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Saturday, 5 August, 2006

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presents prizes to outstanding townships, districts, farmers of Yangon Division in agricultural sector for 2005-06

YANGON, 4 Aug — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony marking conclusion of monsoon ploughing season in Yangon Division for 2006-07, in conjunction with a paddy seed sowing contest after which prizes were presented to outstanding townships and persons. The ceremony held at the pandal in front of Hepatitis-B Medicine Factory in West Malit Village of Hlegu Township this morning was aimed at boosting agricultural production.

First, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivered an address. He said that Yangon Division has put 1,122,907 acres of land under monsoon paddy or 93.58 per cent against the target of 1.2 million acres. Likewise, 878,733 acres of early-monsoon paddy have been cultivated against the target of 877,115 acres. The ceremony to conclude the ploughing for monsoon paddy was held due to exceeding the target of early-

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presents the outstanding township award to Thongwa Township.
MNA



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monsoon paddy cultivation.

He added that arrangements are being made to extend double cropping of monsoon paddy in Yangon Division. Farmers are to conduct double cropping of monsoon paddy with concerted efforts. Furthermore, the Head of State

has given guidance to cultivate major crops with the use of four cultivation methods. In addition, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance, saying that utmost efforts are to be made for cultivation of 10 major crops to meet the target production.

It is known to all

that the project to green 30-mile radius of the International Airport is being implemented in Yangon Division. Therefore, local farmers are to take part in the greening tasks. Experts estimated that underground oil resources will run out in coming 40-50 years.

(See page 7)



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win delivers a speech. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 5 August, 2006

Prudent hydro electric power projects

As electric power plays an important role in the drive for the progress of the State's economic, production and social sectors, the government is scaling up implementation of electric power projects by tapping the natural resources.

In order to achieve this aim, it is now implementing 16 hydel power projects inclusive of Yeywa, Kunchaung, Pyuchaung, Khabaung, Yenwe, Shwegyin, Shweli, Kengtaung, Pathi and Thahtay hydel power projects. In addition, plans are under way to implement 15 more hydel power projects. Upon completion, it is estimated to be able to produce surplus electric power.

Some of them are multi-purpose projects designed to generate electricity and benefit farmland. Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project for example has started to irrigate some 35,000 acres of arable land and produce electric power through its underground power station.

Moreover, Yeywa, Kunchaung, Pyuchaung, Yenwe and Shwegyin multi-purpose hydel power projects have been in full swing. And Htamanthi, Maykha confluence, Shweli, Hatkyi and Tarhsan projects have prospects for production of electricity.

Simultaneously, the government is taking necessary steps for extended generating of electricity such as construction of more power stations, building and repairing sub-power stations and power lines, through which electric power is distributed, and upgrading the services related to distribution of electric power.

Now, Myanmar is laying groundwork to reach the level of establishment of diverse industries from the level of the establishment of industries based on agricultural produce. So, with extended generating and supply of electric power, significant contribution can be made towards the development of the industrial sector and the social-economic life of the people along with the improvement of the agricultural sector.

“သတိပေး နှိုးဆော်ချက်”

(က) မိုးရွာစဉ် ယာဉ်မောင်းလျှင် အောက်ပါအချက်အလက်များ သတိပြုပါ။

- (၁) လမ်းပေါ်တွင် စက်ဆီချောဆီများ ဖိတ်စင်လျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- (၂) မော်တော်ယာဉ်ဘီးများ ပန်းမရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- (၃) မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ လေပေါင်ချိန်များလွန်းလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- (၄) လမ်းပေါ်တွင် ရွှံ့နွံများရှိလျှင် လမ်းချော်နိုင်သည်။
- (၅) အရှိန်ပြင်းစွာ မမောင်းပါနှင့်။
- (၆) ဘရိတ်ကို ရုတ်တရက် မနင်းပါနှင့်။
- (၇) ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်များ ဟန်ချက်ညီမျှရန် ဂရုပြုပါ။
- (၈) ရေသုတ်တံပါရှိရမည်။ ကောင်းမွန်ရမည်။
- (၉) မိုးသည်းထန်စွာ ရွာသွန်း၍ မြင်ကွင်းမကောင်းလျှင် ရှေ့မီးကြိုးကို ဖွင့်မောင်းပါ။
- (၁၀) မြေသယ်ယာဉ်၊ အုတ်၊ သဲ၊ ကျောက် သယ်ယာဉ်များ ဖိတ်စင်မှု မရှိစေရန် လုံခြုံစွာ တင်ဆောင်ပါ။
- (ခ) အထက်ပါစည်းကမ်းချက်များအားမလိုက်နာ၍ ယာဉ်တိုက်မှု၊ ယာဉ်တိမ်းမှောက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ထိရောက်စွာ အရေးယူခြင်းခံရမည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ

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

Deputy Health Minister attends meeting on Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Preparedness in Asia

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Aug — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo arrived back here by air yesterday morning after attending the Health Ministers' and Livestock and Fisheries Ministers' Meeting on Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Preparedness in Asia held in New Delhi of India on 27 and 28 July.

The deputy minister was welcomed back by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and directors-general.

The preliminary meeting was held at Shangri-la Hotel in New Delhi on 27 July. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo explained implementation of the national strategic plan for prevention and control of avian influenza and human influenza pandemic preparedness and response in Myanmar.

On 28 July, the Health Ministers' and



Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo attends meeting on Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Preparedness in Asia in New Delhi. — MNA

Livestock and Fisheries Ministers' Meeting on Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Preparedness in Asia was held in New Delhi. WHO SEA Regional Director Dr Samlee Plianbangchang delivered an address.

The Minister for Health of Sri Lanka and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo presided over the

meeting, and all the participants discussed control and preparedness tasks being undertaken in their respective countries.

Speaker of Lok Sabha of the Indian Government Mr Sonmath Chatterjee declared Delhi Declaration on Avian Influenza.

Indian Minister for Health and Family

Welfare Dr Angumani Ramadoss gave the concluding remarks.

Members of the Myanmar delegation — Director Dr Nay Win of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Deputy Director Dr Tin Aye Kyi and Assistant Director Tin Tun Aung of the Ministry of Health — also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

ASEAN Radio Quiz for July concludes

YANGON, 4 Aug — The ASEAN Radio Quiz of Myanma Radio and Television-MRTV was held on 1st August at MRTV here.

Participants were quizzed about ASEAN affairs broadcast by MRTV in July.

Ma Khin Yadana Kyaw of Yankin Township won the first prize; Maung Myo Min Thu of Pyay the second; Ma Hnin Hnin Htwe of Sangyoung Township the third and Maung Phone Myint Kyaw of Mayangon Township the consolation prize of the quiz for July.

The quiz is held every first week of the month.

MNA



Prize winners of ASEAN Radio Quiz. — MNA

Good natured — truly Myanmar

- * Day and night, they speak ill of Myanmar
Nothing good included, incessantly
There's no end to it.
With much gusto, non-stop
What you call trash, is heard on and on
Unceasing, run-through
Surely, it's a bore
The nonsense that you hear without end
Jarring the ear, I get angry
What the heck, what they carry on
Speaking of trivia always
They seem not to tire.
- * While Bagyi Phyoo is saying his prayers
While he's spreading Metta quietly
Tuned in the RFA, what a mistake.
- * Excuse me Bagyi Phyoo, me Po Wa
While the elder is doing what is good
Excuse me for tuning that thing in
But let me say, these fellows
Only if they're broadcasting about Myanmar
Do they get a morsel, that's the truth.
- * "Hey, is that a fact
What a pity, these poor things
But if it's for a living
I give in with compassion, let them do their own thing,"
Heard from Bagyi Phyoo again
O, good natured — truly Myanmar.

Po Wa (Trs)

Vietnam opposes EU proposal on shoe anti-dumping duty

HANOI, 3 Aug — Vietnamese Trade Ministry has opposed a proposal of the European Commission (EC) on imposing a blanket anti-dumping duty of 10 per cent on all Vietnamese leather-upper shoes, including children shoes, local newspaper *Vietnam News* reported Thursday.

The newspaper quoted Vice Trade Minister Phan The Rue as saying that the proposal, which would be considered by the EC in September and by the European Union (EU) members in October, is unfair and groundless, running

counter to the spirit of trade liberalization initiated by the EU and the goal of reducing poverty in Vietnam supported by the block.

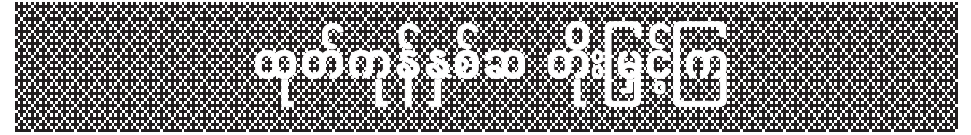
The proposal affects the smooth development in the Vietnam-EU relations, he said, noting that some EU members have opposed the planned anti-dumping duty.

The new anti-dumping duty, which would be in place for five years after being adopted, would hamper not only Vietnamese businesses, but also EU consumers, he said.

The new duty will re-

place the existing provisional rates of 4.2- 16.8 per cent. The provisional duties are being phased in over a period of six months, beginning at 4.2 per cent on Vietnamese leather-upper shoes, excluding children ones, on 7 April. Vietnam exported 265 million pairs of shoes of different kinds to the EU last year, of which 80 million pairs were covered by the provisional duties, according to data recently released by the EC.

MNA/Xinhua



A competitor controls robots play basketball during the "2006 Hong Kong Robot Olympic Games" in Hong Kong, south China, on 2 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Heat wave wrecks heavy losses on California's agriculture

LOS ANGELES, 3 Aug— Besides claiming more than 100 lives, record-breaking temperatures last month caused heavy agricultural losses in California, the most populous state in the United States.

The heat wave killed tens of thousands of livestock and many farmers were unable to dispose of animal carcasses due to the fact that rendering plants were over capacity,

the Governor's Office said on Wednesday.

In addition to livestock deaths, farmers have reported significant damages to tomato, corn, grape, apple and plum crops, the office said.

