

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XII, Number 134

13th Waxing of Wakhaung 1366 ME

Saturday, 28 August, 2004

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

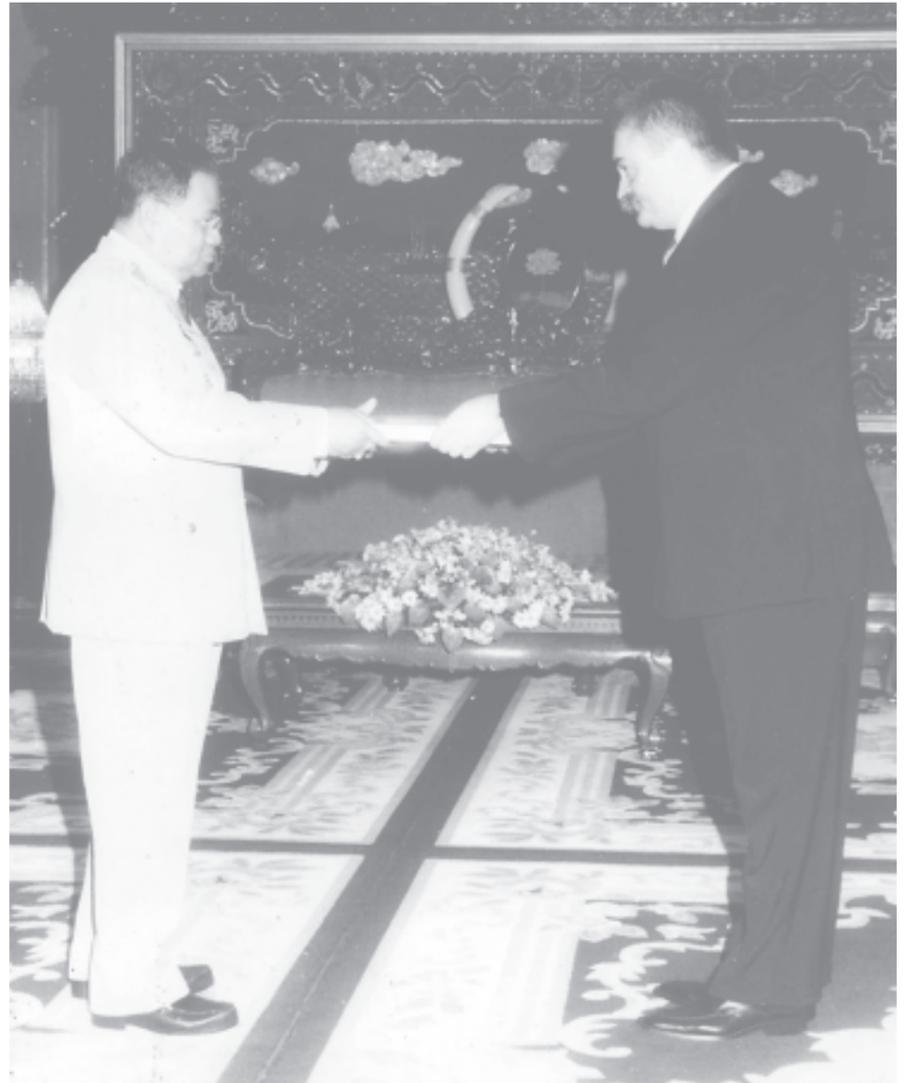
Four social objectives

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

Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of New Zealand

YANGON, 27 Aug — Mr Peter Howard Rider, newly accredited Ambassador of New Zealand to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthta at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department. — MNA



Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of newly-accredited Ambassador of New Zealand Mr Peter Howard Rider at Zeyathiri Beikman.—MNA



Senior General Than Shwe receives newly-accredited Ambassador of New Zealand Mr Peter Howard Rider at Zeyathiri Beikman.—MNA

Myanmar's energy sector has great potential to benefit region, neighbours PM addresses coord meeting on implementation of agreements between Myanmar and China and cooperation in all sectors

YANGON, 27 Aug—A coordination meeting on implementation of agreements between the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China and cooperation in all sectors was held at the Zeyathiri Beikman on Konmyinthta here at 4.30 pm today with an address by

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, member of the State Peace and Development Council Quartermaster-General

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, ministers, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon Mayor, the Vice-Chief of Military (See page 8)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 28 August, 2004

Let's work in concert for regional development

The State Peace and Development Council has been striving for the harmonious progress of all regions of the Union through systematic implementation of development plans. Development of all regions depends on smooth and easy transport and, the better the transport, the more developed the economic, social, education and health sectors will be.

Regarding the transport sector, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that transport plays a pivotal role in developing a nation, that social and economic development will be possible only with smooth and easy transport, that poor transportation will lead to infrequent contact between national races living in various regions and development gap. Therefore, in accordance with the guidance of the Head of state, motor roads, railroads and bridges are being built wherever necessary the length and breadth of the nation.

In Magway Division alone, a total of 14 bridges 180 feet and above long, including the Myittha bridge, the Bwetkyi bridge and the Yinchang bridge constructed by Myanma Railways, has been built.

The Shwechaung bridge constructed by Public Works under the Ministry of Construction was opened in Upper Minhla, Thayet District, Magway Division on 24 August. The bridge is 500 feet long and situated on the Patheingyi Highway. The construction of bridges has led to the parallel development of the regions on the east and west banks of the Ayeyawady river.

The opening of the Shwechaung bridge can contribute to the development of Kanma Township, Mindon Township, the western part of Minhla Township and the southern part of Ngaphe Township in Magway Division. More than 360,000 people in 154 villages in Kanma Township, 178 villages in Mindon Township, 157 villages in Minhla Township and 121 villages in Ngaphe Township will be able to travel easily from one place to another and as a result trade in the region will develop.

All these are the results of the genuine goodwill and correct leadership of the Government. Local people will have to work in earnest at agriculture and production industry, making effective use of the favourable conditions created by the improvement of transport. Trade with the neighbouring country will also develop.

Due to the construction of new motor roads and bridges, all the national people will be able to travel from one place to another in the Union. We would like to call on the entire national brethren to work for the development of their respective regions in unity and with Union Spirit.

All this needs to be known

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

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်များမသုံးစွဲရန် လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ်တန်နွေနေ့နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် တန်နွေနေ့တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေ သွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရန်ဖြစ်သည်။
 ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ ဩဂုတ်လအတွက် (၂၉-၈-၂၀၀၄)
 ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလအတွက် (၁၂-၉-၂၀၀၄) နှင့် (၂၆-၉-၂၀၀၄)

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

PM receives Japanese Ambassador

YANGON, 27 Aug — On behalf of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of the Union of Myanmar, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt received Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yuji Miyamoto, who had completed his tour of duty, at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthar at 4 pm today.

Also present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win, Director-General at the Prime Minister's Office U Soe Tint and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet. — MNA



On behalf of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt receives Japanese Ambassador Mr Yuji Miyamoto. — MNA

Introducing Golden Myanmar Festival held in UK

YANGON, 27 Aug — Under the auspices of Permanent Patron of Myanmar Association (UK) Myanmar Ambassador Dr Kyaw Win, the Introducing Golden Myanmar Festival, organized by the Myanmar Association (UK), was held on a grand scale at the Oriental City Shopping Centre on Edgware Road in Colindale Quarter, London, from 24 July to 1 August with the aim of introducing traditional culture, nature, Myanmar foodstuff and handicraft of Myanmar to foreigners.

The Myanmar Association (UK) formed with Myanmar citizens in Britain, Myanmar-born foreigners and those with goodwill towards Myanmar and her citizens is a social organization.

Myanmar Ambassador Dr Kyaw Win, the Worshipful the Mayor of



Myanmar Ambassador Dr Kyaw Win delivers an opening address. — MNA

the London Borough of Brent Councillor Ahmad Shahzad and Proprietor of Oriental City Shopping Centre Mr Roland Lim in Myanmar national costumes

made speeches and formally opened the festival and cut the ribbon to open the festival. Present were Myanmar citizens in UK, friends from ASEAN em-

bassies, Britons and Anglo-Myanmars who were born in Myanmar. Myanmar song, dance and skill demonstration of Myanmar martial arts were presented to the audience. Later, those present were served with Myanmar food. During the festival, audience were entertained with video tapes on Myanmar traditional songs, dances and panorama and pamphlets on Myanmar were distributed free of charge. Myanmar food stalls, handicraft shops and one Myanmar-made ornament shop opened in the festival. On 1 August evening, the Introducing Golden Myanmar Festival concluded with songs and dance entertainment.



Myanmar Ambassador Dr Kyaw Win and party pose for a group photo. MNA

966 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq last year

BAGHDAD, 26 Aug—As of Thursday, 26 August, 966 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 723 died as a result of hostile action and 243 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 May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 828 US soldiers have died — 614 as a result of hostile action and 214 of non-hostile causes, according to the military's numbers Thursday.—*Internet*



Bush admits Iraq 'Miscalculations' says NY times

NEW YORK, 26 Aug—President Bush acknowledged for the first time on Thursday that he had miscalculated post-war conditions

in Iraq, the *New York Times* reported.

The paper quoted Bush as saying during a 30-minute interview that he made "a miscalculation of what the conditions would be" in post-war Iraq.

But he insisted that the 17-month-long insurgency was the unintended by-product of a "swift victory" against Saddam Hussein's military, the *Times* reported.

Bush said his strategy had been "flexible enough" to respond. "We're adjusting to our conditions" in places like Najaf, the paper quoted him as saying.

The *Times* said Bush deflected further inquiries as to what had gone wrong with the occupation.

According to the Pentagon, 966 US troops have died in Iraq since the invasion, 828 of them since April 30, 2003. An additional 6,690 service members have been wounded, most of them during the occupation.

MNA/Reuters *Internet*

US Army report blames more Americans for Iraq abuses

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug — US military intelligence soldiers and civilian contractors working with them were directly involved in the abuse of Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib jail to a greater extent than previously acknowledged, an Army report released on Wednesday found.

The report, which focused on the role of military intelligence in the prisoner abuse, found that 23 US military intelligence personnel and four contractors working with them committed acts in 44 instances of prisoner abuse that could prompt criminal charges.

These 27 either directly abused prisoners or "requested, encouraged, condoned or solicited military police personnel to abuse detainees," or violated rules on interrogations, according to a report by Army Major-General George Fay and Lieutenant-General Anthony Jones.

Colonel Thomas Pappas, who was the commander of the 205th Intelligence Brigade, also could face criminal action, officials said.

Another eight — six soldiers and two contractors — were faulted for failing to report abuse. The report also found US forces improperly hid at least eight detainees from observers of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and criticized Lieutenant-General Ricardo Sanchez, the former top US commander in Iraq, for failing to address the problems at the Abu Ghraib Prison on the outskirts of Baghdad.

The Fay-Jones report came a day after a high-level

panel headed by former Defence Secretary James Schlesinger found that top Pentagon civilian and military officials bore indirect responsibility for the abuse.

The Army report found "misconduct ranging from inhumane to sadistic by a small group of morally corrupt soldiers and civilians," a lack of discipline on the part of a military intelligence unit at Abu Ghraib and "a failure or lack of leadership" by the US military leadership in Iraq, headed by Sanchez.



Iraqis march toward the Shrine of Imam Ali after a reported peace agreement was reached in Najaf, Iraq, on early Friday, 27 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

Thai troops start pull-out from Iraq

BANGKOK, 26 Aug—Thailand's small contingent of troops in Iraq have started leaving for neighbouring Kuwait and will finish their withdrawal within four days, senior military officials said, ending a controversial year-long posting.

The contingent of engineers and medics started pulling out Thursday from their camp near the central Shiite holy city of Karbala and is expected to return to Thailand by September 20.

The troops' heavy equipment was moved out last month.

