

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Friday, 26 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

## All-out efforts being made for development of all parts of the nation with momentum

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

YANGON, 25 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, inspected

opium substitute crops plantations of regiments and units of Tangyan Station on 22 August morning.

Col Khin Maung Myint of Tangyan Station explained cultivation of 200 acres of honey orange plantation and vegetable plantations in the station area.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party oversaw nurturing of 10,000 coffee saplings and other crops. They also viewed round vegetable plantations of Tatmadaw families at regiments and units of the station.

On arrival at 500 highland reclamation project site of the regi-

ments and units of the station near Tangyan-Lashio Road, Col Khin Maung Myint reported on allotment of cultivable land to regiments and units for growing maize, groundnut, pigeon pea, sunflower, sesame and perennial crops in the project area. The commander gave a supplementary report.

They viewed sample paddy strains for 500 acres of highland farmland and thriving crops.

At Mankat Village BEHS in Tangyan Township, they presented school stationery to the students. At Mankat Station, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on participation of family members in carrying out cultivation and livestock breeding on a manageable scale.

They met with local authorities and officials at 10 acres of model monsoon paddy plantation in Tangyan Township near Tangyan-Lashio Road, and gave instructions on nurturing the sample plots.

In Mongyai, they met departmental officials, social organizations and local people at the town hall. Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Myint Tin reported on the education, health, social,

cultivation and other matters of the township. The commander and officials gave supplementary reports.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that as all-out efforts are being made for development of all parts of the nation with momentum for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation, departmental personnel are to harmoniously take part in the

(See page 8)

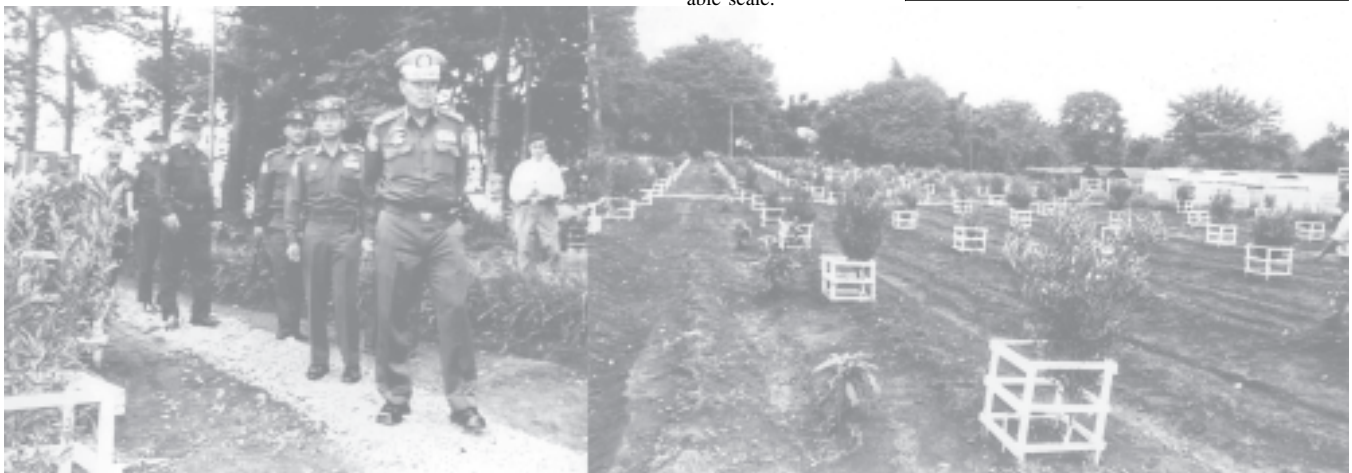
**Cultivation of monsoon paddy and other crops in Mongyai Township contributes to food sufficiency of Shan State (North) to some extent. Service personnel are to strive with might and main for development of their respective townships and make field trips to the grassroots level.**

### INSIDE

*A major concern of the Federation is trafficking in persons, especially the loathsome crime of luring women and children for trafficking. Human trafficking is not a new crime, it is a modern form of slavery, which flourished in the whole world for many centuries in the past.*

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MYO LAY



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects 200 acres of honey orange plantation in Tangyan Station. — MNA

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

# PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 26 August, 2005

## Raise the momentum of regional development work

For parallel development of each and every region across the Union of Myanmar, the government has designated 24 regions as special development regions and is building all the necessary infrastructures in all these areas and at the same time is carrying out the five rural development tasks as well as the development work for national people in the border areas.

Since the government has succeeded in strengthening the national unity, peace and stability is prevailing in all regions of the Union. As a result, the government can focus special attention on the building of infrastructures for the development of national races and improvement of their living standard.

Now that leaders of national races and local people, under the leadership of the government, are unitedly putting their energies into regional development work, the number of schools, clinics, hospitals and blocks of flats are increasing day by day in border areas. In the past, local farmers of some border areas relied on the cultivation of poppy for their living but now they can successfully engage in cultivation of poppy-substitute crops and other cash crops and livestock breeding.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by responsible personnel, visited Lashio on 20 August and inspected the plantations of poppy-substitute crops and regional development work being carried out in Shan State (North).

Shan State (North) has a population of more than 2.3 million and thanks to the united efforts of regional authorities, departmental personnel and local farmers, the state has now become more and more self-sufficient in food production, 83 per cent self-sufficiency in 2002-2003 and 103.16 per cent in 2004-2005 to say exactly. It is due to the successful production of high-yield Hsinshweli hybrid paddy and multiple and mixed cropping.

Shan State (North) places special emphasis on agriculture. One of the local battalions of North-East Command has grown honey orange, soya bean, sunflower, Hsinshweli corn and lychee. Moreover, Hsinshweli corn has been cultivated on 1,000 acres and coffee on 100 acres.

It is due to stronger unity among the national brethren that the government is being able to work steadfastly for regional development and higher living standard of the people. At such a time like this, we would like to call on regional authorities and local people to work in concert for regional development and all-round national development for the sake of the nation, their region and their own.

## နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ်လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)နှင့်  
နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်း  
အတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန်လိုအပ်သည့် ကိစ္စရပ်  
များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ ဖြစ်သည်။  
၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဩဂုတ်လအတွက်  
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၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ စက်တင်ဘာလအတွက်  
(၁၁-၉-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့  
နှင့်  
(၂၅-၉-၂၀၀၅) ရက်နေ့

# People's Desire

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

## Vice-Chairman Sayadaw to administer Nine Precepts on TV

YANGON, 25 Aug — Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Thayet Aungmingala Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Kammathanaçariya Bhaddanta Kesara will administer the Nine Precepts on TV after the morning programmes of TV Myanmar on Saturday, 27 August.— MNA

## Information Minister receives Korean guests

YANGON, 25 Aug — Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received Korean Broadcasting Production Corporation (KBPC) Chairman Mr Lim Jung-Kyu and party at the ministry on Theinbyu Road this morning.

Also present at the call were heads and officials of departments and enterprises under the ministry.— MNA

*Korean delegation led by Mr Lim Jung-Kyu of KBPC calls on Information Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan.— MNA*

# MYANMAR GAZETTE

YANGON, 25 Aug — The State Peace and Development Council has appointed the following persons as heads of service organizations shown against each from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Names	Appointments
(a) U Ohn Than General Manager Myanma Agriculture Service Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	Managing Director Myanma Agriculture Service Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
(b) U Thein Tun Principal Mandalay Cooperative College Ministry of Cooperatives	Principal Yangon Cooperative Degree College Ministry of Cooperatives
(c) U Than Aye Associate Professor Yangon Cooperative Degree College Ministry of Cooperatives	Principal Mandalay Cooperative College Ministry of Cooperatives

MNA



## UMFCCI General Secretary receives guests

YANGON, 25 Aug— General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry received Third Secretary and Vice-Consul Mr Pablito A Mendoza at UMFCCI office yesterday.

Director Mr Ranjana Abeysekera of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Asia and the Pacific Region also called on the secretary general and executives of UMFCCI on the same day.

MNA



UMFCCI General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing meeting WIPO guest.— MNA

## Symposium on "An Update on Antimicrobials" on 3 September

YANGON, 25 Aug— Symposium on "An Update on Antimicrobials" organized by Myanmar Medical Association will be held at the auditorium of MMA on 3 September, 2005. Those interested are invited to attend the symposium and on site registration is available.— MNA



PROJECT MANAGER TRAINING COURSE OPENED: IT Project Manager Training Course, 2005 FY was opened on 24-8-2005 at MICT Park in Hline Township. The course was sponsored by Centre of the International Cooperation for Computerization-CICC of Japan and Myanmar Computer Federation.— MNA

# Chinese Vice FM to visit Japan

**BEIJING, 24 Aug** — Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Wu Dawei will visit Japan on the next phase of the fourth round six-party talks on Korean Peninsula nuclear issue, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan here on Tuesday.

Wu Dawei, also the Chinese delegation's head to the fourth round of six-party talks, will visit Japan from Tuesday through Friday, said Kong.

During this visit, Wu will carry on consultations with Japan's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Nishida Tsuneo

about Sino-Japanese relations and other issues of common concern, said Kong.

Wu will also talk with Sasae Kenichiro, Japan's chief negotiator to the six-party talks, on the next stage of the fourth round of six-party talks, according to Kong.

The fourth round of six-party talks entered recess on August 7 after a 13-day discussions. The six countries — China, North Korea, the United States, South Korea, Russia and Japan — agreed to resume the talks in the week of 29 August.

MNA/Xinhua

## Indochina agrees to boost anti-durg cooperation

**HANOI, 24 Aug** — Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia have reached a broad consensus on beefing up cooperation to combat cross-border drug trafficking, according to Vietnamese newspaper *People* on Wednesday.

At the fifth meeting on drug prevention and fight among the three countries on Tuesday, the delegates stressed the need to strengthen anti-drug cooperation at both central and grassroots levels, especially provinces and districts sharing their borders.

The delegates also urged closer cooperative ties at the bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international levels to curb the spread of amphetamine-type stimulants. They agreed to request the United Nations Office

on Drug and Crime to offer the three countries financial and technical assistance via anti-narcotic projects, especially those on stepping up their drug control cooperation.

At the one-day meeting, Lao Deputy Prime Minister said his government has targeted to root out the cultivation of opium poppies by late 2005, and then detoxify some 20,000 drug addicts in the 2005-2006 period. The delegates agreed to hold the sixth meeting in Vietnam in 2006. MNA/Xinhua

## Indonesia attaches great importance to APEC

**JAKARTA, 24 Aug** — The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) remains a relevant forum for Indonesia to take economic advantages from regional cooperation and to strengthen its role in regional interactions, Indonesian officials said here on Tuesday.

"I'm a true believer of APEC. We need to develop and empower APEC for our own interests in the region," Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu said in a seminar here.

MNA/Xinhua



A model presents Panasonic brand products maker Matsushita Electric Industrial Co's new 65-inch plasma television "VIERA TH-65PX500" at an unveiling in Tokyo on 25 August 2005.— INTERNET

## Beijing students to get better prepared for Olympics

**BEIJING, 24 Aug**— Students of Beijing primary and high schools will learn more about Olympic Games and how to behave in social and international communications in the coming school term, said the Beijing Education Committee (BEC) recently.

Etiquettes and manners at home, school or on social and international occasions will be taught to Beijing students from September. A set of books named Student Etiquettes will be part of their course books, according to the BEC.

