

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 120

10th Waxing of Wagaung 1367 ME

Sunday, 14 August, 2005

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

New buildings of basic education schools handed over in Dagon Myothit (South), (Seikkan) Townships



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt formally open new building of BEMS No 1 in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township.— YANGON COMMAND

YANGON, 13 Aug — A ceremony to hand over new buildings of basic education schools were held in Dagon Myothit (South) and (Seikkan) Townships this morning.

At Basic Education Primary School No 29 in Ward 107 of Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Chair-

man of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt formally opened the new school building.

A similar ceremony was held at the BEMS

No 1 in Ward 168 of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. The commander and the deputy ministers cut the ribbon to open the building.

In Dagon Myothit (South) Township, they also commissioned the new building of BEPS No 30 (See page 8)

Irrigation facilities inspected in Mandalay Division

YANGON, 13 Aug — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo oversaw irrigation facilities of Thittetkon Diversion Dam at Samon River near Thittetkon Village, Myittha Township, on 7 August.

Director U Aye Thein of Mandalay Division Irrigation Department reported on supply of water to 11,000 acres of farmland, and Chairman of Kyaukse District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Tin Ohn on supply of water to Thangedaw Lake and farmlands in Myittha, Kyaukse and TadaU townships and maintenance of the diversion dam.

In Meiktila, the minister heard reports on completion of tasks to supply water to Meiktila Lake presented by Deputy Director U Myo Tun of Irrigation Department. Next, the minister inspected maintenance of Kyapin Dam in Meiktila.

Afterwards, the minister met with local people and USDA members. At the meeting, he said the Government is striving for cent per cent development of the State including rural and border areas. USDA is to carry out five rural development tasks, joining hands with the local people. Therefore, all are to participate in the regional development, the minister said. — MNA



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo cordially converses with local people in Aleywa Village of Meiktila Township. — A&I

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 14 August, 2005

Strive for exceeding crop cultivation targets

The Union of Myanmar is an agro-based country. The economic development of rural people, the majority of the nation's population, depends on the agricultural sector.

In the nation, steps are being taken for extended cultivation of crops for domestic consumption, while efforts are being made for cultivation of ten major crops, three new crops and three items of perennial crops in the states and divisions.

Of the ten major crops, paddy is the most important one for the nation. To be able to produce 1,200 million baskets of paddy, the government has set the target of 15.04 million acres of monsoon paddy and 3.44 million acres of summer paddy for the year 2005-2006.

It is incumbent upon officials of the states and divisions to make relentless efforts for successful realization of the target by making better use of irrigation facilities and assistance provided by the government.

The nation had produced 1,184 million baskets of paddy in the year 2004-2005 thanks to concerted efforts of officials concerned in the states and divisions.

At present, systematic measures are being taken to exceed the target of the 2005-2006 monsoon paddy cultivation in the states and divisions. In this regard, officials concerned are making efforts for completion of ploughing for early monsoon paddy cultivation.

Moreover, extended cultivation of oil palm, rubber and Thitsein (Belleric myrobalan) are to be carried out in most suitable regions.

And priority is being given to cultivation of new crops such as tea, coffee and pepper.

The government has been building roads and bridges across the nation to ensure better transport of agricultural produce. In the meantime, it has constructed a network of dams and reservoirs for extended cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy.

Hence, concerted efforts are to be made for further development of agricultural sector. In this connection, departmental officials are to conduct field trips right down to the grassroots level for boosting the per-acre yield. Farmers, on their part, are to apply the advanced agricultural techniques to exceed the cultivation targets of all crops.

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

Ongoing project for upgrading of Yangon City inspected

YANGON, 13 Aug—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning inspected measures for sprucing up Yangon City.



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspect sanitation tasks on Gyadawya Road in Bahan Township.—YANGON COMMAND

They viewed participation of members of the Myanmar Police Force, social organizations and people in carrying out sanitation work in the compound of the Neurological Hospital of Yangon General Hospital in Latha Township here. Next, they inspected the dredging of the drain at the corner of Bogyoke Aung San Street and Botahtaung Pagoda Road in Pazundaung Township, the laying of concrete slabs on the platforms

along Anawrahta Street between 49th Street and 50th Street in Botahtaung Township and between Pansodan Street and 35th Street in Kyauktada Township, collecting garbage and unblocking of drains in Yangon Tatmyo Market in Pha-Hsa-Pa-La Ward, Mingala

Taungnyunt Township, reconstruction of U Htaung Bo Street near the Maha Wizaya Pagoda in Bahan Township, unblocking of the drains on Gyadawya Street and old Yedashay Street in Bahan Township, and Insein Road near Hline Yadana Market in Hline Town-

ship, and laying of concrete slabs along Baho Road near the junction of Parami and Baho roads.

During the inspection tour, the commander and the mayor called for cooperation of ward dwellers and social organizations for sanitation works. — MNA

Deputy Minister attends 6th Global Conference on Health Promotion in Bangkok

YANGON, 13 Aug — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo arrived back here by air on 11 August evening after attending the 6th Global Conference on Health Promotion held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 10 and 11 August.

On 10 August, the deputy minister attended the opening ceremony of the conference at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok

and participated in the discussions on the Ministerial Consultative Meeting on Health Promotion: Political Leadership for Action. In the morning, the deputy minister continued to attend the Regional Collaboration on Public Health Response to Avian Influenza and Influenza Pandemic Preparedness. He explained the plan being implemented in Myanmar on prevention

against avian influenza and pandemic influenza under the leadership of National Health Committee, and collection of necessary medicines. In the afternoon, the deputy minister discussed establishment of Institute of Public Health in Myanmar

with WHO Director of SEA Region Dr Samlee Plianbangchang. Later, the deputy minister attended the ceremony at which the Bangkok Charter for Health Promotion in a globalized World was read.

MNA

Vice-Mayor tours Shwepyitha, Hmawby Townships

YANGON, 13 Aug — Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa met with local authorities, departmental officials, the secretary of Township USDA and executives and WVO members of Shwepyitha Township at Shwepyitha Township Development Affairs Committee Office this morning.

Next, the mayor inspected sanitation tasks, maintenance of roads and placing of asphalt concrete on Hlawga Road and fancies of Shwepyitha Hospital.

He met with the secretary and executives of Shwepyitha Township USDA. The CEC member donated K 100,000 to Shwepyitha Hospital.

At the monastery in Thebyu Village of Hmawby Township, the CEC member met with local authorities, WVO members, social organization members and local people. Next, he inspected construction of houses at war veterans village No 2 in Hmawby Township. —MNA

Computer skills contests to be held

YANGON, 13 Aug — The technological contests organized by Myanmar Computer Professional Association (MCPA), will be held at MICT Park in Hline Township on 21 August. The contests are divided into application development, programming logic, web application development and web design. Two candidates must participate in each contest and the prizes are K 200,000 for the first prize, K 100,000 for the second and K 75,000 for the third.

Anyone may take part in the contests regardless of age and qualification and inquired may be made through MCPA at MICT Park, Tel: 652276 not later than 19 August.

MNA

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Chinese Premier meets Cambodian King, stressing China-ASEAN ties

BELING, 12 Aug—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao met with King of Cambodia Norodom Sihamoni here on Wednesday.

Wen said the China-Cambodia friendship is fostered through efforts of generations of leaders from the two countries and has endured the test of international changes over the past years.

"The two sides have always actively developed friendly relations as good neighbours and achieved a series of substantial results in bilateral cooperation on the basis of peaceful coexistence, which benefits China, Cambodia and our two peoples" Wen said.

Wen stressed that the

Chinese Government attaches great importance on its good-neighbourly friendship with Cambodia and values its special friendship with the Cambodian royal family.

"China is willing to join hands with Cambodia to step up mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas in a bid to bring bilateral relations to a new level," he said.

The China-ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) relationship has seen rapid development in recent years and China cherishes

that very much, Wen said.

We hope to see a united and strong ASEAN. We hope to make joint efforts with all ASEAN members states to promote regional cooperation and contribute to regional peace and prosperity." Sihamoni said the leaders and peoples from the two countries have established profound friendship over the past years. His visit to China is aimed at carrying the traditional friendly relations into the future. — MNA/Xinhua



Cyclists ride through heavy rain in Beijing recently. Floods and related disasters have killed 910 people in China so far this year with another 218 missing, the International Red Cross said as it launched an emergency appeal for 4.4 million dollars in aid.—INTERNET

Suicide bombers planning attacks in Manila

MANILA, 12 Aug — Two Indonesian suicide bombers may be in Manila, planning terrorist attacks with members of the Abu Sayyaf Group, Philippine National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales said on Thursday.

There may be four "sensitive targets" of terrorist bombings in Metro Manila, according to Gonzales, but without giving details.

"We have credible reports — and this is coming from sources of friendly countries and our own — that there are 10 suicide bombers being sent to the Philippines," Gonzales told a Press briefing.

Two of the bombers may have been sent to Metro Manila, Gonzales said.

Gonzales also said the Philippines could become "a major target" in a global expansion of militant violence.

He said some of the information had come from suspected militants now in custody and a task force had been set up to track down the Indonesians.

The regional militant network in the Philippines, Jemaah Islamiyah, taking advantage of porous maritime borders, has long used Mindanao as a training ground and safe haven but it is also believed to be funding and advising local rebel militants.

Abu Sayyaf was mainly known for kidnappings for ransom

before being blamed for deadly bombings in February this year and a blast on a ferry in Manila Bay in 2004 killing more than 100 people.

MNA/Xinhua

National HIV/AIDS training centre launched in S-W China

KUNMING, 12 Aug — A state-run HIV/AIDS training centre has been put into operation recently in southwest China's Yunnan Province to professionalize medical staff in the fight against the fatal disease, sources with the Ministry of Public Health said.

Fully sponsored by the Chinese Government, the centre is among the first six of such organizations to be established across the country.

The other five training centres locate in Beijing and Shanghai municipalities and the provinces of

Liaoning, Hubei and Sichuan. Each of the six training bases will provide professional education for 5-6 of their neighbouring provinces and regions on the treatment of HIV carriers and AIDS patients in a bid to achieve more effective

result in consultation, diagnosis, treatment, and assistance in HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

Their main tasks of the year will focus on the prevention of HIV infection and early intervention, including programmes of confining the spread of HIV/AIDS among hard-drug users and prostitutes with encouragement of using sterilized injectors and condoms.

Yunnan HIV/AIDS training centre, based in the Yunnan Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Yunnan CDC),

serves a region that includes Guizhou, Hainan and Guangdong provinces and Guanxi Zhuang autonomous region, said Lu Lin, director of the CDC.

"Yunnan is one of the regions that suffer most from the disease and the HIV/AIDS situation here is serious now," said Lu.

China has earmarked 29 million yuan (3.6 million US dollars) last year in the establishment of traditional Chinese medicine treatment centres for HIV/AIDS victims, statistics from the Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine show.—MNA/Xinhua

Floods leave 20,000 Central Africans homeless

BANGUI, 13 Aug—Floods caused by heavy rains have left around 20,000 people in Central African Republic homeless, forcing many to seek shelter with relatives or even sleep under trees, the Communications Ministry said on Friday. The start of this year's rainy season has particularly affected crowded districts of the capital Bangui in the past week, where around 3,000 poorly constructed houses crumbled.

"It would be right to say about 20,000 are homeless when you count whole families," Tchakpa M'brede, an official at the Communications Ministry told Reuters by telephone. He said homeless families were seeking shelter at the homes of relatives or neighbours or even sleeping under trees.

