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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials, social organizations in DaikU Township

Officials urged to fulfil needs of rubber growers



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of Ministry of Defence visits a rubber nursery of Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise in Indakaw, Bago Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence called for full growing of rubber on target land, supervision of the allocation of land and stressed the need for officials to fulfil the needs of rubber growers when he inspected the research and reproduction centre of the Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise in Indakaw, Bago Township on 11 August.

Accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-

ern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko and departmental heads, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports presented by officials of MPCE and those from Paing and Paing Co Ltd on setting up of the research and reproduction centre, nurturing of rubber saplings, research on latex, growing of rubber on 59,106 acres in Bago Division, production rate of latex and benefits and requirements.

On arrival at Kawliya Hall in DaikU, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with the Chairman of the Township PDC and members, social organizations,

departmental officials, townsmen and others and called for extended cultivation of ten major crops in the township, growing of physic nut plants that can produce bio-fuel as a national duty, meeting the target of growing 3 million acres of monsoon paddy in Bago Division and running livestock farms in DaikU Township.

After greeting those present on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than left DaikU and arrived in Taungoo in the evening.

MNA

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded (14-8-2006)

Gwa	(8.31) inches
Thandwe	(6.06) inches
Hpa-an	(5.71) inches
Thaton	(5.55) inches
Pathein	(5.00) inches
Myeik	(4.57) inches
Ye	(3.19) inches
Minbu	(0.59) inch

INSIDE

Border trade is being implemented with five objectives, and some of these objectives are to promote mutual friendship and bilateral trade, to switch into normal trade from border trade and to be able to collect all the revenues.

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PERSPECTIVES

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 15 August, 2006

Striving for development of border trade

Trade plays a pivotal in economic development of Myanmar. Therefore, the government is facilitating trade and commerce.

For systematic export of the country's products, the government has established the Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone. Arrangements are also under way for the establishment of a modern border trade zone at Myawady.

Border trade is being implemented with five objectives, and some of these objectives are to promote mutual friendship and bilateral trade, to switch into normal trade from border trade and to be able to collect all the revenues.

The government is taking steps to switch into normal trade that is being practised internationally from border trade. Like the Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone, the Myawady Border Trade Zone will be established in order that we can export the country's products systematically and at the most reasonable prices. The trade volume of the Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone is the largest in the country's border trade sector and that of the Myawady Border Trade Zone is the second largest.

Therefore, the switch from border trade to cross-border normal trade will benefit the two countries and their traders in the long run. The government is to render assistance to traders in accordance with the framework laid down so that they will be able to do business systematically and skilfully.

It is necessary for government employees to refrain from resorting to malpractices and for merchants to do their work with honesty and dignity.

We believe that the nation's foreign trade, either by sea or through the borders, will systematically develop if government employees and traders work honestly in cooperation.



U Ohn Pe - Daw Kyi and family of Mingala Taungnyunt Township recently donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint Secretary U Thein Aung of Administrative Board. —H

Oppose Destructive Elements

- * 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

Secretary-General views paddy harvesting and winnowing of USDA members in Thazi



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo views harvesting of summer paddy in Thazi Township. A&I

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug — Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo, together with officials and USDA members made cash donations to the fund of Buddha Pujaniya of Theindaw Pagoda in Kontaung Village of Thazi Township on 7 August.

The secretary-general viewed participation of USDA members at paddy harvesting and winnowing

tasks with the use of the harvester of the association.

Thanks to reconstruction of Kontaung Village Dam undertaken by USDA members together with villagers, local farmers can grow quality strains of paddy to yield 120-160 baskets per acre.

In meeting with local people, the secretary-general explained five rural development tasks and boosting production of crops. — MNA

Progress of education institutions inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Aug — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein met the educational staff at Yinmabin Basic Education High School in Thazi Township on 11 August morning and gave instructions on management and academic matters and rising of the pass rate.

He also met with school heads and teachers at Kalaw BEHS No 1 and No 2 at Kalaw BEHS No 1. Next, he inspected multimedia classrooms and labs.

At Taunggyi Education College in Taunggyi, the minister heard reports on matters related to the college by Principal Daw Si Si. Next, the minister inspected the computer room and labs of the college.

While in Taunggyi, the minister met officials and educa-



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein inspects NO 1 BEHS in Kalaw Township. — EDUCATION

tional staff at Taunggyi BEHS No 1 and explained the implementation of educational objectives and attended to the needs.

Accompanied by Director-General Dr Mya Oo of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar), Minister Dr Chan Nyein met faculty members at the

convocation hall. Rector U Ye Chan reported on salient points of the university and departmental head professors on academic

matters. After giving instructions on successful implementation of education objectives, the minister fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Dohkyeywa journal Vol 3 No 16 in circulation

YANGON, 14 Aug — Copies of Dohkyeywa journals Vol 3 No 16 are being published today.

The journal carries a variety of articles, news, short stories, stories, poems and cartoons.

Copies of the journal are available at the office of Information and Public Relations Department in every township.

Manuscripts and advertisements may be sent and the phone numbers are (371340 and 371342) at No 22/24, Pansodan Street, Yangon. — MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Indian PM visits flood areas, thousands more evacuated

HYDERABAD, 13 Aug — Prime Minister Manmohan Singh visited flood-affected areas in southern and western India on Friday, and tens of thousands were evacuated as another river threatened to burst its banks.

Week-long flooding triggered by annual monsoon rains has killed more than 350 people and left more than four million homeless across at least five Indian states.

The floods, caused by overflowing rivers and the sudden release of vast amounts of water from dams and reservoirs, have

also hit agricultural land and petroleum, gas and power plants. Singh flew over the western state of Maharashtra and the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, where flooding has damaged canal systems and destroyed around 200,000 hectares (494,000 acres) of mainly rice fields. "Andhra Pradesh is the

granary of south India," Singh told reporters in the state capital Hyderabad.

"The floods, which I am told are the second highest (worst) in history, should not affect the productive capacity of its fertile lands," he said, adding that government would work to quickly restore damaged canal and irrigation systems.

Singh pledged four billion rupees (86.04 million dollars) towards relief efforts and promised 100,000 rupees (2,151) each to families of the 110 people that have died in the state.—MNA/Reuters



Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao (L front) holds a baby in arms during his visit to a welfare centre in Daqing City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 11 Aug, 2006. Wen Jiabao made an inspection tour in Heilongjiang on 10-12 Aug.—INTERNET



Miss Hong Kong Pageant 2006 winner Aimee Chan (C) poses with 1st runner up Janet Chow (L) and 2nd runner up Koni Lui at the Miss Hong Kong Pageant 2006 in Hong Kong on 12 Aug, 2006. Miss Hong Kong Pageant 2006 was held at Hong Kong Coliseum on Saturday as Aimee Chan won the crown.—INTERNET

Travellers suffer further delays

LONDON, 13 Aug — New security procedures have led to a fourth day of disruption to flights at the UK's busiest airports.

Ryanair has cancelled more than 30 flights from Stansted and British Airways cancelled a third of Heathrow flights and more than 20 from Gatwick.

BA has criticised operator BAA, which owns

all three airports, calling on them to increase resources.

But BAA said these were "unprecedented times" and "the safety and security of the public is the utmost priority".

Tony Douglas, BAA's

chief executive officer for Heathrow, said: "We are all responding to a national security threat."

"Given that this is the busiest time of the year, I think we should actually commend the work of the airlines, their staff and the

operational staff for doing a really first-class job."

Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott, meanwhile, visited Stansted airport to see how the new security measures were being put into practice.

"Airport staff are pulling together in a magnificent way to keep passengers flying," said Stansted managing director Terry Morgan.

"There continue to be a number of delays and cancellations, but we are not compromising on the standards of security expected of us and we continue to ask for the support of airlines as we focus on getting as many passengers away on time as possible."

About 500 passengers spent the night at Heathrow on Saturday night, according to an airport spokeswoman.

MNA/Xinhua

Cameroon outs 45,000 civil service ghost workers

YAOUNDE, 13 Aug — Cameroon has discovered 45,000 ghost workers on its civil service payroll who cost the Central African country nearly 10 million US dollars a month, the Economy Minister said. The ghost workers—people drawing state salaries but not actually working—were uncovered during a census of public servants as part of a drive to root out rampant corruption.

Foreign donors made tackling graft a condition for cancelling billions of dollars in foreign debt earlier this year.

"These people have been robbing the state of five billion CFA francs (9.75 million US dollars) every month in undue earnings," Economy and Finance Minister Polycarpe Abah Abah told state television late on Thursday.

He said the census was continuing and more ghost workers might yet be discovered.

Abah Abah said the government would take legal action against people fraudulently claiming pay cheques, who included civil servants who had moved abroad and dead workers whose families continued to claim their salaries.

Others were among around 50,000 civil servants laid off in the mid-1990s under pressure from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund to reduce the 200,000-strong public workforce.

MNA/Reuters



Passengers queue in a tent outside the North Terminal of Gatwick Airport near London, on 13 Aug, 2006. British Airways cancelled 30 percent of its flights from London's Heathrow Airport on Sunday in a growing row with airport authorities over how to handle tougher security after an aborted bomb plot.—INTERNET

A woman collects water from a small stream in Guaribas city, northeastern Brazil on 12 Aug, 2006. — INTERNET



Up to 900 Malaysian students fall ill on suspected food poisoning

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Aug—About 900 students at a school in northern Malaysia have fallen ill for suspected food poisoning, a local newspaper reported on Saturday. About 700 school girls and 200 boys at a school in Sungai Petani, a town in the state of Kedah, began to show symptoms of food poisoning early Saturday morning, including severe stomach cramps followed by diarrhoea and vomiting, the *Star* newspaper reported.

More than 400 of them were brought to a local hospital in batches for treatment and five were hospitalized, the English-language newspaper said. These students had a meal of nasi lemak, a popular rice dish in Malaysia, on Thursday evening at the school and hospital doctors said food poisoning was suspected.

