

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Wednesday, 9 August, 2006

## Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Singaporean President

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug — On the occasion of the 41st Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore which falls on 9 August 2006, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr S R Nathan, President of the Republic of Singapore. — MNA



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye (L) welcomes General Ruengroj Mahasaranond (R) at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence in Nay Pyi Taw.*  
MNA

### 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

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives visiting Thai Supreme Commander

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye re-

ceived a goodwill delegation led by Supreme Commander General Ruengroj Mahasaranond of Royal Thai Armed Forces at the Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence here yesterday evening.

Also present on the occasion were member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, (See page 8)



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives General Ruengroj Mahasaranond at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA*

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 9 August, 2006

## Establish ASEAN Community in accordance with ASEAN Vision 2020

It was 39 years ago — on 8 August, 1967 to say exactly — that the Association of South-East Asian Nations was founded. The Association, now made up of all ten nations in Southeast Asia, stands firmly among the international community and organizations. It takes the leading role in establishing regional organizations and contributes a lot to regional peace, security and stability.

In his message to the 39th anniversary of founding ASEAN (ASEAN Day), Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe noted that, during the period of nearly four decades, the ASEAN member nations have become more vibrant, progressive and dynamic economies. All the achievements made by the Association have been due to individual as well as collective efforts of the member nations and its policy of consensus building, positive thinking and non-interference in the others' internal affairs.

The ASEAN nations are now in the process of intense integration towards establishing the ASEAN Community by the year 2020 and making all-out efforts to realize this by building three important pillars, ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN Socio-cultural Community.

As ASEAN has to integrate into a Community, the active participation of peoples of ASEAN countries becomes essential. We must promote people-to-people contacts and we must try to better understand each other.

The continued prosperity of the ASEAN countries and coping with the challenges and threats that we are facing at present or in future rest on the ability of our young and energetic people. Therefore, we must promote awareness of ASEAN among young people and nurture our young generation to cope with existing and new challenges in building a peaceful and prosperous community.

We believe that the ASEAN nations will be able to establish the ASEAN Community in accordance with the ASEAN Vision 2020 by abiding by their own principles and making steadfast efforts.



Daw Nyunt Sein and family of No 568, Thazinmyaing, Aung San Town, donated K 100,000 for Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Secretary of Administrative Board of the Home Maj Aung Than (Retd) accepted the donation. — H

## 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

## Industry-2's employees receive computer skills

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug — Basic Computer Skill Course No 3/2006 of the Ministry of Industry-2 was opened yesterday at the ministry here with an opening address by Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin.

A total of 20 trainees are attending the two-week course. Deputy Minister Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, heads of departments and industries under the ministry and course instructors also attended the opening ceremony. — MNA

## Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug — On the occasion of the 41st Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore which falls on 9 August 2006, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr George Yeo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore. — MNA

## Forest conservation tasks to be step up in dry region

YANGON, 8 Aug — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung yesterday inspected the forest conservation measures at Popa Mountain in Kyaukpadaung Township called for the cultivation of perennial plants along with season crops in a bid to speed up greening tasks in the dry region.



During his tour of Kyaukpadaung Township, the minister also inspected the 6,080-acre forest reserve in the township.

Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspects forest conservation measures in Kokwe Forest Reserve in Kyaukpadaung Township. — FORESTRY

He also went to a forest plantation, which is established with the assistance of Japanese government, and urged officials concerned to

establish firewood plantation and to carry out conservation measures.

On 6 August, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected two

finished wood product factories in Industrial Zone-1 in Mahaungmye Township, Mandalay Division. On his tour of inspection in the dry

region, Forestry Minister inspected the greening projects in Myingyan and Taungtha townships in the dry region and gave instructions. — MNA

## Fund-raising film shows to be presented

YANGON, 8 Aug — U Zaw Min (Mingalar Co) is going to organize two film shows at Thamada Cinema here for raising the funds of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association.

The movie picture titled "Fire Wall" starring Harrison Ford and Dual Bettany will be shown at 8 am on 13 August and "The Myth" starring Jackie Chang on 27 August.

Those wishing to enjoy the films may get tickets at No 529, 2nd Floor, Merchant Street, Yangon (Ph: 01-252417, 01-385273). — MNA

## National Library, up for auction

YANGON, 8 Aug — The newly-built National Library equipped with new elevators on 10,692-acre plot at the junction of Eastern Race course Street and Laydauntkan Street in Tamway Township, Yangon, will be auctioned at a floor price of K 10,000 million.

Proposal forms will be available at K 1,000 each commencing 11 August and the tender forms are to be submitted from 10 am to 4 pm only on 24 August at the National Library.

MNA



Adviser of Myanmar Women's Entrepreneurs Association Daw Yi Yi Myint briefs on future tasks of the association at the association's 11th annual meeting. (News reported) MWEA

# Russia urges joint effort to cease fire in Middle East

Moscow, 7 Aug— Russian President Vladimir Putin called for the immediate termination of the hostilities in Lebanon in a telephone conversation with British Prime Minister Tony Blair on Sunday, the Kremlin Press service said.

Putin underscored the need to immediately stop

the hostilities in Lebanon, which had claimed hundreds of lives and put to region on the brink of a humanitarian catastrophe, the Kremlin said.

The interlocutors stressed the importance of the comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and the resumption of the peace process.

They also discussed the drafting of a resolution of the UN Security Council.

Meanwhile, Russia called on all countries, which may have a constructive influence on forces engaged in the Lebanese-Israeli conflict, to pool efforts for the sake of immediate ceasefire, Russian Foreign Ministry said on its website on Sunday. The Press release was issued following a meeting between Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Denisov and Iranian Ambassador to Russia Gholamreza Ansari.

“The Russian side stressed the need for all states that are able to produce a constructive influence on the forces involved in the conflict to take joint efforts to secure an immediate ceasefire and to help find such a political solution to the Lebanese-Israeli conflict that would make a repeat of the latest events impossible,” the release said.—MNA/Xinhua



Forest fire burns near a house in Cotobade in the northwest Spanish region of Galicia on 7 Aug, 2006. The head of Galicia’s regional government, Emilio Perez, has asked the Spanish Army to help evacuate people in danger from the fires, which have struck as Galicia is full of tourists enjoying what is usually some of Spain’s greenest scenery.—INTERNET

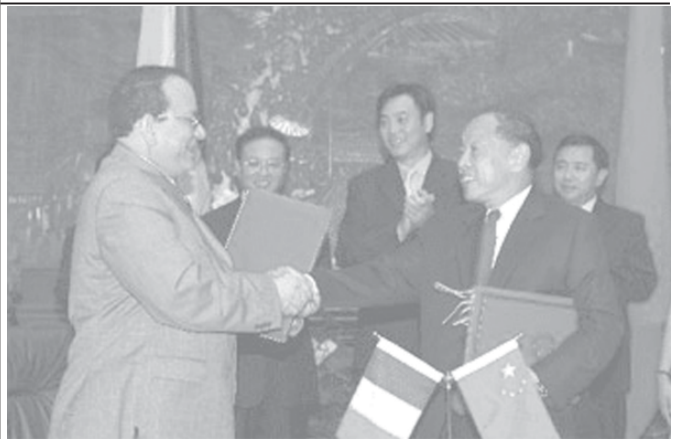
## Several thousands march in Brussels against war in Lebanon

BRUSSELS, 7 Aug— Several thousand people of all ages took to the streets of the Belgian capital of Brussels on Sunday in protest at the bloodshed in the Middle East.

It was for the second consecutive Sunday that people held demonstration in Brussels against the war in Lebanon. A group of young children wearing white T-shirts and carrying white balloons were at the head of the march. Also at the front of the march were a group of men dressed as Israeli soldiers and a model of an Israeli tank driven by a caricature of the US President George W Bush. — MNA/Xinhua



The screens of mobile phone cameras in the audience are seen below the opening video sequence of pop star Madonna’s concert in Rome on 6 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET



Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing (front R) shakes hands with his Iranian counterpart Ahmad Allam-mi after signing a joint communique to resume diplomatic ties between the two countries Sunday night in Beijing on 6 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

## General says Iran’s Air Force fully prepared to defend country

TEHERAN, 7 Aug — Iran’s Air Force was in full preparations to defend the country against any possible attack, local Fars News Agency reported here Saturday.

Brigadier-General Ghasem Mohammad

Amini, an acting deputy commander of Air Force, was quoted as saying that his troops “are at the highest level of preparedness possible”.

He pointed out that Iran’s Air Force defended the country during its

eight-year war against Iraq in the 1980s and gained “valuable experiences”.

“Considering the valuable experiences we have gained during the imposed war on Iran, we have increased our military capabilities and we are now fully prepared to defend the country’s borders,” Amini vowed.

The Air Force officer held that Israel’s intensive air and ground operations in Lebanon proved that skillful manpower played a determining role on the battlefields.

“Despite Israel’s extensive military possibilities and equipment, we are now witnessing how Hizbollah troops have managed to defeat them while the Shiite combatants have the least military tools, equipment and technology,” Amini said.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors dressed up as Vikings sail on a Viking boat during the annual Viking festival of Catoira in north-western Spain on 6 Aug, 2006. The festival reenacts Viking raids in this area in the past and is celebrated annually every first Sunday of August.

INTERNET

## Israeli rocket kills two, bombs pin down aid groups

TYRE (Lebanon), 7 Aug—An Israeli jet killed two people with a missile close to a United Nations aid convoy in Lebanon on Sunday and heavy bombing pinned other aid workers trying to reach refugees in the war-ravaged south.

