

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 107

12th Waning of Waso 1367 ME

Monday, 1 August, 2005

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

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Jamaica

YANGON, 1 Aug— Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Sir Howard FH Cooke, Governor-General of Jamaica, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Jamaica which falls on 1 August 2005.— MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Jamaican counterpart

YANGON, 1 Aug— General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr PJ Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Jamaica which falls on 1 August 2005.— MNA



Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA

Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends cash and kind donation ceremonies for monasteries, nunneries in Mingaladon, Mayangon townships

YANGON, 31 July — Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, medicine and gram and cash to 12 monasteries and six nunneries in Mingaladon Township in Yangon North District and 31 monasteries and nine nunneries in Mayangon Township in Yangon West District this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant General Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Yangon Division PDC Commander of Yangon Command

Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, senior military officers, chairmen and members of district and township PDCs and wellwishers.

At Tawtaik Dhamma Yeiktha Monastery in Mingaladon township, State Ovadhacariya Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Agga Maha Kamma Thanacariya Agga Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Dhamma Sara administered the Five Precepts to the Secretary-1 and congregation. The Secretary-1 offered alms to the Sayadaw. Next, the com-

mander, the deputy minister and senior military officers also offered provisions to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

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INSIDE

Had the NLD cooperated with the Tatmadaw Government through mutual trust and understanding, there would not have been economic crises, political unrest, terrorist acts, and tragic experiences of being arrested and jailed, and becoming expatriates.

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MAUNG NYATTARA



Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party share merits gained after receiving sermon delivered by Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vinayaçara of Shwekyeetha Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Mingaladon Township.— MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 1 August, 2005

Guard against alien culture

Myanma Fine Arts, which depicts Myanmar lifestyle and Myanmar custom and character, has existed for years countable by the thousand. Since yore, Myanmar with high civilization has been standing tall among the world community with its own monarchs, own literature and own national character.

Thanks to good attitude, courage, diligence and efforts of our ancestors, Myanmar traditional fine arts has been flourishing with own national prestige and integrity.

The Leading Committee for Organizing the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held its first coordination meeting at the National Museum on Pyay Road here on 29 July with an address by Patron of the Leading Committee Prime Minister General Soe Win.

In his address, Patron of the Leading Committee Prime Minister General Soe Win said that preservation and innovation of tradition and culture needs to be in conformity with Myanmar tradition and culture. In doing so, the entire national people including artistes are to be united and patriotic. In other words, the entire national people are to be imbued with national immunity.

It is incumbent upon the entire national people to safeguard national character and hand down heritage of national culture to new generations. The entire national people are to be patriotic and endowed with national immunity to guard against alien culture from penetrating into the field of Myanma traditional culture.

At a time when the world is under the influence of globalization, scores of Western music and dance are penetrating into the country at a fast pace by means of VCD, CD, Internet and satellite disc. At such a time, artistes, who are able to create and shape Myanmar fine arts, are to safeguard and preserve the national culture from deteriorating and fading away.

Traditional culture and innovation are to be fostered in harmony. Although the duty is extensive and subtle, relentless efforts are to be made for preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character.

The government organizes the Myanma traditional cultural performing arts competitions yearly with the aim of inculcating the people with national immunity and of preserving the fine arts. A large number of new generation artistes capable of preserving culture heritage and national character have emerged from those competitions.

Therefore, the entire national people are to preserve national culture and guard against alien culture from penetrating into the country, while striving for uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national culture.



Iranian Ambassador Mr Mohsen Pakaein met Vice-President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung and officials on 29 July. They discuss matters relating to promoting economic cooperation between the two countries. —UMFCCI

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

Dry day inspection teams check departmental and Tatmadaw vehicles



Dry Day Supervisory Committee Chairman Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint supervises tasks of a dry day inspection team. —MNA

YANGON, 31 July — Accompanied by leader of the supervisory team Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and members Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi, senior military officers and departmental heads, Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Vice-Chairman Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Maj-Gen Thein Swe supervised the dry day inspection teams checking departmental and Tatmadaw vehicles at the main points of Yangon City this morning.

Likewise, the chairman and party together with leader of the supervisory team Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and members checked the functions of the dry day inspection teams this evening.

From 7 am to 5 pm, the dry day inspection teams checked Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles for their dry day pass, driver's licence, wheel tax bill, wearing of respective uniforms and breaking of traffic rules.

MNA

Education facilities inspected in Loikaw

YANGON, 31 July — USDA CEC member Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended the Youth Efficiency Enhancement Course co-organized by Kayah State USDA and Loikaw University at Kayah State USDA Office in Loikaw on 29 July.

Chairman of Kayah State PDC Chairman Col Hla Myint Shwe briefed him on matters concerning the course. A total of 30 graduate USDA members are attending the course which will last three months.

On 30 July, the CEC member attended the

tree planting ceremony in the compound of Government Computer College in Loikaw.

Next, the CEC member, the chairman of Kayah State PDC and party visited Win Thuza Shop of the Ministry of Industry-1 and construction site of Loikaw University.

In the evening, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaug, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and party met with faculty members at GTC and GCC in Loikaw. —MNA

Vietnamese First Deputy Foreign Minister arrives

YANGON, 31 July — At the invitation of U Kyaw Thu, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, Mr Le Cong Phung, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Socialist Republic of Vietnam, arrived here by air this morning.

Mr Le Cong Phung was welcomed at the airport by Deputy Director-General U Kyee Myint of ASEAN Affairs Department and officials of MOFA, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung and officials of the embassy of the SRV in Yangon.

The visiting First Deputy Minister was ac-

companied by Mr Do Ngoc Son, Director General of ASIA II Department, Mr Bui Thanh Son, Deputy Director-General of Foreign Policy Department,

Mrs Hoang Thi Ninh, Deputy Director-General of ASEAN Affairs Department, Mr Vu Xuan Truong, Deputy Director-General, Economic De-

partment and Mr Nguyen Trung Kien, Desk Officer of ASIA II Department, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SRV.

MNA



First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of SRV Mr Le Cong Phung being welcomed at the airport. —MNA

China, Indonesia sign MoUs to boost defence, eco, cultural cooperation

BEIJING, 30 July — China and Indonesia signed a series of MoUs or agreements here on Thursday to boost cooperation in the defence, economic and cultural sectors and to help rebuild tsunami-hit areas, on the 55th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Chinese President Hu Jintao and his Indonesian counterpart Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono were present at the signing ceremony after their talks in the Great Hall of the People in downtown Beijing on Thursday afternoon.

Those agreements include an MoU on research and development in defence technological cooperation, an MoU on rebuilding project in tsunami-hit areas funded by Chinese non-governmental donations.

The documents also include an agreement on grant assistance in relation to economic and technical cooperation, a

general loan agreement of 100 million US dollars of preferential buyer's credit and an arrangement concerning Chinese language teaching.

"Sino-Indonesian relations witnessed great progress in the last 55 years," Hu said. Especially in recent years, the two countries exchanged high-level visits frequently and enhanced cooperation in politics, trade and economy, culture and education, military and security.

"We two countries have coordinated and cooperated closely in international and regional affairs," the President said.

"We appreciate the Indonesian Government's adherence to the one-China policy, support Indonesia's strike on separatism and terrorism and efforts in maintaining national unity and stability and in economic building."

Hu Jintao suggested the two countries enhance high-level exchanges and strategic dialogue, and work out an action plan for implementing the Sino-Indonesian strategic partnership.

MNA/Xinhua



Window cleaners rappel against the glass facade of a highrise in Kuala Lumpur on 28 July, 2005.

INTERNET

Nine charter flights to serve 2nd China-ASEAN Expo

NANNING, 30 July — China will launch nine temporary charter flights to transport delegates from ASEAN countries during the upcoming China-ASEAN Expo, a tourist official said here on Thursday.

The nine non-stop flights will facilitate the travel of delegates from the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to Nanning, capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region during 17-23 October, when the second fair of the expo is held, said Jia Yucheng, the director with the Nanning Tourism Bureau.

The flights, jointly operated by Shenzhen Airlines and Guilin International Travel Service, will link Nanning to Singapore, Bangkok, Yangon, Jakarta, Ho Chi Minh City, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Phnom Penh and Vientiane.

The price of the flights and the ways to

buy the tickets will not be unveiled until 15 August, said Jia.

Nanning will open three more regular flights linking Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok and Singapore in the near future and more tempo-

rary charter flights are expected to be opened soon for the forthcoming expo.

Official statistics show that over 16,000 ASEAN tourists have visited Nanning in the first half of the year, up

nearly 38 per cent year-on-year.

The ASEAN comprises Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Philippines, Cambodia, Laos, and the Brunei.

MNA/Xinhua

New Mumbai flood alert toll nears 1,000

MUMBAI, 31 July— Police urged millions of Mumbai residents to stay at home as heavy rains brought more flooding to India's financial hub on Sunday and relief officials said the death toll in the region could reach 1,000.

Dead bodies and carcasses of animals were still strewn across parts Mumbai and its suburbs from last week's flooding, raising fears of disease, TV and officials said.

The monsoon rains in the region have been the heaviest for nearly a century and on Sunday western India was drenched again.

Officials said fatalities in the western state of Maharashtra, including Mumbai, were rising as more bodies were being dug from villages flattened by landslides south of Mumbai.

In Raigarh District, 150km south of Mumbai, about 200 are dead or missing. At least 899 confirmed deaths have been reported in the state, police said.

"The death toll in Raigarh is likely to go up by another 100 or so because more dead bodies are coming up. It (the total) may touch around 1,000 including about 400 deaths in Mumbai," officials said. —Internet

Meteorologist warns of drought in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 30 July — Nepal saw very little rainfall has also been less, Muni Ratna Shakya, senior meteorologist from the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology told reporters.

"The southern part of the country needs to have low pressure zone so that winds from the Bay of Bengal can accumulate there and thus bring rain to Nepal. But the active low pressure zone has been formed near Indian states and in plains of Bangladesh, because of which Nepal witnessed very little rainfall in the month of July," he noted.