Besides, Beijing students will receive booklets on Olympic Games at the beginning of their autumn semester. Olympic lessons, reports and other activities will also be arranged to better prepare them for the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

Among these activities, "one school one nation" will match a Beijing school with an Olympic member nation. Students at this school will learn about culture and language of that nation and make connections with it, said the

BEC. By now, Beijing primary and high schools have connections with more than 20 foreign countries and regions. Some Beijing students will start to learn some Spanish or Greek next semester in their Olympic studies and they will also receive training on how to be an Olympic volunteer.

MNA/Xinhua

## Six die, hundreds flee as Alpine floods spread

**ZURICH, 24 Aug** — Three people died and hundreds of people were evacuated from their homes as Switzerland and its neighbours struggled with flooding after days of torrential rainfall in the northern Alps.

As swollen Alpine rivers fed waterways in neighbouring countries, rivers burst their banks in Austria and Germany on Tuesday and mudslides blocked roads and railway tracks.

One person was killed when a swollen stream tore down eight houses in the central Swiss city of Brienz and a second flooding victim was found drowned in a river in another town.

In southern Tyrol in

Austria, a rockslide caused by the flooding killed one man.

The total death toll now stands at six, as two Swiss firefighters died in a mudslide on Monday, when floods spread from

the Bernese Alps in central Switzerland to the city of St Gallen in the northeast. One Austrian died on Sunday.

A further two people were reported missing in Switzerland on Tuesday, one of them a woman swept away by a river in the eastern canton (state) of Grisons.

Swiss television showed pictures of bridges that had collapsed, huge chunks of motorways that had caved in, farms swept away by mudslides and people being evacuated by boat through normally busy city streets.

Electricity was cut off and drinking water contaminated in several parts of Switzerland. Villages were cut off as roads were swept away and railways stopped services.

MNA/Reuters

## Poll shows Americans

### sometimes feel misled by military

**CHICAGO, 24 Aug** — Americans have become considerably less confident in the information they receive from the military, a sign the Iraq war has heightened public scepticism, the sponsors of a poll released on Wednesday said.

Seventy-seven percent of Americans polled believe the military occasionally misleads the media and 60 percent said they feel they have received too little information to make informed decisions about military matters, according to the McCormick Tribune Foundation/Gallup Poll.

"These results likely reflect Americans' dissatisfaction with the public debate about Iraq before the decision was made to go to war," said Mark Hallett, interim journalism program director, McCormick Tribune Foundation.

"Scepticism among the military, media and public should be ex-

pected," he said. The foundation released the poll to coincide with a meeting of journalists and military officials aimed at improving understanding. The poll of 1,016 adults conducted between May 31 and June 16 had a margin of error of 4 percentage points.

Americans were considerably less confident in the information they received compared to a similar poll in 1999.

Fifty-four percent said the military kept them well informed compared to 77 percent in 1999, and 61 percent felt the media kept them well informed versus 79 percent in 1999.—INTERNET



Iraqis look at the scene after a car bomb explosion in the Hay al-Jamma district in west Baghdad on 24 August, 2005.—INTERNET

## Japan's population may shrink faster than expected

**TOKYO, 24 Aug—** Deaths exceeded births in Japan by 31,034 in the first half of the year, the Health Ministry said on Tuesday, raising the possibility that the population will start to shrink in 2005, two years earlier than previously forecast.

Japan's falling birth rate and ageing population have fuelled concerns about future growth in the world's second-largest economy, and experts have previously said the population was likely to start shrinking in 2007.

Preliminary figures released by the ministry, however, showed that the number of deaths totalled 568,671 in the first half of this year, outpacing the number of births, which stood at 537,637 during the same period.

"This is the first time that we've ever recorded this kind of drop in the population during the first half of the year," a ministry official said. But he was wary of making predictions for the rest of the year, adding that it was

impossible to say whether the half-year figures mean the overall population will shrink.

The "natural population" decrease was blamed partly on a flu epidemic that caused 100,000 deaths a month during January-March, although there were also 2,400 to 5,800 fewer births each month during the first half of the year compared with the year-earlier period.

Japan's total population stood at 126,869,397 as of 31 March, according to a government report published late last month. Immigration is a negligible factor as Japan's Government remains leery of widely opening the door to foreigners.

The ageing population has raised concerns about the sustainability of Japan's pension system, which the government is trying to reform by cutting benefits and raising the contribution rate for individuals. Japan's fertility rate—the average number of children a woman bears in her lifetime—hit a post-war low of 1.288 in 2004. Demographers generally consider a level of 2.1 as the "replacement rate" needed to keep a population from declining.

Late marriages and a growing number of people choosing to stay single are often cited to explain the declining fertility rate, along with the high cost of education, crowded housing and long working hours.—MNA/Reuters

## Vietnam's farm, forestry, fishery product exports expected to rise

**HANOI, 25 August 25** — Vietnam is expected to export nearly 6 billion US dollars' worth of agriculture, forestry and fishery products this year, posting a year-on-year increase of 9.4 per cent.

To this end, the country is focusing on building brands, registering product trademarks, improving quality, further tapping traditional markets such as China, the United States, Japan, and the European Union, and seeking new outlets, according to the Vietnamese Trade Ministry on Wednesday.

Vietnam shipped abroad 3.4 billion dollars' worth of the products in the first 7 months of this year. Items recording high export growth rates included fruits and vegetables, increasing 40.6 per cent to 138 million dollars; rice, up 35.9 per cent to 869 million dollars; cashew nuts, up 19.5 per cent to 244 million dol-

lars, and seafood, up 6.2 per cent to 1.3 billion dollars.

The country has targeted to earn 11 billion dollars from shipping abroad agriculture, forestry and fishery products, including 7 billion dollars from farm and forestry items and 4 billion dollars from seafood, in 2010.

MNA/Xinhua



An Iraqi policeman stands near the wreckage after a car bomb exploded in west Baghdad on 24 August, 2005. — INTERNET



A house is burnt after a forest fire in Miranda Do Corvo near Coimbra, central Portugal on 24 August, 2005. Water-dumping aircraft from around Europe battled on Tuesday to help drought-hit Portugal contain raging forest fires that have killed at least 14 people.—INTERNET

## Artificial rain programme in Sumatra to begin soon

**JAKARTA, 24 Aug—** Authorities from Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore will soon launch a joint cloud-seeding operation over hot spots in the north of Indonesia to induce rain aimed at curbing troubling forest fires in the region.

The 10-day operation was supposed to start on Monday, but unfavourable weather conditions forced authorities to postpone the plan. The *Jakarta Post* newspaper reported on Tuesday.

"This artificial rain really depends on the weather conditions. If the weather is not favourable, then we'll have to postpone the cloud-seeding because of the huge cost involved," Asep Karsidi, the head of the artificial rain unit at the Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPP), was quoted as saying.

Cloud-seeding involves releasing a salt solution to try to accelerate the formation of rain-produc-

ing clouds. It has been tried in the past with mixed results, and many scientists have questioned its efficacy.

"We carried out this kind of operation in 1997 and 2000 with mixed results. This time we'll try it again," Asep said. Fires set by farmers, plantation owners and miners taking advantage of the dry season to clear land have raged out of control in recent weeks, with much of the acrid smoke blowing across the narrow Strait of Malacca to Malaysia.

Air pollution levels in large parts of Malaysia, including the capital city Kuala Lumpur, reached hazardous levels for about

10 days before dissipating with changing winds and rain.

Major Aldrin Petrus Mongan of the Indonesian Air Force said four *C-130 Hercules* aircraft participated in the operation. Indonesia deployed two, while two more came from Malaysia and Singapore.

Aldrin said each aircraft carried between 23 and 25 crew members. Malaysia has also deployed 125 fire-fighters to help battle forest fires in Sumatra.

The aircraft will fly over fire-ravaged forest areas in Riau, North Sumatra, Jambi, and West Kalimantan.

MNA/Xinhua

## Car bomb explodes in western Baghdad

**BAGHDAD, 25 Aug—** A powerful car bomb explosion and heavy gunfire were heard in Baghdad's western district of Jameaa on Wednesday, police said.

The blast targeting police checkpoint took place at about 3:00 p.m. (1100 GMT) near Mulla Huwash Mosque in al-Rabie Street, an Interior Ministry source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

MNA/Xinhua

## Mothers of Iraq soldiers join Idaho protest at Bush speech

**NAMPA, 23 Aug—** Idaho's Brenda Mansell (MAN'-sell) of Boise kissed her 20-year-old son goodbye yesterday afternoon as the Marine left for his second tour of duty in Iraq.

This morning, she stood outside the Idaho Center in Nampa with about 150 other protesters calling on President Bush to bring her son home.

Mansell says Bush has yet to give "concrete answers" why her son and other members of the US military were sent to Iraq.

The anti-war demonstration was the fifth in

Idaho since Bush arrived in the state Monday to vacation before addressing military members and their families this morning at the arena in the Boise suburb.

Idaho Peace Coalition Director Liz Paul said the hundreds of participants at the events demonstrate that support for the President's plan of continued occupation of Iraq is waning.—Internet

# UN warns of possible Indonesia polio epidemic

**JAKARTA, 24 Aug — Indonesia's polio outbreak could develop into an epidemic with the onset of the wet season, a UN official said on Tuesday, one week before the start of a campaign to vaccinate 24 million children nationwide.**

Polio returned in May to Indonesia, which had been free of the water-borne disease since 1995.

The outbreak first hit villages near the West Java city of Sukabumi and spread to adjacent provinces. The number of cases has now hit 225, with the latest — in the outer province of Lampung Province on Sumatra Island — prompting the mass vaccination drive.

According to the UN World Health Organization (WHO), no deaths have been reported from the current

polio outbreak, but officials are conducting an investigation into the death of a 25-year-old man in Jakarta who had been infected with the virus

"The difference between the current situation and an epidemic is very subtle. I think you can say if there were on going transmissions across a wide area that would be more provinces and more cases. It would be defined as an epidemic," David Hipgrave of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) told reporters.

MNA/Reuters



Australian Mark Spicer holds a parachute for Lorraine Duff as she makes her first ever BASE jump from a bridge in Twin Falls, Idaho recently.

INTERNET

## Macao receives 10.5 million visitors in first seven months

MACAO, 24 Aug—Macao recorded 10.58 million visitor arrivals in the first seven months of this year, up 14.4 per cent year-on-year, according to official statistics issued here on Monday.

The figures from the Statistics and Census Service showed that the number of one-day visitors made up 52.4 per cent of all arrivals between January and July.

The Special Administrative Region, in July alone, reported 1.66 million visitor arrivals, a year-on-year rise of 9.3 per cent. The number of visitors from the Mainland made up 54.8 per cent of all arrivals, and those from Hong Kong 31.3 per cent and Taiwan 8.3 per cent.— MNA/Xinhua

## 2005 poised to be a landmark year for civil aviation in India

**KOLKATA, 24 Aug — The year 2005 is poised to be a landmark for the country's civil aviation in general and airport infrastructure development in particular with plans for airports in New Delhi, Mumbai and 25 non-metropolitan airports.**

Ten of the 25 non-metro airports have already been identified for development on a turn-key basis in the first phase, president of the Society of Indian Aerospace Technologies and Industries (SIATI) Dr C G Krishnadas Nair said.

While Delhi and Mumbai airports are being upgraded infrastructure for non-metro airports are being improved, Nair added.

With 126 airports being managed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), the traffic growth rate over the past two quarters was around 20 to 24 per cent.

Stating that the recent years had seen a dramatic rise in passengers and cargo traffic, Nair said that Indian airports had to be upgraded quickly if they are to be made capable to handle it.

Then there would be the need to handle security

of passengers and cargo effectively.

Speaking about cargo traffic growth in the country, Nair said that by 2017 Indian airports were expected to handle one million tons cargo annually.

