

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVI, Number 95

5th Waning of Waso 1370 ME

Tuesday, 22 July, 2008

Senior General Than Shwe attends ceremony to plant 28 Sacred trees and 108 Sacred Bo trees in Sacred Garden



Senior General Than Shwe plants a Sacred tree at No. 1 place of the compound of Upatasanti Pagoda.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July — A ceremony to plant 28 Sacred trees and 108 Sacred Bo trees in the Sacred Garden in the compound of Upatasanti Pagoda to be built here was held on the hilllock where the pagoda is to be built this morning, attended by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-

Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe. Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, member of the SPDC General Thura

Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, members of the SPDC, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers
(See page 8)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 22 July, 2008

Strive for the people to be free from all forms of diseases

The government has laid down and is implementing the 30-year long-term national health programme in order to effectively carry out health care services of the people.

For the people to live long and be free from all forms of diseases, the health care services of the entire people are being carried out nation-wide.

In that regard, more health infrastructures are being built the length and breadth of the nation including border areas.

Meanwhile, the government opened more universities of medicine and health related universities so as to be able to produce qualified human resources in the medical field, while striving for medical science to keep pace with changes and developments.

Considering the control of common diseases as a national concern, the government is taking systematic measures in control of such common diseases as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and the like.

The government is enlisting the help of relevant departments, social organizations and authorities concerned in confronting those diseases, and is cooperating with NGOs and INGOs including WHO in preventing the spread of diseases.

As steps are being taken for the national people to be fit and healthy those from the medical fields are actively participating in the drive by doing their bit.

At a time when more and more health infrastructures are being built for the people to live long and be free from all forms of diseases, we firmly believe that the health standard of the people will surely improve.

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Forestry Ministry grows monsoon trees

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July—Ministry of Forestry organized a monsoon tree growing ceremony at the ministry this morning, attended by Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Directors-General, Managing-Directors, the rector, Deputy Directors-General, pro rectors of departments and enterprises.

The minister grew Gangaw tree and enjoyed the ceremony. A total number of 548 trees including Gangaw, Padauk, ironwood, star-flower trees were grown in the ceremony.—MNA



Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung grows a Gangaw tree at the ceremony.—MNA

Deputy Foreign Minister receives personnel of UNICEF



Deputy Foreign Minister U Kyaw Thu receives Director of Emergency Operations of UNICEF Mr Louis Georges Arsenault.—MNA

YANGON, 21 July—Chairman of Tripartite Core Group (TCG) Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu received Director of Emergency Operations of UNICEF based in New York Mr Louis Georges Arsenault at the ministry this morning.

Also present was the resident representative of UNICEF.

MNA



U Hla Soe, Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, receiving donation of VSVP Trust for enhancement of Yangon Division Sports on 21 July.—H

Hindu Association to hold collective Waso robe offering ceremony

YANGON, 21 July—A ceremony to donate a day's meal and Waso robes to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaws and 472 monks from State Pariyatti Sasana University, organized by Sanantana Dhamma-palaka Hindu Association, will be held at Mogok Swansakyaung on Kaba Aye Hill at 9 am on 3 August 2008.

Hindu families

wishing to donate Waso robes and meals may contact Patron U Kyi Min (Tel-525162), U Soe Win (Tel-242751), U Tun Lin (Tel-095182379, Shri Sarvan Kumar Bajoria Ji

(Tel-095108541), Shri RK Ananda Ji (Tel-095000453) and Shri TK Paul Ji (Tel-245605).

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

Dwarf planet near Pluto named Makemake

WASHINGTON, 21 July—A dwarf planet orbiting beyond Neptune has been designated the third plutoid in the solar system and given the name Makemake, the International Astronomical Union said on Saturday.

The red methane-covered dwarf planet formerly known as 2005 FY9 or “Easterbunny” is named after a Polynesian creator of humanity and god of fertility.

Just last month the IAU, which names planets and other heavenly bodies, decided to create a new class of sub-planets called plutoids.

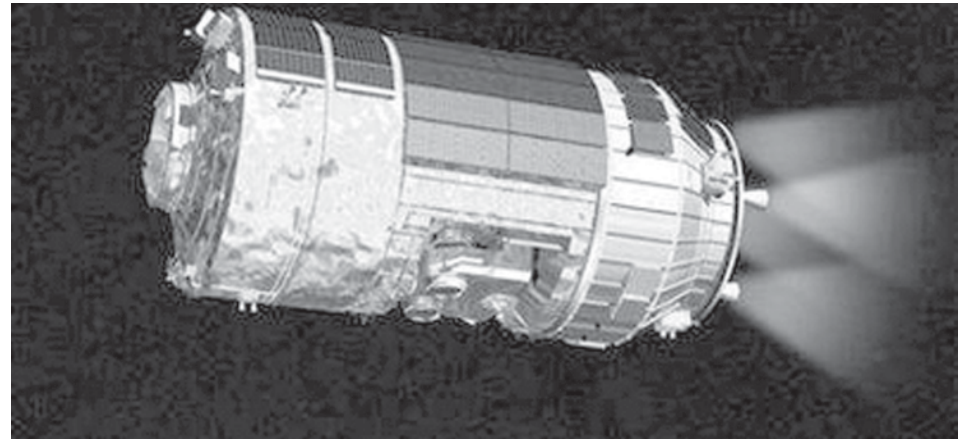
Pluto, demoted from planet status, and Eris are the other two plutoids. A fourth dwarf planet named Ceres has been excluded from the plutoid club because it orbits in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Makemake is just slightly smaller and dimmer than Pluto and was only discovered in 2005.

“The orbit is not particularly strange, but the object itself is big, probably about two-thirds the size of Pluto,” said Mike Brown of the California Institute of Technology, who discovered and named Makemake (pronounced MAH-keh MAH-keh).

It was the discovery of these trans-Neptunian objects that led the IAU to re-designate just what it meant to be a planet.

Brown said the name came to him when he was looking for a mythological god and thought of the South Pacific’s Easter Island. Makemake was the chief god among people who settled the island.—*Internet*



A Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) H-2 Transfer Vehicle (HTV) is pictured in this undated handout illustration. —INTERNET

NASA eyes buying Japan’s cargo spacecraft

TOKYO, 21 July—NASA has begun unofficial negotiations with Japan’s space agency on purchasing units of an unmanned cargo transfer spacecraft as the successor to its space shuttles, the *Yomiuri* newspaper said on Sunday.

Such a deal would be the biggest in Japan’s 50-year space development history, the paper added.

The H-2 Transfer

Vehicle (HTV), which costs about 14 billion yen (\$131 million) each, is being developed by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and domestic companies including Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd and Mitsubishi Electric Corp, the *Yomiuri* said.

Behind the move is NASA’s concern that the retirement of its space shuttles in 2010 will make

it difficult for the US to fulfill its responsibilities to deliver water, food and materials for scientific experiments to the International Space Station, the paper said.

Japan’s HTV, which is capable of carrying a maximum of six tonnes of cargo, will be introduced next autumn, and the spacecraft will be launched at the rate of one per year, the paper said.—*Internet*

Guinea-Bissau drugs plane seized



BISSAU, 21 July—Guinea-Bissau police say they have arrested the head of air traffic control at the country’s main airport after seizing a plane carrying cocaine.

Reports said there was a standoff at the airport when soldiers tried to stop police searching the aircraft, said to contain

500kg (1,102lb) of the drug.

The plane’s three-man Venezuelan crew was arrested on Saturday on suspicion of smuggling cocaine.

Correspondents say Guinea-Bissau is a major hub for drugs gangs moving cocaine from Latin America to Europe.

It is estimated that the volume of cocaine moved through Guinea-Bissau in 2007 was worth more than its entire national income. Other West African countries are also being affected as traffickers seek new routes to smuggle South American cocaine into Europe.

Police forces in the region lack the resources to combat powerful and well-organized drugs gangs.

Internet

Questions surround deaths of Iraqi governor’s kin

BAGHDAD, 21 July—US forces killed two relatives of a local Iraqi governor in northern Iraq on Sunday. The dead were identified by the US military as members of al Qaeda in Iraq.

But a local police official said the two males—the governor’s 16-year old son and the teen’s cousin—were “executed” as they headed to morning prayers in Baiji, located north of Baghdad in Salaheddin province.

That police official, Lt Col Saad al-Qaisi, is also the governor’s brother.

The US military disputed al-Qaisi’s account, saying its forces captured a wanted al Qaeda in Iraq financier during a pre-dawn raid in Baiji. The military said the wanted man was wounded in the raid but later died of injuries at a military medical facility.

A second armed man was also killed in the raid, the military said.

In a statement, the military said its forces perceived “hostile intent” and acted “in self defense during the operation.”

