

Public cooperation important to road safety measures: Vice President U Nyan Tun



Vice President U Nyan Tun views progress in expansion of bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway for ensuring traffic safety.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug— Vice President U Nyan Tun on Tuesday inspected development projects which include landscaping, drainage, installation of traffic safety kits and construction of bridges, at the section of Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw on

the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, sources said.

After hearing briefings by senior officials on progress of development projects, the vice president attached importance to public cooperation in road safety measures and

urged officials to respect and pay attention to complaints loaded by drivers, passengers and other road users.

He stressed constant supervision of designs, use of high-quality construction machinery, and dura-

bility in building transport infrastructure.

Vice President U Nyan Tun praised engineers, technicians and organizations for their all-out efforts to ensure safety of the highway.

MNA



Government, UNICEF Myanmar committed to scaling up mother-child nutrition through national nutrition promotion month

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 5 Aug— A media briefing on National Nutrition Promotion Month took place in Yangon on Monday, with officials stressing the need of heightening greater awareness of the importance of scaling up nutrition with

emphasis on breastfeeding in Myanmar.

In Myanmar, the month of August has been designated as the nutrition promotion month since 2009. The nutrition month for 2014 was launched with the theme “Breastfeeding: A Winning Goal of Life” on 1 August.

According to officials, four events are set to be organized in each week of the month that includes breastfeeding week, under-five and young schoolchildren nutrition promotion week, pregnant and lactating mother nutrition promotion week and iodine deficiency disorder elimination week.

In her welcome remarks, Ms. Penelope Campbell, chief of young child survival and development (YCSD) of UNICEF Myanmar, highlighted the importance of the right nutrition during the first 1000 days of a child's life—from conception to the first two years of life. These 1000 days have a major impact on how the children will survive and thrive in the

future, she said.

In cooperation with UNICEF and other INGOs, Myanmar government has taken many important steps to improve the nutritional status of infants and children, focusing on elimination of vitamin A deficiency and iodine deficiency disorders, high coverage of micronutrient supplementation and regular de-worming for children and largely under control of measles which precipitates malnutrition in children in Myanmar.

The government was commended on its announcement to introduce six-month maternity leave for women in public sector, paving the way for exclusive breastfeeding in the first six-month of life, according to UNICEF that also complimented the ministries concerned on their combined efforts in developing and finalizing legislation on the marketing of breast milk substitutes to ensure improvement in the nutritional status of Myanmar children and reduce the under-five death rate.

(See page 3)

Child hospitalized in Rakhine not suffering Ebola: health ministry

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug — Rumour has spread on the internet that a child hospitalized in Sittway, Rakhine State, is infected with Ebola virus.

Ministry of Health on Tuesday confirmed that the child is suffering from the ‘Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS)’, caused by sulphur toxicity.

Mg Myo Linn Naing, aged 6, was taken to hospital to Sittway General Hospital on 24 July.

He took some medicines on 21 July after catching fever, and then was sent to Minbya General Hospital on 23 July as the disease did not relieve.

He was finally referred to the Sittway General Hospital on 24 July.

Stevens-Johnson Syndrome is a potentially deadly skin disease that usually results from a drug reaction. Viral diseases reported to cause Stevens-Johnson syndrome include: Herpes simplex virus (debated), AIDS, Cocksackievirus, Influenza, Hepatitis and Mumps.

SJS usually begins with fever, sore throat, and fatigue, which is commonly misdiagnosed and therefore treated with antibiotics. Ulcers and other lesions begin to appear in

(See page 3)



Vitamin A supplementation for children is one of activities conducted in the nutrition promotion month which is celebrated every year in Myanmar.—PHOTO: CREDIT TO UNICEF MYANMAR

INSIDE

Deputy Speaker of Upper House honours outstanding students in Kayan

PAGE-3

Sitagu eye clinic opened at Sangha Hospital in Pyinmana

PAGE-2

First things first

PAGE-8

The Making of the Second HLTF

PAGE-8

Sitagu eye clinic opened at Sangha Hospital in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—Sitagu Ayudana eye clinic was commissioned into service at Sangha Bhesijjathana Vihara (Sangha Hospital) in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Tuesday morning.

Specialists from Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Pyinmana perform surgical operations at eye patients from 5 to 9 August.

Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanissara donated eye test and surgical equip-

ment, medicines and medical equipment worth US\$ 80,124 to the clinic.

The Sayadaw together with Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt, U Hla Tun and Dr Than Aung and officials comforted the eye patients.

From 1 to 4 August, a total of 1,239 eye patients received medical treatment at the clinic. Of the, surgical operation will be performed at 259 eye patients up to 9 August.

“So far, the clinic has performed surgical operation at 26 eye patients. We invite patients to receive medical treatment,” said Chairman of the hospital management board U Myint Soe.—MNA

Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanissara and Union ministers comfort a patient monk at newly-opened eye clinic.—MNA



Korean physicians provide free medical treatments to social welfare insurance employees

YANGON, 5 Aug—Medical doctors from South Korea on Tuesday provided free treatments to the employees of social welfare insurance programme in Htantabin Township, western Yangon.

The physicians from the Good Share of Human are assisted by the medical staff from Thukha Mingalar

Special Clinic and diagnosis department of the Htantabin Hospital.

U Aye Myint, Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security, witnessed the treatments of foreign doctors.

Daw Win Maw Tun, deputy minister of the ministry, said: “This programme was jointed launched with

Thukha Mingalar Special Clinic. The ministry allowed this as the programme was targetted for the workers from civil services.”

These Korean doctors also provided free medical treatments at social welfare clinics in Hmawby and Htantabin, as well as Workers’ Hospital in Tamway in 2013.—MNA



Union minister U Aye Myint meets South Korean doctors in providing health care to employees.—MNA

Commerce Ministry plans to introduce Negative List Licensing System

YANGON, 5 Aug — In an attempt to provide import and export trading with smooth services, the Ministry of Commerce is planning to introduce the Negative List Licensing System, according to a recent press release of the ministry.

The ministry announced its plan after it has relaxed procedures from six steps to four steps for applying for import and export licences and reduced the application costs from K4,000 to K2,500.

The ministry has reduced the documents from eight to two for export products and from 10 to two for import products, the release said.

The Ministry of Commerce has already dropped licence requirements for import commodities that cover about 600 imported

goods.

The ministry has also relaxed licence requirements for 166 import commodities, including electronic goods, processed foods and furniture.

As the ministry added more than 400 goods on the list, traders are therefore no longer required to apply for import licences for 593 items of goods, which include garments, paper products, paints, cosmetics, automobile spare-parts, tyres, construction materials, electrical appliances, computer accessories, and medical products.

Last February, a total of 152 export commodities such as agricultural, industrial, forestry, CMP (cutting, making and packing) and animal products were also made licence free.

NLM

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 5 Aug — According to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), a community infrastructure project was implemented last year contributing to the development and rehabilitation in ethnic minority areas in Myanmar. The project was funded by Japanese government and implemented in 10 townships of Kachin, Shan, Kayah and Chin states, with the coordination of the Department of Rural Development under, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development.

The project focused on most vulnerable and impoverished families and villages in these townships and supported those communities to build their most needy community infrastructure to improve quality of life, U Myint Aye, Senior Engineer (Infra) of the UN-Habitat told the New Light of Myanmar recently.

The UN-Habitat has successfully implement-

UN-Habitat’s development plan for conflict-affected areas



ed the development programmes in about 509 villages in 10 townships in those states as of July, 2013 with K4.421 billion funded by the Japanese government.

Communities in those areas actively participated in construction of roads, bridges, reservoirs and school latrines as well as hand-dug or tube-wells.

Under the project, communities were provided rain water collection tanks for public places, solar power units. Training on environmental sanitation and hygiene education were conducted for the communities by the UN-Habitat, he added.

The UN-Habitat is now implementing the projects for supplying water in dry

regions such as Pale, Budalin and Monywa townships as well as Shwepyithar Township in Yangon under Shae-Thot (Way Forward) programme funded by US-AID.

Participants of project faced transportation difficulties and getting skilled workers in construction sites, U Myint Aye said.

NLM

NATIONAL

Deputy Speaker of Upper House honours outstanding students in Kayan

YANGON, 5 Aug — A ceremony to honour outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination for 2013-14 academic year was held at Basic Education High School No 1 in Kayan of Yangon Region on Tuesday.

Deputy Speaker of Upper House U Mya Nyein awarded K100,000 to one five-distinction winner stu-

dent, K500,000 to Daepauk BEHS for its highest pass rate in the township and cash awards to other outstanding students.

Daepauk BEHS stood first in the township with 45.16 per cent pass rate, Kayan BEHS second with 44.59 per cent and Kwanmoedein BEHS branch third with 41.03 per cent.

MNA

Deputy Speaker of Upper House U Mya Nyein presents cash award to an outstanding student in Kayan Township as part of encouraging development of education sector.—MNA



Child hospitalized in.....



Mg Myo Linn Naing suffering from SJS in Sittway.—MNA
(from page 1)

the mucous membranes, almost always in the mouth and lips but also in the genital and anal regions. Those

in the mouth are usually extremely painful and reduce the patient's ability to eat or drink. Conjunctivitis of the eyes occurs in about 30% of children who develop SJS. A rash of round lesions about an inch across arises on the face, trunk, arms and legs, and soles of the feet, but usually not the scalp.

The condition of Mg Myo Linn Naing is getting better due to intensive care of medical staff at the Sittway hospital.—MNA

Union Construction Minister inspects Bayintnaung Bridge (2) project

YANGON, 5 Aug — Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin on Monday inspected the construction site of Bayintnaung Bridge (2) here.

The union minister instructed to emphasize the safety measure in the project which will

link Bayintnaung bank with the opposite Hline-thaya side.

A total of 23 iron frames, out of 48, have been fixed, and other construction works are in progress, according to the report of the ministry.

MNA

Lower House committee chairman meets Vietnamese parliamentarian delegation

YANGON, 5 Aug — Chairman of Upper House Vietnam-Myanmar Parliamentary Friendship Committee U Nay Win Tun, Secretary U Zone Hle Thang and party met permanent member Mrs Tran Thi Quoc Khann of Science,

Technology and Environment Committee of the Vietnam National Assembly and party at the Hluttaw branch in Yangon on Tuesday afternoon.

They discussed enhancement of interests between entrepreneurs of two countries in line with the

goodwill policies, creation of more job opportunities and interests for rural peoples from both countries.

MNA



Chairman of Upper House Committee U Nay Win Tun and party hold talks with Mrs Tran Thi Quoc Khann of Vietnam National Assembly for strengthening bilateral relations between Myanmar and Vietnam.—MNA

Government, UNICEF Myanmar...

(from page 1)

Malnutrition is an underlying cause of the 53 percent of all deaths of children under five, said Dr Htin Linn, assistant director of the Ministry of Health, at the press briefing.

He also stressed the importance of vitamin A

supplementation for under-five children, saying that one of three children in Myanmar will have vitamin A deficiency if there is no more supplementation due to various reasons.

