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Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Government striving for equal development of states and divisions Road Map laid down for emergence of discipline-flourishing democratic nation

Crush internal and external destructive elements

YANGON, 12 Aug — The mass meeting focusing “Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people” took place at the Khittaya Yadana City Hall on Boyoke Street in Pyay in Bago Division (West), on 4 August.

It was attended by members of Bago Division (West) Union Soli-

darity and Development Association, Bago Division Women’s Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society and local people.

Executive of Bago Division (West) Union Solidarity and Development Association U Tin Soe presided over the

meeting with Dr Daw Mi Mi Khin of WAO, Daw Yin Hmi of MCWA, Captain Myo Nyunt (Retd) of WVO, U Zaw Win of Red Cross Society, U Ohn Lwin of Auxiliary Fire Brigade and townselder U Wan Tin as members of the panel of

chairmen.

Executive of Pyay Township USDA Daw May Sanda Tun acted as master of ceremonies with Daw Thanda Kyaw, executive of Moenyo Township USDA.

Members of the panel of chairmen and

those present saluted the State Flag.

Next, U Tin Soe of Division USDA delivered an address saying that independence and sovereignty are the vital heritage of our ancestors for the State. Successive generations are to safe-

guard the heritage as the national concern. The USDA, national force, is formed to serve the national interests and national politics. So far, members of Bago Division (West) USDA are 811,322 including the (See page 8)

INSIDE

The government has built 176 small, medium and large dams in the whole nation for irrigation within a ten-year period. In addition, it has erected river water pumping stations, especially in the dry regions. From 1988-89 to this date, the government has built 271 water pumping stations the length and breadth of the nation. Multiple-cropping has increased from 120 to 150 per cent during the period, while irrigated areas have extended from 12.5 to 19 per cent.

PAGE 7

CHINGYA (MAUBIN)



Members of the panel of chairmen and those present chanting the slogans at the end of the mass meeting held in Pyay, Bago Division (West).—MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 13 August, 2005

Nurture new generation youths for future nation

The government with the participation of the entire national people is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing nation. In this regard, priority is being given to community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order and national solidarity.

Relying on own resources, the government has laid down and is implementing project for development of border areas and national races and the 24 special development zones to bring about equitable development across the nation.

In building a modern and developed nation, the Union Solidarity and Development Association is exerting efforts hand in hand with the State, the people and the Tatmadaw as a national force.

The new generation youths, who are to discharge the national duty, are being nurtured and trained through opening a wide range of courses to enhance their ability and capability.

A ceremony to open the Myanmar and International Studies Course No 9 of Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at the USDA Training School in Hmawby Township on 11 August with an address by member of the Central Panel of Patrons Prime Minister General Soe Win.

In his address, Prime Minister General Soe Win said that the youths are being nurtured and trained to be imbued with ability to serve the interest of the State and the people, Union Spirit, knowledge and education, modern technology and vocational education through a variety of courses.

The Myanmar and International Studies Course is one of in the courses being conducted by the USDA to inculcate its members with high capability, knowledge and education, vocational education and modern technology. It covers the subjects on national policies, national security, economics, social and internal affairs.

Nowadays, some alien nations and a handful of internal and external destructive elements are making attempts to interfere in the nation's internal affairs and put pressure on her and blackmail her with human rights and democracy excuses. In reality, they are those who are attempting to tarnish the image of the characters, culture and stand of the nation endowed with fine historic traditions.

Therefore, at a time when efforts are being made for nurturing and training the new generation youths for a future nation, the entire national people are to decisively ward off the destructive elements.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့်

နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရန် ဖြစ်သည်။

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(၁၄-၈-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

နှင့်

(၂၈-၈-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

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

Cash donated for construction of Theravada Buddhist Missionary Myanmar Monastery in Paris

YANGON, 12 Aug — The fifth cash donation for construction of Theravada Buddhist Missionary Myanmar Monastery in Paris, France was held at Wizaya Mingalar Dhamma Thabin on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this afternoon.

Present were Presiding Nayaka of the construction committee Maha Kammathanaçariya Kyunnatha Ashin Nandasiri, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, the Chairman of the Committee for Construction of the Monastery, officials and wellwishers.

The minister, the deputy minister and officials accepted K 257,162,583, FEC 3,113 and US\$ 17,906 donated by wellwishers, and presented certificates of honour to them.

Those wishing to donate cash towards the funds for construction of the monastery may contact the committee for construction of the monastery at 49/51, 3rd Lane, Bahan Township, Tel: 09-90-42343, and Deputy Director Daw Aung Kyi of Department



Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung accepts cash donation from wellwishers.—MNA

for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, Tel: 665360.

MNA

Prizes given to winners at higher education level of performing arts competitions



Rector of Dagon University U Kyaw Myint Oo presents prize to a winner in higher education level Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA

YANGON, 12 Aug — A ceremony to present prizes to winners at higher education level of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions organized for Yangon Division was held at University of Culture (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township this afternoon.

Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Higher Education Level Performing Arts Competitions Rector of Dagon University U Kyaw Myint Oo delivered an address and presented certificates of honour to the members of the Panel of Judges.

Next, Rector U Kyaw Myint Oo of Dagon University, Rector U Tin Soe of University of Culture (Yangon), pro-rectors and officials gave away prizes to the respective winners.

MNA

Tatmadaw Agricultural Course concludes

YANGON, 12 Aug — The Tatmadaw Agricultural Course No 54 concluded at the hall of Myanmar Rice Research Institute in Hmawby this morning.

Managing Director U Ohn Than of Myanmar Agriculture Service gave a speech and presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to all trainees.

Altogether 122 trainees from Defence Services (Army) attended the 14-week course. —MNA

MAMS to hold mid-year meeting

YANGON, 12 Aug — The Mid-year 2005 meeting of Myanmar Academy of Medical Science will be held in conjunction with a symposium on Iodine Deficiency disorders-science, control & sustenance, at Institute of Nursing (Yangon) on Bogyoke Aung San Street, Lanmadaw Township, at 11 am on 19 August.

Members of MAMS may enlist to attend the symposium and the meeting, beginning 8 am on that day. —MNA

Fingerlings freed into paddy fields in Patheingyi District

YANGON, 12 Aug — A ceremony to mark the conclusion of ploughing for monsoon paddy cultivation in Ayeyawady Division was held in conjunction with the ceremony to free fingerlings into the paddy fields in Patheingyi District for 2005-06, organized by Ayeyawady Division Fisheries Department, at the 400-acres model plot in East Kwinya Village in Kangyidaunt Township on 9 August.

A total of 70,000 Ngakhonma fish (Barbus spp) and 30,000 Tilapiya were released into 200 acres of paddy fields in East Kwinya Village. Furthermore, 400,000 Ngakhonma fingerlings were distributed to local farmers to free them into the paddy fields in the district.

MNA

All this needs to be known

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

Philippines, EC sign agreement on anti-money laundering

MANILA, 11 Aug—The European Commission (EC) and the Philippines have signed a 1.33-million US dollars financing agreement to assist with the country's anti- money laundering drive, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo said on Wednesday.

Before departing for Australia on an official visit, Romulo said at a Press briefing that the aid project seeks to assist the Philippines in the implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolution on the fight against terrorism and combating international crime.

"This paved the way for an even more thorough and comprehensive system to be established in the Philippines to combat money- laundering, reinforcing our commitment on this," Romulo said.

According to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), total cost of the project is estimated at 1.68 million

euros, of which the EC contribution is 961,000 euros. The Philippines will provide a counterpart funding of 107,000 euros.

The project aims at contributing to the efforts of the Philippine Government to prevent and minimize money laundering by strengthening the institutional capacity of the central bank and the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC), the DFA said in a statement.

It also intends to enhance the cooperation among the supervising authorities, financial institutions, and judicial and law enforcement agencies with the AMLC in the fulfillment of their functions. —MNA/Xinhua



Chinese residents play in the water from a music fountain in Shijiazhuang City, north China's Hebei Province, on 11 August, 2005. The temperature in the city hit as high as 34 degrees Celsius (93 degrees Fahrenheit) on Thursday. —INTERNET

Rainstorms-triggered flood kills nine in Sichuan Province

CHENGDU, 11 Aug—Nine people were killed, four were injured and one is missing as a result of rain-storm-introduced floods as of 6 pm Wednesday in southwestern part of Sichuan Province, local government announced. Rescuers are searching for the farmer missing in a landslide in Yanbian County of Panzhuhua City, according to the provincial disaster relief office.—MNA/Xinhua

Ambassador says Bangladesh-China political relations "excellent"

BELING, 11 Aug—Bangladesh Ambassador to China Ashfaqur Rahman said here Wednesday that Bangladesh and China enjoy "excellent" political relations prior to the upcoming visit by Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia from 17 to 21 August.

Speaking of bilateral relations, Rahman said the economic relations between the two countries are "growing", and both sides have "deepening" cultural and educational relations and "expanding"

science and technology relations as well.

Recalling the agreements signed between the two countries during Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's visit to Bangladesh in April, the ambassador said a number of agreements covering tourism, energy, culture and education are

likely to be inked between the two countries during Zia's upcoming visit.

On the question of Taiwan, Rahman reaffirmed Bangladesh's stance of always sticking to the "One-China" Policy. This year witnesses the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic rela-

tions between the two countries and it has been declared as the "year of friendship" as well, the ambassador said, adding that his Prime Minister's upcoming visit shows that both countries attach great importance to the development of bilateral relations.—MNA/Xinhua

Bird flu still threatening Indonesia

JAKARTA, 11 Aug—Indonesia has passed the incubation period of bird flu virus after the outbreak killed three people in the outskirts of Jakarta, but the disease was still possible to spread as the method to eliminate the virus was questionable, ministers and WHO officials said here on Wednesday.

Indonesian Health Minister Siti Fadilah Supari said that if one of the affected poultry still lived, it could contract the virus to human.

"As long as there are still chicken with bird flu, the disease can spread," Supari told Xinhua.

Meanwhile, Technical Officer of the World Health Organization (WHO) Steven Bjorge told Xinhua that the practice of culling was still very much questionable.—MNA/Xinhua

1,844 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug—As of Thursday, 11 Aug, 2005, at least 1,844 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 1,430 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,705 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,321 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—Internet

Death toll among part-time troops in Iraq soars

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug—The National Guard and Reserve suffered more combat deaths in Iraq during the first 10 days of August at least 32, according to a Pentagon count than in any full month of the war.

More broadly, Penta-

gon casualty reports show that the number of deaths among Guard and Reserve forces has been trending upward for much of this year, totaling more than 100 since 1 May. That ranks as the deadliest stretch of the war for the Guard and Reserve, whose members perform both combat and support missions.

