

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XIII, Number 129

4th Waning of Wagaung 1367 ME

Tuesday, 23 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

Setting up of advanced foundries turning point, important step towards new industrial age Prime Minister General Soe Win visits foundries in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone

YANGON, 22 Aug — Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister General Soe Win visited Fair Sun Mould and Die Industry here today.

Accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, the Yangon mayor, deputy ministers, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, and departmental officials, the Prime Minister heard a report on the capital of the factory, supply and installation of machinery, production of quality moulds and dies for ministries and enterprises, and requirements presented by Managing Director of the company Dr Pe Khin.

Minister for Communications, Posts, and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, and Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaug Lwin explained collective plans to develop production of machinery including moulds and dies.

The Prime Mini-

ster said that thanks to the goodwill assistance of the government, advanced foundries and related workshops have emerged in Mandalay, Monywa and Ayethaya (Taunggyi) industrial zones. These factories are manufacturing machine parts for the State organizations and local and foreign markets. Equipment such as die and mould are re-

quired to manufacture quality products. The government has provided assistance for setting up industries to manufacture moulds. Fair Sun Company produces goods with better quality. But the company should extend bilateral cooperation with other industries for the benefit of the entire private industrial sector. Efforts should be made to

present valuable suggestions and transfer technologies for manufacturing quality machines in addition to die and mould. Setting up of advanced foundries is a turning point and an important step in the ongoing task to reach the new industrial age. Sharing of knowledge and bilateral cooperation among the entrepreneurs

and organizations is important. The prices of the products must be reason-

able to the most possible degree. Development of (See page 8)

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Mon State has put more than 700,000 out of the targeted 850,000 acres under monsoon paddy for the present cultivation season. Moreover, as Mon State has good climate and rich soil, the cultivation of not only monsoon and summer paddy but also various kinds of beans and pulses, edible oil, rubber and pepper are being extended.

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PERSPECTIVES



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects parts of machines manufactured by Fair Sun Mould and Die Industry in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 23 August, 2005

Grow more rubber and cash crops

Myanmar is endowed with favourable conditions such as temperate climate and rich soil for cultivation of crops. And the government has been building necessary infrastructures in all regions across the nation for their parallel development. Therefore, all sectors are enjoying steady development.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence visited Mon State on 18 and 19 August and inspected agriculture and regional development work. During his inspection tour, Lt-Gen Maung Bo attended the ceremony to mark the conclusion of ploughing work for the 2005-2006 cultivation season in Kyaikhto Township and gave away prizes. Moreover, Lt-Gen Maung Bo discussed the development of the agriculture sector and extended cultivation of paddy and other cash crops.

Mon State has put more than 700,000 out of the targeted 850,000 acres under monsoon paddy for the present cultivation season. Moreover, as Mon State has good climate and rich soil, the cultivation of not only monsoon and summer paddy but also various kinds of beans and pulses, edible oil, rubber and pepper are being extended.

Mon State grow more rubber than any other state or division in Myanmar. Now private rubber growers and national entrepreneurs are striving to be able to put 400,000 acres under rubber. The government has allowed farmers to grow and export rubber freely and therefore the farmers should try to grow more rubber and export more for the sake of national interests and their own.

To increase the production of the agriculture sector, the government has rendered all the necessary assistance by building dams and river water pumping stations and providing modern cultivation methods to farmers. Therefore, we would like to call on the farmers and national entrepreneurs to grow more paddy, rubber and other cash crops to earn more money by making the most of assistance rendered by the government and favourable natural conditions such as climate and soil.

Education Minister meets SEAMEO Council's President

YANGON, 22 Aug - Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein met with President of Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO Council) Minister for Education and Training of Vietnam Prof Dr Nguyen Minh Hien this morning at Diamond Jubilee Hall in Kamayut Township.

Also present were Director of SEAMEO Council Dr Edilberto C de Jesus, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt and officials.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to collaboration between SEAMEO and Ministry of Education and future collaborative programmes for education.

MNA

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

Mingala scholarship foundation of Japan grants stipend for outstanding students

YANGON, 22 Aug — A ceremony to provide Mingala stipend to outstanding students who are admitted to continue their studies at universities and colleges after passing the matriculation examination in Myanmar through the Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at the USDA Headquarters this afternoon.

The stipend is granted by Mingala scholarship foundation, a non-governmental organization of Japan.

Present were Secretary-General of the USDA U Htay Oo, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, CEC members of USDA U Thein Sein and U Nyan Tun Aung, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, directors-general, Counsellor Mr Ichiro Maruyama of Japanese



Secretary-General of USDA U Htay Oo accepts ¥ two million from Chairman of Mingala scholarship foundation Mr Tsu Yoshi Watanabe. — MNA

Embassy, Chairman of Mingala scholarship foundation Mr Tsu Yoshi Watanabe, students and officials.

Secretary-General of the USDA U Htay Oo spoke on the occasion. He said USDA was formed based on youths. The USDA is participating in efforts to promote

national education and it provided stipend to outstanding students. Provision of stipend is very useful to students and contributes towards further strengthening of the existing bilateral goodwill relations between the two countries. He expressed thanks for the donation.

Chairman of Mingala scholarship foundation Mr Tsu Yoshi Watanabe also spoke and presented ¥ two million to Secretary-General of the USDA U Htay Oo who presented certificate of honour to the wellwisher. Mr Tsu Yoshi Watanabe then greeted the outstanding students. —MNA

Hydro-electric Power Department inks contract to purchase Chinese electrical equipment

YANGON, 22 Aug — Hydro-electric Power Department under the Ministry of Electric

Power signed today a 4.56-million-dollar contract with Zhejiang Orient Holdings Group Lim-

ited- ZOHG to buy 132 kv cables and electrical equipment from China. Ministry for Electric

Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut attended the signing ceremony.

Kengtawng Hydro-electric power plant project is located in Mongnai, Langkho District, in Shan State (South). It is equipped with three 18-megawatt-generators.

On completion, it is expected that the plant will generate 472 KW hours per year and it will supply electricity to Laikha, Panglong, Loilem, Mongnai, Langkho and Mongpan in Shan State (South). It will also be connected to the national grid through Kalaw substation. —MNA



Director-General of Hydro-electric Power Department U Win Kyaw and Zhejiang Orient Holdings Group Limited- ZOHG Chairman Mr Hua Aiguo sign a contract on purchase of 132 kv cables and electrical equipment.—MNA

Entries invited for Colour Photo Competition

YANGON, 22 Aug—The National Motto, Literary and Photo Competition Organizing Committee has announced that it will hold the colour photo competition for 2005.

The title of the competition is "Developing Myanmar".

The entries should be print photos with the size of 10"x12" or 10"x14". They must be own creation and must not be prize-winning works in any

other competitions.

Two passport-size photos and a brief biography of the contestant are to be attached to the entries.

Entries are to be sent to U Than Tun, Joint Secretary of the Organizing Committee Deputy Director of Information and Public Relations Department on Pansodan Street not later than 16 October 2005.—MNA

GOP Senator says Iraq looking like Vietnam

WASHINGTON, 21 Aug —A leading Republican senator and prospective presidential candidate said on Sunday that the war in Iraq has destabilized the Middle East and is looking more like the Vietnam conflict from a generation ago.

Nebraska Sen Chuck Hagel (news, bio, voting record), who received two Purple Hearts and other military honours for his service in Vietnam, reiterated his position that the United States needs to develop a strategy to leave Iraq. Hagel scoffed at the idea that US troops could be in Iraq four years from now at levels above 100,000, a contingency for which the Pentagon is preparing.

"We should start figuring out how we get out of there," Hagel said on "This Week" on ABC. "But with this understanding, we cannot leave a vacuum that further destabilizes the Middle East. I think our involvement

there has destabilized the Middle East. And the longer we stay there, I think the further destabilization will occur."

Hagel said "stay the course" is not a policy. "By any standard, when you analyze 2 1/2 years in Iraq— we're not winning," he said.

President Bush was preparing for separate speeches this week to reaffirm his plan to help Iraq train its security forces while its leaders build a democratic government. In his weekly Saturday radio address, Bush said the fighting there protected Americans at home.

Polls show the public growing more skeptical about Bush's handling of the war.—Internet



The San Diego Zoo's giant panda cub, Mei Sheng, holds onto a piece of his birthday cake in San Diego, on 19 August, 2005. — INTERNET

Arroyo asks Filipinos to face looming oil crisis

MANILA, 21 Aug — Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on Saturday asked Filipinos to save their dollars as looming oil crisis threatens both the country's energy supply and foreign currency reserve.

"While we conserve energy and seek cheaper, more stable sources of oil, we must at the same time nurse our foreign exchange reserves by increasing inflows and curbing dollar expenditures," said Arroyo in a statement.

economic managers and Filipinos who have overseas remittances are encouraged to save the greenbacks

"Let us save dollars with the same sense of urgency and use our dollars only for the most indispensable and productive purposes," she said.

"There must be cooperation and synergy among all institutions and sectors," she added.

MNA/Xinhua

Chile urges more int'l efforts to solve Haitian crisis

SANTIAGO, 21 Aug— Chilean Foreign Minister Ignacio Walker on Friday called for more international efforts to solve the crisis in the war-torn Haiti.

The Haitian crisis spreads all over political, economic and social fields, therefore the task of the United Nations "cannot be limited simply to the military as-

pect", Walker told a minister-level meeting of Latin American countries which participated in UN stabilization mission (Minustah).

The international society should make more efforts and increase financial aid to help maintain Haiti's situation despite "undeniable" achievements by the UN mission, said Walker.

He also warned there are more difficulties ahead for the UN stabilization mission, to which Chile contributes some 600 troops and police.

