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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt inspects souvenirs to mark Fourth World Buddhist Summit.— MNA

PM attends coord meeting for hosting Fourth World Buddhist Summit

YANGON, 24 Aug — The coordination meeting on hosting the Fourth World Buddhist Summit on a grand scale was held at the meeting hall of the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University in Mayangon Township this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Summit Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

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

Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon Mayor, deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental heads, officials of the Leading Committee and sub-committees, the Pro-Rector (Admin) of the University, officials and guests.

The meeting was opened with three-time recitation of *Namo Tassa*.

Secretary of the Leading Committee Minister for Religious Affairs

Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung reported on formation of the close supervisory committee for the summit and the secretariat, preparations for holding the summit in Maha Pasana Cave, conducting of training to liaison officers, souvenirs to mark the summit

and financial matters.

Next, chairmen and members of the sub-committees briefed the Prime Minister on their respective sectors. And, those present discussed holding of the summit on a grand scale.

The Prime Minister

gave necessary instructions. Later, the meeting ended with three-time recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Cīram Tittathu*.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister inspected the souvenirs to mark the summit.

MNA

The Minister for Religious Affairs reported on formation of the close supervisory committee for the summit and the secretariat, preparations for holding the summit in Maha Pasana Cave, conducting of training to liaison officers, souvenirs to mark the summit and financial matters.

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

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Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses coordination meeting to hold Fourth World Buddhist Summit.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 25 August, 2004

Extend agricultural and livestock breeding work

As the population of the City of Yangon is on the increase, measures are being taken to supply vegetables, meat and fish sufficiently for the people living in it. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has also given guidance to grow paddy and other crops within 30-mile radius of the city and make it green all the year round.

In accordance with the guidance given by the Head of State, efforts are being made to grow seasonable crops and vegetables on every available plot of arable land. In some areas, national entrepreneurs and departments and enterprises under various ministries have established agricultural and livestock breeding special zones.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe on 23 August visited the agricultural and livestock breeding special zone near the Nyaunghnapin village in Hmawby Township, Yangon North District and met responsible personnel.

The aim of establishing the agricultural and livestock breeding special zone of Yangon Division is not only to provide sufficient supply of vegetables, meat and fish for Yangonites but also to export the surplus. In the agricultural and livestock breeding special zone, various ministries and national entrepreneurs are engaged in agricultural and livestock breeding work.

At present, various crops are being cultivated on 6,075 acres of farmland. Moreover, 1.2 million broilers and layers were raised and as a result one million layers have been sold up to now. And more than 1.3 million fish are being raised in 568 acres of fish ponds.

National entrepreneurs are required to make efforts to be able to supply not only vegetables but also fruits and flowers. And in growing vegetables, they ought to use both conventional and modern cultivation methods. It is also necessary for division-level departmental personnel to render all the necessary assistance.

We would like to call on all departmental personnel and national entrepreneurs to make coordinated efforts to be able to supply vegetables, meat and fish sufficiently for the people living in Yangon and to export the surplus as well.

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

UMFCCI officials meet guests

YANGON, 24 Aug — A 10-member delegation from the People's Republic of China headed by Vice-Mayor of Anshan People's Municipal Government of Liaoning Province of the PRC Mr Ge Haiying called on Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, CEC members and executives at the UMFCCI head office here on 20 August. They discussed matters on investment opportunities and mutual interest. Similarly, Commercial Counsellor of Bangladeshi embassy here Mr Md Aftabuzzaman called on UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, CEC members and executives yesterday morning and discussed matters on trade promotion between the two countries. — 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

Talks on MWAFF held

YANGON, 24 Aug — Salient points of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation were given to staff of the Ministry of Mines at Thiri Yadana Hall of the ministry this morning. MWAFF Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Thet gave talks on MWAFF.

Also present on the occasion were MWAFF Secretariat members Daw Htu Yaw, Professor Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun and Mines Minister's wife Daw San San, Deputy Minister U Myint Thein's wife Daw Khin May San, Director-General U Soe Mya, officials, staff and families.

After the talks, Daw San San handed over K 200,000 donated by the ministry for MWAFF to Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Thet. — MNA

U-14 tennis competition trials on 1 September

YANGON, 25 Aug — U-14 international tennis competition will be held from 21 to 25 September in Manila, the Philippines and from 5 to 10 October in Bangkok, Thailand. The U-14 tennis trials will be held at Theinbhyu Tennis Court on 1 September.

Those interested may enlist at the Myanmar Tennis Federation, Tel: 372360 and 361991 not later than 31 August. — MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

YANGON, 25 Aug — The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mr Jan Matthysen as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Union of Myanmar, in succession to Mr Pierre Jean Marie Antoine Vaesen.

Mr Jan Matthysen was born in 1950 in Ekenen, Belgium. He obtained a degree in Contemporary Political History from the Ghent University in 1973. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium in 1984 and served in various ranks at Belgian embassies in Bonn, Berlin and Belgrade.

He was the Belgian ambassador to Belgrade from 1996 to 1997. Thereafter, he returned to Belgium and served as Head of the NATO Desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brussels. From 1999-2000, he was the Acting Head of the General Directorate for Political-Military Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has served as the Belgian ambassador to Turkey from 2000-2004.

Mr Jan Matthysen will be concurrently accredited as the Belgian ambassador to the Union of Myanmar, with residence in Bangkok. He is married with five children. — MNA



The meeting of National Convention Panel of Chairmen in progress. — MNA

Panel of Chairmen of National Convention holds coordination meeting

YANGON, 24 Aug — The coordination meeting of members of the Panel of Chairmen of the National Convention was held at the meeting hall of the National Convention Convening Work Committee in Kyaikkasan Grounds, here, this morning.

Present were members of the Panel of Chairmen Daw Khin Nu, U Tun Yin Law, U Yaw Aye Hla, U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint, U Mya Aye, Dr Myo Thant Tin, Dr U Thein Oo Po Saw, Maj-Gen Aung Thein and U Tun Aung Chein, Joint-Secretary-2 of the Work Committee Dr U Thaung Myint, members U Hsan Tun and U Ba Han, Director of the Work Committee Office U Than Aung and deputy directors.

The Panel of Chairmen compiled notes on proposals submitted to the NC during the period from 17 May to 9 July by eight delegate groups on sharing of legislative power. The Panel will submit them to the National Convention when it resumes.

MNA

ASEAN meeting on integrated cultivation systems

YANGON, 24 Aug — Under the ASEAN-Japan co-operation programme, the fourth expert meeting on integrated cultivation systems project in ASEAN countries was opened with ceremony held at Traders Hotel here this morning.

Managing Director of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Tun Than extended greetings.

Regional Project Coordinator from ASEAN Secretariat Dr Azmi Matakhir and Representative of MAFF, Japan, Mr Yutaka Ishiba also spoke on the occasion.

The meeting continued in the afternoon. The project has been commenced since 2000.

In Myanmar, the MAS is implementing the integrated cultivation in Inlay region of Shan State and Nyaungdon region of Ayeyawady Division.

MNA



The business discussion between UMFCCI and Anshan investment delegation in progress. — UMFCCI

Blair government faces lawsuit over soldier's death in Iraq

LONDON, 23 Aug—The mother of a 19-year-old Briton killed in a roadside blast in Iraq moved to sue Prime Minister Tony Blair's government for failing to care for its warzone soldiers, a report said.

The lawsuit being prepared by the family of Gordon Gentle would be the first time the British government has been sued over the death of a soldier in combat, The Guardian said.

Gentle, who had served with the Royal Highland Fusiliers, died in June when a bomb exploded in Basra, the southern Iraqi city under British control.

His mother Rose held a stormy meeting last week at Downing Street to protest against the war, walking out abruptly and accusing Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott of "talking rubbish".

She argues that her son's death could have been avoided had his patrol unit been equipped with signal-jamming equipment which would have blocked the detonation of the bomb, The Guardian reported. The Gentles have hired lawyer John Cooper, who defended the families of four soldiers who died from bullet wounds under unclear circumstances between 1995 and 2002 at the Deepcut army barracks in Surrey, southern England.

Cooper said Sunday he was "optimistic" about the strength of the Gentles' case.

"There seems to be a culture within the MoD (defence ministry) of insensitivity when it comes to dealing with the families of deceased servicemen and women," he said.

"The MoD has a duty to provide soldiers with the equipment to protect themselves and carry out their duties with the minimum risk to themselves."

Rose Gentle and her 14-year-old daughter Maxine were invited to meet Prescott on Thursday. They had come to complain that an official letter of condolence had arrived nearly seven weeks after

Gordon Gentle's death, and delivered Maxine's protest letter calling Blair a "bad prime minister" and blaming him personally for the killing.

The mother has demanded that Britain withdraw all its soldiers from Iraq, and has accused the government of sending her teenage son to the country too soon after he had completed basic training.

Several groups, including top Greek lawyers from the Athens Bar Council, have taken their cases against Blair to the International Criminal Court, accusing him of crimes against humanity for waging war against Iraq.

Internet

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958 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Aug—As of Monday, 23 August, 958 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 716 died as a result of hostile action and 242 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 64 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, 11; Poland, 10; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, six; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 820 US soldiers have died - 607 as a result of hostile action and 213 of non-hostile causes, according to the Military's numbers.

Internet



A militiaman loyal to radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr holding a grenade launcher takes position behind sandbags in the holy site in Najaf.—INTERNET

Fierce gunfire erupts in Najaf

NAJAF (Iraq), 23 Aug—A fierce gunbattle erupted early on Monday between US troops and radical Shiite militants near Najaf's holy shrine, a Reuters witness said.

Tracer bullets darted skywards while police sirens were heard in the north of the city after what were believed to be mortar bombs landed near a residential area, sending up clouds of smoke.

Militiamen loyal to firebrand Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr are holed

up in and around the Imam Ali shrine, which is sacred to millions of Shiites around the world.

US tanks were positioned within 800 metres of the shrine, which is surrounded by small alleyways held by the Shiite militiamen with rocket-propelled grenades

and AK-47 assault rifles.

American AC-130 gunships earlier fired about 10 times at suspected rebel positions, the third such attack since Thursday night apparently aimed at breaking the resistance of Sadr and his militia.

MNA/Reuters

Mahathir praises Deng Xiaoping's principle of seeking truth from facts

KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Aug—Malaysia's former prime minister Mahathir Mohamad praised late Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping's principle of seeking truth from facts during a recent interview with Xinhua.

"Late Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping firmly upheld the principle of seeking truth from facts in his life time," said the 79-year-old Mahathir who retired last October after being Malaysia's prime minister for 22 years.

"China's reform and opening-up policies put forward by Deng in line with Chinese conditions have changed China markedly," he said. Mahathir recalled his first meeting with Deng in Kuala Lumpur in 1978, when the latter visited Malaysia, and his second meeting with Deng in Beijing in 1985 during Mahathir's maiden visit to China.

