

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 114

8th Waning of Second Waso 1366 ME

Sunday, 8 August, 2004

## 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

## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend fifth Waso robes offering ceremony of Tatmadaw families at Five Nikaya Pitakat Thonbon Monastery Eight requisites, alms, Waso robes donated to members of the Sangha

YANGON, 7 Aug — The fifth Waso robes offering ceremony of the families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) of the Ministry of Defence to Five Nikaya Pitakat Thonbon Monastery in Dagon Myothit (South) Township was held at Pylon Chantha Maha Ordination Hall of the monastery at 9.15 am today, attended by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Pazundaung Myatheindan Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Sobhana, Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Bahan Aungmyebonsan Monastery Presiding Nayaka Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa and member Sayadaws, Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Sayadaws, members of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Sayadaws from State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) and International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, members of the Sangha from the monastery, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Com-



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer eight requisites and Waso robes to a Sayadaw.— MNA

mander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime

Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, member of the State Peace and Develop-

ment Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council

Lt-Gen Soe Win and wife, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife, members of the State Peace and Development Council (See page 8)

## INSIDE

### Perspectives

**Boost yield of crops through effective use of irrigation facilities**  
(Page 2)

### Article

**A historical milestone leading the nation to a new age—7**  
(Page 10)



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and Tatmadaw families share merits for offering of Waso robes to Sayadaws at Five Nikaya Pitakat Thonbon Monastery.— MNA

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

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 8 August, 2004

### Boost yield of crops through effective use of irrigation facilities

Once, local farmers residing in Myingyan District, Mandalay Division, had to rely on rains to grow their crops.

Therefore, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance to implement the 13-District Greening Project that also covers Myingyan District in the arid zone of the country. Good results have come out from the project and with the participation of local people, efforts are being made to continue the project.

The inauguration of the Taungayay Dam built by Construction 7 of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation on Taungayay Creek near Tepinte Village, Kyaukpadaung Township, Myingyan District, Mandalay Division, was held on 28 July, with an address by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence.

On the occasion, Lt-Gen Ye Myint said that, under the guidance of Senior General Than Shwe, ways and means were sought in order to feed more water to Kyetmauktaung Dam, that according to the feasible study, water can be supplied to the dam by building two supporting dams, and that therefore the two dams namely Taungayay Creek and Kyauktaga dams were built.

Taungayay Creek Dam is located near Tepinte Village, Kyaukpadaung Township, Mandalay Division and it was built with the aim of feeding water to Kyetmauktaung Dam that was built in 1966. The Government has so far built 41 dams in Mandalay Division since 1988 and irrigated areas are over 333,000 acres.

Altogether 15 dams namely Sunlun Dam, Taung Pinle and Myauk Pinle Dams in Myingyan Township; Kyauktalon Dam, Hsindewa (Thamakku) Dam, Sunkan Dam, Taungtha Dam, Welaung Dam and Kyauktalon supporting dam in Taungtha Township; Zedaw Dam in Natogyi Township; Myotha Dam, Phaungkadaw Dam and Natthadaw Dam in Ngazun Township; and Pinchaung Dam and Taungayay supporting dam in Kyaukpadaung Township, have been built in Myingyan District and these facilities supply water to 38,303 acres of land.

At a time when the Government is striving for the development of the agriculture sector, farmers are urged to make earnest efforts for boosting the yield of crops through effective use of the irrigation facilities.



Daw San Yone, wife of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and guests view round the Food Festival. — MNA

### 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

### Win Hlaing, Khin Soe Htay secure first prize each in cycling race

YANGON, 7 Aug — Under the leadership of the Ministry of Sports, the 160 km long Yangon-Bago-Yangon men's open and 80 km long women's open cycling race, co-organized by Myanmar Cycling Federation and Shwe Than Lwin Co Ltd, was held at Youths Training Centre in Thuwunna this morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint. Chairman of Committee for Ensuring Success of Myanmar Sports Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin launched the opening of the race. The cyclists started the point in front of the Youths Training Centre in Thuwunna and went to No 1 traffic island at the entrance to Bago along Weizayanta Road through South Okkalapa and North Okkalapa townships and Mingaladon Garden City, along Pyay Road through Htaukkyant, Hlegu Township and Indaing, and turned back and finished their route at Daewoo Garment Factory (Pynnabin) on Pyay Road.

At the prize presentation ceremony at Aung San Stadium, Leading Patron of the Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye presented first, second and third prizes to Khin Soe Htay of YCDC, Moe Sanda Oo of YCDC and Su Su Wai of Livestock and Fisheries respectively. The first prize winner clocked 3 hours, 58 minutes and 15.31 seconds for women's 80 km event. Daw L Khun Yi of MWSF and Daw Nan Mauk Lao Hsai, wife of the President of MCF Chairman of Shwe Than Lwin Co Ltd, presented prizes to fourth, fifth and consolation prize winners. Next, member of the Leading Panel of Patrons of MWSF Daw Kyi Kyi Win presented first, second and third prizes to Win Hlaing (Yangon Division),



Member of the Leading Panel of Patrons of MWSF Daw Kyi Kyi Win presents the first prize to Win Hlaing (Yangon Division). — NLM

Kyi Moe Aung (Finance & Revenue) and Zeya Win (Agriculture & Irrigation) respectively. The first prize winner clocked 4 hours, 01 minute and 24 seconds for men's 160 km event. MOC General Secretary, Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thauang Htaik, MCF President Shwe Than Lwin Co Chairman U Kyaw Win and officials presented prizes to the respective winners. Joint-Secretary of MCF Staff Officer Daw Hnin Sanda Oo of SPED accepted 200 bicycle tyres donated by Shwe Than Lwin Co. — MNA



Cyclists with full enthusiasm take part in the race. — NLM

### ASEAN Food Festival held

YANGON, 7 Aug—The ASEAN Food Festival organized by the Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association to hail the 37th Anniversary of ASEAN which falls on 8

August 2004 was held at the Kandawgyi Palace Hotel here this morning.

Daw San Yone, wife of member of the Panel of Patrons of the Association Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, formally opened the festival.

Also present on the occasion were Daw Le Le Kyi, wife of member of the Panel of Patrons of the Association Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, ministers' wives who are honorary members, wives of officials of the ministry who are executives, the Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar, wives of ambassadors of ASEAN countries to Myanmar and families of diplomatic corps of Embassies in Yangon and UN agencies.

MNA

### Article, essay and poster competitions to mark International Literacy Day and UN Literacy Decade 14, 22 Aug

YANGON, 7 Aug — Hailing the International Literacy Day which falls on 8th September 2004, the article, essay and poster competitions to mark International Literacy Day and the United Nations Literacy Decade 2004, will be held. The entry must be titled "Education for All". The entry must be between 3,000 and 4,000 words. The two copies of the entry must be expressed clearly only on one side of page in computer, typewriter or handwriting. The entry must be own creation. The competitor must submit the brief biography and three 1.5"x 2" size colour licence photos. The entries are to be sent to Director U Myat Naing of Myanmar Education Research Bureau on Pyay Road in Kamayut Township, not later than 25 August. Essay and poster competitions will be held dividing into three categories. The trainees from the on-job training courses at Institutes of Education and Education Colleges may take part in the essay competition with the title of 'Helping Illiterate' to be held on 22 August. Basic Education High School students may take part with the title 'Everybody must be literate' on 14 August. Basic Education Middle School students may participate in the poster competition on 14 August. Those wishing to participate can inquire for detailed information to respective Institutes of Education, Education Colleges and Township Education Officer's Office. — MNA



## 922 US service members killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug — As of Friday, Aug 6, 922 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 685 died as a result of hostile action and 237 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 61 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 784 US soldiers have died 576 as a result of hostile action and 208 of non-hostile causes, according to the Defense, Department on Friday.

### The latest deaths reported by US Central Command:

Two Marines were killed Thursday in fighting in Najaf.

A US soldier was killed and 12 troops were wounded Thursday in fighting in Najaf.

Internet



A vendor watches British troops securing the main avenue leading to radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr's office in Basra, southern Iraq on 5 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

## Ceasefire in Iraq splinters

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug—Fierce battles erupted Thursday between US forces and rebel Shiite fighters in several cities across Iraq shattering a 2-month-old cease-fire and threatening to ignite a fresh Shiite uprising.

The most intense fighting was reported in the holy city of Najaf, where insurgents loyal to rebel Shiite leader Moqtada Sadr shot down a US Marine helicopter in the worst fighting since a truce put an end to the Shiite insurgency there in early June.

The helicopter and its crew were rescued, according to US military officials, who declined to confirm reports that several Marines on board were injured. In a separate incident on the outskirts of Najaf, a US soldier was killed and five were in-

jured when they were ambushed by rebel fighters, a military statement said.

"Fight the blasphemous, fight the Americans," Sadr said in a statement issued by his office in Najaf, fueling fears that the Shiite rebellion seemingly quelled in early June is back on the boil.

Fighting also flared in the southern city of Basra between British forces and members of Sadr's militia, al-Mahdi Army, after British soldiers detained four Sadr supporters. Two militiamen were reported killed.

By late morning, the violence had spread also to Sadr City, the Baghdad stronghold of Sadr's militia, where masked militiamen took to the streets in force, sealing off access routes into the slum neighbourhood and

engaging in sporadic exchanges of small-arms fire with US forces.

Internet

## Russia close to WTO deals with China, Japan

Moscow, 6 Aug—Russia plans to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) in early 2006 and is close to agreeing accession terms with several key trading partners, a top trade official said on Wednesday.

Russia wants to sign bilateral deals with all its trading partners this year. It cleared a major hurdle in May by reaching agreement with its biggest trading partner, the European Union, and deals with China and Japan look to be next on the cards.

"In January-February 2006 Russia could really become a member of this organization," Andrei Kushnirenko, Russia's deputy head of trade negotiations, told journalists.

