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Government would assist in solving livelihood problems of IDPs and will work together with international organizations to clear land mines and to build low-cost housings

NAYPYITAW, 11 Aug— Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, accompanied by Union Ministers Dr Mya Aye and Dr Myint Aung, Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsai, Commander Maj-Gen Tun Tun Naung, deputy ministers, Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, diplomats, representatives of UN agencies, left Myitkyina for Phakant this morning.

At the Baptist Church in Hngetpyawtaw Ward, the Vice-President said that he arrived there to fulfill the requirements of IDPs, make arrangements for the IDPs to return home of their own accord and attend to their needs. He invited words of the local people for fulfillment.

Next, the donation ceremony followed. The Vice-President donated K 7,010,000, the Chief Minister of the state 50 bags of rice, the deputy minister for Border Affairs K 445,000, the deputy minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement 45 boxes of instant noodle, the deputy minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry 10 boxes of instant noodle, the deputy minister for Health 20 boxes of instant noodle, Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Federation K 3,180,000, Mining (Gold) Co K 2 million, Patron of Htoo Foundation U Teza 300 bags of rice, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khet Htein Nan K 500,000, Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Federation K 27.6 million for construction of Ayemya Thaya Post Primary School.

At Phakant BEHS, the Vice-President met departmental officials, support committee members, townselders, religious associations and national race organizations.

The Union Minister for Mines explained mineral resources and transport and the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs drug elimination.

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***Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets internally displaced persons at the Baptist Church in Phakant.*—MNA**

S. Korea, U.S. to launch joint military drill on Aug. 19

SEOUL, 11 Aug— South Korea and the United States will launch their joint military exercises, the Combined Forces Command (CFC) said Sunday.

The computer-assisted simulation exercise, dubbed Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG), will be conducted from Aug. 19 through Aug. 30, the CFC said in an emailed statement.

The drill was expected to mobilize some 30,000 U.S. forces and 50,000 South Korean troops, it said.

"Ulchi Freedom Guardian is a critical alliance exercise to sustain the readiness of the Republic of Korea, U.S. Forces and the Sending State Forces," said Gen. James D. Thurman, commander of CFC and U.S. Forces stationed here.

"It is based on realistic scenarios and enables us to train on our essential tasks with a whole of government approach," he added.

Xinhua

Thriving market in Shwegondine Junction

By *Hsu Tha Byay*

"Shwegondine Junction" can be dabbed "Key Point for Newspapers Distribution" and venue of daily distribution for newspapers and journals in Yangon.

Everybody knows that Shwegondine Junction is depicted with traffic congestion and scene of the overpass construction where vendors are selling newspapers and various kinds of journals in the lines of vehicles rolling on the road inch by inch.

The daily scene of Newspapers and Journals Market can be seen only at dawn. At a time when the Sun rises, the distribution of publications has already come to an end. As daily scene, the newspapers and publications market is hustling and bustling with the agents and sub-agents, door-to-door sellers and vendors beginning about 3 am. At the same time, roadside shops are ready to sell breakfasts for them.

In addition to State-owned newspapers namely Myanma Alinn Daily, Kyemon Daily and New Light of Myanmar Daily, new publications such as the New Golden Country, the Standard Time, the Pyi Myanmar, the Union Daily, the Yangon Time, the Mazzima, the Empire, the 7Day, the Eleven, the Voice, the Messenger, the Stright View, the International news journals and newspapers and other journals emphasizing sports, health, fashion, fine arts, music and astrology are available at the Shwegondine Newspapers Market. Moreover, various items of commercial slips can be seen before inserting them into the newspapers and journals.

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Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (R) talks with visiting New Zealand Governor-General Jerry Mateparae (L) in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, on 10 Aug, 2013.

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LOCAL NEWS

Health Care Activity

Free surgical operation performed at Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri Specialist Hospital

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—Ear, Nose and Throat surgical specialist Dr Goh Yau Hong of Mount Elizabeth Hospital of Singapore performed free surgical operations at patients of ear, nose and throat diseases from Nay Pyi Taw and environs at Nay Pyi Taw Zabuthiri Specialist Hospital and held medical seminar from 8 to 10 August.

On 8 August, together with physicians Dr U Kyaw Tezar and Dr U Myo Htet Kyaw of the hospital, the Singaporean specialist and party conducted pre-op assessment at patients and successfully performed surgical operations at cancer patient and goitre patient.

On 9 August, the specialist performed surgical operations at four more patients.

On 10 August, he held the ear, nose and throat medical seminar at the same hospital together with specialists from Nay Pyi Taw.

Under the arrangement of Myanmar specialists in Singapore, the Singaporean specialist will hold more seminar and surgical operations in Myanmar continuously.—*Kyemon-Maung Kyaw*

Township FDA checks medicines, destroys expired ones

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A Township Food and Drug Administration squad comprising members of police force, medical officer and nurses of Township Health Department and staff of Township Development Affairs Committee led by Deputy Head of Pobbathiri Township General Administration Department checked foods and medical stores in Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 6 August.

The squad seized and destroyed 19 expired medicines and unlicenced medicines.

Kyemon-Min Min Latt (Mann Tekkatho)

Homalin gets Pyinnya Hmawkham library

HOMALIN, 11 Aug—A ceremony to open Pyinnya Hmawkham library was held in Pahokgyi Village of Shwedwin Village-tract of Homalin Township on 4 August morning.

Chairman of the Library Management Committee U Kaung Myat Nyi, Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department and Village Administrator U Shwe Win formally opened the library and visited there.

The educative talks followed. The Township Administrator delivered a speech.

The Head of Township IPRD explained durability of the library and heads of Township Agriculture Department and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department explained respective work sectors.

After that, gold mining companies, departments and local people donated K 330,000 and 250 copies of books and publications to the library through the library management committee U Sai Zaw Lin.

Under the aegis of Pahokgyi Village Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara, the library building was constructed at a cost of K 10.5 million.

The building is 20 feet long, 20 feet wide and 21 feet high.—*Kyemon-117*

Erosion of Nerinzara River causes landslide in Kalay Township

KALAY, 11 Aug—Due to erosion of Nerinzaya River, nine houses, granaries and cow sheds were moved to safe places in Nansaungpu Village of Kalay Township in Sagaing Region from 25 July to 7 August.

If the water level rises in the river, it will inundate the whole area of Ward 6, said a local.

"Nerinzara River causes landslide in erosion yearly. In May this year, nine embankments were built to prevent landslide in the rainy season. The strong current of the river destroyed the embankments. Seven of nine embankments had been collapsed in the erosion. In 1987, monastery, sports ground, farmlands and houses collapsed in the erosion. In 2012, twelve houses were evacuated from the landslide. Local authorities provided K 50,000 each to households. This year, joint secretary U Chanpiyan said he will provide one bag of rice each to the victims," said a local.

Kyemon-Wun Yan Kha-Tekkatho

Dawn alms offered to members of the Sangha in Monghsat

MONGHSAT, 11 Aug—The alms offering ceremony of Monghsat was held at Maha Myat Muni Monastery in Monghsat of Monghsat District in Shan State East) on 6 August.

Chairman of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding Abbot of the monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejobhasa administered the Five Precepts.

It was attended by Col Aung Zaw Aye of the local station, Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Kyaw Ohn of District General Administration Department, Township Administrator U Aye Naing, departmental officials, wellwishers and local people.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Revata of Thabbyinnyu Monastery delivered a sermon and shared merits gained.

The local people then offered alms to over 150 members of the Sangha from 16 monasteries of the township.

They set a plan to donate alms to monks on fullmoon days and waning days in urban wards.

Kyemon-Wai Yan Lin (Monghsat)

National Sports

Former Myanmar selected footballers, Thai selected players to meet in tune-up match

A former star player of Myanmar selected team seen in controlling the football.

YANGON, 11 Aug—The tune-up match between the former selected Myanmar football team and the Thai selected players team will be held at Youth Training Centre here on 30 August.

The former Myanmar selected team will be led by General Secretary of Myanmar Football Federation U Tin Aung together with manager U Myo Win Nyunt, U Hla Shwe Lay, Secretary U Aung Soe Moe, Coaches U Aye Maung Gyi and U Ye Nyunt.

A former star player of selected team seen in the pitch.

The players are golakeepers Aung Kyaw Kyaw, Sai Maung Maung Oo, defenders Min Zaw Oo, Soe Naing, Myint Ko, Ye Htut, Than Wai, Tun Myint Lwin, Chit Naing, Ngwe Tun, Zaw Lay Aung, Aye Naing, midfielders Than Toe Aung, Kyi Lwin, Tin Myo Aung, Kyaw Min, Kyaw Lwin, Maung Maung Htay, Tin Maung Tun, Tun Tun Htet, Han Tun, forwards Win Aung, Myo Hlaing Win, Aung Tun Tun, Aung Naing, Tin Htwe and Zaw Win Tun.

The turn-up match was proposed by Thai Football Association and MFF accepted the proposal.

Most of the players may be those from football arena in 1993.

The Thai selected team may be constituted with renowned players in the same period.

Kyemon-Shine Htet Zaw

Accident

Two dead in traffic accident on expressway

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A Pajero driven from Mandalay overturned at mile post No 39 (2/3) on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway at 6.15 pm on 10 August due of failure of right wheel.

In the incident, driver Kyaw Swa Chin, 43 and passenger Ma Hla Hla Thein, 21 died on the spot.

Other person Ko Aung Lin, 38 was rushed to the intensive care unit of Bago Hospital.

Expressway Police Corp members and those of Expressway Maintenance Team provided necessary assistance to those involved the accident.

Bawnetgyi Police Station opened a file of lawsuit over the case.

Kyemon-Kayan Soe Myint

Six migrants coming from Africa drown in sea off Sicily

ROME, 11 Aug — Six migrants drowned off the Italian island of Sicily on Saturday after attempting a dangerous passage from Africa in a fishing boat, according to the Italian coastguard. The 18-metre-long boat carrying some 120 migrants ran aground at dawn some 40 metres (132 feet) from a beach near the city of Catania, its coastguard captain Roberto D'Arrigo said.

While most of the passengers reached the shore, the six who drowned were apparently unable to swim.

The 120 migrants were mainly from Syria and Egypt, D'Arrigo told Sky Italia television, with an adolescent boy among the victims, who were all under age 30. Egypt has suffered prolonged political and economic turmoil. Syria is shattered by civil war.

D'Arrigo said he did not believe there were other victims in what he described as an "absolutely anomalous event".

African migrants normally reach Sicily's more southern coast or the island of Lampedusa to the south, only 110 km (70 miles) from Tunisia in North Africa. D'Arrigo said a migrant boat had never previously put into Catania — halfway up Sicily's eastern coast, leading him to believe the boat had lost its way. Thousands of immigrants seek the southern shores of Italy every summer, when Mediterranean waters in the Strait of Sicily calm sufficiently for small boats to make the crossing, usually from Libya or Tunisia.

They come looking for work in the European Union and many do not remain in Italy. Those who do, or who are taken into Italian custody, can be sent home.

Another boat carrying around 90 migrants arrived safely on Sicily's southeast shore on Saturday, near the town of Syracuse.

Last month Pope Francis, in his first official trip outside Rome, celebrated mass on Lampedusa to commemorate the thousands of migrants who have died at sea.

According to United Nations refugee agency UNHCR, almost 8,000 migrants and asylum seekers landed on the coasts of southern Italy in the first half of the year. The vast majority were from North Africa, mainly Libya, which has been in turmoil since the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

The UNHCR said 40 people were known to have died crossing from Tunisia to Italy in the first half of the year, though it is thought that many deaths are never reported.—*Reuters*

Would-be migrants who were rescued from a shipwreck, rest at a building at La Playa beach in Catania on Sicily island on 10 Aug, 2013.
REUTERS

Plane in Connecticut crash was upside down

MILFORD, 11 Aug—A plane flown by a retired Microsoft Corp executive that crashed into a Connecticut neighbourhood was upside down when it hit two houses, killing the pilot, his son and two young girls on the ground, officials said on Saturday.