During these meetings, Deng questioned

the former Malaysian prime minister on Malaysian economic developments, policies on foreign investments and other issues, Mahathir said. "From his words, one could feel deeply that he was seeking ways of developing the Chinese economy, of making China a great power and of improving the living standard of the Chinese people," he said. In addition, said Mahathir, Deng brought useful experience to China from Western countries' economic development, foreign investment and advanced technology and management, and from this experience Deng worked out new reform policies with China's characteristics.—MNA/Xinhua

HK provides emergency relief for flood victims in Bangladesh

HONG KONG, 24 Aug — The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has approved a grant of 960,000 Hong Kong dollars (123,076 US dollars) from the Disaster Relief Fund to Oxfam Hong Kong (Oxfam) for emergency relief to flood victims in Bangladesh, sources said Monday.

The Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee hopes that the grant can help provide immediate relief to flood victims in Bangladesh.

To ensure that the money will be used for the designated purposes, the committee will ask Oxfam to submit an evaluation report and audited accounts on the use of the grant after the relief project has been completed.

The Disaster Relief Fund was established

in December 1993 for emergency disaster relief in places outside Hong Kong.

The Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee is responsible for advising the government on the policy and practices regarding the disbursement of funds for disaster relief, advising on specific amounts to specific recipients, and monitoring the use of grants.

MNA/Xinhua

Shenzhen hosts more overseas tourist arrivals

SHENZHEN, 24 Aug — Shenzhen, a boomtown facing Hong Kong across a river in south China's Guangdong Province, hosted 10.4 million overseas tourist arrivals in the first six months of the year, up 34.4 per cent from the same period last year.

The city is placed in the

first among the leading tourist cities in the country for the tourism growth rate, noted sources from the tourism bureau of Shenzhen City.

According to the sources, most of the overseas tourists visited this southern Chinese city for purposes of entertainment, sight-seeing, vaca-

tion and visiting friends or on business trips.

Shenzhen, also one of China's five special economic zones, raked in 748 million US dollars from overseas tourism services from January to June this year, a rise of 27.48 per cent year-on-year.

MNA/Xinhua



Iraqi girls, whose home was hit by an artillery shell, play on a street in a ghetto near Najaf's front line on 22 August, 2004.—INTERNET

Kasuri says no Pakistani troops to Iraq against people's wishes

ISLAMABAD, 24 Aug—Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri said that the government openly opposed the US-led attack on Iraq and would not send troops there against the wishes of the people of Pakistan.

Speaking in the Senate, he said that during meetings with the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) he expressed Pakistan's view on Iraq before the international community. He said that Pakistan was clear on the Iraq issue and was not ashamed of its stance. The Senate session was convened at the request of the opposition, which demanded that

the government condemn the US occupation of Iraq in strong words.

Mr Kasuri said that Pakistan would not take dictation from a foreign power and would resist pressure to commit troops to Iraq. He said that Pakistan viewed US-led forces as occupation forces like other Muslim countries. The Minister said that Pakistan had never condoned the

extremist policies of the Taliban. In fact the government had tried to convince the Taliban not to destroy the historical statues of Buddha. Mr Kasuri defended allegations that the government had taken a u-turn on its stance on Afghanistan. He said Pakistan had not invited the US forces to attack Afghanistan.

Muttahida Majlis-e-

Amal leader Professor Khurshid Ahmed said that Muslim countries were apprehensive of falling victim to US hostilities after witnessing the Iraq invasion. He called the attack on Iraq an international conspiracy to capture the financial resources of the country. Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz parliamentary leader Ishaq Dar condemned the US attack on Iraq and strongly opposed sending Pakistani troops to Iraq. The Senate is scheduled to continue the debate on Iraq on Tuesday (today).—Internet



Members of the Iraqi Shi'ite Mehdi army militia keep watch from a shattered building in Najaf's old town, on 21 Aug, 2004. Fighters loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr were firmly in control of Najaf's Imam Ali mosque defying efforts by Iraq US-backed government to end a radical Shi'ite rebellion. — INTERNET

Britain pledges efforts to combat climate change

LONDON, 24 Aug—Britain will use its influence as head of two major international bodies to boost efforts to combat global climate change and pollution, Environment Minister Lord Whitty said on Monday.

Speaking at the World Clean Air and Environmental Protection Congress in London, Whitty said Britain would use its position as chair of the G-8 group of nations next year and its forthcoming EU presidency to push the climate change agenda at the highest level "in every way we can".

"It is important that we present a clear case for concerted action on climate change to the G-8 next year, and the same will apply to our presidency of the EU. It's important that the case is made and action taken," he said. "Internationally our first priority is climate change, in the long term probably the most important issue we face as a global community."

The minister said climate change is already happening due to the release of greenhouse gases, mainly carbon dioxide. He described Britain as one of the strongest supporters of the Kyoto Protocol to cut emissions worldwide, stressing "Enormous challenges remain".

"The British Government's Energy White

Paper sets a goal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by around 60 per cent by 2050. Other developed countries must follow suit. We need a

global shift in the way we produce energy. We need a low-carbon economy," he said.

MNA/Xinhua

Swiss foreign policy focuses on Europe, UN reform

GENEVA, 24 Aug—Swiss Foreign Minister Micheline Calmy-Rey said Monday that careful management of relations with the European Union (EU) and reform of the United Nations are the country's foreign policy priorities, according to a Swiss official web site Swissinfo.

Regarding Switzerland's relations with the EU — of which Switzerland is not a member — Calmy-Rey told an annual gathering in Bern of the country's ambassadors that Swiss policy was to preserve the country's independence in its dealings with the EU.

But at the same time, she said, the country's representatives should do all they can to minimize the disadvantages of not being part of the EU, and gain as much access as possible to the common market.

MNA/Xinhua

10th NPC Standing Committee starts 11th meeting to revise laws

BEIJING, 24 Aug—The 11th meeting of the Standing Committee of the 10th National People's Congress (NPC) began here Monday.

The committee expects to pass three bills, including one on revision of the law on the prevention of contagious diseases and one on allowing businessmen to sign contracts via the Internet. Another bill is about the reform of the Chinese court system.

All three drafts have received a near consensus of the Law Committee of the NPC, which suggested Monday that they should be passed at the ongoing meeting from August 23 to August 28.

The legislature will also discuss amendments to the previously passed laws, including the amendments of laws on land management, the election of People's Congresses and organization of local congresses and govern-

ments. The three amendments were revised in order to adapt laws to the amendment made in China's Constitution, which was passed by the NPC

last March, according to Hu Kangsheng, director of the Legislative Affairs Commission of the NPC Standing Committee.—MNA/Xinhua



The Dulaimi hotel in Baghdad's Jadriya neighbourhood. Two French reporters feared to have been taken hostage 20 August, as well as a US newsman and a British freelance who suffered the same fate last week, all stayed in the same Baghdad hotel.—INTERNET

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Four Camp Pendleton Marines die in Iraq

CAMP PENDLETON, 24 Aug—The Department of Defence has identified four Camp Pendleton-based Marines killed in Iraq.

Corporal Nicanor Alvarez, of San Bernardino, died Saturday along with Sergeant Jason Cook, of Okanogan, Washington; Lance Corporal Seth Huston, of Perryton, Texas and Private First Class Nachez Washalanta of Bryan, Oklahoma.

All were listed as dying of injuries received from "enemy action" in Al Anbar Province.

Cook and Washalanta were assigned to the First Light Armoured Reconnaissance Battalion, First Marine Division, One Marine Expeditionary Force.

Alvarez was assigned to the First Combat Engineer Battalion of the division and Huston to the Second Battalion of the First Marine Regiment of the division.—Internet

Oil prices climb on Iraq

LONDON, 24 Aug—World crude prices rose on supply fears amid fighting in major producer Iraq and a report that Russian oil giant Yukos could face another crippling tax bill, traders said.

The price of benchmark Brent North Sea crude oil for delivery in October rose 17 cents to 43.71 dollars per barrel in early afternoon trading here.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude oil for delivery in October won 22 cents to 46.94 dollars per barrel in pre-opening electronic trading.

The September contract expired Friday, closing at 47.86 dollars, having reached an

all-time high of 49.40 dollars earlier in the day.

"Intensifying violence in Iraq and signs of robust demand despite high prices have combined with thin global spare capacity to ensure most players are wary of calling an end to the rally that has added almost 48 percent to the front Brent price since the start of the year," analysts at the Sudden brokerage firm said.—Internet

Group threatens US-led troops in Iraq over Najaf

DUBAI, 23 Aug—A hitherto unknown group has threatened to attack US-led troops and American citizens in Iraq if foreign forces do not leave the holy city of Najaf in 48 hours, according to an Internet statement posted on Monday.

"We give American and British coalition forces 48 hours to leave Najaf and holy areas in Iraq, and if this period ends and the invading forces do not heed us, we will attack every soldier in the

coalition and American citizens everywhere in Iraq," said the statement, dated Monday.

"We will not be lenient with any driver working for the Americans either. It may take time for us to respond if

our demand is not met but we will surprise the Americans with operations that will make them long for death," the statement said, adding that the group would also attack oil facilities.

It was not immediately possible to verify the authenticity of the statement.

US forces have been fighting Shiite militiamen in Najaf to end a near three-week Shiite uprising led by anti-US cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.—Internet

One Turk, two Iraqis killed in Iraq ambush

TIKRIT (Iraq), 24 Aug — A Turkish contractor and two Iraqis were killed in an ambush in the northern city of Tikrit on Monday, a spokesman for the US 1st Infantry Division said.

Tikrit police said a third Iraqi was killed in the attack and another Iraqi was wounded.

The US military spokesman said the men, who worked for a construction company responsible for repairing bridges in Tikrit, were attacked by guerillas who opened fire on the contractors' vehicle as they went to work.

Dozens of foreign contractors have been killed in Iraq since the end of the war last year by guerillas in an attempt to force companies to leave.

An Indonesian worker and two Iraqis were killed during an ambush in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on Sunday in an attack that also wounded a Filipino. — MNA/Reuters

US troops begin German hearing over Iraqi abuses

MANNHEIM (Germany), 24 Aug — A US soldier at the centre of the Iraqi prisoner abuse scandal faced an American military judge in Germany on Monday seeking to move his pending court martial from Baghdad.

Specialist Charles Graner and three others are accused of sexually humiliating and, in some cases, beating Iraqi detainees at Iraq's Abu Ghraib Prison.

Shocking photos of

their torment of naked Iraqis sparked worldwide outrage when they emerged in April and sparked criticism that sweeping US anti-terror policies had encouraged the abuses.

The accused, Specialist Graner and Megan Ambuhl, Staff Sergeant Ivan Frederick and Sergeant Javal Davis, will appear in two days of pre-trial hearings at a US base in southwest Germany, chosen to allow easier access for their attorneys. —MNA/Reuters



British soldiers on patrol in the southern Iraqi city of Basra.—INTERNET

Thai, Peru agree to cut import tariff on 3,000 products

BANGKOK, 24 Aug — Thailand and Peru have agreed to cut import tariffs on at least 3,000 products in their negotiations for bilateral free trade area (FTA) agreement, according to trade negotiators.

The two countries still need to iron out several important issues such as setting up timeframe for the elimination of tariffs on goods, services, investment as well as for products deemed "sensitive".