Al-Qaisi said his

nephew Hussam Hamad al-Qaisi and Badri Khalaf Issa walked out of a house next door to the building that was being raided by the US military at around 3:30 am. He said the young men “were taken and executed” by the military.

He denied the military’s claim that the two young men were members of al Qaeda in Iraq, saying it would be highly unlikely any son of a provincial governor would be working for the Sunni militant group.

Internet

21 confirmed dead in Guatemala landslides



Twenty-one people were confirmed dead Sunday in a rural community in the northwest of Guatemala in a landslide triggered by heavy rains, Guatemalan media reported.

INTERNET

GUATEMALA, 21 July—Twenty-one people were confirmed killed Sunday in landslides triggered by heavy rains in a rural community in eastern Guatemala, local media reported.

According to information reaching here from Guatemala City, landslides brought down tons of mud and rocks on a village near La Union city in Zacapa province, burying at least 21 people.

Among the dead were 12 from the same family who were trapped

inside their house by the landslide, said La Union Mayor Francisco Salguero. Rescue teams had not been able to reach the accident site till midday on Sunday, Salguero told a local radio station. Downpours in the previous weeks have led to many landslides, destroying houses, bridges and highways, including one leading to the La Union village, he said. Several families have been evacuated to safe places including pro-visional shelters set up by the

government.

The city of La Union, which borders Honduras and is located some 220 km northeast of Guatemala City, has a population of 25,000 and is one of the poorest areas in the central American country.

Persistent rains since June across large swathes of Guatemala have caused a ‘yellow’ alert in the country, where 78 people have died in various disasters triggered by heavy rains since the beginning of the year.—*Internet*

100 months to save the planet

LONDON, 21 July—A “Green New Deal” is needed to solve current problems of climate change, energy and finance, a report argues.

According to the Green New Deal Group, humanity only has 100 months to prevent dangerous global warming.

Its proposals include major investment in renewable energy and the creation of thousands of

new “green collar” jobs.

The name is taken from President Franklin D Roosevelt’s “New Deal”, launched 75 years ago to bring the US out of the Great Depression.

The new grouping says rising greenhouse gas emissions, combined with escalating food and energy costs, mean the globe is facing one of its biggest crises since the 1930s.

Its members include former Friends of the

Earth UK director Tony Juniper, Green MEP Caroline Lucas and Andrew Simms, policy director of the New Economics Foundation (nef).

In an article, Mr Simms warns that the combination of the current credit crunch, rising energy prices and accelerating emissions are “conspiring to create the perfect storm”.

Internet



Spanish police examine the damage to a Red Cross beach hut shortly after the second of two explosions in Laredo, northern Spain, on 20 July, 2008.—INTERNET

US obesity epidemic continues to grow

WASHINGTON, 21 July — Despite wide-ranging efforts to encourage Americans to lose weight, the number of US adults who are obese increased almost 2 percent between 2005 and 2007, a new report found.

In 2007, 25.6 percent of adults reported being obese, compared to 23.9 percent in 2005, according to the finding in the July 18 issue of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

The percentage of adults who are obese varies by state and region,



A woman rides the back of a motorcycle in the middle of a heavy traffic jam.

INTERNET according to the report.

For example, in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee, 30 percent of the residents reported being obese, compared with

18.7 percent in Colorado, which had the lowest prevalence of obesity.

Obesity was most prevalent in the South, with 27 percent of residents classified as obese.

In the Midwest, the number was 25.3 percent; in the Northeast, 23.3 percent; and in the West, 22.1 percent, according to the report.

In terms of age, among those 50 to 59 years old, 31.7 percent of men and 30.2 percent of women were obese.

For those 19 to 29, 19.1 percent of men and women were obese.

Internet

Bronze cannon from ship that sank 140 years ago found in Alaska waters

ANCHORAGE, (Alaska), 21 July— Divers have recovered a bronze cannon from a ship that sank in Cook Inlet 140 years ago, according to Alaska’s State Historic Preservation Office.

The cannon was recovered from the wooden sailing bark *Torrent*.

Such small, lightweight field artillery pieces were first produced in 1837.

They were used by both Union and

Confederate troops in the Civil War, and used by the US in battles with American Indians.

On 15 July, 1868 the *Torrent* sank after a strong tidal current carried it into a reef. All those on board reached shore, but the vessel and its contents were lost. The *Torrent* shipwreck site has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.—*Internet*



Hot air balloons begin their ascent as part of the Western Pennsylvania Balloon Quest and fair in New Castle, Pa, on 19 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Man beats child’s head on Rome monument

ROME, 21 July — A man beat his 4-year-old daughter’s head against the stone base of a Rome monument in front of tourists and a police officer, leaving the child in a coma, police said Sunday.

Carabinieri Lt Col Antonello Casarsa said the man, identified as Frenchman Julien Monnet, 37, repeatedly struck the head of his daughter, Luna,

against the stone of the Altar of the Nation — a towering monument to Italy’s war victims in Rome’s Piazza Venezia — after a traffic officer asked to see some identification.

After the man was blocked by passers-by, he tried to break loose and strike his own head against the monument base, but onlookers stopped him, Casarsa said.

The man’s backpack contained medicine indicating he was undergoing psychiatric treatment, Casarsa said.

The mother was vacationing in Turkey, and was flying to Rome after being called by police.

The woman told police she believed Monnet and the girl were still in France and had no idea they had traveled to Rome, Casarsa said.—*Internet*

Two genes may prevent HIV infection

CHICAGO, 21 July— Scientists have isolated two genes which may prevent people from contracting HIV or at least slow the rate at which they develop AIDS, a new study has found.

The genes were isolated by comparing the genetic profiles of people in their first year of HIV infection with those who managed to resist infection despite repeated exposure to the virus.

The “good” versions



A volunteer health worker retrieves blood sample for an HIV-AIDS detection test on a patient.—INTERNET

of the two genes were present in 12.2 percent of those who resisted infection compared with only 2.7 of patients in primary

HIV infection.

Researchers are not yet sure how this protection works. One of the genes codes for a receptor on the surface of the immune system’s natural killer cells which destroy infected cells in the body.

The other codes for a protein which binds the first gene and dampens the natural killer cell activity.

The most likely explanation is that HIV prevents the protein that dampens the killer cell activity from being expressed, allowing the killer cells to destroy cells infected with HIV.

Internet

Audi to launch sports car R8 in India

MUMBAI, 21 July — German automaker Audi would launch its acclaimed sports car R8 in India in October-November this year, the *Business Standard*, a leading business newspaper, reported on its website Monday.

“We will launch R8 in October-November in the last quarter of this year. We already have the first order (in India)”, Audi India’s Vice-President, Martin Birkner, said at Bangalore recently.

Audi sold 350 cars in India 2007 calendar year and has a target to nearly triple that number, mainly driven by A4 sedan that it launched in India this month.

“As we target sales of 1,000 cars in India by the end of this year, the new Audi A4 will be a crucial product to help us achieve this goal”, Birkner said.

The Audi model range in India is: A8, Q7, A6, A4 and TT. —*Internet*

Venezuela launches new child care programme

CARACAS, 21 July — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has announced the launch of a new child care social programme designed to assist children in situations of risk or separation from their families.

Chavez announced the three-step social program at a ceremony here to mark the annual National Day

for Children and Teenagers, observed on the third Sunday of July.

For the first nine-month step, Chavez has approved a budget of over 122 million US dollars.

Investments during the nine-month period in the child care sector covers the implementation of a national plan to designate substitute families for 250

children, the construction of 10 shelters for 300 children and the construction of communal houses for 2,400 children in situations of risk arising from their living environment.

The program also covers correctional facilities for of 540 children and therapeutic treatment for teenaged drug abusers.

Internet



A policeman inspects the site of a roadside bomb attack in Baghdad on 20 July, 2008. The attack which targeted a police patrol wounded four persons including two policemen, police said.—INTERNET

West Nile virus twice found

BROOKLINE, 21 July— On 11 July and again on 15 July, the state Department of Public Health found that mosquitoes pulled from a catch basin near Route 9 and Cypress Street were carrying West Nile virus.

The virus has been detected in Brookline in each of the past eight summers, and the town Health Department is again advising residents to cover up or use DEET—containing repellent if outside at dawn or dusk; remove standing water and fix water leaks; and repair window screens.

Mosquitoes become infected by feeding on infected birds, and then pass on the virus by biting humans.—Internet



Mrs Southeast of Arkansas, Laine Eden Berry, 35, was crowned Mrs International 2008 on Saturday at the 23rd Annual Mrs International Pageant in Skokie, Ill.—INTERNET

Drought threatens drinking water for a million Australians

BEIJING, 21 July— Available drinking water supplies plummeted to record lows in Australia

and up to a million people could face a shortage of drinking water if the drought continues in this

country, a report on the nation's largest river system revealed on Sunday.