Patrick Murray, a lead investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board, said there was no preliminary indication the plane was in distress or suffering from mechanical failure before it slammed into the houses in East Haven on Friday.

The pilot, Bill Henningsgaard, and his 17-year-old son, Maxwell, were on a trip to visit colleges when the plane crashed. Both died in the accident.

On Saturday, authorities identified the two other victims, a 13-year-old and one-year-old, both girls, who were inside one of the houses at the time of the crash.

The mother of the two girls, 39-year-old Joann Mitchell, was at home at the time and survived without any injuries.

"My heart is at a standstill," Mitchell wrote on her Facebook page. "The feeling of emptiness engulfs me. Mommy will always love you ... RIP my sweet angels."

The twin-engined propeller plane took off from Teterboro airport in New Jersey on Friday morning and had been attempting to land at Tweed New Haven Airport, about 40 miles south of Hartford, in rainy weather when it crashed.

"We don't know yet whether that played a role in the crash," Murray told reporters. "There is no evidence right now that the pilot was in distress during his last conversation with the control tower and it appears he was turning to try and land when the tower lost contact with him," he said.

East Haven is a town of about 30,000 people located near the Long Island Sound, about 85 miles northeast of New York City.

A Microsoft spokesman confirmed that Henningsgaard was a former employee of the company.

Reuters

Fire and rescue personnel surround the aftermath of a plane crash between two homes in East Haven, Connecticut, on 9 Aug, 2013. —REUTERS

Worst flood in two decades to hit NE China province

HARBIN, 11 Aug—Worst flood in two decades is predicted to hit northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, authorities with the provincial hydrology bureau said on Sunday.

Orange alert for severe flood was issued on Saturday night as the water level along the upper reaches of Nenjiang River in the province surpassed the warning level by 0.17 to 1.62 metres.

Due to continuous downpour, the peak level at Tongmeng station of Nenjiang River between 8 am Friday and 8 am Saturday reached 169.8 metres, 0.2 metres higher than the warning level.

And the water level in Qiqihar climbed to 147.88 meters, surpassing the warning level by 0.88 metres, according to the authorities.

Xinhua

The swollen Heilongjiang River submerges part of the Daheihe Island in Heihe City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 8 Aug, 2013. Continuous downpours since July left floodwater from tributaries to flow into the Heilongjiang River, putting much pressure on flood control in the lower reaches. —XINHUA

Reactor of Indian nuclear submarine achieves criticality

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said in a statement on Saturday that the reactor on board India's first indigenous nuclear submarine *INS Arihant* has achieved criticality.

Singh called the development "a giant stride in the progress of our indigenous technological capabilities."

According to local reports, the reactor reached criticality, or a self-sustaining nuclear reaction, on Friday.

India is also developing nuclear-capable submarine-launched ballistic missiles. If SLBMs are mounted in the *Arihant*, India's nuclear deterrence will be further strengthened, which is certain to provoke neighbours China and Pakistan.

According to *Press Trust of India,* the Arihant is currently undergoing sea trials at the Indian navy's submarine base in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh state.

Following the trials, the 6,000-ton submarine is expected to be commissioned into full service by spring next year.—*Kyodo News*

TEPCO says radioactive water likely flowed over underground wall

TOKYO, 11 Aug—Tokyo Electric Power Co said on Saturday groundwater contaminated with radioactive substances from the damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant likely flowed over an underground wall meant to prevent the water from reaching the sea.

TEPCO said so after measuring underground water near the seawall and finding a high concentration of radioactive materials in the water.

The government said earlier this week it estimates that about 300 tons of radioactive-contaminated water has flowed into the Pacific daily, the latest crisis in Japan's struggle to contain the 2011 nuclear disaster.

The water-shielding wall on the sea bank was completed on Friday. But necessary chemicals are unable to be injected from the ground surface to a depth of about 1.8 metres.

And as a result, radioactive-contaminated water is leaking into the ocean.

Since construction of the wall began in early July, the water levels have risen.

As a stopgap measure, TEPCO on Friday started pumping up water, but whether that has an effect remains to be seen, a company official.

Radioactive water is increasing at the Fukushima complex daily because groundwater is contaminated as it passes through the plant's premises, where three reactors suffered meltdowns following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster.

Kyodo News

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Endangered black snub-nosed monkey population increases to 3,000

KUNMING, 11 Aug — The number of black snub-nosed monkeys, an endangered species of primate endemic to China, has increased from 2,000 to over 3,000 since the 1990s, Chinese scientists announced after a scientific expedition that began in July.

The monkeys, known in China as Yunnan golden hair monkeys, are among the world's most endangered primates. They live in mountainous forests in southwest China's Yunnan Province and Tibet Autonomous Region.

Of the 18 groups scattered throughout the mountains, most live in the Baima Snow Mountain Nature Reserve in Yunnan, which was established in 1983 and added to the list of national-level nature reserves in 1986. Thanks to protection efforts, the group of 200 monkeys that Long Yongcheng, a chief scientist with the charitable environmental organization Nature Conservancy, encountered during his first forest expedition in 1987 has now grown to over 1,800, accounting for more than 60 percent of the world's total. Taking the monkeys in other parts of Yunnan and Tibet's Markam County into account, the species' total population has surpassed 3,000, Long said after a joint expedition with three French scientists.

The number of endangered black snub-nosed monkeys in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region has increased from 50 in the 1990s to 700, the Markam County forestry bureau reported in January. The black snub-nosed monkeys were close to extinction in the 1980s, because local hunters poached them for food or their striking black and white fur.

Endangered black snub-nosed monkey

The key to saving the monkeys and their forest homes lies in raising awareness about the monkey and helping hunters switch to other livelihoods, said Long. The Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Nature Conservancy and local management agencies are conducting community outreach and school programmes.

"We are providing funding and training to help hunters, often the poorest members of the communities, switch to other livelihoods," said Long.

Although black snub-nosed monkey population has increased significantly,environmental degradation and inadequate protection mean they are still endangered, said Xie Hongfang, head of the Baima Snow Mountain Nature Reserve Administration Bureau. —*Xinhua*

4-billion-year-old protein resurrected to explore origins of life

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Researchers resurrected 4-billion-year-old Precambrian proteins in the lab, and the protein is thought to have existed in single-celled organisms linked to the earliest ancestor of all life, according to a study in the journal *Structure* on Thursday.

The study report, written by Jose Sanchez-Ruiz of the University of Granada, said that the protein resurrected by scientists survives in the extreme environments of high acidity and temperature expected on early Earth.

By analyzing the protein's X-ray crystal structures, researchers gained novel insights into protein evolution, which has revealed a remarkable degree of structural similarity among proteins since life first evolved on Earth.

Sanchez-Ruiz and his collaborators constructed a phylogenetic tree of protein sequences by analyzing the amino acid sequences of thioredoxins — proteins found in organisms from the three domains of life, including bacteria, archaea and eukaryotes. They found that present-day thioredoxin structures are remarkably similar to those that existed at a time close to the origin of life, even though their amino acid sequences are very different.

This finding supported a punctuated-equilibrium model of evolution in which protein structures remain constant over long time periods, with new changes occurring intermittently over short periods. "In addition to uncovering the basic principles of protein structure evolution, our approach will provide invaluable information regarding how the 3D structure of a protein is encoded by its amino acid sequence," Sanchez-Ruiz said.— *Xinhua*

UNSG's message on International Youth Day

12 August, 2013

"Youth Migration: Moving Development Forward"

This year's observance of International Youth Day focuses on the issue of youth migration. Of the annual total of some 214 million international migrants, young people constitute more than 10 per cent, yet too little is known about their struggles and experiences.

The reasons young people migrate are many. Some are fleeing persecution, others are escaping economic hardship. Some are alone, others part of a family — with parents, siblings and even children of their own. Some have communities to go to, others must make new connections. In transit and at their final destinations, many young migrants face equal or greater struggles, including racism, xenophobia, discrimination and human rights violations. Young women, in particular, face the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Poverty, crowded and unsanitary living conditions and the challenges of finding decent employment are regular features of the migrant experience. These challenges are exacerbated by the current global economic and financial crisis. Migrants are also often accused by communities and politicians of taking jobs from local people, exposing them to further risk of discrimination. In other cases, young people left behind by migrating parents face psychological and social challenges and greater vulnerability.

It is important to emphasize the positive contribution young migrants make to societies of origin, transit and destination — economically and by enriching the social and cultural fabric. Most work hard to earn a living and improve their circumstances. The remittances they send to support families in their home countries are a major contributor to economies worldwide. When they return home, young migrants often enhance development by applying skills and ideas acquired abroad. And, in many cases, women are empowered through migration as they gain financial and social independence.

In October, the United Nations General Assembly will host the second High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. I urge Member States to consider youth migration. Working with and for young people is one of my top priorities. On this International Youth Day, I encourage Member States, youth-led organizations and other stakeholders to act to promote the rights of all young migrants and maximize the development potential of youth migration.

UNIC/Yangon

Identical twin US astronauts to serve as research subjects

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Florida), 11 Aug — NASA's only identical twin astronauts are planning to serve as guinea pigs for studies investigating the genetic impacts of long-duration spaceflight. Astronaut Mark Kelly, who commanded four space shuttle missions including the final flight of *Endeavour*, is set to be a test subject on Earth while his twin undergoes studies in orbit. Kelly left NASA in 2011 to care for his wife, former US Representative Gabrielle Giffords. She was shot through the head in January 2011 when a gunman opened fire at a political event in Arizona, killing six people and wounding 26 others.

His brother, Scott Kelly, is preparing for a year-long mission aboard *the International Space Station*, the longest single spaceflight NASA has ever attempted.

Four Russian cosmonauts lived for a year or longer aboard the now-defunct Mir space station." This is sort of our first foray into the genetic aspects of spaceflight," said John Charles, chief scientist with NASA's human research programme at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston." A study like this is going to be mostly observational, just see what we can find out," he said.

The US space agency is soliciting ideas from researchers about possible experiments.

Reuters

Nokia Lumia 625 and Lumia 925 to launch in India by August end

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug — When smartphones like the Nokia Lumia 925, Lumia 625 and the Lumia 1020 get listed on the company's website, an official launch becomes imminent (well mostly). A new report now claims that Nokia is likely to unveil the Nokia Lumia 625 in the second or third week of August. *The Times of India* has reported that the Lumia 625 which sports the biggest display on a Lumia smartphone, might be unveiled later this month.

The Lumia 925, Nokia's premium Windows Phone device is also expected to arrive at the same time. The report also adds that the Lumia 1020, Nokia's Windows Phone Pureview device, is expected to reach India in September or October.

All the three smartphones were listed on Nokia India's official website with a 'coming soon' label, some time back. However, the report does not mention anything about the pricing of the Lumia 625 and the Lumia 925, It also does not mention a specific launch date for the phones. Nokia announced the launch of the Lumia 625 that sports a 4.7-inch LCD screen, last month.

The other specifications of the Nokia Lumia 625 include a 1.2GHz dual-core processor alongside 512MB RAM and 8GB internal storage that can be expanded up to 64GB via microSD card. It comes with a 5-megapixel rear camera and a VGA front-facing shooter. The 4.7-inch screen sports

a disappointing 480x800 pixel resolution. The device runs Windows Phone 8. We had reported earlier that the Nokia Lumia 925 is now available for pre-orders at an online retailer for Rs 33,999. However, the online retailer mentions the estimated release date of the device as the fourth week of August.