MNA/Xinhua

Study says AIDS virus hides out in accomplice cells

TORONTO, 13 Aug—The AIDS virus has an accomplice that helps it infect the immune system cells it attacks — other immune system cells, US researchers reported on Saturday.

In fact, these other cells, known as B cells, may be key to infection, the University of Pittsburgh researchers told an international AIDS conference. "The research supports a new role for B cells in the development and spread of HIV between cells," said Dr Charles Rinaldo, who led the study.

The findings may help find a way to block infection, and help explain why the virus can hide out in "reservoirs" inside the body for decades.

The AIDS virus is especially hard to fight because it infects the immune system. It favours cells called CD4 T-cells.

It gets into the cells using two molecular doorways, called receptors. They are CD4 and either

CCR5 or CXCR4 and are found only on T-cells.

Other immune cells were thought to be uninvolved. But Rinaldo's team found that other immune cells called B cells make a protein called DC-SIGN that seems necessary for HIV to ever infect a cell.

The researchers looked at B cells from 33 healthy subjects and 20 adult patients with HIV. About 8 per cent of these cells expressed, or made, DC-SIGN.

One study showed that B cells harboured viruses that could be transmitted to T cells for as long as two days. HIV had little effect on the T cells when B cells were not around.

The researchers found a compound that blocks DC-SIGN.

When they blocked DC-SIGN in B cells, and put them in with T-cells in a lab dish, the virus was unable to infect the T-cells, the researchers said

in a statement to be presented more fully at the 16th International Conference on AIDS being held in Toronto.

There is no cure for the AIDS virus, which infects about 40 million people globally and has killed 25 million since it was first noted in the early 1980s. There is also no vaccine.

Drugs can help control it but the virus cannot be eradicated from the body. Understanding how it infects cells may help scientists discover how to clear it from the body or prevent infection in the first place.

MNA/Reuters



Indian school children participate during the full dress rehearsal for the country's Independence Day celebrations in front of the historic Red Fort in New Delhi, on 13 Aug, 2006. Police in India's capital said they had stepped up security on information that political leaders, monuments and vital infrastructure were at risk of terrorist attacks ahead of Independence Day next week.—INTERNET



Russian dancers perform at the Youth Palace theatre in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, on 12 Aug, 2006. A song and dance ensemble from Russia's Khabarovsk gave a performance in Harbin on Saturday.—INTERNET

Death toll from Saomai rises to 114, at least 183 still missing

BEIJING, 13 Aug—With the recovery of the bodies of eight more people in Fuding City of east China's Fujian Pro-vice, the death toll from Typhoon Saomai, the strongest to hit China in half a century and now a tropical depression, has risen to 114, with at least 183 others missing.

As of Saturday night, Fuding City reported 1,350 injured in the typhoon, and suffered an economic loss of 2.5 billion yuan (312.5 million US dollars), said Zhao Fangli, deputy head of the general office of the Fuding City Flood Control and Drought Relief Head-quarters.

Fuding was the worst hit by the Saomai in Fujian Province, where trees were uprooted,

houses flattened or seriously damaged.

"Almost the whole village was flattened," said a villager of Baisheng Village, with more than 300 households, of Shanqian Community of Fuding City.

Shacheng Township of Fuding City lost more than 1,000 fishing boats to Saomai, which flattened half of the houses of the township's over 8,000 households. East China's Jiangxi Province reported two deaths from the typhoon as of Saturday.

The provincial meteorological department said the rainfall in two counties in Jiangxi was over 200 millimetres from Thursday to Friday and in 11 counties over 100 millimetres.

MNA/Xinhua

Bush says British terror threat may not be over

CRAWFORD (TEXAS), 13 Aug—US President George W Bush cautioned on Saturday the threat from a plot to detonate liquid explosives on commercial flights may not have passed and denied Democratic charges he was trying to use the crisis for political gains in an election year.

"We believe that this week's arrests have significantly disrupted the

threat." Bush said in his weekly radio address. "Yet we cannot be sure that the threat has been eliminated."

British authorities arrested two dozen suspects on Thursday for allegedly plotting to use liquid explosives to blow up airliners flying from Britain to the United States.

The arrests prompted the United States to raise

its terror alert to the highest level ever and prompted airports to ban passengers from taking liquids, gels and creams on planes.

Bush, who returns to Washington on Sunday after a 10-day working vacation at his ranch, urged air travellers to be patient with the stricter security measures.

"The inconveniences you will face are for your protection and they will

give us time to adjust our screening procedures to meet the current threat," he said.

Democrats on Friday accused Vice-President Dick Cheney of trying to use this week's arrests in Britain to Republican advantage in November congressional elections, which will determine whether Democrats or Republicans control the US Congress.

Cheney said on Wednesday the Democrats' defeat of Connecticut Democratic Senator Joe Lieberman in the state's primary on Tuesday because of his support of the Iraq war could embolden "al-Qaeda types." Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada said in a statement on Friday: "Once again, GOP (Republican) leaders are using terrorism and our national security as a political wedge issue.

It is disgusting-but not surprising."

MNA/Reuters



Spanish assistant bullfighter Raul Carico gets tossed by a bull during a bullfight at the Malagueta bullring in Malaga, southern Spain, on 12 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Serb police to rent out men, dogs, choppers

BELGRADE, 14 Aug — Serbs seeking a bit of extra protection or perhaps a helicopter for the weekend can now turn to the police, which from this month will be renting out its personnel, transport and even animals for private use.

According to a detailed price list published in the official gazette, the cost of hiring a policeman to guard money transports or sports events would be

300 dinars (4.50 US dollars) an hour.

A police horse goes for 2,400 dinars a day, a trained dog for 1,800 dinars a day, and a helicopter for between 45,000 and 140,000 dinars per hour depending on the type.

The government said the scheme was designed as "a chance for police to gain additional financial means and have their own income".

MNA/Reuters

Castro reportedly walking and talking

HAVANA, 13 Aug — Cuban President Fidel Castro was reported to be walking, talking and undergoing briefings on Saturday, and Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez was headed to Havana to share a birthday cake with the ailing Cuban leader.



Cuban President Fidel Castro.—INTERNET

Castro, who turns 80 on Sunday, has not been seen publicly since he temporarily ceded power to his younger brother on 31 July because of complicated abdominal surgery.

Details of his condition are considered a state secret. But the Communist Party daily, *Granma*, published a cryptic report on Saturday from an unidentified visitor who described Castro as “up and about, like someone anticipating new victories”.

“Someone who visited the comandante a few hours ago to brief him on certain matters ... said he witnessed how the head of the revolution, after receiving a little physical therapy, walked in the room and later, sitting in a chair, engaged in an animated conversation,” *Granma* said.

Chavez, a close ally, announced in Caracas that he was headed to Havana to celebrate Castro’s birthday with him.

“I will be with him as of tonight in Havana. I’m taking him a good present, a good cake, and there we will celebrate the 80 years of that great figure of our America,” Chavez said.—MNA/Reuters

China, Poland sign protocol on cooperation in science

WARSAW, 13 Aug — China and Poland on Friday signed a protocol on cooperation in science during the 32nd conference of the China-Poland Science and Technology Cooperation Committee.

Chinese Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Shang Yong signed the protocol with Olaf Gajl, the Polish Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education.

According to the protocol, Polish and Chinese scientists will jointly implement 48 research projects in various fields including agricultural science, mining, information technology, new materials and biotechnology.

Both sides expressed hope that the new joint research projects would promote cooperation between scientific research institutions, universities and scientists in the two countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Japanese, French satellites put into orbit

KOUROU (French Guiana), 13 Aug — An *Ariane-5* rocket blasted off from French Guiana on Friday, putting into orbit a Japanese civilian communications satellite and a French military communications satellite, officials said.

The launch took place at Europe’s space base in Kourou, on the northeast coast of South America at 7.15 pm (2215 GMT).

Twenty-seven minutes after the launch, the rocket released into orbit a *JCSAT-10* satellite for Japan’s JSAT Corporation.

Five minutes later the rocket released *Syracuse 3B*, a military communications satellite for France’s Defence Ministry.

It was the third *Ariane* rocket launch this year.

Built in the United States by Lockheed Martin, the *JCSAT-10* satellite was designed to broadcast high

definition television to the Asia-Pacific Region.

It would be used for the “Sky Perfect TV” system that broadcasts 251 television channels, JSAT Corporation officials said.

The French Defence Procurement Agency (DGA) said a dedicated military communications satellite network was necessary because satellites shared with civilian

operators risked being immobilized by relatively unsophisticated means. The Syracuse system is dedicated to military missions with a protection against interference using high-grade electronics in the satellite and in ground stations that make it invulnerable,” DGA official Caroline Laurent told French radio.

MNA/Reuters



Children view the inner decoration of a car, rebuilt into a delicate chess room, during the Fifth Auto Culture Festival of Shandong held in Jinan, on 11 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Arizona driver gets 70 speeding tickets in 5 months

PHOENIX, Arizona, 13 Aug — As a mortgage broker in Arizona, Francesca Cisneros is used to working with big numbers. It is the double-digit speed limit she has trouble with. Cisneros racked up 70 speeding tickets in the last five months, a record for the Scottsdale Police Department, police said on Friday. Speeding cameras in Scottsdale, a suburb of Phoenix, snapped pictures of the 32-year-old woman as she tore through the sun-baked city in her Honda Civic between 2 March and 31 July.

“She told arresting officers she was speeding because she seemed to be late for client meetings all the time,” Scottsdale Police Department spokesman Mark Clark told Reuters. “I guess she’s got some time management issues.”—MNA/Reuters



Champion Ivy Kong, 28, poses with her cockroach after winning the Great Cockroach Derby in Singapore on 10 August, 2006. Only American cockroaches (*Periplaneta americana*) are allowed to compete in the 1.5m (4.9 feet) dash. The fastest cockroach during the Qualifying Round wins its owner \$64 and qualifies to race for \$640 in the Grand Finals.—INTERNET

US Coast Guard rescues 40 from burning boat

WASHINGTON, 13 Aug — The US Coast Guard has rescued 40 people from a burning research vessel off the coast of Louisiana, media reports said Saturday.

