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*Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers a speech at the meeting of the committee for prevention against recruitment of minors. — MNA*

## Prevention against recruitment of minors discussed Existing laws forbid minors from joining military service

YANGON, 3 Aug — The second coordination meeting of the committee for prevention against recruitment of minors for was held at the Office of the Adjutant-General of the Ministry of Defence this morning.

Chairman of the committee Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered a speech at the meeting.

It was also attended

by committee members Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Labour U Tin Winn, Judge Advocate-General Maj-Gen Soe

Maung, Deputy Chief-Justice U Thein Soe, Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun

Shin, Brig-Gen Ngwe Thein of the Office of the Adjutant-General of the Minis-

try of Defence, senior military officers, officials of the (See page 8)

**If there were cases of forced recruitment of minors for military service, severe actions would be taken against those who violated the law.**

## Development projects in Ayeyawady Division inspected

YANGON, 3 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments, left here and arrived at Pandaing Village in

Ayeyawady Division yesterday afternoon.

Together with Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Chairman South-West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, service personnel and officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than

and party proceeded to Bo Myat Tun Bridge in Nyaungdon Township.

An official of the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems reported on condition of the current of Ayeyawady River and measures being taken for

safety of vessels sailing under the bridge.

The commander gave a supplementary report.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than instructed those responsible to closely supervise the vessels moving downstream, to take systematic measures for avoid-

ing possible collision of vessels and log-rafts with the bridge, to take severe action against those violating the directives, and to constantly inspect the bridge for its durability. General Manager U Aye Myint of Myanmar Oil and Gas (See page 8)

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*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party look into Patheingyi Bridge Project in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Division on 2-8-2004. — MNA*

**Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.**

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 4 August, 2004

### Let's unitedly work towards our national goal

In the present world where changes are occurring with incredible speed, each and every nation is striving to keep pace in the current of these changing international conditions in order not to be left behind in all aspects. Myanmar is also making all-out efforts to keep pace with the current changes in the international arena and to be able to survive and prosper as a sovereign and independent nation in today's world. And at the same time, it is doing everything in its power to steadily walk the path towards the future progress of the nation without faltering.

The Government has now begun implementing the seven-point policy programme for the establishment of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy. In our endeavours for the reconstruction of a modernized and developed nation, the education sector plays a fundamental role. The Government acknowledges the fact that teachers of universities and colleges as well as those of the basic education sector play a most vital role in carrying out such tasks as educational reforms and educational promotion programmes and in nurturing young students to become future scholars and capable professionals and technocrats who will be a credit to the nation. Therefore, special refresher courses for teachers are being conducted so that they will become thoroughly knowledgeable about absolute conditions of the State and her relations with other nations of the world.

In his address at the conclusion of the Special Refresher Course No. 5 for the faculty members of universities and colleges held at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) on 2 August, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, also Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee, called on the personnel of the education sector to constantly help nurture and develop outstanding and highly-qualified scholars, scientists, technocrats and professionals who have patriotic spirit and Union Spirit and who will preserve, protect and promote the independence and sovereignty of the Union of Myanmar so that she may take a place of pride among the nations of the world.

In today's world of globalization, it is impossible for any nation to stand alone. Therefore, Myanmar has opened her doors to establish relations of friendship and cooperation with other nations of the world. Her relations with her neighbours are flourishing and her cooperation with other nations in the region will contribute a lot to her economy and that of the region. And she is committed to the building of a stable, peaceful and developed nation in accordance with the wishes of the people.

We would like to call on the entire national people, including teachers from universities and colleges, to lend themselves enthusiastically and with full national spirit to the task of establishing a peaceful, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy — our national goal.

### World Breastfeeding Week (1st to 7th August 2004)

*Exclusive Breastfeeding: the Gold Standard*

*Safe, Sound, Sustainable*

Ministry of Health

### People's Desire

- \* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- \* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- \* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- \* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

### Miss ASEAN Myanmar Contest to be held

YANGON, 3 Aug — Measures for holding Miss ASEAN Myanmar Contest were co-ordinated at a meeting held at the meeting hall of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation here at 1 pm today. Patron of the Contest Organizing Leading Committee MWAFF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made an address.

Those wishing to participate in the contest all over the country can do so and the winner will be sent to the Miss ASEAN Culture (2005) Contest which will be held in March next year. Thus, the candidate must be witty, bright, fluent in English and rich in general knowledge.

The entry date for submitting applications was extended to 8 October 2004. — MNA

### Harmful medicine announced

YANGON, 3 Aug — The Ministry of Health today announced that Apu-tat Ko-aye, a traditional medicine for curing high fever is harmful to people as it is a false one, manufactured by mixing Aspirin, a western medicine, with other ingredients.

The Ministry will take action against the Dihta Thukha medical house in Dawei-su ward, Myeik, manufacturer and distributor of the false traditional medicine, that was being sold in local markets across the nation. — MNA

### Minister inspects training school, nursery school, development centre

YANGON, 3 Aug — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint this morning inspected the training school for girls in Mayangon Township and Nursery School of the Social Welfare Department in Bahan Township and gave instructions to the officials concerned.

At the training school, Headmistress Daw Myint Myint Hlaing reported on organizational set up, staff and nurturing of the school. Next, the minister gave necessary instructions.

Afterwards, the min-

ister and party went to the Women Development Centre in Kamayut Township where an official and Director-General of the Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing reported on matters related to education and resettlements of the girls nurtured by the centre.

Next, the minister and party inspected mess, hostels, weaving workshop, Art and Deco sale rooms at the centre. — MNA

### Soccer Tourney concludes

YANGON, 3 Aug — The final match of the Soccer Tournament for Championship Shield of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was held at the sports ground of Ground Training Airbase in Meiktila yesterday evening.

After the match, Commander of the Air Base Col Thura Khin Maung Win presented prizes to the winning teams.

MNA

**Don't smoke**

### POEM:

### Myanmar works for region's benefit

- \* ASEAN-BIMSTEC  
Inter-connected by us  
Our great Myanmar nation  
Stands out eminently
- \* Just as Myanmar is  
A member of ASEAN  
So also if you look  
At BIMSTEC we're member
- \* Put all these together  
And look in combined manner  
In dealings between the two  
Myanmar is vital  
Take Myanmar as pivot  
And look ahead.
- \* ASEAN-BIMSTEC  
Shall be welded for benefit  
Firm in Myanmar's thoughts  
We remain indivisible  
The lofty minds of Myanmar  
Going forward on common path  
Moving forward the same direction  
Will arrive for sure.

Meru (Trs)

### Myanmar Golf Open Championship to be held



YANGON, 3 Aug — Myanmar Golf tour organized by the Myanmar PGA and

Myanmar Golf Federation will be held on a grand scale in Shwe Sar Yan Golf Resort from 12 to 15 August.

Only amateur golfers with 0 to 12 handicap are allowed to take part in the first event with professional golfers and those

under 18 are not allowed. Before the event, the amateur golfers who want to change to professional level, Qualifier with 0 to 9 handicap will be held in Shwe Sar Yan Golf Resort Mandalay from 9 to 10 August.

Golfers are to enlist at Han Event Management Office Ph-542989 and 72322 by noon 5 August and the professional golfers for Mandalay Shwe Sar Yan Open Golf Championship are to enlist at Shwe Sar Yan Golf Resort by 4 pm 10 August. — MNA

သစ်ပင်စိုက်ပါ ပျားမွေးပါ နှစ်ဖြာအကျိုး ဆယ်စမ်းပိုး။



Myanmar-India Friendship Football match was played at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna, Yangon, on Tuesday afternoon. Zaw Htaik of MFF selection team seen attempting to get goal while Indian goal keeper of Mohun Bagan IX team of India seen defending the goal. The Myanmar team beat the Indian team 4-0. — NLM



## 912 US service members killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq last year

BAGHDAD, 2 Aug — As of Monday, 2 Aug, 912 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 677 died as a result of hostile action and 235 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 774 US soldiers have died - 568 as a result of hostile action and 206 of non-hostile causes, according to the Defence Department on Monday. — *Internet*



*Iraqi men try to remove the car in which their brother died during Sunday's bomb blast in Baghdad, on 2 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET*

## Northeastern India can serve as economic bridge with S-E Asia

NEW DELHI, 3 Aug — India's Minister for Development of North-East P R Kyndiah on Saturday said the region could become an "economic bridge" between the rest of India and South-East Asia if its manpower and natural resources were properly tapped.

"The North-East is potentially rich in terms of manpower and natural resources. It is our dream that this region will become an economic bridge with South-East Asia," he said here after receiving a report on "Revitalization of North Eastern Council (NEC)" prepared by an 11-member committee.

Kyndiah said the NEC, which had been set up as an advisory body in 1972 but was made a regional planning body in 2002, would have to be made more effective for "coordinated and accelerated development of the North-East."

The committee, constituted by previous National Democratic Alliance Government in October last year, made recommendations regarding composition of the NEC, strengthening of the organizational set-up

of its secretariat in Shillong, regional planning for sustainable growth and development of the North-East and monitoring and evaluation of development projects.

"We will go into the best aspects of the recommendations and will soon come up with a plan to revitalize the NEC," Kyndiah said.

He said since its inception, the NEC had planned and executed projects worth 61.52 billion rupees, of which over 80 per cent had been spent on power sector and development of roads.

"If the full power potential of North-East is exploited, electricity can be supplied not only to other parts of India but also to its neighbours," Kyndiah said.

MNA/PTI

## Daihatsu to boost output in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 3 Aug — Japanese carmaker Daihatsu plans to boost its output in Indonesia to 10,000 units per month from currently between 9,500 and 9,600 units, a local newspaper reported Monday.

PT Astra Daihatsu Motor (ADM), the local unit of Daihatsu Motor Corp, will improve efficiency at the factory in a bid to achieve the targeted output, reported *Bisnis Indonesia*. "It takes 2.3 minutes to produce a car. Now we are struggling to improve it to 2.1 minutes a car," ADM Vice-President Noertjahjo Darmadji was quoted as saying.

He said greater efficiency will help the company keep the price affordable for Indonesian customers. He said the factory's output would reach around 100,000 units this year against only 22,000 units last year.

MNA/Xinhua

## China launches first national economic investigation

BEIJING, 2 Aug — China launched its first national economic investigation here Sunday hoping to get a clear picture of the nation's economic strengths.

In Beijing, nearly 50,000 people will work on the investigation, collecting data from all areas of the economy. Spot-checks will be done to ensure the investigation is complete.

The economic units under investigation include business units and self-employed businesses in the manufacturing sector and the service industry.

The investigation will research China's national conditions and economic power, said Lin Xianyu, deputy director of the National Bureau of Statistics. — *MNA/Xinhua*

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## Germany not to participate in NATO's training programme in Iraq

BERLIN, 2 Aug — Germany will not participate in NATO's training programme in Iraq while opening the door for Iraqi officials to be trained in Germany, a spokesman said Monday.

The German government will not participate in NATO's military training programme in Iraq to be started in early August, deputy government spokesman Thomas Steg told a regular news briefing in Berlin. Nevertheless, it is possible for Iraqi officials to receive military training at German military colleges, Steg said. On Friday, NATO members agreed to send about 40 officials to Iraq to train the country's forces and help rebuild its military infrastructure. Under resistance from France, the United States no longer insisted that the mission come under US-led coalition command. The idea of NATO training for Iraqi forces was agreed by leaders at a NATO summit in Istanbul in June. — *Internet*

## India to host 2006 BIMSTEC Summit

BANGKOK, 3 Aug — India on Saturday agreed to host the 2006 Summit of BIMSTEC, a grouping of seven Asian countries, following a request from all the participants.

"At the request of all the participants, India agreed to host the next BIMSTEC Summit in 2006," Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told a Press conference here.

He said between now and then, a lot of work was needed at senior official and ministerial levels.