The report said the situation was critical in the Murray-Darling system, which provides water to the country's main food bowl. There was a rapid deterioration of water between March and June this year.

However, the report said work was continuing to remedy the river, including water-sharing agreements between states, to protect critical water needs for the next year if the drought persisted.

Governments would also need to consider how to allocate water early to protect "critical human needs" for 2009-10, the report said.

Internet

A customer looks at a computer in Beijing's newly-opened Apple computer store on 19 July, 2008.—INTERNET

USAF's B-52 bomber with six crew members crashes off Guam

WASHINGTON, 21 July — A B-52 bomber with six crew members aboard crashed off the island of Guam and two people have been pulled from the waters, the US media reported on Monday.

An AP report quoted

the Coast Guard as saying that the condition of the two who have been recovered was not immediately known.

The crash took place about 40 km northwest of Apra Harbor and is the second for the Air Force

this year on Guam, the report quoted unnamed officials as saying.

Rescue crews from the Navy, Coast Guard and local fire department are searching for the others, the report said.

Internet



Volunteers keep themselves cool at a rhythmic fountain in front of the Olympic National Stadium, known as Bird's Nest in Beijing, China, on 20 July, 2008.

INTERNET

Nurse gave wrong woman abortion

EDGBASTON (UK), 21 July—A nurse who gave a chemical abortion to a patient who had only come for a consultation has been cautioned.

Ann Downer, based at the Calthorpe Clinic in Edgbaston, Birmingham, failed to check the woman's personal details before giving her the drug.

The woman was recalled when Ms Downer realised her mistake but the drug had already taken effect.

The Nursing and Midwifery Council said she could keep her job but would have a caution on her record for three years.—Internet

Tropical storm Dolly heads for Mexico's Yucatan

BEIJING, 21 July — The Atlantic hurricane season's fourth named storm, Dolly, headed for Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula on Sunday unleashing heavy rains and winds.

At 7 pm CDT Sunday, the center of Dolly was located about 125 miles southeast of Cozumel, Mexico, moving northwest at 22 mph, according to the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Forecasts called for the storm to make landfall near on the Yucatan Peninsula early Monday.

Internet



Iraq's Sunni Arab bloc rejoins government

BAGHDAD, 21 July — Iraq's main Sunni Arab bloc rejoined the Shi'ite-led government on Saturday in a breakthrough for national reconciliation after Parliament approved its candidates for several vacant ministerial posts.

"Today, Parliament voted to accept our candidates ... This means the Accordance Front has officially returned to the

government," the bloc's spokesman, Salim al-Jubouri, told *Reuters* after the vote.

"It is a real step forward for political reform."

Getting the Front to return after it quit the Cabinet a year ago in a row over power sharing has been seen as key to healing divisions between majority Shiites and minority Sunni Arabs.

Sunni Arabs have little voice in the current cabinet, which is dominated by Shiites and ethnic Kurds.

Parliament questioned candidates for 10 vacant Cabinet jobs, including five ministries and a deputy prime ministerial post that had previously been allocated to the Accordance Front.

The other portfolios were left largely vacant when separate Shiite and secular factions quit Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's government last year. They will be filled by politicians from other parties. — *MNA/Reuters*



Tourists look out over the empty Lake Delton on 15 July, 2008, in Lake Delton, Wis. In a bizarre disaster-in-reverse, torrential rains in June blew a giant hole in Lake Delton's shoreline. The lake drained away, taking vacation homes with it and leaving behind a muddy moonscape of stumps and puddles.—INTERNET



A woman takes photos of an art installation at GLOW in Santa Monica, California on 19 July, 2008. GLOW, an all-night festival inspired by the Nuit Blanche in Paris, showcases art and entertainment activities on the beach and the pier of the city.—INTERNET

Barack Obama visits Iraq, focus on war strategy

BAGHDAD, 21 July — US Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama flew into Baghdad on Monday, officials said, thrusting US strategy in Iraq and troop levels to the centre-stage of the November election race.

Obama has called for the removal of US combat troops from Iraq within 16 months of taking office should he win the election. He visited Afghanistan over the weekend, the other big foreign policy challenge the next American president will face.

Obama has come under

attack from Republican candidate John McCain for not making a recent visit to assess conditions in Iraq, where violence is at a four-year low. McCain has been to Iraq eight times while Obama's only other trip was in 2006.

The US Embassy said Obama, who is visiting Iraq as part of a US

congressional delegation, would meet senior Iraqi officials and US military commanders.

Seeking to boost his foreign policy credentials, Obama will travel to other countries in the Middle East and also visit major powers in Europe this week.

MNA/Reuters

Fighting flares in Pakistan's Baluchistan; 43 killed

QUETTA (Pakistan), 21 July — Forty-three people were killed in clashes between security forces and militants in a part of Pakistan's southwestern Province of Baluchistan where nationalist insurgents have been active, local media reported on Monday.

The News newspaper reported that 33 of the dead were militants and nine were members of the paramilitary Frontier Corps in the fighting on Sunday in the Dera Bugti area.

The report, sourced to unnamed paramilitary officials, said more than two dozen militants were captured and a large

weapons cache was found.

It said security forces were on high alert in Dera Bugti and Sui, the hub for Pakistan's biggest gas field, where ethnic Baluch nationalists have been waging a campaign for greater autonomy.

MNA/Reuters

Swiss optimistic ahead of WTO talks

GENEVA, 21 July — Swiss Economics Minister Doris Leuthard expressed confidence on Sunday that a ministerial meeting in Geneva this week aimed at concluding global trade talks would be successful.

The gathering of more than 30 trade ministers will attempt to make a breakthrough in the so-called Doha Round, which calls for cuts to tariffs and subsidies that constrain exports but has stumbled so far on sensitive issues such as agriculture.

MNA/Xinhua

Brown says no timetable for withdrawal from Iraq

BAGHDAD, 21 July — British Prime Minister Gordon Brown said on Saturday that his country wants to cut its troops in Iraq without setting a timetable for their withdrawal.

"Our intention is to reduce our troop numbers but I am not going to give an artificial timetable for the moment," Brown told reporters after meeting with his Iraqi counterpart Nuri al-Maliki.

"Our test is that how we are meeting the objectives that we have set and what progress can we show?" he said.

Earlier in the day, Brown made an unannounced visit to Baghdad to meet Iraqi top leaders. A statement by the Iraqi Government said earlier that Brown will meet Iraqi leaders, including his

counterpart Maliki, to discuss bilateral relations along with studying the future of the British troops presence in Iraq's southern city of Basra.

Saturday's visit is the third for Brown since taking over from Tony Blair as Prime Minister on 27 June, 2008.

MNA/Xinhua

Storm "Cristobal" forms off US "Bertha" weakens

MIAMI, 21 July — The third tropical storm of the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season, Cristobal, formed off the US East Coast on Saturday, with gale-force winds and heavy rains expected to lash the Carolinas as the storm grazes the shoreline on a northeasterly path.

Hurricane Bertha, meanwhile, finally weakened over cool Atlantic waters but a strong tropical wave south of Jamaica was expected to develop into a depression — the precursor to a storm — as it headed toward Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and the oil rigs of the Gulf of Mexico beyond.

MNA/Reuters



Afghan prisoners stand in line before entering Afghanistan after their deportation from Pakistan at the border post of Chaman on 20 July, 2008. Pakistan handed over 100 prisoners to Afghan authorities, Pakistan border authorities said. INTERNET

Sayadaws to deliver sermons at Botahtaung Pagoda on 25 July

YANGON, 21 July — Sayadaws will deliver sermons at Botahtaung Kyaikdayup Pagoda on 25 July.

Devotees can receive the Nine-Precepts from Bhaddanta Wapulla, Presiding Sayadaw of Shweyinmyaw Monastery in Seikkan

Township at the pagoda at 10 am on 25 July.

State Ovadacarira Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Pandita Vinaya Paragu Bhaddanta Narinda Bhivamsa, Presiding Sayadaw of Phayaphyu Monastery and Joint Secretary of State Sangha

Maha Nayaka Dwipitakadhara Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nimala, Presiding Sayadaw of Kyauktongyi Monastery in Katha Township will deliver sermons at the same venue at 12.30 pm and 3 pm the same day respectively.

H

Ceremony to release Post-Nargis Joint Assessment Report held

YANGON, 21 July— Under the supervision of Tripartite Core Group (TCG) of (ASEAN-Government of Myanmar-the United Nations), a ceremony to pass the release of Post-Nargis Joint Assessment Report on the needs for post-cyclone relief and reconstruction was held at Park Royal Hotel, here this evening.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of TCG Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, members of TCG, officials of working groups under TCG, Foreign Ambassadors to Myanmar, foreign diplomats, the Resident Representative of UNDP, the United Nations

Resident Coordinator, Representatives of NGO and INGOs, heads of departments and guests.

First Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, Ambassador of Singapore and Senior ASEAN Member of TCG Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong, United Nations Resident Coordinator and Member of the TCG Mr Bishow Parajuli and Mr Nikolas Win Myint of United Nations Resident Representative Office and UNHCR Coordinator Office made clarifications on efforts made for releasing PONJA-Report.

Next, the Deputy Minister and officials replied to the queries raised by those present. The similar ceremony to release PONJA-Report

was held simultaneously in Singapore at 6 pm Singapore Local Time during the 41st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.

Over 250 personnel from Government of Myanmar, United Nations and NGOs participated in the Orientation and Training Programme to be able to compile and distribute the report on 2 and 3 June 2008. Next, the PONJA teams collected data on the damages and losses of 30 cyclone affected townships of Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions from 10 to 19 June. Depending upon assessed collection of data, experts from the Union of Myanmar, the United Nations and ASEAN compiled the present report.

After the ceremony, copies of PONJA Report were distributed to ministries concerned, embassies based in Yangon, the UN organizations and related agencies and other NGO and INGOs.

MNA

Flood Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July — The water level of Ayeyawady river at Hinthada has exceeded by 10 cm (about 0.3 ft) above its danger level. However, the water level is falling

by 0.8 cm/hr at present and it is forecast to fall below the danger level of Hinthada 1342 cm during the next 24 hours commencing today.

MNA

Deputy Foreign Minister U Kyaw Thu delivers an address at the official announcement of PONJA-Report.

MNA

Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

1. Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
2. Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
3. Keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic
4. Turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character

Sayadaw arrives back from Australia



Tawya TatU Sayadaw arrives back in Yangon.—H

YANGON, 21 July — The Presiding Sayadaw of Tawya TatU Monastery in Insein Township arrived back here on 17 July from Australia after his missionary trip.

At the invitation of the

laypersons in Australia, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Saddhamma Kittisara had delivered sermons in Australia from 14 June to 16 July.

The Sayadaw will teach ways of insight

meditation at 116th 10-day meditation camp from 19 to 29 July at the monastery in Insein. Over 870 persons are practising meditation during the camp.

H

International relief aids continuously flow to Yangon Airport

YANGON, 21 July—The international community has providing relief aids to storm-hit areas. Relief supplies weighing 60.038 tons donated by Thai-based WFP arrived at Yangon International Airport today.—MNA



Vice-Senior General Maung Aye plants a sacred tree at No. 2 place in the compound of Upatasanti Pagoda.

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein plants a sacred tree at No. 4 place in the compound of Upatasanti Pagoda.—MNA

SKY, KKS win championship trophies in Horizon League Basketball tournament

YANGON, 21 July— The final matches of the Horizon League Basketball tournament for 2007-08 jointly organized by Myanmar Basketball Federation and Horizon Sports Academy were held at the Kyaikkasan Gymnasium yesterday.

In the women's events, SKY won over Kandawgalay with 74-60 points and the SKY was unbeaten in seven matches.

In the men's events, KKS passed through Blue Boy with 68-54 points and KKS was unbeaten in 18 matches.

Acting Principal U Khin Maung Kyaw of the Sports and Physical Institute and officials presented prizes to the players of the first, second and third teams individually. Next, Managing Director Mr Murat of Horizon International presented gifts to General Secretary of MBF U Maung Maung Myint.

Patron Daw Myint Myint Swe of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation presented the prizes to SKY, Kandawgalay and Balla Babies teams that stood first, second and third respectively in the women's events. Deputy Director U Kyaw San Oo of Sports and Physical Education Department presented awards to the third prize winner Red Star, second Blue Boy and first KKS in the men's events.

The Horizon League Basketball tournament was held from September 2007 to July 2008. Altogether 22 teams took part in the tournament.— NLM

Commerce Ministry donates Waso robes

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July — Ministry of Commerce and Directorate of Trade held the 11th Waso robes offering ceremony at Ariya Mandai Monastery in Mayangon Township yesterday.

At the robes offering ceremony, Daw Aye Aye, wife of Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, and employees received the Five Precepts from Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silacara (Dhammacaria) and members of the Sangha recited parittas.

Daw Aye Aye presented Waso robes to the Sayadaw. After that, Director-General U Khin Maung Lay of Directorate of Trade and wife handed over K 1

million for construction of Saddhamvadi three-storey building through the members of Board of Trustees of the monastery. After the donation,

Sayadaw Maha Gandavaka Pandita Bhaddanta Pannaloka delivered sermons and wellwishers shared merits gained.

MNA

Mr Murat presents gift to U Maung Maung Myint, General Secretary of MBF.

NLM



Senior General Than Shwe attends ...

(from page 1)
of the Ministry of Defence, the chairmen of the State and Division PDCs, ministers, the mayors, deputy ministers and directors of the Ministry of Defence.

At the auspicious time at 9.09 am, Senior General Than Shwe and party took the positions in the garden.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe planted the Sacred tree at No. 1 place, Vice-Senior General Maung Aye the Sacred tree at No. 2 place, General Thura Shwe Mann the Sacred tree at No. 3 place, Prime Minister General Thein Sein the Sacred tree at No. 4 place and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo the Sacred tree at No. 5 place.

Afterwards, mem-



Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann plants a sacred tree at No. 3 place in the compound of Upatasanti Pagoda—MNA

bers of the State Peace and Development Council and senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence

planted the Sacred trees at the remaining places at the same time.

Likewise, at the

auspicious time, the chairmen of State and Division PDCs, ministers, the mayors and

deputy ministers and directors of the Ministry of Defence planted 108 Bo

places in the compound of the pagoda simultaneously.

MNA



Secretary-1 of the SPDC Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo plants a sacred tree at No. 5 place in the compound of Upatasanti Pagoda.—MNA

Work coordination meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July — Ministry of Rail Transportation held work coordination meeting at the ministry, here, today with an opening address by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

Deputy Ministers Thura U Thaug Lwin and U Pe Than discussed weak points and strong points of the departments.

Then, directors-general, managing directors and the principal explained departmental work activities and future work programmes.

The minister instructed officials concerned to work hard to ensure better transportation and to place emphasis on satisfaction of the passengers.

MNA

Special Refresher Course No. 16 of Ministry of Home Affairs opens

YANGON, 21 July- Special Refresher Course No. 16 for officials of Myanmar Police Forces under Ministry of Home Affairs was opened at Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township here this morning.

Also present were Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Hla Myint Oo and U Kyaw Aung, rector of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) and professors, officials of departments under Ministry of Home Affairs, personnel and trainees.

The Minister for Home Affairs made an opening speech and cordially greeted the trainees. Altogether 245 trainees from departments under Ministry of Home Affairs are attending the 1-month course.

MNA

Draught cattle inoculated in Mawlamyinegyun

YANGON, 21 July — Under the supervision of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, two medical teams inoculated draught cattle and delivered feedstuff for the cattle in Mawlamyinegyun Township recently.

Divided into two groups, veterinarians reached out 16 village-tracts which were hit by the storm recently and inoculated 218 draught cattle against foot and mouth disease and soar throat from 16 to 18 July.

MNA

USDA members at storm-hit villages to contribute to rehabilitation and reconstruction works

Article: *Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)* Photos: *Zaw Min Lat (MNA)*

Ayeyawady Division, the granary of Myanmar, was hit by the storm Nargis over two months ago. At present, rehabilitation and reconstruction works are being undertaken with momentum.

In undertaking rehabilitation and reconstruction works, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw together with national entrepreneurs, social organizations and well-wishers at home and from abroad are actively realizing the aim to help

villages of Labutta Township, Kyeinchaunggyi and Setsan villages of Bogale Township and successfully carried out rehabilitation and welfare tasks there.

A total of 329 youth — 12 USDA members each from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin and Chin State USDAs and Taninthayi Division, Bago Division (West) and (East), Mon, Rakhine, Shan (East), Shan (South) and Shan (North) States, 20 USDA members from Magway Division, 21 from Mandalay Division, 40

production and handiworks, teaching the students and holding of educative talks.



*Ayeyawady Division
USDA Secretary
U Than Tun*

The USDA Headquarters stood for the expenditure of USDA members in transport, providing of food and accommodation and use of work equipment.

In meeting with USDA members before their departure for the storm-hit areas for the first trip on 9 June, Chairman of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Prime Minister General Thein Sein gave instructions, saying, "The USDA was set up with the aims of protecting and safeguarding the interests of the people. In such a situation of encountering the natural disaster, members of USDAs in cooperation with the government, the people and the Tatmadaw are to help solve the problems the people have faced. As the project sites of Ayeyawady Division are located in coastal areas, members of

USDAs may encounter some difficulties during their travel and others. It is known that the USDA Headquarters has already fulfilled all the needs of the members who are going there. The members are to help the storm victims with basic needs such as accommodation, food and health out of goodwill. The community welfare is the foundation of social sector. The members are to make

to six storm-hit areas of Ayeyawady Division. Their prime task was to participate in the rehabilitation and reconstruction works of storm victims. They contributed to education, health, religious and social affairs of the regions. Due to the efforts of the USDA members, the association won greater trust of the people. All the USDA members were active to

in the group-6 in carrying out voluntary works for one month at Setsan Village of Bogale Township. We all held discussions on progress of work every night and explained the task programmes to the members every morning. There was no holiday during one month."