The strike drew a swift reaction from the UN, which said Israeli bombardments were threatening to spread a crisis affecting the estimated 900,000 people displaced by the conflict between Hizbollah guerillas and Israel’s defence forces. “A vehicle was hit some 15 kilometres (9 miles) north of Tyre as it was travelling a few metres ahead of our convoy,” said Robin Lodge, spokesman

for the UN’s World Food Programme.

“It was carrying bread. It was civilians... This has come as a shock and underlines just how dangerous it is right now.”

He said the convoy stopped but did not offer first aid because local officials were quickly at the scene. A witness at the hospital saw the bodies of the two who died in the attack. The 15 trucks carrying food, medicine, mattresses and other supplies were one of the first large convoys since Israel bombed four key bridges linking Beirut to Syria on Friday, cutting what the UN called its “umbilical cord” for aid.—MNA/Reuters

# Singapore PM meets Indonesian President

SINGAPORE, 7 Aug—Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong met with and hosted a dinner for visiting Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono Sunday night, according to Channel NewsAsia report.

The two leaders discussed bilateral and international issues including the situation in the Middle East and developments in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

They also exchanged views on the implementation of the Special Economic Zones in the islands of Batam, Bintan and Karimunjaya in Indonesia, on which the two countries signed an agreement in June this

year. In addition, the two leaders addressed the importance of making progress for the Extradition Treaty, Defence Cooperation Agreement and Counter-Terrorism Cooperation Agreement, the report said.

Yudhoyono arrived in Singapore on Sunday for a two-day working visit

to the country. He attended a luncheon and dialogue with local business leaders to exchange views on investment opportunities in Indonesia.

Bilateral trade between the two countries reached 54.2 billion Singapore dollars (about 34.3 billion US dollars) last year.

MNA/Xinhua

## One ISAF soldier dead in vehicle accident in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 7 Aug—One soldier of the International Security Assistance Force was dead and three others wounded following a vehicle accident in Afghan southern province of Kandahar on Saturday, said the military.

The four soldiers were

travelling in an armoured jeep as part of a re-supply convoy when the accident occurred, said the NATO-led military in a news released. The circumstances surrounding this accident are unknown, but enemy action has been ruled out, it added. The nationality of the soldiers involved has not been released.—MNA/Xinhua

## One in eight cellphones in world made in Shenzhen

SHENZHEN, 7 Aug — The output of cellphones in China's southern economic hub of Shenzhen is expected to exceed 100 million this year, accounting for one in every eight cellphones in the world.

Shenzhen has nearly 100 cellphone producers and assemblers and is base to about one third of name-brand domestic producers, according to statistics from the Shenzhen Wireless Communication Association.

The Taiwanese-run Foxconn Electronics Inc. assembles a total of 15 million Motorola and Nokia cellphones every year, while 10 million cellphones are produced annually in the city for Samsung and Philips.

A complete industry production chain was the key to Shenzhen's popularity among producers, said an official with the association.

"All of the 200 pieces of hardware in a cellphone are produced in Shenzhen and can be ordered by telephone in half an hour, and there're more than 100 cellphone design companies," he said.—MNA/Xinhua

# တိုက်ပွဲများအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား



Tajikistan's President Emomali Rahmonov(L1) shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh(R1), as Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam (L2) looks on, at the presidential residence in New Delhi, capital of India, on 7 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

## Moussa in Syria, criticizes draft UN resolution

DAMASCUS, 7 Aug — Visiting Secretary-General of the Arab League Amr Moussa criticized on Sunday a draft UN Security Council resolution on Lebanon,

saying it did not call for an immediate ceasefire directly, the official SANA news agency reported.

"The proposal calls for stopping hostile operations and not a

ceasefire," Moussa said after meeting with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, adding that "this constitutes a defect in the Security Council which should adopt a clear position toward military actions".

The UN Security Council discussed on Saturday the draft resolution which was agreed by France and the United States, terming the draft as "generally positive" and a vote on the draft was expected on Monday or Tuesday.

The draft resolution calls for "full cessation of hostilities" by Israel and Hizbollah in Lebanon which have been involved in a bloody conflict since 12 July.

MNA/Xinhua



Hundreds of motorcycles are parked on Main Street for the Black Hills Motor Classic motorcycle rally in Sturgis, South Dakota on 6 August, 2006. —INTERNET

## 51 killed in floods in southern India

NEW DELHI, 7 Aug—The flood situation in parts of Andhra Pradesh State in southern India remained grim as the toll in rain-related incidents mounted to 51, the Indo-Asian News Service reported Sunday.

As the Godavari River continued to flow above the danger mark, more than 350,000 people in about 160 villages in Khammam District were hit by flash floods.

The rains and floods have left about half a million people homeless since Friday. While it has not been raining in several affected areas since Saturday evening, the heavy inflows in Godavari and Krishna due to incessant rains in upstream Maharashtra and Karnataka were causing concern.

Local authorities have pressed into service 13 boats and two helicopters to evacuate people from marooned villages. Two more helicopters have been sought from Indian Eastern Naval Command. Officials said food and water packets were also being dropped to the marooned people. —MNA/Xinhua



Chinese Community and their float parade on streets during the Float Cavalcade in Edinburgh, UK, on 6 August, 2006. —INTERNET



An ethnic Tujia woman hits a drum during activities to mark Tuesday's two-year-countdown to the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing on 7 August, 2006.—INTERNET



Two young men (C) perform a traditional cross talk at a teahouse in Tianjin, north China, on 5 Aug, 2006. Cross talk, a traditional Chinese art form, returned to teahouses and theatres in Tianjin in recent years. —INTERNET

## Bus blast kills eight, injures 19 in central China

CHANGSHA, 7 Aug— Eight people were killed and 19 injured in an explosion on a bus on Sunday evening in central China's Hunan Province.

A local government source said the blast occurred at 5:57 pm in the county of Guiyang.

More than 200 police were deployed at the site to help rescue the injured, protect the scene and direct the flow of traffic.

Rescuers said eight people died at the scene and at least seven of the 19 injured were in a critical condition. An investigation into the cause of the blast is underway.—MNA/Xinhua



A band parades on the streets during the Float Cavalcade in Edinburgh, UK, on 6 Aug, 2006.

The Cavalcade was held to mark the start of the Festival season in Edinburgh.

INTERNET

# China demands Isreal, Lebanon to ensure safety of peacekeepers

BEIJING, 7 Aug— China on Sunday demanded Israel and Lebanon ensure the safety of UN peacekeepers as three of its UN peacekeepers in Lebanon were wounded when a mortar round landed near their headquarters in southern Lebanon. "China is seriously concerned and strongly displeased with the incident," China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said in a statement.

He said China has made representations with the parties involved in the Lebanon-Israel clash and demanded they take concrete measures to ensure the safety of UN peacekeepers.

Qin said the Chinese Government has sent greetings to the wounded peacekeepers and asked relevant parties to continue to provide timely and necessary treatment.

Four UN observers including one Chinese na-

tional, Lieutenant-Colonel Du Zhaoyu, were killed on 25 July in an Israel airraid on a UN post in southern Lebanon.

In the statement, Qin also urged Israel and Lebanon to cease fire immediately and return to the negotiation table to solve the conflict in a political way.

Earlier on Sunday, Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing also called on parties concerned to cease fire immediately and settle the clash through dialogue. Li told UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in a phone conversation that China is deeply concerned with the current conflict between Israel and Lebanon's

Hizbollah which has lasted four weeks.

He said China hopes the UN Security Council takes actions to prevent the conflict from further escalating. China has provided humanitarian aid to Lebanon and China's special envoy has also departed for the Middle East.

MNA/Xinhua

## Dutch inspectors find faults in NATO cargo planes

AMSTERDAM, 7 Aug— Inspectors from the Dutch Transport and Water Ministry (IVW) found serious faults last year in freight planes hired on behalf of NATO from Eastern European air companies, according to their annual report.

A spokeswoman for the inspectorate said on Sunday that on 18 occasions cargo planes were grounded because of problems such as cracks in the cockpit windows, worn tyres or inadequate fire-fighting equipment.

The problems came to

light during routine checks of planes landing and taking off in the Netherlands.

"The Dutch transport inspectors saw some shortcomings at air companies' airplanes rented by NATO and used for cargo," she said.

MNA/Reuters



Authors JK Rowling (C), John Irving (L) and Stephen King attend a news conference together before a charity reading event in New York, on 1 August, 2006. Harry Potter author JK Rowling is keeping the outcome of the final book in the series secret, but has teased fans by revealing the last ever word she'll write.—INTERNET

## Thousands of Canadians protest against Lebanon war

OTTAWA, 7 Aug— About 15,000 people on Sunday took to the streets of Montreal, Canada's second largest city, to protest against the war in Lebanon.

The demonstrators

marched through city streets peacefully, as adults following children carrying Lebanese flags accusing Prime Minister Stephen Harper of being an accomplice to Israeli "assassina-

tions", according to the footage of Canadian Television. Many protesters were from Montreal's 200,000-strong Lebanese community, the TV said.

MNA/Xinhua



A Nicaraguan man takes part in a bullfight at the festival of Santo Domingo, Patron Saint of Managua, in Managua, Nicaragua on 6 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

## 21 killed in road accident in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, 7 Aug— Twenty-one people were killed when two vehicles collided on a highway near Saudi Arabia's Red Sea port city of Jeddah, a newspaper reported on Saturday.