Preliminary losses to the dairy industry alone are estimated to exceed 1 billion US dollars statewide, according to the office. The state has initiated a request to the US

Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) to make emergency loans available to farmers and ranchers that experienced severe economic losses due to the heat.

"The record-breaking heat wave now moving across the US has left in its wake more than a billion dollars in damage to California's agriculture industry," said Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

on a tour of the hardest hit areas on Wednesday.

"I urge the USDA to speed relief efforts to California farmers and ranchers without waiting for final damage assessments to come in," said the governor.

Unrelenting heat wave smothered California for three weeks in July, pushing temperatures to record levels of 115 degrees Fahrenheit (45 Celsius) in many areas.

MNA/Xinhua



A baby boy with unusual multi-finger will take surgery in the People's Hospital in Hunan Province, on 3 Aug, 2006. The boy has seven fingers on his left hand, eight fingers on the right hand, and six toes on each foot.—INTERNET

Experts say Malacca Strait users may have to pay fees

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 Aug—Shipping vessels could soon have to pay a fee to use the Malacca Strait, as nations along one of the world's busiest waterways hunt for ways to share the costs of keeping it open and safe, experts said on Wednesday.

The 900-kilometre-long (550 miles) Malacca Strait links Asia with the Middle East and Europe, carrying about 40 per cent of the world's trade, including 80 per cent of the energy supplies of Japan and China. Littoral states Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia have stepped up patrols of the Strait in response to a surge of con-

cern over incidents of piracy that prompted London insurers Lloyds to list the region as a war-risk zone, boosting premiums.

MNA/Reuters



A Benz taxi refuels at a gas station in Shanghai, east China, on 2 Aug, 2006. First batch of 45 Benz taxi cars of Shanghai quitted the market in recent days due to climbing oil price etc.—INTERNET

Four Canadians dead in Afghan attacks

KABUL, 4 Aug— Four Canadian soldiers were killed and 10 wounded near the southern Afghan city of Kandahar in three incidents on Thursday, while 21 civilians were killed by a suicide bomb in the same area, NATO military officials said.

Suspected Taliban insurgents used rocket-propelled grenades to ambush a NATO patrol in

the village of Pashmul, killing three Canadian soldiers and wounding six Thursday afternoon, not far from where a roadside bomb killed another Canadian soldier and wounded one Thursday morning, NATO said.

Three hours later, another roadside bomb wounded three Canadian troops, NATO said.

The soldiers killed in the afternoon attack have not been identified. The soldier killed in the morning is Cpl Christopher Jonathan Reid, a NATO official said.

A NATO military convoy narrowly missed another attack in the early afternoon when a suicide car bomber struck a market in Kandahar's Punjwai district centre,

according to Canadian Army spokesman Maj Quentin Innes, a representative from the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force.

The Kandahar governor's office and the federal Interior Ministry said 21 civilians were killed and 13 were wounded in that market attack.—Internet

Six killed in car chase in Germany

BERLIN, 3 Aug— Six people in a BMW car were killed Wednesday in the eastern German state of Brandenburg when their car swerved off the road trying to flee high-speed police chase for possible human trafficking.

The other two occupants of the car, which had licence plates from the eastern city of Leipzig, were severely injured, a statement posted on the Brandenburg police website said.

Three people died instantly and the other three died in hospital after their car careened off the road and into trees near the village of Dannenreich, the police said, adding that a Czech and a Vietnamese citizen were among the six dead. The injured was sent to for treatment in a local hospital. —MNA/Xinhua



Chinese students from the Jiangxi Xishan International School Kung Fu Group practice during rehearsals at Redford Barracks for the 2006 Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Edinburgh, Scotland on 2 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

စက်မှုပိုင်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

China hopes UN resolution serve diplomatic efforts on Iran's N-issue

BEIJING, 3 Aug—China hopes the newly-adopted UN Security Council resolution on Iran's nuclear issue would serve the on-going diplomatic efforts to settle the standoff, Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao said on Tuesday.

The UN Security

Council on Monday adopted a resolution urging Iran to stop uranium enrichment activities by 31 August or face possible economic and diplomatic sanctions.

"We hope the resolution would conduce to the on-going diplomatic efforts on Iran's nuclear issue," Liu said.

China calls on all parties concerned to keep calm and exercise restraint, and continue to push forward early resumption of negotiations, the spokesman said. He reiterated that China will unswervingly play a constructive role to this

end.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 14 to 1. Qatar, the only Arab nation on the Security Council, cast the only negative vote.

China always supports the international non-proliferation mechanism and opposes proliferation of nuclear weapons, Liu said, adding, "We hope that no new turbulence appears in the Middle East," Liu said.

China holds Iran's nuclear issue should be peacefully solved through political and diplomatic efforts, the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua

Microsoft invites hackers to test Vista

LAS VEGAS, 3 Aug—After suffering embarrassing security exploits over the past several years, Microsoft Corp is trying a new tactic: inviting some of the world's best-known computer experts to try to poke holes in Vista, the next generation of its Windows operating system.

Microsoft made a test version of Vista available

to about 3,000 security professionals Thursday as it detailed the steps it has taken to fortify the product against attacks that can compromise bank account numbers and other sensitive information.

"You need to touch it, feel it," Andrew Cushman, Microsoft's director of security outreach, said during a talk at the Black

Hat computer-security conference. "We're here to show our work."

Microsoft has faced blistering criticism for security holes that have led to network outages and business disruptions for its customers. After being accused for not putting enough resources into shoring up its products, the software maker is trying to

convince outsiders that it has changed.

"They're going directly to the bear in the bear's lair," says Jon Callas, the chief technology officer at PGP Corp, which makes encryption software and other security products. "They are going to people who don't like them, say nasty things and have the incentive to find the things that are wrong."

Due early next year, Vista is the first product to be designed from scratch under a Microsoft programme dubbed secure development life cycle, which represents a sea change in the company's approach to bringing out new products.

Instead of placing the addition of compelling new features at the top of engineers' priority list, Microsoft now requires them to first consider how code might be misused.

Internet



JK Rowling and her Harry Potter Series. Two of America's heavyweight writers, John Irving and Stephen King, on 1 Aug, 2006 begged JK Rowling not to kill off Harry Potter in the final book of the series, according to a Reuters report. —INTERNET

Insecticide-treated clothing fights malaria

LONDON, 3 Aug—A new research suggests that spraying clothing with insecticide could provide a powerful new weapon against malaria.

Researchers of the African Population and Health Research Centre in Nairobi studied Somalian refugees living in camps in Kenya, and found that wearing clothing treated with the common insecticide permethrin reduced the chances of malarial infection by 70 per cent, according to a report by *New Scientist* on its website on Tuesday.

Permethrin is thought to be relatively benign, and the researchers reported no side effects among participants.

In Africa, efforts to prevent malaria transmission by mosquitoes currently concentrate on the provision of insecticide-treated bed nets which last up to five years and have been shown to cut the risk of infection by half.

However, the average household size in Kenya is 4.4 people, and only 3 per cent of households have more than one treated net.

So the researchers led by Elizabeth Kimani decided to investigate the extra personal protection offered by insecticide-treated clothes — a strategy already used to protect US military personnel operating in areas affected by malaria, and made the above-mentioned finding. — MNA/Xinhua



Photo taken on 3 Aug, 2006 shows the big wave in the harbour of Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province, as the Typhoon Prapiroon approaches. —INTERNET

British scientists provide new insights into brain organization

LONDON, 3 Aug— British scientists have provided new insights into the brain's organization after a sophisticated computer analysis of databases containing detailed information of worldwide anatomical studies on primate and worm brains, a report on the Alpha-Galileo website said on Tuesday.

Scientists from Newcastle University, Britain, found that long nerve fibre connections are just as vital to overall brain functions as short ones, debunking the prevailing theory that only the short fibre connections in the neural system function effectively.

The scientists said that long fibres are important because they can send messages quickly over a longer distance than the short ones over the same distance, and long fibres are more reliable for the transmission of messages over longer distances.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnamese man suspectedly infected with bird flu

HANOI, 3 Aug—A 35-year-old man from Vietnam's southern Kien Giang Province has been hospitalized after eating dead duck meat and then exhibiting bird flu symptoms, local media reported Thursday.

The man from Giong Rieng District was admitted to the Kien Giang General Hospital on 30 July after having high temperature and respiratory failure and the doctors said his lung has been severely damaged, according to *Youth* newspaper.

The patient's relatives said he slaughtered and ate a dead duck offered by a neighbour one week before hospitalization. Three days after eating the meat, he had high fever and took medicine at home.

Specimens from the patient are being tested for bird flu viruses. To prevent bird flu infections among people, Vietnam's National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, has asked for permission from the country's Health Ministry to test bird flu vaccines it made from monkeys' kidneys on volunteers late 2006, the newspaper said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Army devoted in full swing to military training

BEIJING, 3 Aug— All China's 2.3 million soldiers and officers are now devoted in full swing to military training to mark the 79th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), which falls on Tuesday.

China's Army has managed to sustain vitality for nearly eight decades since it has kept upgrading its functions and mis-

sions in line with times' demands, said Hu Wenlong, researcher with Chinese PLA Military Academy of Sciences and chief editor of the *Military Sciences Press*.

"Military training is an imperative task for fulfilling the Army's historical mission in the new century and the new development stage," Hu told *Xinhua*.

The PLA Daily has in-

tensively reported military exercises staged by the PLA's Army, Air Force and Navy, including missile launching exercises.

It reported that in a certain southern part of China the Air Force organized an exercise in late July with one team of advanced jet fighters playing the "Red Army" and another one playing the "Blue Army".

Hu stressed military

training, started in the beginning of this year, as the only way of improving the Army's power and combat capability amid an increasingly complicated international strategic situation dominated by information technologies.

An editorial published by *PLA Daily* Tuesday pointed out the conflict between the Army's modernization level and the requirements for winning a regional war in an IT-based era is now the major problem challenging the country's troops.

"The Army should shift its reliance from battle force and productivity to the development and innovation of scientific and information technologies, so as to be adapted to the global military reform trend," said the editorial.