Two men were slightly injured while they were fighting to put out the fire, which started in the boat’s engine room on Friday. The cause of the fire is not immediately known.

The Coast Guard rescued 40 people from the vessel, *Odyssey Voyager*, and the two injured were airlifted for treatment at a hospital on shore.

The vessel, which continued to burn Saturday, was still afloat, and efforts to put out the fire were underway, the reports said.—MNA/Xinhua

Most Japanese still worried about US beef

TOKYO, 13 Aug — Most Japanese are extremely reluctant to eat US beef, despite the ending of import bans imposed after outbreaks of mad cow disease in the United States, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* reported on Saturday.

MNA/Reuters

Heat wave puts Portugal’s urban areas under red alert

LISBON, 13 Aug — A severe heat wave has put 12 regions in Portugal on red alert, the highest level of the country’s four-alert scale, said the Portuguese General Health Administration on Friday.

The 12 regions — Braga, Oporto, Aveiro, Coimbra, Castelo Branco, Leiria, Santarem, Lisboa, Portalegre, Setubal, Evora and Beja — make up the vast majority of the country’s metropolitan territory which has a total of 18 regions. The red alert was declared ... because (such temperatures) can carry severe health consequences,” said the health administration.—MNA/Xinhua



Iraqis gather at the site of a bomb blast in the southern Iraqi city of Basra, 550km (340 miles) south of Baghdad, on 12 August, 2006. — INTERNET

China sees widening insurance fund gap for the aged

BEIJING, 13 Aug— With a growing number of the elderly, China is seeing a widening gap for the endowment insurance fund for the aged, a Chinese official said.

To cope with the aging situation, China needs at least 2.5 trillion yuan endowment insurance fund as strategic reserve by 2030, said Li Bengong, executive deputy director of the Office of the China National Committee on Aging.

"The retiring population is growing by 6 per cent each year, while the gap for endowment

insurance fund in enterprises and firms is widening," Li said.

Statistics from the Ministry of Health shows the medical insurance expense increased by 31.6 per cent in 2004 as compared to 2003, which was mainly attributable to the aging population, Li said.

Chinese seniors above age 60 amounts to 143

million, making up 11 per cent of the country's total population, accounting for half of the total aged population in Asia and 20 per cent worldwide.

China currently has 32.5 million aged people that need nursing and looking after, according to the China National Committee on Aging and the Population Studies Institute.—MNA/Xinhua



A girl holds a sign reading "Long live Fidel" during a concert in honour of Cuba's President Fidel Castro at the Anti-Imperialist stage, opposite the US Interest Section, in Havana on 12 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Death toll from Encephalitis B rises to 19 in N China

YUNCHENG (Shanxi), 13 Aug — The death toll from Encephalitis B, or Japanese encephalitis, has risen to 19, with 38 people infected in Yuncheng City of Shanxi Province, the local health authorities said on Saturday.

The city reported the first case of Encephalitis B after the victim was bitten by mosquitoes on 13 July, said the city disease prevention and control centre.

Encephalitis is an inflammation of the brain that can occur at any age and is usually the result of a viral infection. It may begin with a flu-like illness or a headache.

So far, nine out of the 13 counties of the city have reported cases of Encephalitis B, said the centre.

MNA/Xinhua



"Chulapas" (women dressed in Madrid's traditional attire) sit and talk during the feast of La Paloma Virgin in Madrid on 12 Aug, 2006. —INTERNET

Nine Iraqis wounded in two bomb attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 13 Aug — Nine people, including some policemen, were wounded in Baghdad in two roadside bomb attacks on Saturday morning, an Interior Ministry source said.

A roadside bomb targeted a police patrol went off near the Al-Nedaa mosque in eastern Baghdad, wounding five policemen, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Another bomb detonated at the Muhammed al-Qassim

Street near Zaiyouna, in eastern Baghdad, wounded four people, the source said. The upsurge of violence in Baghdad and other Iraqi cities is seen as a further setback for the Iraqi Government's efforts to achieve security and peace.

MNA/Xinhua

S Africa gives White farmers 6-month deadline

POLOKWANE (South Africa), 14 Aug— South Africa has warned White farmers it may seize their properties under the land restitution programme if they fail to agree a selling price within six months.

The programme aims to hand back land to Blacks who were forcibly removed from their ancestral homes under apartheid, or offer them financial compensation.

This is part of efforts to correct skewed land ownership created under White minority rule.

President Thabo Mbeki's government wants 30 per cent of farmland in Black hands by 2014 but the transfer process has been slow, with only around 4 per cent of land transferred by the restitution programme so far.

Agriculture and Land Affairs Minister Lulu Xingwana said wrangling with Whites over price was one of the main reasons for the low turnover.

"We are now going to negotiate six months-no more, no less," she said at a briefing on Friday in the northern Limpopo Province.

"Indeed, we don't have time to be talking and talking for 10 years ... because already our people have been waiting."

"At least now we have ... expropriation. Therefore we will no longer waste time negotiating with people who are not committed to transformation."

South Africa has been quick to dismiss comparisons with neighbouring Zimbabwe — where a similar campaign was frequently marked by violence — and vowed to take a more orderly approach to addressing its apartheid and British colonial legacy.

Xingwana's department has already identified several properties that will be taken over if it cannot reach agreement over price with the owners, but it is the first time the government has set a time limit on such talks. — MNA/Reuters

UNFPA urges better care for women living with HIV/AIDS

UNITED NATIONS, 13 Aug — The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) warned Friday it is time to deliver universal access to prevention, treatment and support for women and girls living with or threatened by HIV/AIDS.

"After 25 years of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, we now see some progress, but more must be done," said Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, the UNFPA Executive Director. She stressed

that it is time to deliver because the world has moved too slowly in addressing HIV and AIDS.

She noted that HIV infection hit the women and girls the hardest.

Worldwide, their numbers continue to overtake that of men. Seventy-six per cent of all HIV-positive women live in sub-Saharan Africa, while young women comprise 74 per cent of 15-24 per cent of all HIV/AIDS are women.

The UN official made the remarks as the countries in the world prepares for the 16th International AIDS Conference in Toronto.

UNFPA supports a comprehensive approach that combines prevention with sexual and reproductive health, Obaid said, noting that UNFPA will lead several conference panels to underline the links between reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

Working with other partners, UNFPA will bring 250 young people from all over the world for a special youth pre-conference, featuring panels, satellite sessions and the opportunities for exchanging views with among youth with first-hand experience of the pandemic's impact.

MNA/Xinhua



A man looks at a collapsed building in Surat, about 260 km (162 miles) south from the western Indian city of Ahmedabad, on 12 Aug, 2006. Rescuers and residents used bulldozers and plastic buckets to clear debris and hunt for bodies on Saturday in Surat, one of the country's worst-hit areas during week-long floods. —INTERNET

Nigeria, Japan sign agreement on classroom project

ABUJA, 14 Aug — Nigeria and a Japanese firm here recently signed a 1.06 billion naira (about 8.2 million US dollars) agreement for the construction of 265 classrooms in Kaduna State, northern Nigeria.

Masatsugu Komiya, who signed on behalf of the Japanese firm, said the agreement was for the third and largest phase of the classrooms to be constructed by Japan in the country.

He said the first phase of the project which involved 70 classrooms was nearing completion in Minna, capital of Nigeria's central state of Niger, while the work on the second stage was on-

going in Plateau State in the north.

According to Gidado Tahiru, executive secretary of Nigeria's Universal Basic Education Programme who signed the agreement on behalf of the Nigerian Government, the agreement also includes the construction of four offices for headmasters, 170 toilets, and the provision of 6,095 two-seater type desks and 265 blackboards in 32 schools in Kaduna.

He said the sub-components of the project included the training of teachers, pupils as well as members of the communities, on the maintenance of the facilities.

MNA/Xinhua



A girl poses beside the image of the mascot dog in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 12 Aug, 2006.

INTERNET

Israeli PM orders ceasefire hours ahead of UN-required truce

JERUSALEM, 14 Aug — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert ordered Israel's Army to observe a ceasefire from 2:00 am on Monday (2300 GMT Sunday) and pull back some troops from south Lebanon, the *Haaretz* newspaper reported on its website.

"Olmert ordered the Army to begin abiding by it as of 2:00 am this morning, other than in cases of self-defence," the report said.

"They also agreed that the Army will begin withdrawing some of its forces from Lebanon immediately, but will remain in various positions that offer control over surrounding areas until these positions can be handed over to the Lebanese Army and the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)," it said.

Olmert's ceasefire order was six hours ahead of the UN Security Council prescribed truce between Israeli forces and Hizbollah guerillas, which takes effect at 0500 GMT.

The paper also reported that Olmert had met his Defence Minister and heads of armed forces late on Sunday to discuss the ceasefire.

The Security Council resolution, adopted unanimously on Friday, called on Israeli troops to withdraw and an increase of existing UN force in Lebanon to 15,000 troops.

Israel has launched massive offensive attacks in Lebanon since Lebanese Hizbollah guerillas kidnapped two Israeli soldiers on 12 July. The 33-day fighting has killed some 1,100 Lebanese, mostly civilians, and 149 Israelis, including 109 soldiers.

MNA/Xinhua



A one armed Chinese man cycles past sculptures depicting athletes on the streets of Beijing, China, on Sunday, 13 Aug, 2006. The Chinese capital is preparing for the International Association of Athletics Federations World Junior Championships starting 15 Aug. A series of major sporting events are expected to be hosted in China as part of test events for the 2008 Olympic Games. — INTERNET

Madrid-London flights return to normal

MADRID, 14 Aug — Flights between Madrid and London returned to normal on Saturday, the Spanish Airport and Aviation Administration said, two days after Britain said it had thwarted a plot to blow up planes flying from Britain to the United States.