A Red Cross official said earlier this week there had been no deaths but said there were fears the water could spread disease in the city of 600,000 where there are many open latrines and drainage is poor. — MNA/Reuters



A US military helicopter flies over the site of a downed Apache gunship near the northern city of Kirkuk, on 12 August, 2005.—INTERNET

1,847 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug—As of Friday, 12 Aug, 2005, at least 1,847 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 1,431 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

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

The British military has reported 93 deaths; Italy, 26; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; El Salvador, Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,708 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,322 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—Internet



A little girl poses for a photo with a huge pumpkin at an agricultural garden in Beidaihe, a city in north China's Hebei Province, on 11 Aug, 2005. Two over-100-kilogram pumpkins borne in the garden have surprised many tourists here.

INTERNET

ဝက်မုရွမ်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Singapore to shorten training cycle for National Servicemen

SINGAPORE, 12 Aug — Singapore will shorten the training cycle for Operationally-Ready National Servicemen (ORNSmen) from 13 years to 10 years from 1 April next year, according to Channel NewsAsia report on Thursday.

The Defence Ministry believed that the reduction will not compromise the operational capability of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF).

As a third generation SAF is being formed, advanced technology will reduce the dependence on manpower on the one hand, and on the other, better education will help enhance NSmen's

fighting power, said the ministry.

It added that the country will see a sharp increase in the intake of full-time NSmen in the next 10 years. Defence Minister Teo Chee Hean was quoted as saying that the new Enhanced National Service Training System will emphasize more on each unit's performance and the outcome of its training.—MNA/Xinhua

One US soldier killed, two wounded in training accident in Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 Aug—One US serviceman was killed and two others were wounded Thursday in a training accident involving explosives in central Afghanistan, said the US-led coalition.

The accident occurred near Tarin Kowt in Uruzgan Province, while the wounded were evacuated to Bagram Airfield for treatment, the coalition said in a news release without further detail.

One Afghan soldier was also wounded in the accident and is being treated at a hospital in Tarin Kowt.—MNA/Xinhua

Two US troops injured in helicopter crash in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 Aug—A US Apache helicopter crashed Friday in northern Iraq, injuring two US troops, the military said.

US forces were evacuating the two injured servicemembers in the area of Kirkuk, 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Baghdad, said Staff Sgt Duane Brown, a spokesman for the 42nd Infantry Division. He did not disclose the extent of the injuries.

The cause of the crash is under investigation, Brown said.—Internet

66 killed, 3,000 afflicted with rat fever in Mumbai post-flood

MUMBAI, 12 Aug — Sixty-six people died and another 3,000 afflicted with suspected Leptospirosis (rat fever) and water-borne diseases in post-flood western Indian metropolis of Mumbai and adjoining municipal areas in the past few days.

Addressing a media briefing late Wednesday afternoon, Maharashtra Health Minister, Vimaltai Mundada said rat fever has assumed epidemic proportions and the government has declared an epidemic in Mumbai and adjoining Kalyan-Dombivali municipal area.

Chief Minister Vilasrao Deshmukh said there was no cause for panic and the situation was under control. After meeting with senior health department officials and doctors, he said a door-to-door survey will be conducted to identify the ill and provide medical help.

Late in the night, an official spokesman of the government asserted epidemic has not been de-

clared and the Health Minister "has not presented facts properly".

Bhushan Gagrani, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department, said although there are some reports of cases of Leptospirosis in some parts of Mumbai and Kalyan-Dombivali region, "this is to certify that BMC or the state government has not declared Mumbai or any other area of the state as epidemic-threatened under the appropriate act".

Gagrani said all the municipal corporation of greater Mumbai has done is to amend "its list of epidemic disease to include Leptospirosis, which will make it obligatory for private clinics to report such cases to

the civic body".

"Inclusion of rat fever in the list does not amount to declaration of an epidemic," Gagrani added.

The Health Minister, however, said the epidemic outbreak was declared under the Epidemic Act which would help government machinery divert efforts to fight the disease apart from making it compulsory for private doctors to notify to government cases of suspected Leptospirosis.

Nearly 1,000 people in Mumbai and 2000 in neighbouring areas have been admitted to hospitals with complaints of high fever. In Mumbai, 112 have been identified to have contracted rat fever, official sources said.

MNA/PTI

Philippine Govt seeks energy conservation amid high oil prices

MANILA, 12 Aug — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo called on the public to save energy and support the government's efforts in finding alternative sources of fuel, a government statement said on Thursday.

"I would like to call on our people to clearly appreciate the looming crisis arising out of the unabated price of oil in the world market," Arroyo said in a statement, as she on Thursday attended the launching ceremony of a programme of new diesel blended with 1 per cent coco-biodiesel, which is cheaper and more environment friendly.

"Let us face this challenge squarely and close ranks. This is not a simple test of our resiliency as a people but a real challenge to our economic survival. Let us act now to avoid complications later," she said.

Arroyo said she had told the Department of Energy to give regular bulletins on the direction and impact of the rising oil prices.

"The entire nation, all sectors and communities, must engage in a serious, consistent effort to conserve energy and support all means to bring down our overall consumption of energy and exploit alternative sources of fuel," she said.—MNA/Xinhua

Carter says Iraq boosting morale of extremists

KINGS BAY, 12 Aug—The 2003 invasion of Iraq was a mistake that has boosted the ranks and morale of extremist Islamic groups and made them a greater threat to US interests, former President Jimmy Carter said on Friday.

We have not lessened the strength of terrorists around the world and have not lessened but have increased both the number and the fervour and the organisational capabilities of terrorists," Carter said in a news conference at this US naval base in southeastern Georgia.

Carter, the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 and one of the fiercest US critics of the war in Iraq, added that he was opposed to a sudden withdrawal of US troops because it would lead to a debacle in the Middle Eastern nation.

Carter's comments came one day after President George W Bush rejected calls for a quick pullout. Bush, who is vacationing at his ranch in Texas, said a premature withdrawal would betray the Iraqis just as they are being trained to defend themselves and eventually take over from US soldiers. Carter was in Kings Bay, Georgia, to tour the USS Jimmy Carter, a newly commissioned nuclear submarine. Carter, a former Navy submarine officer, and his wife Rosalynn spent on Thursday night on the submerged vessel.—Internet



Local residents look at a fuel truck which was destroyed during a gunbattle in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on 12 Aug, 2005. — INTERNET

Drive safely

Joint Israeli-Palestinian security room starts working

GAZA, 12 Aug—A joint Israeli-Palestinian security operation room for the Israeli pullout started working on Thursday, the Palestinian Interior Ministry said.

The joint operation room will follow up the implementation of the Israeli pullout from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank due on 15 August and the redeployment of Palestinian security forces around the evacuated set-

lements, the ministry said in a statement. According to the statement, the agreement to start the joint operation room was reached in a meeting on Wednesday between senior Israeli and Palestinian officials in northern Gaza.

Meanwhile, Palestinian Interior Minister General Nasser Yousef told reporters earlier that he was satisfied at the level of the Israeli-Palestinian security coordination to ensure the withdrawal a success.

MNA/Xinhua



A man sells masks in downtown Kuala Lumpur on 11 August, 2005. Malaysia got a short breathing space on Friday from its worst air pollution crisis in eight years as changing winds scattered acrid smoke from forest fires burning in neighbouring Indonesia. —INTERNET

Six militants killed by US troops in Afghanistan

KABUL, 12 Aug—Six militants were killed and three US soldiers and an Afghan interpreter wounded in a clash in a complex of caves near Afghanistan's border with Pakistan, the US military said.

The clash happened in the southeastern province of Paktika on Tuesday after Afghan and US troops encountered the militants during a patrol, a statement issued late on Wednesday said.

"The enemy fled shortly afterwards toward a nearby cave complex," it said. "Afghan and US forces pursued the enemy combatants toward the cave complex killing one," it said, adding that several

hours later the same forces came into contact with additional militants and killed five more.

There was no immediate comment from the Taliban on the incidents, but spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi said the guerillas had killed two Afghans in the central province of Uruzgan for "spying" for the Americans.

Ousted from power by US-led forces in 2001, the Taliban have

stepped up their attacks this year.

Hundreds of people, including 40 US soldiers, have died in militant-related violence this year in the run-up to September 18 parliamentary elections, making it the bloodiest period since 2001.

The Taliban and their Islamic allies such as al-Qaeda are mostly active in areas near the border with Pakistan.

MNA/Reuters

General says attacks on US convoys in Iraq doubled

WASHINGTON, 13 Aug—The number of roadside bomb attacks by guerillas against US military supply convoys in Iraq has doubled in the past year, the general in charge of logistics for American military forces in Iraq said on Friday.

Army Brig Gen Yves Fontaine, commander of the 1st Corps Support Command, said US military convoys carrying fuel, food, water, arms and equipment faced 30 attacks weekly involving so-called improvised explosive devices, or IEDs.

Speaking to reporters at the Pentagon from a

US base at Balad north of Baghdad, Fontaine said US casualties from these attacks actually have declined thanks to increased armor on vehicles such as Humvees, tractor trailers and cargo trucks.

"As a matter of fact, we have seen an increase in the use of IEDs on our convoys. And our main threat is the IED for the

logistics convoys coming from Kuwait, Jordan and Turkey, and then going to the Baghdad area. So the increase has been to about 30 a week," Fontaine said.

He added the attacks on convoys are centered in the so-called Sunni Muslim Triangle north and west of the capital.

Internet

China issues regulations to protect cultural security

BEIJING, 12 Aug—China will not permit any more overseas satellite television channels to land on its Mainland and will not allow foreign investment in the country's news media, according to new government regulations.

China promulgated three regulations about the import of cultural products, the use of foreign capital in the cultural sector, and foreign and non-public investment in cultural undertakings earlier this month. Analysts say these regulations aim to put Sino-foreign cultural exchanges in order and safeguard cultural security.

"It is an active response to the new situation after China joined the World Trade Organization," said Wang Zhimin, a professor at Beijing Film Academy.

Statistics show China has had a huge deficit in its trade in cultural products, in sharp contrast with the surplus in the trade of other commodities. The proportion between the imports and exports of copyright trade in China is 10.3 to 1. For instance, China has imported several thousand American movies, but exported only a limited number of

Chinese movies to the US market.

Every country has its own cultural tradition and values. The large-margin adverse balance of culture trade will not only influence the country's economic benefits, but also exert great impact upon the security of its culture, said Wang, adding that China's culture industry is still young, so it is necessary for the government to guide and protect it by promulgating policies.

According to the regulations, China encourages non-governmental investors to invest in fields of art performance, and movie and TV making, and participate in the reform of state-owned cultural institutions by turning them into joint-stock companies.

China will open its cultural market to foreign investment persistently and stipulate some restrictions to control the scale, the regulations said.

"These documents reiterate the current policies and add some necessary improvements. They will improve management and ensure an orderly cultural market," a senior official with China's cultural administrative department said under condition of anonymity.

"China has fulfilled its promise after joining WTO. The new regulations are also consistent with the WTO principles and will help foreign investors know definitely what they can do and what they cannot," he said.

China promised to open up its cultural market moderately when it entered the WTO in 2001, and issued a series of governmental documents to accelerate the inflow of foreign capital. But some departments and localities did beyond the permission by allowing foreign capital into some non-open fields such as making news and other programmes.—MNA/Xinhua

Iraqi leaders urged to reach agreement on new Constitution

UNITED NATIONS, 12 Aug—UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan called on all political, religious and civil society leaders in Iraq on Thursday to exercise the vision and the political will needed to come to an agreement on the new national Constitution in the next few days.

"He believes such an agreement will constitute a major milestone in Iraq's political transition," his spokesman said in a statement issued in New York.

"The Secretary-General emphasizes that com-

promise and mutual understanding are critical if the parties are to quickly resolve the remaining issues under consideration," the spokesman added.

The Iraqi Parliament set the 15 August as the deadline for drafting the

new Constitution, the first since the oust of President Saddam Hussein. But the discussions among Iraqi parties have been deadlocked because of sharp differences over autonomy of Kurds and other issues.—MNA/Xinhua



A man picks up a piece of torn art work following a raid by US troops in Baghdad on 12 Aug, 2005.—INTERNET

Alert at airports, temples ahead of Indian Independence Day

NEW DELHI, 12 Aug — With intelligence inputs warning of terror strikes around the Indian Independence Day on 15 August, prominent temples, major airports and other vital installations across the country have been put on a high alert.