"We started withdrawing on 26 August and the last batch of Thai troops will move out from Lima camp by the end of this month to wait for US transport planes to move them to Bangkok," said Lieutenant General Kemarat Kanchanawat, the Supreme Command's director of joint opera-

tions. The Thai contingent hardly left the camp since April when it was ordered to hunker down because of the rising violence across the country.

Thailand sent a contingent of 451 troops but two were killed in a car bombing in December in Karbala. Thailand remained neutral during the US-led invasion.

The withdrawal came despite a request from UN Secretary General Kofi Annan last month for the Thais to delay their departure because of the persisting security crisis in Iraq. — *Internet*

GOM recommends allocation of work to NRI Ministry

NEW DELHI, 25 Aug—After three months in office, the new Non-Resident Indians Affairs Ministry headed by Jagdish Tytler will be allocated work, including employment assistance to overseas Indians coming here, if the recommendations of a high-powered Group of Ministers (GOM) are implemented.

The GOM, headed by Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee, which met earlier this month, has recommended that the new ministry be entrusted with work relating to scholarships and admission of children of overseas Indians in the country.

Giving this information to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs, the Government has said the GOM has recommended that organization of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, external publicity relating to overseas Indian affairs and representation in Foreign Investment Promotion Board should be among other areas to be looked after by the ministry.

Matters relating to overseas volunteers programmes in India should also be given to this ministry, it was suggested. The Standing Committee, under the Chairmanship of Laxminarayan Pandey, in its report presented to Parliament's lower house

Lok Sabha on Thursday, stressed that basic infrastructure required for the ministry's functioning should be put in place at the earliest so that "uncertainty and ambivalence" with regard to its working ended without further loss of time. — *MNA/PTI*

Vietnam buys Chinese locomotives

HANOI, 27 Aug — Vietnam has just received 20 diesel-powered locomotives from China, raising the total number of the Chinese product it has to 40, the Vietnam Railway Corporation told *Xinhua* on Wednesday.

The 20 locomotives produced by Ziyang Diesel Locomotive Works in the Chinese province of Sichuan, which have a designed speed of 120 kilometres per hour, the fastest in Vietnam, are used to facilitate passenger transport on the North-South route. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Polish Embassy in Baghdad attacked

WARSAW, 26 Aug — Unknown assailants attacked Warsaw's Embassy in Baghdad on Wednesday but no one was hurt, Poland's Foreign Ministry said, confirming an earlier report from a Polish Government source.

"At around 1100 GMT the Polish Embassy in Baghdad was attacked from a moving vehicle — one or two shots were fired, either from a mortar or an RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) launcher," Foreign Ministry spokesman Jaroslaw Drozd said.

"The shells hit a wall near a window, and there are no casualties. At the moment we cannot say who was responsible," he added.

It contributed troops to Iraq in 2003 and commands a multinational division, including 2,500 of its own troops, in southern Iraq. Fourteen Poles, including civilians, have been killed in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters



An Iraqi boy passes near US armoured Bradley vehicles patrolling a street in eastern Baghdad's Shiite suburb of al-Sadr City on 26 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET

Blair faces impeachment procedure over Iraq

LONDON, 26 Aug—A British lawmaker announced the launch of impeachment proceedings against Prime Minister Tony Blair, reviving a near-extinct rule to argue that he misled his country in order to join the US-led invasion of Iraq.

Adam Price of the Welsh nationalist Plaid Cymru party said 13 British MPs had publicly backed the bid to unseat Blair on the basis of misleading statements to parliament and the public about the threat posed by Iraq.

The group — including nine Scottish and Welsh na-

tionalists, three Conservatives and a Liberal Democrat — has little chance of actually securing Blair's ouster with a motion last invoked in 1848.

But it could trigger a round of painful sparring for Blair at the start of a new political season, when the

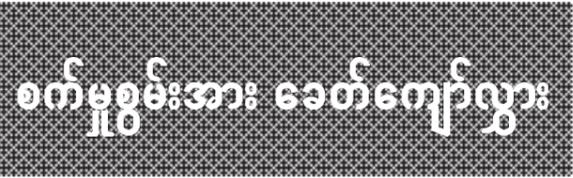
British leader was intent on playing down Iraq in order to gear up for a general election widely expected some time next year.

Price and Elfyn Llwyd, Plaid Cymru's parliamentary leader, presented a 99-page report Thursday detailing what they called "compel-

ling evidence of deliberate repeated distortion, seriously misleading statements and culpable negligence" by Blair.

"We find it rather offensive that (Blair) has the luxury of holding office while he's telling lies," Llwyd told a press conference.

He said lawyers from Matrix Chambers, where Blair's wife Cherie Blair practices law, were drawing up impeachment papers which would be published in early September. — *Internet*



Group holding lorry drivers demands firm quit Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 Aug—A group will release seven hostages it has been holding for more than a month as soon as their Kuwaiti company says it will no longer operate in Iraq.

The seven — three Indians, three Kenyans and an Egyptian — are all lorry drivers working for the Kuwait Gulf Link Company (KGL) who were abducted on 21 July and threatened with execution if KGL did not end its work in Iraq.

"The leadership of the Secret Islamic Army announces it is prepared to release its hostages on condition that the Kuwaiti company announces publicly that it will cease to work in Iraq and withdraws immediately," the SIA said in a written statement, of which *AFP* obtained a copy on Thursday.

In addition to the withdrawal of KGL from Iraq, the SIA is also demanding the release of Iraqi prisoners held in Kuwait and in detention centres run by the United States.

— *Internet*



A militant carrying a rocket propelled grenade launcher watches a vehicle bearing a picture of Iraq's top Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali Hussein al-Sistani as they head to Najaf from Kufa responding a call by the top Shiite cleric in southern Iraq on 26 Aug, 2004. — *INTERNET*

Italian journalist slain in Iraq

ROME, 26 Aug— An Italian journalist held hostage in Iraq has been killed, the Italian government confirmed on Thursday.

Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi quickly condemned the execution of Enzo Baldoni while his government vowed to stay active in the war against terrorism.

"There are no words for an inhumane act that ... cancels centuries of civilization to bring us back to the Dark Ages," Berlusconi said in a statement.

The Arabic-language network Al-

Jazeera reported that a group calling itself the Islamic Army in Iraq executed Baldoni because the Italian government did not meet its demands to withdraw its troops from Iraq within 48 hours.

It was not known when and where the killing occurred.

Baldoni was married and had two sons.

— *Internet*

Kuwait to work for safe return of Indian hostages in Iraq

NEW DELHI, 26 Aug — Kuwait on Wednesday assured India that it would leave no stone unturned for the safe return of three Indian truck drivers held captive in Iraq since 21 July.

"Indian community working in Iraq are associated with humanitarian work. We are working very closely with our friends in Kenya, India and Iraq and will not leave any stone unturned for safe return of Indians held captive in Iraq," visiting Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Mohammed Al-Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah told reporters here after signing a landmark India-GCC Framework Agreement with Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath.

He said "rumours" that Indian workers coming to Kuwait were forced to work in areas they did not want to go were "completely baseless". The hostage issue did come up during talks Al-Sabah had with External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh and "Kuwait has assured us that no stone would be left unturned to bring this matter to a positive resolution to ensure the safe return of not only the Indian hostages but other hostages also," Foreign Office spokesman Navtej Sarna told

reporters.

Al-Sabah told the Indian side that Kuwait would be trying its utmost to get to the bottom of this, the spokesman said.

Antaryami, Tilak Raj and Sukhdev Singh, employed by Kuwait and Gulf Link (KGL) transport company, were abducted last month in Iraq by a group calling itself 'Islamic Secret Army-Holders of Black Banners'. Negotiations to secure their release have not yet succeeded.

— *MNA/PTI*

Abu Ghraib Prison report details use of dogs

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug— US Army investigators pulled no punches on Wednesday in releasing the latest stark report of American abuse against Iraqi detainees at infamous Abu Ghraib Prison near Baghdad.

Among details in the 143-page report, which referred five officers and 41 unidentified lower-ranking soldiers, civilian interrogators, military police and medics to commanders for possible administrative or criminal punishment:

— Soldier No 01, a medic, failed to report seeing "a human pyramid of naked Iraqi prisoners, all with sandbags on their heads", when she was called to provide medical treatment.

— Soldier No 08, a dog handler from the 16th Military Police Brigade "had an ongoing contest with Soldier 27, another dog handler, to scare detainees with their

dogs in order to see who could make the detainees urinate and defecate first".

— Soldier No 20, a medic, failed to report seeing a detainee struck in the leg with a stick where he had been shot. The detainee, it said, was kicked by Military Police. Charles Graner, currently involved in hearings in Mannheim, Germany, ahead of his scheduled court martial for abuse.

— Soldier No 25, an interrogator with the 321st Military Intelligence Battalion, "thought it was funny" to see detainees flee from dogs and failed to report prisoners handcuffed together in contorted posi-

tions.

— Soldier No 27, a dog handler from the 523rd Military Police Detachment, "led his dog into a cell with two juvenile detainees and let his dog 'go nuts.' The two juveniles were yelling and screaming with the youngest one hiding behind the oldest".

— Civilian No 05, a contract interrogator, kept yanking a prisoner to the ground using handcuffs and told a soldier who admonished him for abuse and drinking alcohol at the prison, "I have been doing this for 20 years and I do not need a 20-year-old telling me how to do my job." — *MNA/Reuters*

44 Indians return from Iraq

NEW DELHI, 26 Aug — While the fate of three Indian drivers held hostage hangs in balance, 44 Indian workers have returned from Iraq, the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Indian Parliament) was informed Wednesday.

Those who have returned include 30 workers from a camp near Fallujah, 14 people stranded in northern Iraq and four persons employed by a South Korean firm, Jun-

ior Minister for External Affairs Rao Inderjit Singh said in a written reply.

The Indian mission in Baghdad has been instructed to help all countrymen desiring to return, he said adding the time taken to return to India depends on the route chosen by them, pace of settlement of dues by their employers and the security situation surrounding their worksites.

In the wake of the hostage crisis and the current security situation, government has issued an advisory telling citizens to defer for the time being their visits to the war-torn nation.

Government has also stopped emigration clearance for Iraq and has sought the co-operation of Jordan and Kuwait governments to prevent Indians from crossing over into Iraq.

— *MNA/PTI*



Iraqi police and national guards secure the area around the home of Iraq's top Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali Hussein al-Sistani after he arrived in the holy city of Najaf in southern Iraq on 26 Aug, 2004. — *INTERNET*



A market area lies in ruins in central Najaf, Iraq on 25 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

Najaf situation could be solved only by Iraqi government

LONDON, 26 Aug—An aide of Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric Ali al-Sistani has said that the situation in Najaf city could be solved only by the Iraqi government alone, the BBC reported Wednesday.

The Mehdi Army of radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr should leave the key shrine in Najaf, the Imam Ali Mosque, and the US troops should not be involved in bringing the fighting to an end, Sayed Mohamed Musawi said in an interview with the BBC.

"Americans interfering in this will not help the situation at all," Musawi said. "We always say that the Americans should be very far from the holy places. They should not involve themselves in this problem."

Musawi also stressed that any raid by US troops on the

Imam Ali Mosque would trigger mass protests and would boost public support for the militias.

Musawi's comments come as reports said Sistani, who arrived in London in August 5 for heart treatment, was returning to Iraq on Wednesday. Earlier reports quoted Sistani's aide Hamed al-Khafaf as saying that Sistani would return to the holy city of Najaf to "rescue it from its ordeal".

"Najaf is burning. Ayatollah al-Sistani is on his way back and calls on Iraqis from all provinces to join him

in the holy city," Khafaf was quoted as saying.

US forces have been advancing further on the holy Imam Ali Shrine, which Sadr's supporters who oppose the US military presence in Iraq have taken over.

Negotiations about ending the conflict between Sadr's militias and the US troops have bogged down amid renewed fighting. — MNA/Xinhua

600 pieces of Iraqi antiques seized in Jordan

AMMAN, 26 Aug—Some 600 pieces of Iraqi antiques and paintings have been seized in Jordan since April 2004, local Arabic newspaper *Al-arab- Al yawm* reported Tuesday.

