

**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

# Lt-Gen Maung Bo on inspection tour of Taninthayi Division

## Sufficiency of edible oil discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo and officials left Dawei by air and arrived in Myeik on 10 August.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party met Pro-rector Dr Than Swe of Myeik University, professors and faculty members at the university.

Present were the commander, members of Division Peace and Development Council, departmental personnel and local authorities.

Pro-rector Dr Than Swe reported on academic and management affairs, Chairman of Yuzana Co U Htay Myint on construction of the four-storey main lecture hall and Chairman of Myeik District Peace and Development Council U Kaung San Oo on arrangements for opening of the main hall.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo said Myeik and Dawei Universities, technological universities and uni-

versity of computer studies were opened in Taninthayi Division.

He urged the faculty members to nurture younger generation at the university to become good citizens.

He also spoke on maintenance of teaching aids and participation in the tasks for greening of the university and its environs.

Chairman of Yuzana Co U Htay Myint presented K 3 million for prize-presentation for outstanding students in Taninthayi Division to the commander.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party visited language lab and computer training centre and met the students.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected construction of convocation hall and observed bones of whale gathered on the shore of Ginga Island and fossils of fresh water and deep sea animals at the marine science museum.

He also observed booths of fisheries companies and marine products trading and cold storage to be displayed at the opening of the main lecture hall of Myeik University.



Lt-Gen Maung Bo of Ministry of Defence visits Myeik University.— MNA

The main lecture hall is 385 feet long and 281 feet wide. There is a convocation with 1,200 seating capacity and a lift.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo went to Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Office and addressed the meeting on sufficiency of edible oil in Taninthayi Division.

Officials concerned reported on cultivation and production of oil palm, other oil crops and allotment of land for oil palm companies.

Commander Maj-

Gen Khin Zaw Oo gave a supplementary report.

In Taninthayi Division 200,039 acres of oil palm, 164 acres of

groundnuts, 1,299 acres of sesamum and 36 acres of sunflower were grown in 2006-2007. Oil sufficiency is 94.89%.

Acreage of oil crops will be extended yearly according to the three-year plan.

MNA

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



## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 13 August, 2007

### Protect rare species of birds, flora and fauna

Nowadays, many countries are facing deforestation, bio-diversity dilapidation and desertification. And there has emerged environmental deterioration such as degradation of farmlands and soil deprivation. So, environmental conservation issue becomes a high priority for every country.

In Myanmar systematic measures are being taken for preservation of natural resources. The Ministry of Forestry in cooperation with relevant ministries has established protected public forest, wildlife sanctuaries and forest plantations.

Hukoung Valley, Khakaborazi National Park, Alaungdaw Kathapha National Park, Shwettaw Sanctuary, Inlay Lake Sanctuary, Indawgyi Lake Sanctuary and Moeyongyi Lake Sanctuary are the ones where various kinds of wildlife and bio-diversity can be found.

Nine species of bio-diversity out of 144 that are endangered species in the world can be found in Myanmar. Being blessed with bio-diversity and wider in area, Hukoung Valley is taking steps to increase the number of tigers.

The excessive extraction of forest and use of forest products and endangered species, slash and burn farming and pollution can have a great impact on the perpetual existence of bio-diversity.

The onus is on all the citizens to protect the nation's natural resources. The entire national people are to preserve protected public forests, rare species of birds and flora and fauna. Only then, will the whole environment flourish all the more.



To mark the birthday of U Tin Myint of Mayangon Township, K 100,000 was donated to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Treasurer U Aung Than recently.— 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

### NC delegates visit pagodas, attend service at church

YANGON, 12 Aug — The delegates to the National Convention together with officials of the invitation and reception subcommittee paid homage to the Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon) on Dhamma Pala Hill in Mayangon Township yesterday and presented cash donations to members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The NC delegates also paid homage to Padamya Myetshin Buddha Image on the upper terrace of Shwedagon Pagoda today.

They offered



Delegates to National Convention visit Tooth Relic Pagoda in Mayangon Township.—MNA

flowers, water, lights and joss-sticks to the Buddha images and donated cash.

The Christian delegates together with officials attended the service

at Nanthagon Kayin Baptist Church in Insein this morning. — MNA

### Respect paying ceremony of University's former athletes on schedule

YANGON, 12 Aug — The coordination meeting for organizing a ceremony to pay respects to trainers of University's former athletes was held at the hall of Kyaikkasan Archery Shooting Range, here, this afternoon, attended by Chairman of the Organizing Committee U Maung Maung (football) and Secretary U Kyaw Oo (SPED) and members. The ceremony will be held at the Universities' Dhammayon at 8 am on 26 August.

First, the chairman explained the purpose of holding the ceremony. Those present gave suggestions on holding the

An executive discusses holding first respects paying ceremony of former athletes of University team.

NLM



ceremony annually.

Former athletes will pay respects to Sports Officer (Retd) U Nyein, Professor (Retd) of Mandalay University U Ba Toke,

Minister for Education (Retd) Dr Khin Maung Win and Deputy Minister (Retd) Dr Maung Di who provided necessary assistance to turn out outstand-

ing athletes in football, volleyball, swimming, tennis, cycling, weightlifting and track and field events at the ceremony.

NLM

### Five members of Hlinethaya, Kyimyindine Township NLDs quit

YANGON, 12 Aug — Five members resigned from National League for Democracy Party of their own accord and sent their letters of resignation to NLD (Headquarters) and authorities concerned on 3 August.

They were: U Tet Toe, U Maung Htay and U Myint Lwin of Hlinethaya Township NLD and Daw Mya Yi and Daw Sein Ngwe of Kyimyindine Town-

ship NLD.

In their resignation letters sent to the NLD (Headquarters) and Hlinethaya and Kyimyindine Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommissions, they said they no longer supported acts of the party. That is why they quit the party of their own volition, they said.

MNA



**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**IEA says world needs more OPEC oil**

**LONDON, 11 Aug — The need for more OPEC oil is growing more urgent to avoid a worrying drop in global inventories faced with ever rising demand, the International Energy Agency said on Friday.**

The adviser to 26 industrialized countries said it was also closely monitoring the world's financial markets, rattled by the deterioration of the US subprime mortgage sector, and their potential impact on global oil demand. In its monthly Oil Market Report, the IEA repeated its call for the Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries to increase production when it meets

in September in Vienna.

"OPEC is leaving things late if it is to sustain market balance and avoid a sharp tightening of inventories," the report said.

The IEA said demand will rise by an average 2.2 million barrels per day in 2008, unchanged from its July estimate and up from this year's 1.5 million bpd.

Oil demand next year will average 88.2 million bpd, the agency said.

The growth in demand

will lift the need for OPEC oil in 2008 by 700,000 bpd to 32.1 million bpd. That is down 200,000 bpd from IEA's estimate in July. "With risks over non-OPEC supply and global demand arguably lying in the same direction (downward), there appears to be little chance of overshoot were OPEC to raise supply to the market," the report said.

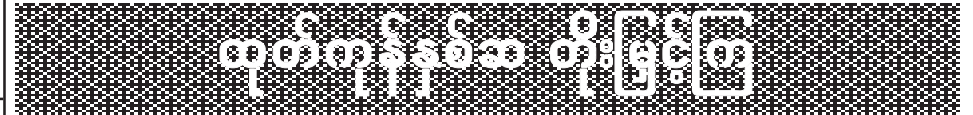
The outlook comes as oil prices have traded above 70 US dollars for the past five weeks.

US crude oil futures rose to an all-time high of 78.77 US dollars last week, but prices have since fallen amid a sell-off in equity markets due to a global credit squeeze.

Lawrence Eagles, head of the IEA's Oil Industry and Markets Division, said it was far too early to know whether problems in the US subprime mortgage sector will impact global oil demand.—MNA/Reuters



*Members of the Zunyi Acrobatic Troupe from China perform an exercise during a training session at Cercedilla's bullring, near Madrid, on 10 Aug, 2007. The group will perform their show in Madrid from 21 to 25 Aug, 2007.—XINHUA*



*A miniature Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests within the Temple of Heaven, made of 200 thousand diamonds is exhibited in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong province, on 10 Aug, 2007. — INTERNET*

**Diamond miniature of Hall of Prayer on exhibition in S China**

**BEIJING, 12 Aug —** An art miniature of the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests within the Temple of Heaven is being exhibited in Guangzhou, attracting visitors with the glitter from its special building materials, 200 thousand diamonds and precious stones.