"At the moment the government's plans are to complete bilateral discussions with the main partners by the end of the year. Technical discussions will occupy much of next year, and towards the end of 2005 there will be a conference to discuss Russia's membership.

Kushnirenko said Russia expected to strike a deal with

El Salvador's President Tony Saca said on Wednesday a new contingent of Salvadoran troops — approved by the Legislature last month after heated debate — would leave for Iraq in the middle of August.

"Dispatching any troops from El Salvador would be a

declaration of war against Iraq's Muslim people, prompting us to launch war against you and move the conflict inside El Salvador," said the hitherto unknown group Mohammed Atta Brigades — Al-Qaeda of Jihad.

The authenticity of the statement could not be verified.

The group is named after a leader of the hijackers who carried out the Sept 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

"No citizen will enjoy security in El Salvador as soon as any soldier arrives in Iraq ... and do not hold us responsible for bloodshed in El Salvador as we have cautioned you against taking such a step," said the brief state-

ment in Arabic.

El Salvador's legislature narrowly approved sending 380 troops to join US-led forces in Iraq.

The first contingent of 360 Salvadoran troops went to Iraq a year ago and a second contingent of 380 troops relieved them in February.

Insurgents have tested the will of states in the US-led coalition in Iraq by kidnapping and in some cases beheading their citizens.

Last month the Philippines, with one of its nationals under a death threat in Iraq, joined Spain, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Honduras in pulling its troops out of the coalition. — Internet

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## Four Lebanese drivers taken hostage in Iraq

BEIRUT, 6 Aug—Four Lebanese truck drivers have been taken hostage in Iraq, a source in Beirut's Foreign Ministry said on Friday.

The source said the four were captured on Thursday while driving on a road between Baghdad and Ramadi, a volatile region west of the capital where resistance to the presence of foreigners in Iraq is particularly strong.

He had no information about who had taken them hostage or who they worked for, although relatives of two of the missing men said they were employed by Lebanon's al-Jubeili transit company.

The head of the Lebanese Truckers' Association said the drivers were taking electric generators from Lebanon to Iraq, to sell to Iraqi traders. He said they had no links with US or any other foreign troops.

"They were supposed to arrive in Baghdad last night," Chafic al-Assis told Reuters. "Our office in Baghdad called this morning to say they didn't show up."

A family in north Lebanon identified two of the truckers as Nasir al-Jundi and Tarek al-Jundi, and said they had left Lebanon on

Sunday. Other Lebanese drivers in Iraq called the family on Friday to say they had not arrived.

Relatives appealed for their release, saying the two had gone to Iraq only to earn a living.

"We have asked the foreign ministry and those responsible in Lebanon to get them freed because all they were doing was bringing Iraqis the basic things they need," said Abdulrahman al-Jundi, a member of the family. Assis said diplomats in Baghdad and Beirut were trying to find out who kidnapped the men.

A spokesman in Baghdad's interior ministry said the ministry was aware of the reports but had no further information.

There are now five Lebanese nationals missing in Iraq. Businessman Antoine Antoun was kidnapped along with a Syrian driver last Friday, according to his relatives in north Lebanon. Talks are ongoing to secure his release. — Internet

## Group tells El Salvador not to send troops to Iraq

DUBAI, 6 Aug—A group saying it has ties to Al-Qaeda vowed on Thursday to strike inside El Salvador if the country sends fresh troops to Iraq, according to a message posted on an Islamist Web site.

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## Pakistan Army helicopter crash kills at least four

PESHAWAR (Pakistan), 6 Aug—A Pakistan Army helicopter crashed in the country's northwest on Thursday, killing at least four people, the military spokesman said.

"It is an accident, but we are trying to find out details," Major-General Shaukat Sultan told Reuters.

The helicopter came down near Karak, in a district neighbouring North Waziristan, a tribal area where security forces come under regular fire from militants.

MNA/Reuters



A US Marine helicopter is grounded in Najaf after being shot down during fighting in the southern Iraqi city in this image taken from TV on 5 Aug, 2004.

INTERNET

# Khatami accuses US of double standards in Iraq

**BAKU, 6 Aug**—Iranian President Mohammad Khatami said the United States was using double standards in its war in Iraq and accused it of sparking interethnic conflict.

Addressing the Azeri parliament on the second day of his visit to the former Soviet republic, Khatami defended both Iraq and Palestinian territories against the West.

"Unilateral international policies followed by double standards create difficulties among people, and this can

be seen in Iraq and Palestine," Khatami said.

"The Islamic religion allows for peace and security in the region and a true dialogue for between the world's civilizations," he said.

Khatami was paying the first visit by an Iranian leader to the former Soviet republic since 1993, trying to build

ties between two countries embroiled in a dispute over oil access in the Caspian Sea and Azerbaijan's closer recent relations with the United States.

Khatami is due to leave Azerbaijan on Saturday.

In recent months, the Pentagon has been ramping up its military assistance to

Azerbaijan, which, like Iran, has a Caspian shoreline.

The US military has run joint exercises with the Azeri navy in the Caspian.

The US is backing a major project to export Azeri oil from the Caspian Sea — home to some of the world's biggest untapped oil and gas reserves — to international markets.

But Iran is suspicious of US motives, particularly after President George W Bush described the country as part of an "axis of evil" following the September 11 attacks.

Internet



A US soldier stands guard as Iraqi policemen inspect the site of a suicide car bomb outside a police station in the town of Mahawil, 95km south of Baghdad recently.

INTERNET

## Reservist says intelligence led Iraq abuse

**HAGERSTOWN, 6 Aug** — An Army reservist who saw naked detainees being humiliated at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq says military intelligence officials led and directed the abuse.

The account by Kenneth A Davis, a former sergeant in the Maryland-based 372nd Military Police Company, contradicts the government's position that only members of Davis' unit were directly responsible for the abuse.

Davis' account—in a May statement to Army investigators and in interviews this week with *The Associated Press*—makes him the first member of the unit who is not facing charges to publicly describe one of the episodes that led to criminal charges against others. No military intelligence personnel have been charged.

Davis says military intel-

ligence soldiers were more culpable in the incident he witnessed than a military intelligence analyst acknowledged during testimony Thursday at the pretrial hearing of Pfc. Lynndie England, one of seven members of the 372nd charged with abusing detainees.

Davis, 33, said Friday that testimony given Thursday by Spc. Israel Rivera, an analyst with the 325th Military Intelligence Battalion, was "inaccurate."

Rivera testified Thursday that military police forced detainees to crawl naked "low enough that their genitalia were rubbing on the

floor, causing pain." Rivera said two members of his unit, Spc Armin J Cruz and Spc Roman Krol, participated in the abuse, and that he was disgusted by it.

Davis said it was Cruz and Krol who forced the men to crawl across the floor while demanding that they confess to raping a boy in the prison. Davis said he doesn't recall any military police joining in the abuse.

Internet

## Brazilian suffers arrested in drugs scam

**JAKARTA, 6 Aug**—Indonesian Customs officers said on Thursday they caught three Brazilian men with six kilos of cocaine stashed inside their surfboards.

They said the men, heading to the surfing paradise of Bali, were arrested at Jakarta's International Airport on Saturday after their eight surfboards were X-rayed.

In June, a Brazilian hang-gliding athlete received the death sentence over cocaine smuggled in the frame of his hang-glider. "The officers were suspicious over the bags and boards. They re-examined the belongings and X-rayed them again, opening the board bags and cut open the surfboards. Inside they found 12 bags weighing half a kilo each," Edy Abdurahman, director-general of Customs and excise, told reporters in a news conference.

President Megawati Soekarnoputri has vowed to get tough on drug smuggling and dealing, and the country's courts have handed down a small number of death sentences for convicted drug felons, most of them foreigners.

About a dozen drug offenders of foreign origin are on death row.

MNA/Reuters

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## Marine killed in Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 4 Aug**—A Marine who grew up in Milford was killed in Iraq Wednesday, just two weeks before he was scheduled to return home.

*News Center 5's* Amalia Barreda reported that Gunnery Sgt. Elia P. Fontecchio's family and friends were preparing for his homecoming in just a few weeks, but now are preparing for his funeral.

Fontecchio was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, based at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Last December, Fontecchio was said to agonize over breaking the news to his wife, Kinney, that he would be returning to Iraq for a second tour of duty.

Internet

## Ministry says three Turks held hostage, two others missing in Iraq

**ANKARA, 6 Aug** — The Turkish Foreign Ministry said on Friday that three Turkish citizens are claimed to have been held hostage and two others are reported missing in Iraq.

All capabilities of the ministry and other relevant state institutions have been mobilized also with contribution of several Iraqi circles to find and rescue those Turkish citizens, the ministry said in a statement.

Meanwhile, it said that Turkey will strongly continue sending aid to meet humanitarian needs of Iraq's people with whom it has ties that have roots deep in history.

Iraq remained to be a risky country in terms of security despite efforts and activities that have been under way for Iraq's rebuilding and settlement of stability, the statement said. Despite all efforts of the Iraqi interim government and multinational force, public order and security could not be provided yet and in this environment, Turkish citizens who go to Iraq and personnel of Turkish transportation, exportation and

contracting companies which make business in Iraq face serious safety risk, it said.

The ministry recalled that three Turkish citizens have recently been killed by kidnappers or in armed attacks, saying that "we implore God's mercy on these Turkish people and we offer our condolences to their families and relatives. The Turkish state will extend its helping hand to these families."

It said that a series of meetings took place in the Foreign Ministry with representatives of Turkish companies making business

in Iraq and relevant state institutions' officials for betterment of safety conditions of their personnel in Iraq.

"As a result of these meetings, a series of additional security and logistic measures were determined regarding the areas of road security, safe transportation and secure storing and discharging places, alternative routes, personnel arrangements, cooperation with Iraqi authorities and insurance, assuring the minimizing of dangers and risks in Iraq. The Turkish government will support implementation of these measures," it said.