Nair said that the approval of two greenfield international airport projects in Bangalore and Hyderabad would create a need for consultancy and implementation services in the areas of airport infrastructure and airport security.

Stating that the government was active in evolving a policy framework for the development of the aviation sector, Nair said that some of the most significant developments undertaken by it included deregulation of the domestic airline market, inviting private participation in the development of airport infrastructure and modernization of the air traffic system.

MNA/PTI

## Vietnam sees higher consumer price index

**HANOI, 24 Aug — Vietnam's consumer price index (CPI) is estimated at 0.4 per cent in August, raising that of the first 8 months of this year to 6 per cent, according to the General Statistics Office on Tuesday.**

The hike is mainly attributed to soaring prices of petroleum products, which raised this month's prices of all 10 commodities and services used in calculating CPI, index of prices used to measure the change in the cost of basic goods and services in comparison with a fixed base period, by 0.1-0.9 per cent against last month.

Specifically, cost of transport and postal services rose by 0.9 per cent, and those of education services and construction materials 0.6 per cent.

Vietnam's CPI is expected to reach 7.5 per cent by the year-end, compared with the target of 6.5 per cent set by the National Assembly. The country recorded CPI of 9.5 per cent last year. — MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

## China to lower registered assets limitation to companies

BEIJING, 24 Aug—The revised amendment draft of China's Law on Corporation submitted to Chinese top legislature has cut the minimum limitation of registered assets of stock companies by half, aiming to encourage investment.

According to the draft tabled for the 17th session of the Standing Committee of the 10th National People's Congress on Tuesday, the minimum limitation of registered assets of stock companies was cut to five million yuan (610,000 US dollars) from the current 10 million yuan (1.22 million US dollars). The draft has also reduced the minimum of registered assets of limited corporations from 100,000 yuan (12,200 US dollars) to 30,000 yuan (3,659 US dollars).



Supporters of Iraqi cleric Moqtada al-Sadr show their support during a demonstration in Najaf on 25 August, 2005. —INTERNET

## Three Egyptian policemen wounded in Sinai blast

ISMAILIA (Egypt), 25 Aug — An explosion damaged an armoured vehicle and wounded at least three Egyptian policemen in Sinai on Wednesday during a search for the group which bombed Red Sea resorts over the past year, security officials said.

"The explosion was strong and appears to have come from a land mine which blew up under the vehicle," said one security source, who asked not to be named. Some 3,500 police with 20 armoured vehicles are taking part in the operation.

The explosion took place in the northeast region of the Sinai Peninsula, in an area south of the town of El Arish, the hometown of many of the named suspected members of the group.

It was not clear if the mine was planted recently or left over from past wars. Parts of Sinai still have mines from the 1960s, when Israeli forces occupied the peninsula.

The security source said three policemen were wounded, but an Interior Ministry official, who also asked not to be named, put the number of wounded policemen at six.

The ministry official also said there had been clashes with fugitives on Wednesday during the search, which began on Tuesday at dawn in the area of Mount Halal, 60 kilometres (37 miles) south of El Arish. Two policemen were wounded in clashes on Tuesday.

MNA/Reuters

## ADB helps Vietnam achieve universal secondary education

**MANILA, 24 Aug**—The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will assist Vietnam to achieve universal secondary education, through a technical assistance (TA) grant approved for 600,000 US dollars, said an ADB news release on Monday.

The TA, cofinanced by the Japan Special Fund (JSF) and the Government of Denmark, will help formulate an updated plan covering 2006-2010 that will serve as the baseline policy and investment programme for all aid agencies active in secondary education. The JSF is financed by the Government of Japan.

The TA will develop a more comprehensive programme covering both lower and upper secondary education in

Vietnam.

While the national average enrollment rates have improved in Vietnam, gender and income disparity in access to schooling is still evident at secondary level.

In 2001, ADB helped Vietnam formulate an education plan for 2001-2010, which stresses policy options for expanding and modernizing lower secondary education.

MNA/Xinhua



A pair of cubs, born from a lion and a female tiger, drink milk at a wildlife park in Haikou, China's Hainan Province, on 23 August, 2005.— INTERNET

## 81,000 Malaysians may be infected with AIDS

**KUALA LUMPUR, 24 Aug**— As many as 81,000 Malaysians could have contracted HIV/AIDS with the situation in the country reaching generalized epidemic proportions, according to the United Nations.

The UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Asia, Dr Nafis Sadik said as many as 81,000 Malaysians may have been infected with the virus.

"Malaysia should implement a surveillance system that would give a cross sectional profile of the infection in the population," she said.

The Health Ministry has reported that about 65,000 Malaysians had been diagnosed with HIV since 1996, the *New Straits Times* reported.

A generalized epidemic is when HIV spreads beyond the high risk behaviour population groups. It also means the prevalence of HIV among pregnant women is above 1 per cent, the paper said.

MNA/PTI

## Siamese twin girls born in Shanghai

**SHANGHAI, 25 Aug**—A woman from east China's Zhejiang Province on Wednesday gave birth to siamese twin girls in Shanghai who share one vagina.

The twins weigh 4,380 grammes together. The babies have been transferred safely from the Maternity Hospital affiliated to Shanghai Fudan University to the university's Pediatrics Hospital.

Doctors in the hospital are contemplating a separation operation. Professor Xiao Xianmin said the twins share a common celiac and pelvic cavity. One of the girls suffers from inborn heart disease, and the other has stricture of pulmonary artery and an unclosed arterial duct. —MNA/Xinhua

## Over 400 Iraqi physicians slain or kidnapped

**BAGHDAD, 24 Aug**— More than 400 Iraqi physicians have been assassinated or kidnapped since the former regime of Saddam Hussein was toppled, the *Al Sabah* newspaper reported on Monday.

"More than 52 physicians were assassinated in planned operations by terrorists that have connections outside Iraq since the former regime was toppled, and more than 348 specialists and teaching physicians were kidnapped and extorted during the same period," a source in the Iraqi Health Ministry was quoted by the paper as saying.

Iraq, which is now on the threshold of ushering a first draft Constitution for the country after war, has been ravaged by a two-year social turbulence since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

## China has nearly 13 million female CPC members

**BEIJING, 24 Aug**— Women membership in the Communist Party of China (CPC) reached 12.956 million in 2004, accounting for 18.6 per cent of all CPC members, an increase of 3 percentage points over 1995, says a white paper on gender equality and women's development.

Women accounted for 18 per cent of all delegates to the 16th CPC National Congress held in 2002, an increase of 1.2 percentage points over the previous Congress, says the white paper, issued by the Information Office of the State Council on Wednesday.

Of the members of the 16th CPC Central Committee, 7.6 per cent are women (as either members or alternate members), an increase of 0.3 percentage

points from the previous congress, it says.

Meanwhile, women membership is relatively high in the eight democratic parties, exceeding 30 per cent in seven of them.

At present, four of the vice-chairpersons of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, the top advisory body of the country, are women. — MNA/Xinhua

## Birth rate falls in Zimbabwe

**HARARE, 24 Aug**— Zimbabwe's fertility rate seems set to continue dropping further towards the replacement levels of an average of a little over two children born to each woman, according to the Central Statistical Office.

Fertility rates in Zimbabwe were close to eight children per woman in the 1960s and had dropped marginally to around

seven by independence in 1980 and then started falling fast, to 5.4 by the early 1990s and to 3.6 by 2002, in the last census, local newspaper *The Herald* reported on Monday.

The population of Zimbabwe on census day was 11,631,657 people, very close to the initial figure of 11,634,663 published in December 2002, the report said.

The rate of natural in-

crease in the year before census day in August 2002 was 1.3 per cent.

This rate excludes the effects of migration, in or out of Zimbabwe, and is based purely on the difference between crude birth rates and death rates.

The dramatic drop in the population growth rate is largely due to the drop in birth rates rather than a rise in death rates.

MNA/Xinhua

## Oil price rises as Iraq spurs supply worries

**NEW YORK, 24 Aug**— Oil inched higher on Tuesday after a power failure that halted exports from Iraq's Basra terminal reminded traders about the vulnerability of crude production.

US light crude settled at 65.71 US dollars a barrel, up six cents, after falling as low as 64.65 US dollars. London Brent crude rose 15 cents to 64.65 US dollars a barrel. A shipping source said loadings and exports from Iraq's southern Basra oil terminal could return later on Tuesday after the power glitch, but any supply crimp can push up the market in the face of rising global demand.

"Overall, energy prices remain extremely sensitive to any sort of supply disruption," said a report from Refco. "We expect crude to trade a volatile range in the mid-60 US dollars until more demand

data become available." Dealers were reminded that Iran, the world's fourth largest oil producer, could be a flashpoint after talks broke down between Europe and Teheran over its atomic work. Iran risks United Nations sanctions if it presses on with its nuclear programme. In Ecuador, which supplies crude mainly to California, output is still cut by protests last week. Production has recovered to about 80 per cent of its normal 530,000 barrels per day level after protesters came close to making a deal with the government on Monday.

Oil hit a peak earlier this month of 67.10 US dollars per barrel. The looming end of the peak driving season in the United States after the September 5 Labour Day holiday and worries that oil prices could eat into economic growth kept a lid on gains. — MNA/Reuters



Animal health worker makes tests on a slain wild duck near the Siberian village Bolshiye Prudy 100 km (62 miles) north of Krasnoyarsk, on 24 August, 2005. The bird flu virus which has swept six Russian regions has been found in a wild duck in another Siberian province, officials said on Wednesday, but the agriculture minister said that its spread had been curbed. INTERNET

# Hands that nurture flowers

Myo Lay

Metta is the willingness to serve others' interest with goodwill. The Metta Sutta discoursed by the Buddha refers to maternal love. With might and main, women saints who uphold loving kindness are working for the betterment of fellow women representing over half the nation's population, and the tasks cover ensuring life security, and protection and nurturing of women. So I would like to honour them as the gardeners whose hands nurture flowers.

Nowadays, the Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation is playing a leading role in developing the women's sector. The MWF is also laying down future work programmes covering the tasks of eliminating violence against women and trafficking in women and children, protecting women from falling victim to violence and trafficking and rehabilitating the victims. And the MWF formed the Working Group of Protecting and Rehabilitating Women, with the aim of implementing the programmes under its leadership.

Violence against women is not a widespread social problem in Myanmar. But the MWF is giving priority to the problem as it may have evil consequences harmful to health and progress of women. Violence can be divided into two sectors — physical and mental. And it can be separated into family violence and community violence. The Federation has been taking preventive measures including holding talks on violence and its consequences, banning x-rated video features as a preventive measure against occurrence of a situation that invites violence, laying down security programmes in towns, wards and villages, conducting educative courses and martial arts courses for young women to be able to protect themselves, finding the root cause of violence and counselling and consoling the victims. The Federation has been a reliable organization for womenfolk as it is also

running counselling centres and necessary courses to provide systematic counselling services, and hearing and solving the complaints filed by the victims.

Another major concern of the Federation is prevention of trafficking in persons, especially the loathsome crime of luring women and children for trafficking. Human trafficking is not a new crime, it is a modern form of slavery, which flourished in the whole world for many centuries in the past. The crime of slavery reared its ugly head again on Earth ten years ago as human trafficking. In Myanmar

**Moreover, the working group is conducting vocational training courses, generating job opportunities and providing capital for young women. Every time we are able to return a young woman back into the embrace of her parents, we feel happy for our success. Our everyday work is to protect women from all walks of life and all ages against falling into any kind of danger, and we proudly and gladly accept it as a national task.**

also exploiters deceive some people to sell the latter into slavery or prostitution. They also recruited young women for flesh trade through fake marriages and children for body-part trade through fake adoptions. There are also transnational criminal syndicates trafficking in persons.