Red Fort in Delhi, where Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will unfurl the national tricolour and address the nation on 15 August, has been turned into a fortress with thousands of security personnel from various forces being deployed in and around it to foil any terrorist designs.

Central Industrial Security Force and other forces deployed at the airports and other protected installations have been directed to maintain "maximum alert" following the

intelligence inputs, official sources told PTI here on Wednesday.

As part of the enhanced alert, visitors have been debarred from entering Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport and frisking of passengers has been intensified, they said.

Similar measures have been taken at the important Mumbai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad and other major airports, they said.

Special protective measures have been taken with regard to the prestigious Delhi Metro Rail

which is said to be among the targets of the terror groups. Security has also alerted at the Ayodhya, Vaishno Devi and Tirupati temples, the sources said.

Intelligence agencies have warned that terrorist outfits like Lashker-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Babbar Khalsa International or ULFA and other North East insurgent groups could try to carry out strikes to disrupt the celebrations.

They have suggested that terrorists could launch suicide attacks, trigger

bomb explosions or carry out aerial strikes.

Let terrorists recently carried out a strike at the makeshift temple in Ayodhya which was foiled with the killing of all the five attackers.

Earlier, Babbar Khalsa terrorists carried out two bomb explosions at two cinema halls in Delhi. As part of the protective measures, areas surrounding the Red Fort would be turned into a "no-fly zone" on 15 August since the early morning till function concludes.—MNA/PTI

French company, Chinese cement producer to form JV in China

PARIS, 12 Aug — French Lafarge company said Thursday that it agreed to merge its cement operations in China to create a joint venture with the largest cement producer in southwest China, Shui On Construction And Materials Limited (SOCAM).

Lafarge will own 55 per cent of the new joint venture, Lafarge Shui On Cement, and will name the chief executive.

"The southwest region in China has a high growth potential with a population of more than 200 million people, a rapid pace of development and extensive infrastructure development plans," Lafarge said, estimating that 900 million tons of cement was consumed in China last year.

The joint venture, with its total capacity estimated at 17.4 million tons per year by the end of 2005, will be the largest producer in the region and one of the top three cement companies in China.

The deal is expected to be closed in October and still needs approval from Chinese authorities, said Lafarge.

"After ten years of presence in the Chinese Mainland, we have built the knowledge and the resources that drive us to move a step ahead, in order to benefit from market growth opportunities and to extend our leading positions in several provinces," said Lafarge chief executive Bernard Kasriel.—MNA/Xinhua

China's consumer price index up 1.8% in July

BEIJING 12 Aug — China's consumer price index (CPI) rose by 1.8 per cent in July, a monthly report released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on Thursday.

The CPI, a major index for inflation, rose by 1.6 per cent in urban areas and 2.2 per cent in rural areas, and the combined consumer price level between January and July went up 2.2 per cent year-on-year, according to NBS figures.

In July, food prices rose 2.3 per cent year-on-year, while non-food prices went up 1.5 per cent; consumer product prices increased 1.2 per cent, while service product prices went up 3.9 per cent.

Among foodstuff, the price of food grain dropped 0.9 per cent; however, that of poultry and meat rose 0.9 per cent; egg's price reported a rise of 4.8 per cent, and that of aquatics, up 2.3 per cent, and vegetables, 15.5 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesian policemen in sports attire help firefighters spray water on burnt peat land in Rokan Hilir, Riau Province, on 12 August, 2005.—INTERNET

China, Singapore to build Asia's largest desalination plant

TIANJIN, 12 Aug — China and Singapore have started a cooperation programme to build Asia's largest desalination plant in north China's port city of Tianjin.

The plant, with a total investment of 90 million US dollars, is to be completed in 2008 in Tianjin's Dagang District, an industrial park in the city, local government has said.

The project is being jointly launched by the Dagang District and Singapore

Hyflux Group, a corporation that specializes in treating brackish and waste water.

The initial phase of the plant will be completed in July next year, creating a daily processing capacity of 100,000 tons sea water.

Upon the final completion of the project in 2008, the plant is expected to have a daily processing capacity of 150,000 tons.

MNA/Xinhua

Finland confiscates 50 kilos of heroin in record bust

HELSINKI, 12 Aug — Finnish Customs seized more than 10 million euros (12.4 million US dollars) worth of heroin from a truck on its way from Russia to Sweden via Finland in the Nordic country's biggest-ever heroin bust, officials said on Thursday.

A 47-year-old Turkish truck driver was arrested on Finland's southeastern border with Russia after the 50 kilos stash was found, a Customs official said.

Finland does not have a major problem with illegal drug use, but Olli-Pekka Vanhainen from Finnish Customs said it had become a route for traffickers bound for other European countries.

"This confirms our long-standing suspicion that Finland is a significant transit country for drugs from Russia into Europe," he said. "We have suspected this for years, and now it has been proven."

Finnish authorities confiscated just 0.16 kilos of heroin last year; 5.3 kilos of the drug was seized in 1995, the previous highest annual total in Finland.

MNA/Reuters



A Chinese woman tries on a new hair marcelling (perming) machine at the 2005 China International Beauty Exhibition in Beijing, on 12 August, 2005.—INTERNET

Cholera kills at least 100 in S-E Liberia

LAGOS, August 12 — A fresh outbreak of cholera has claimed at least 100 lives at an illegal diamond and gold mining area in southeast Liberia, according to reports reaching here on Thursday.

The outbreak in the town of Butaw in Sinoe County, which started early this month, was said to be the result of poor sanitation.

But a private local radio station quoted Transport Minister Vamba Kanneh as blaming the deaths on "water poisoning".

Kanneh told the radio he had received credible information that "some local people poisoned the stream that supplied drinking water to the area because they were unhappy with the influx of illegal miners exploiting their gold and diamonds."

A UN official in the affected area told the UN

Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) radio that UN agencies and local authorities were trying to contain the situation.

Efforts are also said to be underway to evacuate some of the illegal miners from the area. The Health Ministry has dispatched a medical team to the area.

Information Minister

William Allen expressed the government's concern over the cholera outbreak and confirmed the illegal mining in the area.

He told reporters that thousands of illegal miners, who came from as far as Mauritania, are engaged in illegal mining of diamond and gold at Butaw Town.—MNA/Xinhua

Moeyungyi Sluice Gate

Moe Htet Myint (Delta Region)

With an area of 24,792.95 square miles and a population of more than 4.6 million, Bago Division is home to various national races such as Kayin, Bamar, Mon, Chin, Rakhine, Shan, and Pa-O. Famous rivers flowing in the region are Ayeyawady, Sittoung, Bago and Myitmakha. The forest coverage of the region stands at 7,698 square miles including 5,144 square miles of reserved forests.

The ongoing five-year Bago Yoma Greening Project (from April 2004 to March 2009) covers conservation of natural forests, establishment of forest plantations, and systematic extraction of timber and forest products.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe in his inspection tour of Bago Division on 14 March 2005 gave guidance, saying that what was important was to systematically and fully exploit all the natural resources in the region. Innovative measures were to be taken to cultivate crops on the slopes of many mountains in addition to the plains for further development of Bago Division, he said.

Now, Moeyungyi Sluice Gate has come into existence to help develop the agricultural sector of the region and raise the economy and the living standard of local farmers.

Thanks to the emergence of Moeyungyi Sluice Gate, the 175th of its kind in the nation, many new farmlands in the low-lying areas can be put under monsoon paddy and it will also fulfil the requirements of water supply for cul-

tivation of summer paddy in the region.

The agricultural sector plays a crucial role in boosting the economy of Myanmar, an agro-based nation, and its people. Rural folks, the majority of the nation's population, are engaged in the sector. That is why the government has placed emphasis on the drive for agricultural development.

In this regard, water is essential for boosting agricultural production. Hence, the government

Bago Division has been facilitated with 41 irrigation facilities that benefit 666,970 acres of farmland. The 176 irrigation facilities across the nation have been recorded in the nation's agricultural history. The nation's acreage of irrigated farmland has reached 3.76 million acres, up from 1.34 million in 1988, accounting for 19 per cent of the total net sown acreage of over 28 million.

has been constructing large, medium and small dams and irrigation networks in Upper Myanmar, Central Myanmar, and the regions where there is too little annual rainfall and water is scarce.

It has also been implementing the projects for building sluice gates and prevention of floods so as to cultivate crops in parts of some regions of Lower Myanmar that are flooded in the rainy season, and in the fields where salty water flows

in, and to reclaim vacant lands that cannot be put under crops due to natural conditions.

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Moeyungyi Sluice Gate will benefit more than 37,500 acres of summer paddy, and the region's total sown acreage of paddy will touch more than 80,700 acres. So, its crop cultivation capacity has improved 179 per cent.

The concrete sluice gate built on Zwebat Creek has six 12-foot-wide gates, four eight-foot-wide gates, a 3,500-foot-long intake channel and a 7,800-foot-long outfall channel.

The purposes of the facility are to drain out surplus water from Moeyungyi Lake, that is adjacent to Pagaingta in Bago Division, in the rainy season, to irrigate over 40,000 acres of paddy in summer, and to store fresh water. It will contribute towards the Project for Greening 30-Mile Radius of Yangon City.

In addition, it will help conserve the Moeyungyi Lake, the habitat of rare species of birds.

Translation: MS

(Myanma Alin: 8-8-2005)

Singapore, Indonesia should build "rich and famous" partnership

SINGAPORE, 13 Aug — Singapore and Indonesia should build a partnership so as to make the two neighbouring countries rich and famous in the globalizing world, Singapore Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang said on Friday.

Addressing the Indonesia-Singapore Forum, Lim said that Indonesia is rich in natural resources including petroleum, natural gas, minerals and timber, while Singapore, as a global city hub, is famous for its good infrastructure, a trained and flexible workforce and developed financial architecture.

"Both Indonesia and Singapore stand to lose if we coexist as individually 'rich' and 'famous' neighbours, without getting together to strive for a more engaged future

that will yield greater economic benefits in the long run to both countries," Lim pointed out.

Noting that Singapore stands between the two rising economies of China and India and serves as a two-way hub for Asia to the rest of the world, Lim invited Indonesian businesses to make use of Singapore's connections in linking up with the world's major markets.

He added that the city state can also help Indonesia "accelerate infrastructure development and transfer of knowl-

edge" to its key economic centres.

The two Southeast Asian nations have great potential for establishing such a partnership in areas of the oil industry and tourism, apart from their existing cooperation in transforming Indonesia's Batam Island to an industrial and manufacturing centre, according to the minister. In 2005, the two countries signed the Indonesia-Singapore Investment Guarantee Agreement and launched the Indonesia-Singapore Friendship Association.

MNA/Xinhua

China to display resources of poor regions to attract investment

BEDING, 13 Aug— China is to hold an exhibition in October to display the resources in poor regions to attract investment in an effort to help reduce the country's poverty.

The exhibition, the first of its kind in China, is scheduled to be held between 16 and 18 October in Dalian, a coastal city in northeast China's Liaoning Province, said Zhang Ruming, president of the Liaoning branch of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), at a Press conference in Beijing on Wednesday.

"It aims to offer a platform for poor regions to communicate and interact with relatively developed regions face-to-face, through display of resources, introduction of investment, the transfer of new high technologies, and other means," said Zhang.

The exhibition, approved by the Leading Group of Poverty Alleviation and Development under the State

Council, China's Cabinet, will be jointly sponsored by the China Council Promotion Area Development, CCPIT Liaoning branch, the Liaoning provincial government and Dalian municipal government.

The exhibition is to display the agricultural, economic, cultural and tourism resources and about 1,000 projects ripe for investment, according to Zhang.