The local leading

news outlet, dayoo.com, reports that the miniature is 1.38 metres high and is able to open its door automatically presenting to visitors a view of how an ancient emperor held a reverent petition ceremony.

Other valuable artworks, such as sculptures made of jade and wood, are also on exhibit in Panyu Yuguang Jewelry Company in Guangzhou in southern China.

The Temple of Heaven is located in southern Beijing. It was included in the UNESCO world heritage list in 1998. With an area of 2.7 million square metres, it is the largest of its kind in the country. Built in 1420, during the 18th year reign of Ming Emperor Yongle, the temple was for emperors to worship the heaven for good harvests.

Internet

**Lithuania probes mystery powder near nuclear plant**

**Vilnius 12 Aug —** Lithuanian police said on Saturday they were investigating several metal cylinders found

leaking an unidentified powder in a sensitive zone near the country's nuclear power plant.

The cylinders were

found in a forest about seven kilometres (four miles) from the Ignalina nuclear plant in northeast Lithuania.

"It is not radioactive, but its origin is still unclear," said a police officer for the district of Zarasai, in whose territory the powder was found.

"The samples are going to be examined at the laboratory of the environmental protection agency," he told Reuters.

"We are guarding the site and waiting for the results of examination," the officer added.

The cylinders were

found two kilometres (just over a mile) from a village which had not been evacuated, Lithuanian television said.

Unexploded bombs and shells are often found in rural areas and forests in Lithuania which have remained from World War II.

The Soviet-era Ignalina plant, which has the same type of reactor as caused the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster in Ukraine, will be closed in 2009 for safety reasons under a deal with the European Union.

MNA/Reuters

**Security forces attacked in southern Thailand**

**BANGKOK, 11 Aug —** At least six locations of the security forces were attacked by suspected insurgents in Thailand's southern Yala Province since Friday night to Saturday morning, injuring at least one soldier, according to local media Saturday.

Police source was quoted by the Bangkok Post's webnews as saying that insurgents attacked the security forces in Raman, Krong Pinang, Yaha and Than Tho districts. One soldier at Ban Sa-ae in Krong Pinang District were injured.

Also on Saturday morning, insurgents toppled three electricity poles in Yala's Muang District, which blocked traffic on Yala-Betong road, said the report.

They also placed a suspicious object near the location, but it turned out to be fake bomb.

Thailand's three southernmost provinces — Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani have been troubled with insurgency-related violence which has claimed more than 2,400 people's lives since 2004.

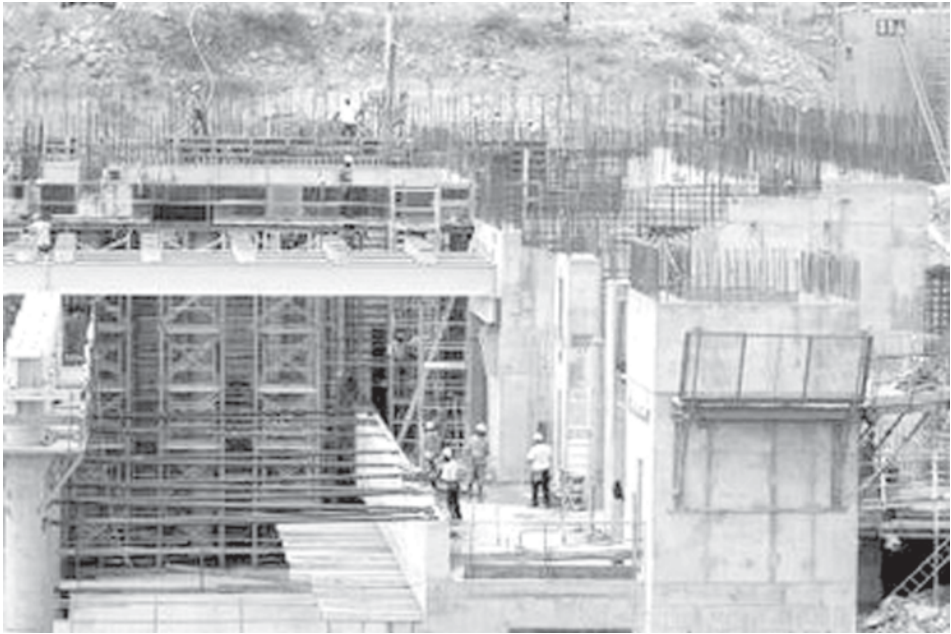
MNA/Xinhua



*South Korean protesters participate in an anti-war and anti-US candlelight rally on 10 Aug. Taliban representatives and members of a South Korean delegation meet face-to-face to negotiate the release of the remaining 21 hostages held.*

INTERNET





General view of the construction site for the Soyuz launch site at the Kourou Space Centre in French Guiana on 9 Aug, 2007. Construction should be complete at the end of 2008 with the first launch of a Soyuz-ST medium launch vehicle from the Kourou Space Centre in 2009. —INTERNET

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**Ecuador, Venezuela to study building giant oil refinery**

QUITO, 11 Aug — Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa and visiting Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Thursday agreed to conduct a joint feasibility study on building giant oil refinery in Ecuador. The refinery in Ecuador's Pacific coast province of Manabi which is expected to have a daily processing capacity of 300,000 barrels of oil and cost nearly five billion

US dollars to build. The two leaders also agreed to boost the strength of Sacha, an oil field in Orellana Province, in Ecuador's Amazon region. Ecuador's state oil company currently produces close to 42,732 barrels a day of 27 degree API oil from Sacha. At the start of the year, Venezuela agreed to support Ecuador's Esmeraldas refinery and exchange crude oil and refined products.

Chavez arrived in Ecuador on Wednesday night to talk with Correa about energy cooperation and a possible purchase of 500 million dollars of Ecuadorian Government's bonds to help it with its debts. Chavez was cheered by dozens of Ecuadoreans in Plaza Grande. "As I have told your president, Venezuela is the home-from-home for all Ecuadoreans," Chavez said to the crowd.

MNA/Xinhua

**China's heavy industry continues to increase power consumption**

BEIJING, 12 Aug — China's high energy-consuming sectors such as iron and steel, nonferrous metals, chemicals and construction materials continued to lead the growth in power consumption in the first half of this year, according to a report by the China Electricity Council.

Secondary industry was responsible for up to 83.83 percent of the growth in China's total power consumption, with heavy industry increasing its power consumption by 18.84 percent in the first half from a year earlier, making it more difficult for the country to realize its energy

conservation goal.

The power consumption nationwide reached 1.5 trillion kilowatt hours in the first half, up 15.56 percent year on year. The growth,

2.67 percentage points higher than the same period last year, was largely attributed to the power consumption of secondary industry, which was 3.9 per-

centage points higher than the year-earlier level though 0.31 percentage points lower than the figure for the first five months.

Internet



**Bomb kills southern Iraq governor**

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug — A powerful roadside bomb has killed the governor and police chief of the southern Iraqi province of Diwaniya. The governor was a key figure in the Badr Organization, the military wing of the largest Shia Muslim party, the Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council (SIIC).

Khalil Jalil Hamza and police chief Maj-Gen Khaled Hassan were returning to Diwaniya city after a funeral when a bomb exploded beside their convoy.

The area has seen clashes between Shia militias and security forces.

The bomb blew the vehicle off the road into a water-channel as the officials returned from a tribal leader's funeral. The governor died instantly, while the police chief died in hospital. —Internet

**NATO soldier killed in S Afghanistan**

KABUL, 11 Aug — A soldier of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed and another injured in southern Afghanistan on Friday, an ISAF statement said.

The casualties occurred during a patrol, said the statement. But it did not mention which province the incident occurred.

In accordance with ISAF policy, ISAF also does not release a casualty's nationality prior to the relevant national authority doing so. Due to rising Taleban violence, over 3,800 persons have been killed in Afghanistan this year. —MNA/Xinhua

**China bus plunges, kills 11**

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Eleven people were confirmed dead on Friday after a bus carrying more than 20 passengers plunged into a reservoir in east China, Xinhua news agency said.

The accident occurred in coastal Zhejiang Province when the bus collided with a truck and fell more than 10 metres (more than 30 feet) into the Pengxi reservoir and sank, Xinhua said.