Al-Riyadh newspaper said the accident occurred on Friday when a vehicle carrying 14 Yemenis and two Saudis tried to avoid a police checkpoint by going around it, and rammed into an incoming car carrying five passengers from Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Sudan.

Road traffic authority officials could not be reached for comment.

Around 4,000 people die each year in road accidents in Saudi Arabia mainly due to recklessness.—MNA/Reuters

## Death toll from N-W Pakistan flood rises to 42

ISLAMABAD, 7 Aug— Death toll from flood in Kalpani Nullah and collapse of Par Hoti-Baghdada Bridge in Mardan District of northwest Pakistan has risen to 42 as rescue teams of Army troops and local administration recovered three more bodies on Sunday, the state-run Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported.

MNA/Xinhua

## Australia urged to play more balanced role in world trade talk

CANBERRA, 7 Aug — European Union's (EU) Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson has accused the Australian Government of being biased towards the United States in negotiations for a global trade deal, calling for Canberra to play a more constructive role.

He has also rejected an invitation to a trade meeting in Australia's northeastern city of Cairns next month.

The meeting was initially for the Australian-led Cairns Group of 18 farm-exporting countries to mark the 20th anniversary of the formation of the free trade group, but it was expanded to include the United States and EU as the last-ditch effort to salvage the failed Doha free trade deal. Mandelson called for Australia to stop criticizing Europe's position and play a balanced role.

"If we heard as much messaging to the United States on farm subsidies as we in Europe hear from Australia on market access on agriculture then I think that Australia's approach would be considered a bit more balanced," he told Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio Monday.

But Australian Trade Minister Mark Vaile and Foreign Minister Alexander Downer rejected Mandelson's criticism. Vaile said Australia has been constructive from the start.

"We've been the honest broker if you like in this process so far, we've not

been biased toward one side or the other," he said.

"We have suggested that both the European Union and the US need to move to make compromises to find some common ground so we can get this

MNA/Xinhua



Competitors race horses through a puddle during the traditional horse and trotter race meeting in Duhnen on the German North Sea coast near Cuxhaven on 6 August, 2006. About 30,000 spectators were on hand to watch the annual event that begins as the ebbing tide exposes the mud flats on which the races are run. —INTERNET



A couple walks through a flooded road after heavy rainfall in Mumbai on 6 August, 2006. Rescuers in India stepped up efforts on Sunday to help hundreds of thousands of people forced from their homes by floods in a southern state as torrential rain hit the country's financial capital. —INTERNET

## Hizbollah rockets kill 15 in northern Israel

KFAR GILADI (Israel), 7 Aug — Hizbollah rockets killed 15 people in northern Israel on Sunday, including 12 Army reservists called up for duty, Israel's highest death toll in a single day since the start of the Lebanon war.

The Israeli Army said the reservists were preparing to join ground operations in southern Lebanon when they were killed in the attack on the Kfar Giladi communal farm.

Medics put the death toll at 12, with dozens of people wounded, making it the guerilla group's deadliest

single missile strike. Later, rockets rained down on the northern city of Haifa, killing three people and wounding up to 121, medics and local media said.

A police commander said a rocket slammed into two adjacent houses, causing them to partially collapse. Several people were briefly trapped in the rubble.

The Israeli Army later said it destroyed the launcher that was used to hit Haifa, which was located in the Lebanese village of Qana. Israel said it also destroyed a launcher near Tyre.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

## Israel to hit wider range of Lebanon targets

JERUSALEM, 7 Aug — The Israeli Army plans to attack strategic infrastructure targets and symbols of the Lebanese Government after Hizbollah rockets killed 15 people in northern Israel, an Israeli newspaper reported Monday.

"We are now in a process of renewed escalation. We will continue hitting everything that moves in Hizbollah — but we will also hit strategic

civilian infrastructure," a senior General Staff officer told the Haaretz newspaper.

It did not offer any examples of what symbols

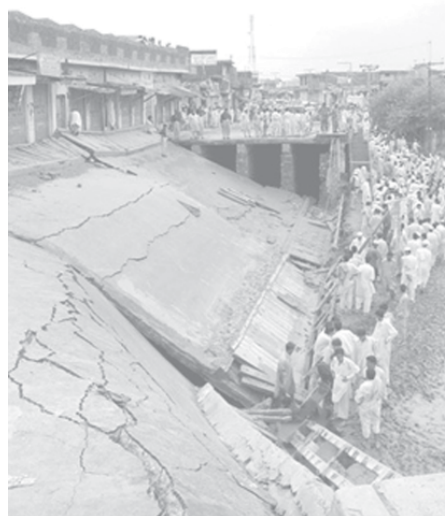
of the Lebanese Government might include.

Israeli airstrikes have already caused extensive damage to Lebanon's infrastructure, including

roads and bridges that Israel says Hizbollah uses to transport rockets.

Hizbollah rockets killed 15 people in northern Israel on Sunday,

including 12 Army reservists called up for duty, Israel's highest death toll in a single day since the start of the Lebanon war.



People gather at the site of a bridge collapse in Mardan town, 50km (31 miles) from the northwest frontier provincial capital of Peshawar on 6 August, 2006. Pakistani rescuers are searching for dead bodies in the country's northwest after a bridge collapsed due to torrential rains, killing scores of people, officials said on Sunday. —INTERNET

## Four injured in explosion on Bangkok bus

BANGKOK, 7 Aug — Four passengers were injured when a homemade bomb exploded on a Bangkok bus Saturday night, local media reported Sunday.

The time bomb detonated by a clock exploded on Bus No 95 at 10:40pm local time (1540 GMT), Thai newspaper The Nation said.

The bus was having about 20 passengers and had left Happy Land Market heading to Bang Khen. The explosion occurred when it moved to the front of a temple in Bangkok.

Three passengers were slightly injured and were discharged from the Lard Prao Hospital after treatments.

The other passenger suffered cuts on the left

leg and suffered back injury from the blast impact. He was discharged after treatment.

The bus driver, Jittakorn Prajonghat, 32, told police that the bomb might be planted by four teenagers who got off the bus just a stop before the bomb exploded.

MNA/Xinhua

## Troops airlift food, deaths from Indian floods rise

HYDERABAD (India), 7 August — Torrential rains and flooding ravaged large areas of eastern and southern India on Saturday, with troops airlifting supplies and evacuating thousands of people to higher ground, officials said.

In the state of Andhra Pradesh, the death toll from days of monsoon storms rose to 50, with 10 people feared dead after being buried by a landslide in the village of Kodipunjavalasa, 590 kilometres (370 miles) northeast of the state capital, Hyderabad.

Three people died in Hyderabad as their houses collapsed early on Saturday. Over 700 villages were reported to be under water, and three provincial airports had been closed.

Helicopters were

searching for 60 fishermen who went to sea on Wednesday despite being warned of expected strong winds.

Debabratha Kanta, the state's disaster management commissioner, said that more than 100,000 had been made homeless.

In neighbouring Orissa State, on the eastern seaboard, heavy rains continued for a fifth day, during which 36 people have been killed by flash floods and lightning strikes, officials said.

MNA/Reuters

Donate Blood

## Annual APR Programme for

### Senior Military Officers opens in S'pore

SINGAPORE, 8 Aug — The annual Asia-Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers organized by Singapore's Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies opened here on Monday.

The eighth in the series, this year's programme gathered participants from 27 Armed Forces representing almost all Asia-Pacific Region (APR) nations and many European countries.

They are expected to exchange views with each other on key security challenges confronting the region at present and to enhance mutual understanding and develop friendships and cooperative relationships among themselves during the one-week event, which comprises lectures, informal

discussions and social recreational activities.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Singapore's Minister for Defence Teo Chee Hean said that countries need to work together to deal effectively with security threats which are transnational in nature as a result of globalization.

"The nature of the threats that confront us and the larger geopolitical trends require countries to come together to forge concrete cooperative measures, both to tackle the common threats

as well as to strengthen mutual understanding and develop strong habits of cooperation and collaboration," Teo said.

Noting that the Armed Forces of the Asia-Pacific Region have built up a solid web of cooperation over many years, Teo suggested that they conduct more dialogues and joint exercises to "build capacity and enhance interoperability among the participating Armed Forces". — MNA/Xinhua



Audiences burst into laughters during a cross talk performance at a teahouse in Tianjin, north China, on 5 Aug, 2006. Cross talk, a traditional Chinese art form, returned to teahouses and theatres in Tianjin in recent years. — INTERNET

## China revises law in move to reduce energy costs

BEIJING, 8 Aug — China is revising a law to make it possible to impose harsher punishment on energy lavishment, the government said Sunday, at a time when fast economic growth is unabatedly costing excessive energy resources.

The Financial and Economic Committee of the National People's Congress, or China's top legislature, and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) are jointly making a proposed revision for the Law on Saving Energy Resources, which is expected to be completed later this year, an NDRC source told Xinhua.

The law was put into effect eight years ago, but has since banned no projects failing to meet energy-saving requirement. The government is worrying that it is difficult to reach this year's target of reducing energy costs for per unit gross domestic product.

The revised law will feature strengthened enforcement and supervision and include both incentives for saving energies and punitive measures against energy-lavishing behaviour, the NDRC said, without giving details.

It will typically target the construction sector, which now accounts for one-third of all energy costs in China. Construction projects that do not meet energy-use demands will be off-limits, the source said.