The Nokia Lumia 925 is a premium smartphone and sports a metal frame with a polycarbonate back cover. — *Reuters*

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Animal MERS-CoV virus cases provide no clue for human infection: WHO

Geneva, 11 Aug — As for the recent study that suggests Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) or a virus very similar to it has been recently circulating among camels, World Health Organization (WHO) on Friday said that the results do not provide any insights into how humans become infected. Tarik Jasarevic, spokesman of WHO, told a Press conference that WHO welcomes any study that brings more information about the virus, and this study did provide a clue and a direction for further investigation, but critical questions remained to be answered, namely the source of the virus and the type of human exposures that result in infection.

Jasarevic said that the study found antibodies reacting to the new virus in camels, which mean that the camels have been infected at some point of time and produced antibodies, but to make sure it was the same virus as it was in humans, it's needed to find the virus itself rather than antibodies. He noted that the results did not shed light on how humans get infected, and most human cases did not have a history of direct contact with camels, adding that it was premature to rule out the possibility that other animals might serve as a reservoir or an intermediary host for MERS-CoV.

According to the latest update of WHO on the deadly virus, globally from September 2012 to date, WHO has been informed of a total of 94 laboratory-confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, including 46 deaths. Based on the current situation and available information, WHO encourages all Member States to continue their surveillance for severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) and to carefully review any unusual patterns.

WHO has convened an Emergency Committee under the International Health Regulations (IHR) to advise the Director-General on the status of the current situation. The Emergency Committee, which comprises international experts from all WHO Regions, unanimously advised that, with the information now available, and using a risk-assessment approach, the conditions for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) have not at present been met. — *Xinhua*

Fresh, unprocessed baby foods tied to less allergy

New York, 11 Aug — Babies who ate more fruits and vegetables and fewer packaged foods were less likely to develop food allergies in a new study that looked at overall diet patterns instead of just specific foods. "We have been aware that certain diets seem to reduce the risk of allergy in infants," said Dr Magnus Wickman, a professor at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, who was not involved in the study. "The mechanism behind that is that we think that different kinds of fatty acids and antioxidants, different kinds of vitamins and essential minerals are good for your health and also prevent allergy," he said. Researchers estimate that up to eight percent of children have a food allergy.

Parents are sometimes advised to avoid certain foods as a means of preventing food allergies from starting. But Kate Grimshaw, lead author of the new study and a researcher at the University of Southampton in the UK, said she's been concerned that parents are reducing the nutritional diversity of their infants' diet without there being a great deal of evidence to back it up. To see how parents are feeding their infants, and whether that appears to have any influence on food allergies, Grimshaw

and her colleagues collected food diaries from the parents of 1,140 babies. The parents typically maintained the diet log for the first year of life, Grimshaw and her colleagues report in *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*.

During that time, 41 children were diagnosed with a food allergy, and Grimshaw's group compared these infants to 82 similar babies without an allergy. The researchers scored the babies' diets based on the combination of different foods they ate. They found that babies without food allergies scored higher than babies with allergies on a diet that was rich in healthy, often homemade, foods — including fruits, vegetables, poultry and fish — and scant on processed foods such as pre-made meals, potato chips, cook-in sauces and bacon.—*Reuters*

Cardiac arrest more common at ice arenas than gyms

New York, 11 Aug — Machines to restart a heart in cardiac arrest are often required by law in fitness clubs, but a new study found that people's hearts more commonly stop in places that are home to alternative forms of exercise.

Researchers found the employees of indoor tennis facilities, ice arenas and bowling alleys in and around Seattle were more likely to have to respond to someone in cardiac arrest, compared to those at health clubs and fitness centres.

"You've got higher site incidence at those three areas. That's kind of interesting. If we're legislating AEDs to traditional fitness clubs, shouldn't they be legislated to the others?"

Dr Richard Page, the study's lead author and chair of the department of medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in Madison, said.

AEDs — or automated external defibrillators — are portable devices that send electronic shocks to a heart in cardiac arrest, which occurs when the heart suddenly stops beating. Approximately 300,000 people in the US go into cardiac arrest every year and about 90 percent of those die, according to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Quick use of an AED, however, can increase a person's chance of survival. For example, the CDC has found that about one in 10 people who go through cardiac arrest survive to be released from the hospital, but that rate climbs to one in three among those who were shocked by an AED during cardiac arrest.

The American College of Sports Medicine and the American Heart Association in 2002 encouraged all health and fitness facilities to have AEDs available, because the risk of cardiac arrest increases during and immediately after physical activity among those who don't regularly exercise.

Reuters

Banks cut 5,500 branches across Europe in 2012

A woman makes a transaction at an ATM of a Piraeus Bank branch as a man waits for his turn in Athens on 25 July, 2013. — Reuters

London, 11 Aug — Banks cut 5,500 branches across the European Union last year, 2.5 percent of the total, leaving the region with 20,000 fewer outlets than it had when the financial industry was plunged into crisis in 2008.

Last year's cuts come after 7,200 branches were axed in 2011, according to data analyzed by *Reuters* from European Central Bank statistics.

Banks across Europe have been closing branches in a bid to trim operating costs and improve their battered earnings. Consumer take-up of online and telephone banking services has accelerated the trend.

The data show EU banks cut 8 percent of branches in aggregate in the four years to the end of 2012, leaving 218,687 branches, or one for every 2,300 people.

Last year's sharpest cuts were largely contained to the embattled periphery.

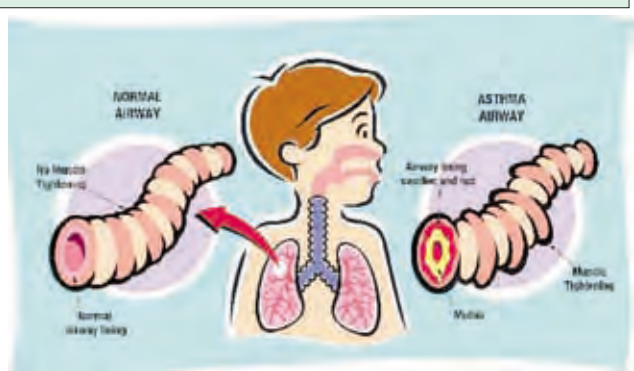
Crisis-stricken Greece saw one of the biggest contractions in 2012, shedding 5.7 percent of its outlets, as mergers of local banks led to 219 branch closures. The trend is expected to continue into 2013 as Piraeus (BOPr.AT) shuts some of the 312 branches it snapped up from stricken Cypriot lenders in March.

Reuters

Asthma more common, severe among obese kids

New York, 11 Aug — Overweight and obese children are more likely to be diagnosed with asthma, according to a new study — and when they do have the condition, it tends to be more severe than in normal weight youth. Researchers found that heavier kids and teenagers with asthma had more emergency room visits for the condition and used more "rescue" medications. "If parents are noticing that their overweight or obese child is having asthma-like symptoms, one thing to pay attention to, instead of just addressing the asthma, is to potentially address the child's weight," said Mary Helen Black, the study's lead author from Kaiser Permanente Southern California's department of research and evaluation.

For their study, she and her colleagues analyzed the electronic health records of 623,000 six- to 19-year-olds covered by Kaiser's health plan in 2007 through 2011. None of those children initially had asthma. Over an average of three years, just under 32,000 of them — about five percent — were diagnosed with the condition. The researchers found that the more children weighed, the more likely they were to develop asthma. Compared to normal weight kids, those who were overweight but not obese were 16 percent more likely to be diagnosed with asthma, and the most obese were 37 percent more likely.



Reuters

WORLD

Merkel challenger tries to calm storm over east German jibe

*Peer Steinbrueck, the Social Democratic party (SPD) candidate in the upcoming general elections, talks to tourists with a microphone from the bridge of a boat, during a harbour trip in Warnemuende, on 9 Aug, 2013.—*Reuters

Berlin, 11 Aug— Chancellor candidate Peer Steinbrueck travelled to eastern Germany on Saturday to try to calm a storm over his recent comments suggesting opponent Angela Merkel lacked passion for Europe because she grew up in the former communist East.

The Social Democrat (SPD) trails Merkel's conservatives by some 15 points in opinion polls with just six weeks left until a German election, and has been searching desperately for issues that might help him narrow the gap.

But his campaign has been dogged by gaffes, including the latest remarks, which infuriated some east Germans and drew rebukes from parties across the political spectrum.

At an SPD campaign event in the eastern city of Halle, Steinbrueck told his audience that the comments, made in a newspaper interview earlier this week, had been misconstrued and he praised easterners as "capable and hard-working people".

"I certainly did not mean to suggest that people who grew up in the East have an innate or regionally-determined distance to Europe," he said. "And I ask you to please not understand the remarks this way." Roughly a fifth of German voters live in the former communist East. The SPD has not done well there in past elections. In 2009, they won roughly 18 percent of the eastern vote, compared to nearly 30 percent each for Merkel's conservatives and the far-left "Linke" party.

During the euro zone debt crisis, some of Germany's partners and domestic critics have accused Merkel of focusing too much on German interests, and lacking the passion for Europe that drove previous chancellors like Helmut Kohl, who pushed Germany into the euro.

Reuters

Nelson Mandela's health improving by the day, his daughter says

Johannesburg, 11 Aug—Former South African President Nelson Mandela's health is improving daily and he is now able to sit up for minutes at a time, his youngest daughter told state broadcaster SABC.

The 95-year-old has been in a Pretoria hospital for two months for treatment of a recurrent lung infection.

The government said late last month his condition remained critical but was showing improvement.

Zindzi Mandela told SABC on Friday her father was becoming increasingly alert.

"He's fine. Tata now manages to sit up, like now he sits up in a chair for a few minutes in a day, every day you know he becomes more alert and responsive. Tata is determined not to go anywhere anytime soon, I cannot stress this enough," she said, referring to him by the Xhosa word for father.

*Former South African president Nelson Mandela looks on as he celebrates his birthday at his house in Qunu, Eastern Cape on 18 July, 2012.—*Reuters

"He just doesn't have the strength of a man, he has the strength that is beyond anything that can be explained.

Because even now with the challenges to his health, he somehow manages to bounce back when everyone assumes this is the end."

Mandela's victory in the first multiracial elections in 1994 marked the end of the apartheid system. Four years earlier, he was released after 27 years in prison under white minority rule, 18 of them at the notorious Robben Island penal colony.

Reuters

Two killed as big wheel cabin crumbles

Buenos Aires, 11 Aug— Two were killed and seven others injured on Saturday afternoon after one cabin of a big wheel came loose and fell from a height of 30 metres at the amusement park of Independence Park in Argentine northern city of Rosario.

Argentine C5N reported that three children who were among the injured in the tragedy in Rosario, 310 km north of Buenos Aires, have been taken to Children's Hospital of Victor J Vilela.

The accident occurred on Saturday afternoon when the park was crowded with visitors, many of whom were families taking kids.

This was the second accident that hit Rosario within a week. On 6 Aug, a blast, caused by a furnace gas leak, killed at least 14 and injured 63 others.

Xinhua

*Rescuers and journalists work in front of the big wheel known as "Around the World" or "Wheel of fortune" after an accident at the International Park funfair in Rosario, Argentina, on 10 Aug, 2013. Two people died and many other got injured, including three children who were taken to hospital. —*Xinhua

Clock ticks as Colombian peace talks drag on

*Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos leaves the conference room after a Reuters interview at the presidential palace in Bogota on 8 Aug, 2013.—*Reuters

Havana, 11 Aug— The Colombian government and leftist FARC rebels wound up a 12th round of peace talks on Saturday but apparently made little progress despite pressure from the country's president who has staked his legacy on a successful outcome before a looming national election.

The talks with the FARC, or Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, recess every few weeks, then resume, with the next round set to begin on 19 August. They are being facilitated by Cuba and Norway and hosted in Havana.