Internet



An armed Iraqi Shi'ite militiaman, follower of the radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, mans a checkpoint in the eastern Baghdad suburb of Al Sadr city on 6 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

## Indonesia tries to accelerate non-oil export growth

**JAKARTA, 6 Aug**—Indonesia's non-oil export must stay above 4.5 billion US dollars per month in the next six months to achieve the targeted full year export growth of 7 per cent, an official said here Thursday.

National Agency for Export Development (Nafed) Chairwoman Diah Maulida said that much need to be done to boost non-oil export, which grew by a mere 2.2 per cent in the first half of 2004.

"Non-oil export in the January-June period stood at 24 billion US dollars, or grew by 2.21 per cent. It means that we need to do more to achieve the targeted growth of 7 per cent," she said in a seminar here.

Indonesia's non-oil export valued at 47.4 billion dollars last year.

MNA/Xinhua



## Kerry hopes to cut troops in Iraq within year

KANSAS CITY, 7 Aug — Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry said on Friday he believes he could "significantly" cut American troop levels in Iraq within a year, drawing quick fire from the White House.

"I believe that within a year from now, we could significantly reduce American forces in Iraq, and that's my plan," Kerry said. "I believe we can."

Kerry made the comments in an interview with National Public Radio that aired on Friday, a day after it was conducted while he campaigned in Missouri.

White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card responded: "Those kinds of decisions should be based on what the military commanders in the field recommend, and I doubt Senator Kerry has the benefit of the commanders who are in the field."

Travelling with President

George W Bush in New Hampshire, Card told reporters, "The President's not going to make political decisions based on what troop levels should be, but based on what commanders on the ground suggest."

Continuing demands on the 138,000 US troops in Iraq due to the current bloody insurgency have increased the length of time many American soldiers must now serve there.

Kerry said in the NPR interview, "If I get other countries involved in the training of troops and training them more rapidly, the Iraqis themselves can take over a great

deal more of their own security." "But you need stability to be able to do that. How do you achieve the stability? You need to have more people involved in the process," Kerry said.

"We have not seen this Administration do the statesmanship, do the diplomacy necessary, and America's paying a very high price, both in terms of the lives of our young and the money that's coming out of the taxpayers' pockets," he said.

"I will do a better job of building those alliances and getting our troops home," Kerry said. —MNA/Reuters

## Iraq abuse defence lawyers focus on command chain

FORT BRAGG (North Carolina), 6 Aug — Lawyers for the American woman soldier who was pictured holding a naked Iraqi prisoner on a leash probed at a hearing on Thursday for links between abuse at Abu Ghraib Prison and the military chain of command.

A military intelligence analyst said he witnessed two colleagues abusing prisoners, but a top military intelligence commander at Abu Ghraib in late 2003 said she never approved abusive tactics.

The testimony came on the third day of the hearing at a military court in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to determine if Private First class. England, a pregnant 21-year-old military police officer, should stand trial for prisoner abuse.

England, who faces up to 38 years in prison if convicted, became the public face of a scandal that shocked the world and hampered the US war effort after the release of photographs of soldiers and inmates at Abu Ghraib.

Thursday's testimony focused on the larger issue of

prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib as defence lawyers sought to bolster their contention that England was just following orders. They grilled military investigators about how much control the Military Intelligence unit had at Abu Ghraib.

Investigators said there was no evidence the US military chain of command ordered or sanctioned abuse. But a series of witnesses testified to seeing prisoners naked and handcuffed, placed in awkward or humiliating positions, or worse.

Specialist Israel Rivera, an MI interrogation analyst, said that last October he witnessed mistreatment involving two MI personnel, bolstering the defence assertion that abuse in the cell blocks was not limited to Military Police.

MNA/Reuters

## British soldier killed in accident in Iraq

LONDON, 6 Aug — The British Ministry of Defence (MoD) confirmed Thursday that a British soldier died in an accident in southern Iraq.

Private Christopher Gordon Rayment, aged 22, "died in a tragic accident at Al Amarah on 4 August, 2004," the MoD said in a statement.

According to the MoD, Rayment was serving with 1st Battalion The Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment.

The MoD did not reveal any further details of Rayment's death.

The incident brought the death toll of British troops in Iraq to 61 since Britain joined the US-led war against Iraq last March.

Britain, a staunchest US ally on Iraq, has nearly 10,000 troops in southern Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua



British soldiers take position during clashes in Basra on 5 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

## US troops in Kosovo could face misconduct charge

PRISTINA (Serbia and Montenegro), 6 Aug — The US Army said on Wednesday it was considering charging seven of its soldiers in Kosovo with misconduct after two civilians complained of mistreatment during a search operation.

A statement from the 21st Theatre Support Command in Germany said an investigation had been completed into "alleged misconduct regarding their actions in the execution of a cordon and search operation" in the eastern village of Vrbovac in April.

"The alleged offenses stem from complaints made by two Kosovo civilians related to their treatment during the operation", it added.

A spokesman said the case had been referred to Major-General Bennie E Williams to consider whether to press charges.

MNA/Reuters



Doctors tend to Wassan Nassir, 14, who was hit twice by bullet fire during clashes between al Mahdi army fighters and US soldiers in the wards of al Sheela hospital, in a west Baghdad neighbourhood in Iraq on 6 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

## China construction industry's production up in first half of '04

BEIJING, 6 Aug — Statistics from the National Statistics Bureau indicate that China's construction industry has completed a production value of 1,009.7 billion yuan (about 122.24 billion US dollars) in the first half of 2004, up 27.5 per cent over the same period of the previous year.

But the increase margin of the six months was 3.8 per cent lower than this year's first quarter, it said.

According to the bureau, the government's macro-economic measures are gradually paying off. This means that construction companies are not building as much and as a result their production value growth slows slightly.

"Both the enterprises' operational efficiency and profits are generally sound," said the bureau.

Construction enterprises have signed contracts worth 2,607.8 billion yuan (about 315.7 billion US dollars) during the first half year, up 34.7 per cent year-on-year, it said.

MNA/Xinhua

## Philippine Govt keeps ban on deployment of workers in Iraq

MANILA, 6 Aug — The Philippine Government has decided to maintain the ban on the deployment of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in Iraq despite a loss of thousands of job opportunities and over 100 million US dollars of remittance.

Philippine Overseas Employment Agency chief Rosalinda Baldoz said Thursday that the ban would be retained due to an increase in the number of bombing incidents and abduction of foreign workers in Iraq.

Baldoz said that she made the decision after meeting with the government's special envoy to the Middle East, Roy Cimatu, to assess the Iraqi security situation.

"As of this time, there is

higher risk (for Filipino workers) because of the increase in bombings...including some churches," Baldoz said.

"Based on the initial security assessment of (Cimatu), we do not see the possible lifting of the ban at this time," she added, stressing that the government's focus was on "security and protection of workers, not employment."

MNA/Xinhua

## Earthquake hits Tokyo

TOKYO, 6 Aug — An earthquake registering an estimated magnitude of 4.9 on the Richter Scale jolted Tokyo and its neighbouring Chiba Prefecture in east Japan early Friday morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The quake was strongly felt in Tokyo and Chiba. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage from the 03.30 am (1830 GMT) quake, which measured 3 to 4 on the

Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7.

Its focus was about 80 kilometres underground in Chiba Prefecture, the agency said. — MNA/Xinhua

## US soldier killed in Najaf shootout

BAGHDAD, 6 Aug — Gunmen attacked a US military convoy near the holy Iraqi city of Najaf on Thursday, killing one US soldier and wounding five others, the US command said.

The soldiers belonged to the 13th Corps Support Command, based in Balad, north of Baghdad and redeployed to Najaf where fighting erupted overnight between militiamen loyal to radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, the military said in a

statement.

Three of the wounded were evacuated to a military medical facility, and two others were treated for minor injuries, the statement added.

MNA/Xinhua

## China willing to expand ICT cooperation with ASEAN nations

BANGKOK, 7 Aug — China is willing to expand information and communication technology (ICT) cooperation with ASEAN (the Association of South-East Asian Nations) nations to promote joint development in this field, a Chinese official said here on Friday.

At the 3rd China-ASEAN Information and Communication Seminar kicked off here on Friday, Chinese Information Technology Industry Minister Wang Xudong said China is willing to carry out broader cooperation with ASEAN countries in the fields of network construction, busi-

ness operation and government regulation and consultation.

"China and ASEAN nations have enjoyed long-term friendly cooperation in the economic and trade field. In recent years, the exchanges and cooperation in ICT sectors among related countries

have yielded positive results," said Wang, referring to the signing of the memorandum of understanding on ICT cooperation between China and ASEAN in October 2003, which opened up a new chapter in the mutually beneficial cooperation among countries in the region.

Thanks to the concerted efforts from all these countries, cooperations stated in the memorandum have been carried out, said the minister.

Initiated by China, the building of a trunk communication network along the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) has received active response from ASEAN countries and the project was being pushed forward.

"As developing countries, China and ASEAN countries need to jointly promote information and communication development to adapt to the change of the global economic situation," said the minister, adding China's plan to train 500 telecom management personnel for ASEAN has got a good start.

Governmental officials, entrepreneurs and experts from China and ASEAN countries participated in the two-day seminar.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi policemen gather at the site of a suicide car bomb outside a police station in the town of Mahawil, 95km south of Baghdad recently. At least 16 people were killed and a US helicopter was shot down in the fiercest fighting between multinational troops and Shiite Muslim militiamen in Iraq since a truce was brokered in June.

INTERNET

## Four Vietnamese drug traffickers sentenced to death

HANOI, 7 Aug — The Court of Appeal upheld the death sentences passed by the court of first instance on three defendants in a drug-trafficking ring in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, local newspaper *Saigon Liberation* reported Friday.