Attendees at the exhibition will include leading state-owned and private businesses from relatively developed eastern China areas, entrepreneurs from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, as well as business people from foreign countries including Japan, the United States, Canada, Germany, Italy and Hungary.

During the exhibition, a forum will be held to mark the "International Day for the Eradication of Poverty" on 17 October and to discuss the tasks, goals and measures for reducing poverty in next five years.—*MNA/Xinhua*



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe and Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt formally open the new building of BEMS No 29 in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.— YANGON COMMAND



New buildings of basic education...

(from page 1)

in Ward 63. Next, the ceremony to mark the opening of the school buildings was held at BEPS No 30. Afterwards, the commander, the deputy ministers and departmental heads accepted K 2.275 million for the

school buildings donated by wellwishers.

Deputy Director-General U Kyin Maung of Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development handed over documents related to the school buildings to Director-General U Aye Kyu of No 3 Department of Basic Education (Yangon City).

The building of Dagon Myothit (South) BEPS No 29 measuring 352 feet by 24 feet was constructed at a cost of K 154.745 million. Construction of the

building measuring 200 feet by 30 feet at Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) BEMS No 1 cost K 154.7702 million. The new building for Dagon Myothit (South) BEPS No 30 measuring 300 feet by 30 feet was constructed at a cost of K 77.389 million.

During July and August, buildings worth K 969.94014 million were handed over in Yangon Division.

MNA

Nyein Chan Thaya Kwin...

(from page 16)

Officials formally opened the bus terminal, and the commander unveiled it. The commander and the officials viewed

the buildings around the terminal.

Officials of San Tun Construction Co and Bo Bo Construction Co reported on the facility and

construction of more buildings.

The commander inspected the site for construction of buildings.

The terminal consists of 16 bus lines and 42 shops.— MNA

Agricultural and construction tasks in Lashio inspected

YANGON, 13 Aug —Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Chairman North-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing together with departmental officials, arrived at the 500-acre maize plantation project yesterday morning and heard reports on the arrangements for the plantations, the progress of

cultivation of maize and honey orange, and future plan. Next, the minister attended to the needs and inspected the worksites.

Afterwards, the commander inspected the tasks of Namku Creek earth dam and maize, Sinshweli paddy and coffee plantations in Lashio and gave necessary instructions. Later, the commander paid homage to

Padamya Myatshin Buddha Image at Yan Taing Aung Sutaungpyae Pagoda in Lashio and gave instructions to in-charges of pagoda construction.

Similarly, the commander visited Nagayon Sutaungpyae Pagoda near Sasana Beikman, inspected the constructions tasks of the pagoda. Next, the minister fulfilled the requirements. — MNA

Foreign Minister receives credentials of UNHCR RR

YANGON, 14 Aug —Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win received the credentials of the newly appointed Resident Representative of the

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to Myanmar Mr Jean Francois Durieux at the ministry on 12 August. Director-General of

the International Organizations and Economics Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Win Mra, was present on the occasion. — MNA



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Resident Representative of UNHCR Mr Jean Francois Durieux at the ministry. (News on page 16).—MNA

Commander attends tree planting ceremony at West Yangon University



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe plants a star flower tree to mark tree planting ceremony held at West Yangon University.—MNA

YANGON, 13 Aug — West Yangon University held the rainy season tree planting ceremony at the university in Htantabin Township this morning, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

The commander delivered an address on the occasion. Rector U Saw Kyaw Min reported on thriving 3,030 trees in the university and preparations for holding the tree planting ceremony, and Assistant Director U Maung Maung Aung on establishment of teak plantations and watershed plantations, and completion of growing over 900,000 saplings this rainy season.

The commander and officials distributed mahogany saplings to those present. Next, the commander, the rector and officials planted a star-flower saplings in commemoration of the ceremony. They viewed participation of faculty members and students at the tree planting ceremony in the campus of the university.

At the today's ceremony, 13,000 saplings were planted at the university.

Afterwards, the commander met with faculty members and officials at the lecture hall. The rector briefed the commander on brief history of the university and academic and management matters. The commander gave necessary instructions to them. — MNA

Futsal instructor course, Futsal referee course conclude

YANGON, 13 Aug — Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Patron of Myanmar Football Federation Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin delivered an address at the ceremony to conclude the Futsal instructor course and referee course, co-organized by MFF and FIFA's Devel-

opment Branch based in Malaysia, at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna this afternoon. Next, Course instructor Mr Jeysing Mutithan gave a speech. The mayor presented certificates to the trainees, and MFF President U Zaw Zaw gave away souvenirs to the course instructors. — MNA

Repaved and concrete streets put into service in Hline, Mayangon Townships

YANGON, 13 Aug — Repaved Marlamyaing 2nd Street and Thantzin concrete street were put into service in Ward 16, Hline Township and No 3 Aungmingala Ward in Mayangon Township respectively today.

Present were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Chairman of Yangon City Develop-



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Chairman of Committee for Repaving Road U Kyaw Din formally open the road. — MNA

ment Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor

Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Chairman of Committee for Repaving Road U Kyaw Din formally opened the repaved Marlamyaing 2nd Street in Hline Township. It is 1,350 feet long and 12 feet wide and it was repaved at a cost of K 9.4 million.

Similarly, the commander, the mayor and donor U Yan Aung formally opened 668 feet Thantzin concrete street in Mayangon Township. It cost K 4 million to repave it.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and officials inspect the new road. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 13 Aug — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Kingbao Mining Ltd Chairman Mr Yang Xiaoqing and party of the People's Republic of China at the ministry on Kanbe Road yesterday afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister U Myint Thein and officials. — MNA

Myanmar sail into semifinal in AFF U-20 Youth Championship

YANGON, 13 Aug — The AFF U-20 Youth Championship 2005 continued at Palembang of Indonesia at 6.45 pm local time today.

In the final match of the Group (A), host Indonesia beat Myanmar 4-3.

Myanmar youth team stood first and Malaysian second in the group and they advanced to the semifinals. — MNA

6th Sport Minister's Cup ISD (Novice) football tournament 2005 held in Mandalay

YANGON, 13 Aug — A ceremony to welcome the State and Division Football teams (Novice) which will participate in the 6th Sport Minister's Cup 2005 took place at the city hall of Mandalay yesterday morning, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, officials of the Ministry of Sports, President of Myanmar Football Federation and executives, wellwishers and others.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered a speech and presented the footballs worth K 960,000 to the 16 teams to be participated in the tournament.

Next, Secretary of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyi Thein accepted cash and kinds donated by the wellwishers.

In the evening, the opening ceremony of the tournament was held at Aung Myay Mandala Sportground in Mandalay. Among the spectators were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, the Mandalay Mayor and others.

Next, U Zaw Zaw, President of MFF, presented K 1.6 million to the 16 teams.

In the opening match of the tournament, Yangon Division team beat Mandalay Division team 5-2. The first round matches of the tournament will be held in Mandalay, Kyaukse, Meiktila and Pyin Oo Lwin till 20 August. The knock-out matches will take place in Mandalay and Kyaukse on 22 and 23 August and the semifinals on 25 and 26 August, and the final matches in Mandalay on 28 August.

MNA

"Atlas 5" blasts off for Mars

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 13 Aug — An Atlas 5 rocket blasted off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida on Friday to dispatch a sophisticated NASA science probe on a journey to look for water on Mars.

After two days of delays due to minor technical concerns, the 188-foot (57-metre) Atlas 5 booster, built by Lockheed Martin, blasted off its seaside launch pad on time at 7:43 a.m. (1143

GMT) and soared into clear skies over the Atlantic Ocean.

"What a difference a day makes," said NASA launch manager Chuck Dovale. "It couldn't have been any smoother."

Nestled in a protective cargo hold perched on the rocket's nose was the 4,796-pound (2,180-kilo) Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, also built by Lockheed Martin.

The spacecraft's primary goal is to continue

the search for evidence showing how long Mars had water, which scientists believe is key to learning if life ever existed on Mars. When the satellite arrives in Mars seven months from now, it will join two other US orbiters, Mars Global Surveyor and Mars Odyssey, Europe's Mars Express spacecraft and the twin robot rovers, Spirit and Opportunity.

"Dramatic discoveries, about recent gullies, near-surface permafrost and ancient surface water have given us a new Mars in the past few years," said Michael Meyer, Mars exploration chief scientist at NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. "Learning more about what has happened to the water will focus searches for possible Martian life, past or present."

The spacecraft is equipped with three high-resolution cameras and a radar sounder that can detect water and ice below Mars' surface. It is to spend four years in orbit

around Mars looking for spots to land future rovers and eventual human expeditions. Other instruments will be able to map surface minerals and monitor Mars' atmosphere. The complement of cameras includes one with the largest-diameter telescopic lens ever sent to another planet. Scientists have high hopes the camera will be able to snap pictures showing details as small as the width of an office desk.

MNA/Reuters

ကျေးရွာတိုင်းကိုယ်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။

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Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Ministers U Tint Swe and U Myo Myint look into the new school building. — MNA

Tropical storm "Irene" nears hurricane strength

MIAMI, 13 Aug — Tropical Storm Irene strengthened in the Atlantic Ocean on Friday and could become a minimal hurricane as it approaches the US East Coast, forecasters said.

Irene did not immediately threaten land and was expected to loop away from the United States, but it was too early to be certain of that, forecasters at the US National Hurricane Center said.

At 11 am EDT/1500 GMT Irene was centred

about 700 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and moving northwest.

It was expected to turn more to the north and then meander off the coast of the Carolinas and the mid-Atlantic states by Wednesday. Forecasters expected it to eventually turn harmlessly back out to sea, but there was still a chance it could come ashore anywhere from the Carolinas to New York or New England.

Irene had sustained

winds near 65 mph. It was expected to reach hurricane strength of 74 mph, then move over cooler waters that would keep it from strengthening beyond a minimal hurricane.

Irene was the ninth tropical storm of a busy Atlantic-Caribbean hurricane season that is just approaching what is traditionally the most active period. Most storms form between late August and early October, with the peak of the season in early September.

MNA/Reuters

Chile investigates explosion in government building

SANTIAGO, 13 Aug — The Chilean authorities is investigating the explosion of a device in the early hours of Friday across a governmental building in downtown Santiago.

To the moment the identity of the person or group that placed the ex-

plosive device outside the seat of the Housing and Urbanism Service (Serviu) is known.

According to preliminary enquiries by the Special Operations Group of the Military Police, the device was made with an extinguisher and chemicals.

The explosion shattered the window glasses of the Serviu building but did not injure anyone as the security guards were not there, said the prosecutor in charge of the investigation, Miguel Villavicencio.

MNA/Xinhua

Dutch airliner fears delays caused by US security requirements

BRUSSELS, Aug 13 — The US security services are continuing to step up security requirements that are likely to lead to higher costs and serious problems for airline companies across the world, reported Dutch newspaper *De Telegraaf* on Thursday.

The airline sector will have to invest millions to comply with the new demand that all passengers travelling to the United States show proof of accommodation, in-

cluding full address details, during check-in.

"We still don't know exactly how to solve this within such a short space of time," said Dutch airline giant KLM (Dutch Royal Airline) spokesperson Youssef Eddini.

The automated check-in desks, for example, are not geared towards these stricter US requirements.

"We've got our backs up against the wall. This will result in more costs, at any rate, and cer-

tainly more work for our personnel and inconvenience to our passengers," Eddini said.

MNA/Xinhua

EU to implement new electronic waste rules

BRUSSELS, 13 Aug — New rules on electric and electronic waste is expected to come into force in the European Union (EU) on Saturday when televisions, computers and other equipment can be exchanged free of charge to shops on a one-to-one basis with new product purchases.

The directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment, known as the WEEE directive, covers one of the fastest growing waste problems in the 25-nation bloc.