It asks for putting into effect the scientific concept of development, which will help transform the Army building mode and promote fulfillment of the Army's new mission.— *MNA/Xinhua*



A paratrooper carries a boy wearing a beret during a celebration marking Russian Paratroopers' Day in Red Square in Moscow on 2 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

US Army recruits more than 300 older soldiers

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — The US Army has recruited only five soldiers aged 40 and older, and 324 people aged 35 and older, since the service raised its maximum enlistment age from 35 to 40 in January and from 40 to 42 in June this year, the *USA Today* newspaper reported on Wednesday, citing Army records.

To accommodate the older soldiers, the Army has lowered the minimum physical requirements needed to pass basic training. For male recruits at the age extreme of 17 years old, the minimum physical requirements are 47 sit-ups, 35 push-ups and 16 minutes and 36 seconds for a 3.2-kilometre run, while for male recruits at 41 years old, the requirements are 29 sit-ups, 24 push-ups, and 19 minutes and 30 seconds for a 3.2-kilometre run.

To trace more recruits, the Army also offers shorter active-duty periods for some new soldiers, and signing bonuses for those who persuade others to join. The US Army has the military's highest age limit. The Navy's age limit is 35, and the age limit for the Air Force and the Marines is 27. The Army, which provides most of the troops for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, missed its 2005 recruitment goal of 80,000 by 8 per cent.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Roadside bomb kills three construction workers in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 3 Aug — A roadside bomb went off in a downtown Bagh-

dad square early on Wednesday, killing three construction workers and wounding nine others, an Iraqi Interior Ministry source said.

"A roadside bomb detonated shortly after 6:00 am (0200 GMT) in the Taiyaran Square, where dozens of construction workers gathered for jobs," the source said on condition of anonymity.

The attack came after a deadly day of bombings and shootings across Iraq, during which at least 38 people including 20 Iraqi soldiers and a US soldier were killed.

MNA/Xinhua



The US Brig Niagara sails on Lake Michigan past the Chicago skyline on 3 Aug, 2006 during the Tall Ships Festival which includes 19 vessels and features tours through 9 Aug.—INTERNET

China's young talents become junior science academicians

BEIJING, 3 Aug— When Chinese teenager Chen Tianchan wanted to run his own robot, he created his own algorithm to use in the programme.

This invention won him and his primary school colleagues a gold medal in a nationwide robot competition.

It also earned the youngster from Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, a place as one of 41 budding scientists to become members of China's Junior Academy of Sciences. At the admission ceremony on Monday, Chen said, "I love to do experiments and I'm particularly happy when I'm overcoming new challenges."

All 41 students were from primary or high schools across the country. They were selected from 1,000 applicants, and were given the title "Junior Academician of the Chinese Junior Academy of Sciences", an unofficial organization sponsored by the Communist Youth League Central Committee.

Xie Sishen, a physicist and a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, encouraged the young innovators to keep up their scientific research. "You should always be prepared to devote your life to research," he said.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Suitcase bomb found in German train

BERLIN, 3 Aug — A bomb was discovered in a suitcase aboard a German train, German news agency *DPA* reported on Tuesday.

The device, which included a canister of propane gas, a timer and wires, was disabled by specialists on Monday evening in the main railway station in the western German city of Dortmund, the report said.

The contents were capable of severely injuring or even killing people, *DPA* said, quoting a local prosecutor. Further investigation is underway, it reported.

MNA/Xinhua



Spanish actress Penelope Cruz smiles as she leaves a photocall to promote her latest film "Bandidas" (Bandits) in Madrid on 2 Aug, 2006. Cruz co-stars with Mexican actress Salma Hayek.—INTERNET

Traces of bird flu detected in Netherlands' Gelderland

BRUSSELS, 3 Aug— A poultry farm near Voorhuizen in the Dutch province of Gelderland was sealed off on Tuesday after traces of bird flu were detected there, Dutch news agency *ANP* reported.

Virologist Ab Osterhaus stressed the traces were of a mild form of the avian flu.

He said this variant is far less virulent than the one that led to the culling of millions of chickens and other poultry in the region in 2003.

It is also far removed from the H5N1 strain that can be deadly for humans, he added. It was reported that the Ministry of Agriculture has imposed a ban on the transportation of

live or dead poultry, eggs or feed within a three-kilometre zone around the factory. Shipments of pigs and cows are also prohibited if the destination is a farm within the zone.

Other poultry farms in the region have been ordered to take measures to ensure visitors do not come into contact with poultry.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Russia says UN weakened by US support of Israel

Moscow, 3 Aug—Russia and other UN Security Council members are unhappy Washington is blocking attempts to pressure Israel over its offensive in Lebanon, its ambassador to the United Nations said. Vitaly Churkin told the

Izvestia newspaper in an interview published on Wednesday the US position had weakened the position of the United Nations on the crisis. “Discontent has been rising recently among Security Council member countries with the fact that

the US is prepared to block any decision which would bring pressure to bear on Israel,” Churkin said. “This discontent is expressed practically every day by many delegations during consultations on Lebanon,” he said.

Churkin said that when Council members discussed Israel’s killing of four unarmed UN peacekeepers, US officials had removed any words that could cast a shadow on Israel’s action. “The Americans and the English have a rather different position. But there are some signs that the US is starting to understand that it must work towards ending this bloody nightmare.”

Britain has stuck closely to the US line that a ceasefire must be “sustainable”—seen by some critics as a green light for Israel to go on bombing Lebanon. Russia is a permanent, veto-wielding member of the Security Council along with Britain, China, France and the United States.

MNA/Reuters



Margaret Chan, the candidate for Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), speaks to media before departing for Geneva, in Hong Kong, south China, on 2 Aug, 2006. Margaret Chan said Wednesday that she becomes more confident with the support from China’s central government as well as the government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).—INTERNET



Ryan Garcia, 8, watches Lee, a six-year-old male polar bear, at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, Illinois on 2 Aug, 2006, as temperatures soared to 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celcius). —INTERNET

Over two-thirds of US National Guards not ready for combat

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug—The chief of the US National Guard said Tuesday that over two-thirds of the Army National Guard’s 34 brigades were not ready for combat and that they would need as much as 21 billion US dollars to meet their basic equipment requirements. “I’m talking about basic things — trucks, communications, en-

gineer equipment, helicopters, night-vision devices, radios,” Lieutenant-General Blum said of the National Guard’s needs. The National Guards have been providing a significant portion of US soldiers in Iraq, and has deployed more than 6,000 troops in the four southwestern US border states to stem the flow of

illegal immigrants. Also on Tuesday, Democrats released a letter from defence and foreign policy experts that said two-thirds of the Army’s operating force was not ready for action. The problem for the National Guard, Blum said, was worse than that for the Army. MNA/Xinhua

Blair faces growing criticism over Middle East

LONDON, 3 Aug—British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s persistent refusal to listen to appeals from his Cabinet ministers to seek an early ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon has triggered growing criticism and dissent over his tough approach towards the Mideast conflict. Speaking at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council on Tuesday, Blair admitted that the US and Britain were losing the battle for mainstream Muslim and Arab opinion. The West was “very far” from persuading world opinion that it was fair or even-handed, said Blair, who was in Los Angeles, after meeting with President George W Bush last Friday for talks

on the deployment of an international force and an eventual ceasefire in Lebanon. But senior Labour figures will be furious that Blair has once again failed to call for an immediate ceasefire in the Middle East. As he returns to Britain, Blair will find himself isolated from his own Cabinet over the issue. Last week, Jack Straw, the former foreign

secretary, became the first Cabinet minister to deliberately break the Cabinet line by criticizing Israel’s response as “disproportionate”. According to local reports, current Foreign Secretary Margaret Beckett tried but failed to get Blair to call for an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon when he met Bush last Friday. MNA/Xinhua



Christie’s employee Leonie Ashfield poses next to the T’Pol’s Original Series-style Starfleet minidress (blue) on display at Christie’s auction house in London on 2 Aug, 2006. The piece will be auctioned in October by Christie’s New York and is estimated to reach \$600-\$800.—INTERNET

Bombings, shootings kill 55 in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 3 Aug—Bombings and shootings killed up to 55 people in Iraq on Tuesday, including at least 23 soldiers, attacks some angry residents said showed the new government was unable to stop the violence wrecking the country. A roadside bomb attack on a bus filled with Iraqi troops on a road between Tikrit and Baiji, north of Baghdad, killed at least 23, the Army said. A British soldier was killed in a mortar attack on an Army base in the southern city of Basra, a British military spokesman said. In Baghdad, a suicide bomber in a car targeted soldiers collecting their

salaries from a bank, killing at least 10 people, including an elderly woman, police said. State television put the toll at 14. The attack was in the same spot in the Karrada District where a car bomb and mortars killed at least 27 people last week. MNA/Reuters

charged, Staff Sergeant Raymond Girouard, told him if he were arrested he would try to get out of it on medical grounds because he had Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. “They just smiled,” said Mason. “I told him (Girouard) that I am not down with it. It’s murder.” The soldiers—Private

Witness says US soldiers smiled before killings in Iraq

TIKRIT (Iraq), 3 Aug—US soldiers charged with murdering three detainees in Iraq smiled before carrying out the shootings and threatened to kill another soldier if he informed on them, a military court heard on Wednesday. Prosecution witness Private First Class Bradley Mason said one of those

charged, Staff Sergeant Raymond Girouard, told him if he were arrested he would try to get out of it on medical grounds because he had Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. “They just smiled,” said Mason. “I told him (Girouard) that I am not down with it. It’s murder.” The soldiers—Private

First Class Corey Clagett, Specialist William Hunsaker, Girouard and Specialist Juston Graber — are from the 101st Airborne Division and are based in Samarra, north of Baghdad. They have said the three men who were killed were trying to escape during the shootings. MNA/Reuters

Sayadaw to deliver sermon on 8 August

YANGON, 4 Aug — Presiding Sayadaw of Wailuwun Monastery in Sangyoung Township Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Agga Vamsa will deliver a sermon at Maha Theindawgyi in Pabedan Township at 7 pm on 8 August (Full Moon Day of Wagaung).