In his presentation, Dr Kyaw Win Sein, UNICEF Myanmar's nutrition spe-

cialists pointed out how breastfeeding is linked to the millennium development goals, adding that exclusive breastfeeding can reduce under-five child mortality, thereby helping prevent hunger and malnutrition globally. Apart from health activities providing essential supplies

to children and pregnant and lactating mothers, it is planned to organize cooking demonstrations in all states and regions and essay/quiz competitions of schoolchildren in all townships during the national nutrition promotion month, said the UNICEF Myanmar.—NLM

U Kyaw Zwar Min concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Denmark

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug —The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Zwar Min, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Denmark.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Nay Pyi Taw

Notification No. (30/2014)

10th Waxing of Wagaung, 1376 ME
(5 August, 2014)

Ten region Hluttaw representatives of Armed Forces substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Region/State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute ten representatives of the Armed Forces who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following ten region Hluttaw representatives under the Notification No. 3/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011, Notification No. 48/2012 of the commission dated 15-11-2012, Notification No. 14/2013 of the commission dated 12-6-2013 and Notification No. 5/2014 of the commission dated 17-1-2014.

The region Hluttaw representatives to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the first multi-party general election held on 7 November 2010.

Bago Region

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) BC 33227 | BC 37164 |
| Major Thein Htaik | Major Pyae Phyo Zaw |
| (2) BC 27604 | BC 35606 |
| Major Myint Htwe | Major Zeyar Oo |
| (3) BC 34956 | BC 28361 |
| Major Zaw Lin Aung | Major Thein Khaing Myint |
| (4) BC 29506 | BC 35132 |
| Major Soe Htwe Aung | Major Khin Maung Win |
| (5) Air 2714 | Air 2756 |
| Major Lwin Ko Ko | Major Win Min Tun |

Mandalay Region

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| (6) BC 24108 | BC 23270 |
| Major Aung Thet Myint | Major Zaw Myint |
| (7) BC 28537 | BC 35631 |
| Major Aung Zaw Hein | Major Nyan Phyo Khaing |
| (8) BC 29661 | BC 24231 |
| Major Saw Yan Aung | Major Kyaw Thu Lwin |
| (9) BC 21057 | BC 20681 |
| Major Phone Myint Naing | Major Toe Aung |
| (10) BC 36534 | BC 29506 |
| Captain Phyo Myint Swe | Captain Soe Htwe Aung |

By Order,
(Tin Tun)
Secretary

Union Election Commission

Shan language in Lashio state schools

YANGON, 5 Aug — The Ministry of Education has approved the teaching of the Shan language in state schools in Lashio, Shan State, starting the 2014-2015 academic year, according to U Sai Aung, Chairman of the Shan Literature and Culture Association.

The language course will be conducted from 7 am to 8 am, without af-

fecting the school hours, he said.

"Language courses are expected to start in August, with 37 teachers in 25 villages," he said, adding that the courses will be regularly run from July to December.

The Shan Literature and Culture Association will use its funds to give salaries to teachers.

Htet Htet

Islam organizations donate alms to Buddhist monks



MANDALAY, 5 Aug—Islam social organizations in Mandalay jointly organized the ceremony to offer alms to members of the Sangha for the third time in commemoration of the Eid Day at Kantetkon Masoeyin Monastery on 55th street in Mahaangmye Township of Mandalay on Sunday.

They donated robes and provisions to 80 Buddhist monks who recited Metta Sutta.

It was attended by members of the Interfaith Friendship Organization of Mandalay and social organizations.

*Thiha Ko Ko
(Mandalay)*

Sports events marks 47th Anniversary ASEAN Day



NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug — In commemoration of the 47th Anniversary ASEAN Day, the essay contest and sports competition were held at nine Basic Education High Schools and BEHS branch No 3 (Thabyegon) in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw

Council Area on Saturday morning.

Township Education Officer U Tun Myint Aung and school heads supervised the essay contest and sports competition and presented prizes to the winners.

*Min Min Latt
(Physics)*

Interfaith groups hold get-together in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 5 Aug—The Islam social organizations in Mandalay jointly organized the Eid Day commemorative get-together for strengthening interfaith relationship at Oriental House at the corner of 27th and 64th streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay on Monday. It was attended by the Mandalay Region Minister for Forestry and Mining, departmental officials, the chairman of the Region Interfaith Friendship Organization, and responsible persons of Buddhist, Christianity and Hinduism associations.

Mandalay Region Minister U Than Soe Myint, Chairman of Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Islamic Organization U Nyunt Maung Shein and Chairman of Mandalay Region Interfaith Friendship Organization Thiha Thudhamma Manijotadhara U

Kyaw Win made speeches. Rev U Lu Aye of Christianity Association and U Aye of Hinduism Association explained the good relations among the

people. On behalf of the Islam social organizations the epidemiologist spoke words of thanks.

*Thiha Ko Ko
(Mandalay)*



Kachin State level officials supervised dredging of 3,500 feet long, seven feet deep and six feet wide drain in Myathida Ward of Hopin in Kachin State on 1 and 2 August.
TOWNSHIP IPRD

Mandalarian artists to display painting works in October



MANDALAY, 5 Aug—The outdoor paintings created by artists from Mandalay, Sagaing, Myingyan, Bagan and PyinOoLwin townships will be put on display for the first time in early October 2014, aimed at creating opportunities for

the enthusiasts to enjoy the works of artists.

Mandalay Hill Gallery was opened 13 years ago. Last year, the indoor paintings of artists were displayed at the gallery. This year, about 50 artists will make trips to Taunggyi, Py-

inOoLwin and Sagaing so as to create about 200-300 outdoor paintings. With the aim of turning out new generation artists, U Khin Maung San and U Zaw Win will give training to the enthusiasts. They will give a helping hand to the new generation artists and artists from countryside to show their works as gallery. At present the artists from Mandalay and its environs are making arrangements for making a trip to Bagan for creating arts, said owner of Mandalay Hill Gallery U Moe Myint Tun.

The artists wishing to display their works at gallery may contact 09-2000921.

*Tin Maung
(Mandalay)*

Mohnyin Degree College holds mini marathon event

MOHNYIN, 5 Aug — As part of sports week activities of Mohnyin Degree College, the inter-subject men's and women's mini marathon took place in front of the main building of the degree college in

Mohnyin of Kayin State on Sunday.

A total of 39 men and 42 women participated in the mini marathon. Principal Dr Aung Min Win and faculty members presented first, second, third and dili-

gent awards to the winners.

In the 2014-15 academic year, the degree college will organize the sports competitions in football, volleyball and Sepak Takraw events.

NLM-001



REGIONAL

Indonesian president-elect unveils high-powered transition team

JAKARTA, 5 Aug — Indonesia's president-elect Joko Widodo on Monday announced a high-powered advisory team to handle his transition to power as he prepares to take over the top job in the world's third-largest democracy later this year. The five-member "transition office" will lead a team of several advisers who will be responsible for drawing up a policy roadmap to fulfil major campaign promises and address pressing issues facing Southeast Asia's biggest economy.

"This transition office is needed to prepare the implementation of our vision and programmes," Widodo and vice president-elect Jusuf Kalla said in a statement, adding the team would prioritise uni-



Indonesia's presidential candidate Joko "Jokowi" Widodo gestures to supporters a day after he was named winner in the presidential election in Taman Proklamasi, Jakarta on 23 July, 2014. —REUTERS

versal access to healthcare and education.

Widodo, commonly known by his nickname Jokowi, beat rival Prabowo Subianto in last month's

presidential election, the closest in the history of the world's most populous Muslim nation.

Prabowo, an ex-general, has challenged the

election result in the Constitutional Court, which will start hearing the case this week and is expected to deliver a verdict by on 21 August. Its decision will

be final with no right of appeal.

Widodo has promised to form a cabinet that is dominated by technocrats in order to overhaul a sleepy bureaucracy and introduce much-needed economic reform to address big fuel subsidies, cooling investment and creaky infrastructure. But concern persists that the former small-city mayor, who is relatively inexperienced on the national stage, may be beholden to his political party and its chief, former president Megawati Sukarnoputri, for key appointments and policy advice.

The transition team will be headed by Rini Soemarno, a close aide of Megawati. Soemarno, an influential, US-educated businesswoman, served

during Megawati's presidency as trade and industry minister and is a former head of PT Astra International, Indonesia's biggest automobile distributor.

Another member of the team of advisers, Hasto Kristiyanto, is vice secretary general of Widodo's Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle (PDI-P).

Other figures include Anies Baswedan, a respected academic and education specialist, a military expert and a senior member of a coalition partner.

Widodo, a former furniture businessman, last month invited the public to participate in an online poll to choose cabinet ministers, but it was unclear how the survey would affect the final line-up.

Reuters

Japan foreign minister to visit Myanmar from Friday for regional meetings

TOKYO, 4 Aug — Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said on Tuesday he plans to visit Myanmar from Friday to next Monday to attend a series of regional foreign ministerial meetings hosted by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

"In a series of meetings, I would like to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation with ASEAN, as well as regional and international affairs such as the South

China Sea issue and North Korea," Kishida told reporters. "I would like to proactively express Japan's views and affirm tie-ups with (other) participating countries."

Asked about bilateral talks he is planning to hold on the sidelines of the meetings in Myanmar's capital Nay Pyi Taw, including with the 27-member ASEAN Regional Forum, Kishida said, "Nothing has been decided at this point."

Kyodo News

CIA penetrates deep into former Indian gov't

NEW DELHI, 5 Aug — Former Indian External Affairs Minister Natwar Singh has alleged that the United States exerted pressure on former prime minister Manmohan Singh in the choice of his ministers and that CIA agents had "penetrated deep into every sphere of decision and policy making" of the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government, according to local media reports on Monday.

"At one stage when Manmohan Singh was trying to dissuade me from becoming the foreign minister because of Washington's active opposition to my name, he confided in me about the all-pervasive influence of the Americans in the Indian power set-up," Natwar Singh said in an interview with TV news channel Focus News.

Natwar Singh has recently published an autobiography, "One Life is not

Enough," which has created a stir in political circles.

He said in the book that Congress president Sonia Gandhi had access to key government files and that her decision to not accept the prime minister's post was influenced by her son Rahul Gandhi, who feared she might be assassinated like his father Rajiv Gandhi and grandmother Indira Gandhi were.

Natwar Singh also al-

leged that Washington tried its best to stop Pranab Mukherjee, currently the Indian president, from becoming the finance minister in the Manmohan Singh government.

"They (US diplomats) were lobbying hard for (economic planning commission president) Montek Singh Ahluwalia but somehow could not succeed in making him the finance minister," he said.

Xinhua

S Korea urges Japan to retract claim over disputed islets

SEOUL, 5 Aug — South Korea on Tuesday urged Japan to retract its claim on a pair of islets in the Sea of Japan, contained in a white paper on defence for 2014, according to South Korea's Foreign Ministry.