MNA/PTI

## US soldier dies in Iraq roadside bombing

BAGHDAD, 2 Aug — A US soldier died of wounds sustained in a roadside bomb attack north of Baghdad, a US military spokesman said Monday. The blast occurred on Sunday near the restive city of Samarra, some 110 km north of Baghdad, as a US patrol passed by, the spokesman said. The blast initially killed one soldier from the 1st Infantry Division and a second died of his wounds later, the spokesman said. A third wounded soldier was transferred to a US medical facility in Germany and is in stable condition, he added. Over 910 US servicemen have been killed in Iraq since the US-led military operations in Iraq began in March 2003. — *Internet*

## Vietnam to intensify investment in aquaculture sector

HANOI, 3 Aug — Vietnam will invest 318.5 million US dollars in restoring and developing sea, brackish and freshwater livestock between now and 2010 to promote the country's aquatic products and resources.

Of the money, 1.8 trillion Vietnamese dong (114.7 million US dollars) will come from the state budget, and the remainder from other economic sectors, including foreign one, according to the Fisheries Ministry on Monday.

The money will be used to expand national and regional water livestock nurseries, especially those in poor coastal and mountainous areas.

Priorities will be given to developing high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with

local climates and resistant to diseases, and ensuring a stable supply of baby livestock to local farmers.

Specifically, the aquaculture sector plans to produce 35 billion baby tiger shrimps, more than 500 million baby crabs and 11 billion baby molluscs, and supply more than 3.5 billion baby green-clawed prawns, and 700 million baby catfish, and more than 12 billion brackish and freshwater fries to fish-rearing farms across the country between now and 2010.

MNA/Xinhua



*A demonstrator holds a poster featuring a wounded child in Iraq as they march to the US Embassy in Manila on 2 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET*

## Iraq militants kill Turkish hostage

BAGHDAD, 3 Aug— A video posted on the Internet shows a masked gunman pumping three bullets into the head of a Turkish hostage, and the Turkish truckers' union said Monday it would stop bringing supplies to US forces in Iraq, bowing to militant demands in hopes of saving two other captive Turks.

The videotape, posted on an Islamic Web site used by militant groups, shows a man identified as a Turk kneeling in front of three armed men. The man reads a statement in Turkish, identifying himself as Murat Yuce from Ankara, the Turkish capital. He says he works for a Turkish company that subcontracted for a Jordanian firm.

"I have a word of advice for any Turk who wants to come to Iraq to work: 'You don't have to be holding a gun to be aiding the occupationist United States ... Turkish companies should withdraw from Iraq,'" he says.

At the end of the statement, one of the

men takes out a pistol and shoots the Turk in the side of the head. The Turk slumps to the ground, and the kidnapper shoots him in the head twice more.

A black banner on the wall behind the kidnappers identifies the group as the Tawhid and Jihad, which is led by the Jordanian militant linked to al-Qaida, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

It was not clear when the video was posted or when hostage was killed; his name did not match those of the two Turkish truck drivers kidnapped by Tawhid and Jihad last week.

Internet



Smoke rises after an explosion near Abu Nawas street, on the banks of the Tigris River in central Baghdad, on 1 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

## Militants in Iraq to release Somali man

BAGHDAD, 2 Aug—A militant group said Monday that it will release a Somali truck driver it kidnapped because the Kuwaiti company he works for agreed to stop working in Iraq, al-Jazeera television said.

In a video aired 29 July, Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's terrorist group Tawhid and Jihad threatened to behead Ali Ahmed Moussa within 48 hours if his company failed to leave the volatile country.

Moussa appeared kneeling before three black-clad, masked militants armed with assault rifles in the latest video broadcast Monday on the Arabic-language network. One of the militants read a statement, which was inaudible.

The news-reader said the group was releasing Moussa "in appreciation of the attitudes of the Somali government and people toward Iraq and the Kuwaiti company's commitment to stop doing business in Iraq."

Internet

## Philippines eager to attract Chinese tourists, promote trade

MANILA, 2 Aug — The Philippines is eager to attract Chinese tourists and promote trade and economic cooperation with its giant neighbour in a bid to create jobs and improve infrastructure, said Foreign Secretary Delia Albert Sunday.

The Philippine News Agency (PNA) quoted Albert as saying that the Department of Foreign Affairs has started to "realign" its programmes in order to help realize the 10-point agenda on economic and social development set by President Gloria Magapagal Arroyo. "It will be our challenge to give life to the 10-point agenda. We have already begun the process of identifying our place in this agenda but it will take all our collective efforts to succeed," said Albert.

She said that the Philippine diplomatic posts in China have taken initiative in this direction by vowing to promote tourism and trade with China, attract investments to the Philippines and continue to protect and enhance the welfare of Filipinos working as overseas contract workers in China, includ-

ing the Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions. The PNA said that the heads of Philippine Foreign Service posts in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Xiamen met last week in Manila for the issue.

Tourism Secretary Roberto Pagdanganan and Assistant Foreign Secretary for Asia and Pacific Affairs Alicia Ramos, as well as officials from the defence, trade, labour and agriculture departments (ministries) attended the meeting. Philippine Ambassador to China Willy Gaa said at the meeting that the country needs to "assess the current state of Philippine-Chinese relations, establish priorities and future areas of bilateral cooperation and align the plans and programmes of the posts to the agenda of President Arroyo."

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်မွန်းအား ခေါ်ကျော်သွား

## Jordan to provide gasoline for Iraq

AMMAN, 3 Aug — Jordan and Iraq have signed an agreement to provide gasoline to Iraq, a Jordanian Energy Ministry source said Sunday.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Jordan and Iraq agreed to continue oil pipeline construction between the two countries, and Jordan was to finish 300 kilometres of pipelines, the first phase of the project.

He explained that the second phase, within Iraqi

borders, included 450 kilometres of pipelines, which would be completed jointly by Iraq and Jordan.

Iraq was facing a severe shortage of gasoline because the oil refineries were sabotaged ensuing the Iraq war, the source said.

Meanwhile, the source denied that Jordan and Iraq

would repair Kirkuk-Haifa oil pipeline to export oil to Israel.

The Kirkuk-Haifa line, linking the northeastern Iraqi city of Kirkuk with the Israeli port city of Haifa, used to be functioning before the establishment of Israel in 1948 and is out of service now. — MNA/Xinhua

## Ukraine PM wants to cut soldiers in Iraq

KIEV, 2 Aug —Ukraine's Prime Minister on Monday called for reducing the country's troop contingent in Iraq, openly disagreeing with top defence officials who want to increase the force.

The statement by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich reflected deep divisions over what is likely to be a key issue in Ukraine's on 31 October presidential election, in which Yanukovich is a top contender.

Ukraine opposed the US-led war in Iraq, but afterwards became one of the largest contributors of troops to the postwar security efforts. Its 1,576 troops are the fourth-

largest non-US contingent.

On Sunday, Defence Minister Yevhen Marchuk said that a new brigade to be rotated into Iraq beginning in September would consist of 1,722 — an increase of nearly 10 per cent.

But "I believe the contingent should be reduced," Yanukovich said, according to the news agency Interfax. — Internet

## Bangladesh approves subsidy on imported fertilizers

DHAKA, 3 Aug— The Bangladeshi Government has approved 2,710 million taka (45.1 million US dollars) agricultural subsidy to make three types of imported fertilizers available to the flood affected farmers at 25 per cent reduced price.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia approved the subsidy Sunday as per a recommendation of a committee headed by State Minister for Agriculture Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, according to *The Daily Star* on Monday.

Private sector enterprises usually bulk import the three kinds of fertilizers — Triple Super Phosphate (TSP), Murate of Potash (MOP) and Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP). The allocated subsidy will be used to compensate the traders to sell these fertilizers at 25 per cent reduced rates to farmers.

Alamgir said the decision to provide subsidy on imported fertilizers is the first ever in Bangladesh. It will help the flood-hit farmers cultivate the next crops and increase agricultural production, he added.

Every year around 55,000 metric tons of TSP fertilizer is produced locally and around 400,000 tons is imported, while for MOP and DAP fertilizers the country entirely depends on imports.

Along with this newly announced subsidy, Alamgir said, worth around 4,000 million taka (66.6 million US dollars), on urea fertilizer. — MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis look over battle damage in Fallujah, Iraq, on 30 July, 2004. — INTERNET



# Foreign forces harm ancient Babylon ruins

**BAGHDAD, 2 Aug —** Foreign forces in Iraq have caused severe damage to the site of ancient Babylon, one of the world's most renowned archaeological treasures, and need to leave the area as soon as possible, Iraq's Culture Minister said Sunday.

Heavy equipment, helicopters and other machinery used by Polish-led forces based at Babylon, 60 miles south of Baghdad, are causing irreparable harm, Mofeed al-Jazaeri said.

"Just their presence, with their heavy equipment, is harmful in and of itself," the minister told *Reuters*, saying that helicopters landing and taking off were a particular problem.

"We don't know how much damage the military presence has done because our experts are not permitted to enter the site.

"But we have received information that damage has been done to several archaeological sites," he said, mentioning the temples of Nemma and Naboo, and the famed palace of Nebuchadnezzar.

Babylon was the capital of ancient

Babylonia, an early civilization that existed from around 1,800 BC until 600 BC.

Most famous for the hanging gardens built by Nebuchadnezzar, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, large parts of it were reconstructed by Saddam Hussein.

Describing anecdotal accounts of the damage, Jazaeri said ancient roofs and walls had collapsed and buildings had decayed.

He also said that workers employed by US contracting firm Kellogg, Brown & Root (KBR) had been digging and building in the area around Babylon, causing further damage. Jazaeri said he did not know what the digging was for.

Polish commanders and representatives of KBR were not immediately available for comment.—MNA/Reuters

## British Army pays \$700 for shooting Iraqi girl dead

**LONDON, 2 Aug —** The British Army has paid out about 700 US dollars to the family of an eight-year-old Iraqi girl who was killed after being hit by a bullet fired by a British soldier, the *Independent* newspaper reported Sunday.

Hanan Saleh Matrud died in an alleyway near her home in northern Basra after the British soldier with the King's Regiment opened fire nearby, the paper said.

The ricocheting bullet left a deep wound across her stomach, and she died later in the hospital.

According to the paper, the soldiers claim that they fired a warning shot into the air after being targeted by "heavy stone-throwing" by mobs, while local witnesses dispute the claim, alleging that only children were in the streets.

The British Army admitted that the shot "possibly"

caused the girl's injury and paid her parents, but refused to admit responsibility for her death.

British senior defence officials claim such unofficial payments were set after

consulting Iraqi judges, the paper said.

The revelation of the payment has provoked another row over the conduct of British troops in Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

## Patni computer net rises 59.5% in first quarter of '04

**MUMBAI, 2 Aug —** Global IT services provider Patni Computer Systems Ltd has posted a 59.5-per-cent rise in net profit at 618.1 million rupees in first quarter ended 30 June, 2004, compared to 390.9 million rupees in the same period last fiscal.

The company's total revenues rose to 3.66 billion rupees during the quarter under review, as against 2.77

billion rupees posted during the same quarter a year ago, Patni Computer Systems said in a release here recently.

The IT major's operating income rose 60.1 per cent to 679.6 million rupees during the reporting quarter, it said.

The figures are under US GAAP, it said.

The company's revenues from General Electric (GE) was lower at 33.4 per cent in quarter under review, compared to 43.4 per cent recorded during the same period of last fiscal, it said.

Patni added 25 new clients in the quarter, 201 active relationships up from 174 in second quarter of Fiscal year 2004, while revenues from financial services, insurance and manufacturing contributed to around 77 per cent, it added.

The company recruited 489 people in the quarter, increasing its total staff strength to 7,862 people and had set up a development centre in Bangalore, increasing its offshore infrastructure to the seventh city in the country, it said.