The court, on Thursday, also upheld the life imprisonment sentences on five other defendants and gave four others jail terms of 10-16 years, as the ring's members trafficked over 22 kilos of heroin.

Ring leader Chu Duc Hai, who was sentenced to

death, and a defendant, who received the life imprisonment sentence in the court of first instance, did not lodge their appeals. Hai and 16 accomplices trafficked the drug from January 2001 until their arrests in April 2002.

In Vietnam, possessing,

trading or trafficking 600 grammes of heroin or 20 kilos of opium is punishable by death or life in prison.

By late 2003, the country had 169,000 drug addicts, of whom 30.5 per cent are from 13 northern mountainous provinces.

MNA/Xinhua

မြန်မာ့သတင်းစာ

## Amman, Baghdad still differ over Iraq's stationed planes

AMMAN, 6 Aug — Jordan and Iraq still differ over Iraqi planes stationed at Amman International Airport since 1991, a government source said Wednesday.

The source told reporters that the Iraqi planes issue, has been raised during Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's recent visit to Jordan, but no solution has been reached till now.

Jordan regarded the stationed planes as part of the Iraqi frozen assets and the storage fees should be dealt with through the United Nations, the source said.

Iraq transferred civilian airplanes Boeing 727s and 707s to Jordan during the 1991 Gulf War to protect them from being bombed.

Iraq has recently demanded return of the planes, but Jordan wants to dismantle and sell the parts to cover part of the storage fees, which is amounted to four million US dollars or more, it was reported.

MNA/Xinhua

## Fierce clashes in Iraqi holy city of Najaf

NAJAF, 6 Aug — US Marines and Iraqi security forces fought fierce battles with supporters of radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in the holy city of Najaf on Thursday, with Marines calling in helicopters for backup, witnesses said.

The clashes followed overnight fighting during which an Iraqi police station was attacked.

A US military statement said the police station was

attacked by "a significant number of aggressors" believed to be members of Sadr's Mehdi Army militia.

The statement said the attackers used heavy ma-

chine guns, rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and small arms in an assault on the police station around 3 a.m. (2300 GMT Wednesday).

MNA/Reuters

## Egypt not to send troops to Iraq

CAIRO, 6 Aug — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit reiterated Wednesday that his country would not send troops to Iraq.

"Egypt's position on sending forces to Iraq is clear. It rejects sending any forces there," Abul Gheit told reporters, in response to a Saudi proposal that Arab and Islamic forces replace the US-led coalition troops.

"What has been brought up about sending Arab and

Islamic forces is merely a proposal, which the United States and Arab parties are still looking at," he said.

Egypt, which has offered to train Iraqi police officers in Egypt, has made it clear that it has no plan to send troops to Iraq.

Saudi Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal has recently

floated a proposal on sending an Islamic peacekeeping force to Iraq to replace the coalition forces in Iraq.

Shortly after the abduction of an Egyptian diplomat in Iraq last month, Egypt has reaffirmed that it would not consider sending troops to Iraq.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesia, Singapore sign an agreement on joint maritime patrol

JAKARTA, 6 Aug — Indonesia and Singapore signed Thursday agreement on joint maritime patrol to combat piracy on the waters between the two countries.

The signing ceremony took place in the southern Java town of Yogyakarta during the 22nd Indonesia-Singapore Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting.

Colonel D J Nachrowi from the Indonesian Military said after the signing ceremony that both countries agreed to open their security posts to all commercial ships threatened by sea pirates.

In case of emergency, commercial ships can contact the nearest security post for immediate action, he said.

"In the future, we will expand the area of operations," he was quoted by Detikcom online news service as saying.

Military commanders from both countries and Malaysia on July 20 launched joint patrol in the Straits of Malacca. The so-called Malsindo Operation is a year-round operation to

safeguard some 50,000 commercial ships passing the

narrow strait every year.

MNA/Xinhua



PLaa Laa, a rare baby Francois' Langur monkey born on 6 July, gazes at the public from its enclosure at London Zoo on 5 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET



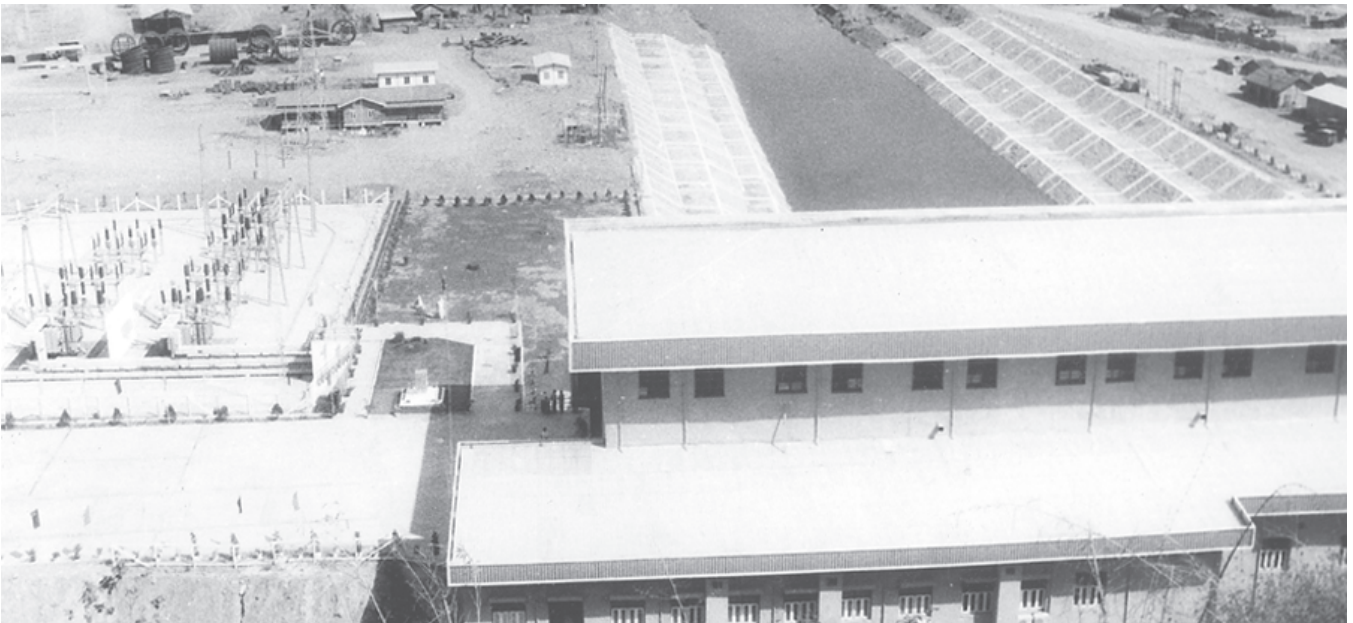
# Endeavours to supply electricity



*People living in Myitkyina, Kachin State, are now enjoying electricity supplied by Kyeinkharankha hydro power station which is generating 25 kilowatt.— MNA*



*Zawgyi Hydroelectric Power Plant in Yaksawk Township, Shan State.—MNA*



*Mone Creek Hydel Power Project in Sedoktara Township, Magway Division. — MNA*

# Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend fifth Waso robes...

(from page 1)

Development Council and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and wife, the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and wife, the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command and wife, ministers and their wives, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the

(Air).

Adviser U Arnt Maung acted as master of ceremonies. The ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*. Next, on behalf of the Presiding Nayaka of the Monastery Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Myingyan Koehsaungtaik, Vice-Chairman Sayadaw



Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offer 'soon' to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing present offertories for the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadawgyi to Five Nikaya Monastery Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silakkhandhabhivamsa. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe present Waso robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Yangon Mayor and senior military officers and their wives, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and

Bhaddanta Paññinda-bhivamsa administered the Nine Precepts. Next, members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing

offered eight requisites, Waso robes and provisions to the Vice-Chairman Sayadaw.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing then donated provisions for the Chairman

Sayadaw to Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Five Nikaya Pitakat Thonbon Monastery Tipitakadhara Tipitaka Kovida Bhaddanta Silakkhandhabhivamsa.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Prime Minister General Khin

Nyunt and wife Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Lt-Gen Tin Oo donated eight requisites, alms and Waso robes to the members of the Sangha.

Next, General Thura Shwe Mann and wife, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe

Win and wife, Secretary-2 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the commander, the ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Mayor and senior military

(See page 9)



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San present Waso robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet present Waso robes and offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



## Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend fifth Waso robes...

(from page 8)

officers presented Eight requisites, alms and Waso robes to the Sayadaws.

Afterwards, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silakkhandhabhivamsa delivered a sermon. And, the Senior General and wife and the congregation shared merits gained.

Later, the donation ceremony ended with three-time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Āram Tithatu.

After the ceremony, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party offered 'soon' to the Sayadaws. Next, State Peace and development Council Chairman Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party donated 'soon' to members of the Sangha from the Five Nikaya Pitakat Thonbon Monastery.— MNA



Sayadaws and members of the Sangha seen at the Waso robes offering ceremony. — MNA

**Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party presented Eight requisites, alms and Waso robes to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.**



Daw Kyaing Kyaing, wife of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice Senior General Maung Aye presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, wife of Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Daw Khin Than Nwe, widow of Lt-Gen Tin Oo presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA



Daw Khin Lay Thet, wife of General Thura Shwe Mann, presents offertories to a Sayadaw. — MNA

### Myanmar, Thailand sign energy contracts ...

(from page 16)

It was attended by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Science and Technology U Thauang, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Thai Minister of Energy Mr Prommin Lertsuridej and officials. Officials of the two countries signed the production sharing contracts for

exploitation of oil and natural gas at blocks M-3 and M-4 of Mottamma offshore being undertaken by Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and PTTEP International Ltd of Thailand and the MoU on cooperation in renewable energy and energy saving sectors between the Ministries of Energy of Myanmar and Thailand. Next, they exchanged documents. Afterwards, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi

presented of notification on issuing permits and MIC Chairman Minister for Science and Technology U Thauang, permit of MIC to President of PTTEP Co Mr Maroot Mrigadat. At 2.30 pm, the two Energy Ministers opened the new office of PTTEP International Ltd at 8 1/2 mile, here. In the evening, the Thai minister left here by air. Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and officials saw him off at the airport. — MNA

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# A historical milestone leading the nation to a new age — 7

*Aung Moe San*

The international events stand witness to the fact that a country can build the market economy and democracy only in accord with its present social, economic and political status. Even if a nation is on the road to progress, it cannot leapfrog the difficulties it will have to face, it has to pass through the different stages of development, and it cannot overcome them just by enacting laws. It will have to choose the least painful way for its community.