Jose Miguel Insulza, secretary-general of the Organization of Ameri-

can States (OAS), and representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Ecuador and Guatemala and international organizations, participated in the meeting.

Explosions, kidnappings, assassinations and robberies have worsened the situation in Haiti despite the upcoming general elections. The most severe unrest comes from the bastions of supporters of former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has planned to increase the UN troops in Haiti from 7,600 to over 9,000.

MNA/Xinhua

Four Iraqi soldiers killed in Fallujah

BAGHDAD, 21 Aug — Four Iraqi soldiers were killed and five others wounded in a bomb attack against US and Iraqi Army patrol in the flashpoint city of Fallujah on Saturday, local residents told Xinhua.

"Four Iraqi soldiers were killed and five others wounded when guerillas hurled a hand grenade at a passing US-Iraqi joint patrol in Fallujah," the residents said.

US forces opened fire

indiscriminately after the attack, killing and wounding several civilians who happened to be at the scene, they added.

"We have received two bodies and eight wounded civilians after the blast," Ismail Abdulatif, an official in the Jordanian hospital just outside Fallujah told Xinhua.

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier dies of wounds in bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 21 Aug — A US soldier died of wounds sustained in a roadside bomb attack in Baghdad on Saturday, the US military said.

The soldier, assigned to the 42nd Military Police Brigade, was announced dead after he was evacuated to a military medical facility, the military said in a brief statement.

The name of the killed soldier was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it said.

Over 1,850 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman stands guard in front of a police station in Basra, on 21 August, 2005.— INTERNET

African civil society back broader reforms at UN

NAIROBI, 21 Aug — African civil society organizations ended their two-day meeting in Nairobi on Friday by backing sweeping reforms on the United Nations structures.

The meeting called for broader reforms to the Security Council, the Economic and Social Forum, the General Assembly and how the UN deals with human rights, conflict, food security, climate change and terrorism.

"We note that the current UN reforms process does not go far enough in addressing the African crisis. The discussion should go beyond the issue of the UN structure and address the issue of the power of states and global financing institutions such as IMF and the World Bank," the organizations said in a joint statement.

The two-day meeting, organized by Britain charity Action Aid International, brought together senior officials from civil, governmental and inter-govern-

mental organizations from Eastern and Southern Africa to discuss the implications of the UN reforms for African countries.

It came up with specific proposals that African heads of state are expected to present to the UN Millennium Summit in New York in September.

Speaking at the end of their meeting, Brian Kagoro from Action Aid International said Africa has never been represented in the UN's key decision making process like the Security Council despite having participated in processes and systems.

"There is need to reform the Security Council so to make it more geographically representative, transparent and accountable," Kagoro said. — MNA/Xinhua



A Chinese vendor eats lunch near live and prepared eels at a wet market in Beijing, China, on 22 August, 2005.—INTERNET

Pakistani woman gives birth to pentaplet

ISLAMABAD, 22 Aug—A Pakistani woman gave birth to pentaplet including four girls and a male baby in a clinic on Sunday morning in Faisalabad, about 350 kilometers south of Islamabad, according to the *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

The delivery was supervised by a team of senior doctors headed by Dr Samina Khalid. The father of the babies is in America while their mother was suffering from a number of gynecological and other physical ailments including thyroid and urinary track infection.

The mother was with 30-week pregnancy. Bleeding forced them to conduct premature operation to save the

mother and babies.

The mother has already a female baby. However, she is still under the influence of anesthesia while the neonates have been resuscitated, said Dr Samina, adding that newborn babies have been advised drips.

"We will keep the babies in incubators for next few weeks to avoid their heat loss," Samina added.

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand warned of HIV infection rebound

BANGKOK, 21 Aug—Thailand should pay more attention to prevent rebound of HIV/AIDS infection in spite of the fact that the country has successfully controlled the disease spread over the decade, said an expert of World Health Organization (WHO).

"Thailand has done a good job fighting against HIV/AIDS, I hope to see more cooperation...between the government and independent networks working closely to minimize the epidemic's spread," Bangkok Post on Saturday quoted Daniel Tarantola, a WHO expert on the disease, as saying.

He said that signs have shown threatening rebound of the HIV epidemic in Thailand, especially among teenagers, drug users and housewives.

"Risks are still high given the changing sexual behaviour in society," the WHO expert told a Press conference held at the Thai Public Health Ministry.

He urged the government to earmark more funds for efforts to prevent the spread of AIDS, and involve youths and communities in the process.

Thailand has cut the number of new patients living with HIV from 17,000 people last year to 15,000 this year. One third of new HIV infections are among women who have regular sex with their spouses. There were also signs of an increased risk of infection among men who have sex with men.

Besides, local HIV/AIDS expert also noticed increasing infection of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) among teenagers, which indicate a higher risk of HIV infection.

"We campaigned hard to reduce AIDS transmission almost 20 years ago. So teenagers now don't know about our strong campaign against the epidemic," said Narongsak Ungkaauwapla, deputy permanent secretary of the Public Health Ministry.—MNA/Xinhua

Jilted Vietnamese kills mistress, children, kin

HANOI, 21 Aug — A jilted Vietnamese man murdered his mistress and two of her children with an axe, before going next door and slaying his ex-lover's sister-in-law and her two offspring as well, state media reported on Friday.

The 33-year-old from the southern province of Binh Phuoc was said to have flown into a rage after his 30-year-old lover refused to see him any more and went back to her husband. He turned himself in to police, the *Tuoi Tre* newspaper reported, but will still face a probable death sentence if convicted.—MNA/Reuters

US soldier killed by Iraq roadside bomb

BAGHDAD, 21 Aug—A US soldier was killed Sunday when his vehicle struck a roadside bomb in northern Iraq, the military said.

The soldier, who was assigned to the 20th Engineer Brigade, was killed in Dwar near Tikrit, the statement said.

At least 1,866 members of the US military have died since the Iraq war began in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count.

Internet

Filipino bank executive shot dead in business compound

MANILA, 21 Aug—A Filipino bank executive was gunned down by unidentified attackers riding a motorcycle in a business compound in Metro Manila Saturday morning, said police.

Benjamin Beltran, 52, who was an executive of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, was killed instantly and his female companion was wounded in the attack at the Folk Arts Theatre parking lot at the Cultural Centre of the Philippines Complex in Pasay City.

MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်မွှေးအား ခေတ်ကျော်ဖွား

Latvian President, PM meet Chinese FM

RIGA, 21 Aug—Latvian President Vaira Vike-Freiberga and Prime Minister Aigars Kalvitis met here on Friday with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing separately on bilateral ties.

Vike-Freiberga said during the meeting that relations between China and Latvia have been developing fast since her visit to China last year.

She said that Latvia values the friendly ties with China and is willing to strengthen their cooperation in fields such as trade, transportation and culture.

The President also praised China's role in solving the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula. Kalvitis told Li that since Latvia is a fast-growing country in the European Union, and China is a fast-growing country in the world, there is much room for bilateral economic cooperation.

For his part, Li expressed his appre-

ciation for the contributions made by President Vike-Freiberga and Prime Minister Kalvitis in promoting Sino-Latvia relations.

He said Chinese President Hu Jintao and Vike-Freiberga had agreed on developing bilateral ties and work has been underway between Chinese and Latvian sectors to this effect.

He also said China is willing, as always, to be a friend and partner of Latvia, futher political exchange, enhancing understanding and trust, expanding economic and trade cooperation and developing exchanges of people.

MNA/Xinhua



US troops stand guard beside a car in which Iraqi interior ministry officers were killed by gunmen on the road leading to the Baghdad international airport, on 21 August, 2005.—INTERNET

Iraqi general wounded, says US troops shot him

BAGHDAD, 21 Aug—An Iraqi general who commands the country's border defence force was shot and wounded while driving in Baghdad late on Saturday and accused US troops of firing on his car, police and hospital sources said.

The report could not be confirmed directly with the general; a US military spokesman said he was unaware of an incident. Major General Ali Hamadi told doctors at Yarmouk Hospital, who treated him for a gunshot wound to the abdomen,

that US forces fired on him as he was driving himself to a doctor's appointment, a source at the hospital told *Reuters*. He was later transferred to a hospital in the US-defended Green Zone government compound, the source added.

Sources at Baghdad police headquarters, which like the border security force is overseen by the Interior Ministry, said Hamadi is the overall commander of the Iraqi Border Police.

MNA/Reuters

Tourism income to make up 7% of China's GDP by 2010

BEIJING, 21 Aug — China's total income from the tourism industry will amount to 1.226 trillion yuan (151 billion US dollars) by the year 2010, making up 7 per cent of the country's GDP, the Economic Daily said on Friday.

It is expected to register an annual growth rate of 10 per cent.

In accordance with the 11th five-year plan (2006-2010), the State Tourism Administration Director, Shao Qiwei, announced at an ongoing national tourism working conference held in Xi'an City on Thursday that China aims to receive 64 million overseas tourists by 2010, ranking the third in the world.

Foreign exchange earned by the tourism industry will top 42.6 billion US dollars, an average increase rate of 8 per cent each year, also ranking

the third in the world, the report said.

In addition, the administration's goal includes attracting 1.69 billion domestic tourists in the next five years and achieving 881 billion yuan in income, an annual average growth rate of 11 per cent. By 2010, the industry is expected to employ directly 9.8 million people, and 49 million people indirectly, the report said.

In a bid to realize the goal, the administration will take measures to further build and perfect the industry's system and enhance service quality.—MNA/Xinhua

India's encephalitis death toll rises to 110

LUCKNOW (India), 21 Aug — The death toll in an encephalitis outbreak in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh rose to 110 on Saturday with 20 more deaths reported in the past 36 hours, a health official said.