MNA/PTI



**Blowing bubbles :** A German youth blows bubbles underwater at an outdoor swimming pool in Darmstadt as temperatures soar to 29 degrees Celsius. — INTERNET



**Indian women shout anti-US slogans during a demonstration in the central Indian city of Bhopal on 31 July, 2004. — INTERNET**

## Iran attaches importance to Iraq's stability, security

**TEHERAN, 3 Aug —** Iran attaches special importance to peace, stability and security in Iraq and will do its utmost to help Iraq to achieve them, Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said on Sunday.

Kharrazi made the remarks during a conference on Iranian-Iraqi economic cooperation, which started in Tehran on Sunday.

"We expect Iraqi officials to act vigilantly and precisely regarding the current special situation," Kharrazi was quoted by the official IRNA news agency as saying.

Kharrazi also underlined the necessity of economic cooperation between Iran and Iraq.

"Iran and Iraq, as two neighbouring countries, have the capacity to become two major economic partners. The Islamic Republic (of Iran) has tried to strengthen bonds between the two countries by its words and in practice," he said. "Iran and Iraq can create strategic cooperation in various energy fields not only to achieve big and long-term interests for themselves but also to play a leading international role in this field," Kharrazi added.

Meanwhile, Kharrazi also urged the two sides to establish free trade relationship.

"Regarding commercial cooperation, we should take strides to free trade between the two countries and both sides should be able to sell their products in (each other's) markets easily and speedily," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

## India, Thailand reach understanding on FTA agreement

**BANGKOK, 2 Aug —** In a boost to their trade ties, India and Thailand Friday reached an understanding on the Free Trade agreement that would lead to halving of duty on 82 goods by September one this year.

The two sides will sign a formal agreement when Thai Commerce Minister Watana Muangsook visits New Delhi next month.

Under the agreement reached during the bilateral talks Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had with his Thai counterpart Thaksin Shinawatra, the duty would be reduced by 75 per cent on these items on September one 2005 and the two countries would move towards a free trade regime by September one, 2006, India's Commerce Minister Kamal Nath told reporters here.

The second phase of the Free Trade Agreement would begin from then onwards and the two countries would have free trade regime by 2010.

Kamal Nath said the 'Early Harvest Scheme', the first phase of the FTA agreement, was finalized after sorting out one or two thorny issues.

A joint statement issued at the end of the Singh-Thaksin meeting said the two leaders welcomed the completion of negotiations for implementing the Early Harvest Scheme under the Framework Agreement for establishing a Free Trade Area between India and Thailand from 2010. — MNA/PTI

## Kuwait, Iraq form joint committee on oil, gas cooperation

**KUWAIT CITY, 3 Aug —** Visiting Iraqi Oil Minister Thamer Al-Ghadban announced on Sunday that Iraq and Kuwait have formed a joint committee to explore ways of cooperation in the fields of oil and natural gas.

According to the *Kuwait News Agency*, Al-Ghadban said that the most important one among the future cooperation aspects is supplying Kuwait with Iraqi natural gas.

Talks with between Al-Ghadban and Kuwaiti Energy Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahd Al-Sabah focused on bilateral and strategic cooperation on the energy sphere.

Iraq wanted to cooperate with the Kuwaiti private firms in developing oil fields in Iraq, such as the "Seibah" field in the southern city of Basra, said Al-Ghadban.

The Minister said that a meeting is expected within the next few weeks to discuss several issues being prepared by the joint committee.

MNA/Xinhua

## Non-state sector posts fast growth in Guangdong Province

**GUANGZHOU, 2 Aug —** The non-state sector in Guangdong Province, an economic locomotive in southern China, kept its growth momentum in the first half of this year, thanks partly to local banks' financial support.

According to statistics provided by the provincial economic and trade authorities, the non-state sector invested 75.499 billion yuan (9.1 billion US dollars) in capital construction between January and June, a year-on-year growth of 24 per cent. Meanwhile, it exported 7.78 billion US dollars worth of goods, up 87.5 per cent over the same period of last year. To ease capital shortage of smaller enterprises, Guangdong has launched a variety of guarantee institutions for credit extension. Currently, there are 75 such institutions in the province, 57 more than at year end 2002. — MNA/Xinhua

## Saudi Arabia says Arab troops should replace US in Iraq

**JEDDAH (Saudi Arabia), 3 Aug**—Saudi Arabia said on Sunday that any Muslim and Arab deployment to Iraq must have Iraqi consensus, operate under a United Nations umbrella and replace US-led coalition forces in the war-torn country.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal told reporters his country's proposal, revealed last week, also stipulates that the United Nations oversee the political process in Iraq including elections for a new Iraqi Government.

"These won't be fighting or invading troops but to help serve the Iraqi people so that they return to a normal life. This would also require that coalition forces withdraw from Iraq," Prince Saud said after talks on the plan with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa.

"This proposal responds to demands by many Muslim nations that coalition forces quit Iraq," he said, adding it

was part of the kingdom's efforts to help Iraq regain its sovereignty.

An Islamist militant group has already rejected the idea and threatened to retaliate against contributors.

The Saudi proposal, which has met a cool response so far, was for troops from Pakistan, Malaysia, Algeria, Bangladesh and Morocco to help quell unrest in Iraq.

Algerian Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Belkhadem said his country has no intention of sending troops to Iraq, according to official media reports on Sunday.

The proposal may have limited success given that most Arab and Muslim lead-

ers, facing public opposition over pro-US policies, have so far declined to contribute troops to the US-led coalition.

Libyan leader Moammar Kadhafi said the Saudi proposal would be feasible only if coalition forces first withdrew, because the danger was that if Arab and Muslim troops went now they would be seen as shoring up US-led troops and therefore part of the occupying force, state media reported on Sunday.

MNA/Reuters

## Greece deports over 100 illegal migrants

**ATHENS, 3 Aug**—Greek police are deporting more than 100 Egyptians who were arrested over the past five months while trying to enter the country illegally, a police source said on Monday.

The source added that the deportees were to be flown to Cairo in the evening aboard an Egypt Air flight chartered by Greek police.

The Ministry of Public Order had no immediate comment.

MNA/Reuters

## Algeria says no to Saudi idea of troops in Iraq

**ALGIERS, 2 Aug**—Algeria has no intention of sending troops to Iraq, the North African Muslim country's Foreign Minister said, rejecting a Saudi initiative to set up a force of Islamic troops there.

"The Algerian Army has never sent forces to any country... Algeria will not send troops to Iraq," Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Belkhadem said, according to official media reports on Sunday.

Belkhadem made the comment to reporters on Saturday at Algiers Airport after welcoming UN envoy to Iraq Lakhdar Brahimi, himself a former Algerian foreign minister.

MNA/Reuters

## BIMSTEC nations decide to set up JWG on counter terrorism

**BANGKOK, 2 Aug**—Concerned over continuing threat from international terrorism and transnational crimes, India and six other Asian countries on Saturday decided to set up a Joint Working Group on counter terrorism, a decision described by Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as an "important step" to combat the menace.

At the first summit of BIMSTEC, leaders of India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and Nepal, representing 1.3 billion people, also agreed on a slew of measures, including timely completion of the Free Trade Area negotiations to boost economic co-operation.

Giving details of the outcome of the summit, Singh

told a news conference here that "the setting up of a BIMSTEC JWG on counter terrorism is an important step. We agreed to hold the first meeting of this group in New Delhi later this year".

He said there was unanimity on joining hands in combating international terrorism. The member countries pledged not to allow use of their territory by ter-

rorist groups launching attacks on friendly governments.

There was willingness to share information and capacity building by sharing training programmes in intelligence gathering operations, the Prime Minister said before leaving for home after a three-day visit to Thailand.

MNA/PTI

## မြို့ခြံရွှေတာ၊ ဆိပ်ပါးလေ့ရှိတဲ့ တုတ်တုတ်မြို့



Nadwa Aziz, wife of church bombing victim Akram Aziz, rests her head on the shoulder of victim's sister Mahasin Aziz at the burial services in Mosul, Iraq, on Monday, 2 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

## British troops may quit Iraq in new year

**LONDON, 2 Aug**—British troops were likely to be withdrawn from Iraq next year, the *Times* newspaper reported Sunday.

Despite continuing violence in Iraq, senior British military figures believe that the elected Iraqi Government would not want large numbers of foreign troops to stay for long, the paper said.

The report quoted Lieutenant General Andrew Ridgeway, the chief of defence intelligence, as saying that with elections due in Iraq for January, it was unlikely that

any political party would win power without promising to scale back foreign troops.

British commanders on the ground in southern Iraq share Ridgeway's view, the paper added.

British commanders earlier suggested that large numbers of troops might be needed "for years" before Iraq's new security forces were ready to take control. — MNA/Xinhua

## Bangladesh has enough foodstock for flood-related emergency

**DHAKA, 2 Aug**—The Bangladeshi Government has enough food stock at the moment to face any emergency despite the loss of a huge quantity of rice crops in the fields by the worst flooding since 1988, reported the *Financial Express* on Sunday.

The Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf said on Saturday that the government has 900,000 tons of foodgrain in stock and plans to procure a further 200,000 tons of rice from domestic sources.

He was quoted as saying that the government food stocks are comfortable and there is no worry about any shortfall. The government is currently concentrating in relief activities for the flood victims, and it will import foodgrain to meet the de-

mand if necessary, added he.

Agriculture Extension Department officials, however, earlier said there had been widespread damage to paddy crops as the floods swept through most parts of Bangladesh. They feared complete loss of the paddy of this season. The annual summer paddy production is estimated at over 2 million tons.

Private foodgrain importers noted there could be shortfall of food due to the loss of summer harvest

by the floods and any shortage may have to be met by imports.

Traders said the government tendered for import of 50,000 tons of wheat in July, and the bidding for the wheat will take place at the end of August.

Although the government confirmed the sufficient supply, sources revealed some unscrupulous traders in Dhaka city have begun to hoard essential commodities, trying to create an artificial scarcity in the market. — MNA/Xinhua

## Malaysia introduces new educational programme

**KUALA LUMPUR, 3 Aug**—Malaysian Education Minister Hishammuddin Tun Hussein on Monday launched the National Tuition Voucher Scheme to help primary pupils to master basic subjects.

A total of 446,381 pupils from 6,416 primary schools and 61,880 teachers would benefit from the scheme which has been given an allocation of 44.4 million US dollars, the minister said at the launching ceremony here.

The objective of the scheme was to provide tuition classes to pupils who are poor in Malay, English language, Science and Mathematics, he said.

Meanwhile, Hishammuddin said the government would review the assistance programmes given to poor students in the country to ensure that they were still re-

levant to the present situation.

Hishammuddin said the step was needed as there were still students left out of the assistance programmes even though the government had allocated a substantial allocation for education.

Among the government assistance programmes to the needy students are the Tuition Voucher Scheme, text book assistance, scholarships, Supplementary Food Programme, School Milk Programme and one-off assistance as well as the Poor Students Trust Fund.