Fawaz Khureisha, general manager of Jordan's Heritage Department, told the newspaper in a statement that some of these pieces date back to 3,000 years BC and others are from Babylon's times to Islamic period.

He indicated that the Heritage Department kept these seized antiques in special stores and would return them to the Iraqi Government at a suitable time.

MNA/Xinhua

World's eldest raised panda die

BEIJING, 26 Aug—Peipei, the world's eldest raised panda in the world, died at the age of 33 at a zoo in eastern China's Hangzhou City, according to a report from the *Beijing News* on Wednesday.

The zoo announced Tuesday that Peipei died on 13 August, Peipei's age was the equivalent of 100 in human years, and the panda's organs simply failed. Its body will be anatomized and studied, the newspaper quoted the zoo sources as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Argentina hopes to cooperate with China in oil exploration

BUENOS AIRES, 26 Aug—The Argentina Energy Corporation hoped Tuesday that Chinese companies would participate in joint exploration and production of Argentine oil and natural gas.

Luis Corsiglia, board director of the state-run Argentine energy giant, indicated the hope in an exclusive interview with *Xinhua*. The corporation will be established soon.

He said that Ezequiel Espinosa, the corporation's president and board chairman, would visit China in mid-September and discuss the issue with leaders of Chinese companies.

Corsiglia said that with its abundant fund and advanced technology, China has the capacity to participate in Argentina's oil and gas exploration and production.

China to rein in investment in steel, aluminium, cement sectors

BEIJING, 26 Aug — China's State Development and Reform Commission (SDRC) has recently unveiled continued measures to rein over-investment in the steel, aluminium and cement sectors.

The commission stopped the construction of new iron and steel projects, electrolytic aluminium projects and alumina projects that have not obtained government approval. It also says new projects must go through strict state approval procedure.

Eager to attract investment, some regional governments used to allow certain projects to go ahead without receiving official approval.

An SDRC official said production capacity in the three sectors has been growing too fast. The capacity of existing production centres combined with those now under construction has far exceeded prospective market demand.

MNA/Xinhua

Argentina has been bogged down in an energy crisis due to the shortage of natural gas, which was caused by the government's lack of a long-term energy strategy.

He said that since the full privatization of the energy companies in Argentina, investment in the sector by private companies had long been insufficient and this had greatly weakened the country's ability to store, transport and explore oil and gas.

The establishment of the Argentina Energy Corporation is one of the major steps by the government to fundamentally solve the energy problem. Although the Parliament is still reviewing the relevant laws establishing this company, the government has already appointed its leaders and board members.

Corsiglia said one primary task of his corporation would be looking for foreign partners and attracting foreign funds. — MNA/Xinhua

Iran will never conduct nuclear activities in hiding

TEHERAN, 26 Aug — Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi said on Tuesday that Iran would never conduct nuclear activities in hiding, the official IRNA news agency reported.

"Iran's nuclear activities will never be conducted in hiding, but its legitimate right to exploit nuclear energy should be recognized," Kharazi was quoted as saying.

Kharazi, who is currently visiting New Zealand, made the pledge at a meeting with his New Zealand counterpart Phil Goff. Iran, being accused by the United States of developing nuclear weapons under the disguise of civil purposes, is dying for diplomatic support from other countries.

The three European coun-

Top UN envoy ends first visit to Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Aug—The top UN envoy for Iraq, Ashraf Qazi, ended his first visit to Baghdad since his appointment last month after meeting with a long line of political leaders and prominent figures in civil society, a UN spokesman said Thursday.

"He is going to meet with officials from UN agencies in Geneva, before going to New York to meet senior UN officials early next month," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told a Press briefing in New York. During his 13-day stay in Iraq, Qazi dis-

cussed the world body's role in the political and humanitarian reconstruction of the war-torn country. He attended meetings of the Iraqi National Conference, which chose a body to monitor the work of the Interim Government, and discussed fighting

in the holy Shiite Muslim city of Najaf with interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and other leaders. "Deputy Special Representative Ross Mountain will take over as the senior UN official in Iraq until Qazi returns," said the spokesman. — MNA/Xinhua

Family of Italian hostage in Iraq pleads for release

ROME, 26 Aug —The daughter of an Italian freelance journalist held hostage in Iraq appealed to his kidnappers on Wednesday to free a "man of peace" she said had been working to help Iraqis.

"We turn to the Iraqi people, tormented by war, and to the men who are holding our father Enzo, with an appeal simply to tell them that Enzo Baldoni is in Iraq as a man of peace," Gabriella Baldoni, 24, said on RAI television news.

A group called the Islamic Army in Iraq told Al Jazeera television it was holding Baldoni who disappeared near Najaf several days ago. Television pictures from the kidnappers

released on Monday showed him in apparent good health.

As well as a reporter for Italian newspapers, Baldoni was volunteering for the Red Cross while in Iraq, his daughter said.

"He was trying to save human lives in Najaf by helping a Red Cross convoy in a spirit of solidarity which has always underscored his thinking and his actions.

"It is in this same spirit that we ask you to be able to hold him in our arms again,

alive."

Three out of four other Italian hostages, all civilian security guards, were released in June after nearly two months in captivity. The fourth, Fabrizio Quattrocchi, was shot dead.

As in that case, the kidnappers of Baldoni are calling for Italy to withdraw its 2,700 troops from Iraq, the third largest foreign military contingent in the country.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqi police patrol central Najaf, Iraq, on early Friday, 27 Aug, 2004, after a reported peace agreement was reached. A brief gun battle erupted between police and guerillas, but was concluded quickly. —INTERNET



An Iraqi youth looks at the site of a blast in Salahiya near Baghdad, Iraq, on 22 August, 2004.



An Iraqi woman and her daughter walk past the site of an attack that is close to the Polish Embassy in Baghdad on 25 August, 2004.



A man, injured when a roadside bomb exploded in western Baghdad, grimaces as doctors treat him for his wounds at a Baghdad hospital in Iraq, on 24 August, 2004.

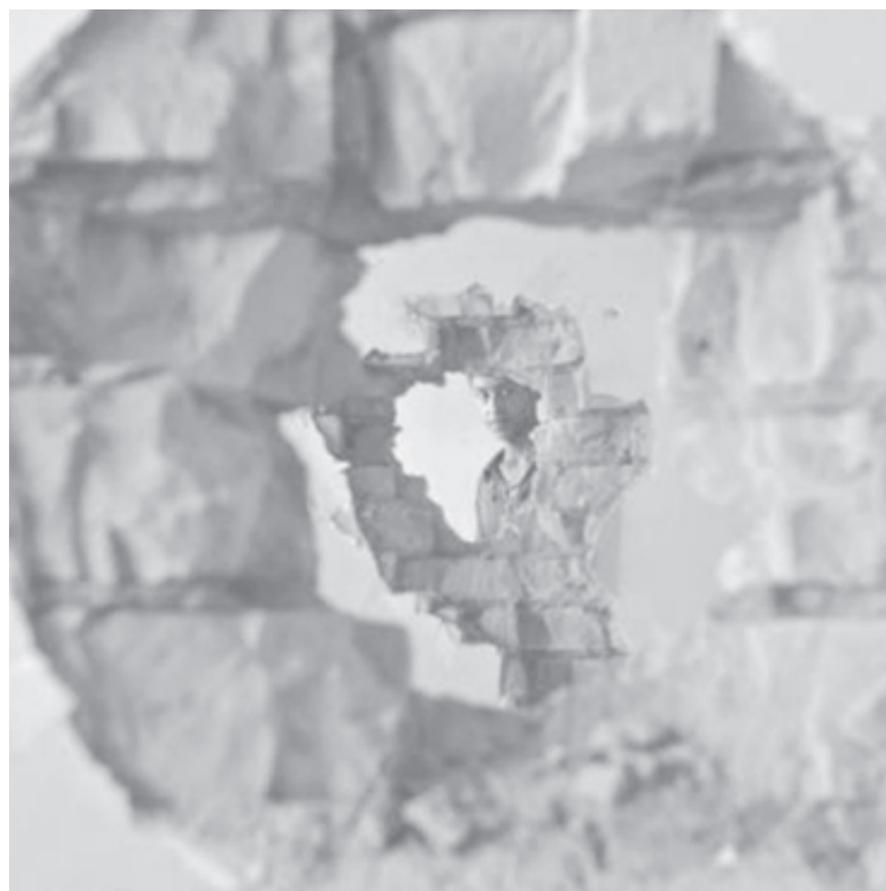


Iraqi civilians look at a crater left after a mortar attack hit the area near a shopping complex in Al-Mansour District, central Baghdad, Iraq, on 25 August, 2004.

Images of Iraq



Residents raise their hands as they walk through the Old City of Najaf during clashes between Iraqi Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr's Mehdi Army militia and US-led Iraqi forces on 24 August, 2004.



An Iraqi youth, viewed through shattered walls, surveys the damage to his hotel room after it came under attack by mortar fire in central Baghdad, on 24 August, 2004.



Government Computer College built in Loikaw, Kayah State. —KYEMON



Students seen learning their lessons at Computer College opened in Bhamo, Kachin State. — MNA



No-1 Basic Education High School in Kyaukse in Mandalay Division is facilitated with modern teaching aids.—KYEMON



Students of Haka Basic Education High School No-1 in Chin State are learning their lessons through modern teaching aids.—KYEMON

**Golden opportunity
to pursue
higher education
in own regions**



Students now have an equal opportunity in pursuing higher education. Photo shows students learning their computer lessons in Panglong University, Loilem District, Shan State (South).— KYEMON



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses coordination meeting to implement agreements between Myanmar and China and cooperation in all sectors.— MNA

Myanmar's energy sector has great ...

(from page 1)

Intelligence, deputy ministers, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of departments and officials.

In his address, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the meeting held today is the second coordination meeting on further promoting the tasks for implementation of agreements between Myanmar and PRC and cooperation in all sectors; that there are a number of agreements signed between the two nations; and that as there have been exchanges of goodwill visits between the high-ranking officials including the State leaders of both nations, the two nations were able to sign agreements on mutual cooperation as a result.

The prime minister spoke of the need for the relevant ministries to accelerate their integrated and well-coordinated efforts for speedy implementation of the agreements. More agreements between the two nations and Memorandums of Understanding were signed during his goodwill visit to PRC in July 2004, he said.

All-out efforts are being made with added momentum for speedy implementation of the agreements and Memorandums of Understanding after the goodwill visits, he

noted.

While relentless efforts are being exerted with added momentum on our side, it is obvious that officials, technicians and businessmen from the PRC side have made frequent visits to Myanmar and met their Myanmar counterparts for implementation of the agreements, he added.

As there have been rapid changes and developments in the world, the demand of power, oil and natural gas in the global nations are on the constant increase, he said.

He said Myanmar possesses water resources that can generate hydro electric power and a large amount of petroleum and natural gas deposits. There are a lot of prospects to promote energy sector for neighbouring countries and for those in the region. Myanmar is in a strategic position which can link South Asia and South East Asia regions and so it can provide assistance for transport among neighbouring countries and those in the regions. Promotion of cooperation among those countries will be very useful to both Myanmar and neighbouring and regional countries. Friendship and bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and China is making progress and both countries have signed agreements and MoUs for bilateral cooperation in all sectors.

As there have been rapid changes and developments in the world, the demand of power, oil and natural gas in the global nations are on the constant increase. Myanmar possesses water resources that can generate hydro electric power and a large amount of petroleum and natural gas deposits. There are a lot of prospects to promote energy sector for neighbouring countries and for those in the region.

He called on the ministries concerned to make concerted efforts for speedy implementation of the agreements between the two countries and promotion of bilateral cooperation in all sectors.