Many of the com-

mon components of such devices contain heavy metals such as mercury, lead and cadmium, and other substances that are dangerous to the health of humans and other animals.

The WEEE directive aims to reduce the amount of waste electrical and electronic appliances being produced by ensuring that the highest possible number of used devices are recycled, reused or recovered.

By coming Saturday, EU member states should have set up collec-

tion systems for WEEE waste that allow consumers to hand in their old devices when they buy new ones.

Collection points are also meant to allow people to dispose of old equipment free of charge.

By December 2006, EU member states are meant to ensure that they collect four kilos of WEEE waste per inhabitant per year.

At present, it is estimated that the average EU citizen produces 17 to 20 kils a year.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to hold trade expo in Beijing

JAKARTA, Aug 13 — The Indonesian Ministry of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin) are slated to hold the second Indonesia Solo Exhibition in Beijing, as part of the government's efforts to triple the bilateral trade to 30 billion US dollars over five years.

"The exhibition will not only promote trade but simultaneously investment opportunities and tourism," Minister of Trade Mari Elka Pangestu was quoted Friday by *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

The minister said the exhibition would

be a follow up to a commitment to strengthen bilateral trade made by the two countries during Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's visit to China last month.

Mari said that the exhibition, which will open from 30 August to 3 September at the China International Exhibition Centre, was expected to book transactions totalling 20 million dollars and attract Chinese investors to enter Indonesia's infrastructure, oil, gas and mining, and agriculture and fishery sectors.

On the sidelines of the event, the organiz-

ers will also commemorate the 55th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the 600th anniversary of China's ancient navigator Zheng He's voyage to Indonesia.

"We will hold events to show that the two countries share a long history and use the side events to introduce our culture to eventually promote tourism," Mari said.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam to export gold in near future

HANOI, 13 Aug — Vietnam, in the near future, will allow its firms and banks to export gold, the local newspaper *Youth* on Friday quoted a central bank official as saying.

The State Bank of Vietnam will create conditions for the local enterprises to do gold business in the world market, Truong Van Phuoc, head of the bank's Foreign Exchange Management Department, said, noting that Vietnam's gold export demand arises when gold prices in the domestic market are lower than those in the world one.

Now, Vietnamese enterprises import gold for crafting jewellery products for local sale and export. Vietnam imported some 40 tons of gold in the first half of this year. By late 2003, it had around 7,000 local gold trading businesses, including 14 foreign-invested ones.

MNA/Xinhua

Cannabis-based drugs might relieve bowel disease

NEW YORK, 13 Aug — Derivatives of the active compound in cannabis — cannabinoids — may have the potential for treating inflammatory bowel diseases like

Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, British researchers report.

"The system that responds to cannabis in the brain is present and functioning in the lining of the gut," lead researcher Dr Karen Wright, of the University of Bath, explained to *Reuters Health*. "There is an increased presence of one component of this system during inflammatory bowel diseases," she explained.

Wright and her colleagues established the location of cannabinoid receptors CB1 and CB2 in human colon tissue, and used human colon cell lines to investigate the binding of cannabinoid compounds and in wound-healing experiments. They report their findings in the jour-

nal *Gastroenterology*.

The team found that CB2 was increased in colonic tissue characteristic of inflammatory bowel disease. Cannabinoids enhanced surface wound closure via CB1-related mechanisms.

"Cannabinoids, which we make ourselves, as well as synthetic cannabinoids, can promote wound healing in the gut, which is extremely interesting given that inflammatory bowel disease involves damaged gut linings," Wright said.

Although results are available yet, she added, relevant studies of the use of cannabinoids are taking place in the Britain and a clinical trial is being conducted in Germany.

MNA/Reuters



Chinese customers shop at a retail department store in China's financial centre of Shanghai, on 12 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Vietnam to build first pumped storage power plant

HANOI, 13 Aug— Vietnam plans to invest nearly 720 million US dollars in building its first pumped storage power plant to deal with electricity shortage at peak hours.

"We've submitted a plan on constructing a pumped storage power plant with a capacity of some 1,500 Megawatt to the Industry Ministry.

The plant is expected to become operational in 2018," an official from the Electricity of Vietnam (EVN), the country's biggest power producer and sole distributor, told Xinhua on Friday.

The state-owned electricity corporation has proposed three locations for the future plant, including two in northern Son La Province and one in southern Ninh Thuan Province, the official said, noting that the Phu Yen district in Son La could be optimal.

"If the plant is built in the district, the required investment will stand at nearly 720 million dol-

lars," the official said, noting that its capacity is similar to that of the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Plant in northern Hoa Binh Province.

The Hoa Binh-based plant with a capacity of 1,400-1,900 megawatt generates around 43 per cent of the northern region's electricity output.

Pumped storage hydroelectricity, a method of storing and generating power to supply high peak demands by moving water between reservoirs at different elevations, is effective, economical and less harmful to environment, since it requires just small reservoirs, and utilizes other power sources to generate electricity at peak hours, the official noted.

At times of low electrical demand, excess elec-

trical capacity, coming from thermoelectric plants or nuclear power plants near pumped storage hydroelectricity systems, is used to pump water into the higher reservoir. When there is higher demand, water is released back into the lower reservoir through a turbine, generating hydroelectricity.

By actively constructing more thermoelectric and hydroelectric plants, Vietnam hopes to increase its electricity capacity to 25,000-26,000 megawatt in 2010 from the current 11,400 megawatt, meeting demand for its socio-economic development. Now, 95.4 per cent of communes and nearly 91.3 per cent of households in Vietnam have access to the national electricity grid, the EVN said.

MNA/Xinhua

600-year-old ancient warship found in east China

BEIJING, 13 Aug— Archaeologists have recently found a well-preserved ancient warship dated back to some 600 years ago, at a relics site in the ancient Dengzhou Harbour in Penglai, east China's Shandong Province.

This is the first discovery of a large ancient ship in China in over two decades. The wooden ancient vessel, more than 20-metre long, is believed to be a warship from the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), said You Shaoping, director of the Shandong Cultural Heritage Bureau, on Thursday.

The value of the ancient warship is yet to be determined by experts, said You, adding that it is similar to another ancient ship excavated not far away from the site about 20 years ago, but better preserved than that one.

In 1984, a warship of Yuan Dynasty was found in Penglai, and the

ancient ship was the largest and best preserved ancient ship in China at that time.

The ancient ship, unearthed in 1984, is 28-metre long, 5.6-metre wide, and 1.2-metre high. The streamline warship was designed for fast navigation, said experts.

During the excavation of the ship some 20 years ago, a second ancient ship was found. But archaeologists buried it up again because half of the ship was covered by a local home.

Local government conducted a desilting project at the ancient harbour site this year. As residents of the site were re-

located, archaeologists began to excavate the buried ship. To their surprise, the third, better preserved ship was discovered.

Experts said Chinese navigation in the Yuan and Ming (1368-1644) dynasties was relatively developed.

The ancient Dengzhou harbour had been an important military harbour in north China 1,000 years ago.

The discovery of the ancient ships is of great importance to the research of China's history of warships and harbours, said experts.

MNA/Xinhua

Asian countries agree to set up bird flu vaccine centre

BANGKOK, 13 Aug— Asian countries threatened by the continuing bird flu epidemic agreed here on Thursday to set up a centralized reserve centre of anti-bird flu virus vaccine.

Speaking after a meeting of public health ministers from 11 Asian countries affected by avian influenza, Thai Public Health Minister Suchai Charoenratanakul said that the idea to establish a single holding centre for bird flu vaccine was endorsed by all the participating countries, including Brunei, Cambodia, the Philippines, China,

Myanmar, Malaysia, Vietnam, Japan, Bhutan, Laos and Thailand, the *Thai News Agency* reported.

Suchai said that stocking the medication in a single location should be made so that vaccine supplies could be flown to an outbreak location within 24 hours.

He said the World Health Organization would

investigate funding and supply options and undertake the implementation of the idea.

In addition to the vaccine bank, the partner countries agreed to form a rapid information exchange network regarding bird flu and to lend technical support to one another, the report said.

MNA/Xinhua

"THAICOM 4" launched, to break even in 3-4 years

BANGKOK, 13 Aug— *THAICOM 4* or *IPSTAR*, the communications satellite owned by Shin Corporation, was launched successfully on Thursday from Europe's Spaceport ArianeSpace agency in French Guiana.

Shin Corporation President Boonklee Plangsiri was quoted by the *Thai News Agency* as saying Friday that his firm's 400 million US dollars investment in the *IPSTAR* could be recouped within four years.

The key markets for *IPSTAR* clientele are China, India, Australia and New Zealand. Thailand accounts for only 10 per cent of the market share.

As the satellite is designed to remain operational for 12 years, Shin Corporation projects an annual revenue of 10 billion baht (250 million US dollars),

which will enable it to break even within three to four years, said Boonklee.

According to ArianeSpace, *THAICOM 4 (IPSTAR)* will provide Internet access and broadband services to businesses and consumers using 84 spot beams, three shaped beams and seven regional broadcast beams covering 14 countries in the Asian Pacific Region.

IPSTAR operates under a Build-Transfer-Operate licence from the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology, the agency said.

MNA/Xinhua

Asian nations agree to stockpile anti-bird flu drugs

BANGKOK, 13 Aug— A dozen Asian nations agreed on Thursday to build a regional stockpile of anti-bird flu drugs and some governments demanded production of cheaper generic versions of the Tamiflu antiviral drug.

Details of the plan, which aims to race drugs to the site of a human outbreak within 24 hours to prevent a wider global pandemic, had still to be worked out, Health Ministers and UN officials said after a meeting in Bangkok.

"It would be the first time in the history of mankind that a pandemic has been stamped out before it happened," William Aldis, the World Health Organization (WHO) representative in Thailand, told reporters.

Several Asian countries, including those hard hit by the H5N1 virus which has killed 62 people since late 2003, have begun stockpiling Tamiflu, made by Switzerland's Roche AG and also known as oseltamivir. But the WHO will now work with 12 Asian countries — including Thailand, Vietnam, China, Japan and South Korea — to decide how best to deliver the drugs to "burn out" a human outbreak, or at least blunt it enough so it can be contained.

The Bangkok meeting did not decide where the regional stockpile would be, nor did the ministers agree on a timeframe for when it would be up and running.

Those details would be worked out in consultations between the WHO and the countries involved, which also include Cambodia, Laos, Brunei, Bhutan, Philippines, and Malaysia.

"What we are doing here is pushing it forward in terms of the management and logistics," Aldis said.

Scientists fear the virus, which does not pass easily between humans, could mutate to become easily transmittable and unleash a global pandemic which could kill millions.

MNA/Reuters

China shop basement collapse kills eight workers

BEIJING, 13 Aug— Eight Chinese construction workers were killed and 10 injured on Friday when a basement they were building under a store collapsed, *Xinhua* news agency said. Workplace accidents like the one beneath the shop in Chengdu, capital of southwest Sichuan Province, kill hundreds of people every day in China, a country of 1.3 billion people.

"A detachment of public security and fire control from the city rushed to the scene and dug out eight bodies and 10 injured construction workers from under the rubble," *Xinhua* said.