The heavy downpour observed in India and Bangladesh was most likely to affect the monsoon in Nepal. According to Shakya, India's Mumbai was deluged with 94.4 cm rainfall on 27 July, which is the highest recorded rainfall in the metropolitan in 95 years

whereas the average rainfall of Kathmandu in July has fallen short 85 millimetre.

Though the average rainfall in Kathmandu for the month of July is 349.2 millimetre, till 27 July only 264.2 millimetre was recorded. As a result, drought is staring at Nepal, he said.

Rainfall in June was also less as compared to preceding years. Rainfall at some places in the eastern region was found normal, but in the western region of the country it was less by about 50 per cent, Shakya said.

MNA/Xinhua



US soldiers watch a street from behind a corner after hearing gunfire during a patrol in Mosul, in northern Iraq, on 28 July, 2005.

INTERNET

1,789 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 30 July—As of Saturday, 30 July, 2005, at least 1,789 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,382 died as a result of hostile action. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is three lower than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Friday.

The British military has reported 92 deaths; Italy, 25; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,650 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,273 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers. —Internet

ASEAN meeting aims for more security cooperation

VIENTIANE, 30 July — After a slew of no-shows by key players and a sideshow over climate change, an Asia-Pacific security forum finally turned on Friday to boosting its regional counter-terrorism efforts and maritime security.

Foreign ministers of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), meeting in the Lao capital, were also expected to endorse a more robust role for the multilateral body's chairman, moving it up a diplomatic gear after 10 years of "confidence building". "It's not just talking about terrorism. It's practical cooperation," said a Canadian official, adding the ARF, centred around the 10-member Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), would be shifting to "preventive diplomacy".

"That could include a more enhanced role for the ARF chair. They want to see the chair get more involved in diplomacy," the Canadian official said.

Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said the forum, frequently

dismissed as a largely irrelevant talking shop, would agree to security measures such as better cross-border intelligence sharing.

It remained to be seen if it would come up with any concrete proposals, especially given that the United States, the main force behind tightening up shipping and border security, decided not to send its top diplomat.

"I'm hoping at the end of the day the ASEAN Regional Forum will produce a statement, which we are pushing for, enhancing intelligence exchanges to deal with terrorism," Downer told reporters.

"There is considerable focus on terrorism this year and the need to pursue effective counter-terrorist strategies," he added.

The no-show by US Sec-

retary of State Condoleezza Rice was just one of four snubs to the meeting delivered by ASEAN's biggest regional partners. His Japanese counterpart, Nobutaka Machimura, also decided he had more urgent business in New York, lobbying for a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council, while India's Natwar Singh had to stay home on parliamentary business.

MNA/Reuters



Indian rescue workers and volunteers search for survivors beneath a landslide in the Saki Naka suburb of Mumbai recently.—INTERNET

12th ARF meeting agrees on regional security cooperation

VIENTIANE, 30 July — The 12th meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum (ARF) ended here on Friday with a consensus on strengthening security cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region.

The meeting, part of the 38th ASEAN ministerial meetings held here from 25 July, was attended by the foreign ministers or government representa-

tives of all 25 ARF participating countries.

A chairman's statement, read out at a Press conference at the end of the meeting, said the participants held comprehensive discussion on issues of common concern and stressed the need for the ARF to focus its deliberations on regional issues, particularly in the Asia-Pacific Region, as well as international issues with regional impact.

The ministers recognized that the challenges facing the Asia-Pacific Region were becoming more complex and interrelated and required greater regional cooperation.

They exchanged views on the tsunami disaster of 26 December, 2004 and the follow-up actions taken by the concerned

countries and the international community. The ministers underscored the need for regional co-operation and coordination in disaster reduction.

On recent developments on the Korean Peninsula, the ARF meeting welcomed the reopening of Six-Party Talks and expressed hope that the talks would lead to a substantial progress in finding a peaceful solution acceptable to all concerned parties toward the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

The participants encouraged the inter-Korea dialogue, hoping that the ongoing momentum of the inter-Korean relations will be conducive to the peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and to the peaceful achievement of the denuclearization on the

Korean Peninsula.

On the issue of South China Sea, they welcomed the progress made by ASEAN and China in the implementation of Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. They also emphasized the importance of confidence building and the need to explore ways and means for cooperative activities in the region. They welcomed the full reassertion of the sovereignty of Iraq and emphasized the need to ensure substantive materialization of this sovereign status. They also reiterated the central role of the UN in the process of political transition, reconstruction and economic development as well as the establishment of rule of law and public order in the country.—MNA/Xinhua

Prodi will pull troops out of Iraq

ROME, 30 July — A new centre-left government in Italy would pull Italian troops out of Iraq, the former Italian premier and European Commission chief Romano Prodi said here on Friday.

Prodi said on Italian radio that Italy's 3,000 troops would be "withdrawn as an occupying contingent because our task will be to help in the reconstruction of the country". Prodi's statement drew fire from Italian Government MPs who accused him of giving into terrorists and "showing his true, extremist face" in calling the troops occupiers "despite repeated UN resolutions".

The foreign affairs spokeswoman for Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia party also claimed Prodi's statement was "an invitation for terrorists to go to town". — MNA/Xinhua

Five US soldiers killed by roadside bombs in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 31 July — Five US soldiers were killed by roadside bombs in two separate incidents in Baghdad, the US military said on Sunday.

In the first attack on Saturday around 1:40 pm, a patrol hit a roadside bomb in the southern Dora neighbourhood, killing a soldier from Task Force Baghdad, a statement said. Two others were wounded in that incident. Later that evening, around 11 pm, four Task Force Baghdad soldiers were killed when a roadside bomb exploded in southwestern Baghdad.

The names of all the soldiers killed are being withheld pending notification of next of kin. — Internet



A US soldier searches a house for guerillas and weapons in Baghdad's Al-Radwnea District, in this military handout photo taken on 29 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Worry grows as foreigners flock to Iraq's risky jobs

WASHINGTON, 30 July — For hire: more than 1,000 US-trained former soldiers and police officers from Colombia. Combat-hardened, experienced in fighting guerillas and ready for duty in Iraq.

This eye-popping advertisement recently appeared on an Iraq jobs website, posted by an American entrepreneur who hopes to supply security forces for US contractors in Iraq and elsewhere.

If hired, the Colombians would join a swelling population of heavily armed private military forces working in Iraq and other global hot spots. They also would join a growing corps of workers from the developing world who are seeking higher wages in dangerous jobs, what some critics say is a troubling result of efforts by the US to "outsource" its operations in Iraq and other countries.

In a telephone interview from Colombia, the entrepreneur, Jeffrey Shippy,

said he saw a booming global demand for his "private army," and a lucrative business opportunity in recruiting Colombians. Shippy, who formerly worked for DynCorp International, a major US security contractor, said the Colombians were willing to work for \$2,500 to \$5,000 a month, compared with perhaps \$10,000 or more for Americans.

But where Shippy sees opportunity, others see trouble. Rep Jan Schakowsky, an Illinois Democrat, worries that US government contractors are hiring thousands of impoverished former military personnel, with no public scrutiny, little accountability and large hidden costs to taxpayers.—Internet

5.9m earthquake hits Aceh, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 31 July, An earthquake measuring 5.9 on Richter Scale rocked Banda Aceh, the capital of Indonesia's Aceh Province and surrounding areas late Saturday, promoting panic in the city, but no damage or injuries were reported.

The epicenter was about 33 kilometres below the Banda Aceh Sea, some 98 kilometres west-southwest of Banda Aceh, said Mata Le, an official of the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency in Banda Aceh.

The quake occurred at 22:12 pm local time, on Saturday.

"This is the strongest quake occurring in the province in July," *Antara* news agency quoted Mata as saying on Sunday. Twenty to 30 temblors were recorded everyday in the area during the past six months, he added.

Aceh was hit by a strong quake on 26 December last year that produced a deadly tsunami. The Indian Ocean disaster killed more than 176,000 people in 11 countries, and left about 50,000 missing and hundreds of thousands homeless. — *Internet*

Asia's promised tsunami alert system by December

BANGKOK, 30 July — Disaster early warning towers will be in place across Southeast Asia in time for the first anniversary of the 26 December Indian Ocean tsunami that killed more than 200,000 people, the United Nations said on Friday.

The UN Development Programme said it would build five equipment-packed monitoring towers off the coasts of Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam and the Philippines with the help of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC).

The 500,000-US-dollar project should minimize the risk of false alarms like one issued by Thailand last week following an earthquake underneath the Indian Ocean, Suvit Yodmani, head of the non-governmental ADPC, told a news conference.

"If you have too many of these false alarms, then people are going to be quite nonchalant if it happens to be the real thing," he said.

Other countries in the region, including Aus-

tralia, had already installed the Hawaiian-made monitoring systems which send back information to a centralized database known as the Global Sea Level Observing System.

The new towers in Southeast Asia will be connected to that system.

Thailand, where more than 5,000 people were killed by the tsunami which smashed into its Andaman Sea coast at the height of the tourist season, is working on its own monitoring system, including monitoring deep sea buoys.

But the UNDP shrugged off concerns the systems would duplicate each other, saying both local and regional disaster warning systems were needed to prevent a future catastrophe like the

BANGKOK, 30 July — Thailand's central bank Thursday cut down projection for this year's economic growth by one percentage point, citing short-term shocks as reason, local Press reported on Friday.

After the adjustment, the Thai economy is expected to achieve 3.5-4.5-per-cent growth for the whole year, lower than the government's original goal by two percentage points.

"Growth slowed due to inevitable short-term supply shocks, such as the drought that affected pineapple and rubber exports," Atchana Waiquamdee, assistant governor of the Bank of Thailand, was quoted by *Bangkok Post* as saying.

She assured that the shocks should be dissolved and the negative factors would not affect next year's growth.

Still, economic stability has become a major concern due to the rising oil prices and enlarging trade deficit.

The kingdom recorded a trade deficit of 8.1 billion US dollars in the first half of this year with oil imports growing by 104.4 per cent in June, Commerce Minister Thanong Bidaya said on Wednesday.

The Thai Government insisted that the export would pick up in the second half of this year with trade deficit no less than over two billion dollars.