"The (South Korean) government can never condone Japan's unjust claim and grimly demands that Japan retract it and not repeat a similar act," a statement said.

The statement was issued after Japan's Cabinet approved the defence white paper earlier in the day.

The statement said Ja-

pan repeated "a preposterous claim" over the islets, known as Takeshima in Japan and Dokdo in South Korea, and also marked the air space over the islets as Japan's air space.

South Korea also criticized Japan for "making a provocation on Dokdo by drawing a border line on the exclusive economic zone that has not been agreed on with South Korea."

"The Japanese government should bear in mind the way to improving ties with South Korea will be farther away as long as Japan keeps up its unjust

claim over Dokdo," it said.

In a related development, South Korea's Defence Ministry also expressed its "strong regrets" over Japan's claim over the islets.

"We summoned a military attaché at the Japanese Embassy to convey a grim warning and strong regrets," ministry spokesman Kim Min Seok said during a press briefing.

Relations between South Korea and Japan have nosedived to their lowest point in recent years over the territorial dispute and wartime history.

Kyodo News



People secure their boats washed ashore by the monsoon rains from typhoon Halong in Manila, the Philippines, on 5 Aug, 2014. Heavy rains brought by the monsoon and Typhoon Halong caused floods in some parts in the Philippines.

XINHUA



Nepalese Prime Minister Sushil Koirala gives farewell to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) during his departure at Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 4 Aug, 2014. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded his two-day official visit at the invitation of his Nepalese counterpart Sushil Koirala. Modi's visit was the first by an Indian premier for bilateral talks since Inder Kumar Gujral visited Nepal as Indian prime minister in 1997. — XINHUA

Gov't to tighten oversight of job training programme for foreigners

TOKYO, 5 Aug — Facing criticism some Japanese firms exploit foreign trainees, the government plans to set up a new body with the power to conduct on-site inspections to enhance supervision, sources close to the matter said on Monday. The government aims to submit a bill to the Diet next year and establish the body by March 2016 as it is eager to expand the programme to alleviate a labour shortage.

Since the programme was introduced in 1993, some employers have been accused of exploiting foreign trainees by not paying them properly or violating their human rights. Some trainees have even died suddenly of suspected overwork. Under the programme designed to nurture human resources in developing nations, workers from such countries as Vietnam and China have received on-the-job training for up to three years in the textile, apparel, machinery

and metal industries.

The envisioned body will have the power to conduct on-site inspections of companies accepting foreign trainees and to punish them with fines if they reject inspections, the sources said. It will establish a system for taking trainees' complaints about improper practices and will consider making public the names of firms whose conduct is deemed malicious, they said.

Currently, the Japan International Training Cooperation Organization provides guidance on behalf of the government, but its guidance is not legally binding and criticized as ineffective.

To increase the number of foreign trainees, the government is considering extending the traineeship period to five years for high-skilled workers and adding other types of businesses such as nursing care to the programme.

Kyodo News

China says investigating two Canadians suspected of threatening national security

SHANGHAI / BEIJING, 5 Aug — China is investigating a Canadian couple who ran a coffee shop on the Chinese border with North Korea for the suspected theft of military and intelligence information and for threatening national security, China's Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday.

The official Xinhua news agency identified the two as Kevin Garratt and Julia Dawn Garratt. In a brief report, Xinhua said the State Security Bureau of Dandong city in northeast Liaoning Province was investigating the case, adding it involved the stealing of state secrets.

Neither the Foreign Ministry nor Xinhua said if the couple had been detained, although the ministry said the Canadian embassy in Beijing was notified on Monday and that the couple's "various rights have been fully guaranteed".

Canadian newspaper

The Globe & Mail said the Vancouver couple had been living in China since 1984 and opened a coffee shop called Peter's Coffee House in Dandong, a gateway to North Korea, in 2008. The couple previously worked as teachers in southern China.

Reuters

Sri Lanka offers China aid after quake

COLOMBO, 5 Aug — Sri Lanka on Tuesday offered medical assistance to China after a powerful earthquake struck Yunnan Province in southwest China over the weekend which left nearly 400 people dead, the External Affairs Ministry said.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa sent a condolence message to his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping expressing a deep sense of shock and sadness over the quake which resulted in a large number of deaths and massive destruction of property.

"The Government and People of Sri Lanka join me in conveying deepest condolences and sympathies to members of the bereaved families and all those whose lives have been affected by this devastating natural disaster. The thoughts and prayers of the people of Sri Lanka are with the people of China particularly those who have been injured, during this difficult time," the president said.—Xinhua

Philippines sentences 12 Chinese fishermen to jail

PUERTO PRINCESA, (Philippines), 5 Aug — A Philippine court on Tuesday found 12 Chinese fishermen guilty of illegal fishing in Philippine waters, sending them to jail for six to 12 years, the first convictions since tension flared over rival claims in the South China Sea. Philippine rangers caught the fishermen after their boat ran aground on Tubbataha Reef in April 2013. The reef is not claimed by China but the jailing of the 12 is likely to put more strain on already tense ties.

A Public Attorney's Office (PAO) defending the men said he would appeal. "We believe the Chinese fishermen are innocent, they did not intend to go into Philippine territory but was forced by bad weather," the lawyer told reporters. The fishermen sat quietly listening to the verdict which court staff read in English and translated to Chinese. The

captain was sentenced to prison for 12 years while his men were sentenced to from six to 10 years. Judge Ambrosio de Luna also ordered them to pay a fine of \$100,000.

The fishermen were also carrying a cargo of pangolins, which is an endangered mammal, like an anteater, eaten in China.

They had said they were on their way from Indonesia to China when bad weather forced them to take shelter at the reef, and they were not aware they were in Philippine territory.

China claims almost the entire South China Sea, an area believed rich in oil and gas deposits and fishery resources. Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Taiwan also claims the sea where about \$5 trillion of ship-borne trade passes every year.

Last year, the Philippines filed an arbitration case against China in The Hague over their rival claims in the sea.—Reuters



A Chinese fishing vessel that ran aground in Tubbataha Reef, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is pictured in Palawan Province, west of Manila on 10 April, 2013 in this picture provided by Naval Forces West. — REUTERS

WORLD

Israel withdraws troops, 72-hour Gaza truce begins

GAZA/CAIRO/JERUSALEM, 5 Aug — Israel pulled its ground forces out of the Gaza Strip on Tuesday and began a 72-hour truce with Hamas mediated by Egypt as a first step towards negotiations on a more enduring end to the month-old war.

Minutes before the ceasefire started at 8 am (0100 EDT), Hamas launched a salvo of rockets, calling them revenge for Israel's "massacres". Israel's anti-missile system shot down one rocket over Jerusalem, police said. Another hit a house in a town near Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank. There were no casualties. Israeli armour and infantry withdrew from the Gaza Strip ahead of the truce, with a military spokesman saying their main goal of destroying cross-border infiltration tunnels had been completed.

Troops and tanks would be "redeployed in defensive positions outside



Israeli soldiers walk past tanks at a staging area near the border with Gaza Strip on 4 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

the Gaza Strip and we will maintain those defensive positions", spokesman

Lieutenant-Colonel Peter fighting if attacked.

Lerner said, reflecting Israeli readiness to resume where some half-million

people have been displaced by the fierce fighting, some residents, carrying

mattresses and with children in tow, left UN shelters to trek back to neighbourhoods where entire blocks have been destroyed.

Sitting on a pile of debris on the edge of the northern town of Beit Lahiya, Zuhair Hjalila, a 33-year-old father of four, said he had lost his house and his supermarket.

"This is complete destruction," he said. "I never thought I would come back to find an earthquake zone." Several previous truce attempts by Egypt and other regional powers, overseen by the United States and United Nations, failed to calm the worst Israeli-Palestinian fighting in two years.

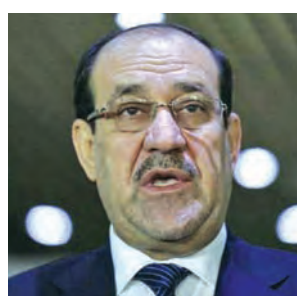
An Israeli official said that in the hour before the ceasefire came into effect, the civilian airspace over Tel Aviv was closed as a precaution against Gaza rockets, and takeoffs and landings were delayed at Ben-Gurion airport.—Reuters

Iraqi PM orders air force to help Kurds fight Islamic State

BAGHDAD, 5 Aug — Iraq's Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki ordered his air force for the first time to back Kurdish forces against Islamic State fighters after the Sunni militants made another dramatic push through the north, state television reported on Monday.

Tens of thousands of people have fled one of the districts seized by Islamic State fighters in the offensive and are now surrounded, the United Nations said on Monday. The Sunni militants often execute people in areas they have captured.

Kurdish peshmerga fighters, who gained experience fighting Saddam Hussein's troops, were



Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki

regarded as one of the few forces capable of standing up to the Sunni insurgents, who faced almost no opposition from Maliki's US-trained army during their lightning advance through the north in June.

Then on Sunday the Islamic State inflicted a humiliating defeat on the Kurds with a rapid

advance through three towns to reach the Mosul Dam, acquiring a fifth oil field to fund its operations along the way.

State television and witnesses said the Islamic State had seized Iraq's biggest dam. Kurdish peshmerga officials said they had pushed militants from the dam area and were in control of it. This could not be immediately confirmed.

Despite predictions from Kurdish commanders that their forces would launch a successful counter-offensive, one senior Kurdish official urged the United States to step in and provide weapons "for the sake of fighting terrorism".

Kurdish commanders

whose units came under attack from Islamic State fighters told Reuters they faced overwhelming firepower, were taken by surprise, and that militants had in many cases started shooting from villages where they had formed alliances with residents.

The areas that the Kurds lost were not part of their semi-autonomous region, but had been seized in the north after the fall of Saddam Hussein.

Maliki has been at odds with the Kurds over budgets, oil and land, and tensions deepened after the Islamic State seized control of large swathes of land in the north and west of OPEC member Iraq.—Reuters

UN chief urges Palestinians, Israelis to abide by ceasefire

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Aug — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Monday night called on the Palestinians and the Israelis to abide by the 72-hour Gaza ceasefire they had both approved.

In a statement issued here by his spokesperson, Ban welcomed the efforts leading to the new arrangement, which began in the Gaza Strip at 8 am local time (0500 GMT) Tuesday. "Until the start of the ceasefire, the parties must exercise the utmost restraint," he said.

Meanwhile, he urged the parties "to commence, as soon as possible, talks in Cairo on a durable ceasefire and the underlying issues" and welcomed the proactive engagement of the Palestinian delegation.

"Such talks are the only way to sustainably stop the violence, which has cost far too many lives, and to change the untenable and tragic status quo in Gaza," said the UN chief, adding that the UN stands ready to lend its full support to these efforts.

