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Tuesday, 30 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

Myanmar trying its utmost to develop in all aspects
Some big nations with financial and technological edge are interfering in internal affairs of the country

Build national strength with citizens' high education level and patriotism

YANGON, 29 Aug — Special refresher course No 23 for basic education teachers was opened at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin in Mandalay Division this morning with an address by Myanmar Education Committee Chairman State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein. It was attended by SPDC member Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Mandalay Division PDC Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, ministers, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, the Mandalay

mayor, Civil Service Selection and Training Board members the deputy chief justice (Upper Myanmar), senior military officers, officials of the SPDC office, departmental heads, the rector, pro-rector and faculty members of the CICS (Upper Myanmar).

In his speech, the Secretary-1 said as it is known to all teachers that national education promotion is crucial for the building of a developed and prosperous country. As teacher development plays an important role in enhancing the national education, the government has been conducting special

(See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein addresses opening of special refresher course No 23 for basic education teachers. — MNA

Till now the nation is not totally free from the evil legacy of the colonial subjugation, personality cult and ideological and racial prejudices. She is still in the process of freeing totally herself from those evil legacies. She is also warding off the attempts to dominate her by trying to break up national unity, and drive in a wedge to weaken and break up the Union for recurrence of the evil situation the nation faced soon after regaining independence.



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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 30 August, 2005

Crush all the destructive acts of terrorists

The Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council held its press conference 6/2005 at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information on 28 August. Clarified at the conference were conspiracies of terrorist destructive groups to destabilize the country and create unrest, bomb blasts in Yangon, investigations into loss of Replica Tooth Relic at Buddha Tooth Relic Pagoda, measures to be taken by the government regarding internal and external destructive elements and the information committee's practice on the release of news.

Now is the time when the government and the people are working together for peace and development of the Union of Myanmar in accordance with the national policy. Hence fruits of development have begun to appear. However, pessimists within and without the nation, not wishing to see the prevailing peace and stability and the government's endeavours to lay down the foundations of a discipline-flourishing democracy, are using various ways and means to destabilize the nation. Not only that, destructive elements, acquiring financial assistance from some western nations, are plotting underground and aboveground attacks.

Out of the destructive groups, National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB), Federation of Trade Unions of Burma (FTUB), All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) and Shan State Army (South) (SSA-S) (Ywet Sit's group) are based overseas and constantly trying to play havoc with peace and stability of the nation.

These destructive groups are trying to create unrest in the nation and make the international community misunderstand Myanmar by spreading baseless news sent to them by their hard-core members in the country. Not only that, they have resorted to terrorist acts such as planting bombs that cause the loss of lives and property of the people.

The acts of internal and external destructive elements are to destabilize the nation and incite unrest at the expense of people, to grab the State power through short cut and enslave the nation that would be at the beck and call of neo-colonialists.

We will be able to crush all the destructive acts of terrorists inside and outside the nation with the united strength of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw—the three main forces of the nation.



HMANCHO TRADITIONAL MEDICINE HOUSE MAKES DONATION: Traditional Medicine Practitioner Hmancho Saya U Hla Htay-Thirithudama Theingi Sayamagyi Daw Tin Nwe Oo and family donate traditional medicines worth K 207,000 for the members of the Sangha through Patron of Hsimi 9,000 Association U Soe Win and officials on Monday. — H

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

U Tin Htun appointed to Brunei

YANGON, 30 Aug— The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Tin Htun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of the Philippines, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam. —MNA

U Thaug Tun appointed to the Philippines

YANGON, 30 Aug— The Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Thaug Tun, Director-General of the Political Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of the Philippines.—MNA

CEC member meets secretaries and executives of Division, District and Township USDAs

YANGON, 29 Aug —Member of Central Executive Committee of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and officials met local people, members of the school board of trustees, teachers and members of USDA at No 57 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Pantaingchon Village in Pakokku Township on 27 August.

An executive of Pakokku Township USDA reported on socio-economic development of rural regions and measures undertaken for rural development. The minister spoke at length on the importance of Union spirit, solidarity, implementation of border areas and rural development projects, progress in various parts of the country, public participation

in nation-building tasks and warding of external and internal destructive elements.

The minister fulfilled the requirements of the post-primary school. He also visited Lotaya Tharakhan Shwegu Pagoda in Yesagyo Township, inspected construction of Shwethantit-Shwekyo Road and Pakokku Industrial Zone.

The minister met secretaries and executives of Magway Division USDA, Pakokku District and Township USDAs and organizers at the office of Pakokku District USDA.

On 28 August, the minister inspected bio-gas power project in Chintaung Village, Seikphyu Township. He also met secretaries and executives of USDA and local people.—MNA

Performing arts competitions of Public Relations & Psychological Warfare Directorate opens in Mandalay

YANGON, 29 Aug — The fifth performing arts competitions organized by the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare under the Ministry of Defence was opened yesterday morning at the theatre of No 3 Public Relations Unit in Mandalay.

First, Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint of the Ministry of Defence delivered an opening address and formally opened the competitions.

After the competitions, Writers U Chit San Win, U Chit Oo Nyo and Academy U Nyein Min made suggestions on drama competitions.



Officials of the University of Culture (Mandalay) and Fine Arts Department, judges and invited guests also attended the opening ceremony.

MNA

Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint opens performing arts competitions organized by the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare.

PRPW

Adviser to MWEA leaves for Vietnam

YANGON, 29 Aug— At the invitation of Diploma in Development Studies (DFD) Program of Asian Institute of Technology- AIT Centre in Vietnam, Founder of Myanmar Women's Entrepreneurs Association and Adviser to the association Professor Daw Yi Yi Myint left here for Vietnam this morning. The professor was seen off at the airport by Chairperson of MWEA Daw Khin Myint, Secretary Daw Hlawady and executives. On 30 August, the professor will participate in talks on Women and Economic Performance. —MNA



Adviser to MWEA Professor Daw Yi Yi Myint seen at the airport before departure for Vietnam. — MWEA



A young girl smiles at the annual Notting Hill Carnival in London, on 28 August, 2005. — INTERNET

Malaysia considers sending astronaut to the moon

KUALA LUMPUR, 28 Aug—Malaysia may send an astronaut to the moon by the year 2020 if the national space programme proves successful, Malaysian Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Jamaludin Jarjis said on Saturday.

"We must show to the world Malaysia can send its first astronaut to the *International Space Station*. We must look at our capabilities," Jamaludin was quoted as saying by the *Bernama* news agency.

If the First Astronaut Programme proceeds well, it will not be impossible to see a Malaysian setting foot on the moon, Jamaludin told reporters after launching the Astronaut Run on

behalf of Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak.

Jamaludin said his ministry would forward the proposal on the lunar mission to the Cabinet soon.

In line with a pact signed by Malaysia and Russia in August 2003, the latter will send Malaysia's first astronaut into space by the year 2007 as part of a scientific mission aboard the *International Space*

Station.

Thirty-one candidates on Saturday took part in the Astronaut Run to complete a 3.5-kilometre run in 20 minutes at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Kuantan, capital city of the Pahang State.

They are among nearly 900 candidates who are undergoing a series of rigorous tests to be selected for the national space programme.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia launches new sub for China

Moscow, 28 Aug—Russia Friday launched the third submarine built under the 1.6-billion-dollar deal for eight-kilo class diesel-electric undersurface vessels with China.

The submarine, built at Admiralty Shipyards in St Petersburg, would be delivered to China later this year after comprehensive sailing trials, RosBalt agency reported.

Earlier, Admiralty Shipyards had delivered two submarines to China last year and two more are at different stages of construction. To speed up the execution of Chinese deal inked in 2002, SMP Shipyards in Severodvinsk is simultaneously building two submarines and Nizhny Novgorod-based "Krasnoye Sormovo" shipyard on Volga River one. So far, the Indian Navy had been the biggest buyer of kilo class submarines from Russia, which a few years ago acquired three such undersurface vessels equipped with vertically launched *Club-S* cruise missiles and is now upgrading several older subs in Russian shipyards.

MNA/PTI



Iraqis denounce British plans to send them home

LONDON, 28 Aug—Failed Iraqi asylum seekers accused the British Government of recklessness on Friday for threatening to send them back to their homeland despite its admission that the country is dangerous.

Around 40 Iraqis gathered outside the Home Office in London to protest against the government's decision to toughen its policy on deporting people to Iraq. There have been similar demonstrations in other British cities this week.

Because of the violence in Iraq, the government has allowed Iraqis to stay in Britain even after their asylum applications have failed. It has also given them limited state benefits. But London now says it is safe for failed Iraqi asylum seekers from the Kurdish-controlled northern part of the country to return, and plans to fly them back soon.

Iraqi refugee support groups say hundreds of Iraqis have been detained in recent weeks for deportation and that the government plans to deport more than 7,000 Iraqis.—MNA/Reuters

1,877 US soldiers killed in Iraq since beginning of the war

WASHINGTON, 28 Aug—As of Sunday, 28 August, 2005, at least 1,877 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,455 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians. The *AP* count is five higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Friday.

The British military has reported 93 deaths; Italy, 26; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; El Salvador, Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each. Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,738 US military members have died, according to *AP's* count. That includes at least 1,346 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—Internet



Some 1,000 detainees in Iraq's Abu Ghraib Prison has been freed, the US military said on 27 August, 2005.—INTERNET

Egypt thinks highly of cooperation with China

CAIRO, 23 Aug—Egypt attaches great importance to coordination and cooperation with China over regional and international issues of common concern, Egypt's official *MENA* news agency quoted Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit as saying on Friday. In a letter to his Chinese counterpart Li Zhaoxing, the Egyptian top diplomat said Egypt gave much importance to the coordination and cooperation with China on international and regional issues, especially such issues as the UN reform, the Palestinian issue and the international war against terrorism. Egypt is ready to deepen its cooperation with China in all fields, stressed the diplomat.

The letter to Chinese Foreign Minister is to be delivered by Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs Ezzat Saad.

Saad is currently in China for a meeting of senior officials from China and African countries, coming in preparation for the third ministerial conference of Chinese-African Forum to be held next year in Beijing. According to the *MENA* report, as the representative of North African countries, Saad emphasized the importance of increasing Chinese investment in and technology transfer to African countries, as well as enhancing Sino-African coordination and cooperation in international organizations.—MNA/Xinhua

US military releases 1,000 prisoners in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 28 Aug—The US military said on Saturday it had freed 1,000 detainees from Iraq's Abu Ghraib Prison at the Baghdad Government's request, the largest release to date.