The central bank adjusted the export growth forecast from 8-10 per cent to 12.5-15 per cent, and it also revised up the import forecast to 23.5-26 per cent from 14.5-16.5 per cent.

Revival in the tourist sector, steady import growth and the government's fiscal stimulus and infrastructure investment programmes would help boost economy in the second half of this year, said Atchana.

The bank, however, anticipated the retailing oil prices to stay high at 27.29 baht (0.68 dollars) per litre for 2006, compared with earlier forecasts of 23.28 baht (0.58 dollars).

Diesel prices are projected at 25.34 baht (0.63 dollars) per litre, compared with earlier projections of 19.75 baht (0.49 dollars). — *MNA/Xinhua*



An Indian woman sits near debris in an area badly affected by flood in Mumbai on 30 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Two Britons die in Iraq as bomb blasts convoy

LONDON, 31 July—A roadside bomb blew up beside a British consulate convoy in the southern Iraq city of Basra yesterday, killing two Britons working for a private security firm.

Consulate spokeswoman Karen McLuskie said the convoy was at-

tacked as it passed through a south-western part of the city. It was not clear if anyone else was injured

The victims, both men, worked for the Control Risks Group and were British, said Peter Stevenson of the London-based security firm.

A little-known Iraqi guerilla group said it was behind the attack, according to a posting on the Internet.

'Thanks be to God - this morning ... an attack with an explosive device was carried out on a British convoy, killing two Britons,' said a statement

from the group calling itself the Imam Hussein Brigades. Its authenticity could not be verified.

Reuters television footage showed a dark blue sports utility vehicle with smashed panelling and blood on a side window.

Internet

Official kidnapped, 11 killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 30 July — Guerillas in Iraq struck again on Saturday, whisking away an Iraqi government official at gunpoint and killing at least 11 people in various bombings and ambushes, including one that again targeted foreign diplomats.

Meanwhile, Iraq government officials worked furiously on a draft of a new constitution. Officials have by Monday to determine whether they need a six-month delay or will have the document completed by an 15 August deadline.

The most dramatic strike on Saturday took place near the Iraqi National Theatre, where people from the nation's civil community institutions were developing demands for the committee

writing the constitution.

A suicide car bomb killed six people, including three police officers, and wounded 26 others. In the kidnapping, gunmen in western Baghdad abducted Eman Naji Abdul Razaq, the Health Ministry's director general of the projects department. Four gunmen in two cars stormed Razaq's home in the Mansour neighbourhood and took her during the early afternoon.

Internet



A damaged British consulate vehicle sits next to a road after an attack in the southern Iraq city of Basra on 30 July, 2005. — INTERNET

Three major tasks for emergence of Myanmar democracy

Maung Nyattara

(Continued from yesterday)

It was because Myanmar was just a nation that had to produce raw materials under the domination of the feudalism in the colonial period. And the productive forces in the nation fell into ruin in the World War II. Besides, just after regaining the independence, there emerged multi-colored armed groups that deteriorate the conditions of the remnant productive forces.

In spite of such unforgettable historic events that occurred in the world and in the nation, expatriates, lackeys of the colonialists, and rightist opportunist democrats are rather bigoted and stick to the democratic conception of the west bloc that democracy could be introduced in Myanmar only after the downfall of the dictatorship. Relying on the pressure put by international community on Myanmar, they complained to the United Nations about the Myanmar affairs. To translate the 1990 results into reality, they made an improper demand that the United Nations Security Council would have to put pressure on the nation to hand over State power to the NLD without a State Constitution. At the same time, anti-government elements inside the nation were resorting to all possible ways as a democracy campaign in order that international community would impose economic sanctions against the nation to make the nation and the people get into economic crisis. They did so with the belief that 1988 unrest-like mass demonstrations would cause the fall of the Tatmadaw Government and help NLD come into power.

The anti-government elements inside and outside the country, the US and the west bloc, some groups from foreign nations in favour of the democracy campaign in Myanmar, some members of the opposition party and some members from parties that won in the election in collusion variously accused the government of violation of human rights, and oppression of democracy activists and minority ethnic groups as if the Tatmadaw Government were a ruthless military dictator.

Indeed, all the governments in the world came into being as the tools of suppression based on the difference of social classes. A dictatorial government is a system in which the majority suppress the minority of the people and a democratic government is the system in which the majority suppress the minority. One can know whether a government is a dictatorial one or a democratic one when one finds out which economic system it is practising, market economic system or the centralized economic system that is against the market economic system.

Every government has to encourage the development and durability of the economic system it is representing, so it suppresses those who are opposed to the economic system it is practising.

Modern science political economy says that it is not the state that manages the affairs of society, but the society that manages the affairs of the

society. To amplify the statement, a government does not need to deal with political affairs, administration, laws, education system, health system and social traditions of a society to meet its satisfaction, but it has to address political affairs, administration, judicial and legislative affairs, education and health affairs to fulfil the requirements of the economic system of the human society.

Therefore, being a dictatorial government, democratic government, hard-liner government or flexible government cannot be determined for its being an elected government, civilian government or military government, but for whether it is representing the market economic system or not.

To be convinced objectively the misconception that democracy can be introduced only after the downfall of the dictator and that the present policy for flourishing democracy are harmful to national reconsolidation, proper evolution of the market economic system, peace and democratic affairs. Participate in the seven-point Road Map being implemented by the Tatmadaw Government.

Since it took up the State's responsibilities in 1988, the Tatmadaw Government has abolished the centralized economic system and one-party administration system opened the market-oriented economic system and paved the way for the multi-party system. No one can deny that due to the effective implementation of the tasks for introducing the market-oriented economic system in the nation through the 12 political, economic and social objectives, the government has been able to make a good headway for economic progress that had never been in the colonial period, the AFPFL period or the Lanzin party period.

According to the requirements for effective practice of the market-oriented economic system, the government held the elections in 1990, and the National Convention in 1993 for the framing of a State constitution. The government has been implementing formidable tasks for building of a modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline. Therefore, if the NLD is really willing to see the progress of the nation and the people, it should join hands with the Tatmadaw Government that has been discharging duties thoroughly in the interests of the nation and the people.

The NLD clinging on to the misconception that democracy can be introduced only after the downfall of the dictatorship is resorting to improper ways to seize the State power by means of overthrowing the Tatmadaw Government instead of cooperating with the latter for political and economic reforms and democracy in the nation.

The NLD's wrong policy to eliminate dicta-

torship in order to introduce democracy resulted in May 30 incident at Dabayin between the supporters of the NLD and that of the Tatmadaw. Prior to such an evil incident, there had occurred hijacks, bomb explosions in Thanlyin Oil Refinery, Yangon City Hall, and at the ceremony to temporarily keep Buddha Tooth Relic, the bomb that killed a daughter of Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo, bomb blasts in Yangon City, and detonation of bombs designed to destroy oil pipelines and the pylons of Lawpita Power Station. In addition, there occurred bomb explosions in Zaygyo Market in Mandalay and the trade fair and supermarkets in Yangon. The evil acts were designed to ensure the downfall of dictatorship, to oust the Tatmadaw Government and to mislead the people into thinking that the nation lacks peace and tranquillity because of the reign of the Tatmadaw Government; and that peace and stability can be restored only when the NLD has come into power.

The misconception of seizing State power through pressure put on the nation by international community, UNSC resolution, economic sanctions and political pressure, and mass demonstrations harms the market-oriented economic system, productive forces, national reconsolidation, stability of the State and community peace.

Had the NLD cooperated with the Tatmadaw Government through mutual trust and understanding, there would not have been economic crises, political unrest, terrorist acts, and tragic experiences of being arrested and jailed, and becoming expatriates.

Therefore, the entire national people are urged to see to the implementation of the following three tasks for ensuring stability of the nation, peace, national reconsolidation, and emergence of a modern developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline:

- (1) To make efforts with might and main to double the livestock breeding and industrial production in response to the motto of the State "to double production for proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system".
- (2) To be convinced objectively the misconception that democracy can be introduced only after the downfall of the dictator and that the present policy for flourishing democracy are harmful to national reconsolidation, proper evolution of the market economic system, peace and democratic affairs. And to participate in the seven-point Road Map being implemented by the Tatmadaw Government.
- (3) To crush destructive elements who are committing bomb explosions, manufacturing exaggerated stories with constant vigilance in concert with the national defence forces.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 30-7-2005

Despite pressures, interferences, nation enjoying peace, stability, national solidarity, fruits of development



Education Minister U Than Aung addresses the concluding ceremony of the Special Refresher Course No 4 for Faculty Members. — MNA

YANGON, 31 July— The concluding ceremony of the Special Refresher Course No 4 for Faculty Members conducted by the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, took place at Nawarat Hall of the institute on 29 July. On behalf of Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education U Than Aung made an address at the ceremony.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Brig-Gen Than Tun, Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt, Deputy Attorney-General U Han Shein, Member of

Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Hla Myint Oo, senior military officers, department heads, local authorities, Rector of the CICS (Upper Myanmar) U Aung San Win, Pro-rectors, faculty members and trainee teachers.

On behalf of Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Education U Than Aung said that the conclusion of the refresher course has brought prospects to the trainees, the education sector, and the State.

He continued to say that the trainees would realize objective conditions of the nation and a variety of challenges faced by the nation and the people as they really are when they could combine the knowledge and experiences gained from the course and their intellectual power and a good habit of viewing things with farsighted-

ness. By doing so, the trainees would be very clearly convinced of the drive for transition to democracy through the



Minister U Than Aung presents the best trainee award to Daw Khin Thida Oo of Myingyan Degree College. — MNA

seven-point Road Map, the most appropriate national path for the nation that the government is implementing based on the conviction it had gained by combining the nation's true situations

and the lessons the nation and the people had taken throughout the history.

The government hoped that with a correct

To deal with today's challenges facing the world, the State is trying to build an education system through which technologies of the nation and human resources can be improved.

That is why the national duty in the education sector is to train the people including the youths to know things from the international point of view.

At the same time, the spirit and abilities of the citizens need to be improved in serving the interests of the State and safeguarding the national character, national heritage and social values in accordance with the objectives of the national education promotion plans.