"We have begun the construction of accords concerning the rights and guarantees of political opposition in general, and in particular for new movements that arise after the signing of a final agreement," a joint statement issued on Saturday said, without indicating what common ground had been reached.

Discussions to end the longest and last remaining armed conflict in Latin America began last November with President Juan Manuel Santos saying he wanted them concluded in a year, a deadline he said this week was flexible if significant progress was made.

Santos said this week that talks to bring an end to five decades of conflict with the FARC were going well but should speed up.

"I am still optimistic. If I see that they have no future, that there is no will on the other side, that this is going nowhere, that same day I will dismantle the negotiating table and talks will end," Santos said.

The slow pace of the talks even as the fighting continues has Colombians beginning to lose patience. In a recent survey, some 43 percent of those polled in July said they were optimistic peace could be achieved, down from 45 percent in April.

The two sides, which are working through a five-point agenda, have only reached partial agreement on agrarian reform. Negotiators now are discussing the FARC's inclusion into the political system and then will move on to reparations to war victims, the drug trade and an end to the conflict.

The FARC has insisted on the calling of a constituent assembly and guaranteed seats in Congress, demands rejected by the government, which says a final agreement would be put to a referendum vote.

The government wants the rebels to hand in their weapons in exchange for safety guarantees. The FARC has indicated it is wary of disarming after an agreement is reached for fear of being eliminated by right-wing paramilitary groups.

Reuters

Over 10 killed in Sudan's heavy rain

Khartoum, 11 Aug— At least 10 people have been killed and around 3,000 houses destroyed at Omdurman city in the Sudanese capital Khartoum due to heavy rain and floods, local authorities announced on Saturday.

"More than 10 people were killed at Umbadah locality due to heavy rain that lasted for more than eight hours, while over 3,000 houses have been damaged, completely or partially", said a statement by Omdurman's Umbadah locality today.

The statement warned that the area is exposed to expected floods coming from nearby high areas west of Umdurman city, where the authorities urged the citizens to be cautious.

The Sudanese Meteorological Authority earlier forecasted heavy rains above the average at all areas of Sudan.

For about a week the Sudanese capital Khartoum has been witnessing heavy rains and floods that led to the killing of dozens of people and collapsing of hundreds of houses.

Xinhua

Buddha Images conveyed to Sagaing Region Shwedagon Pagoda replica

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—Four Buddha Images were conveyed to Sasana Htut Khaung Lay Kyun Yan Aung Pagoda, a Shwe-dagon replica pagoda, on Dipa Aye Myan Hill of Maha Myaing forest medication camp in Kalewa Township in Sagaing on 5 August.

Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye, Region ministers, departmental personnel, members of social organizations and the local people paid homage to the Buddha Images as the vessel arrived at the jetty of Aungzeyon ward in Monywa.

The Buddha Images were then conveyed to the hill.

The region chief minister attended the upgrading of Yinmabin Township to district. He unveiled the signboard of District General Administration Department office.—*MNA*

Dozens catch fever in NyaungU Tsp

NYAUNGU, 11 Aug—Some 100 children from villages in NyaungU Township of Mandalay Region have been hospitalized after infection of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.

SEED social services group in NyaungU donated cash for the fever infected children to Head of District Health Department Dr Aung Lwin.

All 100 beds of the township hospital have been filled with the children who contracted the fever.

MMAL-Kyaw Htay

Caption News:

TREES COME TO THE ROAD: ***Reflection signs are marked on trees in the street in front of Yangon General Hospital to prevent traffic accidents. The signs are seen after a report about the danger of the trees on the road by Myanma Alinn daily. As streets are expanded in various parts of the commercial city of Myanmar, trees and other barriers come over the roads.***

MMAL-KOGYI TIN

New Gyongyonkya bridge to be built

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 11 Aug—Mawlamyinegyun Township Administrator U Htay Maung, Deputy Township Administrator U Thein Tan, Township Development Support Committee Secretary U Khin Maung Zin and officials inspected conditions of Gyongyonkya bridge in Labutta District in Ayeyawady Region on 7 August morning.

It is the major bridge on Mawlamyinegyun-Yangon Highway at the entrance of Gyongyonkya village.

The bridge is being used by highway buses, cars and motor cycles.

The new bridge will replace the dilapidated one for safety and convenience of the road users.

MMAL-Mawgyun

Fire

Fire erupts at Bago brick factory

BAGO, 11 Aug—Fire engulfed a storage shed of the brick factory owned by Daw Htway in Myothit ward in Bago on 8 August.

The police detained former factory worker Maung Naing, 27, on suspicion of arson.

He asked for his wage from the owner who denied to give.

Bago Myoma Police Station charged him with arson.

MMAL-Thant Zin

Agriculture

Gangaw sesame farmers see high yield as rain showers

KALAY, 11 Aug—Sesame farmers in Gangaw of Magway Region have received a major boost in their pursuit for better yield as the rain is showering since April.

"Sesame is the major edible oil crop in Gangaw, the area with low rainfall," a farmer said. Sesame plantations need moderate rainfall and extremities can destroy the crops.

"This year, we have seen thriving sesame plantation—and high yield," he said.

The sesame have been harvested since the end of July and earlier August.

Despite success of sesame farmers, paddy farmers in the township await the adequate rainfall to start their monsoon paddy plantations.

MMAL-Shin Nay Min

Agriculture

Tomato supply to Kyaukpadaung market increases

KYAUKPADAUNG, 11 Aug—Abundant supply of tomatoes from northern Popa region are entering into Kyaukpadaung Township in Mandalay Region.

Tomato farmers from northern and southern Taungpaw village, Natlekan, Hse, Hsinsin and Sonegon villages are fetching high prices for tomatoes.

Most tomato plantations in the villages are irrigated by the torrent water and some plantations by rain water.

Tomatoes are sold in Natmauk, Taungdwingyi, Letpadan, Yangon, Yenangyoung, Magway and Taunggyi markets.

A farmer of sizable plantation made from K 1.5 million to K 2 million.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Outstanding students honoured at Homalin BEHS No 2

HOMALIN, 11 Aug—A ceremony to award outstanding students was held at Basic Education High School No 2 in Homalin on 7 August.

Chairman of the Township Management Committee U Kaung Myat Nyi made a speech.

Then, officials presented prizes to outstanding students.

MMAL-Township IPRD

Book corners opened in Minbu

MINBU, 11 Aug—Book corners have been opened in 10 public places in Minbu since 1 July.

The book corners supplied new books to the corners and withdrew old ones from the book corners on 4 August.

District Information and Public Relations Officer U Khin Win visited the book corners on 8 August.

MMAL-Tin Tun Oo

The New Light of Myanmar

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 12 August, 2013

Into the World Heritage list

In June next year, the World Heritage Committee will pass a resolution approving to put three Pyu period urbans—Srikestra, Vishnu and Hanlin—into the world heritage list at its 38 session, following their nomination at the UNESCO this year.

The capital of the city state ruled by queen Panhtwa, Vishnu lies at a place 12 miles from today's Taungdwingyi in Magway Region. Some historical records say that it was a rival city of Srikestra. The city flourished from about the first to the fifth century AD, and till today, parts of massive city wall can be found. Other ruins such as urban infrastructures, living quarters, religious edifices and the moat stand witness to its past glory. The radio-carbon dating of the twin charcoal layers found at some excavation sites in 1962 confirm that its final moment was about 1950 years ago.

Pyu-era pagodas, impressive temples, Buddha statues, earth lamps, bronze lamps, characteristic marks at the 108 Auspicious Illustrations on the Buddha's footprint prove that it was once a Buddhist centre and a milestone in the history of Southeast Asian civilization.

The Glass Palace Chronicles say that Srikestra was founded by King Duttabaung in about B.C 500 and lived for over 500 years under 25 rulers till it met its end in 100 A.D. It is located five miles south-east of Pyay, a major town in the west Bago Region.

Archaeologists who excavated Hanlin estimated that this Pyu city also was as old and splendid as her counterparts—Vishnu and Srikestra. The old city can be found 11 miles south-east of Shwebo the second largest commercial hub in Sagaing Region.

Hanlin in the upper Myanmar and Vishnu and Srikestra in the central part were commercial, religious and cultural centres linking with or lying on the overland trade route between China and India.

The three capitals of ancient Pyu kingdoms when become the world heritage sites will help boost tourism industry, especially the cultural tourism apart from uplifting the country's image.

ARTICLE

Sayagyi's Birthday Centenary

By Ba Than

On 23rd August 2013, a commemorative birthday centenary will be celebrated in the Mandalay University campus in honour of our revered guru Sayagyi U Ko Lay, the first principal of the first ever Anyar University College in Mandalay on July 1947. Alumni students from 1947 onwards along its long process of establishment and development of Anyar University Educate will pay homage to his illustrious contribution. Many memorable events will be held, which may include sermons by venerable Sayadaws, speeches, paper presentation, publication of a birthday centenary journal and fixing a bust bronze statue of Sayagyi U Ko Lay in the Mandalay University campus where he dedicatedly spent his prime active life for the propagation and perpetuate of University education in the Anyar Land of Theravada Buddhism, fine arts, culture endearing customs and suave social etiquette.

The Mandalay University had its early beginning in 1925 during the British Colonial Era with the institution of an Intermediate College, with 31 students in the initial year. Sayagyi U Ko Lay attended the Intermediate College in 1929. He then pursued the B.Sc class in the Yangon University and passed B.Sc with Chemistry. He then proceeded on scholarship to UK for post graduate Master studies. During his scholastic sojourn in London he joined the Burma Club established by Myanmar residents, students and British ICSs who had been to Myanmar and served in the British colonial service. Naturally the British dominated the Club but later on with active mobilization the Myanmars gained control of the EC, with U Ko Lay taking the post of the Secretary of the EC. While in UK, U Ko Lay gained contact with Sayagyi Razak who saw the potential of U Ko Lay as person of promise. After his return to Myanmar they embarked upon the grand vision of establishing an Anyar University in Mandalay the seat of Myanmar kings and centre of arts and culture. The status of Sayagyi U Razak as Education Minister in the Cabinet of the Constituent Government of the Governor had facilitated the institution of the pioneer University College, firstly as an Intermediate College, and later as a 4 year degree College affiliated to the Yangon University. Sayagyi U Ko Lay was nominated as the first principal, superseding many senior incumbents.

Founder U Razak did not live to see the grand opening as he died a martyr on 19th July 1947. The MUC opened its welcoming door on the 17th July 1947 with less than 100 1st year students. Sayagyi had vision and foresight to upgrade the MUC into a full-fledged independent Mandalay University. He also programmed a pool of qualified academics by sending the potential graduate students abroad for higher studies of Master and Ph.Ds in all disciplines of learning. Eventually when they returned they strengthened the teaching faculties.

Then by 1958 the MUC was upgraded into an independent full-fledged Anyar University to become the pride of Anyarthars. U Ko Lay became the first Vice Chancellor. In the course of its enviable growth and its reputation stretched beyond its borders.

Sayagyi did not live to enjoy the blossoms of his endeavour as he was prematurely retired in 1960. He led a humble life, devoting his retired years in private tuition and pursuing Buddhist teachings on Pariyatti learning and Patipatti meditation. He was a trailblazer in his young dynamic academic years guiding his students to excellence. But in old age with maturity and contemplation he became a beacon of saintliness. Shifting to Yangon in the refuge of Buddhist Pariyatti University under guidance of the most venerable Tipitakadhara, Dhammabhandagarika, Bhaddanta Ashin Viccitasarabhivamsa, he delivered lectures in English to both Myanmar and foreign students.

Now in retirement many old students gathered around him, in respect and adulation and listened to his wise admonition. It was indeed a joyful reunion. The Mandalay University also did not forget the revered Guru. Every year in December the open season, Acariya Puja ceremony was celebrated honouring the surviving 24 founders and later retirees. Finally in 2003, our Sayagyi passed away. Sayagyi was also a reputable man of letter with many best-selling books, both English & Myanmar to his credit. He won many literary prizes and citations, both religious and literary works. He was also recognized by the State in Independence Day Citation such as: :Exemplary Award in the Field of Arts.