MNA/Xinhua



A firefighter watches a wildfire in Pazos de Borben, northwestern Spain. Firefighters waged an uphill battle against forest fires in Spain, and Portugal at the weekend, tackling new blazes after bringing dozens of others under control, officials said on 7 Aug, 2006. — INTERNET

## Vietnam invested 10 projects abroad in first 7 months

HANOI, 8 Aug — Vietnam licensed 10 overseas investment projects with total registered capital of over 53.4 million US dollars in the first seven months of this year, according to a local agency on Monday.

Of the 10 projects, one involves in exploring and exploiting oil and gas in Singapore with investment of 21.9 million dollars, and another growing cash crops in Laos with registered capital of more than 12.5 million dollars, said the Foreign Investment Agency under the Ministry of Planning and Investment.

Vietnam, which had total investment of over 367 million dollars abroad in 2005 mainly in Laos, Russia, Cambodia and Indonesia, is expected to annually invest 200 million dollars abroad between 2006 and 2010, the department noted.

To date, Vietnam has licensed 160 overseas investment projects with combined registered capital of over 680.4 million dollars in nearly 40 countries and regions. Laos has attracted most of the Vietnamese investment abroad. — MNA/Xinhua

## Wine imports to S Korea rise 22% in first half

SEOUL, 8 Aug — South Korea's wine imports increased 22 per cent from January to June this year than the same period of last year following the expansion of South Korean consumers, the Korea International Trade Association said in a report on Monday.

The wine imports in the first half of this year was valued at 38.88 million US dollars, which kept a continuing double-digit growth for a third consecutive year, said the report.

Experts predicted higher growth rate of wine

imports in the second half as there will be major festivals such as Chuseok.

"As wine sales usually increase in the second half, the domestic market is expected to jump about 23 per cent to 25 per cent for the full year even if the current slowdown of the domestic economy is taken into consideration," said Lee Jong-hun, president of Shindong Wine Co. — MNA/Xinhua

## Nearly 50 forest fires hit N Spain

MADRID, 8 Aug — Northern Spanish region Galicia is being plagued by 48 forest fires and nearly half of them are burning out of control, the regional government said on Sunday. The government said many of the fires broke out in the early hours of morning.

Pontevedra, the most affected region in Galicia, has 24 fires reported, 11 of which remained out of control, said the rural affairs department of the regional government, adding that all together 4,000 hectares of forest had been destroyed there.

Two women were burnt to death in a car as they tried to flee the flames on Friday in Pontevedra, it said.

Coruna, another seriously affected area in Galicia, has reported 17 fires, only four of which had been brought under control.

The government has declared a maximum alert in three places in Galicia.

MNA/Xinhua

## Transportation along Mekong River to be improved

PHNOM PENH, 8 Aug — A master plan for a navigating system along Mekong River is reached between Cambodia and Belgium, local weekly newspaper Business Press reported on Monday.

The purpose of the plan is to form a legal navi-

gating framework acceptable to the countries along the Mekong River and especially to increase activities of Can Tho Port in southern Vietnam and Phnom Penh Port.

"In Cambodia, it is estimated that only 16 per cent of benefits of travelling and transportation potential have been taken from the Mekong River," said Sun Chan Thol, Minister of Public Works and Transport. He forecasts that by giving more priority to waterways than to land routes, the cost of transportation, and road repair, traffic accidents and especially oil consumption would also decrease. Furthermore, tourism will be the first sector

benefiting from the arrangement for the system.

"It's not only lucrative for economy. Besides improving international business among the countries along the Mekong River, waterway transportation is a vital connection which enables people in remote villages along the river to deliver their products to districts and have access to social services including, schools and hospitals," stated the project's co-director Lievin Geerinck, who pointed out that the framework of 'Clean River' would be strongly focused on in order not to affect the ecosystem of the Mekong River.

MNA/Xinhua



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and General Ruengroj Mahasaranond pose for a documentary photo at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives...**

(from page 1)

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, mem-

bers of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence,

Military Affairs Security Chief Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint. The guests were accompanied by Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and Defence Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatat. — MNA

**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife bid farewell to visiting Thai general and party on their departure for Yangon**



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San see off General Ruengroj Mahasaranond and delegation at Nay Pyi Taw Airport. — MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents a documentary photo album to General Ruengroj Mahasaranond. — MNA



Daw Mya Mya San, wife of Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, gives a photo album to wife of General Ruengroj Mahasaranond. — MNA



## Prime Minister sends felicitations to Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Aug — On the occasion of the 41st Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Singapore which falls on 9 August 2006, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore. — MNA

## Shan State (South) holds monsoon tree planting ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug — Shan State (South) held its monsoon tree planting ceremony in the surrounding areas of Hthiein Village in Taunggyi Township yesterday.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Thuang Aye and wife, senior military officers, local authorities, departmental personnel, social organizations and local people were present.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, the commander and officials distributed seeds to those present at the ceremony. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party planted saplings and seeded the nearby slopes.

After inspecting Hthiein Lake, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party met with departmental personnel at the village briefing hall.

Director U Thuang Tin of Forest Department explained the planting of trees in the environs of the village.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win urged personnel of Forest Department to provide care for the thriving forest plantations and to systematically protect and conserve the plantations. He also made arrangements for the convenience of the department staff in conducting forest management.

## Minister receives Charge d' Affaires of US Embassy and Representative of UNODC office

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug — Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo received Charge d' Affaires of US Embassy to Myanmar Ms Shari Villarosa and Resident Representative of UNODC office Mr Shariq Bin Raza at the Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw separately yesterday.

Also present at the calls were directors-general of Myanmar Police Force, General Administration Department, Bureau of Special Investigation, Prisons Department and officials. —

At the ceremony, saplings and seeds of various tree species including 29,000 pine saplings were planted by the participants. — MNA

## Thai Supreme Commander arrives Yangon



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win welcomes General Ruengroj Mahasaranond at Yangon International Airport. — MNA

YANGON, 8 Aug — Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces

**Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Charge d' Affaires of US Embassy Ms Shari Villarosa.**

MNA

General Ruengroj Mahasaranond and wife and delegation arrived at Yangon International Airport from Nay Pyi Taw by air this morning.

General Ruengroj Mahasaranond and wife and delegation were

welcomed at the airport by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai, Commander of Ayeyawady Naval

Region Command Capt Aye Pe, Commander of Mingaladon Air Base Brig-Gen Zin Yaw and senior military officers and their wives.

The Thai goodwill delegation proceeded to Mya Yeik Nyo Hotel. — MNA

## No longer wish to remain as party members due to loss of interest in NLD Fifty-three members of NLD quit

YANGON, 8 Aug — Fifty-three members of Bogalay Township National League for Democracy (NLD) resigned from the party of their own accord on 22 July.

They sent their resignation letters to the NLD Headquarters and Bogalay Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commission.

In their letters, they expressed the reason why they resigned from the party saying that they no longer wished to remain as members of NLD due to loss of interest in the party.

Among the members who resigned were U Tun Shein and U Thuang Myint of Thitphyuachung Village-tract, U Mya Ngwe and U Myint Aye of Pynmagon Village-tract and U Tin Thuang, U Hla Thuang, U San Tin, U Khin Myint, U Hla Moe and U Tin Hla of Kunpin Village-tract. — MNA

## Objectives of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- To vitalize patriotism and nationalism
- To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
- To perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
- To preserve Myanmar national character
- To nurture spiritual development of the youths
- To prevent influence of alien culture, and
- To strengthen national unity and Union Spirit.



# Myawady border trade zone to be established in order to export quality products

## Ministers inspect border trade in Myawady

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug — Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein inspected the checkpoint of border trade zone in Myawady on 5 August.

The ministers met departmental officials and

import, taxes, benefits after the introduction of normal trade and tasks being undertaken.

The ministers said the border trade is being undertaken with five objectives that include improvement of bilateral relations, progress of border trade, transformation of border trade to normal trade and full collection of taxes.

They said arrangements are being made for transformation of normal trade being practised in international community. Like the 105th Mile point in Muse, Myawady border trade zone is to be established



Ministers visit renovation of Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge in Myawady.—MNA



traders and discussed matters to ensure smooth border trade.

The ministers inspected the site for construction of the checkpoint and met the director-general of Border Trade Department and officials and members of the one stop service team.

Director-General of Border Trade Department U San Pyi reported on the choice of the site for construction of the checkpoint, buildings and present functions of border trade.

The ministers explained about tasks of the related ministries under the one stop service system and fulfilled the requirements.

The members of the one stop service team reported on kinds of export items, yearly volume of export and

in order to export the quality products of the country.

The Muse 105th Mile border trade zone is the largest one and Myawady border trade zone is the second largest. Introduction of normal trade will be beneficial for both countries and traders in the long run.

They said the government would provide necessary assistance to the entrepreneurs in accord with the law. They stressed the importance of undertaking their enterprises with sincerity and avoiding the use of improper ways.

With the harmonious cooperation of the officials concerned and the entrepreneurs, foreign trade would improve.

The ministers went to the friendship bridge in

Myawady and inspected maintenance of the bridge. They met departmental officials, townsenders, members of social organizations and local traders at Thauyngin Hall.

The ministers spoke at length on the importance of trade in economic development, the government's arrangements for establishment of Myawady border trade zone and economic progress.

Accompanied by Kayin State PDC Chairman Col Khin Kyu, the ministers met departmental personnel, the president of UMFCCI, merchants, businessmen and social organizations at Zwegabin Hall in Hpa-an yesterday morning. The ministers said growing trade is important for the State's economy to boom. Measures are being under-

taken for establishment of a modern border trade zone in Myawady for the economic development of the whole country including Kayin State. So, the government has encouraged the entrepreneurs to strive for the progress of trade. But they are to avoid doing illegal businesses and to respect the rules and regulations laid down by the State.