The Union of Myanmar had been standing tall with its high culture among the world's nations for successive eras. However, the nation had experienced unforgettable evil legacies after the occupation of colonialists. The nation today is still facing the interferences of neo-colonialists.

But the country overcame all the difficulties through the strength of national unity in order not to cause the disintegration of the Union. At present also, the government side by side with the Tatmadaw and the people is defending the nation through the strength of national unity.

Despite pressures and interferences, the nation is now enjoying

peace and stability, national solidarity and fruits of development due to its efforts based on the three main national causes.

It is natural that when the nation is on its way to development, there usually come destructive acts. But, the nation only needs to continue its development drive with added momentum.

Faculty members are urged to strive for the nation to stand tall among the global nations with its pride and dignity through the uplift of national education.

They are also urged to play their part in the successful implementation of the seven-point Road Map to shape a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Afterwards, Minister U Than Aung presented awards to outstanding trainees.

Next, the Minister, on behalf of MEC Chairman, accepted K 20,000 presented by the trainees donated to the funds of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image, K 10,000 for Tooth Relic Pagoda (Mandalay), K 10,000 for renovation and maintenance of Bagan ancient pagodas, K 5000 to the funds of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, and K 5000 to National Convention and presented certificates of honour. After the ceremony, Minister U Than Aung cordially greeted the trainees.

MNA



Education Minister U Than Aung cordially greets the trainees of the Special Refresher Course No 4 for Faculty Members. — MNA

outlook on the situations and challenges faced by the State, and the government's efforts and future plans, the trainees would play a more active role in discharge of national duties in the education sector through correct reviews, thoughts and strength. Nowadays, conventional education system is no longer effective. So, the government has laid down and is implementing national education promotion plans for the development of the country. With the achievements in the education sector, the entire national people including students will be imbued with abilities that can serve the interest of the nation.

U Htein Win appointed Ambassador to Brazil

YANGON, 31 July— The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Htein Win, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Federative Republic of Brazil.— *MNA*

Lt-Gen Their Sein attends cash and kind donation ceremonies ...

(from page 1)

Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), governmental and social organizations and other wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, medicine and grams and cash to 12 monasteries and six nunneries in Mingaladon Town-

ship. Mingaladon Township Sangha Nyaka Committee Chairman Shweyeetha Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavasaka Pandita Bhaddanta Vinaya delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. The cash and kind donations for the

monasteries and nunneries in Mingaladon Township included 439 bags of rice, 240 viss of edible oil, 307 viss of gram, 1,706 viss of iodized salt, 6,749 boxes of various kinds of traditional medicine, 50 viss of dried fish, 1,260 packets of Yan Yan noodle, 360 bottles of Scorpion soft drink, 3,412 bars of Padoma soap and K 2,497,050.

At Kalaywatawya Monastery in Naga Cave in Manyangon township, township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman KanU Zetawun Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Nanda Sami Bhaivamsa administered the Five



Lt-Gen Their Sein accepts cash, donated by the wellwishers at cash and kind donation ceremony.— *MNA*

Precepts to the Secretary-1 and congregation. The Secretary-1, the commander, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and senior military officers also offered provisions to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha.

Maha Nayaka Naga Cave Kalaywatawya Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Dwipitaka Kovida Bhaddanta Jagara Bhivamsa delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained. The cash and kind donations for the monasteries and nunneries in Manyangon Township in-

cluded 1,382 bags of rice, 649 viss of edible oil, 5,790 viss of iodized salt, 1,118 tubes of toothpaste, 1,156 viss of grams, 10,908 boxes and 2,820 packets of various kinds of traditional medicine, 100 viss of dried fish, 5,590 bars of soap, 5,590 cakes of soft soap and K 16,970,050. — *MNA*



Maj-Gen Myint Swe offers provisions to a Sayadaw.— *MNA*

Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), governmental and social organizations and other wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, medicine and gram and cash to 31 monasteries and nine nunneries in Manyangon Township. Joint-Secretary of State Sangha

Foreign Minister sends felicitations to Jamaica

YANGON, 1 Aug— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Keith D Knight, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Jamaica, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Jamaica which falls on 1 August 2005. — *MNA*



Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun and Colonel General Staff (Air) Col Nay Win offer provisions to nuns and a Sayadaw.— *MNA*



Agricultural undertakings in Lashio Township inspected

YANGON, 31 July— Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, accompanied by officials concerned, on 28 July morning, inspected plantations of maize, sunflower, jackfruit and ly-

chee under the camp office of the command and gave necessary instructions.

After that, the commander and party viewed round a 300-acre plantation of maize, a 100-acre plantation of coffee and fulfilled the requirements.

Next, the commander and officials proceeded to

the construction site of Shewdagon replica Yandaingang MyoU Pagoda to be built on Wizaya Bumimaha Mingalar Hill at the entrance to Lashio and inspected the project site.

After making inspection, the commander gave instructions to officials.— *MNA*

Commander inspects regional development tasks

YANGON, 31 July— Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, accompanied by officials concerned, on 28 July afternoon inspected measures being taken for durability of Myaukyama Bridge on Monywa-Pale-

Gangaw road section and gave instructions to officials.

The 947 feet wooden bridge has already been upgraded into 110 feet bailey one.

Next, the commander and party proceeded to Kapyugon Dam construction project site near the milepost

No 0/1 on Monywa-Pale-Gangaw road section, where they looked into earth work for construction of the embankment of the dam.

The earthen dam is 700 feet long and 30 feet high. Its storage capacity is 250 acre-feet and it can benefit 30 acres of farmland.— *MNA*

Crush internal and external destructionists through united strength of the entire national people

(from page 16)

Those who disturb the seven-point Road Map of the State are common enemy of the people. Therefore, all the entire people are to actively participate in respective sectors for implementation of the seven-point Road Map.

Shan State (East) USDA executive U Peter Thaug Sein said that Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference and the meeting of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation asked the Government to resign from International

and employees, ILO put the workers into misery with political interference without serving their interests.

In conclusion, he urged all the participants to crush internal and external destructionists through united strength of the entire national people, sustain progress of the State in stability and peace, build a peaceful nation through national unity and march towards a new discipline-flourishing, modern, developed, peaceful and democratic nation to be able to successfully



Members of panel of patrons presiding over the mass meeting in Shan State (East).—MNA

country on narcotic drug, human rights and democracy, she noted.

The whole country, in accord with four-point people's desire, will have to condemn

the personal interest of a group who opposed the State and its national interest.

Secretary of Kengtung District USDA U Sai Lone Saing

of the Union. Although Myanmar regained her independence, some regions are still under-developed. Anti-government organizations from outside are very few in

of the Union. Although Myanmar regained her independence, some regions are still under-developed. Anti-government organizations from outside are very few in



U Peter Thaug Sein of Shan State (East) USDA. MNA

The whole country will have to condemn and oppose the act of inhuman terrorism

and oppose the act of inhumans terrorism that the people had been the innocent victims of bomb blasts, occurred in Yangon and Mandalay, and the acts of the fugi-

launch the counter-offensive against them, she said.

She said Myanmar launched many anti-narcotic operations as the national task. Myanmar

reported on the motion "Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people" tabled by executive U Peter Thaug Sein of Shan State USDA and executive Daw Nan War War Khine of Township Women's Affairs Organization for approval.

Daw Van Sai of Shan State (East) Maternal and Child Welfare Association took part in the discussions.

She said as a first step of the seven-point Road Map, the National Convention was held and 104 basic principles were laid down and arrangements are under way to lay down detailed basic principles. She said national solidarity is important for perpetuation

comparison with the population of 54 million. Therefore, destructive acts are to be removed with the unity of the people.

She urged the people not to believe what national traitors tell them. The Union of Myanmar stands tall among the nations of the world due to diligence of patriots with strong national spirit.

Based on patriotism and nationalistic spirit, all national people have to safeguard the Union for its perpetuation.

Next, Secretary of Kengtung District War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee Major Lu Ka (Retd) said Myanmar regained her independence

(See page 10)

Labour Organization. Indeed, ILO gives the entire workers and the people of Myanmar a lot of troubles. Therefore, it is necessary that the Government should decide independently to resign from ILO.

It can be found that FTUB led by expatriate terrorist Maung Maung (a) Pyithit Nyunt Wai is committing acts to cause disintegration of the nation using the name of ILO with the assistance from abroad. Despite being an international organization responsible for solving social problems between employers

reach the goal of the State through the united strength of the entire people. Daw Nan War War Khine of Kengtung Township WAO spelt out that the dissidents who have ignored stability, peace and development of the State have spread the ridiculous news, made by the fugitives through the insurgents and the so-called refugees who are active in the border, and some foreign media are airing the skyful lies in collusion with the expatriates in synchronization. They are making one-sided accusations against our



Daw Nan War War Khine of Kengtung WAO. MNA

tive Sao Kham Hpa who had tried to secede from the Union.

We are now con-

and the US conducted opium survey ten times from 1993 to 2003. The amount of opium production decreased to 290 metric tons in 2004 from 2,500 metric tons in 1993. Myanmar continued its efforts to fight against total eradication of opium. However, some western nations ignored the true facts.

She urged some powerful nations and those with negative views to see the objective conditions of Myanmar with sincerity. She denounced the external pressure representing

Myanmar has launched many anti-narcotic operations as the national task. Myanmar and the US conducted opium survey ten times from 1993 to 2003. The amount of opium production decreased to 290 metric tons in 2004 from 2,500 metric tons in 1993. Myanmar has continued its efforts to fight against total eradication of opium. However, some western nations ignored the true facts.



U Sai Lone Saing of Kengtung District USDA. MNA

Based on patriotism and nationalistic spirit, all national people have to safeguard the Union for its perpetuation

(from page 9)
for nearly 60 years. Myanmar lagged behind in economic and technological development in comparison with regional countries. Internal strife and insurgency lasted over 40 years.

The present Tatmadaw government is making endeavours for emergence of a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing nation.

It is also making efforts for strong economy

It is important to prevent the danger of internal and external destructive elements. She said she will not accept any situation which is under the control of neo-colonialists.

