer match at Ratchamangkala Stadium in Bangkok on 28 July, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 7 Aug—Liverpool striker Luis Suarez has called on the club to honour "an agreement" that said he could leave the club if they failed to qualify for the Champions League.

The Uruguayan has been the subject of intense transfer speculation during the close season after scoring 29 goals in all competitions last season.

Arsenal offered just

over 40 million pounds for the striker, although Liverpool have maintained that Suarez is not for sale.

Suarez, who is to have a scan on a foot injury he sustained in training, said he was prepared to take his case to the Premier League.

"I want to move to play in the Champions League and there is a club offering me that opportunity," he was quoted as saying in *The*

Daily Telegraph. "I have told the manager that I want to leave the club."

"I am being accused of showing a lack of loyalty but last year I had the opportunity to move to a big European club and I stayed on the understanding that if we did not qualify for the Champions League the following season then I would be allowed to go."

"I gave absolutely everything last season but it was not enough to give us a top-four finish. Now all I want is that Liverpool honour our agreement."

Suarez said Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers gave him "his word" that he would be allowed to go if Liverpool did not achieve Champions League qualification.

"Liverpool is a club with a reputation for doing things the right way, I just want them to abide by the promises made last season," he said.

"I have the club's word and we have the written contract and we are happy to take this to the Premier League for them to decide the case but I do not want it to come to that."

Reuters

Venus falls in first round in Toronto

TORONTO, 7 Aug—Venus Williams got off to a flying start in her return from a two-month layoff but her game quickly fell apart as the seven-times grand slam champion slumped to a 0-6, 6-4, 6-2 loss to Kirsten Flipkens in the Rogers Cup first round on Tuesday.

Seeds Maria Kirilenko (11) Jelena Jankovic (15) and Ana Ivanovic (16) also had first round wins.

In the second round, Slovak Dominika Cibulkova upended eighth seed Angelique Kerber of Germany 6 7(0), 6 2, 7 5 and second seed Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland won 6-2, 6-3 over Belgium's Yanina Wickmayer.

Williams, who has played sporadically this season due to a back injury and had not competed since losing in the first round of the French Open in late May, started in fine form on Tuesday but gradually fell apart as the contest wore on.

The five-times Wimbledon champion's serve was slower than usual, her ground strokes were erratic and she seemed slow to the ball as Wimbledon semi-finalist Flipkens consistently changed angles on her.

"I just really started serving a lot more in the last

week, so I'm not really 100 percent on the serve yet," the 33-year-old Williams said.

"So it was better not to take too many risks and just do something I felt more comfortable with. This week I will definitely be practicing my serve a lot more and getting more confident in it."

Williams has also been battling an auto-immune disease for the past few years and said she might have come back a week too early. But she feels she needs matches before the US Open, which begins in a little less than three weeks time.

"Coming back from injury, you have to build the

confidence to just realize that you can come back and play without pain," she said. "So I feel like I'm in that threshold of building confidence."

"That's a lot of what happened to me at the French (Open), too. I played an intense and a really exciting match, but I hadn't played any matches. So it was a tough situation to be in. Do you play or you don't play? So I feel like in that situation now going into the US Open."

Cibulkova, who won the Stanford title late last month, needed nearly three hours to overcome German Kerber, fighting back from 1-4 down in the third set to seal victory.—Reuters



Venus Williams of the US reaches for a shot against Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium during their women's tennis match at the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto on 6 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS



Tiger Woods of the US watches his shot from the 15th tee during a practice round for the 2013 PGA Championship golf tournament at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York on 6 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

Elusive 15th major title proving toughest to win for Woods

ROCHESTER, 7 Aug—The stars could hardly be better aligned for Tiger Woods to end a five-year major title drought at this week's PGA Championship, though he feels the task has been the most difficult of his career.

Woods has not won one of golf's elite championships since his remarkable playoff victory at the 2008 US Open, often playing his way into contention over the first two rounds in recent years only for his game to fade over the weekend.

"It kind of seems that way," he told reporters on Tuesday. "It's been probably the longest spell that I've had since I last won a major championship."

"I came out here (on the PGA Tour) very early and got my first one back in '97."

Woods turned professional in late 1996 and romped to a record 12-stroke victory the following April as he became the youngest ever winner at the Masters, aged 21.

He piled up a further

13 major titles over the next decade at an astonishing rate before his barren run began, hardly helped by the breakdown of his marriage in early 2010, assorted injury problems and the fourth swing change of his career.

"I've had my opportunities there on the back nine on probably half of those Sundays for the last five years where I've had a chance, and just haven't won it," he said.

"But the key is to keep giving myself chances, and

eventually I'll start getting them."

Woods comes into Oak Hill for the year's final major on a high, having romped to victory by seven shots in the elite WGC-Bridgestone Invitational on Sunday.

Every aspect of his game appeared to be in top order last week as he clinched the 79th PGA Tour victory of his career, and a record eighth title in the World Golf Championships (WGC) event.