Only when their products meet quality and set standardis, will

entrepreneurs be able to make a profit. They are to try to make their products have strong market. In order to boost the country's trade, the government will practise the system of normal trade in border trade regions. Accordingly, the State as well as entrepreneurs will benefit from it. The ministers said traders on their part are to do their businesses realizing the goodwill of the State. Regional development will contribute to progress of all the states and divisions. So, all the businessmen are to trade their products through the system of normal trade adopted by the State.

Next, UMFCCI President U Win Myint and the entrepreneurs reported matters related to bilateral trade and requirement. Afterwards, for the education, health and social welfare of Kayin State, Max Co Ltd, Asia World, Shwe Wah Myay Co, Asia Kyibwa Toetayay Co, Adam Co and Ngwe Sin Co donated K 2 million each.

A work coordination meeting on building Myawady border trade zone took place at the

office of Kayin State PDC at 11 am. It was attended by the Mon State PDC Chairman South East Command Commander Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win, the ministers, the chairman of Kayin State PDC and entrepreneurs. The ministers explained measures to be taken by respective ministries for building the border trade zone. Next, departmental officials and the entrepreneurs reported on their work programmes.

Afterwards, the ministers visited Mayangyaung commodity inspection camp in Kyaikhto Township. Director of Border Trade Department U Soe Moe Aung and officials reported on measures being taken for prevention against illegal trading of goods through the route of border regions. The ministers stressed the need for systematically and speedily carrying out border trade and for enforcement of trade rules and regulations. Later, the ministers inspected the warehouse where illegal goods are kept and the site for extending the camp.

MNA

**The Muse 105th Mile border trade zone is the largest one and Myawady border trade zone is the second largest. Introduction of normal trade will be beneficial for both countries and traders in the long run.**

## UN says new shrimp nets help save troubled fish stocks

OSLO, 8 Aug — Fishing nets with “exit holes” being introduced under a project to salvage depleted world fisheries are helping shrimp trawlers reduce unwanted extra catches by up to 70 per cent, a UN study showed on Sunday.

Catching shrimp, the world’s most traded marine commodity worth almost 12 billion US dollars a year, is hugely wasteful because the fine-mesh nets also scoop up everything from tiny fish to sharks and turtles, which usually end up discarded dead.

The project in 12 tropical nations, including Mexico and the Philippines, “has dramatically cut the unwanted catch of young fish, turtles and other ‘by-catch’ by as much as 30 to 70 per cent”, the UN Environment Programme said in a statement.

“We are seeing some promising preliminary results,” said Monique Barbut, the head of the

UN’s Global Environment Facility which is funding a four-year-old project costing more than nine million US dollars.

“Over 60 per cent of what is currently caught in the global shrimp fishery is discarded, making it among the most environmentally damaging in the world,” she said.

Worldwide losses — mostly because young fish are caught before they reach maturity — are estimated at billions of dollars, adding to problems of overfishing.

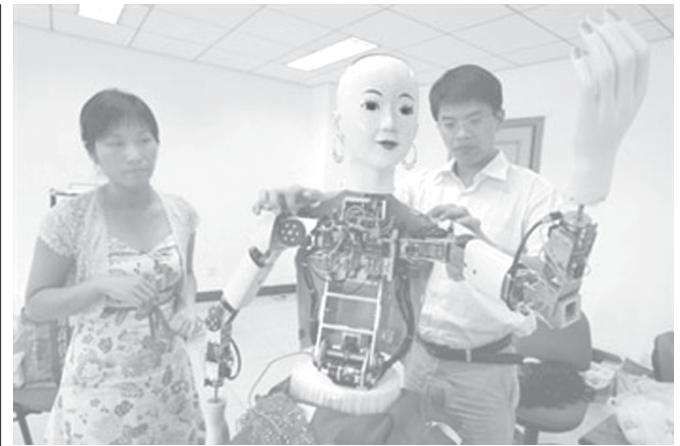
New trawler nets include metal grilles that let shrimp through into the main bulb-shape net but stop bigger fish or turtles and force them out through

an “exit hole” in the side.

Other types of nets have large holes on the sides near the front — fish are smart enough to swim out against the pull of the trawler while shrimp lack the intelligence to spot the exit.

The United States is among countries banning wild shrimp imports from nations that do not use such environmentally friendly nets. The UN-funded measures also include training, high tech sensors and underwater monitors that help efficiency.

MNA/Reuters



Robot designers assemble “Rong Cheng”, a newly-created robot, at the Institute of Automation of Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing on 7 Aug, 2006. Rong Cheng, dubbed as the first Chinese “beauty” robot, is able to respond to some 1,000 Chinese words. She can dance, bow and greet people in the Sichuan dialect as she is destined for the Sichuan Science Museum to serve as a receptionist. The robot costs about 300,000 yuan (US\$37,500) to make, according to Xinhua News.

INTERNET

## CIA contractor goes on trial over Afghan abuses

RALEIGH (North Carolina), 8 Aug — A CIA contractor accused of beating an Afghan prisoner so badly that he died two days later went on trial for assault on Monday in a case that raises questions about the treatment of detainees by interrogators.

David Passaro, a former Special Forces medic who worked under contract with the CIA, is the first civilian to be charged with abusing a detainee in US wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Passaro is charged with four counts of assault and accused of using his hands, feet and a large flashlight to beat Abdul Wali, an Afghan detainee, who died two days after the interrogation in June 2003.

The indictment says he did “knowingly and intentionally assault Abdul Wali with a dangerous weapon and such assault resulted in serious bodily injury to Abdul Wali”.

Passaro worked at a US military base in Afghanistan that was frequently subject to rocket attacks and Wali, a suspect in the attacks, turned himself in voluntarily at the gates of the base and was then interrogated.

Passaro maintains his innocence and his lawyers on Monday argued that the interrogation itself was necessary because the base was under attack.

MNA/Reuters

## Report says cats infected with bird flu in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 8 Aug — Cats that died during an outbreak of bird flu in Iraq last February were infected with the H5N1 virus, US naval medical researchers reported.

Any cat that becomes ill or dies when suspected bird flu is circulating should be tested for the virus, the Navy team reported in the August issue of the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

The team at the Naval Medical Research Unit No 3 or NAMRU-3, based in Cairo, have been studying bird flu viruses taken from animals and people in the region.

Samuel Yingst, Magdi Saad and Stephen Felt of NAMRU-3 had

been hearing stories from veterinarians in Turkey and Iraq who said cats had died where bird flu outbreaks were being reported in January.

People had reported to the WHO team about cats that had died in a house near the Iraqi city of Erbil where 51 chickens died. The researchers got the bodies of two of the cats and a sick goose from next door.

The animals had flu virus throughout their bodies, Yingst and colleagues reported. The virus found in the cats and goose strongly resembled the virus from a person who died in Iraq, suggesting it had not become adapted to cats.

MNA/Reuters

## 5 tons of cocaine seized in high seas returned to Peru

LIMA, 8 Aug — The US Coast Guards brought five tons of nearly pure cocaine into the Peruvian port of Callao on Sunday, around a week after seizing the drug and arresting the six crew of a Peruvian tuna-fishing boat, the *Ceci*, that was carrying it, local media reported.

The smugglers were taken to the headquarters of the Peruvian National Police Anti-Drug Administration in Lima while a Peruvian military gunship took charge of the drug in line with international narcotics smuggling fighting agreements.

US Coast Guards found the *Ceci* adrift on the high seas on 28 July, after the boat had mechanical problems and lost power.

This was the second Peruvian fishing boat with large amounts of drugs on board that has been seized on high seas this year.

Peru, located in South America’s notorious drug-producing “Silver Triangle,” produces nearly 300 tons of cocaine every year and 90 per cent of it is exported.

MNA/Xinhua



A man cleans a rooster at his farm at the outskirts of Bangkok on 4 Aug, 2006. Thailand began a week-long campaign on Monday to check every house in 29 provinces, including Bangkok’s suburbs, in a bid to halt a resurging bird flu virus that has killed two people in the last three weeks. — INTERNET

## India says US sanctions on its firms unjustified

NEW DELHI, 8 Aug — India said on Monday that US sanctions against two of its firms for selling what Washington says are restricted items to Iran were unjustified as they had not violated any domestic laws or New Delhi’s global obligations.

The two firms were among seven foreign companies Washington announced sanctions on on Friday saying it had credible information they had transferred materials to Iran that could contribute to the development of weapons of mass destruction or missiles.

Balaji Amines Ltd in the last couple of years sold precursor chemicals used in rocket fuel, while Prachi Poly Products four years ago sold precursor chemicals that could be

used in chemical weapons, a US official said.

Under the sanctions, no US Government agency may enter into a deal with the companies on the list.

“Our preliminary assessment is that the transfer of such chemicals was not in violation of our regulations or our international obligations,” the Indian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

India’s commitment to prevent proliferation was “second to none” and

a tough export control system was in place, it said.

“In this context the imposition of sanctions by the US on our firms, which in our view have not acted in violation of our laws or regulations, is not justified,” it said.

Both Indian cases involved dual-use chemicals regulated by an informal body of nations called the Australia Group, of which the United States is a part, a US official said last week.