Most of the dead were children and more than 170 people were in hospital, many of them in critical condition.

"Encephalitis is a perennial problem during the rainy season, but the situation appears to be quite alarming this time," said KP Kushwaha, a health official in Gorakhpur Town, worst hit by the outbreak.

Encephalitis, an acute form of brain fever, is caused by a virus spread by mosquitoes and proliferates in water-logged parts of India during the monsoon

season.

Last year, about 50 people died of the disease in Uttar Pradesh.

India has suffered serious flooding during this year's monsoon season, which runs from June to September.

In Mumbai, formerly known as Bombay, and adjacent areas, 210 people have died of diseases such as leptospirosis, gastroenteritis and malaria after the worst floods in history hit the region three weeks ago.

MNA/Reuters

Democrats split over position on Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 21 Aug — Democrats say a long-standing rift in the party over the Iraq war has grown increasingly raw in recent days, as stay-the-course elected leaders who voted for the war three years ago confront rising impatience from activists and strategists who want to challenge President Bush aggressively to withdraw troops.

Amid rising casualties and falling public support for the war, Democrats of all stripes have grown more vocal this summer in criticizing Bush's handling of the war. A growing chorus of Democrats, however, have said this criticism should be harnessed to a consistent message and alternative policy — something most Democratic lawmakers have refused to offer.

The wariness, congressional aides and outside strategists said in interviews last week, reflects a belief among some in the opposition that proposals to force troop drawdowns or otherwise limit Bush's options would be perceived by many voters as defeatist. Some operatives fear such moves would exacerbate the party's traditional vulnerability on national security issues.—Internet



US soldiers search an area beside a highway on the outskirts of Baghdad. Iraq roped in disenchanted Sunni Arabs for last-minute talks on thorny issues dogging the drafting of the constitution just hours before a deadline to complete the charter expires.—INTERNET

Scientific concept of development highlighted at China science congress

URUMQI, 21 Aug — The annual congress of the China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) opened on Saturday in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

This year's meeting, with 6,700 scientific workers from across the country attending, trumpets the theme of scientific concept of development and sustainable use of resources.

While addressing the opening ceremony, State Councillor Chen Zhili urged Chinese scientific workers to be innovative and to expand reform on the institutional system for scientific and technological work.

"It is imperative to push forward the drive

of constructing a state-innovative mechanism from all fronts, to seize the time in working out measures aimed at encouraging innovation, to introduce the strategies on rejuvenating the nation via science and education and improving the national strength via talents, be firm with promoting scientific and technological progress and innovation and to strive for the establishment of an innovation-oriented state," said Chen.

The state councillor also hoped that the broad masses of the Chinese scientific workers would make greater efforts in publicizing and expanding recycling economy, constructing a society with a saving mindset and advancing a sustainable development.

She also asked Chinese scientific workers to vigorously disseminate scientific knowledge, popularize practical advanced technologies for the benefit of the people.—MNA/Xinhua



A team from Singapore's Navy Divers Unit rappel down from a Singapore Air Force Super Puma helicopter and storm a merchant vessel during Exercise Deep Sabre in the South China Sea off Singapore recently.—INTERNET

WHO says Saudi Arabia moves to halt global polio spread

GENEVA, 21 Aug — Saudi Arabia, where millions of Muslims flock on annual pilgrimage to Islam's holiest city, will require young guests from polio-hit countries to prove they have been vaccinated against the crippling virus, WHO said on Friday.

The move, reported in the World Health Organization's weekly epidemiological record, follows two cases imported from Sudan late last year which sparked fears the virus could spread within the kingdom or be carried by Muslims going home after the haj.

The Health Ministry directive — which comes ahead of the next haj in January — covers visitors under the age of 15 from the 19 countries currently reporting polio cases, it said.

Polio, which can cause irreversible paralysis in hours, mainly in small chil-

dren, has spread across Africa, infecting many previously polio-free countries since 2003, the WHO said.

Nearly 96 per cent of the 1,053 people infected with polio worldwide so far this year live in member countries of the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO), it added.

The WHO — which had hoped to halt spread of the disease by year-end — welcomed the Saudi move, noting there were large population movements during the annual pilgrimages to Mecca.

MNA/Reuters

Kuwaiti company wins US contract worth \$180m

KUWAIT CITY, 21 Aug — Kuwait's Public Warehousing Company has won a bid for the US Defence Logistics Agency at 180 million US dollars for providing advanced technical solutions, logistic services and handling of goods in Kuwait, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported on Saturday.

According to KUNA, the maximum contract period is five years, with the client's right for annual renewal. The Public Warehousing Company of Kuwait had previously signed a 3.2-million-US-dollar contract with Pentagon for providing foodstuff for the US Army, Marines and Air Force based in Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq and Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua

Provisions donated to Mebaung Monastery in Hpa-an



Lt-Gen Maung Bo and congregation receive the Five Precepts from Mebaung Monastery Sayadaw. —MNA

YANGON, 22 Aug — Kayin State Peace and Development Council organized a ceremony to offer rice, edible oil, salt and medicine to Mebaung Monastery in Hpa-an on 20 August afternoon.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence attended the donation ceremony.

Present were State Ovadacariya Hpa-an Mebaung Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhama Jotika

Bhaddanta Indriya, State Ovadacariya Hpa-an Ariyawuntha Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Kanma Thana Cariya Bhaddanta Pannasami and members of the Sangha, Mon State PDC Chairman South East Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Kayin State PDC Chairman Col Khin Kyu, senior military officers, officials of the SPDC office and ministries, members of social organizations, donors and local people.

At the ceremony, the Mebaung Sayadaw invested the congregation with the Five Precepts,

and the Sayadaws and monks recited parittas. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo offered provisions such as rice, edible oil and salt to the Mebaung Sayadaw.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing offered provisions to the Saydaw of Ariyawuntha Monastery and Col Khin Kyu and officials to the members of Sangha. Then the Sayadaws delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained.

Today's donations included 431 bags of rice, 490 viss of edible oil, salt and medicine and K 4,812,500. — MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo presents offertories to a Sayadaw. —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing offers provisions to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Honorary medals presented

YANGON, 22 Aug — Ministry of Mines held a ceremony to present honorary medals to staff members who were

awarded with honorary medals by the State at the ministry this morning. It was attended by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn

Myint, Deputy Minister U Myint Thein and officials.

The minister presented medals to 15 staff members — three in outstanding performance in administration (Grade-1), one in outstanding performance in social field (Grade-1), two in outstanding performance in administration (Grade-2), eight in outstanding performance in administration (Grade-3) and one in outstanding performance in industrial and economic field. — MNA

Respect paying ceremony to be held

YANGON, 22 Aug — The respect paying ceremony of students who attended classes in 1962-1975 academic years at Yankin No-1 Basic Education High School to their teachers will be held at 1 pm on 1 January 2006 at Thiriyadana hall of the school. The old students are invited to attend the ceremony without fail. For further information dial telephone Nos 095022572 and 534611. — H

Workshop on Myanmar intellectual property rights commences

YANGON, 22 Aug — A workshop on counseling about drafting the bills on Myanmar intellectual property rights was opened at the MICT Park in Hline Township here this morning. The workshop was organized by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe,

Deputy Attorney Generals Dr Tun Shin and U Myint Naing, heads of department under various ministries, Director Mr Ranjana Abeysekera of Economic Development Bureau for Asia and the Pacific of WIPO, law experts and officials of the Supreme Court, Attorney General's Office, Law Department of Yangon University, UMFCCI, Myanmar Engineers Association, Myanmar Computer Industrialists Association, Myanmar

Traditional Medical Practitioners Association and other associations, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Dr Tun Shin delivered a speech and Mr Ranjana Abeysekera extended greetings. After the opening ceremony, the deputy minister and party had a documentary photo taken with Mr Ranjana Abeysekera. The workshop continues till 26 August. — MNA



Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin delivers a speech at workshop on counseling about drafting the bills on Myanmar intellectual property rights.

MNA

People need to try not to face again lack of progress for 40 years from 1948 to 1988

YANGON, 22 Aug — Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan on 16 August met with local people in Salingyi Township at Htanpu Village in the township. Local people and members of social organization totalling over 1,800 attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended to the needs for regional development.

In his address delivered at the meeting, the minister said the government has been building infrastructures including roads, bridges and dams which are necessary for development of education, health and economic sectors. However, internal and external destructive elements have been causing hindrances to the development of the State and efforts to build



Secretariat Member of USDA Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan meets locals of Salingyi Township. — MNA

democratic nation, he added. He urged the local people to help implement the seven-point Road Map with patriotic spirit and Union Spirit. It is necessary for the people to try not to face again a lack of progress for 40 years from 1948 to 1988, he said.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented K 300,000 to Secretary of Salingyi Township USDA U Aung Zaw Oo to spend on implementation of regional

development tasks.

Next, he presented soap, clothes, utensils and exercise books, and cans of meat donated by Myanmar Red Cross Society for local people.

At the meeting, Sagaing Division and Monywa District Information and Public Relations Departments and USDAs presented books and cash for rural libraries.

On 17 August morning, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan went to the

office of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise in Mandalay and gave instructions. He also met with employees of the ministry and urged them to carry out the tasks dutifully and to participate in regional development tasks.

After the meeting, the minister inspected Mawgun Cinema, Subprinting house, Win Light, Myogonyaung, Myoma, Masoyein and Naypyidaw cinemas in Mandalay and left in-

structions. In the afternoon, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan went to the government printing press (upper Myanmar) and inspected progress of the building constructed by Ayeyaminthein Construction (Mandalay) Co. He also attended the ceremony to donate books to libraries in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay.