There is little evidence to suggest that part-time troops are being specifically targeted by the insurgents, since Guard and Reserve troops are mostly indistinguishable from and interchangeable with active-duty regulars.

The 42nd Infantry Division of the New York Army National Guard is commanding a combat force in north-central Iraq that includes two brigades from the active-duty 3rd Infantry Division, and a brigade from the Mississippi Army National

Guard is operating with the Marine Corps.

The Pentagon rejects any suggestion that the Guard and Reserve are more vulnerable in combat because they are part-timers. "Combat operations are inherently dangerous, and despite the best training and the best equipment, we will unfortunately have service members killed and wounded in action," said Air Force Lt Col Ellen Krenke, a Pentagon spokeswoman. The 32 combat deaths in the first 10 days of August are in addition to one death classified as noncombat.

The previous highest monthly killed-in-action total for the Guard and Reserve was 27 in May, with four other noncombat deaths. In August 2004, there were six Guard and Reserve combat deaths and eight including accidents.—Internet



A bird searches for fish in a man-made pond in New Delhi on 10 August, 2005.

INTERNET



A Malaysian fisherman leaves for the sea in the haze-covered Kampung Teluk Nipah fishing village in Klang, about 70 km (43 miles) west of Kuala Lumpur. on 11 August, 2005.—INTERNET

ဝတ်မှုမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား

Thai PM expresses confidence in economic pick-up

BANGKOK, 11 Aug — Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Wednesday voiced his confidence that the Thai economy would pick up in the fourth quarter of this year since a speculation on the value of Thai baht and prices of fuel and other products had eased.

He said that he had confidence in Thai Government's ability to oversee the oil price surge to ease the country's trade deficit, the *Thai News Agency* reported. He conceded that local businessmen had rushed to import products for their stock in a large amount since they believed the Thai currency would strengthen.

The Thai baht has previously depreciated uninterruptedly, causing the local businessmen to keep products, including fuel, in stock in an unusual amount for speculation. Now, the Prime Minister said, the situation had eased because they saw no need to keep a large amount of products in stock any longer and their capital circulated for speculation had been used up.—MNA/Xinhua

Musharraf says Pakistan addressing extremism prudently

ISLAMABAD, 11 Aug— Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf on Wednesday said Pakistan is committed to rooting out extremism through a prudent approach in accordance with the country's ground realities and sought academicians' support in addressing the sensitive issue.

"We are not dragging our feet, nor we lack in determination to deal with the complex problem which has to be handled with care. It has to be addressed in its long-term perspective and not through use of force," Musharraf said in Rawalpindi, twin city of Islamabad, during meeting with eminent educationists, scientists and researchers.

Pakistan, he underlined, is certainly moving in a clearly defined direction to get rid of the malaise of extremism and also confronting terrorism with force and these are repercussions of 26-year-long unrest, militancy and strife in Afghanistan and the region.

Musharraf vowed to continue the country's efforts for a societal change and described promotion of education at all levels as one of the means to achieve this objective.

"The academics should support our endeavours by educating young minds with enlightened teachings of Islam which call for tolerance and peace," he said.

Identifying illiteracy and poverty as the other underlying causes of extremism and terrorism, he urged the international community to tackle these issues collectively in a comprehensive manner.

MNA/Xinhua

Quick Strike causes civilian casualties in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug —US forces ended a major military operation in the western restive Anbar Province, while local residents said all they got is agony.

"US Marine forces from Regimental Combat Team-2 concluded Operation Quick Strike on 10 Aug," the US military said in a statement.

About 1,000 US marines and Iraqi forces launched the operation, dubbed Quick Strike, on 3 Aug. in the Euphrates River valley, where 14 marines were killed on the same day.

The offensive focused on areas around cities of Haditha, Haqlaniyah and Parwana, some 250 km north-west of Baghdad. Local residents said Haditha and neighbouring cities suffered a humanitarian crisis due to the military operation.

"What is happening in Haqlaniyah, Browana and Haditha is a disaster. Bodies are in the streets or buried under the rubble for days, but US forces do not allow people to move and claim the bodies. This totally ran counter to basic human rights," 33 year-old Flah Ahmed told Xinhua.

"I still cannot believe that I could take my family out of the city. It was a big risk as some people were killed when trying to leave the city, but we had no other choice because there was no electricity or water in the past seven days. —Internet

China

Mobile net profit grows 28% in first half of 2005

HONG KONG, 11 Aug— China Mobile (Hong Kong) announced on Wednesday its profit attributable to shareholders rose to 24 billion renminbi (three billion US dollars), representing an increase of 27.7 per cent over the same period last year.

The continued growth of new subscriber base and robust development of new businesses attributed to the period's outstanding performance, the company said.

The company's operating revenue sustained a relatively rapid growth. In the six months ended on June 30, 2005, the company's operating revenue reached 114.5 billion RMB (14.4 US dollars), representing an increase of 32.5 per cent over the same period in 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

China to promote rural cooperative medical system

BELING, 11 Aug— The State Council, China's Cabinet, decided here on Wednesday to accelerate the construction of rural cooperative medical system for its more than 800 million rural residents, which has so far proved successful in pilot areas.

Begun in 2003, the medical system focuses mutual-help organized, guided and supported by the government, and farmers are supposed to participate on a volunteer basis. According to an executive meeting of the State Council held here on Wednesday, the promotion of the system should follow the principles of voluntariness, mutual-help, openness and service.

"Farmers can join the system with their families as units but should never be forced to do that," it said, praising it as a major part of the country's medical system reform.

It said China will increase the number of pilot areas in the following two years and try to basically establish a new kind of rural cooperative medical system by 2008.

According to the meeting, China will further strengthen its central and local financial support so that the number of pilot counties and cities will increase from the current 21 per cent of China's total to 40 per cent in 2006.

At the same time, the central government will double its subsidies for farmers to 20 yuan (1.2 US dollars) per capita annually.—MNA/Xinhua

Hong Kong sees visitor arrivals up 5.8% in June
HONG KONG, 11 Aug — Tourist arrivals grew to a record high of 1,742,745 in June, up 5.8 per cent on the same month last year, Hong Kong Tourism Board announced on Wednesday.

Growth in the first six months brought the total half-yearly arrivals to 10,978,048, up 9.6 per cent on last year.

Long-haul markets continued to be the strongest performers, while most key markets registered increases.

Among the regional markets, the best performers were Europe, Africa and the Middle East with 121,759 visitors, up 37 per cent on the same month last year.

Arrivals from Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific rose 33.9 per cent

to 55,928, followed by arrivals from North Asia with 147,898 and from the Americas with 128,866.

The Chinese Mainland registered a rise of 2.1 per cent to 885,596.

Tourism Board Executive Director Clara Chong said with the exceptional performances of many long- and short-haul markets, the board comfortably surpassed its half-yearly target by attracting more than 10.97 million visitors.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman, his faced covered during a massive sandstorm, stands guard in front of a building where a motor struck in Baghdad on 8 August, 2005. —INTERNET



Associated Press writer Cara Anna, front row second from left, joins other foreign and Indian dancers for a group photo during filming of *The Rising* in Pune, India, in February, 2004. The Bollywood period film, said to be India's most expensive ever, has an Indian-British cast. —INTERNET

Rainstorm-triggered flood kills 15 in Sichuan Province

CHENGDU, 12 Aug — Death toll from a rainstorm-incurred flood in southwest China's Sichuan Province has reached 15 after the local government confirmed six more deaths on Thursday.

Two people remained missing in the powerful landslide and flood triggered by a continuous downpour from Monday to Wednesday.

The six newly registered victims were mainly from Miyi County in the city of Panzhihua in southern Sichuan.

The disaster affected more than 39,000 residents and destroyed farmland, traffic, electricity

and communication facilities in the county, causing some 47 million yuan (5.8 million US dollars) in direct economic losses, statistics from the provincial disaster-relief office said. The flood-stricken areas also include three counties in Panzhihua and the city of Ziyang, which were hit by rapid mountain torrents and mud-rock flows with nine deaths and more than 23,000 people

affected. Homeless people have been well accommodated and relief materials have been sent to the disaster-hit counties, according to the office.

A relief work team, made up of officials from the provincial department of civil affairs, land and resources, flood relief office, have arrived at the affected areas to assist the rescue work.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese soldier's plight raises profile of marrow banks

BEIJING, 10 Aug—A dying leukaemia patient's desperate search for matching bone marrow has highlighted the urgent need of the country's marrow banks for money to cover the costs of testing blood samples.

Wei Nan, a soldier in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, was diagnosed with acute leukaemia on 11 July and needs an urgent marrow transplant.

His mother, Wang Yan, has appealed to big bone marrow banks in the Chinese Mainland, Taiwan and even Japan, for help. But none of the marrow samples supplied by the banks matched her son's, *China Daily* reported on Tuesday.

Many volunteers called to offer help after a local newspaper in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang Province, called for local residents to donate stem cells for him.

However, the real

problem is the lack of money to test blood samples. "We can take more blood samples from donors, but we don't have enough money to test them," *China Daily* quoted Luan Shuqin, director of the bone marrow bank, as saying.

She said each blood sample should go through a Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA) test before its information can be stored in Zhonghua Marrow Bank.

"But the HLA tests cost 530 yuan (some 65 US dollars) each," she said, adding that only 7,000 out of 11,000 blood samples collected had been tested due to lack of funds.

"The lack of funds may result in the loss of infor-

mation about donors," she said. The plight the bank is facing also affects 30 other branches across the country. Each year, the government puts a certain quota on donors and gives a corresponding amount of money for the branches to register donors.

The quota for Heilongjiang Bone Marrow Bank is 3,000 donors this year, and Luan said that they have already fulfilled that quota.

Nevertheless, the province's high incidence of leukaemia calls for a much larger bone marrow bank.

"At present, Heilongjiang Province already has the highest incidence of leukaemia, with

about 1,000 children suffering from this fearful disease," said Ma Jun, director of Heilongjiang Blood Research Centre.

The incidence of leukaemia is seven in every 100,000 people in Heilongjiang, while the national average is about five in every 100,000.

According to Ma, the Heilongjiang Province, with a population of 38 million, needs a marrow bank that contains the information of at least 100,000 potential donors.

The matching success rate of bone marrow is just one in 10,000 for relatives and one in 100,000 among nonrelatives.

MNA/Xinhua

Iranian media hail

resumption of nuclear work

TEHERAN, 10 Aug—Iran's conservative media praised on Tuesday Tehran's decision to resume uranium conversion and many newspapers looked forward to the restarting of all nuclear activities.