MNA/Xinhua



A South Korean protester holds a banner at a rally to protest against the dispatch of South Korean troops to Iraq in front of army base in Seoul on 2 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET





*Thanlwin Bridge (Hpa-an) in Kayin State. — MYANMA ALIN*



*Bala Min Htin bridge in Kachin State. — MYANMA ALIN*

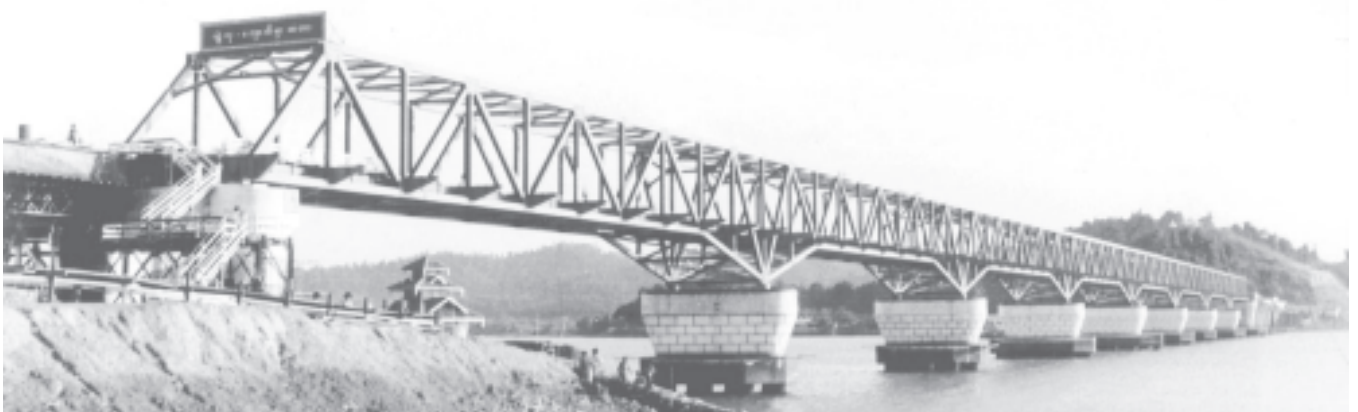
**Bridges  
built  
across  
the  
country**



*With the length of 3280 feet, the Ayeyawady Bridge (Dedaye) lies in Dedaye Township of Ayeyawady Division. — MNA*



*The 8549 feet long Bo Myat Tun Bridge spanning the Ayeyawady River is linking Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions. — MNA*



*Kyweku-Kyaukphya Bridge on Dawei-Myeik motor road in Taninthayi Division. — MNA*

## Prevention against recruitment ...

(from page 1)

State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the resolutions on prevention against recruitment of minors for military service in the country, safeguarding their interests and observing the prescribed laws, rules and regulations, orders and directives precisely were passed at the first coordination meeting of the committee held in January 2004.

He said the second meeting was to discuss the implementation of the previous resolutions and the future programmes. He said in the country there are laws, rules, orders and directives that protect freedom of the children and there are laws and orders that prevent all the minors from joining military service. If there were cases of forced recruitment of minors for military service, severe actions would be taken against those who violated them. However, he said, groups with negative views towards the country are exaggerating such cases and they continue to make accusation of forced recruitment of minors for military service.

In accord with the objectives, the committee is to prevent against recruitment of minors for military service in the State, to safeguard their interests and to ensure observance the prescribed orders and directives precisely in cooperation with the respective organizations, he said.

Next, members of the committee Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Labour U Tin Winn, and Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin reported on matters relating to preventing against recruitment of minors for military service in the State and cooperation with related organizations.

Director-General of International Organizations and Economic Department U Win Mra and Secretary of the committee Col Aung San Tin reported on future arrangements and implementation of the resolutions at the previous meeting. Next, members of the committee and guests took part in the discussions. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by Lt-Gen Thein Sein. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Bo Myat Tun Bridge and current of Ayeyawady River on 2-8-2004. — MNA

## Development projects in Ayeyawady...

(from page 1)

Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy gave an account of daily output of condensate of Nyaungdon oil and gas field, drilling of oil well No 23 and future plans. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions to officials concerned. He also looked into conditions of the bridge and flow of water. They also inspected progress of paddy

**Pathein bridge across Ngawun River is under construction. On completion of the project, the 2,140 feet long steel suspension facility will contribute towards smooth transport, swift flow of commodities and greater regional development.**

cultivation, thriving paddy fields and regional development along the route through Pantanaw, Kyaung-gon, Kangyidaunt and Pathein townships.

Next, they arrived at Ngawun River crossing Pathein Bridge Project in Pathein later in the

afternoon. Officials reported on work being done, building of the Pathein-Chaungtha approach road and progress in building the bridge spanning Kyaukkyi.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions and inspected construction tasks around the site. On

completion of the project, the 2,140-foot-long steel suspension facility will contribute towards smooth transport, swift flow of commodities and greater regional development. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Pathein in the evening. — MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint addresses the meeting of the Leading Committee for Organizing Nutrition Development Week 2004. — MNA

## Leading Committee for Organizing 'Nutrition Development Week 2004' meets

YANGON, 3 Aug — The Leading Committee for Organizing 'Nutrition Development Week 2004' held a meeting at the meeting hall of the National Health Committee at the Ministry of Health this afternoon.

Chairman of the Leading Committee and Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint spoke on the occasion.

Present on the occasion were departmental heads of ministries concerned, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, and chairmen and officials of social organizations.

In his speech, Dr Kyaw Myint said nutrition development is central to national development. Iodine-deficiency is a cause that delays the brain development of children. However, the plan for adequate consumption of iodized salt in Myanmar has been successful. Assistance provided by the Ministry of Mines, other ministries and social organizations are accounted for the achievement. The administration of Vitamin-A tablets reduced the number of children who went blind on account of Vitamin-A deficiency to almost zero in Myanmar.

Next, Acting

Director-General of the Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung reported on the purpose of observing 'Nutrition Development Week' and procedures to be carried out.

Dr San Shwe Win, Director (Public Health) of the Health Department, also presented reports on arrangements for the 'Nutrition Development Week 2004' and tasks to be implemented, followed by a general round of discussions, in which members of the committee took part.

Later, resolutions were approved at the meeting, which came to an end in the evening. — MNA

## New concrete lanes in Bayintnaung Brokerage Area put into service

YANGON, 3 Aug—The opening of Yogyichangpat lane and Naunggyo lane in Bayintnaung Brokerage Area in Mayangon Township, Yangon West District, took place at the archway at the junction of Bayintnaung Road and Yogyichangpat lane this morning.

Present on the occasion were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, YCDC Secretary Col Myint Aung, No 1 Military Region Commander Col Tun Kyi, local authorities, officials, NGOs, and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Managing Director U Shein Win of Tet Lan Co Ltd and Managing Director of Shwe Keinnayi Co Ltd U Zaw Lay formally opened the concrete facilities, and inspected them.

The managing directors reported on implementation of the housing estate projects under the supervision of the City Housing Estates Project Committee.

The commander, the minister and the mayor gave instructions on measures for ensuring cleanliness and proper flow of drains in the housing estate projects, and attended to the needs. They also looked into box culverts, sluice gates and condition of Yogyi Creek. They proceeded to site for construction of a building of Myanmar Fisheries Federation on Bayintnaung Road in Mayangon Township. Director-General U Than Tun of the Fisheries Department and members welcomed them. The commander, the minister and the mayor inspected the construction site. The director-general conducted them round the project site. The commander, the minister and the mayor gave necessary instructions. They also inspected progress in constructing a guest house for foreign guests and left necessary instructions. — MNA

## Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung tours Kayah State

YANGON, 3 August —Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 1 August presented prizes and certificates to the outstanding students at the city hall of Loikaw.

At the ceremony to honour the students who passed the Matriculation Examination for 2004 with flying colours, the minister delivered an address. He

also presented cash assistance for the Kayah State Home for the Aged and exercise books for the basic education high schools in Loikaw through officials.

In the afternoon, the minister attended the opening ceremony of the new building of Dawngankha Village Basic Education Primary School

in Dimawhso Township built by the Ministry of Education and Kayah State Union Solidarity and Development Association. The minister presented cash assistance and exercise books. Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung went to the village Basic Education Primary School and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



## Ayeyawady Division to cultivate ...

(from page 16)

New crop species including pepper, thitsint, coffee will be cultivated in the division at suitable places. The staff of the respective departments are presenting agricultural demonstrations and distribution techniques, quality strains and other assistance for progress of the agricultural sector.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing delivered a speech at the ceremony, saying that in the past the total sown acreage of monsoon and summer paddy of Ayeyawady Division was over 3.3 million acres. Now, the figure has grown to more than 4.7 million acres.

With respect to the output, its per acre yield of paddy has increased to 74.65 baskets in 2003-2004, up from around 65 baskets in 1997-98.

Ayeyawady Division, the nation's granary, has been taking all necessary measures to meet the target of over 3.5 million acres of monsoon paddy and 1.6 million acres of summer



*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than delivers an address at the ceremony to mark conclusion of ploughing season for 2004-2005. — MNA*

paddy in 2004-2005. The region's output of crops is in surplus, but that of edible oil crops meets over 62 per cent of its requirement. So, ways and means are to be sought for extended cultivation of these crops.

In conclusion, the commander urged local residents including farmers to make concerted attempts for boosting agricultural production so as to polish the role of the division.

Next, U Hla Myo, Manager of Myanma Agricultural Service at Ayeyawady Division, reported on rules and regulations set for the skill

competition for cultivation of monsoon paddy in lines. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also heard reports on progress of monsoon paddy cultivation.

Later, the competition commenced. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and party watched the competition and inspected farm equipment booth and fertilizer booth of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

After the competition, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and officials presented awards to winning teams. — MNA



*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presents a prize to Patheingyi District team which stood first in paddy seeding contest. — MNA*

## Myanmar delegation arrives back from India

### Agreement signed to extend US\$ 56.358m loan to Myanmar

YANGON, 3 Aug—The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min arrived back here by air this morning, after studying rail services in the Republic of India. The delegation was welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Labour U Tin Winn, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Ministers for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin and U Pe Than, Counsellor of Indian Embassy to Myanmar Mr Rahul Kulshreshtha, departmental heads and officials.

Members of the delegation — Managing Director of Myanma Foreign Trade Bank under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue U Than Yee, General Manager (Mechanical/Electrical) U Soe Win of Myanma Railways, General Manager (Civil) U Thi Han, Director of the Political Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Ye Myint and Assistant General Manager (Signal) of Myanma Railways U Ba Myint also arrived back on the same flight. During their stay in India, they met Deputy Minister of State of India Mr R Velu at the office of the Ministry of Rail Transportation of India on 27 July morning. The meeting turned to cooperation on railway services between the two sides. Next, Myanmar Ambassador to India U Kyi Thein and Joint Secretary of Ministry of External Affairs of India Mrs Mitra Vasisht signed the Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral cooperation on railway services. Managing Director U Than Yee and officials of Exim Bank of India also signed the agreement to extend a loan of US\$ 56.358 million to Myanmar. — MNA

## Prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever inspected

YANGON, 3 Aug—With the sponsorship of the Ministry of Health and Yangon City Development Committee, a mass campaign on prevention of Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever was launched in Hline Township, Yangon West District, this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn inspected the tasks.

At the Hline Township Development Committee's Office on Yangon-Insein Road, Head of the Health Department under YCDC Dr Tin Maung Win reported on work being carried out by the Health Department for prevention against the DHF, Head of Hline Township Health Department Dr Daw Ma Ma Aye on outbreak of the DHF in the township and measures being taken for prevention against the disease, Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint on outbreak of the DHF in Yangon Division and measures being taken for prevention against the epidemic.

Next, the commander, the minister and the mayor gave instructions on holding educative talks on prevention against the DHF in wards, townships and districts, taking measures for ensuring free of mosquitoes and larvae at schools, proper flow of drains and spraying of pesticides in lakes and drains for control of larvae, practising the habit of using mosquito nets at day nurseries and other preventive measures. Afterwards, they inspected preventive measures against the DHF being undertaken on Than Street and Mezali Street in Ward 7 and gave necessary instructions to officials. Next, the commander, the mayor and party arrived at the construction site of a walkway being built as part of the Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoological Gardens Upgrading Project where officials reported on work being carried out and future tasks.

The commander gave instructions on timely completion of the project and meeting the set standard. Next, the commander, the mayor and party inspected laying of concrete marble slabs at the platforms of Ring Road and gave instructions to officials. — MNA

## Myanmar, Daewoo discuss implementation of LNG Project

YANGON, 3 August — Myanmar officials led by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Korean officials led by President and Chief Executive Officer Mr Tae-Yong Lee of Daewoo International Cooperation of the Republic of Korea held discussions to implement the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project at Block A-1 off Rakhine coast and utilization of the LNG at the Ministry of Energy today.