Earlier, a ten-year term was agreed on concerning the removal of import taxes. As for "sensitive" products, Peru puts rice and sugar on top of the list while Thailand says local fishermen need additional protection.

"Though the import tariff on rice and sugar is not relatively high at about 20 per cent, we need longer transitional periods for them," Peru's Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Pablo

de la Flor Pablo, who also led the country's negotiating team, was quoted by the newspaper *Bangkok Post* as saying on Monday.

Thailand plans to use Peru as the gateway to Latin America and Peru hopes the agreement with Thailand will give it a better foothold in Southeast Asia.

Due to the distance between Thailand and Peru, their current bilateral trade is at a very low level.

In the first half of this year, shipments from Thailand to Peru totalled 15.2 million US dollars, up 60 per cent from the same period last year, while imports to Thailand from Peru reached 27.3 million US dollars, obtaining an in-

crease of 63 per cent.

Washing and drying machines and parts, vehicles and parts, plastic pellets, micro-wave ovens, clothing and rubber are main export goods of Thailand. The country imports from Peru such major items as minerals, animal-based fat and oil, fresh and frozen cuttlefish, chemical and precious stones, gold and silver.

The Thai Government has been actively reached out for FTA talks with various countries including China, India, the United States and Japan. In early July, Thailand signed its first FTA with Australia, which will come into effect on 1 January, 2005. —MNA/Xinhua

Sadr's aide says Najaf's religious body will guard shrine

NAJAF (Iraq), 24 Aug — Religious authorities in the holy Iraqi city of Najaf will be responsible for security at a shrine that is at the centre of a Shiite rebellion, a top adviser to radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr said on Monday.

The remarks by Sheikh Ahmed al-Sheibani, also a commander of Sadr's Mehdi Army militia, appeared different from Sadr's previous position that the fighters would continue to guard the Imam Ali Mosque even if they handed over keys to the shrine to the religious authorities.

Speaking to reporters inside the mosque after a

flurry of fierce clashes with surrounding US troops, Sheibani said the cleric's fighters would become "normal citizens" if US forces returned to their bases and the southern city became stable.

"The religious establishment will be in charge of security and they should have their own security force," Sheibani said.

Negotiators failed at the weekend to agree on the terms of a handover of the mosque by Sadr's forces to Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, Iraq's most respected Shiite cleric.

Sheibani said it was Sistani's side that had suspended the talks. Sistani himself is in London recovering from surgery.

MNA/Reuters

US tourist detained for misconduct in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 24 Aug — A US tourist has been detained on charges of misconduct after drinking wine and seditious behaviour, said officials from the Shanghai public security bureau on Monday.

The police investigation said that Erik Christopher George, a US citizen, broke into a coffee shop in the Maoming Road in downtown Shanghai and shouted for another drink at about 2:00 am 18 August.

Erik was obviously drunk when he entered the

shop. The shop was about to close and the manager, a woman surnamed Tu, told him to leave. George kicked the woman in the waist, said police officials.

Medical check proved Tu suffered from a kidney sprain and presence of blood in urine.

The drunk American young man also hit two policemen surnamed Cheng and Wu. When he sobered up, Erik said that before going to the coffee shop he had several drinks and said he regretted what happened.

MNA/Xinhua

HK issues special stamps to mark Deng's 100th birthday

HONG KONG, 23 Aug — Hongkong Post issued Sunday special stamps to mark the centenary of the birthday of Deng Xiaoping.

Postmaster General Allan Chiang told the stamp issuing ceremony that Hongkong Post, China Post and Macao Post would each issue a set of two special stamps and a stamp sheetlet to commemorate the centenary of the birthday of Deng Xiaoping.

A souvenir pack containing the special stamps and stamp sheetlets was issued by the three postal administrations Sunday.

Chiang said "today marks the centennial birthday of Deng Xiaoping, one of our nation's greatest political leaders. Commemorative activities have been organized in all parts of China, including Hong Kong and

Macao. We think it is only fitting to remember this towering figure, who has given our nation and Hong Kong people an inspiring vision of our place in the world and affected our lives in ways big and small by issuing a set of commemorative stamps."

He said Deng Xiaoping has done a great deal for modern China. Deng Xiaoping's principle of "One Country, Two Systems", and the Basic Law drafted under his guidance laid down a solid foundation upon which Hong Kong continues to prosper and to achieve long-term stability.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing breeding 600 varieties of flowers for 2008 Olympics

BEIJING, 24 Aug — Beijing's horticulturists are busy breeding over 600 new varieties of flowers to ensure that the city is in full bloom when it hosts the 2008 Olympic Games.

Horticulturists will choose some of the flowers to be cultivated around the city next year to evaluate their performance, head of the research group, Zhang Lannian said.

The research group was launched last year to address the problem that only a few domestic flowers blossom during summer due to high temperatures and high humidity in the capital.

Zhang said the most important criterion for choosing the flowers is whether they can bloom between July and September, when Beijing hosts the Games.

About five million pots of flowers will be planted in gardens and along streets around the city over the next couple of years to test whether they can adapt to the local climate, said Zhang. A three-year-long evaluation of the flowers' performance is needed before the final decision of what kinds of flowers will be used during the 2008 Olympic Games.

MNA/PTI



Iraqi Shi'ite militiamen, loyal to radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, hold up their weapons as they chant in support for their leader following clashes with coalition and Iraqi forces in the southern city of Basra on 22 Aug, 2004.—INTERNET

US forces raid Najaf cemetery, sporadic clashes continue

BAGHDAD, 24 Aug—Several loud explosions resonated near a holy shrine in Najaf on Monday as sporadic clashes continued between US-backed Iraqi forces and Shiite militiamen, witnesses said.

At least five loud blasts were heard near the area of a sprawling cemetery which adjoins the city's revered Imam Ali Shrine, witnesses said, adding that large plumes of smoke were seen rising from around the area earlier.

Sporadic gunfights and mortar attacks continued in Najaf on Monday as US tanks approached the shrine where militants loyal to radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr are believed holed up.

US helicopters flew above the area and fired a missile into the outer western wall of the shrine compound, where damage in the wall measuring about one metre square and 30

centimetres deep could be seen, witnesses said.

Overnight, US helicopters opened fire against positions held by Shiite militiamen around the shrine.

Gunshots and mortar rounds were also heard from inside the shrine compound before a brief US aerial bombardment over the Old City around midnight.

The clashes between Sadr's militiamen and US-backed Iraqi forces have lasted for more than two weeks, resulting in hundreds of Iraqi victims and the destruction of the city which is almost deserted.

MNA/Xinhua



A US tank aims its cannon down an alleyway in the Old City of Najaf on 23 August, 2004.—INTERNET

Three people killed by US led troops at Afghan checkpoint

KABUL, 23 Aug—A man and two women were shot dead by Afghan and US-led troops after their vehicle ran through a checkpoint on Saturday, a US military statement said.

Another man and a woman were critically wounded, while an infant was unhurt. Soldiers found no weapons in the vehicle.

The incident occurred at a checkpoint

jointly run by Afghan and US-led forces near Ghazni, some 80 miles south of Kabul.

The statement, issued on Sunday, said the incident was being investigated.

The wounded and the child were taken by helicopter to Bagram airfield, north of Kabul, for treatment.

MNA/Reuters

China commemorates centenary of Deng Xiaoping's birthday

BEIJING, 23 Aug—Chinese people all over the country paid homage Sunday to late Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, the chief architect of China's reform and opening up drive, to commemorate the centenary of his birthday.

A large gathering in Beijing Sunday morning in the Great Hall of the People marked the occasion.

Addressing the audience, Chinese President Hu Jintao said: "Deng Xiaoping is a great man of the world" and his "achievements and scientific theories will, as they already did, continue to change and influence China and the world at large."

In Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province, a large-scale photo exhibition of Deng Xiaoping, attracted crowds Sunday.

"Deng Xiaoping has produced far-reaching influence on the Chinese society. Thanks to him, Chinese people now enjoy much higher living standards and have a broader vision of the world," said a visitor, who came to the exhibition with his wife and their teenage son.

In Shenzhen, south

China's Guangdong Province, 200 pianists played together a composition written in praise of Deng Xiaoping at the foot of the Lotus Mountain. Director of the concert said the number of players, ranging from an 8-year-old child to an 82-

year-old retired music professor, created a new Guinness World record.

Since early morning, many people had gone to Lotus Mountain, placing flowers around the bronze statue of Deng that sits at the top.—MNA/Xinhua

Version of Munch's "The Scream" stolen from museum

OSLO, 23 Aug—Armed robbers stole masterpieces by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch from a museum in Oslo on Sunday and national radio said a version of "The Scream" was part of the haul.

Norwegian national radio NRK said the paintings stolen from the Munch Museum included a version of the famous portrait of modern angst, and a version of another key work, "Madonna".

"I can confirm that there has been a robbery," an official at the Munch Museum said. Police declined to comment and the museum would not say which paintings were taken. The robbery happened around 0900 GMT, NRK said.

Another and perhaps better-known version of "The Scream", a painting of a waiflike figure on a bridge, was stolen from Norway's National Gallery in a break-in on February 1994, on the opening day of the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer. —MNA/Reuters



China willing to boost military ties with Hungary

BEIJING, 24 Aug—Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan said here Monday that China cherishes the friendly cooperation with the Hungarian Army and is ready to press ahead with closer relations between the two

armies. Cao, also state councillor and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, made this remark during a meeting with Imre Ivancsik, political state secretary of the Hungarian Ministry of Defence.

Cao noted China thanks the Hungarian Government's understanding and support to its national reunification cause.

China and Hungary have maintained deep friendship since they forged full diplomatic ties more than 50 years ago and the two countries have improved their mutual understanding and trust in recent years with increasing political exchanges.

MNA/Xinhua

13 Nepali workers abducted in Iraq

KATHMANDU, August 24—The Nepali Foreign Ministry confirmed Monday evening that 13 Nepali workers have been taken hostage by an Iraqi militant group.

The 13 Nepalis are purely working in Iraq, and they have no connections with any political groups or foreign countries, the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry urged the Iraqi militant group who abducted the Nepali workers not to hurt them.

According to a Xinhua report reaching here from Baghdad last Friday, about a dozen Nepali workers may have been taken captive in Iraq by a shadowy Islamic group.

A group of Mujahedin (Islamic fighters) abducted those Nepali workers on the night of August 19-20, accusing them of assisting the US troops in Iraq, Xinhua quoted a statement posted on an Islamic web site as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Suicide car bomber kills two north of Baghdad

BAQUBA (Iraq), 23 Aug—A suicide car bomb blew up near a convoy carrying local Iraqi officials north of Baghdad on Sunday, killing two people and wounding eight, a police officer said.

The officer said the bomber appeared to have been targeting Ghasan al-Ghadren, the deputy mayor of the volatile town of Baquba. The official survived the attack, which took place not far from Baquba, the officer said.

Baquba lies 40 miles north of Baghdad, and has been a hotbed of anti-US resistance and scene of numerous guerilla attacks in recent months.—MNA/Reuters

S Korea has first female justice in Supreme Court

SEOUL, 24 Aug—South Korean National Assembly Monday approved the appointment of the nation's first female Supreme Court justice, reported South Korean Yonhap news agency.