It was not clear if the decision was linked to a demand by Sunnis negotiating the writing of a draft Constitution that authorities release Sunni prisoners so they can participate in a referendum and elections later this year.

"I know this is a big one, but I can't say if it is related to anything that is going on," said US military spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Steven Boylan.

A US military statement said: "This major release, the largest to date, marks a significant event in Iraq's progress toward democratic governance and the rule of law, demonstrating the involvement of

Iraq's Government in the effort to provide both security and justice for all Iraqis."

The military said the released prisoners were not guilty of serious crimes such as bombings, murder, torture or kidnapping and had renounced violence.

Politicians from Iraq's Sunni minority, dominant under Saddam Hussein, have put up fierce resistance to a draft Constitution proposed by Shi'ite and Kurdish parties heading the government.

Weeks of negotiations have failed to secure a final deal.

MNA/Reuters



Drivers and passengers wait outside their vehicles as traffic snarls on the interstate highway leaving downtown New Orleans on 28 August, 2005. Authorities in New Orleans ordered hundreds of thousands of residents to flee on Sunday as Hurricane Katrina strengthened into a rare top-ranked storm and barreled towards the vulnerable US Gulf Coast city.

INTERNET



India's Kalam urges setting up "Village Knowledge Centres"

NEW DELHI, 28 Aug — President A P J Abdul Kalam on Saturday advocated establishment of "Village Knowledge Centres" which would become helpdesks, confidence builders and e-governance nodal points for empowering villagers.

"India has approximately 230,000 village panchayats (councils). I visualize establishment of village knowledge centres in these panchayats to empower villagers with knowledge and to act as a nodal centre for knowledge connectivity," he said, adding that creating these centres should become the focus on the Rural Development Ministry.

Inaugurating the 11th Delhi Book Fair, Kalam said through such centres

requirements of books will increase continuously, reading habits would multiply and employment potential would be generated for library management.

These centres would be equipped with 1,000 books of different subjects, have a computer terminal, tele- phone connection, modem, printer and other support facilities for functioning as digital library, he said.

MNA/PTI

Thailand arrests Algerian wanted for London bombing investigation

BANGKOK, 28 Aug — An Algerian man, arrested in Bangkok for possessing fake passports, may have supplied false travel documents to London bombers, said Thailand's Immigration Police Commissioner.

Atamnia Yachine was wanted by the British authorities in connection with last month's deadly bombings in London, *Nation* newspaper Saturday quoted Immigration officer Suwat Thamrong-Srisakul as saying.

The 33-year-old Yachine was arrested on Wednesday in downtown Bangkok on charge of possessing 180 fake French and Spanish passports.

He was believed to have provided London bombers with bogus documents to enter Britain, said Suwat.

He was tracked down by Thai police following the bust of dealings of 452 fake passports last month in Bangkok.

The police, tipped off by previously-arrested suspects, found Yachine after pretending interest in his false document business.

MNA/Xinhua

Hurricane Katrina hammers Louisiana Coast

NEW ORLEANS, 29 Aug — Hurricane Katrina plowed into this below-sea-level city Monday with howling, 145-mph winds and blinding rain that ripped away pieces of the roof of the Superdome, knocked out power and flooded some homes to the ceilings.

Katrina weakened overnight to a Category 4 storm and turned slightly eastward before hitting land about 6:10 am CDT east of Grand Isle near the bayou town of Buras, providing some hope that this vulnerable city would be spared the storm's full fury.

But National Hurricane Center Director Max Mayfield warned that New Orleans would be pounded throughout the day and that Katrina's potential 15-foot storm surge, down from a feared 28 feet, was still substantial enough to cause extensive flooding.

"I'm not doing too good right now," Chris Robinson said via cellphone from his home east of the city's downtown. "The water's rising pretty fast. I got a hammer and an ax and a crowbar, but I'm holding off on breaking through the roof until the last minute. Tell

someone to come get me please. I want to live."

At the Superdome, home to 9,000 storm refugees, wind peeled off pieces of metal on the golden roof, leaving two holes that were visible from the floor. Water dripped in, and people were moved away.

Others stayed and watched as sheets of metal, flapped and rumbled loudly. From the floor, looking up more than 19 stories, it appeared to be openings of about six feet long.

General Manager Glenn Menard said he did not know how serious the problem was. "We have no way of getting anyone up there to look," he said.

Scores of windows were blown out at some of New Orleans' hotels. Katrina, which had strengthened a day before into a 175-mph Category 5 behemoth before weakening, still had hurricane winds extending 120 miles from its center. Mayfield said at midmorning the worst flooding from storm surge was on the Mississippi coast, east of the eye, with the highest storm surge recorded so far at 22 feet in Bay St Louis.—*Internet*

Howard agrees Australia could be target of terrorism

CANBERRA, 28 Aug — Australian Prime Minister John Howard said on Friday that he agreed with France's top terrorist investigator that Australia could be the target of terrorism.

Howard made the statement after Britain's *Financial Times* newspaper quoted French judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere as saying that he believes al-Qaeda, an international terrorist network, is preparing an attack on a big financial centre in Asia, such as Sydney, Tokyo or Singapore to undermine investor confidence in the region.

Bruguiere said the capacity or desire of the al-Qaeda to destabilize the region are somewhat neglected. Howard said that he agreed Australia could be a terror target. "I have said for a long time this country can't imagine that it is free from the prospect of a terrorist attack," Howard was quoted by *Australian Associated Press* as saying. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Gunmen assassinate two in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 29 Aug — Unknown gunmen assassinated the brother of the former governor of Baghdad and an official assigned to the Iraqi Elections Commission in separate incidents on Monday.

Mohammed Radhi al-Hayderi, the brother of Baghdad's former governor Ali al-Hayderi, was killed in the western Baghdad neighbourhood of al-Jihad when unknown gunmen opened fire, killing him in his civilian car as he was heading to work, said Baghdad emergency police.

Ali al-Hayderi was assassinated less than a year ago while he was

governor. In the second incident, Gen Nu'man Selman Thabit, an Interior Ministry assigned to the Iraqi Electoral Commission, was assassinated Monday at noon in the northeast Baghdad neighbourhood of Wazeeriya when unknown gunmen opened fire on his civilian car, Baghdad emergency police said.

Internet

Reuters soundman shot dead in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 28 Aug — A Reuters Television soundman has been shot dead in Baghdad and a cameraman with him was wounded and then detained by US soldiers.

Iraqi police said they had been shot on Sunday by US forces. A US military spokesman said the incident was being investigated. Waleed Khaled, 35, was hit by a shot to the face and at least four to the chest as he drove to check a report from police sources of an incident involving police and armed men in the Hay al-Adil district, in the west of the city.—*Internet*



Debra Johns (C) is comforted by friends after paying her respects at a makeshift memorial set up along the roadside by anti-war demonstrators near US President George W Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, on 27 August, 2005.

INTERNET

ASEAN Centre of Contemporary Chinese Studies in the offing

HANOI, 27 Aug — Members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are making preparations for the establishment of the ASEAN Centre of Contemporary Chinese Studies in Vietnam's Hanoi capital in November.

The centre is designated to offer governments of the 10 ASEAN members consultations regarding China-related policymaking, and its activities aims at putting potentials of each member into play, and forging links among ASEAN experts on Chinese studies, the local newspaper *People* reported on Friday.

The establishment stems from the common awareness of the 10 countries on the role of contemporary China in the future development of the ASEAN in the context of globalization and the block's long-term strategies which involve in promoting ASEAN-China ties, and enhancing the block's status in the international arena, the report said.

At the ASEAN-China Summit in 2002 in Cambodia, Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai put forth a proposal for setting up the centre,

which was hailed by leaders of the 10 ASEAN members and China.

China and the ASEAN members which consist of Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and the Philippines, have seen remarkable improvements in trade and investment in recent years.

In 2004, the two-way trade was over 100 billion

US dollars, more than doubling the figure in 2000. Now, the ASEAN is China's fourth biggest trade partner, and China is the fifth biggest partner of the ASEAN. By early July, the ASEAN had invested nearly 40 billion dollars in China, which had had investment of roughly two billion dollars in the block, according to Press reports.

MNA/Xinhua



Salvadoran Cruz Hernández, who is registered as being 127 years old on her national identity card, talks in her home in the village of San Agustin, about 100 kilometres east of San Salvador, on 25 August, 2005. —INTERNET

India unveils Thorium Reactor

NEW DELHI, 27 Aug — India on Thursday unveiled before the international community its revolutionary design of "A Thorium Breeder Reactor (ATBR)" that can produce 600 megawatts of electricity for two years "with no refuelling and practically no control manoeuvres."

Designed by scientists of Mumbai-based Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), ATBR is claimed to be far more economical and safer than any power reactor in the world.

Most significantly for India, ATBR does not require natural or enriched Uranium which the country is finding difficult to import. It uses thorium —

which India has in plenty — and only requires plutonium as "seed" to ignite the reactor core initially.

Eventually, ATBR can be running entirely with thorium and fissile Uranium-233 bred inside the reactor (or obtained externally by converting fertile thorium into fissile Uranium-233 by neutron bombardment).

BARC scientists V

Jagannathan and Usha Pal revealed the ATBR design in their paper presented on Thursday at the week-long "international conference on emerging nuclear energy systems" in Brussels. The design has been in the making for over seven years.

According to the scientists, the ATBR while annually consuming 880 kilograms of plutonium for

energy production from "seed" rods, converts 1,100 kilograms of thorium into fissionable Uranium-233. "This differential gain in fissile formation makes ATBR a kind of thorium breeder." The uniqueness of the ATBR design is that there is almost a perfect "balance" between fissile depletion and production that allows in-bred U-233 to take part in energy generation thereby extending the core life to two years.

MNA/PTI

Iraq war protester says to shift focus to Congress

CRAWFORD, 27 Aug — Iraq war protester Cindy Sheehan, whose vigil near President George W Bush's Texas ranch has become a symbol for the anti-war movement, said on Friday she plans to focus on Congress, starting with House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, a Bush ally and fellow Texan.

Sheehan has been demanding a meeting with Bush to discuss the US presence in Iraq, where her son was killed in 2004.

She plans to begin a bus tour next Thursday from Bush's ranch to the White House to campaign for the withdrawal of American troops from Iraq.

One of DeLay's Texas district offices would likely be the first stop, she said. That is about a 5.5-hour drive from Bush's ranch in Crawford, where he is on a month-long vacation.

