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Saturday, 12 August, 2006

Senior General Than Shwe congratulates Colombian President

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Alvaro Uribe Velez, President of the Republic of Colombia, on the occasion of the assumption of presidency for second term on 7 August, 2006. — MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Senior General Than Shwe receives Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe received Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines Mr Alberto G Romulo and party at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence here this morning.

Present also were 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, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Soe Win, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs

U Nyan Win, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador Madame Phoebe A Gomez of the Republic of the Philippines to the Union of Myanmar.

MNA



Senior General Than Shwe receives Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines Mr Alberto G Romulo and party at Bayintnaung Yeiktha 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

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 12 August, 2006

Try to exceed crop yield targets

Myanmar, being an agro-based nation, puts major reliance upon the agricultural sector for its economic growth.

To contribute towards the goal, Ayeyawady Division is pursuing its targets of putting 3.7 million acres under monsoon paddy, 1.6 million acres under summer paddy, 1.6 million acres under beans and pulses and nearly 500,000 acres under edible oil crops for 2006-2007 fiscal year. On 9 August, it held the ceremony to mark successful completion of ploughing for cultivation of monsoon paddy. And it is putting earnest efforts into the plans to meet the targeted outputs of the crops.

The region grew monsoon paddy on 3.5 million acres in 2004-2005 fiscal year and 3.6 million acres in 2005-2006 fiscal year. So far, it has planted more than 3.4 million acres of monsoon paddy against the target of 3.7 million acres for 2006-2007 financial year.

The division will have to make sustained efforts to continue to stand as the granary of the nation by implementing the plans for boosting paddy per-acre yield and reclaiming the virgin and vacant lands in it.

Simultaneously, it should systematically accelerate taking organizational measures and providing necessary assistance for local farmers to achieve the target of extended planting of rubber that is on a high demand at home and abroad.

Now, physic nut is being planted throughout the nation to extract bio-diesel. In this context, Ayeyawady Division is speeding up its efforts to realize the target of growing physic nut from a small scale to a large scale.

The region also requires to lay down and then to see to plans so as to hit the targets of boosting per-acre yield of respective crops.

Service personnel are responsible for distributing agricultural methods and high-yield strains to local farmers for the development of agricultural and production sectors.

Therefore, farmers on their part are to catch up with the changes in agricultural methods and to apply the advanced methods to help achieve the surplus production of crops.



CASH DONATED: Kevin and Ma Mi Mi San of Room No 504, Building-1, Thumingala Housing in Thingangyun Township donated K 105,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Joint Treasurer of the Home U Maung Maung Gyi accepts 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

Vice-President of MAAF receives Resident Representative of UNICEF

Vice-President of MAAF Daw Khin Thet Htay meeting with Resident Representative of UNICEF Mr Ramesh M Shrestha.



MNA

YANGON, 11 Aug — On behalf of the President of the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Vice-President of MAAF Daw Khin Thet Htay received Resident Representative of UNICEF Mr Ramesh M Shrestha at the office of the Federation on Thanlwin Road, Bahan Township, here, this morning.

Also present on the occasion together with the Vice-President were CEC members of the

Federation.

At the meeting, the Vice-President and CEC members explained the salient points of the Federation and its future work programmes while Mr Ramesh M Shrestha discussed the cooperation of the Federation in early-childhood development programmes as well as in education and health sectors. — MNA

Blood donation of Myanmar Brewery Ltd held

YANGON, 11 Aug— The Myanmar Brewery Ltd held its first blood-donation ceremony at its factory in Pynmabin Industrial Zone, Mingaladon Township, this morning.

General Manager Mr David Tang extended greetings on the occasion.

Chairman of the company Lt-Col Maung Maung Aye donated K 3 million to the National Blood Unit of Yangon General Hospital.

A total of 145 staff donated blood at the ceremony. — MNA



Employees of Myanmar Brewery Ltd donate blood at the factory in Pynmabin Industrial Zone in Mingaladon Township. — MNA

Thanantana Dhammapalaka Organization to hold Waso robe offering ceremony

YANGON, 11 Aug — Organized by Thanantana Dhammapalaka Organization, Hindu family members will offer Waso robes and 'soon' to members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and members of the Sangha of State Pariyatti Sasana University at the Mogok refectory on Kaba Aye Hill on 20 August morning.

Hindu families are invited to attend the ceremony and those wishing to make donations may dial 256717, 525165, 242751 and 251486.

NLM

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ် မသုံးစွဲရနဲ့

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Annan pushes for UNSC resolution on Israel-Hizbollah conflict

UNITED NATIONS, 11 Aug — UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan called on the Security Council on Thursday to adopt a resolution on the Israel-Hizbollah conflict which has claimed over 1,000 lives and displaced hundreds of thousands of people.

The UN Chief is working “very intensely” with Security Council members and key leaders to push for a resolution concerning the situation along the Blue Line separating Israel from Lebanon, said UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric.

“The Secretary-General is working very intensely with Security Council members and key leaders both here in New York and in capitals to push for a resolution concerning the situation along the Blue Line,” said the spokesman.

“The Secretary-General believes that it ought to be possible for the Security Council to adopt a resolution by the end of the week,” the spokesman said following a meeting between Annan and the US and French ambassadors.

Annan reiterated his call for a cessation of hostili-

ties, saying the “fighting must stop to save civilians on both sides from the nightmare they have endured in the past four weeks”, he added.

At a Security Council meeting on Tuesday, Qatar’s Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassem bin Jabr al-Thani, speaking for the League of Arab States, accused the 15-member body of doing nothing while the Lebanese people have become engulfed in a “bloodbath” since the conflict between Israel and Hizbollah erupted in mid-July. Since the start of hostilities, the Security Council has adopted a resolution temporarily extending the mandate of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon through August, as well as two presidential statements on the violence, but refrained from calling for a ceasefire.

MNA/Xinhua

တတိယမြောက် တရားရုံး



People perform during the opening ceremony of a festival in Ordos, north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 8 Aug, 2006. The Third Chinese Inner Mongolia International Grassland Cultural Festival was opened on Tuesday in Ordos.—INTERNET

Singapore celebrates 41st birthday

SINGAPORE, 10 Aug—Celebrations of Singapore’s 41st birthday culminated in the annual National Day Parade held at the National Stadium Wednesday evening. Singapore’s President S R Nathan, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew and Cabinet ministers presented themselves at the parade, which gathered an audience of some 55,000 on the spot.

The event featured a parachute jump performance, an aerial fly-past show of Apache helicopters and F-16 fighters, apart from a military parade, singing and dancing performances and fireworks displays.

Fringe activities such as face painting, hip-hop, rope jumping, magic, balloon twisting and stilt walking had been held outside the stadium before the parade started.

This was the last time that the stadium played host to National Day Parade. It will be demolished soon after to make room for a new sports hub. — MNA/Xinhua

Shanghai to have Asia’s largest railway station

SHANGHAI, 11 Aug — The Shanghai municipal government announced here Thursday that the city will start building what will be Asia’s largest railway station this year.

Hongqiao Railway Hub, the new station, is located in the west of downtown Shanghai, and covers an area of 1.33 million square metres, said Liu Lianqing, director of the Shanghai Railway Bureau.

Construction of the station, which is expected to cost between 13 billion and 15 billion yuan (1.6 billion and 1.8 billion US dollars), will be completed by 2010.

The design of the new station has been made, according to Liu. — MNA/Xinhua

Airline plot could have killed thousands, officials say

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug —US officials say the plot to blow up airliners on trans-Atlantic flights was the most serious since the 11 September, 2001 attacks and could have claimed thousands of lives.

British authorities swooped in on the plotters, arresting 24 people to break up what US officials say was a complex, highly sophisticated sui-

cide operation that was in its advanced stages.

The plot involved blowing up as many as 10 airliners almost simultaneously as they flew to destinations in the United States at the height of the summer travel season.

US Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff says some details of the foiled plan are still unclear. “It’s clear the plan was multiple planes at

about the same time. Whether the exact number had been decided upon or whether that was going to depend upon factors not yet resolved, we don’t know,” he said.

“But under any circumstances, it was an attack that had the potential to kill hundreds or thousands of people,” he added.

The US ABC News reported that the explosives were to be concealed in

false bottoms of bottles of sports drink.

The flash of a disposable camera would have been used to detonate the substance.

He has described it as a “sophisticated design” that authorities had not yet had time to carefully examine. For that reason, he says, British and US authorities decided to stop passengers from boarding planes with any liquids.

“Eventually, we will reverse-engineer it and make sure we make adequate counter measures to prevent these kinds of bombs from coming on board,” he said. According to US intelligence officials, United Airlines, American Airlines, Continental Airlines and possibly non-US carriers were all targeted in the plot. The destinations were “primary tourist attractions”—New York, Washington DC, Los Angeles, Boston and Chicago.—Internet



Passengers wait to check in at JFK International Airport in New York on 10 Aug, 2006 after British authorities foiled an alleged terrorist plot to blow up airliners.—INTERNET

Pair with passenger info, phones linked to terror

MARIETTA (OHIO), 11 Aug— Investigators in southeast Ohio said they were working to unravel how two Michigan men charged with supporting terrorism came to have airplane passenger lists and airport security information.

Osama Sabhi Abulhassan, 20, and Ali Houssaiky, 20, both of the Detroit suburb of Dearborn, were being held at the Washington County jail on \$200,000 bond each, which could be raised at a Thursday afternoon court hearing. Each was charged Wednesday with money laundering in support of terrorism.

Deputies stopped the two on a traffic violation Tuesday and found the flight documents along with \$11,000 cash and 12 phones in their car, Sheriff Larry Mincks said.