Seven people had been rescued, but there was no accurate total number of the passengers on the bus, Xinhua said. — MNA/Reuters

**Storm "Pabuk" shortens stocks trading, disrupts traffic in HK**

HONG KONG, 11 Aug — Tropical storm Pabuk made a powerful landfall Friday afternoon in Hong Kong and forced the stock market to close earlier and caused large-scale traffic chaos in the cosmopolis.

The Hong Kong Observatory issued a tropical cyclone warning signal No 8 at 2:30 pm (0630 GMT), the first of its kind in three years, advising the public to

return home immediately and closed all of the city's schools.

Trading on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange was suspended at 2:45 pm (0645 GMT) due to the cyclone warning, only 15 minutes after the trading was resumed in the afternoon session and one hour and 15 minutes earlier than usual.

By 9:00 pm (1300 GMT) tropical storm

Pabuk was centred about 90 kilometres west of the Hong Kong Observatory but the tropical cyclone warning signal was still in force in the city.

There have been no reports of casualty by the Press time.

Under hours of the tropical storm Pabuk's battering, maximum winds of 90 kilometres per hour were measured in the territory, with gusts of

up to 111 kilometres per hour, according to the observatory.

As at 9:00 pm (1300 GMT), the Home Affairs Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government has opened 26 temporary shelters in various districts for 198 people in need of refuge during the passage of tropical storm Pabuk.

MNA/Xinhua



**ECONOMIC NEWS**

**China bans import of breakdown-prone gas-turbo generators from GE**

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Gas-turbo generating units manufactured by the US-based GE and imported by a power supply company in south China's Guangdong Province have suffered another breakdown, the State Administration of Quality Inspection, Supervision and Quarantine said on Friday. China has

“banned the import of such gas-turbo generators, and will return or impose compensation claims on those already purchased”, an official with the administration said.

He said that the gas turbines of PG9171E generating units imported by Shenzhen Baochang Power Co Ltd in Shenzhen of Guangdong broke

down in May and caused damages to the generating units. In June last year, the generating units the company imported from GE also incurred a severe breakdown.

The administration said that the gas-turbo generating units have suffered breakdown for times, which incurred huge economic losses for the Chinese user and threatened local power supply. — MNA/Xinhua



Boeing has delayed the first flight of its 787 Dreamliner to October from late September, according to a Seattle-based newspaper on 10 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET

**Panama needs over \$300m to eliminate child labour**

PANAMA CITY, 11 Aug — Panama needs 304 million US dollars for child labour eradication programmes, Guillermo Dema, sub-region co-ordinator for the International Labour Organization, said on Thursday.

Panama has a programme which helps the youngest to advance.

The two-day meeting, which has the motto “ending child labour and forging a worthy life for children”, ends on Thursday.

MNA/Xinhua

At a session of regional education and labour ministers, Dema said he was optimistic the scourge could be eradicated, and that with 20 years work, the economy will grow enough to eliminate it.

Nearly 48,000 children work in Panama, according to a 2000 survey, a nation which has just over 755,000 people between five and 17 years old.

If children are considered to be under-14, the world working child population is 210 million. If under-17, the figure is 350 million.

Panama's Education Minister, Miguel Angel Canizales, said that

**Colombia signs free trade agreements with C American nations**

BOGOTA, 11 Aug — Colombia signed on Thursday separate free trade agreements with El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, the Colombian presidential office said in a statement.

The presidents of the four nations — Alvaro Uribe of Colombia, Elias Antonio Saca of El Salvador, Manuel Zelaya of Honduras and Oscar Berger of Guatemala — signed the agreement in

Medellin, the capital of Antioquia, 246 kilometres northeast of Bogota.

The agreements will come into force as soon as they are ratified by the nations' legislatures.

Colombian authorities estimate that exports to the three nations will rise from 239 million US dollars a year at present to a billion dollars after the agreements are put into effect. Eduardo Munoz, Colombia's Deputy Foreign Trade Minister, said Colombia's small— and medium-sized

exporters would benefit most from the free trade agreement. Colombia exports textiles, books, soap, cosmetics, plastic, basic chemicals and metals to the countries. It imports fresh fish and minerals. Negotiations on the agreements began in June 2006, and ended 10 months later. The deal removes tariffs on services, investment and public purchases between Colombia and the three countries, but does not include sensitive products.

MNA/Xinhua



Britain's Virgin founder Richard Branson (2nd right), Malaysian businessman and AirAsia X major owner Tony Fernandes (3rd right), pose together with Air Asia staffs after a signing ceremony in Putrajaya outside Kuala Lumpur. Virgin Group purchased a 20% stake in Malaysia's long-haul budget carrier AirAsia X. — INTERNET

**Brazil's fight against slave labour not enough**

BRASILIA, 11 Aug — Brazil has made considerable progress in freeing slave labourers but has not done enough to punish the crime or tackle its causes, experts told a congressional committee on Thursday.

Brazil's booming farm sector has repeatedly been accused by foreign competitors of ignoring international environ-

mental and labour standards.

Most slave labour occurs along the agricultural frontier encroaching on the Amazon rain forest, where labour is needed to clear huge tracts of land to plant crops or graze cattle.

Poor migrants looking for jobs are usually taken by bus or by trucks to farms, where they fall into debt peonage. Often, their

documents are taken and armed guards prevent them from leaving.

Brazil has stepped up controls since former union leader Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva came to power in 2003, freeing 15,875 forced labourers, nearly five times the annual average between 1995 and 2002.

“Without a doubt Brazil has made big

advances,” Patricia Audi of the International Labour Organization, or ILO, told a congressional human rights committee on Thursday. She cited a black list that banned farmers who used slave labour from receiving government credit and an accord companies signed in 2005 to reject products made with slave labour.

MNA/Reuters



A model displays a creation by South African designer Deo Sagoe during the Cape Town Fashion Week on 9 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET



## Uzbekistan reaffirms one-China policy

Moscow, 11 Aug — Uzbekistan reaffirmed on Friday its one-China policy and regards Taiwan an inseparable part of China, according to reports reaching here.

“Uzbekistan recognizes that there exists only one China in the world and that the government of the People’s Republic of China is its only legitimate government. Taiwan is

an inseparable part of China,” *Interfax* quoted a Uzbekistan Foreign Ministry statement as saying.

The statement mentioned attempts by the Taiwan authorities to join the United Nations and to hold a referendum on the issue, reaffirming its principle concerning Taiwan as recorded in a Treaty of Partnership,

Friendship and Cooperation with China.

The statement was made in response to recent moves by the Taiwan authorities under Chen Shuibian to push for UN membership under the name of “Taiwan”, attracting opposition from the international community, including the United States and the European Union.

MNA/Xinhua



A boy uses his mobile phone to take pictures of a Honda Hybrid car at the 1st Philippine International Motor Show at the World Trade Centre in Manila, on 10 Aug, 2007. The motor show introduced 18 new car models to the general motoring public and also exhibited six state-of-the-art concept cars.—INTERNET

## New action film tells story of love triangle in ancient China

BEIJING, 12 Aug — A press release was held on Thursday for an action movie titled “Jiangshan Meiren”, which means “The Kingdom and The Beauty”, in Beijing’s suburban Huai’rou district, where the film was shot. Siu-Tung Ching, the renowned martial art choreographer who collaborated with director Zhang Yimou in his films such as “House of Flying Daggers” and “Curse of Golden Flowers,” is directing the movie this time.

At the same time, the director has already assembled a stellar cast

for his 15-million-dollar work. Hong Kong actors Leon Lai, Kelly Chen and action star Donnie Yen will tell a story of a love triangle in this movie. Rising mainland actor Guo Xiaodong plays a wicked official in this story that took place in ancient China.—*Internet*

**Hong Kong actor Leon Lai (L) and actress Kelly Chen attend a press release held on Thursday for an action movie titled “Jiangshan Meiren” in Beijing’s suburban Huai’rou district.**

INTERNET



## Spanish cruise ship rescues 27 migrants

MADRID, 11 Aug — A Spanish cruise ship has rescued 27 migrants from the sea near Malta after earlier spotting a boat carrying another 225 migrants, *El Pais* newspaper reported on its website on Friday.

The cruise ship, belonging to tour group Vision Cruises, found the migrants wearing lifejackets and floating in the Mediterranean around 80 miles (130 kilometres) off the Maltese coast.

Staff are now looking after them on board in a makeshift hospital, *El Pais* said.

Maltese authorities have given the ship permission to dock, but

not for the migrants to disembark, the paper said.