He continued to say, "I believe that local authorities at different



USDA members preparing for their trip to storm-hit areas of Ayeyawady Division.

the storm victims have the better conditions and livelihoods than that in the past.

On 12 July afternoon, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, a national force, left Yangon for the storm-hit villages to take part in rehabilitation and reconstruction works.

We, the news crew, saw the USDA members loading necessary equipment onto the vehicles in front of the USDA Headquarters on New University Avenue in Bahan Township.

It was the second trip of USDA members to the storm-affected areas. On 10 June, the USDA members made the first trip to storm-hit Hlinephone, Pyinsalu, Hsincheya and Saluseik

from Yangon Division and 72 from Ayeyawady Division — were included in the group of the second trip.

They will be stationed at some villages of Dedaye, Ngapudaw, Labutta, Bogale and Pyapon townships to contribute to reconstruction of houses, roads and schools, providing health care services, assisting in fishery, farming, salt



Food supplies and equipment.



USDA members seen in front of USDA Headquarters before their departure for storm-hit areas.

all-out efforts to undertake welfare of the community in accord with the basic principles of the association."

Secretariat Member of USDA (Central) (Youth In-charge) Minister for Communications, Posts

serve the interest of the people with Union Spirit, and they all discharged duties conscientiously. Ayeyawady Division USDA also joined hands with the volunteer youths in overcoming the difficulties. I participated

levels will provide necessary assistance for us in the voluntary works. As a national strength, the USDA members are keen to give helping hand to the national people. So, we made field trips to the areas of storm victims in Ayeyawady Division. Actually, we all are much pleased with our trips."

After we had left the USDA Headquarters, the members of the association started their trip to the storm-stricken areas with Union Spirit and national spirit.

Translation: TTA

*Myanma Alin: 17-7-2008



USDA members loading food and equipment onto vehicles.

and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on 12 July gave instructions to the USDA members who left for storm-affected areas for the second trip, and cordially greeted them.

In an interview, Ayeyawady Division USDA Secretary U Than Tun said, "Under the arrangements of the USDA Headquarters, USDA members in six groups went



Photo shows food and equipment.

MPs says Britain cannot rely on US torture assurances

LONDON, 21 July— Britain should no longer rely on US assurances that it does not use torture on terrorism suspects, an influential committee of MPs said in a report released on Sunday.

Britain had previously taken those assurances on face value but after the CIA acknowledged “waterboarding” three detainees, Britain should change its stance, the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee said in its annual report on human rights.

Foreign Secretary David Miliband told Parliament in April he thought the technique, where a suspect is tied down on a board and water is poured over his or her hooded face in a form of simulated drowning, amounted to torture.

US President George W Bush vetoed legislation in March that would

have banned the CIA from using the technique.

“Given the clear differences in definition, the UK can no longer rely on US assurances that it does not use torture and we recommend that the government does not rely on such assurances in the future,” the MPs said in their report.

Britain is a signatory to a UN convention barring the extradition of a person to another state where there are substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of being subjected to torture.

The Foreign Office declined to comment specifically on the issue of torture, saying only that it would respond in detail to the wide-ranging report at a later date.

MNA/Reuters



Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama (R) and Afghan President Hamid Karzai walk at the presidential palace in Kabul on 20 July, 2008.

INTERNET

Report says new oilfield discovered in south Iran

TEHERAN, 21 July— Iran’s Oil Minister Gholam-Hossein Nozari said Sunday that a new oilfield with in-place reserves of about 525 million barrels has been discovered in south Iran, the English-language satellite channel Press TV reported.

The new oilfield is located near the southern port city of Assaluyeh in Bushehr Province, Nozari said.

Nozari called the discovery “unprecedented”, given that so far most of the discoveries in the Assaluyeh region have been gas fields.

But he did not disclose information about

the estimated amount of recoverable crude oil in the new oilfield.

Nozari said last week that Iran has discovered a new oil field in the southwest province of Khuzestan with in-place reserves of 1.1 billion

barrels.

The field, which is located near Andimeshk in Khuzestan, holds an estimated 233 million barrels of recoverable crude oil, state television quoted Nozari as saying.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese troops begin withdrawal from quake zone

BEIJING, 21 July— Chinese troops began withdrawing from the quake-hit province of Sichuan on Monday, as rescue work shifts to reconstruction more than two months after the tremor killed at least 70,000 people. China mobilized 130,000 troops and armed police in the weeks following the May 12 earthquake. The first group of 40,000 began pulling out on the orders of President Hu Jintao, who also chairs the Central Military Commission.

“The order highly praised the contribution made by the troops and armed police to the quake-hit areas and people,” the official Xinhua news

agency reported. Remaining forces would continue their work in repairing roads, clearing up and epidemic prevention, the report said.

The 7.9-magnitude earthquake devastated the southwestern province of Sichuan and parts of neighbouring provinces, leaving whole towns flattened, 370,000 injured

and more than 10 million homeless. Troops from the People’s Liberation Army were involved in efforts to pull survivors from the rubble of collapsed buildings, repairing infrastructure and setting up temporary tent cities where the homeless are being housed.

MNA/Reuters

Lebanese soldiers secure an army checkpoint at the entrance to the Palestinian refugee camp of Ain el-Helweh on the outskirts of the southern Lebanese city of Sidon.—INTERNET



David Beckham of the LA Galaxy looks on against the New York Red Bulls at Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands on 19 July in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Beckham was pleased with the resolve his Major League Soccer side showed in battling back to a 2-2 draw against the New York Red Bulls.

INTERNET

Top US admiral says strike on Iran means turmoil

WASHINGTON, 21 July— White House military adviser Admiral Mike Mullen said on Sunday he was concerned that any US or Israeli strike on Iran carried a notable risk of more turmoil in the Middle East.

“I think it would be significant. I worry about it a lot,” Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the “Fox News Sunday” television programme.

US officials have played down fears of a military strike against Iran over its nuclear programme, which Teheran says is for peaceful purposes. But Israel fears Iran is seeking to build atomic weapons, and speculation it would bomb Iranian nuclear installations has grown since a big Israeli air drill last month. “I worry about the instability in that part of the world and ... the

possible unintended consequences of a strike like that,” Mullen said.

He said it would be difficult to predict the impact throughout the region or what actions the United States would have to take to contain it.

“Right now I’m fighting two wars, and I don’t need a third one,” Mullen said, speaking of US military engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan.

MNA/Reuters

ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION OF SEALED TENDER

1. Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Foodstuff Industries for Supply of the following Material which will be purchased in US Dollar/Euro;

Sr.No	Description	Quantity
(a)	BOPP/OPP Plastic Roll, OPP ink, Solvent & Adhesive Glue	31 Items

Closing Date & Time : 8.8.2008 (16:00) Hours.

2. Tender documents are available at the office of the General Manager (Marketing) Myanma Foodstuff Industries; Ministry of Industry (1), Office No.37, Nay Pyi Taw. Starting from 21.7.2008 during the office hours.

3. For further details please call - 067-408370

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAKAN VOYNO (RKN-019)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTARAKAN VOYNO (RKN-019) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

**Israel arrests over 20
Palestinians during
crackdown in W Bank**

RAMALLAH, 21 July—Israeli forces arrested more than 20 Palestinians in the West Bank city of Nablus early Monday, including a Hamas woman lawmaker, businessmen and students, security sources said.

The detentions were part of a crackdown that Israel launched against civil institutions and charities alleged to be linked with Hamas.

The Israeli forces rolled into the city at 3:00 am local time (0000 GMT), and broke into tens of houses and conducted search operations, according to the sources.

Mona Mansour, a prominent member of the Hamas-dominated parliament, was detained from her house and taken to an unknown location, members of her family said.

The Israeli troops also arrested a number of the board members of a finance company which owns a Nablus mall Israel ordered to shut down this month on suspicion of being linked to Hamas fund-raising.

The board members, as well as several money-changers who own shops in the mall, were taken into Israeli custody.

Among the detainees were eight students who were taken from their residence near al-Najah University in the city.

Israel launched the clampdown earlier this month and shut down tens of Hamas-linked charities. Most of the raids against the charities took place in Nablus.

The Islamic Hamas movement, which controls the Gaza Strip, accused the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) of cooperating with Israel in the campaign against Hamas.