Nowadays, the Tatmadaw Government has laid down the seven-point policy programme, that is in conformity with the Myanmar society, and is building a democratic nation. Due to some of the political parties' intransigent attitude towards the Tatmadaw Government, the nation has to face economic sanctions, cutting off of humanitarian aids and pressures of some global powers, who are their accomplices. If those parties choose the policy of consolidation, we can build a democratic state that is standing tall among the world nations without delay. The situation at present is that while the Tatmadaw Government is making efforts for development, some of the parties are opposing the move. The Tatmadaw and the parties are different from each other like the plus sign and the minus sign. Today, Myanmar history is demanding national consolidation and democracy. The entire people will have to dutifully work for national consolidation and the cause of democracy. National consolidation means building of unity among all the forces in the nation. The forces will have to rely on and trust each other.

But the genuine national consolidation cannot be built if there is trust in and reliance on, especially an extreme trust in and reliance on, some foreign forces and nations. In addition, the foreign powers should stay away from committing brazen interferences in the internal affairs of others to cause dissension. They should try to possess the spirit of the good neighbours of Myanmar and the ASEAN, because the spirit is in accord with the UN's five principles of peaceful co-existence. At the 50th anniversary to mark China's foreign policy that gives priority to peace, held on 28 June, Prime Minister Wen Jiabao said that in this world today, no country has the right to force others to practise democracy; that if they have the wish to promote democracy world-wide, the countries concerned should encourage and educate others to willingly practise democracy in accord with their own wishes; and that in the international diplomacy, the means of forceful democratization through the use of hegemonism, political games, with force as the judgment,

**Experience serves as the power of consideration or common sense, wisdom and the directive for the Tatmadaw Government.**

**Based on its experiences in building a democratic nation, it is able to accept and introduce a more practical way of democracy; and has laid down and implemented a system that suits the Myanmar way of life.**

and bullying methods should be avoided.

Mr Wen Jiabao also said that it is true that wider introduction of democracy in the international relations is a dire need, but no nation has the right to force another to accept democracy; and that for no reason a nation will have the right to abolish, withdraw or grab others sovereignty.

Experience serves as the power of consideration or common sense, wisdom and the directive for the Tatmadaw Government. Based on its experiences in building a democratic nation, it is able to accept and introduce a more practical way of democracy; and has laid down and implemented a system that suits the Myanmar way of life. Some of the political parties uphold dogmatism as they have less experience. They are holding the policy of dreaming to copy the Western Europe style of democracy. In accord with a saying, which goes, "Study the past if

**The national unity dwindled in 1950 after regaining of independence due to the conflicts resulting from the colonialist instigation. The armed groups in the jungles also took sides in the racial conflicts. The colonialists were very happy to see their scheme worked.**

you would divine the future", we can see some of the lessons of Myanmar history as follows:

The national unity dwindled in 1950 after regaining of independence due to the conflicts resulting from the colonialist instigation. The armed groups in the jungles also took sides in the racial conflicts. The colonialists were very happy to see their scheme worked. As the racial conflict grew larger, the racial hatred became intense. The people upholding the policy of racial prejudice even hated the persons who tried to end the conflict in a peaceful way. But thanks to the continued sacrifices to restore peace between the warring parties, based on their own experiences, they were able to consider and consolidate the national solidarity. Filled with remorse they came to understand the fact that re-consolidation benefits both parties while wars and killings only bring losses to them. The national races shed blood because of their own kin for failing to see the alien instigation. The value of the Tatmadaw Government that has striven to restore national consolidation to end conflicts and bloodshed must be recorded in history.

The Revolutionary Council Government invited leaders of aboveground political parties and formed the advisory council comprising 33 persons for internal unity in 1968. The committee was formed to give advice for restoring internal unity that would perpetually benefit the political, economic and social affairs of the State and the cause of the national races. But there was difference of opinion among the members themselves, and former prime minister U Nu demanded to entrust power back to him. Thus, the endeavour to restore internal unity faced a dead end, because priority was given to party interests instead of internal unity. And it was the second lesson for the nation.

Another lesson was in 1988 when the then government of Dr Maung Maung made an offer to hold an election within six months. But the political leaders who took part in the incident and strike groups opposed it and continued to stage street demonstrations. They made demands to form an interim government, while exercising the policy of confrontations. It was like sowing the seeds of intransigence or refusing to negotiate.

It is time lessons were taken from those past events. Because the seven-point political programme, that is in conformity with the Myanmar society has been laid down, and the work to build a democratic nation has already started. We should not let lose the opportunity. We will have to sow the seeds of national consolidation and to unitedly build a democratic nation. Because the seven-point policy programme is a historical milestone leading the nation to enter a new age.

(Myanma Alin + Kyemon: 7-8-2004)  
(Translation: TMT)

*The Myanmar-India Friendly Football Match was held at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna, Yangon, at 4 pm on Saturday. The selected Myanmar Football Federation team and the Mohun Bagan XI team played 1-1 draw. The two teams seen in action.*

NLM



## 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.

## 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 fuel

- \* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- \* Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US\$ 5.5 million in a year
- \* The amount, US \$ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

**2004-2005 Academic Year**

**School Health Week  
(9th to 13th August 2004)**

*At All Basic Education Schools*

**Ministry of Education**

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





Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presents offertories to Sagaing Sitagu Sayadaw. — MNA

YANGON, 7 Aug—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt attended a ceremony to honour Assistant Registrar of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy Professor Dr Ashin Paññajota who acquired MA degree from Banares Hindu University and PhD from Sanskrit University in Varanasi, India, and who is the disciple of the Sitagu Sayadaw of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy, Sagaing Hill, was held at the Maha Theindawgyi Dhammayon in Pabedan Township, Yangon Division at 2 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were member Sayadaws of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee led by Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maharathaguru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Sadhmmajotika Aungmyay Bonsan Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa, invited members of the Sangha led by Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Sadhmmajotika Dhaja Maha Dhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara Dr Bhaddanta Nanisara, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, members of Committee for Organizing the ceremony, officials of religious and social organizations, well-wishers Sihasudhamma Manijotadhaja Sirisudhamma Manijotadhaja U Thein Win and wife Sihasudhammasingi

# PM attends ceremony to honour Professor Dr Ashin Paññajota



Professor Dr Ashin Paññajota who has acquired MA from Banares Hindu University and PhD from Sanskrit University. — MNA

Sirisudhammasingi Agga Maha Sirisudhammasingi Daw Ni (Shwethanlwin) and family and disciples of the Sitagu Sayadaw.

The ceremony was opened with the three time recitation of Namo Tassa. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa. Afterwards, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented offertories to Bhaddanta Paññindabhivamsa, Dr Bhaddanta Nanisara and Dr Ashin Paññajota. Next, the commander, ministers and the Yangon Mayor presented offertories to members of the Sangha. After that, U Thein Win-wife Daw Ni (Shwethanlwin) and family presented K 50 million for shooting Buddha missionary colour film to mark the Fourth World Buddhist Summit to be held in Myanmar and Chairman of Shwe Thanlwin Co Ltd U Kyaw Win and wife Daw Nan Mauk Loung Sai presented K 10 million for construction work of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the well-wishers.

Next, master of ceremonies Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U San Thin Hlaing read the brief biography of Dr Ashin Paññajota (MA, PhD). Next, Vocalists Daw Yi Yi Thant and Daw Hnin Yi Thant extolled the virtues of Dr Ashin Paññajota (MA, PhD).

Later, Dr Bhaddanta Nanisara delivered a sermon,



Wellwishers U Thein Win and Daw Ni of Shwe Thanlwin Co donated K 50 million for producing World Buddhist Summit commemorative film. — MNA

## National policy lectured

YANGON, 7 Aug—CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave a lecture on the national policy and seven-point future political programme of the State at the basic organizational course opened at Hline Township USDA Office this morning.—MNA

followed by sharing of merits gained. The ceremony ended with the three time recitation of Buddha Sasanam Ciram Titthatu. After the ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt performed rituals of golden and silver showers.

Dr Ashin Paññajota was born of U Kyi Sein-Daw Mya Tin, of Myaungtika Village, Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, on 9th Waxing of Thadingyut 1330 Myanmar Era (Thursday). He is the youngest son.

He was novitiated by the Sayadaw of Thein Monastery in Myaungtika Village, Hmawby Township, in Waso, 1341 ME with the sponsorship of his parents. On 30 December 1990, he was ordained by Presiding Sayadaw of Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery in Bago with the sponsorship of U Tun Nyein-Daw Saw Kyi of Thaton, Mon State. He studied Pali on Buddha literature under the Sayadaws led by Presiding Sayadaw of Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery. Starting from 1996, he studied English under the Sayadaws including the Chancellor Sayadaw of Sagaing Sitagu International Buddhist Academy. With the assistance of the Sitagu Sayadaw, he was sent to Banares Hindu University and Sanskrit University in Varanasi, India, and Sanskrit University for further studies. He studied at these universities from 1998 to 2003 and obtained M.A and PhD degrees.