Israel and the Gaza-ruling Hamas movement agreed to the Egyptian-brokered unconditional truce on Monday. During the 72 hours, an Israeli delegation is scheduled to arrive in Cairo to negotiate with the Palestinians. Israel's offensive on Gaza, which started on 8 July, has left more than 1,820 Palestinians killed, mostly civilians, and over 10,000 wounded. The Israeli side has lost 64 soldiers and three civilians.—Xinhua

Karzai rejects claim deputy was involved in vote fraud

KABUL, 5 Aug — Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Monday rejected allegations that one of his deputies had orchestrated a fraud against a longtime rival in Afghanistan's recent presidential election. On Sunday, campaign aides of Abdullah Abdullah, a former foreign minister and one of the candidates for president, released an audio recording they said was of Vice President Mohammad Karim Khalili encouraging vote-rigging in favour of Ashraf Ghani, the other contender.

Aimal Faizi, Karzai's spokesman, on Monday dismissed the recording as a fake. Khalili's and Ghani's teams also rejected the recording. "This is a serious threat and violation to someone's security and privacy, and the perpetrators must be brought to justice," Faizi told Reuters.

The two rounds of voting in the presidential election should have provided the first democratic transition of power in Afghanistan's history. Instead, they have been tainted by allegations of mass fraud.

Abdullah's team accuses Karzai of rigging the vote and favouring former World Bank technocrat Ghani. The preliminary results of a UN audit show Ghani leading by about a million votes, but Western diplomats say they expect at least a quarter of the votes will be invalidated. The audit began three weeks ago but has been dogged by delays and squabbling over technicalities, such as how to disqualify votes. On Monday, the audit picked up pace, as hundreds of UN observers joined representatives of Ghani and Abdullah in sifting through some eight million votes.—Reuters



Afghanistan's President Hamid Karzai

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 6 August, 2014

First things first

By Kyaw Thura

When we are lost in a thick jungle, a compass is priceless. Only that tool is capable of helping us out of the jungle, no matter how much foodstuff we have brought with us. Losing the compass under such circumstances will lead us to nowhere.

Similarly, a machine will not function well

unless its parts are installed correctly. The fault is not with the machine but with the machinist. The same thing can be said of nations in transition to a new political system. Keeping first things first is like a compass for them.

Putting first things first is of paramount importance in shaping the future of a nation like Myanmar as a nascent democracy. As a developing nation, Myanmar has a lot of things to be done. It has no time to kill. The most important areas of focus should be on education, health, employment, poverty reduction and rural development, all of which are in urgent need of improvement.

Supposing that a family whose house has been leveled off by a storm is thinking of and talking about what kitchen utensils to buy, where to put

TVs and refrigerators, how to decorate their new house and the like. This sort of family is not planning. They are killing time. All they need to do first is to have a roof over their heads. Time, once spent, is gone forever.

Leaving a legacy of a better nation for posterity is a vital responsibility of all people of today, especially those in power. It should therefore be noted that where we are heading is more important than how fast we are going.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

The Making of the Second HLTF

Aye Aye Myo

There was the same HLTF in 2008. But that was the High Level Task Force (HLTF) for the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter. Nowadays in 2014 when Myanmar assumes as ASEAN Chair, here comes another HLTF. That is the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs. Why is there a need to set up another amidst one two many meetings of ASEAN?

In the post charter period, ASEAN expands its works more than everyone could imagine. Meetings and institutions under each Community namely ASEAN Political and Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) plus ASEAN External Relations are a lot. There's nothing wrong with meetings. But the

question is the necessity of specific bodies and meetings. With expansion of work, heavy burdens are bestowed on ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) that provides services to operation of ASEAN works and to ten ASEAN Member States. For Post-2015 agenda and beyond, the ASEAN Secretariat is to undertake more roles and functions. The ASEC's role as a resource and institutional memory has become more significant than ever. For ASEAN to be an effective regional organization there is a need to strengthen the ASEAN Secretariat. These are the ideas behind the establishment of HLTF on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs.

Mandate of the HLTF

During the 23rd ASEAN Summit held in Brunei Darussalam in October 2013, the ASEAN Leaders agreed to strengthen the ASEAN Secretariat and review the various ASE-

AN Organs. The ASEAN Leaders mandated the High Level Task Force on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs (HLTF) to look into this and submit their recommendations to the ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC) and subsequently to the 25th ASEAN Summit.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the HLTF was adopted at the 13th Meeting of the ACC held on 26 September 2013 in New York. The TOR came with a significant a short timeline (significantly short like 8 months starting from March 2014) to submit the HLTF recommendations to ASEAN leaders in November. There are still concerns of not concluding the recommendations in 2014.

First Meeting and Work Plan

The First HLTF meeting was hosted by Myanmar in March 2014. The First meeting had adopted

Rules of Procedures, Work Plan of the HLTF and ASEAN Member States agreed that Myanmar to chair all HLTF meetings. HLTF Representative of Myanmar is H.E. U Aung Bwa, who served as Director-General at Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was one of the HLTF members of crafting the ASEAN Charter. As it is the first meeting, all HLTF Representatives brainstormed for what they will do for next meetings to come. Then they came up with the plan for successive meetings focusing on APSC, AEC, ASCC, cross-cutting and Coordination issues across three pillars, ASEAN external relations, strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat including its financial and human resources, and finally to finalize final report and recommendations in October. Thailand, ASEAN Secretariat, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Myanmar agreed to host the remaining

HLTF meetings.

Challenges

Inadequate budget and understaffing in ASEC, enhanced coordination among the three pillars and innovative means for budget are easy to say but difficult to address these challenges. Say for example for budget issue. ASEAN Member States contribute about \$1.8 million per country on an equal basis annually. They key functions of ASEC including qualified staff requirement needs enhanced annual operating budget of ASEC which has to be contributed by ASEAN Member States only. Not every member state can contribute to increasing the amount as there is development gap among member countries. Therefore possible options are now being considered by HLTF. Whether to take these options on board or not is for the ASEAN Leaders and Foreign Ministers to decide.

HLTF sounded out the ideas like payment system which will be based on capacity to pay, UN formula of contribution. However, it will contradict the ASEAN Charter Article 30 of equal annual contributions to the operational budget of the ASEAN Secretariat. Capacity to pay formula will have implication of influence by some member

states who contributed more. Another idea includes developing a strategy to maximize the utilization of the funds from the Dialogue Partners and other external partners. But how is still to be explored by HLTF in meetings to come. Options will be brought up by all ASEAN Member States. They key to this is the reaching consensus among 10 ASEAN Member States for proposed options. Without the consensus to surface bold recommendations to our Leaders and Foreign Ministers, HLTF will not be able to finish the given timeline and workload. This is what concerns HLTF right now. But with strong political will to transform the organization shown by Leaders during the 24th Summit, every possible ways will have to be explored and surfaced to our Leaders for their consideration.

The Future of ASEAN

We are trying to strengthen the ASEAN. In doing so, Myanmar is chairing HLTF meetings as a responsible and accountable member of ASEAN. With this HLTF's recommendation, ASEAN will be able to operate more effectively as a more consolidated and effective regional organization in 2015 and beyond.

Myanmar in International Media

Kyaw The-ein

The 1 August issue of Italian newspaper Milano Finanza reported on the mid-year results of ENI and of its ENI Gas & Power division, which is about to reach breakeven ahead of time. Besides the results, the newspaper reported on the new projects of ENI. ENI has announced the discovery of a reservoir in Gabon and that it will enter Myanmar to explore two onshore blocks.

Little more than 18 months once Japanese

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has completed a tour of Latin America that started in Mexico on Friday he will have visited 47 countries, according to a Financial Times commentary. In Asia, where China's influence is increasing felt, there is an implicit battle with Beijing for hearts as well as business opportunities. In general, Japan has fared better than realized in shoring up relations with Southeast Asian nations such as Indonesia and Thailand, where it is a big investor, and in courting other countries also nerv-

ous about China's rise, including India, the Philippines, Vietnam and Myanmar, reported the 29 July issue of Financial Times (Europe).

The 3 July issue of The Daily Telegraph UK stated that British painter Edward Seago was snubbed by the Tate and the Royal Academy but backed by the Royal family and the great British public and is still, 40 years after his death, riding a wave of popularity. This month, four exhibitions and a new book about him provide an opportunity to

reassess the artist and where his work stands in the marketplace. At the recently opened Olympia Fine Art and Antiques Fair, 70 further paintings and watercolours by Mr Seago can be found on the stand of private dealer Jeremy Taylor. Prices will range from GBP 5,000 for a watercolour to GBP 200,000 for a view of the waterfront in Hong Kong, where Mr Seago went in 1962. This is the highest price in all the exhibitions, and justified by the fact that Mr Seago painted only 80 pictures on his trip to Hong Kong, Myanmar and Thailand, making them quite rare.

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (5-8-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K669,200 per tical: Selling K670,000

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K669,200 per tical: Selling K670,000

FE RATE

USD Buying K970 - Selling K974.5

SGD Buying K776 - Selling K783

Euro Buying K1295 - Selling K1310

LOCAL NEWS

Two ancient ordination halls renovated in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 5 Aug — As the collapsed ordination halls have been rebuilt by Shwe Myay Aung family of Mandalay, the merit sharing ceremony will be held for completion of ordinations at two buildings on 7 August morning.

Ancient ordination hall identified as Shin Araham Sunset Ordination Hall on 11th street in Nyaunggwe Ward, east of Ayeyawady River, in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay was rebuilt without its original style. Another ordination hall namely Shwe Myay Aung between Khotaung and Letpan villages near Sagaing-Mingun road was also renovated by U Tun



Naing-Daw Moe Moe Khaing and family.

The local people pay

homage and offer lights and flowers to the Buddha image in Shwe Myay Aung ordination hall.

Tipitakadhara Dhammabhandagarika Bhaddanta Gandhamalankara at Shwe Myay Aung ordination hall.

the merit sharing ceremony of Shin Araham ordination hall and Tipitakadhara Dhammabhandagarika Bhaddanta Gandhamalankara at Shwe Myay Aung ordination hall.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Surplus meals from monastery shared to poor people in Mandalay



MANDALAY, 5 Aug— Dhammadhara Dr Ashin Kumara of Dhammadhara Waso monastery in Thanlyethmaw South Ward of Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay donates lunch to the poor persons around the strand road in Mandalay daily.

“The Sayadaw of the monastery Dr Ashin Kumara is home to over 400 monks. The monks of the monastery go round Nandawya, Tampawady, Phayagyi, Kyunlon Okshaung, Ayeyatun, Kandawgyi East part and West part wards along with the boys to accept the meals donation. We requested to take the surplus meals from the Sayadaw and donate the meals to the poor people around the Strand Road regardless of religions. We have set an association to

make donations of surplus meals from the monastery for two years,” said U Kyaw Kyaw Htay, chairman of the Ayeya Metta social association.

“I live beside the strand road west of the Ayeya Tun Building. My husband died many years ago. I am working odd-jobs daily while looking after three children. I admire the Sayadaw due to donating surplus meals. Being an uneducated, I try hard at works to be able to provide basic needs to my family. I thank the Sayadaw, wellwishers and responsible persons from the association for sharing the meals to us,” said a woman.