The MWF personnel are taking preventive measures to keep young women of Myanmar away from falling victim to human trafficking. They are holding educative talks down to the villages including those in border areas in the whole country. Thanks to the arrangements made in cooperation with the respective ministries, Myanmar can prevent many human trafficking cases in advance. The authorities

on their part are also exposing and arresting human traffickers and agents in time with the help of local elders and the public. In addition, the authorities are taking severe actions against the traffickers and agents to totally root out the crime.

The Working Group of Protecting and Rehabilitating Women is warmly welcoming and systematically rehabilitating the victims who are trafficked to other countries and helping them to rejoin the society. The mentally-affected victims are rehabilitated through various therapies including counselling. Moreover, the working group is conducting vocational training courses, generating job opportunities and providing capital for young women. Every time we are able to return a young woman back into the embrace of her parents, we feel happy for our success. Our everyday work is to protect women from all walks of life and all ages against falling into any kind of danger, and we proudly and gladly accept it as a national task.

As the development of young women is a strength of the nation in the future, the working group has been striving for their all-round progress. Formal and non-formal education programmes are contributing much to the development of human resources. Thanks to the sports training courses, women have even reached the world level in some of the sporting events. The MWF is educating young women to love and cherish their own nation, race and culture in order to protect them against dangers that will hinder their progress.

The members of the Federation are collectively striving with the spirit to love the nation and the race to provide protection for young women and girls as their own children. I wish all hands that nurture young ones with loving kindness to join forces for greater success.

(Translation: TMT)

Kyemon+Myanma Alin: 25.8.2005.

ကျေးရွာတိုင်း ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များ ထူထောင်ဖို့၊

ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီဆောင်ရွက်ဖို့။

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ သြဂုတ်လ (၂၅)ရက်နေ့ထိ နိုင်ငံအဝန်းတွင် ကျေးရွာ ကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက် (၂၆,၈၀၁)တိုက် ဖွင့်လှစ်ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

ကျေးလက်နေပြည်သူအများ ပညာဗဟုသုတတိုးပွားစေရန် ကျေးရွာကိုယ့်အားကိုယ်ကိုး စာကြည့်တိုက်များအတွက် စာအုပ်များကို ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန၊ ခရိုင်/မြို့နယ်ရုံးများသို့ လှူဒါန်းနိုင်ကြပါသည်။

ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန  
ပြန်ကြားရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဆက်ဆံရေးဦးစီးဌာန

သောက်ရေသန့်နှင့် ပတ်သက်၍ အများပြည်သူသိရှိရန် အသိပေးနှိုးဆော်ချက်

၁။ ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနသည် စစ်မှန်ပြီးအရည်အသွေးပြည့်စုံသော သောက်ရေသန့်များကို အများပြည်သူတို့ သောက်သုံးနိုင်ရန်နှင့် သောက်ရေသန့်များ၏ အရည်အသွေး ထိန်းသိမ်းနိုင်ရေးအတွက် စိစစ်ဆောင်ရွက်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။  
၂။ ပြည်နယ်/တိုင်းများရှိ ဈေးကွက်များမှ သောက်ရေသန့်နမူနာများကို ဝယ်ယူ စစ်ဆေးရာ အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ သောက်ရေသန့်အမှတ်တံဆိပ်များမှာ ကျန်းမာရေးဦးစီးဌာန၏ အစားအသောက် (သောက်ရေသန့်)ထုတ်လုပ်ခြင်း ထောက်ခံချက် လျှောက်ထားခြင်းမရှိပါသဖြင့် အရည်အသွေး အာမခံချက်မရှိသော သောက်ရေသန့်များ ဖြစ်ကြောင်း အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

စဉ်	သောက်ရေသန့်အမှတ်တံဆိပ်	လုပ်ငန်းတည်ရှိရာ လိပ်စာဖော်ပြချက်
၁။	Samurai	SPS (Mandalay)
၂။	Royal	လမ်း(၃၀)၊ ၆၆ x ၆၇ လမ်းကြား၊ ချမ်းအေးသာစံမြို့နယ်၊ မန္တလေးမြို့။
၃။	c.o.l	အေ ၅၊ သီရိရိပ်သာ၊ ၃၅ လမ်း၊ ၇၀ x ၇၁ လမ်းကြား၊ မဟာအောင်မြေမြို့နယ်၊ မန္တလေးမြို့။
၄။	မြသီဒါ	မန္တလေးမြို့။
၅။	လင်းမာန်သစ်	ထီးချိုင့်မြို့။
၆။	စိမ်းရတနာ	ဆိပ်မူ မှော်ရန်၊ ဖာကန်မြို့။
၇။	မင်္ဂလာ	ဆိပ်မူ ဖာကန်မြို့။

၃။ ကျန်းမာရေးဦးစီးဌာန၏ အစားအသောက်(သောက်ရေသန့်)ထုတ်လုပ်ခြင်း ထောက်ခံချက် လက်မှတ် ရရှိခြင်းမရှိသေးဘဲ အစားအသောက်(သောက်ရေသန့်)များ ထုတ်လုပ်ခြင်းမပြုလုပ်ရန်နှင့် လိုက်နာဆောင်ရွက်ခြင်း မရှိပါက သက်ဆိုင်ရာအာဏာပိုင် အဖွဲ့ အစည်းများက တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ အရေးယူခြင်း ခံရမည်ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

## All-out efforts being...

(from page 1)  
building of the new nation.

Under the supervision of the authorities at different levels, he stressed the need to restore peace and stability of the nation and fulfil basic needs of the national people in a short time.

The agricultural sector plays an important role in ensuring sufficiency of basic needs of the people and growth of the national economy.

Cultivation of monsoon paddy and other crops in Mongyai

Township contributes to food sufficiency of Shan State (North) to some extent. Service personnel are to strive with might and main for development of their respective townships and make field trips to the grass-roots level.

At the site of 700 acres of highland reclamation project of North-East Command near Narkhaw Village on Lashio-Mongyai-Tangyan Road, the commander briefed Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on assistance provided to the project and reclamation process.

Col Khin Maung Myint of Tangyan Station reported on cultivation of 200 acres of Hsinshweli paddy strain and the plan to speed up reclamation tasks at the remaining 500 acres of land. Officials also submitted their respective reports.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave necessary instructions and attended to their needs. Next, he inspected thriving Hsinshweli paddy plantations in the project site.

They went back to Lashio and spent the night in Lashio.

MNA



Lt-Gen Maung Bo offers provisions to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Manava of Shwe Kyetmin Monastery in Kawkaeik.

MNA

## Ministry of SWRR offers 'soon' to monks of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon)

YANGON, 25 Aug — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and wife Daw Khin Aye and staff families made a cash donation for offering 'soon' to the Rector Sayadaw, academic and administration Sayadaws and monks of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Mogok Refectory on Kaba Aye Hill, here, this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and wife, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang at Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief



Maj-Gen Sein Htwa and wife Daw Khin Aye donate alms to a Sayadaw of State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon).— FSD

and Resettlement and wife, officials and staff families.

First, Rector Sayadaw of SPSU (Yangon) Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita

Bhaddanta Panditabhivamsa administered the Five Precepts, and the Minister and wife, the Deputy Ministers and wives and officials donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa handed over

K 341,500 for offering 'soon' to the Sayadaws through Director U Moe Zaw Shwe of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana.

Later, the Rector Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

MNA

## Industry-1 Minister receives...

(from page 16)

(CEMEC), China National Technical Import & Export Corporation (CNTIC), China Machinery Complete Equipment & Engineering Corporation (CMCC), China National Pharmaceutical Foreign Trade Corporation and China Camc Engineering Co Ltd (CAMCE) at Hotel Nikko Century Beijing.

On 21 August, the minister received officials Wai Hung Machineries & Trading Ltd (Hong Kong), Chenda Chemical Engineering Cooperation (CCEC), China Hainan Jiayi Machine I & E Ltd, Tianjin Machinery I & E Corporation, China World Best Investment Development Co Ltd and Tsingda Darling Biotechnologies Group at the same venue.

On 22 August, Minister U Aung Thuang received the officials of China National Light Industry Council and China National Machinery & Equipment I & E Corporation (CMEC), and coordinated matters related to the projects of Industry-1 under implementation, progress of the tasks and future tasks. — MNA

## Fire Stations, Pre-Primary Schools inspected in Bago Division (West), Ayeyawady Division

YANGON, 25 Aug — Accompanied by OSD Brig-Gen Thura Sein Thuang and officials, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint inspected fire engines and their maintenance at Township Fire Stations in Bago Division (West), Pre-Primary Schools of Social Welfare Department in Pyay, Shwepyitha Youth Training Centre and the Relief Supply Store on 23 August.

Likewise, the deputy minister and party oversaw Fire Services Stations, fire engines and pre-primary schools in Kyangin, Myanaung, Hinthada, Zalun and Danubyu Townships yesterday, and fulfilled their requirements. —MNA

## Three State-owned buildings to be auctioned

YANGON, 25 Aug — The government is going to auction three State-owned buildings under its privatization programme.

It will sell building No (14) (Pahsa-3347) of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading under the Ministry of Commerce at Block No-42 on Arzani Street in Dawei at a reserve price of K 7.1 million, a two-storey building (Pahsa-14/3210) of Cooperative Department under the Ministry of Cooperatives at No (1/49) on Bandar Street in Hlegu Township, Yangon Division, at a reserve price of K 2.96 million, and an old cinema in Pathein of Myanma Motion Pictures Enterprise under the Ministry of Information at a reserve price of K 22.4 million.

Individuals or organizations may buy forms beginning 30 August at Privatization Commission Office, Yangon, and should present the applications to the office on 29 September only during the office hours from 10 am to 4 pm.—MNA

## Livestock & Fisheries Minister inspects pig farming in Lashio

YANGON, 25 Aug — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein called for livestock farming on manageable scale in border areas when he arrived at Hsinshweli pig farming of the Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Products Enterprise, in Lashio, Shan State (North).

He went there, together with Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min, on 20 August and also inspected the pig farming.

On 22 August, Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein went to feedstuff factory in Pyigyitagun Township in Mandalay Division and inspected the factory. At a meeting with feedstuff producers in Mandalay at the feedstuff factory, the minister attended to the needs. — MNA

## Hospital equipment donated to PyinOoLwin District Hospital

YANGON, 25 Aug — A ceremony to donate hospital equipment to PyinOoLwin District Hospital was held in PyinOoLwin took place on 18 August.

Present were Medical Superintendent Dr Daw Khin Saw Win, Physician Dr Aung Hsan Oo and doctors, wellwisher Major Maung Latt (Retd)-Daw Nan Yin Yin and family of Soe San Training Camp of PyinOoLwin.

Wellwisher Major Maung Latt (Retd) presented one infusion pump and its related parts worth K 2 million to Dr Daw Khin Saw Win.

Next, the Medical Superintendent gave away a certificate of honour to the wellwisher. — MNA



# USDA Journalism Course (Basic) No 1 concludes

## Course graduates urged to refute slanders of foreign media, while supporting nation's fourth estate

YANGON, 25 Aug— The concluding of Journalism Course (Basic) No 1 organized by the Union Solidarity and Development Association took place at the headquarters of the Association on New University Avenue in Bahan Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo, Joint Secretary-General U Zaw Min, secretariat

State. The association is constituted with five objectives, five principles, four oaths, 11 codes of conduct and 14 tasks.

The State established the association with lofty aims to be able to effectively implement such a noble task. In doing so, all the members are to be firmly committed to achieving the national goal.