During his residing at Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery, he was assigned duties as member of the Pathamapayan Exam Supervisory Committee and as lecturer for five years. At present, he is discharging Sasana duties as Assistant Registrar of Sagaing Sitagu International Buddhist Academy, giving lectures in English to members of the Sangha under the Ovada of the Sitagu Sayadaw.

During his MA courses at Banares Hindu University, he passed the courses with the highest mark in two consecutive years and he was therefore awarded MA degree with a golden medal. He also obtained PhD degree from Sanskrit University and was thus honoured by monks and disciples led by Shwethanlwin family. — MNA

**Starting from 1996, he studied English under the Sayadaws including the Sagaing Sitagu Sayadaw. With the assistance of the Sitagu Sayadaw, he was sent to Banares Hindu University and Sanskrit University in Varanasi, India, and Sanskrit University for further studies. He studied at these universities from 1998 to 2003 and obtained M.A and PhD degrees.**

## Sanitation tasks carried out in Yangon

YANGON, 7 Aug—Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected sanitation tasks for cleanliness and proper drainage being carried out by Tatmadawmen, policemen, YCDC staff and local people at respective districts, townships and wards in Yangon this morning. The commander and the mayor arrived at the junction of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and Bahan 3rd lane here at 6.30 am. They inspected collection of garbage, dredging of the drains, weeding of shrubs and spraying of pesticides into drains in Bahan, Hline, Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha, Thingangyun and Dagon Myothit (South) townships. During the inspection tour, the commander and the mayor gave instructions to respective administrative bodies and officials on systematic garbage collection system, ensuring proper drainage and proper flow of creeks. — MNA

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### နိုင်ငံတော်ခံခံ ခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ အမှတ်(၁) စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ မြန်မာစက္ကန့်နှင့်ဆေးဗေဒလုပ်ငန်းကြီးကြပ်မှုအောက်ရှိ စက်ရုံများအတွက် အောက်ပါပစ္စည်းအား မြန်မာကျပ်ငြေဖြင့် ဝယ်ယူလိုကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည် အရေအတွက် တင်ဒါပေးပို့ရက်/အချိန်  
Aluminium Sulphate 710MT (၁၈-၈-၂၀၀၄)

နေ့လယ် ၁၂:၀၀ နာရီ

၂။ သိရှိလိုသည့် အချက်အချာရှိပါက ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ ဖုန်းနံပါတ်-၅၄၃၆၅ သို့ ဆက်သွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

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## Unsafe injections cause premature deaths

**BEIJING, 6 Aug —** About 390,000 Chinese have died prematurely from unsafe injections, said a think tank of China's Ministry of Health here Thursday.

The Thinktank Health Research Centre released the statistics at a seminar on unsafe injection that opened here Thursday.

The results show that AIDS and HBV (Hepatitis B Infection) caused by unsafe injections have caused 390,000 premature deaths and 6.89 million Disability Adjustment Life Year losses. The direct medical spending on unsafe injection has reached 142 million US dollars.

There are three billion injections in China annually, one fifth of the global total. In poor western regions and rural areas, it is a common practice of grassroots clinics to reuse disposable syringes without effective disinfection measures.

Statistics show that 30 per cent of immune injections and 50 per cent of therapeutic ones are unsafe. In western rural areas, more than 70 per cent of disposable syringes for single use are reused.

Unsafe injections have also caused damage to doctors and nurses. Guo Yanhong, in-charge of the

MoH injection department, said one million medical workers had been hurt by needles annually, some of whom got HBV or HIV/AIDS.

China has 840,000 HIV carriers and 120 million HBV carriers, 10 per cent of the total population. Two thirds of the latter caught the virus before the age of five.

Ye Lei, national director of the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention Global AIDS Programme-China, believes that the best way to avoid unsafe injections is to use Auto-disabled (AD) Syringes which can be self-destructed after the injection.

Ye said AD Syringes, with a price only 0.01 US dollars higher than the current single-use ones, are cheap enough for rural consumers.

However, the product is far from popular in the country. Despite 30 manufacturers with an annual capacity of 1.7 billion, the annual sales of AD Syringes linger at 100 million due to low domestic demand. — MNA/Xinhua

## France demands alcohol warnings for pregnant women

**PARIS, 6 Aug —** France's government told drinks manufacturers on Thursday to add labels warning women against consuming alcohol during pregnancy, its latest move to alert the French to the dangers of drink.

The call comes amid a government crackdown on drink driving and after a state prosecutor launched an inquiry into whether the drinks sector can be held legally responsible for damage to foetuses caused by their mothers' drinking.

"Drinking while pregnant is overly risky for the foetus, it is indeed the major cause of mental retardation," Health Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy, an ex-doctor, told reporters.

The labels should recommend total abstinence for pregnant women, he said.

Health warnings have been on bottles of alcohol sold in the United States for years, but until now France has insisted only that drinks advertising should carry such warnings.

Philippe Dehaene, a paediatrician specializing in the effect of alcohol on the foetus, said about 1 per cent of babies born in France each year suffered from their mother's drinking.

Reactions from the drinks industry were frosty.

"Drinking during pregnancy is a serious problem which needs serious debate rather than just attempts to grab the headlines," said Jerome Agostini, head of wine industry group CNIV. — MNA/Reuters

## World sugar price may jump 10% after WTO ruling

**BANGKOK/SYDNEY, 6 Aug —** Sugar prices could soar 10 per cent under a World Trade Organization ruling against European subsidies that was being cheered by the major producing countries of Australia, Thailand and Brazil on Thursday.

The big three producers had accused the European Union of breaking trade rules

with unfair sugar export subsidies and predicted the EU would have to sharply slash

its exports if the preliminary ruling is made final.

"This is a significant win

for Australia," Warren Males of Queensland Sugar Ltd. told Reuters, echoing similar triumphant remarks from Thailand, the world's second largest sugar exporter and Asia's biggest. Thailand, which exports around seven million tons of sugar each year worth about 1.4 billion US dollars, "will gain from the ruling", said a senior official at the Thai Sugar Millers Association. "The world sugar price is expected to rise by at least 10 per cent." Queensland Sugar, Australia's monopoly raw sugar exporter, and the farmer group Canegrowers said the impact on world prices would be significant, but it was too early to tell just how high prices would go. Canegrowers calculated the ruling would slash EU sugar exports by around two-thirds, to about 1.3 million tons a year, or sharply lower than the 4 million tons the EU shipped in 2004.

MNA/Reuters



A 13 years old boy displays his mobile phone in Hong Kong. A survey showed that mobile phone ownership among children in Hong Kong is the highest as compared to 12 other countries in Asia.—INTERNET

## Tanzanian herbs may become new AIDS soother

**DAR-ES-SALAAM, 6 Aug —** People, either suffering from HIV/AIDS directly or harassed by its menace, have long heard of the tried-and-true cocktail of chemicals, but they will soon get a new soother from another cocktail of natural herbs.

A compound extracted from a herb which grows in Tanzania may provide a promising cure for the fatal disease.

The substance, scholastically known as Thiarubrine, is isolated from plants used by chimpanzees for self-medication, local newspaper *The Guardian* Thursday quoted a researcher as saying.

Professor Mayunga Nkunya, chief academic officer from the University of Dar-es-Salaam, identified the herb as *Aspilia mossambicensis* (aka *Asteraceae*).

"Up to now several promising anti-HIV compounds have been isolated from plants," said the professor, "among them is Thiarubrine that has been obtained from *Aspilia mossambicensis*, a plant that is used by sick chimpanzees for self-medication".

Four other new anti-HIV compounds have just been isolated from a plant species called *Chassalia parvifolia* which also grows in Tanzania.

MNA/Xinhua

## Doctors fear asylum policy may raise HIV infections

**LONDON, 6 Aug —** Britain's policy of dispersing asylum seekers from London and southeast England to other parts of the country may lead to increased transmission of the HIV virus which causes AIDS, doctors said on Friday.

It is unclear how many asylum seekers infected with HIV have been affected by the policy, but many come from countries or regions which have high rates of HIV/AIDS.

"Doctors believe that dispersal is disruptive, may compromise HIV care, and may lead to increased transmission," Simon Edwards, of Camden Primary Care Trust in London, said in a report in *The British Medical Journal*.

A survey of physicians working in sexual health clinics revealed that people are moved at short notice, without prior arrangement and sometime without community support.

Many of the 56 doctors questioned in the survey felt moving patients was inappropriate if they were starting or having treatment with anti-retroviral drugs, if multiple medical specialists were caring for them or if the patient had AIDS. Doctors in some clinics said patients were moved against medical advice.

Britain started a policy of dispersing asylum seekers from southeast England in April 2000 to spread the cost of their care. More than 100,000 asylum seekers have been moved under the policy, according to Edwards and his colleagues. An estimated 38 million adults and children worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS. Sub-Saharan Africa, which has 25 million people infected with the virus, is the worst affected region. — MNA/Reuters

## Elephants destroy Tanzanian farms

**DAR-ES-SALAAM, 6 Aug —** Herds of wild elephants have destroyed more than 50 hectares of paddy rice in some farms near a national park in central Tanzania, local Press reported Thursday.

The elephants roaming out of the Mikumi National Park invaded the farms, causing huge losses to the staple and cash crops of farmers in that region, the *Daily Times* newspaper said. "I have invested a lot of money and energy there in the fields only to find everything destroyed (by elephants)," farmer Dikupatle Edwini was quoted as saying.

There have been several reports in the past six months about elephants harassing and destroying farm crops.

MNA/Xinhua

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ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန



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## Acid rain reverse global warming process

**NEW DELHI, 7 Aug —** Acid rain, considered hazardous until recently, helps in slowing the process of global warming, according to US scientists.

The sulphate present in the rain helps in retarding the process of global warming, an international research published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences here has said.

In an experiment, Dr Vincent Gauci and his colleagues at an Open University in the US chose several wetlands in the country, Britain and Sweden and dosed them with various amounts of sulphate.