"Iran's nuclear heart starts ticking," said the front-page headline of *Hemayat* daily. "Iran stood by its word," said the headline *Kayhan*.

"Next step Natanz," said the ultra-conservative *Jomhuri-ye Eslami*, in reference to Iran's uranium enrichment plant. EU officials had warned that the resumption of work at the Isfahan uranium conversion facility on Monday may see Iran sent to the UN Security Council for punitive action which could include sanctions. Iran says it just wants nuclear power but the West suspects it wants to make atomic bombs. Uranium conversion, and then enrichment, are steps on the path to both.

In an editorial entitled

"We are the winners", *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* said Iran had nothing to fear from being sent to the Security Council.

"The US and the three European countries (Britain, Germany and France) lack the kind of credibility to turn anything against us in the UN Security Council," it said.

Iran froze nuclear fuel work in November while it explored a long-term arrangement with the European Union.

But Teheran flatly rejected on Saturday an EU proposal to abandon nuclear fuel work for good in return for incentives ranging from help with developing an atomic energy programme to trade and investment deals.

MNA/Reuters

Chinese academician draws on national flower power

BEIJING, 10 Aug—A Chinese engineer and some colleagues are pulling out all the stops to have the plum blossom and peony recognized in the absence of any national flower.

The proposal first blossomed with Chen Junyu, a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and a professor of Beijing Forestry University, more than 20 years ago.

"This time, Chen is trying again with new vigour. With the Olympic Games in 2008 and the World

Expo in 2010 to be held in China, he said setting the national flower is now an urgent issue," the *China Daily* said on Tuesday.

"China's lack of an official national flower has prompted 62 members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Engineering

to call for the joint instatement of plum blossom and peony."

China's growing importance on the world stage, its rich culture, long history and abundant natural resources all demanded a national flower, Chen, 88, was quoted as saying.

MNA/Reuters

One US soldier killed, another wounded in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 Aug — One US soldier was killed and another wounded on Thursday when insurgents ambushed a group of US military engineers in eastern Afghanistan, said the US-led coalition forces.

Guerillas attacked the engineers' convoy with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades near a construction project on the road between Sharona and Orgun-E in the Paktika Province, the coalition said in a news release. "This is

a tragic event for all of us," Brigadier-General Jack Sterling, Combined Joint Task Force-76 Deputy Commanding General, was quoted as saying.

"Our engineers have been working in this area to improve the infrastruc-

ture so that Afghans living here have a better roadway system," said the general. It's disheartening that these militants would attack the very people that are trying to build a better life for the people of Afghanistan," he added. — MNA/Xinhua



An orangutan plays water skiing to celebrate to mark 100 days to the APEC economic meeting at Gwanghalri resort in Busan, South Korea, on 10 August, 2005. The annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting will be held in South Korea's second largest city of Busan in November. —INTERNET

Indonesia becomes net oil importer

JAKARTA, 10 Aug—Indonesia has become a net crude oil importer as domestic demand has surpassed oil production, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Abu Rizal Bakrie stated here on Tuesday.

"Yes we were a net crude oil exporter in the past but now we become a net crude oil importer," he told reporters here.

But Bakrie added the status remains debatable because monthly oil exports are sometimes bigger than imports. According to the Central Statistics Agency, Indonesia's oil and gas export was up by 18.71 per cent to 8.82 billion US dollars in the first half of the year when compared with the corresponding period last year.

MNA/Xinhua

18th Int'l Conf on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology held in Beijing

BEIJING, 11 Aug— Nuclear energy will be increasingly important in the new century but safety should come first, Tomihiro Taniguchi, Deputy Director-General of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) told the 18th International Conference on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (SMiRT 18), being held in Beijing.

“Despite the safe operation of Nuclear Power Plants (NPP), the public is still concerned about nuclear safety. Terrorism in recent years has also aroused vast awareness of safety in nuclear usage,” Taniguchi said.

“Asia and the Pacific area are vibrant in developing nuclear technology and are supposed to give a boost to the safe use of nuclear power world-

wide,” said Taniguchi.

Asia has seen rapid growth in energy technology and it is currently the only area where nuclear power enjoys a bright future.

China is in great need of nuclear energy and has included it into its national electricity development programme, said Li Ganjie, head of the China National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA)

at the conference.

Currently, China has nine nuclear power units in operation, with a combined installment capacity of 6.7 million kilowatts, accounting for 1.7 percent of the country's total installment capacity. By 2020, China's installed nuclear power capacity will rise to 40 million kilowatts, accounting for 4 percent of the national total.

“No incidents have

taken place in all NPPs in China and no harmful impacts on the environment were reported in the past few years,” said Wang Jun, vice-director with national nuclear safety administration.

“But we also face challenges in supervision since the types of the reactors as well as the standards vary widely.”

MNA/Xinhua

India, Pakistan to build cross-border optic fibre

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug—India and Pakistan decided to lay a optic fiber between Amritsar of north India's Punjab Pradesh and Lahore of Pakistan at a bilateral trade talk on Wednesday.

The two countries announced a joint statement after the talk on Wednesday saying that both sides are expecting the fibre will be built as soon as possible but did not give detailed information and timetable. The two countries also agreed to speed up the process to allow several banks to open branches in each others' country.

At the talk, the two sides agreed to hold talks on aviation in Pakistan in September to review the existing air services agreement, besides their shipping protocol of 1975.

“The second meeting of the joint study group would be convened at an early date in Islamabad,” the joint statement said.

MNA/Xinhua



A sales clerk, right, assists a model in wearing jewellery at a jewellery and gem exhibition in New Delhi, India, on 12 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Cathay Pacific's interim attributable profit stands at \$214m

HONG KONG, 11 Aug—Cathay Pacific Airways recorded an attributable profit of 214 million US dollars during the first half year, 12.9 million US dollars less than last year's same period.

Cathay Pacific announced on Wednesday that turnover during the first six months increased by 541 million US dollars to 3.06 billion US dollars, as the airline carried 7.3 million passengers and 517,920 tons of cargo, up from 6.4 million passenger and 469,909 tons of cargo carried in the first half of 2004.

The airline expanded

its fleet and extended services during the period, taking delivery of a Boeing 747-400 freighter, one B777-300 and two Airbus 330-300 passenger aircraft. A further A330-300 was delivered in July.

Also in the first six months of this year, new and additional passenger services were added to Amsterdam, Beijing, Denpasar, Frankfurt, Ho

Chi Minh City, Johannesburg, Los Angeles, Nagoya, Perth, Xiamen along with 12 weekly freighter services to Shanghai. Later this year the airline will inaugurate new freighter services to Atlanta and Dallas and a fourth daily passenger service to London.

Cathay Pacific further cemented its strategic partnership with Air China by signing accords to codeshare on flights to and from Beijing and to participate in the frequent flyer programmes.

MNA/Xinhua

S-W China province vaccinates pigs to control epidemic

CHENGDU, 11 Aug—China began to inoculate pigs Wednesday with newly-developed vaccines in south China's Sichuan Province in an effort to prevent the spread of swine flu, according to the provincial animal husbandry bureau. The streptococcus swine type II, produced by a company in the southern province of Guangdong and another Sichuan-based firm, will be injected on pigs in accordance to a fixed schedule. With the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, the compulsory vaccination will start from areas without pig-borne disease cases and gradually lead to regions afflicted by the bacteria streptococcus suis, which has swept through many villages and towns, said Qu Kunming, director with the Sichuan Provincial Animal Husbandry and Food Bureau.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to promote tourism in central region

HANOI, 11 Aug—Vietnam is planning to further tap its sea, forest and culture resources in the Central Highlands (Tay Nguyen) and the central region, making the two regions a moving force of the national tourism by 2010.

Under an overall plan recently approved by the government on developing tourism in 19 cities and provinces in the regions by 2010, investment priorities will be given to sea tourism and heritages in central coastal provinces, as well as culture and eco-tourism in Tay Nguyen, the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT) told Xinhua on Wednesday.

Vietnam will build more beach resorts with modern facilities in the five coastal provinces of Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan to attract foreign and local high-income earners. The Nha Trang City in Khanh Hoa and the Phan Thiet City in Binh Thuan will be acting as tourism centres of the five provinces.

Travel agencies will design tours which allow

visitors to enjoy both the diversified sea ecosystem of the five provinces and the unique culture of ethnic groups in these provinces and Tay Nguyen, the administration said.

The country is also intensifying investment in preserving its sites listed among World Heritages, such as the Hoi An ancient town and the My Son holy land in Quang Nam, and facilitating eco-tourism in Tay Nguyen, home to many beautiful waterfalls, caves and forests as well as festivals of ethnic people, it said.

Under the plan, Tay Nguyen and the central region are expected to receive 2.5 million foreign tourists and 10 million local ones in 2010. They will see annual growth of 20-22 per cent in tourism revenue in the 2006-2010 period.

MNA/Xinhua

India's Andhra Pradesh promotes trade with Chinese city

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug—South India's Andhra Pradesh and the Chinese city of Dalian signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to promote cooperation in business and trade on Wednesday in Hyderabad, the Pradesh capital, Indo-Asian News Service reported.

MK Patodia of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) of Andhra Pradesh and Goa Sheng, vice-chairman of the China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), Dalian Sub-Council, signed the MoU during a conference here.

The MoU will facilitate exchange of information, data and business del-

egations between Andhra Pradesh and Dalian.

CCPIT Assistant Chairman Wang Jinzhen urged Indian businessmen to look beyond major Chinese cities and focus on cities like Dalian, which have tremendous business and investment potential. He said he would encourage Chinese business and trade delegations to visit Andhra Pradesh.

Dalian, an important port and industrial, trade and tourist city in northeast China, has a population of 5.9 million. The city is known for industries like petrochemicals, shipbuilding, machine tools, lifting equipment, bearings, refrigeration equipment, rubber and plastics machinery.

MNA/Xinhua



Tourists walk across the bridge over the River Kwai in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, on 12 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Abundant water supply in Myanmar

Chin Gya (Maubin)

Man can survive without food for seven days, but without water, he cannot. Thus, water is of vital importance for human beings to live. As the central Myanmar receives only a few inches of rain annually, water shortage was a common problem in the area. Unfortunately, not any of the previous governments was able to effectively address the problem. After assumption of the State duties by the Tatmadaw, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on implementation of a ten-year project to supply potable water to the three divisions of the central Myanmar — Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway Divisions — that were facing water shortages as well as to similar states and divisions.

The government has built 176 small, medium and large dams in the whole nation for irrigation within a ten-year period. In addition, it has erected river water pumping stations, especially in the dry region. From 1988-89 to this date, the government has built 271 water pumping stations the length and breadth of the nation. Multiple-cropping has increased from 120 to 150 per cent during the period, while irrigated areas have extended from 12.5 to 19 per cent.