Sayadaw Agga Vamsa is also a member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. — MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presents prizes to outstanding townships, districts, farmers ...

(from page 1)

All the countries are conducting researches on bio-diesel to be substituted in the place of diesel. Physic nut seeds can be used for extraction of bio-diesel. Therefore, all the farmers are to grow physic nut plants in all villages. In conclusion, the commander expressed his

pleasures for holding the ceremony to present prizes to outstanding farmers and townships.

Next, chairmen of four District PDCs presented reports on the completion of ploughing for monsoon paddy in Yangon Division for 2006-07 to the commander.



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win put fingerlings into paddy fields.—MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander and wife viewed participation of members of Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association in the

paddy seed sowing contest, weeding and fertilizer broadcasting tasks.

They released fingerlings into the paddy field.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party inspected thriving paddy plantations. The commander and wife and officials presented gifts to those who participated in the weeding and fertilizer broadcasting tasks.

They visited fertilizers and agricultural equipment at booths and sales centres of departments, enterprises and private-run industries.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented the outstanding township award for all-round agricultural production for 2005-06 to

Thongwa Township, the outstanding district award for boosting GDP for 2005-06 to Yangon East District and the first prize in direct paddy seed sowing contest to Kayan Township.

The commander also gave prizes to other outstanding townships and districts. Later, officials presented prizes to Thongwa Township and farmer U Thein Han for pulses and beans production, Thongwa Township for monsoon paddy production for 2005-06, and Taikkyi Township for summer paddy production for 2005-06; first, second and third prizes to Kyauktan, Thongwa and Kayan townships respec-

tively for outstanding performance in disbursement of loans for growing monsoon paddy and Hlegu Township for that of summer paddy cultivation; first, second and third prizes to Taikkyi, Twantay and Htantabin townships respectively for outstanding performance in releasing fish into the paddy fields in 2005-06; first, second and third prizes to Taikkyi, Thongwa and Kayan townships respectively for sale of Leyar-16 power-tillers, third and consolation prizes to Twantay and Hmawby townships in the paddy seed direct sowing contest, and gifts to private entrepreneurs and companies. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presents prize to Hlegu Township team. — MNA

UMFCCI executive leaves for Japan

YANGON, 4 Aug — Executive U Aung Kyi Soe of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry left here by air for Japan on 29 July to attend the AMEICC Trading Program on Distribution Logistics for COEs (AMDL-1) to be held in Yokohama, Japan from 31 July to 11 August. He was seen off at the airport by UMFCCI General-Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing. — MNA

Myanmar delegation arrives back from Jakarta

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Aug — Myanmar Delegation led by Deputy Attorney-General U Myint Naing arrived back here yesterday after attending the 3rd China-ASEAN Attorney-Generals' Meeting held at Jakarta, Indonesia, from 31 July to 2 August.

The delegation was welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, Director-General of the Attorney-General's Office U Mya Nyein and officials.

Members of the delegation U Ah Lone Maung and U Htay Lwin Win also arrived back on the same flight. — MNA

World Breastfeeding Week ceremony observed in Yangon East District

YANGON, 4 Aug — Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee observed the World Breastfeeding Week at Yankin Education College here this afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai attended the ceremony.

The commander presented prizes to winners in the quiz to mark the World Breastfeeding Week, and



Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai gives prize to a winner. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presents prize to a winner. — MNA

Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai, prizes to winners in the one-act play contest.

Obstetrician and Gynecologist Dr Daw Ohn Myint of South Okkalapa Women's and Children's Hospital gave lectures on systematic breastfeeding. Chairman of Yangon East District MCWSC Daw Nan Shwe Yin presented gifts to Dr Daw Ohn Myint.

Next, the one-act play on breastfeeding was presented to the audiences. After the ceremony, Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai and party provided assistance to expectant mothers and breastfeeding mothers. — MNA

Myanmar's efforts to combat human trafficking (1)

Khin Yun San

Now, the problem of trafficking in persons is rampant throughout the world. The international community has accepted that human trade is a form of slave trade that has been extinct for more than 200 years, and it reared its ugly head again as modern slavery around 1990. According to the researchers, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rapid advancement of information technology are two of the causes that make slavery or trafficking in human beings resurface. In particular, women from the Eastern Europe were increasingly trafficked into the Western Europe and it has had a transnational impact around the world.

Human trafficking is a sort of crime that needs small investment but is greatly lucrative. So, avaricious people gang up to commit such crimes irrespective of region. Now, along with terrorism challenging the world and drug production, trafficking in persons is posing a grave threat to the entire mankind. So, the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto were prescribed unanimously in 2000 and are being implemented globally with a firm resolve.

According to researches human trade is a clandestine crime, and so it is hard to find out the exact number of the victims and it is estimated that more than 27 million people have been trafficked so far; that one million to two million people are trafficked yearly; that annual total profits from the human trade would amount to more than US\$ 1.5 trillions; that a recent study has showed that the Asian countries where such crimes occur include China, Thailand, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Vietnam and the victims from those countries are mostly sent to the US, Britain and Japan; that yearly about 300,000 women and children from Mekong Region including Myanmar are trafficked; and the rate of crimes on human trade of South-East Asian countries represents 54 per cent of that of Asia.

Myanmar is home to diverse national races and the majority of the population believe in Buddhism. So, most of them are religious. Myanmar

national people are originally generous, sympathetic, helpful and open-minded. In particular, residents in border areas are more honest and gullible. So, they are easy targets of human traffickers. As the people in border areas have easy access to neighbouring countries, they tend to be easily deceived into sex trade in these countries after they have illegally entered the countries to earn money.

Human trafficking is a trade, torture, coercion into prostitution, and exploitation, harming the lives and dignity of the victims. The majority of the victims are women and children who can easily fall into the tricks of the traffickers.

Traditionally, Myanmar society value self-esteem and dignity dearly. The events that harm dignity have been religiously and traditionally alien to Myanmar from time immemorial. And human trafficking is absolutely unacceptable to Myanmar society and such a crime tarnishes the dignity and prestige that Myanmar people value and preserve. So, anti-human trafficking campaigns are being launched as national duty across the nation.

People initially became aware of the problem of trafficking in persons around 1990. And around 2000, it developed to a serious case. Since then, Myanmar has been aware of such problem. After attending the World Women's Conference held in Beijing in 1995, Myanmar launched its drive to combat human trafficking that harms the life security of women. In the process, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was formed under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement on 3 July 1996. The committee laid down a policy on the development and life security of women and has been implementing it since then. Under the committee are various work committees that pay serious attention to prevention of women and children against being trafficked.

The Myanmar National Work Committee for Women's Affairs led by the deputy minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement was established on 7 October 1996, and the Work Committee for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons led by the deputy minister for Home Affairs on 17 July 2002.

With the aim of fighting the problem of trafficking in persons in various aspects, the National Plan of Action consisting of prevention, prosecution, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration was promulgated in 1997 and is being implemented.

In 1997, the National Task Forces made up of governmental departments and representatives of non-governmental organizations were formed. The National Task Forces have been educating the public through mass media such as educative talks, pamphlets, and video plays. The committees at all levels are presenting educative plays through Myanmar Radio and Television and Myawady TV and in the video halls in wards and villages. An educative video play with Myanmar and Shan language subtitles featuring ten true stories about human trafficking was produced and the play is now being shown in towns and villages of border areas in Shan State.

In 2000, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs in cooperation with UNIAP, a UN body to curb human trafficking in the Greater Mekong Region, formed a mobile training team comprising representatives of various departments. It has already trained about 500 departmental personnel in the states and divisions. It has been disbursing small loans to women to prevent them against going to the other country to earn their living. It is also providing financial assistance to the poor children to be able to go to school.

The central committee led by the director-general of Myanmar Police Force and subordinate committees at state/division, district, township and village levels have been formed to prevent illegal migration to other countries, the main reason behind the cause of human trafficking. The committees that started their activities on 23 September 2001 have dissuaded 838,541 persons from leaving the country illegally and also arrested 1,413 human traffickers.

Myanmar with her resolve to eliminate trafficking in persons, successfully held the first national level meeting on human trafficking in Yangon on 25 and 26 May 2002. The meeting was co-sponsored by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs, UNIAP, UNICEF and Save the Children (UK). The meeting has been a milestone in Myanmar's anti-human trafficking campaign as it has enhanced the cooperation of the UN agencies and international NGOs in the cause. The nation has been in the process of implementing the 11 future working programmes laid down by the meeting.

Human trafficking is a trade, torture, coercion into prostitution, and exploitation, harming the lives and dignity of the victims. The majority of the victims are women and children who can easily fall into the tricks of the traffickers.

(See page 9)

Myanmar's efforts to combat human trafficking (1)

Khin Yun San

(from page 8)

In accord with the MoU Myanmar has signed with Australia, she in cooperation with Asia Regional Cooperation to Prevent People Trafficking (ARCPPT) project held workshop on human trafficking 14 times in all the major towns of states and divisions beginning 2003.

As Myanmar has been giving priority to international cooperation, she became a signatory to the ARCPPT project comprising Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos on 22 December 2003. The project trained police officers and formed 40-member Specialist Anti-Trafficking Unit in 2004. On 3 September 2004, Myanmar organized the Transnational Crime Department with 99 members to enhance international cooperation.

Myanmar hosted in Yangon on 29 October 2004 a ministerial meeting at which ministers of six countries — China, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam in the Mekong region signed an MoU to collectively combat trafficking in persons. After the promulgation of the Regional Action of Plan, the six countries have been promoting cooperation.

ASEAN countries are cooperating with one another in fighting against human trafficking in accord with the declaration released at the ASEAN-Summit held in Laos in November 2004.

Extended international cooperation is enhanced by legal actions taken against the traffickers on a wider scale. The formation of the

Work Committee for Human Trafficking Prevention on 17-7-2002 is followed by sustained efforts to give special attention to taking severer legal action against human traffickers. Subordinate committees at different levels in 14 states and divisions are gathering information about trafficking agents, conducting surprise checks and exposing the agents.