Since its birth, the association has given the

develop conception, conviction, principle, ideas, and methods in a bid to ensure qualitative and quantitative improvement. And the association assigns duties to its members after assuming knowledge, experiences and methods gained from the courses as work guidelines. In other words, it is nurturing its members to sharpen their cognitive and physical abilities and skills. The

edge, to disseminate the experiences and knowledge to other members and people, and to try to become reliable information officers and organizers.

The government, the people and the Tatmadaw are collectively developing the nation according to Our Three Main National Causes and the 12 objectives. The nation at present is witnessing the

*USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo addresses concluding ceremony of USDA Journalism Course (Basic) No 1.*  
MNA



members, CEC members, course instructors, officials, regional coordinators, trainees and guests.

The secretary-general in his speech said that the national goal of the association is to transform the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed one. In the process, there needs a national force capable of implementing the national duty to reach the goal. The USDA is a national force that will see to the national duty in the interests of the

top priority to the interests of the people in taking administrative, organizational and training measures with momentum. In consequence, the firm stand, noble aims, and work programmes of the association are now flourishing among the youths and people, resulting in an increase in the membership from all strata of life.

The central level and associations at all levels have been conducting courses and workshops to

conducting of the journalism course is part of the programme.

The purpose of the course is to enhance ideas, concepts and morale alongside journalism of the potential members who took interest in media industry. So, all the members are to uplift conviction and conception, to implement the association's work programmes steadfastly sacrificing own interests, to pay attention to the public voices, to organize people from various walks of life, and to rebut ideological and dogmatic attacks of destructive elements. The trainees have studied all the lessons theoretically and practically in the course. The trainees are also to continue the study to be able to enhance the experiences and knowl-

sound foundations of peace and stability, economic prosperity, human resources development and education progress. The government firmly laid down the seven-point Road Map and is implementing it to shape a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. All should play their respective roles with Union Spirit for the success of the Road Map.

The association and the entire people are working overtime in all sectors of the nation-building task with the leadership of the government. But the saboteurs from inside and outside the nation and some foreign media are floating slanderous accusations against the nation. Taking advantage of techno-

logical and development gap, the neo-colonialists are trying to penetrate the political, social, economic and cultural sectors of the nation. They are using the media as a weapon to dominate others. Together with its information machinery, the USDA media should refute the slanders of those foreign media, while supporting the nation's fourth estate. The USDA should try to enable the people to know what is right and what is wrong as slanders may cause doubts among some people. The association must counter the fabrications with the effect of the combined power of electronic media, IT, print media and mass media. The USDA members should have firm conviction and high efficiency to do so. They should

have total confidence in and resolve for the success of their work. Correct confidence will produce the right conviction. They must be self-critical to strengthen their belief and conviction and should organize the public to build up their national outlook belief and conviction.

In conclusion, he urged the trainees to serve the national interest with patriotism and Union Spirit, while taking advantage of the favourable developments of the nation; to strive for the success of the Road Map, with Our Three Main National Causes and 12 objectives as the work guidelines; and to dutifully work for the successful realization of the objectives and future work programmes of the association and the five rural development tasks.

U Htay Oo presented gifts to outstanding trainees, certificates to trainees through their representative and gifts to the course instructors through their representative.

Fifty-two USDA trainees attended the nine-week course that was conducted from 28 June to 25 August.—MNA



USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo presents third prize to U Yi Thant of Shan State (South) USDA.

MNA

**Since its birth, USDA has given top priority to the interests of the people in taking administrative, organizational and training measures with momentum. In consequence, the firm stand, noble aims, and work programmes of the association are now flourishing among the youths and people, resulting in an increase in the membership from all strata of life.**

## CNG filling station and pipe lines connection in Chauk inspected



Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects laying of new pipeline for Molar CNG Pressed Plant in Chauk.— ENERGY

YANGON, 25 Aug — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi together with Director-General of Energy Planning Department U Soe Myint and Managing Director of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise U San Lwin, inspected oil field in Chauk, Magway Division on 23 August.

At the briefing hall, the minister heard reports on production of oil and gas, installation of CNG engines at the vehicles, the tasks for boosting oil production in Chauk and Yanangyoung oil

fields and future plans. After hearing the reports, the minister gave necessary instructions.

In the afternoon, the minister inspected the CNG filling station in Chauk. Next, the minister proceeded to the worksite of connecting the new 10-inch diameter gas pipelines near Chauk and heard reports on the tasks being carried out. Next, the minister inspected the connection of pipe lines in the worksite and left instructions on timely completion. — MNA

## Table Tennis Coaching Course Grade-1 concludes



Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attends concluding ceremony of Table Tennis Coaching Course Level-1.— MTFP

YANGON, 25 Aug — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered an address at the ceremony to conclude the Table Tennis Coaching Course Grade-I, jointly organized by International Olympic Committee, MOC, International Table Tennis Federation and Myanmar Tennis Federation, at the hall of National Football Training Centre (Thuwunna), here, this morning.

ITTF Course Director Mr Richard McAfee extended greetings.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and ITTF Course Director Mr Richard McAfee presented completion certificates to the trainees.

At Padamy Hall of the National Indoor Stadium-1 (Thuwunna), the min-

ister met with a 32-member Myanmar U-23 football team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Football Federation U Khin Maung Kyaing to participate in the ASEAN U-23 Youth Championship to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 28 August to 10 September.

Members of the team were introduced to the minister. The President, the team leader and officials reported to the minister on preparations for taking part in the tournament.

The minister instructed them to make utmost efforts in their competitions to be able to bring honour to the State.

Next, the minister handed sports suits to the footballers.

MNA

## PBANRDA - WFP hold meeting to ensure food sufficiency in Shan State

YANGON, 25 Aug — A coordination meeting to bring about joint efforts for ensuring food sufficiency in Shan State, jointly-organized by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs and WFP was held at the meeting of the ministry on 24 August afternoon.

During the meeting, Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt dealt with measures for elimination of narcotic drugs, development of border areas and cooperative measures with international communities.

Next, Director-General of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department U Thein Swe briefed on development tasks of border areas up

to now since 1989 with audio visual aids.

Afterwards, resident representative Director Mr Bhim Udas of WFP made clarifications on implementation of projects on food security since 2003 aiming at peasants and their families who are making efforts to eliminate narcotic drugs in Kokang and Wa situated in Shan State (West) and future plans to be carried out in 2005.

“The meeting will focus on effective measures in collaboration with the ministry, national race organizations and WFP for food security in drugs eliminating areas” the minister said.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Tun and officials concerned were also present at the meeting. — MNA



Minister Col Thein Nyunt addresses the coordination meeting to bring about joint efforts for ensuring food sufficiency in Shan State.— PBANRDA

## Myanmar divers bag one gold, three silver, two bronze

YANGON, 25 Aug — Myanmar divers bagged one gold, three silver and two bronze in the 4th Asian age-wise Swimming and Diving Contest held in Bangkok from 19 to 23 August. The victorious Myanmar diver team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Swimming Federation U Tint Hsan, Chairman of ACE Construction Group, arrived back here last night.

Myanmar team took part in both swimming and diving contests but won medals in the diving contest alone. Naw Ei Say Hti bagged one gold and Khin Lay Nu one silver in three-meter spring board contests; Soe Sandar Tun one silver, Hla Hla Than one bronze

in women's five-meter board; and Khin Lay Nu one silver and Naw Ei Say Hti one bronze in one-meter spring board contests.

Although Myanmar divers trained by MSF are very young— age between 11 and 13— they beat other athletes from Asia and South East Asian countries and won medals.

The victorious Myanmar team was welcomed back at the airport by General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaug Htaik, officials of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, President of MSF Dr Khin Shwe and executives and family members.—NLM



Victorious Myanmar diving team arrives back at Yangon International Airport.— NLM

# Parkinson's drugs may cause sudden sleepiness

**NEW YORK, 25 Aug —** Drugs called dopamine agonists, used to treat Parkinson's disease, may trigger sudden uncontrollable somnolence in about one in five patients.

The side effect has been reported previously in people with Parkinson's disease being treated with dopamine agonists, including Mirapex and Requip, "but controversy persists concerning their nature, severity, and frequency", according to a report in the *Archives of Neurology*.

Dr Jerry Avorn and colleagues from Harvard Medical School, in Boston, quantified the risk of sudden uncontrollable somnolence in 929 patients taking drugs for Parkinson's disease.

The subjects were an average of 66.7 years old and predominantly white and male. They were interviewed about medication use, adverse events, and clinical status in the previous 6 months.

The patients' physicians completed record reviews on clinical histories and drug regimens.

Most (91 per cent) used levodopa either alone or in combination with another medication. Overall, 39 per cent used Mirapex (generic name, pramipexole) alone or in combination with another agent and 18 per cent

used Requip (ropinirole) alone or in combination with another agent.

Twenty-two per cent of the respondents reported episodes of uncontrollable somnolence. Of the 206 subjects who reported at least one episode, 34 per cent had a small number of events (one to four) and 37 per cent reported many frequent events (26 or more). Twelve per cent of patients reported daily episodes.

A total of 124 of the affected patients were classified as having severe episodes.

The team found that patients treated with a dopamine agonist — pramipexole, ropinirole or pergolide (Permax) — were nearly three times as likely to experience episodes of sudden uncontrollable somnolence compared with all other Parkinson's drug users.

The newer dopamine agonists have been shown to reduce the occurrence of movement complications as compared with levodopa when used as an initial treatment "and may pose a significant advantage in this respect", Avorn's team writes. — *MNA/Reuters*

# Anti-Iraq war parents to take protests across US

**NEW YORK, 25 Aug —** Parents of soldiers killed in Iraq plan to follow President George W Bush around the country in the coming months, hoping to generate nationwide anti-war sentiment after camping out at his Texas ranch.

Through much of August, Cindy Sheehan, who lost her son in Iraq, has stationed herself with other protesters outside Bush's Crawford ranch, garnering international media coverage at a time when more than 1,800 US military have died in the Iraq conflict.

Sue Niederer, who with Sheehan and other families of dead soldiers founded "Gold Star Families for Peace", on Wednesday vowed to pursue the President with her anti-war message.

"We are going to be continuously on Mr Bush and make him understand we are not going away. We are very, very steadfast in what we doing,"

said the 56-year-old housewife, real estate agent and substitute teacher from Hopewell, New Jersey.

Niederer, whose 24-year-old son Seth Dvorin died in Iskandariya, Iraq, on 3 February, 2004, said she and others plan to travel to wherever Bush will be speaking.

Anti-war groups kept the pressure on the President this week as he made speeches in Utah and Idaho, where he promised that US troops would remain in Iraq to complete their job to honour those who already died there — a logic Niederer disputed.

"You are dishonouring the soldiers, you are not honouring them," she

said of Bush's speech.

"Given the reasons for why we went into this war, why have their deaths not been in vain?" she asked, referring to Bush's now disproved pre-war assertion in 2003 that Iraq might have stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction. Sheehan, the Vacaville, California, mother whose son Casey was killed in combat in Iraq, has become the centre of the anti-war effort by camping out near Bush's ranch and demanding to meet face-to-face with the President.

She plans to speak in Brunswick, Maine, in September and in Brooklyn, New York, in October.

*MNA/Reuters*

# S'pore urges citizens to play active role in caring for water facilities

**SINGAPORE, 25 Aug —** Singapore's Public Utilities Board (PUB) launched a new programme on Wednesday, encouraging Singaporeans to "adopt" the country's waterways, reservoirs and reservoir parks.