The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs is implementing the rural water supply project in line with the Head of State's guidance. Township Development Affairs Committees numbering 286 and 61 Town DACs under the control of the Development Affairs Department of the PBANRDA Ministry are carrying out the rural and urban development undertakings.

According to the list of DACs, 23,225 villages in the whole Myanmar — 8,042 villages in three divisions in dry region, and 15,183 villages in other states and divisions — need potable water supply. Thus the DAD started to implement the ten-year project in fiscal 2000-2001.

The DACs spent K 250.13 million in fiscal 2000-2001 for rural water supply project, K 321.61 million in fiscal 2001-2002, K 572.02 million in fiscal 2002-2003, K 653.44 million in fiscal 2003-2004, and K 1036.74 million in fiscal 2004-2005. They have allotted to spend 1182.36 million in fiscal 2005-2006 for the same purpose.

The entire project is being carried out with the State financial assistance, the DAC funds, public donations, and the cooperation of the social organizations including the Union Solidarity and Development Association and international NGOs. Thanks to the harmonious efforts of all institutions and organizations concerned, 7157 out of the 8042 villages in the three dry divisions, and



Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts cash K 500,000 donated by MCWA at cash donation ceremony on 26 July 2005.

14,309 out of the 23,225 villages in other states and divisions now have clean water supply.

The USDA, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Wel-

Seven townships in Sagaing Division, seven townships in Magway Division and 11 townships in Mandalay Division totalling 25 now have access to clean water supply. From the entire townships to the entire districts and then to entire divisions, the project will ensure clean water supply for all. At present, 89 per cent of the project have been completed and about eight million rural people of the dry region are enjoying the fruits.

fare Association and other social organizations are contributing funds and volunteer services to the project. From the first to the ninth donation ceremonies, 1335 wellwishers presented over K 1,053,06741 million, US \$ 70,252, Euro 770, and FEC 10,012. At the tenth ceremony held on 26 July 2005, 180 persons donated K 120,857,500 and US \$ 4,000.

In addition to the local NGOs, the Japan International Cooperation Agency has sunk 155 tube-wells in rural areas up to fiscal 2004-2005. The Japanese NGO also drilled 22 deep tube-wells in 11 townships in the same fiscal year. The Bridge Asia Japan sank 72 tube-wells during the period from fiscal 2001-2002 to fiscal 2004-2005; and the UNICEF built 468 water supply facilities in the three divisions of the dry zone during the same period.

The DAD has inscribed the names of the donors on the stone plaques, inviting the donors to attend the ceremonies to mark the launching of the tube-wells they have donated, and presenting them documentaries. Hence the number of donors is increasing year after year and the project has become more and more effective in supplying potable water in the rural

areas.

Seven townships in Sagaing Division, seven townships in Magway Division and 11 townships in Mandalay Division totalling 25 now have access to clean water supply. From the entire townships to the entire districts and then to entire divisions, the project will ensure clean water supply for all. At present, 89 per cent of the project have been completed and about eight million rural people of the dry region are enjoying the fruits.

As the dry region receive less than 39 inches of rain annually, every summer, they were facing social problems resulting from water shortages. The locals had to travel four to five miles and spend half a day just to get two pails of water from shallow water holes. They had to give priority more to the water fetching work than their livelihood and social affairs. Sometimes water-related diseases broke out in the areas due to contaminated water.

The task of supplying safe potable water to rural areas in the dry region is gaining more ground at present. The clean water project has covered the whole nation, and the prospects are bright in coastal and delta regions as the test tube-wells the DACs are drilling in the areas produce sound results.

In the past, people of the dry region even said that what they wanted was water, not gold. Thanks to the dams of various sizes and water pumping stations the government has built in the dry region, the locals now have abundant supply of clean water for various purposes.

As the DACs in cooperation with the people are implementing the project in line with the Head of State's guidance, we are sure that the entire Myanmar will have access to an abundant supply of water all year round.

(Translation: TMT)

People are denouncing economic sanctions against the nation

(From page 1)
peasants, the workers, the personnel, the students and the local people who serve the public interests.

After regaining the independence, the nation lagged behind in developments owing to the armed insurgency. Since the time when the Tatmadaw Government took over the responsibilities of the State, nation-building tasks have been implemented round the clock prioritizing the stability of the State.

The government is striving for equal development of states and di-

resources and the national economy, priorities are given.

The State has laid down the 7-point Road Map for transforming the nation into the discipline-flourishing democratic one while implementing stability and developments. The first step of the Road Map, the national convention is well under way.

The internal and external destructive elements invent fabrications with the intention of destabilizing the nation and they often harm the innocent people. The



The meeting chairman and members of the panel of chairmen seen at the mass meeting in Pyay.— MNA

racy, human rights and narcotic drugs in accord with the four-point people desire and united

and national race armed groups returned to the legal fold. Among them, some groups have un-

Now, the people are denouncing economic sanctions against the nation, some internal ele-

been carrying out nation-building tasks might and main, and adhering to the five principles of peace-



Bago Division (West) USDA Executive U Tin Soe speaking at the mass meeting in Pyay.— MNA

visions all over the nation narrowing the gaps of the regions.

In addition, 24 special development regions and five rural development tasks have been implemented as well. To strengthen the human

power craze in collusion with some western nations commit destructive acts that hurt the people.

We would like to crush all the destructionists continually committing destructive acts on the pretext of the democ-

strength of the public.

Monyo Township USDA Secretary U Nan Oo said that thanks to the effective measures taken by the Tatmadaw Government, the nation has been enjoying fruitful results of development

conditionally exchanged arms for peace, and are lending themselves to the regional development tasks in concert with the people. Certain neo-colonialists and their stooges are plotting intrigues and scandals to break up the Union. Some big nations are interfering in the internal affairs under the pretext of democracy, while various groups are making unjust accusations designed to deal a devastating blow to the nation.

ments' dissuading the international community from rendering assistance, visiting the nation, and terrorist acts committed to tarnish the glory of the nation.

He urged the entire people to be aware of and crush such evil acts of internal and external saboteurs through the might of the unity of the national people. Representative of Bago Division (West) WAO Daw Thein Thein Win said that the government has

ful co-existence.

But, internal stooges are dissuading international community from making investments in Myanmar, and they welcome economic sanctions against the nation by the western power. And they are persuading world nations to put pressure on the nation.

Fugitive Sao Hkam Hpa perpetrated acts to secede from the Union and that can lead to the collapse of the Union.

(See page 9)



Monyo Township USDA Secretary U Nan Oo.— MNA



Bago Division (West) WAO representative Daw Thein Thein Win.— MNA



Paukkaung Township USDA executive U Aye Min.— MNA



Bago Division (West) MCWA representative Daw Ohnma.— MNA

The internal and external destructive elements invent fabrications with the intention of destabilizing the nation and they often harm the innocent people. The power craze in collusion with some western nations commit destructive acts that hurt the people.

Strive for emergence of peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation

(from page 8)

Myanmar is facing a variety of accusations. According to the issue of the UNODC, the nation's poppy cultivation declined by 13 per cent in 2002, 24 per cent in 2003 and 29 per cent in 2004, showing that the accusations are found to be groundless and unfair. So, the national people are to be vigilant at all times against the internal and external destructive elements' acts.

Now, the nation is on the path toward discipline-flourishing democracy, and has been enjoying the fruit of development.

He called on the people to uphold Our Three Main National Causes and to be equipped with Union Spirit and to overcome all the evil acts through the strength of national unity.

Paukhaung Township USDA executive U

ple, he said he warmly welcomed them.

Our Three Main National Causes is not only the most essential prestige of the State but also national duty of the people.

With regard to Our Three Main National Causes, Patron of USDA Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance at the concluding ceremony of the Myanmar and International Studies Course No 7 on 2 May. He said that the aim of the Government is to build peace and stability, solidarity, development and a democratic nation. This task is the historical trend of the Union of Myanmar and many generations to come. Only those with the concepts of Our Three Main National Causes — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration



The mass meeting focusing "Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people" in Bago Division (West) in progress. — MNA

made in all sectors. Next, she explained progress of education, health and transport sectors.

In conclusion, she said the entire national people were urged to strive

made in education, health and transport sectors in border areas more than that in the past.

Furthermore, the Government systematically laid down economic plans in accord with the economic objectives. Thus, unprecedented development can be seen in

Union Spirit in realization of the seven-point Road Map for building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

While Government is performing development tasks of the nation by overcoming various hindrances, national trai-

serve force of the nation, MWA, MCWA, MWVO, Red Cross Society and Auxiliary Fire Brigades are to take part in realizing the seven-point Road Map with Union Spirit.

Daw Khaing Khaing Htay, executive of Padaung Township

New generation youth who will shape the State in the future should understand the value of the Union Spirit, and safeguard and realize political, economic and social progress and perpetual existence of the Union. They are to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation in line with the national policy and procedures, and the Road Map of the State.

construction of roads, bridges, dams, new airfields, railroads and hydel power plants.

Now, the National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map, is being reconvened successfully. Delegates of political parties, delegates of representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel, and other invited delegates together with township level representatives are participating in the discussions to lay down basic principles and detailed basic principles for drawing the State Construction. So far, detailed basic principles have been adopted for sharing of legislative power. It can be seen that the seven-point Road Map is being implemented successfully step by step. He urged all the national people to participate with

tors, neo-colonialists and stooges are committing destructive acts by all possible means to put the nation into enslavement. However, the Tatmadaw Government joining hands with the people will speed up performing the nation-building tasks with diligence and perseverance while warding out the destructionists. Hence, the people hand in hand with USDA that is a re-

USDA, seconded the motions tabled by Bago Division (West) MCWA representative Daw Ohnma and Bago Division (West) WVO representative Captain Kyaw Win (Retd).

Afterwards, the meeting chairman sought the approvals from the mass meeting, which passed the two resolutions. The meeting ended with the chanting the slogans at 9 am. — MNA



Capt Kyaw Nyein (Retd) of WVO. MNA



Daw Khine Khine Htay of Padaung Township USDA. — MNA

Aye Min seconded the motions tabled by Monyo Township USDA Secretary U Nan Oo and Bago Division (West) WAO representative Daw Thein Thein Win.

Afterwards, Bago Division (West) MCWA representative Daw Ohnma said that after realizing genuine goodwill of the government, national armed groups exchanged arms for peace and are joining hands with the Government in regional development tasks. The group led by U Kan Na of SSNA, U Gon Khay and party, U Sai Ku and party, SSA (Breakaway Group) led by U Sai Yee and the group led by U Aik Mone of PSLA unconditionally exchanged arms for peace and they are taking part in the regional development tasks. On behalf of all the peo-

ple of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty — can create the history of the nation and can defend the Union.