Next, Secretary of Kengtung Township USDA U Sai Hwam Nwe sought the approval for the motion calling for participation in the nation-building tasks and successful realization of the seven-point Road Map with



Members of panel of patrons chanting slogans at the conclusion of the mass meeting in Kengtung.

MNA



Participants chanting slogans for crushing internal and external destructive elements at the mass meeting in Kengtung. — MNA

and intellectual development of the people. These two points are basic foundations in build-

ing the Union Spirit, upholding Our Three Main National Causes tabled by Daw Van Sai



Daw Ban
Sai of Shan
State (East)
MCWA.
MNA

ing a democratic nation. The government has built the necessary infrastructures.

of Shan State (East) Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Secretary of Kengtung Dis-

Powerful nations and those with negative views are to see objective conditions of Myanmar with sincerity

The present Tatmadaw government is making endeavours for emergence of a peaceful modern, developed and discipline-flourishing nation. It is also making efforts for strong economy and intellectual development of the people. These two points are basic foundations in building a democratic nation.

trict War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee Major Lu Ka (Retd).

Afterwards, the meeting chairman sought the approval from the mass meeting and approved the two resolutions.

Later, the meeting ended with the chanting of the slogans. — MNA



Daw Nan Thweta and Daw Nan Hwan Htwe of Kengtung Township USDA . — MNA



U Sai
Hwam
Nwe of
Kengtung
Township
USDA
Secretary.
MNA



Maj Lu Ka
(Retd)of
Secretary of
Supervisory
Committee
for
Kengtung
District
WVO.
MNA

7,200 saplings planted at Yangon Division Tree Planting Ceremony for 2005

YANGON, 31 July — The Yangon Division Tree Planting Ceremony for 2005 was held at the junction of Khayebin Road and Circular Road near Malit Village of Hlegu Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung.

Also present were Patron of Yangon Division Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thet Htay, departmental heads, No 1 Military Region Commander



Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung pouring water on a tree at the tree planting ceremony. YANGON COMMAND

Col Myat Thu, Mingaladon Station Commander Col Win Naung, local authorities, social organizations and local people.

First, the commander delivered an address on the occasion. Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung explained growing of trees as environmental conservation and support in social, economic and health sector of the society.

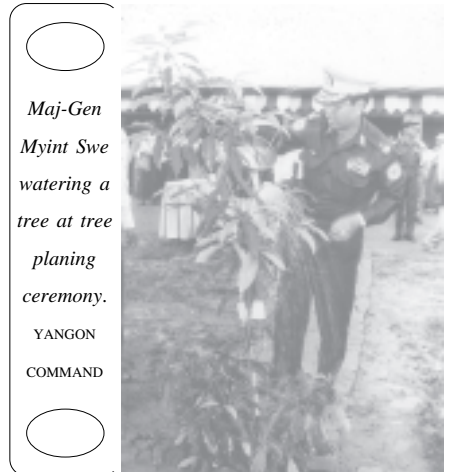
The commander, the minister and the patron of Yangon Division WAO distributed saplings to those present. Afterwards, Maj-Gen Myint Swe planted a star-flower sapling, Brig-Gen Thein Aung Gangaw sapling (*Mesua ferrea*), and Daw Khin Thet Htay a star-flower sapling.

Officials grew Gangaw, star-flower and mahogany saplings.

Next, they viewed active participation of departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people in the tree planting ceremony.

A total of 7,200 saplings were grown in today's tree planting ceremony. Likewise, over 1.5 million saplings have been grown in districts.

After the ceremony, the commander and party proceeded to the site for implementing Hsinphon river water pumping project. Deputy Director U Htay Lwin of Water Resource Utilization Department reported on the plan to implement Hsinphon river water pumping project and Ngwenatha river water pumping project in Hlegu Township, Myaungdaga river water pumping project in Hmawby Township and Sangyiwa river



Maj-Gen Myint Swe watering a tree at tree planting ceremony. YANGON COMMAND

water pumping project in Mingaladon Township for supplying water to summer paddy fields, and Yangon Division Deputy Engineer U Win Aung of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise on arrangements made for supplying power to the Hsinphon project site.

The commander gave necessary instructions and attended to the needs. Next, they inspected the site for the project.

At Shwenatha Orchid Farm, they viewed round growing of local and foreign orchid strains. — MNA

Agricultural development inspected in Hinthada District

YANGON, 31 July — Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of South-West Command, accompanied by members of the Division Agricultural Supervisory Committee, viewed ploughing tasks in model plot for monsoon paddy in Kwinkauk Village-tract of Ingapu Township, Hinthada District, on 28 July.

Ingapu Township has put 107,265 acres of land under monsoon

paddy against the target of 115,006 acres for 2005-06. Next, the commander attended the ceremony to free fish into Kunchaung Dam near Tatkon Village of Kyangin Township. The commander and party released over 200,000 fish into the dam.

The commander inspected maintenance of the dam, flow of water into it and functions of the control tower and gave necessary instructions to officials.

Afterwards, Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung oversaw conditions of

bridges and road sections along Pathein-Monywa Road.

At Ma Mya Dam construction project site in Myanaung Township, he inspected progress in building the spillway. The commander heard reports on implementation of the project by Project Director U Kyaw Myint Hlaing and fulfilled the requirements.

Ma Mya Dam is 11,800 feet long and 150 feet high. The earth dam will irrigate 10,000 acres of farmland in Ingapu Township. — MNA

Minister inspects Hlinethaya Industrial Zone



Maj-Gen Saw Lwin inspects CNG vehicles of Shwe Pyittainghtaung Co Ltd.—INDUSTRY-2

YANGON, 31 July — Chairman of Working Committee for Myanma Industrial Development, In-charge of Hlinethaya Industrial Zone Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Saw Lwin together with

Hla Tun presented the first prize to Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank Team and Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe the second prize to Myanmar Economic Bank Team.

The officials awarded the prizes to the respective winners and the Governor of CBM joint-third prize to the teams of Customs Department and Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.

Minister Maj-Gen

Director-General U Khin Maung of Directorate of Myanma Industrial Planning and officials arrived at management committee office of Hlinethaya Industrial Zone and heard reports on matters related to the factories in the Industrial Zone, the assembling of the autos and the CNG vehicles by chairman of the management committee U Myat Thin Aung and executives, and the minister attended to the needs.

The minister proceeded to Shwethaya Auto Co Ltd and inspected production of the CNG vehicles and 10-ton truck. He urged the officials to speed up conversion of CNG vehicles and systematically

deal with the auto production in accord with the set standards.

On arrival at Myanmar Steel and Cement Co Ltd, the minister looked into the iron foundry industry where managing director of the company U Myint Soe conducted him round the worksite.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin also inspected the assembling of 2-ton truck and mini passenger buses and progress of the vehicles converting into the CNG ones and called for the officials to add momentum to the tasks of converting into the CNG vehicles and cooperate with departmental concerned if necessary.

MNA

Prizes of F & R Ministry's table-tennis tournament awarded

YANGON, 31 July — The Ministry of Finance and Revenue held

the prize-presenting ceremony of the second inter-department table-tennis tournament at Aung San Gymnasium this afternoon.

Among the spectators were Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and wife, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung and wife, departmental heads and their wives, team managers, coaches and athletes.

After the tournaments, the ceremony to present prizes took place.

Minister Maj-Gen



Maj-Gen Hla Tun presents prize to Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank Team.—F&R

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New study widens pill risks, benefits for cancer

GENEVA, 30 July — Women who take the birth control pill could increase their risk of cervical and breast cancer, scientists said on Friday.

A review of research by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in Lyon, France, part of the World Health Organization, concluded that oral contraceptives protected against some types of cancer but might trigger others.

Previously, liver cancer was indicated as a risk for women who take the pill, IARC said. But the latest research shows cervical and breast cancer are also possible risks.

The pill can protect against endometrial cancer and ovarian cancer, IARC said, calling for more research to determine whether the total net

benefits caused by the protective and carcinogenic effects were positive or negative.

"It is possible that the overall net public health outcome may be beneficial, but a rigorous analysis is required to demonstrate this," the agency said.

"This new information about cancer risks — and also protection against cancer in the case of oral contraceptives — makes it important that each woman who uses these hormonal products discuss the risks and benefits with her doctor," IARC said in a statement. At the same time, the IARC

working group of 21 scientists elevated the warning on hormonal menopausal therapy to "carcinogenic" from "possibly carcinogenic".

The scientists concluded, based on an expanded study, that "combined menopausal therapy" increased the risk of breast cancer and in some cases endometrial cancer.

Worldwide, around 100 million women use oral contraceptives. In addition, around 20 million women in developed countries had used hormonal menopausal therapy.

MNA/Reuters

China to protect grottoes against water-erosion

TAIYUAN, 30 July — Chinese experts are experimenting with new methods to cure water-erosion in some of the country's endangered ancient grottoes.

Water-erosion, including mountain water infiltration, rain and coagulated hydrosphere, are greatly responsible for the damage of some valuable rock relic sites across China, said Yuan Daoxian, an academician with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, at the ongoing grottoes seminar held at Yungang Grottoes in north China's Shanxi Province.

At least 21 of the 45 main caves in the Yungang Grottoes, a 1,500-year-old World Heritage site, have been suffering from water erosion, according to Huang Kezhong, a distin-

guished expert on the study of rock and earth relics.

The fate of other famous grottoes, including the Dunhuang, Dazu, Maijishan and Longmen, are also under threat as cracks, sediment and disfigurement of frescoes have been found, experts attending the international seminar pointed out.

Chinese experts are researching new methods, including covering the top of the caves with special waterproof soil layers, measuring the coagulated water with newly developed equipment, and building eaves for the grottoes, to ease the impact of water-erosion.

China has been using some physical and medi-

cal measures to protect its valuable grotto sites over the past years. Experts stressed that different ways should be adopted for the purpose in accordance with the specific conditions of the caves.

Grottoes are man-made caves built mostly on cliffs to house statues, frescos and architectures. With more than 1,500 years of history, the Chinese grottoes are products of Buddhism and traditional Chinese culture.