Reuters

GENERAL



Kseniya Simonova, a famous painting artist from Ukraine, makes a sand painting during the 2013 Zhoushan Sand Painting Competition in Zhoushan, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 5 Aug, 2013. Five Chinese artists entered the final competition, which kicked off on Monday, to challenge Kseniya Simonova, a famous sand painting artist from Ukraine. — XINHUA

Incoming WTO chief optimistic about Doha Round relaunch

RIO DE JANEIRO, 7 Aug — Roberto Azevedo, the World Trade Organization (WTO)'s incoming chief, expressed optimism on Tuesday over relaunching the Doha Round talks.

It's possible to make progress on the issue, but a lot of dialogues will be needed, the WTO director-general-elect told business event here.

The upcoming WTO Bali Round of talks in December will offer a good opportunity to begin the relaunching effort, Azevedo said. "Since 2008, there has been no attempt to talk

about the impasse at Doha. It's time to start talking about it," he said.

The Doha Round of global trade talks, under the auspices of the WTO, were launched in 2001 in an effort to lower trade barriers around the world.

Azevedo said that the presence in negotiations of emerging countries as equals to the developed nations had changed the dynamics of talks.

Talks between the two blocs broke down in 2008 mainly due to differences on issues such as trade barriers and agricultural sub-

sidies. Azevedo stressed the importance of the Bali Round, saying that achieving a major multilateral agreement in Bali will demonstrate the WTO's significance to international trade, which will in turn help relaunch the Doha Round.

"We need to look at the talks in a broader, more strategic manner," he said.

Born in Brazil, Azevedo was elected to lead the WTO in May, defeating Mexico's candidate Herminio Blanco, and will take over from Pascal Lamy on 1 September for a four-year term.—Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(8-8-2013, Thursday)

6:00 am	2:20 pm
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	18. Solo Favourites
6:25 am	3:00 pm
2. Physical Exercise	19. News
6:35 am	3:15 pm
3. Documentary	20. Documentary (SEA Games)
7:00 am	3:35 pm
4. News/Weather Report	21. Musical Programmes
7:25 am	3:50 pm
5. People Talks	22. Documentary
7:40 am	4:00 pm
6. Documentary (ASEAN)	23. News
8:00 am	4:15 pm
7. News/International News	24. Myanmar Language
8:25 am	5:00 pm
8. My Mind Game My SEA Games	25. News
9:20 am	5:15 pm
9. Mono Classical Songs	26. Documentary
9:35 am	5:25 pm
10. Documentary (ASEAN)	27. India Drama Series
10:00 am	6:00 pm
11. News	28. News/Weather Report
10:35 am	6:25 pm
12. Documentary	29. Documentary
10:50 am	6:40 pm
13. Teleplay (Health)	30. TV Drama Series
11:25 am	7:00 pm
14. Teleplay (Health)	31. News
11:20 am	8:00 pm
15. Sing & Enjoy	32. News/International News/Weather Report
12:00 pm	8:40 pm
16. News/International News/Weather Report	33. Documentary
12:25 pm	9:00 pm
17. Myanmar Video	34. News
	35. Documentary (ASEAN)
	36. Clever
	37. TV Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(8-8-13 09:30 am ~ 9-8-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Tipitaka Hteinlin Pariyattisarthintike
- * World News
- * Creative Costume of Kayah Nationals
- * Local News
- * The Hills of Phowintaung and Shwebataung
- * World News
- * Myanmar Wedding Dresses
- * Local News
- * A Moment with Extraordinaire Ep(6) Mr. Therry Falise (Writer, French)
- * World News
- * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
- * Local News
- * A Highland with Peace and Charm
- * World News
- * Ywar Thit's Monhinkhar
- * Local News
- * Jade Industry: Myanmar Rewarding Business
- * World News
- * Yoke Sone Monastery of Lae Kai Ancient City
- * Local News
- * The Heart Love Influenced (U Hla Tun Cancer Foundation)
- * World News
- * Taste of Myanmar (Thin Egg Noodle Soup)
- * Local News
- * Maha Myatmuni Buddha Image in Rakhine
- * World News
- * Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- * A Trip to Mon State "Mawlamyine"
- * In The Studio: LCO

Virgin Australia flights back on schedule after check-in system glitch

SYDNEY, 7 Aug — Virgin Australia flights are back on schedule after thousands of passengers were stranded due to a glitch in its check-in system, local media reported on Wednesday.

Virgin Australia, the nation's second largest airline, was forced to cancel more than 30 flights across its domestic and international network and many more were delayed after its check-in system crashed on Tuesday.

The airline told the Australian Associated Press (AAP) on Wednesday that its schedule was back to normal, with some

possible minor delays on Wednesday morning.

"We are back on schedule ... There may be some minor delays, but they should be cleared by midday," a Virgin spokeswoman said.

She said three flights had been cancelled on Wednesday "as a result of the outage yesterday".

"Our special compensation policy that we released yesterday also applies to today," she added.

Virgin has made an apology for inconvenience caused to its customers and said anyone affected by the problem would be compensated.—Xinhua

Ribery makes final three for UEFA best player award

BERNE, 7 Aug — Bayern Munich winger Franck Ribery joined Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi when the final three contenders for the 2012/13 UEFA Best Player in Europe award were named on Tuesday. The Frenchman, who played a major role in Bayern's Champions League-winning season, is the first player from a club other than Barcelona and Real Madrid to make the final three since the award was established by European soccer's ruling body in 2011.