New generation youth who will shape the State in the future should understand the value of the Union Spirit, and safeguard and realize political, economic and social progress and perpetual existence of the Union. They are to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation in line with the national policy and procedures, and the Road Map of the State. It is known to all that the Tatmadaw saved the country from the deterioration that occurred in 1988. The Tatmadaw is carrying out day and night development of the nation after taking responsibilities of the State. It is obvious that unprecedented development has been

for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation in accord with the national objectives through national unity and Union Spirit.

Captain Kyaw Win (Retd), representative of Bago Division (West), said that efforts of the Government is visible in reviewing four political objectives out of 12 Objectives. The Tatmadaw Government restored peace and stability of the State and prevalence of law and order. Therefore, 17 national race armed groups had returned to the legal fold. At present, some groups among them unconditionally exchanged arms for peace and cooperate with the local people in carrying out regional development tasks. As a result, progress has been



Daw Thanda Kyaw of Moenyo Township USDA and Daw May Sanda Tum of Pyay Township USDA emcee the mass meeting. — MNA

Industry-1 Ministry holds work coordination meeting



Minister U Aung Thuang makes a speech at work coordination meeting of Ministry of Industry-1. — INDUSTRY-1

YANGON, 12 Aug — The work coordination meeting of the Ministry of Industry-1 was held at the ministry this morning, attended by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang, directors-general, managers

and officials of the departments and industries under the ministry.

First, Minister U Aung Thuang made an address. Afterwards, factory managers of the industries under the ministry reported on the

their tasks. Next, respective managing directors gave supplementary reports.

Later, the minister awarded the prizes to the outstanding managers of the blue-green algae factory of

Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries, No 2 Cement Plant of Myanma Ceramics Industries and No 1 Paper Plant of Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries and gifts to other factory managers who won con-

solation prizes.

Afterwards, the minister and officials presented awards for drawing balance sheet of 2004-2005 financial year and other gifts.

Next, the meeting ended with the conclud-

ing remarks by the minister on striving for meeting the target of 115 per cent of the tasks and enhancing the production of quality products on the market.

MNA

Myanmar Music Asiayon needs reform to be stronger, more consolidated body

YANGON, 12 Aug — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that the time has arrived to reform the Myanmar Music Asiayon today at his meeting with MMA members.

Although it was firm to a certain degree, it is time to reform the association to become a stronger and more consolidated body, he told the chairman and members at the ministry.

The ministry has to serve the interests of the MMA and those of the music world, he said, pointing out the need to harmonize the assistance provided by the government, the unity of the musicians and the leadership of the Asiayon.

Their wider participation and collective efforts are required for progress of the music world and musicians, he said. The power of music is so great and its power can help develop the nation, he noted. Thus the role of music is pivotal in the national development drive, he said, adding, all should strive for the Myanmar music to stand shoulder



Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan addresses the ceremony to reform the Myanmar Music Asiayon. — MNA

to shoulder with the music of the world countries.

The nation has opened cultural universities for perpetuation of Myanmar music and emergence of new generation musicians, he said. In addition, the government has been sponsoring the Myanma Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions every year. It formed the MMA in 1992 to enable it to play a leading role, and is striving for the emergence of the Gita Beikman.

Because of the prevailing global trend, the Myanmar music

world is facing the penetration of the western culture. Thus, the professionals of the music world have the duty to preserve Myanmar cultural heritage. In addition, they have the duty to introduce innovations.

MMA Chairman Accordion U Ohn Kyaw, and representatives of the five sectors of the Asiayon, and other participants took part in the discussions.

The minister attended to the needs.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, officials and musicians.

MNA

Patient Monitor donated to YGH



Dr Aung Lwin, wife Daw Thet Sanda present BMP 30 ECG SPO-NIBP Patient Monitor to Medical Superintendent Dr Nu Nu Tha. —MNA

YANGON, 12 Aug — A donor family this morning presented US\$-1528-worth equipment to monitor patients suffering from burns to Yangon General Hospital.

Managing Director

of Pyiphyo Tun International Co Ltd Dr Aung Lwin, wife Daw Thet Sanda and family presented the BMP 30 ECG SPO-NIBP Patient Monitor to Medical Superintendent Dr Nu Nu Tha at

the hospital. Dr Aung Lwin, Dr Nu Nu Tha and Dr Khin Maung Lwin gave speeches.

The medical superintendent presented a certificate of honour to the donor family. —MNA

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
Second best time is now.**

Management Staff Grade 4-5 of GAD Course concludes

YANGON, 12 Aug — A ceremony to conclude the Management Staff Grade 4-5 Course No 1 of the General Administration Department was held at the management education training school of GAD this morning, with an address by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen

Maung Oo.

After delivering a speech, the minister presented prizes to the outstanding trainees and certificates to all trainees.

A total of 53 trainees from States and Divisions attended the course which lasted 10 weeks. — MNA



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen

Maung Oo presents prize to an outstanding trainee.— MNA

Workshop on effective and efficient use of energy opens

YANGON, 12 Aug — The workshop on the effective and efficient use of energy in the major infrastructures in the South East Asia region, co-organized by Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Industry-2, ASEAN Centre for Energy and Energy Conservation Centre of Japan, was opened at the Traders Hotel this morning.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, directors-general and managing directors of the departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Energy and Ministry of Industry-2, the executive director and technician of ASEAN Centre for Energy, the technicians of Energy Conservation Centre of Japan, Malaysian, Indonesian and Filipino

technicians, officials of the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Industry-1 and Industry-2 and Yangon City Development Committee, Myanmar Engineering Society, Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association and Myanmar Architects Association.

Deputy Energy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, Mr Yoshitaka Ushio of ECC of Japan and Executive Director Dr Weerawat Chantanakome of ASEAN Centre for Energy made speeches at the opening ceremony.

Next, those present submitted the papers and took part in the discussions on the effective and efficient use of energy in the major infrastructures in the South East Asia regions.

MNA

Fly me to the moon? That'll be \$100m

NEW YORK, 12 Aug — Want to send someone over the moon? All it takes is 100 million US dollars. A US company said on Wednesday it wants to send two tourists on a trip around the moon at a cost of 100 million US dollars per ticket.

Space Adventures Ltd, which has already sent two civilians on separate trips into space, says it has researched and identified more than a thousand prospective customers with the necessary wealth for a moon shot as early as 2008.

"This is only the first step. Before we can land on the moon, we have to go around it," said Space Adventures' Chief Executive Officer Eric Anderson at a news conference. The Arlington, Virginia, company plans to lead missions that will eventually land on the moon.

The trip around the moon would last between eight and 21 days, depending on whether the travellers make a stop at the International Space Station.

Potential customers already discussing the 100 million US dollars tickets include several Americans and one Briton, Anderson said. Aside from wealth, potential moon travellers will need time to train for the mission and must meet health requirements.

Space Adventures and Russia's Space Agency, which is eager to attract extra funds, have sent two tourists into space — US businessman Dennis Tito and South African Mark Shuttleworth — on week-long trips.

They cost 20 million US dollars each, according to media reports.

MNA/Reuters



Commandant of Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) Col Aung Kyaw Zaw speaking at the first meeting of reception and accommodation subcommittee for Performing Arts Competitions held on 12.8.2005.— MNA

UMEHL Gems and Jade Sales commence

YANGON, 12 Aug—The opening of the 19th Myanmar Gems and Jade Sales (2005) organized by the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd took place at the Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here this morning.

Present on the occasion were UMEHL Managing Director Col Win Than and members of the board of directors, and local and foreign merchants.

The inspection team examined the bargain forms.

The managing director delivered a speech, and formally opened the sales.

Next, the list of the merchants who won permits to buy gems was announced, and gems lots were sold through auction system. Afterwards, the list of the merchants who won permits to buy jade lots was announced, and jade lots were sold.

Up to 5 pm, a total of 309 gems lots and 43 jade lots were sold.

MNA



DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES BACK: Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo attended the 6th Health Ministers' Meeting on Enhancement of International Health Standard held in Bangkok, Thailand. Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint welcomes back Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo at the airport Friday.— HEALTH

"Discovery" appears to have very little damage

LOS ANGELES, 12 Aug — Shuttle Discovery appears to have suffered very little damage on its latest mission, though a detailed analysis is yet to be completed, a NASA spokeswoman said on Wednesday.

"It's one of the cleanest vehicles they've ever seen," said Leslie Williams, a spokeswoman at NASA Dryden Flight Research Centre at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Discovery landed at Edwards on Tuesday, capping a 14-day mission that marked NASA's return to human space flight.

The shuttle programme had been grounded for 2-1/2 years after the shuttle Columbia broke up when re-entering the Earth's atmosphere in 2003, killing all seven astronauts on board.

NASA again suspended shuttle missions after Discovery's fuel tank shed a piece of insulation foam during ascent, the same problem that doomed Columbia by damaging its wing.

MNA/Reuters

Drive safely

ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (088)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (088) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (717)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (717) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (135)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (135) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN

SHIPPING CO, LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Train, jeep collision kills three, injures 12 others in Tanzania

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 11 Aug—Three people died and 12 others got injured when their four-wheel-drive jeep collided with a passenger train in northern Tanzania on Tuesday, according to reports reaching here.

The fatal accident occurred some 40 kilometres outside the Mwanza city on the shores of Lake Victoria. The train was travelling from Dar-es-Salaam to Mwanza.

Mwanza Regional Police Commander Zelote Stephen said that the acci-

dent had occurred when the jeep was traversing a railway crossing on its way to Sumve.

All the casualties were passengers in the jeep. The engine and one passenger coach of the train got derailed after the collision but no one on the train was injured.

An eyewitness told police that the passengers in the jeep had tried to stop the jeep driver from driving on after they saw the approaching train but the driver ignored them.

MNA/Xinhua

Kenya admits losing war on graft, wants "blood"

NAIROBI, 11 Aug — Singled out by Western powers for its tolerance of corruption, Kenya is losing the battle on graft and must "spill blood" soon, a member of President Mwai Kibaki's Government said in comments published on Wednesday.

"Our talk against corruption is being dismissed as 'talk and talk and do nothing strategy'," Justice Minister Kiraitu Murungi said.

"The old networks of corruption have not been

broken and have become very bold," he added in an extraordinary admission of official impotence.

Murungi, in a speech to a meeting of anti-corruption groups and officials in Nairobi, said the Kibaki Government needed to turn the tide immediately or risk losing credibility.

"We have spent time aiming at the enemy. It is now time to pull the trigger and spill blood," he said in the speech, which was widely reported in local

media.