It wasn’t clear what significance the airline information might have. Assistant County Prosecutor Susan Vessels declined to comment on whether the manifests were for upcoming flights or those that already had flown. She also would not give the origin or destination of the flight or flights.—Internet



Egyptians ride camels during a camel race in the town of El Sharkia, north of Cairo, on 9 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Russia against draft UN resolution on Lebanon

Moscow, 10 Aug — Russia is against the UN Security Council's resolution on Lebanon in its current form, Russia's UN envoy Vitaly Churkin said on Tuesday.

"It's obvious for us that we shouldn't adopt a draft, which the Lebanese don't find acceptable, as it'll only lead to an esca-

lation of the conflict and more violence," Churkin told Russia's Vesti 24 television.

"We're making intense efforts now, making contacts and holding consultations," he said. "We're taking part in them so as to make the text of the resolution more acceptable for the

Lebanese Government."

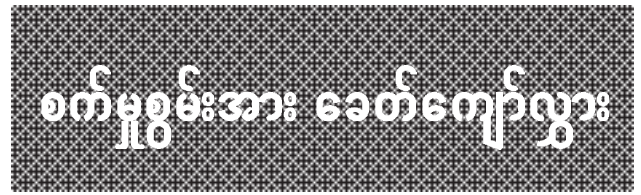
The draft resolution, presented to the 15-member Security Council by the United States and France on Saturday, calls for "a full cessation of hostilities based upon, in particular, the immediate cessation by Hizbollah of all attacks and the immediate cessation by

Israel of all offensive military operations."

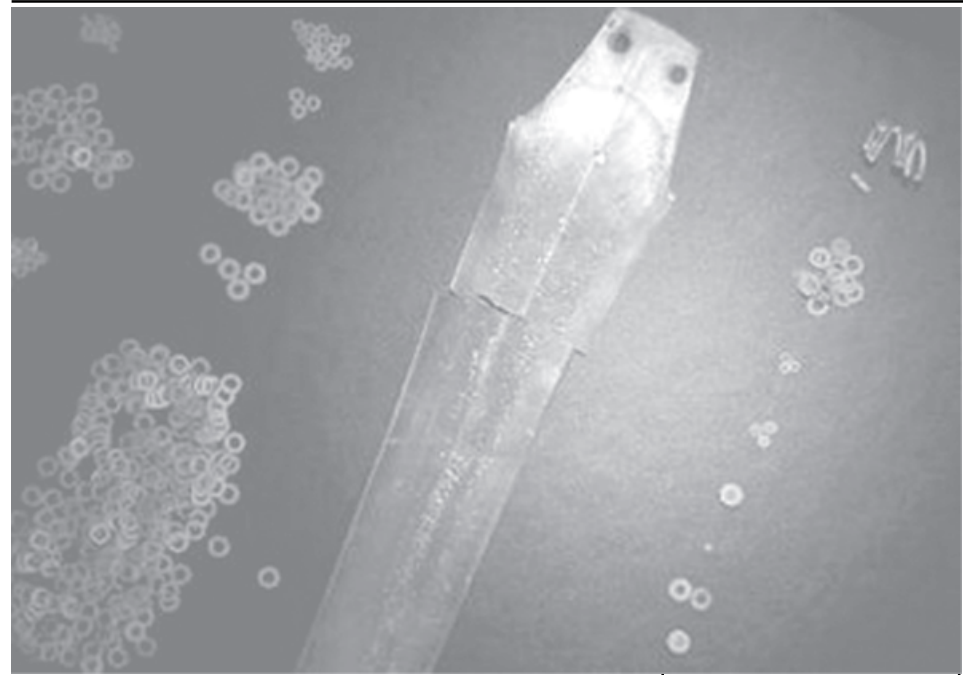
It also asks Israel and Lebanon to reach consensus on a series of principles for a permanent ceasefire and a long-term solution before the Security Council could adopt a second resolution authorizing an international force to be deployed in Lebanon.

"The Lebanese demand that the resolution say in unambiguous terms that the withdrawal of Israeli troops must begin right after ceasefire," Chuekin said. "I personally believe that's a new element and the authors of the new resolution and members of the Security Council should examine it scrupulously."

MNA/Xinhua



Performers from Italy's Kataklo Athletic Dance Theatre balance on bicycles for photographers at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival on Calton Hill in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 9 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET



An ancient golden poniard (C) is displayed along with other golden ornaments at the National History Museum in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 6 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

China's earliest handicraft workshop discovered in Henan Province

ZHENGZHOU, 10 Aug— Chinese archaeologists may have found one of the world's oldest handicraft workshops, dating back more than 3,600 years, in central China's Henan Province.

Covering about 1,000 square metres, the workshop used turquoise

to make elaborate and ornate works of art. The workshop was found in the village of Erlitou of Yanshi City and is part of the ruins of the Imperial City belonging to the Xia Dynasty (2100 BC-1600 BC), China's earliest.

The Imperial City was discovered two years ago.

At the workshop, crafts people made ornaments with inlaid turquoise, said Xu Hong, head of the team of archaeologist studying the site.

Xu and his colleagues, from the Archaeological Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, excavated the area after they found scraps of turquoise in a pit in 2004. Xu said the workshop was likely used for at least 200 years.

Xu said that they also found ruins of a wall around the workshop, which was across a road from the Imperial City. "This shows that the workshop was used to serve the imperial family, judging from its close location to the Imperial City," Xu said.

MNA/Xinhua

40,000 US soldiers have deserted from military since 2000

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug— Some 40,000 personnel from all branches of the US military have deserted since 2000, US media quoted Pentagon sources as saying Tuesday. From the total, more than half had served in the US Army, according to the report.

Anti-war organizations said that the mass desertions were due to the strong resistance to war which is more prevalent than the military has openly admitted.

"They (US military) lied in Vietnam about the amount of opposition to the war and they're lying now," said Eric Seitz, an attorney who represents Army Lieutenant Ehren Watada, the first commissioned officer to refuse to join his brigade when it was sent to Iraq last month. He is now under military custody in Fort Lewis, Washington.

A 2002 Army report said that desertion was fairly constant but "tends to worsen during wartime".

MNA/Xinhua

American babies carry more "baby fat" now than ever before, as Harvard Medical School researchers document a 73.5 percent increase in fat babies over a 22-year period. —INTERNET



Health Ministry asks daily reports on "Xinfu" injection

BEIJING, 10 Aug—The Ministry of Health on Wednesday demanded daily reports about the suspect "Xinfu" antibiotic injection, which had allegedly provoked six deaths by Tuesday.

A notice released by the ministry demanded that all provincial health departments report cases of adverse reactions to the clindamycin phosphate

glucose injection by 4 pm each day. The reports should cover the 24-hour period up to noon on the day of the report, the notice said.

The notice requires medical institutions at all levels to report "Xinfu"—related cases to provincial drug monitoring centres and provincial health departments as quickly as possible.

The Ministry banned

the use of the drug, produced by the Anhui Huayuan Worldbest Biology Pharmacy Co, a subsidiary of Shanghai Worldbest Co Ltd, on 3 Aug. Local health departments have been urged to take emergency control measures, and to supervise the implementation of the ban in every single medical institution.

MNA/Xinhua

60 % Americans oppose Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug— Sixty per cent of Americans oppose the US war in Iraq and a majority would support a partial withdrawal of troops by year's end, a CNN poll said on Wednesday.

It was the CNN poll's highest number opposing the war since fighting began in March 2003, a figure that has risen steadily since then, according to the Opinion

Research Corp survey conducted last week on behalf of the cable network.

The poll showed 36 per cent of respondents said they were in favour of the war—half the peak 72 per cent who supported the war as it began, said the poll of 1,047 Americans. The telephone survey, which had an error margin of 3 percentage points, showed 61 per cent believed at least some US troops should be

with-drawn from Iraq by the end of 2006.

Voter anger over the Iraq war, plagued by guerillas and sectarian violence with a daily civilian death toll, was cited in the Connecticut Democratic primary defeat Tuesday of US Senator Joseph Lieberman, who strongly backed President George W Bush's war effort.

MNA/Reuters

Putin orders inventory check at all of Russia's national museums

Moscow, 10 Aug— President Vladimir Putin has ordered the government to conduct an inventory survey of all of Russia's museums, in the wake of the recent discovery of major art thefts.

Mr Putin told Cabinet members Thursday to set up a commission to start the audit by 1 September.

The commission will be made up of government officials and members of law enforcement agencies.

Officials revealed last week that more than 200 art objects, with an estimated value of about \$5 million, had been stolen from St Petersburg's famed Hermitage Museum. At least three peo-

ple have been detained in connection with the case, including the husband and son of a museum curator.

And earlier this week, officials said 2,000 drawings by acclaimed Russian avant-garde artist and architect Yakov Chernikhov are missing from the state archive of literature and art. Some information for this report was provided by AP and Reuters.

Internet

Aging critical to Alzheimer's disease

LOS ANGELES, 11 Aug— New research in worms has suggested an important link between the aging process and a misfolded protein that causes Alzheimer's, US scientists reported on Thursday.

This finding will open the door for development of drugs preventing build-up of the toxic protein aggregates in the brain, the researchers said in the August 10 advanced online edition of the journal *Science*.

The harmful protein, called beta amyloid peptide, exists in all brains. Healthy cells clear away excess amounts, but brains of people with Alzheimer's disease are unable to control beta amyloid accumulation.

Scientists have scrambled to find out the mechanism behind this mystery for years. Now the research team from the Salk Institute and the Scripps Institute shows that aging is what is critical.

The researchers used roundworms that produce human beta amyloid peptide in body wall muscles.

As the worms aged, the protein formed toxic aggregates causing paralysis.

When they decelerated aging process in these worms by lowering activity of the insulin pathway, the researchers found that chronologically "old" worms crawled around happily, while counterparts whose insulin pathway was normal could only helplessly wriggle their heads.