"I think our first stop might be Tom DeLay's office," she said, surrounded by supporters. "I just wanted to let him know so he'll be in his office when we get there."

"The President is not going to meet with us, probably," Sheehan said. "We the people need to influence our congressional representatives and I hear he's pretty close by," referring to DeLay.

A spokeswoman for DeLay said his schedule was already set and did not

plan to change it to meet with Sheehan.

"Mr DeLay disagrees with those who believe we should give the terrorists the timeline they want and simply cut and run from the war in Iraq," said DeLay spokeswoman Shannon Flaherty.

Sheehan met once with Bush after her son, Casey, was killed but has sought a second meeting to ask Bush to explain why he believes the 24-year-old Army specialist died for a "noble cause". —MNA/Reuters

Pakistan reiterates objection to miliary action on Iran

ISLAMABAD, 28 Aug — Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz on Saturday reiterated his country's objection to any military action on Iran and stressed all matters relating to that country's nuclear issue must be resolved through dialogues.

Commenting on Pakistan's relations with the neighbouring countries at a news conference held in Lahore, capital of Punjab Province, Aziz said Pakistan will never support any military action on Iran with a view to destroy its nuclear facilities, according to the *Associated Press of Pakistan*.

He said Pakistan enjoys very cordial and friendly relations with its western neighbour and the two countries are in constant touch with each other on regional issues including that of Iran's nuclear capabilities.

MNA/Xinhua

Civilians killed in Nepal's landmine explosion

KATHMANDU, 28 Aug — At least seven civilians were killed and another seven injured in a guerillas-planted landmine explosion when they tried to clear roadblocks placed by the guerillas along the Mahendra Highway in Kapilvastu District in western Nepal on Saturday morning, local police office said.

The explosion occurred at Surai Naka at Bankasa Village along the highway, some 200 kilometres west of Kathmandu, local police office said in a statement.

Five civilians died on the spot and two others succumbed to injuries while being rushed to a hospital.

Of the injured, three have been airlifted to Kathmandu for treatment. The other four are being treated at Lumbini Zonal Hospital in Butwal, according to the statement.

The hidden landmine went off when some of the passengers, who were heading towards Dang from Kathmandu, disembarked from the bus to get rid of the rocks placed by the guerillas in the area, the statement noted.

Traffic along the highway had resumed from Saturday after the guerillas strike had brought the vehicular movement to a complete standstill for the past two days there, the statement added.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran reiterates rights to nuclear know-how

TEHERAN, 28 Aug — Iran's chief nuclear negotiator reiterated Iran is determined to continue its legitimate nuclear research, the official IRNA news agency reported on Saturday.

"The Islamic Republic is serious in achieving nuclear know-how and regards it as a legal right of the Iranian nation," Ali Larijani was quoted as saying.

Larijani made the remarks upon his arrival in Teheran after wrapping up his first visit to the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna since he was appointed as chief negotiator earlier this month.

During his one-day visit, the negotiator held talks with IAEA chief

Mohamed ElBaradei.

Larijani described on Friday the outcome of his meeting with ElBaradei as positive and stressed that Iran had been fully committed to the international regulations.

Iran resumed uranium conversion activities on 8 August, prompting the IAEA board of governors' approval of a resolution on 11 August which urged Iran to reestablish full suspension of all enrichment-related activities.

MNA/Xinhua



Trucks arrive in Cutler Ridge, Florida, a Miami suburb, after Hurricane Katrina passes through an area on 26 August, 2005. —INTERNET



Hong Wendong, leader of 17 experts from Taiwan, poses with a giant panda at the China Giant Panda Protection and Research Centre in Wolong, southwest of China's Sichuan Province on 27 August, 2005.—INTERNET

Limousines sell well in China despite high prices

BEIJING, 28 Aug— Although China's prices of sedans are among the highest in the world, many are still selling like hot cakes, the Beijing-based *China Economic Times* reported.

Statistics show that China has been the top consumer of limousine brands such as Rolls-Royce and Bentley, and their sales volume in the whole Asian continent accounts for about 20 per cent of the globe total.

According to German figures, China has been the biggest potential market for BMW and Mercedes-Benz in the world, with a combined sales volume between 6,000 to 7,000 units every year.

The newspaper said various famous international car-makers are competing with each other now for more market share in China.

Mercedes-Benz is cooperating with Chinese institutions on car research and plans to establish a design centre here. The three others, outside of Germany, can be found in the United States, Japan and Italy.

Meanwhile, Volkswagen, also from Germany, has set up a new lab centre in China's capital of Beijing, the paper said.

The founding of these research and design centres indicates that the competition among multinational cars producers in China now includes research in addition to sales.

MNA/Xinhua

Portugal guards against bird flu

LISBON, 28 Aug— The Portuguese veterinary bureau said on Friday that Portugal will strictly follow the bio-security procedures to prevent the spread of bird flu.

Fernando Bernardo, head of the bureau, said that as autumn comes, migratory birds from Russia and Eastern European countries, including some birds likely to spread bird flu, will fly to Portugal or to other countries by way of Portugal.

He said that Portugal will keep a close watch on and regularly inspect the migratory birds for possible bird flu risks.

In addition, Portugal will also strengthen checks

of live birds on the frontier. The official also stressed the importance of enhancing the bird flu awareness among bird raisers and the commons.

He added that if necessary, the government will limit bird raising in the open air and bird hunting.

To counter possible infections, Portugal ordered in July large amount of antibiotics, enough for the demand of one fourth of the total population of the country.—MNA/Xinhua

Finland reports possible bird flu in seagulls

HELSINKI, 28 Aug— Finland's Agriculture Ministry said on Friday it had found a possible outbreak of bird flu in seagulls in the northern town of Oulu, but probably not the highly pathogenic strain that has caused deaths in Asia.

A ministry official said laboratory tests had identified the virus among "sick and dead seagulls" found in a park in Oulu, though it was not clear how many of them were carrying the disease or how serious a strain of flu it was.

"Our view the moment is that if it is bird flu, it is low pathogenic avian influenza, not the high pathogenic which has been found in Asia," senior ministry official Riitta Heinonen told Reuters. Final test results will be ready in three weeks.

"First we will make certain which type of vi-

rus it is and then we will check other wild birds in the area," she said. "There are no poultry farms nearby."

Low-pathogenic bird flu is not uncommon and can be found in as many as 30 per cent of wild birds, experts say.

But monitoring is increasing as fears grow of a global outbreak, especially since the avian virus has spread from Asia into Siberia in eastern Russia and Kazakhstan.

Some experts warn it could spread to Europe via migratory birds as they move to warmer areas for winter after nesting in Siberia. The World

Health Organization has urged governments to stock up with antiviral drugs such as Tamiflu.

Finland shares an 800-mile eastern border with Russia and borders on Sweden, Norway and the Baltic to the west.

Bird flu has killed 62 people in Asia since 2003 and forced the slaughter of millions of fowl. The European Union, of which Finland is a member, said earlier this week it believed there was only a remote or low chance of

it striking the EU.

Veterinary experts from the EU said on Thursday bird flu in Central Asia was "not a direct threat for Europe and there is no need for general emergency actions".

Philip Tod, spokesman for consumer health and protection at the European Commission in Brussels, said Finnish vets expected the seagulls' case to prove to be a low pathogenic strain of influenza.

MNA/Reuters

Top US military officer faults on terrorism war stakes

WASHINGTON, 28 Aug— The top US military officer faulted US political leaders on Friday for failing to get across what he portrayed as the huge stakes in Iraq and elsewhere in the US-declared global war on terrorism.

"The most important thing we have... right now in this kind of conflict is our will and our resolve," General Richard Myers, outgoing chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said at the Pentagon, adding the US public does not get the stakes.

"I think it's incumbent on the national leadership, writ large, to help communicate this to the American public," said Myers, reporting on a 10-day, 18-base tour that included Iraq, Afghanistan and bases in Asia and Europe.

"The soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen engaged in this fight are the reason we are winning. Their successes are the untold story of the global war on terrorism, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom," he said.

He contrasted the national mood with World War II, when Americans planted "victory gardens" of vegetables and took part in scrap metal and paper collection drives to boost the military effort.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodia to rebuild national aviation company

PHNOM PENH, 28 Aug— Cambodia will rebuild its national aviation company, local media reported on Friday. The Phnom Penh Chamber of Commerce plans to invest 25 million US dollars in the establishment of a national aviation company and has appealed to the government for support to avoid bankruptcy, according to Rasmei Kampuchea.

In a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Sok An on Wednesday at the Council of Ministers, Chamber of Commerce President Kith Meng said the government's share is still being discussed, reported the French newspaper *Cambodge Soir*.

Sok An said the government strongly supports the Chamber's investment project. He promised the government would ensure sustainable operations, according to Soy Sokhan, an under-secretary of state for the Aviation Authority.

Soy Sokhan said the government authorized 11 aviation companies in the past, but only Siem Reap Airways and President Airlines have survived.

In August 2004, the government revealed plans to establish a national aviation company in cooperation with Phuket Air and Air France Consulting.

The project, however, was never realized despite the Aviation Authority's pledge not to repeat the history of Royal Air Cambodge.

The Royal Air Cambodge of Cambodia, the largest airline in Cambodia, stopped all its flights from October 2001 because of heavy loss since its operation in 1994.

Cambodia is the only country in Southeast Asia which does not have its own aviation company, noted the newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia launches Earth-probing satellite

MOSCOW, 27 Aug— Russia launched a satellite designed to probe the surface of Earth on Friday night, the Space Forces said.

The *Monitor-E* satellite lifted off on a *Rokot* carrier rocket from the Plesetsk space centre in northern Russia at 22:34 Moscow Time (1834 GMT), Space Forces spokesman Colonel Alexei Kuznetsov told the *ITAR-TASS* news agency.

The 750-kilogramme satellite was put into a Sun-synchronous orbit 540 kilometres above Earth one

and a half hours later.

The *Monitor-E* will be used to assess the aftermath of emergency situations, map surface areas, survey agriculture and forestry conditions. It can also be helpful in ecological monitoring, geological cartography and the search for mineral resources. It is designed to operate for five years.

MNA/Xinhua



Indian devotees form a human pyramid as they try to break a clay pot containing butter during celebrations for the Hindu festival 'Janmashtami' in Mumbai on 27 August, 2005.—INTERNET

All-round development in Mandalay Division

Moe Htet Myint (Delta Region)

Standing at an altitude of 954 feet above sea level, Mandalay Hill, one and a half miles north-east of Mandalay Palace, has a pleasant environment overlooking the entire Mandalay City inclusive of the walls and moat of the ancient palace.