The unicameral legislature voted 208-61 to appoint Kim Young-ran, a senior judge at the Daejeon High Court, as the first female member of the nation's highest court.

The vote followed a confirmation hearing by the Parliament earlier this month on Kim's nomination by South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun. —MNA/Xinhua

Sixth Asian Arts Festival opens in northeast China

CHANGCHUN, 23 Aug—The 6th Asian Arts Festival opened in this capital city of northeast China's Jilin Province Sunday afternoon. Artists from 17 Asian countries participated in the event.

The opening ceremony, a parade, attracted an audience of 10,000, with artists from Bangladesh, North Korea, Philippine,

Malaysia and Sri Lanka gathering to perform folk songs and dances.

Meng Xiaosi, Vice-Minister of Culture, said in the opening ceremony that Asian countries created splendid civilization, which made remarkable contribution to the development of human civilization.

MNA/Xinhua



Masked Iraqi police officers drive on patrol in Najaf on 22 August, 2004. US tanks advanced to within 800 yards of the Imam Ali mosque in the Iraqi city after talks on surrendering control of the shrine at the centre of an 18-day siege ran into trouble.—INTERNET

Endeavours to boost per acre yield



Leya-16 power tillers seen in Tawpon village in Hpa-an Township, Kayin State. — MNA



Direct seeding competitions held in Kwinyagyi Ashedan Village in Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Division. — MNA



Harvesters manufactured by Agricultural Mechanization Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. — AGRICULTURE



Direct seeding machines are being used at the completion ceremony of monsoon paddy cultivation for 2004-2005 in Yangon Division. — MNA



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Chief Executive Officer Mr Deng Chongyun and party of Tsingda Daring Biotechnologies Group of PRC.— MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 24 Aug — Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt received Chief Executive Officer Mr Deng Chongyun and party of Tsingda Daring Biotechnologies Group of the People's Republic of China at Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta at 5 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Industry-

1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, 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 Chinese guests were accompanied by Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy Mr Yu Boren.

At the call, they discussed matters related to pulp factory project, hydel power project and oil and natural gas project.— MNA



Minister for Rail Transportation
Maj-Gen Aung Min. — MNA



Minister for Industry-1
U Aung Thaung.— MNA



Minister for Energy
Brig-Gen Lun Thi. — MNA



Minister for Industry-2
Maj-Gen Saw Lwin. — MNA

It's time for Myanmar to speed up ...

(from page 16)

Using compressed natural gas, the nation enjoys several benefits such as effective use of locally produced gas, prevention of air pollution, saving of petrol and diesel and reduction of transport expenses.

Thus, the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Industry-2 and the Ministry of Science and Technology are to expand the scope of cooperation in extended substitution of compressed natural gas for fuel for automobiles.

The national industrialists are also to participate in the tasks, pursuing related technologies.

Now, even industrialized countries extend use of gas-powered vehicles. All in all, it is time for Myanmar to speed up use of petrol or diesel-substitute compressed natural gas cars, the Secretary-1 said.

Next, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin reported on arrangements to be made for wide use of gas-

fired engines in cars, types of machines to be purchased at home and those from abroad, the number of cars to be installed with gas-fired engines in a month, and coordinated arrangements among ministries.

Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi reported on the volume of fuel oil being supplied to buses going round in Yangon, the prospect of the fall in transport charges if all the buses come to use gas-fired engines, and arrangements for the opening of gas stations outlets along Yangon-Mandalay Highway. Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung reported on technological assistance the ministry would provide. Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on prospects of the shift from diesel engines to gas engines, assistance to be rendered by the ministry, and possibility of the fall in prices and bus fares.

Minister for Rail Transportation Mai-Gen Aung Min

The Ministry of Industry-2 and the Ministry of Energy in cooperation with other relevant ministries are taking measures to substitute gas engines in place of diesel engines. As the first phase, 200 automobiles in Myingyan, 1,000 buses and 1,000 automobiles in Yangon have been reinstalled with gas engines.

reported on measures being taken for the replacement of gas engines in all the vehicles of the ministry.

Next, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw reported on the advantages and disadvantages springing from the use of petrol, diesel and gas engines in cars; and Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein on the use of automobiles with gas engines in developing countries.

Later, those present at the meeting gave suggestions on concerted cooperation in the efforts to turn to gas engines. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks given by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win.

The Ministry of Industry-2 and the Ministry of Energy in cooperation with other related ministries are taking measures to substitute gas engines in place of diesel engines. As the first phase, 200 automobiles in Myingyan, 1,000 buses and 1,000 automobiles in Yangon have been reinstalled with gas engines. — MNA

Performing Arts Competitions at Ygn West District

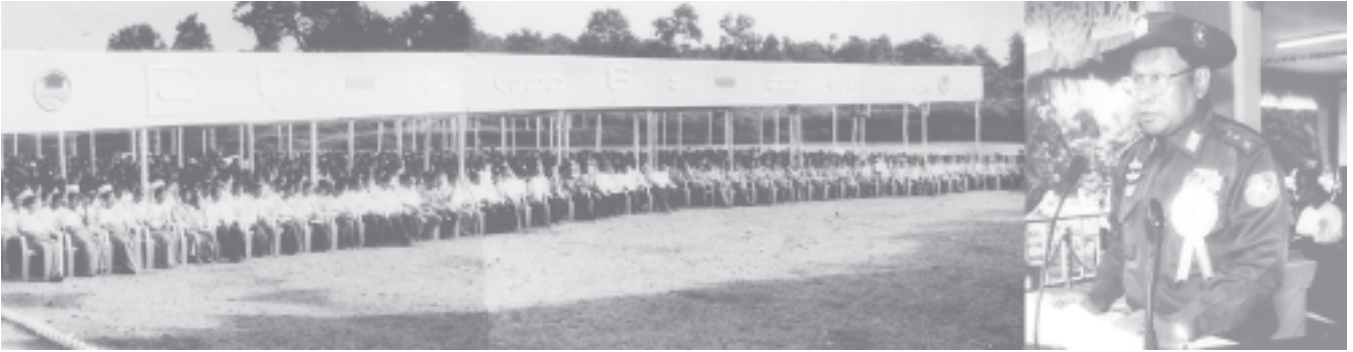
YANGON, 24 Aug — A ceremony to open the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Yangon West District was held at the Sabai Hall of Basic Education High School No 2 in Sangyoung Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon

Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay.

Also present on the occasion were military region commanders, artists of Myanmar Thabin Asiayon and Myanmar

Music Asiayon, local authorities, members of the Leading Committee for the 12th Competitions of Yangon Division and officials. First, Chairman of Yangon West District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint formally opened the competitions and gave a speech.

Gold medal winning students presented songs and dances to the audience. Yangon West District will hold the competitions at six places in Ahlon Township on 24 and 25 August. Altogether 32 professional contestants and 131 amateur ones are taking part in the competitions. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Shwechaung Bridge in Minhla Township, Thayet District, Magway Division. — MNA

Shwechaung Bridge helps...

(from page 16)

Transport plays a vital role in developing a region. Transport development will bring progress in trade, production and economy, followed by improvement in the health, education and social sectors. The government has been making all-out efforts for harmonious and equitable development in all regions of the nation after laying down projects for development of border areas and national races, the 24 development zones and the five rural development tasks.

In Magway division, altogether 11 bridges large and small including Ayeyawady Bridge (Magway), Anawratha Bridge and Shwechaung Bridge were built by Public Works whilst three bridges namely Myitha river crossing bridge, Bwetgyi bridge and Yinchaung bridge were built by Myanma Railways. As a result, there have emerged altogether 14 bridges with a length of over 180 feet in the division.

The government is making strenuous efforts for ensuring the emergence of better transport while striving for development of national economy.

In the agriculture sector, a total of 26 dams and reservoirs were constructed in the division, and those irrigation facilities have now been able to benefit 176,000 acres of farmland. With water supply from those dams and reservoirs, farmers in the region have been able to engage in double cropping on a wider scale.

Meanwhile, river water pumping projects, a new way of water supply for agricultural purpose, are being implemented. As a result, there emerged altogether 44 river water pumping stations in the division, thereby contributing much to development of the agriculture sector.

There has been a dramatic surge in the acres of farmland in the division as virgin and fallow lands were reclaimed and croplands were turned into farmlands. Therefore, the division will soon be able to enjoy self-sufficiency in rice. At the same time, farmers will soon be able to engage in extended cultivation of cotton and edible oil crops.

The State has to rely on Magway division economically. The division has been contributing to the national economy alongside Ayeyawady Division, Yangon Division, Bago Division, Sagaing Division and Mandalay Division.

Afterwards, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun briefed on the construction of the bridge. Next, Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min delivered an address. Next, on behalf of the local people, a local thanked the government for construction of the bridge. Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Col Zaw Min inaugurated the bridge. Next, Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander, the minister and officials posed for a documentary photo together with local people in front of the archway of the bridge. Lt-Gen Ye Myint unveiled the stone plaque and sprinkled scented water on it. Afterwards, they passed through the bridge.

Shwechaung Bridge is located at mile post 79 on Patheingyi (North) and it is 500 feet long. The motor way is 28 feet wide and three feet wide pedestrian lanes on both sides. It can withstand 60-ton loads.

The bridge was built of reinforced concrete. The upper structure is of pre-stressed concrete beam, reinforced concrete floor and frame. Its water clearance is five feet high. After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard reports on construction of Yananthe Bridge between Thayet and Kanma Townships presented by Deputy Superintending Engineer U Soe Myint of Bridge Construction Special Group-13.

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun gave a supplementary report and Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave necessary instructions. — MNA

Shwechaung Bridge is located at mile post 79 on Patheingyi (North) and it is 500 feet long. The motor way is 28 feet wide and three feet wide pedestrian lanes on both sides. It can withstand 60-ton loads.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint formally unveils the stone plaque of Shwechaung Bridge in Minhla Township, Thayet District, Magway Division.