MNA/Xinhua

The giant baby and a baby of normal size lie together at Xiangfan First People's Hospital in Xiangfan, a city in central China's Hubei Province, on 10 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET



UK General warns over Afghanistan fighting

LONDON, 10 Aug— Fighting in southern Afghanistan is some of the worst faced by British troops since the Korean war, the head of the international security assistance force in the country said today.

Lieutenant General

David Richards said "persistent low-level dirty fighting" meant troops were struggling to recover from attacks before further violence broke out.

"This sort of thing hasn't really happened so consistently, I don't think, since the Korean War or

the Second World War," Lt Gen Richards told the BBC World Service.

"It happened for periods in the Falklands... and it happened for short periods in the Gulf on both occasions. But this is persistent low-level dirty fighting.

"In one sense what [international security assistance force soldiers] are doing is days and days of intense fighting, being woken up by yet another attack, and they haven't slept for 24 hours."

Violence in the lawless Helmand province has claimed the lives of 10 British soldiers over the past two months.

The death toll represents a dramatic increase in a country in which only two UK troops had previously been killed in action in the five years following the October 2001 invasion.—Internet



A reader shows 'The Selected Works of Jiang Zemin' that he just bought in a bookstore in Hefei, eastern China's Anhui Province, on 10 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

2 missing crew of US helicopter found dead in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug — The bodies of the two missing crew members of a US helicopter which crashed in western Iraq have been recovered, a US military spokesman said Thursday. "The two crew members have been recovered and they were dead," he said.

On Wednesday, the US military said that a Marine UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter crashed during an "area familiarization" flight in the volatile Anbar Province on Tuesday, leaving two of its six-member crew missing, adding that the incident was apparently not due to "enemy action". — MNA/Xinhua

Landslide kills five Pakistan quake survivors

ISLAMABAD, 10 Aug— At least five survivors of the last year devastated earthquake were killed on Tuesday when landslide hit their temporary shelter homes in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.

The victims, including four children, belonged to a single family.

Four other people were injured in the incident.

The incident took place late Monday night at village Bala Bandi, some 63 kilometres southeast of Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan-controlled Kashmir when the people were asleep.

MNA/Xinhua

Seven suspected drug traffickers killed in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, 10 Aug— Brazilian police killed seven suspected drug traffickers on Tuesday night when local elite squad Bope raided Rio de Janeiro's Vidigal slum, Rio police spokesman Colonel Leonardo Tavares said.

The officers, two of whom were injured in the operation, "fired back and shot seven", who died on the way to hospital, the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua

Two Chinese policemen killed in floods rescues

BEIJING, 10 Aug— Two policemen have been killed taking part in rescue efforts in disaster-hit areas.

Su Zhijie, 25, died on 27 July in Fujian when he tried to save people trapped in floods caused by Typhoon Bilis.

Wang Jixian, a patrolman in Zhaoqing city in Guangdong, was killed on 4 August in a huge mud flow after pulling two people out of the moving muds. China has deployed more than 50,000 policemen for rescue work in regions hit by natural disasters this summer, the police authority announced on Tuesday. — MNA/Xinhua



A veterinarian collects a blue macaw to vaccinate it against bird flu at El Retiro Ornithological Park in Malaga, southern Spain on 9 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

Japan to donate three patrol boats for Malacca Strait security

JAKARTA, 10 Aug—Japan will donate three patrol boats to support security measures by three littoral countries of the Malacca Strait, an Indonesian senior official said Wednesday.

Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Widodo Adi Sucipto told reporters after meeting visiting Japanese Defence Agency Chief Fukushima Nukaga that Japan promised to deliver three high-speed patrol boats to help Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore safeguard one of the world's busiest sea lines.

The boats are expected to arrive this year, he

added,

Japan's commitment to help safeguard the Strait had been earlier stated by Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi at a meeting with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in Tokyo last year.

According to data, 600 vessels and 11 million barrels of oil pass through the Malacca Strait each day. The Strait is very prone to piracy and

several governments have expressed concerns about possible major terrorist attacks targeting commercial ships along the strait.

The coordinated patrol operations in the Malacca Strait were first carried out by three littoral states within the framework of Malsindo launched in July 2004. — MNA/Xinhua



A British Airways aircraft lands at Heathrow Airport, near London, on 10 Aug, 2006. British police said on Thursday they had thwarted a plot to blow up aircraft in mid-flight between Britain and the United States and arrested more than 20 people.—INTERNET

Israel to evacuate residents in the north

JERUSALEM, 10 Aug—Israeli Government is going to pay for 17,000 residents in the north to leave the border area for several days, Israel's daily Haaretz reported on Tuesday.

The report, citing the Cabinet Secretary Yisrael Maimon, said that the government is offering some 17,000 residents of northern border towns to leave for several days.

Maimon said that the residents were offered to leave the war zone for several days of recuperation. The Israeli Government will pay for the stay of those leaving the border area.

The municipality of Kiryat Shmona, a northern Israeli town about 10 kilometres from the Israeli-Lebanese border, decided Monday that hundreds of the town's residents would evacuate this week for other parts of the country.

On Tuesday, the municipality will compile lists of people set to leave, most of them senior citizens, handicapped and women who have not left their bomb shelters since fighting broke out last month. — MNA/Xinhua

Stranded people rest

on the roof of their

huts in Surat, about

260 km (162 miles)

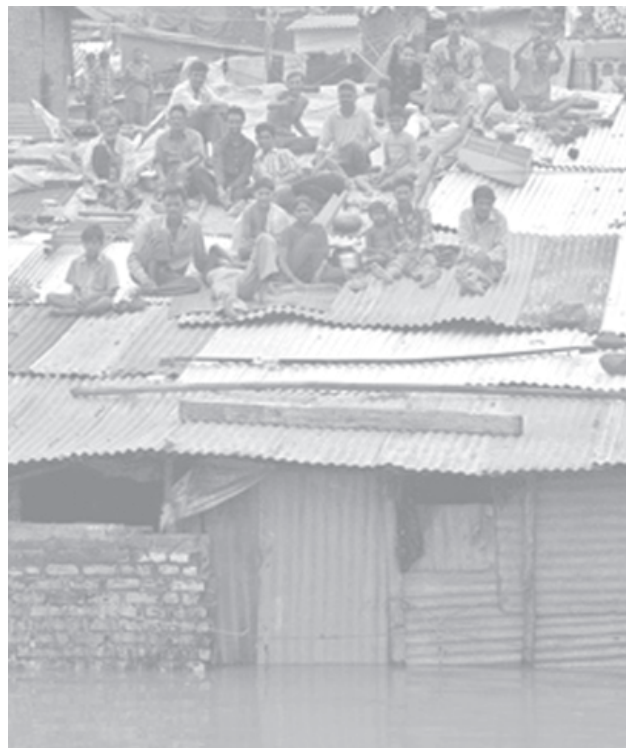
south from the

western Indian city

of Ahmedabad on 9

August, 2006.

INTERNET



Indian floods worsen, 4.5 mln people homeless

AHMEDABAD (India), 10 Aug—Swollen rivers swamped thousands of villages and towns across India's south and west on Wednesday, forcing 4.5 million from their homes as rescuers struggled to bring them food and drinking water, officials said.

India's annual monsoon rains — vital for the country's agriculture-driven economy — have triggered floods across at least five states since the weekend, killing at least 311 people, submerging villages and causing widespread damage to crops.

Most deaths were reported from the western state of Maharashtra, where 163 people have been killed in four days of incessant rains, 86 of them in the past 48 hours, officials said.

Floods had forced more than 200,000 people out of their homes in nearly 3,500 villages of Maharashtra, a relief official said.

In Maharashtra and also neighbouring Gujarat, military boats and helicopters continued to reach out to thousands who remained marooned on trees and rooftops, many without food and water, after rivers burst their banks and flooded homes.—MNA/Reuters

Saudi Arabia, Mexico pledge help on US oil

CRAWFORD (TEXAS), 10 Aug—Saudi Arabia and Mexico have pledged to

help fill shortages in the US oil supply due to the Alaska pipeline shutdown, the White House said on Tuesday.

Spokesman Tony Snow said there did not seem to be a significant supply interruption at this stage, but that talks have been held with Saudi Arabia and Mexico in recent days and that the two governments had pledged to help out with any shortages.

Snow had no more details about how much oil Saudi Arabia and Mexico might be willing to provide.

He reiterated that the Bush Administration was

willing to tap into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve if necessary to fill gaps in US supply, but said so far refineries have not made any such request.

He said US officials would like to get the BP pipeline in Alaska up and running as soon as possible, and said discovery of corrosion in the pipe was a result of pipeline inspection rules laid down by the Bush Administration.

A team of government investigators is at the site of the pipeline problem to assist in assessing the situation, Snow said.

MNA/Reuters



A mother walks with her child at the beach of Haifa, Israel's third largest city, on 9 August, 2006. Tourists are seen rare in Haifa as Israeli tourism industry has been badly hit by the conflict between Israel and Lebanon.—INTERNET

Bird flu toll climbs to 45 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 10 Aug—Local tests have confirmed that two Indonesian teenagers died of bird flu virus, bringing the country's death toll to a world record of 45, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

A 16-year-old female died of bird flu Tuesday after being treated in a hospital in the Jakarta suburb of Tangerang, where bird flu is considered

endemic in poultry and has already killed several people.

Local tests also confirmed that a 16-year-old resident of Bekasi, just east of Jakarta, who

died late Monday had H5N1. He was suspected of coming into contact with sick chickens near his home, reported *The Jakarta Post*.

Although the

government decided last week that local tests were adequate to confirm H5N1, specimens from the two patients were sent for scientific research to the US Centre

for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Health Ministry's director-general for communicable diseases, MNA/Xinhua

No smoking

To gain merits in perpetuity

Sai Thein (Kengtung)

Shan State (East) Union Solidarity and Development Association, Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association collectively held a ceremony to pay respects to elders in Kengtung on 17 April 2006.