In Myanmar where Theravada Buddhism flourishes, the Mandalay Hill has a good reputation for religious edifices on it including the pagodas and stupas built by King Asoka, King Anawrahta and King Mindon.

Mandalay City founded over 100 years ago by King Mindon is the second largest city in Myanmar today. The city, the heart as well as the cultural hub of the nation, was royal capital of the last two Myanmar kings. It is indeed the convincing evidence that Myanmar has stood as a sovereign nation with its own monarchs.

Being situated in the centre of the nation, Mandalay city has developed economically with fine transport networks. Thanks to the Arid Zone Greening Project, Mandalay Hill, Mandalay City and Mandalay Division have become lush and green with favourable climate.

Bagan-NyaungU in NyaungU District, Mandalay Division, now designated as the Myanma cultural region of the nation, was established in the 8th century AD. It was the royal capital of King Anawrahta who established the First Myanmar Empire and helped flourish Buddhism in the nation. With 11 agricultural regions where paddy thrives well, dams, lakes and creeks, Kyaukse District in Mandalay Division stood as the granary of the nation commencing the 11th Century AD.

The Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam, a 3100

feet long and 430 feet high rock-filled type one, near Kyitaung Khawma Village in Pynmana Township, Mandalay Division, inaugurated as a gesture of honouring the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, will make significant contribution towards the long-term benefits of Mandalay Division and the State.

Mandalay Division has a large population and is of great importance in the national economy and transport. So far, the region has been served with 42

The division has been facilitated with a number of universities where local youths can pursue higher education in various spheres. Due to the irrigation facilities, safe water supply projects and transport links, local people have enjoyed fruitful results of higher living standard. Therefore, the region has become more lively with agricultural, productive and trade activities.

irrigation facilities and 70 river water pumping stations constructed by the present government.

Regional development tasks could not be carried out effectively without fine conditions of the environment as development tasks are interrelated with fine natural environment. It is therefore required to conserve forests, waters and land resources across the nation.

The government has constructed the Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam on Paunglaung River with the aim of generating about 280 megawatts and benefiting about 35,000 acres of farmland. Its water storage capacity is 560,000 acre feet and its water surface area, 4,199 acres.

The Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project was jointly undertaken by construction group-5 of the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and construction-1 of the Hydrel-power Department under the Ministry of Electric Power.

Up to now, the facility is the most modern hydro-electric power plant and can generate electricity most among those already constructed in the nation. It has contributed towards national and regional development to some extent.

The government is speeding up implementation of the 13 Districts Greening Project covering Mandalay Division year by year. It is also helping the region extend growing of the ten major crops, new crops and perennial crops and enjoy industrial development in a short time.

The division has been facilitated with a number of universities where local youths can pursue higher education in various spheres. Due to the irrigation facilities, safe water supply projects and transport links, local people have enjoyed fruitful results of higher living standard. Therefore, the region has become more lively with agricultural, manufacturing and trade activities.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 27-8-2005

Russia, India to stage anti-terrorist military exercise

Moscow, 29 Aug — Russia and India will hold joint military exercise in October focusing on anti-terrorist operations for the first time.

INDRO-2005 war games would involve landing of paratroopers and equipment in Aravali hills in Rajasthan to eliminate "terrorist base". Simultaneously Indian and Russian naval fleets would conduct operations against pirates in coastal waters of India, according to local military sources.

Russian Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov is scheduled to visit India to watch the war games which would add military component to Indo-Russian anti-terror cooperation, which up to now was limited to exchange of information by intelligence agencies of the two countries, state-run "Voice of Russia" radio said.

Meanwhile, a senior Russian Defence Ministry official has proposed staging trilateral war games of the Russian, Indian and Chinese militaries next

year," AVN military news agency reported.

Commenting on the eight-day Sino-Russian, which ended on Thursday in China, the senior defence official said that India could probably join another Russian-Chinese drill to be held within the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) next year.

"It would not be a bad idea if Russia, India and China stage joint military exercises. It is not ruled out that SCO member-states, including those which have an observer status, may join Russia and China for these manoeuvres," the official said.

Russia and China recently stage their first-ever joint war games involving 10,000 troops as well as long-range bombers, fighter jets and warships. — *MNA/PTI*

China, Africa satisfied with China's forum follow-up actions

BEIJING, 29 Aug — China and Africa are satisfied with the follow-up actions of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a senior Chinese diplomat said here on Sunday.

Xu Jinghu, secretary-general of the Secretariat of the Chinese Follow-up Committee and director of the African Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry made the remarks after the Fourth Senior Officials Meeting of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum, which was held in Beijing August 22-23.

"Delegates to the

meeting appreciated China's efforts on implementing the follow-up actions after the second ministerial conference," Xu said.

China has carried out a series of effective measures within the forum framework, such as reducing or exempting some African countries' debts, granting duty-free for some African products and training 10,000

talented people for African countries.

At the forum, the two sides agreed that China would host a summit meeting involving leaders of China and African countries next year in Beijing, accompanied by the third ministerial meeting of the forum.

The summit will provide a chance for leaders of China and African countries to exchange views on Sino-African relations and major issues of common concern, Xu said.

"The summit to be held next year is a milestone in Sino-African friendly cooperation history and will bring an important influence to maintaining and enhancing a long-term stability, mutual benefit and an all-round cooperation partnership," Xu said.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish liner grounded in Paris airport over fuel leak

PARIS, 29 Aug — An Airbus A300-B4 of the Turkish airline Fly Air with 148 passengers on board was grounded at Paris Charles-de-Gaulle Airport on Saturday and -barred from flight again Sunday after a second inspection, French civil aviation authority DGAC said on Sunday.

According to DGAC officials, a small fuel leak was discovered on the left side of the aircraft and unauthorized tyres were used on two of the plane's wheels. — *MNA/Xinhua*

Turkey sees 35% jump in crime in first half of 2005

ANKARA, 29 Aug — The number of recorded crimes committed in Turkey in the first six months of this year jumped by over a third from the same period in 2004, Turkish newspapers said on Saturday.

The number of crimes rose 35.5 per cent to 234,721 cases.

Burglaries increased by 50 per cent, muggings by 55 per cent and pick-pocketing by 71 per cent, they said, quoting a report by the Ankara Chamber of Commerce (ATO) compiled from police data. Istanbul, Turkey's biggest city and main business hub, saw the highest level of criminality.

The number of crimes committed there rose by 40 per cent between 2000 and 2004.

MNA/Reuters

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refresher courses for teachers. Opening of the courses is also aimed at enabling the teachers to know teaching methods, prevailing conditions of the State and efforts of the government and to have the sense of serving the interests of the nation.

By attending the special refresher courses, teachers will gain more knowledge and experiences, and their capabilities will improve. Only then will the education of their students improve. The Secretary-1 said teachers are responsible not only for discharging duties in education sector but also for serving interests of the State. Nowadays, the Union of Myanmar is systematically implementing



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets trainees of special refresher course No 23 for basic education teachers. — MNA

Discharging educational tasks is building the basic foundations for national development

the political, economic and social objectives for the country to be able to stand tall among the international community with its development of socio-economy. At a time when the nation is trying its utmost to develop in all aspects with its own resources, some big nations that have financial and technological edge are interfering in the affairs of the country imposing pressure in various ways.

A glance at the international community will reveal the very rapid development of science and technology, and there has been technological divide among the global nations. Taking advantage of this technology, those big nations are trying to expand their power. Consequently, developing nations have to face challenges. In

addition, ideological and political conflicts and protectionism of some super powers are rife in many parts of the world. That is why developing nations like Myanmar are facing waves of challenges.

He said that the nation can safeguard the dignity and interest of the people and hers only if it can firmly build her strength a combination of the citizens' high education level, knowledge, consideration, science and technological development, and patriotism. In reality, the nation passed through a rough course in history for about 150 years. The nation has started to enjoy the good results of peace, stability, tranquillity and progress for over ten years. Till now the nation is not totally free from the evil legacy of the colonial subjugation, per-

sonality cult and ideological and racial prejudices. She is still in the process of freeing totally herself from those evil legacies. She is also warding off the perpetration to dominate her by trying to break up the national unity, and drive in a wedge to weaken and break up the Union for recurrence of the evil situation the nation faced soon after regaining independence.

Since assumption of the State duties, the Tatmadaw has been solving the problem of armed insurgency of the nationalities, the evil legacy of narcotic drugs, backwardness, and infrastructure insufficiency, while working overtime to ensure peace and stability of the nation, and improve the education, health and social standard the people.

In his address de-

livered at the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2005, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said, "The enormous transition task must be implemented step by step in building a new discipline-flourishing democratic nation. We should consolidate the political strength, the economic strength and defence strength, while restoring national peace and stability and consolidation. In addition to implementing the national education promotion programmes, we all must produce and develop qualified human resources. Moreover, we should strive to increase per capita income, further improve the living standard and uplift the health and fitness of the people". According to the guidance, the government has been striving to promote all sectors for sound development of the nation. Thus, the Union is witnessing the emergence of development infrastructures and enterprises owned by nationality entrepreneurs.

The national unity and Union Spirit are vitalizing and flourishing among the national races, and health, education and social standards are rising according to the targets. As the health, education and social sectors are us-

ing advanced technologies and ICT in a wide array of areas, the nation can now take pride in her steps towards development and modernization. Thanks to the collective efforts of the government and the entire nation including teachers, Myanmar is developing in all sectors despite the sanctions. Thus, the nation needs to strive to develop the efficiency of the people, uplift the health and education standard. In addition, the education sector should play a role to further enhance the qualification of the new generations for continuous flourishing of the national strength. Today's youths should be shaped according to the nation's requirement to enable them to build and defend the future nation with high qualification, efficiency and morale.

The teachers are urged to strive to develop the human resources that will help develop and perpetuate the nation, to promote and propagate science and technologies, and to use the science and technologies effectively in serving the national interest.

He said education promotion programmes were implemented at different levels in basic education sector in 1998.

The national education special four-year project was launched in 2000 in combination with basic education and higher education sectors. The 30-year national education promotion project was undertaken in the second year of the special four-year project in accord with the work programmes. Efforts and cooperation of teachers from basic education school, faculty members, educational researchers, scholars, those in educational management, students and the people are very satisfactory, he said.