In 2012 Sayagyi's remaining students also in their eighties embarked upon an idea of commemorating him on his birthday centenary which falls on 23rd August 2013, with veneration, pomp and grandeur at the campus of Mandalay University. A bronze statue will be erected on a pedestal in that auspicious ground where it all started. At this moment of time, out of the 24 original founders only one, Sayagyi U Ba Toke, retired teacher & maths professor at the age of 93 live to see this centenary of this guru.

This article is the respectful memento to our revered Sayagyi on his auspicious birthday centenary celebration.

Thriving market in Shwegondine Junction...

(from page 1)

While the number of dailies is rising, the weekly news journals are still occupying their shares of market. At present, each weekly journal which is sold at K 500/K750/K1250 per copy is trying to survive in the market while seriously competing with the sales of each newspaper worth K 100/K200. That is why the journals choose their options for standing by presenting better notes of news and articles on their pages.

"I have long been a newspaper agent at Shwegondine for over 30 years. State-owned newspapers have reliable readers and subscribers. At the same time, private newspapers present news on their different point of views to be able to attract the readers. Some of readers who bought one copy of journal now purchases three different copies of private newspapers. Actually, newspapers are in competitiveness in all sectors and improvement can be seen among them. In consequence, those in the field of newspapers enjoy better livelihoods," said a newspaper agent from Shwegondine Newspaper Market.

As nowadays is information age, the people are eager to broaden their horizon and number of literary enthusiasts and newspaper readers are increasing day by day. Although distribution of information is being undertaken through various kinds of online media in addition to print media across the world, the print media is still playing a crucial role in information sector of the Asian countries. At the same time, "Shwegondine Newspaper Market" in Yangon is still alive in the daily mornings with increasing number of circulation.

Kyemon: 5-8-2013

***Trs*: TTA**

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Securities stop girl's attempted suicide in Kamayut

YANGON, 11 Aug—Securities of Hledan Centre could stop a girl attempting suicide from sixth storey of a building in Hledan street in No 8 ward in Kamayut Township yesterday.

Two securities from the centre broke open the door to stop Ma Lwin Malar Win, 19, from jumping off to kill herself.

Sangyoung Township Fire Brigade brought her to Yangon General Hospital.

MMAL-167

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets PCG, leaders of Shan and Kachin nationality affairs groups

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug— Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met Peace-talk Creation Group (PCG) from Myitkyina at Malikha Yeiktha yesterday evening.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers Dr Mya Aye and Dr Myint Aung, Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, and Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing of Myanmar Egress.

They exchanged views on matters related to peace talks, and rehabilitation for IDPs who left their native regions for security reasons.

Likewise, the Vice-President and party met leaders of Shan nationality affairs group and Kachin nationality affairs group separately.—*MNA*

***Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets Peace-talk Creation Group (PCG) from Myitkyina at Malikha Yeiktha in Myitkyina.*—MNA**

Government would assist in solving livelihood...

(from page 1)

After attending to the needs of the locals, the Vice-President said that it is very difficult to visit such a famous place because the town has transport barriers. People from four corners of the country moved to this place for their livelihood. Jades from Phakant are a main foreign currency earner of the country and are what made the country known to the world.

Myanmar is still among poor countries even though being a resource-rich country. The sure point is that raw materials of natural resources are sold without being value-added.

He called for collaboration between gems entrepreneurs, local authorities, officials from the ministry and local people for environmental conservation.

He urged gems entrepreneurs to run their businesses in the legal bounds.

In his conclusion, he urged the people make cooperation with the government for ensuring peace and stability and the development of the country.

Next, the deputy minister for Border Affairs presented one copier, the gems entrepreneurs association from Phakant K 10 million and Shwethanlwin Co one set of Sky Net receiver.

Afterwards, the Vice-President and party cordially greeted the internally displaced persons.

They then went to Indawgyi Region in Hopin Sub-Township and paid homage to Indawgyi Shwemyinzu Yayle Pagoda and donated cash to the fund.

The Vice-President met local people from eleven village-tracts in Indawgyi Region at the Dhammayon of the pagoda and clarified matters on current political, economic, administrative and judicial affairs of Myanmar.

On behalf of Htoo Foundation, Air Bagan, AGD Bank, Myanmar Treasure Hotel Group and Aureum Hotel, Htoo Foundation Patron U Tayza donated K 120 million for upgrading entrance road to the pagoda through an official.

Then, the Vice-President and party arrived in Mohnyin Degree College where they met the principal and faculty members, townselders and departmental officials.

The Vice-President touched upon extending the entrance road to the college presented by the principal. Then, Vice-President delivered an address. He said:

The purpose of the trip is: to let people know government's reform processes; to help Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) and provide necessary infrastructure development in Mohnyin District; and to hear the voices of local people.

As a political reform, the government has opened up a new channel for inclusiveness of all political parties in the political process.

And the government has embarked on sweeping reforms such as granting amnesty for prisoners of conscience, throwing away of censor's pen, giving go-ahead to private dailies and TV channels, formation of the associations and the unions, freedom of assembly and expression, local peace-making processes and national reconsolidation.

The country sees economic reforms such as transformation of State-owned businesses to private-owned ones, encouragement of market-oriented economic system, old-age cars substitution programme, foreign exchange rate, easy access to mobile phones, increasing staff's salaries and additional allowances, enactment of Foreign Investment Law and creating rooms for fair competitions between the businesses.

Taking a look at administrative sector, ward/village administrators are elected in accord with people's desires. And the government ends its control on Township Development Affairs Committee's affairs. Green light is given to power supply by private sector.

Now people come to get chance to lodge a complaint about corruption. Action is being taken against those corrupt persons in accord with the laws. The complaints call for strong evidences, without making accusations against individuals.

To make complaints about cases to the authorities, anyone can do so through MPs, management committee and supporting committee of administrative bodies, anti-corruption committee and print media and on-line media.

The most important thing is that anyone shall take responsibility for reportage and interviews and shall have courage to face the consequences.

The second thing is to help overcome the challenges including livelihood of IDPs in Kachin State caused by last year armed conflicts.

The government would assist in solving livelihood problems of IDPs and will work together with international organizations to clear land mines and to build low-cost housings.

Only when infrastructures including transportation, health, education, electric power and monetary infrastructures could be built, will the state be on track to development and it depends on the peace in Kachin State.

The cash donation ceremony followed. Managing Director U Kyaw Htaik of Diparmin Gems Co donated K 10 million each for Mohnyin Degree College and Technological College, Managing Director U Than Shwe of Kabahein Gems Co K 10 million for regional development, San Family Gems Co K 10 million for teaching aid of the degree college and Shwethanlwin Co two sets of Sky Net receivers higher institutions.

Next, the Vice-President and party arrived back in Myitkyina and met MCCs at Malikha Yeiktha and discussed matters on education, health and social affairs of the IDPs and invited their cooperation.

MNA

***Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets local people.*—MNA**

LOCAL NEWS

HRD

Educative talks given at Kawthoung Women's Vocational Training School

KAWTHOUNG, 11 Aug—An educative talks was held at Women's Vocational Training School in Kawthoung on 9 August morning.

Assistant Director Daw Ni Ni Cho of Taninthayi Region Information and Public Relations Department explained raising of reading habit, reliance on public libraries, and broadening horizon of the people and emergence of good and able women.

Kyemon-Kawthoung IPRD

Vocational training courses conclude in Maungtaw

MAUNGTAW, 11 Aug—The women's domestic science course No 38 and the advanced tailoring course No 34 concluded at the hall of Women's Vocational Training School in Maungtaw Township on 9 August morning.

The ceremony was attended by district and township level departmental officials totalling 150.

At first, District Deputy Commissioner U Aung Myint Soe made a speech. Principal of the training school Daw Nilar Kyi explained matters related to the training school.

Prize winning trainees were awarded one sewing machine each, and the remaining trainees were granted to purchase sewing machines through installment.

Altogether 40 trainees attended the basic domestic science course No 38 and 10 the advanced tailoring course.—*Kyemon-District IPRD*

Nutrition Week Activity commences in Hlinethaya

YANGON, 11 Aug—A ceremony to launch the nutrition week activity was held at Kanaung Hall in Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya Township of Yangon North District in Yangon Region on 9 August morning.

The ceremony was sponsored by Save the Children.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Htein Soe of General Administration Department made a speech.

Yangon Region Health Officer Dr U Ko Ko Maung of Yangon Region Health Department and HA (a) Daw Nwe Nwe Htay on behalf of the Township Health Officer explained nutrition matters to over 300 attendees.

Dr Ni Ni and U Nicolas Tint Zaw replied to queries and suggestions raised by the chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and local authorities.

Officials distributed iron tablets to expectant mothers and vitamin A tablet to children under two years.

Later, the sports contests, wrestling, quiz and poem recitation for the children followed, and officials presented prizes to the winners.

Kyemon-Min Htet Paing (Hlinethaya)

Health Care

Kayin State launches nutrition week activity 2013

HPA-AN, 11 Aug—The nutrition week activity was launched at Zwekabin Hall in Hpa-an of Kayin State on 6 August morning.

Chief Minister of the state U Zaw Min made a speech.

Deputy Head of State Health Department Dr Kyaw Swa Myint reported on activities on nutrition week, pedetrician Dr Htay Htay Win of the state on outbreak of common diseases at children, leader of the regional health squad Dr Khin Moe Aye on nutrition from daily meals and Township Health Officer Dr Khin Moe Thwe on matters related to vitamin A, B1, iron and iodized salt.

After the ceremony, the chief minister, the Speaker of State Hluttaw and state ministers, Patron of State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Nyunt Nyunt Wai and members, and those of Women's Affairs Organization gave vitamin A tablets and distributed iron tablets to mothers, presented vitamin B 1 tablets, eggs, iodized salt and soy milk to expectant mothers.

Next, the State MCWSC demonstrated the nutritious cooking and the participants were in four groups.

Also present on the occasion were Speaker of State Hluttaw U Saw Aung Kyaw Min, state ministers, the patron of MCWSC and members, members of WAO, departmental officials, pre-primary students from Hpa-an and five villages, mothers, expectant mothers and the children and mothers from flood relief camps, totalling 500.

Kyemon-State IPRD

Flood victims return home after water level of Donthami Creek subsides

THATON, 11 Aug—Flood victims from Duyinseik Village returned home as water level of Donthami Creek declined between Thaton Township of Mon State and Kayin State.

"The water level had been declining here since last five days. The victims from the relief camps moved back home under their owned arrangements. On 9 August, members of Township Fire Services Department and officials from village support committee helped them to be able to return home," said village administrator U Kyaw Tun.

Due to raising water level at Donthami Creek, the local people from 249 households from Duyinseik Village in Thaton Township became flood victims.

At present, the victims except 98 people from 16 households residing near the low-lying areas of the village have already returned home.

Kyemon-Thet Oo (Thaton)

Members of Township Fire Services Depart -ment help local people on their moves to home.

Construction

Road repaved for convenience of people in Myeik

MYEIK, 11 Aug—The asphalt road was in poor condition in front of Basic Education Middle School (East) in Tawyakyaw Ward of Kalwin Village-tract of Myeik Township in the past.

The local people faced difficulties in transportation by motorcycle, car and bicycle. Likewise, the students were disappointed in going to the school along the bad road.

With the assistance of Shwe Nandaw Confectionary in Kalwinsonkhaung Ward, Platoon Commander, the surgeant and party of No 2 Auxiliary Fire Brigade of Tawyakyaung Ward placed concrete the 230 feet long road from 7 to 9 August.