Fifty-nine of the 74 aged persons who were at 85 and above attended the ceremony at which Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presented medicines to them. Specialist physicians also provided medical care to the aged.

Five days before the ceremony, the people of Kengtung in eastern Shan State donated K 32.1 million for construction of a home for the aged in the town. What I noticed at the donation ceremony were the words "perpetual merits" the commander said in his address he delivered there.

A news report I have read said that Shanghai had 600 centenarians and of them 468 were women and 132, men.



Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla present K 500,000 for offering provisions to the members of the Sangha.

Not only in China, but in Myanmar also the aged population is growing. The task of caring the aged lies on us as we too will become old one day. Ageing cannot be avoided.

A professor of Aberdeen University said that thyroidsin could ensure health and longevity. Taking thyroidsin correctly might help extend life expectancy 30 years or more, the professor predicted. But another medical scholar warned that thyroidsin might cause health problems.

When scholars of Aberdeen University tested thyroidsin on rats, they found that thyroidsin-given rats lived longer than others of their kind. The medical scholar cautioned that men and rats have different physiological processes.

A friend of mine told me that whether thyroidsin had such potency or not, the important thing for every man was to live a longer and healthier life. "The volume of work to cater for the aged grows together with the increase in their number. You see, we are now going to build a home for the aged in Kengtung",

he added.

The wellwishers shared the merits they gained for the donation to build the home. The commander and wife, on behalf of the people of eastern Shan State, offered a day's meal to members of the Sangha.

The tradition of sharing the merits has been deeply rooted in Buddhism. In the ten jatakas, King Vessantara shared the merits he gained for donating a white elephant.

When the Buddha was staying under the Bo tree, Mara and his soldiers came to attack Him. The Buddha proved His Buddhahood with Earth as witness.

Myanmar people have the tradition of sharing merits with Earth as witness to their good deeds.

The tradition of merit sharing of Myanmar is to prove the seriousness of their good deeds, while praying for others to gain the merits like them.

(Translation: TMT)
(Kyemon: 10.8.2006)

A professor of Aberdeen University said that thyroidsin could ensure health and longevity. Taking thyroidsin correctly might help extend life expectancy 30 years or more, the professor predicted. But another medical scholar warned that thyroidsin might cause health problems.

ကျန်းမာသန်ထွား ဉာဏ်မြင့်မား အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆား နေ့တိုင်းစား

လူတို့၏ ကာလဉာဏ်စွမ်းအားများကောင်းစွာဖွံ့ဖြိုးစေရန် အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားကို နေ့စဉ် စားသုံးရန်လိုအပ်ပါသည်။ အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားသည် ပင်လယ်ထွက် အစား အစာများတွင် ပါရှိသော်လည်း လူတို့နေ့စဉ်လိုအပ်ချက်ကို လုံလောက်အောင် မရရှိနိုင်ပါ။ ထို့ကြောင့် အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားကို နေ့စဉ်စားသုံးမှသာ အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားကို လုံလောက်အောင်ရရှိနိုင်ပါသည်။

အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားသည် နေရာဒေသမရွေးတွင် ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်ပါသည်။ တောင် ပေါ်ဒေသတွင် နေထိုင်သူများတွင်အဖြစ်များပြီး မြေပြန့်ဒေသနှင့် ပင်လယ်ကမ်းရိုးတန်းဒေသတွင် နေထိုင်သူများတွင်လည်း ဖြစ်ပွားသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရသည်။

အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားတို့၏ကျေးဇူး

- ကိုယ်ဝန်ဆောင်များသည် ကိုယ်ဝန်ပျက်ခြင်း၊ ကလေးအသေမွေးခြင်း၊ လမစေ့ ပေါင်မပြည့်သောကလေးမွေးခြင်း၊ ဆွံ့အနားမကြားသောကလေး၊ မသန်စွမ်းသော ကလေး ဉာဏ်ရည်နိမ့်သောကလေးမွေးခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်တတ်သည်။
- ကလေးများသည် ပညာသင်၍မရအောင် ဉာဏ်ရည်နိမ့်ခြင်း၊ သွက်လက်ဖြတ်လတ်မှုမရှိဘဲ ထုံထိုင်းနေေးကွေးခြင်း၊ ပုညက်ခြင်းတို့ဖြစ်တတ်သည်။
- လူကြီးများသည် လည်ပင်းကြီးရောဂါဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ ထုံထိုင်းနေေးကွေး၍ မိသားစုလူမှုရေး အခြေအနေ နိမ့်ကျခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်တတ်သည်။

အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားတို့မှကာကွယ်ရန်

လူတိုင်းအသက်အရွယ်မရွေး၊ နေရာဒေသမရွေး အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားကိုသာ အမြဲစားသုံးပါ။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Vietnam wants first satellite to be launched as schedle

HANOI, 11 Aug — The Vietnamese Government has instructed involved parties to meet the deadline of May 2008 for launching the country's first communication satellite, local media reported Thursday.

Vietnam's steering committee on the satellite project named Vinasat said the US partner, Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems, is producing the medium-sized satellite, and it can be launched to 132 degrees east orbital slot in April 2008, according to Youth newspaper.

Vietnam is preparing for construction of a satellite control station in northern Ha Tay Province and a standby one in southern Binh Duong Province. Total investment for the Vinasat project stands at 2,885 billion Vietnamese dong (over 181.4 million US dollars). The satellite, with life span of around 15 years, will span its coverage over Vietnam, other Southeast Asian countries, Japan, the Korean Peninsula, part of China, eastern Oceanian and the South China Sea. It will help Vietnam's telecommunications network not depend on topography, and all of its communes have phone, TV and radio coverage. — MNA/Xinhua

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects...

(from page 16)

progress in construction of Ma Mya Dam Project near Hmyinwataung Village.

Ma Mya Dam is located near Pathein-Monywa Road in Myanaung Township. The embankment is 11,800 feet long and 150 feet high. The dam can store 70,000 acre-feet of water to irrigate 10,000 acres of farmland and to prevent flooding the farmlands along Ma Mya Creek. Ma Mya Dam supplied water to 2,000 acres of summer paddy in Myanaung Township in 2005-06. The dam will be completed in February

2007.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also inspected construction of 469 feet long Phatashin Bridge on Hinthada-Kyangin railroad section being undertaken by Myanma Railways in Kyangin Township. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than viewed physic nut and soya bean plantations of departments in Kyangin Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than visits Shwe-Oh-Gyi Wickerworks Industry in Yekyi.

MNA



No 5 BEPS in Thingangyun designated as healthy and hygienic area



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win unveils signboards reading rubbish, mosquito and tobacco free school.—MNA

YANGON, 11 Aug — Organized by Thingangyun Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, a ceremony to designate No 5 Basic Education Primary School as a healthy and hygienic area took place at the school this morning.

Chairperson of Township WAO Daw Cho Mar Thein clarified designation of the school as rubbish, mosquito and tobacco free one.

Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC Daw Mar Mar Wai and officials formally opened the ceremony.

Later, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win unveiled the signboards reading rubbish, mosquito and tobacco free school.

The commander and officials planted trees in the school compound. And they encouraged the students who were taking part in growing of trees.

The wellwishers donated cash to carry out the school's health activities to the commander.

The commander and responsible persons presented sanitation equipment to Ward MCWAs.

Next, the chairperson of Division MCWSC accepted membership applications from the chairperson of township MCWA.

Dr Hla Myint, head of Division Health Department, presented educative paintings for the schools in the township to the responsible persons.

After the ceremony, the commander and wife provided cash and kind for the aged persons and later viewed around the school.—MNA

Counselling course concludes

YANGON, 11 Aug—The conclusion of the course on counselling, organized by the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, took place at Yangon Division Peace and Development Council office this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Mar Mar Wai, course instructors MWAF Secretariat Member Daw Tu Raw, head of the work group for prevention of violence against women Professor Daw Htay Htay, Associate Professor of Psychology Department of Yangon University of Distance Education Daw Thet Htar Win, Yangon Division WAO Daw Khin Myo Thu and executives, chairpersons of district WAOs, members of district consoling and counselling groups and trainees.

Daw Mar Mar Wai delivered a speech and presented completion certificates to the trainees.

MNA



Yangon Division WAO Patron Daw Mar Mar Wai presents completion certificates to a trainee.—MNA

Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, Madame and party arrive Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — As this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Diplomatic Relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of the Philippines, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Mr Alberto G Romulo of the Republic of the Philippines and Madame and party arrived in Yangon by air yesterday morning on a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar at the invitation of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife, responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Madame

Phoebe A Gomez of the Republic of the Philippines to the Union of Myanmar and officials from the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines.

In the evening, the two delegations led by the

respective ministers of the two countries held cordial discussions at Sedona Hotel. Later, Minister U Nyan Win and wife hosted a dinner in honour of the visiting Philippines Foreign Secretary and Madame and members of

the Philippine delegation at Sedona Hotel.

The Foreign Affairs Secretary and Madame and party also visited the National Museum this afternoon and Shwedagon Pagoda in the evening.

MNA



Secretary of Foreign Affairs Mr Alberto G Romulo of the Republic of the Philippines, Madame and party visit National Museum.—MNA

Educative talks given in Tamway Township

YANGON, 11 Aug — Educative talks were given by Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization at No 1 Basic Education High School in Tamway Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were Patron of Division WAO Daw Mar Mar Wai, chairperson Daw Khin Myo Thu, members of township WAOs and students.

Daw Mar Mar Wai delivered a speech and accepted membership applications from Daw Nan Shwe Yin, Patron of Yangon East District WAO.

Thereafter, Writer Ma Sanda and Dr Daw Lay Khaing of Health Working Group of Division WAO gave social and health educative talks to those present.