They decided to experiment in wetlands which provide fertile ground for the microbes that emit methane.

Methanogenic microbes, which produce methane in large quantities, are inhibited by a type of bacteria that thrives on sulphate present in acid rain, the report said.

Microbes produce about 32 per cent of the methane present in the environment, they said adding "160m out of 500m tons of methane is produced by those microbes".

The team, interested in gauging the emission level of methane, found that its

emission was significantly suppressed due presence of sulphate.

All experimental sites displayed 30 to 40 per cent reduction in methane production as the team simulated low level of acid rain, the report said.

Methane exists in smaller quantities in the atmosphere as compared to carbon dioxide and accounts for about 22 per cent global warming which is caused due to human activities, it said.

However, majority of methane present in the environment comes from nature, the report said adding that carbon dioxide, heat and moisture are known to stimulate methane production in the micro organisms.

The researchers found that increased sulphate levels helped the bacteria dominate over Methanogenic microbes (MA), it said.

Gauci believes that bacteria could outshine MA because they have a more strong bonding for the organic substrates present in the ecosystem, it said. — *MNA/PTI*

## New study offers hope for Alzheimer's treatment

**LOS ANGELES, 6 Aug —** Early treatment of brain lesions associated with Alzheimer's disease can halt and even reverse the course of the mind-erasing ailment, according to authors of a study published on Thursday.

The study provided the best evidence so far that early treatment which targets lesions called beta-amyloid plaques could actually stop the disease's progression, researchers said.

"I think the results of this study indicate we are on the right track," said Frank LaFerla, associate professor of neurobiology and behavior at the University of California, Irvine and head of the research team.

"These results offer hope that in five to 10 years there will be therapies available to target beta amyloid plaques and have an effect on treating

this disease," he said. The study was published in the August 5 issue of *Neuron*.

Alzheimer's, which affects some 4.5 million Americans, is marked by the presence of two distinct types of brain lesions: beta-amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles. Both accumulate in brain areas critical to learning and memory.

Many neuroscientists believe that the accumulation of amyloid plaques triggers the progression of the disease in a "cascade" process that leads to the tangles.

Earlier clinical trials had indicated that treating beta

amyloid lesions could be effective in treating Alzheimer's. But LaFerla said the UCI study found that treating the beta amyloid lesions could halt the "cascade" effect.

"We found that when we cleared amyloid plaques from the brains of mice, the downstream consequences of the disease were lessened and even removed, provided the disease had not progressed to a certain advanced state," LaFerla said.

Researchers used transgenic mice that LaFerla's lab had previously developed. Because mice normally do not get Alzheimer's, human genes were inserted into their genome, allowing the mice to develop the ailment. The researchers then injected anti-beta-amyloid antibodies into the hippocampus — one of most critical brain structures involved in learning and memory — of the mice and found that the amyloid plaques were cleared by three days.

The lesions caused by neurofibrillary tangles disappeared two days later. Thirty days later, the researchers found amyloid plaques re-emerged but the tangle lesions did not. — *MNA/Reuters*

## Philippine conjoined twins separated in New York

**NEW YORK, 6 Aug —** Two-year-old twins from the Philippines who were born joined at the head have been surgically separated, but the next few days are critical to their survival, doctors said on Thursday.

Over four separate operations that began last October, twins Carl and Clarence Aguirre first had their blood vessels separated. The intricate process culminated with their physical separation on Wednesday in a 12-hour operation.

Surgery to separate conjoined twins often takes place in a single marathon procedure. The Aguirre twins were separated using a new technique aimed at reducing complications.

James Goodrich,

Montefiore Medical Center's director of children's neurosurgery and the lead surgeon, said the procedure was complicated since the twins shared large blood vessels that fused their brains.

He said the next two days, doctors will watch for the prospect of infection and other complications and that it will take up to two weeks to assess possible brain damage.

"This is an enormously complex case," Goodrich said, adding that during the surgery doctors were reassessing strategy "every 15 minutes".

Conjoined twins occur once in every 200,000 live births. One or both twins often die after separation, and the rate of survival beyond the age of two is only 20 per cent. — *MNA/Reuters*

## Thailand, China agree to cooperate in ICT development

**BANGKOK, 7 Aug —** Thailand has signed a deal with China which will see the two countries work together to develop information and communications technology (ICT), following the signing of similar agreements with India, Japan and South Korea, the *Thai News Agency* reported Friday.

The pact was announced Thursday by Thai ICT Minister, Surapong Suebwonglee, who said that the deal would pave the way for the mutual exchange of experience for the development of the ICT sector, with Thailand hoping firstly to learn from China's success in boosting the efficiency of state enterprises through the use of telecommunications technology. — *MNA/Xinhua*

## British couple quits smoking for health of parrot

**LONDON, 6 Aug —** A British couple booked themselves into a clinic to quit smoking after the vet said it was the only way to save their beloved sick parrot.

Kevin Barclay and Sharon Wood gave up a 50-cigarette-a-day habit to save their Amazon orange-winged parrot J.J., said the vet, Glen Cousquer of the South Beech Veterinary Surgery in Essex, southeastern England.

"One of the key things that we need to get right with parrots generally is air quality," he told *Reuters*.

"This particular bird presented with very severe respiratory problems. The owners were instructed to do everything they could to improve the bird's environment."

"I think I must have shaken the owners up quite badly, because the next time I saw them they actually had booked themselves into one of these anti-smoking clinics and were determined to stop. They've gone five weeks," he said.

J.J., he said, "is doing really well. It is certainly going to improve his life expectancy". It may help the owners, too. — *MNA/Reuters*



*Baboons warm up as they shelter in their cage in drizzling rain at a private zoo near the Black sea resort of Yalta, on 5 Aug, 2004. After weeks of hot muggy days in most regions of Ukraine temperatures fell to some 20 degrees Celsius. — INTERNET*

## Lava buried juicy evidence on Mars

**WASHINGTON, 6 Aug —** A mysterious lava flow buried what Mars experts had hoped would be good evidence of a planet once covered with lakes and rivers, scientists said on Thursday.

To add insult to injury, the area has spent millions of years being bombarded by meteorites and pockmarked with rocks thrown up by

nearby impacts.

The first 90 days of the *Spirit* rover's explorations are documented in a series of reports in *Science* on Friday that show puzzling lava flows and evidence of ice ages that vaguely resemble those once seen on Earth. *Spirit* and its twin on the opposite side of the planet, *Opportunity*, have moved on to more exciting formations but scientists have learned they can trust many of their instincts about what they have seen on Mars.

*Spirit* landed in the 95-mile wide Gusev crater on January 3 and rolled through pockmarks and around boulders, collecting dust, drilling into rock and taking spectrometer measurements.

"Gusev crater is a place that we believe surely must have had liquid water on it at some point," said principal science investigator Steven

Squires.

"When you see a hole in the ground with a major riverbed flowing into it, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out there was water in it at some time."

To their great disappointment, *Spirit* has found little evidence of that water, instead finding that a thick layer of basalt and other volcanic rock flowed over much of the crater, burying the most juicy evidence. It is not clear where the lava would have flowed from. "We landed with hopes that we might be able to identify water-laying sediments. Instead the rocks we found were all layers of basalt," said Squires.

"There are little craters all over the place. Lavas have covered this region of Gusev crater and then they have been all busted up by impacts." — *MNA/Reuters*

## DHL opens new Central Asia Hub in HK

**HONG KONG, 6 Aug —** DHL, the world's leading express and logistics company, Wednesday opened its new Central Asia Hub, an air express cargo facility, at the Hong Kong International Airport. John Mullen, chief executive officer — Asia Pacific, DHL Express, said at the official opening ceremony that the new hub will strengthen Hong Kong's position as a leading regional hub and logistics gateway to Chinese Mainland.

"Strategically located in Hong Kong, which is within a four-hour average flying time to major cities in Asia Pacific, the new Central Asia Hub will significantly increase express shipment throughput capacity in Hong Kong and Southern China," he said. "Already, over 60 per cent of express cargo processed by the Central Asia Hub is intra-Asia Pacific shipments. It clearly reflects the important role that Hong Kong plays as a conduit for international and intra-Asia Pacific trade," Mullen said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## SPORTS

## Wenger warns Vieira about leaving Arsenal

LONDON, 7 Aug— Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger said on Friday that his captain Patrick Vieira would be making a mistake if he left the English champions.

Vieira is still being linked with a move to Real Madrid, even though Arsenal have rejected an initial bid by the Spanish club.

"I believe every player who leaves Arsenal makes a mistake," Wenger told reporters. "Frankly, I find change for the sake of change unacceptable, the basic desire of a player is to win and everything else is superficial."

Wenger said he did not want to have to convince the 28-year-old France midfielder to stay.

"I want him to stay because he's convinced he wants to be part of this club," Wenger said.

"If a player comes to me and says he can't win things and wants to leave, that's fair enough.

"Why does Michael Schumacher stay at Ferrari? Because he knows he can win there." — MNA/Reuters



Hannah Schmidt an employee for Christies Auctioneers holds a ball as she wears soccer legend Pele's 1958 Brazilian World Cup shirt in central London on 5 Aug, 2004. The shirt is to be auctioned Sept. 21, 2004, and is expected to sell for \$126,000 to \$180,000. —INTERNET

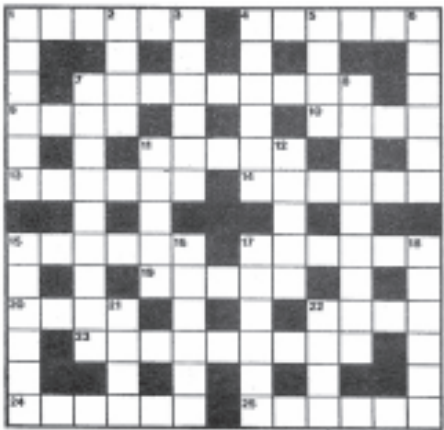
## Late goal gives werder victory over Schalke 04

BERLIN, 7 Aug— A late goal by substitute striker Nelson Valdez gave champions Werder Bremen a 1-0 home victory over Schalke 04 in Friday's opening Bundesliga game of the season, which was delayed by a power shortage.