At the ceremony, the minister accepted 1,290 books worth K 120,000, 980 magazines worth K

over 120,000 and cash donation for Pañña Alin Library in Tampawady Ward in Mandalay and spoke words of thanks.

During his tour of inspection in Mandalay, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also met with staff of the Information and Public Relations Departments in Mandalay District and briefed them on future tasks and urged them to carry out the rural development tasks.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects Win Light cinema in Mandalay.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts books worth K 120,000 donated by Mandalay Chanmyathazi Township Peace and Development Council.— MNA

Malaysian study group arrives

YANGON, 22 Aug—A study group led by Col Sheikh Mokhsin bin Sheikh Hassan of Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College Course arrived here by air at 11.15 am today.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Assistant Chief of Armed Forces Training (Navy) Captain Maung Maung Thit and senior military officers, Defence Attaché of Malaysian Embassy Col Abbas Hj Mat and officials.

In the evening, the delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda where they were wel-

comed by members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

After that, the vis-

iting delegation signed in the visitors' book.

Once the visiting delegation viewed round

the pagoda clock-wise, they were conducted by officials.

MNA



A study group led by Col Sheikh Mokhsin bin Sheikh Hassan of Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College being welcomed at the airport.— MNA

Seminar on Hepatology Highlight held

YANGON, 22 Aug—The Seminar on Hepatology Highlight for 2005 sponsored by the Yangon General Hospital was held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here at 6 pm today.

Professor/Head of Department Dr Khin Maung Win of YGH made a speech and Regional Director of Wincal Pharmaceutical Co Mr Thomas Wong extended greetings on the occasion.

Next, Professor/Head of Department Lt-Col Kyaw Soe Tun of No 2 Military Hospital (Bed-500) dealt with matters on Autoimmune Hepatitis, Specialist Dr Win Naing of YGH on Haemochromatosis, Major Ko Ko Lwin of Defence Services General Hospital (Bed-1000) on Primary Biliary Cirrhosis, Specialist Dr Nyo Mi Khine Than Hlaing of YGH on Occult Hepatitis B, and Professor/Head of Department Dr Khin Maung Win of YGH on Fatty Liver-Current Concepts.

Afterwards, officials replied to queries raised by those present. The seminar was held with the assistance of Wincal Pharmaceutical Co and Fortune International Ltd.—MNA

Setting up of advanced foundries turning point,...

(from page 1)

private industries will generate job opportunities and help improve the living standard, in addition to strengthening the sound foundations for emergence of a modern nation.

The Prime Minister and party observed 3-jaw chucks for lathes, head planners, rounders, finger joint machines, and machinery products including chamber mould, holder pre heater mould, nozzle mould, gear shaft mould and car parts, coordinate measuring machine and 2½ D projector machine at work.

The Prime Minister and party observed 5-axis CNC wire cutting machine at wire cutting room. Officials explained the function of the machine which can cut iron, steel and other metals that conduct an electric charge.

Managing Director Dr Pe Khin reported on imported forklift for pilot production, planes used in wood-based industries and arrangements for production of high quality machines.

The Prime Minister and party inspected machines ordered by Ywama Steel Plant, quality control measures, repair of the mould for plastic basket, capabilities of lathes and modern machines.

Next, the Prime Minister and party inspected functions of CNC machines, car spare parts such as nozzle holder, shock absorber and nozzle nuts. They also inspected function of CNC lathe equipped with computerized numerical control (CNC) Controller and parts of TE Hino vehicles.

They next inspected Electro Discharge Machine (EDM) used in production of mould and die. The



Prime Minister General Soe Win inspects Fair Sun Mould and Die Industry in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone. — MNA

Mould and die are machine tools used in industry and are capital goods. They are essential tools for mass production.

EDM can lathe parts that cannot be cut by CNC Machine Centre.

The Prime Minister and party inspected construction of foundry shop and met officials and

gave instructions. Mould and die are machine tools used in industry and are capital goods. They are essential tools for mass production but developing countries cannot produce them because of the lack of skilled workers. That is why they are imported from developed nations. If Fair Sun Co in Shwepyitha industrial zone and other private industrialists can produce mould and die, industry in the country will improve.

MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on tour of Shan State (North)...

(from page 16)

universities who passed their exams in 2003 and 2004. Then, wellwishers donated over K 22 million for Shan State (North) educational purposes. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win made a speech.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party visited the plantations of Hsinshweli soy bean and sunflower. Lt-Col Tin Win reported on cultivation tasks. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave necessary instructions and

inspected the thriving plantations. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also visited the 60-acre plantation of Hsinshweli hybrid paddy and attended the ceremony to explain methods for cultivation of paddy strain-R. The secretary of Shan State (North) PDC reported on progress in cultivation of monsoon paddy and crops. The deputy commander and the commander gave supplementary reports. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win stressed



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win meeting with senior military officers and other ranks at the hall of North-East Command in Lashio.— MNA

the need for boosting agricultural produce not only for regional self-sufficiency but for other

regions and exports the surplus. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected the thriving plantations of the strain-R owned by the Myanmar Police Force and USDA.

After that they proceeded to Kaukkway creek dam project site. An official of the Irrigation Department reported on matters relating to the dam to Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, who gave necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party visited Humon Dam and released 150,000 fingerlings to the dam. They also visited the 100-acre plantation of Hsinshweli paddy strain-R being undertaken by MPF of Shan State (North).

MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects 100-acre cultivation of local battalion in Lashio. — MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents cash awards to an outstanding student at a ceremony in Lashio to honour the outstanding students who passed the matriculation exam for 2004-2005. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at a ceremony to honour the victorious Myanmar U-20 Football team. — MNA

Success of U-20 selected Myanmar youth team paves...

(from page 16)
away from trophy for about 30 years, has been able to meet with success as selected Myanmar youth football teams emerged U-17 ASEAN

lected Myanmar youth team emerged AFF U-20 Champion, and it amounts to restarting of the new history of Myanmar football. The success of U-20

since its assumption of State responsibilities, has been striving for uplift of the standard of Myanmar Sports. It is doing so with the conviction that winning prizes in the international sports competitions highlights the standard of national culture and development of the State.

The participation of the entire national people including departmental bodies, social organizations, those from the field of fine arts and literary, sports enthusiasts in the drive for ensuring development of Myanmar Sports is encouraging, he stressed.

The entire people including monks and children are longing for success of Myanmar football teams in international sports events. That is why the selected U-20

Myanmar football team was accorded a rousing welcome by the fans from the airport to the Youth Sports Training Centre (Thuwunna) on 21 August, he noted.

The Secretary-1 called on the athletes to

sports athletes are to put all energies into sports to be able to achieve success in ASEAN, Asia and international events. The right methods, training, fitness and diligence are the bases for success.

Therefore, all ath-

when the government and the people cheer the Myanmar U-20 football team, all soccer athletes are to make efforts to retain the achievements in the future, to participate in Myanmar national team and to triumph over



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts cash donation presented by a wellwisher for U-20 football team. — MNA



MFF President U Zaw Zaw and coach U Tin Han accepts cash award for U-20 Football Team presented by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein. — MNA

Youth Football Champion, U-18 ASEAN Youth Football Champion in 2002 and U-18 BIMST-EC Youth Football Champion in 2004. This year also, se-

selected Myanmar youth team paves the way for the team to win more achievements in international competitions. The State Peace and Development Council,

The State Peace and Development Council, since its assumption of State responsibilities, has been striving for uplift of the standard of Myanmar Sports. It is doing so with the conviction that winning prizes in the international sports competitions highlights the standard of national culture and development of the State.

rivals in Asia U-20 qualifier to be held in Myanmar in November. Afterwards, wellwishers presented cash awards to victorious Myanmar U-20 football Team through Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn. (See page 11)

make constant efforts with sporting spirits to win more achievements in international sports events in response to encouragement and support of the people.

It is found that Myanmar's football standard does not meet the world class. Our ambition is to become the top of the league in ASEAN, to become popular in Asia again and to compete in the international soccer events.

Not complacent with some achievements,

letes are to make concerted efforts to gain more success, to retain the championship trophy and not to loose it in a short time. At the time



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn accepts cash donation presented by a wellwisher. — NLM



U-20 Football Team's Capt Aung Myo Thant. MNA



U-20 Football Team's Manager U Thein Aung. MNA

Health Minister addresses 17th meeting of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CMM)



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint addresses the 17th meeting of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CMM) of Myanmar.
MNA

YANGON, 22 Aug — The 17th meeting of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CMM) of Myanmar on control of AIDS/TB and malaria with the funds of GFATM took place at the Ministry of Health in Dagon Township here this afternoon, with an opening address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

It was attended by CCM members Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, di-

rectors-general of the departments under the ministry, managers of AIDS/TB and malaria control projects, UNDP Resident Representative Mr Charles Petrie, WHO Resident Representative Professor Adik Wibowo, UNAIDS Resident Representative Mr Brian J Williams and UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carrol C Long and representatives of local and foreign organizations totalling 32.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint made an opening address. Next, Mr Charles Petrie read a letter sent by GFATM based in Geneva, Switzerland, concerning the freezing of global funds to Myanmar.

The GFATM was formed in 2001-2002 under the resolutions of G-8 Summit held by the Group of Eight (G-8) comprising the US, the

UK, Italy, France, Russia, Japan, Canada and Germany. It is an independent private foundation, not the one under the UN and WHO. It started operation with the investment of 1.3 billion m ns. The organization was founded to assist the nations in their measures for control of AIDS, TB and malaria. The GFATM formed an administrative board

with the strength of 32 representatives including those from donor countries, developing countries, international and private organizations, and patient representatives. The office is based in Geneva, Switzerland. Representatives of the World Bank and UNAIDS are those who have no right to vote.