Officials including Senior Vice-President Mr Kwang-Jin Kim of Korea Gas Corporation (KOGAS) of ROK, President and Managing Director Mr RS Butola of ONGC Videsh Company of India and President and Managing Director Mr P Banerjee of GAIL Company were also present at the meeting to discuss their participation in the project. — MNA

### Myanmar's Energy Ministry, Daewoo International Cooperation, KOGAS, ONGC and GAIL of India held discussions to implement the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project at Block A-1 off Rakhine coast.



*The co-ordination meeting between Myanmar officials and the Korean officials in progress. — MNA*

# High-yield Shweyinaye paddy strain — 1

*Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)*

*(Continued from yesterday)*

Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung attended a ceremony to provide financial assistance and rations for former opium growers, who quit cultivation of poppy, at the Town Hall in Pekhon on 24 June 2004 evening. It was the third ceremony of its kind, during which, the commander and the deputy minister presented a total of K 1,960,000, 1,570 bags of rice and 77 bags of salt to the farmers who quit their old practice. I hope that readers will remember the article I wrote in the dailies, issued on 22 and 23 July 2002, about the matter of opium that is against the God's will.

I felt pleasure when I heard the ardent efforts of

**After the emergence of the Tatmadaw Government, sown acreage of the nation has increased to 25.02 million acres from 23.87 million acres, thanks to its utmost efforts to restore peace and stability in the whole nation and ensure an adequate amount of food, clothing and shelter for the people.**

the local authorities to wipe out opium in the region; and the distribution of seeds free of charge to farmers to grow alternative crops — paddy, wheat, buckwheat, maize and sunflower.

On the 25th of June 2004, a ceremony was held at Moebye village in Pekhon Township to harvest 50 acres of Shweyinaye paddy at a model plot and to present paddy seeds for monsoon cultivation. It was held under the sponsorship of the commander and the deputy minister. Senior military officers, local authorities, departmental personnel and the local people were also present.

According to the programme, Director Daw Khin Than Nwe of Agricultural Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation explained the situation of the model plot. The deputy minister also explained the advantages in growing the Shweyinaye strain, the quality of Shweyinaye rice. Shweyinaye rice is a sticky one. It is also tasty.

In his address, delivered at the ceremony, the commander explained the Head of State's goodwill towards the nation; and the Government's efforts for all-round progress of all economic sectors, with development of

agriculture as the base, to increase the per acre yield of the ten main crops of the nation including paddy, and to raise the per acre yield of paddy and other crops that are suitable to grow in southern Shan State.

He recounted his personal experience concerning a matter, in which, a high-yield paddy plot of a certain region did not produce paddy as targeted. He said, "A strain of high-yield paddy, with assurances to yield 100 baskets per acre, was cultivated at a plot owned by a certain organization. But it produced only 60 baskets per acre. But when the persons, who had assured the high yield, came to the plot and inspected the harvested field, they found out the root cause of the failure. The persons who cultivated the field did not follow the points of the high-yield method."

After recounting his experience, the commander spoke of the need to cultivate the crop in accord with the correct method, to grow 170,000 paddy plants per acre, and to always nurse the plants. Chairman of Padanya Naga Company U Nay Win Tun also explained the purchase and distribution of the rice strain in southern Shan State. The commander and the deputy minister presented Shweyinaye seeds to Kayah State and Taunggyi and Loilem districts in southern Shan State for 2004-2005 monsoon cultivation season.

When the Shweyinaye was harvested at the ceremony, it was found that an acre plot yielded 147.53 baskets of paddy. We have also heard that a Shweyinaye paddy plot in Dimohso in Kayah State, that was harvested on 2 July 2004, yielded 162.5 baskets per acre. The locals have witnessed the excellent yield of the Shweyinaye. Besides, it is tasty and nutritious. Thus, the Shweyinaye ensures an abundant food supply for Shan State, and satisfaction for the locals.

The monastery we were staying then was once a lone house in a compound. Thanks to the efforts of the owner of the house, U Maung Kee, a Kayan and another Kayan, U Hla Sein, who were ordained into monkhood, it has become Thaddamma Theikdi Buddhist Pariyatti School under the ovada of State Vinayadhura Sayadaw Bhaddanta Lekhanasami of Aye Zeti Pariyatti School in Taunggyi and the Sangha Nayaka Committee of Pekhon Township. The school is helping to promote and propagate the Sasana as 86 monks of the school have already passed the Pariyatti examinations.

*(Concluded)*

**(Translation: TMT)**

*(Myanma Alin+Kyemon: 27-7-2004)*

## All this needs to be known

**\* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated**

**\* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered**

**\* Do not be softened whenever appeased**

## Efficient use of electricity

- \* Use daylight as the main source of light
- \* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
- \* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enterprises
- \* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

**There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.**

## Cycling race to be held

YANGON, 3 August — A press meet on long-distance cycling races jointly sponsored by Myanmar Cycling Federation and Shwe Thanlwin Co was held at the Olympic Hotel (Thuwunna) this afternoon.

Altogether 120 men will take part in the 160-kilometre cycling race and 20 women in the 80-kilometre cycling race. The cycling races will commence at 6 am on 7 August in front of Thuwunna Youth Training Centre.

MNA

**POEM:**

## Sakya Muni Image on Lantau Island

- \* On excursion out of Hong Kong  
Quick journey in speedy cars  
Through one tunnel  
And you see the bridge  
New sight with stay cables  
Twifold thoughts  
From the edge of the island  
Undiminishing view of pleasant park  
Huge Fish, Lantau Island  
Capped by layers of mountains.
- \* Enter a forest, descend a hill  
Narrow roadway's a luxury  
Go round the bends of beaches  
Sheltered by forests  
Atop the mountain, Image resplendent  
Pay homage repeatedly, no longer distant  
Even from side of newly dug lake  
Managed to pay respects again.
- \* Offer homage from a distance  
To the Image Sakya Muni  
The rainclouds seemed intermeshed  
The scene is blurry  
Flimsy rainclouds make way in homage  
As if paying obeisance  
Closer to the side of the Lord  
In measured movement.
- \* Freedom From Harm and Good Luck  
Distinct gesture of His hand  
All towns and villages around island  
Free from storms  
All peoples of the area  
Pay respect in strong belief  
In Lanten and throughout Hong Kong  
They supplicate humbly.
- \* Look at foothills left and right  
Picture of lush green park  
All clear with no heavy mist  
Lightly blurry is the scene  
Food, lights, flowers included  
Offerings with genuine feelings  
With other images by the side  
It's huge and stately.
- \* From the front of Polan Hall  
Another occasion for paying respects  
The Image in its serenity  
Pay obeisance again.  
With respect brimming the heart  
Not content with repeated homage  
That lusty contentment  
Fills the heart.
- \* Brownish bronze dignified  
Commands respect unsatiated  
That magnificent statue  
Is incomparable.  
Say adieu to Hong Kong  
The plane lifts off skyward  
Hands again in supplication  
Obeisance unending.

**Kyaw Saw Han (Trs.)**



MCF Vice-President U Thet Win speaks at the press meet. — MNA



## Heavy rains disrupt services in Ukraine, killing at least one

MOSCOW, 3 Aug — At least one person was killed as heavy rains swept across 10 regions of Ukraine over the last 24 hours disrupting services and causing massive structural damage, the Ukrainian Emergencies Ministry's Press service said Monday.

The victim, a tractor driver, was killed in mudflow caused by the rainstorm, the ministry was quoted by *Interfax* news agency as saying.

Accompanied by thunderstorms and strong wind, the rains left 361 residential areas in the

country without electricity and flooded farm lands in the country's western regions.

Electricity-transmission and telephone communication lines and a number of bridges were destroyed in the rainstorm.

MNA/Xinhua

## Paraguay inferno survivors say doors were shut

ASUNCION (Paraguay), 3 Aug — Survivors of a supermarket blaze in Paraguay that killed at least 364 people found exit doors locked and in one case welded shut as they desperately tried to flee the inferno, police and witnesses said on Monday.

"There are several witnesses who saw how they shut the doors to the supermarket and we also confirmed that the emergency exit was welded," Paraguayan Police Chief

Humberto Nunez told *Reuters*. Firefighters had found the main doors shut, he added. Prosecutors probing allegations guards locked exit doors to keep shoppers from fleeing without paying for their groceries asked the courts to keep the supermarket president, his son and four guards in custody pending further investigation. Survivors of Paraguay's worst disaster in decades recounted how the blaze swept through the packed supermarket, in a working-class neighbourhood on the outskirts of the capital, at midday on Sunday.

"I reached the door, but it was locked shut and I could not leave through it," survivor Blanca Alcaraz told local television from her hospital bed. "Then everyone rushed on top of us and we were thrown to the floor." Newspaper photographs showed people outside the market trying to break windows to free those asphyxiating inside.

Officials said the fire

was caused by a gas explosion near the food court.

A large number of children, who had accompanied their parents on regular Sunday shopping trips, were among the dead. Many entire families perished together. "All of us that suffered this tragedy want the same thing — to know why it happened and make the guilty pay," said Mirta, 60, who lost her 19-year-old daughter.

Three owners of the Ycua Bolanos supermarket and three security guards were in police custody. Main shareholder Juan Pio Paiva said no orders were given to lock the doors. It does not make sense in a fire of this magnitude for security guards to close the doors and stay inside," he told a news conference.

President Nicanor Duarte Frutos called for a rapid investigation "so those responsible are punished with the full force of the law". He said a "majority" of the exits appeared locked.

MNA/Reuters

## Uganda to distribute AIDS drugs through health centres

KAMPALA, 3 Aug — Uganda has planned to distribute the anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) to AIDS patients through all health centres in the eastern African counties by the end of 2005, the *New Vision* reported Monday.

"The money to buy drugs is there but the challenge is to operationalize it," Francis Omwaswa, director general of health services told the Parliamentary National Forum on HIV/AIDS focusing on ARV treatments at the weekend. Omwaswa said this would be the third phase of providing the drugs to AIDS patients. He explained that the first phase involved having all the 11 regional referral hospitals getting to provide ARV treatments while the second phase involved getting district and non-governmental organizations' hospitals be prepared to distribute the drugs.

He said the Ministry of Health expected the second phase to end by December 2004. He warned that there would be no special committees to select people to access drugs, adding that the ministry prefers that the matter be left to doctors and nurses. Although ARVs do not cure AIDS, they can significantly improve the health of the AIDS patients. The Ugandan Government began distributing free ARVs to about 3,000 HIV/AIDS patients in June. It targets to treat 60,000 people with ARVs by the end of 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

*Pediatrics*, noted that some mothers schedule planned Caesarean deliveries before their due date to avoid muscle tearing or stretch marks or to better suit their schedules or those of their doctors.

MNA/Reuters



Olympic shadows : Shadows of journalists are cast on the official Athens Olympic Games logo inside the international zone of the Games' athletes village in Athens.

INTERNET

## Apple CEO has successful cancer surgery

SAN FRANCISCO, 3 Aug — Apple Computer Inc. Chief Executive Steve Jobs has had successful surgery for a rare form of pancreatic cancer, the company's co-founder told employees in a company-wide e-mail on Sunday that was made available to *Reuters*.

"This weekend I underwent a successful surgery to remove a cancerous tumour from my pancreas," Jobs wrote in the e-mail. "I had a very rare form of pancreatic cancer called an islet cell neuroendocrine tumour, which represents about 1 per cent of the total cases of pancreatic cancer diagnosed each year, and can be cured by surgical removal if diagnosed in time (mine was)."

He added that he "will not require any chemotherapy or radiation treatments".

Jobs wrote that he will recuperate during the month of August and expects to return to Cupertino, California-based Apple in September. He is also chief executive of animated film studio Pixar. Jobs said that, in his absence, Tim Cook, head of worldwide sales and operations, will run the day-to-day operations of Apple, maker of the Macintosh computer and iPod portable digital music players.