The social association manages sharing of surplus meals to over 100 poor people daily.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Visitors strolling along Taungthaman Bridge before departure for Taungpyone Festival

AMARAPURA, 5 Aug— The people who visited the Taungpyone festival paid homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay and strolled along Taungthaman Bridge in Amarapura. Thus, the pagoda and the bridge are crowded with visitors daily.

Visitors wishing to go to Taungpyone festival must pass Mandalay. The

people from all corners of the country pay homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay and offer gold foil to the image before departure for Taungpyone, said a source.

“We came from Yangon to Mandalay. Now, we paid homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image and offered gold foil to the image. This is our annual

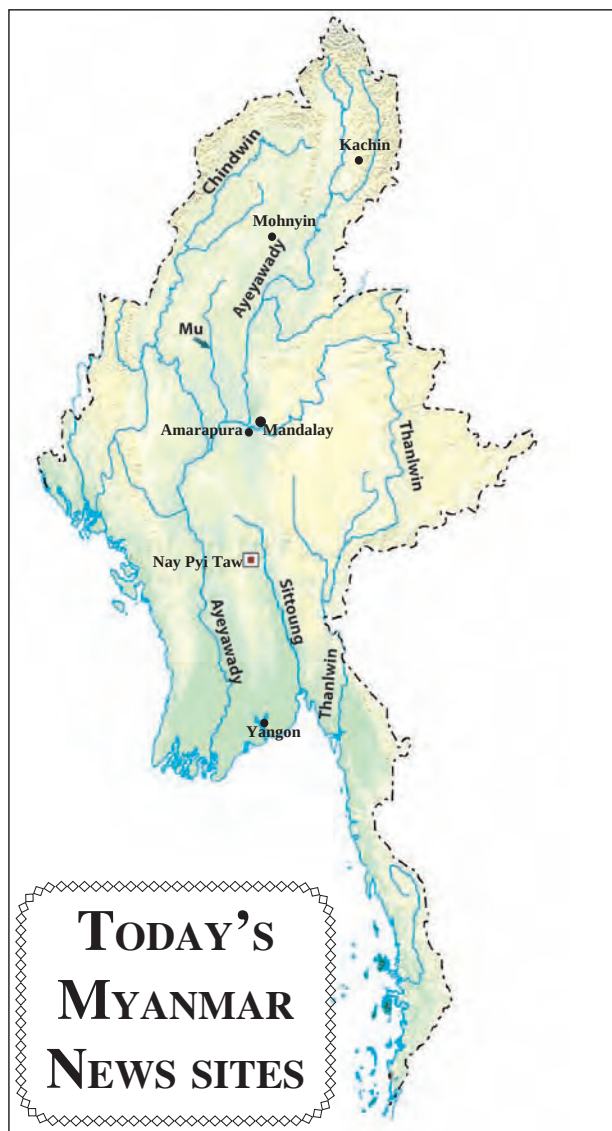
donations. After the donation, we will proceed to Taungpyone,” said Daw Tin Tin Aye of the pilgrimage group.

Ma Khin Aye Mu of Patheingyi said, “Before visit to Taungpyone, I paid homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image and then enjoyed scenic beauty around Taungthaman Lake. While walking along

the bridge, I felt happiness in breeze.”

Now, the Taungthaman Lake’s water level is rising day by day due to rainy season, the picnickers across the nation stroll along the bridge, take photo at the bridge and ride the small boats in the lake.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)



Turkish PKK militants urge all Kurds to fight Islamic State

ISTANBUL, 5 Aug — The PKK, which has spent three decades fighting for autonomy for Turkey's Kurds, on Monday urged all Kurds to take up the fight against the Sunni militants of Islamic State, who have expanded their advance across Iraq into Kurdish-controlled territory. The Kurds populate an area that extends from southeastern Turkey through northeastern Syria and northern Iraq, into western Iran.

"All Kurds in the north, east, south and west must rise up against the attack on Kurds in Sinjar (in northern Iraq)," the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) said in a statement on its website.

Islamic State inflicted a heavy defeat on Iraq's Kurds on Sunday with a rapid advance through three towns to reach the Mosul Dam, the largest in Iraq and a major source of electricity.

"All Kurdish political powers must take part in this resistance, shoulder-to-shoulder. When Kurds are attacked, they must show the attackers that they will find all Kurds against them," the PKK said.—Reuters



Turkey's Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan (C), flanked by Chief of Staff General Necdet Ozel (L) and Defence Minister Ismet Yilmaz (R), leaves after a wreath-laying ceremony with members of the High Military Council at Anitkabir, the mausoleum of modern Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, ahead of a High Military Council meeting in Ankara on 4 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

More police officers detained in Turkey's wiretap probe

ISTANBUL, 5 Aug — Dozens of police officers were detained in Turkey on Tuesday as part of an investigation into alleged spying and illegally wiretapping Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan and his inner circle, local media reported.

At least 25 police officers were detained in 14 provinces across the country, Turkey's state-run TRT channel reported.

Last week a total of 31 officers were remanded in

custody on pending charges they formed a criminal organization and bugged phones following a first wave of arrests started on 22 July.

The detentions come just days before an 10 August election in which Erdogan hopes to become Turkey's first directly elected president. Presidents were previously voted for by parliament.

The investigation is widely seen as targeting a

"parallel structure" within the state, a term coined by Erdogan to describe members of the police, judiciary and other institutions loyal to US-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen. Erdogan accuses Gulen of being behind a plot to oust him.

Erdogan had promised a "witch hunt" against Gulen's followers, which he says are a potential threat to national security.

Reuters

Lebanese army advances in border battle with Islamists

OUTSKIRTS OF ARSAL, (Lebanon), 5 Aug — The Lebanese army advanced on Monday into a border town attacked by Islamists at the weekend in the most serious spillover of the three-year-old Syrian civil war into Lebanon, and the Beirut government said the deadly assault would not go unpunished.

With army reinforcements arriving in Arsal, Prime Minister Tammam Salam, a Sunni Muslim, said there could be no political deal with gunmen identified as members of the Nusra Front and the Islamic State, which has seized parts of Syria and Iraq.

"The only solution proposed today is the withdrawal of the militants from Arsal and its environs," said Salam, the most

senior Sunni in the Lebanese government.

Flanked by the rest of the cabinet, Salam accused the militants of seeking to "move their sick practices to Lebanon".

"We confirm that the attack on Lebanese national dignity will not go unpunished," he said.

Lebanon, still rebuilding from its own 1975-1990 civil war, has been buffeted by violence linked to the Syrian conflict, including rocket attacks, suicide bombings and gun battles.

But this was the first major incursion by hardline Sunni militants who have become leading players in Sunni-Shi'ite violence that has unfolded across the Levant, destabilising Lebanon by inflaming its own sectarian tensions.—Reuters



Lebanese army soldiers arrive as part of reinforcements to the area at the entrance of the Sunni Muslim border town of Arsal, in eastern Bekaa Valley on 4 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

Ukrainian troops cross into Russia to avoid fighting, talks underway

KIEV, 5 Aug — Ukraine said on Monday it was in talks with Moscow over the return of 311 Ukrainian soldiers and border guards who had been forced by fighting with separatists to cross into Russia, but Russian border authorities said the troops were seeking asylum.

Both sides seemed set to use the fate of the troops to score propaganda points as Ukrainian government forces extended steady gains it has made against the pro-Russian separatists since a Malaysian airliner was downed over a rebel-held area on 17 July.

Ukrainian defence spokesman Andriy Lysenko said a group of soldiers and border guards, who had been caught between the Russian border to the east and rebel positions in the west, had crossed into Russia in the early hours of



An Ukrainian serviceman holds a rocket launcher captured from pro-Russian separatists during fighting, in the town Debaltseve in Donetsk region on 2 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

Monday.

He put their number at 311, telling a news briefing they had retreat-

ed into Russia for safety reasons after helping their comrades break through rebel lines. Kiev, he said,

was now negotiating with Russian authorities for their return.

In Moscow, authorities

acknowledged that Ukrainian troops had crossed into Russian territory — though they put the number at

438 — and Russian border guards said they had crossed during the night seeking asylum.

"They were tired of the war and wanted no further part in it," Vasily Malayev, spokesman for the border guards in the Rostov region of Russia, told Reuters by telephone. However, he added that 180 would be returned to Ukraine later on Monday.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, speaking to Itar-Tass and Rossiya24 TV, said Russia would facilitate the return of the Ukrainian soldiers but suggested they would be vulnerable to prosecution for desertion once they returned home.

"I expect Ukrainian authorities to understand that it is absolutely unacceptable, when Ukrainians ... are forced to fight with their own people, to treat those who refuse to do so as traitors to the motherland," Lavrov said.—Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Hacker says to show passenger jets at risk of cyber attack

BOSTON, 5 Aug — Cybersecurity researcher Ruben Santamarta says he has figured out how to hack the satellite communications equipment on passenger jets through their WiFi and inflight entertainment systems — a claim that, if confirmed, could prompt a review of aircraft security.

Santamarta, a consultant with cybersecurity firm IOActive, is scheduled to lay out the technical details of his research at this week's Black Hat hacking conference in Las Vegas, an annual convention where thousands of hackers and security experts meet to discuss emerging cyber threats and improve security measures.

His presentation on Thursday on vulnerabilities in satellite communications systems used in aerospace and other industries is expected to be one of the most widely watched at the conference.

"These devices are wide open. The goal of this talk is to help change that situation," Santamarta, 32, told *Reuters*.

The researcher said he discovered the vulnerabilities by "reverse engineering" — or decoding — highly specialized software known as firmware, used to operate communications equipment made by Cobham Plc, Harris Corp, EchoStar Corp's Hughes Network Systems, Iridium

Communications Inc and Japan Radio Co Ltd.

In theory, a hacker could use a plane's onboard WiFi signal or inflight entertainment system to hack into its avionics equipment, potentially disrupting or modifying satellite communications, which could interfere with the aircraft's navigation and safety systems, Santamarta said.

He acknowledged that his hacks have only been tested in controlled environments, such as IOActive's Madrid laboratory, and they might be difficult to replicate in the real world. Santamarta said he decided to go public to encourage manufacturers to fix what he saw as risky

security flaws.

Representatives for Cobham, Harris, Hughes and Iridium said they had reviewed Santamarta's research and confirmed some of his findings, but downplayed the risks.

For instance, Cobham, whose Aviation 700 aircraft satellite communications equipment was the focus of Santamarta's research, said it is not possible for hackers to use WiFi signals to interfere with critical systems that rely on satellite communications for navigation and safety. The hackers must have physical access to Cobham's equipment, according to Cobham spokesman Greg Cairns.



Cybersecurity researcher Ruben Santamarta poses for a photo in Coslada, near Madrid, on 30 July, 2014.

REUTERS

"In the aviation and maritime markets we serve, there are strict requirements restricting such access to authorized personnel only," said Cairns.

A Japan Radio Co spokesman declined to comment, saying information on such vulnerabilities was not public.