China's four grottoes of Dunhuang, Dazu, Longmen and Yungang are on the list of World Cultural Heritage sites of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

MNA/Xinhua

Regional environment pact not detrimental to Kyoto Protocol

NEW DELHI, 30 July — India said on Friday that a regional environment pact to deal with global warming is not detrimental either to commitment made in the Kyoto Protocol or to the developing countries like India.

"The regional pact is only a vision statement. We have not made any commitment on reducing greenhouse gas emission in it," India's Environment Minister A Raja said in the Parliament.

Responding to concerns raised by some parliamentarians, the minister said India had not succumbed to US pressure in signing the regional pact, which some members alleged was dangerous to humanity.

India is a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol. However, the United States, which is one of the major greenhouse gas emitters, is not a signatory to the protocol.

Six Asia-Pacific nations — Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and the United States — announced on Thursday in Laos to form the Asia-

Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate.

A vision statement announced at a joint Press conference said that the six nations will work together to create a new partnership to develop, deploy and transfer cleaner, more efficient technologies and to meet national pollution reduction, energy security and climate change concerns, consistent with the principles of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The partnership brings together key developing and developed countries in the region to address the challenges of climate change, energy security and air pollution, in a way that strives to encourage economic development and reduce poverty.

The statement empha-

sized that the partnership will be consistent with and contribute to efforts under the UNFCCC and will complement, but not replace, the Kyoto Protocol.

It said the partnership will collaborate to promote and create an enabling environment for the development, diffusion, deployment and transfer of existing and emerging cost-effective, cleaner technologies and practices, through concrete and substantial cooperation so as to achieve practical results.

The partnership will also cooperate on the development, diffusion, deployment and transfer of longer-term transformational energy technologies that will promote economic growth while enabling significant reductions in greenhouse gas intensities.—MNA/Xinhua

Edgware Road underground reopens after bomb

LONDON, 30 July — London's Edgware Road underground station reopened on Friday just over three weeks after a suspected suicide bomber detonated explosives in a packed rush-hour train killing six and wounding dozens.

Transport for London (TfL) said District Line trains were stopping at the station in the west of the capital, although there was still no Circle Line because of the 7 July bombings.

Police say one of four bombers was travelling westwards on a Circle Line train he had caught at King's Cross Station when he detonated a bomb carried in a rucksack at Edgware Road.

Relatives of those

killed or maimed in the attack visited the station last weekend to pay their respects to their loved ones by laying flowers and other tributes.

The terrorist attacks on three underground trains and a double-decker bus killed over 50 and wounded hundreds, some seriously. Two weeks later on 21 July there were four botched attacks on the underground and a bus in the city. Extra police and un-

derground staff have been drafted in to help reassure nervous Londoners worried about travelling on the capital's "Tube", one of the world's busiest which normally carries three million passengers a day.

Although some commuters have eschewed the underground and bus networks in favour of cycling or driving, most people continue to travel on London's public transport.—MNA/Reuters

Romania heatwave kills 13, hundreds in hospital

BUCHAREST, 30 July — At least 13 people have died of sunstroke and dehydration in a heatwave that hit Romania two days ago, hospital officials said on Friday.

Bucharest residents sought relief in the capital's rivers and lakes as temperatures soared to 36 degrees Celsius (96.80 Fahrenheit), sending hundreds to hospitals with heat-related complaints.

"In Bucharest alone, there are 13 dead," emergency services doctor Anca Draghici told Antena 3 television. "Some of them were al-

ready suffering from heart problems and the heat contributed to their death."

To cool down, many people jumped into the Dambovitza River running through the city while others carried large umbrellas to shelter them from the sun.

Emergency services said there had been 1,300 ambulance requests in the past 30 hours, with peo-

ple suffering from sunstroke, dehydration and high blood pressure. Many people fainted because of the heat.

Doctors advised people to drink plenty of water, dress lightly and stay indoors to avoid the sun during the heatwave, which meteorologists said would last until Sunday, with rains expected early next week.

MNA/Reuters

Drive safely

မညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပို့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်သွား

“Discovery” crew to look again for shuttle damage

Houston, 30 July — Astronauts on shuttle *Discovery* were set to make another inspection of *Discovery*'s wings and belly on Friday for possible damage from flying debris that struck the spacecraft shortly after launch.

NASA officials said they think the shuttle is in good shape and not in danger of a *Columbia*-like disaster, but has a few nicks they want to study further.

The astronauts will use a laser-equipped robot arm and television cameras to scan the spacecraft as they did earlier in the mission.

Videos showed loose insulation foam from *Discovery*'s external fuel tank appearing to strike the orbiter wing, but the US space agency said it has found no significant damage.

“The indications are very good that we don't see anything major,” said deputy shuttle programme manager Wayne Hale. “Today we're going to know that all those tiles are in place and that any of these chips that we see do not pose a significant threat to the crew.”

Loose foam from the fuel tank knocked a hole in the heat shield of *Columbia*'s wing when it launched on 16 January, 2003, and 16 days later the shuttle disintegrated over Texas as it glided toward Florida for landing, killing its seven astronauts.

Investigators blamed the disaster on superheated gases from the Earth's atmosphere entering the breach and destroying the spacecraft.

Discovery's flight, which came after 2-1/2 years of work and one billion US dollars in safety expenditures, is the first since *Colombia* and may be the last for a while after NASA on Wednesday announced it would not fly again until the foam problem is fixed.

Officials said they do not know when that will be. Shuttle *Atlantis* is scheduled to fly in September, but that

mission appears in doubt now.

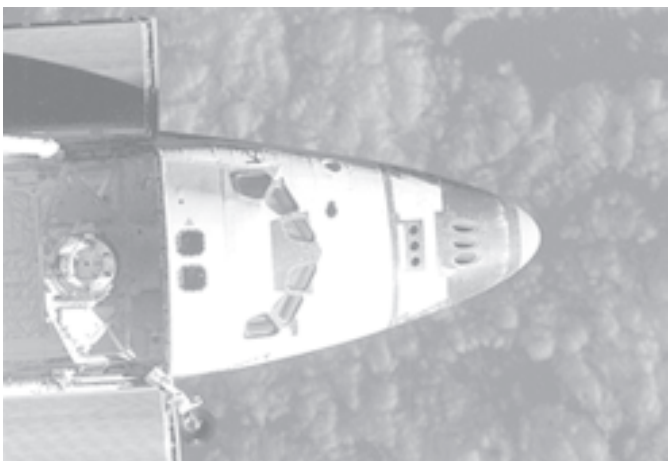
Discovery is flying with the *International Space Station* 220 miles above the Earth after they linked up on Thursday. It was the first shuttle visit to the 95-billion-US-dollar station since November 2002.

On board *Discovery* is an Italian-built, barrel-shaped “multi-purpose logistics module”, more colourfully known as *Raffaello*, filled with 15 tons of supplies and equipment for the station and its two-man crew.

Raffaello was to be removed by robot arm from the shuttle cargo bay and docked to the station on Friday for unloading.

Later, the astronauts will reload it with an estimated 13 tons of junk that have piled up on the station the past 2-1/2 years for transport to Earth.

MNA/Reuters



A view from the *International Space Station* shows the nose of the US space shuttle *Discovery*, on 28 July, 2005. *Discovery*'s commander said the shuttle's crew was disappointed that NASA had not solved the foam debris problem that caused the *Columbia* disaster two years ago.—INTERNET

Mini-tornado wrecks havoc on parts of Birmingham

LONDON, 30 July — A mini-tornado with winds that reached 130 miles per hour hit parts of Birmingham on Thursday, taking roofs off buildings, uprooting trees and injuring dozens of people, some of them seriously.

The city council set up an emergency centre for people left temporarily homeless as the rescue services helped homeowners clear up the aftermath.

The tornado which centred on the King's Heath part of England's second city lasted only a short time but left devastation in its wake.

“I saw a huge swirling column of wind coming towards us,” Naveed Ahmed, 12, told the *Sun* tabloid newspaper.

“It was three times as high as the house. People were being blown along the street,” the schoolboy said.

Local residents were evacuated from their homes because of fears that falling debris could lead to more injuries.

On Friday, West Midlands police said utility workers will shut down electricity in the morning to help in the clean-up operation.

“About 70 per cent of households in the Small Heath, Moseley and King's Heath areas of the city will be affected,” a spokeswoman said.

Store worker Dave Doherty told the *Daily Mirror* of the panic which gripped people as they realized what was happening.

“Within seconds it was chaos. Things were crashing around and stuff

was falling off the roof,”

the 20-year-old said.

“People started screaming.”

Whole rows of terraced houses were left without roofs and cars had been tipped on their sides. Most of the injured suffered from cuts and bruises.

“It went dark and there was this incredible wind,”

Les Hampstead told the *Daily Express*.

“The roof came crashing down. There's nothing left of the top of my house,” the 51-year-old said. Birmingham City Council said parts of the affected areas remained cordoned off to allow building surveyors to assess property damage.

MNA/Reuters

Two hurt after US helicopter crashes in Afghanistan

KABUL, 31 July — A US *Apache* helicopter crashed during a routine training mission in Afghanistan, injuring the two crewmen aboard, a military statement said.

The *AH-64 Apache* came down on Friday near Bagram, the main base for US-led forces in Afghanistan to the north

of the capital, it said.

The military also said two US servicemen and their Afghan interpreter were hurt on Saturday

when their patrol was hit by a makeshift bomb in the central province of Uruzgan.

US-led forces have lost at least a dozen helicopters in Afghanistan due to technical problems, operating conditions or hostile fire since invading the country to overthrow the radical Taleban government in late 2001.

The statement said Friday's crash was not believed to have been caused by armed group, but it comes a day after a giant *Chinook CH-47* helicopter was destroyed by a hard landing during an operation to hunt down armed group in the restive south.

Taleban guerillas said they had shot down the chopper in Thursday's incident, but had no proof. There were no casualties.

In April, a *CH-47* helicopter crashed during a dust storm in Ghazni Province, killing 15 American servicemen and three civilian contractors aboard.