Kibaki came to power in 2002 vowing to clean up politics after President Daniel arap Moi's 24-year rule during which official corruption was virtually institutionalized. Graft watchdog Transparency International ranks Kenya among the most corrupt countries in the world, and donors estimate it has lost one billion US dollars to graft in the past three years — nearly a fifth of its 2004/2005 budget.

Justice Minister

Murungi recalled that in January of this year he had vowed 2005 would be a year of action on graft but "eight months down the road, very little seems to be happening. The fight against corruption has lost momentum".

He added: "There is talk of bribery, embezzlement, fraud, extortion, nepotism, buying votes, abuse of power, conflict of interests, judicial corruption, and misappropriation of public funds every day.—MNA/Reuters

British Govt defends new drinking laws

LONDON, 11 Aug—A government minister defended plans to relax drinking laws in England and Wales on Wednesday after judges warned violent assaults would rise.

Licensing Minister James Purnell told the BBC the plans to extend drinking hours would stagger the time people left pubs, reducing binge-drinking and violent crime which has become a major problem on British city centre streets late at night.

"What we're trying to put in place is a much tougher set of powers to deal with the minority who do cause problems," Purnell said.

But in a submission by judges to the Home Office, Judge Charles

Harris warned the new drinking laws would make an already serious problem worse.

"The situation is already grave, if not grotesque, and to facilitate this by making drinking facilities more widely available is close to lunacy," Harris was quoted in *The Times* newspaper as telling the Home Office.

From November pubs will be able to stay open after 11 pm, with some potentially open for drinking 24 hours a day, raising concerns by police and now judges that more drinking will mean more violence and disorder.

The government hopes it will reduce late-night trouble around bars by varying closing times to introduce a more "continental"-style

drinking culture.

But in response to a Home Office consultation paper "Drinking Responsibly" judges said the licensing changes would lead to an escalation of violence.

"Those who routinely see the consequences of drink-fuelled violence in offences of rape, grievous bodily harm and worse on a daily basis are in no doubt that an escalation of offences of this nature will inevitably be caused by the relaxation of liquor licensing which the government has now authorized," the judges said.

Harris said it was rare for any of the cases of violence he dealt with to have been committed by someone who had not been drinking.—MNA/Reuters

Berlin apartment fire death toll rises to nine

BERLIN, 11 Aug—The death toll in a Berlin apartment block fire rose to nine after a woman critically injured in Monday night's blaze died on Wednesday, police said.

The fire, which police suspect was started by arsonists, had already claimed the lives of five children and three adults, making it one of the deadliest fires in the German capital since the end of World War II.

The blaze occurred in the stairwell of a five-storey building in Berlin's central Moabit District, which is home to many immigrant families.

At least eight of the victims were Polish and Kosovans.—MNA/Xinhua

Infectious diseases kill 754 in China during July

BEIJING, 11 Aug—A total of 754 people were killed by 27 kinds of infectious diseases in the country's 390,418 infection cases in July in China, said the Ministry of Health here Wednesday.

Of all the infectious diseases, only poliomyelitis, contagious SARS, human contracted highly infectious bird flu and diphtheria did not cause any deaths. The top five most infectious diseases were tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, bacterial and amebic dysenteries, gonorrhoea and lues, which accounted for 87.86 per cent of all the cases.

The top five most fatal diseases were tuberculosis, hydrophobia, AIDS, epidemic Cephalitis B and Hepatitis B, which accounted for 85.54 per cent of the total deaths.

MNA/Xinhua

Second Polish diplomat attacked in Moscow

MOSCOW, 11 Aug—Attackers beat up a Polish diplomat in Moscow on Wednesday, prompting Warsaw to urge Russia to ensure the safety of its missions after the second such attack in four days.

Russian news agencies said the second secre-

tary of the Polish Embassy in Moscow, Marek Reszuta, was taken to hospital after he was punched and beaten by attackers in central Moscow.

On Sunday, a member of the Embassy technical staff was beaten by two unidentified men and

taken to hospital.

"We are deeply concerned by this incident. This is the second time a citizen with diplomatic immunity has been beaten in Moscow," a Polish Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

MNA/Reuters

BAA says London bombings affect July traffic

LONDON, 11 Aug—Bombings on London's transport system kept some passengers away from the capital's airports last month, although July volumes were still higher than last year on low-cost airline growth, Britain's top airports operator said on Wednesday.

BAA Plc, whose seven airports include London's Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, said passenger traffic in July — one of its busiest months — rose 2.6 per cent year-on-year to a record 14.6 million.

However, the numbers were affected by 7 July bombings in London and capacity-constraints at congested Heathrow Airport. "The rate of growth at BAA's London airports was impacted by the London bombings," BAA said in a statement. "In addition, capacity constraints in this peak month reduced the ability of Heathrow to accommodate true demand growth."

BAA shares eased 0.6 per cent to 608 pence by 0840 GMT, whereas the London market's blue-

chip index was slightly firmer.

BAA said passenger traffic fell 0.6 per cent at Heathrow in July, but rose 3.3 per cent at Gatwick and 6.1 per cent at Stansted, where rapidly-expanding Ryanair and easyJet have operations.

Major airlines have said the short-term impact of the 7 July bombings in the capital, which killed 52 people, was not material, although analysts say it is too early to determine the long-term impact.

MNA/Reuters

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Study shows skin cancer rate up for women under age 40

CHICAGO, 11 Aug— The incidence of two types of skin cancer has nearly tripled among women under age 40, a sign that tanning is still popular among the young despite warnings about the harm it can cause, researchers said on Tuesday.

The rate of basal cell and squamous cell cancers rose to 32 per 100,000 women under 40 in 2003 from 13 per 100,000 in the late 1970s, their study said.

Basal cell and squamous cell cancers are the two most common forms of the disease and can be removed and treated more easily than the deadlier melanoma type.

“Tan is still accepted as a sign of health and a sign of beauty and so changing that message is going to be important to accept fair skin as very healthy and beautiful,” said study author Dr Leslie Christenson of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

The study looked at some 500 skin cancer cases in surrounding Olmsted County, Minnesota, where the population’s comprehensive health records are examined as part of the clinic’s Rochester Epidemiology Project.

Young women, especially, still use tanning beds and lie in the sun despite health warnings about cumu-

lative skin damage from sun rays, Christenson said in a report published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Among men under 40, the incidence of basal cell cancers did not increase though the rate of squamous cell cancers among men did rise, the study said. Christenson said that men may not pay as much attention to their skin as women, and might not spot the tell-tale discoloured bumps as often.

Basal cell cancer usually appears as a pink bump on the skin, which can be superficial or bleed and does not go away. Squamous cell cancer can also look very pink, but it is usually scaly and appears as a rough, raised bump.

In the United States, there were 800,000 new cases of basal cell and 200,000 cases of squamous cell cancers diagnosed in the year 2000.

Cases are increasing rapidly in people over age 50 as well, the report said. — MNA/Reuters

Lawmaker says US knew of al-Qaeda cell long before 9/11

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug — A US military intelligence team identified four September 11 hijackers, including ringleader Mohammed Atta, as likely members of an al-Qaeda cell in the United States over a year before the 2001 attacks, a former team member and a Republican congressman said on Tuesday.

The classified eight-member team, code-named “Able Danger”, produced a chart with photographs of Atta and three other hijackers in 2000 and unsuccessfully sought to pass the information on to the FBI.

Representative Curt Weldon, a Pennsylvania Republican who is vice-chairman of both the House Armed Services and Homeland Security committees, said the information was provided to the staff of the September 11 commission but some commissioners were never briefed on the material. The panel’s 2004 final report examining the 11 September attacks on New York and Washington contained no information suggesting that the US Government knew the hijackers were operating inside the United States as early as 2000.

Lee Hamilton, the commission’s former vice chairman, said panel staff interviewed “Able Danger” members in Afghanistan in October 2003 and

later reviewed documents on the operation supplied on request by the Bush Administration.

“Neither in the documents nor in the conversations was there any mention of a Mohammed Atta or his cell,” Hamilton, a former Democratic congressman from Indiana, told Reuters in an interview. “There was no mention of Mohammed Atta and no mention of any military surveillance of him.”

The former military intelligence official insists he personally told 11 September commission staff members about Atta in Afghanistan, and offered to supply them with documents upon his return to the United States, only to be rebuffed.

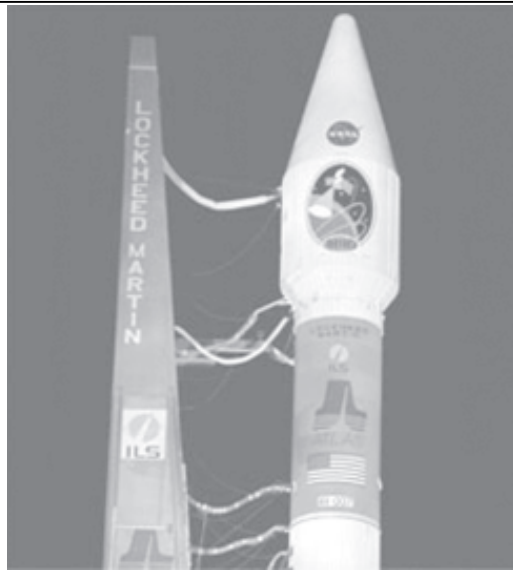
Former 11 September commission spokesman Al Felzenberg said on Tuesday that the panel’s former staff would review internal memos and other documents to make sure information about Atta was not overlooked. — MNA/Reuters

China making counterterrorism law

BEIJING, 11 Aug— China is intensifying work on drafting a counterterrorism law, a Chinese law expert said here Wednesday. Zhao Bingzhi, a member of the drafting team, said a draft of the law is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

“China firmly opposes terrorism of various sorts and steadfastly stands at the forefront of the battle to fight terrorism in cooperation with the international community,” said Zhao, deputy dean of the law school of the prestigious People’s University of China. He said China has joined most of the international counter-terrorism treaties and, shortly after the terror attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in the United States, made amendments to its criminal law to beef up the counterterrorism.

“As economic globalization gathers speed, transnational crime has become a more protuberant problem. Such crimes pose a serious threat to peace and security in the international community and for all of humankind,” Zhao said prior to the 22nd Congress on the Law of the World. He said the counterterrorism measures of the international community remain inadequate despite the adoption of 12 international treaties on fighting terrorism. — MNA/Xinhua



The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter sits atop the Atlas V launch vehicle at the pad at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, on 11 August, 2005. INTERNET

Helicopter crashes into Baltic, 14 believed dead

HELSINKI, 11 Aug — A Finnish helicopter with 12 passengers and two crew crashed into the Baltic Sea off Estonia on Wednesday and Estonian officials said all on board were believed dead.