Reuters

Focus on how smartphones have transformed a ride on city Metro

BEIJING, 5 Aug — Modern transport meets modern communications in a new book published by a professional photographer who recorded four years of passengers and their mobile devices in trains on 14 Shanghai Metro lines.

Zhu Gang spurned his usual professional equipment and, like his subjects, used a mobile phone to capture what he calls "a period of history of Shanghai Metro commuters."

His book, entitled "Metro Phone," contains 150 photos and was published in June.

"The use of portable devices, especially smartphones, has become a phenomenon in the Metro network," Zhu said. "Just look around. More than half of passengers on a train are burying their heads in their phones."

Zhu divided his pictorial history into 16 themes — a number reflecting the number of Metro lines in Shanghai, though lines 14 and 15 won't be fully operational for another five years.

The themes cover activities such as passengers sharing games, music and pictures on phones and tablets, passengers using their mobile devices for office work, and passengers eating and drinking en route without taking their eyes from their phones.

"Eating and drinking inside Metro carriages is no longer a common sight since a food ban on trains began this year," Zhu said.

"Some of the phone models also have been discontinued by now. Thus, some of the scenes I have captured already have become history, even though the pictures are only three or four years old."

Zhu got the idea of training his photographic eye on smartphone users in the Metro at the end of 2010, about the time when smartphones were becoming common in Shanghai.

"People are moving with Metro trains when their minds are actually with whatever is on their electronic devices," Zhu said. "Metro travelers are addicted to smartphones, and that's why I was attracted to them. When they play with their phones, I use mine to take pictures of them."

The cellphone, he said, is excellent for capturing fleeting moments stealthily, even it doesn't produce the same high quality of photograph.

"People tend to seem unnatural in front of a camera," he said. "With a phone, I can capture the most relaxed facial expressions."

Zhu said not a single Metro commuter has ever balked at his photo-taking.

"Most of them didn't seem to notice," he said. "Others just dismissed my activity. For that, I consider myself lucky."

Zhu said he changed phones three times during the four-year period. In 2010, he used a clamshell LG phone with a camera



"Metro Phone" records how smartphones became a ubiquitous sight on the subway. — XINHUA

of 3 million pixels. Now, he uses a Motorola with a camera of 13 million pixels.

"I've witnessed a lot of changes over the years, and the main impression I am left with is that the pace of life has speeded up," he said.

"More passengers talk about business on their phones or use their laptops for office work. More foreign passengers have started using cellphones. Also, Metro travelers tend to be better mannered than in the past. A lot of commuters will avoid talking loudly on phones, and few leave litter in carriages."

His project required him to spend many hours on trains.

"In the early stages, I would walk through a

Metro train from the first carriage to the last to look specifically for phone users," he said. "Then I found that it was largely a matter of luck. Sometimes I could manage to get a lot of interesting pictures in a day; sometimes there was nothing at all."

Zhu still remember the day when Shanghai's first Metro train on its first Metro line held a test run between Xujiahui and Jinjiang Park stations. That was 10 Jan, 1993.

"In 20 years, I've have witnessed the expansion of the city's Metro system," Zhu said. "I am sure the pictures I took will be much more interesting to look at in 10 or 20 years time. This is part of Shanghai's history."

Xinhua

SpaceX set to build rocket launch centre near Brownsville, Texas

SAN ANTONIO, 5 Aug — Privately owned SpaceX will submit an application to build a commercial launch facility near the Texas border city of Brownsville after winning approval for the plan from the US Federal Aviation Administration, the company said on Monday.

Space Exploration Technologies Corp, the company's formal name, last year entered the commercial satellite launch market with prices it says are far cheaper than competitors.

The Hawthorne, California-based company, owned and operated by technology entrepreneur Elon Musk, also flies cargo to the International Space

Station under a \$1.6 billion contract with NASA. Its Texas launch site, which will be its fourth in the United States, will be supported with investment from the state.

"SpaceX is excited to expand our work in Texas with the world's first commercial launch complex designed specifically for orbital missions," Musk said in a statement.

The state has offered about \$15 million in incentives and investment for the rocket centre. It will also fund more than \$80 million in capital improvements to Boca Chica Beach, a Texas state park at the mouth of the Rio Grande, the office of Governor Rick Perry said.—Reuters

Two more talks pulled from Black Hat hacking conference

BOSTON, 5 Aug — Security researchers have pulled two scheduled talks in this week's Black Hat internet-security conference in Las Vegas — one on breaking into home-alarm systems and the other on a sophisticated Russian espionage campaign known as "Snake." The withdrawals follow the cancellation late last month of a highly anticipated talk on how to identify users of the Internet privacy service Tor.

Cancellations are not unusual ahead of hacking conferences such as Black Hat, which runs on Wednesday and Thursday

and lures international participants, though it is rare for so many to be pulled in advance.

"It sort of comes with the territory when you have the latest and sometimes controversial research scheduled to be presented on stage," said conference spokeswoman Meredith Corley. She didn't know if three cancellations was a record.

Black Hat said Logan Lamb, an employee with Oakridge National Laboratory, had pulled a talk dubbed: "Home insecurity: no alarms, false alarms and sigint".—Reuters

Lights go out across Britain, 100 years on from World War One



Light is beamed into the sky from Trafalgar Square to mark the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War One, in London on 4 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

LONDON, 5 Aug — Lights across Britain switched off for an hour on Monday night in a tribute to the dead of World War One inspired by the prophetic observation of Britain's foreign minister on the eve of war 100 years ago. "The lamps are going out all over Europe," Edward Grey told an acquaintance, shortly before

Britain declared war on Germany on 4 Aug, 1914. "We shall not see them lit again in our lifetime."

British landmarks, including the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge and St Paul's Cathedral, went dark from 10 pm local time (2100 GMT), and Prime Minister David Cameron had asked Britons to switch off all but a single light in

their homes for an hour.

The "war to end all wars" spread carnage across Europe, especially northern France and Belgium, killing 17 million soldiers and civilians in 1914-18. Over one million of the dead were soldiers from Britain and its then empire.

Grey's prophecy was also at the centre of a ser-

vice in London's Westminster Abbey later on Monday, where candles went out one by one until only a burning oil lamp remained at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior.

At 11 pm, the lamp was extinguished, marking the exact time the British Empire joined the war. In Trafalgar Square, one single light shone from an old

police box.

Acting as beacon for the capital, a monumental pillar of light beamed into the clouds from Victoria Tower Gardens. Installation "spectra" by Japanese artist Ryoji Ikeda was commissioned by 14-18 NOW, the official cultural programme for the centenary, and will fade away as the sun rises over the London skyline on 11 August.

"The light that 'spectra' throws up into the night sky is a unifying point; it echoes how the First World War affected all Londoners, but also how they and the rest of the country came

together, standing united during those dark days," Boris Johnson, the mayor of London, said in a statement.

Moths darted across the beams, giving the work, which was accompanied by a sound composition, an ethereal twinkling. A black cab stopped in the middle of a busy road next to the park so its driver could lean from his window to capture the column on a mobile phone.

"It's like something biblical," one woman exclaimed, as other spectators wandered between the lights.—Reuters



Belgian King Philippe (R) lays a wreath during a ceremony to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War in Liege, Belgium, on 4 Aug, 2014.—XINHUA

Colorado girl, three, shot by 5-year-old boy wielding handgun

DENVER, 5 Aug — A 3-year-old Colorado girl was shot and critically wounded by a 5-year-old boy on Monday with a handgun belonging to her mother's boyfriend, police said.

Pueblo police said in a statement that a 9-year-old boy was playing with a handgun in the backyard of a home in the morning when he gave the firearm to the 5-year-old, who pointed it at the girl and fired, striking her once.

The bullet entered and exited the toddler's body without breaking any

bones, police said. She was airlifted to a Colorado Springs hospital where she was listed in critical but stable condition after having surgery, they added.

"When the 9-year-old was asked how he was able to manipulate the handgun, he said he learned it from video games like Black Ops," police said.

The two boys who handled the gun will not face charges, because of their age, police said, but they would investigate how the older boy got the weapon.

The girl's mother,

whom police had not identified, was present at the home when the shooting took place. Her boyfriend, Adrian Chavez, 22, who was also at the home, fled the scene and was apprehended five hours later, police said.

"Chavez will be charged with child abuse resulting in serious bodily injury for the gun that was left unattended," police said, adding that he had an outstanding, no-bond warrant for failure to appear in court in an unrelated case.

Reuters

Norwegian flight turns back to Stockholm for technical problems

STOCKHOLM, 5 Aug — A Norwegian Air flight from Stockholm to Los Angeles turned around and landed in Stockholm's Arlanda airport on Monday due to technical problems with wing's take off and landing flaps. According to the TT news agency, the Norwegian flight, a Boeing 787 Dreamliner, circled above the Baltic Sea for 45 minutes to lose fuel before it safely landed again at 4:30pm in Stockholm.

"At 15:47 we were informed by the pilot about the problem," Britt Samuelsson, a spokeswoman at the Sweden's Joint Rescue Coordination Centre was quoted by TT.

"I don't know if it is because he can't get the flaps back in or can't get them out. But he doesn't want fly all the way without looking it over," said Samuelsson. Norwegian Air has suffered several technical problems over the past year with its new Dreamliner aircraft. After rows of delays, Swedish travelers have claimed millions of kronor in compensation from the airline, reported the TT news agency.—Xinhua

Indonesia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Marty Natalegawa (L) meets with Canadian Foreign Minister John Baird in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 5 Aug, 2014. John Baird is on a visit to tighten bilateral relationship between the two countries.

XINHUA



ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (024)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVPANJA BHUM VOY NO (024) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J012R)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J012R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM LINE
Phone No: 2301185

Advertise with us!

For inquiries to place an advertisement in the NLM,

Please email

wallace.tun@gmail.com



Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 6th August, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, scattered in Mandalay Region, Shan, Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Mon State and isolated heavy falls in Bago and Yangon Regions, Rakhine and Kayin States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Man killed, homes damaged in Southern California mudslides

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug — Mudslides and flash floods that raged through Southern California mountains following heavy rains killed one man, damaged homes and cut off a foothill community, leaving rescuers clearing blocked roads and residents cleaning up on Monday.

The mudslides and flooding were triggered by weekend thunderstorms that unleashed some five inches of rain in less than two hours in parts of San Bernardino County, east of Los Angeles, San Bernardino firefighter and public information officer Chris Prater said.

"We had a freak summer storm that brought a lot of rain in a very short amount of time," Prater said. "The ground cannot absorb that much water and you have these flash floods as a result."

Prater said the worst of the mudslides came down at Mount Baldy in the Angeles National Forest, some 60 miles northeast of Los Angeles, where a man was killed when his car was



Residents stand outside a home that was damaged by a mudflow triggered by flash floods in the San Bernardino mountain community of Forest Falls, California on 4 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS

swept off a mountain road. Local media identified him as Joo Hwan Lee, 48, of El Segundo.