MNA/Reuters

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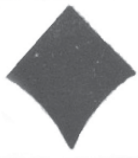
Consignees of cargo carried on MV AN XIN JIANG VOY NO (129) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 9.8.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W.5 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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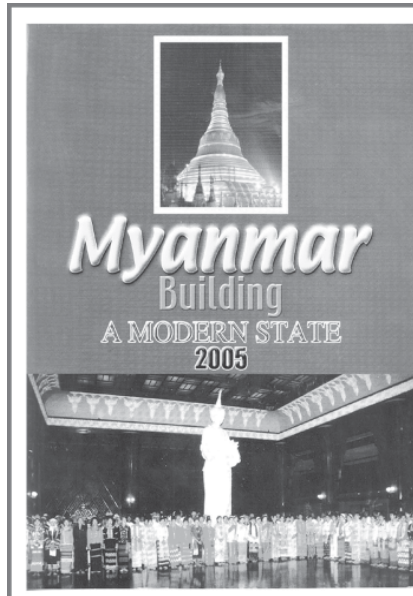
**EU says job discrimination against smokers OK**

**BRUSSELS, 7 Aug**—European employers are free to say "Smokers need not apply" when they advertise for jobs, a European Commission spokeswoman said on Saturday. "It is not a violation within the anti-discrimination rules on a European level for an employer to put into an ad 'Smokers need not apply,'" said Katharina Von Schnurbein, a Commission spokeswoman.

Schnurbein's comments followed a story in the *Financial Times* reporting the views of Social Affairs Commissioner Vladimir Spidla of the Czech Republic.

Spidla, asked for his views by a member of the European Parliament, said Europe-wide law prohibited discrimination in employment or other areas on the basis of racial or ethnic origin, disability, age, sexual orientation and religion and belief.

MNA/Reuters



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**"Reuters" drops freelance Lebanese photographer over image**

**LONDON, 7 Aug**—*Reuters*, the global news and information agency, told a freelance Lebanese photographer on Sunday it would not use any more of his pictures after he doctored an image of the aftermath of an Israeli airstrike on Beirut.

The photograph by Adnan Hajj, which was published on news websites on Saturday, showed thick black smoke rising above buildings in the Lebanese capital after an Israeli air raid in the war with the Shiite Islamic group Hizbollah, now in its fourth week.

*Reuters* withdrew the doctored image on Sunday and replaced it with the unaltered photograph after several news blogs said it had been manipulated using Photoshop software to show more smoke.

*Reuters* has strict standards of accuracy that

bar the manipulation of images in ways that mislead the viewer. "The photographer has denied deliberately attempting to manipulate the image, saying that he was trying to remove dust marks and that he made mistakes due to the bad lighting conditions he was working under," said Moira Whittle, the head of public relations for *Reuters*.

"This represents a serious breach of *Reuters'* standards and we shall not be accepting or using pictures taken by him," Whittle said in a statement issued in London.

Hajj worked for *Reuters* as a non-staff freelance, or contributing photographer, from 1993 until 2003 and again since April 2005.

MNA/Reuters

**Turkmen Chief offers cars-for-cotton reward scheme**

**ASHGABAT, 7 Aug**—Turkmenistan's President-for-life Saparmurad Niyazov on Saturday promised each of his ministers a gift of a Mercedes Benz car to mark the 15th anniversary of his country's independence.

Regional chiefs only qualify for a jeep, but they will be upgraded to a Mercedes if they bring in

their cotton harvest early, Niyazov said on national television. "I have already ordered a Mercedes for each minister. We will give them out for the 15th anniversary," he said.

Niyazov's official title is Turkmenbashi, or Head of the Turkmen. He brooks no dissent and is at the centre of a personality cult in his isolated ex-Soviet state. A town, months of the year and days of the week have been named after him. He has his own car collection that includes a special armoured Mercedes saloon.

In 1992 Niyazov unveiled a programme called "a decade of prosperity" which, he said, would give every family their own home and a car. Many still have neither.

A Central Asian state neighbouring Iran and Afghanistan, Turkmenistan is a big cotton and natural gas exporter. It marks 15 years of independence from the Soviet Union in October.

MNA/Reuters

**One in three south African teens addict**

**JOHANNESBURG, 7 Aug**—As many as one in three teenagers in South Africa is addicted to drugs and alcohol, local daily *Saturday Argus* reported.

Shamim Garda, national executive director of the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Sanca), said that this alarming figure was gleaned from the number of 13- to 18-year-olds presenting themselves for treatment at its 34 clinics countrywide.

Experts believe that the age of first experimentation has dropped from the early teens to between nine and 10 years old.

"What's so disturbing is the fact that these children are getting addicted to drugs and alcohol at younger ages," Garda said.

"The problem starts with nine- to 15-year-olds who experiment with cigarettes, alcohol, dagga and mandrax. They start to use more than one drug and get addicted to drugs such as heroin, Cat and crack cocaine," she added.

Schoolchildren are the drug peddlers' market. "Teenagers that are hooked become adults that are hooked. They stay addicts for a long time or die of it. It's just a spiral downwards — and ruins their lives," she said.

MNA/Xinhua

**UN divisions dash hopes for Middle East vote**

**UNITED NATIONS, 7 Aug**—Lebanon asked the UN Security Council on Sunday to call for a quick withdrawal of Israeli troops as part of a draft resolution seeking to end more than three weeks of fighting between Israel and Hizbollah guerrillas.

The demand divided Council members, dashing hopes for the resolution's approval as early as Monday, diplomats said.

"I think that means a vote on Tuesday is the more likely scenario," said one Council diplomat.

Paris and Washington had hoped their resolution

— which calls for "a full cessation of hostilities" but does not explicitly call for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon—could be adopted on Monday or Tuesday.

Some diplomats had pushed for a vote as early as Sunday evening as the fighting raged on.

But the Council's five permanent members — the United States, China, Russia, Britain and France — failed to reach agreement during a 90-minute meeting on whether to amend the text to meet Lebanon's concerns, diplomats said.

That prevented Paris and Washington from putting the draft into final form—a move that would have cleared the way for a Monday vote, the diplomats said.

During the closed-door meeting, China and Russia argued in favour of making the resolution more attractive to Lebanon to strengthen its support for the Council's plan to end the conflict.

"Our concern was that the Lebanese Government seems to be unhappy with the draft resolution," Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin told

reporters, adding that the full 15-nation Security Council would meet again on Monday morning for further talks.

Lebanese Foreign Ministry official Nouhad Mahmoud presented Beirut's proposed amendments to the Council on Sunday. He did so hours after Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri said "all of Lebanon" rejected the draft resolution because it did not fully reflect the seven-point peace plan adopted by the Lebanese Government, which includes Hizbollah ministers.—MNA/Reuters

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Brides and bridegrooms wave on the stage as they wait for their wedding ceremony in Ankara, Turkey on 6 August, 2006. 206 couples married together with an annual ceremony organized by Ankara municipality. —INTERNET

Earthquakes, the main disaster killer on Chinese Mainland

SHIJIAZHANG, 7 Aug—Earthquakes have killed more people on the Chinese Mainland than any other form of natural disaster, according to a Chinese seismological official.

Quake fatalities had accounted for 54 per cent of natural disaster deaths since 1949, said Huang Jianfa, director of the earthquake emergency relief division of the China Seismological Bureau, on Saturday.

Floods and droughts came the next, accounting for another 40 per cent of deaths, Huang told the Asian-Pacific Regional Earthquake Exercise

workshop in Shijiazhuang, provincial capital of Hebei.

China had been afflicted by natural disasters, which affected 200 million people and damaged 40 million hectares of crops each year. Natural disasters cost the country an average 100 billion yuan (12.5 billion US dollars) each year.

China also suffered serious losses from typhoons, landslides and rock-and-mudflows, said Huang.

“Extreme weather will become more frequent across China because of various

factors, including global warming,” said Huang, who insisted China must participate in more international disaster relief operations.

MNA/Xinhua

Freed South Korean trawler arrives to cheers in Kenya

MOMBASA (Kenya), 7 Aug — A South Korean trawler held captive by Somali militiamen for more than three months docked in Kenya on Saturday, a week after gunmen freed its 25-member crew.

Wearing tattered and dirty clothes, the trawler’s crew waved as they disembarked at Kenya’s Mombasa Port, where they were greeted by cheers and applause from dozens of diplomats, maritime officials and journalists.

The trawler was seized by eight armed men in two speedboats who accused it of fishing illegally and may have been pirates. “We were not tortured but there was a lot of tension as the rescue mission continued,” Vietnamese sailor Nguyen Xuan Qua told Reuters. “We did not know when we were going home. All our lives hung in the balance.”

The gunmen were paid more than 400,000 US dollars to release the ship, owned by Dongwon Fisheries Co. Ltd., said Andrew Mwangura of the Seafarers Assistance Programme, an East African maritime organization. — MNA/Reuters

Curator’s family arrested over Hermitage museum art theft

Moscow, 7 Aug—The husband and son of a Russian museum curator have been arrested in connection with a multi-million dollar art theft from St Petersburg’s famous Hermitage Museum.

The theft was discovered during a

routine audit of the museum’s collection. The curator responsible had a heart attack and died when the inspection began.

Her husband and son have been arrested for the crime. They are accused of stealing more than 200 pieces of art, jewellery and religious icons. Art experts

say the items could be worth more than \$100 million. Six of the stolen pieces have been returned.