Next, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung reported on work done by the respective ministries in connection with the directives of the Prime Minister at the first coordination meeting on implementation of agreements and cooperation in all sectors between Myanmar and PRC. The ministers and the deputy ministers reported on implementation of bilateral cooperation in the respective sectors regarding economic and technological cooperation and industrial development.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt took part in the discussions and delivered concluding remarks.

MNA

All-out efforts are being made with added momentum for speedy implementation of the agreements and Memorandums of Understandings after the goodwill visits. While relentless efforts are being exerted with added momentum on our side, it is obvious that officials, technicians and businessmen from the PRC side have made frequent visits to Myanmar and met their Myanmar counterparts for implementation of the agreements.

Measures for upgrading Kandawgyi Gardens, Yangon Zoo co-ordinated

YANGON, 27 Aug — The Work Committee for All-round Upgrading of Environs of Yangon City Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon) held the co-ordination meeting at the Agricultural Museum of Myanma Agriculture Service in Kandawgyi Gardens, here, this morning, with an address by Chairman of the Work Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

All-round upgrading tasks are being carried out at four zones in the Gardens. Though some tasks have been completed some are being implemented, said the commander.

He added that construction tasks are to be undertaken with the use of modern designs without damaging natural resources. In so doing, upgrading tasks are



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe speaking at the meeting to upgrade Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoo (Yangon).— YANGON COMMAND

to be implemented with meeting the set standard.

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa reported on building of bridges linking islands, timber walk way, rock garden and Mount Popa Tower in the relaxation zone.

Director-General U

Soe Win Hlaing of Forest Department, Deputy Director-General U Hla Win of Fisheries Department, Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association U Khin Shwe, Director U Kyaw Thein of Yangon Division Irrigation Depart-

ment, Head of YCDC Engineering Department (Water & Sanitation) Dr Tun Than Tun, Managing Director Dr San Oo of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise, Head of YCDC Engineering Department (Buildings) U Zaw Win,

General Manager Lt-Col Yan Naing of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Chairman U Win Naing of Pyi Sone Win Naing Co and Associate Professor U San Kyu of the Ministry of Science and Technology submitted reports on their

respective sectors.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended to their needs.

Next, the commander inspected progress of upgrading tasks in Kandawgyi Gardens.

MNA

Nursery Market Festival continues

YANGON, 27 Aug — The Nursery Market Festival continued at Myay Padetha Park in Bahan Township here today with the aim of providing necessary assistance to growers and attracting the public to be interested in agriculture, horticulture, livestock breeding and vegetable farming.

Kitchen crops, fruits and saplings of herbal plants are being shown at the festival.

Poultry farming and fish breeding are also exhibited there. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint meets with Tatmadaw families at Maha Bandoola Hall in Thayet Township. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspecting Thin Creek Bridge on 25-8-2004 — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspecting construction of Thayet-Minhla road on 25-8-2004. — MNA

Coordination meeting for secure and smooth transportation held

YANGON, 27 Aug — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held the coordination meeting at All Bus-line Control Committee (Yangon Division) Head Office on Laydauntkan Road in Tamway Township this evening, attended by Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

The commander instructed them to facilitate line of smooth transportation for the people and carry out supervision for following of traffic rules.

Members of the supervisory committee, Police Lt-Col Aung Naing, officials of universities and colleges in Yangon and bus line chairmen reported on smooth transportation for convenient travelling of passengers and plying of buses in accord with the rules and regulations.

The commander gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements. Also present were military region commanders, station commanders and officials.— MNA

Malaysian delegation visits Shwedagon Pagoda, Defence Services Museum

YANGON, 27 Aug — Malaysian delegation led by Chief of Royal Air Force of Malaysia General Datuk Nik Ismail Bin Nik Mohamed, accompanied by Defence Adviser Col Hj Abbas Bin Hj Mat and officials, this morning visited Shwedagon Pagoda here.

Later, the Malaysian delegation visited Defence Services Museum where Maj Kyaw Kyaw Myint and responsible officials conducted them round the museum. Next, General Datuk Nik Ismail Bin Nik Mohamed signed in the visitors' book. The Malaysian delegation left here in the afternoon.

Commander of Mingaladon Airbase Brig-Gen Thein Myint and senior military officers, Defence Adviser Colonel Hj Abbas Bin Hj Mat and officials saw the delegation off at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

Wellwishers invited for sinking tubewells

YANGON, 27 Aug — The Development Affairs Committees under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs are making concerted efforts in sinking tube-wells in order to get sufficient fresh water in rural areas in States and Divisions where water is scarce.

One 200 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 250,000; one 400 feet deep two-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000; and one 200 feet deep four-inch diameter tube-well costs K 500,000.

Those wishing to donate cash for the tube-well sinking projects for rural areas may contact the Director-General (Tel: 01-245420 & 253088), the Deputy Director-General (Tel: 01-240118), the Director (Engineering) (Tel: 01-291967), the Directors (Sagaing Division DAC) (Tel: 071-21012), the Director (Magway Division DAC) (Tel: 063-23164) and the Director (Mandalay Division DAC) (Tel: 02-54657).

MNA

Don't smoke

ASEAN solidarity and firmness

Aung Moe San

Vietnam, an ASEAN member is making preparations to host the Asia-Europe Meeting. Normally, the meeting will be attended by the 10 member countries of the EU and the ASEAN member nations including the three new members nations. However, the EU countries are opposing Myanmar's participation at the meeting. Myanmar is included in the three new members of the ASEAN. The EU countries are pointing out that there is no progress in the human rights and the cause of democracy in Myanmar, and with that excuse they are trying to obstruct Myanmar's participation. Are they going to measure Myanmar's democracy and human rights with their own yardstick, or with the Asian standard, or based on the situation of the entire Myanmar, or based on personality cult? But the ASEAN nations and the neighbouring nations do not measure Myanmar's democracy and human rights with the West European standard, but with the Asian standard. Their measurement is not based on personality cult, but on the situation of Myanmar society. Thus, they are welcoming and supporting Myanmar's democracy transition from the positive point of view. At present, Myanmar has already laid down the seven-point future policy programme and is in the process of building a democratic nation. The convening of the National Convention, the basic step of the seven-point future policy programme, is in progress at present, and a portion of the Convention has already been completed successfully. But some EU nations are not satisfied with the present results. Their demands to follow their instructions amount to interfering in Myanmar's internal affairs. Moreover, their demands are totally in contradiction to the ASEAN policy. The EU's opposition to Myanmar's participation at the meeting is to cause dissension among the ASEAN nations. In addition, the EU is interfering in the affairs of the ASEAN's right to make decisions by itself.

However, the positive response of the farsighted ASEAN leaders to the EU's demands can be seen obviously during the Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt's recent goodwill visit to three ASEAN nations. At the

At present, Myanmar has already laid down the seven-point future policy programme and is in the process of building a democratic nation. The convening of the National Convention, the basic step of the seven-point future policy programme, is in progress at present, and a portion of the Convention has already been completed successfully. But some EU nations are not satisfied with the present results. Their demands to follow their instructions amount to interfering in Myanmar's internal affairs. Moreover, their demands are totally in contradiction to the ASEAN policy. The EU's opposition to Myanmar's participation at the meeting is to cause dissension among the ASEAN nations.

invitation of Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam His Excellency Mr Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic His Excellency Mr Bounnhang Vorachith and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia His Excellency Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt of the Union of Myanmar paid a two-day goodwill visit to the three countries on 9 and 10 August. During the visit, the Myanmar Prime Minister reached bilateral agreements with

In addition to interfering in the affairs of Myanmar, the EU nations are trying to bully ASEAN to follow its instructions. At the same time, they are trying to cement the EU unity, extend its influence and manipulate the world as a superpower.

the countries concerned to extend mutual cooperation and understanding in regional and international affairs.

At his meeting with leaders of Vietnam, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt explained the seven-point future policy programme of Myanmar and the latest developments of the country, thanking all ASEAN countries including Vietnam for their support for Myanmar. He said that Myanmar is making all-out efforts together with other member nations for ASEAN unity and regional development and peace and stability.

Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai said that Vietnam always remembers Myanmar's assistance during its national liberation struggle, expressing satisfaction to see the current fruitful cooperation between the two countries. Vietnam supports Myanmar's policies for transition to democracy, he said, adding that the two countries will strive for further strengthening of the ASEAN unity. Vietnam firmly believes that Myanmar will perform the ASEAN chairmanship duty well, as the nation is going to take over the duty in 2006, he noted, assuring Vietnam's support for Myanmar to attend the Asia-Europe Meeting.

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Mr Nong Duc Manh expressed his belief that Myanmar's democracy transition will surely meet its success, saying that only the Myanmar people have the right to determine the fate of their country.

Chairman of the National Assembly of SRV Mr Nguyen Van An said that Vietnam appreciates and has sympathy for Myanmar's endeavours; and that it also understands the magnitude of efforts to ensure the perpetuation of a nation's sovereignty.

During his meeting with Laotian leaders, the Myanmar Prime Minister said that in addition to their similar experiences in history, Myanmar and Laos are enjoying bilateral fraternal relations. He expressed his belief that the two countries will cooperate and support each other in the regional and international issues.

Lao PDR President Mr Khamtay Siphandone said that the two countries are enjoying fraternal relations and have mutual respect for each other. As there flourish close ties and mutual understanding between the two countries from the top level leaders to the basic levels, the bilateral relations and mutual cooperation of the two countries will further develop.

Prime Minister Mr Bounnhang Vorachith expressed pleasure to see the Myanmar Government and the people making accelerated efforts for national peace and stability and development, under the guidance of Senior General Than Shwe.

At his meeting with leaders of Cambodia, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that Myanmar and Cambodia have similarities in history and culture and religion. Both countries will extend bilateral friendship and mutual cooperation, he said, thanking Cambodia for its appreciation and support for Myanmar. He pledged to join hands with Cambodia for unity and firmness of the ASEAN.

Acting Head of State and Chairman of the Senate Mr Samdech Chea Sim said that both countries will strive for prosperity, while joining hands with each other to carry out matters of common interest and regional interest.

Prime Minister Mr Samdech Hun Sen said, "Our firm stand is that all ASEAN nations must participate in the Asia-Europe Meeting on equal status, without making any discrimination among the member nations." The talks between the Myanmar Prime Minister and leaders of the three countries has indicated the ASEAN solidarity and firmness.

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-mega-watt 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

In addition to interfering in the affairs of Myanmar, the EU nations are trying to bully ASEAN to follow its instructions. At the same time, they are trying to cement the EU unity, extend its influence and manipulate the world as a superpower.

In May 2004, two small nations — Cyprus and Malta — eight East European countries joined the EU. Thus the number of member nations has extended to 25. As the EU has extended the number of member nations, it is able to move one step forward towards a single united Europe, noted the EU leaders with pride. But the EU will not stop there. It is arranging to accept Bulgaria and Romania as its new members in 2007. The European Council, the highest body of the EU, is considering to accept Turkey and Croatia and other nations of the former Republic of Yugoslavia as new members.

The journey of the 50-year-old EU was not a smooth one. It had walked along the rough and difficult road for many years, while trying to remove doubts and hatred between member nations and to negotiate between the contradicting economies. The agreements that were reached in the 1950s were and basic cause towards emergence of the EU. The six countries — Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Italy, West Germany and Luxembourg — formed the European Coal and Steel Common Market in 1951. After six years, the European Common Market was formed. During the early years of its formation the ECM faced constant disputes between the nations which wanted to enjoy close relations with the US and the others that wanted to free themselves from under the domain of the US and stand totally as a European nation. In 1973, it permitted Britain and Ireland as its new members. After collectively facing and overcoming oil and fuel crisis in the 1970s, the member nations of the EU became more consolidated. In 1975, the European Council was formed as the highest authority of the continent. The first parliamentary election of Europe was held in 1979, and later the EU started to move towards practising a single monetary system. After accepting Spain and Portugal, two economic giants of the continent, to join the body in 1983, plans were laid down to set up a single monetary system and a single European market. Thanks to the plan, the EU nations have been enjoying free flow of capital for services, enterprises and tourism industry since 1993. Thus, the EU has been moving towards a single united Europe covering foreign affairs and security issues in addition to economy.