Argentina's Lionel

Messi won the inaugural award followed by Spaniard Andres Iniesta, his Barcelona team mate, last year. Messi and Real Madrid and Portugal forward Ronaldo have made the last three in each of the two previous years.

Three of Ribery's team mates at treble-winning Bayern — Thomas Mueller, Arjen Robben and Bastian Schweinsteiger — had made the shortlist of 10 players announced last month. The winner will be decided by a jury of journalists from each of UEFA's member asso-



French soccer player Franck Ribery answers reporters' questions during a news conference in Clairefontaine, southern Paris on 29 Aug, 2011. —REUTERS

ciations in a live poll on 29 August at the Champions League group stage draw in Monaco.—Reuters

Kenya's International Airport evacuated after huge fire

NAIROBI, 7 Aug — Kenya's emergency workers have evacuated passengers after an outbreak of a huge fire at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport early Wednesday. The fire, whose cause has not

been established, started at arrival area at around 04:30 am local time (0130 GMT), and has affected the immigration services at the country's main airport, but there was not casualty reported so far.

Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) Disaster Risk Reduction Officer Daniel Mutinda told Xinhua that the immigration section of the busy airport has been cordoned off as rescue teams are striving

to contain the fire. "So far we have not established the cause of the fire which was detected at the arrival area. So far there is no casualty. Our teams are still at the site," Mutinda said.

Xinhua

Right canal irrigation system of North Yama Dam suspended due to complaints

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— Work on construction of a right canal irrigation system of North Yama Dam has been suspended as residents have complained about the project.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture U Khin Zaw confirmed the suspension at Pyithu Hluttaw meeting here today when he answered the question of whether the ministry has a plan to suspend the right canal project of North Yama Dam project which can irrigate 9000 acres on completion.

Though the right canal irrigation system would be built over 700 acres of land, it would be able to irrigate about 9000 acres of farmland upon completion, he said.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Sagaing Region Government would decide whether to continue the project or not after conducting a survey on benefits and impacts of it, he added.

During the meeting, MPs of Pyithu Hluttaw also discussed the Farmers' Interests Promotion Bill submitted by the Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Fishery Development Committee and the Communication Bill.

The Farmers' Interests



Today's session of Pyithu Hluttaw in progress.—MNA

Promotion Bill is aimed at helping the farmers to get agricultural loans at reasonable interest rate, get technical assistance and inputs to be able to transform the conventional farming to mechanized farming system, getting market and reasonable price for their products and promoting the rights of small farmers.

Regarding the Communication Bill, U Thaug Han of Yinmabin Constituency said that the bill would help extend the communication network to the least developed areas and communication infrastructures, benefiting the people.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw to continue discussion on issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards for children at orphanages

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— The 19th-day seventh regular session of First Amyotha Hluttaw continued today, answering the questions and approving a Bill.

Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win responded to the question raised by U Paul Htan Htai of Chin State Constituency No (3) that directives on issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards for the children of Youth Development Centres, household certificates, transfer form (10) of service personnel and household form (6/66) were being issued for the convenience



Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win responds to the questions.—MNA

of applicants.

Regarding the question, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker stressed the need for submitting a proposal

which is acceptable to the two sides of ministry concerned and national races after reviewing every detail of the matter by the ministry concerned and the Hluttaw Affairs Administration Committee



U Paul Htan Htai of Chin State Constituency No (3) raising questions. MNA

in order to avoid the possible occurrence of unwanted problems.

"Orphanages are everywhere in the country. As kids at the orphanages have no necessary documents since they were young, there arise difficulties when they apply to sit for matriculation examinations and for a citizenship scrutiny card or a job. I would like the children at orphanages across the nation to be able to enjoy the rights of citizens," said a questioner in an interview with him.

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw approved the bill to amend the eye donation law sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with no amendment.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives JICA Chairman and party



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Chairman of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mr Akihiko TANAKA.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Chairman of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mr Akihiko TANAKA and party at the Zabuthiri hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 5pm today.

Also present at the call were Committee Chairpersons U Maung Maung Thein, U Thein Swe, U Hla Myint Oo, U Soe Naing and U Htay Myint, Committee Secretaries U Kyi Tha and Dr Nay Lin, Commission member U Khin Maung Tun and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

MNA

Ye-Dawei railroad section reopened

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— Servicemen of local battalion and workers of railroad maintenance team cleared debris on Ye-Dawei railroad section that was blocked in landslide on 4 August.

They also placed

gravel and maintained the rail tracks. As a result, the railroad section was reopened yesterday evening, and passengers and commodities transportation returned to normalcy.

MNA

Flood victims in Kayin State return home

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug— Flood victims in Hpa-an and Hlaingbwe Townships of Kayin State are returning to their home as water receded. Tatmadawmen from local stations, members of

Myanmar Police Force and departmental officials carried out the clearance of debris and silt and helped the victims return home yesterday.

MNA