MNA/Reuters

NASA telescope finds life component in distant galaxies

LOS ANGELES, 30 July — NASA's *Spitzer* space telescope has detected organic compounds that could make up life in a far and young universe, astronomers said on Thursday.

These organic molecules, known as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, are comprised of carbon and hydrogen. The molecules are considered to be among the building blocks of life, said researchers at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California.

Using the highly sensitive *Spitzer* telescope, astronomers discovered these organic molecules in galaxies which existed when our universe was only about 3.5 billion years old, or one-fourth of its current age.

With its ability to observe things billions of light years away, *Spitzer* is the first telescope to see these molecules so far back in time.

The molecules, very common on Earth, are pervasive in galaxies like our

own Milky Way. They play a significant role in star and planet formation, astronomers said.

“This is 10 billion years further back in time than we've seen before,” said Lin Yan of the Spitzer Science Centre. Yan is the lead author of a study to be published in the 10 August issue of the *Astrophysical Journal*.

“Those galaxies are 10 billion light years away from the Earth, so what we see now actually happened 10 billion years ago,” she told *Xinhua*. “In this study we did not directly link the molecules with life, but it's such a large time span that anything may have happened,” she said. “The molecules may have evolved into more complex matters, or even life”.

MNA/Xinhua



A trolley runs past the former Hiroshima Commercial Exhibition Hall, now widely known as the ‘Atomic Bomb Dome’, in Hiroshima, western Japan, on 30 July, 2005. Once the city's symbolic building receives two credits today as infamous symbol of what the outcome of the use of nuclear arms and UNESCO's World Heritage.—INTERNET

S P O R T S

Atletico Madrid agree to sell Gronkjaer to Stuttgart

MADRID, 30 July— Atletico Madrid have agreed to sell Denmark winger Jesper Gronkjaer to VfB Stuttgart.

"It wasn't easy to make this decision but the offer from Germany was very interesting and perhaps life will be easier than here in Spain," Gronkjaer told Atletico's web site on Friday. "I can speak German and the culture is more similar to that of Denmark's. Also I will be much closer to my family which is very important to me."

The Spanish newspaper Marca said earlier in the

day that Stuttgart would pay a fee of around six million euros (7.26 million US dollars) for Gronkjaer.

The 27-year-old put in a transfer request because he was unable to settle in the Spanish capital after joining from Birmingham City in January.

Media reports said Atletico paid English Premier League Birmingham a fee of two million euros for the former Chelsea

winger.

Despite making a promising start to his Atletico career, Gronkjaer's season was cut short when he cracked a bone in his right leg at the start of May.

"When I signed for Atletico I had every intention of completing my contract. But the world is a strange place and things didn't go as I had hoped," he said.

Atletico moved to fill his place by signing Real Zaragoza's Argentine international winger Luciano Galletti earlier on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

Chelsea edge out DC United in second tour friendly

LANDOVER (Maryland), 30 July— English Premier League champions Chelsea rallied from a goal down to overcome DC United 2-1 in a friendly on Thursday, registering a second consecutive victory in the middle leg of a three-match US tour.

Displaying little urgency in the opening exchanges, the west London side fell be-

hind to the Major League Soccer champions in the 31st minute, when defender Bobby Boswell rose unmarked to head home a Christian Gomez corner.

The goal acted as a wake-up call for Chelsea, who were back on level terms just four minutes later after Irish winger Damian Duff had picked up a pass from new signing Shaun Wright-Phillips and driven an unstoppable shot past home keeper Nick Rimando.

Chelsea continued to pile pressure on the DC United defence and Argentine striker Herman Crespo added a second goal nine minutes into the second half, tapping in a pinpoint pass from Dutch winger Arjen Robben.

The home side introduced Freddy Adu in the second half but the teenage prospect was unable to make an impact on the game as Chelsea dominated possession with their slick passing. The English side opened their tour with a 1-0 victory over AC Milan in Massachusetts last weekend and conclude the trip with another match against the Italian champions in New York on Sunday.—MNA/Reuters

Australia captain Moore joins Newcastle

LONDON, 30 July— Australia captain Craig Moore has joined Newcastle United, the Premier League club said on their web site on Friday.

The 29-year-old defender signed a two-year contract after passing a medical. Free agent Moore has been without a club since ending a brief spell with German Bundesliga team Borussia Moenchengladbach at the end of last season. "I've watched the Premiership for many years and it's always been a place where I would like to play," said Moore. "I am really delighted to be given this opportunity.—MNA/Reuters



Michael Ballack of FC Bayern Munich jubilates after making a goal against Japan's Jubilo Iwata during a friendly match at the National Stadium, on 30 July, 2005. At left, Japan's Kentaro Ohi. The German champions defeated Jubilo 3-1.—INTERNET

Panathinaikos close to signing Southampton's Nilsson

ATHENS, 30 July— Swedish international Mikael Nilsson is due in Athens later on Friday to complete a move from English Second Division Southampton to top Greek side Panathinaikos, according to local media reports.

Panathinaikos, who will discover their opponents in the third qualifying round of the Champions League on Friday, have made no official comment.

But national broadcaster ERT said Nilsson, an ever-present for Sweden at Euro 2004, would be in Athens to complete negotiations.

The Southampton website said the 27-year-old utility player would cost a fee of 600,000 euros (724,000 US dollars).—MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | 8 | G | 8 | N | 8 | 8 | 8 | S | 8 | 8 | W | |
| S | T | R | A | I | T | 8 | A | W | E | I | G | H |
| Y | 8 | A | 8 | G | 8 | G | 8 | I | 8 | N | 8 | I |
| C | O | N | C | E | A | L | 8 | N | I | G | H | T |
| H | 8 | T | 8 | R | 8 | A | 8 | D | 8 | 8 | 8 | E |
| I | B | E | X | 8 | A | D | U | L | T | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| C | 8 | D | 8 | L | 8 | I | 8 | E | 8 | R | 8 | S |
| 8 | 8 | 8 | R | E | L | A | X | 8 | B | E | S | T |
| W | 8 | A | 8 | A | 8 | T | 8 | L | 8 | S | 8 | E |
| O | R | B | I | T | 8 | O | R | I | F | I | C | E |
| R | 8 | O | 8 | H | 8 | R | 8 | T | 8 | D | 8 | R |
| D | O | D | G | E | D | 8 | G | R | O | U | S | E |
| Y | 8 | E | 8 | R | 8 | 8 | 8 | E | 8 | E | 8 | D |

Peirsol, Jones take world record breaking wins in swimming

MONTREAL, 30 July— Aaron Peirsol of the United States and Leisel Jones of Australia became the king and the queen here on Friday as both of them win their races at world record time.

Peirsol is the unexaggerated dominator of men's backstroke. In the 200m backstroke final on Friday, Peirsol led the field of eight finalists by a long way and touched the final wall at 1:54.66, wiping 0.08 off the previous world record established by himself in 2004.

Adding this gold with the one he won in the 100m on Tuesday, the backstroke specialist again bagged home two individual golds.

As the world record holder in 100m and 200m backstroke, the 22-year-old triumphed in the two events at 2004 Athens Olympics.

At 2003 World Championships in Barcelona, Peirsol also grabbed the two titles and broke the championships records in both of the events.

"I'm starting to feel a bit possessive of this event. I have a good grip on it," said Peirsol. "Everybody else is catching up really fast though, I didn't think I was going to break it, but I knew if I'd break it I would win."

Markus Rogan of Austria, who clinched two silver medals in the backstrokes in Athens, fell behind at 1:56.63, with American Ryan Lochte finishing third at 1:57.00.

Talking about chasing Peirsol, Rogan said, "It's fun, inspiring and a big challenge. I have got close to him

in the short course, but in the long course, there is still a two seconds around gap. I'm a little bit frustrated, because it seemed that I'm not in progress."

Compared with Peirsol, the Aussie Jones was not in the shade at all. After capturing her first ever individual world title in women's 100m breaststroke on Tuesday, the 19-year-old showed her arousing shape in Friday's 200m breaststroke final, winning the gold at world-record breaking time of 2:21.72. The previous world record of 2:22.44 was established by American Amanda Beard.

When Olympic gold medalist Beard gave up to defend her world champion title in Montreal, Jones not only took over the gold but also the world record.

Jones shed tears again in the swimming pool. "I could hardly breathe, I'm in shock," said Jones.

Having missed the top podium for many times, the "lethal" breaststroke specialist finally turned over in Montreal. German Anne Poleska, who was third in the event in Athens, took the silver at 2:25.84 and Mirna Jukic of Austria finished third at 2:27.11.

Jones' teammate Jodie Henry was also happy as she rushed to take victory in women's 100m free at 54.18 after her world record breaking win in the event at Athens Olympics.—MNA/Xinhua

PSG start Ligue 1 season in style with 4-1 win

PARIS, 30 July— Ambitious Paris St Germain started the Ligue 1 campaign in style as they humbled Metz 4-1 at home in the opening match of the new season on Friday.

The Parisians got the perfect start by taking the lead after just five minutes thanks to new signing Bonaventure Kalou, who headed home a corner from midfielder Jerome Rothen.

The Ivory Coast striker, who joined from AJ Auxerre last month, created their second goal with a fine pass to Edouard Cisse and he scored from close range just before the interval.

Rothen put the result beyond doubt three minutes into the second half, although South Korea's Ahn Jung-hwan reduced the deficit with a 15-metre shot in the 68th minute.

Midfielder Christophe Landrin wrapped up the match by heading home a cross from Kalou 10 minutes from time.

PSG will be delighted to have made a winning start after they failed to snatch a European berth last season.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Wayne Rooney (C) watches the ball after scoring his team's first goal against Japan's Urawa Reds' goalkeeper Ryota Tsuzuki (R) and Hajime Hosogai (L) during their friendly soccer match at Saitama Stadium in Saitama, north of Tokyo on 30 July, 2005.—INTERNET

Bomb explosion injures 3 in southern Philippine city

MANILA, 31 July — A bomb went off in a market in General Santos City in southern Philippines on Saturday afternoon, wounding at least three people, said officials.