He said the success of the ten tasks of basic education sector of the 30-year national education promotion project including completion of basic education level, uplift of basic education, creating opportunities for modern teaching and learning, cultivation of qualified citizens and promotion of basic education activities with the cooperation of the people depends on hard work and efforts of teachers in different regions.

He also said that progress of schools and their situations, promotion of education and full supply of teaching and learning aids much depend on organizational power of the teachers.

(See page 9)

A glance at the international community will reveal the very rapid development of science and technology, and there has been technological divide among the global nations. Taking advantage of this technology, those big nations are trying to expand their power. Consequently, developing nations have to face challenges. In addition, ideological and political conflicts and protectionism of some super powers are rife in many parts of the world. That is why developing nations like Myanmar are facing waves of challenges.

Discharging educational tasks...

(from page 8)

He said educational tasks of the basic education teachers are not ordinary ones. Discharging educational tasks is building the foundations for national development. Especially, development of the education sector and national education promotion tasks are one of the most basic parts of nation-building tasks, he

pointed out.

The government has been striving to achieve all-round development, to become strong national economic life, to develop human resource, to build infrastructures on development, to raise health and education standards and to narrow the gap between rural and urban development with the strength of the

people while overcoming political and economic crises and pressures. Nowadays achievements have been made, he added.

History has proved that no political system enables the country to be stable, peaceful and developed one in the long run unless better education, health, social and economic foundations are

built and there is national solidarity and Union spirit. Therefore, the government is building political, economic and social foundations. Based on stability, development and good results, the government is implementing the seven-point road map. The national convention, the basic step of the seven-point road map, is now ready to resume soon. He urged the teachers to discharge the na-

tional duties and promotion of national education tasks and to make efforts for success of the seven-point road map upholding lofty aims of development of the country on the right path to the national interest and perpetuation of the Union as long as the world exists. In conclusion, he urged them to discharge the national duties in education sector for rural and national development

with greater momentum and to participate in the efforts for successful implementation of the seven-point road map for emergence of a peaceful modern developed nation.

Next, The Secretary-1 and party greeted the teachers. The five-week course is being attended by 1,000 teachers from states and divisions in upper Myanmar.

MNA

Phaungkata Dam is constructed in order to turn Sagaing division into granary of Upper Myanmar

(from page 16)

on which most of the rural people rely on.

In his message sent to the 75th anniversary of National Day, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that now is the time when all are to march towards new, modern and developed nation with zeal applying the abundant resources of the State.

The Head of State occasionally gave guidance on building dams and reservoirs for development of the agriculture. In accord with the guidance given by the Head of State, irrigation

facilities throughout the country and the dam opened today is the 19th one in Sagaing Division and 177th of its kind in the country after 1988.

In conclusion, the minister said that with the increase in crop production it is sure that living standard of local farmers will rise. He also pledged that the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation will contribute to economic development of the State.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye made a speech. He said that the emergence of Phaungkata Dam in

Salingyi Township will contribute much to availability of potable water and greening of the region in addition to supply of water for agriculture purpose.

Altogether 19 dams small and large have been constructed in Sagaing Division at a cost of K 13075.18 million since 1988. Those irrigation facilities are now benefiting over 371,444 acres of farmland, he noted.

Ngwetha Dam, Salingyi Dam and newly opened Phaungkata were constructed in Salingyi Township while Thazi Dam, Htanzalut Dam,

Nwekhwe Dam, Letyetma Dam, Myaukyama Dam, Taungyama Dam, Kyetmauk and Leti Dam, Letpan Dam and Myohtit Dam were constructed in the environs adjacent to Salingyi Township after 1988.

The government constructed a large number of dams and reservoirs one after another the length and breadth of the nation for development of agriculture and the Phaungkata Dam is the 177th of its kind. The dam will be able to benefit about 1500 sown acreage in Salingyi Township, he stressed.

As Sagaing Division has favourable conditions for growing paddy, cotton, sugarcane, various kinds of gram the country has to rely on it. Moreover, Phaungkata Dam was built to help the division make rice bowl of Upper Myanmar. With the emergence of the facility, farmers of the region will be able to fully engage in cultivation of paddy and other cash crops.

The dam opened today according the requirement of the region will contribute to development of agricultural sector as well as greening the region. Hence, local authorities and the people are to safeguard the dam for its durability and strive for ensuring ever greening of the catchment area.

Next, a local from Salingyi Township thanked the government for construction of the dam in the township.

Later, the commander and the minister greeted those present on the occasion.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo speaks at the opening of Phaungkata Dam in Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division. (A&I)



Next, at the auspicious time, the commander unveiled the stone inscription of the dam.

Next, the commander and the minister sprinkled the stone inscription with scented water.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister formally opened the dam.

Next, they had a documentary photo taken together with officials of the project, social organizations and local people.

After that, they inspected main embankment of the dam, water control tower, spillway and storage of water.

After the opening ceremony, the commander and the minister at the briefing hall heard a report presented by an official of Construction-4 of the Irrigation Department on construction

of the dam and arrangements for supply of irrigated water to farmlands.

Next, officials of Myanma Agriculture Services and Agricultural Mechanization Department reported on arrangements being made for cultivation of crops that suit the region and earth work.

Later, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo called for providing necessary assistance to farmers for development of agricultural sector.

Next, the commander and the minister inspected reclamation of land in irrigated areas and fulfilled the requirements.

The 4,370 feet long and 75 feet high dam can store 7430 acre feet of water. With its irrigated area of 1,500 acres the dam will be contributing much to greening of the region.—MNA

Energy Minister attends ceremony of drilling test well

YANGON, 29 Aug — Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi together with Director-General U Soe Myint of Energy Planning Department and Managing Director U San Lwin of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise attended the ceremony of drilling Zawtika (1) test well at the work site No M-9 of Mottama offshore oil exploration this morning.

At the briefing hall on Frontier Duchess, Resident Manager Mr Prapat Sonpongpipat of Thailand Exploration and Production Int'l (PTTEPI) Co extended greetings.

Next, Drilling Engineer Mr Sarit Rattanachan reported matters related to the M-9 and future programmes to the minister. The minister and officials made discussions. Minister Brig-Gen

Lun Thi gave necessary instructions and then presented the fruit Basket to official.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi started the drilling at work site No M-9 which is adjacent to the Yadana Gas Field currently transporting the gas to Thailand.

PTTEPI Co will continue drilling the new test oil wells in 2005-2006.—MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi starts the drilling of Zawtika (1) test well at the work site No M-9 of Mottama offshore oil exploration. — ENERGY

Altogether 19 small and large dams have been constructed in Sagaing Division at a cost of K 13075.18 million since 1988. Those irrigation facilities are now benefiting over 371,444 acres of farmland.

Industry-1 Minister inspects vest factory project in Taungtha

YANGON, 29 Aug — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang on 27 August went to vest factory construction project in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Division, and inspected construction of buildings.

The factory project is being implemented by Myanmar Textile Industries on 61.19 acres of land. It is expected that the factory will produce 2 million of clothes per year upon completion.

Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang on 27 August morning attended the inauguration ceremony of the new school building for monastic education at Myayphyugon Village Monastery in Taungtha Township, Myingyan District in Mandalay Division. At a ceremony, the minister accepted the cash donation amounted to K 1.6 million donated by

wellwishers for construction of a new school building in the monastery compound. Minister U Aung Thuang also contributed K 5 million towards the construction fund. In the afternoon, the minister went to Ayeyyan Village in the township and inspected the construction of a hospital in the village and fulfilled the requirements. The minister also accepted K 3.5 million donated by wellwishers for the hospital construction. — MNA

Construction Minister inspects Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon), Myitnge Bridge

YANGON, 29 Aug — Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun on 28 August arrived at Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) in Sagaing and fulfilled the requirements for the construction.

The bridge is 5614 ft in length and 49 ft in width flanked by 5-foot-wide walk ways.

It can withstand 60

tons of load.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by officials of Public Works, also went to Myitnge Bridge construction project this morning to assess the preparation for inauguration ceremony of the bridge.

At the project, the minister inspected progress of the bridge.

Myitnge Bridge is lo-

cated at Milepost No 421/3 on Yangon-Mandalay Highway.

It is 840 feet long and 72 feet wide. It can withstand 75 tons of load. It will be inaugurated in near future.

Afterwards, the minister inspected the bridges along Kyaukse-Minsu-Myittha Road in a motorcade.

MNA

Management Course No 3 (Grade-2) of GAD launched



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo addresses opening ceremony of Management Course No 3 (Grade-2) of the General Administration Department. — MNA

YANGON, 29 Aug — Management Course No 3 (Grade-2) of the General Administration Department-GAD was opened this afternoon at the training school of the General Administration Department in Mingaladon Township with an opening address by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

In his opening address, the minister urged the trainees to carry out the public welfare tasks in conformity with rules and regulations, to become the government employees people love and not to become a burden to the people. A total of 50 trainees are attending the 10-week course. — MNA

C-in-C's (Navy) Shield Volleyball Championship commences

YANGON, 29 Aug — Commander-in-Chief's (Navy) Shield Volleyball Championship for 2005 was launched this morning at Ayeyawady Naval Regional Command Headquarters.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Col Aye Pe of the Ayeyawady Naval Regional Command Headquarters delivered an opening address. A total of 12 teams will participate in the championship till 6 September. — MNA

Workshop on environmental affairs held

YANGON, 29 Aug — The Third National Workshop on National Performance Assessment and Strategic Environment Framework for the Greater Mekong Subregion Project Phase-II organized by the Myanmar National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA) in cooperation with Asian Development Bank (ADB) and United Nations Environment Program-Regional Resource Centre Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-PRC-AP) was held at Sedona Hotel this morning.

The workshop was participated by the representatives of the government departments concerned, officials of NCEA, representatives from universities, NGOs and UNEP-PRC-AP and ADB.

In the morning session, Joint Secretary of the NCEA, Daw Yin Yin Lay explained the workshop programme and the agenda. Afterwards, presentations on Strategic Environment Framework Phase-II overall Work Plan and the Contribution of National and Environmental Performance Assessment (EPA) were made by the representatives of the Project Secretariat.

The Finalization Stage of National EPA was presented by project international consultants. In the afternoon session, presentations of the data fact sheets and EPA report were made by the project national consultants. The workshop continues tomorrow. MNA

Works of YCU's graduate students exhibited

YANGON, 29 Aug — Works of the students who graduated from University of Culture (Yangon) in 2004-2005 were exhibited in conjunction with the musical performance show this afternoon at National Theatre in Dagon Township.