The helicopter, on a scheduled commercial flight to Helsinki from the Estonian capital Tallinn, crashed near the Baltic island of Naissaar three minutes after take-off, officials said.

Rescue helicopters, boats and divers from Estonia and Finland found debris from the helicopter but had not yet recovered those on board—six Finnish passengers and the two Finnish crew, four Estonians and two Americans.

Estonian Prime Minister Andrus Ansip told a news conference in Tallinn there was not enough information to hand about the fate of the 14 on board, “but there is

no hope”. Rein Porro, deputy director of Estonia’s civil aviation authority called it the worst civil aviation accident in Estonia’s history.

“They are believed dead. Typically people cannot survive a crash like this. The helicopter dived very quickly,” he said by phone from Tallinn.

Estonian officials said the helicopter had sunk, with the 14 still inside, in water about 60 metres (200 feet) deep.

“Helicopter remains have been found,” said Finnish Foreign Ministry official Pekka Hyvonen. “For the time being, no people have been found.”

MNA/Reuters

Three killed in Brazil as cyclone destroys house

SAO PAULO (Brazil), 11 Aug — At least three people died in southern Brazil on Wednesday when a cyclone caused the collapse of a three-storey building, rescue workers said.

The states civil defence director Jose Mauro da Costa said eight people were injured in the collapse in the southern state of Santa Catarina. One person was missing.

Heavy rains and strong winds of nearly 87-miles-per-hour from the extratropical cyclone blew

the roofs off some buildings, felled trees and left 19 towns without electricity.

In March 2004, a hurricane like storm with winds of up to 95-miles-per-hour struck the same area. It killed four people and left thousands homeless.

Meteorologists still argue about whether last year’s storm which some call Hurricane Catarina, was indeed a hurricane or a very strong extra-tropical cyclone. A hurricane has never been officially recorded in Brazil or in the South Atlantic.

MNA/Reuters

Explosions in US chemical plant force hundreds to evacuate

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug — Strong explosions rocked a northern US chemical plant on Tuesday night, sending fireballs and huge smoke columns high into the sky and prompting hundreds of people to evacuate their homes.

The plant is located in Romulus, a suburban town near Detroit, some 640 kilometres northwest of Washington DC, and the blasts happened shortly after 9 pm, according to local TV news

reports.

By Wednesday afternoon, flames and smoke are still rising from several tanks in the plant complex.

Firefighters had no estimate when the fire

will be extinguished.

A 1.6-kilometre radius around the plant has been evacuated, including an automobile plant and hundreds of inhabitants.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Zidane back in France squad for Ivory Coast game

PARIS, 12 Aug — Zinedine Zidane's return to international duty along with Lilian Thuram and Claude Makelele will give France something extra when they play Ivory Coast in a friendly next Wednesday, said coach Raymond Domenech.

Real Madrid playmaker Zidane, Juventus defender Thuram and Chelsea midfielder Makelele were included in Domenech's squad for the game in Montpellier.

"I'm happy they're back. No more discussions, no more second thoughts," Domenech told reporters on Thursday.

"They will bring a maturity we needed, their technical skills in difficult moments."

Zidane and Thuram called it a day shortly after France suffered a quarter-final exit at the hands of eventual winners Greece at Euro 2004.

Makelele ended his international career after France's goalless draw against Israel in a World Cup qualifier on 4 September, 2004.

However, all three players announced last week they were ready to come back in order to boost France's hopes of qualify-

ing for the 2006 World Cup finals in Germany.

Domenech decided to pick 21 players even if he will only be able to put 18 names on the match sheet.

"It's an important game, so I needed to gather everyone. Even if I can only use 18 players, I decided to pick 21 so that I can see everybody," he said.

The August 17 match will be played 11 years to the day after Zidane and

Thuram won their first caps against the Czech Republic in a 2-2 draw in which Zidane scored both French goals.

Makelele's recall meant Olympique Lyon midfielder Benoit Pedretti, a regular since Domenech took over from Jacques Santini after France's failure at Euro 2004, was omitted from the squad.

MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Momo Sissoko, center, challenges for the ball with CSKA Sofia defenders, during their UEFA Champions League third qualifying round, first leg soccer match in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 10 Aug. 2005.—INTERNET

Cole to appeal to CAS over "tapping-up" fine

LONDON, 12 Aug — Arsenal's Ashley Cole is to take his "tapping-up" case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne after losing an appeal over the affair involving the England defender and Chelsea.

Originally fined 100,000 pounds (180,400 US dollars) by the Premier League for breaching rules on approaches to players, Cole lost an initial appeal on Wednesday — although his fine was cut to 75,000 pounds.

But the England defender's solicitor Graham Shear said in a statement on Thursday that Cole was still not happy with the Premier League Appeals Committee verdict.

"Ashley is absolutely adamant that he will be proceeding with an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport as he remains entirely dissatisfied with the result," Shear said.

Along with Cole, Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho also lost his appeal on Wednesday — but similarly had a 200,000-pound fine reduced to 75,000. As a club, Chelsea had accepted a fine of 300,000 pounds and had not appealed the original sanctions.

"It is interesting to note that Mr. Mourinho and Chelsea seem happy with their fines and punishments," Shear said.

"However, my client feels that he has done little, if anything, wrong and therefore is not satisfied with the result of the appeal."

The fines were originally handed out in June, following a meeting by those involved in a London hotel in January. Chelsea have also been warned by the Premier League that the champions would be docked three points if they committed a similar offence this season. — MNA/Reuters

Lampard says Chelsea can join all-time greats

LONDON, 12 Aug — Chelsea can become one of the best sides the world has ever seen, midfielder Frank Lampard said on Thursday.

"It's a tall order to become the best side ever, but the players are hungry and we aim to put Chelsea up with the great AC Milan and Liverpool sides of the past," Lampard said.

"We definitely feel we have the potential to do that because we have a young squad and the funds in place to back it up," he told reporters at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge ground.

Lampard said Chelsea's players were laughing after Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger criticized them for their long ball tactics following the

champions' 2-1 victory over his team in the Community Shield match in Cardiff on Sunday.

He said Wenger's attack on Chelsea's style of play was a sign that he is showing the strain of trying to compete with a team that finished 12 points above Arsenal to claim their first league title for 50 years in May.

"We laughed at the criticism we got after the Community Shield," the England midfielder said.

"We felt it was a sign we had got under someone's skin a little bit.

"There's two things you can talk about when it comes to the long ball. One is the old Wimbledon days and the other is when you can mix it up, play very good football but then play a longer ball of quality.

"I think in the Champions League we showed we can do that and people made a big deal that we did it, but it's not a sign of a lack of quality but more the fact we have different qualities," Lampard said.

"It has got to the stage where every bit of criticism we receive we use to make us stronger. We get it from a lot of angles now and hope to answer it all by getting more success".

MNA/Reuters

Man City midfielder Reyna recalled for Trinidad qualifier

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug — Manchester City midfielder Claudio Reyna has been recalled into the United States squad on Wednesday after five months absence from the national team.

In a 20-man squad named Wednesday by coach Bruce Arena, Reyna was listed alongside other nine European-based players and 10 from domestic squads for next week's World Cup qualifier against Trinidad and Tobago, though the long-standing US skipper has only capped twice in the last 11 months.

Reyna, hampered by injury and lack of fitness, last took part in an international match for the US in the 2-1 loss to arch-rivals Mexico in a qualifier in March.

The US are one point behind leaders Mexico halfway through the Concacaf zone final group qualifiers going into the August 17 match against Trinidad in East Hartford.

Mexico lead the six-nation group with 13 points while Costa Rica are third on seven, followed by Guatemala and Trinidad and Tobago on four each and Panama with two. The top three nations automatically gain a berth to the 2006 finals in Germany.

MNA/Xinhua

Ronaldinho to be UN Ambassador against hunger

MADRID, 12 Aug — Barcelona striker Ronaldinho will be appointed on Sunday as the United Nations' Ambassador Against Hunger, announced Wednesday the World Food Programme (WFP) of UN.

John Powell, Deputy Executive Director of WFP, said that Ronaldinho "will utilize his talent and fame to support the World Food Programme of the United Nations in its effort to eradicate hunger among children, which currently affects 300 millions of them around the world". WFP is the biggest humanitarian assistance agency of the world. Each year it delivers food to an average of 90 million poor people so they could meet their basic nutritional needs.

This figure includes 56 million children suffering from hunger, in at least 80 of the poorest countries and regions of the world. — MNA/Xinhua

Robinho to say farewell to Santos

RIO DE JANEIRO, 12 Aug — Vila Belmiro Stadium is the place from which Robinho wants to say goodbye to Santos and start his life with Spanish club Real Madrid, said the 21-year-old player on Wednesday. The expected farewell of Robinho will take place in the Santos-Figueirense match of the Brazilian Championship, three days before the date which is the official farewell of the young striker.

Robinho, according to the official announcement, would play his last match with Santos, versus Paysandu, at Belem, on 24 August.

"Nothing against the people of Belem,

but I would very much like to say farewell at Vila Belmiro. To tell the truth I don't like farewells, but I expect to return to Santos in the future," said the striker.

Robinho signed a five-year contract with Real at the end of last month when Santos finally agreed to accept a 30-million-US-dollar offer from the Spanish giants.

However, the deal between the two clubs included a clause that allows the slightly built forward to play a handful of league matches with Santos before joining Real on 25 August. — MNA/Xinhua

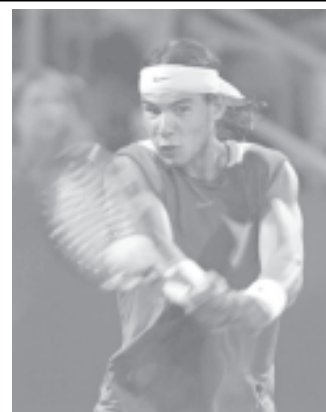
Bolton close in on Nakata

LONDON, 12 Aug — Bolton Wanderers are close to signing Fiorentina's Japan midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata on a year's loan, the Premier League club said on Thursday.

Bolton are hoping to sign the 28-year-old playmaker over the next few days and present him to the media on Tuesday, a club spokesman said.

"There is an agreement (in principle), provided that he gets a work permit. He also has to pass a medical in the next couple of days and there are a few fine details still to be sorted out over his personal terms," said the spokesman.

Bolton manager Sam Allardyce told the club's website: "Hidetoshi is a player I admire and it would be great to have him on board." — MNA/Reuters



Rafael Nadal of Spain follows through on his return to Brazil's Ricardo Mello in ATP Rogers Cup tennis action in Montreal on 10 August, 2005.