The same ship discovered a boat carrying 225 people off the coast of Malta two hours earlier. It had notified the Maltese authorities and kept guard over the boat until a patrol arrived. Nobody at Vision Cruises or the Spanish maritime rescue authority was available to comment.

Malta and Spain are two of the most popular entry points for African migrants turning to European search of a better life, and thousands die each year during perilous sea crossings.

MNA/Reuters

## Bomb blast hits Ankara court house, no casualties

ANKARA, 11 Aug — A bomb exploded inside a court house in the Turkish capital Ankara on Friday, state news agency *Anatolian* reported.

The bomb caused no injuries but shattered

windows, the news agency said, quoting police officials.

It exploded on the fourth floor of the court house, near a room used by prosecutors. A clerk in the building told *Reuters* she heard a loud

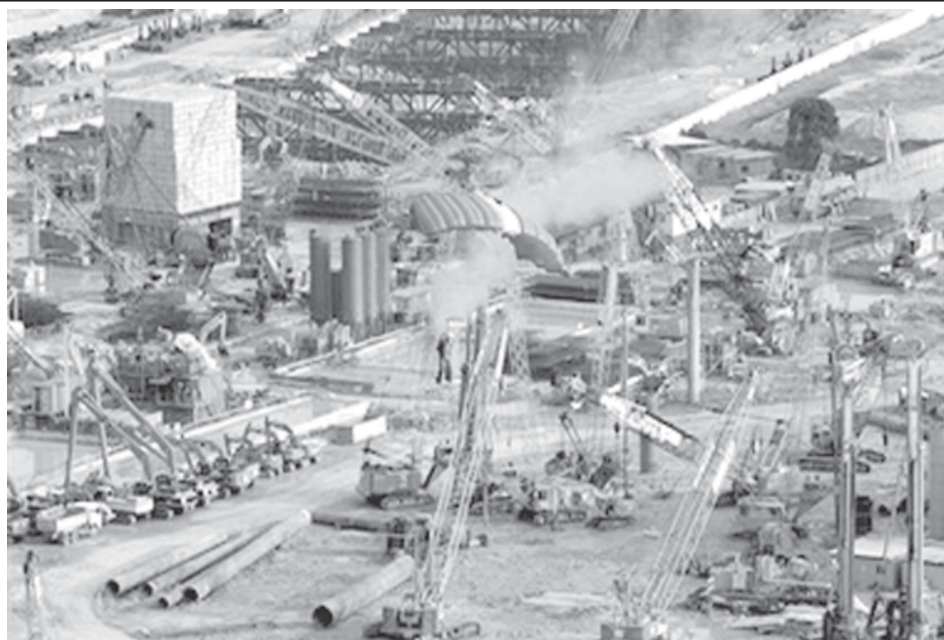
blast.

In May a powerful bomb outside a crowded shopping mall in the heart of Ankara injured scores of people. Authorities said they believed the blast to be the work of the outlawed

separatist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK).

Bombs are often used by Kurdish militants and other radical groups in Turkey, which has seen an escalation in deadly attacks this year.

MNA/Reuters



## US soldier dies from non-combat related incident in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 11 Aug — An American soldier has been killed in a non-combat related incident in Baghdad, the US military said on Friday.

The incident took

place on Wednesday, a military statement said without providing further details.

Earlier, the military announced the death of two Marines in western

Iraq, including one also died of non-combat related incident in the restive province of Anbar.

The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers who have been killed in Iraq to about 3,685 since the Iraq war broke out in March 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.—*MNA/Xinhua*

A parachutist freefalls with a major construction site beneath him in Singapore on 9 Aug, 2007. Singapore’s economy grew 8.6 percent in the second quarter, driven by strength across most industries, according to government figures released on Friday.—INTERNET



## US cracks down on employment of illegal immigrants

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug— The Bush Administration said on Friday it would increase scrutiny and impose heftier fines on US businesses that employ illegal immigrants as it sought to step up enforcement despite Congress' failure to reform immigration laws.

Employers who ignore immigration laws will face an increased likelihood of criminal charges and 25 per cent higher penalties, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said.

Chertoff said the new effort was the most the government could do to fight illegal immigration as long as Congress does not act.

"These are — not the best tools we can use," Chertoff said at a news conference. "This is kind of a half mea-

sure." Congress failed to pass a comprehensive overhaul of immigration laws in June despite heavy lobbying by the Bush Administration.

The new enforcement effort could create headaches for farms, restaurants, construction companies and other businesses that rely on low-skilled immigrant workers.

The US Chamber of Commerce said the effort would impose new costs on businesses, and the AFL-CIO labour group

said it could give abusive employers more power over workers.

MNA/Reuters

## Police says heater explosion at Austrian home kills 2

VIENNA, 12 Aug — A heater exploded in an Austrian holiday home, killing two men and injuring six other people, one of them critically, police said on Saturday.

The group of students from Vienna, four men and four women — most of them in their early or mid-20s, had planned to hike in the Styrian village of Pruggern, 100 kilometres (60 miles) southeast of Salzburg, Guenter Peterka of the Styria

police said.

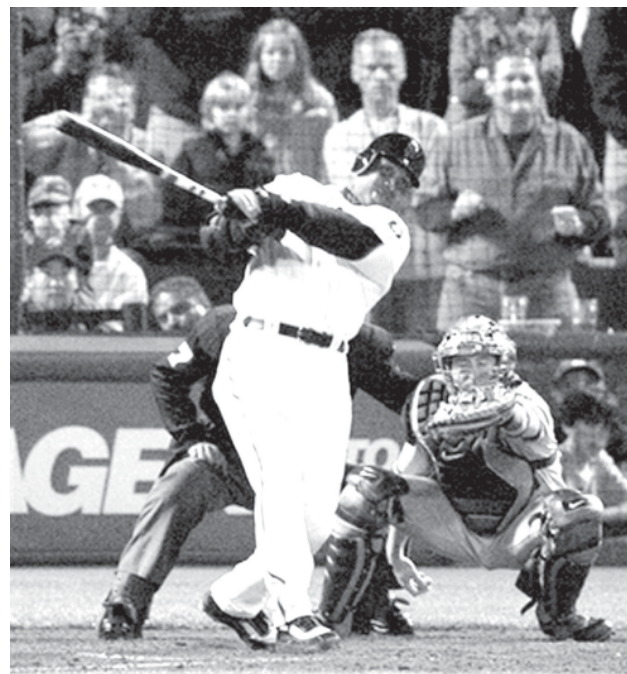
After firing up the heater late on Friday, one of the men who was killed mistakenly closed a valve meant to let water circulate through the house's heating system. The heater exploded after pressure built up, Peterka said.

"It was an absolutely deadly mistake to make," Peterka said.

The force of the explosion blasted away three walls of the house, prompting the concrete ceiling to come crashing down on the group, police said in a statement.

Seven were Austrian nationals and one of the young women was from Germany, Austrian media said.

MNA/Reuters



*San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds follows through on his 756th career home run during the fifth inning of a baseball game off Washington Nationals' Mike Bacsik recently in San Francisco.*  
INTERNET



*Newly named Wake Forest coach Dino Gaudio smiles during a news conference recently.*  
INTERNET

## NY hikes security on dirty bomb internet chatter

NEW YORK, 12 Aug— New York police stepped up security throughout Manhattan and at bridges and tunnels on Friday in response to an Internet report — which authorities said they could not verify — that al-Qaeda might be plotting to detonate a dirty bomb in the city.

New York City police said in a statement the threat against the city was an "unverified radiological threat", stressed the increased security was precautionary and said the city's alert status for an attack was unchanged at "orange."

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg stressed there was no reason to believe this

threat was any different from countless others since the September 11 attacks.

One law enforcement source told Reuters that authorities were responding to Internet chatter reported on Israeli website www.debka.com, but that the information reported there could not be verified.

That site reported that there has been a rush of

electronic chatter on al-Qaeda sites, one saying there would be an attack "by means of trucks loaded with radio-active material against America's biggest city and financial nerve center."

Another al-Qaeda message mentioned New York, Los Angeles and Miami as targets, the Jerusalem-based DEBKAFile Internet news site reported.

The New York Police Department said in a statement it had increased the deployment of radiological sensors on vehicles, boats and helicopters, and had set up vehicle checkpoints in lower Manhattan's financial district and at bridges and tunnels.

Police confirmed the increased security was in response to receiving information that a dirty bomb may go off on Friday evening around 34th street in Manhattan — a neighbourhood with the Empire State Building, New York City's tallest building, Madison Square Garden and Macy's department store.

A spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security in Washington said the threat to New York was "unsubstantiated" and there was "no credible information telling us there is an imminent threat to the homeland at this time".

MNA/Reuters

## Arizona cops bust ring smuggling cash to Mexico

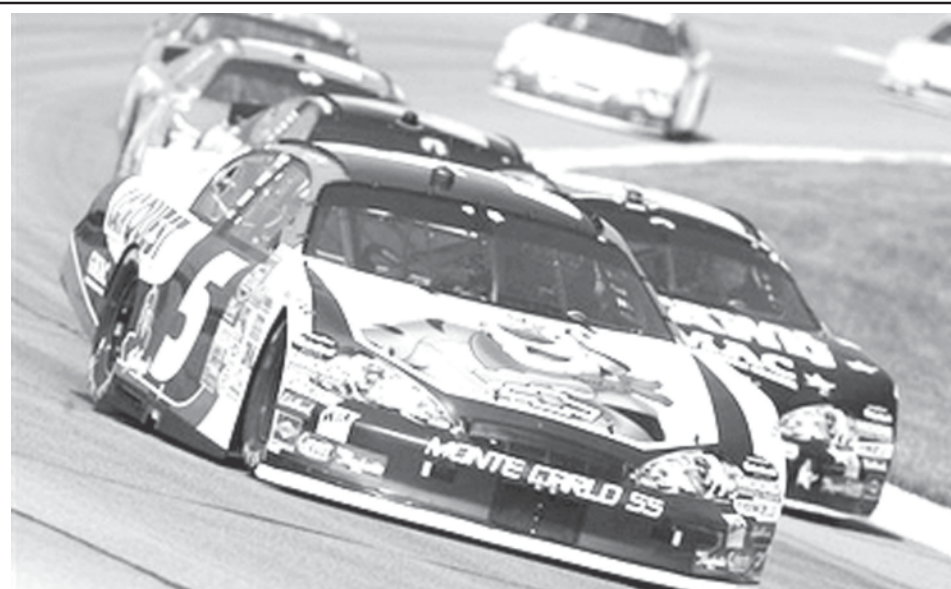
PHOENIX, 12 Aug— A criminal ring that Arizona police said used a shuttle service to smuggle drug and human trafficking profits to Mexico has been broken up with 47 people indicted, authorities said on Friday.

Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said the firm shuttling passengers from Phoenix to Sonoyta, Caborca and Puerto Penasco in Mexico moved some two million US dollars a month in dirty money for at least 20 different human and drug trafficking organizations.

The people indicted included drivers and other employees of the shuttle firm. They face a range of charges including money laundering, conspiracy and illegally conducting a business as well as weapons and drug possession.

"(The operation) is very important both because of the dollar volume which has now been cut off ... but also all the other drug and human smuggling operations that were all damaged by this particular effort," Goddard told Reuters.

MNA/Reuters



*NASCAR driver Kyle Busch races through Turn 3 during the Pennsylvania 500 NASCAR auto race in Long Pond, Pa., at Pocono Raceway recently.*—INTERNET



## Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends coordination meeting of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence attended the coordination meeting of Taninthayi Division PDC in Myeik yesterday afternoon.

Secretary of Taninthayi Division PDC U Than Win reported on political, economic and regional development progress of the division.

Chairman of Taninthayi Division PDC Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw Oo gave a supplementary report on local food sufficiency and agricultural matters.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that today's meeting is to review accomplishments of the previous year and assess strong and weak points. He added that he was there to fulfill requirements of political, economic, transport, construction, education and health sectors of the division. Progress of the nation can be witnessed under the correct leadership of the Head of State and concerted efforts of Tatmadawmen, service person-



nel and the people. In the education sector, Taninthayi Division achieved remarkable progress

**Lt-Gen Maung Bo of Ministry of Defence addresses coordination meeting of Taninthayi Division PDC.—MNA**

## MWAF organizes educative talks in Paungde



**Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe explains the facts about Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation.— MNA**

YANGON, 12 Aug — An educative talk organized by Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was held at the office of Township Peace and Development Council Office in Paungde in Pyay District yesterday.

Also present were head of administration department of MWAF Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, patron of Bago Division ( West) Women's Affairs Organization Daw Thein Pai and members, chairperson of Paungde township WAO Daw Khin Swe Win and

Secretary Dr Daw Khin Ohn Myint and members.

First, Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe extended greetings and explained facts about the Federation. Daw Khin Khin Pyone of Bago (West) WAO gave talks on trafficking in person.

After the talks, Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe presented the federation uniforms to Dr Daw Khin Ohn Myint. Afterwards, the chairperson presented membership applications to patron Daw Thein Pai who donated K 100,000 for eye patients through Dr Daw Nu Nu Yi of towship WAO.— MNA

## Villager loses leg in mine blast

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Insurgent destruction-ists are undermining stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. They are also committing destructive acts with the intention of killing and injuring innocent people using various ways and means.

On 7 August, U Aung Htwe, 60, son of U Phar Tu of Kwingalay Village in Myawady Township, stepped on a mine planted by insurgents while he was picking up durians in the durian farm. He lost his right leg due to the explosion and was wounded in his left leg and thigh and right arm.

He was taken to the people's hospital in Myawady and treatment was given to him. Officials and local people are trying to expore the insurgents.

MNA

in pass rate of matriculation examination for 2007. Hence, faculty members of universities, teachers of basic education schools, parents and members of School Board of Trustees are to join hands for gaining greater success in coming examinations.

In conclusion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that departmental personnel are to organize the local people to participate in regional development tasks.

MNA

## Mayor opens International Health and Beauty Centre

YANGON, 12 Aug — An International Health and Beauty Centre was opened on Bo Aung Kyaw Street this morning. The opening ceremony was attended by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, departmental heads, CEC members of Myanmar Writers and Journalist Association and guests.

First, the mayor, Chairman of IHBC Dr Tin Tun Oo cut the ribbon to open the centre.

Next, the mayor and party viewed cosmetic shops, pharmaceuticals shops and sales centres related to health and beauty displayed at the centre. International Health and Beauty Centre is opened from 9 am to 8 pm daily. — MNA



**Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Dr Tin Tun Oo open International Health and Beauty Centre.— MNA**



### Cash and kind donated to...

(from page 16)  
the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air), K 200,000 by wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Daw Khin Than Nwe and K 410,000 by Yangon Division and Yangon East District PDCs. Today's donations were 309 bags of rice, 1,295 viss of edible oil, 2,155 viss of iodized salt, 431 viss of grams, 411 tubes of toothpaste and 1,020 bottles of various

kinds of medicine and K 10,033,660. Similarly, Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air Forces) and public wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, grams and medicine as well as cash to seven monasteries and one nunnery in

Shwepyitha Township in Yangon North District. The donations were 146 bags of rice, 459 viss of edible oil, 648 viss of iodized salt, 99 viss of grams, 305 tubes of toothpaste and 1790 bottles of various kinds of medicine and others and K 7,977,000.

MNA

**Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence donates provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA**



### Commander attends distribution of first-aid...

(from page 16)  
distributed to Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon. Later, the kits are to be distributed to the whole nation. Therefore, local authorities, ministries and NGOs are to take part in providing health care services to the people with the use of traditional medicines and distributing of the first-aid traditional medicine

kits. Next, the commander presented the kits to Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District Peace and Development Council U Khin Maung Zaw, Dr Aye Ko Ko of District Health Department, chairmen of Nay Pyi Taw Lewe and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Townships and a representative of Yezin Model Village. Minister for

Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Ministers Dr Mya Oo and Dr Paing Soe handed over the kits to responsible persons. At the ceremony, a total of 150 first-aid traditional medicine kits were distributed to 44 villages in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Townships. MNA



**Dr Kyaw Myint presents first-aid traditional medicine kit to a representative of the village in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.— MNA**

## Eye specialists provide free treatment to people in Paungde

YANGON, 12 Aug — The Ministry of Health and Myanmar Women's Affairs Organization jointly organized providing free medical treatment to the people with eye complaints in Paungde Township yesterday. At Paungde Township Hospital, eye specialists

Dr Nilar Thein, Dr Thein Htut, Dr Aye Myat Oo, Dr Nan Ei Shwe Sin, Dr Maung Maung Myo Win, Dr Chaw Wai Lwin, Dr Aye Chan and technicians led by Head of Administration Department of MAAF Dr Daw Khin Hsan Nwe, together with eye specialist Dr Khin Ohnma of Pyay

People's Hospital participated in providing health care services. They gave medical treatment to 2,066 patients from Paungde Township and its surrounding villages and presented optical glasses to 1,067 people. Furthermore, they planned to provide surgical operations to 240



**Specialists give treatment to patients with eye complaints in Paungde.— MNA**



**Patients receiving medical treatment in Paungde.— MNA**

patients. The pharmaceuticals and cost of the whole programme was sponsored by Managing Director U Than Shwe of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries and family and Managing Director U Aung Myat of Mother Trading Co Ltd. Commanding Officer Lt-Col Soe Myint of the local battalion, local authorities and departmental officials together with social organization members provided necessary assistance for convenience of the eye specialist team. — MNA

#### All this needs to be known

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



## SCO starts 2nd phase of anti-terror joint drill

**CHELYABINSK (Russia), 12 Aug** — About 2,000 troops from the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) members held a joint field exercise here on Saturday, starting the second phase of the "Peace Mission 2007" anti-terror drill.