At the time when the EU is trying to extend its dominance over the global affairs, the issue of solidarity has become an essential need for the ASEAN, which should also be aware of the external instigation to cause dissension within it. Moreover, the Asian nations should strive to consolidate their unity.

(Translation: TMT)

(Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 27-8-2004)



The work coordination meeting of National Convention Convening Commission, the NCC Work Committee and NCC Management Committee in progress. — MNA

NCC Commission, NCC Work Committee, NCC Management Committee meet

YANGON, 27 Aug — The National Convention Convening Commission, the National Convention Convening Work Committee and the National Convention Convening Management Committee held a meeting at the Commission Office in Kyaikkasan Grounds here today.

The Meeting Chairman Vice-Chairman of NCCC Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut said that the Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee should carry out their work in accord with the schedule, speaking of the need to carry out necessary repair and renovation of the buildings at Nyaungnapin Camp, to systematically maintain and keep the facilities and to provide all necessary assistance for delegates receiving medical treatment at hospitals.

Secretary of the Commission Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan explained the developments in the repair and renovation of buildings of the camp in accord with the coordination made between officials and construction companies at a

meeting held on 13 August; and the progress in implementing the tasks, covering landscaping and upgrading of other facilities, to ensure everything is perfect when the Convention resumes.

Work Committee Chairman Chief Justice U Aung Toe reported to the meeting on the progress of the NCCWC in carrying out its work and the functions of the panel of alternative chairmen of the Convention; Management Committee Vice-Chairman Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence, on developments of the building renovation and repair work, landscaping, and the health condition of the delegates undergoing treatment at hospitals. Other participants including Vice-Chairman of Work Committee Attorney-General U Aye Maung and members of the respective bodies also presented suggestions. Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut gave the concluding remarks. Joint Secretary 2 of the Commission Director-General of Pyithu Hluttaw Office U Myint Thein acted as master of ceremonies. — MNA

Health Ministry holds work coordination meeting

YANGON, 27 Aug—The Ministry of Health held its meeting (2004) at the Department of Medical Research on Ziwaka Road in Dagon Township this morning to coordinate community health care services.

It was attended by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, departmental heads of departments under the ministry and officials.

Delivering an address on the occasion, the minister expressed his heartfelt pleasure for Myanmar reached a milestone in her medical science area by successfully performing a liver transplant. He was also encouraged by the success achieved in disease prevention and control activities with respect to the community health care services, he said. However, it is still needed for medical staff to make more field trips in taking measures for control, prevention and surveillance of infectious diseases to be able to avert outbreak of these diseases. Respective health departments are to carry out surveillance tasks constantly in border areas to prevent the diseases that occur most frequently in these regions. Implementation of the fly-proof latrines project has come across the target, and the rhythm is thus to be maintained, he said. He put the onus of fulfilling medical staff's requirements on heads of State/Division health departments.

He pledged that the ministry will continue to attend constantly to the needs in the health field. In conclusion, the minister elaborated on the functions of respective departments.

The deputy minister dealt with endeavours of the township health committee, importance of extended conduction of educative talks on health as well as cooperation of departments and the people in taking preventive measures against diseases.

Next, directors-general of the departments under the ministry, heads of State/Division health departments, rectors of institutes of medicines and universities, and medical superintendents of central level and State/Division level hospitals reported on progress of respective work.

After assessing the reports, the minister fulfilled the requirements and delivered closing remarks. — MNA

Symposium on diagnosis and management of fever with rash to be held

YANGON, 26 Aug — A Symposium on diagnosis and management of fever with rash will be held at the hall (A) of the Myanmar Medical Association in Mingala Taungnyunt Township here at 9 am on 4 September. — MNA

Armed Forces Day colour photo contest to be held

YANGON, 27 Aug — The Work Committee for the Organizing 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day 2005 Commemorative Literary and Colour Photo Competition will hold the Colour Photo Contest. Photo enthusiasts can send up to four entries for each title. The size of the print photo entry should measure 10" by 12" and above. As those who won first, second and third prizes in the previous contests will be categorized into separate groups, it means that there are many chances of winning prizes for those who have not yet won any prizes.

Data and caption regarding the photo should be provided on a separate sheet of paper and enclosed. If there are any models in the photo, their content will be needed.

The entry photo must be a never-before-published work and prize-winning work in local and foreign photo competitions. The entry photos taken by digital camera will not be considered. Winners standing first, second and third will be awarded in Yangon on 27 March 2005, when the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day will be observed.

Consolation prizes will also be presented to winners at the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day ceremonies to be held at the respective military commands and LIDs concerned. The entry photos should be sent to U Tun Min, Director, Information and Public Relations Department, No 22/24, Pansodan Street, here, not later than 14 February 2005.— MNA

Myanmar successfully operates liver transplant

YANGON, 27 Aug — Myanmar has successfully carried out a liver transplant operation for the first time, signifying a step forward of the country's medical science, hailed Friday's official newspaper The New Light of Myanmar.

More than 30 hours after a donated 39 year-old female liver was transplanted to a male patient named Ko Khin Zaw Htet, 35, in the New Yangon General Hospital on Wednesday, the patient's health condition has recovered and improved, according to surgeons.

The over-13-hour operation, carried out by a team of surgeons led by Dr Norman Hla, was claimed by the paper as the first in Southeast Asia.

During the past decade, Myanmar had also successfully performed operations on renal transplant, crushed arm replanting and separating a conjoined twin.— MNA/Xinhua



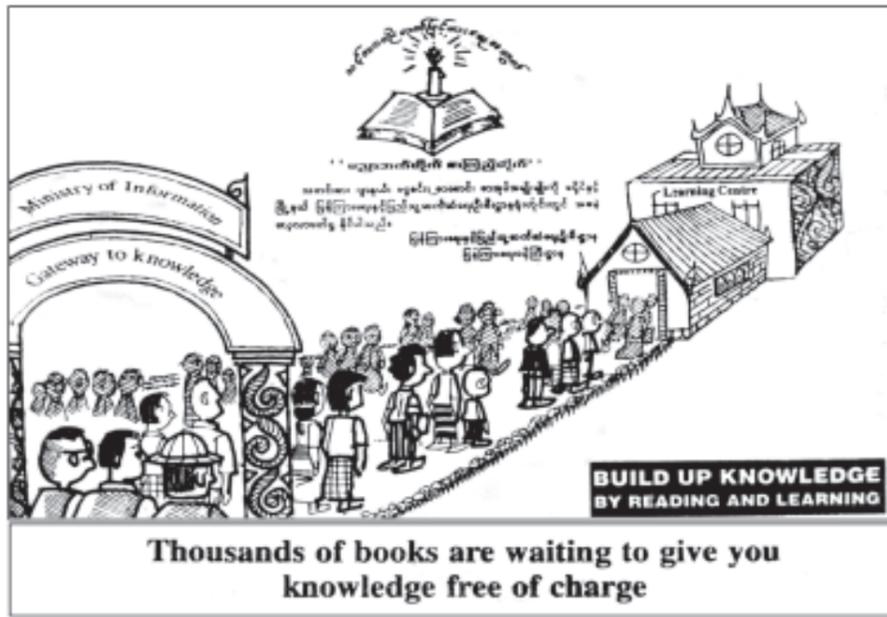
Surgeons perform liver transplant. — MNA

UMFCCI officials meet guests

YANGON, 27 Aug — A 14-member delegation from Nepal led by Lalitpur Chamber of Commerce & Industry Mr Indra Bahadur Shrestha called on President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry U Win Myint and officials at the UMFCCI head office here yesterday. They discussed matters on investment and bilateral trade affairs. — MNA



The Nepali delegation discusses with UMFCCI officials. — UMFCCI



ADVERTISEMENTS

INVITATION FOR QUOTATION

1. For and on behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Government of the Union of Myanmar sealed Quotations with deferred payment for three years as well as L/C at sight proposals are invited by the Project Management Unit, Public Works, Yangon, Myanmar for the detailed design (including the erection procedure), fabrication, supply of materials, erection equipment, and supervision of steel erection for **MYANMAR-LAOS Friendship Suspension Bridge** across MEKONG River.
2. The particulars of **MYANMAR-LAOS Friendship Suspension Bridge** may be obtained for USD 4000 by request in writing or in person at the following address.
Project Management Unit
Public Works
No. 60, Shwedagon Pagoda Road.
11191 Yangon, Myanmar.
3. The Quotation should be submitted to the above address not later than 16.30 hours on 31st December, 2004 or earlier.
4. When this Quotation is accepted, the Contract will be made in the name of Public Works, Yangon, Myanmar.

**Managing Director
Public Works**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV QING CHUN MEN VOY NO (089)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV QING CHUN MEN Voy No (089) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29-8-2004 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 INTERASIA LINE**

Phone : 256908/378316/376797

Putin condoles double crash victims, declares mourning

Moscow, 26 Aug — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday condoled the deaths of victims of two plane crashes and declared Thursday as a national day of mourning.

In televised remarks, Putin said he expected the high power investigation commission headed by Transport Minister Igor Levitin to give true and objective information to the public. Putin, who rushed to Moscow from holiday in

Black Sea resort of Sochi, was speaking at the emergency Kremlin meeting on the crashes.

Russian Prosecutor General Vladimir Ustinov told Putin that terror attack is not ruled out, although other possibilities including human error were also being looked into the twin crashes in which at least 90 people were killed.—MNA/PTI

DONATE BLOOD

TRADEMARK

CAUTION NOTICE

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY, a company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, and having its registered office at One Coca-Cola Plaza, Atlanta, Georgia 30313, United States of America is the owner and sole proprietor of the following Trademark:-



**FANTA LOGO 88
Reg. No. 818/1989**

Used in respect of :-
"Beverages in International Class 32"
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. Eccles & Lee Patent and Trademark Attorneys, Hong Kong)

Dated: 28 August 2004

Zambia to export AIDS drugs

LUSAKA, 26 Aug — The Zambian Government said the anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) to be produced in Zambia will be exported to neighbouring countries, local newspaper *Daily Mail* reported Wednesday.

Health Minister Brian Chituwo was quoted as saying while the neighbouring countries will benefit from the sell of the drugs, Zambia is expected to earn foreign exchange. Chituwo assured Zambians that the ARVs which will be manufactured locally would be of good quality and meet international standards, and the World Health Organization will monitor the production of the drugs.—MNA/Xinhua

ပြည်တွင်းဖြစ်တိုးရေး

TRADE MARK CAUTION NECCORPORATION., a Company incorporated in Japan of 7-1, Shiba 5-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

UNIVERGE

Reg. No. 4565/2004

in respect of "computer hardware; networking hardware for wireless communications; network apparatus, namely, computers, computer servers, telephones, asynchronous transfer mode switches, private branch exchanges (PBXs), electrical switches, fiber optic cables, routers, transmitters, multiplexers, modems, amplifiers, hubs and bus; networking software for wireless communications and connectivity, computer software for establishing, enabling, monitoring, and managing wireless communications and connectivity between wireless devices and communications networks; computer software for interconnecting, managing, securing and operating local and wide area networks and telephony systems; computer software for use in controlling and managing computers, computer servers, telephones, asynchronous transfer mode switches, private branch exchanges (PBXs), electrical switches, fiber optic cables, routers, transmitters, multiplexers, modems, amplifiers, hubs and bus in Int. Class 9"

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

Win Mu Tin,
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **NEC CORPORATION**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon.
Dated: 28 August 2004.

New Pakistani PM to take oath of office Saturday

ISLAMABAD, 26 Aug — Pakistan's interim Prime Minister Shujaat Hussain resigned on Wednesday after a short stint of nearly two months, paving the way for President Pervez Musharraf's choice Shaukat Aziz to take over the top post on Saturday.