Spain has intensified airport security nationwide and tightened security checks on flights bound for Britain and the United States, following the discovery of the foiled plot early Thursday. Passengers are barred from carrying liquids and gels in hand luggage. — MNA/Xinhua

World's female eating star wins debut Asian contest

HONG KONG, 14 Aug — The world's top female speed-eating champion chomped her way to a 28th eating record on Sunday, wolfing down 17 Chinese-style lotus seed buns in 12 minutes during her debut competition in Asia.

Sonya Thomas, stuffing her mouth with the jumbo buns amid swigs of water, obliterated competitors from Hong Kong and China in the "Whampoa Asia Eating Championship".

"I still feel hungry," said the Korean-American from Virginia, United States, after winning a 2,500-US-dollar cheque.

Runner up Johnny Wu, the Hong Kong Eating Champion, managed nine buns. In the semifinals on Saturday, Thomas consumed 176 Chinese-style vegetable dumplings against Wu's 74.

The Hong Kong victory was the

first for the waif-like Thomas in Asia, as she seeks to expand her reputation beyond the established American circuit of Krystal hamburgers, hot-dogs, chicken wings and waffles. "I'd say she's the Billie Jean King of eating," said her publicist "Hungry" Charles Hardy, who once competed against Thomas, referring to the former tennis champion.

The eating champion from the United States has amassed 28 records in a variety of speed-eating events, including eating 552 oysters in 10 minutes and five kilogrammes of cheesecake in nine minutes. — MNA/Reuters

Putin wishes Castro on 80th birthday

MOSCOW, 14 Aug — Russian President Vladimir Putin sent a congratulatory message to Cuban leader Fidel Castro on his 80th birthday, the Kremlin Press service said on Sunday.

"Russia knows you as one of the most authoritative and eminent politicians of contemporaneity," the message said. "We value high your unflinching adherence to the strengthening of Russian-Cuban relations, which have been knitted of feelings of mutual respect and liking for decades. They are an asset we treasure and seek to develop."

"I am confident that Russia and Cuba will remain active partners targeted for the interaction in various spheres in the interests of peoples of the two countries, peace and stability," the message said. — MNA/Xinhua

Extensive blackout hits Tokyo, nearby Chiba

TOKYO, 14 Aug — Power supply was cut off Monday morning in wide areas of Tokyo and nearby Chiba Prefecture, disrupting rail services and road traffic during rush hour, *Kyodo News* reported.

Police are investigating an accident in Chiba where a crane truck damaged high-voltage electrical power lines as a possible cause of the blackout, which began shortly before 8 am (2300 GMT), the report said.

More than 260 traffic lights in Tokyo have stopped working, while some people were trapped in elevators, Tokyo's fire department was quoted as saying.

Some commuter train

services operated by East Japan Railway Co and other rail companies have shut down, and Tokyo's subway services were temporarily suspended.

About 670,000 houses and other buildings were without power as of 8:15 am (2315 GMT), according to public broadcaster NHK.

The authorities are investigating the extent of the damage caused by the outage.

MNA/Xinhua



Firefighters try to extinguish a forest fire in Avion in the northwest Spanish region of Galicia on 13 August, 2006. — INTERNET

Minister attends clarification on performance of Myanmar Marketing Committee, meets hotel staff

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug — Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing attended a clarification on efforts made by Myanmar Marketing Committee held at the meeting hall of Mandalay Hill Resort Hotel in Mandalay on 11 August.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Director-General of Directorate of Hotel and Tourism U Htay Aung, Chairman of Myanmar Hoteliers Association Dr Khin Shwe and hoteliers, Chairman of Myanmar Marketing Committee U Aung Myat Kyaw and members and guests.

First, the minister made a speech on the occasion and the deputy minister briefed on the ministry's assistance provided towards the rapid development of hotel and tourism services.

Next, Chairman of Myanmar Marketing Committee U Aung Myat Kyaw made clarification on

measures taken by MMC and those present reported on sector-wise functions.

The following day the minister and party held a meeting with hoteliers and hotel staff at Nanmyaing Hotel in Pyin-Oo-Lwin. First, the minister made a speech on the occasion. In his speech he stressed the hotel staff were to carry out their tasks dutifully within the frame of law issued by the Government.

Upon arrival at the construction site of renovation of governors' houses (1905-1948) being implemented by Htoo Trading Co, Ltd, the minister heard reports presented by engineer-in-charge Daw Khin Cho Latt. Next, the minister and party arrived at Dahlia Hotel in Pyin-Oo-Lwin and met with hotel staff.

The next day the minister and party went to National Landmarks Garden construction site and viewed round there. — MNA

'Soon' offered to members of Sangha of State Pariyatti Sasana University



Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun offers alms to a Sayadaw. — MNA

YANGON, 14 Aug — A ceremony to offer one day's *Soon* to 450 members of Sangha of the State Pariyatti Sasana University was held at Moegok hall on Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Hill this morning.

Present on the occasion were Pro-rector Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Ottama, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, members U Aung Myint, U Hla Myint Oo, U Win Aung, U Soe Oo, U Nyi Tun and U Kyaw Aung, directors-general of departments, rectors of universities under the CSSTB and staff families.

First, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun donated alms to the Pro-rector Sayadaw and presented cash donations.

MNA

MMCWA holds educative talks

YANGON, 14 AUG — Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central)'s educative talks on health took place at No 1 Basic Education High School in Thanlyin Township on 11 August.

It was attended by members of Yangon Division and Yangon South District MCWSC, chairperson and members of township MCWA, responsible persons of education department and

health department, teachers and students.

CECs of MMCWA Daw Khin Nwe Nwe, Daw Thazin Nwe and Dr Than Oo gave talks on personal hygiene and school health care activities. Next, CEC Daw Thatin Ngwe presented awards to outstanding students. Headmistress Daw Aye Aye Kywe spoke words of thanks.

MNA



CEC Daw Khin Nwe Nwe of MMCWA gives educative talks on health at NO 1 BEHS in Thanlyin. — MMCWA

Myanmar Academy of Medical Science to hold meeting

YANGON, 14 Aug — The meeting of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science will hold its mid-year conference at University of Nursing on Bogyoke Aung San Road in Lanmadaw Township on 18 August.

In conjunction with the mid-year conference, a scientific session under the heading of "Academic Consultation on Scourges, Post Elimination/ Eradication Strategies for Sustainment of Activities" will be held on the same day.

MMAS invited its members to participate in the conference which will start at 8 am on 18 August.

MNA

Writing Project Proposals and Reports Course opens

YANGON, 14 Aug — Service Selection and Training Board opened Writing Project Proposals and Reports Course at the programme of ASEAN Secretariat, the Civil

Traders Hotel this morning, with an address

by Director-General of Civil Service Selection and Training Department U Hla Kyi.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Director-General U Wai Myint, Technical Officer (Project) of (A) Unit of ASEAN Secretariat Ms Chandrasa Edhityas Sjamsudin, instructors from Polytechnic of Singapore, 20 trainees from the ministries and other related organizations and boards.

The Civil Service Selection and Training Board is making arrangements to conduct Public Sector Capacity Building included in the

Initiative for ASEAN Integration-(A) Work Plan Project as well as seven more courses to be opened during 2006.

MNA

သတိပေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့တော်အတွင်း အချို့ခေတ်တော်ယာဉ်များမှာ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်း ချိုးဖောက်မှုများကြောင့် ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သဖြင့် ဒဏ်ရာရသူ၊ သေဆုံးသူများ များပြားလာသည်ကို တွေ့ရှိရပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ယာဉ်တိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်ပွားပါက ကျေးအေးသည်ဖြစ်စေ မကျေးအေးသည်ဖြစ်စေ ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်း လမ်းစည်းကမ်းမှားယွင်းသော ယာဉ်မောင်း သူများအား တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ ထိထိရောက်ရောက် အရေးယူဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေး နိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ယာဉ်စည်းကမ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေး ကြီးကြပ်မှုကော်မတီ



Director-General of CSSTB U Hla Kyi makes a speech at the opening ceremony of Writing Project Proposals and Reports Course. MNA

Yangon Division holds school health week

YANGON, 14 Aug — Yangon Division Health Committee sponsored the school health week at No 1 Basic Education High School in Dagon Township, here this afternoon.

At the ceremony, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council

Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win made an address. The commander presented outstanding model school award to No 1 BEHS of the township. Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai and

officials also presented outstanding awards to high schools, middle schools and primary schools. Officials explained the school health week and the rules to designate model schools. The commander and party then inspected the school health week activities. — MNA



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife view booth of school health activities. — MNA

USDA CEC members accept membership applications

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended a ceremony to submit membership applications by faculty members and university students held at Kalay University on 11 August. Division USDA Secretary U Soe Soe accepted 2,180 membership applications from Rector U Maung Maung of Kalay University, 297 applications from

Principal of Government Technological College Dr Khine Zin Nway and 182 applications from Principal of Government Computer College Dr Mi Mi Ngwe. Next, the commander donated K 300,000, a printer worth K 200,000 and sport gear worth 260,000 for Kalay University and K 100,000 and sports equipment each for Government Technological College and Government Computer College. Afterwards, the commander attended a

school desk donation ceremony at Kalay Township Peace and Development Council office and handed over sports gear worth K 100,000 to the local battalion, 45 desks worth K 360,000 to 11 primary schools in Kalay Township and 36 desks worth K 288,000 to seven primary schools in Mindat Township. Later, he met with USDA members at Kalay District USDA office. MNA



Li-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence accepts K 2 million donated by a wellwisher to build Dhammayon and two-storey refectory at Wailuwun Monastery in Thabeikkon Village, Hlegu Township on 12 August. (News Reported) — UMFCFI