MNA

Health Minister inspects heart treatment

YANGON, 24 Aug—Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, acting Director-General of Health Department Dr Tin Win Maung and Deputy Director-General of Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) Col Than Aung inspected heart treatment being carried out by six-member Myanmar medical team led by Professor Dr Daw Khin May San and heart specialists led by Dr Muhammad Munawar of Harapan Kita Heart Specialist Hospital in Indonesia at cardiac unit at the Yangon General Hospital this morning. The medical teams inserted dual chamber pacing machines into four heart patients and they treated other 12 patients. The Minister also inspected operation being performed by Myanmar surgeons led by Professor Dr Khin Maung Lwin and the team led by Dr Michael Me Glynn of Interplast of Australia. The four-member Interplast group arrived in Myanmar on 22 August. The group will perform operation on 50 patients with cleft lips and palate or burns. The group has performed operations since 2001 and gave medical lectures.—MNA

Press meet on Miss ASEAN Culture Myanmar Contest

YANGON, 24 Aug — The second press conference on Miss ASEAN Culture Myanmar Contest took place at Lapaewun Plaza in Dagon Township here this afternoon. It was attended by Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for the Contest and President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint, the chairman of Myanmar Sports Journalists Federation, officials and mediamen. U Win Myint spoke on the occasion. Next, Daw Tin Moe Lwin, Joint-Secretary of the Leading Committee for the Contest, briefed on arrangements for holding the contest, and Secretary U Moe Kyaw on acceptance of application forms. Next, officials replied to queries raised by journalists. The conference came to an end after the chairman of the Myanmar Sports Journalists Federation expressed his thanks. — MNA

Arrival of GSM machinery inspected

YANGON, 24 Aug — The machinery of GSM system had arrived here, for extended installation of GSM mobile telephone system to be conducted by Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs. The machinery for GSM telephone system imported from Alcatel Shanghai Bell Co Ltd had arrived here by air. The machinery were carried to installed at GSM Mobile Communication Station in Sangyoung Township. This morning, Minister for CPT Brig-Gen Thein Zaw inspected the machinery and preparatory tasks at the control rooms. He gave instructions on timely completion of the tasks. Afterwards, the minister went to Asia World Port Terminal in Ahlon Township. The minister inspected the machinery containers conveyed by Sea Merchant Vessel of Singapore for extension of GSM mobile system in Yangon and Mandalay, loading of the containers onto the vehicles and opening of the containers to check the machinery. On completion of installing GSM mobile machines, about 100,000 mobile phones will be supplied to the users.— MNA



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin inspects progress in building of Pyu Multi-purpose Dam.— A&I

Minister inspects Yenwe multi-purpose dam project

YANGON, 24 Aug — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin arrived at No 6 Sugar Mill (Yedashe) of Myanma Sugarcane Enterprise yesterday morning.

At the briefing hall, after hearing reports on maintenance of the mill, purchase and arrival of sugarcane, cultivation to

meet the set target presented by the mill manager, the minister instructed officials to exceed targeted productivity, to minimize loss and wastage and to carry out production of sugar.

Next, the minister inspected small sugar mill and Managing Director U Myo Myint of Myanma Sugarcane Enterprise

conducted him round the sugar. Afterwards the minister inspected systematic store of sugar bags, maintenance of No 6 Sugar Mill and test-running of the mill and instructed the mill manager and staff to produce quality sugar.

And he inspected progress of works in building Minye Dam in Ottwin Township and gave

necessary instructions.

On arrival at Minye cashew tree plantation, in Ottwin Township, the minister discussed matters relating to cultivation of 1,800 acres of cashew trees with officials and inspected Pyu multi-purpose dam.

Director U Maung Maung Tin of No 4 Construction Group of the Irrigation Department

presented reports on progress of work with the help of charts to the minister. The minister then discussed cultivation of paddy with local peasants in Tawkyweinn.

The minister and party went to Yenwe multi-purpose dam, Kyauktaga, building where he heard reports on progress of work presented by Director U

Khin Maung Yu of No 1 Construction Group of the Irrigation Department. The minister gave necessary instructions to officials.

Baingda dam, Kawliya dam along with Yenwe multi-purpose dam under construction would contribute toward double-crops cultivation and prevention of floods.

MNA



USDA (Central) Secretariat member Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses the opening of the USDA basic organizational multiplier course. — MNA

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CHINA: A Myanmar delegation led by the Managing Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information left Yangon by air on Tuesday morning to attend the Second China-ASEAN Seminar on Mass Media Cooperation in Nanning, PRC, from 25 August to 1 September. Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein sees off the Myanmar delegation at Yangon International Airport.— MNA



USDA basic organizational multiplier course opens in Mingala Taungnyunt

YANGON, 24 Aug — Mingala Taungnyunt Township Union Solidarity and Development Association opened the Basic Organizational Multiplier Course No 21 at the Mingala Taungnyunt Township USDA in Yangon East District at 12 noon today.

Member of Secretariat of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Central) Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivered an address on the occasion.

Also present on the occasion were local authorities, officials of division/district/township USDAs, departmental heads, and officials of social organizations.

After his speech, Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented exercise books to the trainees and students of the schools in the township.

The exercise books were accepted by the USDA secretary of the township. The chairman of Mingala Taungnyunt Township PDC presented K 190,000 donated by his office and wellwishers; Kyetshasun Biriani Shop, K 200,000; and the chairperson of Township Economic Industry and Merchants Committee, K 50,000.

The cash donations were accepted by the secretary of Yangon East District USDA. Clothes worth K 150,000 were also donated on the occasion.

After the ceremony, Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially greeted those present at the ceremony and trainees.

MNA

Symposium on Preservation of Cultural Heritage continues

YANGON, 24 Aug — The Symposium on Preservation of Culture Heritage, co-organized by ASEAN COCI Myanmar and Aus-Heritage of Australia, was held for the second day today at the National Museum on Pyay Road here.

In the morning session, Mr Vinod Daniel, Head Research Centre for Materials Conservation and the built Environment and Chairman, Aus-Heritage (Australia's International Cultural Industry Network, Australian Museum, Daw Tin Phone Nwe, Librarian of the Universities' Library (Central), Mr Steve King, Associate Director, Centre for Sustainable built Environments, UNSW Sydney, Ms Jocelyn Cuming, National Preservation Officer, National Library of New Zealand Wellington, Deputy Director of National Museum U Than Win and Mr Michael Crayford, Assistant Director, Australian National Maritime Museum, read papers concerning preservation of cultural heritage.

Aparna Tandon of Aus-Heritage, Professor Emiko Kakiuchi of Japan and the Deputy Director of the Department of Archaeology read papers in the afternoon session. Resource persons replied to queries raised by those present.

Director-General of the Department of Cultural Institute U Myint Thein Swe hosted a dinner in honour of the scholars and resource persons at the Traders Hotel in the evening.

MNA

Tanzanian Govt releases fund for HIV "AIDS" drugs

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 24 Aug— The Tanzanian Government has released two billion shillings (1.8 million US dollars) to purchase HIV/AIDS drugs, to be distributed to HIV-positive people free of charge soon, *The Guardian* reported on Monday.

The local newspaper quoted a reliable government source as saying the country's treasury had authorized the release of the money to the Health Ministry to purchase anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs and distribute them to people living with HIV/AIDS.

The distribution was originally scheduled for March this year, but delays in the release of the funds postponed it till October.

The HIV/AIDS prevalence rate now stands at 10 per cent in Tanzania,

with 140,000 sufferers dying from the disease annually, out of about 2.2 million people living with the virus.

The Tanzanian Government has worked out a four-year national care and treatment plan that is expected to provide HIV/AIDS sufferers with free ARV drugs, which are now taken as a life-prolonging drug.

Tanzanian Prime Minister Frederick Sumaye has pledged that no less than 30,000 HIV/AIDS patients will get free life-prolonging

drugs in fiscal 2004/2005 and more to access free drugs in the ensuing fiscal year.

The number of HIV/AIDS patients getting free life-prolonging drugs will increase to 220,000 between 2005 and 2006 in the country.

Tanzania is among the poorest countries in the world. Most people in the country now live on less than a dollar per person per day whereas a monthly dose of anti-HIV/AIDS drug costs more than 30 dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's Tiger Airways to begin maiden flight next month

SINGAPORE, 24 Aug— Tiger Airways, one of Singapore's no-frills carriers, will start its maiden flight next month after the airline received its flying license from the authorities on Monday.

The carrier, whose main shareholder is

Singapore Airlines (SIA), will start flying first to the Thai capital of Bangkok three times daily from September as well as other Thai destinations such as Phuket and Hatyai once daily, according to local Press reports.

The airline, which now

has 35 cabin crew and two A320 planes, hopes to increase its destinations to 10 by the end of the first year of operations.

The airline is expected to get another two such planes by the end of this year with four more in both 2005 and 2006. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore's consumer price index up 1.6% in July

SINGAPORE, 24 Aug— Singapore's consumer price index (CPI) increased 1.6 per cent in July this year as compared with the same month of last year, according to the figures released by Singapore's Department of Statistics on Monday.

The SDS attributed the rise in July's CPI to higher costs of health care and education.

Health care costs

jumped 5.9 per cent while education and stationery costs rose 3.9 per cent.

Food prices and communication costs grew 1.7 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively, but clothing costs declined 2.3 per cent.

In addition, the overall domestic wholesale trade index continued its upward trend for the second consecutive quarter, with a

19.4-per-cent increase in the second quarter of this year over the corresponding period of last year.

The rise was mainly led by higher turnover of wholesalers of electronic components and petroleum and petroleum products, who recorded growths of 55 per cent and 38.4 per cent respectively in domestic sales.

MNA/Xinhua

Judicial supervision body formed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Aug— The Iraqi Justice Ministry has formed a judicial body to supervise the judicial process in Iraqi courts, reported *Al Itihad* newspaper on Monday.

"This body would be responsible for monitoring the work of the judges, the public prosecution members,

the judicial employees, and the judgments and decisions issued by the head of judicial council," a source in the ministry was quoted as saying.

"The body, which consists of top legal and judicial figures, would also present the necessary reports to treat the legal and judicial

problems as well as the solutions for them," added the source.

He also pointed out that the step came within the framework of the ministry's efforts to consolidate the independence of the Iraqi judicial system to ensure it works in the right way.

MNA/Xinhua

Major power failure in Bahrain

MANAMA, 24 Aug— A technical fault at the main power station in Bahrain on Monday caused a blackout that has affected most areas of the Gulf Arab kingdom, employees at the Hidd power plant said.

Residents of the kingdom said the electricity

had gone off early this morning, leaving them sweltering in the summer heat and humidity.

"We're not sure where the fault is exactly but we know that it is not deliberate, just technical," an engineer at the plant told *Reuters*.

Power failures are not

uncommon in Bahrain, the least wealthy oil producer in the Gulf, but a major blackout is unusual.

The 700-megawatt Hidd plant is the biggest in Bahrain. It was built by French group Alstom Power.

MNA/Reuters

Saudi Arabia issues regulations to curb expatriate workers

ABU DHABI, 24 Aug— Saudi Arabia issued new regulations Sunday, restricting the number of expatriate workers an employer can recruit, the Saudi daily *Arab News* reported on Monday.

The regulations came at a time when efforts are being made to create more jobs for unemployed Saudis and control the size of the expatriate work force, said the daily.

Saudi Labour Ministry has earlier instructed labour and recruitment offices that only one application from one business of an employer can be considered at a time.

The employers cannot

file another request for expatriate workers for another two months so that there will be time for newly arrived workers to be properly registered in the computer, the new regulations showed.

Sources at the ministry said there are 8.8 million expatriates in the kingdom, which is equal to around 50 per cent of the indigenous population.

The government was determined to cut the figure to 20 per cent over the next eight years.

The ministry has already issued a ban on the recruitment of foreign workers by small businesses having fewer than 10 employees, which came into effect on August 21 when the grace period given to small businesses ended.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier to plead guilty prisoner abuse scandal

WASHINGTON, 24 Aug— A US soldiers charged with abusing Iraqi detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison said on Monday that he will plead guilty to some charges.