Before the performance, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Attorney-General U Aye Maung and Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung cordially greeted the students.

Next, the minister and guests viewed the works and theses of the students displayed at the

Department. The students who participated in the exhibition and performance

are the 9th batch to graduate from the university.

MNA



Culture Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and party view works of students from Yangon University of Culture, displayed at National Theatre.

MNA

Stipend, stationery donated to Kayin Seik model village BEPS

YANGON, 25 Aug — A ceremony to present stipend, stationery and bags in conjunction with setting up stipend for four girls' basic education, sponsored by Myanmar Entrepreneur Association and "Pyinnya Mikhin Association" was held at Kayin Seik model village Basic Education Primary School (Branch) in Thanlyin Township on 26 August.

Chairperson of MEA Thiri Thudhamtheingi Daw Khin Myint Myint extended greetings and Adviser Sayamagi Daw Yi Yi Myint delivered an address. Vice-chairperson Daw Thet Yi, members of MEA and the wellwishers donated the stationery, the bags and stipend to the school and the four girls.

The headmistress of the school expressed thanks for donation. — MNA

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

Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air), wellwishers donate provisions, cash to monasteries in Yangon



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents offertories to a Sayadaw at a ceremony to donate Waso robes to Sayadaws by Hindus. — MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents offertories to a Sayadaw at a ceremony to donate provisions to six monasteries in Ahlon Township. — MNA

YANGON, 28 Aug — Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated cash, rice, edible oil, salt, medicines and

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Social Wel-

thorities, members of social organizations and donors.

Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers

to members of Sangha.

Today's donation towards six Sarthintaiks in Ahlon Township were 205 bags of rice, 155 viss of edible oil, 131.5 viss

oil, salt, medicines and gram to 18 Pariyatti Sarthintaiks in Tamway, Mingalar Taungnunt Townships of Yangon East District this after-

Today's donation towards 18 Sarthintaiks in Tamway, Mingalar Taungnunt Townships were 387 bags of rice, 163 viss of edible oil, 293



Maj-Gen Tin Soe, Captain Naval Staff Captain Thura Thet Swe and Lt-Col Than Swe offer provisions to a Sayadaw at a ceremony to donate provisions to six monasteries in Ahlon Township. — MNA



Maj-Gen Mya Win, Captain Naval Staff Captain Thura Thet Swe and Col Chan Maung present offertories to a Sayadaw at a ceremony to donate provisions to six monasteries in Ahlon Township. — MNA

gram to six Pariyatti Sarthintaiks in Yangon West District and 18 others in Yangon East District this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Presiding Sayadaws of Pariyatti Sarthintaiks, Chairman of

fare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Vice Chairman of YCDC Vice Mayor Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, local au-

thorities, members of social organizations and donors. Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated cash, rice, edible oil, salt, medicines and gram to six Pariyatti Sarthintaiks in Ahlon Township of Yangon West District this afternoon. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Presiding Sayadaw Bhadanta Sukata and shared merits gained.

Next, Maj-Gen Myint Swe offered provisions to Sayadaw Bhadanta Sujata.

Afterwards, the deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, senior military officers and wellwishers donated provisions to members of Sangha.

On behalf of families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air), Maj-Gen Mya Win of the Ministry of Defence, Captain Naval Staff Captain Thura Thet Swe and Staff Officer (Air) (Mechanical) Col Chan Maung offered provisions

of gram, 380 viss of dried fish, 731 soap cakes, 731 bars of washing soap, 731 viss of iodized salt, 146 tooth paste boxes, 430 dozens of traditional medicines and K 40.71375 million.

Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated cash, rice, edible

oil, salt, medicines and gram to 18 Pariyatti Sarthintaiks in Tamway, Mingalar Taungnunt Townships of Yangon East District this afternoon. First, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Mingalar Taungnunt Aungmyay Beikman Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dhammisara and shared merits gained.

Next, Maj-Gen Myint Swe and those present donated provisions to members of Sangha.

viss of gram, 865 viss of dried fish, 1631 soap cakes, 1631 bars of washing soap, 1631 viss of iodized salt, 476 tooth paste boxes, 500 chilly powder packets, 1536 ball pens, 2355 boxes and 2500 packets of traditional medicines and K 13.466055 million.

MNA



WASO ROBES OFFERED TO MEMBERS OF THE SANGHA: Vice-Chairman of the Sanantana Dhamma-palaka Organization U Kyi Min offered Waso robes and provisions to a Sayadaw at the ceremony organized by the Sanantana Dhammapalaka Organization to offer "soon" and Waso robes to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaws and members of the Sangha of State Pariyatti Sasana University held at Mogok Refectory on Kaba Aye Hill on 28-8-2005. — H



Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko accepts cash donation at a ceremony to donate provisions to six monasteries in Ahlon Township. — MNA

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (595)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA MERCHANT VOY NO (595) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-8-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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**Turkish cargo ship
sinks in Black Sea**

ANKARA, 28 Aug—A Turkish cargo ferry sank off the shore of Turkey's Black Sea city of Trabzon, a port official said on Saturday. The ship *Ufuk-1* caught fire on Thursday for unknown reason and a tug-boat reached the scene Friday night to try to pull the ship, Muzaffer Ermiş, the head of the Trabzon Port's Management, was quoted by the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

**Regulation on Narcotic, Psychotropic Drugs
promulgated in China**

BELING, 27 Aug — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao has signed an order for the promulgation of Regulation on Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs, which will take effect on 1 November, 2005.

The regulation aims to beef up control over narcotic and psychotropic drugs, ensure the legal, safe and appropriate usage of narcotic and psychotropic drugs and curb them from illegal distribution channels.

Issued in 89 articles of nine chapters, the regulation covers planting, laboratory research, production, distribution, usage, storage, transportation, registration and supervision of narcotic and psychotropic drugs,

and legal penalties of violation.

According to the regulation, the state bans any social unit or individual from planting, laboratory research, production, distribution, usage, storage and transportation of narcotic and psychotropic drugs.

The state administration will set annual production plans of narcotic and psychotropic drugs, and the state agricultural administration will set annual

planting plans in compliance with the production plans. Those enterprises allowed to produce and plant narcotic and psychotropic drugs must report to the relevant local and state departments on a regular basis.

The state administration will set the number and allocation of production enterprises of narcotic and psychotropic drugs in accordance with demands and make adjustment every year.—MNA/Xinhua

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**Myers rules out
drastic reduction
in US troops in Iraq**

WASHINGTON, 28 Aug—The Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff General Richard B Myers has ruled out deep cuts in American troop levels in Iraq next year, saying there is "a possibility" for "some reduction" if political and military progress continues.

"If the political process continues, then there is a possibility we might be able to reduce forces. But sharp reductions — nobody, no senior commander, has talked about sharp reductions. And we must have to see what plays out," he said

He was contradicting Army General George Casey, the top US commander in Iraq, who spoke last month about a "substantial" drawdown from the current 138,000 American forces in the spring of 2006.

Some US officials have said privately that "substantial" could translate into a 40,000-troop reduction.

MNA/PTI



A Thai elephant who lost a foot after stepping on a landmine six years ago has had a temporary limb fitted. Motala will have daily practice walking with the limb, say vets. — INTERNET

ADB to help Vietnam fight infectious diseases

MANILA, 28 Aug — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will help the Vietnam combat communicable and emerging lifestyle diseases through a loan and grant package totalling 38 million US dollars, an ADB news release said on Friday.

The project will address new challenges in areas such as food safety,

occupational health, and school health, by upgrading preventive health centres with new equipment and training in 46 of Vietnam's 64 provinces and four national institutes.

About 3,500 local health workers will receive training in community health under the project. Refresher and intensive courses will be

offered to 2,500 staff and an additional 350 staff will receive post-graduate training.

Furthermore, the project will build capacity in the health surveillance system, and support the planning and technical capacity of the preventive health system and health surveillance system.—MNA/Xinhua

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India to host second Children's World Congress in September

NEW DELHI, 27 Aug— India will host the second Children's World Congress on child labour and education from 4 September, an official of the Global March against Child Labour told *Xinhua* on Friday.

The five-day meeting to be held in Indian capital New Delhi is likely to draw together some 200 child delegates, with a majority of them former child labourers from over 40 countries, said chairperson Kailash Satyarthi. It would help empower children to lead worldwide efforts to end child labour practice and also to ensure free, quality education for all children.

"We are hopeful that the five-day congress would not only address the twin issue of education and child labour with utmost sincerity, but also question the authorities that words unless translated in action cannot be the solution to this global issue."

The meeting is also expected to adopt the New Delhi Declaration on Child Labour and Education, which will be submitted to the fifth meeting of the High-level Group on Education For All, to be held in Beijing from 28 November this year, Satyarthi said.

The High-level Group meeting is convened annually by the UNESCO and it brings together some 30 ministers of education and of international cooperation, heads of development agencies and civil society representatives.

Its mandate, given under the Dakar Framework, is to sustain and accelerate the political momentum created at the World Education Forum and serve as a lever for resource mobilization.

"Education For All" is a global compact that commits countries to achieve universal primary school enrollment, establish full gender equality in primary and secondary enrollment and cut adult illiteracy levels in half, all by 2015. According to the UNESCO EFA Global Monitoring Report 2004, 115 million primary-school-age children are out of school in India, and another 150 million children start primary school but drop out before they learn to read and write.

MNA/Xinhua

Hurricane "Katrina" rearms after Florida havoc

MIAMI, 27 Aug — Hurricane Katrina recharged on Friday for a second and potentially more powerful assault on the US coast after killing up to seven people on a rampage across densely populated southeast Florida.

Katrina was briefly downgraded to a tropical storm as it churned across the swampy Everglades after dousing Miami and Fort Lauderdale, but turned back into a hurricane with 100-mph winds as it moved over warm Gulf waters.

It was projected to become a dangerously powerful hurricane with winds of at least 131 mph by late Sunday or early Monday, threatening US oil and gas rigs in the Gulf of Mexico and already storm-scarred Gulf Coast communities from the Florida Panhandle to low-lying New Orleans.

"We have ample resources to meet whatever comes," said Florida Governor Jeb Bush.

Katrina dumped up to 12 inches of rain after coming ashore south of Fort Lauderdale on Thursday with 80 mph winds. It then made a slow and punishing trek southwest

across Miami, the US National Hurricane Centre said.