Named "Our Waters", the programme is expected to get individuals and groups to play an active role in caring for these water facilities, said the national Water Agency in a statement.

With a participation period of at least two years, local individual people and groups can choose to take care of a specific area by doing clean-ups, organ-

izing outreach programmes, and building and maintaining public facilities. While the totalling nine reservoirs, five reservoir parks and about 30 waterways are waiting to be "adopted", 10 groups including schools, business associations and the Waterways Watch Society have shown their support for the programme, according to PUB. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# Latin America is new frontier for Asian investments, exports

**SINGAPORE, 25 Aug —** Singapore Foreign Minister George Yeo said on Wednesday that Latin America will become a new frontier for investments and exports by Asian countries, according to Channel NewsAsia report at night.

He noted that the increasing bilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) between countries of the

two regions will help boost cooperation, and the growth of Asia will provide Latin American

countries with new opportunities. Yeo was speaking at the close of the inaugural Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) under the framework of the Forum for East Asia-Latin American Cooperation (FEALAC). Participants in the three-day event agreed to develop a YPF web site and to set up different groups to address issues such as politics and security, according to Yeo.

The second YPF will be held in Mexico next year and the third in Malaysia's capital of Kuala Lumpur in 2007.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Eating fish may cut risk of heart problems

**NEW YORK, 25 Aug —** A relatively low level of fish consumption may reduce the risk of having a heart attack and other "acute coronary syndrome" (ACS) such as heart-related chest pain, according to researchers in Greece.

Dr Demosthenes B Panagiotakos, of Harokopio University, Athens, and colleagues analyzed fish consumption among 848 patients who had experienced an ACS and 1078 similar subjects who had not.

The results are published in the *International Journal of Cardiology*.

After accounting for other potentially influential factors, fish consumption was associated with a 38-per-cent reduced risk of ACS.

Further analysis showed that fish consumption was tied to an 11-per-cent reduced risk of developing ACS among

smokers and a 24-per-cent reduced risk among diabetics — two groups with high risks of heart disease.

Interestingly, this apparent benefit was only seen when no more than 150 grammes (about 5 ounces) of fish was consumed each week.

The lack of an association between moderate and high levels of fish consumption was "unexpected", the investigators note.

"This observation could possibly suggest a threshold regarding the beneficial effect of fish consumption on (ACS) risk."

*MNA/Reuters*

# Debris site throws up new clues to "Titanic" disaster

**LONDON, 25 Aug —** Explorers have found a previously unknown site scattered with artifacts from the *Titanic* that could shed new light on the final moments of the world's most famous ocean liner.

"We found a new debris field about 900 metres south of the stern, which supports my long-standing belief that the *Titanic* began to break apart and sink further south than where she currently sits," expedition leader G Michael Harris said on Tuesday.

Harris, whose grandfather led the first wave of expeditions in the early 1980s, made the two-and-a-half mile dive with his 13-year-old son through freezing waters in a three-man submersible. The Orlando-based team said it had discovered personal artifacts

strewn across the seabed floor that included Gladstone bags, women's shoes and White Star Line china. It also said it had found previously unseen damaged pieces of the ship's hull that are said to support Harris' theory that the *Titanic* rode up onto the iceberg before sinking.

Harris, who returned with hundreds of hours of film footage, believes the force of the grounding damaged the plates on the underbelly of the liner causing water to pour in.

The *Titanic* sank off Canada on her maiden voyage on the night of 14 April, 1912, with the loss of over 1,500 passengers and crew. Theories about why and how she sank have abounded ever since. — *MNA/Reuters*



A resident stands waist deep in his flooded courtyard in the Bavarian village of Moos near Neuburg at the River 'Donau' about 60 kilometres north of Munich on 24 August, 2005. — INTERNET

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**INVITATION TO TENDER**

- (TENDER NO. 13(T) MPE/HSD (9)/2005-2006)**
1. The following sealed tenders are invited by the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise to the Ministry of Energy for the Supply of (5,500±10%) Metric Tons High Speed Diesel Oil (Gas Oil Regular 0.5%).
  2. Tender Closing Date: 8-9-2005 at 12:00 noon.
  3. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, No. (23), Min-ye-Kyaw-Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hours commencing 26-8-2005 on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.
  4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director  
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

**Vietnam to increase rice export**

HANOI, 24 Aug — Vietnam's rice export revenue is expected to surge 27.5 per cent to nearly 1.2 billion US dollars this year, partly due to increasing prices in the world market.

Vietnamese 5-per cent broken rice now sells for 250-255 dollars per ton, up from 210 dollars late last year, the Vietnam Food Association said on Tuesday, adding that the price will keep on rising because of thinner world supplies.

Vietnam has so far this year signed contracts on exporting 4.2 million tons of rice, over 3.2 million tons of which have already been delivered. Recently, the Vietnamese

Government removed this year's 3.8-million ton cap it had placed on rice export to ensure food security, due to the country's better-than-expected rice crops.

Vietnam, the world's second biggest rice exporter after Thailand, sold overseas more than 3.1 million tons of rice worth 869 million dollars in the first 7 months of this year, representing year-on-year respective rises of 13.4 per cent and 35.9 per cent. It shipped abroad slightly more than 4 million tons of the commodity last year, mainly to the Asia-Pacific Region, Africa and the Middle East, the association said.

MNA/Xinhua

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Yangon 28 August 2005

**Two planes fly into restricted zone at Bush resort**

DONNELLY (Idaho), 24 Aug — In separate incidents, two small planes wandered into restricted air space over the Idaho resort where US President George W Bush is staying, but he was never in danger, the White House said on Tuesday.

The planes committed a "minor violation of temporary flight restrictions" put in place to protect the President, White House spokesman Trent Duffy told reporters.

"The President was never in any danger and the systems designed to protect him worked effectively," Duffy said.

Duffy said the planes were directed to land, both pilots were questioned by local law enforcement and Secret Service Agents and released.

The White House

spokesman said the matter was referred to the Federal Aviation Administration for any administrative action.

The FAA would be responsible for any sanctions or licence-revocation issues that might arise in connection with the incidents.

In a break from his month-long Texas vacation, Bush is staying at Tamarack Resort in the Idaho mountains 90 miles north of Boise. Bush, who has sought to counter anti-war protesters and sagging public opinion about the war in Iraq, is scheduled to deliver a speech and meet with a group of military families on Wednesday in Idaho.

Bush went fishing for "a couple of hours", Duffy said.

MNA/Reuters

**Govt vows to protect overseas Filipino workers in UAE**

MANILA, 24 Aug — The Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs said on Tuesday that it is taking measures to protect overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), where an increasing number of complaints have been filed by Fili-

pino workers against their employers.

DFA Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs Jose S Brillantes said prospective overseas Filipino workers should undergo proper orientation and training by the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) before considering offers to work as domestic workers in the UAE.

The DFA has recently received report from the Philippine Consulate General in Dubai that in the past weeks there has been a dramatic increase in cases of OFWs seeking assistance from the consulate, with the number of OFWs seeking assistance having doubled to 60 in the past several weeks.

The DFA is considering the immediate repatriation of the OFWs seeking shelter in the consulate, said Brillantes.

He said OFWs in Dubai, particularly domestic workers, are vulnerable to abuse, maltreatment, contract substitution and other inequitable terms of employment.

These conditions are aggravated as domestic workers live and work in isolated homes of their employers.

MNA/Xinhua

**89-year-old Canadian lottery winners want new nylons, car**

TORONTO, 24 Aug — An 89-year-old couple who won a 7.5 million Canadian dollars (6.25 million US dollars) lottery jackpot plan to keep living in their retirement home and perhaps splurge on a new pair of nylons for her and a Lincoln car for him.

Thelma and Victor Hayes, who have been married for 63 years, had played the same numbers for years but decided to go for a quick pick of random figures for the August 6 draw, Canadian media re-

ported on Tuesday.

The pair, who will both turn 90 soon and have two daughters, said they were unlikely to become giddy high spenders.

"No plans, except I'm getting a new pair of nylons," Thelma Hayes said. Her husband was a little more bold: "I'd like a Lincoln, if I can find one that's suitable."

The Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation said the Hayes are one of the oldest couples to win a big jackpot.

MNA/Reuters

**WHO expert warns short of drugs for new influenza pandemic**

BANGKOK, 24 Aug — The world lacks of enough drugs to fight a new pandemic of influenza, said a World Health Organization (WHO) expert.

"Are we prepared for the next pandemic?" Klaus Stohr, head of WHO's Global Influenza Programme, raised the question on Monday at an international meeting on epidemiology in Bangkok.

He gave a "No" to his own question at the meeting being held from Sunday to Thursday.

"Three years ago, the European Commission gave me 15 minutes to answer this [same] question, I said I just needed a minute to say 'We are not prepared.' Today the situation has changed very little," newspaper *Nation* on Tuesday quoted Stohr as saying.

Many countries do not have a concrete national plan to fight against out-

break of influenza, while it is still possible for such a pandemic to occur again soon.

New human deaths of H5N1 bird flu virus have been reported in Vietnam and Indonesia, and the epidemic is found spread by migratory birds to China, Mongolia and Russia's Siberia.

Neither can the world rely the hope on pharmaceutical solutions, for Tamiflu, the only anti-viral drug potentially effective in treating H5N1, is very limited in production capacity, he said.

Moreover, no human vaccine is currently available.

"Now 27 countries have stockpiled antiviral medicine, but the total amount they have is suffi-

cient to treat only 2 per cent of the world population," warned Stohr.

"And [even if a vaccine comes along] 65-70 per cent of the global vaccine production is in Europe. The vaccine made by these countries is not going to be for export until domestic demand is satisfied," he said.

Up to 100 million people were killed in the last three global pandemics in 1918, 1957 and 1968.

MNA/Xinhua

**Intel unveils new chip architecture**

LOS ANGELES, 24 Aug — Computer chip giant Intel announced on Tuesday a new architecture underlying three upcoming chip series, while exhibiting a new class of computer.

At the Intel developer forum in San Francisco, Intel chief Executive Paul Otellini showed

off road maps for a new server, notebook and desktop chips for 2006 and 2007.

The next-generation power-optimized micro architecture combines elements of the design behind the Pentium 4. It will be the basis for three new 65-nanometer dual-core products to be launched in

the second half of 2006 — Woodcrest for servers, Conroe for desktops and Merom for mobile use.

All three products will share common features such as 64-bit compatibility, virtualization, trusted platform support and management features, said Otellini.

MNA/Xinhua

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US space tourist Gregory Olsen (Top) enjoys the effects of zero gravity during a parabolic flight during his training near Star City outside Moscow, on 24 August, 2005. —INTERNET

### Archaeologists find large-scale salt production in ancient China

LOS ANGELES, 24 Aug— Large-scale salt production occurred during the first millennium before Christ in the earliest “workshops” yet uncovered in China, archaeologists reported on Monday.

In a latest joint study, researchers from China and US found multiple lines of evidence of salt production at Zhongba, an archeological site lying along the Yangzi River in Zhong Xian County, Chongqing, China.

Their paper is published on the on-line issue of the Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences. The authors from the Harvard University, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Science and Technology of China, are all internationally ac-

knowledgeed archaeologists. Salt production and trade is thought to be critical to the development of all states and emergent empires. Until now, however, scientific evidence of early salt production has rarely been presented, and no studies of early Chinese salt production have provided unequivocal proof. But the four lines of evidence at Zhongba demonstrate that the main product of the site was salt, said the researchers.

Several lines of historical and cross-cultural analogy point to salt pro-

duction. Pottery and ceramic vessels and debris excavated from Zhongba are “structurally similar to ethnographically and historically identified salt production facilities from Mexico, Africa, and elsewhere,” said the researchers. The second indicator is the similarity between the chemical composition of local brine and soil samples from archaeological features that are also thought to be salt production facilities.