Those troops, from China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, staged a parade at a military base near Russia's Ural Mountains city of Chelyabinsk.

Commanders from the six countries agreed that since the SCO was forged in June 2001, it has abided by the "Shanghai Spirit", which embodies

mutual trust and benefit, equality, respect for cultural diversity and a desire for common development.

The organization has established a new model of defence and security cooperation under the principles of openness, transparency and non-targeting at the third party, they noted.

The joint exercise is intended to show the will and determination of SCO members in action to crack down on the "three evil forces" — terrorism, separatism and extremism. It will improve their battle effectiveness and upgrade cooperation mechanism in a bid to maintain regional peace and stability, they said. — MNA/Xinhua



An IBM Anyplace kiosk is seen through the frosty window of the Thermal Chamber, recently, where they test the product in cold, hot and humidity in the Retail Test Super Lab on the main campus in Research Triangle Park, NC. —INTERNET

## Brazilian Govt says Amazon deforestation drops sharply

**BRASILIA, 12 Aug** — Deforestation of the Amazon rain forest in Brazil fell by about a third

in the 12 months through July to the lowest rate in at least seven years, the government said on Friday.

More controls on illegal logging, improved certification of land ownership, and economic development projects that preserve the forest were driving deforestation down, authorities said.

An estimated 9,600 square kilometres (3,707 square miles) of the world's largest rain forest were cleared in the year ended on 31 July, compared to a revised 14,039 square kilometres (5,417 square miles) the previous year, the Environment Ministry said.

The findings are based on a preliminary study of satellite images and have a margin of error of plus or minus 10 per cent. The final report is expected by November.

"It's a great achievement for Brazilian society. It reflects a new environmental governance," Environment Minister Marina Silva told

a news conference in the capital Brasilia.

It is the lowest deforestation rate since 2000. The highest recorded was in 2004, at 27,429 square kilometres (10,590 square miles).

But ministry officials say a revision of historical data using new methodology will show it to be the lowest in three decades. — MNA/Reuters

## Three die in Indiana mine accident

**WASHINGTON, 11 Aug** — Three people died in a mining accident in Gibson County, Indiana on Friday, CNN reported.

Rescue workers and a coroner have been dispatched to a coal mine in that county, according to the Courier & Press of the Gibosn County.

The accident reportedly occurred over an air shaft construction site of the mine.

According to the website of the company that owns the mine, Gibson County Coal, the underground mining complex is located near Princeton, Ind.

The mine began production in November 2000 and continuous mining units employing room-and-pillar mining techniques.

The preparation plant has a throughput capacity of 700 tons of raw coal an hour. — MNA/Xinhua



Shari Gonzalez poses with Loki, a dog which she rents from Flex from Flex Petz, Thursday on 26 July, 2007, in San Diego. Flex Petz rents dogs by the day to time-pressed and space-challenged people and is preparing to bring its shared dog ownership concept to Manhattan San Francisco and London later this year. — INTERNET

## Marine involved in Iraq killing released

**SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Aug** — A young Marine involved in the April 2006 killing of a 52-year-old Iraqi man was released following a clemency decision, the Marines said on Friday.

Robert Pennington was one of seven Marines and a Navy medic who set out to kidnap and kill a suspected insurgent but

instead seized Hashim Ibrahim Awad, a disabled police officer known to support the American occupation, according to defendants' testimony.

The death near Hamdania, a rural town in the vast western Iraqi province of Al Anbar, was one of a series in which US forces abused or killed Iraqi civilians under questionable

circumstances, damaging the image of US troops abroad.

Pennington, 21 at the time of Awad's death, received an eight-year prison sentence in February after pleading guilty to conspiracy and kidnapping. In exchange, prosecutors dropped murder, larceny and housebreaking charges.

MNA/Reuters

## Putin says Russia launching new air defence programme

**Moscow, 12 Aug** — Russia's President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday a new radar station near St. Petersburg was the first stage in a large-scale air defence programme, Russian agencies reported.

"This is the first step in a large-scale programme in this sphere that will be carried out to 2015," Putin was quoted as saying during a visit to

St Petersburg. He did not elaborate.

It was the first public announcement of such a programme. Russia has said it will beef up its air defence system in response to the United States's initiative to station elements of a missile shield near Russia's borders. The Voronezh-type radar station in the village of Lekhtusi about 50

kilometres (30 miles) north of St. Petersburg has been operational since December 2006 and can monitor the territory between the North Pole and Africa.

"This is what I call modern development of Armed Forces. A lot more effective, a lot more reliable," Putin was quoted as saying.

MNA/Reuters



National Football League New Orleans Saints' running back Reggie Bush (L) and Jeff Bell, corporate vice president of global marketing, interactive entertainment business at Microsoft demonstrates Electronic Arts Sports Madden NFL 08 during Microsoft's E3 media briefing in Santa Monica on 10 July, 2007. — INTERNET





- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်မှန်းမျှော် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
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**စိုးမြင်ကျော် ၏**

**အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန် ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ**

- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
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**ထွက်ပြီ**

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။  
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- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။  
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**Gunmen shoot at Guatemalan presidential candidate**

GUATEMALA CITY, 12 Aug — A Guatemalan presidential candidate said unidentified gunmen had shot at him as he drove on a remote highland road on Friday evening, the latest attack in an increasingly bloody election campaign.

Hector Rosales of the tiny DIA political party said he was unhurt in the attack, which happened at dusk as he was driving close to the Maya Indian town of Cunen, about 120 miles (200 kilometres) northeast of Guatemala City.

"I have just been the victim of a terrorist attack, an assassination attempt," Rosales, a right-leaning retired colonel told cable television channel Guatevision.

"There are no injuries. I have some training in this kind of thing so I drove at high speed and zig-zagged," said Rosales, whose wife

was also travelling in the car.

Close to 40 candidates, activists and workers from different parties have been murdered over the last year as drug traffickers and former paramilitaries muscle in on September 9 elections for president, Congress and municipalities.

Rosales, who said his assailants chased him for about 20 miles (30 kilometres) but only lodged one bullet in his vehicle, blamed a rival party for the attack.

MNA/Reuters

*England's Mike Catt, left, puts France's Pierre Mignoni, second left, under pressure during their rugby union international match at Twickenham stadium in west London on 11 Aug, 2007.*

INTERNET

**Shooting claims 3 lives in Los Angeles**

LOS ANGELES, 12 Aug — Three people were killed in a shooting resulting from a dispute involving neighbours in Los Angeles, police said on Friday.

Gunshots were reported at an apartment complex late Thursday afternoon in Burbank near downtown Los Angeles, said Lieutenant Armen Dermenjian of the Burbank Police Department.

The shooter was among the dead and one man was wounded in the shooting but was not in life-threatening condition, said Dermenjian.

One of the dead was the manager of the complex and the father of the surviving victim, witnesses said.

All of the people lived in the same complex, Dermenjian said. An investigation was underway, he said. — MNA/Xinhua



**Romney wins Iowa Republican straw poll**

AMES (Iowa), 12 Aug — Republican Mitt Romney won the first test of the 2008 White House race on Saturday, using a big wallet and broad organization to muscle aside a field of second-tier rivals in a low-turnout Iowa straw poll.

Romney won 31 per cent of the votes cast in the non-binding mock

election, a traditional early gauge of support in the state that holds the first nominating contest leading up to the November 2008 election.