A mother of pearl icon was recovered from a rubbish bin after an anonymous tip-off, and an antiques dealer has handed in a silver chalice.—Internet



This undated file picture shows staffers examining a storage room of the Hermitage museum in St Petersburg. Russian police have arrested the widower of a Hermitage Museum custodian in connection with the mysterious theft of millions of dollars’ worth of art treasures from the legendary collection, an official said.—INTERNET

Claims \$20m Van Gogh is a fake

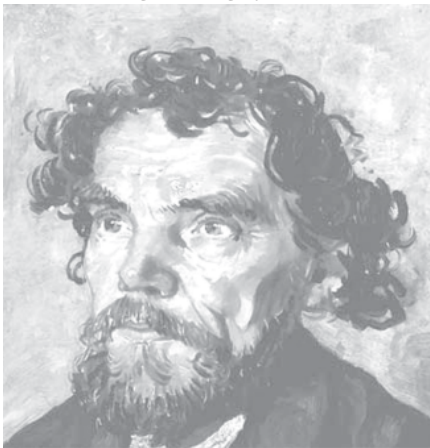
BRITISH, 7 Aug—The National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) will investigate claims one of its prized works by Dutch master Vincent Van Gogh is a forgery.

The \$20 million piece - *Head of a Man* - was purchased by the Melbourne-based gallery in 1940 and is currently on loan to the Dean Gallery in Edinburgh.

Critics there have dubbed it a fake. Their doubt stems from the fact that the 1880s portrait is horizontal and is painted on canvas mounted on a panel - an unusual medium for Van Gogh.

But the NGV director Gerard Vaughan says the gallery will not be changing the painting’s attribution. “So far as we’re concerned we are not going to turn around and change the attribution,” he said.

“Every great Van Gogh scholar of the 20th century has accepted the authenticity of the picture and has published it as an authentic Van Gogh. “However, at the same



British critics say *Head of a Man* was not painted by Van Gogh.—INTERNET

time, we are very, very open to debate and dialogue and it is not unusual in the world of art to question an accepted attribution and we will be very, very happy to have that debate.”

Mr Vaughan admits there have been

many fake Van Gogh’s bought and sold in the art world.

“In fact, entire books have been written on the phenomenon of forging Van Gogh’s.

But those forgeries overall are pretty easy to tell and many of

them have been very well documented,” he said. But Mr Vaughan would not be drawn on whether his predecessors at the gallery might have been duped. “That depends on whether the picture is authentic or not, and that would apply to every curator and every director ever since,” he said.

“Any painting, unless you can trace its provenance right back to the studio of the artist and you can document every sale out of the studio of the artist - and there are many paintings in our collection when we can do that, in fact, so provenance research is obviously very important - but you eventually, at the end of the day, you have to trust your sense of connoisseurship, I suppose, your ability to judge quality in a painting.”—Internet

Rice says UN resolution will not end all fighting

CRAWFORD (Texas), 7 Aug — US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice cautioned on Sunday that a UN resolution will not stop all the fighting in southern Lebanon but is a first step toward a lasting cessation of violence.

Rice, in Crawford to consult with President George W. Bush about the Middle East crisis,

told reporters it is important to get a vote on the UN resolution in the next day or two.

UN Security Council envoys are attempting to put the finishing touches on a draft resolution from France and the United States calling for a halt to fighting between Israel and Hizbollah guerillas and setting terms for a settlement to the conflict.—MNA/Reuters

# SPORTS



**Qian Zhe**, associate professor of Fine Arts school of Qinghua University and one of the designers of the Pictograms of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, explains the pictograms at a news conference in Beijing, capital of China, on 7 August, 2006. —INTERNET

## Reggina charged in Italy match-fixing scandal

ROME, 8 Aug—Italy's football prosecutor on Monday ordered another Italian Serie A team, Reggina, to stand trial in a match-fixing scandal that has already penalized four of the country's elite clubs.

An Italian Football Federation (FIGC) spokesman said its prosecutor, Stefano Palazzi, had charged Reggina with sporting fraud. He did not offer details.

ANSA news agency reported that six Reggina matches were under scrutiny following telephone wiretaps involving the team's president, Lillo Foti.

Neither the club or Foti could be immediately reached for comment.

The trial against Reggina follows a decision by the tribunal last month to oust Juventus from Italy's top-flight soccer league and punish Lazio, Fiorentina and AC Milan by deducting points. —MNA/Reuters

## Woods holds off Furyk to notch 50th career title

GRAND BLANC (Michigan), 8 Aug — Tiger Woods withstood a late challenge from Jim Furyk to claim his 50th career title at the Buick Open on Sunday.

Fresh from his British Open victory, Woods made it back-to-back wins after carding his fourth consecutive round of 66 to finish three shots clear of Furyk with a total of 24-under 264.

The world number one's fourth win of the season and second Buick title made him the youngest player to notch career PGA Tour victories. He eclipsed Jack Nicklaus, who did not celebrate his 50th success until he was 33. "It's pretty cool to get to 50," the 30-year-old Woods told reporters after achieving the mark in his 196th event. "I've been blessed and had a lot of things go my way."

Having captured 36-of-39 events when leading after three rounds, Woods's milestone win was not without drama at the Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club.

Furyk mounted a back-nine challenge with birdies on five of six

holes from the 10th on the way to a bogey-free eight-under 64.

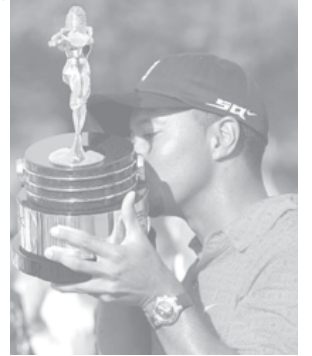
Woods began the day with two-shot cushion and maintained his advantage with a flawless front nine that included four birdies to open up a three-shot lead.

But three holes later the world number one's advantage had evaporated under Furyk's charge and his only bogey of the day at the par-four 12th left both players on 21 under. Woods, however, quickly recovered with a birdie at the 13th after a pinpoint approach left him a one-foot tap in.

The 11-times major champion followed up with another birdie on 15th to restore his two-shot lead and survived a scare on the par-three 17th when a spectator rolled an apple across the green as he attempted a long birdie putt.

With fans chanting "throw him

out, throw him out", Woods would not be distracted, stepping up to the ball and draining a nervy four-footer for par. —MNA/Reuters



**Tiger Woods** kisses the trophy after winning the Buick Open golf tournament in Grand Blanc, Michigan on 6 August, 2006. —INTERNET

## Crespo proud to be back at Inter

ROME, 8 Aug—Argentina striker Hernan Crespo said on Monday he was proud to be back at Inter Milan, hours after the Italian club announced it had signed a loan deal with Chelsea to bring him back to the San Siro.

Crespo, who spent the 2002-03 season at Inter before joining Chelsea for 16.8 million pounds (32 million US dollars), has signed a two-year contract, the Serie A club said on its website.

"For me it is a matter of pride to be back at Inter," Crespo said as he was officially presented at the club's HQ in Milan.

"I had left here crying and now I am back smiling. I thank Chelsea, the chairman and the coach, because they understood my needs and they were accommodating," he said.

No money changed hands in the deal but the English champions have retained an option to take Crespo back after one season. —MNA/Reuters



**France's Mathilde Pichery** competes during the K1 women's race at the ICF Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing World Championships 2006 in Prague on 6 August, 2006. —INTERNET

## Mellberg to quit as Sweden captain

GOTHENBURG (Sweden), 8 Aug—Aston Villa defender Olof Mellberg is to quit as Sweden skipper although he will carry on playing for his national team, the Swedish daily *Expressen* reported on Monday. "I have been thinking about this since after the World Cup and felt that with everything that is going on at Aston Villa it was time to let someone else take over," he told the paper.

"We have a new manager and we do not know exactly what will happen with the club or who will take over as the owner...I feel it could be a good change for the national team and for myself."

Former Celtic coach Martin O'Neill was appointed as Villa's new manager last week, replacing David O'Leary.

MNA/Reuters



**Jim Furyk** reacts after missing his putt on the 18th hole during the final round of the Buick Open golf tournament in Grand Blanc, Michigan on 6 August, 2006. —INTERNET

## Solskjaer returns to Norway squad for Brazil friendly

OSLO, 8 Aug—Norway coach Aage Hareide has recalled Manchester United striker Ole Gunnar Solskjaer to his squad for the prestige August 16 friendly against Brazil.

Hareide included Solskjaer on Monday despite grumbling from

United's manager Alex Ferguson that his player, who has spent most of the past three seasons sidelined with injuries, should forget about playing in internationals.

Solskjaer, 33, last

played for Norway against Wales in 2004. He returns for a fixture that has a special appeal for his country as they hold a unique unbeaten record against the world's top-ranked team. —MNA/Reuters

## UEFA says no European games in Israel until further notice

LONDON, 8 Aug—European soccer's governing body UEFA announced on Monday that due to security situation in Israel no European matches can be staged in the country until further notice.

UEFA had already decided last week to move the home first-leg matches of the UEFA Cup second qualifying round involving Israeli teams to venues outside of Israel — a decision upheld by the Court for Arbitration in Sport. Monday's announcement affects Maccabi Haifa's Champions League third qualifying round home leg with Liverpool set for August 22 or 23 and Beitar Jerusalem's UEFA Cup second qualifying round clash with Dinamo Bucharest on August 24. The two matches will now have to be played at neutral venues. —MNA/Reuters



**Maria Sharapova** holds up the trophy after winning her final against Kim Clijsters at the Acura Classic tennis tournament in Carlsbad, Calif, on 6 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

## Medina joins race for Barcelona presidency

MADRID, 8 Aug—Lawyer Jordi Medina became the latest Barcelona member to declare his intention to stand against Joan Laporta in next month's presidential election when he unveiled his candidature on Monday.