MNA/Reuters

ဝန်းမန်သစ်ပင်

လေသန့်စင်၍

ဥယျာဉ်တောတန်း

စိတ်ရွှင်လန်း၏။



Malaysia children ride bicycles in haze-covered Pulau Indah village in Klang about 70 km (43 miles) west of Kuala Lumpur, on 11 August, 2005. — INTERNET

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်း လုပ်ငန်း တို့အတွက် စက္ကူနှင့်ပုံနှိပ် လုပ်ငန်းသုံး ပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရန်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

၁။ ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်းနှင့် သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်း လုပ်ငန်းတို့တွင် အသုံးပြုရန် လိုအပ်သော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ စက္ကူနှင့်ပုံနှိပ်လုပ်ငန်းသုံး ပစ္စည်းများကို ဝယ်ယူလိုပါသည်။

- (က) ပုံနှိပ်ရေးနှင့်စာအုပ်ထုတ်ဝေရေးလုပ်ငန်း
(၁) သတင်းစာစက္ကူ (၄၈.၈၀ရမ်) (၂၈ ၃/၄", ၃၄") ၁၈၀၀ တန်း
(၂) ခြေစက္ကူထူ (Art Card) ၁၅ တန်း
(၃) ဖောင်ပုံဖော်ဆေး (Film Developer) ၂၀၀ ပုလင်း
(ခ) သတင်းစာနယ်ဇင်း လုပ်ငန်း
(၁) သတင်းစာစက္ကူ (၄၈.၈၀ရမ်) (၃၀", ၃၄") ၁၉၆၅ တန်း
(၂) Web Offset Ink (Black) ၄၅၀၀၀ တန်း
(၃) Sheetfed Offset Ink (Black) ၅၄၀၀ ပုလင်း
(၄) P/S Negative Plate (915 x 626 x 0.3mm) ၁၀၅၀ ချပ်
(၅) P/S Negative Plate (889x586x 0.3mm) ၆၀၀၀ ချပ်
(၆) Wipe on Aluminium Plate (745x635x0.24mm) ၂၀၀၀ ချပ်
(၇) Wipe on Aluminium Plate (650x550x0.24mm) ၉၁၀၀ ချပ်
(၈) Coating (A+B)Set ၂၀၀ နှု
(၉) P/S Developer ၁၈၀ လီတာ
(၁၀) Developer Lacquer ၂၀၀ လီတာ
(၁၁) Ortho Film (Roll) ၆၀ လီတာ
(၁၂) Agfa Film (Sheet) ၂၀၀ ဘူး
(၁၃) Hilihodol Developer ၁၂၀ ထုပ်
(၁၄) Roll Film (35 mm) ၉၀၀ လီတာ
(၁၅) Photographic Paper ၉၀ ထုပ်
(၁၆) Rubber Blanket (Length-28 m, width-1075mm Thickness 1.96 mm) ၂ လီတာ
(၁၇) Rubber Blanket with T. Bar (890x625x1.95 mm) ၆၄ ချပ်
(၁၈) Stencil Paper ၂၀၀ ဘူး
(၁၉) Gestetner Ink Tube ၃၀၀ ဘူး
(၂၀) A3 toner ၄၅ ဘူး

၂။ တင်ဒါပေးသွင်းမှုကို (၂၄-၈-၂၀၀၅)ရက် (၁၆:၃၀) နာရီတွင် ပိတ်သိမ်းပါမည်။
၃။ တင်ဒါပုံစံနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အချက်အလက်များကို အောက်ပါလိပ်စာတွင် လာရောက်စုံစမ်း ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။

ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပပစ္စည်းများ ဝယ်ယူရေးနှင့်ထွဲရောင်းချရေးကော်မတီ

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန
အမှတ် ၂၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊
ဖုန်း- ၂၄၅၆၂၄၊ ၂၄၅၆၂၅၊ ၂၄၅၆၂၆

NASA delays

“Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter” launch

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug—NASA on Thursday postponed the launch of the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter for at least 24 hours due to a problem with sensors and software monitoring the fuelling of the rocket used for liftoff.

NASA rescheduled the launch of the orbiter for Friday between 7:43 and 9:43 am EDT (1143 and 1343 GMT).

The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter is expected to spend four years circling Mars, collecting data about the history and distribution of Martian water. Scientists said that learning more about what has happened to the water will focus searches for possible past or present Martian life.

According to NASA, observations by the orbiter will also support future

Mars missions by examining potential landing sites and providing a communications relay between the Martian surface and Earth.

The orbiter can transmit about 10 times as much data per minute as any previous Mars spacecraft. This will serve both to convey detailed observations of the Martian surface, subsurface and atmosphere by the instruments on the orbiter and enable data relay from other landers on the Martian surface to Earth. NASA also plans to launch

the Phoenix Mars Scout in 2007 to land on the far northern Martian surface. The space agency is also developing an advanced rover, the Mars Science Laboratory, for launch in 2009.

MNA/Xinhua

Police probe explosion at top security British prison

LONDON, 12 Aug—British police have launched an investigation following a small blast at a top security jail which houses prisoners convicted of terrorist offences, the government said on Thursday.

Officials ordered a "lock down" — a move confining all inmates to their cells — after last week's incident at Whitemoor jail in Cambridgeshire, central England, but said there had been no danger to the prison or the public.

"We can confirm there was a small firework-like explosion in a wing at Whitemoor on 4 August," a Home Office (Interior Ministry) spokesman said. "There was no damage or injuries to staff or prisoners and no risk to the pub-

China, Cambodia hail bilateral ties vowing further cooperation

BEIJING, 12 Aug—Chinese President Hu Jintao met with Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni here on Thursday. The two leaders hailed the Sino-Cambodian friendship, vowing to promote cooperation in agriculture, natural resources, education and sanitation.

Hu Jintao said Chinese and Cambodian people share long-term friendship.

The Sino-Cambodian friendship cultivated by generations of Chinese leaders and former Cambodian King Norodom Sihamon has become a "common treasure of the two peoples", he said.

In the new century, the Sino-Cambodian relationship is becoming closer with frequent exchanges of visits by the two countries' leaders and remarkable cooperation in all fields, Hu said.

China appreciates that Cambodia adheres to the one-China policy and firmly support Chinese Government's stance on the Taiwan question, Hu noted.

"It has been proved that we are good neighbours, good friends and good partners with mutual-trust and close cooperation," he said.

The Chinese Government attaches importance to the Sino-Cambodian relations and cherishes the unique friendship with the Cambodian royal family.

Hu said he welcomes the King and the royal family members to visit China and supports the two countries' governments, parliaments and parties to enhance exchanges and develop friendship.

On Sino-Cambodian trade and economic cooperation, Hu said a solid foundation has been laid and he hopes the two countries will perfectly imple-

ment arranged cooperation projects.

He appealed to the two countries to strengthen cooperation in agriculture, infrastructure construction and natural resources exploration.

The President also proposed to expand exchange and cooperation in culture, education, sanitation, sports and tourism and intensify communication and coordination in international and regional affairs.

Sihamoni spoke highly of the Cambodia-China friendship forged by his father Sihanouk and Chinese leaders, saying to inherit and promote the two people's friendship is also the aspiration of the royal family.

MNA/Xinhua

NZ achieves lowest unemployment rate in OECD

WELLINGTON, 12 Aug—Official figures on Thursday showed New Zealand unemployment remains low, with the jobless rate at 3.7 per cent, down from 3.9 per cent a year ago.

Statistics New Zealand said New Zealand now has the lowest unemployment rate within the group of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries that have standardized unemployment rates.

While both male and female employment rose, most of the overall movement was due to an increase in female employment, which was driven by a rise in female

full-time employment, said Statistics New Zealand.

The increase in total full-time employment is reflected in the 2.9-per-cent increase in actual hours worked. There was very little movement in part-time employment levels.

The working-age population increased by 8,400 in the June 2005 quarter (0.3 per cent) but growth continues to slow, both on a quarterly and an annual basis. — MNA/Xinhua

Britain to ease nuclear export controls to India

LONDON, 12 Aug—Britain said on Thursday it would relax its controls on the export of civilian nuclear technology to India, which declared its nuclear power status in 1998.

London's Foreign Ministry said the policy change reflected India's improved relations with neighbouring nuclear power Pakistan and its growing commitment to international non-proliferation goals.

India and Pakistan both tested nuclear weapons in 1998. "India is a key international partner in Britain's efforts to work towards a world safer from global terrorism and weapons of mass destruction," said a foreign office spokesman.

"We attach great importance to developing our strategic partnership and to stopping onward proliferation." He said the decision to relax the controls was a result of a six-month policy review. Current controls, which also apply to Pakistan, have been in force since March 2002.

Last month, the United States promised India full cooperation in developing its civilian nuclear power programme without demanding that it sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, designed to halt the spread of nuclear weapons.

MNA/Reuters

French fireman admits to starting fires

DRAGUIGNAN (France), 12 Aug—A French fireman, a favourite of journalists reporting on forest fires in southern France, admitted to starting seven of them on Thursday, a Fire Brigade source said.

Police found incriminating evidence at the home of the fireman, whom they had suspected for some time, the source said. The fireman, who regularly talked to journalists about the fires in the Var region, will be detained pending investigation.

Investigators will look into whether he might have been responsible for more of the fires. —MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီမှု ပိုမိုတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Zanzibar hotel wins best island accommodation award

DAR-ES-SALAAM, 12 Aug — A hotel on Zanzibar's east coast has been voted as the best island accommodation venue in the world, according to local Press reports on Thursday.

English newspaper *The Guardian* quoted a statement issued by the Palms Zanzibar Hotel as saying that the BBC Holiday programme had voted the beachside hotel as topping a list of such seaside resorts as Cuba's Sevilla, LaLuna in Grenada, North Island in the Seychelles and Azores Makunfushi in the Maldives.

Situated along a pristine white beach, the Palms Zanzibar Hotel provides a luxurious get-away recuse with six private villas each covering 130 square metres with a bedroom, a living room, a full ensuite bathroom, a walk-in closet, a large furnished terrace with the view of the Indian Ocean and an extra room with its own bathroom.

The hotel claims to offer all the luxurious comforts and amenities of five-star hotels. Palms Zanzibar Hotel Chairman said in the statement that the award is a great honour that generates publicity for Zanzibar as a whole.

The world famous trade magazine *Travel & Leisure* late last year voted the Indian Ocean archipelago of Zanzibar as the best island tourism destination in Africa and the Middle East.

The nomination has promoted local tourism as more travellers from Europe and North America are coming to this part of the world.

MNA/Xinhua

Summers in Europe's cities getting hotter

OSLO, 12 Aug — Summers in European cities have grown up to 2.2 Celsius (4.0 Fahrenheit) hotter since the 1970s and global warming may cause ever more sweltering temperatures, the WWF conservation group said on Thursday.

The rises, above UN estimates for average world temperature gains, could further strain health services in Europe's cities, a WWF report said. A heat wave in 2003 was blamed for killing S40,000 people, mostly in Italy and France.

The WWF survey of 16 capitals from Stockholm to Rome showed average temperature rises of at least 1.0C in all cities except Dublin (0.7C), Helsinki (0.8) and Copenhagen (0.2) in summer months of 2001-04 compared with 1970-74.

At the top of the range, average temperatures in Madrid had risen by 2.2C to a 24-hour average of 23.7C, London and Luxembourg were 2.0C hotter, with Athens and Lisbon trailing with gains of 1.9C.

"There has been a very significant increase in the average temperatures during summer for most of the cities," said Imogen Zethoven, head of the WWF's PowerSwitch campaign that encourages a shift to renewable energies.

The WWF said temperature rises could only be partly explained by "heat islands" caused by growing urban populations. A build-up of heat-trapping gases from fossil fuels burnt in power plants, cars and factories was more likely a main cause but the exact reasons were unclear, Zethoven said.

"The outlook for cities is grim," she told *Reuters*.

"Global warming means this trend will keep on and there may be a vicious circle."

Wider use of air-conditioning, for instance, might help curb health risks but would raise demand for electricity — much of it generated from fossil fuels.

"We can only assume" that temperatures may be rising sharply in other cities around the world, she said.

The scientific panel that advises the United Nations estimated in 2001 that world temperatures had risen by 0.6C in the 20th Century, largely because of a build-up of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. It projects that temperatures could rise by a further 1.4-5.8C by 2100, threatening more extreme weather like floods, droughts and storms and melting glaciers, raising world sea levels by up to a metre.

MNA/Reuters

Four-day-old forest fire in S Spain brought under control

MADRID, 12 Aug — Spanish fire-fighters brought a forest blaze under control on Thursday after it burned for nearly four days in the southern part of the country.