Runway of Kyaukpyu Airport in Rakhine State extended

YANGON, 14 Aug — Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe on 12 August inspected upgrading of Kyaukpyu Airport, Rakhine State and gave necessary instructions. During the inspection, the commander and the minister heard a report presented by an official on progress of work in upgrading of the airport, extension of the runway and future tasks. Next, Commander Brig-Gen Maung Shein and CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe attended a ceremony to donate desks to the primary schools in Kyaukpyu Township at Rammawady Hall. This was followed

by the cash donation ceremony at which the minister presented desks to the primary schools, K 500,000 each to the funds of Kyaukpyu Township Hospital, to the Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and to the Township War Veterans Organization, Project Director of Asia World Co U Maung Kye presented K 500,000 each to the funds of Kyaukpyu Township Hospital, the Township USDA, the Township MCWA and the Township WVO and Managing Director of Inland Water Transport U Soe Tint presented K 300,000 each to the Red Cross Society and Fire Brigade. On arrival at Kyaukpyu Education College, they attended a ceremony to present the USDA membership applications and made speeches. The minister presented K 2 million to

the funds of the education college and 100 dozens of exercise books for needy children while the commander presented 100 dozens of pencil and Project Director U Maung Kye K 500,000 to the funds of the education college. At Kyaukpyu Township USDA Office, they met executives of Rakhine State USDA and secretaries of the District and Township USDAs and attended to the needs. The minister presented K 1 million for the Township USDA and K 500,000 for the District USDA, Project Director U Maung Kye K 500,000 for the Township USDA. After that, they attended the collective growing of physic nut plants held at the plantations of the District and Township Development Affairs Committee in Kyaukpyu and participated in the activity. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe presents a physic nut plant to an official of a social organization. — TRANSPORT

AIDS ရောဂါ တားဆီးကာကွယ်ရေး နှိုးဆော်ချက် (၂)

AIDS ရောဂါသည် အသက်အရွယ်၊ လူမျိုး၊ ဘာသာ၊ အဆင့်အတန်းမရွေး ကူးစက်နိုင်သည်။ AIDS ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားစေသည့် HIV ပိုး ကူးစက်ခံရသူအများစုမှာ အသက် (၁၅)နှစ်မှ (၂၄)နှစ်အတွင်း လူငယ်များဖြစ်ကြသည်။ လူငယ်များသည် စူးစမ်းလိုသည့်စိတ်ရှိခြင်း၊ မှန်ကန်သည့်မျိုးဆက်ပွား ကျန်းမာရေးအသိပညာများ မရှိခြင်း၊ မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါး သုံးစွဲခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် ရောဂါပိုမိုကူးစက်ခံရသည်။ ထို့ကြောင့် AIDS ရောဂါ တားဆီးကာကွယ်နိုင်ရန်-

- (၁) AIDS ရောဂါ ကူးစက်ပုံအကြောင်း သေသေချာချာ လေ့လာ၍ မိမိတို့ အပြုအမူများကို ဆင်ခြင်နေထိုင်ပါ။
- (၂) အန္တရာယ်ရှိမည့် လိင်မှုဆိုင်ရာ အပြုအမူများကို လုံးဝရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။ တစ်ကြိမ်တစ်ခါမှ မစွန့်စားပါနှင့်။
- (၃) နောက်ကြောင်းရာဇဝင်မသိသူနှင့် လိင်မဆက်ဆံပါနှင့်။ မဆင်ခြင်နိုင်ပါက အကာအကွယ်ပစ္စည်း (ကွန်ဒုံး) အသုံးပြုပါ။
- (၄) မူးယစ်ဆေးဝါးသုံးစွဲခြင်းကို ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါ။
- (၅) ရောဂါကူးစက်မှုနှင့်ပတ်သက်၍ မရှင်းလင်းသည်များကို လူကြီးမိဘ၊ ကျန်းမာရေး ဝန်ထမ်းများ၊ ရောဂါ ကာကွယ်တားဆီးရေး အတွက် လေ့ကျင့်သင်ကြားထားသည့် သူငယ်ချင်း အပေါင်းအသင်းများနှင့် ဆွေးနွေးပါ။

Iran threatens to withdraw from IAEA

TEHERAN, 14 Aug — Iran warned on Sunday that it would withdraw from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) if its “inalienable rights” are deprived of, the official *IRNA* news agency reported.

“If depriving Iran of its inalienable rights is the result of its membership in international organizations, including the IAEA, our withdrawal from such bodies is well justified,” parliamentary speaker Gholam-Ali Hadad-Adel was quoted as saying.

He reiterated Iran’s rejection to a UN Security Council resolution that urges Teheran to “suspend all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities, including research and development” by 31 August or face the prospect of sanctions.

“Iran does not accept suspending its uranium enrichment activities,” Hadad-Adel told an open session of the Iranian Parliament.

“There is no single reason to justify their decision for depriving a country of its rights and peaceful activities, while all the reports released by the IAEA inspectors have stated that there exists not even an iota of diversion in Iran’s nuclear activities and researches towards military purposes,” he said.

The Iranian Parliament chief, however, emphasized that the path of negotiations was still open to solve the country’s nuclear issue.

“We are still keen to resolve the issue through talks because we believe that our view points and stances are logical,” Hadad-Adel said.

“Yet, if they (the West countries) prove to have opted for another course of action, we will certainly change our path,” he added.

Iranian officials have recently expressed indignation over the UN demand, warning the world body against taking acrimonious measures to force Iran to comply or Iran would quit the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and stop cooperation with the IAEA.

The United States has accused Iran of secretly developing nuclear weapons under a civilian front, a charge categorically denied by Teheran which says that its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes.

MNA/Xinhua



Russia’s Tatyana Tomashova celebrates after winning the gold medal in the women’s 1500 m final at the European athletics championships in Gothenburg on 13 August, 2006. — INTERNET

Canada bans juice, aerosols on departure flights

OTTAWA, 14 Aug — Canada has added juice and aerosols to the list of banned products on departure flights in a bid to prevent terrorist attacks following the foiled bomb plot in Britain this week.

Transport Canada officials said that as of Sunday, passengers leaving Canada would no longer be allowed to bring on board juice or aerosol containers of any size, including hairspray and deodorant.

Canada beefed up security measures in airports on Thursday after British police arrested 24 people for allegedly plotting to plant bombs on 10 planes bound for the United States, banning gels and fluids from hand luggage for both domestic and international flights.

Officials say the changes are being made to match similar restrictions enforced in the United States. — MNA/Xinhua

British airliner turned back over security scare

LONDON, 14 Aug — A British Airways flight to New York was turned back to London’s Heathrow Airport on Sunday because of a security scare over a mobile phone that did not belong to any of the passengers, officials said.

The phone was later found to be safe, as the government said the threat to Britain of a terrorist attack had been downgraded to severe from the critical level last week when police said they had foiled a plot to blow up transatlantic airliners.

Despite the down-

grading, the Transport Department warned in a statement: “This (still) means that a terrorist attack is still highly likely.”

British Airways said the captain of the airliner, which was carrying 217 passengers, had decided to return to London as a precautionary measure.

“A mobile phone was located on board the

aircraft which none of the passengers appeared to own,” it said in a statement.

Mobile phones were banned from flights departing from British airports under new tough security measures introduced after the disclosure of the alleged plot to smuggle bombs on to aircraft disguised as drinks. — MNA/Reuters



A resident of Jinxiang, China’s eastern province of Zhejiang on 12 August, 2006, stands in front of his destroyed house following Typhoon Saomai. — INTERNET

Study says feel blue, say “I do” as weddings boost mood

NEW YORK, 14 Aug — Lonely? Feeling low? Try taking a walk-down the aisle. Getting married enhances mental health, especially if you are depressed, according to a new US study.

The benefits of marriage for the depressed are particularly dramatic, a finding that surprised the professor-student team behind the study.

“We actually found the opposite of what we expected,” said Adrienne Frech, a PhD sociology student at Ohio State University who conducted the study with Kristi Williams, an assistant professor of sociology.

They expected to find that one spouse’s depression weighed too much on the marriage, but “just mattering to someone else can help alleviate symptoms of depression”, Frech said.

Frech will present their findings at the American Sociological Association’s annual meeting in Montreal on Sunday.

The researchers used a 3,066 person sample that measured symptoms of depression — such as an inability to sleep, or persistent sadness — in the same people both before and after their first marriage.

They found that depressed people experienced a much more extreme decrease in the incidence of those symptoms.

“Depressed people may be just especially in need of the intimacy, the emotional closeness and the social support that marriage can provide ... if you start out happy, you don’t have as far to go,” Williams said.

On the other hand, if you’re not depressed, marriage could have the opposite effect, Frech said.

People who were happy before getting married and end up in a marriage plagued by distance or conflict — qualities associated with a depressed spouse — might be better off single.

“It seems right to say that people who are not depressed are at risk, that if they marry a depressed person this could be a bad deal for them,” Frech said.

MNA/Reuters

1,146-year-old temple destroyed by “Typhoon Saomai”

FUDING (Fujian), 14 Aug — A 1,146-year-old temple in east China’s Fujian Province has been destroyed by Typhoon Saomai, collapsing its gate house and more than 20 other buildings.

The typhoon stormed through Fuding City on Thursday after it made landfall in Cangnan County, Zhejiang Province. It blew away almost all the roof tiles of Ziguo Temple, which was built in AD 860 during the Tang Dynasty, on the Lianfeng Mountain.

Saomai was the strongest typhoon to hit the country in half a century and has since been downgraded to a tropical depression.

Lei Chaorui, director of Fuding bureau of religious affairs, quoted monks with the temple as saying damage is estimated at more than 5 million yuan (625,000 US dollars).

The monks were evacuated before the typhoon arrived and nobody was injured when their houses collapsed. — MNA/Xinhua

Iran establishes new car assembly plant in Belarus

TEHERAN, 14 Aug — A new assembly plant for Iranian-designed cars has been inaugurated by Iranian Minister of Industries Ali-Reza Tahmasbi in the Belorussian capital of Minsk, the official IRNA news agency reported on Saturday.

The assembly line for "Samands", a model of passenger car of Iran's Khodro Industrial Group, the biggest automobile manufacturing company in the Middle East, was inaugurated in the Unison Company in Minsk on Friday.

The plant will assemble up to 1,000 Iranian-designed "Samands" car by

year's end, and up to 6,000 by next year, according to the report.

Khodro, which "had mapped out plans for entering East European markets since five years ago," picked the Belarus' Unison Company to carry out the project "taking into account the country's valuable car manufacturing experience", Tahmasbi was quoted as saying.