Local people are pleased with their efforts for better transportation in the ward.—*Kyemon-049*

*Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (R) talks with visiting New Zealand Governor-General Jerry Mateparae (L) in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, on 10 Aug, 2013. Visiting New Zealand Governor- General Jerry Mateparae said here on Saturday that Cambodia held a peaceful general election on 28 July. —*XINHUA

Police seize 7,500 pirated Japanese drama DVDs in Taipei

TAIPEI, 11 Aug—Taipei's Intellectual Property Rights Police on Saturday announced the seizure of some 7,500 pirated DVDs of Japanese television dramas during a raid on two shops in an underground mall of Taipei Station. The pirated discs were being sold for as little as NT$100 (about 320 yen) apiece.

The raid was carried out at the request of the Japanese police agency in charge of policing Japanese copyright claims overseas, the Content Overseas Distribution Association.

"Taipei is the region where Japanese video content is the most popular overseas. We are calling for property rights protection," a CODA official said. The latest crackdown in Taipei on Japanese-related pirated discs is the fourth since 2011.

Kyodo News

Police arrest man for molesting German student in Indian capital

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug—Indian police have arrested a man for allegedly stalking and molesting a German woman student in the Indian capital a couple of days ago, a senior police official said on Saturday.

"The stalker, identified as Manish Kumar, was nabbed on Friday evening. We were able to arrest him on the basis of close circuit television footage obtained from a metro station near Nizamuddin in the central part of the Indian capital," he said.

Kumar allegedly stalked and then molested the 19-year-old German student who is working with a non-government organization in the national capital, while she was returning home from work along with one of her friends. He fled the spot after the girls raised an alarm, and they subsequently filed a police complaint.

Sexual assaults on women are common in the Indian capital. Last year, the fatal and brutal gangrape of a 23-year-old medical student by six men on a moving bus had shocked the country, and the government was compelled to bring in harsher punishment for offenders.

Xinhua

The departure lobby at Tokyo's Haneda airport is crowded with holidaymakers on 10 Aug, 2013, as the annual rush of travellers headed to their hometowns and resort areas for the Japanese "Bon" summer holidays peaked.
KYODO NEWS

Eight killed, 35 wounded in road crash in NW Bangladesh

DHAKA, 11 Aug—Eight people were killed and 35 others wounded on Saturday in a road crash in northwest Bangladesh, police said.

Sheikh Delwar Hossain, police chief of Gobindaganj Sub-district of northwestern Gaibandha District, 268 km northwest of capital Dhaka, told *Xinhua* by telephone that the accident took place on Saturday afternoon as two passenger buses coming from opposite directions collided head-on, killing five people on the spot.

Three more passengers died on the way to hospital, Hossain said, adding that the wounded were admitted to local hospitals.

The cause of the accident is under investigation, he added.

The South Asian nation has one of the highest fatality rates for road accidents in the world, mainly due to shoddy highways, poorly-maintained vehicles, violation of traffic rules by inept drivers and lack of monitoring of the traffic department

Xinhua

Ban Ki-moon to visit Pakistan on Tuesday

ISLAMABAD, 11 Aug — The United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon will arrive in Islamabad on a two-day visit on Tuesday, state media reported on Saturday.

During his stay, Ban will discuss steps for polio eradication and promotion of education, especially women education, with Pakistani leadership, Radio Pakistan reported.

The World Heath Organization says Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan remain polio-endemic in the world in 2013. The UN Secretary General is expected to hold meetings with the President, the Prime Minister, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs and National Security, Speaker National Assembly, women parliamentarians and other high officials.

Ban Ki-moon will also take part in the Independence Day celebrations on 14 August. He will also attend a number of functions, including events on polio eradication and youth education, and inauguration of the Centre of Peace and Security at National University of Science and Technology.—*Xinhua*

Two killed in building collapse in India

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug—At least two people were killed and four injured when a four-storey building collapsed in the western Indian city of Jaipur early Saturday, said police.

Police said the building collapsed at around 03:00 am in Bhatta Basti area of the tourist resort city, also the state capital of Rajasthan.

The injured were sent to hospital while at least three persons remained missing, said police.

Building collapse takes place from time to time in India due to dilapidated conditions of construction, lack of safety measures by owners in renovating or maintenance, and over inhabitation.

Xinhua

*Rescuers work at the collapsed site in Bhatta Basti area of Jaipur, India, on 10 August, 2013. At least two people were killed and four others injured when a four-storey building collapsed in the western Indian city of Jaipur early Saturday, according to the police. —*XINHUA

Thai PM vows to develop train service

BANGKOK, 11 Aug—Thai premier Yingluck Shinawatra on Saturday vowed to develop rail transport to boost the country's development and uplift the peoples' living standard.

In her weekly televised programme "PM Yingluck Government Meets the People", she expressed her interest in developing the country's rail transport, notorious for its poor service.

The premier and her cabinet members recently had a special cabinet meeting on a train trip from Bangkok to central Province of Nakhon Pathom.

She said the meeting agreed that travelling by train is important to the public and the services of the State Railway of Thailand (SRT) should be uplifted in accord with the infrastructure development plan.

Yingluck said the train trip helped her understand the real problems and try to find short and long-term solutions so that the public can benefit from train services.

The pilot project of a new train station was considered. More revenues will be generated apart from ticket fees such as local products to be sold at train stations.

Regarding SRT's debt problem, the premier said although it has significant debts, it also has potential to generate income, which must comply with how to serve the public to their satisfaction.

Meanwhile, Transport Minister Chatchart Sittipan said the government's investment in railways might not generate much financial returns but instead foster connectivity and development in the region.

Xinhua

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(7/2013)

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 -061(2013-2014)	Spares for CAT D 3512 B Engine	(2) Items	US $
(2)	IFB -062(2013-2014)	Spares for Kenworth Truck Engine	(2) Items	US $
(3)	IFB -063(2013-2014)	Spares for High Clutch (Ex NAT 80 B Drawwork)	(2) Items	US $
(4)	IFB -064(2013-2014)	Drill Collar Safety Clamp	(6) Items	US $
(5)	IFB -065(2013-2014)	Transmission Pump Assy For Komatsu Dozer	(5) Nos	US $
(6)	IFB -066(2013-2014)	41/2" Tri Cone Rock Bits	(2) Items	US $
(7)	IFB -067(2013-2014)	Stand Line Gate Valves & Accessories	(7) Items	US $
(8)	IFB -068(2013-2014)	Over Running Clutch & Spares For D3 T2 SR- I&II	(18) Items	US $
(9)	DMP/L-029(2013-2014)	Heat Shrink Tube and Wire Cable for HDD Rig	(2) Items	Kyat
(10)	DMP/L-030(2013-2014)	Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L Drilling Rig	(4) Items	Kyat

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 11-9-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12th 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

Beijing to host 24th World Congress of Philosophy

ATHENS, 11 Aug—China's capital Beijing will host the 24th World Congress of Philosophy (WCP) in 2018, it was announced here on Saturday at the closing ceremony of the 23rd WCP.

The announcement was made by Dermot Moran, president of the Programme Committee, the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP) to the cheers and applause of the audience, including about 300 philosophers from China.

It will be the first time for China to host the international meeting, organized by the FISP every five years.

FISP President William Mcbride said he was happy to see that the philosophers would meet again in another ancient capital in five years.

According to FISP, the 24th WCP will be organized by the Department of Philosophy, Peking University.

Wang Bo, chairman of the Department of Philosophy, Peking University said he was very happy that China won over Brazil to host the 2018 WCP. He said the 24th WCP would be a good opportunity to promote Chinese philosophy to the world.

The 23rd WCP opened in Athens on 4 August with some 3,000 participants from more than 100 countries and regions, including Chinese scholars.

During the seven-day meeting, they exchanged views under the main theme of "Philosophy as inquiry and way of life."

The theme recalls Socrates' declaration that "an unexamined life is not worth living."

The first WCP was held in 1900 in Paris. The congress aims at inquiring into the world's philosophical traditions, reflecting on the tasks and functions of philosophy in the contemporary world, among others.—*Xinhua*

Participants shoot to each other with water pistols during the water fight at Stanley Park in Vancouver, Canada, on 10 Aug, 2013. Over 300 people joined the 7th annual Vancouver's water fight event. Participants brought their water pistols and bombs to cool down each other in the hot summer.
XINHUA

Visa window gives tourists a welcome view

BEIJING, 11 Aug—Guangzhou, the third city after Beijing and Shanghai to offer 72-hour visa-free transit to airline passengers, is winning over travellers.

The city's historic and modern attractions are part of the reason, but it has one advantage that the other two cities don't: the 72-hour countdown commences the day after arrival, according to Yang Hongyan, deputy director of the marketing department of the Guangzhou Tourism Bureau.

Guangzhou welcomed its first foreign 72-hour visa-free tour group on Tuesday.

The 23 foreigners arrived to a warm welcome by China Southern Airlines at Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport.

They were also welcomed by the Guangzhou Tourism Bureau, the Guangzhilu International Travel Service and the airport administration.

A special half-day tour was arranged free of charge for the foreigners, from countries including the United States, Australia, New Zealand and France.

Their first day got off to a tasty start with a Cantonese breakfast at the Garden Hotel. Then it was time for sightseeing.

The Chen Clan Academy, built in the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) was a popular attraction. After that morsel of history, modernity called.

The tourists were taken to the heights of delight as they enjoyed a bird's-eye view from the 600-metre Canton Tower.

Spaniard Fernando Quispez, who teaches Asian culture in the US, was on his first trip to Guangzhou but he has been to China before.

He is fascinated by Chinese history, architecture and sculpture and has travelled to Beijing and Shanghai.

He was flying to Dubai on vacation, by way of Guangzhou, and with the help of the new policy, he finally got the opportunity to enjoy a city with a history of more than 2,200 years.

"I'm stunned by the Lingnan culture in the Chen Clan Academy and the magnificent sight of the Canton Tower. It's such a pity that we had only half a day for the trip, which is not enough to explore this amazing city."—*Xinhua*

One missing Chinese found alive and safe now: Chinese Embassy

KABUL, 11 Aug—One of the two missing Chinese citizens in Thursday's attack had been found alive and transferred to a safe place, another one remained missing and searching is underway, the Chinese Embassy in Kabul said on Saturday.

Three Chinese citizens, one male and two female, were killed on Thursday in an apartment building in central Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, which marked the first such incident in recent years in this war-torn nation.

The body of an Afghan male was also found at the criminal scene.

All the five Chinese victims are self-employed business people, the embassy confirmed.

According to the embassy, the two female victims were killed accidentally when they stopped by the apartment and met the criminals inside.

After the attack on Chinese citizens, the Chinese Embassy immediately urged the Afghan government to take all practical and necessary measures to arrest the perpetrators and ensure the security of Chinese citizens and institutions in Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, an official with the Afghan Interior Ministry described the bloody incident as a criminal act.

"Unidentified armed men sneaked into the apartment of the Chinese nationals in Qalai Fatullah area of the 4th police district on Thursday afternoon, killing four people including three Chinese and their Afghan guard," the official told *Xinhua* but declined to be named.— *Xinhua*

People jubilate at a colour run event in Beijing, capital of China, on 10 Aug, 2013. Colour run is an untimed event with no winners or prizes, and runners are showered with coloured powder at stations along the race.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

*Rock band Kings of Leon pose on arrival at the 53rd annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California on 13 Feb, 2011.—*Reuters

Kings of Leon go 'young and fun' for new album 'Mechanical Bull'

Los Angeles, 11 Aug — Rock group Kings of Leon are getting less serious with age, as the band prepares to bring "young and fun" new music on Friday to their fans across the world in a quirky collaboration with comedian Fred Armisen. Kings of Leon, formed by Followill brothers Caleb, Nathan, Jared and cousin Matthew, are marking a decade in the music industry since their debut album "Youth & Young Manhood" was released in 2003. After a hiatus in 2012, Kings of Leon are back on the road to support their upcoming sixth studio album "Mechanical Bull," due out in September.