"I have accepted responsibility for my actions at Abu Ghraib Prison. I will be pleading guilty to certain charges because I have concluded that what I did was a violation of law," Staff Sergeant Ivan "Chip" Frederick said in a statement.

The statement did not say to which charges he intended to plead guilty.

Frederick, 37, is one of four soldiers appearing at pretrial hearings this week at a US military base in Mannheim, Germany.

He is charged maltreatment of

detainees, conspiracy to maltreat detainees, dereliction of duty, assault and committing an indecent act.

Seven US soldiers have been charged in connection with abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib on the outskirts of Baghdad.

Frederick would become the second of the seven US soldiers to admit wrongdoing. Jeremy Sivits pleaded guilty to three abuse charges in May and was sentenced to a year in prison.

MNA/Xinhua

Nilgiri hills in southern India may contain cure for Herpes

NEW DELHI, 24 Aug— Indian scientists claim to have identified two plants in the Nilgiri hills that may contain a cure for life-threatening diseases caused by Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV).

The finding assumes significance as drugs currently available to treat HSV infections are very few and not efficient.

P. Vijayan and co-workers at the J S S College

of Pharmacy in Ootacamund in southern state of Tamil Nadu report that extracts of *Hypericum Mysorensis* and *Hypericum Hookerianum* suppressed HSV infection 100 per cent.

The scientists studied anti-viral activity of extracts of 18 plants against HSV-infected cells in test-tubes and found these two plants to be deadly against HSV at low concentrations.

These two plants are already used in the treatment for anxiety and inflammation by practitioners of traditional medicine, the report said.

Isolation of active constituents in these plants may provide useful lead to the development of new and effective drugs against HSV infection, they have reported in the *Indian Journal of Medical Research*.

MNA/PTI

New al-Qaeda leadership emerging following capture of ultras

NEW YORK, 24 Aug— An aggressive campaign against al-Qaeda in Pakistan has taken a toll on the group's top leadership but new leaders seem to be stepping in to fill the vacuum, a media report said on Monday.

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the brain behind the September 11 attacks, and several other experienced terrorists have been captured and Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf has lately turned up the heat, the *Time* magazine reported.

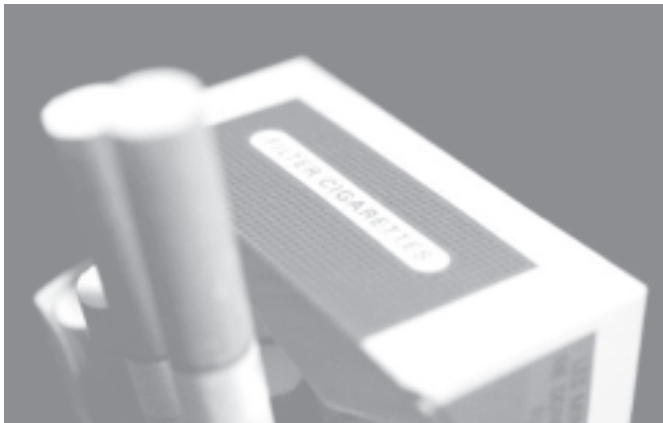
A State Department official was quoted as saying that Pakistan has captured 30 al-Qaeda suspects in the past seven weeks alone. But as new leaders step in, *Time* says one in particular is emerging as a prime focus of the terrorist hunt, he is Abu Faraj Farj, a Libyan, who, Musharraf has alleged in an interview with *Time*, was the "mastermind" behind two plots to assassinate him last December.

US officials told the magazine that Farj, 30, is thought to have taken on much of Mohammed's role: devising plans for terrorist attacks inside the US and directing al-Qaeda agents and helpers to that end.

"He's big," says a US counterterrorism official. "He's a major player." The Pakistanis have placed a bounty of 3,41,000 dollars on his head.

But *Time* says catching him will not be easy. The Pakistanis think he is operating out of the rugged country on the border of Afghanistan and Pakistan, the very region where Osama bin Laden is thought to be hiding and has proven so elusive.

MNA/PTI



Pack of tobacco cigarettes. People in their thirties who smoke are five times likelier to suffer from a non-fatal heart attack than non-smokers, according to a study. — INTERNET

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Kraft Foods Holdings, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, of Three Lakes Drive, Northfield, Illinois 60093-2753, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

TRAKINAS

Reg. No. 4832/1997



Reg. No. 2129/1997



Reg. No. 2130/1997



Reg. No. 2131/1997



Reg. No. 2132/1997



Reg. No. 2133/1997



Reg. No. 2134/1997



Reg. No. 2135/1997



Reg. No. 2136/1997



Reg. No. 2137/1997



Reg. No. 2138/1997



Reg. No. 2139/1997



Reg. No. 2140/1997



Reg. No. 2141/1997

in respect of "Biscuits, Cookies and Crackers"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Kraft Foods Holdings, Inc.

P.O Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 25th August, 2004

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Han Waa Pharma Co., Ltd. of 472 Namik-Li, Yangi-Myun, Yangon-Si, Kyungki-Do, the Republic of Korea is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark:



(in color)

(Reg. No. 706706/2003)

used in respect of Int'l Class 5: "Drugs for sensory organs, tonics, oral refreshing agents, agents for metabolism, drugs for the peripheral nervous system, immune controlling agents, agents for curing physical sickness, remedies for perspiration, agents for urinary and genital organs, vitamin preparations, agents for activating cellular function, anti-phlogistics, agents for digestive organs, atypic preparations, agents for circulatory organs, nervines, laxatives, tablets for controlling the cycle of menstruation, ginseng capsules, nutrient tonics and alternatives, hematics, drugs for the central nervous system, tranquilizers, medical preparations for slimming, agents for blood sugar control, agents for blood, agents for respiratory organs, and agents for curing chemical sickness."

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung B.Sc./D.B.L. Advocate
MYANMAR TRADE MARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mpip@gmpmail.net.mm
Tel: 254037 G.P.O. Box: 666
Yangon. 25 August 2004

**Drive
safely**

TRADE MARK**CAUTION NOTICE**

K O H L E R
(THAILAND) PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of THAILAND, and having its principal office at 15/FL, Mahatun Plaza Building, 888/150-153, Ploenchit Road, Bangkok 10330, Thailand is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:-

KARAT

Reg. No. 4/7222/2003

Used in respect of :-

Metal baths, metal bath cubicles, metal shower stalls and metal shower stall frames, metal hooks, metal knobs, hinges of metal, metal drawer pulls, metal door handles, metal furniture handles, metal levers, metal latches, metal catches, metal sinks and metal sink units, metal legs, metal framing, metal pipes, metal doors and metal door frames, frames of metal, metal hand rails, metal door thresholds, metal closures, metal storage units, metal cabinets, metal shelving, manually operated metal valves and metal fasteners, metal screws, metal bolts, metal washers, metal hardware, all the foregoing being predominately of metal, valves of metal (other than parts of machines)

Baths, bathtubs, whirlpool baths and bath installations; showers and shower installations; shower and bath cubicles; shower pans; shower heads; shower doors; water diverters; shower spray heads; basins; bidets; lavatories; toilets; toilet seats; touchless toilets; touchless flushing apparatus; water closets; lights; dome lights; dome lights for furniture; electric lighting; lighting fixtures; sinks; sink pedestals; taps; faucets; touchless faucets; thermostatically, infrared, radar or electronically controlled faucets; electric hand dryers; strainers for use with sinks, baths and shower trays; touchless hand drying apparatus; stoppers for use with sinks, baths and shower trays; bath spouts; water control valves for water cisterns; water control valves; water control valves for faucets; urinals; water cisterns; bathroom fittings; drinking fountains; saunas; non-metallic levers for cisterns; shower doors; sanitary apparatus and installations; water supply apparatus and sanitaryware

Shower stalls and partitions; building materials for shower stalls and shower partitions; bath screens and shower screens; non-metallic shower pans; bath cubicles; door frames; doors; drain traps; floor and wall tiles; flooring; non-metallic pipes; glass doors; hand rails of non-metallic materials; glass panels for doors; glass panels for windows; non-metallic door thresholds; water pipes and non-metal-

lic water pipe valves; tiles; bricks; building materials; window frames; moldings; not of metal, for building; all of the foregoing goods being wholly or principally non-metallic

Furniture; furniture for home use; furniture for offices; cabinets; countertops; beds; benches; bookcases; arm-chairs; chairs; chests; consoles; desks; dressers; picture frames; cabinets; furniture stands for serving food; sideboards; stands; pedestals; stools; racks; tables; furniture doors made of glass; furniture doors; mirrors; picture frames; bamboo curtains; furniture made of rattan; mattresses; shelves; statues of wood, wax, plaster or plastic; vanity units incorporating basins;

Household and kitchen utensils and containers; cooking pots; cooking pans; crockery; plates; dishes; flatware; drinking glasses; bowls; earthenware; glassware; wash basins; towel rings and towel bars; bath grips; shower rails; (robe) hooks; toilet paper holders; toilet paper dispensers; tissue dispensers; paper towel dispensers; toilet brush sets; toilet brushes; waste baskets; brushes; soap dishes; soap holders; soap dispensers; tea services; shelves made of glass or porcelain for bathroom use; scrubbing brushes; toothbrush holders; vanity cases; works of art, of porcelain, terra-cotta or glass;

Any unauthorized use, imitation, infringements or fraudulent intentions of the above mark will be dealt with according to law.

TIN OHNMAR TUN
B.A (Law) LL.B, LL.M (UK)
P.O. Box 109, Ph: 248108/723043

(For: Domern Somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
Dated: 25th August 2004

Russia's Yukos cuts 2004 oil output forecast

Moscow, 24 Aug — Russian oil giant Yukos on Monday said its tax dispute with the state will mean a 4.5-per-cent cut in its 2004 oil output forecast.

The company said in a statement that production will reach 86 million tons, down from its previous forecast of 90 million tons. YUKOS attributed the reduction to its inability to access its frozen accounts which, it says, restricts its ability to cover operating costs.

"Despite numerous requests to allow legal access to our bank accounts in order for YUKOS to continue normal operations, collection orders remain in place and no cash is available to the company from those accounts," the YUKOS statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းပြန်ကိုအားပေးပါ

(၇) (၈) (၉) (၁၀) စာသင်သားများအတွက်
သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းနှင့်အညီ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများပါရှိပါသည်။

JUNIOR LEADER



အတွဲ (၆) အမှတ် (၂၂) ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါပြီ

သတင်းနှင့်စာရင်းစစ်ရေးရာဌာနချုပ်မှ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ သင်ခန်းစာများကို ဖြန့်ချိလိုက်ပါသည်။

The New Light of Myanmar

အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ တိုးတက်လေ့ကျင့်ရန် ဂျူနီယာလီဒါကို ဖတ်ကြည့်ပါ။
Read Junior Leader to improve your English.

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV "MANDALAY" VOY NO 133/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "MANDALAY" Voy No 133/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 25-8-2004 and will be berthing on about 26-08-2004 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone : 293147, 296507, 295754

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (065)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA Voy No (065) are hereby notified that the vessel arrives on 25-8-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM

Phone : 256908/378316/376797

Singapore will not change "one-China" policy

SINGAPORE, 24 Aug — Singapore's new Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has stressed that Singapore will not change its long-held "one-China" policy, and if Taiwan provokes a conflict, Singapore will not support Taiwan.