Jobs also wrote that the far more common kind of pancreatic cancer "is called adenocarcinoma, which is currently not curable and usually carries a life expectancy of around one

year after diagnosis".

"I mention this because when one hears 'pancreatic cancer' (or Googles it), one immediately encounters this far more common and deadly form, which, thank God, is not what I had," Jobs wrote.

The charismatic Jobs, who returned in 1997 to the company he founded after being ousted years before, has been credited by analysts and investors for reviving its fortunes, turning out a spate of successful products such as the two versions of the iMac computer and the iPod.

After Jobs returned to the company, he slashed the number of product lines and pushed Apple to focus again on innovative industrial design and tight integration of its hardware and software.

MNA/Reuters

## Bus crash on perilous road kills 30 in Peru

LIMA (Peru), 3 Aug — At least 30 people died and 20 were injured on Sunday, when a bus swerved off a potholed road into a deep gorge in Peru's central Andes, police said.

The bus was carrying local farmers along a badly deteriorated road some 262

miles north of Lima, not far from the central Andean city of Huaraz.

"We understand there are more than 30 people dead. The road is not good, mainly rutted earth flanked by gorges," a police officer said. The exact cause of the accident was not known, he said. — MNA/Reuters

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.  
Second best time is now.**

## Study shows babies born slightly early are at risk

CHICAGO, 3 Aug — Babies born a few weeks prematurely are at increased risk of health problems, such as jaundice and low blood sugar, so expectant mothers should not hasten delivery, researchers said on Monday.

"Conventional wisdom has been that babies who were near-term, but still premature, would do as well as full-term babies. ... But those of us who take care of these children know from experience that they may have more jaundice or hypoglycemia than full-term infants do," said study author Dr. Marvin Wang of Mass General Hospital for Children. Researchers at the Boston hospital compared 95 full-term babies born at 37

weeks gestation or later with 90 babies born at 35 or 36 weeks gestation.

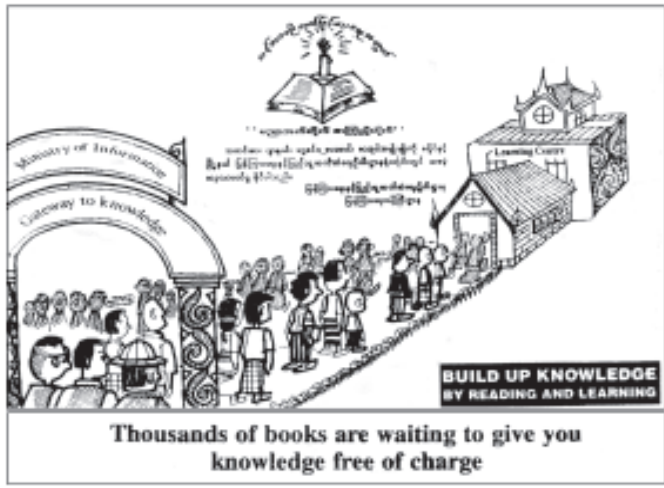
Premature babies were significantly more likely to have health problems and 18 had multiple ailments, while none of the full-term babies had more than one problem.

Among the conditions were jaundice, hypoglycemia (low blood sugar), respiratory distress, the need for intravenous feeding and difficulty maintaining body temperature. Premature babies often require different and more expensive treatment, and the cost of their initial hospital stays averaged 2,600 US dollars more than full-term infants.

The study, which was published in the journal



The 51 Miss Teen USA contestants pose in their Jamatex pajamas and 'The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement' t-shirts at the Wyndham Palm Springs in Palm Springs, CA before a special screening of 'The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement' on 29 July, 2004. — INTERNET



## ADVERTISEMENTS

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Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

### Uganda suspends sale of ARVs in pharmacies

KAMPALA, 2 Aug — The Ugandan Government has suspended the sale of anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) in all pharmacies countrywide, reported *Sunday Vision* newspaper.

Professor Francis Omaswa, director-general of health services was quoted as saying that he has directed the National Drug Authority not to license the sale of the drugs on the open market.

His statement followed reports that some doctors were involved in the sale of fake ARVs to their unsuspecting patients.

Omaswa said two pharmacies which had been licensed to sell the drugs would

be ordered not to sell the drug, until strict guidelines on handling the drugs were issued.

"Selling ARVs on the open market is tricky. Possibilities of the drug abuse have to be taken into account," he said.

He said the government had accredited 54 centres countrywide, where ARVs could be accessed.

Although ARVs do not cure AIDS, they can significantly improve the health of the AIDS patients. People on ARVs are needed to undergo regular tests on response to the medication.

The Ugandan Government began distributing free ARVs to about 3,000 HIV/AIDS patients in June. It targets to treat 60,000 people with ARVs by the end of 2005. — MNA/Xinhua

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Tel. 254037 G.P.O. Box 666  
Yangon. 4 August 2004

### Nigeria resumes polio campaign

TAKAI (Nigeria), 2 Aug — Nigeria's mainly Muslim state of Kano resumed polio immunizations on Saturday after a 10-month ban.

Kano state governor Ibrahim Shekarau kicked off the restart on Saturday by vaccinating his infants in public in the village of Takai, 50 miles east of the state capital city of Kano.

MNA/Reuters

## ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

### World community pledging assistance to flood hit Bangladesh

DHAKA, 2 Aug — International community has pledged Bangladesh help in materials and funds to overcome the devastating floods and to fight widely-feared post-flood epidemic.

Two-thirds of the country, 51 out of 64 districts, have been flooded killing close to 500 people in floods since the beginning of the current month, according to official report.

Diarrhoeal and other water-borne diseases have already afflicted nearly 100,000 people, mostly children and old, and so far claimed over 50 lives. Around 7,000 people were hospitalized across the country Thursday and five died,

*The New Age* daily reported.

Major donors like UN, USA, Britain, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Japan have all shown great eagerness to extend assistance and some pledged funds to help Bangladesh overcome the crisis.

USAID has committed 210 million US dollars for short and long term post flood rehabilitation, while Britain promised 10 million pound sterling assistance and World Food Programme offered a substantial quantity of food aid for the country.

Official sources said though there is a perceptible let-up in the flood situation, the condition in capital Dhaka and some of the ad-

joining districts remained unchanged if not deteriorated and was likely to remain so for another week or two because of the high tide in the Bay of Bengal.

A two-member UN delegation from Geneva were scheduled to arrive here Friday to assess the damage and loss caused by the on-going flood.

Minister for Food and Disaster Management Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf told newsmen Thursday the damage in the current flood to crops, property, infrastructure and other valuables could go up as high as taka 40,000 crore (about 7 billion US dollars).

MNA/PTI

### At least 256 killed in Paraguayan supermarket fire

BUENOS AIRES, 2 Aug — At least 256 people were killed and hundreds of others injured on Sunday in a fire that swept through a supermarket on the outskirts of Paraguay's capital Asuncion, the Paraguayan Government confirmed Monday.

The government said the death toll was expected to rise, according to reports reaching here from Asuncion, capital of Paraguay.

The fire broke out at a time when the supermarket was crowded with Sunday midday shoppers. The reports said nearly 1,000 people had

been inside the shopping centre, which is part of the complex that also houses offices and an underground parking lot.

Police said firefighters and police are recovering bodies and rescuing the injured from the complex.

Police said two explosions were heard moments before the fire broke out. The blasts were likely to be caused by gas leak of the gas canisters in the supermarket and subsequently ignited the devastating blaze that consumed a significant part of the supermarket within the shopping complex.

Officials said there are

concerns that the 30-metre-high complex might collapse.

The shopping centre belongs to the Ycua Bolanos chain and includes several fast-food outlets in addition to the store.

Witnesses said that doors within the complex had been deliberately closed so that people could not leave without paying, and that this had hampered people seeking to escape.

The owner of the complex has surrendered himself to the police in the wake of the blaze, but denied categorically that there had been an order to close the complex's doors. — MNA/Xinhua



Dancer Yang Liping from China's southern province of Yunnan performs during 'Dynamic Yunnan' in Wuhan, Hubei Province in this picture taken on 29 July, 2004. It took Yang Liping, famous for her vivid imitation of a peacock in her dance, more than two years to choreograph 'Dynamic Yunnan' - a large scale dance drama and panoramic depiction of the colourful life of the ethnic people of Yunnan Province. — INTERNET



# မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



A squirrel allows his legs to dangle freely as it lounges on a section of fence in Alexandria, Va on 1 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

## British historians attack Hollywood “distortions”

LONDON, 2 Aug — Hollywood film studios are guilty of a “grotesque distortion of history” which is destroying Britain’s national identity, a newspaper on Sunday quoted British historians as saying.

The chief executive of English Heritage, the government body responsible for the historic environment, told the *Independent* on Sunday film-makers’ “sloppy” and “formulaic” approach to history had left a generation of children confused.

“One of my principal concerns is that the majority of children now leave school with the sketchiest of chronology about English history,” Simon Thurley said, adding that they turned to films for knowledge.

Antony Beevor, Britain’s best-selling author of popular history, told the newspaper the Americanization of British history was a particular problem.

“You can’t turn every hero in the world

into an American,” he said.

The historians singled out “Saving Private Ryan”, based on the Normandy World War II landings, “U-571” about submariners, and “Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves” as prime offenders. In “Saving Private Ryan” all mention of British or Allied troops was omitted, while the British submariners at the heart of the real action were replaced by Americans in the film “U-571”.

“Robin Hood” was accused of distorting of Britain’s medieval past. Beevor described the trend as “shameless and totally irresponsible — a grotesque distortion of history.” — MNA/Reuters

## US raises terror alert level in New York, Washington

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — The United States on Sunday raised the terror alert level for the financial centres in New York, northern New Jersey and Washington DC, US Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said at a Press conference.

The terror threat level was being raised from “elevated” (yellow) to “high” (orange), Ridge said.

There were specific intelligence reports of a threat to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank buildings in Washington, the New York Stock Exchange and Citigroup buildings in New York as well as Prudential Financial buildings in northern New Jersey as potential targets, Ridge said.

The IMF and World Bank Headquarters are located in central Washington near the White House. The

New York Stock Exchange is located in the Wall Street, the heart of New York’s financial street and there are many large financial institutions in New Jersey.

Ridge said that although there was no specific information indicating an imminent attack, intelligence showed that the al-Qaeda network, blamed for the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, was aiming again for the world’s leading financial districts. “The quality of this intelligence based on multiple reporting streams in multiple locations is rarely seen,

and it is alarming in both the amount and specificity of the information,” Ridge said.

“The preferred means of attack would be car or truck bombs. That would be a primary means of attack,” Ridge said, adding that the threat potential remains through the November 2 presidential elections. “Car and truck bombs are one of the most difficult tasks we have in the war on terror,” Ridge said.

Nonetheless, Ridge said the US resolve was “indivisible and unyielding” despite that the al-Qaeda threat.

“I ask our citizens for

their watchful eyes as we continue to monitor this situation,” Ridge said.

The move came as the New York Police Department, responding to new information that terrorists may be planning to attack corporations or large public institutions in the city, advised security managers and corporate security personnel to step up their procedures to guard against vehicles rigged with explosives and against chemical agents placed in ventilation systems.

MNA/Xinhua

## First China Philosophers’ Congress to convene in August

BEIJING, 3 Aug — The China Philosophers’ Congress, the first of its kind in the country, is to be held in Beijing between 9-12 August, aiming to display achievements in the field of philosophical studies made by Chinese philosophers in recent years.

The conference, with the theme of “Philosophy and China in the New Century”, will provide a forum for exchanges between philosophers from all over the country, said Li Deshun, deputy director of the Philosophy Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the sponsor of the congress.