MNA

Paddy husk-fired power station launched in Waingmaw

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — A ceremony to launch the paddy husk-fired power station was held in Khatcho Village of Waingmaw Township on 4 August.

It was attended by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Chairman of Kachin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory

Committee wife of the commander Daw Nu Nu Swe, staff officers of the command headquarters, departmental officials, members of social organizations, local people and members of the power supply committee.

U San Lin of the power supply committee thanked officials for construction of the power station.

Next, the

commander pressed the button to launch the power station.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint stressed the need to harmoniously strive for achieving success in undertaking five rural development tasks, and attended to the needs.

Later, the commander cordially greeted those present.

MNA

MAS-OISCA-run school celebrates 10th anniversary



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo greets trainees of Agro-Forestry School and members of OISCA. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — The Agro-Forestry School jointly set up by Myanmar Agriculture Service and OISCA, a Japanese NGO, celebrated its tenth anniversary on 6 August.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo spoke at the anniversary of the school located at Pakhangyi village,

Yesagy Township, Pakokku district, Magway Division.

Japanese Ambassador Mr Nobutake Odano, OISCA Chairman Dr Yoshiko Nakano, Mr Masa Yuki Sugiura, on behalf of all Japanese guests, also extended greetings.

The OISCA chairman and School Principal Mr Ikuo

Okamura presented certificates of honour to organizations and students for their assistance to the Japanese NGO.

The minister, the NGO officials, FAO Resident Representative Mr Tang Zheng Ping and other participants wished lasting Myanmar-Japan relations and planted trees to mark the anniversary.

MNA

18th Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development commences

YANGON, 11 Aug — The 18th Meeting of the Task Force on Tourism Manpower Development hosted by Myanmar was opened at Amarapura Hall of Sedona Hotel in Mandalay this morning, with an address by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing. Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt of Upper Myanmar Supreme Court, Director-General U Htay Aung of

Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, Brunei Ambassador Mr Pehin Dato Mohammad Yusof Abu Bakar, Malaysian Ambassador Mr Dato' Shahrudin Bin Md Som, Deputy Minister for Culture and Tourism of Malaysia Mr I Gusti Laksaguna, consuls of the Lao PDR and Vietnamese Embassies, representatives of the Ministries of Tourism of ASEAN members, the ASEAN Secretariat, chairmen and executives of Myanmar Hoteliers Association and Myanmar Travels

Association and tourism entrepreneurs.

In his opening speech, Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing said that the tourism industry that earn foreign exchange contributes toward economic development of respective countries, creation of jobs for the locals and cementing of friendly relations. Furthermore, the industry enhances traditional culture of countries in the region. Myanmar, on its part, is striving for preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of

Desks donated to schools in townships of Mandalay Division



Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Minister U Aung Thaung inspect bicycles produced at Bicycle Factory (Kyaukse).

INDUSTRY-1

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung visited the firebrick factory (Kyaukse) of Myanma Ceramics Industries in Kyaukse Industrial Region in Mandalay Division this morning and inspected production process at the factory.

He next went to the sewing machine factory (Kyaukse) of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries. After being conducted round the factory, the minister met responsible persons of the factory and stressed the need for boosting production.

Afterwards, together with Patron of Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and

Development Association Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister U Aung Thaung, who is also USDA Secretariat member, attended a ceremony to donate desks to basic education schools by USDA and social organizations at the town hall of Kyaukse.

The commander handed over 504 desks for the basic education primary and middle schools in Kyaukse and Myittha townships; and the minister 464 desks for BEPSs in Singaing Township.

Patron of Division Women's Affairs Organization Chair-person of Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Pyone Win also handed over 252 desks for Tada U Township.

Wellwishers next presented K 2 million to Division USDA Secretary U Tin Maung Oo. Later, the commander and the minister visited the bicycle factory (Kyaukse) and the vest factory (Kyaukse) of Myanma Textile Industries and inspected the production line.

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine bus line launched

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — Nay Pyi Taw-Mawlamyine bus line began on 2 August at Highway Bus Terminal in Mawlamyine.

The bus line was opened by Chairman of Mawlamyine District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Tin Aung and responsible persons of the bus line in the presence of Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Thet Naing Win, Deputy Commander Col Zaw Min and departmental officials.

Four buses will leave Mawlamyine's terminal and Nay Pyi Taw's terminal at 5 pm every evening.

The bus line is expected to increase the number of buses depending on the rise in the number of daily passengers.

After the opening ceremony, the commander and officials bade farewell to travellers of the launching of the bus line.

MNA

MNA



An Iraqi man shovels salt at salt ponds near Samawa, 270 km (160 miles) south of Baghdad on 9 August, 2006.—INTERNET

Collector returns stolen icon from Hermitage museum

Moscow, 11 Aug — An antique collector has returned to police one more icon missing in a recently uncovered art heist from the world-famous Hermitage museum in St Petersburg, the *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Wednesday.

The recovery of the icon of the Mother of God of Iver, dating back to 1866, brought the number of returned artworks to 13.

Police do not rule out that some of the stolen artworks might have been sneaked out of the country. Museum officials

found more than 220 works of art missing during a routine inventory check completed late last month.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Ammunition confiscated in Turkey

ANKARA, 11 Aug — Turkish security forces confiscated many guns and bullets while searching a truck in southern Turkey on Wednesday, the semi-official *Anatolia* news

agency reported. Two Syrian nationals were arrested in connection with the ammunition.

Turkish Gendarmerie stopped the truck in Hatay Province in southern Turkey while it was crossing into Syria from Turkey at the Cilvegozu Border Pass, according to Hatay Governor's Office.

In a search of the truck, gendarmerie officers found 74 automatic hunting rifles, 227 hand guns, 24,720 bullets and 111 long-range apparatus, said the office, adding investigation is underway.

MNA/Xinhua

China strengthens supervision of direct sales

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Direct-selling firms that violate the regulations on direct sales will have their business licence revoked, said a circular issued by the Ministry of Commerce on Tuesday.

The circular stipulates that direct selling enterprises must finish setting up their service networks within six months of receiving their licence.

The circular said the direct selling enterprises are not allowed to do business before the networks are verified by the ministry and the results recorded.

To protect consumers, direct-selling enterprises must disclose accurate and comprehensive information to the public and may not engage in high-profile promotion activities.

Five companies have been permitted to do direct sales in the Chinese Mainland. Three of them, Avon, Pro-health and Nu Skin, are foreign financed.

According to the ministry's website, another 25 companies, including 9 foreign firms, have applied for direct selling licences. They have declared that they will abide by China's laws and regulations.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippines gives up sending vessels to Lebanon for evacuation

MANILA, 11 Aug — The Philippine Government on Wednesday gave up its initial plan to send two Coast Guard vessels to help Filipinos' evacuation in Lebanon, saying the option is inefficient.

The overseas Filipino workers (OFW) in the war-torn Lebanon would first stick to the land and air routes in Syria for evacuation, Vice-President Noli de Castro, who is in charge of the evacuation for thousands of OFWs, told reporters.

The use of the more

expensive sea routes to evacuate the OFWs was not yet urgent at this time, the Vice-President said, adding that a feasible option would be using local chartered ferries in the Mideast.

However, Foreign

Affairs Undersecretary Esteban Conejos Jr said there would be a "dry run" within the week on how the OFWs' repatriation could be done by sea, but just to prepare for the worst.

MNA/Xinhua



A surfer is silhouetted as he cuts a turn on a wave during a summers evening on the Pacific Ocean in Solana Beach, California on 8 August, 2006.—INTERNET

Five Indian villagers die trying to save pigeon

AHMEDABAD (India), 11 Aug — Five villagers, including a young boy, were killed in western India on Wednesday when they jumped into a dry well to save an injured pigeon that had fallen in, authorities said.

The boy was the first to jump in to rescue the

bird and the others followed, trying to help him.

The tragedy took place in Jhalabardi Village, about 90 kilometres (55 miles) from Ahmedabad, the main city in Gujarat State.

"Preliminary investigations show the

deaths occurred due to suffocation," said DG Jhalawadia, a local government official.

MNA/Reuters

Woman killed by roadside bomb in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Aug — One woman was killed and two persons injured by a roadside bomb on Wednesday, which had targeted Afghan forces, in the southern Zabul Province of Afghanistan, a police officer told *Xinhua*.

The bomb took place around 6:40pm local time in Mizan District, killing a woman and wounding another woman and a child, said Noor Mohammad Paktin, the provincial police chief.

He said the bomb, which he claimed Taleban extremists had planted, was aimed at some Afghan forces, but missed the target.

Zabul and other southern provinces have been the stronghold of the Taleban and other militants.

Afghanistan is suffering from a rising Taleban-linked violence this year, during which more than 1,700 persons have been killed.

MNA/Xinhua



An ostrich eats grass at a commercial farm in Toropovo some 60km (37 miles) from Moscow on 10 August, 2006. Owners of the farm breed over 200 ostriches for meat and eggs and also offer souvenirs at their ostrich farm.—INTERNET

US border cops nab retiree with drug load

PHOENIX (Arizona), 11 Aug — US border police arrested an 81-year-old man as he tried to cross from Mexico with 175 pounds (80 kilos) of cocaine stuffed into his car, officials said on Wednesday.

Officers at Nogales, Arizona, found the cocaine and arrested the elderly driver on Tuesday, said Customs and Border Protection spokesman Brian Levin.

"It is pretty much the limit of what I have seen," Levin told *Reuters* by telephone. "I don't remember encountering someone quite this old trying to smuggle drugs into this country ... and he was driving an unusually large amount of cocaine."

The man arrested is a

resident of Nogales, Arizona but officials did not immediately know if he was an American or Mexican citizen.

Nogales, which lies some 165 miles (265 kilometres) south of Phoenix, is a key transit point used by Mexican drug cartels to smuggle marijuana, cocaine and heroin to US markets.