Next, CCM members WHO Resident Rep-

Mr Brian J Williams and UNICEF Resident Representative Ms Carrol C Long, Resident Representative of Population Services International Mr Guy Stallworthy, Resident Representative of World Vision International Mr Roger Walker, Project Director of Marie Stope International Dr Daw Khin Tar Tar, Chairman of Myanmar Medical Association Dr Myo Myint denounced the resolution of GFATM saying it was inhumane and not in conformity with its policies.

Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo also joined in the discussion. Minister Dr Kyaw Myint gave concluding remarks describing the resolutions of the GFATM as one-sided, saying that their acts will only lead to the suffering of the mass of Myanmar people and patients. That is why the CMM is to oppose the resolutions of GFATM and respond to its head office, said the minister.
MNA



Project Director of Marie Stope International Dr Daw Khin Tar Tar speaking at the 17th meeting of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CMM) of Myanmar.
HEALTH

Grants termination of Global Fund against...

(from page 16)

5. There are only two countries in the WHO South East Asia Region, Myanmar being one of them, where the principal recipient for Global Fund funds is not the government. In Myanmar, UNDP had been appointed as principal recipient for operation of the Global Fund.

6. Ever more stringent conditions have been imposed by the Global Fund on the principal and sub-recipients during implementation of approved programmes. Partners have endured these conditions, often with a sense of humiliation, for the sake of people in need. They have persevered and demonstrated their flexibility in order to make the grant work. Inordinate delays have been encountered in disbursement and procurement procedures.

7. The letter dated 18 August 2005 by Mr Brad Herbert, chief of Global Fund operations, Geneva, to Mr Charles Petrie, UNDP Resident Representative, Myanmar, communicated the termination of Global Fund grants in Myanmar. The reason given was that the "government procedures constitute restrictions which effectively prevent the implementation of performance based and time-bound programmes in the country, breach the government of Myanmar's commitment to provide unencumbered access to project sites, and frustrate the ability of the principal recipient to carry out its obligations".

8. The Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) deeply regrets the decision by the Global Fund to terminate the grant agreements with Myanmar, strongly deploring the negative impact it will have on people in need, and refutes the reasons given for termination. CCM believes that travel restrictions are only temporary in nature and do not justify irreversible termination of grants. The Global Fund's response is clearly disproportionate.

9. Accordingly, the CCM urges the Global Fund to

reconsider its decision to terminate. The reasons are:

Firstly, the need to address HIV-AIDS, TB and malaria remains urgent. The activities proposed are technically sound;

Secondly, the conditions imposed by the Global Fund obstructed and undermined our ability to meet performance-based and time-bound targets; while the CCM accepts a safeguard policy to ensure accountability, this policy must be accompanied by more flexible time lines;

Thirdly, the conditions imposed by the Global Fund constrained programmes so as to change their nature, for example, by disallowing many capacity building activities necessary for an effective and sustainable response. Furthermore, conditions were constantly shifting and never clearly articulated by the Global Fund. They became more constraining through time.

10. This termination occurs in a context where investment by the international community in humanitarian programmes in Myanmar is unjustifiably low. Mobilization of resources is critically important.

11. The Global Fund should reconsider its actions in light of its moral and ethical obligations to people everywhere who are suffering from malaria, tuberculosis and HIV-AIDS. The CCM concludes that this termination is against the values and principles embodied in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to which the Global Fund also owes its existence. Termination also contradicts the 8th UN millennium development goal which sets out to strengthen global partnerships.

12. The CCM unanimously committed to continue to work closely to fight against HIV-AIDS, TB and malaria. The CCM urges the international community to respond positively and in the spirit of social justice to this unjust action.

MNA

representative Professor Adik Wibowo, UNAIDS Resident Representative

Meeting of Shan State (South) Chamber of Commerce and Industry held

YANGON, 22 Aug — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein attended the annual general meeting of Shan State (South) Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the meeting hall of the state in Taunggyi yesterday morning.

Present at the meeting were departmental heads, President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint and executives, social organization members and officials.

At the meeting, the minister stressed the need for the UMFCCI to cooperate with the chambers of commerce in states and divisions in striving for the development of national economy. He said in accord with the guidance of the Head of State, private companies have reclaimed over 50,000 acres of land in Shan State (South). In addition, acres of reclaimed land will be extended to over 100,000.

The state's exports of agricultural produce increased to more than US\$ 37 million in 2004-2005 from 36 million in 2003. That is why, he said, more cooperation is needed among companies, local authorities and farmers to boost the export products.

Next, Shan State PDC Secretary Lt-Col Ye Tun Sein and U Win Myint made speeches. Later, the UMFCCI and local companies made cash donations for regional development.

MNA

Teachership Course No 1/2005 on Reproductive Health opened

YANGON, 22 Aug— A ceremony to open Teachership Course No 1/2005 on Reproductive Health sponsored by the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the meeting hall of MMCWA in South Okkalapa Township this morning.

It was attended by President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win,

Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and CEC members, Deputy Director-General of Health Department Dr Hla Pe and officials, Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Thet Htay, Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Daniel B Baker and officials and others.

First, President of MMCWA Daw Khin Khin Win made an opening speech.

Next, Deputy Director-General of Health Department Dr Hla Pe briefed on reproductive health. Afterwards, Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Daniel B Baker spoke.

After the ceremony, the president and guests viewed documentary photos on activities of MMCWA.



MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win presents K 91,108,000 for conducting courses in townships, villages to Yangon Division MCW Supervisory Committee Chairperson Daw Khin Thet Htay. — MNA

Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Daniel B Baker speaks at the opening of teachership course.

MNA

MNA



Success of U-20...

(from page 9)

At the ceremony, Myanmar Olympic Council donated K 3 million; U Te Za (Htoo Trading Co Ltd) K 30 million; U Zaw Zaw (Max Myanmar Co Ltd) K 20 million; Kambawza Bank Ltd K 11.5 million; Ayeya Shwewa Co Ltd K 5 million; Dr Zaw Tun-Daw Htay Htay (SSC) and U Shwe Kyaing (Wah Wah Win Construction) K 3 million each through Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Afterwards, U Aung Maw Thein (Gold Roast) and Tagun Football Club presented K 2.5 million each; U Aung Htwe (Golden Flower Construction) and U Kyaw Win (Shwe

Thanlwin Co) K 2 million each; Maung Waik Co K 5.5 million; U Kyaw Wai-Daw Swe Tha Zin (Aungkaungkyaw Co) and U Zaw Tun (Sun Tech), U Zaw Latt (Family Entertainment), U Yan Ho (Asia Metal Construction), U Aung Aung (Yedagon Co Ltd) and U Maung Maung (Shwe Kabar Construction) K 1 million each; U Aung Myint family, Myanmar Kaido Co Ltd, U Wai Soe-Daw Nann Lait family, U Maung Maung and brothers (Great Wall Traditional Medicine) and SPA Co Ltd K 500,000 each through Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn. Today's donation amounted to K

100.5 million.

Myanmar Football Federation Chairman U Zaw Zaw and Coach of Myanmar U-20 football team U Maung Han accepted the cash awards for the team presented by Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein. The team's Captain

Aung Myo Thant spoke words of thanks. After the ceremony, victorious Myanmar football team was hosted dinner. After the dinner, Secretary -1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party watched video documentary of the U-20 football team. — MNA



Victorious selected Myanmar soccer team. — MNA

Dr Khin Maung Win delivers a speech at the seminar on Hepatology Highlight 2005. (News on page 7) — MNA



Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(22-8-2005)

Maungtau	(1.69) inches
Toungoo and Bago	(1.57) inches
Hkamti	(1.54) inches
Shwegyin	(1.34) inches
Kyauktaw	(1.30) inches
Pyinmana	(0.24) inch
Aunglan	(0.20) inch


ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုးစာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊
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ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

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Statin use linked to lower prostate cancer risk

NEW YORK, 21 Aug— The use of cholesterol-lowering drugs called “statins,” which include drugs such as Lipitor and Pravachol, may cut the risk of aggressive forms of prostate cancer, researchers report in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*.

Recent reports have tied statin use to a reduced risk of various malignancies. However, only one study looked specifically at the association with prostate cancer and it found a statistically insignificant increase in risk with statin use.

In the present study, Dr Jackilen Shannon,

from Oregon Health & Sciences University in Portland, and colleagues compared statin use in 100 prostate cancer patients referred for biopsy and 202 men without prostate cancer but who shared characteristics with the patients. Data on statin use was obtained from an electronic pharmacy database.

Thirty-six per cent of cancer patients and 49 per cent of controls were statin users, the authors note. After accounting for other potential risk factors, statin use was tied to a 62-per-cent reduction in prostate cancer risk.

Further analysis

showed that after stratification by aggressiveness of the tumour, the inverse relationship between statin use and cancer risk only remained for men with aggressive tumour types.

The authors point out that further studies are needed to elucidate the mechanisms involved in the apparent anti-prostate cancer effect of statins.

“If our results are confirmed in a larger prospective study,” they conclude, “they may provide the evidence necessary to consider the use of statin drugs in prostate cancer prevention”.

MNA/Reuters

Brazil increases AIDS assistance to Sao Tome and Principe

BRASILIA, 21 Aug— Brazil will increase assistance to Sao Tome and Principe in the fight against the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) under a cooperation agreement renewed by their presidents, local Press said on Friday.