There are three sub-topics for the congress: “Tradition and Modern Age”, “East and West” and “Science and Humanities”. In 2001, the organizers began collecting academic papers nationwide. So far they have received 850 papers, of which 500 will be presented at the meeting. Most of the papers — 90 per cent — were written by professional researchers. The remaining 10 per cent came from amateurs.

The congress is the highest level academic gathering for China’s philosophers, but in the future it could be turned into an international event, Li said. The congress is to convene once every three years. — MNA/Xinhua

## Cloning experiment shows cancer reversible

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — A cloning experiment may show that the body itself has the ability to reverse cancer, US-based researchers said on Saturday.

They cloned mouse embryos from a melanoma skin cancer cell, and created healthy adult mice using some of the cloned cancer cells, showing that malignancy is not the inevitable fate of a cancer cell.

“This settles a principal biological question,” said Dr. Rudolf Jaenisch of the Whitehead Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, one of the country’s leading experts in cloning. He said while the ge-

netic elements of cancer cannot be reversed, the epigenetics — how the genes are actually turned on and off — can be.

The finding, published in the journal *Genes and Development*, point to a new way to treat cancer, said Lynda Chin of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, who worked on the study.

“Drugs that target the cancer epigenome may prove to be a key therapeutic opportu-

nity for diverse cancers,” she said in a statement. In other words, it might be possible to silence a cancer gene. Cancer begins when certain genes mutate, or when a certain, inherited version of a gene somehow gets turned on.

This can happen through various so-called epigenetic processes — when other molecules in a cell affect genes without actually altering the sequence of DNA.

MNA/Reuters

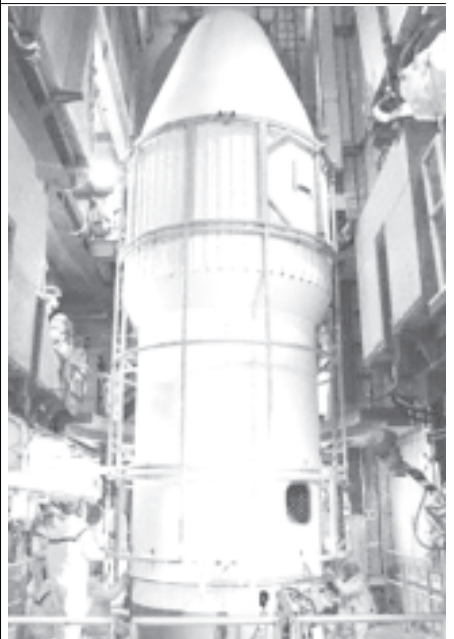
## 5th China air show to open in late October

ZHUHAI, 2 Aug — The Fifth China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition is scheduled to open in Zhuhai City, in south China’s Guangdong Province on October 31.

The show will be limited to specialists from November 1-4 and open to the general public from November 5-7, said the organizers.

Some 500 exhibitors from 30 countries and regions, including the United States, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Britain, the Netherlands, Canada, Greece and Spain, will attend the show, which has prepared a combined floor space of 16,700 square metres for indoor exhibition. During the air show, five teams from Britain, France, Russia and China will demonstrate stunt flights. An aerospace summit forum and fairs on aerospace equipment manufacturing and scientific research achievements in aerospace by universities of higher learning, will also be held, organizers said.

MNA/Xinhua



Technicians finish work around the Mercury space probe ‘Messenger’ which was launched from Cape Canaveral on a six-year exploratory journey to Mercury, the closest planet to the Sun. — INTERNET

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## SPORTS

**EU probes state aid for soccer stadiums**

BRUSSELS, 3 Aug — The European Commission is investigating Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Britain for possible illegal state aid to soccer clubs by subsidizing stadiums, a Commission spokesman said on Monday.

The inquiry is the latest part of a drive to ensure soccer abides by EU competition rules, following action against Italy over accounting laws for writing off players' salaries and a probe into a property deal involving Spain's Real Madrid.

"The Commission has decided to have a more systematic approach," competition spokesman Tilman Lueder told reporters.

"We have decided to launch an inquiry into these five major football-playing countries."

Lueder said the probe centred on possible state aid in funding stadiums and training grounds but had not produced any evidence of illicit state aid so far.

"(The) investigation hasn't led to much new, because all these countries say they are playing by the rules," he said.

Lueder rejected accusations that the Commission was wasting taxpayers' money by probing state aid for stadiums, saying soccer was not just a sport but a big industry in Europe. —MNA/Reuters



Munich's Martin Demichelis from Argentina, left, and Bremen's Ivan Klasnic from Croatia go for the ball during the final match of the German League Cup between Bayern Munich and Werder Bremen in the Bruchweg Stadium in Mainz, central Germany, on Monday, 2 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

**Bayern win League Cup with Deisler double**

MAINZ (Germany), 3 Aug — Two goals from Sebastian Deisler helped Bayern Munich to a 3-2 victory over Bundesliga champions Werder Bremen in an entertaining German League Cup final on Monday.

Deisler, who missed most of last season while being treated for depression, opened the scoring with a free kick after 27 minutes in the final of the pre-season tournament.

The Germany midfielder doubled the advantage from 20 metres just before halftime and playmaker Michael Ballack seemingly killed the tie with their third in the 65th minute.

But Werder, who won their first league and Cup double last season, went down fighting.

They reduced the arrears through Croatian striker Ivan Klasnic in the 68th minute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

Deisler, whose career has persistently been hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 71st minute with a sore knee. It was not immediately known how serious the problem was.

The Bundesliga resumes on Friday with

Werder hosting Schalke 04. Bayern, who ended last season without a trophy, start their campaign on Saturday at Hamburg SV.

Bayern, who won their first title under new coach Felix Magath, pocketed 1.3 million euros (1.57 million US dollars) in prize money for their fifth victory in the lucrative warm-up while Werder had to be content with 900,000 euros.

The Munich club, who reinforced their squad in the close season by signing Germany midfielder Torsten Frings and Brazil defender Lucio, were convincing before dropping their guard.

"It was a beginning and we should not be satisfied with that," said Magath. "We nearly gave away the victory and that's something that must not happen in the Bundesliga."

Werder coach Thomas Schaaf blamed his team for a sluggish start. "We slept in the first half," he said. "We were not aggressive enough. Only after the break did we wake up."

MNA/Reuters

**Aston Villa sign Czech defender Drobny on loan**

LONDON, 3 Aug — Aston Villa have signed Czech Republic defender Vaclav Drobny in a season-long loan deal from Racing Strasbourg, the Premier League club said on Monday.

The 23-year-old impressed Villa manager David O'Leary on the club's four-game pre-season tour of Sweden and will now bid to earn a permanent switch to the English team.

The former Czech under-21 captain started out with Sparta Prague, before moving to Chmel Blsany.

He joined Strasbourg in 2002 and played 25 games last season for the French Ligue 1 team.

The central defender made his international debut in the Czech Republic's 1-0 defeat by Japan in a friendly last April but he was not included in their Euro 2004 squad.

MNA/Reuters

**Beckenbauer says Klinsmann needs support**

BERLIN, 3 Aug — Germany can be successful under Juergen Klinsmann if everybody in German football supports the new national team coach, Franz Beckenbauer said on Sunday.

"I am convinced it can work if we all stand behind the new trio," said Beckenbauer, referring to coach Klinsmann, assistant coach Joachim Loew and team manager Oliver Bierhoff.

Beckenbauer, a World Cup-winning captain and coach, was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coaching team.

Klinsmann, who was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel

turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

The 40-year-old replaces Rudi Voeller, who stepped down in June after Germany failed to survive the group stage at Euro 2004. A former Germany striker and captain, Klinsmann named winning the World Cup on home soil in two years as his goal.

Beckenbauer, the president of the local organizing committee of the 2006 World Cup, said Klinsmann had the right to be ambitious.

"We should set high goals," Beckenbauer told reporters in Munich. "If you want to win the World Cup, you might as well do it on home soil."

"We are still somebody."

Despite all the problems we are not as bad as some say we are."

Germany captain Oliver Kahn said he also believed the team could lift the World Cup.

"If Greece can win the European title, then it is not utopian to believe that Germany can win the World Cup under certain circumstances," the goalkeeper told Sunday newspaper *Welt am Sonntag*.

Kahn said criticism of Klinsmann's lack of coaching experience was unfair.

"Franz Beckenbauer and Rudi Voeller had none either when they started," Kahn said. "We should let him get on with the job before judging him."

MNA/Reuters

**UEFA impose age limit on committee members**

GENEVA (Switzerland), 3 Aug — UEFA have imposed an age limit of 70 on members of their organizational committees which means president Lennart Johansson and two other executive committee members will have to step down in 2006.

UEFA said in a statement on Monday that the new limit would be brought in from 2006.

Johansson, 74, as well as executive committee members Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder, who is 71, and Swiss Giangiorgio Spiess, 70, have all passed the age limit and will not stand for re-election in 2006.

The new ruling will apply to all 12 UEFA committees including the executive committee and disciplinary body, UEFA said.

MNA/Reuters

**Italians pull out of Libya venue for Supercup match**

MILAN, 3 Aug — The Italian Supercup match between AC Milan and Lazio, due to be played in the Libyan capital Tripoli, has been switched to Milan because of 'organizational obstacles'.

The Italian Football League said on Monday the annual fixture between the league champions and Italian Cup winners would now be played at Milan's San Siro stadium on August 21.

Two years ago, the Supercup match between Juventus and Parma was held in Tripoli as Al Saadi Kadaffi, son of the Libyan leader Colonel Moammar Kadaffi, sought to increase the profile of the North African country.

Al Saadi Kadaffi played in Serie A for Perugia last season and the Libyan Foreign Investment Company (LAFICO) hold a 7.5-percent share in Juventus.

MNA/Reuters

**Tyson set for arthroscopic surgery on knee injury**

NEW YORK, 3 Aug — Mike Tyson was scheduled to undergo surgery on Monday to repair a torn knee cartilage the former world heavyweight champion suffered during last week's stunning fourth round knockout loss to Danny Williams.

The 38-year-old Tyson is believed to have torn the complex lateral meniscus in his left knee during the first round of his fight against his unheralded British opponent.

Richard Emerson was to perform the arthroscopic surgery in Phoenix, Arizona.

"Under normal circumstances the pain and locking that occurs with this injury would make it impossible for the athlete to continue and he would have to be taken out of the game or the boxing match on a stretcher or with assistance," Emerson said.

"I'm shocked that Mike was able to box for three more rounds after the injury occurred and that he was able to walk away from the ring."

A 9-1 underdog, the 31-year-old Williams improved his record to 32-3 with Friday's victory over Tyson in Louisville, Kentucky.

"It explains a lot," Tyson adviser Shelly Finkel said of the injury.