INTERNET

Schools in Kuala Lumpur closed for two days due to haze

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Aug — All schools here will be closed for two days beginning on Thursday due to the worsening haze, local television reports said on Thursday.

The Air Pollution Index (API) in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday has reached 276, an "unhealthy" level, the reports quoted officials as saying.

The haze hanging over some parts of Malaysia was "the worst" in recent years, the officials said.

The heavy haze Thursday continued to cap several states in Malaysia, in particular Kuala Lumpur and its nearby areas. More people, including policemen, hotel clerks, shop assistants, even some tourists, were seen wearing face masks in the capital city of the country.

The API in several areas in Klang Valley worsened markedly on Thursday, exceeding 500, a "hazardous" level to health, local media said.

At 6 am (2200 GMT, Wednesday), Port Klang recorded an API

reading of 534 while in Kuala Selangor, the API had hit 510, Malaysian Health Minister Chua Soi Lek said.

However, he said, the decision on whether to declare an emergency, will be made by Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak as Chairman of the National Disaster and Relief Management Committee.

The Health Ministry was waiting for further advice from the Deputy Prime Minister's Office on the next move, he added.

Malaysian Transport Minister Chan Kong Choy on Wednesday said that Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) would be closed temporarily if the visibility fell below 300 metres, and all incoming flights would be diverted to land at the airports in Langkawi, Senai or Pinang in that case.

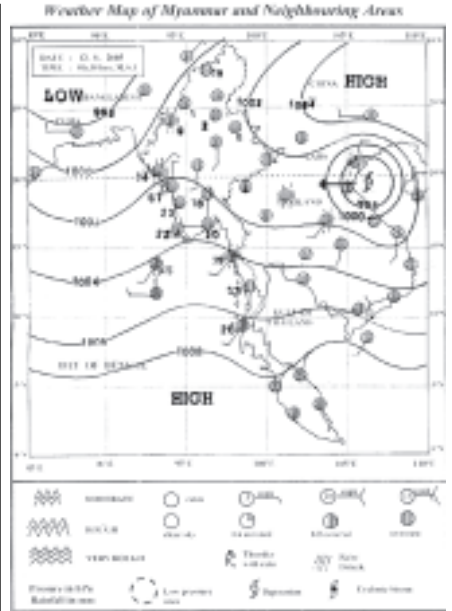
Subang Airport in Kuala Lumpur was forced to shut down on Wednesday morning after visibility there dropped to 200 metres, and two cargo flights scheduled for landing at the airport were diverted to the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar also said on Wednesday that a regional pact to address the

haze problem reached in 1997 should be activated to tackle the current haze situation.

Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia agreed in December 1997 to spearhead an action plan to prevent the recurrence of haze in Southeast Asia. Many parts of Malaysia have been blanketed by haze originating from fires in Sumatra over the past week.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 12 August, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Rakhine and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (7.52) inches, Thaton (5.43) inches, Hakha (2.84) inches, Maungtaung (2.56) inches, and Hpa-an (2.48) inches.

Maximum temperature on 11-8-2005 was 82°F. Minimum temperature on 12-8-2005 was 67°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 12-8-2005 was 88%. Total sunshine hours on 11-8-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 12-8-2005 were 0.83 inches at Mingaladon, 1.02 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.71 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 62.05 inches at Mingaladon, 62.83 inches at Kaba-Aye and 63.66 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southwest at (15:50) hours MST on 11-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the North Central Bay and strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special Facture: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, the Tropical Depression over Gulf of Tonkin still persists and is centered about (110) miles southeast of Hanoi (Vietnam). It is forecast to move westwards.

Forecast valid until evening of 13-8-2005: Rain will be isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas are likely off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar water.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in the eastern and central Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-8-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 60%.


Weather look for third weekend of 13-8-2005: During the coming weekend, rain will be widespread in Yangon Division and isolated in Mandalay Division.

Foold Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 12-8-2005)
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (788) cm. It is falling slightly and may remain above the danger level (750) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.

Asleep in Jesus Daw Valerie Thoung (a) Daw Valerie Vardon (58 years) (PIEC and Myanmar Port Authority)

Residing at No-129, 101st Street, Mingalartaungnyunt Township and daughter of late Mr Victor Vardon and Mrs Blanche Vardon; wife of U Henry Thoung; mother of Geraldine Aye Phyu Phyu Thoung and David Zaw Win Thoung; sister of Capt RD Vardon-Sheila, late Winston Vardon-Marjorie and late Denzil Vardon and Patricia Vardon; aunt of Kevin Kyaw Win, Chaw Chaw, Jacqueline, Jennifer and Andrew was called to her heavenly home on 12 August 2005. Funeral service will be held at Holy Trinity Cathedral at No-446 Bogyoke Aung San Street, at 3 pm on Sunday, 14 August 2005 and thence to Yayway cemetery for entombment. Cars will leave the above-mentioned resident and No-59, 49th Street Botahtaung Township at 2 pm. **Bereaved family**



Saturday, 13 August

View on today:

7:00 am

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7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

- အတပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

- Musical programme

8:20 am

- ကျောက်ကြီးမင်းတော်

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Grammar made easy

11:00 am

- Martial song

11:15 am

- Musical programme

11:30 am

- News

11:40 am

- Games for children

12:05 pm

- Round-up of the week's TV local news

12:35 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "စောရတီဇာတ်ပုံစုံစုံစွမ်းစွမ်း" (အပိုင်း-၅၈)

1:00 pm

- ကြားမြင်သူတို့ ပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ

1:20 pm

- မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအမျိုးသမီးရေးရာ အဖွဲ့ချုပ်၏ ကြီးကြပ်မှုဖြင့် ရန်ကင်းတိုင်းအမျိုးသမီးရေးရာ အဖွဲ့မှ စီစဉ်တင်ဆက်သော စေတီအဆက်ဆက် ဝတ်စားဆင်ယင်ထုံးစံပြပွဲ

2:05 pm

- Dance of national races

2:20 pm

- အတပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:30 pm

- (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှအားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်ဆု ဖြန့်ဖြူးအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်)

2:45 am

- International news

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:15 pm

- Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

- English for everyday use

4:45 pm

- Musical programme

5:00 pm

- အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့လုပ်ညွှန်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ - ဝတ်စားစုံ (သတ္တဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

5:15 pm

- မြန်မာ့ပြည်ထောင်စုအဖွဲ့အစည်း

5:20 pm

- ၂၀၀၅ ရန်ကင်း တေရသမ

အကြိမ်(၁၃)ကြိမ် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကအရိုး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင် ကြရန်(မဟာဂီတ)အခြေစိုက်ပညာ ၅-၁၀နှစ်) (အမျိုးသား၊ အမျိုးသမီး)

5:35 pm

- မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

5:50 pm

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

6:05 pm

- "လောကရဲ့အလှူရတနာ" ရဲအောင်၊ ဓမ္မသန္တာညို၊ သူထွန်း၊ ပွင့်နီဒီပေဝင်း၊ ချစ်နီနီနီ၊ ရေခဲရတနာ၊ ဓမ္မာဓာ

6:20 pm

- Musical programme

6:30 pm

- Evening news

7:00 pm

- Weather report

7:05 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ခင်နိုးမြေခင်းတိုက်တစ်လုံး" (အပိုင်း-၄၇)

7:35 pm

- ထာဝစဉ်အလှ မြန်မာဂီတ (အတိတ်ပညာကာလဂီတအဖွဲ့အစည်း) (အပိုင်း-၇)

7:45 pm

- Musical programme

8:00 pm

- News

8:15 pm

- International news

8:30 pm


- Weather report

8:45 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၆၆)

9:00 pm

- The next day's programme



Saturday, 13 August

Tune in today:

8.30 am Brief news

8.35 am Music: -We've got it going on

8.40 am Perspectives

8.45 am Music: -Close to you

8.55 am National news/Slogan

9.05 am Music: -Play that funky music

9.05 am International news

9.10 am Music: -If I can't have you

1.30 pm News/Slogan

1.40 pm Request -Dancing round & round -My simple heart -If you love me let me know

9.00 pm ASEAN Review

9.10 pm Article

9.20 pm Myanma culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt Sounveirs -A little in love

9.45 pm News/Slogan

10.00 pm PEL

Sales of gems and jade inspected



Lt-Gen Tin Aye of Ministry of Defence attending 19th Gems and Jade Sales of UMEHL.— MNA

YANGON, 12 Aug—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon visited the 19th Myanmar Gems and Jade Sales (2005) organized by the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd at the Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road.

On arrival at the emporium, Lt-Gen Tin Aye was welcomed by Managing Director of the UMEHL Col Win Than and members of the board of directors, members of the sales committee and officials.

He inspected the sales of gems and jade lots through tender system and competitive bidding. — MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(12-8-2005)

Gwa	(7.52) inches
Thaton	(5.43) inches
Hakha	(2.84) inches
Maungtaw	(2.56) inches
Hpa-an	(2.48) inches

Significant decline in number of road accidents

YANGON, 12 Aug—The Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held its work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the Yangon Command Headquarters at 5 pm today with an address by Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe speaking at the meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport.— YANGON COMMAND

In his address, Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe said that thanks to concerted efforts of members of the Supervisory Committee, officials and those from the All Private Bus Lines Control Committee, there has been a significant decline in the number of road accidents; that with the decline in road acci-

dents, continued efforts are to be made for pedestrians and drivers to strictly abide by the traffic rules.

Next, rectors, pro-rectors and officials of universities and colleges presented matters on assistance to be provided for the convenience of

teachers and students while Commander of Yangon Divisioncordless and Traffic Police Force

reported on measures being taken for reduction of road accidents as well as for pedestrians to strictly

follow the traffic rules.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by Chairman of the

Supervisory Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe. — MNA

USDA Secretary-General tours Sagaing Division

YANGON, 12 Aug — USDA Secretary-General Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo and CEC member Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with executives and members of divi-

sion, district and ward USDAs at Sagaing Division USDA office in Monywa on 6 August evening.

Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary-General said that USDA members, being a national force, are to actively take part in public welfare tasks. The Government, the Tatmadaw and the people are to join hands in carrying out development tasks of the nation. Understanding objectives and policies of the association, all are to harmoniously strive for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic country.

Next, the CEC member gave instructions on participation in undertaking regional development tasks.

Next, they cordially greeted those present.

On 7 August, the General-Secretary met with executives of Ayadaw Township USDA at the township association's office. At the meeting, he instructed them to cooperate with local people in performing regional development tasks and rural development tasks. Later, he presented cash towards the fund for regional development. — MNA



USDA Secretary-General Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo meets with executives of Sagaing Division, District and Township USDAs in Monywa. — A&I