Levin said border police rarely see loads of more than 70 to 80 pounds (32 to 36 kilos) of cocaine in passenger cars.

MNA/Reuters

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှုပုံသဏ္ဍာန်၊ ဥပဒေပြုမှုအသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

စိုးမြဲကျော် ၏

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ

- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
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ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဓိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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BIMSTEC countries to conclude FTA by early next year

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug — India and six other countries of BIMSTEC — a regional grouping that seeks to connect South Asia with Southeast Asia — have accelerated their efforts to conclude a free trade area agreement by February next year, according to *Indo-Asian News Service* on Wednesday.

"We urged that the negotiations on trade in goods under the FTA be concluded before the next summit," said a joint statement issued after a meeting of BIMSTEC ministers that concluded here on Wednesday.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sector Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

includes India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

India will host the second BIMSTEC summit on 8 February next year.

The FTA is expected to "increase trade and investment, enhance competitiveness and promote socio-economic development" in the

region. Besides trade and investment, the BIMSTEC countries also decided to step up transport and connectivity, promote energy security and tourism in the region.

BIMSTEC countries also decided to accelerate cooperation in the crucial area of counter-terrorism and take steps to address issues relating to financing of terrorism, intelligence sharing, legal and law enforcement and prevention of drug trafficking.

"Energy is one of the most active areas of cooperation among BIMSTEC countries," said B Bishnoi, joint secretary in Indian External Affairs Ministry.

"To achieve this aim, the BIMSTEC Energy Centre will be up in India soon," he added. "This would act as a focal point for strengthening cooperation in the energy sector through sharing of experience and capacity building," the joint statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia's July car sales hit 7-month low

JAKARTA, 11 Aug — Indonesia's car sales plunged 10.9 per cent to 21,879 units in July from the previous month to become the lowest selling month this year, a newspaper reported on Thursday.

National car sales in the first seven months of 2006 fell sharply by 50.3 per cent to 171,456 units against 345,170 units in the corresponding period last year, reported *Bisnis Indonesia*, quoting sources with the country's automotive producers association Gaikindo.

But Gaikindo chairman Bambag Trisulo said the July figure is not final yet as several producers have not reported their total sales.

"I expect the figure will be above 20,000 units as we have not collected all reports yet," he said.

Toyota led the July sales with 7,652 units, trailed by Suzuki with 4,048 units, Mitsubishi 2,793 units, Honda 2,400 units, Daihatsu 1,790 units and Isuzu 1,206 units. — MNA/Xinhua

Oslo, London ranked world's most expensive cities

GENEVA, 11 Aug — Oslo and London are the world's most expensive cities, followed by Copenhagen and Zurich, according to a report released on Wednesday.

The Prices and Earnings report, compiled by Switzerland's largest bank UBS, compares the price of a basket of 122 domestic goods and services in 71 cities on all continents.

Goods include food, drink, clothing, rent and heating bills, while services encompass medication, haircuts and a trip to the cinema.

The report shows that the world's top expensive cities are mostly in Europe, while the basket of goods and services costs the least in Kuala Lumpur, Mumbai, Delhi and Buenos Aires.

Tokyo and New York take the fifth

and seventh places respectively in the list of 71 cities. Shanghai and Beijing, meanwhile, remain comparatively inexpensive despite an economic boom, the report says.

In the comparison of purchasing power, the Swiss cities of Zurich and Geneva remain at the top, followed by Dublin, Los Angeles and Luxembourg.

People in Asia work the longest hours — almost 50 days more per year than Western Europeans. Asian workers at least partially compensate for low purchasing power through longer working hours, according to the report. — MNA/Xinhua



A sample of E-passport reader. A demonstration showed the hi-tech biometric E-passports could be hacked and information embedded could be copied and transferred to another device. — INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

INVITATION TO TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the supply of Dental Chair & unit and Dental Instrument.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, No-57, Sakawa Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, commencing from (14-8-2006).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office of the Deputy Director (Medical Stores), Central Medical Stores Depot, not later than (4.9.2006) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores) Phone No. 371284, 371969. Central Medical Stores Depot Department of Health

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6041)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6041) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.8.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (149)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (149) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived 12.8.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
(LINES) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CARNATION VOY NO (111)

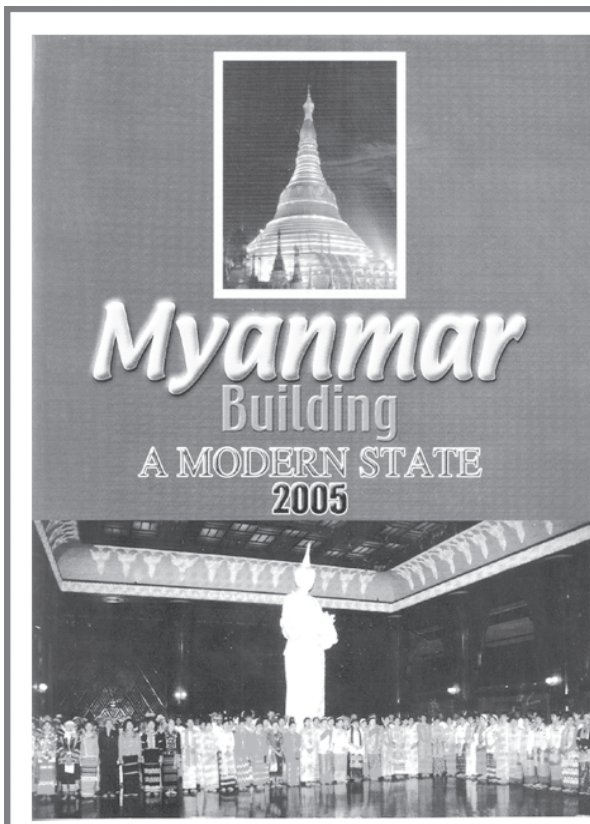
Consignees of cargo carried on MV CARNATION VOY NO (111) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.8.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

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

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ကုန်ကြမ်းပစ္စည်း(၁)မျိုး ဝယ်ယူလိုခြင်း

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအစား	လိုအပ်ချက်	ပေးသွင်းရမည့်နေရာ
၁။	ကြက်ဆူဆီ	၂၅၀၀ ကီလို	မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ
၂။	ပေးသွင်းရမည့်ကာလ	- (၂၀၀၆-၂၀၀၇ ခု ဘဏ္ဍာရေးနှစ်အတွင်း)	
၃။	တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက်	- (၁၈-၈-၀၆)ရက်	သောကြာနေ့
		မွန်းလွဲ(၂:၀၀)နာရီ	

မှတ်ချက်။ အသေးစိတ်အကြောင်းအရာများကို မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဆေးဝါးလုပ်ငန်းစက်ရုံ ပစ္စည်းစီမံရေးရာဌာနတွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို လည်း ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။
(ဆက်သွယ်ရန်တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်-၆၆၃၄၈၁)

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TATRA a.s., located at Stefanikova 1163, Koprivnice, Czech Republic, is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:

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Reg. No. 2374/1957 in respect of "Vehicles of all kinds for land transport including their subassemblies, components and accessories, namely undercarriages chassis, bodyworks, gearing, couplings, cooler for vehicles, heating device for vehicles, equipment for noise suppression, ventilators for motor vehicles, engines for vehicles".
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M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for TATRA a.s.,
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 12 August 2006

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (695)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (695) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES (PTE) LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PRECIOUS RIVER VOY NO (612)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PRECIOUS RIVER VOY NO (612) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO., LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Second Indonesian teenager dies of bird flu

JAKARTA, 10 Aug — A 17-year-old Indonesian girl has died of bird flu, a Health Ministry official said on Wednesday, the second teenager to die of the disease this week.

Tests by two local laboratories showed the girl was infected with the H5N1 bird flu virus, making her Indonesia's 44th confirmed bird flu death.

The girl, from North Jakarta, died on Tuesday. She had been in contact with sick and dead fowl, the usual mode of transmission of the virus that is endemic in poultry in nearly all provinces.

"At first, she was considered to be suffering from typhoid. But on 7 August, doctors suspected she was suffering from bird flu. A day later, her condition worsened and she died," said Runizar Ruesin, head of the Health Ministry's bird flu information centre.

Indonesian authorities will send the girl's swab samples to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta for further tests.

MNA/Reuters

China's technology imports up 56.5% in first 7 months

BEIJING, 10 Aug— China signed almost 6,400 technology import contracts worth 14.83 billion US dollars in the first seven months of 2006, up 56.5 per cent year on year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Technological transfer fees included in the contracts were valued at 9.12 billion US dollars, according to an MoC report quoted by Xinhua-run Shanghai Securities News Tuesday.

MNA/Xinhua

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Space shuttle Atlantis mission specialist Joseph Tanner waves to the ground crew after arriving for a dress rehearsal in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 7 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Russia uncovers fresh artwork theft

Moscow, 10 Aug— Drawings worth several millions of dollars have vanished from a Russian state archive, the government culture watchdog said on Tuesday, a week after a massive art theft was uncovered at the Hermitage Museum.

“In the course of checks we discovered the disappearance of drawings by Yakov Chernikhov valued at several million dollars,” said Yevgeny Strelchik,

a spokesman for the Rosokhrankultura federal agency.

The drawings by the avant-garde architect were held at the State Literature and Art Archive. Strelchik said checks were initiated after Russian officials discovered some of Chernikhov’s work had been sold at Christie’s auction house in London on 22 June.

“We began the checks to establish how those drawings got there. ... We believe it is possible that they go there by illegal

means,” said Strelchik.

Christie’s said some of the drawings were sold but the sales were cancelled and the items returned to Russia when it emerged there was a problem.

Russia’s culture authorities have been embarrassed by the theft of hundreds of antique enamel and silver artefacts from the Hermitage museum in St Petersburg. Police said they had arrested the husband and son of a curator at the museum.