Medina, who made an unsuccessful bid to stand in the last election in 2003, said he was aiming to put forward a constructive programme that would provide a viable alternative to Laporta's leadership.

His programme includes a project to modernise Barca's 98,000-capacity Nou Camp stadium and a plan to boost the fortunes of the club's youth sides in an attempt to prevent players leaving to join other leading teams. Medina is the third rival to Laporta to throw his hat in the ring following former Barcelona handball player Francesc Linan Serra and university professor Jaume Guixa. —MNA/Reuters

### 3,000 quarantined at N-E China School after TB outbreak

SHENYANG, 8 Aug — Almost 3,000 faculties and students have been quarantined in a northeast China senior high school after 29 people contracted tuberculosis, a local health official said on Sunday.

Only one student fell ill at the No 1 Senior High School in June in Chaoyang City, Liaoning Province, the city health bureau head Li Ziming recalled.

When more students and some teachers caught the disease at the end of July, the local government immediately set up a leading group and deployed medical staff to prevent

the spread of the disease. To date, 2,670 of the 2,859 students, teachers and staff members have received TB bacteria tests which are being examined.

Fourteen of the 29 patients are receiving free treatment at isolation wards in the city's TB prevention and treatment hospital and 15 others are reported to be in

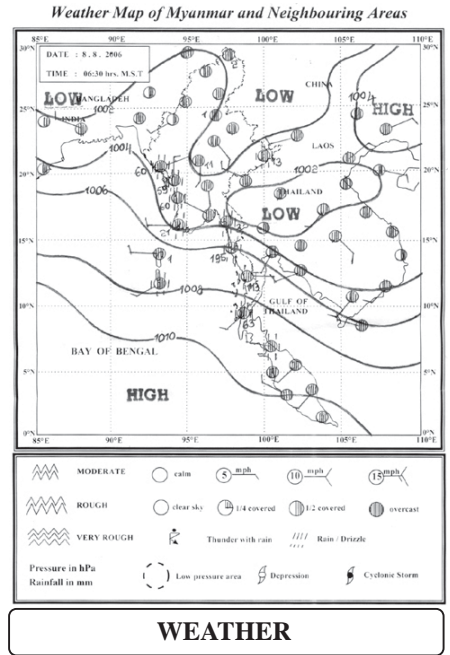
stable condition and are confined to the school or at home.

All other students, teachers and staffs of the school have been confined to the campus while health tests and treatment are carried out.

The school, established in 1904, is predominantly a boarding school

catering to students from rural areas. As it is a key experimental school in Liaoning, the school usually starts summer vacation in early August, said an official.

However, the school did not start summer vacation on Saturday as planned due to the TB outbreak. — MNA/Xinhua



Children in traditional ethnic minority clothing use umbrellas as they watch a parade to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the provincial government in Duyun, southeast China's Guizhou province on 8 August, 2006.

INTERNET

### Hiroshima Day observed in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 8 Aug — Hiroshima Day was observed on Sunday in Bangladesh to mark the dropping of atom bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Sunday in 1945 by the United States during the WW II that killed millions of people and still causing health hazards.

A discussion was arranged here to mark the day, which was participated by government leaders, language movement hero, diplomats of Japan, Australia and Russia and retired Bangladeshi Army officers.

Speakers said every man in the world has to work together in line with the spirit of Hiroshima Day for establishing global peace.

dropped atom bomb in Hiroshima on this day in 1945 killing millions of people to demonstrate their strength," said Mirza Abbas, Bangladeshi Minister for Housing and Public Works.

The speakers said barbarism that started with the dropping of atom bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki and were still alive in different forms and degree. They referred to killings in Iraq, Afghanistan and Lebanon and urged for united efforts of all to stop these barbarism.

MNA/Xinhua



Wednesday, 9 August  
View on today

- 7:00 am
  1. Recitation of Parittas of Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:15 am
  2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မဗျာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသီရိဗ္ဗာတိဝံသာ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am
  3. To Be Healthy Exercise
- 7:30 am
  4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
  5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
  6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:05 am
  7. မြန်မာ့မြေကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:15 am
  8. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
  9. ချောင်းမကြီး (မြို့လှ) ရေးသားတင်ပြ (ဝိဇ္ဇာတိုင်း)

- 8:30 am
  10. International news
- 8:45 am
  11. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
  1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
  2. Song for uphold national spirit
- 4:30 pm
  3. Practice in reading
- 4:45 pm
  4. အခေသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဒုတိယနှစ် (သင်္ချာအထူးပြု)
- 4:55 pm
  5. Song of national race
- 5:05 pm
  6. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေး ဂီတတေး
- 5:15 pm
  7. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:30 pm
  8. သီချင်းကြီးသရုပ်ဖော်
- 5:40 pm
  9. "အလံလေးတော့ ကိုင်ပြပါ" (စွန့်ခွဲစား၊ ရတနာစင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မင်းအောင်စိန်)
- 5:50 pm
  10. ရွယ်နီလင် အာဖ်ယံအစီအစဉ်
- 6:00 pm
  11. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
  12. Weather report

- 6:35 pm
  13. သုတနဲ့လင် ရွှေညွှန်ရှင်
- 7:05 pm
  14. "ဆေးလိပ်ကင်းကွာ အနုပညာကမ္ဘာ" (လွင်နိုး၊ မင်းတော်ကွန်း၊ စာနည်းကင်းကောင်၊ မိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊ လှအောင်လှိုင်၊ ကြည်လှလှိုင်၊ ဝမ်းမိုး)
- 7:10 pm
  15. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 7:25 pm
  16. ခရမ်းချောင်းတံတား
- 7:30 pm
  17. တေးဂီတအစီအစဉ်
- 7:45 pm
  18. ကြားမြင်သုတပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 8:00 pm
  19. News
- 20. International news
- 21. Weather report
- 22. "ဓမ္မဗျူဟာစာစောင် အမွေကောင်း" (ပြဇာတ်) (သု မောင်၊ မိုးသောကြာ၊ ချောရတနာ၊ စိုးမိုးကြည်) (ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဝန်ကြီးဌာနမှ စီစဉ်တင်ဆက်သည်)
- 23. The next day's programme



Wednesday, 9 August  
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
  - Bicycle Race
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
  - Black coffee
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
  - These are your days
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
  - Don't want you back
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
  - Come back when it ain't raining
  - Don't tell me
- 9:00pm Variations on a tune
  - Jambalaya
- 9:15 pm Article
- 9:25pm Music at your request
  - Love me
  - Girl friend
  - I know I love you
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

### WEATHER

Tuesday, 8 August, 2006

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain have been isolated in Kayin State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Shan State, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in Taninthayi Division and isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (8.74) inches, Mweik (5.00) inches, Ye (4.44) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.11) inches, Thandwe (2.96) inches, Gwa (2.60) inches, Kawthaung (2.56) inches, Sittwe (2.52) inches and Meikhila (0.43) inch.

Maximum temperature on 7-8-2006 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 8-8-2006 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 8-8-2006 was (78%). Total sunshine hours on 7-8-2006 was (9.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 8-8-2006 were (nil) at Mingaladon, (nil) at Kaba-Aye and (nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (59.72) inches at Mingaladon, (72.40) inches at Kaba-Aye and (77.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (18) mph from Northwest at (15:15) hours MST on 7-8-2006.

**Bay inference:** Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and weak to moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 9-8-2006:** Weather will be partly cloudy in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain will be isolated in Chin and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Shan State, Bago, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions, fairly widespread to widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfalls are likely in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely attimes off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 to 40 mph. Seas will be slight to moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Moderate monsoon.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 9-8-2006:** Possibility of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 9-8-2006:** One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 9-8-2006:** Possibility of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (40%).

**Flood Bulletin**  
(Issued at 12:00 hrs MST on 8-8-2006)  
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1112) cm. It may fall below its danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hours commencing noon today.

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife bid farewell to visiting Thai general and party on their departure for Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug — A goodwill delegation led by Supreme Commander General Ruengroj Mahasaranond of Royal Thai Armed Forces and wife, who arrived here at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, this morning left here for Yangon by special flight to pay a goodwill visit there.

On arrival at the Nay Pyi Taw Airport from the Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone, the visiting Thai general and party were welcomed by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party.

Next, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presented a photo album on the tour of Nay Pyi Taw to General Ruengroj Mahasaranond.

Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Military Affairs



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye shakes hands with Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Ruengroj Mahasaranond at Nay Pyi Taw Airport prior to the latter's departure for Yangon. — MNA*

Security Chief Maj-Gen Ye Myint and their wives, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and officials bade farewell to the visiting Thai general and party on their departure for Yangon. — MNA

## Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San host dinner in honour of Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug — Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San hosted dinner in honour of the goodwill delegation led by Thai Supreme Commander of Royal Thai Armed Forces

General Ruengroj Mahasaranond and wife and members at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence yesterday.

The dinner was at-

tended by member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet, Secretary-1 of the State

Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Win, members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint

and Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and wife, Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Military Affairs Security Chief Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and their wives, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and military attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatat and officials.

Artistes of Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture and Myawady TV entertained the guests before and during dinner. — MNA



*Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San host a dinner in honour of General Ruengroj Mahasaranond and party. — MNA*