The committees were able to expose and arrest 1,484 persons — 815 males and 669 females — in 748 human trafficking cases during the period from 17-7-2002 to 30-6-2006. Of the criminals, two were sentenced to life imprisonment, 95 to ten years and above, 333 to five years and above and 154 to less than five years. Moreover, the bodies were able to rescue in time 3,694 persons — 1,904 males and 1,790 females — who fell prey to the tricks of the agents, and sent them back to their families properly. The following table shows the actions taken against traffickers annually.

Year	cases	criminals	persons saved
2002	99	163	543
2003	195	377	932
2004	180	382	1157
2005	213	442	824
2006	61	120	238
Total	748	1484	3694

The government has never taken action against anyone of the victims who returned to the nation after illegally left it for abroad. It even opened a reception camp in Myawady at the border to welcome back and

provide assistance to the victims of human trafficking. The centre had received 20,072 persons facing troubles abroad and sent them back to their families from 18-2-2002 the day on which it is opened to 30-6-2006. In cooperation with UNIAP, SC (UK) and World Vision, the government welcomed and sent back the 303 victims of human trafficking to their homes. The victims were sent back by a foreign country.

The MPF's Anti-Trafficking Units in Yangon, Mandalay, Kale, Bhamo, Muse, Tachilek, Kawthoung, Myawady and Mawlamyine set up task forces to curb the crime more effectively. Beginning early 2006, anti-trafficking task forces formed in nine major cities of the states and divisions have been distributing educative flyers and holding talks in border towns and villages where trafficking is frequent. Members of the task forces are skilled in their work as they have been trained by experts of ARCPPT.

In addition to curbing the crime on all fronts, Myanmar has been paying special attention to international cooperation. It is also a signatory to the following agreements it has been materializing together with other participating nations:

1. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), signed in 1991.
2. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), signed in 1997.
3. Forced Labour Convention No 29, signed in 1955.
4. The Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (CTOC), signed in 2004.
5. The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, signed in 2004.
6. The Protocol to Combat Smuggling of Migrants in Land, Sea and Air, signed in 2004.
7. The Convention Against Corruption, signed on 2 December 2005.
8. The Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed on 17 January 2006.

(To be continued)

Myanmar Alin & Kyemon: 4-8-2006

(Translation: MS+TMT)

People started to notice the problem of trafficking in persons around 1990. And around 2000, it developed to a serious case. Since then, Myanmar has been aware of such problem. After attending the World Women's Conference held in Beijing in 1995, Myanmar launched its drive to combat human trafficking that harms the life security of women. In the process, the Myanmar National Committee for Women's Affairs was formed under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement on 3 July 1996. The committee laid down a policy on the development and life security of women and has been implementing it since then. Under the committee are various work committees that pay serious attention to prevention of women and children against being trafficked.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise holds coord meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Aug — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi delivered an address at the meeting of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise at the hall of the ministry, here, on 1 August morning.

In his speech, the minister said that fuel price is very high in the world. While maintaining production of oil and natural gas for ensuring fuel sufficiency, more oil wells are to be drilled. Qualified and honest persons are to be nurtured for tasks of the enterprise.

Officials and oil field managers submitted reports on accomplishments on the resolutions of the previous meeting and productions of the oil fields.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, Director-General U Soe Myint of Energy Planning Department and Managing Director U San Lwin of MOGE reviewed sector-wise reports.

The minister laid down the target productions of the oil fields for 2006-07 financial year and future tasks for boosting production of oil and gas.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA

MMCWA President receives UNICEF Resident Representative

President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win receives Resident Representative of UNICEF Mr Ramesh M Shrestha.

MNA



YANGON, 4 Aug — President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Khin Win received Resident Representative Mr Ramesh M Shrestha of UNICEF at the office of MMCWA this

afternoon. At the meeting, the President and CEC members explained facts about MMCWA and conducted the Resident Representative round the documentary photos of MMCWA's activities.— MNA

F&R Minister receives Chairman of China Development Bank



Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun receives Mr Chen Yuan, Chairman of China Development Bank. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Aug — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun received Chairman of China Development Bank Mr Chen Yuan and party of the People's Republic of China at the ministry, here,

yesterday. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung of the Central Bank of Myanmar and officials.

MNA

Medicines, medical equipment donated to Women's Hospital, General Hospital



Medical Superintendent Dr Pe Win accepts medicines and medical equipment worth K 4.6 million donated by MMCWA. — MNA

YANGON, 4 Aug — Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association donated medicines and medical equipment to Central Women's Hospital and Yangon Western General Hospital today.

CEC Member of MMCWA Daw Khin Nwe Nwe presented medi-

cines and medical equipment worth K 7.6 million to Medical Superintendent of CWH Dr Shwe Oh. At Yangon Western General Hospital, Medical Superintendent of the hospital Dr Pe Win accepted medicines and medical equipment worth K 4.6 million.

MNA

Loss of peace, stability will be...

(from page 16)
all the more. It is believed that those who had completed the training course will be able apply practically what was taught in the course as they had studied and learned various subjects.

Under the correct leadership, all the USDA members are to strive for improvement of socio-economic life of the people and development of human resources through integrated and well-coordinated efforts. Now, thanks to concerted efforts of the Government, the Tatmadaw and the people, unprecedented progress has been made in all spheres while systematic steps are being taken for development of the agricultural, electric and industrial sectors. As the government has been able to bring about har-

monious development in the states and divisions there prevails peace and stability in all parts of the nation where all-round development has been achieved.

Rural people constitutes over 70 per cent of the nation's population. This being the case, efforts are being made for success of the five rural development tasks, establishment of self-reliant libraries and acquisition of power supply in rural regions.

Since yore, Myanmar has a fine tradition of national unity because of the bonds of amity between the national races. Myanmar people stand on patriotism they have in their hearts. Patriotism is the foundation of national development endeavours. Patriotism must be forged among the na-

tional people. Myanmar is heading towards emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic state, which is the national goal.

The association should make concerted efforts together with the people for the successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map to reach the goal. At the same time the members should know the danger of destructive elements. USDA members should see nature of constructive endeavours and destructive acts. Destructive acts will hinder the national development endeavours. Some organizations from inside and outside the nation are floating fabrications based on self-interest while turning a blind eye to the objective conditions in their attempt to harm national

stability and unity. Those acts were against the national interest.

The members should beware of the recurrence of evil consequences of the 1988 unrest. The people's lives and wishes have changed with the passage of time during the period of one decade after the unrest. Private enterprises have been emerging in the nation enjoying unprecedented development during the period.

Loss of peace and stability will be followed by the fall of production, trade and services enterprises set up by the people

themselves that will harm the socio-economy. All in all, destructive acts will only hinder the efforts to build a new nation.

All the members are to rebut any false accusations so as to get the people to know the truth and to speed up their work for regional peace and stability and development. In addition, they are needed to fend off any destructive acts through the strength of the people.

In conclusion, he said, all the trainees are to strive for regional development by employing the knowledge and experiences gained from the train-

ing course; they are to organize the people to have ever-flourishing Union Spirit upholding Our Three Main National Causes; they are to work for the well-being of the people in accord with the future work programmes to enable the association to stand as a national force; and they are to work together with the public in accord with the 12 State objectives by keeping in the fore Our Three Main National Causes.

After the ceremony, U Htay Oo cordially greeted the trainees. The course was attended by 210 trainees and lasted four weeks. — MNA



ပြည်ထောင်စုမြေဟောင်းတော်

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှုပုံသဏ္ဍာန်၊ ဥပဒေပြုမှုအသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

စိုးမြကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

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ထွက်ပြီ

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Malaysia criticizes Western media of their one-side story in M-E

PUTRAJAYA , 4 Aug — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi Thursday criticized the Western media of focusing on reporting one-side story of the current worsening situation in Middle East.

“The Western media have been constantly reporting Israel’s side of the story and broadcasting pictures of Israeli families being forced to leave their homes or to seek shelter from Hizbollah’s rockets,” Badawi said in his opening speech at an emergency meeting attended by countries of the Organization of Islamic Conference (ICO) here.

the Western media has failed to give equal attention to the suffering and plight of the people in Lebanon and Palestine, the Malaysian Prime Minister said at the conference formally known as the Meeting of Friends of the Chair Of the 10th Islamic Summit Conference.

Malaysia, which currently chairs the 57-strong ICO, called the meeting at short notice to

“discuss the current situation and development in Lebanon and Palestine for determining the action to be taken by the ICO countries”.

“Stories and pictures concerning Lebanese and Palestinian women and children being bombed or driven from their homes have not received their equal share of air-time,” Badawi said.

Facing this situation, he called on the national media in the ICO countries to play a “proactive” role and make sure all sides of stories were told.

In his speech, Badawi also urged ICO member countries and the international community to work out a practical plan of actions to bring back peace to the Middle East.

MNA/Xinhua

African trade with China growing

LUSAKA, 4 Aug — African trade with China has grown remarkably with the continent’s exports rising by 72 per cent in 2005, dwarfing the 30-per-cent increase in African exports to its traditional trade corridors to Europe, said the Africa Focus of Standard Chartered Bank here on Wednesday.

The total trade between China and Africa reached 40 billion US dollars in 2005, in a sharp contrast with four billion dollars in 1995, according to the bank.

To facilitate the trade with Africa, China has scraped tariffs on 190 types of imported goods from 28 of the least developed African countries, the bank said.

It added that Africa exports to China consist of oil, timber and cotton while China’s exports to Africa comprise mainly machinery, electronics, textiles and hi-tech products.

MNA/Xinhua

Tropical storm “Prapiroon” strikes Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 4 Aug — Tropical storm Prapiroon struck Hong Kong with strong wind and heavy rain Thursday, affecting at least 80 flights.

The thunderstorm will force more than 80 flights to delay leaving or landing at Hong Kong, according to sources from the Airport Authority Hong Kong. Cathy Pacific Airways announced Thursday morning it will cancel all the 19 arrival and departure flights before 12:00 am (0400 GMT).