MNA/Reuters

China busts 33,000 economic crimes in first half of 2006

BEIJING, 10 Aug — China’s police cracked 33,000 economic crimes in the first half of this year, 6.8 per cent up over the same period last year.

The crimes involved 58.14 billion yuan (7.27 billion US dollars) of illicit money, up a hefty 89.5 per cent.

The information was released by Wu Heping, spokesman for the Ministry of Public Security at a regular news conference held here Tuesday.

“Overall, China’s public security situation remained stable in the first half of 2006, as the number of major criminal cases all went down,” said Wu.

Wu provided a raft of statistics in support of his statements.

For the January-June period of 2006, homicide cases were down 14.9 per cent over the same period last year, rape cases down 6.3 per cent, arson cases down 17.5 per cent and explosion cases down 18.3 per cent, he said.

In the same period, the country witnessed 129,000 fire incidents which left 871 people dead and 991 injured and caused 394 million yuan (49.25 million US dollars) of economic losses.

All these figures were down over the previous period.

MNA/Xinhua



Contestants compete in fishing with nets in the Hongze Lake Water Games in Laozishan Town of Hongze County, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 9 Aug, 2006. The 2006 Hongze Lake Water Games was opened on Wednesday.—INTERNET

Indonesia allows foreign oil firms in biofuel trade

JAKARTA, 10 Aug— A regulatory package will soon be put in place to allow foreign oil firms such as Petronas of Malaysia and Shell of the Netherlands to distribute biofuel in Indonesia so as to boost competition on the domestic market, a report said Wednesday.

The Coordinating Ministry for the Economy has confirmed foreign firms would be allowed to buy biofuel from producers and sell it back to the public as long as it was being sold for transportation purposes, said *The Jakarta Post* daily.

The government had earlier appointed state oil and gas firm PT Pertamina and state power firm PT PLN to serve as standby buyers of biofuel.

The government has

targeted biofuel production of 13 million tons per year by 2009.

According to the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), 15 companies have applied for licences to produce a total of one million tons of bio-diesel per year.

As for the government, it plans to construct eight bio-diesel plants, with each having a production capacity of between 3,000 and 6,000 tons per year.

Last week, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono held meetings with Malaysia’s top energy companies to encourage them to invest in the Indonesian bio-energy sector.

Speaking after the meetings, Minister for Energy and Mineral

Resources Purnomo Yusgiantoro said that a committee would soon start work on drawing up regulations that would ease the way for foreign companies to invest in the bio-energy sector.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese former Premier Hashimoto’s funeral held in Tokyo

TOKYO, 10 Aug — The funeral of Japanese former Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto was held on Tuesday in Tokyo.

About 4,600 Japanese and foreign dignitaries, including Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, and South Korean Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Ban Ki Moon, attended the funeral, which was jointly organized by the Cabinet and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party at Nippon Budokan Hall.

Koizumi glorified Hashimoto in a memorial address for his strong leadership and historic accomplishments in financial and administrative reforms.

Hashimoto died on 1 July from multiple organ failure and septic shock. He had been in critical condition since early June when he was rushed to the hospital with abdominal pain and received surgery to remove a large part of his intestine.

The outspoken politician started his political career in 1963 as a young member of Parliament. He was in the post of prime minister for 1996 to 1998, when Japan was struggling to recover from the collapse of its economy, and retired from politics last September, citing poor health.

MNA/Xinhua



Four week old baby giraffe Alex (2nd R) and part of his herd are fed by visitors in cars at the ‘Serengeti’ Safari Park in the northern German village of Hodenhagen on 9 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Terry appointed new England captain

LONDON, 11 Aug — Chelsea skipper John Terry has been appointed as England's new captain, the Football Association said on Thursday. Terry takes over the armband after David Beckham stepped down from the role in the wake of England's World Cup quarterfinal defeat on penalties by Portugal last month.

Liverpool skipper Steven Gerrard, also tipped for the job, has been appointed vice-captain.

Terry, 25 and capped 29 times, has helped Chelsea win two consecutive Premier League titles and established himself with England as a first-choice central defender.

England's new coach Steve McClaren told the FA's Website: "Choosing a captain is one of the most important decisions a coach has to make.

"I'm certain I've got the right man in John Terry. I'm convinced he will prove to be one of the best captains England has ever had."

England's next game is a friendly against European champions Greece in Manchester next Wednesday. — MNA/Reuters

Henry looks to 2010 in South Africa

LONDON, 11 Aug — France striker Thierry Henry has no plans to follow Zinedine Zidane into international retirement and hopes to lead Les Bleus attack in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

The Arsenal captain will be 32 when the showpiece is held on the African continent for the first time but believes he has "five or six more years left" in his legs.

"Obviously Zidane

stopped, and we don't know if (Lilian) Thuram is going to stop or (Claude) Makelele and (Fabien) Barthez also, we will have to see," Henry told Reuters in an interview.

"We have (Euro) 2008 first. South Africa would be amazing... if you can play the first World Cup in Africa that is something for the history of the game.

"I would love to but I don't know if my legs would allow me to be there. It's not that easy to be around in the game at 32 or 33. I think I will be going on 32, as a centre-forward it's not real easy but we'll see."

Henry, who won his

85th international cap in the heartbreaking shootout defeat by Italy in last month's World Cup final, said it had been "difficult mentally" to get over but he took away more positives than negatives.

"It was a sad moment when we lost the final, we were all disappointed," said Henry, who was speaking at a Reebok sportswear launch on Thursday.

"But on the other side, what we have achieved after two years of being hammered by the Press back home, reaching the final was a very good thing."

The Berlin final will be forever remembered for Zidane's moment of madness when he was sent-off for his headbutt on Italy defender Marco Materazzi, an act, Henry said, had been quickly forgiven.

"On holiday I couldn't walk in the street without having to talk about Zidane," he said.

"When you are in a team, stuff happens that you don't control but you have to accept. He is a teammate and we are going down with him, that's how it is.

"People will remember it for a long time and maybe that will stay with Zizou and I just think you can't let that happen because the guy is such a good guy, outside and on the pitch.

"For me he will remain one of the best players ever." Henry is optimistic that France can build on their achievements in Germany but sounded a note of caution for the Euro 2008 qualifiers. "I guess everyone, after reaching the World Cup final is expecting us to cruise everywhere and win everything," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Sporting Lisboa's Pontos Farneus (R) fights for the ball with Recreativo Huelva's Cesar Arzo during their Colombino Trophy final soccer match at Huelva's Nuevo Colombino stadium on 10 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Federer, Nadal on course for Toronto Masters final matchup

OTTAWA, 11 Aug — Top-ranked Roger Federer and world number two Rafael Nadal both breezed to victories in the second round of the Toronto Masters on

Wednesday. Federer made a comfortable advance to the third round with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Frenchman Sebastien Grosjean just 67 minutes, while defending

champion Nadal brushed away Korean qualifier Lee Hyung-taik 6-4, 6-3.

With the victories, the top two players remain on the course for a final showdown on Sunday, having met in five finals this year.

The Swiss and Spaniard, both playing their first event since Federer beat Nadal to claim a fourth Wimbledon title, have dominated the Masters Series, capturing 12 of the last 14 events, including the last two Toronto Masters.

Federer will next play Russian Dmitry Tursunov in a last 16 clash in his bid for a 40th career title, and Nadal takes on 13th seed Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic.

Fourth seed Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia booked his place in the third round with a 7-6, 6-4 win over Frenchman Arnaud Clement.

But fifth seed James Blake, seventh seed Tommy Robredo of Spain, Australian 11th seed Lleyton Hewitt and 16th seed Tommy Haas of Germany were all second round casualties.

Chilean Fernando Gonzalez, the 15th seed, booked his place in the last 16 with an emphatic 6-2, 6-1 win over former French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain, and Andy Murray beat British rival Tim Henman 6-2, 7-6.

MNA/Xinhua



Hana Jang, from South Korea, tees off to start her second round against Lindy Duncan during the 106th US Women's Amateur golf tournament in North Plains, Ore, on 10, Aug, 2006. Winners of Thursday's second round of match play will compete in Friday's quarterfinal round. —INTERNET

Henry resigned to losing Cole

LONDON, 11 Aug — Thierry Henry, the Arsenal captain, has resigned himself to losing teammate and close friend Ashley Cole to Chelsea but will not stop pleading with him to stay.

Cole is a major target for Premier League rivals Chelsea but Arsenal have so far turned down bids believed to be in the region of 16 million pounds (30.4 million US dollars) for the left back.

Henry told reporters at a media conference at the Emirates Stadium on Thursday: "I am trying to persuade Ashley to stay, but we are all human beings and he knows what he is doing. He is still here at the moment but sometimes you have to accept it.

"He is a top man. In training, he gives 100 per cent, whatever the situation is at the moment.

"If he goes, the only thing I can say is I wish him good luck but we have to move on."

Henry admits it would

be disconcerting to see Cole in a Chelsea shirt but believes it would not harm their friendship off the pitch.

"Seeing him going there is kind of strange but after that, if he goes there, I will still speak to him, I will still phone him, I will still have a laugh with him," he said.

Henry added: "Dennis (Bergkamp), Sol (Campbell), Robert (Pires), have left and the years before people have left so in every way, it is a new beginning. — MNA/Reuters



Rafael Nadal of Spain returns a backhand during his match against Nicolas Massu of Chile at the Toronto Masters tennis tournament in Toronto on 8 August, 2006. —INTERNET

Rooney forgives Man Utd teammate Ronaldo

LONDON, 11 Aug — Wayne Rooney has forgiven Manchester United teammate Cristiano Ronaldo for his actions in the World Cup quarterfinal between England and Portugal.

Rooney was sent off for stamping and England lost 3-1 on penalties after Ronaldo was seen to encourage referee Horacio Elizondo to send the striker off.