Internet

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED (TENDER NOTICE)

TENDER. IFB No. 20/ Overseas/2008

Supply of Electrical, General, Pipe & Fittings (20) lots are invited from Overseas Suppliers by CIF Yangon Basis, Euro or Singapore \$ Currency, by LC Term.

CLOSING DATE will be on 4 August 2008 12:00 noon.

Tender documents are available at the following addresses:

70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: (95) 1 514194 to 7; Fax: (95) 1 514208; Email: miccl@miccl.com.mm

Site: Tel: (95) 71 22225/6; Fax: (95) 71 22522; Email: supply@miccl.com.mm

Bids are to be reached the above offices on or before the closing date.

Queries can be done between 10am to 4pm at Supply Department; Tel: (95) 71 22225/6;

Email: supply@miccl.com.mm before the Tender Closing Date.

MYANMAR IVANHOE COPPER COMPANY LIMITED (TENDER NOTICE)

TENDER. IFB No. 21/ Local/2008

Supply of Safety Items, Pump, Electrical Items, General Items (19 lots) are invited from Local Suppliers by FEC Currency.

CLOSING DATE will be on 4 August 2008 at 12:00hr.

Tender documents are available at the following addresses:

70 (I) Bo Chein Street, Pyay Road, Hlaing Township, Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: (95) 1 514194 to 7; Fax: (95) 1 514208; Email: miccl@miccl.com.mm

Site: Tel: (95) 71 22225/6; Fax: (95) 71 22522; Email: supply@miccl.com.mm

Sealed Bids are to be reached the above offices on or before the closing date.

Queries can be done between 10am to 4pm at Supply Department; Tel: (95) 71 22225/6;

Email: supply@miccl.com.mm before the Tender Closing Date.

**Iran nuclear talks stall,
oil prices near \$130
in Asia**

BEIJING, 21 July—Oil prices in the Asian market rose to near 130 US dollars on Monday after weekend talks in Geneva made little progress on Iran's nuclear crisis, according to media reports.

Midday in Singapore, light, sweet crude for August delivery was up 70 cents at 129.58 dollars a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The price increase Monday came after crude fell more than 17 dollars a barrel from a record high of 147.27 dollars on 11 July.

"The talks didn't resolve the problem of Iran's nuclear program, and that has been a factor in prices ticking higher today," said David Moore, a commodity strategist with Commonwealth Bank of Australia in Sydney. "Part of the reason prices had fallen recently was on the expectation a deal could be made there."

Prices also rose on concerns that Tropical Storm Dolly may disrupt oil operations in the Gulf of Mexico, he added.—*Internet*

**LG Electronics handset
sales boost earnings
in second quarter**

SEOUL, 21 July—The LG Electronics Inc, a South Korean company producing diverse hi-tech products, said Monday that its earnings soared 83.8 percent year-on-year in the second quarter thanks to the increased sales of its mobile phones.

Net income reached 706.9 billion won (694 million US dollars) from April to June period, a huge increase from the net income of 384.6 billion won in the same period a year ago, LG said in a regulatory filing.

According to LG, sales gained 22.5 percent year-on-year to 7.23 trillion won, while the company's operating profit more than tripled from 2007 and reached 634.8 billion won.

LG attributed the earnings hike to its handset sales, which rose to a record 27.7 million units, compared to 24.4 million in the first quarter, as the success of Apple Inc's iPhone prompted the demand for touch-screen handsets.

Yonhap reported that many industry watchers say LG has overtaken Motorola Inc in its mobile phone sales in this quarter and ranked third largest world handset maker after Nokia Corp and Samsung Electronics Co.

Internet

**32-year-old man dies during
NYC triathlon**

BEIJING, 21 July—The first death in the eight-year history of the New York City triathlon occurred Sunday when a 32-year-old man died during the 1,500-meter swim in the Hudson River.

Race director Bill Burke said other competitors alerted medical personnel to the man and he was unconscious when he was pulled from the water just before 8 am.

Burke said the man's family was in Argentina, and he wasn't being identified by race officials until they were contacted.

"It's a tragic day for the event," Burke said.

Ellen Borakove, a

spokesman for the medical examiner's office, said an autopsy will take place Monday. About 3,000 competitors participated in the triathlon, which consisted of the swim in the Hudson River, a 40-kilometer bike ride along the Henry Hudson Parkway, and a 10-kilometer run in Central Park.

Greg Bennett, of Australia, won the men's division in 1 hour, 46 minutes, 31 seconds. Liz Blatchford, also of Australia, was the women's champion, finishing in 1:58:35.

There also was a death at last month's Hy-Vee Triathlon, which was

doubling as one part of the US Olympic trials. A 46-year-old Iowa man died after he was pulled from the water.—*Internet*



A woman walks past the wreckage of a destroyed vehicle on a road after a bomb attack in Baghdad's Adhamiya district on 20 July, 2008. A bomb attached to the car killed the driver of the vehicle in northern Baghdad, police said.—INTERNET

Skin cancer fear 'may harm bones'

LONDON, 21 July—Worries over skin cancer means that some people are shunning the sun altogether—which could endanger their health, a poll has found.

The National Osteoporosis Society (NOS) says lack of vitamin D - part—made by being in the sun—could raise the chances of brittle bone disease.

It advised having lunch outside, gardening or hanging out the washing.

A Cancer Research UK spokesman agreed, but said enough vitamin D could be made long before the first signs of sunburn.

Skin cancer rates have soared in recent years, and health campaigners increasingly urge people to limit the amount of time they spend in direct sunlight without the protection of sunscreen or clothing.

However, the NOS said its survey of more than 2,600 people in June revealed that many believe there is no such thing as safe sun exposure.

Three-quarters of those questioned said that sunscreen should always be applied before going out in the sun.

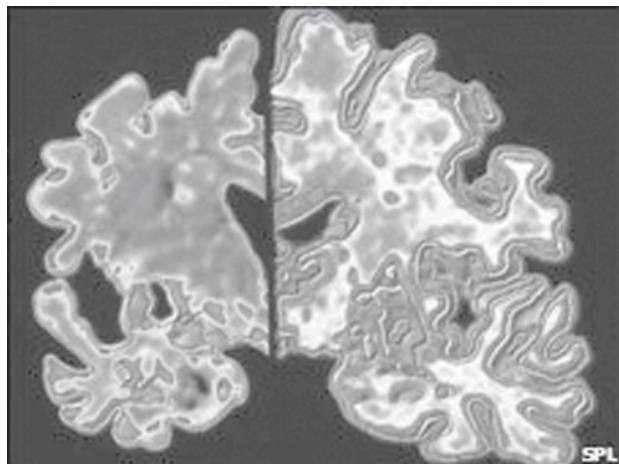
However, the NOS said that not getting at least 15 to 20 minutes of sunlight on the skin every day could be harmful. Light falling on the skin produces vitamin D, which is important for bone strength, and studies suggest that low levels of this could raise the risk of osteoporosis, which affects half of all women and a fifth of men over the age of 50.—Internet

Alzheimer's drug trial 'promise'

WASHINGTON, 21 July—A drug once used to treat hay fever "significantly improves" symptoms in patients with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease, research suggests.

Dimebon was once licensed in Russia as an antihistamine but was taken off the market when better drugs came along.

Now US researchers have found it can improve memory, behaviour and ability to conduct simple activities like eating in patients with dementia. Experts were cautiously optimistic about The Lancet study findings. In the trial of 183 people who all had untreated mild to moderate



There is no cure for Alzheimer's disease

dementia, which was carried out in Russia, half were given 20 mg of dimebon 20 three times a day while the rest were given a dummy pill.

After six months, all were given tests such as memorising a list of words

and performing simple tasks. Those taking the drug scored four points lower on a scale designed to measure severity of Alzheimer's disease—meaning they were less badly affected.—Internet

US-led Coalition forces rebuff airstrike inflicting civilian casualties in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 21 July—The US-led Coalition forces in a statement rebuffed reportedly civilian casualties resulted by Coalition airstrike in western Afghan province of Farah on Sunday.

Afghan National Security and Coalition forces used precision airstrikes to eliminate several militants in Farah province early Sunday morning, the statement said.

"The air strike was called while the militants were in an open area to prevent harm to non-combatants and civilian structures thus no civilians or Coalition

forces were harmed in the engagement," it said.

Earlier, police officer Najibullah Popal told Xinhua that air raids carried out by international troops over Saturday night had left policemen dead and injured in Farah province.

"It was late last night when air crafts of international troops mistakenly targeted a police checkpoint in Anardara district killing and wounding a number of our policemen," a senior police officer in the province Najibullah Popal told Xinhua.—Internet

Brown urges Israel to freeze settlements

BEYHLEHEM (West Bank), 21 July—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown urged Israel on Sunday to stop settlement expansion on occupied land, saying it was making it harder to reach a peace deal with the Palestinians this year.