All ferry services between Hong Kong and Macao, and those between Macao and the Chek Lap Kok Airport in Hong Kong have been suspended.

Train services between Hong Kong and neighbouring Shenzhen City of south China’s Guangdong Province were also suspended due to fallen trees

which blocked the railways.

According to Hong Kong Observatory, the centre of the severe tropical storm Prapiroon was estimated to be about 290 kilometres southwest of Hong Kong.

Packing winds of typhoon Prapiroon is more than 70 miles an hour and it is moving toward the island province of Hainan in the south tip of China. The observatory has issued the No. 3 strong wind signal.

Hong Kong regularly suffers torrential rain and flooding from typhoons that pass by the area every year.

MNA/Xinhua



Xiao Hua, a two-year-old boy, cools off in the spray of a fountain at People’s Square in Shanghai on 1 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

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

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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.

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Oil plant leak damages third of Lebanon's coasts

LONDON, 3 Aug— Leaking oil from a bombed power station in Lebanon has damaged about a third of the country's coastline, the world's top maritime body said on Wednesday.

The UN International Maritime Organization

(IMO) said in a statement that some 10,000 tons of fuel oil had spilled into the Mediterranean from the damaged Jiyeh plant south of Beirut.

It said another 25,000 tons of the heavy oil slurry — similar to the type that devastated beaches in northern Spain following the *Prestige* oil tanker disaster in 2002 — could still escape from ruptured storage tanks.

"The Lebanese

coastline, for some 70-80 kilometres north of the power plant, has been affected. These areas are composed of sandy beaches, rocky beaches, fishing ports and marinas," the IMO said.

Lebanon's Environment Ministry says Israeli jets hit the storage tanks on 13 and 15 July and described the leakage as an environmental catastrophe.

MNA/Reuters

Manure mountains to power US ethanol plant

NEW YORK, 3 Aug — One company's drive to locate domestic sources of energy is taking a turn into the barnyard.

Panda Ethanol Inc has secured nearly 160 million US dollars in financing to build an ethanol plant that will be fired by mountains of manure in Hereford, a cattle town in the Texas panhandle.

"We've located a project in what I would call the Saudi Arabia of manure," said Todd

Carter, the company's chief executive officer.

The plant will gasify 1 billion pounds of manure a year to make 100 million gallons of ethanol. The manure will save the plant nearly 365,000 barrels of oil equivalent per year. Panda hopes to get it running by late next year.

Companies are racing to build ethanol plants as the oil industry uses the fuel as a replacement for gasoline additive MTBE, a suspected carcinogen.

Growing US motor fuel demand means ethanol production will need to grow by about 1.5 billion gallons per year.

Some environmentalists have questioned the green benefits of ethanol because some of the fuel's refineries use electricity from plants fired by coal, the dirtiest fossil fuel.

But Carter's "poop to pump" ethanol plant will fuel more than 90 per cent of its own energy needs by heating up manure until it releases methane, which it will then burn to make steam to fuel the plant. The process destroys the methane, a greenhouse gas at least 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Some environmentalists worry that runoff from farms that group large numbers of cattle together can pollute water supplies. But Carter said the plant will turn what already exists in the region into something useful. Ash from the process can be used to make cow bedding and cement, he said.

MNA/Reuters

Disruptive British mini-moto drivers face ban

LONDON, 3 Aug — Britons who drive mini-motos recklessly or cause problems in their community were warned by the government on Wednesday that they could be given a driving ban or even have their vehicles crushed.

Mini-motos, essentially small motorbikes which are marketed as toys, can only be driven

on private land and it is illegal to use unregistered machines on roads or pavements.

The bikes — an estimated 100,000 were sold in 2005 — have loud engines and can reach up to 60 miles per hour. Police say they have become a growing concern in some communities, causing a nuisance for local people.

Northumbria Police

said they had received 3,000 complaints about the bikes in the last year while in Reading 44 per cent of calls to an anti-social behaviour hotline related to mini-motos.

"Misuse of mini-motos is dangerous and is causing misery in too many of our local communities," Home Secretary John Reid said.

"I know people are experiencing increasing problems from the menace of misused mini-motos. This must stop."

Those who cause problems could have

points on their driving licence, face a fine or even have their vehicles destroyed.

Children, who are too young to hold a licence, could find insurance companies refusing to insure them once they have passed their driving test or at least vastly-inflated premiums.

Reid said police forces in 28 areas would share 200,000 pounds to step up enforcement action against those causing anti-social behaviour with their mini-motos. — MNA/Reuters

Drought affects more than 5mln people across China

BEIJING, 3 Aug — As provinces in eastern and southern China recover from floods brought by typhoons, drought is affecting the lives of more than five million people across the country.

Drought had caused temporary drinking water supply disruption for 1.3 million people in the southwestern province of Guizhou, said the provincial flood control and drought relief headquarters.

More than 270,000 hectares of crops and 900,000 domestic animals were also affected.

In mid-July, rainfall in northern, northeastern and southeastern parts of the province was about 50 to 70 per cent less than the average, it said.

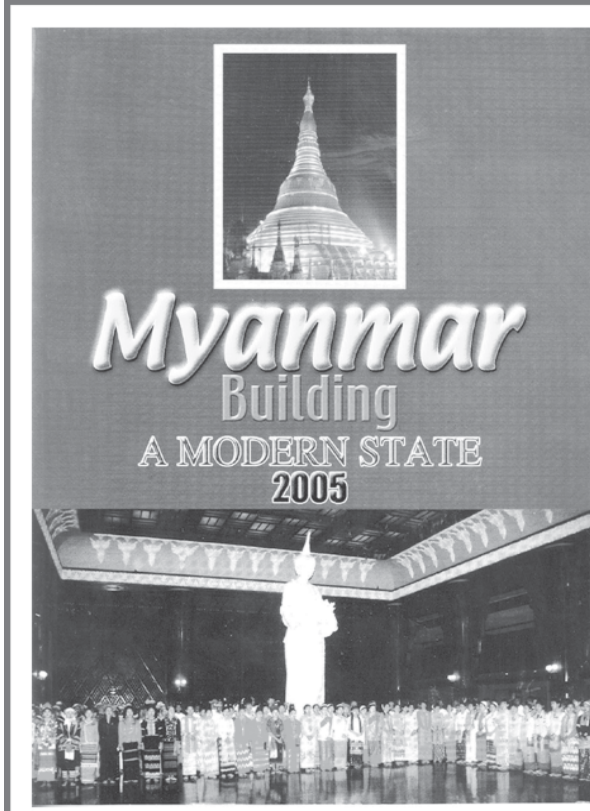
Forty-seven counties in these areas had less than 10 millimetres of rain. Reservoirs were 25 per cent down on normal

levels. More than 20 days of drought and high temperatures since early July have hit southwestern Chongqing Municipality, affecting the lives of 3.5 million people and three million livestock.

Eighty-three reservoirs in Chongqing have suffered water deficiencies, with stored water in some 60 to 70 per cent less than average, according to the municipal flood control and drought relief authorities.

Statistics show average rainfall in north China's Shanxi Province was only 65 millimetres in July, about half of the average of previous years.

MNA/Xinhua



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US to invest \$250m in development of biofuels

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — US Department of Energy (DOE) announced on Wednesday that it will invest 250 million US dollars in the development of cellulosic ethanol and other biofuels.

The money will be used to establish and operate two new Bioenergy Research Centres to accelerate basic research on the development, said Energy Secretary Samuel W. Bodman during a visit to Channahon, Illinois.

"This is an important step toward our goal of replacing 30 per cent of transportation fuels with biofuels by 2030,"

Bodman said.

"The mission of these centres is to accelerate research that leads to breakthroughs in basic science to make biofuels a cost-effective alternative to fossil fuels," he added.

The two centres will be dedicated to conducting systems research on microbes and plants, with the goal of harnessing

nature's own powerful mechanisms for producing energy from sunlight, said a statement released by the department.

A major focus will be on understanding how to reengineer biological processes for more efficient conversion of plant fiber, or cellulose, into ethanol, a substitute for gasoline, it said.

MNA/Xinhua



A man is taking photos of the panorama of Moscow, in Moscow on 2 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

No radioactive cloud hovering over Cyprus

NICOSIA, 3 Aug — The Department of Labour Inspection of the Cyprus Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance said on Tuesday that there was no reason for concern or panic over reports that a radioactive cloud containing enriched uranium is hovering above Cyprus due to a conflict in Lebanon.

A statement issued by the department, which is in charge of radiation protection, informed the public that it was monitoring the situation and assured that there was absolutely no reason for concern, moreover,

no panic was justified.

The statement said that no notice has been received by international centres, which Cyprus is cooperating with and which monitor similar situations, adding that these centres inform

their members as soon as such situations appear.

The levels of radiation and concentration of dust in the atmosphere are being monitored by the Department of Labour Inspection and, according to data taken on a 24-hour basis, no increase of these numbers has been ascertained, it said.

This position is being reinforced by the fact that from the day hostilities began in Lebanon, the direction of the wind in the wider region of Cyprus is northerly to northeasterly, and the direction is expected to remain the same in the next three days, it said.

It said that the department will continue to monitor the situation and inform the public responsibly and promptly, while taking all necessary measures.

MNA/Xinhua



The space shuttle Atlantis arrives at launch pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 2 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Actor Mel Gibson charged with drunk driving

LOS ANGELES, 3 Aug — Actor and filmmaker Mel Gibson was charged on Wednesday with driving under the influence of alcohol, prosecutors said.

The misdemeanor charges, which accused him of driving with a blood alcohol count higher than the legal limit of .08 per cent, follow Gibson's arrest in Malibu last Friday after a deputy saw him speeding down Pacific Coast Highway in his Lexus. A police report that cited his drunken, anti-Semitic rant after that arrest has touched off a furor.

Gibson, who has since apologized for his actions and his inflammatory comments to the officer, is free on bail but is set for an arraignment on the charges on 28 September in Malibu.