The Iranian minister also predicted that the car assembly line would boost the annual volume of trade exchanges between Iran and Belarus to 100 million US dollars, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

Tokyo residents carrying a portable shrine are splashed with water near the Fukagawa Shinmei shrine during the Fukagawa Shinmei festival in Tokyo on 13 August, 2006. INTERNET



Israeli girls cover their ears in a bomb shelter minutes before a Hizbollah rocket attack on the northern town of Kiryat Shmona on the Israel-Lebanon border on 13 August, 2006.—INTERNET

India declares avian flu-free

NEW DELHI, 14 Aug — India has informed a global animal health body that it has regained its status as an avian influenza-free country, according to Indo-Asian News Service Saturday.

"The final report in this regard has been sent by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) (the world organization of animal health) on 11 August," Indian Agriculture Ministry said in a statement Saturday.

On 18 February, India had notified the OIE of an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza [HPAI (H5N1)] in Navapur and Uchhal area of the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Further outbreaks were notified in Jalgaon District of Maharashtra with a spillover into

adjoining Madhya Pradesh.

The last outbreak was detected on 18 April, in Jalgaon District of Maharashtra.

"There has been no further outbreak of avian influenza in India after 18 April," the OIE was informed.—MNA/Xinhua

Death toll rises to 65 in floods in western India

NEW DELHI, 14 Aug — Sixty-five people have died in Surat, Gujarat, in western India due to heavy floods that ravaged the city earlier this week even as central Gujarat faces a fresh threat with the Mahi River waters rising alarmingly, local officials said Saturday.

Although official said that 65 bodies had been found so far, it is feared the death toll could be much higher than officially stated, according to Indo-Asian News Service Saturday. — MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria impounds \$1.1m worth of contraband goods

LAGOS, 14 Aug — The Nigerian Customs Service (NCS) had impounded 1.1 million US dollars' worth of contraband goods during the first half of this year in Sokoto, a senior NCS official said on Saturday.

Bolaji Yusuf, comptroller of the NCS Sokoto State Command, told reporters in the state capital Sokoto that 10 suspects were also arrested with the smuggled goods, and would be prosecuted soon.

"I have said time without number that my command is a no-go area for smugglers as competent officers have been positioned to check activities of smugglers," he said. As Nigeria's northwesternmost state, Sokoto is a border area with Niger to its north and Benin to its west, hence a place where international smugglers are engaged in conducting illegal trade activities.

Yusuf explained that most of the goods seized were textile materials, rice, vegetable oil, slippers, pharmaceutical products and motor vehicles.

He described smugglers as economic saboteurs and called on Nigerians to fight the "enemy of the nation" by cooperating with the Custom service.

MNA/Xinhua

Three Estonian peacekeepers wounded in Afghanistan

RAGA, 14 Aug — An Estonian peacekeeping contingent based in Afghanistan's southern Helmand Province was attacked by anti-government guerillas on Friday night, and three soldiers were wounded, a spokesman for the Estonian General Staff of the National Defence Army said in Tallinn on Saturday.

According to him, an anti-aircraft artillery shell hit the Estonian peacekeeping force base late Friday night, injuring three soldiers. Two serious ones have been sent to a military hospital for treatment.

The 37 Estonian peacekeeping soldiers have been based in Helmand Province since the end of May, offering support for Afghan Government troops.

Estonia joined the NATO's peacekeeping forces in Afghanistan in 2003. Currently 78 Estonian soldiers are on peacekeeping missions in the country, while the number will be increased to 120 by the end of the year.

MNA/Xinhua

Philippine ship carrying fuel sinks, two missing

MANILA, 14 Aug — A tanker with 14,000 barrels of fuel oil sank in rough seas near the central Philippine island of Guimaras, the country's largest oil refiner, Petron Corp, said on Saturday.

Two crew were still missing, said Rafael Ledesma, a Petron spokesman, and it was unclear if the accident caused an oil spill.

"The 16 crew members and two surveyors were forced to abandon the vessel and only reached the town of Valencia this morning," said Ledesma.

The town is about 20 miles (32 kilometres) from where the MV Solar 1 sank after giant waves swamped the vessel.

Ledesma said the vessel has been on its way to deliver fuel oil to a power plant in Zamboanga, a key port city on southern Mindanao. — MNA/Reuters

Two killed in bus crash in Turkey

ANKARA, 14 Aug — The death toll rose to two in a bus crash near Kocayatak crossroads on Serik-Antalya Highway in southern Turkey on Saturday, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

Russian tourist Larisa Ganeva died and eight others were injured when their bus overturned in Antalya Province, while Ukrainian tourist Irina Noskova, who was taken to a private hospital in Belek Town, died later.

The bus was carrying tourists who came to Antalya for vacation with Turtess travel agency, said the report, adding that the injured were taken to hospitals for treatment.

In another accident, 47 people including 40 Spanish tourists were injured when a passenger bus collided with a car in Dinar Town of western Afyonkarahisar Province on Saturday, Anatolia said.

MNA/Xinhua



Workers with local electric power department repair electricity system damaged by typhoon Saomai in Zherong County, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 13 Aug, 2006.— INTERNET

Brazilian police arrest 30 rigging bids

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 Aug—Brazil's Federal Police on Friday arrested 30 people charged with fraud in bidding for food supply to schools, the Army, and other public institutions.

Those involved in the fraud case included entrepreneurs, civil servants and military personnel, allegedly led by Cristiano da Silva Cordeiro, owner of the food supplying company Big Norte.

Amazonas State Executive Secretary of Finance, Afonso Lobo, was also among the detainees for allowing indebted companies to participate in the biddings.

According to investigations carried out by the Federal Police, the conspiracy involved about 354 million reais (164 million US dollars) over the past six years and the bloc profited 53 million reais (24.5 million dollars) in 2005 alone.

MNA/Xinhua

Police say Brazilian woman hired killer to get son's wife

RIO DE JANEIRO (Brazil), August 13 — Brazilian police have arrested a 52-year-old woman accused of hiring a hitman who kidnapped and killed her daughter-in-law on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro.

A police investigator said on Friday that Solange Viana confessed to ordering the slaying of her daughter-in-law, a 26-year-old schoolteacher, for less than 500 US dollars after investigators told her that her son could go to jail.

"She says she committed the crime because of her sick love for her son. She alleges her son was humiliated in the relationship," said Joel Fernandes, head of homicide investigations in the Vilar dos Teles municipality. Fernandes said the couple had split up but had been trying to re-establish their relationship when the wife was killed.—MNA/Reuters

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Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI SUVIDHA VOY NO (70407)

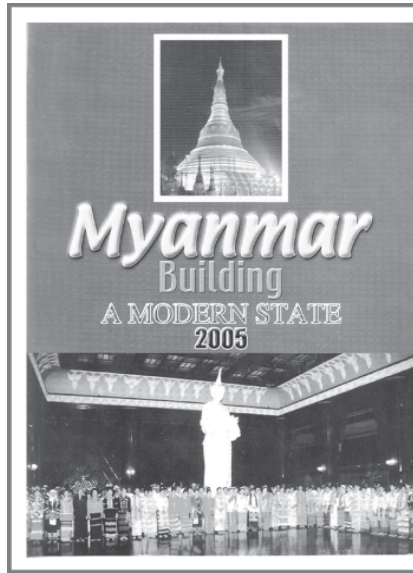
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No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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Mexican police find six murdered in 12 hours

MEXICO CITY, 13 Aug—Mexican police on Friday found the bodies of six murdered people over the past 12 hours, most of them in the state of Mexico, Mexican radio station "Monitor" said.

Most of the killings occurred in Ecatepec, a municipality 20 kilometres from Mexico City, where police found four bodies in a burning car in the Jardines de Casanova neighbourhood.

MNA/Xinhua

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China starts to build largest coal dock in Hebei

SHIJIAZHUANG, 13 Aug — China kicked off on Friday the construction of its largest coal dock in the Caofeidian Port, North China's Hebei Province.

The throughput of the dock is expected to reach 200 million tons, making it an important base of China's coal transmission strategy from north to

south. The first period of the construction project will be completed in 2008 and by then the dock's throughput will be 50

million tons, said Xu Demao, director of Caofeidian Industrial Zone Administration.

The official said the total investment in the project will be over 100 billion yuan (12.5 billion US dollars).

Currently, Hebei has large coal docks in Qinghuangdao Port and Huanghua Port.

MNA/Xinhua



Balinese watch giant gecko kites flying in the sky during an international kite festival held for recovery of Bali tourism in Tanah Lot, Bali, Indonesia, on 12 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET



Tigers play in a pool at a zoo in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu Province on 13 Aug, 2006. Temperature hit a record high at 37 degrees Celsius (99 degrees Fahrenheit) on Sunday in Nanjing, local media reported.—INTERNET

Experimental Merck HIV drug helps control virus

TORONTO, 13 Aug— An experimental HIV drug in a new class called integrase inhibitors helps control the virus well combined with other drugs commonly used in AIDS cocktails, its maker Merck and Co reported on Saturday.

The findings, to be presented at an international AIDS meeting, offer a potential new weapon in the growing armoury of drugs that fight HIV. The drug mixtures can keep HIV patients healthy for years, although they are not a cure.

Merck said the drug, known by its experimental name MK-0518, worked as well as older drugs to suppress the AIDS virus when combined with Gilead Sciences' Tenofovir, known commercially as Viread and GlaxoSmithkline's Lamivudine, sold under the brand name Epivir.

They compared the new drug with a similar cocktail using Bristol Myer Squibb's Efavirenz, sold under the brand names Sustiva and Stocrin. For the study, 198 HIV-infected patients took one or the other mixture for 24 weeks.

Both combinations lower viral load — the amount of the virus be found in blood. Suppressing the virus limits the damage it can do to a patient's immune system.