Delivering his first Na-

tional Day rally speech, Lee said Singapore understands that "one-China" is the core interest of China.

Since its independence in 1965, Singapore has stuck to its "one-China" stand because it also meets with Singapore's essential interest.

MNA/Xinhua



SPORTS

Nesterenko wins gold for Belarus

ATHENS, 23 Aug—Yuliya Nesterenko of Belarus sped to an unexpected victory in the women's 100 metres final at the Athens Olympics on Saturday.

The high-striding Belarussian, the first woman from the former Soviet state to win an Olympic sprint gold, clocked 10.93 seconds to edge Lauryn Williams of the United States into second place.

Williams, the leading American in the early rounds, clocked 10.96 seconds, one-hundredth of a second ahead of Jamaica's Veronica Campbell. The field had been weakened by the absence of defending champion Marion Jones, who failed to qualify for the sprint at the Games, as well as the first two women across the line in last year's Paris world championships, Kelli White and Torri Edwards, who are serving doping bans.

Twice Olympic champion Gail Devers, who took the last place on the American team when Edwards was banned, was eliminated in the semifinals along with France's former European champion Christine Arron. Swede Carolina Klüft added the Olympic heptathlon gold medal to the world title she won in Paris last year by taking first place with 6,952 points.—MNA/Reuters



Tom Pappas, of the United States, left, and Stefan Drews of Germany clear a hurdle in a heat of the 110-meter hurdles as part of the decathlon at the Olympic Stadium during the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, on 24 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

Goal-happy Ajax, Feyenoord maintain perfect starts

AMSTERDAM, 23 Aug—Champions Ajax Amsterdam came from behind to thrash NAC Breda 6-2 on Sunday while Feyenoord hit four past Willem II Tilburg to regain the early lead in the Dutch First Division.

PSV Eindhoven, Vitesse Arnhem and NEC Nijmegen also won this weekend to leave five teams on maximum points after two games of the championship. Feyenoord lead on goal difference.

Ajax, with Netherlands midfielder Wesley Sneijder replacing the injured Rafael van der Vaart, found themselves a goal down after 11 minutes when Yuri Cornelisse gave the visitors a surprise lead.

Striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic was quick to restore parity, however, when he scored two minutes later.

A Mike Zonneveld own goal put the champions 2-1 up at halftime, before Ibrahimovic with his second, Johnny Heitinga, Sneijder and Maxwell completed the rout. Arne Slot got NAC's second eight minutes from time.

Willem II Tilburg held off Feyenoord for most of the first half but the floodgates opened once Salomon Kalou tapped in Chung-Gug Song's cross just before the break.

MNA/Reuters

Newell's win derby as Ortega waits in wings

BUENOS AIRES, 23 Aug—Newell's Old Boys, still hoping to complete the signing of former Argentina striker Ariel Ortega, won 1-0 away to arch-rivals Rosario Central in the Apertura championship on Sunday.

Defender Julian Maidena scored on his debut in the 77th minute as Newell's won the Rosario derby — one of the fiercest in South America.

Central, who slumped to their second straight defeat since former Uruguay coach Victor Pua took over, completed a miserable afternoon by having Damian Ledesma sent off late in the match.

Newell's, who have three points from two games in the championship, are waiting to complete the paperwork which will allow them to bring Ortega in from the cold.

He was suspended by FIFA in February last year and ordered to pay 11 million US dollars in compensation to Turkish club Fenerbahce for breach of contract.

FIFA have since brokered an agreement between Newell's and Fenerbahce for his release.

Velez Sarsfield and Racing Club are the only two teams with maximum points after two games.—MNA/Reuters

Aussies break record to win relay

ATHENS, 23 Aug—Australia broke the world record to win the women's 4x100 metres medley relay at the Athens Olympics on Saturday and give Jodie Henry and Petria Thomas their third gold medals of the Games.

Henry and Thomas teamed up with Giaan Rooney and Leisel Jones to win gold in a time of three minutes 57.32 seconds, wiping almost a full second off the previous record of 3:58.30 set by the US at the last Olympics.

The US finished with the silver in a time of 3:59.12 after leading for the first 250 metres while the bronze went to Germany in 4:00.72.

MNA/Reuters

Lyon snatch draw at Metz but lose striker Elber

PARIS, 23 Aug—Olympique Lyon snatched a 1-1 draw at Metz but the French champions lost goal scorer Giovane Elber with a broken ankle in their Ligue 1 match on Sunday.

Elber was carried off on a stretcher in the 51st minute and the early medical tests revealed the Brazilian striker had broken his right ankle.

He should be sidelined for several weeks, according to Lyon staff who declined to give more specific details, and is therefore extremely doubtful for his team's first matches in the Champions League group stage which starts next month.

Metz went in front thanks to Franck Ribery who dribbled past the last Lyon defender to beat goalkeeper Gregory Coupet on the half hour.

Lyon fought back with a 65th-minute equalizer by substitute Florent Belmont and remain unbeaten after three matches. Metz squandered a chance to clinch their third consecutive success when Babacar Gueye had a shot from close to the penalty spot stopped by Coupet five minutes from the interval.

On Saturday, Paris St. Germain slumped to 2-1 defeat at Toulouse while Monaco were unable to overcome the challenge offered by promoted Caen and lost 1-0.—MNA/Reuters



Defending Olympic champion Josefa Idem of Italy paddles to the second place in her Women's K1 500 meter heat, during the kayak flatwater event at the 2004 Olympic Games in Schinias near Athens, Greece, on 24 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

Campbell eyes September return for Arsenal

LONDON, 23 Aug—Arsenal's injured England defender Sol Campbell says he hopes to be back on duty for the Premier League champions next month.

Campbell, whose absence was felt in Arsenal's 5-3 win over Middlesbrough on Sunday, has an Achilles problem that will also rule him out of England's World Cup qualifiers in Austria on September 4 and Poland four days later.

"I am in good shape," he told Sky Sports on Sunday. "It is coming along and hopefully it will be another three weeks."

"I need at least 10 days to two weeks' pre-season work, but it is good."

Manager Arsene Wenger said Campbell would train for the first time on Monday and indicated the central defender could be back for Arsenal's first Champions League group game on September 14 or 15, for which the draw has yet to be made.

MNA/Reuters



New Zealand's Grant Cashmore on Franklin's Flyte competes in the jumping arena at the Markopoulo Equestrian Centre during the Athens 2004 Olympic Games, on 24 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

Arsenal show champions' class in Boro win

LONDON, 23 Aug—Strikers Thierry Henry and Dennis Bergkamp were the men behind Arsenal's pulsating 5-3 comeback win over Middlesbrough on Sunday, scoring or making all of the champions' goals in a Highbury classic.

Heading for defeat after trailing 3-1 in the second half, Arsenal came back for a victory that equalled Nottingham Forest's 42-match unbeaten league run.

France's Henry and Dutchman Bergkamp, who was only given a new one-year contract in May, were on unstoppable form in a game that also took them back to the top of the Premier League. Arsenal dominated the first half, with Swede Fredrik Ljungberg

having a shot cleared off the line and Spanish forward Jose Antonio Reyes hitting the post in an early melee.

Henry, the Premier League's top scorer last season, made no mistake with his lob over keeper Mark Schwarzer though, after Boro's rearguard had been caught out by a long ball upfield.

Arsenal kept possession but began easing off the pressure on a packed Boro defence, with the main threat coming from a Henry free kick which rattled Schwarzer's crossbar.

They paid the price just two minutes before halftime when Franck Queudrue was allowed a mazy run through Arsenal's half before laying the ball off for Cameroon striker Joseph-Desire Job,

who hit an unstoppable shot past Jens Lehmann.

Things went from bad to worse for Arsenal just five minutes after the re-start when French defender Pascal Cygan missed an interception and Boro's Dutch striker Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink sprinted through to beat Lehmann at the near post.

Calamity then threatened when Queudrue shaped up to cross, saw Lehmann completely out of position and chose instead to thump a searing drive into a near-empty net after 53 minutes.

Bergkamp threw Arsenal a lifeline just a minute later when their Man of the Match drilled a low shot past Schwarzer after the Boro defence backed off the advancing Dutchman.

MNA/Reuters

Two-goal Robinho puts Santos back on top in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 Aug—Robinho scored twice as Santos thrashed Figueirense 4-1 to go back to the top of the Brazilian championship on Sunday.

The 20-year-old forward, who is living up to his billing as one of Brazil's most exciting players, lashed home their second goal in the 19th minute and flicked in their last midway through the second half.

Robinho took his tally to 15 and also set up the third goal for striking partner Deivid after Elano had set the Fish on their way to victory with a seventh-minute opener.

Izaías replied for Figueirense.

The match was played in Mogi Mirim as Santos served a one-match home ban for crowd trouble at an earlier game.

Santos, champions in 2002 and runners-up last year, lead the standings on the number of games won from Palmeiras, who scored twice in the last eight minutes in a 2-2 draw at Vitoria.

Both have 47 points from 26 games.

Vitoria, with Helio dos Anjos taking over as their third coach of the championship, raced to a 2-0 halftime lead with goals by Cameta and Allan Delon.

Thiago Gentil pulled one back in the 84th minute before Osmar grabbed an injury-time equalizer, his fifth in four games since joining them from Second-Division Santo Andre.

Goias striker Alex Dias, the championship's top scorer, took his total to 19 by hammering a hat-trick in the 5-0 win over Ponte Preta, who had five players suspended after a rash of yellow cards in previous games.