At least several other people were trapped in homes or vehicles and had

to be rescued, Prater said.

Flash flooding near the unincorporated community of Forest Falls, some 60 miles to the east, prevented 70 to 100 tourists from leaving the area because of

debris and downed power lines, forcing them to spend the night at a community centre.

Officials said the American Red Cross was responding on Monday

with water and food.

No other injuries were reported, despite the quick-moving waters stranding as many as 2,500 people overnight in Forest Falls and Oak Glen, a cou-

ple of miles to the southwest. Television images showed cars in parking lots up to their axles in thick gray mud.

San Bernardino County Fire Department Captain Kyle Hauducoeur said it would take some three days for workers using bulldozers and other heavy equipment to clear roads around Forest Falls enough for residents and traffic to move freely.

County emergency responders rescued one woman before a mudslide destroyed her Mount Baldy home and damaged four other nearby buildings, Hauducoeur said. Among those stranded were some 500 children and chaperones who had arrived at a Forest Falls campground earlier on Sunday but could not leave after roads were covered with mud, rocks, trees and other debris.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department posted pictures online of stranded campers receiving meals and shelter at the Forest Falls Community Centre. — Reuters

Australian, Japanese soldiers to train together in Japan

SYDNEY, 5 Aug — Australian military personnel will train with local soldiers in Japan for the first time, authorities revealed on Tuesday.

The two armies, together with the United States troops, will train in an earthquake disaster scenario in northern Japan in November.

Japan's Ground Self-Defence Force chief of staff Kiyofumi Iwata stressed the importance of the Australian defence force taking part in a response to a simulated massive earthquake in Miyagi Prefecture.

Japanese officials are making plans for US Osprey transport aircraft to join the exercise, which includes deliveries of relief goods to isolated areas and transfer of disaster survivors to hospitals.

Xinhua



Rescuers carry injured residents to a helicopter after an earthquake hit Longtoushan township of Ludian county, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 4 Aug, 2014.

At least 398 people have been killed after a 6.5-magnitude earthquake rattled the province on Sunday afternoon.

XINHUA

Victoria Beckham dress sale to benefit African mothers with HIV

LONDON, 5 Aug — Fashion designer and former pop star Victoria Beckham is giving away 600 pieces of clothing, including several evening dresses, to raise money and awareness for mothers living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.

Beckham's iconic, white Dolce and Gabbana dress worn for the 2003 MTV Video Music Awards is just one of the items to go under the hammer in aid of mothers2mothers (m2m), a charity that works to prevent the transmission of HIV from mothers to babies in nine countries including South Africa, Swaziland and Kenya.

Other pieces are from Beckham's days with the Spice Girls pop group, fashion shows, parties and red carpet appearances with husband and former England football captain David Beckham.

The money raised from the auction of Beckham's evening gowns, hats, shoes, bags, jewellery and costume pieces will be "transformational" for the organisation that trains and employs mothers living with HIV to mentor other HIV-positive mothers in their community, m2m founder, Mitch Besser, said.

The women work alongside doctors and nurses in understaffed health centres as members of the healthcare team.

"We've reached 1.2 million mothers since we started, but with more resources, we can reach more mothers. With more reach we prevent more infections and we keep more mothers alive to take care of their kids," said Besser, an obstetrician and gynaecologist by training.

"The funding is absolutely transformational for an organization like ours," he told Thomson Reuters Foundation.

With an annual budget of around \$20 million, m2m receives up to two thirds of its funding from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) — a programme to combat AIDS started by former US President George W Bush.

THE OUTNET.COM, the online fashion outlet which will host the private online sale from 20-25 August, said Beckham chose to donate proceeds to m2m after visiting South Africa in February and meeting some of the mothers affected by HIV.

"After spending just a few days with these remarkable women and learning more about the charity from Mitch, and his lovely wife Annie Lennox, I wanted to do as much as I could," Beckham said in a statement.

"It really was a life-changing experience. I've never experienced anything like it." —Reuters



Former Spice Girls singer Victoria Beckham

Rani Mukerji's special 'Mardaani' anthem launched

MUMBAI, 5 Aug — To promote her upcoming film 'Mardaani', Bollywood actress Rani Mukerji has come up with a special anthem with the message that women are as strong as men.

Written by Kausar Munir and sung by Sunidhi Chauhan and Vijay Prakash, 'Tumko Nahin Chhodoongi' has been composed and produced by Salim-Sulaiman.

"I was asked to see the film, and being a woman and a mother, I reacted emotionally to it. Aditya and Prakash asked me to express this reaction in words and make it a voice of a sensitive person," Kausar told reporters here at the launch of 'Mardaani' anthem. "The emotions of anger, frustration and helplessness

came out. Women are physically weaker than men, that is nature, but the will, the spirit is not," she said. Rani thinks the lyrics are beautifully written and are very powerful.

The Bengali beauty will be playing the role of a cop in this film which deals with the issue of child trafficking. "We all women have inner strength which I think men don't have. Men may be physically more powerful and stronger than us but emotionally and mentally we are stronger. I don't think there is anything that a man can do without a woman," Rani said.

Directed by Pradeep Sarkar and produced by her husband Aditya Chopra, the film will release worldwide on 22 August.

PTI



Rani Mukerji

'Transformers: Age of Extinction' crosses USD 1 billion



The film is all set to collect more as it opens in Spain, Japan and Venezuela this month.—PTI

LONDON, 5 Aug — Michael Bay's 'Transformer: Age of Extinction' has crossed USD 1 billion at the box office, including its USD 241.2 million domestic and USD 763.8 million international collection.

'Extinction' became the second film in the Transformers franchise to cross the billion dollar mark, following 'Dark of The Moon' in 2011. The film, which released in late June, is the first film of 2014 to hit the milestone, reported deadline.

'Extinction' became the highest-grossing film ever in China with a collection of USD 300 million.

The film is all set to collect more as it opens in Spain, Japan and Venezuela this month.—PTI



Sandra Bullock tops Forbes list as Hollywood's top-earning actress

Sandra Bullock

NEW YORK, 5 Aug — Oscar winner Sandra Bullock is Hollywood's highest paid actress with estimated earnings of \$51 million over 12 months, followed by Jennifer Lawrence and Jennifer Aniston, *Forbes* magazine said on Monday. Bullock, 50, had a big hit last year with the space thriller film "Gravity," which won seven Academy Awards including best director for Alfonso Cuarón, and made more than \$716 million worldwide.

The best actress Oscar winner in 2010 for "The Blind Side," Bullock jumped from seventh place on the previous *Forbes* earnings list to the top spot between June 2013 and June 2014. "Gravity" star Sandra Bullock didn't win best actress this year but she did walk away with a ton of money," according to *Forbes.com*.

"Hunger Games" actress Lawrence, 23, came in second for the second consecutive year with estimated earnings of \$34 million, while Aniston, 45, climbed one spot to No 3 with \$31 million. *Forbes* compiled the list by estimating earnings from the actresses' film work, endorsements, residuals and advertising work, and by talking to agents, managers and lawyers.

Gwyneth Paltrow, 41, who made an estimated \$19 million, and Angelina Jolie, with \$18 million, rounded out the top five. Jolie, 39, dropped from No 1 last year.

Scarlett Johansson, the 29-year-old star of the sci-fi action thriller "Lucy," came in seventh with \$17 million, and "Twilight" star Kristen Stewart, 24, fell from No 3 last year to 10th place with earnings of \$12 million.

Reuters

GENERAL

Tidy spaces can prevent kids from becoming overwhelmed and frustrated

NEW YORK, 5 Aug — If you're concerned that your child's perpetually messy room will cause him to grow up to be a disorganized, ineffective adult, rest easy. A tidy room isn't necessarily as crucial to a child's development as parents might expect, though it certainly does offer short- and long-term benefits.

"Is a messy room going to leave a kid less capable as an adult than they would have been otherwise? I'd say no," said educational psychologist Jane M Healy, author of "Your Child's Growing Mind" and other books. "There are more important



things in child-rearing than making sure every shelf is labelled."

But Healy told Reuters Health that cleaning and organizing a bedroom or

playroom presents myriad teachable moments for all ages. "There are wonderful opportunities to work on color matching, classifying, and sorting," she says.

"For older kids, it can be planning ahead, having a goal, outlining the steps to get to that goal."

And Ellen Delap, a certified professional organizer and spokesperson for the National Association of Professional Organizers, told Reuters Health that an organized room can help prevent kids from becoming frustrated, anxious, and overwhelmed.

"An uncluttered space can help them be the best people they can be," she said. "Kids get overwhelmed with the number of toys, clothes, and technology in their spaces — it's frustrating to find what

they need."

These tips can help parents and children get their bedrooms, playrooms, and other spaces tidy and organized with minimal strife.

So while parents shouldn't worry that they're dooming their children to life as a slob if they don't clean their rooms, it can't be overlooked that helping them develop some habits of tidying and organizing can't hurt.

"What this offers is an opportunity for you to help your child shape their adult attitudes as well as their adult habits," says Healy.

Reuters

Deadly Pune landslide may have been a man-made disaster

NEW DELHI, 5 Aug — A landslide in Pune that has killed more than 100 people and left scores missing may have been a man-made disaster caused by deforestation to make way for farming, experts say. Hopes of finding survivors are fading after heavy rains triggered on Wednesday's landslide, burying dozens of homes in the village of Malin in Maharashtra. While the blame falls on crucial yet often deadly monsoons — which annually trigger landslides and floods — geologists and environmentalists said the tragedy was avoidable.

"There are two types of landslides: naturally-induced and human-induced. The current landslide is possibly due to human activities like farming and road construction," geologist Satish Thigale was quoted as saying by the DNA newspaper in India. Environmentalists blame a government income generation scheme that required hill slopes to be flattened

and thousands of trees to be felled. According to the *Hindustan Times*, official data indicates that nearly 28,000 trees were cut, but unofficial figures put the count at 300,000.

Reports have also suggested that heavy machinery such as backhoes were used to level the slopes, which has contributed to loosening the soil to such an extent that it has impacted the hill's drainage of water. "Relentless rain naturally was the trigger. But the use of heavy machinery to flatten land for agriculture may have aggravated the crumbling of the hill top," said Ashim Kumar Saha from the Geographical Survey of India in The Hindu.

At first glance, "the cracks (found) imply an improper rainwater drainage system. Only a detailed report can tell us what caused the tragedy and only then can we come up with recommendations," said Saha, who has been surveying the affected area.—Reuters



A resident looks at the debris of her damaged house after a landslide at Malin village in Maharashtra on 30 July, 2014. — REUTERS

2014 AUVSI Int'l Aerial Robotics Competition opens in E China



A competitor flies an aircraft robot during the 2014 AUVSI International Aerial Robotics Competition (Asia-Pacific Venue) in Yantai, east China's Shandong Province, on 4 Aug, 2014. The three-day competition is held in Yantai by the Association for Unmanned Vehicles System International (AUVSI) from Aug. 4 to 6. The event attracted more than 200 competitors from China, Spain, Singapore, India, Iran and Hong Kong.—XINHUA

Female workers becoming important product planners

TOKYO, 5 Aug — Many Japanese companies today apparently depend on their female employees for ideas to create unique products targeting female consumers.