On Thursday, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva met with his Sao Tome and Principe counterpart

Fradique de Menezes here. The renewed agreement, first signed in 1984, undertakes to send Brazilian specialists to Sao Tome and Principe to train technicians in AIDS prevention and providing medicine to this African country.

During the meeting, Lula also said if the international community unites, it is possible to overcome political crisis,

to avoid wars and to reduce hunger and poverty.

He added concrete proposals to reduce hunger in the world will be submitted in September to the UN General Assembly meeting in New York.

On economy, Lula said Brazilian businessmen are interested in increasing investments in Sao Tome and Principe, especially in the oil sector.

MNA/Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (227)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA MUTIARA VOY NO (227) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (385)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (385) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EAGLE SHIPPING CO.**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

US Senator visits Libya

CAIRO, 21 Aug— A US delegation led by Senator Richard Lugar arrived in Libya late Friday in another step to normalize relations with the North African country, according to news dispatches from Tripoli.

During his two-day visit, Lugar, President of the Senate Foreign Affairs Commission, was scheduled to meet Libyan leader Moammar Kadaffi, according to Libyan officials.

Relations between the United States and Libya have improved dramatically after Tripoli accepted responsibility for the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am passenger plane over Lockerbie, Scotland, and agreed in December 2003 to give up the request for

weapons of mass destruction.

Last June, the United States opened a liaison office in Tripoli, marking the resumption of direct diplomatic relations between the two countries after a 24-year suspension.

Prior to Lugar’s trip, Stuart Levey, US Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence, went to Libya in June and met with Kadaffi to press Tripoli to take a tougher stance against terrorism financing and money laundering.

Kadaffi’s son, Seif al-Islam said in May that the two countries would open embassies in Washington and Tripoli toward the end of this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Mexico digs up Aztec sacrificial stone

MEXICO CITY, 21 Aug— Mexican archaeologists have dug past phone lines, electricity cables and a traffic light under chaotic city streets to excavate a large sculptured stone that was part of an Aztec sacrificial temple.

The Templo Mayor museum said on Friday the stone, dating from the 15th or 16th centuries and

shaped like a round “biznaga” cactus, was discovered last October in the centre of Mexico City.

It took 10 months to receive permission from a telephone company, an electricity utility, city hall and archaeological authorities to dig under the road to reach the stone, which is 31 inches high and 22 inches in diameter.—MNA/Reuters

PATENT CAUTION

Notice is hereby given that PANACEA BIOTEC LIMITED, a Company incorporated in India, of 102 Ashok Plaza, 24 School Lane, New Delhi-110001, India, is the Proprietor of the following Patents:-

(1) Patent entitled “Novel therapeutic injectable analgesic pharmaceutical composition containing Nimesulide 4-Nitro, 2 Phenoxyphenyl Methane Sulphonamide for intramuscular administration”.

(2) Patent entitled “A novel therapeutic anti-inflammatory and analgesic pharmaceutical composition containing Nimesulide 4-Nitro, 2 Phenoxyphenyl Methane Sulphonamide for use transdermally and a process for the manufacture thereof”, both registered in India under No. 1389/Del/95 dated July 25, 1995 and 2046/Del/95, 2047/Del/95 and 2048/Del/95 dated November 8, 1995, in Sri Lanka under No. 11012 and 11013 dated June 24, 1996 and in Myanmar by Declarations under No. 93/97 and No. 94/97 dated January 2, 1997 respectively.

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Win Mu Tin,
M.A., J.G.P., D.B.I.,
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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 23 August 2005.

China Aviation parent penalized for insider trading

SINGAPORE, 21 Aug— Singapore’s central bank has slapped an 8 million Singapore dollars (4.8 million US dollars) civil penalty on Beijing’s China Aviation Oil Holding Company (CAOHC) for selling shares in its Singapore unit a month before its November collapse.

CAOHC sold a 15-per-cent stake in China Aviation Oil (CAO) (Singapore) Corp Ltd on 20 October—a month before the firm imploded from 550 million US dollars derivatives trading losses in Singapore’s biggest trading scandal since the 1995 fall of Barings Bank. “The civil penalty action against CAOHC is a signal to the market that we expect all entities undertaking transactions in this jurisdiction to fully comply with Singapore law,” Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) Deputy Managing Director Shane Tregillis said on Friday.— MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီမှု ပိုမိုတိုးတက်လာ နိုင်စေရန် ကြိုးစားဆောင်ရွက်

Space shuttle back in Florida

CAPE CANAVERAL, 22 Aug— The space shuttle Discovery completed a cross-country ride atop a jumbo jet and returned to Florida on Sunday, nearly two weeks after finishing NASA's first mission since the 2003 Columbia accident.

After spending an extra day at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana because of poor weather, the shuttle landed at the Kennedy Space Center in central Florida about 10 am Eastern Time (1400 GMT) after riding piggyback on a specially modified Boeing 747 jet carrier.

The 100-ton shuttle and its jet carrier fly at about 15,000 feet (4,500 metres) — about half the altitude of commercial jet traffic.

"Discovery is back at KSC," NASA spokesman Bruce Buckingham said after the last, two-and-a-half-hour leg of the trip.

MNA/Reuters

Study shows brain cancer takes longterm toll on children

WASHINGTON, 21 Aug— Nearly a third of children who survive brain tumours need special education services later and many suffer from chronic discomfort such as headaches and nausea, US researchers reported on Friday.

Children given radiation to cure their cancers fared worse than those who had only surgery, but chemotherapy did not seem to worsen their fates, they found.

The report, published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology, adds to research showing that, while childhood cancer is usually curable, its effects can linger for decades and even a lifetime.

"We've been very focused on curing brain cancer, which we now do in about 68 per cent of the kids," said Pediatric Neurologist Dr Paul Fisher of Stanford University School of Medicine in California and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, who led the study.

"Now we're asking, 'OK, but what are the kids like? We're curing them, but at what cost?'"

Fisher and colleagues surveyed 134 former patients returning to Packard Children's Hospital for routine follow-up visits.

They asked the children and their parents about whether they had problems with common activities such as running or bathing, if they worried about the future, whether they were teased or had trouble in school.

The patients had a

median age of about 11 and for most it had been three years since they were diagnosed.

"Brain tumour patients tend to suffer a lot of cancer symptoms even after therapy," Fisher said.

"They often still have headaches, pain and nausea. Even though they may have a normal lifespan, their symptoms don't get better. But most people think, 'OK, they're fine

now. Everything should be back to normal'."

Children who had more aggressive or larger tumours were more impaired, and the use of radiation seemed to worsen the later problems — not surprising, as radiation must pass through healthy cells to reach a tumour.

The children know something is wrong.

MNA/Reuters



NASA workers wait to remove the space shuttle Discovery from the back of a modified Boeing 747 after it landed at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, on 21 August, 2005. — INTERNET

Tea, coffee production goes up in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 22 Aug— Tea and coffee production rose during last fiscal year (16 July, 2004 to 15 July, 2005) in Nepal, an official at the National Tea and Coffee Development Board (NTCDB) said here Sunday.

"The country that feels the dire need to promote cash crops to boost its agro-based economy saw a modest growth of 7.75 per cent in tea production, while production of coffee soared by 58 per cent in last fiscal year," Krishna Prasad Dhakal, executive director of NTCDB, a semi-governmental organization, told reporters.

The tea production for 2004/05 totalled to 12.5 million kilos, up from 11.6 million kilos recorded a year earlier, Dhakal noted, adding, "Likewise, the production of coffee during the year 2004/05 was recorded at 343 tons which production was registered at 217 tons in the previous fiscal year".

The tea plantation area grew by just 4.08 per cent to 15,734 hectares, up from 15,012 hectares and the coffee plantation area went up by 21.07 per cent to 925 hectares from 764 hectares of the previous fiscal year, Dhakal revealed.

MNA/Xinhua

Singapore pledges housing aid to low-income people

SINGAPORE, 22 Aug — Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Sunday the government would help low-income groups buy government-built apartments as the gap between rich and poor widens in the wealthy city-state.

Lee, who took office in August last year, said one-fifth of the country's 4.2 million population fall under the low income category and could qualify for housing grants.

"We will give lower-income household groups an extra leg up," he said at a rally marking the country's Independence Day.

The move comes at a time when unemployment is rising in Asia's second-richest country per capita and one month after the government relaxed rules on property financing and ownership to revive Singapore's stagnant property market.

Unemployment rose in the second quarter to a

seasonally adjusted 3.4 per cent from 3.3 per cent in the first three months of the year as a growing number of manufacturing jobs moves to low-cost countries such as China and India.

In March, US hard-disk drive maker Maxtor said it would close one of its two Singapore plants and move some 5,500 jobs to China, where labour costs are lower.

About 93 per cent of Singapore's population own their homes — the highest ownership level in Asia and one of the highest in the world — and about 80 per cent live in blocks of flats built and maintained by the government. — MNA/Reuters

HK specialists mull study on MP3 related hearing damage

HONG KONG, 22 Aug— Hong Kong hearing specialists are considering launching a study to find out if prolonged high-volume use of MP3 players can affect hearing.

Sunday's South China Morning Post reported that the plan follows a surge in the MP3 sales and an Australian report on the growing incidence of tinnitus — ringing in the ears — among young people.

Hong Kong hearing experts gave the warning

as more and more people pump up the volume of their players to block out the surrounding noise.

The Australian Government study indicated that nearly 25 per cent of the MP3 users in the country were damaging their ears by turning up the music to "excessive

and damaging levels".

Clinical audiologist for the OTIC Speech and Hearing Center Loretta Li Yuet-wing warned that turning the volume past the halfway mark is already too loud and the process of listening to MP3 player in the subway is also the proc-

ess of damaging ones' ears.