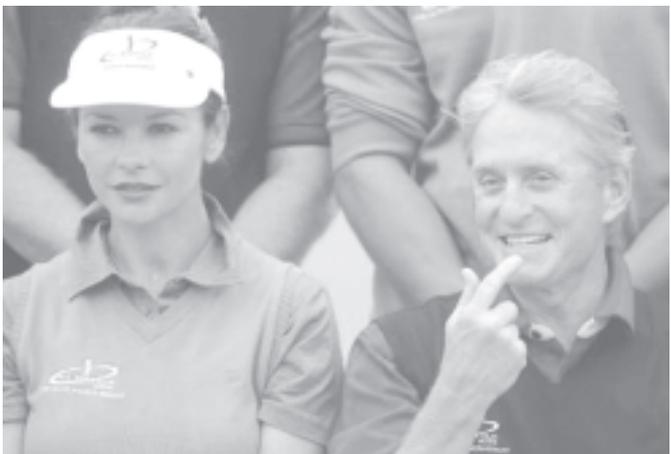
Insured losses from Katrina's first strike could reach one billion US dollars to two billion US dollars, said Risk Management Solutions, a Newark, California-based forecaster. Risk estimator AIR Worldwide forecast 600 million US dollars in insured losses.

Sheets of rain flooded communities and fierce gusts stripped tiles off roofs, tore away mosquito screens and shattered trees.

Floodwaters were high-high in the Cutler Ridge area south of Miami, where at least one person jet-skied down a street.

"There's debris, there are tree limbs all over. Traffic lights are out," Broward County Sheriff Ken Jenne said. "Don't get in your car."

MNA/Reuters



British actress Catherine Zeta-Jones (L) sits by her husband Michael Douglas of the US during team photographs at the beginning of the All Star Cup celebrity golf tournament at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport, South Wales, on 27 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Romania drafting US Black Sea base deal

BUCHAREST, 27 Aug — Romania is drafting a deal with Washington to set up US military bases on the Black Sea, Romanian Defence Minister Teodor Atanasiu said on Thursday.

The United States wants to shift its European strategic focus eastwards, and new NATO members Romania and Bulgaria have been promoting airfields and bases as potential new hubs for US forces as Washington pulls 70,000 troops out of Central Europe and Asia in the next decade.

MNA/Reuters

33 major accidents claim 951 Chinese lives in Jan, Aug '05

BEIJING, 27 Aug — From January to 21 August, a total of 33 major accidents claimed the lives of 951 persons, up 43.5 per cent and 134.2 per cent from the same period last year, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) Li Tiejing said Thursday.

Li made a report on the implementation of the law on work safety to the 17th meeting of the 10th NPC Standing Committee on Thursday. He said in his report that more than 700,000 Chinese are injured in workplace accidents every year, and the annual economic losses from the accidents amount to 250 billion yuan. In addition, about 700,000 people are afflicted by occupational diseases every year.

He said in recent years, severe coal mine accidents often occurred, causing tremendous casualties and economic losses. Therefore the NPC paid great attention to coal mine safety in its law enforcement inspection

launched early this year. The law enforcement inspection group found that gas explosion had become the country's "number one killer" of coal miners.

According to the work safety administration, since 1949 China has had 19 severe coal mine accidents each resulting in more than 100 deaths, and 15 among the 29 were caused by gas explosion. The deaths from the 19 accidents numbered 3,162.

From 2002 to 21 August, 2005, 29 major coal mine accidents killed 1,743 miners in the country; 24 out of the 29 accidents were caused by gas explosion, killing 1,578 miners. —MNA/Xinhua

Cardiovascular disease becoming major health problem in Africa

MAPUTO, 27 Aug — The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) have become a major and growing public health problem in the African region, local media reported on Thursday.

The warning was contained in a report presented here on Wednesday by WHO Regional Director for Africa Luis Sambo at the ongoing 55th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa on 22-26 August.

The report attributes the growing threat of CVDs to several factors, including a rise in the consumption of tobacco products, unhealthy diet, a reduction in physical activity, and an increase in aged populations.

Sambo expressed concern that the emergency of

CVDs in Africa has not been matched by corresponding health service structures and human resources.

"Current health care systems were developed to provide acute, episodic care, they are inadequately designed to care for people with chronic conditions such as CVDs," he said.

He proposed priority interventions to be implemented by countries in the region in order to curb the emerging epidemic of CVDs, with priority given to primary intervention. — MNA/Xinhua

NASA's rover "Spirit" reaches martian summit

LOS ANGELES, 27 Aug — The rover Spirit is now sitting atop the summit of a hill in southern Mars, mission scientists were overjoyed Friday in achieving the exploration high point.

The robotic rover had driven more than nine months before it reached the top of Husband Hill, about 80 metres above the floor of Gusev Crater, said Steve Squyres, lead scientist working with the rover mission of US space agency NASA.

The Husband Hill, one of the Columbia Hills around the Gusev Crater, is named after Rick Husband, an astronaut killed in shuttle Columbia's disaster in 2003.

Spirit's climb and arrival at the summit is a milestone, said Squyres. A lot of credit goes to the rover planners, the engineers who plot out the drives and movements of the instrument-tipped mechanical arm carried by each of the Mars rovers.

As Spirit sits atop the summit of Husband Hill, mission scientists have decided to have it shoot several panoramas from several spots on the borders of the summit plateau. —MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

Briton Rose holds on to Buick lead after early stumble

TORONTO, 29 Aug— Britain's Justin Rose, chasing his first PGA Tour title, recovered from a stuttering start to hold a two-shot lead with nine holes to play in the Buick Championship third round on Saturday.

The 25-year-old Englishman, four strokes clear overnight at the TPC at River Highland in Cromwell, Connecticut, had his advantage trimmed to just one after starting his day with bogeys at the first and fifth and slipping back to 10 under.

However, he rallied with back-to-back birdies on six and seven to get back to level for the day

and 12 under overall, two ahead of 2003 British Open Champion Ben Curtis, also with nine holes remaining.

Britain's Darren Clarke, seven off the pace at the start of the day, charged through the field with four birdies in the first 13 holes to secure third place on his own at nine under.

Defending champion Woody Austin fired a five-

under-par 65 to hold the clubhouse lead at eight-under 202, level with American compatriots Corey Pavin, after 13 holes, and Michael Putnam, after 12.

MNA/Reuters



Bayern Munich's midfielder Sebastian Deisler (2R) comforts Andreas Neuendorf of Hertha Berlin while team mates of Bayern Munich celebrating their victory after their German Bundesliga first division soccer match in Munich on 27 August, 2005. Bayern Munich won the match 3-0. —INTERNET

Kashima's lead in J-League cut to one point

TOKYO, 29 Aug— After topping the standings all season, Kashima Antlers' lead in the J-League was cut to one point following a 2-0 defeat at Tokyo Verdy on Saturday.

Brazilian striker Washington scored both Verdy's goals early in the second half, but Kashima were undone by Daiki Iwamasa's second first-half sending-off in a week.

Although Verdy had utility player Kazuyuki Toda and midfielder Jun Tamano dismissed late in the game, the Antlers could find no way back as Gamba Osaka closed to within a point of them in the standings.

Gamba left it late at home to champions Yokohama F-Marininos before veteran midfielder Mitsuteru Watanabe scored his second goal with a looping header in injury time to seal a 3-2 victory.

Urawa Reds leapt back into third place with a 2-0 win at Nagoya Grampus Eight, and Sanfrecce Hiroshima slipped one spot to fourth after being held to a 1-1 draw away to Kawasaki Frontale.

Bottom club Vissel Kobe edged Oita Trinita 2-1 at home, while the matches between Jubilo Iwata and FC Tokyo and Albirex Niigata and JEF United Chiba both ended in 1-1 draws. —MNA/Reuters

Rangers humbled at home by Hibernian

GLASGOW, 29 Aug— Scottish champions Rangers were humbled 3-0 at home by Hibernian in the Premier League following a hat-trick by substitute Ivan Sproule on Saturday.

Hearts extended their lead at the top with a 2-1 home win over Motherwell, Czech Rudi Skacel scoring the opener to register his fifth goal for the Edinburgh side in five league games.

Sproule lobbed Rangers keeper Ronald Waterreus after 67 minutes and cracked home a brilliant second before waltzing round the goalkeeper to seal a first league win at Ibrox in 10 years for Hibs.

"We started well, had a couple of chances, but I have to ask myself at the end of the game, instead of losing 3-0 why we didn't win 3-0," Rangers manager Alex McLeish told BBC Radio Scotland.

"These guys have done well this week (qualifying for the Champions League group stages) but we are back to reality. It just proves there are no guarantees in football," he added.

"It was a smash and grab job at the end. I did warn the players at the back when he (Sproule) came on that he was very quick."

MNA/Reuters



Tottenham Hotspur's Mido (L) argues with Chelsea's John Terry (R) after being sent off by referee Rob Styles (C) during their English Premier League soccer match at White Hart Lane in Tottenham, London, England, on 27 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Davenport too strong for Mauresmo at New Haven

NEW HAVEN (Connecticut), 29 Aug— Top seed Lindsay Davenport warmed up for next week's US Open by beating Amelie Mauresmo 6-4, 6-4 in New Haven Open final on Saturday.

The American, who will regain the world number one ranking from Russian Maria Sharapova on Monday, won the title for the first time having lost in the final on four previous occasions.

After losing the Wimbledon final to Venus Williams, having held a match point, Davenport suffered a back injury and pulled out of her opening match at the WTA event in Stanford at the beginning of August.

Davenport lost her world number one ranking to Sharapova last week but her back injury looked a thing of the past as she moved well against Mauresmo.

The Frenchwoman took almost three hours to win her semifinal against Spaniard Anabel Medina Garrigues, and though she competed well was unable to overpower Davenport.

The American broke in the first game of the match and, although second seed Mauresmo broke back for 3-3, the American broke again in the next game and held on to win the set.

A series of crunching baseline winners gave Davenport an early break in the second set and she went on to claim her third title of the year, the 48th of her career.

She won the US Open in 1998 and has reached at least the semifinals in seven of the past eight years. —MNA/Reuters



Lindsay Davenport of the United States holds up her trophy after defeating Amelie Mauresmo of France to win the final match of the New Haven Open in New Haven, Connecticut, on 27 August, 2005. Davenport won 6-4, 6-4 to become the number one ranked player in the world. —INTERNET

Manchester United beat Newcastle 2-0 in Premier League

LONDON, 29 Aug— Wayne Rooney scored one and made another for Ruud van Nistelrooy when Manchester United beat Newcastle 2-0 away in the Premier League on Sunday.