The fire in the Sierras de Cazorla, Seguray las Villas nature reserve had been tamed by early Thursday, and fire-fighters, water-dropping planes from the outside region had been withdrawn, the state-run news agency Efe said, citing local fire-fighting officials.

have since been able to return. Spain is experiencing its driest summer since record-keeping began in the 1940s, and has seen more than 50,000 hectares (123,550 acres) of woodland ruined by about 5,000 forest fires so far this year.

MNA/Xinhua

The regional government estimated that the fire, which broke out Sunday and was caused by lightning, burned more than 5,100 hectares (12,600 acres) in total, most of them woodland.

About 1,500 people, many of them tourists, were evacuated from the area as a precaution, but

Traffic accident kills 11, injures 17 in N-E China province

HARBIN, 12 Aug — A traffic accident took place on Wednesday night on the highway between Tongjiang and Sanya, leaving 11 dead as of Thursday morning.

Police sources said a bus collided with a heavy truck at 8:59 pm at the 174 kilometres place of the highway near the Shuangyashan City in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province.

Nine people on the bus were killed on the spot and two others died in the hospital while 17 people were injured.

Cause of the accident is under investigation, police said.

MNA/Xinhua

Official says Uganda sets up tourism police

KAMPALA, 12 Aug — Uganda has stepped up security in its national parks and other protected areas by deploying a specialized force to fight terrorism and promote tourism, a wildlife official said on Thursday.

The Executive Director of Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), Moses Mapesa, told *Xinhua* by telephone that the Tourism Police was comprised of 1,000 soldiers from the Uganda People's Defence Force and Rangers from UWA. He said that the force was put in place to prepare for any eventualities, adding the country's tourist attractions are all safe for all visitors.

"We are security conscious and we do not take any chances, therefore this force will provide tight security in the protected areas," he said.

Uganda's tourism industry had a major setback about six years ago when terrorists hit Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and killed tourists and officials. — MNA/Xinhua



An artist shows a traditional painting depicting Mahabharata and Ramayana epics in Gelaran village, near Java's cultural heart of Yogyakarta, central Java, on 12 August, 2005. — INTERNET

China sets up investigation team for fatal colliery flooding accident

KINGNING (Guangdong), 12 Aug — China's coal mine production watchdogs were assigned on Thursday to investigate the fatal colliery flooding accident in southern Guangdong Province.

A special investigation team for the accident, which trapped at least 123 miners at the Daxing Coal Mine in Ningxing City Sunday, was established Thursday by the State Council, or the Chinese Cabinet.

Li Yizhong, director of the National Bureau of Production Safety Supervision and Administration, and Zhao Tiechui, director of the State Coal Mine Safety Supervision Administration, were appointed as heads of the team's leading group and

investigation group respectively.

The team will investigate the cause of the accident and will determine if there was dereliction of duty in organizing production and supervising the mine's operation, said Li Yizhong at a meeting on Thursday afternoon in Ningxing.

Huang Huahua, Governor of Guangdong said at the meeting that the province would take lessons from the tragedy and take measures to improve safety management in coal

mines to avoid similar accidents.

Rescue work at the private-run Daxing coal mine in Ningxing City, is underway. The water level in the tunnels has been dropping faster as two more high-power water pumps have been put into use, according to the rescue headquarters at the site.

Except for one miner's body, recovered on Wednesday morning, rescuers had not found the rest of the missing miners as of 11 pm on Thursday.

The accident occurred at 1:30 pm on Sunday in the Daxing Coal Mine of Ningxing City, Guangdong. 123 miners were reported missing. Only four escaped.

Violation of safety production rules has been blamed as the main cause of the accident. 11 people, including the owner, manager, board chairman and chief technician of the Daxing Coal Mine, were caught attempting to flee after the accident.

MNA/Xinhua

Don't Smoke

S P O R T S

Scholes extends Man United contract until 2009

LONDON, 13 Aug— Midfielder Paul Scholes has agreed to a new four-year contract with Manchester United which will keep him at Old Trafford until June 2009.

The 30-year-old decided to extend the deal even though his current contract still had two years to run.

"He has given us 16 great years of service and we are hoping his next four years are as good as his last four years," United manager Alex Ferguson told reporters on Friday.

"I think he has deserved our loyalty because he has given us plenty back."

Scholes has made 321 Premier League appearances for United scoring 87 times, since coming through the club's youth team to make his debut in the 1994-95 season and has helped the club win six league titles and three FA Cups.

He has also won 66 caps for England, scoring 14 goals, before retiring from international soccer following Euro 2004.

United have secured the future of Scholes after defender Rio Ferdinand ended protracted contract

talks by also signing a new four-year deal.

"It's absolutely brilliant. There was a lot of nonsense written about his (Ferdinand's) demands, which were million miles apart from what we were actually negotiating," said Ferguson.

"We are delighted that he has signed. With Darren Fletcher and John O'Shea agreeing deals also, and (Cristiano) Ronaldo very close to signing, we have a team that can stay together for four years now, which is fantastic for us".

MNA/Xinhua



Napoli's Sosa (L) scores from the penalty spot during the Trophy Birra Moretti soccer match against Juventus at the San Paolo Stadium in Naples on 12 August, 2005. — INTERNET

Woods down but not out at Baltusrol

SPRINGFIELD (New Jersey), 13 Aug— World number one Tiger Woods birdied the 18th hole for a one-under-par 69 to make the cut at the US PGA Championship with a four-over total of 144 at Baltusrol Golf Club on Friday.

Woods trailed second-round leader Phil Mickelson by 12 strokes but could claim a victory in overcoming his struggles and keeping his streak alive of making every cut in the 36 majors he has played since turning professional in 1996.

The 29-year-old, bidding for his third major title of the season, found himself in danger of an early exit when he reached the turn on Friday at seven over par after four bogeys

and two birdies on the front side.

Birdies at the 11th, 12th and 15th holes lifted him to four over and he looked safe as he headed to the pair of par-five finishing holes right on the cut line.

Woods tried to reach the mammoth, 650-yard 17th with his second shot but caught a bad lie near the back edge of a greenside bunker.

He came out into the rough above the bunker, chipped on and then lipped out a 10-foot par putt for a bodge six that left him one shot outside the projected cut line.

Needing a birdie to qualify for the weekend's play, Woods crushed his drive at the 554-yard last, put a seven-iron safely on the green and two-putted for birdie.

"I grinded it out and did the best I could all day," said a relieved Woods. "I didn't know what the number was to honest until 18. "(Caddie) Stevie (Williams) told me I needed to make birdie on the last hole and I said: 'alright, I can do that'.

"Other than that, I was just trying to get back to even par for the tourna-

ment."

Although Woods had never missed the cut at a major in his professional career, this was not the first time the world number one left it late to preserve his record.

At the 2003 US Masters, Woods needed to get up and down from a greenside bunker on the final hole of the second round at Augusta National to finish right on the cut mark.

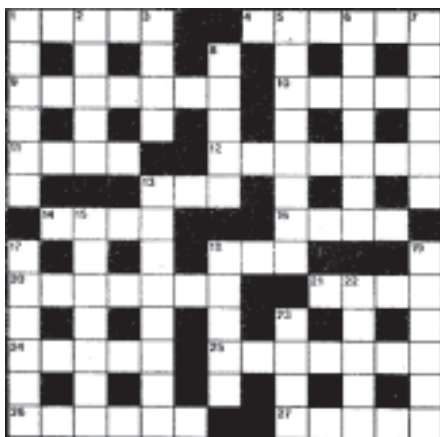
Earlier this year, Wood's remarkable run of 142 consecutive cuts made at PGA Tour events come to a halt at the Byron Nelson Championship in early May, ending one of the sporting world's greatest record streaks.

Despite his problems on Baltusrol's Lower Course, Woods refused to surrender his chance of adding a third major title of the year to his wins at the Masters and British Open.

The supremely confident American was keenly aware of what he has to do over the weekend if he is to lift his career major haul to 11 and draw level with compatriot Walter Hagen in second place in the all-time standings.

MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Period of time
- 4 Covering for arm
- 9 Toffee
- 10 Town in West Glamorgan
- 11 Paradise
- 12 Uncoined wealth
- 13 Lettuce
- 14 Tibetan priest
- 16 Peel
- 18 Sorrowful
- 20 Unyielding
- 21 Sub-machine gun
- 24 Puccini opera
- 25 Ecstasy
- 26 Calm
- 27 Famous

DOWN

- 1 Ridiculed
- 2 Cool courage
- 3 Protuberance
- 5 Innkeeper
- 6 Exaltation
- 7 Inflammable hydrocarbon
- 8 Black suit
- 13 Waterfall
- 15 Accumulated
- 17 Praying insect
- 18 Tempest
- 19 Mean
- 22 Confidence
- 23 Undo

Kenyan national soccer team on strike due to payment delay

NAIROBI, 13 Aug— Kenyan national soccer team boycotted training on Thursday, demanding payment of their allowances ahead of departure for Tunis, Tunisia, where they will play the hosts next Wednesday in a vital 2006 World Cup qualifier, local media reported.

The players said they were distracted by the delay in the payment of their allowances since starting residential training from 17 July.

"We just want our money. We are going to play a difficult match and we are very disappointed that we should be talking about allowances now when we should be focused on the task ahead," one player, who requested anonymity, was quoted as saying by *Daily Nation*, one of the leading Kenyan newspapers.

The players said apart from the allowances issue, they were not adequately kitted and have had to train without warm clothing in the current cold weather. They also complained that no Kenya Football Federation official had visited them since they went into residential training.

"This is a temporary situation. I do not think the whole nation can allow things to continue like this," said Kenyan head coach Mohammed Kheri.

"It will be a bad example to the young people to learn that their national team failed to honour an international match because the country could not pay players' allowances," he said.

Kenya will play Tunisia on 17 August before the return leg in Nairobi on 2 September.

Kenya are in fourth place in Group Five of World Cup qualifying in Africa.

Although they have no serious chances of qualifying for the 2006 finals in Germany, they remain in contention for a place at next year's African Cup of Nations finals in Egypt. be played in an empty sta-

dium.

This ban is a punishment for violence at a June qualifying match against Morocco in Nairobi. Before the 18 June match, overzealous Kenyan fans waiting outside of the Nyayo Stadium lost patience and broken into the stadium. During the chaos, a 15-year-old school boy was stampeded to death and scores were injured. — MNA/Xinhua



Italy's Francesca Schiavone returns a shot to Spain's Conchita Martinez during the quarterfinals of the JP Morgan Chase Open WTA tennis tournament in Carson, California, on 12 August, 2005.

Schiavone won 7-5, 6-4. —INTERNET

Bush gets first look at first look at an anti-war protest neat ranch

CRAWFORD (Texas), 13 Aug— President George W Bush got his first look at an anti-war vigil near his ranch on Friday as his motorcade took him by the protest site lined with small white crosses representing fallen American soldiers in Iraq.

When Bush's black sport utility vehicle carried him past the site to a Republican fund-raiser, the protest leader, Cindy Sheehan, whose son was one of the nearly 1,850 US soldiers killed in Iraq, held up a sign that said: "Why do you make time for donors and not for me?"

Other signs said: "Iraq is Arabic for Vietnam," "Bring Them Home Now" and "Meet With Cindy."

The protest vigil began last Saturday and is being led by Sheehan, who has been demanding a meeting with Bush to discuss her opposition to the Iraq war.

Two rows of state troopers faced several dozen activists behind a cordon of yellow police tape as Bush's 15-vehicle motorcade cruised by without slowing. About two hours later, the President passed by on the return trip and did not stop. Sheehan raised a white cross as the convoy passed.

Hundreds of small white wooden crosses — each hand-painted with the name of a fallen soldier — have been erected along the side of Prairie Chapel Road leading to the Bush ranch.