Competing on a shoestring budget, former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee finished a surprising second with 18 per cent of the 14,302 votes cast — a much smaller turnout than the approximately 24,000 who voted in the last Republican straw poll in 1999.

Romney was a heavy favourite after the other top three national Republican candidates — former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani, Arizona Senator John McCain and former Tennessee senator Fred Thompson — skipped the poll.

MNA/Reuters



**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Nepal Red Cross issues emergency appeal to help flood victims**

KATHMANDU, 11 Aug — As national and international support to help the flood victims of Nepal continue to pour in following the urgent appeal made by the government, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has also appealed for 1.7 million US dollars to help more than 20,000 families affected by torrential monsoon rains, landslides and extensive flooding in the south of Nepal.

According to Saturday's report of a leading Nepali website, nepalnews.com, the Nepal Red Cross Society has estimated that more than 330,000 people have been affected due to floods. "The hardest hit communities need to receive food, clean water, and access to sanitation facilities," Secretary-general of the Nepal Red Cross Dev Ratna Dhakhwa said.

"But we also need to look beyond this emergency phase, towards helping people return to a normal way of life and enable vulnerable communities to be prepared for future disasters such as this," he added.

The Nepal Red Cross has been leading the distribution of relief in the country and is working closely with the government, United Nations agencies and other aid organizations.

Volunteers in each of the 33 affected districts have so far distributed rice, noodles, salt and sugar to around 30,000 families, along with first aid and ambulance services. Plastic sheets, cooking utensils and blankets have also been given to more than 3,000 families, according to Dhakhwa.

MNA/Xinhua

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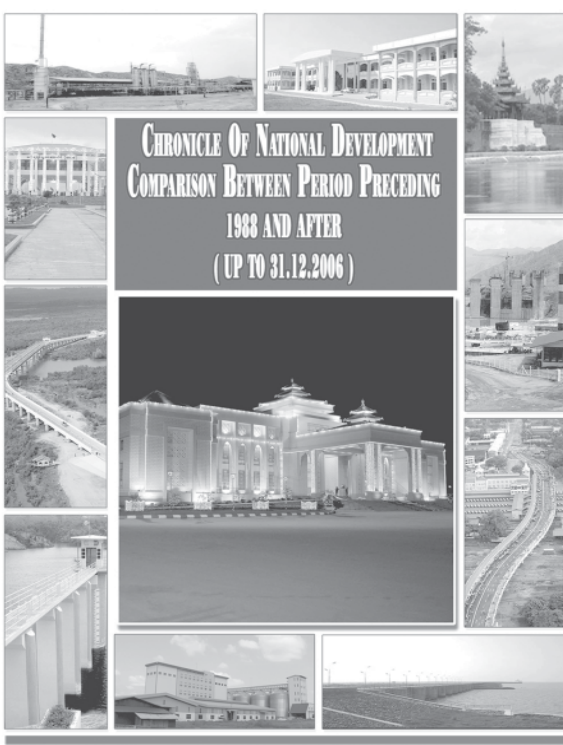
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**INVITATION TO TENDER  
TENDER NO. 2 (T) AMD-FR (2007-2008)**

1. Sealed Tender are invited by Agricultural Mechanization Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, for the supply of following Machines which will be purchased in Myanmar Kyats

Sr. No	Description	Quantity
1.	Machinery & Equipment for S1110G Engine Production	2 Lot
2.	Machinery & Equipment for 30 Cusec Pump	1 Lot
3.	Machinery & Equipment for Research & Development	1 Lot

2. **Tender closing date (3.8.2007(Friday) (12:00 HR)**

3. Tender documents are available at the Factory & Research Section of Agricultural Mechanization Department, Bayintnaung Road, Insein Township, Yangon during office hours.

4. For further details please call 680959, 682046 Ext. 323.

Director General  
Agricultural Mechanization Department



**Rescuers gather the fragments of an aircraft that crashed at sea killing at least 17 people, at the harbour of the French Polynesian resort island of Moorea. — INTERNET**

**British soldier killed in Afghanistan**

LONDON, 11 Aug — The British Defence Ministry announced on Friday that a British soldier was killed on Friday during a routine patrol in Afghanistan.

A spokesman for the ministry said the patrol, which was on its way to check on a local irrigation project, came under fire from Taleban fighters in the area of Jusyalay, north east of Sangin, in Helmand Province.

His next of kin have been informed, he said. The death brings the number of British military fatalities in Afghanistan since operations began in 2001 to 69. Britain is among the largest contributors to the NATO mission in Afghanistan, with 7,100 troops based in Helmand Province in the south of the country. — MNA/Xinhua

**US unveils new plan for passenger pre-screening**

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug — The US Government on Thursday proposed a scaled back plan to upgrade computerized airline passenger screening using personal information, a long delayed centerpiece of aviation security.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said officials believe they have resolved congressional and other concerns about personal privacy and were ready to begin testing with airlines this fall.

"This information will better identify individuals who may pose a known or suspected threat to aviation or national security," Chertoff said at a news conference at Washington Reagan National Airport.

More than 600 million passengers fly on domestic airlines annually.

One year after authorities said they had disrupted a plot to blow up transatlantic flights using liquid explosives, Chertoff said threats to the United States and to air travel remain. Chertoff said there is no information pointing to specific plans for an attack but said vigilance was crucial.

MNA/Reuters



ပညာရေးဖြင့် ဆေးဝါးဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

### Nepal wants top-level talks with India over flood issue

KATHMANDU, 11 Aug—Nepali Foreign Minister Sahana Pradhan has said that the Nepali Government wants to hold top-level talks with the Indian Government to resolve the perennial problem of flooding, which has been affecting people living in border areas, a leading Nepali website, nepalnews.com, reported on Saturday.

After her meeting with Indian Ambassador Shiv Shankar Mukherjee here on Friday, Pradhan said, "Not only the joint committee level or the

district/state level, we should hold talks at top-level at central level." Talking to reporters, Pradhan said that the two countries should cooperate with each other to end the perennial problem of flooding.

According to the website's report, dams and embankments constructed in Indian territory are blamed for flooding in Nepali side while Indian authorities blame untamed rivers coming from Nepal for causing devastation on their people.

MNA/Xinhua

### Overweight increases risk of school absenteeism

LOS ANGELES, 11 Aug—Overweight children are at greater risk of school absenteeism than their normal-weight peers, a new study showed.

The study, conducted by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University, found that overweight children were absent on average 20 percent more than their normal-weight peers.

The study also determined that body mass index, or BMI, is as significant a factor in determining absenteeism from school as age, race, socioeconomic status and gender, formerly the four main predictors.



Children sit on a pool side during a summer camp for overweight children which organized by Gangseo district office, in Seoul. INTERNET

This was the first study of how weight may affect school attendance. The findings were published Saturday in the August issue of the journal *Obesity*.

The study analyzed more than a thousand 4th, 5th and 6th graders in the Philadelphia school system.

"At this young age, children are not necessarily

experiencing the health problems that will likely confront them later in life unless serious intervention takes place," said Andrew B Geier, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. "However, they are missing school at a greater rate than their peers,

setting themselves up for the negative fallout that accompanies absenteeism," he said.

What was keeping them from school, more than health issues, is the stigma and the bullying that accompanies being overweight, Geier said, adding that future research should explore this additional, very damaging side effect of being overweight.

The disadvantages that arise from missing school such as increased drug use, increased rates of pregnancy and poor academic performance have been previously documented. Meanwhile, the rate of childhood obesity has tripled in the United States during the past 25 years.—Internet



A newborn dolphin swims in a basin with mother Liliya and father Gavryusha in the dolphinarium in the Black Sea port city of Odessa on 10 Aug, 2007. For the first time in ten years a dolphin was born on 5 Aug, 2007 in the dolphinarium "Nemo" in Odessa, the management of the dolphinarium said.—INTERNET

### Guatemala's Fire Volcano spews lava near Antigua

GUATEMALA CITY, 11 Aug—Guatemala's Fire Volcano erupted on Thursday, spewing lava, rock and ash near the colonial city of Antigua and some of the Central American country's most famous coffee farms.

Guatemala's volcano-logy service said seven families were evacuated from their homes near the volcano, about 27 miles (50 kilometres) southwest of Guatemala

City. The villagers were unharmed, an official said. "Last night, the situation was quite serious and we declared an orange alert," said Benedicto Giron, a spokesman for Guatemala's emergency response service. "We will remain in the area to monitor the situation."

The volcano looms behind Antigua, one of Guatemala's top tourist

attractions and home to some of the country's best coffee farms.