Matthew Followill, the band's guitarist, said the new album will see the rockers embracing a lighter sound, set by the lead single "Supersoaker." The new album also marks a milestone in the band members' own lives as they have all become family men in recent years, getting married and becoming parents. "It ended up being a lot more young and fun-sounding than the other albums. We're not so serious this time," Followill told *Reuters* of "Mechanical Bull." "We're still the same people, we just have kids and it was really awesome. It made us almost have more fun in life and not take things so seriously, we just had a little more fun with things."

Formed in Nashville, Tennessee, Kings of Leon have steadily risen into the spotlight over the last ten years, breaking into the mainstream music charts with 2008's "Only By The Night," which featured hit singles "Sex on Fire" and "Use Somebody."

Reuters

Shah Rukh Khan can't stop smiling on success of Chennai Express

Mumbai, 11 Aug—Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's Chennai Express, which released on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr on Thursday, says he can't stop smiling thanks to the overwhelming response to the movie. "I can't stop smiling. Till the time I don't stop smiling, the excitement won't settle down," Shah Rukh said. The conference was held at the compound of his Bandra bungalow Mannat, and he was accompanied by Chennai Express director Rohit Shetty.

Shah Rukh said he is happy with the initial response, but he wants to wait for some more days to see how the film sustains. "It is nice that the film is doing well. I want to wait for three to four days. I am happy that people have liked the film and it has opened well," he said. However, he didn't know about the film's success in terms of numbers.

"I don't know how much (business) it has done till now. I just woke up. If a big film releases, I try to refrain for at least two to three days (from counting the collections)," he said. Chennai Express has a positive message for women, and Shah Rukh says he is glad it has been able to depict the message in a convincing yet subtle way.

"The film has a message, but it is not on the face. The film is a made up story. She (The female character played by Deepika Padukone) is a strong woman who runs away from home. We have made a point in the film without making a point of it," he said. The film has several Tamil dialogues, but sans subtitles. It was a conscious decision, SRK said. "The idea was to show the audience what the hero is going through. Also, love has no language. If we start explaining, then the point is lost. It will spoil the creativity," he added.—*PTI*

***Shah Rukh says "till the time I don't stop smiling, the excitement won't settle down."—*PTI**

Disney's animated adventure 'Planes' enters tailwind of 'Cars'

Los Angeles, 11 Aug —For a film once slated to go straight to DVD, Disney's animated adventure "Planes" has some lofty ambitions: it not only wants to be a worthy spin-off of the "Cars" franchise, it also aspires to tell a global story. Out in US theatres on Friday, "Planes" portrays a fleet of aircraft that is as loveable as the automobiles in "Cars," an underdog story of Dusty Crophopper who aspires to win the air racing championship that challenges contenders to fly around the globe.

The modest crop duster faces two problems, sizable ones at that: he's not built for racing and he is terrified of great heights. With all odds seemingly against him, Dusty trains with veteran naval plane Skipper and qualifies for the race. In his journey, Dusty befriends other racers such as El Chupacabra, a Mexican plane with mannerism and dress of a luchador wrestler, and Ishani, an exotic plane from India. "I thought it would be a great opportunity to throw this hurdle at Dusty, who is a small-town American guy, and actually get him out there to experience the world with all these different cultures and ethnicities and colours and sights," "Planes" director Klay Hall told *Reuters*.

The film features voice actors including Dane Cook, Teri Hatcher and Julia Louis-Dreyfus, but to tap into the global scope of the story, Hall brought on veteran British actor John Cleese as Bulldog, the oldest racing contender, and Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra to play Ishani. In one scene, Chopra's character Ishani flies over India's Taj Mahal with Dusty and says, "I have a billion fans and I can't disappoint them." Hall said that Chopra's own background as a Bollywood celebrity helped bring authenticity to Ishani.

Reuters

***John Lasseter (R), Chief Creative Officer at Pixar and Walt Disney animation studios, poses with actress Teri Hatcher, who voices the character of "Dottie'', at the world premiere of ''Planes'' at El Capitan theatre in Hollywood, California on 5 Aug, 2013.—*Reuters**

Amanda Bynes' mother appointed conservator over actress's affairs

Los Angeles, 11 Aug —A California judge gave Amanda Bynes' mother legal control of the troubled actress's affairs on Friday, according to court documents. Ventura County Superior Court Judge Glen Reiser granted a temporary conservatorship motion brought by Bynes' parents, the documents said. They filed the request after the 27-year-old actress allegedly started a small fire in front of a home in the Los Angeles suburb of Thousand Oaks last month.

Ventura County Sheriff deputies put the former teenage star of Nickelodeon series "All That" in involuntary psychiatric care at a local hospital after the 22 July incident, and Bynes has been there ever since. Bynes' mother, Lynn Bynes, will now have control over her financial and legal affairs. She would also gain control over Bynes' medical treatment if the actress is released from court-ordered treatment.

Actress Amanda Bynes

It is rare for a judge to grant conservatorship in the case of adults. Most famously, pop singer Britney Spears was put under conservatorship in 2008 following a personal meltdown and divorce. Her father and lawyer remain in control of her affairs, even though her singing career has rebounded.

Bynes was born and raised in Thousand Oaks. She starred in the films "What a Girl Wants," "She's the Man" and "Hairspray" but has made headlines over the past year for erratic behaviour, legal problems and odd posts on Twitter. Bynes, who is on probation in California for driving on a suspended license, faces charges in the state for allegedly driving under the influence and in New York for marijuana possession and throwing a glass bong out of her 36th-floor Manhattan apartment.

Reuters

SPORTS

Serena to meet Cirstea in Toronto final

Serena Williams of the US returns a shot to Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland during their women's semi-final tennis match at the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto, on 10 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Toronto, 11 Aug—Top seed Serena Williams shook off a spirited attempt by Agnieszka Radwanska and moved into the final of the Rogers Cup with a 7-6(3), 6-4 victory on Saturday and will meet Romania's Sorana Cirstea, whose surprising run continued when she beat China's Li Na 6-1, 7-6(5). The American held a 5-0 record against Radwanska coming into the match, but the Pole surprised the 16-times grand slam champion by being aggressive and not mixing up her shots.

"It was really close and I had my chances but wasn't really taking them," Radwanska told reporters. "It's always turning against me, especially when you play a top player. "I was really trying to play aggressive and going forward, but she's really playing deep and strong balls. It's really hard to do anything." Williams broke Radwanska at love to go ahead 5-4 in the first set with a heavy forehand crosscourt winner, but then was broken back at love herself when she double faulted.

Both women held to go to a tiebreak which Williams dictated and sealed it 7-3 with a forehand volley winner and big ace down the T Williams called the trainer in between sets for a stomach problem but said that it did not affect her play as Radwanska broke to take a 2-1 in the second set when she forced the American into a backhand error. Radwanksa, however, could not maintain her advantage, as Williams picked up the pace, breaking back to 3-3 with a booming overhead.

While the Polish world number four is faster than Williams, the American stayed in most of their long rallies and serving at 4-4, she fought off a break point with a forehand crosscourt winner and then held in a long point that ended with her ripping a forehand down the line.

Reuters

Sandro: I almost quit football

Rio de Janeiro, 11 Aug —Tottenham's Brazilian midfielder Sandro says he considered quitting football after a serious knee injury in January. The 24-year-old suffered a torn cruciate ligament in his right knee during Tottenham's goalless draw against Queens Park Rangers at Loftus Road.

"During the early days I told my mother I wanted to quit playing," Sandro was quoted saying by Sambafoot. "I only said that because I was in despair as I was doing well before the injury. "But my mother calmed me down by saying that it is going to be alright. I also appreciate my friends being there for me, especially during the time that I was alone at home. It was depressing."

The injury forced Sandro to miss Brazil's triumphant Confederations Cup campaign. But he is close to regaining full fitness and is already eyeing a place in Luiz Felipe Scolari's team at next year's World Cup. "I am ready and very excited to carry on my work here," he said. "I hope that Felipao (Scolari) can see my performances and give me an opportunity."

Xinhua

Tottenham's Brazilian midfielder Sandro

Stenson and Blixt hope for Swede ending to PGA

Sweden's Henrik Stenson watches his shot on the seventh tee during the third round of the 2013 PGA Championship golf tournament at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York on 10 Aug, 2013.
Reuters

Rochester, (New York), 11 Aug—Two years ago, his game at a low ebb, Henrik Stenson was back home in Sweden playing for his club championship — and lost. On Sunday, he will be at the PGA Championship, playing for a place in his country's sporting history when he sets out to become the first Swedish man to win one of golf's four majors. From ABBA to IKEA to Annika Sorenstam; across entertainment, business and sport Sweden has produced all manner of winners.

The small Scandinavian nation has celebrated Olympic ice hockey gold medals, alpine skiing greats, Formula One winners and heavyweight boxing champion Ingemar Johansson. But for all their sporting success, over 153-years of major championship golf the Tre Kronor has never produced a men's winner. Stenson and Jonas Blixt will try to end that drought on Sunday at Oak Hill Country Club after moving into contention at the year's final major. Jim Furyk will start Sunday's final round with a one-shot lead over Jason Dufner but hot on the heels of the two Americans are the two Swedes, with Stenson lurking just two back and Blixt three off the pace.

"We've touched on the subject, no Swede has ever won a major before and we're definitely increasing the chances with having two guys up there rather than one or none," Stenson, told reporters. "We're going to go out there and try our best tomorrow." Sweden has come close to crowning a major champion before, Jesper Parnevik twice finishing runner-up at the British Open, but may never have had a better chance than in-form Stenson backed up by Blixt, who is making his PGA Championship debut.

Stenson arrived in Rochester riding a wave of momentum having posted runner-up finishes in his last two starts, the British Open and WGC-Bridgestone Invitational and has used that strong form to carry him up the PGA leaderboard. The 37-year-old has two PGA Tour wins but they are two of the circuit's elite events, the Players Championship, widely considered the unofficial fifth major, and the WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship. Despite an impressive resume and superb form, Stenson's career has not always been on such an upward arc. His highs have been offset my crushing lows as he battled depression and consider quitting the sport.—*Reuters*

Luna Rossa sweeps Artemis at America's Cup

San Francisco, 11 Aug—Italy's Luna Rossa sailed into the final of the America's Cup challenger series on Saturday, completing a 4-0 sweep over the grief-stricken Swedish syndicate Artemis. Needing to win Saturday's fourth race at San Francisco Bay to keep the best-of-seven semi-final series going, Artemis made a great start, taking the early lead with their high-tech 72-foot catamaran.

But their joy was short-lived when they were penalized for touching the Italian boat during the pre-start. The penalty led a television cameraman to call the Swedish team, which lost its teammate during a May training exercise, "jinxed."Artemis landed two more penalties for sailing out of bounds during the race, effectively ending their hopes of winning and allowing Luna Rossa to cruise to victory by two minutes and 11 seconds. With the win, Luna Rossa advanced to the final of the Louis Vuitton Cup against Emirates Team New Zealand.Their best-of-13 series, which will decide the challenger to compete against defending champion Oracle Team USA for the America's Cup, starts on 17 August.

The Kiwis easily defeated Luna Rossa in the round-robin preliminary series to go straight through to the final, but Luna Rossa helmsman Chris Draper said the Italians were performing better now. "We've improved tons," Draper said. "We've all seen that the Kiwis are very, very solid. These boats are pretty humbling. Fingers crossed we can be as competitive as possible." Software billionaire Larry Ellison's Oracle team won the Cup in 2010 and with it the right to set the rules and choose the venue, the windy San Francisco Bay, for this year's competition. For Artemis, Saturday's defeat marked the end of a tragic campaign. British Olympic gold medalist Andrew "Bart" Simpson was killed in a training accident on 9 May.