Hussain announced his resignation in the 342-member National Assembly after which the federal Cabinet was dissolved, outgoing Information Minister Sheikh Rashid said.

He said election for the leader of the Assembly will be held on Friday in which the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q) and its allies enjoying comfortable majority would field Aziz. The nomination for the post will be filed tomorrow.

The new Prime Minister would take oath of office on Saturday and seek a vote of confidence of the House on the same day, Rashid said.

Aziz, 55, was inducted as Finance Minister by Musharraf after the 1999 military coup and held the post

ever since. Announcing his resignation, 59-year-old Hussain said that during his short tenure he has tried his level best to serve the nation.

"I have laid new traditions of tolerance and accommodation in the politics," he said and expressed the hope that Aziz, an international banker-turned Finance Minister, will make concerted efforts to make the country "a real prosperous and progressive state".

He said Aziz will have to take difficult decisions for ensuring national integrity and country's stability as Musharraf took in the past.

"Aziz will take several measures for the development of the country to give relief to the people. We will have to take some difficult decision as President Musharraf had taken for the national security.

"Let us work for the reconciliation and understanding to find solution to the problems. I am returning the trust, this Parliament had given to me," Hussain said.

MNA/PTI

India signs landmark agreements with Kuwait

NEW DELHI, 26 Aug — India on Wednesday entered into a landmark agreement to usher in free trade with six Gulf countries including Kuwait with which it signed an Extradition Treaty and two other accords to further strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Visiting Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah and his Indian counterpart K Natwar Singh inked an Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Mat-

ters and a Memorandum of Understanding for setting up of Strategic Consultative Group. Kuwait is the third Gulf country after UAE and Bahrain with which India has signed extradition treaty. The extradition treaty with Saudi Arabia is in advanced stage of negotiations and a similar agreement with Qatar is in initial stage.

On behalf of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) of which Kuwait is the current Chairman, Al-Sabah signed with Commerce and Industry Minister Kamal Nath the framework agreement for economic cooperation.

Al-Sabah, who is on a three-day visit, called on Indian President A P J Abdul Kalam, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Speaker of Lower House of Parliament Somnath Chatterjee. Al-Sabah and Singh held delegation-level talks preceded by a restricted session on a wide range of issues covering bilateral relations and international issues including Iraq as well as UN and UN reforms, External Affairs Ministry spokesman told reporters here.

MNA/PTI

Ugandan official says Mount Elgon likely to erupt into volcano

KAMPALA, 26 Aug — Ugandan Minister of State for Environment J.J. Odong confirmed on Wednesday that Mount Elgon is likely to erupt into a volcano.

Odong made the remarks when he was reacting to the motion raised by a member of Parliament, David Wakikona that communities living in and around the mountain are at danger.

He told the preliminary session of the Parliament that a survey by experts that the top surface of the mountain reveals a likely volcanic eruption and that temperature on the mountain Wednesday measures 170 Centigrade.

Earlier, Ugandan First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Disaster Prepar-

edness and Refugees Moses Ali announced that the government had dispatched a team of experts to assess reports that communities living at the foot of Mount Elgon on the Kenyan side have observed gas and molten substance emissions from a cave on the mountain.

He said that the Ugandan Government would issue a detailed statement on the volcanic status of the mountain upon the report from the team.

The team was sent to Mount Elgon, which was bordering Uganda and Kenya, following Kenyan geologists warned of imminent volcanic eruption on the mountain which has been dormant for about a century.

MNA/Xinhua

DRIVE SAFELY

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ဒေသစီမံခန့်ခွဲရေးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

China puts independent clause of AIDS prevention into law

BEIJING, 26 Aug— China for the first time put an independent clause on AIDS prevention in contagious disease prevention and control law, as the country's AIDS prevention and control work is at a crucial stage.

The clause, which says "Governments at all levels must strengthen AIDS prevention and control work in a bid to curb further spread of the disease. Detailed measures could be stipulated by the State Council," has been added to the amendment draft of the contagious disease prevention and control law, which has been submitted to the ongoing 11th meeting of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) for its third deliberation.

Hu Guangbao, deputy director of NPC's Legal Committee, said the law's amendment draft is expected to be passed at this meeting, as law makers' opinions have been reflected in the draft during the last two deliberations.

The amendment draft of contagious disease prevention and control law has been discussed twice in April and June by mem-

bers of the Standing Committee of the NPC.

During the first two deliberations, some lawmakers advised that the law should entrust the State Council to stipulate regulations on AIDS prevention and control, as the country has entered a crucial stage in which the epidemic may spread from high-risk groups to others.

Some lawmakers suggested that clause on eliminating discrimination against people with AIDS should be written into the law, because social bias against them has become serious.

Some suggested that clauses stating that blood collection organizations must guarantee quality of blood products and stipulating punishment for illegal blood collection and selling should be put into the law's amendment draft.

MNA/Xinhua



Poodle dyed with multiple colours on display at a pet show in Shanghai, China, on 27 Aug, 2004. Around 250 manufacturers showed the latest in pet care at the four-day fair. —INTERNET

NASA experts report drought forecast breakthrough

LONDON, 26 Aug— Climate experts at NASA believe they have found a way of forecasting droughts and floods months in advance, the *New Scientist* magazine reported on Wednesday.

The magazine said until now forecasting more than a week ahead had proved impossible because the atmosphere is so unpredictable.

But it said NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland had located a series of "hotspots" in the middle of continents where changes in the moisture content in soils may signal droughts or floods to come.

"In these hotspots, soil moisture and precipitation are tightly linked," the magazine

quoted NASA's Randal Koster as saying.

The theory runs that water evaporating from soil is a major source of vapour that creates cloud and rain, so the drier the earth, the greater the chance of drought — and vice-versa.

The researchers found the Sahel, on the southern fringes of the Sahara desert, northern India and the Great Plains of North America were particularly good regions to observe.

MNA/Reuters

US judge admits some evidence against Michael Jackson

LOS ANGELES, 25 Aug— A US judge ruled Monday that more than three dozen items of evidence seized at pop superstar Michael Jackson's Neverland ranch and a private investigator's office could be admitted at trial on the child molestation case.

At the end of two hearings at the Superior Court in Santa Maria, central California, Judge Rodney Melville said he intended to suppress other items of evidence, but deferred a final decision on the material until September.

Because Melville has imposed an order on publicizing the contents of evidence, it remained unknown what evidence could be used.

Santa Barbara County police seized computers,

cameras, documents and video and audio tapes from Neverland and from the office of private investigator Brad Miller, who was working for Jackson's former lawyer.

The hearing started last Monday at the same court to hear the testimonies by prosecutor Tom Sneddon on the searches of Jackson's ranch and Miller's office. Jackson, accompanied by his parents and other family members, appeared at the court to face

off with Sneddon.

Jackson's defence lawyers are trying to suppress the evidence seized from Miller's office, which were regarded crucial in the grand jury's decision to indict Jackson early this year.

Three tapes, in which Jackson's young accuser and his family reportedly praise Jackson and deny that Jackson acted inappropriately, are at the centre of the dispute. The prosecution and the grand jury believed that

the accuser and his family were forced by Jackson to make the tapes.

Jackson, 45, was indicted by a grand jury early this year with committing a lewd act upon a child, administering an intoxicating agent and conspiring to commit child abduction, false imprisonment and extortion.

The singer has pleaded not guilty and is free on three-million-dollar bail. The date of the trial is set on January 31, 2005. —MNA/Xinhua

HK scientists invent shape memory fabric

HONG KONG, 26 Aug— Scientists at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) have invented the world's first cellulose-made shape memory fabric, announced PolyU here Tuesday.

The research team headed by Hu Jinlian, principal investigator of the shape memory project and founder of the Shape Memory Textile Centre of PolyU, has made significant advances in developing versatile shape memory fabrics which can be broadly used in textile, medicine and cosmetology.

According to Hu, shape memory fabrics can readily recover their original shapes.

This distinguishes shape memory garments from other wrinkle-free garments by achieving crease retention, flat appearance, and bagging recovery when washed in hot water.

"These unique properties of shape memory fabrics make them ideal materials for the textiles and garment industry. Their applications are by no means limited to the realms of pret-a-porter and haute couture,"

explained Hu.

Hu added that the shape memory fabrics are finished with a special kind of polymer, that can be easily reshaped into different sizes to serve other purposes, for instance, in making medical devices, toys and even facial masks. The product has registered a total of eight patents in the United States and China's Mainland. Hu and her team have achieved international reputation for their in-

sight in this emerging area, who received the Award for Distinguished Achievement in Fibre Science from the US-based Fibre Society in 2001; and the Excellent Research Paper Award by the China Textile Engineer Society in 2003. —MNA/Xinhua

Kazakhstan to create national space agency

ALMA-ATA, 26 Aug — Kazakhstan has decided to set up a National Space Agency to boost the Central Asian country's space industry.

The creation of the agency was brought up in a meeting on the 2005-2007 plan for the space industry, according to local media.

Kazakh Prime Minister Daniyal Akhmetov said Wednesday the new agency will help coordinate the resources in the field and that the Education and Science Ministry would work out a plan for the formation of the agency in a month.

MNA/Xinhua

Hurricane "Charley" leaves Cuba \$1b bill

HAVANA, 26 Aug — Hurricane Charley caused more than one billion US dollars in damage to Havana and its surrounding provinces when it roared through western Cuba on 13 August, killing four people, a leader of the ruling Communist Party said on Wednesday.

The storm demolished 4,177 houses and damaged almost 70,000 other homes, Politburo member Pedro Saez said in comments published by Cuban newspapers *Granma* and *Rebel Youth*.

Charley has been nicknamed the "lumberjack" hurricane because its 105 mile per hour winds uprooted or snapped more than 8,000 trees in Havana, and destroyed 300 hectares of tree plantations outside the city, he said.

MNA/Reuters

Whale shuts down power plant in eastern Canada

OTTAWA, 26 Aug— A humpback whale has forced the shutdown of a hydroelectric plant after swimming through the underground gates that connect the tidal power facility with the Bay of Fundy in Canada's eastern province of Nova Scotia, it is reported here Wednesday.

Nova Scotia Power officials said that the whale got into the Annapolis Tidal Power Plant's head pond on Monday while apparently following a school of herring that swam through gates that were opened at high tide.

Officials were concerned the whale could get caught in a turbine, so the plant was shut down. They said it will remain closed until the whale leaves. — MNA/Xinhua

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုးစားကြည့်တိုက်ရိုက်သင့်သည်။

စာစာထိသေ့ဆိုင်း စာပေထိခိုက်၊
စာကြည့်တိုက်များ၊ သေ့ထောင်စီရိပ်။

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုးစားကြည့်တိုက်များမှ စာပေထိခိုက်ရန် ဖြစ်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေး ဦးစီးဌာနနှင့် ဆက်သွယ်ပါ။

ကျေးဇူးတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုးစားကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် သုတ/ရသ စာအုပ်များလှူဒါန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

SPORTS

Samuel to miss league debut with Real

MADRID, 27 Aug— Real Madrid centre-back Walter Samuel will miss the start of the Spanish league season after straining a knee ligament during his side's Champions League third round qualifier against Wisla Krakow.

Club medical staff estimated the 26-year-old Argentine international, who sustained the injury to his right knee towards the end of Real's 3-1 win over the Polish side on Wednesday, would be out of action for two to three weeks.

Samuel, who joined Real for 25 million euros (30.20 million US dollars) from AS Roma in May, was set to make his league debut in his side's opening match of the season at Real Mallorca.

With new signing Jonathan Woodgate also out injured, Ivan Helguera is likely to have to drop back from midfield to join Francisco Pavon in the back four, while Guti should partner David Beckham in midfield.