"Once he lost the ability to pivot, turn, or move laterally, much less put pressure on his left leg, he lost the ability to throw anymore meaningful right hands which had been so effective up to the point of the injury." —MNA/Reuters



Danny Williams (R) of Great Britain lands a right against former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson of the US in the fourth round. Tyson underwent successful arthroscopic surgery to repair the knee injury he suffered in the first round of his loss to Williams. — INTERNET



**MRTV -3**
**4-8-2004 (Wednesday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma  
Panorama & Myanma  
Sentiment"
- 9:06 A Thousand Bo-trees  
from Greening Tropic  
Zone
- 9:10 Headline News**
- 9:12 The Beauty and The  
Chinlone
- 9:15 National News**
- 9:20 Silk Wear from  
Amarapura
- 9:25 Scenic Beauty of  
Tiddim and Cultural  
Dance
- 9:30 National News**
- 9:35 Precious Myanmar  
Lacquerware
- 9:40 Song "Let go of me"
- 9:45 National News**
- 9:50 Myanmar Footware  
"Ponedaw" Famed in  
Successive Eras
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**4-8-2004 (Wednesday)  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting

- 15:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 15:36 A Thousand Bo-trees  
from Greening Tropic  
Zone
- 15:40 Headline News**
- 15:42 The Beauty and The  
Chinlone
- 15:45 National News**
- 15:50 Silk Wear from  
Amarapura
- 15:55 Scenic Beauty of  
Tiddim and Cultural  
Dance
- 16:00 National News**
- 16:05 Precious Myanmar  
Lacquerware
- 16:10 Song "Let go of me"
- 16:15 National News**
- 16:20 Myanmar Footware  
"Ponedaw" Famed in  
Successive Eras
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Myanma Pano-  
rama & Myanma Sen-  
timent"
- 16:30 National News**
- 16:35 Daungumaw Mudcrab  
Breeding
- 16:40 Survey of Hu Koung  
Valley Tiger (Part-I)
- 16:45 National News**
- 16:50 Village of Palaung
- 16:55 Taung-Zabu-Paing  
Royal Group Dance
- 17:00 National News**
- 17:05 Myanma Rubber
- 17:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Lodestar"
- 17:12 An Umbrella For  
Style
- 17:15 National News**
- 17:20 Myanmar Arts &  
Handicrafts Centre
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and See  
Myanmar"

**4-8-2004 (Wednesday)  
Evening Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

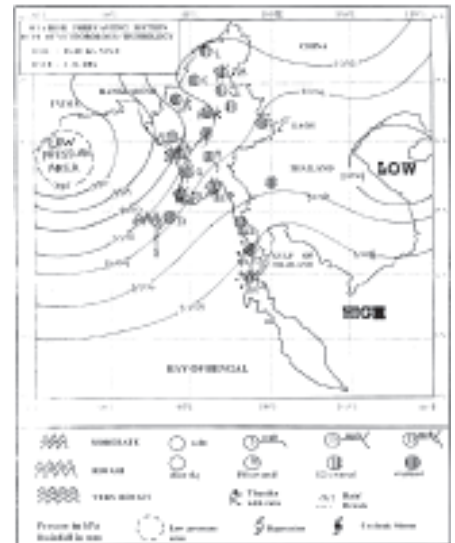
- 19:30 Signature Tune  
Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 Travelogue (Kalaw)
- 19:40 Headline News**
- 19:42 Easily Cooked Tasty  
Dishes "Fried Pomfret  
dipped in evaporated  
milk"
- 19:45 National News**
- 19:50 Myanmar Traditional  
Musical Instrument  
(Domin)
- 19:55 Sandawchain
- 20:00 National News**
- 20:05 The Grand Bagaya  
Monastery (INWA)
- 20:10 Song "Blue Moon"
- 20:12 Myanmar Gems Mo-  
saic
- 20:15 National News**
- 20:20 Archaeological Mu-  
seum, Pakhangyi (II)
- 20:25 Song "Hmoneshwe-  
ye"
- 20:30 National News**
- 20:35 Costumes for  
Myanmar Ladies
- 20:40 Myanmar Natural Re-  
source Spirulina
- 20:45 National News**
- 20:50 The Folk Art of Mak-  
ing ornaments with  
leaves
- 20:55 Kayin Dance (Ton  
Pana (or) Kywe Min  
Don Dance)
- 21:00 National News**
- 21:05 Traditional Weaving  
Art
- 21:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Ma Ma Moe"
- 21:12 Macadamia (Perennial  
Cash Crop)
- 21:15 National News**

- 21:20 Panwa with its Tour-  
ist Attractions
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Mingalabar"
- 21:35 A Thousand Bo-trees  
from Greening Tropic  
Zone
- 21:40 Headline News**
- 21:42 The Beauty and The  
Chinlone
- 21:45 National News**
- 21:50 Silk Wear from  
Amarapura
- 21:55 Scenic Beauty of  
Tiddim and Cultural  
Dance
- 22:00 National News**
- 22:05 Precious Myanmar  
Lacquerware
- 22:10 Song "Let go of me"
- 22:15 National News**
- 22:20 Myanmar Footware  
"Ponedaw" Famed in  
Successive Eras
- 22:25 Myanmar Modern  
"Welcome to Kachin  
State"
- 22:30 National News**
- 22:35 Daungumaw Mud-  
crab Breeding
- 22:40 Survey of Hu Koung  
Valley Tiger (Part-I)
- 22:45 National News**
- 22:50 Village of Palaung
- 22:55 Taung-Zabu-Paing  
Royal Group Dance
- 23:00 National News**
- 23:05 Myanma Rubber
- 23:10 Myanmar Modern  
Song "Lodestar"
- 23:12 An Umbrella For  
Style
- 23:15 National News**
- 23:20 Myanmar Arts &  
Handicrafts Centre
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar  
Beauty & Scenic  
Sights "Come and  
See Myanmar"

**Rainfall on 3-8-2004**

- 1.14 inches at the Yangon Airport,
  - 1.42 inches at Kaba-Aye and
  - 1.81 inches at the central Yangon.
- Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1713 mm (67.44 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1699 mm (66.89 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1703 mm (67.05 inches) at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

**WEATHER**

Tuesday, 3 August 2004

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, Mandalay and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Rakhine State, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Ayeyawady Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Yay (4.45) inches, Pharpon (3.50) inches, Thaton (2.72) inches and Dawei (1.57) inches.

Maximum temperature on 2-8-2004 was 31.0°C (88°F). Minimum temperature on 3-8-2004 was 22.0°C (72°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 3-8-2004 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 2-8-2004 was (3) hours approx. Rainfall on 3-8-2004 was 29 mm (1.14 inches) at the Yangon Airport, 36 mm (1.42 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 46 mm (1.81 inches) at the central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1713 mm (67.44 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1699 mm (66.89 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1703 mm (67.05 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Southwest at 08:20 hours MST on 3-8-2004.

**Bay inference:** According to the observation at (09:30) hours MST today, a low pressure area has formed over North Bay and adjoining West Central Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 4-8-2004:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in lower Sagaing Division, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon Division, Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Occasional squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) mph.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Increase of rain in coastal areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-8-2004:** Intermittent rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-8-2004:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Flood Bulletin**

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 3-8-2004)

The water level of Ayeyawady River at Sagaing is about 1 ft above the danger level. The water level may fall below the danger level during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today.

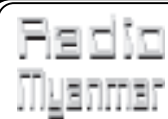
The water level of Dokahtawady River at Myitnge is about 2.5 ft above the danger level. The water level may fall below the danger level during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

**Wednesday, August 4**

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas  
by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:15 am**
2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာနိရုတ္တ  
အဂ္ဂဟာတိတက္ခယသီလိကတိထာ  
(ဇောဆရာတော်)ဗဟုပြုသော  
ဥပါတသီလိကတိထာ
- 7:25 am**
3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
4. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**
6. မြန်မာ့မြေယာနှင့်ကျေးဇူးအတ
- 8:10 am**
7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am**
8. ရွှေလောင်းတံတား
- 8:30 am**
9. International news

- 8:45 am**
10. Learning English The  
Easy and Happy Way  
for Children and  
Beginners
- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Songs to uphold  
National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. Practice in reading
- 4:45 pm**
4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm**
5. အစောဆုံးတက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး  
ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ  
-တတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု)  
(ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Songs of national races
- 5:30 pm**
7. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းဆေး ဂီတတေး
- 5:35 pm**
8. သီချင်းကြီးသရုပ်ဖော်
- 5:45 pm**
9. မြန်မာ့ဓာတ်၊ မြန်မာ့ဓာတ်
- 6:00 pm**
10. ရွှေယုန်လင်းအသံအစီအစဉ်
- 6:10 pm**
11. Discovery

- 6:15 pm**
12. မဟာနိဗ္ဗာန်သီလိကတိထာ
- 6:30 pm**
13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
14. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
15. "အလှဆုံးမိခင်"  
(မိခင်နှင့်ကလေးတော်ရောတို့  
ရေးဆွဲသော၊ မိမိရေးသားပြောဆို)
- 7:20 pm**
16. Strong and healthy  
Myanmar
- 7:35 pm**
17. Musical programme
- 7:45 pm**
18. မြန်မာ့ဓာတ်လောက၏ မေရီနှင့်  
မိတ္တူနှင့်အောင်မြင်မှု
- 8:00 pm**
19. News
20. International news
21. Weather report
22. တောသစ်အကြောင်း (သဘာဝ)  
မြန်မာ့နိဗ္ဗာန်သီလိကတိထာ  
အက၊ အရေး၊ အတိ၊ မြင့်မိုဝ်း  
"အနုပညာနှင့် ဓာတ်တော်ကြီး"  
(ဒုတိယဆု) (ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း-၂)  
(ပထမဆုံး)
23. The next day's programme

**Wednesday, August 4  
Tune in today:**

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music: Where you  
are now
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music: Inside  
thing
- 8:50 am** National news/  
Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music: Love me  
for a reason
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music:  
How could I
- 1:30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music  
-Let me be  
-Let's make  
tonight special  
-When you walk  
into my life  
-I want it that way
- 9:00 pm** Variations on a  
tune  
"Singing in the  
rain"
- 9:15 pm** Article/Music
- 9:25 pm** Music at your  
request  
-Love really hurt  
without you  
-Before I fall in  
love  
-If I never know  
you  
-Beauty and the  
beast
- 9:45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

**Four political objectives**

- \* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- \* National reconsolidation
- \* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- \* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

**Four economic objectives**

- \* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- \* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- \* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- \* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

**Four social objectives**

- \* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- \* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- \* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- \* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation



*Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than views the seeding contest for paddy cultivation at Kwinya Gyi Ashedan Village of Kangyidaunt Township. — MNA*

## Ayeyawady Div to cultivate monsoon paddy on 3.5m acres, summer paddy 1.6m acres

### Contributes to one-fourth of nation's total paddy production

YANGON, 3 Aug— Ayeyawady Division held a ceremony to mark the conclusion of the ploughing season for the year 2004-2005 at Kwinya Gyi

Ashedan village in Kangyidaunt Township, in the division today attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin

Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council

Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, local authorities, departmental personnel, members of Division Agricultural Supervisory Committee and social organizations and local people totalling 2,300.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the nation's main economy is agriculture, progress in agriculture contributes to national economic development and helps improve the social standard

of the people. In the year 2003-2004, the Government set a target to put 13.69 million acres under monsoon paddy, and 3.38 million acres under summer paddy to produce 1,200 million baskets of paddy. But actually, the nation could cultivate 13.43 million acres of monsoon paddy and 3.1 million acres of summer paddy and produced 1,156 million baskets. This year's target for Ayeyawady Division is monsoon paddy 3.5 million acres and summer paddy 1.6 million acres. The Government has been giving priority to

implementing the five rural development tasks covering the development of transport, clean water supply, education and health of the villages.

Aims has been set up to significantly increase the per acre yield of the ten main crops to develop the rural areas. Of all the states and divisions, Ayeyawady Division is the most reliable region for the nation.

It is achieving success in farming and energy sectors. As it is the rice bowl, it is contributing one fourth of the nation's total paddy production.

(See page 9)

**In the year 2003-2004, the Government set a target to put 13.69 million acres under monsoon paddy, and 3.38 million acres under summer paddy to produce 1,200 million baskets of paddy. But actually, the nation could cultivate 13.43 million acres of monsoon paddy and 3.1 million acres of summer paddy and produced 1,156 million baskets.**



*Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than inspect jetties of Yangon Port. — YGN CMMD*

**The nation's main economy is agriculture. Progress in agriculture contributes to national economic development and helps improve the social standard of the people.**

## Commander inspects jetties of Yangon Port

YANGON, 3 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected Wadan, Sint Ohdan and Botahtaung jetties of Yangon Port this afternoon and gave necessary instructions.

The commander, together with Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, No 4 Military Region Commander Col Yan Naing Oo and officials, inspected revetments, high mast lamps, reinforced concrete benches, tarred roads, pavements, growing of coconut trees and sanitation tasks.

MNA