The accident destroyed the Artemis boat and wing. The team had planned to sail a second catamaran but changes had to be made to it, a new wing had to be built, and the crew needed to feel safe again. Consequently, the team skipped the round-robin stage and almost missed the entire event. "It's been a terrible period for the team," Artemis skipper Iain Percy, Simpson's teammate and best friend, said. "We destroyed all our equipment. We had a huge amount of work to do. "I'm still in disbelief about how well our team has done. For us to be out there racing was our victory."

Reuters

Italy's Luna Rossa Challenge (R) passes Sweden's Artemis Racing during Race 4 of their Louis Vuitton Cup semi-finals in San Francisco, California on 10 Aug, 2013.
Reuters

A member of Breitling Jet Team, a famous European aerobatic team, waves after arriving at Tianjin International Airport in Tianjin, north China, on 10 Aug, 2013. The team is on a tour from 10 to 14 August in China.
XINHUA

Kung Fu to help boost Chinese football

ZHENGZHOU, 11 Aug— While many people practise Kung Fu for body building, a school has been launched in central China with the purpose of helping Chinese soccer development with the ancient martial art.

The soccer school, being constructed in Dengfeng City of Henan Province, is located only miles away from the Shaolin Temple, the birthplace of Kung Fu. It is expected to recruit more than 10,000 students opon completion in three years.

However, a monk from the Shaolin Temple said on condition of anonymity that the temple was not part of the project and no disciples were involved.

The "Shaolin Jianye International Football School" was launched earlier this year.

It was founded by the Ruling Circle of Song Shan Temple Monks Training Base Mission Education (Group), a local institution founded in 1997 that focuses on martial arts teaching, and Henan Jianye Football Club, a former A-list team in China, which was relegated in 2012.

The two sides will invest 2 billion yuan (324 million US dollars) in the school, which covers an area of 55.7 hectares. A stadium and two gyms will also be built.

Shi Yanlu, founder of the school and a former disciple of the current abbot of the Shaolin Temple Shi Yongxin, told *Xinhua* on Friday that the football school aims to integrate the spirits and skills of Kung Fu into sports.

"The grasp of attack and defence in Chinese Kung Fu will benefit football training," said Shi.

Although soccer fans still have to wait three years for the construction to be completed, 500 football players have already been chosen out of 15,000 teenagers from the group's martial arts school. They have already been through high intensity training since 2010, said Shi.

Football training, martial arts practice and general knowledge courses occupy one third of the player's time respectively, said Shi.

He said the players had no match experience and had no plans to join professional football teams at present.

"For now their priority is to build a firm foundation of their skills," said Shi. "We don't want them to achieve quick success. We want to do something tangible for Chinese martial arts and football."— *Xinhua*

MYANMAR TV

(12-8-2013, Monday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:25 am
2. Physical Exercise

6:35 am
3. Song & Dance of National Races

6:45 am
4. Documentary

7:00 am
5. News/Weather Report

7:20 am
6. Documentary

8:00 am
7. News/International News

8:25 am
8. SEA Games Go For Gold

8:45 am
9. Documentary

9:00 am
10. News/International News

9:20 am
11. Cartoon Series

9:45 am
12. TV Drama Series

10:00 am
13. News

10:15 am
14. TV Drama Series

11:10 am
15. New Melody

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

12:25 pm
17. Myanmar Movies

2:25 pm
18. Musical Programme

2:40 pm
19. Documentary

3:00 pm
20. News

3:40 pm
21. Songs Programme

4:00 pm
22. News/Weather Report

4:15 pm
23. Song & Dance of National Races

4:30 pm
24. University Of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (History)

4:45 pm
25. Documentary

5:00 pm
26. News

5:15 pm
27. Songs Programme

5:30 pm
28. Teleplay(SEA Games)

6:00 pm
29. News/Weather Report

6:20 pm
30. Documentary

7:00 pm
31. News

7:25 pm
32. Documentary (ASEAN)

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

8:35 pm
34. Documentary

9:00 pm
35. News
36. People Talks
37. India Drama Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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Nadal beats Djokovic, to face Raonic in Montreal final

MONTREAL, 11 Aug— Spain's Rafa Nadal handed Novak Djokovic another semi-final defeat when he beat the world number one at the Rogers Cup on Saturday to set up a title decider against local favorite Milos Raonic. Nadal held off a surging Djokovic to win 6-4, 3-6, 7-6(2) in a pulsating semi-final that resembled a heavyweight boxing showdown with the duo trading breathtaking winners.

The victory was Nadal's second successive over Djokovic at this stage of a tournament following his epic five-set triumph on clay at the French Open in June. "To beat Novak on any surface is very important," Nadal said in a courtside interview. "His level is always high and you have to play well ... almost perfect to beat him."Nadal made a flying start in front of a capacity crowd as Djokovic was unusually tentative and struggled on serve.

But the lull did not last long as the Serbian, two time defending champion, stormed back into the contest, unleashing some crunching forehand winners as he drew level. With the audience roaring their approval at every thrilling rally, Djokovic looked to have the momentum in the match as he continued to find success in going for his shots, keeping his opponent pinned on the baseline. But all the while Nadal showed off some magic of his own and it became clear that this high-quality encounter, the 36th between the pair, would need a tiebreak to settle the issue.

Nadal went up another gear in racing a 6-0 lead in the breaker but even in defeat Djokovic went down swinging. He saved two match points with winners before a forehand drifted long to hand the Spaniard a first hard court victory over his rival since 2010. "It was a very close match," Djokovic told reporters. "There were very few points that decided the winner." "I had my chances. He had his chances. At the end he played better."

Raonic had earlier advanced to his first Masters series final when he recovered from a mid-match slump to win a third set tiebreak 6-4, 1-6, 7-6(4) against wildcard and compatriot Vasek Pospisil. "I'm very happy at this moment," said the world number 13 Raonic, who will move into the world's top 10 for the first time after reaching the final. "It's (top ten ranking) been a very important thing for me, a big objective." Raonic needed all his superior experience to win through, as Pospisil, ranked 71st, fought from a set down to nearly pull off an upset.

Raonic made the more assured start in front of a large and vocal crowd, basking in the knowledge that a Canadian winner was assured. A solitary break of serve was all that separated the two in the opening set as Pospisil adopted an aggressive approach that produced mixed results. He capitalized on some sloppy play from Raonic to win the second set and force a decider that went the distance. Both players traded winners from all parts of the court before Raonic sealed victory as he became the first Canadian in more than 50 years to reach the final.

Reuters

Rafael Nadal of Spain hits a return to Marinko Matosevic of Australia during quarter-final action at the men's Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Montreal, on 9 Aug, 2013.
REUTERS

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Families of Defence Services, wellwishers donate cash and kind to Tatkon monasteries, nunneries

Provision donation ceremony for members of the Sangha in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A ceremony to donate cash and kind by families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers to Pariyatti monasteries and nunneries was held at Ngwetaung Tawya Pariyatti monastery in Tatkon Township yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Sangha, nuns, and Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Tin Aung San, Chief of Staff (Air) Brig-Gen Lwin Oo, senior military officers of Commander-in-Chief's Office, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, wellwishers, members of social organizations and religious associations.

Today's donations included K 10,128,000, 617 bags of rice, 153 viss of edible oil, 1463 viss of gram, 1463 viss of salt, 500 packets of chili powder, 1000 boxes of fish paste and 7630 boxes of traditional medicines.—*Myawady*

Most notorious human trafficking ring leader to be charged in accordance with Thai law

YANGON, 11 Aug—Myanmar government would take measures in accordance with the Thailand's law to charge a key suspect and the most notorious human trafficking ring leader in Myanmar's history, said Police Col Win Naing Tun, deputy chief of Myanmar anti-human trafficking police corps.

Myanmar citizen Ko Myo (a) Aung Myo Min has been living in Thailand for many decades was captured along with other three suspects in a raid by a combined force comprising authorities of Thailand and officials from Myanmar Embassy on 1 August in Thailand's southern province of Surat Thani.

Four of the 14 trafficking victims were rescued from a port in Kantang and a human trafficker namely Aye Min was also captured in a raid on 10 March by Thai police and immigration force.

"I was captured by Ko Myo and had been sold out to fishing industry for three times. Though I worked for three years in the trawlers, I have not yet sent a penni to my home," said Aung Phyo Wai, a victim of human trafficking.

According to testimonies of the victims, Ko Myo involved in human trafficking, labour abuse, rape and exploitation over the victims to control workers on trawlers.

He was identified as the leader of a trafficking gang and involved in human trafficking and murdering, according to the testimonies of the victims and Aye Min, one of his aide.

Ko Myo is being held in custody at a hospital after sustaining gunshot wounds during the raid.

"We are now investigating his involvement in the human trafficking murdering and rape and we will work together with our counterparts in Thailand to charge him," Police Col Win Naing Tun.—*MNA*

UCSB, Japan to cooperate in HRD

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug—A Myanmar delegation led by U Kyaw Thu, Chairman of the Union Civil Services Board (UCSB), paid a working visit to Japanese Civil Service Organizations. On 6 August. The UCSB Chairman discussed civil service affairs with Japanese officials and the following day the Chairman visited Hiroshima Peace Site. They also observed Hiroshima Industrial complex. The next day, the Chairman had a discussion with Japanese delegation of Panasonic Corporation on matters on cooperation in HRD, economic and industrial development.

MNA

Thanantana Dhammapalaka (Hindu) Association donates Waso robes to members of the Sangha

Robe offering ceremony of Thanantana Dhammapalaka (Hindu) Association in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 11 Aug — Thanantana Dhammapalaka (Hindu) Association offered Waso robes and a day mean to members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and members of the Sangha of the State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Mogok Refetory on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township today.

The 16th ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint and wife, departmental officials and responsible personnel of the Thanantana Dhammapalaka (Hindu) Association.

During the ceremony, U Than Htay of Thanantana Dhammapalaka (Hindu) Association supplicated on measures being taken by the association.

The Union minister and Hindu families offered Waso robes to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana arrives in Yangon

Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar.
MNA

YANGON, 11 Aug—Mr Tomas Ojea Quintana, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, arrived here by air this evening.

He was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Resident Representative Offices of UN Agencies.

MNA

Iraqi security forces inspect the site of a car bomb attack in Nasiriyah city, 375 km (233 miles) south of Baghdad, on 10 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

Car bombs kill nearly 80 in Iraq, target Eid festivities

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug—A series of car bombs in mainly Shi'ite areas of Baghdad killed 57 people and wounded more than 150 on Saturday, in what appeared to be coordinated attacks on people celebrating the end of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

The 12 separate blasts targeting markets, busy shopping streets and parks where families like to mark Eid were part of a surge in sectarian violence in Iraq since the start of the year.

This has been one of the deadliest Ramadan months in years, with regular bomb attacks killing scores of people, especially in the capital. The latest bombings were similar to attacks in Baghdad on Tuesday in which 50 died. More than 1,000 Iraqis have been killed in July, the highest monthly death toll since 2008, according to the United Nations.

The Interior Ministry has said the country faced an "open war" fuelled by Iraq's sectarian divisions and has ramped up security in Baghdad, closing roads and sending out frequent helicopter patrols.

Eighteen months since the last US troops withdrew from Iraq, Sunni Islamist militants have been regaining momentum in their insurgency against the Shi'ite-led government, and have been emboldened by the civil war in neighbouring Syria. On Saturday, the president of Iraqi Kurdistan said his region was prepared to defend Kurds living in neighbouring Syria, in what appeared to be the first warning of a possible intervention and a further sign that the conflict is spilling over Syria's borders.—*Reuters*