England striker Rooney lashed home the opener after pouncing on Jean-Alain Boumsong's error in the 66th minute.

Van Nistelrooy glanced a header wide and had a penalty appeal turned down before sealing the victory with a low shot in injury time.

Newcastle put new signing Albert Luque straight into the side, placing him in a three-pronged strike force alongside Alan Shearer and Kieron Dyer.

And the Spaniard quickly made an impact, unsuccessfully appealing for a penalty after colliding with John O'Shea early on. In the 13th minute, Luque thought he had made a dream start to his Newcastle career when he put the ball in the net after Shearer's shot was saved by Edwin van der Sar.

Newcastle's three-man midfield was coping well, particularly against a slightly out-of-sorts Cristiano Ronaldo.

The Portugal winger did break through once, but was thwarted by Shay Given who rushed out of his goal to block smartly.

Emre was forced off after 23 minutes when he tore his hamstring and Newcastle were forced into reshuffling their line-up as want-away midfielder Jermaine

Jenas came on.

But a strangely subdued Manchester United could not take advantage, finding Newcastle, who had by now replaced Dyer with Shola Ameobi, a stubborn opponent.

However, Newcastle did not look like scoring their first goal of the season and in turn becoming the first team to breach Manchester United's defence this term.

Van Nistelrooy should have opened the scoring when O'Shea delivered a superb cross from the right, but the Dutchman glanced his header wide.

Then a lapse in concentration from Boumsong allowed Rooney to nip ahead of him and collect van der Sar's long kick before rifling the ball home.

Moments later, Ronaldo looked as though he was hauled back by Stephen Carr when he was through on goal but the referee deemed otherwise.

If United were unhappy with that decision, they soon had another contentious one to ponder when van Nistelrooy tumbled in the area under challenge from Given and was booked for diving. But the Dutchman did finally register when he converted Rooney's cross in injury time to secure a victory which leaves Newcastle second-bottom of the table. —MNA/Xinhua

Bomb derails train in southern Russia's Dagestan

Moscow, 29 Aug— A blast derailed a passenger train in southern Russia's Dagestan republic late on Saturday, but no one was hurt in this latest attack to hit the volatile region, a regional Interior Ministry official said.

A passenger train running from Makhachkala, Dagestan's regional capital, to Astrakhan was blown up at around 23:00 Moscow Time (1900 GMT) on Saturday, a duty officer of Makhachkala's transport interior department told the *ITAR-TASS* news agency.

The train's locomotive and two carriages were derailed, *ITAR-TASS* said. At least 400 people were on board the train, which had nine carriages, and most of them were transferred to another train station nearby after the blast.

The *RIA-Novosti* news agency said the bomb had been planted under the railway tracks and was detonated as the train passed by.

Shortly after the blast, unidentified gunmen fired at a car carrying a Federal Security Service officer in Khasavyurt, who was heading for the site of the train blast. The officer was wounded and

later taken to hospital.

Dagestan is an impoverished region in Russia's North Caucasus, a region plagued by frequent bomb attacks and kidnappings targeted at security forces and civilians.

MNA/Xinhua

Two die as car crashes on to Cornish rail line

LONDON, 29 Aug— A man and a woman have died after their car crashed through a fence and fell 30 feet (9 metres) on to a railtrack in Cornwall, police said on Saturday.

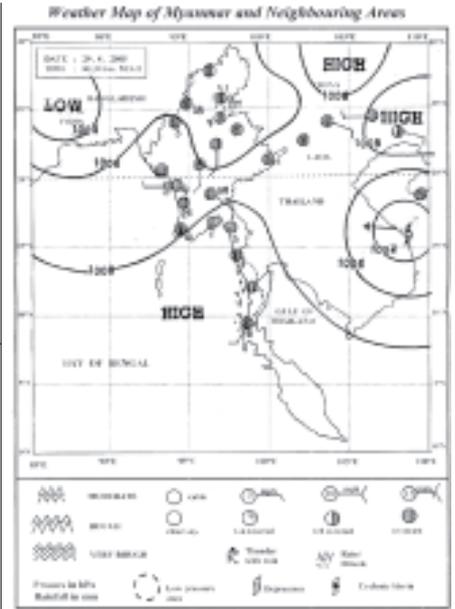
Two other women, who were passengers in the rear of the blue Vauxhall Corsa, are in hospital with serious but not life-threatening injuries.

The driver, a 21-year-old man from Plymouth, and his female front seat passenger, also thought to be from Plymouth, were confirmed dead at the scene of the accident.

Police had been

alerted at 1:45 am on Saturday morning after the car left the road from Looe towards Liskeard in South Cornwall and fell on to the Looe branch line track.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Monday, 29 August, 2005

Summary of the observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State and Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Ayeyawady Division, scattered in Shan and Chin States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Maungtau (2.60) inches, Taungoo (2.32) inches, Homalin (1.49) inches, Thandwe and Gwa (1.38) inches each. Mogok (1.30) inches. Kyauktaw and Kayan (1.10) inches each and Shwebo (0.24) inch.

Maximum temperature on 28-8-2005 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 28-8-2005 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 29-8-2005 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 28-8-2005 was 3.2 hrs approx.

Rainfalls on 29-8-2005 were 0.12 inch at Mingaladon, 0.04 inch at Kaba-Aye and 0.16 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were 68.58 inches at Mingaladon, 71.69 inches at Kaba-Aye and 78.62 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from northwest at (10:20) hours MST on 28-8-2005. **Bay inference:** Monsoon is weak in the Bay of Bengal. **Special feature:** According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, the tropical depression over the south China Sea has centred about 30 miles East of DA NANG (Vietnam) is moving West-Northwest wards and is crossing the Vietnam coast. **Forecast valid until evening of 30-8-2005:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Chin State, Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is 80%. **State of the sea:** Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Increase of rain in the Central Myanmar areas. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30 August 2005:** Some rain or thundershowers Degree of certainty is (80%). **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30 August 2005:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Warning

(Issued at (12:30) hrs MST on 29-8-2005)
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an is (742) cm. It may reach the danger level (750) cm during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at (12:30) hrs MST on 29-8-2005)
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Homalin is (2942) cm. It may fall below the danger level (2900) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.
According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk is (1091) cm. Although it is falling slightly, it may remain above the danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.



CASH DONATION—Hninzigon Home for the Aged Management Board accepts the cash donation. Miss Pornpan Thareechat, Bangkok, Thailand, donated K 243,000 to the Home recently.—H



Tuesday, 30 August
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music:
-You'll be in my heart
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music:
-Just playing
- 8.50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9.00 am Music:
-Will it ever
- 9.05 am International news
- 9.10 am Music
-I can't give you anything but my love
- 1.30 pm News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm Lunch time music
-I remember you
-Home sweet home
- 9.00 pm English Lesson:
Level III
Unit (10)
- 9.15 pm Article
- 9.25 pm Weekly sports reel
- 9.35 pm Music for your listening
-You got it
- 9.45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL

<p>Tuesday, 30 August Tune in today:</p>	<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am</p> <p>5. ကဗျာနိဂုံးညွှန်</p> <p>8:00 am</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:10 am</p> <p>7. Song of yesteryears</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>8. မြူးချောင်းတံတား</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>9. International news</p> <p>8:45 am</p> <p>10. Let's Go</p>	<p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. အဝေးသင်တန်းသို့ လိုပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယပိုင်း (ရုပ်စောအထူးပြု) (ရုပ်စော)</p> <p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. Dance of national races</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်/တေရသမအကြိမ် (လူကြီး) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကားအရူးအတီးပြိုင်ပွဲဝင် များလေးနိုင်ကြရန် (ကာလဆီ) တေးနှင့်အတီးဟောင်းတေး (ပညာရှင်အဆင့်) (အမျိုးသမီး)</p> <p>5:10 pm</p> <p>6. ခံစားနားဆင်တေးဇာတ်ဝင်</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. သားငါးပွဲမြို့ပြည့်အကျိုး</p> <p>5:30 pm</p> <p>8. The mirror images of musical oldies</p>	<p>5:40 pm</p> <p>9. Sing and Enjoy</p> <p>6:10 pm</p> <p>10. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရုပ်ရှင်ဆော့ပြော" (အပိုင်း-၁၀) ဝုရင်ဆီတေး" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>11. Evening news.</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>12. Weather report</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရွေးနိမလေးရဲ့ချစ်ပျိုပြိုင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)</p> <p>7:35 pm</p> <p>14. "ဘဝခေတ်နဲ့ မြန်မာ့ဂီတ" (အတီးပညာတာဝန်ရှိသူများအတွက်) (အပိုင်း-၇)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>15. News.</p> <p>16. International news.</p> <p>17. Weather report.</p> <p>18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရုပ်ရှင်ဆော့ပြော" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)</p> <p>19. The next day's programme</p>
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Phaungkata Dam opened in Salingyi Township, Sagaing Division contributes not only to agriculture sector but to greening the region



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye delivers an address at the opening ceremony of Phaungkata Dam in Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division.—MNA

YANGON, 29 Aug —The Phaungkata Dam in Salingyi Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division, built by the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation was opened at a ceremony at the pavilion

near the dam on 28 August morning with an address by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye.

Also present on the occasion were Min-

ister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, members of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council, chairmen of Monywa District and Salingyi Township PDCs and members, departmental officials, local people, social organizations and officials of ID numbering over 4,500.

First, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo made a speech on the occasion. He said that in Salingyi Township, Salingyin dam was opened last September and now Phaungkata Dam was commissioned

into service and thus these facilities will surely contribute towards agri-

cultural development and help raise the living standards of local people. The

government is encouraging the agriculture sector (See page 9)



Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo formally open the Phaungkata Dam in Salingyi Township, — MNA

The government constructed a large number of dams and reservoirs one after another the length and breadth of the nation for development of agriculture and the Phaungkata Dam is 177th of its kind. The dam will be able to benefit about 1,500 sown acreage in Salingyi Township,



Phaungkata Dam in Salingyi Township, the 177th facility built after 1988. — MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(29-8-2005)

Maungtaw	(2.60) inches
Toungoo	(2.32) inches
Homalin	(1.49) inches
Thandwe and Gwa	(1.38) inches
Mogok	(1.30) inches
Kyautaw and Kayang	(1.10) inches
Shwebo	(0.24) inch

INSIDE

The government is speeding up implementation of the 13 Districts Greening Project covering Mandalay Division year by year. It is also helping the region extend growing of the ten major crops, new crops and perennial crops and enjoy industrial development in a short time.