At Aux Co, a household goods maker based in Sanjo, Niigata Prefecture, four female workers in their 30s to 50s are the developers of a smash-hit series of kitchen utensils called "leye".

Among its popular items are "yubisaki (fingertip) tongs", whose user-friendly shape has proved popular among consumers

who want to pick up raw or strong smelling food items such as fish, meat and garlic without using their hands.

Since the tips of the tongs are slimmer than conventional ones, customers are able to use them as if they are part of their fingers, according to Aux.

Its "sukueru knife," which allows users to cut, scoop and serve food all at once right at the table, is also in the lineup.

As of June, a total of 11 items developed by the leye team had sold more than 1.18 million units,

according to Aux.

Noriko Ishiwata, leader of the team whose brainchild is the fingertip tongs, said her inspiration was the fact that she found it so time-consuming on busy mornings to wash her hands each time she touched a different food material.

"I take notes about what I find inconvenient and they turned out to be very useful," she said.

Many of her male colleagues were opposed to her idea, saying that it would be quicker to wash their hands, but women supported her,

Ishiwata said.

Another member of the team, Michiko Murakami, said the all-women team makes her feel free to discuss ideas in meetings.

"Since my female colleagues are in similar circumstances, we understand each other and don't deny others' ideas," she said.

Radishbo-ya Co, a Tokyo-based organic vegetable delivery company, has also cashed in on the viewpoints of women as more than 90 percent of its clients are female consumers.

Kyodo News

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(6-8-14 07:00 am~
7-8-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Delicate Artistic Handy Creations-Lacquaware Making
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Sunee
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Iconic Person...: A Night Of Dancing With Phoe Chit
- * World News
- * Cultural Shows: Theatrical Art
- * Local News
- * Jeyyanandi (A Day in the Life of a Nun)
- * World News
- * Culture Shows: Composer Ma Mya Lay
- * Local News
- * Martial Arts: Moving Meditation (Aikido)
- * World News
- * Lucrative Myanmar Rattan Industry
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (Episode-1)
- * Mingalar Byuha
- * World News
- * Sagaing Guitar
- * Local News
- * The Stories Of The Great Souls (Mar Mar Aye) (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Local News
- * Herbal Medicine By Thurein (Aloe Vera)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Harpist
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Mega Factory - (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Railways City Circular Train

Suzuki Cup football tournament in November, December

The group fixtures were arranged for the 2014 ASEAN Football Federation Suzuki Cup Football Tournament through drawing lots in Hanoi of Vietnam on Tuesday afternoon, attended by President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw, Vice President U Tin Aung and Head Coach Avramovic of the Myanmar National Football Team.

The Group (A) comprises Vietnam, the Philippines and Indonesia together with the second position team of the qualifier and the Group (B), Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand together with the first position of qualifier.



Vietnam will host the Group (A) matches and Singapore, the Group (B) matches in November and December.

Semifinal and fi-

nal matches will be held through home and away system. The qualifier matches will take place in October in Laos. Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia,

Timor-Leste and Brunei will play the round robin matches. The two top teams will be qualified for the tournament.

Po Thaw Zin

Murray happy to plan ahead with Mauresmo

LONDON, 5 Aug — Andy Murray returns to action for the first time since surrendering his Wimbledon crown this week, insisting his coaching liaison with Amelie Mauresmo is long-term. The Scot began working with Frenchwoman Mauresmo shortly before Wimbledon but a disappointing grasscourt season raised question marks about the longevity of their partnership.

Murray, however, says he has enjoyed working with the former Wimbledon champion at his training base in Miami as he prepares for the US hardcourt season, which concludes later this month with the US Open at Flushing Meadows.

"We've agreed to work together and I think from both sides we're willing to do what it takes to make it work long term," Murray, 27, was quoted on the BBC's website ahead of the Rogers Cup in Toronto, where he is seeded eighth. "I really enjoy work-

ing with her, she's helped me a lot.

"She integrated well with the rest of the team. It's been a good start. Now it's about me producing the results."

The next few months are critical for Murray who dropped down to 10th in the world rankings following his Wimbledon quarter-final defeat by Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov.

Murray is without a title for more than a year and is also struggling to qualify for the year-ending World Tour Finals in London with the likes of Dimitrov and Canada's Milos Raonic beginning to make deep inroads into the top 10.

On the plus side, he has few points defend during the north American swing, having lost in the last 16 at Toronto in 2013 and the quarter-finals at Cincinnati and the US Open before his season was curtailed by back surgery.

Mauresmo's task will be to help Murray return to the kind of form that saw him win the US Open in 2012, when he beat Novak Djokovic in an epic final.

"I sat down with her the day after Wimbledon, we made a plan for the next few months, in the build up to the US Open," Murray said. "(Hitting partner) Dani (Vallverdu) and Amelie will both be there at the US Open.—Reuters



Andy Murray of Britain

Losing start for French football's first female coach



Corinne Diacre

PARIS, 5 Aug — Corinne Diacre received a bouquet of flowers from her opposite number but ended up

on the losing side when she became the first woman to coach a men's soccer team in a competitive professional match in France on Monday. Diacre, celebrating her 40th birthday, also became the first woman to coach in a game in the top two divisions of European soccer as she made her debut with Clermont Foot in their Ligue 2 match away to Brest.

Despite taking an early lead, her side conceded two second half goals to lose 2-1. "We made two mistakes on the goals that we conceded, but we did some good things

which are promising for the future," Diacre told reporters.

"Brest were in charge of the game and we had to chase the ball too much.

"I'm still happy with my players because they gave so much," added Diacre, who was presented with flowers by Brest coach Alex Dupont before the game.

"I'm proud of their performance tonight. Clermont will have to be taken seriously this season."

Souleymane Sawadogo gave Clermont an eighth minute lead before Brest

replied with goals from Bruno Grougi and Alexandre Alphonse after halftime. Diacre, former captain of the France women's team, took over at the end of June following the surprise resignation of Portugal's Helena Costa. Costa became the first female to be named coach of a men's team in the top two divisions of European soccer but quit before taking charge of a game, saying the club had hired players without her knowledge.

Clermont finished 14th in the 20-team table last season.—Reuters

Man United rally for 3-1 friendly win over Liverpool

MIAMI, 5 Aug — Second-half strikes from Wayne Rooney, Juan Mata and Jesse Lingard earned Manchester United a morale boosting 3-1 win over Premier League rivals Liverpool in the final of the pre-season International Champions Cup in Miami on Monday.

United end their US tour unbeaten under new manager Louis van Gaal and a victory over their old rivals was perhaps the sweetest way to sign off. They will now return to England to finish off preparations for the new Premier League season, which starts on 16 August.

Despite the win, Dutchman Van Gaal was in no mood to go overboard about his team's pre-season, which also included a 3-1 victory over European champions Real Madrid on Saturday.

Asked what the value

of the tournament win was, Van Gaal said: "Nothing. It's nice, nice for the fans in the US and also at home, that we have beaten Liverpool, not our favourite opponents for United fans, and I think we have given a lot of pleasure to these fans and that is important.

"Of course it is better to win preparation games than to lose but the most important game is against Swansea City, our first game, at home, in the Premier League — that we have to win," he added.

Both managers went with their strongest possible teams for the game, played in front of 51,000 fans at a rainy Sun Life stadium in Miami.

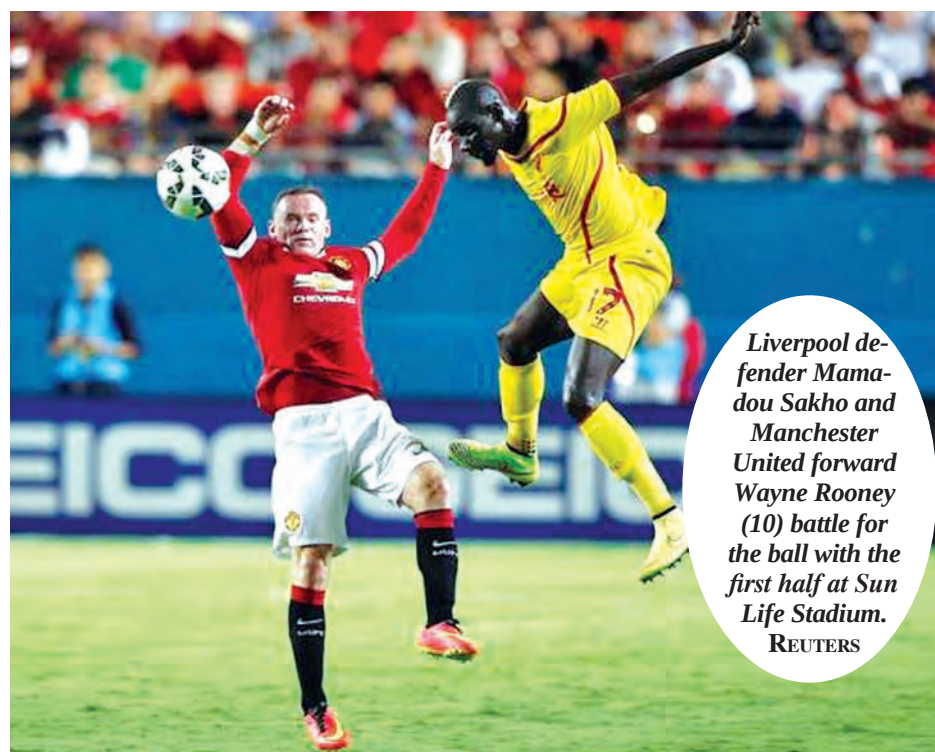
Liverpool began brightly and took the lead in the 14th minute when the lively Raheem Sterling was brought down in the area by United defender Phil Jones and skipper Steven

Gerrard drilled home the penalty.

The Merseyside team should have doubled their advantage shortly after half-time but Rickie Lambert fluffed his shot after finding space inside the area. United equalised in the 55th minute when Mexican forward Javier Hernandez delivered a cross deep to the back post and Rooney coolly side-footed home a cushioned volley from a tight angle.

Two minutes later, Mata's well-struck effort from the edge of the box took a slight deflection off Mamadou Sakho and beat Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet.

Manchester United had the ball in the net again after a high cross from Ashley Young looped over Mignolet and appeared to bounce back off the woodwork to Rooney, who side-footed home.



Liverpool defender Mamadou Sakho and Manchester United forward Wayne Rooney (10) battle for the ball with the first half at Sun Life Stadium. REUTERS

American referee Mark Geiger signalled a goal but images on the stadium's giant screen showed the ball had gone over the bar and bounced back off

the stanchion.

After consulting with his linesman, Geiger changed his decision and ruled out the goal.

United did get a third

two minutes from time, substitute Lingard blasting home from 18 yards to seal the win and wrap up the eight-team tournament victory.—Reuters