Analyzing local soil from production features with x-ray fluorescence,

the researchers found higher levels of calcium and magnesium as the results of salt production.

The third data set comes from x-ray diffraction analysis of residues found on the pottery at Zhongba. The mineral compositions of these residues are consistent with those residues found on ancient salt-boiling pan, said the researchers.

MNA/Xinhua

### Google plans instant-messaging system

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Aug— Google Inc is set to introduce its own instant-messaging system, the Los Angeles Times reported on Tuesday, marking the expansion by the Web search leader into text and also voice communications.

Citing unnamed sources “familiar with the service,” the Los Angeles Times said that Google’s Instant-Messaging programme would be called Google Talk and could be launched as early as Wednesday. Google Talk goes beyond text-based instant-messaging using a computer keyboard to let users hold voice conversations with other computer users, the newspaper quoted a source as saying. A Google spokeswoman declined to comment on the company’s product plans.

If confirmed, the combined computer text and voice-calling service would put Google in competition with a similar service pioneered by Skype, which has attracted tens of millions of users, especially in Europe, to its own service.

Separately, independent journalist Om Malik on his blog at <http://gigaom.com/> pointed to technical clues that suggest Google is preparing to run an instant-messaging service based on an open-source system known as Jabber.

MNA/Reuters

### Assisted reproduction for women “reasonable” until age 44

NEW YORK, 24 Aug—For women seeking to become pregnant with the help of assisted reproductive techniques such as in vitro fertilization, reasonable pregnancy rates of at least 5 per cent per cycle are obtainable through the end of the 43rd year, researchers at Harvard Medical School have found.

After that, they report, the rate of live births is low — no higher than 2.3 per cent.

Based on the findings, Dr Sigal Klipstein and her colleagues recommend that women between the ages of 40 and 43 “should be provided with this one last opportunity for attaining a pregnancy”.

Nearly 20 per cent of all women using assisted reproduction are 40 years old or older. Because women in their 40s are approaching the end of their reproductive years,

the team notes in their report in the medical journal *Fertility and Sterility*, “they are perhaps the ones most in need of informative, data-driven counseling”.

To derive this information, the Boston-based researchers analyzed outcomes for women between 40 and 48.8 years old who underwent assisted fertilization at Boston IVF in Waltham, Massachusetts, between 1999 and 2002. The study included 1263 women who underwent a total of 2705

assisted-reproduction cycles.

The rate of live births per cycle for women who were 40 was 13.9 per cent. For women ages 41, 42, or 43, the rates did not differ significantly (9.7 per cent, 9.2 per cent and 7.6 per cent respectively), the team found.

Thereafter, however, pregnancy rates declined rapidly. Rates were 2.6 per cent for those who were 44 years old, 1.9 per cent for those who were 45 and 0 per cent for women 46 or older.—MNA/Reuters

### 41 injured as passenger train derails in Zambia

LUSAKA, 24 Aug— About 41 people were injured when a passenger train derailed Tuesday at Mazabuka, 125 kilometres to the southwest of Zambian capital Lusaka, the official Zambia News Agency said.

Francis Bwalya, director of health at Mazabuka District, Southern Province, was quoted as saying that the injured have been admitted to the Mazabuka District Hospital. About 33 of them are being treated at the hospital’s outpatient department, he said.

Police sources at Mazabuka and Babe Botana, managing director of the Railway Systems of Zambia (RSZ), both confirmed the accident.

MNA/Xinhua

### New childhood virus tied to respiratory infections

WASHINGTON, 24 Aug— Swedish researchers said on Monday they had identified a previously unknown virus that may cause many cases of serious respiratory infections in children.

They named the virus human bocavirus and suggested the searchers start a systematic search for all the viruses that cause respiratory infections.

The report, published in this week’s issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, underlines how little doctors know about the sources of most respiratory infections.

A separate team of California researchers found they could only identify about 40 per cent of viruses infecting patients, and both teams said rapid testing for viruses would be useful in diagnosing and

treating respiratory illnesses.

Health experts say this step was particularly important because there are fears that influenza, in particular avian influenza, could cause a global pandemic.

Being able to test quickly to find out what is making someone sick can mean the difference between life and death because antiviral medications must be given early on to prevent serious illness in the case of influenza.

In their sample of 540 children in a pediatric hospital ward, the new bocavirus was responsible

for 17 of the cases, the Swedish researchers found.

“Lower respiratory tract infection is a leading cause for hospitalization of infants and young children and accounts for 250,000 hospitalizations a year in the United States alone,” Tobias Allander of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm and colleagues wrote in their report.

“The most important viral agent in this group of patients is respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Other important agents are influenza viruses, parainfluenza viruses, adenoviruses, rhinoviruses,

coronaviruses, and human metapneumovirus.”

But the causes of between 12 per cent and 39 per cent of these serious infections are never identified, the researchers said.

In a second study, Janice Louie of the California Department of Health Services, Lawrence Drew of the University of California, San Francisco and colleagues checked patients reporting to the hospital with flu like illness including “unspecified upper respiratory infection,” acute bronchitis, sinus infections and pneumonia.

MNA/Reuters



Rescue workers and local people remove the debris of a plane from TANS airliner that had crashed in Peru’s northern jungle on 24 August, 2005.

INTERNET

## SPORTS

**Chelsea enjoy 4-0 romp over West Brom**

LONDON, 25 Aug — Champions Chelsea hit top gear with a 4-0 thrashing of West Bromwich Albion on Wednesday to maintain their 100 per cent start to the Premier League season.

Coach Jose Mourinho made six changes from the side that beat Arsenal on Sunday and, after a slow start, they took charge with first-half goals from Frank Lampard and Joe Cole.

Didier Drogba's close-range shot and Lampard's second clinched a victory that moved Chelsea top with nine points.

Two goals each from Pascal Cygan and Thierry

Henry earned Arsenal a 4-1 win against London rivals Fulham at Highbury. Fulham had taken a surprise lead through Claus Jensen.

MNA/Reuters

**Struggling Lille held to 0-0 draw by Toulouse**

PARIS, 25 Aug — Struggling Lille, last season's runners-up, were held to a 0-0 draw by visitors Toulouse in Ligue 1 on Wednesday.

Lille, who have won just once in five league outings this season, had to settle for their third draw as they failed to break down a stubborn Toulouse defence.

Their best chance of breaking the deadlock came in the 52nd minute when Swiss midfielder Daniel Gygax's powerful shot from 16 metres deflected via the post with Toulouse goalkeeper Christophe Revault well beaten.

Revault pulled off a good save with 15 minutes to go when he cleared a close-range header by teenager Kevin Mirallas, who had come on for Hicham Aboucherouane one minute earlier.

Despite drawing, Lille climbed from 13th to 10th in the standings. Toulouse are 14th, also with one win in five games.

"We mustn't be disappointed as we tried everything we could," said Lille coach Claude Puel. "It was a tough match as Toulouse came here to take one point."

"We are improving slowly and I'm sure things are going to get better soon," he added. — MNA/Reuters



Frank Lampard capitalises on a defensive mix-up to put Chelsea ahead 1-0 up at Stamford Bridge on 21 Aug, 2005. — INTERNET

**Villarreal overcome Everton to make group stage**

VILLARREAL (Spain), 25 Aug — Champions League debutants Villarreal claimed their place among Europe's soccer elite after weathering a late storm from Everton to win 2-1 on Wednesday.

The Spaniards, who also won 2-1 in the first leg at Goodison Park, looked on course for a comfortable victory when Argentine midfielder Juan Pablo Sorin put them ahead with a deflected shot after 20 minutes.

But a sweetly struck free kick from Spanish midfielder Mikel Arteta 20 minutes from time brought the game to life and gave David Moyes' side renewed hope of staging a comeback.

Everton striker Duncan Ferguson fired home a bullet header nine minutes from time only to see his goal disallowed by referee Pierluigi Collina and Villarreal were on the ropes for the remainder of the match.

But former Manchester United striker Diego Forlan settled the tie a minute into injury time when he added the finishing touch to a devastating counter attack when he poked the ball past

Martyn.

For Everton the 4-2 aggregate defeat brought a rapid end to their first European Cup campaign in 34 years, while Villarreal will now join Barcelona, Real Madrid and Real Betis as part of a quartet of Spanish sides in the last 32.

Villarreal began the match by trying to draw the sting out of the Everton attack, forcing them to chase the ball with some slick one-touch passing in midfield and they took the lead after a slick break started and finished by Sorin.

The midfielder exchanged a sharp one-two with Juan Roman Riquelme before unleashing a shot from the edge of the area that took a deflection off defender David Weir before swerving past Nigel Martyn into the net.

Martyn produced a string of saves either side of the break to keep Everton in the match but the Premier League side were thrown a lifeline in the 70th minute when Arteta curled his perfectly struck free kick around the wall and inside the post. — MNA/Reuters

**Heinze double leads Manchester United stroll**

BUDAPEST, 25 Aug — Manchester United cruised into the Champions League group stage for the 10th season in a row with a clinical 3-0 victory over Hungarian champions Debrecen on Wednesday.

Two headed goals by Argentine defender Gabriel Heinze put the English side in charge, and Kieran Richardson's strike completed a 6-0 aggregate victory in the third qualifying round tie.

Heinze opened the scoring after 20 minutes when he nodded in a deep corner at the far post and he struck again on the hour with a powerful header from a more central position six metres out.

The Hungarian champions' porous defence was breached again after 65 minutes when substitute Richardson drilled in a crisp shot from just outside the penalty area.

MNA/Reuters



German television presenter Sonja Zeitlow plays a shot on the fifth hole during the BMW International Open pro-am in Munich. — INTERNET

**Kashima's Ogasawara inspires 7-2 rout of Niigata**

TOKYO, 25 Aug — Japan midfielder Mitsuo Ogasawara inspired leaders Kashima Antlers to a crushing 7-2 home win over Albirex Niigata in the J-League on Wednesday.

Ogasawara's annoyance at his stalled move to Italy's Lecce was kept firmly in check as he scored twice and set up another to help Kashima preserve their four-point lead over Gamba Osaka.

Kashima have 42 points from 20 matches, though Gamba kept the pressure on with a 3-1 win over visiting Jubilo Iwata.

Sanfrecce Hiroshima climbed above Urawa Reds into third on 34 points when a late Dininho header gave them a 2-1 home win over Omiya Ardija.

The Reds, on 33 points, were held to a 2-2 draw by bottom club Vissel Kobe. Yokohama F-Marinus fell further off the pace after being humbled 2-0 at home by Kawasaki Frontale, leaving the Japanese champions ninth on 27 points. — MNA/Reuters

**Inter cruise into Champions League group stage**

ROME, 25 Aug — Inter Milan eased into the Champions League group stage when they drew 1-1 with Shakhtar Donetsk to seal a 3-1 aggregate win on Wednesday.

The game was played in an empty San Siro stadium, the first of a four-match ban on spectators imposed by UEFA on Inter as a punishment for crowd trouble during their Champions League quarterfinal against AC Milan in April.

The lack of home support barely troubled Inter who went ahead in the 13th minute when striker Alvaro Recoba beat Shakhtar keeper Jan Lustuvka with a precise shot through a group

of players which went in at the far post.

Gradually, however, the Ukrainian champions found their rhythm and Ciprian Marica burst down the right wing and cut the ball across the Brazilian striker Elano to equalize midway through the half.

Shakhtar continued to enjoy better possession until the interval, but struggled to break down their opponents' defence.