"This early study showed a rapid and significant reduction in viral load up to 24 weeks with MK-0518," Dr Martin Markowitz of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Centre in New York, who led the study, said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

Colombian airport reopens after false bomb alarm

BOGOTA, 13 Aug— The El Dorado International Airport in Bogota, the capital of Colombia, returned to normal on Friday after a bomb alert that led to a temporary closure of the airport, turned out to be a false alarm, said officials of the airport.

After receiving an anonymous call Friday morning saying that there were explosives in the Civil Aviation Authority Building, the airport was evacuated and shut down.

The call turned out to be a false alarm as police did not find any explosives after careful checking.

The call aimed to cause panic in Colombia after the British authorities thwarted a terror plot to blow up US-bound planes in mid-air, said Andres Botero, manager of the airport.

Pledging a thorough investigation, he said the airport has already boosted security measures by prohibiting any liquids

in carry-on luggage.

On Thursday, British Home Secretary John Reid said Britain had foiled an attempt to detonate explosive devices smuggled aboard as carry-on luggage on midnight flights from Britain to the United States. Twenty-four suspects have been arrested.—MNA/Xinhua

Chinese film producers fined for damaging historic site

BEIJING, 13 Aug — The producers of director Chen Kaige's fantasy movie The Promise have been fined 90,000 yuan for damaging a historic site in Shangrila in the northern part of Yunnan Province. A deputy magistrate of Shangrila county was also fired for his involvement in the production, said sources with the Ministry of Construction here Friday.

The local department of construction criticized the film crew for littering and

destroying vegetation at a scenic nature reserve known as Blue Sky Pond during production in 2004. The ministry ordered local departments to dismantle the temporary structures left by the crew.

Earlier this year the filmmakers were accused of cutting a swath through a field of azalea bushes to make way for an unpaved road. They also left behind piles of rubbish and several structures, including a 13-metre-high steel-framed house.—MNA/Xinhua



A child cools himself by bathing under a fountain in the northern Indian city Chandigarh on 13 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Robin Williams enters alcohol treatment

LOS ANGELES, 13 Aug— Comedian and Oscar-winning actor Robin Williams has entered treatment for alcohol abuse after being sober for 20 years, his publicist said on Wednesday.

Williams, 55, "found himself drinking again" after two decades of sobriety and "has decided to take proactive measures to deal with this for his own well-being and the well-being of his family", spokes-woman Mara Buxbaum said in a statement.

"He asks that you respect his and his family's privacy during this time," she said, adding, "He looks forward to returning to work this fall to support his upcoming film releases."

Besides "The Night Listener", which opened last week and stars Williams as a radio host who becomes involved with a young listener who claims to be a child-abuse victim, the actor has three more movies set to hit theatres this year.

Williams, who once incorporated jokes about his bouts with excessive drinking into his stand-up comedy routines, became a household name as the star of the 1970s sitcom "Mork & Mindy" and went on to a successful film career.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Odemwingie on target as Lille thrash Lens

LILLE, 14 Aug— Peter Odemwingie scored a hat-trick as Lille thrashed 10-man Racing Lens 4-0 on Sunday to go top of Ligue 1.

Lens midfielder Sidi Keita was sent off nine minutes from the interval. Claude Puel's side have six points from two matches and lead second-placed Nancy on goal difference.

Olympique Marseille won their first match at the Stade Velodrome, 2-0 against Stade Rennes courtesy of goals by Mickael Pagis and Toifilou Maoulida.

Midfielder Franck Ribery, who had said he wanted to leave the club before pledging his future to the Provence side, received a warm welcome from the Marseille fans.

Ribery repaid them with a superb performance, culminating in setting up Maoulida six minutes from time for his

team's second goal. Marseille have four points.

Lille, who will play their Champions League matches at Lens' Stade Bollaert if they go through the competition's third qualifying round, opened the scoring after 13 minutes when Mathieu Bodmer headed home a Nicolas Plestan cross.

Odemwingie slalomed through the Lens defence to net from close range shortly after the half hour mark before Keita was sent off for a second yellow card. Odemwingie latched on to a Kader Keita cross to score his second goal of the game after 56 minutes and he completed his hat-trick 10 minutes later, heading home another Keita cross.

MNA/Reuters

Bremen score 3 late goals to beat Hanover

BERLIN, 14 Aug— Bundesliga title aspirants Werder Bremen struck three late goals to snatch a thrilling 4-2 victory at Hanover on Sunday.

Bremen were one of six teams to win on the opening weekend of the league season, including champions Bayern Munich, who beat Borussia Dortmund 2-0 at home on Friday. Germany striker Miroslav Klose and Denmark's Daniel Jensen both scored in the final five minutes after substitute Hugo Almeida headed the equalizer in the 79th to give Bremen, who top-scored with 79 goals last season, the victory. Brazilian newcomer Diego first put Bremen ahead in the 20th minute, robbing Hanover's US defender Steve Cherundolo and slamming his shot past keeper Robert Enke.

Hanover equalized five minutes before the break with Jiri Stajner taking a through ball from Michael Tamat to beat

Bremen's Tim Wiese. Bremen wasted a chance to go in front again when Enke stopped a penalty by Tim Borowski three minutes later. Iran's Vahid Hashemian put Hanover in front in the 67th minute after taking a fine pass from Stajner before Almeida began Bremen's fight-back with his equal-

izer three minutes after coming on for tiring striker Ivan Klasnic.

"It was back and forth all the way," said Bremer coach Thomas Schaaf. "We started well and could have opened a bigger lead."

They put us under pressure in the second half but we

finished strongly."

Bremen, who were the best team at the end of last season with 17 points from their final seven matches to pip Hamburg SV for second place, have made it clear they want to prevent Bayern from winning a third straight championship.

MNA/Reuters



Liverpool players and support staff celebrate winning the Community Shield against Chelsea at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on 13 Aug, 2006.—INTERNET

Pernice takes halfway lead at PGA International

WASHINGTON, 14 Aug— American Tom Pernice, relying on two late birdies, jumped up to a one-point lead at the PGA International when the rain-delayed second round was completed Saturday in Castle Rock, Colorado.

The 46-year-old picked up eight points in all for an overall tally of 19 under the modified Stableford scoring system.

That put him one ahead of compatriot Patrick Sheehan, the overnight leader, and two clear of Canada's Ian Leggatt and Americans Stewart Cink and Duffy Waldorf.

Waldorf, whose last PGA Tour victory came at the 2000 Disney Classic, delivered the best per-

formance of the round, five birdies and an eagle helping him rack up 14 points.

Spaniard Sergio Garcia was tied for sixth on 16 points with US Ryder Cup captain Tom Lehman and fellow Americans Brett Quigley and Jeff

Gove.

Twice US Open champion Retief Goosen, who won last year's title by a point over American Brandt Jobe, was alone in 10th place after a 12-point haul lifted his aggregate to 15.—MNA/Xinhua



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo applauds after their friendly soccer match against Sevilla at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, on 12 August, 2006.

INTERNET

Celtic see off St Mirren

GLASGOW, 14 Aug— Champions Celtic beat promoted St Mirren 2-0 in the Scottish Premier League on Saturday with a goal in each half.

Captain Stephen McManus headed the opener in the 28th minute and Bulgarian midfielder Stilian Petrov grabbed the second to secure the points.

The victory put Celtic on six points from three games but they were soon overtaken by Hearts and Falkirk who played out a 0-0 draw.—MNA/Reuters

Dementieva stops Sharapova in LA Open

WASHINGTON, 14 Aug— Russian Maria Sharapova failed to make the final of the Los Angeles Open here on Saturday following a 7-5, 6-2 loss to fellow Russian Elena Dementieva.

Fresh from last week's Acura Classic title in San Diego, the top seed had been close to her second successive WTA Tour title.

But her opponent was in sharp form from the baseline, pulling off her second victory over Sharapova in seven career meetings and ending a run of eight wins in a row by the world number four.

Sharapova was broken seven times by Dementieva and was forced to save six match points.

MNA/Xinhua



Russia's Maria Sharapova reacts during her loss to compatriot Elena Dementieva in the semi-final of the JPMorgan Chase Open women's tennis tournament in Carson, California, on 12 August, 2006.—INTERNET

Micoud makes stylish Ligue 1 return, Lyon held

PARIS, 14 Aug— Midfielder Johan Micoud made a stylish return to Ligue 1 when Girondins Bordeaux continued their perfect start to the season with a 1-0 win at nine-man Lorient on Saturday.

Bordeaux are joint top with Nancy on six points from two matches after five-times champions Olympique Lyon were held to a 1-1 draw at home by Toulouse. Brazilian striker Fabinho's late equalizer cancelled out Florent Malouda's opener for Lyon.

"The draw is a fair result as we were not as strong as usual," said Lyon coach Gerard Houllier.

Former Werder Bremen playmaker Micoud, who joined Bordeaux in the summer and was suspended for the first match of the season, met a Julien Faubert cross to score the winner on the stroke of halftime.

Promoted Lorient were reduced to 10 men 20 minutes from time when defender Michael Ciani was shown a straight red card for a dangerous tackle on Micoud.

Midfielder Yazid Mansouri suffered the same fate after 85 minutes for another dangerous tackle on Bordeaux striker Marouane Chamakh.

Nancy recorded their second win with a 3-1 home victory over Sedan Ardenne, all three of their goals coming in the last 12 minutes.

Monaco are still without a point as they were beaten 2-1 at home by St Etienne.—MNA/Reuters

Traditional Chinese medicine helpful to bird flu patient

SHENZHEN, 14 Aug — Traditional Chinese medicines have contributed a lot to the recovery of China's latest bird flu patient, said a Chinese medical expert on Saturday.

The patient, sur-named Jiang, 31, was discharged on 2 August from the Donghu Hospital after being treated here for about 50 days, in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province.

During the early period of Jiang's treatment, doctors used a kind of soup made by ginseng, a medicinal herb, to clear toxic heat in his body, said Zhou Boping, head of the hospital.

Hirudo, a medicine in

China, was also used to activate blood circulation against stasis in the second phase, said Zhou.