Valdez struck from close range with seven minutes left in a dull affair with few highlights. The match started over an hour late because of a cable problem caused by building works near the champions' stadium.

German public television channel ARD, which was broadcasting the game live, showed a music programme while waiting for the match to start. Bayern Munich, eager to bounce back after failing to win the title last season, start their campaign at Hamburg SV on Saturday. —MNA/Reuters

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## ACROSS

- 1 Lingerie (coll)
- 4 Fit for ploughing
- 7 Retrousse (4-5)
- 9 U.S. State
- 10 Eng. architect
- 11 Hindu musical instrument
- 13 Roving
- 14 Running with long strides
- 15 Place much frequented
- 17 Head (sl.)
- 19 Shakespearean Athenian
- 20 East European
- 22 Public
- 23 Bad dream
- 24 Blockhead
- 25 Whipped

## DOWN

- 1 Arbitrator
- 2 Island of Inner Hebrides
- 3 Yield
- 4 Declaration
- 5 Afresh
- 6 Warming alcoholic drink (3-3)
- 7 Fencer
- 8 Waste-water duct
- 11 Quick drink (sl.)
- 12 Mountain ash
- 15 Social reformer
- 16 Military helmet (3-3)
- 17 Ordinary
- 18 Foul-tasting
- 21 Field of sight
- 22 Spheres

## Chelsea's Mutu to sign for Juventus

BUCHAREST, 6 Aug— Romanian striker Adrian Mutu of Chelsea is set to sign a one-year loan deal with Italian club Juventus, his agent said on Thursday.

"Mutu left London today for Italy and he'll sign tomorrow a deal with Juventus," agent Gica Popescu told Reuters.

Popescu did not offer any financial details of the deal but said the deal could be extended if both clubs agreed.

Mutu joined Chelsea for 15.8 million pounds (28.83 million US dollars) from Parma last August as part of Russian billionaire owner Roman Abramovich's spending spree at the London club.

However after scoring four times in his first three games under former manager Claudio Ranieri, Mutu struggled with nagging injuries and a loss of form.

His chances of regular first team football this season look slim after new manager Jose Mourinho bolstered his striking options by signing Didier Drogba from Olympique Marseille and Mateja Kezman from PSV Eindhoven. —MNA/Reuters

## Arsenal boost sponsorship deal with mm02

LONDON, 7 Aug— Premier League champions Arsenal have boosted their sponsorship deal with the mm02 mobile phone company by one million pounds (1.83 million US dollars) a year.

Mm02, Britain's fourth-largest mobile phone company, said on Friday that the terms of the deal had been improved and the contract was now worth more than three million pounds a year.

"It's just over three million pounds," said mm02 spokesman Simon Gardner. "The original contract signed two years ago was for two million a year for four years." He added that there was also a revenue sharing agreement between the two parties on text messaging. — MNA/Reuters

## Mutu's loan move to Juventus falls through

BUCHAREST, 7 Aug— The proposed loan transfer of Romanian striker Adrian Mutu from Chelsea to Juventus has fallen through because the clubs failed to agree terms, the player's agent said on Friday.

Mutu and his agent Giovanni Becali travelled to Turin on Thursday after Chelsea had agreed a one-year loan with the Italian giants but the deal then broke down.

"Chelsea asked to have the first option for a possible transfer of Mutu in the future but Juventus officials rejected the proposal," Becali told Reuters on Friday by telephone from Turin.

Mutu will return to England to complete his five-year contract with Chelsea.

"Mutu is Chelsea's player for the next four years," Becali said. —MNA/Reuters



Schalke's Tomasz Waldoch, left, from Poland, and Bremen's Miroslav Klose, right, go for the ball during the German Bundesliga soccer match in Bremen, Germany, between Werder Bremen and FC Schalke, on Friday, 6 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

## Liverpool defender Vignal joins Rangers on loan

GLASGOW, 6 Aug— Liverpool defender Gregory Vignal joined Rangers on a one-year loan on Thursday as the Scottish side secured their seventh signing of the close season. "Discussions were completed last night and I can confirm that Gregory has signed and will join us on a one-year loan deal," Rangers said on their website.

The 23-year-old Frenchman joined Liverpool from Montpellier four years ago but has been loaned out to French side Rennes and Spain's Espanyol over the past two seasons.

Rangers manager Alex McLeish has already signed defenders Jean-Alain Boutsong and Marvin Andrews, midfielders Alex Rae and Dragan Mladenovic and strikers Dado Prso and Nacho Novo as he rebuilds after finishing without a trophy last season.

Vignal could feature in Saturday's Scottish Premier League opener at Aberdeen and the away first leg of their Champions League final round qualifier against CSKA Moscow on Tuesday. — MNA/Reuters

## Owen closing on new Liverpool contract

LIVERPOOL (England), 6 Aug— England striker Michael Owen could agree a new contract with Liverpool before the Premier League season starts on 14 August.

Owen's current contract runs out at the end of the coming season, when he would be able to leave the club on a free transfer. "The speculation about a new contract started before we even had our first meeting so it feels like it's been going on for six months," Owen told reporters on Thursday.

"The reality is we have only had four or five meetings and that is normal during contract negotiations.

"There was a meeting in New York last week and another is planned for next week. We are in no rush.

"We are closer than we were, but we are not there yet because the contract has not been signed."

Owen, 24, scored 19 goals last season for Liverpool, who start their season next week with a Champions League qualifying game against AK Graz. — MNA/Reuters

## Agassi beats Johansson at Cincinnati

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug— Tennis veteran Andre Agassi beats former Australian Open champion Thomas Johansson to reach the last 16 of the Masters Series in Cincinnati, Ohio on Wednesday.

The American registered a 6-1, 3-6, 6-1 success in a match delayed one hour by rain. It was only the second time that Agassi had won two successive matches since March and it earned him a third round match against Juan Ignacio Chela, the 17th seed from Argentina.

In the same half of the draw, defending champion Andy Roddick beat Germany's Nicolas Kiefer for the third time in ten days. Halfway through the second set of his 6-4, 6-4 defeat, Kiefer launched a vicious slash at the net with his racket that gave Roddick a psychological boost.

The second-seeded American next plays Paradorn Srichaphan, the 15th seed from Thailand, a 6-3, 6-4 winner over Sjeng Schalken. In the final match of the day, fifth-seeded Briton Tim Henman rallied past Moroccan Hicham Arazi 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 to advance. — MNA/Xinhua



Iran's Jalal Kameli, top, competes for the ball with Bahrain's A'ala Hubail during their Asian Cup third place match in Beijing's Workers' Stadium on 6 Aug, 2004. Iran defeated Bahrain 4-2 to take third place in the soccer tournament. — INTERNET







Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt hands over an ancient Buddha image to Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt hands over an ancient Buddha image to Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung. — MNA

## Prime Minister hands over two ancient Buddha images to Ministry of Culture

YANGON, 7 Aug—Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt handed over two ancient Buddha images donated to him to the Ministry of Culture at the National Museum on Pyay Road this evening.

Present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments and officials of the Ministry of Culture. On behalf of the Prime Minister, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung explained about

the handover of the ancient Buddha images. He said wellwishers presented two ancient religious cultural artifacts on 4 of this month. He said the Prime Minister also handed them over to the Ministry of Culture for public obeisance at the National Museum.

The Buddha images were in hand of late U Aung Than Myint and wife Daw Thein Thein over 30 years ago and they were kept well in order not to be smuggled out of the country through unscrupulous persons. According to the wish of late U Aung Than Myint, wife Daw Thein Thein and family presented them to the Prime Minister.

He said the Prime Minister handed them over to the

ministry for public obeisance and preserving them forever. Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt handed the Buddha images to Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung. After the ceremony, the Prime Minister, the commander and the ministers paid obeisance to the images.

The Prime Minister and party paid obeisance to a standing Pyinsalawha ancient Buddha image and other Buddha images of successive periods on the fourth floor of the National Museum.

The image was of great cultural value and the work of early Bagan period (11 AD) and the other was cast of bronze, dating back to Konbaung period.—MNA

## Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Thai Minister

YANGON, 7 Aug — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt received Minister of Energy Mr Prommin Lertsuridej and party of Thailand at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta, here, at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Director-General U Soe Tint at the Prime Minister's Office and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Thai Minister and party were accompanied by Charge d'Affaires of the Thai Embassy Mr Opas Chantarasap and officials.

At the call, the Thai Energy Minister briefed the Prime Minister on cooperation of Myanmar and Thailand in oil and natural gas exploration.

MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Minister of Energy Mr Prommin Lertsuridej of Thailand at Zeyathiri Beikman. — MNA

## Myanmar, Thailand sign energy contracts, MoU

YANGON, 7 Aug — Thai Minister of Energy Mr Prommin Lertsuridej and delegation arrived here by air this morning at the invitation of Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and officials.

The two ministers cordially discussed mutual cooperation in energy sector at Elephant Room of Inya Lake Hotel at 10.30 am.

The signing ceremony of the production sharing contracts for oil and natural gas exploitation and MoU on cooperation in renewable

energy and energy saving sectors was held at Mingala Hall of the Inya Lake Hotel here at 10.30 am.

(See page 9)

**In the presence of Myanmar Energy Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Thai Energy Minister Mr Prommin Lertsuridej, officials sign production sharing contracts for oil and natural gas exploitation and MoU on cooperation in renewable energy and energy saving sectors.**



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi and Thai guests at the energal contract signing ceremony.— ENERGY