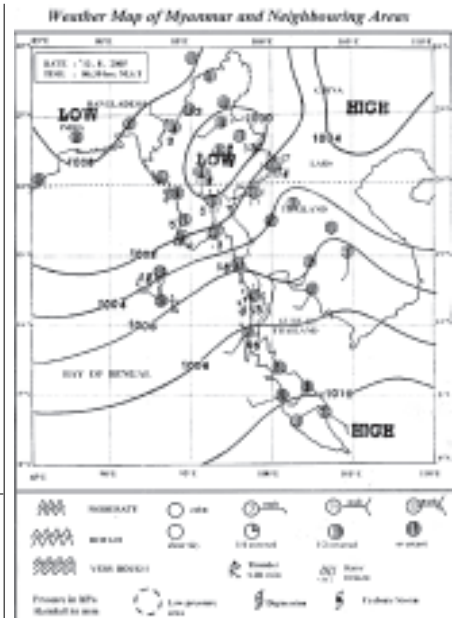
Sheehan's son, Casey, was killed in combat in Iraq in April 2004 and she met with Bush in June 2004, but she wants another meeting. The White House has refused.

With Americans increasingly questioning the US involvement in Iraq, Bush tried to address Sheehan's concerns on Thursday. — MNA/Reuters



Administrative Board of Hninzigon Home for the Aged Joint Secretary U Tin Maung Win accepts K 120,000 donated recently by Daw Khin Kyi and family of Tamwya Township, in memory of the late U Aye Ko, for construction of the three-storey hospital for the aged.—H

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-Eugenia 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 residence and No-59, 49th Street Botahtaung Township at 2 pm. **Bereaved family**



WEATHER

Saturday, 13 August, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain has been isolated in Kachin and Rakhine States, lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kayin, Kayah and Mon States, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (5.08) inches, Theinzayat (3.54) inches, Loikaw (3.31) inches, Ye (2.87) inches, Kawthong (2.80) inches, Hpa-an (2.45) inches, Pyinmana (2.40) inches, Heho (2.24) inches and Pakokku (1.97) inches.

Maximum temperature on 12-8-2005 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 13-8-2005 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 13-8-2005 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 12-8-2005 was 4.0 hours approx. Rainfalls on 13-8-2005 were 0.08 inch at Mingaladon, 0.12 inch at Kaba-Aye, 1.22 inches at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 62.13 inches at Mingaladon, 62.95 inches at Kaba-Aye and 64.88 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from Southwest at (16:20) hours MST on 12-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the North and 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 has become unimportant.

Forecast valid until evening of 14-8-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin State, scattered in Chin, Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. 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: Decrease of rain in the northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-8-2005: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Myanma Port Authority
Warning of hightide
 The Public are here by informed that exceptionally high Spring of from 20.60 feet to 21.58 feet high above the datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period 19th August to 25th August, 2005.

Foold Bulletin
 (Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 13-8-2005)
 According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1152) cm. It is rising slightly and may remain above the danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.



Sunday, 14 August

- View on today:**
- 7:00 am**
 - 1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
 - 7:25 am**
 - 2. To be healthy exercise
 - 7:30 am**
 - 3. Morning news
 - 7:40 am**
 - 4. Nice and sweet song
 - 7:55 am**
 - 5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မော်(၃၈)ခြားမင်္ဂလာ
 - 8:10 am**
 - 6. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 8:20 am**
 - 7. စတင်: ရေလောင်းတံ
 - 8:30 am**
 - 8. International news
 - 8:45 am**
 - 9. Say it in English
 - 11:00 am**
 - 1. Martial song
 - 11:15 am**
 - 2. Musical programme
 - 11:30 am**
 - 3. Round-up of the week's International news
 - 11:40 am**
 - 4. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

- "စောရဝိဇ္ဇာနှင့်မိစ္ဆာရွှင်စား"**
 (အပိုင်း-၂၀)
- 12:20 pm**
 - 5. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှအားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲအတွက် ငြိမ်ဆင်ကြိုးစား စစ်တုရင်အားကစား
 - 12:30 pm**
 - 6. Myanmar Video feature: "လက်ဝဲရစ်ချာရီ" ဇင်းဇော်ကျော်၊ ဖြတ်တော်သီအောင်၊ ဆုပန်ထရာ ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်ဆွေ(မြန်မာ)
 - 2:20 pm**
 - 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
 - 2:35 pm**
 - 8. လပွဲမြင် ရေလောင်းတံ
 - 2:45 am**
 - 9. International news
 - 4:00 pm**
 - 1. Martial song
 - 4:15 pm**
 - 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
 - 4:30 pm**
 - 3. English for everyday use
 - 4:40 pm**
 - 4. သာယာချိုအေး(၃၈)ခြားမင်္ဂလာ
 - 4:45 pm**
 - 5 အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ဝိညာဉ်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ - ဝထာရူပ(သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုအားလုံး) (ရုပ်ဖေဒေ)
 - 5:10 pm**
 - 6. Dance of national races

- 5:20 pm**
- 7. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ တေရသမအကြိမ်(သုကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကဲအရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (ဓမ္မပူဇာတေး) (ဝတ္ထုရှင်အောင်) (အပျိုးသား)
- 5:30 pm**
- 8. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းပေး ဂီတတေး
- 5:35 pm**
- 9. Musical programme
- 5:45 pm**
- 10. Sing and Enjoy
- 6:30 pm**
- 11. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
- 12. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
- 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်ခွန်းခြေသိတစ်ရာတစ်လီ" (အပိုင်း-၄၈)
- 7:35 pm**
- 14. Agricultural Source Country's Development
- 7:45 pm**
- 15. Musical programme
- 8:00 pm**
- 16. News
- 8:05 pm**
- 17. International news
- 8:10 pm**
- 18. Weather report
- 8:15 pm**
- 19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်သံသရာ" (အပိုင်း-၆၇)
- 8:20 pm**
- 20. The next day's programme



Sunday, 14 August

- Tune in today:**
- 8.30 am** Brief news
 - 8.35 am** Music: -Heart of an angel
 - 8.40 am** Perspectives
 - 8.45 am** Music: -We will rock you
 - 8.55 am** National news/Slogan
 - 9.05 am** Music: -Cloud no 9
 - 9.05 am** International news
 - 9.15 am** Cultural Images of Myanmar -Myanma Conventional Bull-lock Cart
 - 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
 - 1.40 pm** Story for Children -The honest daughter
 - 1.40 pm** Songs for Children
 - 9.00 pm** Weekly news review
 - 9.10 pm** Article
 - 9.25 pm** Music
 - 9.35 pm** A new day has come -Let the music heal your soul
 - 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
 - 10.00 pm** PEL

Outstanding students of staff under Ministry of Industry-1 honoured

YANGON, 13 Aug — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung attended the ceremony to honour children of staff under the ministry from States and Divisions for 2004-05 academic year held at the training hall of the Ministry of Industry-1 this afternoon.

Departmental heads presented prizes to outstanding students at primary level.

Minister U Aung Thaung gave away prizes to five six-distinction winners and four five-distinction winners in the 2004-05 academic year.

Director-General U Thaik Tun of Directorate of Industries and Industrial Coordination and Inspection

Department awarded prizes to nine four-distinction winners.

Next, managing directors, directors-general and advisers presented prizes to those who passed the matriculation examination with flying colours.

Officials gave away prizes to winners in the photo contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day and article contest in commemoration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

On behalf of the winners, six-distinction winner Maung Htet Phyo Aung expressed gratitude. — MNA

Nyein Chan Thaya Kwin Bus Terminal opened

YANGON, 13 Aug—Nyein Chan Thaya Kwin Bus Terminal in Myitkyina, Kachin State, was inaugurated at the terminal on 11 August morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun, senior military officers, local authorities, departmental officials, social organizations, officials from 16 bus lines, and local people.

(See page 8)

Myanmar, China sign agreement on nickel exploration and feasibility study

YANGON, 13 Aug —No 3 Mining Enterprise of the Ministry of Mines and Kingbao Mining Ltd of the People's Republic of China signed an agreement on Mwaytaung nickel exploration and survey and feasibility study at the Sedona Hotel yesterday.

The survey will be conducted in Kale Township in Sagaing Division and Tiddim Township in Chin State.

Present were Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and members, the ministers, the deputy ministers, heads of departments, Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Jinjun and embassy staff, Chairman of Kingbao

Two major nickel deposits are found in Myanmar. One is in Tagaungtaung nickel deposit in Thabeikkyin Township in Mandalay Division. The survey is being conducted by No 3 ME and China-Non-ferrous Metal Mining and Construction (Group) Co Ltd of the PRC.

Mining Ltd Mr Yang Xiaoqing and officials.

Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Managing Director of No 3 ME U Hsan Tun and Chairman Mr Yang Xiaoqing spoke on the occasion.

Next, Managing Director U Hsan Tun and Chairman Mr Yang Xiaoqing signed the agreement. Ministers U Thaung and Brig-Gen Ohn Myint presented the permits of MIC and the Ministry of Mines to Chairman Mr Yang Xiaoqing.

Two major nickel deposits are found in Myanmar. One is in Tagaungtaung nickel deposit in Thabeikkyin Township in Mandalay Division. The survey is being conducted by No 3 ME and China-Non-ferrous Metal Mining and Construction (Group) Co Ltd of the PRC.

Mwaytaung nickel exploration and survey will be conducted with the investment of Kingbao Mining Ltd. Nickel production will start if there is good prospect for production on commercial scale.—MNA

Prizes presented to winners in 12th Friendly Golf Tourney of SAM

YANGON, 13 Aug — The prize distribution ceremony of the 12th Friendly Golf Tourney, co-organized by the Singaporean Embassy and Singapore Association of Myanmar-SAM, was held at Traders Hotel, here, this evening.

Chairman of Singaporean Association of Myanmar Mr Teddy Chia extended greetings. Singapore Ambassador Mr Thambunathan Jassasen handed over K 4 million for Myanmar Education Committee to Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win. After the ceremony, the guests were served with dinner.

MNA



Minister U Nyan Win accepts K 4 million donated by Singapore Association of Myanmar-SAM.—MNA

Home Affairs Minister receives ICRC Resident Representatives

YANGON, 13 Aug — Maj-Gen Maung Oo received separately Resident

Representative of ICRC Mr Patrick Vial and Resident Representative of UNHCR Mr Jean-Francois Dureux at the ministry at the corner of Sehmud-1 Road and Saya San Road yesterday evening. Present at the call were Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Director-General of the General Administration Department U Myat Ko, Deputy Director-General U Zaw Tun of Prisons Department, Head of Transnational Crime Department Police-Col Sit Aye and Head of Office U Kyaw Hsan. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo receives Resident Representative of ICRC Mr Patrick Vial.—MNA

309 gem lots, 412 jade lots sold at 19th Gems and Jade Sales

YANGON, 13 Aug — The 19th Gems and Jade Sales 2005 of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd continued sales of jade lots at the Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road,

here, yesterday evening, and concluded successfully at 7 pm.

Gem merchants at home and abroad were allowed to inspect gem and jade lots at the Sales from 9 to 11 August. On 12

August, gems and jade lots were sold through bargain and auction systems. A total of 309 gem lots and 43 jade lots were sold at 5 pm yesterday.

Afterwards, sales of remaining jade lots continued though bargain system. A total of 939 local gem merchants and 316 merchants from abroad, totalling 1,255 bought 369 jade lots at 7 pm.

At the 19th Gems and Jade Sales, 309 gems and 412 jade lots were sold yesterday. — MNA

INSIDE

Now, Bago Division has been facilitated with 41 irrigation facilities that benefit 666,970 acres of farmland. The 176 irrigation facilities across the nation have been recorded in the nation's agricultural history.



Managing Director U Hsan Tun and Mr Yang Xiaoqing of Kingbao Mining Ltd exchange the agreements.—MNA