In his first visit as prime minister to Israel and the Palestinian territories, Brown announced 60 million US dollars in new aid to the Palestinians.

MNA/Reuters

A fossilized stalk, recently discovered by the Panama Smithsonian Research Institute, is seen at Panama Canal in this handout photo on 17 July, 2008. Engineers digging to widen the Panama canal have uncovered more than 500 fossils including teeth and bones of rodents, horses, crocodiles and turtles that lived before a land bridge linked North and South America.—INTERNET



Death toll of Egypt's train crash rises to 44

CAIRO, 21 July—The death toll from a train crash in northern Egypt has risen to 44, Egyptian Minister of Health and Population Hatem el-Gabali said on Sunday.

Another 35 people were injured in the incident near the Mediterranean coast city of Marsa Matrouh, el-Gabali was quoted by the official MENA news agency as saying. Addressing the Transport Committee of the People's Assembly (Lower House of the Parliament), el-Gabali

said the government has allocated 850 million Egyptian pounds (about 160 million US dollars) to buy ambulances and 370 vehicles have already reached Egypt.

The road from Cairo to Alexandria and Marsa Matrouh is dotted with ambulance points, one every 25 kilometres, said the minister.

Some 100 million pounds (18.7 million dollars) has also been allocated to buy a number of helicopters to be used as flying ambulances, added the minister.

MNA/Xinhua

Four bombs in Spain's Basque country

LAREDO (Spain), 21 July—Four bombs exploded in northern Spain on Sunday — including one outside a bank — causing damage but no injuries, officials said. A caller earlier warned about the explosives, saying he was speaking on behalf of Basque separatists.

The first detonated without warning around

5 am outside a bank in the northern town of Getxo, damaging a cash dispenser and breaking windows, the regional Interior Ministry said in Bilbao.

Five hours later, a caller warned fire officials in the Basque town of Muskiz that two bombs would explode in Laredo and Noja in the neighboring province of Cantabria, the

ministry said.

A bomb exploded in the sand next to Laredo's beach-front promenade at around 12:20 pm. In Noja, a device detonated at the beach around 1 pm, and another bomb exploded at a golf course about an hour later, according to Cantabria's regional Interior Ministry in Santander.

Internet

German hostages freed in Turkey



The Germans were part of a 13-member climbing team.—INTERNET

ISTANBUL, 21 July—Three German climbers taken hostage by Kurdish armed rebel group the PKK have been freed and are in the hands of the Turkish government, officials say.

The tourists were seized from their camp on Mount Ararat in Turkey's eastern Agri province on 9 July.

The PKK had vowed not to release

them unless Germany renounced its crackdown on the group, defined as a terrorist organization by the US, EU and Turkey.

"We have the German mountaineers," a Turkish government spokesman said.

The Germans were part of a 13-member climbing team that had set up camp at 3,200m (10,500ft) on the mountain, the highest in Turkey and a popular tourist destination.—Internet



SPORTS

Stay-away Drogba sticking with Blues, says Scolari



Chelsea boss Luiz Felipe Scolari

GUANGZHOU, 21 July — Chelsea boss Luiz Felipe Scolari on Monday rubbished renewed speculation that Didier Drogba was headed for the exit after the want-away striker pulled out of a pre-season tour with a knee injury.

The newly installed coach insisted Drogba was "very happy" with Chelsea after a virtually full-strength squad touched down in China without the

Ivory Coast star. "Didier's future with Chelsea is normal because he has a contract with us," he said. "I think he's very happy with Chelsea. I hope when we come back he'll be in good condition."

Scolari said Drogba would need up to four weeks' rehabilitation on a long-standing knee problem, ruling him out of the tour, which also takes in Macau, Malaysia and Russia.

The London side have brought new signings Deco and Jose Bosingwa, as well as England midfielder Frank Lampard who is being actively courted by Inter Milan.

"Didier is injured. The doctor and our medical staff made a plan to have him training and playing in maybe three or four weeks," Scolari said. "But at this moment it's impossible for Didier to come with us."

The former Portugal and Brazil boss earlier insisted Drogba, who has been linked with Barcelona, Inter Milan and AC Milan, was "200 percent" in his plans.

Internet



Renault Formula One driver Nelson Piquet Jr of Brazil, left, celebrates next to winner McLaren Mercedes Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain after securing the second place in the German Formula One Grand Prix in Hockenheim, Germany, on 20 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Man-U force draw with Chiefs in Cape Town

CAPE TOWN, 21 July — Manchester United came from behind to force a 1-1 draw with the Kaiser Chiefs in the first match of an exhibition series on Saturday. The Chiefs took the lead when central defender Jonathan Quartey scored from the penalty spot nine minutes before halftime after Nemanja Vidic cut down left winger Siphiwe Tshabalala with an untidy tackle.

The European and English champions levelled just before the hour mark

when Tevez surged down the right and crossed to the far post where Chris Eagles rose to head the ball into the net off Chiefs captain Jimmy Tau.

Chiefs goalkeeper Itumeleng Khune was prominent throughout the match and did well to marshall his defenders as the home team hung on for a draw.

During United's last visit to South Africa in 2006, they won the first match 1-0 but lost that year's final 4-3 on penalties. —MNA/Reuters

Tottenham report United, Liverpool to Premier League

LONDON, 21 July — Tottenham Hotspur have reported Manchester United and Liverpool to the Premier League over their pursuit of strikers Dimitar Berbatov and Robbie Keane.

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said on Friday that he had "good expectations" that Bulgaria international Berbatov would move to Old Trafford before the start of next season.

Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez has also been quoted regarding his interest in signing Ireland forward Keane.

Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy accused Ferguson of "arrogance" and breaching Premier League rules.

"It's a blatant example of sheer arrogance and interference with one of our players," Levy said in a statement on Tottenham's website (www.tottenhamhotspur.com) on Saturday.

"It is also probably one of the worst offences by any manager in the Premier League to date and is unbelievably hypocritical given his recent comments in respect of Cristiano Ronaldo and Real Madrid. —MNA/Reuters

Blues confirm Robinho talks Tale of two Brazilians for Chelsea



Robinho & Kaka:

LONDON, 21 July — Chelsea chief executive Peter Kenyon has denied that Chelsea have tabled an offer for Kaka, but confirmed the club's interest in Robinho.

Milan vice-president Adriano Galliani was reported in the Italian press over the weekend confirming the Rossoneri had rejected a mega bid from Chelsea, while Kaka's representative fuelled speculation by claiming the 26-year-old would be interested in a move to Stamford Bridge.

But shortly after arriving in China ahead of Chelsea's meeting with Chinese Super League outfit Guangzhou Pharmaceutical on Wednesday, Kenyon denied any knowledge of the offer and admitted any move for Kaka was unlikely.

No offer

"There was no offer made. I have read the same articles," Kenyon said.

"They have made it clear that he is not for sale and we will make it clear we have not made an offer.

"There is no reason to negotiate over something they don't want to do and we have not made an offer." But while a deal for one Brazilian appears unlikely, Kenyon was more confident over Chelsea's on-going negotiations with Real Madrid over striker Robinho.

Internet



A player from Russia's Sputnik team (L) kicks the ball during the men's final against Finland's www.lomalyly at the World Swamp Soccer championships in Hyrynsalmi on 20 July, 2008.—INTERNET

Keane off in Sunderland win Black Cats leave it late to seal win

LONDON, 21 July — Sunderland boss Roy Keane was sent off as he saw his side overcome Sporting Lisbon 3-1 in Portugal. Two late goals in two minutes by Nyron Nosworthy and Anthony Stokes saw Sunderland claim a morale-boosting win.

Sporting went ahead in the first half when Ronny fired the hosts into the lead with a 25-yard free-kick.

Sunderland drew level seven minutes after the break when Roy O'Donovan converted Stokes' corner.

Tempers boiled over ten minutes from time when Michael Chopra was sent off for a late tackle and Keane was banished to the stands for remonstrating with the fourth official about the striker's dismissal.

Nosworthy headed the Black Cats into the lead with his first goal for the club after 84 minutes before Stokes sealed victory with a shot from 10 yards a minute later.

Internet



Nosworthy celebrates his goal

Roma's Totti not ruling out Italy return

ROME, 21 July — retired from international soccer last year saying his body was no longer up to playing for both club and county.

However, the return to the Azzurri dugout of Marcello Lippi, with whom Totti said he had a "great relationship", raised hopes the player may return. "If I'm well and I don't have problems, it will be possible to address this issue in six months or a year," Totti, who missed the end of last season with a knee injury, told Saturday's La Gazzetta dello Sport.