MNA/Reuters



Abby Wambach (L) of the US celebrates with team mate Shannon Boxx (R) after scoring in their 2-1 victory against Brazil in the women's soccer competition at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games on 26 Aug, 2004. The United States won the gold medal, Brazil took the silver and Germany took the bronze. —INTERNET

Abramovich interest could upset Champions draw

MONACO, 27 Aug — Chelsea or CSKA Moscow could be forced out of the Champions League if it was discovered that Chelsea's Russian owner Roman Abramovich also had a controlling interest in the Russian champions, UEFA said on Thursday.

William Gaillard, UEFA's Director of Communications said after the two clubs were drawn in the same group in the opening phase of the competition, that if Abramovich had a controlling interest in both he would have to decide which club could stay in the competition.

"We do a superficial check of all clubs to estab-

lish that no individual owns more than 51 per cent of two clubs. Where we think there might be a problem we examine the situation more thoroughly.

"If it was found that Mr. Abramovich had a controlling interest in Chelsea and CSKA Moscow they could not both take part in the competition. He would have to decide which club would

take part.

"We have to have this transparency under competition laws of the European Union and will carry out the necessary checks immediately."

UEFA are concerned because Sibneft, a company in which Abramovich has a controlling interest, signed a 54-million-dollars sponsorship deal with CSKA Moscow last March.

Trying to unravel details of Russian deal-making might tax the sharpest of legal brains, but Gaillard insisted that if there were any doubt, then either Chelsea or CSKA Moscow would not take part in the competition.

"If we find that any individual owns more than 51 per cent in two clubs, our rules are very clear. They cannot both compete," he said.

CSKA president Yevgeny Giner is a close friend of Abramovich, the former owner of Sibneft and still the company's major shareholder.

Sibneft, Russia's fifth largest oil company, pledged 18 million US dollars a year until 2006 to become CSKA's title sponsor.

Abramovich was among Giner's guests at his VIP box during two CSKA matches last March. —MNA/Reuters



Olympic champion Andreas Dittmer of Germany paddles to the second place in the Men's C1 1000 metre final to win the silver medal, during the canoe flatwater event at the 2004 Olympic Games in Schinias near Athens, Greece, on Friday, 27 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

US give tearful Hamm golden farewell

ATHENS, 27 Aug — The United States gave Hall of Famer Mia Hamm the perfect send-off on Thursday, beating Brazil 2-1 to win Olympic gold in the women's soccer tournament.

Abby Wambach powered home a header in the 22nd minute of extra time in Athens to give the US their second Olympic title after winning at the 1996 Atlanta Games.

For Hamm, widely regarded as the best ever female player, it was a fitting end to a glittering 17-year career, even though she made little impact on a disappointing game.

"They carried me tonight, that's for sure," said an exhausted Hamm, who insisted there would be no change of heart about her decision to retire.

"There are few times in your life where you get to write the final chapter the way you want things. I'm not going to be an athlete that says so and then comes back.

"I have been extremely blessed to finish my career this way. It's a wonderful feeling."

Earlier, world champions Germany edged past Sweden 1-0 in a repeat of the 2003 World Cup final to take a second successive bronze.

The Americans, who finished runners-up to Norway in Sydney four years ago, took the lead six minutes before halftime with a superb long-distance strike from Lindsay Tarpley.

Brazil striker Pretinha equalized in the 73rd minute, pouncing on a mistake from

goalkeeper Briana Scurry to score from close range.

But Wambach settled American nerves in the second period of extra time, the big striker heading a Kristine Lilly corner into the roof of the net for her 18th goal in her last 20 games.

The 32-year-old Hamm, who helped the US win the World Cup in 1991 and 1999, never came close to scoring her 154th goal in 266 internationals.

But she was cheered every time she touched the ball by a raucous crowd of 10,000 that included Olympic swimming champion Michael Phelps.

Earlier, midfielder Renate Lingor scored a 17th-minute winner for Germany against Sweden in an absorbing bronze medal match.

Germany were indebted to goalkeeper Silke Rottenberg, who provided an Oliver Kahn-type presence for the world champions, also bronze medallists in Sydney four years ago.

Rottenberg made several brave stops to deny Sweden at Karaiskaki Stadium, the home of Greek club Olympiakos.

"I don't think Germany were better than us at all," said disgusted Swedish striker Victoria Svensson. "I hate losing to Germany, I'm sick of it." —MNA/Reuters

Deco set to replace Figo as Scolari names Portugal squad

LISBON, 27 Aug — Deco is likely to replace former captain Luis Figo in the Portugal line-up after coach Luiz Felipe Scolari on Thursday named the Brazilian-born midfielder in his 20-man squad for next month's World Cup qualifiers.

Portugal play Latvia in Riga on September 4 and are at home to Estonia four days later in Group Three, which also includes Slovakia, Russia, Liechtenstein and Luxembourg.

The 31-year-old Figo, a former World Player of the Year, has announced he is taking an indefinite break from international football after leading his team to the final of Euro 2004, where Portugal lost to Greece.

Figo's decision to take a break followed midfielder Rui Costa's retirement from the international game, leaving Fernando Couto as the only survivor of the so-called "golden generation".

Couto was not named in the squad, however, due to injury, Scolari said.

Brazilian Scolari kept

faith in goalkeepers Quim Silva and Ricardo Pereira, leaving out former number one Vitor Baia, who won the Champions League with Porto last season.

Defender Marco Caneira, who has joined

Valencia on loan from Girondins Bordeaux this season, earned a recall, along with forwards Luis Boa Morte of English Premier League club Fulham and Porto's Hugo Almeida.

MNA/Reuters



USA's Shawn Crawford jumps on compatriot Bernard Williams' shoulders after the men's 200m final at the Olympic Stadium during the Olympic Games athletics competitions in Athens. —INTERNET

Roma coach Prandelli ready to quit

MILAN, 27 Aug — AS Roma coach Cesare Prandelli is ready to stand down due to family reasons, the Serie A club said on Thursday.

Former Parma coach Prandelli took over at Roma in June after Fabio Capello left for Juventus but he missed some of the pre-season preparations due to his wife's health problems.

"Cesare Prandelli this evening indicated to the club his desire to offer his resignation in order to best deal with the matters relating to his family," Roma said in a statement.

The club said it would give him "the necessary time to calmly evaluate his future".

Prandelli did not travel with Roma to their pre-season friendly matches in the United States, Canada and Japan in July.

The Serie A season starts on September 12 while Roma begin their Champions League campaign against Dynamo Kiev three days later.

Roma, who finished runners-up in Serie A last season, will also face Real Madrid and Bayer Leverkusen in Champions League Group B.

MNA/Reuters

Everton reject Man United, Newcastle bids for Rooney

LONDON, 27 Aug — Everton have rejected bids from Premier League rivals Manchester United and Newcastle United for England striker Wayne Rooney, the club said on their web site on Thursday.

Manchester United earlier confirmed they had made a bid late on Wednesday, the day after Newcastle offered 20 million pounds (35.94 million US dollars) for the 18-year-old Rooney. —MNA/Reuters

MRTV-



28-8-2004 (Saturday) (Programme Schedule) Morning Transmission (9:00 - 10:00)

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar" Golden Mandalay Hill
9:10 Headline News
9:12 Fish Finglings Breeding Ceremony
9:15 National News
9:20 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe'
9:25 Dancing Duo
9:30 National News
9:35 Traditional Chin Cuisine
9:40 Song "Heralding Could"
9:45 National News
9:50 Picturesque Views in Southern Shan State (Part-I)
9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

28-8-2004 (Saturday) Evening Transmission (15:30 - 17:30)

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting
15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
15:36 Golden Mandalay Hill
15:40 Headline News
15:42 Fish Finglings Breeding Ceremony
15:45 National News
15:50 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe'
15:55 Dancing Duo
16:00 National News
16:05 Traditional Chin Cuisine
16:10 Song "Heralding

- 16:15 National News
16:20 Picturesque Views in Southern Shan State (Part-I)
16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
16:30 National News
16:35 The Wonderful Peikchin Ravine
16:40 The Ancient City Thirikhitaya
16:45 National News
16:50 Myanmar Movies Impact "History, written Personally"
17:00 Weekly News Highlights
17:05 Handiworks of Pride
17:10 Song "Speaking through our eyes"
17:12 Attractive Myanmar Snacks
17:15 Weekly News Highlights
17:20 Seed Production in Myanmar
17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Evening Transmission (19:30 - 23:30)

- 19:30 Signature Tune Greeting
19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
19:36 Radiance of Love and Beauty
19:40 Headline News
19:42 Moringyi Wildlife Sanctuary
19:45 National News
19:50 The Ancient City Mrauk U
19:55 Vram Naga Harvest Dance
20:00 National News
20:05 Annual Pilgrims From the River
20:10 Song "Tranquil Bagan"
20:15 National News
20:20 Myanmar Performing Arts Showroom
20:25 Song "You From Next Door"
20:30 National News
20:35 Historical Shwe Inpin Monastery
20:40 Manufacturing of Home Furniture and

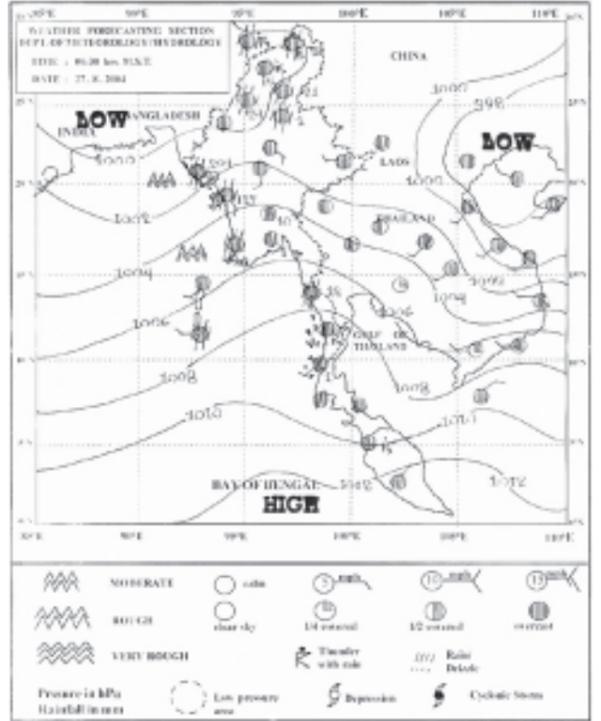
- Accessories (Part-II)
20:45 National News
20:50 Myanma Toddy Palm: A Source of Rural Income
20:55 Dance of the Couple
21:00 National News
21:05 The Art of Stone Sculpture
21:10 Song on Screen "The Brightly Shining Moon"
21:15 Weekly News Highlights
21:20 Fishery In Kayin State
21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
21:35 Golden Mandalay Hill
21:40 Headline News
21:42 Fish Finglings Breeding Ceremony
21:45 National News
21:50 Illustrious handiwork in Kyeethe'
21:55 Dancing Duo
22:00 National News
22:05 Traditional Chin Cuisine
22:10 Song "Heralding Could"
22:15 National News
22:20 Picturesque Views in Southern Shan State (Part-I)
22:25 Myanmar Modern Song "Truth and Beauty"

- 22:30 National News
22:35 The Wonderful Peikchin Ravine
22:40 The Ancient City Thirikhitaya
22:45 National News
22:50 Myanmar Movies Impact "History, written Personally"
23:00 National News
23:05 Handiworks of Pride
23:10 Song "Speaking through our eyes"
23:12 Attractive Myanmar Snacks
23:15 Weekly News Highlights
23:20 Seed Production in Myanmar
23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Rainfall on 27-8-2004

0.04 inch at Yangon Airport, 0.04 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.12 inch at central Yangon.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 27 August 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Magway Division and locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State.

Maximum temperature on 26-8-2004 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 27-8-2004 was 74°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 27-8-2004 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 26-8-2004 was 2.8 hours approx.