Li was cited as saying that "Hong Kong people are already predisposed to hearing losses because the rising level of noise pollution here and the fact the Cantonese is a loud language".

MNA/Xinhua

Fuel fire injures 14, wrecks homes in Philippines

MANILA, 22 Aug— More than a dozen people were injured and 80 homes destroyed when leaking fuel from a damaged tanker truck exploded in the Philippine capital on Sunday, a police official said.

Nicasio Radovan, the capital's central district police chief, said the incident appeared to be an accident. He said about 5,000 litres (1,110 gallons) of petrol spilled from a delivery truck that hit a large rock while turning a corner in Quezon City.

He said petrol gushing from the truck flowed into the sewage system

and exploded after several minutes, blowing out several concrete manholes and igniting a three-hour fire.

MNA/Reuters



SPORTS

Robinho scores twice in last home game for Santos

RIO DE JANEIRO, 22 Aug—Robinho celebrated his last home game for Santos by converting two penalties in a 4-3 Brazilian championship win over Figueirense on Sunday.



Brazilian Robinho gestures to fans at the start of his last match for Santos before his transfer to Spain's Real Madrid, in the Brazilian port city of Santos, on 21 August, 2005.—INTERNET

The Brazil international was greeted by dozens of children as he took the field for his last match at the Vila Belmiro stadium before he completes his move to Spanish side Real Madrid.

His teammates lifted him into the air as he celebrated his first goal while he knelt and kissed the pitch after converting the second.

Santos raced to a 4-0 lead in half hour with Robinho's two penalties and goals by Elton, who fired home a rebound after Ricardinho's shot hit the crossbar, and former Barcelona and Olympiakos midfielder Giovanni.

But the Brazilian champions suffered

a fright as struggling Figueirense replied with three goals in 13 minutes after halftime from Cleber, Michel Bastos and Edmundo. Cleber also hit the crossbar with a header in the 77th minute.

"I'm very happy," said Robinho, who has one more game to play for Santos away to Paysandu on Wednesday.

"I wanted to bid farewell to the Vila with a win."

Santos moved up to fourth in the table with 36 points from 21 games.

Corinthians, who have 39 points, stayed top as the competition reached its halfway stage after a late equalizer gave them a 1-1 home draw against second-placed Goias, who are two points behind.

Striker Souza's close-range effort gave Goias a tenth-minute lead which they held under Marcelo Mattos equalized in the 85th minute.

Atletico Paranaense avenged their Libertadores Cup final defeat to Sao Paulo by beating the same opponents 4-2 in a stormy match played in their Arena da Baixada stadium in Curitiba.

Paranaense were not able to use the stadium for their home leg of the Libertadores final because its 24,000 capacity was too small under competition rules. The match got off to a rough start as Sao Paulo defender Alex was sent off after 10 minutes for a vicious sliding tackle on Fabricio, who was stretchered off and is expected to be out for eight weeks with a knee injury.—MNA/Reuters

Drogba's fluke gives Chelsea 1-0 win over Arsenal

LONDON, 22 Aug—Champions Chelsea broke Arsenal's 10-year unbeaten league streak against their west London rivals on Sunday as Didier Drogba's fluke second-half goal gave them a 1-0 victory at Stamford Bridge.

It was Drogba's third goal this season against the Premier League runners-up after the two he put away in the season-opening Community Shield in Cardiff a fortnight ago.

The 73rd-minute strike also spoiled Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger's celebration of 500 matches in charge at Highbury.

Until the goal the match had been a dour affair between the two English heavyweights, neither side looking sharp in the warm early season sunshine.

It improved in the second half after Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho had brought on some 70 million pounds (126.3 million US dollars) worth of substitutes.

Last year's recruit Drogba replaced ineffective Heman Crespo, record 47 million US dollars Ghana midfielder Michael Essien made his debut coming on for Eidur Gudjohnsen and winger Shaun Wright-Phillips, captured from Manchester City, substituted Arjen Robben.

The game was settled when last year's footballer of the year Frank Lampard curled a free kick into the box from the right and the ball bounced off the on-rushing Drogba's knee and crept inside Jens Lehmann's near post. "It was a defensive mistake," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger told SkySports. "If you allow an opponent into a position to get lucky it's a defensive mistake."

"We had a lot of possession but we were not incisive enough. We had four chances to score and that should be enough to win a game like this."

Drogba could have rubbed salt into Arsenal's wounds in the dying seconds of the match when Lampard again sent him free but he lobbed tamely into the arms of Lehmann.

Arsenal's passing had looked slicker before the break, although they lacked any cutting edge and rarely threatened a Chelsea defence marshalled by immaculate skipper John Terry.

Their best chance came in the 77th minute when Thierry Henry forced Petr Cech to tip the ball wide of the Chelsea goal. The France striker also wasted two earlier opportunities when the score was still deadlocked.

Chelsea, the favourites to retain their crown, held out easily for their 39th consecutive match undefeated at home to join Tottenham Hotspur, Manchester United and Charlton Athletic at the top on six points.

MNA/Reuters



Chelsea's Arjen Robben, left, battles for the ball with Arsenal's Lauren during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge stadium in London, on 21 August, 2005. Chelsea won the match 1-0.—INTERNET

Stuttgart breathe sigh of relief against Hoffenheim

FRANKFURT, 22 Aug—VfB Stuttgart scraped through to the second round of the German Cup with a 4-3 extra-time win over amateur club TSG Hoffenheim on Sunday.

Stuttgart have taken just a point from their opening two Bundesliga matches and an early-season crisis looked on the cards for coach Giovanni Trapattoni when they fell 2-1 behind to the regional Third Division side at the end of the first half.

Jon Dahl Tomasson equalized in the 54th minute to send the match into extra-time, however, and goals from Croatia's Mario Carevic and Brazilian forward Cacau sent them clear.

Hoffenheim defender Matthias Orum pulled one back late in the game but Stuttgart held on for a much needed victory.

Cologne became the

first top-flight casualties when they went down 2-1 against Kickers Offenbach on Saturday.

Bayern Munich were beginning their Cup defence against MSV 1919

Neuruppin in one of Sunday's later games. Borussia Dortmund complete the first round action on Monday against Eintracht Braunschweig.

MNA/Reuters



Hoffenheim's Sandro Cescutti celebrates his goal during German Soccer Cup first round match against VfB Stuttgart in Hoffenheim, on 21 August, 2005.—INTERNET

Rangers romp to 3-1 Old Firm win over 10-man Celtic

GLASGOW, 22 Aug—Rangers beat 10-man Celtic 3-1 in the first Old Firm showdown of the season to move joint top of the Scottish Premier League on Saturday.

The visiting side suffered an awful first half with Alan Thompson sent off for a lunge from behind on Nacho Novo in the 23rd minute.

Celtic captain Neil Lennon was also red-carded at the final whistle for abusing the referee and

had to be hauled clear by teammate Paul Telford.

Dado Prso volleyed the opening goal when Marvin Andrews charged from the halfway line on 34 minutes before delivering a fine ball into the box for the Croatian striker to smash home. Early in the second half Thomas Buffel scored the decisive second before 49,699 fans at Ibrox.

Celtic hauled back a late penalty goal when Ian

Murray brought down Shaun Maloney who took the spot kick himself in the 85th minute to beat Dutch keeper Ronald Waterreus.

Rangers were awarded a penalty two minutes later when Stilian Petrov brought down Prso. Spaniard Novo squeezed his effort under Polish keeper Artur Boruc for the third to clinch equal top spot with Hearts on nine points from four games.

MNA/Reuters

Ajax beat RBC Roosendaal in delayed season opener

AMSTERDAM, 22 Aug—Ajax Amsterdam belatedly kicked off their Dutch First Division season with a 2-0 win at RBC Roosendaal on Saturday.

South African Steven Pienaar opened the scoring on 59 minutes after good work by young Swede Markus Rosenberg, who sealed the victory with five minutes to go when he converted a cross from Hatem Trabelsi.

Ajax's scheduled season opener last week against ADO Den Haag was postponed until January 7 following a court ruling. The Amsterdam club were blocked from hosting the game after mayor Job Cohen said his police force was overstretched and could not provide adequate security.

The Dutch football association announced Ajax would have to play the match last weekend behind closed doors at a neutral ground but Ajax launched a legal action against the KNVB and the city of Amsterdam, saying they would suffer an enormous loss of income. Heerenveen moved top of the table on four points by beating Roda JC Kerkrade in a 5-4 thriller.

An own goal from Boy Waterman and an effort by Arouna Kone put Roda two up before Ugur Yildirim pulled one back on the stroke of halftime.

Three Heerenveen goals in the first 12 minutes of the second half turned the match around and Klaas-Jan Huntelaar made it 5-2 with his second goal after 77 minutes.—MNA/Reuters

Spanish chopper probe rules out Afghan attack

MADRID, 22 Aug— Spanish investigators probing a helicopter crash in Afghanistan which killed 17 peacekeepers have ruled out the possibility that it was shot down, *El Pais* newspaper reported on Sunday.

The *Cougar* helicopter came down near the western city of Herat on Tuesday, killing all 17 troops who had been serving with the NATO-led International Security and Assistance Force

(ISAF). A second helicopter then carried out an emergency landing injuring five slightly.

Defence Minister Jose Bono said on Tuesday that the helicopter could have been downed

by an attack or an accident. A senior Taliban commander, Mullah Dadullah said guerillas had shot down the helicopter but offered no proof.

But on Sunday newspapers *El Pais* and *ABC*, which quoted sources at the National Intelligence Centre, said no indications of an attack had been found.