On the domestic front, Totti said Roma, runners-up in Serie A last season, need to make two major signings in the close season if they are to compete with Inter Milan, AC Milan and Juventus for the title. —MNA/Reuters

On the domestic front, Totti said Roma, runners-up in Serie A last season, need to make two major signings in the close season if they are to compete with Inter Milan, AC Milan and Juventus for the title. —MNA/Reuters



Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro, left, and Austria's Juergen Melzer pose with their trophies on the center court at the Austrian Open tennis tournament in Kitzbuehel, Austria, on 20 July, 2008. Del Potro won their final match in two straight sets 6-2, 6-1.—INTERNET



Iraqi men suspected of violent crimes are led to a room for processing after a raid by US troops in a village in Muqadiyah, about 90 kilometers (60 miles) north of Baghdad in Iraq's volatile Diyala Province on 19 July, 2008—INTERNET

FARC must free hostages, Betancourt tells Paris rally

PARIS, 12 July — Ingrid Betancourt urged Colombian rebels to free all hostages as she addressed a rally in the French capital on Sunday that was part of a series of demonstrations around the world to protest against kidnappings. Thousands gathered near the Eiffel Tower to hear Betancourt, a Fra-

ncolombian politician rescued from captivity this month after spending more than six years as a hostage of Colombian rebel forces. Hundreds of Colombians gathered in Madrid's Plaza Mayor over the weekend to call for peace in Colombia and to celebrate Betancourt's liberation.

MNA/Reuters

Trader with heroin arrested in Lagos

LAGOS, 12 July — Nigeria's National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) operatives have arrested a trader in Oshodi market in Lagos State with 142 wraps of substances in chocolate wrappers suspected to be heroin, local media reported on Sunday.

The head of Public Affairs of the agency, Ofoyeju Mitchell, said Saturday that the suspect, identified as Damilola, 30, was nabbed with the substances at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport in Lagos on arrival from Bombay, India, in an Ethiopian airline.

He said the suspect, who sold clothes at the market, had the drugs, which weighed 1,083

kilogrammes, packed in two chocolate containers in her hand luggage. The Airport Commander of the NDLEA Victor Cole-Showers said that the agency was also on the trail of another drug suspect identified as Alhaja Hadijat, who was Damilola's sponsor, also selling clothes in the market.

"Drug traffickers usually prefer to use legitimate businesses as a ruse in laundering illicit drug proceeds. We are aware that the suspect (Damilola) is not alone in this case. The NELEA is now searching for the runaway sponsor of the drug suspect, the official said. —MNA/Xinhua

Seven dead in crash near Kyrgyzstan resort

BISHKEK, 12 July — At least seven people died and dozens were injured in Kyrgyzstan on Monday when a bus loaded with tourists collided with a car near an alpine lake resort, the emergencies ministry said.

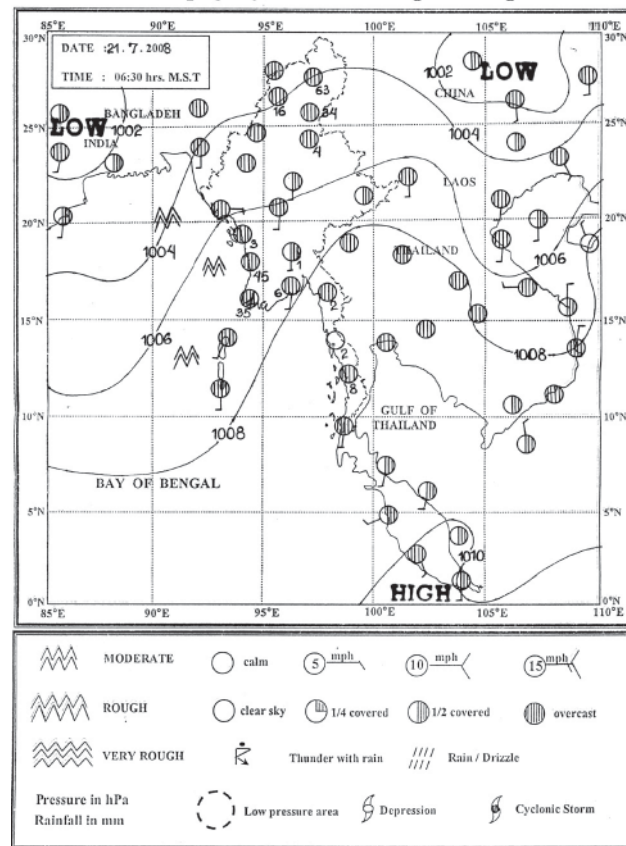
The crash occurred near Issyk-Kul, the world's second biggest alpine lake revered in Kyrgyzstan as a

national symbol, when a bus loaded with 53 tourists collided with a car.

Regional emergencies ministry chief, Arstan Momokulov, said all the dead were tourists from neighbouring Kazakhstan. He said dozens of people were rushed to hospitals.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 21 July, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Shan State, fairly widespread in Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Thninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mandalady Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.20) inch, Mogok (3.07) inches, Putao (2.48) inches, Thandwe (1.77) inches, Myitkyina (1.45) inches and Pathein (1.41) inches.

Maximum temperature on 20-7-2008 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 21-7-2008 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 21-7-2008 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 20-7-2008 was (0.6) hours (approx).

Rainfall on 21-7-2008 was (0.31) inch at Mingaladon, (0.51) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.40) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (54.13) inches at Mingaladon, (61.97) inches at Kaba-Aye and (75.71) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from West at (16:30) hours MST on 21-7-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 22-7-2008: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan, Rakhine and Mon States, upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-7-2008:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-7-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 22-7-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Tuesday, 22 July
View on today

7:00 am

1. တောင်တန်းသာသနာပြု ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am

5. “မီးမီးရဲ့ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက်” (နေအောင်ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ မေသညာဦး၊ ပြည့်ဖူးခိုင်၊ ဇာဇာမင်းထက်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး(ပဲရစ်))

8:05 am

6. Song of yesteryears

8:15 am

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. ရုပ်မြင်ရသတေးစုကဏ္ဍ

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

3. Musical programme

4:30 pm

4. Dance of National Races

4:40 pm

5. Songs to uphold National spirit

4:50 pm

6. The mirror images of the musical oldies

5:00 pm

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:10 pm

8. ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တည်တံ့ခိုင်မြဲရေး ဒီရေတောများပိုင်းဝန်းထိန်းသိမ်းပေး

5:20 pm

9. Sing & enjoy

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:00 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:50 pm

13. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရင်

7:10 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “မာယာများနှင့်လှည့်ကွက်” (အပိုင်း-၁၄)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်စိတ်ကူးလေးကောင်းရဲ့သားနဲ့” (အပိုင်း-၁၄)

Make donations to the storm victims

- Everybody may make donations freely.**
- Everybody may make donations to any person or any area.**

However, wellwishers are urged to avoid unsystematic donations and acts that may tarnish the image of the nation and its people.

- **Certain internal and external anti-government elements, self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements are now seeking their self-interests by sending to the foreign news agencies stories about relief and rehabilitation work they have made up and shot on video.**
- **Storm victims are hereby warned to remain vigilant with nationalistic spirit against the deceptions of the self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements.**

- ☆ **Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation**
- ☆ **BBC lying**
- ☆ **VOA deceiving**
- ☆ **RFA setting up hostilities**
- ☆ **Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers**

Yadanabon Myothit Construction Project Supervisory Committee meets

NAY PYI TAW, 21 July – Yadanabon Myothit Construction Project Supervisory Committee held its 17th meeting at the office of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, here, this afternoon.

Present were Chairman of Yadanabon Myothit Construction Project Supervisory Committee Minister for Communications, Posts and

Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, members of the supervisory committee deputy ministers, directors-general, managing directors and officials concerned.

Chairman of YMCPC Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Chair-

man of MIC Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein delivered speeches.

Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, Director-General of Department for Human Settlement and Housing Development U Aung Win, officials of MIC, Electric Power Supply, Development Affairs Department and Yadanabon Teleport took part in the discussions. —MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw delivers a speech at the work coordination meeting.—CPT



INSIDE

USDA members at storm-hit villages to contribute to rehabilitation and reconstruction works

PAGE 10

ARTICLE: MAUNG MAUNG HTWE (MNA) PHOTOS: ZAW MIN LAT (MNA)

Health care services provided to storm victims

YANGON, 21 July — Health care services are being provided to the

storm victims by opening clinic at the People's Hospital in Pyapon Township

on 14 July.

The medical unit was composed of Paediatrician Dr Khin San Aye, Obsteric and Gynaecologist Dr Yin Yin Thein, GPs Dr Thet Naing Tun, Dr Nwe Ei Phyu and primary health staff. In addition to medical treatments to patients, expectant mothers, child patients and nutrition, the unit had given educative talks on health.

Under the programme of the Ministry of Health, storm victims in Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions are being provided with health care services.—MNA