MNA/Reuters

**Sneijder double steers Ajax into Champions League**

AMSTERDAM, 25 Aug — Substitute Wesley Sneijder scored twice in the final 10 minutes to give Ajax a 3-1 win over Brondby and a place in the Champions League on Wednesday.

The Amsterdam team won the third qualifying round tie 5-3 on aggregate following a 2-2 draw in Copenhagen two weeks ago. The Danish Champions, who had scored an injury-time equalizer in the first leg, played a solid first half and took a deserved lead a minute before the interval. Swede Johan Elmander scored in a counter-attack from Morten Skoubo's pass.

But Brondby's hopes of qualifying for the Champions League proper for the first time since 1998 faded with Ryan Babel's equalizer early in the second half.

The Dutch international picked up the ball from a corner and surprised Brondby goalkeeper Casper Ankergrén with a fierce shot inside the near post to turn the match Ajax's way.

Ajax lacked the creativity to disrupt the Danish side's defence and needed another long-distance shot to take the lead. — MNA/Reuters

# Violent crime rises on Britain's railways

LONDON, 25 Aug— Violent crime fuelled by alcohol increased on Britain's rail network last year, the British Transport Police (BTP) said on Wednesday, leading to concerns over plans to allow pubs to extend their opening hours.

Although there was an overall fall in offences on the railways including a drop in the number of robberies, Ian Johnston, the Chief Constable of the BTP, said violent crime against staff and passengers had risen.

He said about half the rise in such crimes involved assaults on staff.

"We've had a lot of success in putting the thugs who do these nasty things to members of staff behind bars," Johnston told BBC Radio.

He said there had been a 30-per-cent increase in alcohol-related incidents in the last year and ex-

pressed fears that longer pub opening times, which come into force in November, would lead to more problems.

"We're going to have to deal with drunks through the wee small hours which is going to stretch our resources and mean that we won't be able to do other things in other areas which passengers and the general public want us to do," he said.

The government says the existing system, under which drinkers spill out onto the street at the same time when the pubs close, fuels drunken fights and vandalism.

But alcohol experts, doctors, senior police officers and judges have warned that later hours will exacerbate binge drinking, health problems and anti-social behaviour.

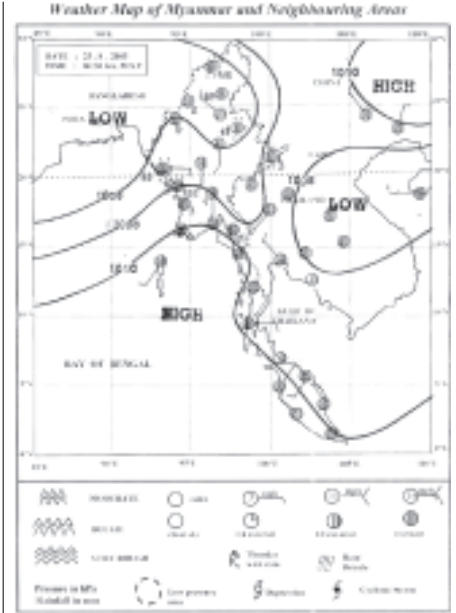
Leaders of the RMT, Britain's biggest railway union, called for a return to guards on trains to deal with the rise in violent crime.

"It is deeply disturbing that violence on the railways is still on the increase," said RMT general secretary Bob Crow.

"Just as our members want to be able to work in safety, members of the public, particularly women travelling alone, should not have to run the gauntlet on deserted stations late at night or worry about being attacked in a train carriage." —MNA/Reuters



CASH DONATED: Dr Kan Tun Win, Dr Khin Khin Htay, son Mg Zin Win Htun and daughter Ma May Thandar of No 60 (A), Pyay Road, Hline Township, donate K 110,000 for the construction of a three-storey hospital building for the aged and the medical trust funds to Hninzigon Home for the Aged. Joint-Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the administrative board of the home accepts the donations. —H



## WEATHER

Thursday, 25 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 Yangon Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Kachin, Chin, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Rakhine State and isolated heavyfall in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (5.47) inches, Kyaukpyu (5.35) inches, Sittway (3.78) inches, Myitkyina (2.56) inches, Hpa-an (1.42) inches, Pyinmana (1.06) inches and Aunglan (0.39) inch.

Maximum temperature on 24-8-2005 was 88°F. Minimum temperature on 25-8-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 25-8-2005 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 24-8-2005 was 8.6 hrs approx.

Rainfalls on 25-8-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 67.99 inches at Mingaladon, 70.55 inches at Kaba-Aye and 75.04 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from Southwest at (16:10) hours MST on 24-8-2005.

**Bay inference:** Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 26-8-2005:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin and Kayin States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State and upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of thundery conditions in upper Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 26-8-2005:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 26-8-2005:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

**Flood Bulletin**  
(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 25-8-2005)  
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti is (1406) cm. It will continue to rise and remain above its danger level (1360) cm during the next 48 hrs commencing noon today.

**TV Myanmar**  
Friday, 26 August  
View on today:  
7:00 am  
1. နယူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံသယ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ မဟာဓမ္မရာဇာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကတိပိဋကဓမ္မ၊ ဓမ္မဗျာဓိကရိက္ခ၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိမိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ဝရိတ်တရားတော်  
7:25 am  
2. To be healthy exercise  
7:30 am  
3. Morning news  
7:40 am  
4. Nice and sweet song  
7:50 am  
5. လျှပ်စစ်ပုံပြင် စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်  
8:00 am  
6. အကပွဲစုံ  
8:10 am  
7. The mirror images of the musical oldies  
8:20 am  
8. ယု-ချောင်း တံတား

8:30 am  
9. International news  
8:45 am  
10. English for Everyday Use  
4:00 pm  
1. Martial song  
4:15 pm  
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit  
4:30 pm  
3. Practice in Reading  
4:45 pm  
4. ရန်ကင်းတိုင်း၊ အမှတ်(၃) အခြေစိုက်ပညာ ဦးစီးဌာန၊ ပဉ္စမ အကြိမ် ဓမ္မကြော့ဝတ်ရွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ(ပထမဆုံး) (အထက ၂ ဒဂုံ) (အမျိုးသမီးဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)  
5:00 pm  
5. အဆေးသင်တန်းသို့လ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဝထေဒုစံ(ရူပဗေဒ၊ ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ သင်္ချာအထူးပြုများ) (ရူပဗေဒ)  
5:15 pm  
6. Song of national races  
5:30 pm  
7. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဆရာသမားအကြိမ် (၁၃ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကအရေး၊ အတီးပွဲစုံဝတ်ရွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ (အခြေစိုက်ပညာ ၅-၁၀ နှစ်) (အမျိုးသမီး)

5:40 pm  
8. အတီးပွဲစုံ  
5:50 pm  
9. "အားလုံးကိုသိစေရင်တယ်" (ဦးကျော်စွန်း၊ နန်းဆရာတော်၊ စင်၊ ဒေါ်တင်တင်အိ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝင်းမောင်ရွှေ)  
6:00 pm  
10. သုတစုံလင် ရွှေညာတီရှင်  
6:30 pm  
11. Evening news  
7:00 pm  
12. Weather report  
7:05 pm  
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရုတ်ကပ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၂)  
7:35 pm  
14. Song of yesteryears  
7:45 pm  
15. သပွယ်ပွဲ-မြေကြီး ငါးထပ်ကြီး နှင့် မြောက်တစ်ကြီး ဆုတောင်းပြည့် ရုပ်ပွားတော်  
8:00 pm  
16. News  
8:15 pm  
17. International news  
8:30 pm  
18. Weather report  
8:45 pm  
19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေ့အတူ" (အပိုင်း-၆)  
9:00 pm  
20. The next day's programme

**Radio Myanmar**  
Friday, 26 August  
Tune in today:  
8:30 am Brief news  
8:35 am Music: -Gimme Gimme Gimme  
8:40 am Perspectives  
8:45 am Music: -Could it be me  
8:50 am National news/Slogan  
9:00 am Music: -Happy nation  
9:05 am International news  
9:10 am Music: -Keep on smiling  
9:15 am News/Slogan  
9:20 am Lunch time music  
9:25 am Music: -Paint my love  
9:30 am Music: -This is the life  
9:35 am Music: -Like a child  
9:40 am World of music  
9:45 am Songs from -Israel, Portugal, Hungary, India & Indonesia  
9:50 am Article/Music  
9:55 am Music at your request  
10:00 am Music: -Sweet dream  
10:05 am Music: -Still a little bit of love  
10:10 am Music: -Hello darling  
10:15 am News/Slogan  
10:20 pm PEL

# Lt-Gen Maung Bo offers provisions to monasteries in Kawkareik



*A Sayadaw delivers a sermon at the ceremony to offer provisions to monasteries in Kawkareik in Kayin State.— MNA*

YANGON, 25 Aug — A ceremony to offer provisions to monasteries in Kawkareik, Kayin State, organized by Kayin State Peace and Development Council, was held on 22 August at Zinathukha Lawkatharaphu Pagoda in Kawkareik.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence

offered provisions to Member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Sayadaw of Shwekyatmin Monastery Bhaddanta Manava.

Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Brig-Gen Maung Shein of Kawkareik Station also offered provisions to Sayadaws of the monasteries in the town.

Today's donations were 50 bags of rice, 21 viss of edible oil, one bag of salt and robes and alms.

Senior military officers, departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people also attended the ceremony. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Manava delivered a sermon and the congregation shared the merits gained.— MNA

# Tree planting ceremony held at Yangon Technological University

YANGON, 25 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe planted a sapling at the tree planting ceremony of Yangon Technological University on the campus in Hlinethaya Township this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Science and Technology U Kyaw Soe, Rector of YTU Dr Hla Than, No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan, local authorities and guests.

First, the commander gave a speech. Next, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Soe explained the purpose of holding the tree planting ceremony. Director of Yangon Division Forest Department U Khin Win reported on completion of growing over 1.34 million of saplings in Yangon Division and conservation of trees and forests.

The commander, the deputy minister and officials planted star-flower saplings.

Afterwards, they viewed participation of departmental personnel, faculty members and students together with local people in the tree planting ceremony. They planted 5,900 saplings on the campus of the university.

The commander inspected nurturing of over 30,000 rubber saplings at the rubber nursery of Yangon Division, District and Township General Administra-



tion Departments in Padan Village of Hlinethaya Township.

After hearing the reports, the commander gave instructions on arrangements to be made for distribution of the rubber saplings to the growers. — MNA

*Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe plants a sapling at Tree Planting Ceremony -2005 of YTU in Hlinethaya Township.— YANGON COMMAND*

# Industry-1 Minister receives officials of companies in PRC

YANGON, 25 Aug — On arrival at the People's Republic of China to attend the 1st China-ASEAN Eminent Persons Group (EPG Meeting) held at Qingdao, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung received officials of companies which are cooperating for mutual interests, at Hai Tian Hotel. The minister received officials of Chongqing Minmetal & Machinery Import & Export Co Ltd and Shandong Ma-

chinery & Equipment Import & Export Group Corporation on 17 August, Shandong Boshan Ceramic Co Ltd on 18 August and Tiangsu Pengfei Group on 19 August.

On 20 August, the minister received officials China Metallurgical Construction Group (MCC), China National Building Material & Equipment Corporation (See page 8)

## Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(25-8-2005)

Hkamti	(5.47) inches
Kyaukpyu	(5.35) inches
Sittway	(3.78) inches
Myitkyina	(2.56) inches
Hpa-an	(1.42) inches
Pyinmana	(1.06) inches
Aunglan	(0.39) inch