Rooney told SkySports News on Thursday: "It's fine now. I spoke to him on the night after the game."

"I'm not going to lie, I was disappointed with the way he ran over to the referee."

"But at the end of the day we weren't teammates that day. We were rivals. I wanted to win, he wanted to win for his country so we have to get on with it and hopefully do well for Manchester United together."

Rooney also confirmed his intention to see out his career at Old Trafford. "I'm perfectly happy here and looking to sign a new contract," he said.

MNA/Reuters



A United States player passes the ball during a match with Greece in the 14th Women's Water Polo World Cup in Tianjin, north China, on 9 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

British Airways bans hand baggage on Govt advice

LONDON, 11 Aug — British Airways said on Thursday that no hand baggage would be allowed on any of its planes leaving British airports, after British police said they had disrupted a plot to blow up aircraft in mid-flight.

A number of people in the London area had been arrested, police said.

"British Airways, acting on instruction from the British Government,

wishes to advise passengers that no items of hand baggage can be carried on board any aircraft departing any British airport," the airline said in

an e-mailed statement.

"The British Government has advised that this instruction will apply to all airlines operating from British airports."

BA said no electrical or battery-powered items would be allowed in the cabin, including laptops and mobile phones.

The Department of Transport said in a statement on its website that security at all British airports had been increased and additional security measures had been put in place on all flights.

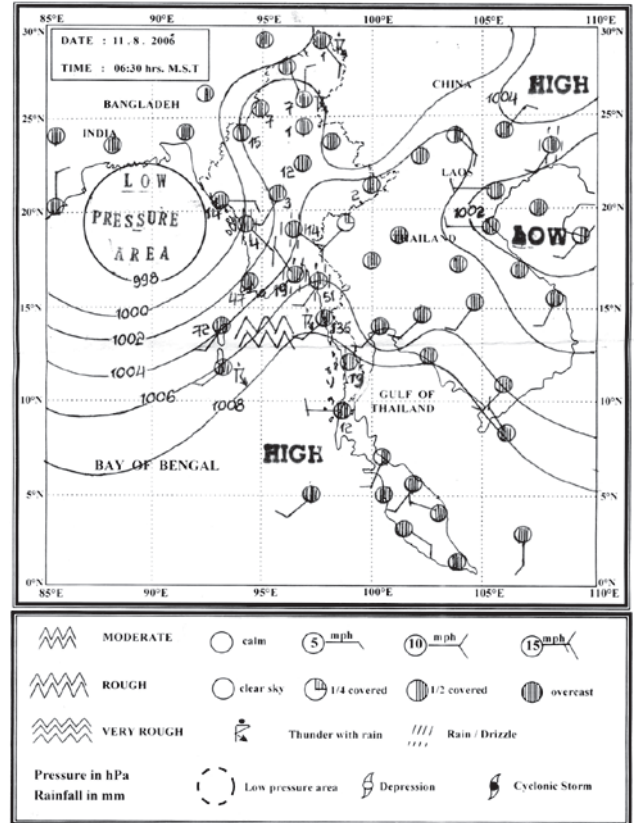
The British Airports Authority said all passengers would be hand searched and their footwear and all items they carry would be X-rayed. It added that all passengers on flights to the United States would be subject to a secondary search at the boarding gate. All liquids would also be removed, BAA added. —MNA/Reuters



A police dog handler stands guard at Manchester Airport. British police said on 10 August, 2006 that 21 people had been arrested in connection with a foiled plot to blow up aircraft flying from Britain to the United States.

INTERNET

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Friday, 11 August, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan State and Magway Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Dawei (5.67) inches, Ye (3.61) inches, Co co Island (2.83) inches, Mawlamyine (2.05) inches, Bago (2.16) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (2.00) inches, Shwegyin (1.97) inches, Yangon (Mingaladon) (1.89) inches, Patheingyi (1.85) inches, Monywa (1.65) inches and Nay Pyi Taw (0.99) inch.

Maximum temperature on 10-8-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 11-8-2006 was 76°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 11-8-2006 was (100%). Total sunshine hours on 10-8-2006 was (0.3) hour approx.

Rainfalls on 11-8-2006 were (1.89) inches at Mingaladon, (2.00) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.26) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (62.13) inches at Mingaladon, (74.68) inches at Kaba-Aye and (78.58) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (18:30) hours MST on 10-8-2006.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (09:30) hours MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over North Bay and adjoining Central Bay still persists. Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 12-8-2006: Rain will be scattered in Mandalay, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Kayah States and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in the Coastal areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 to 40 mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 12-8-2006: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 12-8-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 12-8-2006: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather Outlook for Third Weekend of August 2006: During the coming weekend, isolated rain in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division and widespread in Yangon Division.



Saturday, 12 August
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -I will always in your heart
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -All in a day
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Sail on sailor
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Alive
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Music at your request: -If you still love me -I will be yours -I love you because
- 9:00pm ASEAN news review: -Exchange news from ASEAN member countries
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20pm Myanmar Culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt: -An old tomb stone inscription at Thanlyin
- 9:30pm Souvenirs: -Silver thread & golden needle -Bermuda -Melodie D'Amour
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Saturday, 12 August
View on today

- 7:00 am 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌ ဂုရု အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am 2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တ သိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာ တော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ် သော ဥပ္ပါယ်သန္တိပဋိတော်
- 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
- 8:10 am 7. ဆက်သွယ်ဆင့်ပွား အိပ်မက်တံတား
- 8:20 am 8. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:30 am 9. International news
- 8:45 am 10. Grammar made easy
- 11:00 am 1. Martial songs
- 11:15 am 2. Musical programme
- 11:30 am 3. News
- 11:40 am 4. Games for children
- 12:05 pm 5. Round up of the week's TV local news
- 12:35 pm 6. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဆည်းဆာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
- 1:15 pm 7. ကြားမြင်သုတပြည့်ဝစေရာ ဇာပဒေသာ
- 1:25 pm 8. "ကိုယ်ချင်းစာ" (ပြေတီဦး၊ ခင်ဇာမြည်ကျော်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဦးခင်ဇော်)
- 2:00 pm 9. သီပေါ-လားရှိုး ရိက္ခာဖြိုး တိုးပွားနေမည် စပါးဆင်းရွေ့လီ
- 2:10 pm 10. Dance of national races
- 2:25 pm 11. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:35 pm 12. "သတိတစ်ချက် တစ်သက် အမှား" (ကျောင်းမင်းနောင်၊ ကြည်လုံလုံဦး၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်၊ သကြံအောင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောဇော်လှိုင်)
- 2:45 pm 13. International news
- 4:00 pm 1. Martial songs
- 4:15 pm 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm 3. English for everyday use
- 4:40 pm 4. Musical programme
- 4:50 pm 5. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)
- 5:05 pm 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:15 pm 7. နားဝင်ပီယံ သူ့လက်သံ
- 5:25 pm 8. Musical programme
- 5:35 pm 9. Games for children
- 6:00 pm 10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm 11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm 12. Discovery
- 6:50 pm 13. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 6:55 pm 14. A selection of TV song
- 7:10 pm 15. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 7:20 pm 16. Musical programme
- 7:35 pm 17. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 7:45 pm 18. ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် (၁၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (မဟာဂီတ) (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား/အမျိုးသမီး)
- 8:00 pm 19. News
- 20. International news
- 21. Weather report
- 22. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာဝန်းတိုင်" (အပိုင်း-၉)
- 23. The next day's programme

The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council
The Law Amending the Development of
Border Areas and National Races Law

(The State Peace and Development Council Law No 7/2006)

3rd Waning of Wagaung 1368 ME

(11 August, 2006)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following Law:-

1. This Law shall be called the Law Amending the Development of Border Areas and National Races Law.

2. The expression contained in section 2 of the Development of Border Areas and National Races Law:

(a) Sub-section (e) shall be substituted as follows:

“(e) **Regional Work Committee** means the respective Regional Work Committee for the Implementation of the Development of Border Areas and National Races formed by the Work Committee under this Law;”

(b) Sub-section (f) shall be inserted after sub-section (e) as follows:

“(f) **Ministry** means the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.”

3. Sub-section (h) of Section 7 of the Development of Border Areas and National Races Law shall be substituted as follows:

“(h) making arrangement for enabling to co-operate with the United Nations Organizations, International Organizations, Regional Organizations, Foreign States, Non-Governmental Organizations and Persons;”

4. Section 9 of the Development of Border Areas and National Races Law shall be substituted as follows:

“9. The Ministry may obtain assistance from the United Nations Organizations, International Organizations, Regional Organizations, Foreign States, Non-Governmental Organizations and Persons, for performance of implementing the development works of the border areas and national races.”

Sd.

(Than Shwe)

Senior General

Chairman

State Peace and Development Council

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects progress of Ma Mya Dam Project, growing of physic nut plants in Ayeyawady Division



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Ma Mya Dam Project in Myanaung Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and party, visited Shwe-Oh-gyi Wickerworks Industry of U Khin San

in Bahtoo Ward of Yekyi on 9 August after attending the conclusion of ploughing for monsoon paddy cultivation in Ayeyawady Division and paddy transplanting contest in Kangyidaunt Township.

U Khin San reported on production of rattan furniture and availability of raw materials.

Next, they inspected maintenance of the

bridge on Pathein-Monywa Road.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attended the ceremony to grow 50 acres of physic nut plants of Myanaung Township at Hmyinwa-taung Village.

In his address, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the Government has assigned duties to all states and divisions with farsigh-tedness in order to grow 500,000

acres of physic nut plants within three years, and local peoples are to cultivate physic nut plants on a commercial scale. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and the commander planted physic nut saplings. Myanaung Township has cultivated 911 acres of physic nut plants, exceeding the target of 850 acres.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected
(See page 8)

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