Herat is in a rela-

tively secure part of Afghanistan and the Taliban and its Islamic allies are less active there than in other parts of the country.

El Pais also said that investigators thought a technical fault was also unlikely to have caused the crash.

No one at the Defence Ministry could comment on the Press reports.—MNA/Reuters

Two killed, one missing in flood in central Turkey

IZMIR (Turkey), 22 Aug — Two children were killed and one woman was missing in flood triggered by heavy rainfall in central Turkey, semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Sunday.

The Haciaga River overflowed due to torrential rain Saturday night in Cadirardic hamlet of central Anatolian city of Yozgat, Cadirardic Mayor Ahmet Demirel was quoted as saying.

He said the two children were killed when their tent collapsed in flood. Efforts were continuing to search for the missing woman, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

U Aung Myint 77 years

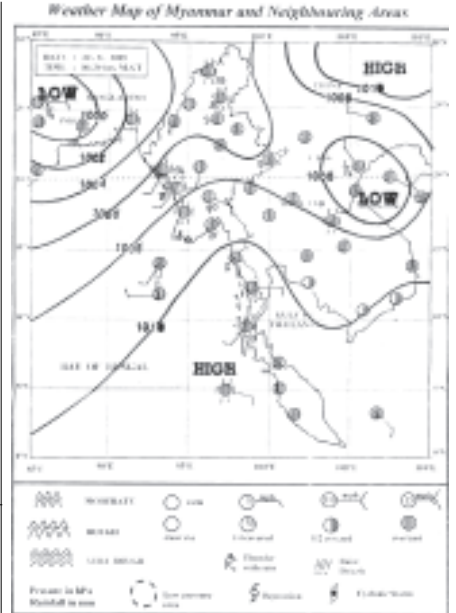
Residing at No 69, Tabin Shwe Htee Street, Ward 1, Mayangone Township, Bayintnaung and husband of Daw Byaw; father of Ko Aye Ko (AK Leather Products) - Ma Maw Maw Sein, Ko Hla Myint - Ma Khin Mar Nyo, Ko Htay Win - Ma Yin Myint, Ko Zaw Win - Ma Kyi Kyi Than, Ko Than Naing - Ma Khine May Yee and Ko Khin Maung Htay (Embassy of Japan, Yangon) passed away on 21 August, 2005.

Funeral service will be held at Htain Pin, Hlinethaya Township, at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, 23 August, 2005.

Cars will leave the above residence at 2:00 pm. **Bereaved family**



Joint Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of Hninzigon Home for the Aged Administrative Board accepts K 150,000 donated to the fund by U Tun Thein and Daw Khin Shwe (Thazin Copier) family of No 207, Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, recently.



WEATHER

Monday, 22 August, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and lower Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan and Chin States, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Rakhine State, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungtaw (1.69) inches, Toungoo and Bago (1.57) inches each, Hkamti (1.54) inches, Shwegyin (1.34) inches, Kyauktaw (1.30) inches, Pyinmana (0.24) inch and Aunglan (0.20) inch.

Maximum temperature on 21-8-2005 was 87°F. Minimum temperature on 22-8-2005 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 22-8-2005 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 21-8-2005 was 4.0 hrs approx. Rainfalls on 22-8-2005 were 0.16 inch at Mingaladon, 0.82 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.51 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 67.80 inches at Mingaladon, 70.35 inches at Kaba-Aye and 74.76 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 8 mph from Southwest at (11:30) hours MST on 21-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is generally moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23-8-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Chin, Kayah States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of thundery conditions in the Northern Myanmar area.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-8-2005: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-8-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 22-8-2005)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (816) cm. Although it is falling slightly, it may remain above the danger level (750) cm during the next (4) days commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1149) cm. Although it is falling slightly, it may remain above the danger level (1070) cm during the next (4) days commencing noon today.



Tuesday, 23 August

View on today:

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓမ္မ ဓမ္မတာဏှာဂါရိတာ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတာ၊ တန္တုသိရိန္ဒာ၊ တိပိဋသ(ယောဆရာတော်)ဇောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပဂါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

6. တရားနိဗ္ဗာန်ပုဂံ

8:00 am

7. အတိပျဉ်းပွဲ

8:10 am

8. Song of yesteryears

8:20 am

9. ဆွေးနွေးဆွေးနွေးလှည့်တစ်

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Let's Go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

4:45 pm

4. Dance of national races

5:00 pm

5. ၂၀၀၅ ရဲ့နှစ်၊ တေရသမ အကြိမ်(၁၃ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကအရေ၊ အတိပျဉ်းပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန်(မိမ္မုပစ္စည်း) (အခြေခံပညာ ၁၀-၁၅နှစ်) (အမျိုးသား)

5:15 pm

6. ခံစားနားဆင် တေးဇာတ်ဝင်

5:25 pm

7. သားငါးဖွံ့ဖြိုး ပြည်အဖွဲ့

5:35 pm

8. The mirror imges of musical oldies

5:45 pm

9. Sing and Enjoy

6:15 pm

10. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်း ဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်ခင်ဆော့ဇွေး ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်စိတ်လေး" (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

6:30 pm

11. Evening news

7:00 pm

12. Weather report

7:05 pm

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရွာနိမ္မိလေးရဲ့ ရွာပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၆)

7:35 pm

14. (၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် အလှူတောင်း အာရုံအားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (ကာယဓလ)

7:50 pm

15. သံလွင်တံတား(တာပါး)

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရုန်းသားနေပြည်" (အပိုင်း-၆)

20. The next day's programme



Tuesday, 23 August

Tune in today:

8:30 am

Brief news

8:35 am

Music: -Real life Perspectives

8:40 am

Music: -Dreams

8:45 am

National news/Slogan Music: -Ramalama Daisy

9:00 am

International news Music: -Remember me

1:30 pm

News/Slogan

1:40 pm

Lunchtime music -Missing you -Honey

9:00 pm

English Lesson Level II Unit (9)

9:15 pm

Article/Music

9:25 pm

Weekly sports reel

9:35 pm

Music for your listening pleasure -Everything

9:45 pm

News/Slogan

10:00 pm

PEL

Success of U-20 selected Myanmar youth team paves way for winning more achievements in international competitions

YANGON, 22 Aug— Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein this evening attended the ceremony to honour ASEAN U-20 Myanmar Youth Football team held at the Sedona Hotel on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and made a speech on the occasion.

On arrival at the hotel, the Secretary-1 was welcomed by manager and coaches of victorious Myanmar selected youth team and player.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, ministers, Chairman of Committee for Ensuring the Success of Myanmar Sports Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the Yangon Mayor, members



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein shakes hands with a player of Myanmar U-20 football team at a ceremony to honour the victorious Myanmar U-20 football Team. — MNA

of Myanmar Olympic Committee, deputy ministers, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of depart-

ment, officials from the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federa-

tion, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Sports Federation, athletes and guests. In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein

Sein said that winning a number of prizes in international sports competitions not only amounts to enhancing the standards of the State and the people

but also highlights the high standard of Myanmar sports.

He said that Myanmar football team, which was (See page 9)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on tour of Shan State (North)

YANGON, 22 Aug — Accompanied by officials, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence arrived in Mandalay by air on 19 August morning. Next, they inspected the plantations of monsoon paddy along Nawngkhio-Kyaukme-Lashio road and went to Lashio. Together with North East Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win met with officers and other ranks and their families at

the command.

On 19 August, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win attended the prize-presentation ceremony for outstanding students in Shan State (North) and met with departmental officials of the state. Also present on the occasion were national race leaders and members of social organizations. The commander reported on facts about the Shan State (North), unconditional exchange of arms for peace by national armed groups, drug elimination

tasks, opening of border camps, cultivation of various crops and social, economic, health and education matters. Deputy Commander also reported on giving cash assistance to students of the state. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and the commander next presented cash awards to outstanding students who passed the 2005 matriculation exam with distinctions. The deputy commander presented cash assistance to the students of colleges and (See page 8)

Grants termination of Global Fund against values and principles embodied in the UN Millennium Declaration Contradicts 8th UN millennium development goal which sets out to strengthen global partnerships

YANGON, 22 Aug— Country Coordinating Mechanism, Myanmar, on 19 August, issued a statement upon the decision by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria-GFATM to terminate the grants to Myanmar. The following is the full text of the statement:

Statement by Country Coordinating Mechanism, Myanmar, upon the decision by Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria-GFATM to terminate the grants to Myanmar 19 August 2005

1. In Myanmar, HIV-AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria have been three diseases of national concern. These diseases have been contributing to considerable morbidity and mortality annually in the country, as in other developing countries of South

East Asia. Under the guidance of the National Health Committee, the Ministry of Health together with a range of partners in the UN system, international and national non-governmental organizations, has been able to implement national prevention and control programmes for HIV-AIDS, TB and Malaria.

2. The Global Fund is an international, independent financing mechanism designed to help fund the fight against HIV-AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in countries in need. The Global Fund should therefore contribute to poverty reduction as part of the UN millennium development goals (MDGs).

3. Due to the national commitment in the fight against the three diseases, the Country Coordinating Mechanism, in which many partners came together

under the chairmanship of the Minister of Health, collectively developed proposals for funding to the Global Fund. In the rounds II and III, proposals were approved by Global Fund board on the recommendations of the independent international technical review panel.

4. Considerable time elapsed between approval of grants, signing of grant agreements and disbursement of funds for all three components. For example, the TB component was approved in February 2003, the TB grant was signed in August 2004, and funds were disbursed in January 2005 only. CCM immediately began to work on implementing approved proposals but delays in Global Fund resulted in time lapses.

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