Rainfall on 27-8-2004 was 0.04 inch at Yangon Airport, 0.04 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.12 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 94.41 inches at Yangon Airport, 92.09 inches at Kaba-Aye and 94.02 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 15 mph from Southwest at 09:15 hours MST on 27-8-2004. Bay inference: Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 28-8-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (100%). State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in Eastern part of Myanmar areas. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-8-2004: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100%. Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-8-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%. Weather outlook for last weekend of August 2004: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.

ဦးတင်အေး (သဲကုန်း) အသက် (၇၅)နှစ်

ဒေါ်ပုံရေတပ်၊ အိမ်ထောင်သည်လှိုင်း(၆)၊ အခန်း(၈)နေ တပ်ကြပ် ကိုဝင်းနိုင်+မနှင်းယုဝေတို့၏ ဖခင်၊ ဒေါ်မြင့်မြင့်၏ ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဒေါ်သန်းသန်းအေး၊ ဒေါ်မြင့်မြင့်အေး၊ ကိုသန်းဝင်း၊ ကိုကျော်ဌေး(နယူးလိုက်အော့ဖ်မြန်မာသတင်းစာတိုက်)တို့၏ ဖခင် ဦးတင်အေးသည် ၂၇-၈-၂၀၀၄ (သောကြာနေ့) နံနက် ၅:၅၀တွင် ကွယ်လွန်သွား ဝါသဖြင့် ကြွင်းကျန်ရစ်သော ရုပ်ကလာပ်ကို ၂၉-၈-၂၀၀၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) မွန်းလွဲ ၂:၀၀ နာရီအချိန်တွင် ရေထေ့သင်္ဘောသို့ ပို့ဆောင် မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်မည် ဖြစ်ပါကြောင်း။

ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု။



Saturday, August 28 View on today:

- 7:00 am 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင် ရုပ်အသိဓမ္မဟာရဌာန၊ အဘိဓမ္မ အဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဓာတ်က၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am 3. Morning news
7:40 am 4. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am 5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
8:10 am 6. အရေးကြိမ်ပွဲ
8:20 am 7. စလင်းရေလှောင်တံ
8:30 am 8. International news
8:45 am 9. Grammar Made Easy
11:00 am 1. Martial Song
11:10 am 2. Musical programme

- 11:30 am 3. News
11:40 am 4. Games for children
12:05 pm 5. Round-up of the week's TV local news
12:30 pm 6. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သစ္စာချစ်ပန်း" (အပိုင်း-၂၁)
1:10 pm 7. ပသောင်းတံတား
1:20 pm 8. လောကနိတိ(၃) "အမေ့သား" မင်းဇော်ကွန်းစိုးမြတ်သူဇာ၊ စန်းစန်းဝင်း၊ (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်)
2:10 pm 9. Dance of national races
2:25 pm 10. သက်ရှည်ကျန်းမာမြန်မာ ရွှေစိမ်းပြာ (အပိုင်း-၁)
2:35 pm 11. သက်ရှည်ကျန်းမာမြန်မာ ရွှေစိမ်းပြာ (အပိုင်း-၂)
2:45 pm 12. International news
4:00 pm 1. Martial song
4:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm 3. English for Everyday Use.
4:45 pm 4. Musical programme
5:55 pm 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ

- တတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)
5:10 pm 6. Dance Variety
5:25 pm 7. Musical programme
5:40 pm 8. မြင်းခြံနယ်လှည့်ဆိုင်အဖွဲ့ ဖျော်ဖြေစဉ်
6:00 pm 9. မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစကား
6:15 pm 10. Musical programme
6:30 pm 11. Evening news
7:00 pm 12. Weather report
7:05 pm 13. Discovery
7:10 pm 14. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ကြီးသူယံလင်းပိုင်ငယ်" (အပိုင်း-၉)
7:35 pm 15. မြန်မာ့ဆေးလောက၏ သမိုင်းမှတ်တိုင်သစ် အသိအစားထိုးကုသခြင်း (အပိုင်း-၁)
7:45 pm 16. စစ်ကိုင်းတောင်ရိုးမညှိုးသည့် သာသနာ (အပိုင်း-၁)
8:00 pm 17. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. နိုင်ငံခြားဓာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နယူးသားထဲကတစ်ခုတည်း သောအချစ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
21. The next day's programme



Saturday, August 28 Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
8.35 am Music: Looking for heaven
8.40 am Perspectives
8.45 am Music: Jump for my love
8.55 am National news/Slogan
9.05 am Music: Be my lover
9.10 am International news
9.15 am Music: (Spotlight on a star)
1.30 pm News/Slogan
1.40 pm Request -Even now -A few good things -True love
9.00 pm AESAN review
9.10 pm Article
9.20 pm Myanma culture by Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt -Wa Khaung. The month of casting lots festival
9.30 pm Souvenirs -Moonlight promises -Sounds of silence
9.45 pm News/Slogan
10.00 pm PEL
10.30 pm Close

Dr. Daw Khin Thin Yi (May Maung) Obstetrics & Gynecologist (သားဖွားနှင့်မီးယပ်အထူးကု) Age 74. The only daughter of (Thakhin Ba Maung - Daw Sein), beloved wife of Professor Dr. Mya Thaug (Advisor/Consultant Urologist to the Defence Service Military Academy/Military Hospital), beloved mother of Major Zaw Win Aung (Retired Director, Director, Pole Star Survey Co., Ltd.) - Daw Oo Oo Mya, Dr. Khin Maung Phyu (A&O Co., Ltd.) - Daw Mon Mon Mya, Lt. Col. Aung Kyaw Hla.- Daw Ei Ei Mya, U Soe Min - Dr. Khine Yi Mya (Singapore), U Aung Kyaw Mya (MD, Aurora Corporation, Japan) - Daw Cho Hla Myint, (U Win Mya) - Daw Aye Aye Kyaw, beloved grandmother of 11 grand children, peacefully passed away on Friday 27-8-2004 at the residence No. 42 (A), Bawdiyektha, Thanlwin Road, Golden Valley (2), Bahan. Cortege left the residence on 12:30 pm on the same day for Yay Way Cemetery and the remain was cremated at the Yay Way Crematorium.

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of Republic of Croatia

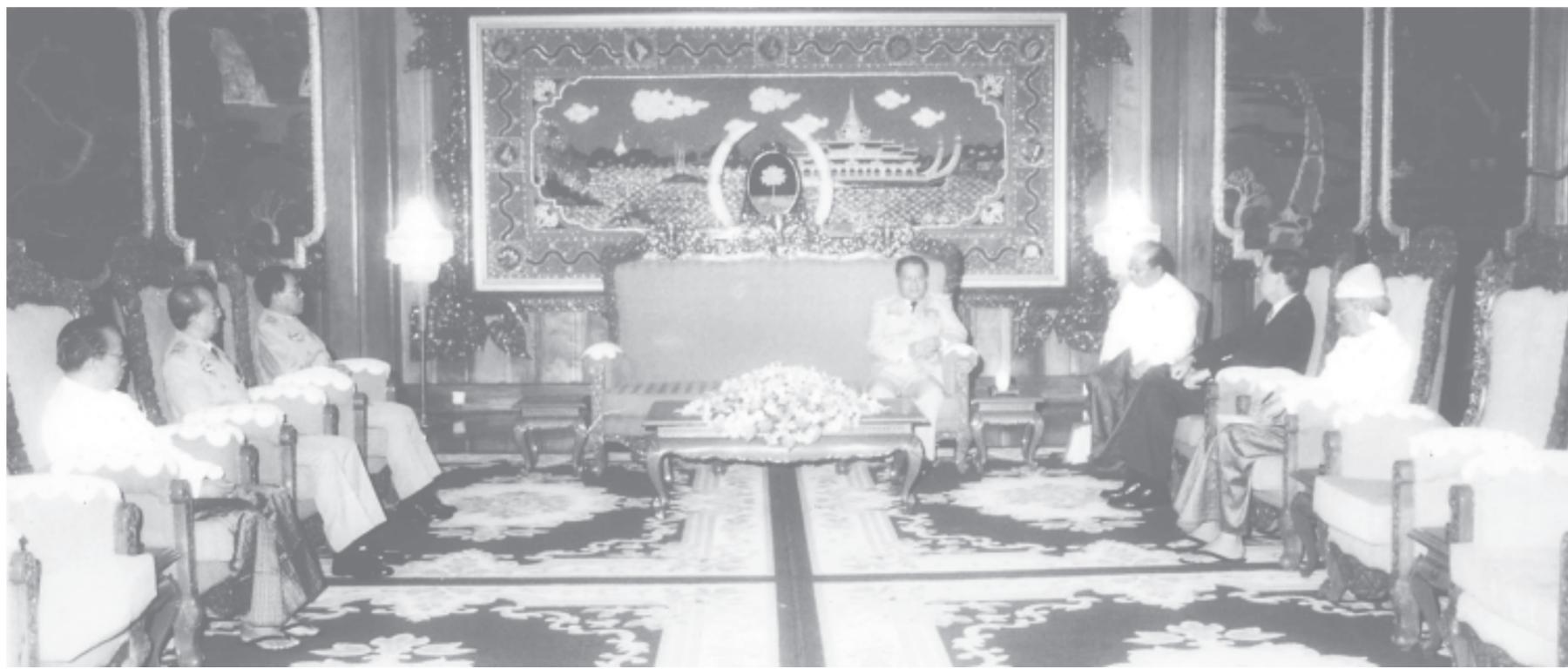
YANGON, 27 Aug — Mr Zeljko Cimbur, newly accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthta at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Win and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of Protocol Department. — MNA



State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe receives Croatian Ambassador. — MNA

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Croatian Ambassador. — MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects upgrading of Kanma-Thayet-Minhla Road, thriving monsoon paddy

YANGON, 27 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min and officials, inspected upgrading of Kanma-Yaynatha Road, bridges along it and thriving monsoon paddy and crops on 24 August evening.

On arrival at the jetty of Mindon Creek in Yaynatha Village, Deputy

Superintending Engineer U Soe Myint of Bridge Construction Project Special Group-13 of Public Works reported on completion of soil test to build Mindon Creek Bridge, site chosen for the bridge and the design.

Local people and vehicles cannot pass through Mindon Creek in the rainy season. So, they go 78 miles long route from Kanma to Thayet via Mindon through Patheingyi Road. On completion of the bridge, the locals can take shorter time to travel 28 miles and one furlong long road from Kanma to Thayet all the year round. Therefore, the

bridge can benefit over 17,000 local people from 24 villages on the route. Arrangements are being made for building the bridge as well as upgrading the road.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected condition of Natmitauk-Thayet Road and thriving monsoon paddy along the road, and they arrived in Thayet.

On 25 August, they saw over upgrading of roads and bridges, cultivation of monsoon paddy and crops and development of Thayet by car. At the junction of Thayet-Mindon Road and Thayet-Minhla Road, Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspected

conditions of the roads and gave instructions on upgrading tasks and extension of the roads. They also inspected extension of 60 miles long Thayet-Minhla Road.

At Baw Village, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met local people and heard reports on cultivation of monsoon paddy and development of the village. At Thin Creek Bridge, they inspected the road and instructed them to perform maintenance and durability of the bridge.

It is 170 feet long bailey Bridge and it can withstand 13-ton of loads. The bridge was built by Public Works last year. At

present, the bridge develops the line of transportation for commodities and over 34,000 local people from 39 villages along the road in Thayet and Minhla townships all the year round.

Before completion of the bridge, the 112/2 miles long road connected Minbu with Thayet via Mindon-Padan Road. Now, the new road is 86 mile long. Next, they proceeded to Magway through Minhla-Minbu Road. On 26 August, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met officers, other ranks and families of the local battalion at Bandoolla Hall in Thayet.

MNA

INSIDE

Perspectives
Let's work in concert for regional development (Page 2)

Article
ASEAN solidarity and firmness (Page 10)

NCC Commission, NCCWC and NCCMC meet (Page 11)

Armed Forces Day colour photo contest to be held (Page 11)