MNA/Reuters

Zimbabwe earns \$70m from tobacco sales

HARARE, 3 Aug — Zimbabwe has sold some 35.8 million kilogrammes of flue-cured tobacco worth 70.2 million US dollars so far at the country's three auction floors.

Figures released by the Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board on Wednesday showed that a total of 17,895,063 kilogrammes of tobacco has been sold through the auction floors and 17,924,124 kilogrammes through the contract system as of Monday.

This is compared to 39.5 million kilogrammes of tobacco worth 58 million US

dollars that was sold during the same period last year.

The golden leaf fetched an average price of 1.96 US dollars per kilogramme with sales conducted through the auction averaging 1.90 US dollars per kilogramme and 2.01 US dollars for contract sales.

Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has so far paid growers early

delivery bonuses of 2.4 billion Zimbabwean dollars (about 10 million US dollars). Due to inputs shortages, Zimbabwe this year expects to produce 50 million kilogrammes of tobacco, down from last year's 74 million kilogrammes. Despite a decline in production over the years, tobacco still remains one of Zimbabwe's largest foreign exchange earners. —MNA/Reuters

Toyota becomes US No 2 auto retailer

LOS ANGELES, 3 Aug — Toyota Motor Corp became the US No 2 auto retailer in July after beating Ford Motor Co. in sales, data showed on Wednesday.

Toyota's feat owed much to its mage as a leader in fuel efficiency, market analysts said.

The Asian-based

automakers grabbed 41.4 per cent of the US passenger vehicle market in July, posting their best showing ever, according

to data received here on Wednesday.

In contrast, American automakers saw their share of the market slip to a record low of 52 per cent in July.

Toyota and its Lexus brand outsold Ford and its Lincoln and Mercury brands by 17,696 vehicles in the month. But taking into account the first seven months.

Toyota remained in fourth place in the US behind the three Detroit-area companies — the General Motors, Ford and Chrysler.

Toyota has outsold Chrysler in several months in the last two years to take the No. 3 position in the US. In 2003 it passed Ford in global sales to become second in the world behind GM.

MNA/Xinhua



One of the lesser panda twin cubs is weighed as 645 grams at the safari park in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, on 31 July, 2006. The male twins, born on 16 June, began to receive artificial feeding on Monday. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Rogério's penalty save prompts Sao Paulo goal rush

SAO PAULO, 4 Aug — Goalkeeper Rogério Ceni saved a penalty before defending champions Sao Paulo hit back to beat Guadalajara 3-0 and reach the Libertadores Cup final on Wednesday.

The Brazilians, who won 1-0 away last week with a penalty converted by Rogério, completed a 4-0 aggregate win and will face either Internacional or Libertad in the final.

The semifinal second leg was effectively settled in an 11-minute spell during the first half when Guadalajara missed the penalty and Sao Paulo then scored two quickfire goals.

The Mexicans had the better of the first half hour as they pressed forward.

Sergio Santana had a shot saved by Rogério's leg and shortly afterwards set up Adolfo Bautista, who fired wildly over from 15 metres when he should have scored.

Guadalajara wasted another golden chance in the 29th minute when they were awarded a penalty after Fabao held down Bautista at a free kick.

Mexico international Ramon Morales telegraphed his kick and Rogério, dived to his left to turn the ball away.

Guadalajara paid dearly four minutes later when Leandro slid home a loose ball after Ricardo Oliveira lost control. — MNA/Reuters



Britta Steffen of Germany celebrates her victory in the women's 100m freestyle final during the European Aquatic Championships in Budapest on 2 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Nike stay as Juventus sponsor despite relegation

MILAN, 4 Aug — US sportswear group Nike will still sponsor Juventus despite the club being demoted to Italian football's Second Division, a Nike spokesman said on Thursday.

Juventus' main sponsors — Nike and Libya's Tamoil — have been expected to renegotiate their contracts with the club after it was relegated for seeking an unfair advantage in the appointment of referees.

"We sponsor and we will continue to sponsor Juventus," the spokesman said. Nike has a 12-year sponsorship contract, for 12 million euros (15.36 million US dollars) a year, which started in 2003.

However, the spokesman declined to comment on whether the terms would be renegotiated. Tamoil has not commented on its deal with Juventus. At 0956 GMT, shares in Juventus were up 7.8 per cent at 1.82 euros. The stock has been extremely volatile, and shares have lost about one-fifth of their value since the scandal broke, recovering slightly over the past weeks.

Juventus potentially faces years of financial problems, with sponsorship income, television rights deals and ticket sales hit by the scandal over rigged matches.

The club was stripped of its last two Italian league titles and there has been an exodus of top players.

Italy's World Cup winning captain Fabio Cannavaro, midfielders Emerson and Patrick Vieira, plus defenders Lilian Thuram and Gianluca Zambrotta have all left. — MNA/Reuters



France defender William Gallas has upset Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho and the club as he failed to meet up with his teammates in Los Angeles for their pre-season tour, according to Reuters' report on Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Angry Mourinho accuses absent Gallas of lack of respect

LONDON, 4 Aug — Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho is upset by what he has called a lack of respect shown by France defender William Gallas in failing to report for their pre-season US tour.

Gallas, who said in May he wanted to leave the club, is in trouble after the 28-year-old did not join up with the rest of the squad in Los Angeles.

Asked about the effect of his absence, Mourinho told Sky Sports News on Thursday: "It's not only me that is upset — we're all upset.

"Everybody is upset because we had a strong family and a strong group and this has shown a lack of respect to everybody. And I don't like that."

The club, who are considering what action to take, if any, over the no-show, have now given the Frenchman's favourite number 13 shirt to new signing Michael Ballack.

Explaining some of the background, the Germany captain said: "Initially I wanted the 13 shirt and I was sad because it had already been taken.

"I had accepted the number 19 shirt. But two days ago the coach came and said 'okay, it's fine for you to have the 13'. There was no particular reason behind the decision."

Gallas, who has failed to secure a regular slot in his preferred centre back role, is also in the middle of contract negotiations with the club.

He has a year left on his current deal.

Chelsea are expected to deploy Ballack and fellow new signing Andriy Shevchenko against an MLS All-Stars team in a friendly this weekend in Bridgeview, Illinois. — MNA/Reuters

Celtic embarrassed 3-0 by Yokohama in Japan

YOKOHAMA (Japan), 4 August — Celtic's decision to travel 6,000 miles for a friendly against Japanese club Yokohama F-Marinos ended in an embarrassing 3-0 defeat on Thursday.

The Scottish champions had shrugged off their miserable pre-season form to beat Kilmarnock 4-1 in their opening match of the new campaign at the weekend.

Although below full-strength, Celtic were outplayed by a Yokohama side languishing in the bottom half of the J-League's First Division.

A fifth-minute header from Hideo Oshima stunned the Hoops before strike partner Norihisa Shimizu doubled Yokohama's lead four minutes before halftime.

Substitute Kenta Kano completed Celtic's misery by adding Yokohama's third in the 79th minute.

Japan midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura hit the crossbar with a free kick in the dying moments of the first half on his return to his former club but the visitors rarely threatened.

Doubts had been raised about the wisdom of flying to Japan before a tough visit to Hearts in the Scottish Premier League on Sunday. But Celtic manager Gordon Strachan was more upset at the manner of his side's defeat.

MNA/Reuters

Hewitt serves way into Washington quarters

WASHINGTON, 4 Aug — Third seed Lleyton Hewitt served his way into the quarterfinals of the Legg Mason Classic with a 6-1, 6-4 triumph over Germany's Denis Gremelmayr on Thursday.

Hewitt served just five aces but had no double faults and never faced a break point against Gremelmayr, a left-hander ranked 120th in the world.

"I had my rhythm out there right from the start," said Hewitt. "I felt like I was able to pressure on his service games throughout the whole first set. Pretty much every game I was in control."

In the last eight, Hewitt will face 11th seed Arnaud Clement of France, who blasted nine aces and never lost his serve during a 6-3, 6-2 upset of fifth seed Dominik Hrbaty.

Elsewhere, American Mardy Fish also advanced with a 6-3, 6-1 whipping of Andrea Stoppini, the Italian who stunned Andre Agassi in straight sets on Tuesday.

Top seed James Blake was playing two-time Grand Slam winner Marat Safin later on Thursday in the third round of the hard court tournament.

Hewitt looked fresh against Gremelmayr despite playing a gruelling 2- 1/2-hour, three-set match on Wednesday night against American Vince Spadea.

Gremelmayr recovered from his first-set debacle and was on serve in the second set at 4-5 before playing a loose service game and allowing Hewitt to close the match.

MNA/Reuters

Sharapova, Hingis sail into San Diego Classic 3rd round

WASHINGTON, 3 Aug — Maria Sharapova and Martina Hingis bagged easy wins to advance to the third round at the San Diego Classic WTA event Tuesday.

Russian second-seed Sharapova bounced back after trailing an early break in the first set before running the table to sweep past fellow teenager Vasilisa Bardina 6-4, 6-1 in one hour, 29 minutes.

Swiss ace Hingis breezed past Meilen Tu of the United States 6-2, 6-3, revenging a junior loss when Hingis was 13. Hingis lost to the unheralded American in the US Open junior title fight in 1994.

Number 11 Daniela Hantuchova moved through into the second round over Kveta Peschke when the Czech retire at 6-1, 4-0 down. Slovenia's Katarina Srebotnik, seeded 15th, defeated France's Marion Bartoli 6-3, 6-0.

MNA/Xinhua



World Boxing Association (WBA) light flyweight new champion Koki Kameda (top) of Japan is lifted by sumo grand champion Yokozuna Asashoryu after defeating Juan Jose Landaeta of Venezuela during their title bout at Yokohama Arena in Yokohama, south of Tokyo, on 2 Aug, 2006. Kameda defeated Landaeta by a 2-1 decision. —INTERNET

Suicide car bomb attack kills twenty civilians in Afghan south

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 4 Aug — A suicide car bomb attack aimed at a convoy of NATO troops in southern Afghanistan killed at least 20 civilians on Thursday, a provincial police chief said.