Other Chinese medicines such as Cordyceps Sinesis, a Chinese caterpillar fungus, were also used to promote the function of lungs, according to Zhou.

The use of traditional Chinese medicines worked well along with other forms of treatment, said Zhou, also head of the medical team of ex-

perts for treating Jiang.

On 15 June, the Ministry of Health confirmed that Jiang had contracted the H5N1 strain of avian influenza. Jiang was sent to the Donghu Hospital on 9 June.

Jiang had been to a local market where live poultry was sold several times before developing symptoms of fever and pneumonia on 3 June. He was critically ill when he got to hospital, and many internal organs showed

signs of failure and his lungs were severely infected by different kinds of anti-drug virus, according to Zhou.

MNA/Xinhua

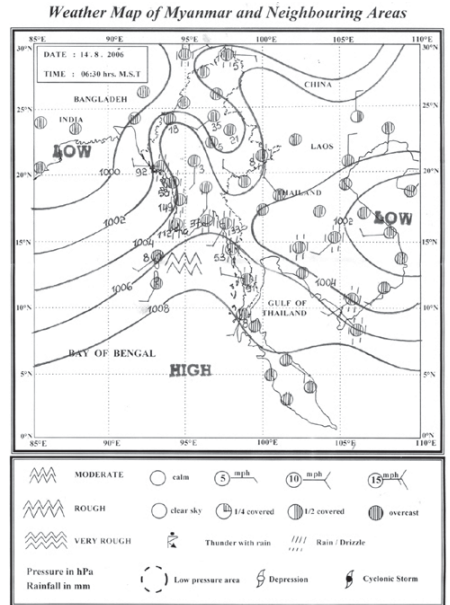
First Encyclopedia of Singapore launched

SINGAPORE, 14 Aug — A book named *Encyclopedia of Singapore*, said to be the first of its kind in the country, has been launched here by the Singapore Heritage Society, Channel NewsAsia report said Saturday.

Written by Justin Corfield, an Australian scholar whose mother is a Singaporean, the book includes an A to Z of Singapore's history, politics, people and culture.

Also launched was a book called *Singapore's Firsts*, which records some 300 milestone events happened here ranging from Singapore's first a capella group to its first zoo, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Monday, 14 August, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been scattered in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States and isolated heavyfalls in Kayin State, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (8.31) inches, Thandwe (6.06) inches, Hpa-an (5.71) inches, Thaton (5.55) inches, Pathein (5.00) inches, Myeik (4.57) inches, Ye (3.19) inches and Minbu (0.59) inch.

Maximum temperature on 13-8-2006 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 14-8-2006 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 14-8-2006 was (96%). Total sunshine hours on 13-8-2006 was nil.

Rainfalls on 14-8-2006 were (1.49) inches at Mingaladon, (1.45) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.30) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (66.10) inches at Mingaladon, (78.50) inches at Kaba-Aye and (82.24) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (12) mph from Southwest at (16:30) hours MST on 13-8-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 15-8-2006: Rain will be scattered in Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan, Kayah and Chin States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in 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 15-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-8-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-8-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Tourists visit the Labrang Monastery in Xiahe, western China's Gansu Province on 13 August, 2006. — INTERNET



TV Myanmar

Tuesday, 15 August
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:50 am</p> <p>5. ကဗျာပန်းညွှာညွှာ ၈</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. Song of yesteryears</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. ထပ်ဆင့်အောင်ပွဲ ရောဝတီ တံတား (ဒေးဒရဲ)</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p>	<p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Let's Go</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial songs</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ အမှတ်(၃) အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ပဉ္စမ အကြိမ် ဓမ္မကြာဝတ်ရတ် ပူဇော်ပွဲ(ပထမဆုံး)(အထက-၁ လသာ) (အမျိုးသားဝတ်ရတ် အဖွဲ့)</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. အဆောင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ၃ တီယနစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. Dance of national races</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. ခံစားနားဆင် တေးဇာတ်ဝင်</p> <p>5:25 pm</p> <p>7. "တန်ဖိုး" (ညီညီနောင်နောင်လှိုင်ဖြူဖြူထွန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်)</p> <p>5:30 am</p> <p>8. Sing and Enjoy</p>	<p>6:00 pm</p> <p>9. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>10. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>11. ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအနုပညာစုံစုံရာ ဘုရားအာနန္ဒာ</p> <p>6:50 am</p> <p>12. The mirror images of the musical oldies</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>13. ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ် (၁၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊အရေး၊အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (မဟာဂီတ) (အခြေခံပညာ ၁၅-၁၀နှစ်) (အမျိုးသား/အမျိုးသမီး)</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "စူလိုင်နီနီနီနီ" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>15. News</p> <p>16. International news</p> <p>17. Weather report</p> <p>18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သူအိမ်မက်လှလှ" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)</p> <p>19. The next day's programme</p>
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Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 15 August

Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music: -Looking for love

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music: -Perfect girl

8:50 am National news & Slogan

9:00 am Music: -Rainbow theme

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music: -Get the party started

1:30 pm News & Slogan

1:40pm Lunch time music -Touch of heaven -New kids in town -Follow you, follow me -Sing your name

9:00pm English Speaking Course Level (): Unit ()

9:10 pm Article

9:20pm Weekly sport reel:

9:30pm Music for your listening pleasure -High enough -Love is on the way -Forever love

9:45 pm News & Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

Industry-1 Minister calls for production of import substitute machinery



Industry-1 Minister U Aung Thaung inspects production of Ceramic and Steel Wares Factory in Kyaukse. — INDUSTRY-1

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Aug — Chairman of Myanma Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung called for more production of import substitute machinery on his tour of Mandalay Industrial Zone yesterday.

The minister

went to Mandalay Industrial Zone yesterday and inspected machinery spare parts and machines produced at the zone.

The minister also inspected an iron foundry and Machine Shop No 2 in the zone.

Vehicles including 10-wheel and 12-wheel trucks are in pro-

duction at the zone. Minister U Aung Thaung viewed the demonstration of paddy husk powered engines and gas powered generators.

Minister U Aung Thaung also went to a pharmaceutical factory of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries in Kyaukse and inspected production of

intravenous fluid and installation of machinery at the factory.

Afterwards, the minister proceeded to the Ceramic and Steel Wares Factory of Myanma General and Maintenance In-

Objectives of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

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

dustries and inspected the factory's production. Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minis-

ter U Aung Thaung later met with USDA members at Wundwin Township's USDA office and gave instructions. — MNA

Weather Forecast for (15-8-2006)

- Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas**
Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).
- Yangon and neighbouring areas**
Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).
- Mandalay and neighbouring areas**
Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Electrical engineers' offices, sub-power station construction projects inspected in Bago Division

YANGON, 13 Aug — Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with responsible personnel went on an inspection tour of Pyu on 11 August.

At the briefing hall of Pyu Township Electrical Engineer's Office, the minister met with staff in the township and heard reports on strength of staff, duty assignments and collecting of electricity bills presented by the township electrical engineer.

Next, the minister instructed the staff to collect electricity bills without off-days.

Afterwards, the minister and party arrived at Kyaukdaga Township Electrical Engineer's Office. The township electrical engineer reported to the minister on power dis-

tribution.

Upon arrival at Nyaunglebin Township Electrical Engineer's Office. The township electrical engineer reported to the minister on power distribution, strength of staff and electricity bills.

The minister and party proceeded to DaikU Township Electrical Engineer's Office.

The township electrical engineer reported to the minister on power distribution, strength of staff and electricity bills.

In connection with the reports, the minister instructed the staff to make all-out efforts for the realization of the objectives of the ministry.

MNA

Minister inspects approach road to Ponnyataung Tunnel

YANGON, 13 Aug—Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min on 11 August met with members of the Union Solidarity and Development Associations and social organizations and local people at Kyaw Station under Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay Railroad construction project when he inspected the approach road to the Ponnyataung Tunnel.

Accompanied by Chairman of Gangaw District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Hla

Swe and officials, the minister looked into progress in laying of rail tracks along the Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay Railroad.

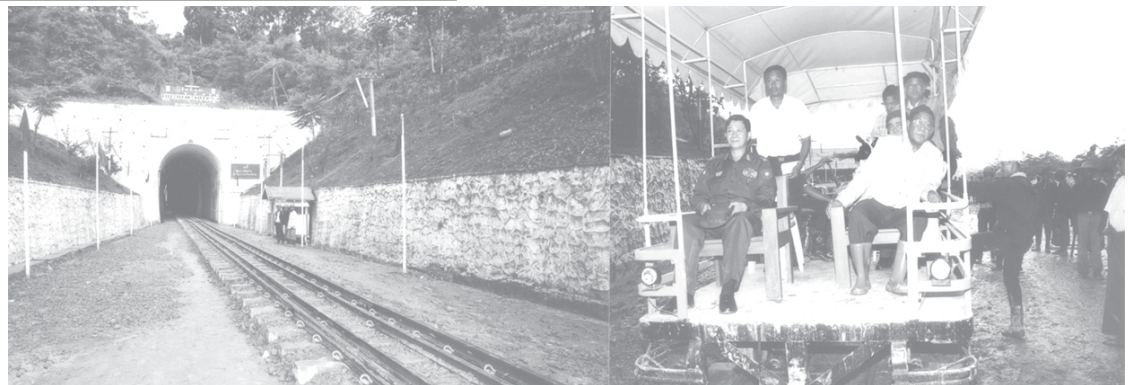
Taking the MRGC, the minister and party inspected progress in laying of rails in the tunnel and presented snacks to staff members and local people.

At the briefing hall, officials reported on progress of work in laying of rails in the tunnel and future tasks to the minister who fulfilled the needs.

Next, the minister gave instructions on timely completion of the work, minimizing the loss and wastage of fuel and work, minimizing the loss and wastage of fuel and worksite safety.

On 12 August morning, the minister inspected the earth work being carried out along the approach road and stressed the importance for officials concerned to exert relentless efforts for timely completion of the project.

MNA



Rail Transportation Minister Maj-Gen Aung Min inspects railroads in Ponnyataung Tunnel.

MYANMA RAILWAYS