The improvised explosive, placed on a tricycle, went off near the gate of the public market around 3:00 pm, said South Cotabato Province Governor Daisy Fuentes.

Vendors were ordered to vacate the area after two other home-made explosive devices were found near the area, before bomb experts successfully detonated them.

Fuentes said police in the city were already on red alert in the morning because of a bomb

threat. But they failed to find the bombs. A bomb explosion killed 14 people in a public market in General Santos City in December last year.

A dispute over the selling of pork in the market opposed by local Muslims was believed to cause December's bomb attack. Another bombing attack took place in February this year in the city killing four people. Police said the Abu Sayyaf group was responsible for the attack.—MNA/Xinhua



Hinzigon Home for the Aged Administrative Board Vice-Chairman Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd) accepts K 100,000 for three-storey hospital for the aged donated by wife Daw Lin Yan Na and son U Myo Han and brothers, sisters and grandchildren of 113, 15th Street, 7 ward, Lanmadaw Township in memory of the late U Chan Tain Boon.—H

Iran says US failure behind Ahmadinejad accusations

TEHERAN, 31 July — Iran said US accusations that its president-elect Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had helped take dozens of US diplomats hostage after the 1979 Islamic Revolution were due to its failure to influence Iran and its elections.

The White House accuses Ahmadinejad of being a leader of the radical students who stormed the US Embassy in Teheran, but says it is still trying to determine if he was one of the hostage-takers that held 52 US diplomats for 444 days. Ahmadinejad, a conservative opposed to rebuilding ties with the United States, takes over as president next week.

"Such remarks in the run-up to the transfer of power in the Islamic Republic of Iran derive from US disillusion with Iran's independent policies and our nation's ignoring the White House demand to boycott the elections," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said in a statement late on Friday.

The United States says the Islamic Republic is a state sponsor of terrorism and accuses Iran of trying to develop nuclear weapons, charges Teheran strongly denies.

Ahmadinejad was the surprise winner of June elections which ended eight years of reformist government in Iran. The United States and Iranian

opposition exiles called for a boycott of the polls, but turnout was still higher than 50 per cent. Iran denies Ahmadinejad had anything to do with the seizure of the embassy, known as the "nest of spies" in Iran.

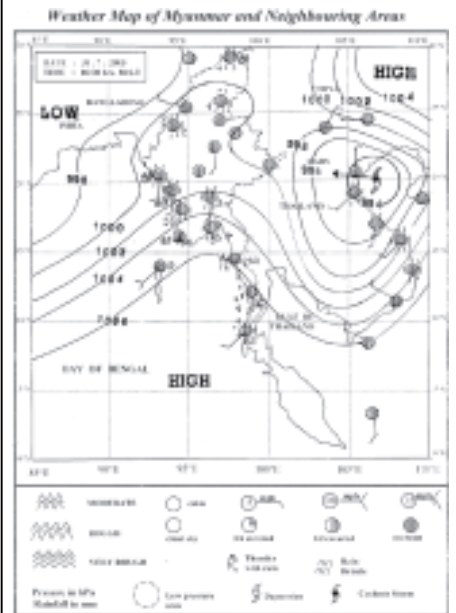
A CIA analysis has concluded Ahmadinejad was not the man in photographs of a hostage-taker identified by former US hostages as the newly elected Iranian leader and widely published in US media last month.

"As expressed earlier and confirmed by American sources, the president-elect had no role in the incident at the nest of spies," Asefi said. "America's enormous security bodies are incapable of assessing simple, clear issues."—MNA/Reuters

Earthquake report

(Issued at 23:00 hours MST on 31-7-2005)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (6.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (850) miles south of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (21) hrs (46) min (08) sec MST on 30 July, 2005.



WEATHER

Sunday, 31 July, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated heavyfalls in Kayin State, Yangon and Bago Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Launglon (12.28) inches, Dawei (9.85) inches, Gwa (6.65) inches, Hpa-an (6.53) inches, Mawlamyine (6.26) inches, Belin (6.01) inches, Thaton (5.91) inches, Thayawady (4.45) inches, Pyapon, Patheingyi (3.55) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) and Ye (3.39) inches.

Maximum temperature on 30-7-2005 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 31-7-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 31-7-2005 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 30-7-2005 was nil. Rainfalls in 31-7-2005 were 2.76 inches at Mingaladon, 3.39 inches at Kaba-Aye, 2.05 inches at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 51.34 inches at Mingaladon, 51.89 inches at Kaba-Aye and 54.33 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 20 mph from West at (03:05) hours MST on 31-7-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the depression over North Bay has crossed the Orissa Coast, India. Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Special features: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the tropical storm over the Gulf of Tonkin has centred about (140) miles Southeast of Hanoi, Vietnam. It is forecast to move West-Northwest wards. **Forecast valid until evening of 1-8-2005:** Rain will be isolated in Kachin, Chin States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas will be experienced at times off and long Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of decrease of rain in Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-8-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.



Monday, 1 August Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music: A picture of you... (Boy Zone)
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music: M M M BOP... (Hanson)
- 8.50 am** National news/Slogan
- 9.00 am** Music: -Where've all the cowboys gone
- 9.05 am** International news
- 9.10 am** Music: -I know where it is... (All saints)
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch time music: -Reach... (S club 7)
- 7:35 pm** -Wishing & hoping... (An Difrancio)
- 7:45 pm** -Oh 55... (Sarah M clachlan)
- 9.00 pm** Spotlight on the Star "Carpenters"
- 9.10 pm** Article
- 9.20 pm** Women Affairs: Womentaking part in nation-building endeavours shoulder to shoulder with men
- 9.35 pm** Golden Land's melody: -Blessed Myanmar... (Yuri)
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL



Monday, 1 August

View on today:

- 7:00 am** 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Oattamathara
- 7:25 am** 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am** 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am** 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am** 5. Song of national races
- 8:05 am** 6. Cute little dancers
- 8:15 am** 7. အတိတ်ပြန်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am** 8. နိဗ္ဗာန် ရေထိန်းတံခါး
- 8:30 am** 9. International news

- 8:45 am** 10. Grammar Made Easy
- 10:00 pm** 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm** 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm** 3. Practice in Reading
- 4:45 pm** 4. Musical programme
- 5:00 pm** 5. အဆေးသင့်တော်ရာအတွက် ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရုပ်ပေးအထူးပြု) (ရုပ်ပေး)
- 5:15 pm** 6. Dance variety
- 5:30 pm** 7. မြန်မာ့အား ခြံခံအားကား
- 5:45 pm** 8. Song and dance of national races
- 5:50 pm** 9. Industrial achievement
- 6:00 pm** 10. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

- 6:10 pm** 11. နိုင်ငံခြားကားတွန်းစာတံလမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်စရာအထူးပြု ရုက္ခကုဏ္ဍိတလေး" (အပိုင်း-၉)
- 6:30 pm** 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm** 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm** 14. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတံလမ်းတွဲ "ရွေးနိမိတ်လေးရဲ့ရုက္ခကုဏ္ဍိတ" (အပိုင်း-၉)
- 7:35 pm** 15. Musical programme
- 7:45 pm** 16. မိခင်နို့တိုက်ကျွေးမြင်း၏ အတိုးပေးရေးဗျူဟာ
- 8:00 pm** 17. News
- 8:05 pm** 18. International news
- 8:10 pm** 19. Weather report
- 8:15 pm** 20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတံလမ်းတွဲ "ဗဟုမာန်ဆေးခန်း၏ ရုက္ခကုဏ္ဍိတ" (အပိုင်း-၃၉)
- 8:20 pm** 21. The next day's programme

The nation is being shaped as a country of 21st Century Seven-point Road Map being implemented for marching toward a democratic nation that the people long for Those who disturb the seven-point Road Map of the State are common enemy of the people



Dr Sai Hsay Kaw, Secretary of Shan State (East) USDA, delivering an opening address at the mass meeting. MNA

In his address, Dr Sai Hsay Kaw said that deterioration occurred in the country in 1988, however the Tatmadaw Government restored peace and stability of the nation. At present, all enjoy fruitful results of prevalence of law and order and peace and stability of the State. In the economic sector, the Government is building the economic infrastructure for implementing the market-oriented economic system.

entrepreneurs. They represent all the people of Shan State (East).

At present, the Government is implementing the three development plans for enabling

adopted, and the seven-point Road Map is being implemented for marching toward a democratic nation that the people long for. In such a time, internal and external destruc-

State's stability caused the emergence of internal insurgency, political parties that oppose whatever the government does, expatriate destructionists, terrorist group which caused

Instigation of neo-colonialists harming the State's stability caused the emergence of internal insurgency, political parties that oppose whatever the government does, expatriate destructionists, terrorist group who caused damage to the lives of innocent people by exploding bombs, interference in political affairs of the nation, and parallel governments.



YANGON, 31 July— The mass meeting on guarding against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of people was held at the city hall in Kengtung, Shan State (East), on 29 July morning.

Daw Nan Thwe Tar and Daw Nan Hwam Htwe of Kengtung Township USDA acted as masters of ceremonies. All the participants saluted State Flag.

Nowadays, Shan State (East) USDA is formed with 248,454 members — 140,566 farmers, 8,805 workers, 9,347 service personnel, 81,539 students and 8,197

the people to have modern knowledge and technologies. The nation is being shaped as a country of 21st Century. The plan towards a new modern and developed nation was

tive elements are perpetrating against the nation to cause disintegration of the Union and disunity among national brethren.

Instigation of neo-colonialists harming the

death and damage to the lives of innocent people by exploding bombs, interference in political affairs of the nation, and parallel governments.

(See page 9)

It was attended by executives and members of Shan State (East), district and township USDAs, Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, social organizations and local people totalling over 1,000.

Shan State (East) USDA Secretary Dr Sai Hsay Kaw presided over the mass meeting together with members of the panel of chairmen in-charge of the information and communication working group of Shan State (East) WAO Daw Nan San Tit, Kengtung District WVO Supervisory Committee member U Tin Maung Aye and townselder U Sai Tit.



The mass meeting on guarding against the danger posed by internal and external destructionists through united strength of the people in progress in the city hall in the Kengtung, Shan State (East).— MNA