The attack in the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar Province occurred southwest of its provincial capital near where two separate roadside bombs killed a Canadian soldier and injured four more earlier in the day.

“It was a suicide car attack, aimed at NATO,

but which killed instead 20 civilians and wounded 13 others,” Kandahar Province police chief Sayed Aziz told Reuters.

A NATO spokesman in Kabul said he had heard of the bombing, but had no immediate information on any possible NATO casualties.

The attack, just days after NATO took over security from US troops in the increasingly volatile south, is one of the bloodiest in Afghanistan for months.

Another roadside bomb on Thursday, possibly aimed at a NATO convoy, wounded three civilians in the northern Province of Baghlan, provincial officials there said.

Separately, 22 Taliban guerrillas were either killed or wounded in an operation by Afghan police on Wednesday in southern Helmand Province, an Interior Ministry spokesman said.

Yousuf Stanizai said only two police were hurt in the operation. There was no immediate comment from the Taliban.

MNA/Reuters



Employees work in a sealed workshop in Guilin, southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 1 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

UN says Lebanon oil spill spreads to Syrian coast

NAIROBI, 4 Aug — Oil leaking from a bombed power station in Lebanon has reached the coastline of neighbouring Syria and is spreading north, the Kenya-based United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said.

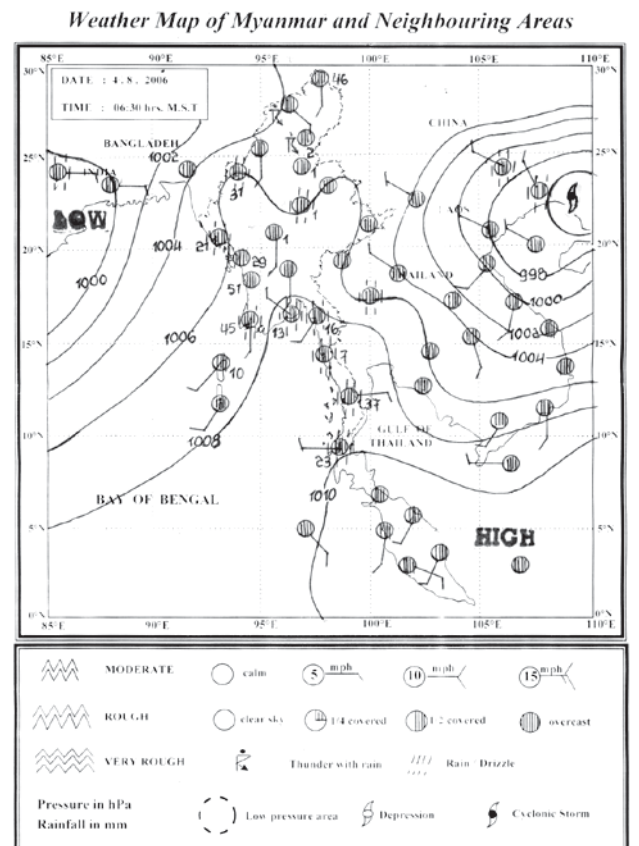
Israeli jets hit storage tanks at the Jiyeh plant south of the Lebanese capital Beirut at the beginning of the war, spilling an estimated 10,000 to 30,000 tons of oil into the Mediterranean.

“Satellite imagery... now shows that the oil slick has entered Syrian waters

and has already contaminated approximately 10 kilometres of coastline north of the borders between Syria and Lebanon,” UNEP said in a statement issued late on Wednesday.

The spill has already polluted over 80 kilometres (50 miles) of Lebanon's coastline, the statement said.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Friday, 4 August, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Shan, Kayah States, Magway Division, fairly widespread in lower Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hakha (2.32) inches, Thandwe (2.01) inches, Patheingyi (1.77) inches, Ye (1.69) inches, Kalewa (1.30) inches and Pakokku (0.47) inch.

Maximum temperature on 3-8-2006 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 4-8-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 4-8-2006 was (100%). Total sunshine hours on 3-8-2006 was (0.4) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 4-8-2006 were (0.47) inch at Mingaladon, (0.51) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.91) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (59.72) inches at Mingaladon, (72.40) inches at Kaba-Aye and (76.97) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from South at (15:30) hours MST on 3-8-2006.

Bay inference: According to the observation at (9:30) hrs MST today, the depression over Northwest Bay has crossed the Orissa Coast, near Puri (India). Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 5-8-2006: Rain will be isolated in Mon, Kayin, Kachin and Rakhine States, Taninthayi, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and scattered in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar water.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 5-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 5-8-2006: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 5-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather outlook for second weekend of August 2006: During the coming weekend, likelihood of isolated rain in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division and widespread in Yangon Division.

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Saturday, 5 August
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayardaw U Ottamathara
- 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. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:00 am
- 6. လဂွမ်းပြင်ရေလှောင်တံခံ
- 8:10 am
- 7. အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am
- 8. International news
- 8:45 am
- 9. Grammar made easy
- 11:00 am
- 1. Martial songs
- 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
- 12:35 pm
- 6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဆည်းဆာ” (အပိုင်း-၁၀)
- 1:15 pm
- 7. ကြားမြင်သုတပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 1:25 pm
- 8. လောကနီတိ (၅) “မေတ္တာအတိမ်အနက်ကို ချိန်စက်၍ကြည့်သောအခါ” (ပိုင်ရှေ့ထွန်း၊ စည်သူတင်စိုး၊ လင်းစာနည်းစာတိုက်တို့ကတော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်)
- 2:15 pm
- 9. Dance of national races
- 2:30 pm
- 10. မမြင်ကွယ်ရာ” (မောင်မောင်မျိုးသန့်၊ မတူး၊ မောင်မောင်မြင့်)
- 2:45 pm
- 11. International news
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial songs
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. English for everyday use

- 4:45 pm
- 4. Musical programme
- 4:55 pm
- 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 5:10 pm
- 6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:15 pm
- 7. နားဝင်ပီယံ သူ့လက်သံ
- 5:25 pm
- 8. Musical programme
- 5:35 pm
- 9. Games for children
- 6:00 pm
- 10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- 11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 12. Discovery
- 6:50 pm
- 13. ရောင်းမငယ် ရေလှောင်တံခံ
- 6:55 pm
- 14. အထွက်တိုးလိုနေပါသည် စပါးမှာ ဆင်းရွှေလို
- 7:05 pm
- 15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ဖြူစင်မေတ္တာ” (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
- 8:00 pm
- 16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မေတ္တာပန်းတိုင်” (အပိုင်း-၇)
- 20. The next day's programme



- Saturday, 5 August
- Tune in today
- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Somewhere I belong
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -I count the minutes
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Bring me to life
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -No more cry
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm Music at your request -Only you -Will you be there -Forever
- 9:00 pm ASEAN news review Exchange news from ASEAN member countries
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Myanma culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt -The tradition of Shin Male festival
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs -Put your head on my shoulder -Moon river -Don't stop loving me now
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

Loss of peace, stability will be followed by decline of production, trade, services enterprises people have set up

Advanced Management (Special) Course No 2 for USDA Executives concludes



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo delivers a speech.—MNA

YANGON, 4 Aug—The Advanced Management (Special) Course No 2 for Executives of the Union Solidarity and Development Association concluded at the Union Hall of the USDA Training School in Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, this morning with an address by USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo.

Also present on the occasion were USDA CEC members, guests, training in charge Lt-Col Khin Win and course su-

pervisors, trainees and others.

In his address, USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo said that the government at present is making all-efforts along with the Tatmadaw and the people for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation the entire national people long for. In the process of transition from the old system to the new one constant efforts are being made in a pragmatic man-

ner, assessing the background history of the nation, culture and customs and the prevailing situation. In consequence, marked progress has been made in all sectors of the nation.

With the aim of participating in nation-building endeavours, the USDA was formed with the youths imbued with correct conviction and nationalism. The USDA members are not only actively taking part in national development tasks but also are organizing the entire national people to contribute their shares in those tasks.

The association came into existence on 15 September 1993 and it was now over 12 years. The association was formed at a time when efforts are

being made for restoring peace and tranquillity that has fallen into chaos due to anarchy created by those who want to take State power through a shortcut and some parties advocating democracy and human rights. It was established in order to satisfy the demand of the history, and all the members are to value the association after realizing its role.

Reviewing the evolu-

tion of the nation and the noble objectives of the association, one can fully understand the role of the association. The USDA members of different regions are now engaged in regional development tasks in line with the future work programmes laid down by the association.

Thanks to its correct policy and relentless efforts in nation-building endeavours, the USDA has won the trust and co-

operation of the people. With the increase in the number of the association members training courses are being conducted in the states and divisions for the members to effectively serve the interest of the State and the people.

With the increased performance of each member their cooperation will improve and they will be able to carry out regional development tasks

(See page 10)

Mongyaw gets TV retransmission station

YANGON, 4 Aug—The construction of retransmission station in Mongyaw in Shan State (North) was completed on 29 July 2006.

Beginning 30 July 2006, the TV programmes are being retransmitted from the station. MNA

INSIDE

Human trafficking is a trade, torture, coercion into prostitution, and exploitation, harming the lives and dignity of the victims. The majority of the victims are women and children who can easily fall into the tricks of the traffickers.

PAGE 8+9

KHIN YUN SAN

Workshop on priority setting and feedback mechanisms to direct forest research efforts held

YANGON, 4 Aug —The national workshop on priority setting and feedback mechanisms to direct forest research efforts to meet the needs of

existing and potential end-users, jointly organized by FAO and the Ministry of Forestry, was opened at Forest Research Hall in Nay Pyi Taw this morn-

ing.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, FAO Resident Representative Dr Simmarthiri Appanah and

Forest Research Director U Ohn Win gave speeches.

Also present on the occasion were research officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, the Ministry of Forestry, and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, rectors, responsible persons of Myanmar Timber Entrepreneurs Association, FREDA, BENCA and CARE.

Six research papers were submitted to the workshop. The papers will be read tomorrow.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung addresses Workshop on Forest Research. — FORESTRY