MNA/Reuters

MRTV -3

25-8-2004 (Wednesday)
(Programme Schedule)
Morning Transmission
(9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune
Greeting
9:02 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma
Panorama & Myan-
ma Sentiment"
9:06 Beautiful Taninthayi
9:10 Headline News
9:12 Myanmar Profile
"Fast Food"
9:15 National News
9:20 Everything you want
to know about star
tortoise, but dare not
ask?
9:25 Traditional Rice
Cakes and Gram
Pretzel
9:30 National News
9:35 Pickled Herbal Tea
Leaves of Myanmar
9:40 Song "Golden Land,
Myanmar"
9:45 National News
9:50 Pops Mountain Park
9:58 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"

- 25-8-2004 (Wednesday)**
Evening Transmission
(15:30 - 17:30)
15:30 Signature Tune
Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Mingalabar"
15:36 Beautiful Taninthayi
15:40 Headline News
15:42 Myanmar Profile
"Fast Food"
15:45 National News
15:50 Everything you want
to know about star
tortoise, but dare not

- ask?
15:55 Traditional Rice
Cakes and Gram
Pretzel
16:00 National News
16:05 Pickled Herbal Tea
Leaves of Myanmar
16:10 Song "Golden Land,
Myanmar"
16:15 National News
16:20 Pops Mountain Park
16:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Myanma
Panorama & Myan-
ma Sentiment"
16:30 National News
16:35 Central Agricultural
Research Institute
16:40 A Birth place of
New Artists
16:45 National News
16:50 Chin Cultural Mu-
seum
16:55 Smart Beautiful Cart
17:00 National News
17:05 National Races Vil-
lage (Kachin,
Kayah, Kayin)
17:10 Myanmar Modern
Songs "Rain, Please
Tell My Lover"
17:15 National News
17:20 Myanmar's Ancient
City Bagan
17:25 Song of Myanmar
Beauty & Scenic
Sights "Come and
See Myanmar"

ခရစ်တော်သို့အိပ်ပျော်ခြင်း
ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းအေး(ခ) ဒေါ်ငယ်
အသက် (၁၀၃) နှစ်
မော်လမြိုင်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ခရစ်ကျွန်းမြို့နယ်၊ အမှတ် ၁၂/၄ ပြည်သူလမ်း
(၇) မိုင်ခန့် (ဦးချို-ဒေါ်သိန်းချို) တို့၏ သမီး (ဒေါ်ယု-ဦးဘလွင်)
(ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းသာ) တို့၏ ညီမ (ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းရွှေ-ဦးအောင်ကြွယ်)
ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းအေး၊ ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းအေး၊ ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းတင်၊ (ဦးထင်းနီ-ဒေါ်မိုး)
(ဦးထင်းလျှောင်-ဒေါ်တင်တင်) တို့၏ အမိမ
ဒေါ်ငြိမ်းအေးသည် ၂၄-၈-၂၀၀၄ နေ့၊ နံနက် ၄:၀၀ နာရီတွင်
ခရစ်တော်သို့ အိပ်ပျော်သွားပါသည်။ ၂၆-၈-၂၀၀၄
ကြာသပတေးနေ့ (၀၉:၀၀) နာရီတွင် ရန်ကုန်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝင်းရှိ
ယုဒသန်ခရစ်ယာန် ဗိမာန်တော်၌ ဝတ်ပြုကြွယ်ပြီး ရေဆေး
သုသာန်တွင် မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု

Daw Mya Than
(Kanee)
Age (84) years

Daw Mya Than, lived at No 23, Lat Pan St, Sanchaung Township, Yangon, daughter of (U Tun Tint-Daw Mi), wife of (U Kyaw Gaung- Notary Public), and mother of Daw Khin Myay Oo, Daw Khin Hnin Lwin-U Win Htin and Daw May Thet Htar-U Maung Maung Kyi passed away on 22-8-2004 at Maharmyaing Specialist Clinic.

Funeral Cortège will leave the Yay Way mortuary for Yay Way Cemetery at 4:00pm on 24-8-2004 (Tuesday) for cremation.

Bereaved family

Asleep in Jesus
Saw Kyaw Khaing Tun (a) Mc Roland
(a) Po Sweet (Age 47)

Son of (Rev. Tun Gon Gyi -Gha Maggie Than, son-in-law of U Saw Michael Mya (a) U Saw Maung Maung Mya-Naw Carol Mya, younger brother of Naw Angelyna Gyi (UNICEF), beloved father of Naw Lwai Moo Paw (Linfield College, USA), Naw Day Moo Paw (BARS final year, Myanmar Institute of Theology), beloved husband of Naw Mya Mya, passed away on 23-8-2004. Funeral service will be held at No 6, U Aung Gya Road, East Gyogon, Insein at 9 am, on 25-8-2004 (Wednesday), after which funeral cortege will leave for Yay Way Christian Cemetery for entombment.

Bereaved family

Radio
Myanmar

Wednesday, August 25
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
8.35 am Music: Give it to you
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: Baby don't you hurt me
8.50 am National news/Slogan
9.00 am Music: Fire line
9.05 am International News
9.10 am Music: All the small things
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Lunch time music
-Stuck in my heart
-That's where you take me
-It only hurt when I'm breathing
-Every morning
9.00 pm Variations on a tune
-Unchanged melody
9.15 pm Article/Music
9.25 pm Music at your request
-From the heart
-Just between you and me
-For all that you want
-Frozen
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL



Wednesday, August 25
View on today:

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by Mingun Sayadaw
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
7:50 am
5. မြန်မာ့မြေ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
8:05 am
6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
8:20 am
7. ရွှေလိပ်တံတား
8:30 am
8. International news
8:45 am
9. Learning English the

Easy and Happy Way
For Children and
Beginners

- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold national spirit
4:30 pm
3. Practice in reading
4:45 pm
4. တေးသရုပ်ဖော်အစီအစဉ်
4:50 pm
5. Musical programme
5:05 pm
6. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့ ဝဏ္ဏဇာရေ
ရှုပ်ပြိုင်သင်ကြားသင်ခန်းစာ
-တတိယပန်း (ဝတ်စုံဝင်အထူးပြု)
(ရှုထူးစော)
5:20 pm
7. Song of national races
5:30 pm
8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
5:35 pm
9. Classical Song
5:50 pm
10. သင်္ဃန်းရေလှောင်တံခံ

- 6:00 pm**
11. ရွှေလိပ်တံတား အစီအစဉ်
6:10 pm
12. Discovery
6:15 pm
13. မူလနည်းသွယ်ဆိုကြွယ်
6:30 pm
14. Evening news
7:00 pm
15. Weather report
7:05 pm
16. Musical programme
7:20 pm
17. Strong and Healthy Myanmar
7:35 pm
18. Musical programme
8:00 pm
19. News
20. International news
21. Weather report
22. စကားသမားကြွယ် (သင်္ကြန်)
မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို
အက၊ အရေ၊ အတီး၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲ
"မဟာဓနက္ခန္ဓာတော်တော်ကြီး"
(တတိယပန်း) (စရုဝတ်တံတား)
23. The next day's programme

Acknowledgement of gratitude

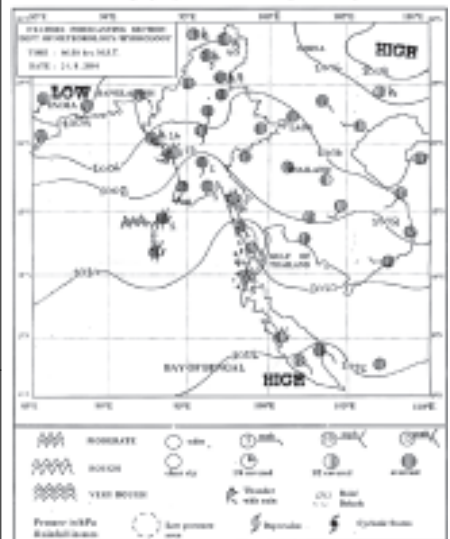
We would like to express our profound gratitude to friends and relatives far and near for the condolence and assistance extended to us in person, by phone and by mail for the passing away of Thiripyanchi U Kyi Maung (age 86) on 19 August, 2004.

Bereaved family

Rainfall on 24-8-2004

- nil at Yangon Airport,
 - 0.04 inch at Kaba-Aye,
 - 0.48 inch at central Yangon.
- Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was**
- 93.46 inches at Yangon Airport,
 - 91.06 inches at Kaba-Aye and
 - 92.13 inches at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 24 August 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah, Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions and rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Shan States and Ayeyawady Division and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Puato 2.36 inches and Ann 1.93 inches.

Maximum temperature on 23-8-2004 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 24-8-2004 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 24-8-2004 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 23-8-2004 was nil. Rainfall on 24-8-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, 0.04 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.48 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 93.46 inches at Yangon Airport, 91.06 inches at Kaba-Aye and 92.13 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 9 mph from Southwest at 15:20 hours MST on 23-8-2004. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-8-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Rakhine, Mon States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions scattered in Shan, Kayin States and Bago Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%. **State of the sea:** Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Generally decrease of rain are likely in upper Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-8-2004:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-8-2004:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 40%.

Flood bulletin

(Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 24-8-2004)
The water level of Sitoung River at Madauk is (54)cm (about 2 ft) above the danger level. It may continue to fall below the danger level during the next (3) days commencing noon today.

Earthquake report

(Issued at 20:00 hrs MST on 24-8-2004)
An earthquake of Bmoderate intensity (5.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (1100) miles North-north-west of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (16) hrs (35) min (44) sec MST on 24 August, 2004.

It's time for Myanmar to speed up use of petrol or diesel-substitute gas cars Meeting held to extend substitution of CNG for petrol and diesel

YANGON, 24 Aug — A coordination meeting was held at the Ministry of Industry-2 on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this afternoon for extended use of compressed natural gas (CNG) as fuel in place of diesel or petrol in automobiles.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win delivered an address at the meeting. Also present on the occasion were the ministers, the deputy ministers, departmental heads and industrialists.

The Secretary-1 in his speech said that he had dealt with extended production of compressed natural gas-used automobiles on 11 August.

He continued to say: Specified measures for extended substitution of compressed natural gas for diesel or petrol for automobiles are to be discussed at the meeting. Myanmar's output of such



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win addresses coordination meeting to substitute CNG for petrol and diesel. — MNA

fuel as petrol and diesel does not meet the local demand and it has to import them yearly.

As the oil prices are going up day by day all over the world, the nation needs to review the system of fuel use at home. At the same time, Myanmar sees good conditions on extended production of natural gas in inland areas.

In 1986, Myanmar carried out a test on the automobiles using compressed natural gas, and now a total of 587 gas-used automobiles run Insein, Hmawby, Yenangaung and Minbu regions.

So, it is no longer strange but a significant achievement in the nation's transport sector.

(See page 8)

Specified measures for extended substitution of CNG for diesel or petrol for automobiles are to be discussed at the meeting. Myanmar's output of such fuel as petrol and diesel does not meet the local demand and it has to import them yearly. As the oil prices are going up day by day all over the world, the nation needs to review the system of fuel use at home. Myanmar sees good conditions on extended production of CNG in inland areas.

Shwechaung Bridge helps facilitate exchange of goods between upper and lower Myanmar New all-weather bridge opened in Magway Division

YANGON, 24 Aug— Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence attended the opening ceremony of Shwechaung Bridge built by Bridge Construction Special Group-13 of Public Works of the Ministry of Construction near Shantatgyi Village on Patheingyi Road (northern section) in Minhla Township, Thayet District,

Magway Division, this morning. It was also attended by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min, Col Aung Than Htut of Magway Station, senior military officials, local authorities, officials of

the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads and local people.

At the ceremony, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint delivered an address, saying that Shwechaung Bridge is built on northern Patheingyi Road near Shantatgyi Village in Minhla Township. The old wooden bridge had to be repaired again and again as

it could not stand the creek's torrent during the monsoon. Thus, a reinforced concrete bridge has been built on the creek for cars to use the Patheingyi Road at every time of the year. The bridge serves as a facility linking Kanma Township, Mindon Township, western sector of Minhla Township and southern sector of Ngaphe Township, an area where 610 villages are located and over 360,000 people live.

The bridge has helped facilitated the transport on Patheingyi Road, serving as a facility to exchange goods between regions in upper Myanmar and lower

Myanmar. The Monywa-Kale-Kalewa-Tamu Road has been built and trade with other country via Patheingyi Road will improve.

(See page 9)



The inauguration ceremony of Shwechaung Bridge in progress in Minhla Township, Thayet District, Magway Division. — MNA

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.

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