No damage was reported to the plantations, where coffee beans are just beginning to mature.

Fire Volcano is about 12,300 feet (3,760 metres) high and part of a chain of active volcanoes along the edge of Guatemala's Maya-Indian highlands.

MNA/Reuters

### Court puts off bail decision for Bollywood's Sanjay Dutt

NEW DELHI, 11 Aug—India's Supreme Court put off a decision on Friday to grant bail to Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt, jailed for six years for receiving guns from gangsters, and sought an opinion from the county's top investigation body. Dutt, 48, was sentenced last week for taking an AK-56 rifle and a pistol from gangsters linked to India's deadliest bombings, which killed 257 people in Mumbai in 1993.

On Tuesday, the actor

appealed against his conviction and sought bail claiming the judgement was based on a confession that he had later retracted and promising not to commit any offence while on bail.

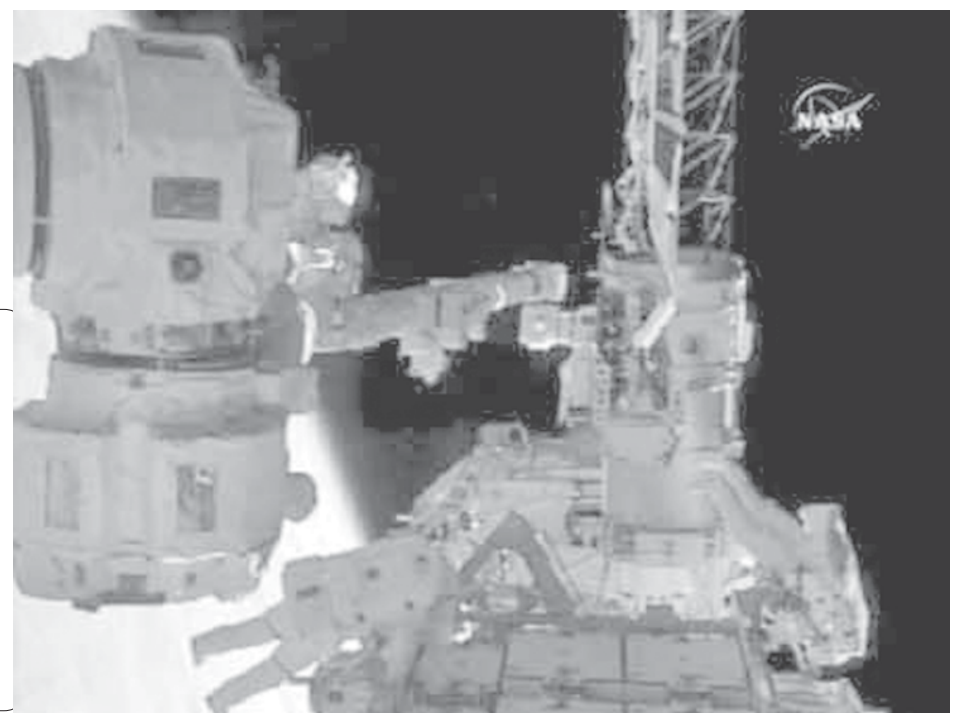
"He has been out on bail for 12 years and then he has suddenly been taken in," Fali S Nariman, Dutt's counsel, argued in court.

But the court postponed a decision on whether or not to grant bail to Dutt until 20 August and called

on the Central Bureau of Investigation, the main prosecutors, to give their response to Dutt's request.

MNA/Reuters

Spacewalkers Rick Mastracchio (L) and Dave Williams (R) of the Canadian Space Agency work to attach the new S5 truss segment to the International Space Station in this view from NASA TV on 11 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET





# SPORTS



A Chinese player tries to save a spike from their Polish rivals in the match in Hong Kong on 11 Aug, 2007. —INTERNET

## Rakitic earns Schalke a draw at Stuttgart

BERLIN, 11 Aug — Schalke 04 drew 2-2 at champions VfB Stuttgart in the opening match of the Bundesliga season on Friday.

Croatian 19-year-old midfielder Ivan Rakitic beat three defenders with a fine move to score the equalizer from long range for last season's runners-up after Stuttgart had scored two goals in four minutes midway through the second half.

Mexico midfielder Pavel Pardo converted a penalty in the 67th minute after teammate Sami Khedira had notched Stuttgart's first goal.

In an high-tempo match between Germany's two Champions League qualifiers, Schalke went in front against the run of play in the 25th minute when a Levan Kobiashvili shot was deflected by Roberto Hilbert past his own goalkeeper Raphael Schaefer.

Stuttgart, who won their last eight matches at the end of last season to pip Schalke, kept the pressure on Schalke after falling behind but it was the visitors who had got closer to the goal, twice nearly doubling their lead.

Christian Pander's free kick sailed just wide to the right in the 54th minute and three minutes later Schaefer made a fantastic save to deny Fabian Ernst, who broke free on the left to get a foot to a low cross.

Schalke paid the price when Stuttgart, cheered on by the sell-out crowd of 57,500, then scored twice.

But Rakitic, who came on in the 70th minute for Kobiashvili, saved the point for Schalke with his late equalizer. — MNA/Reuters

## Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	C	O	U	R	T	4	N	A	5	P	P	6	I	N	7	G
	O	H		R			A			R			M			L
8	V	A	L	I	A	N	T		9	A	M	P	L	E		
	E	A		N			U			Y		E				A
10	R	I	N	G	S		11	R	O	S	T	R	U	M		
	E					13	I	T								I
15	D	E	N	O	T	E		17	E	M	B	L	E		19	M
							20	A		21	N	N	E			O
22	C	O	S	T	U	M	E		24	M	I	25	S	E	R	
	Y		T		K							E		P		P
26	N	O	R	M	A			27	T	U	N	D	I	S	H	
	I		U		S							L		T		I
28	C	O	M	P	E	T	E		29	O	P	E	R	A		

## Tevez completes Man United deal

LONDON, 11 Aug — Argentine striker Carlos Tevez finally completed his move to Manchester United on Friday, putting an end to the long-running saga over his registration.

The 23-year-old is now an official member of the squad after the Premier League ratified the two-year loan deal.

"Manchester United is delighted to announce that Carlos Tevez has been registered as a member of its first-team squad by the Premier League," United said in a statement. —Internet



Carlos Tevez

## Brazil defender Alex signs for Chelsea

LONDON, 11 Aug — Brazil central defender Alex completed his move from PSV Eindhoven to Chelsea on Friday.

"Alex Rodrigo Dias da Costa today passed a medical and signed a three-year contract with Chelsea," said a brief statement on the London club's website (www.chelseafc.co.uk).

Completion of the 25-year-old's move had been delayed for more than a week due to the Premier League team's application for a work permit.

Alex, who began his career at Santos, helped PSV win three successive Dutch league titles.

MNA/Reuters

## Beckham makes long-awaited MLS debut

WASHINGTON, 11 Aug — David Beckham made his long-awaited Major League Soccer debut on Thursday, entering the game for the Los Angeles Galaxy late in the second

half against D.C. United.

The 32-year-old midfielder and former England captain was called on to the pitch as a substitute in the 72nd minute with United leading 1-0.

Beckham played 16 minutes in a friendly against Chelsea on June 21 but had since been nursing an injury to his left ankle.

One of the world's most marketable athletes, Beckham shocked the soccer world this year when he announced he would be leaving Spanish giants Real Madrid for the Galaxy in a five-year deal that could net him up to 250 million US dollars. —MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

## Relegated Charlton sign China captain Zheng

BEIJING, 11 Aug — Charlton Athletic have signed China captain Zheng Zhi in a two-million-pound (4.05-million-US-dollar) deal after the versatile midfielder impressed during a six-month loan stint with the relegated London club last season.

The English Second Division club's manager Alan Pardew said securing the 26-year-old Zheng's services on a two-year contract was a "huge boost".

"I hope we will be able to get him here as soon as possible and integrate him

into the new squad," Pardew said on the club's website.

"Plenty of people have worked very hard behind the scenes to get this deal done and I would like to thank them and Shandong Luneng for helping to make the deal happen."

Zheng returned to his Chinese club Shandong in May after 12 appearances for Charlton during their fruitless bid to avoid relegation from the Premier League last season.

MNA/Reuters

## Sevilla turn down 2 bids for Brazil defender Alves

MADRID, 11 Aug — Sevilla have turned down two large offers for their Brazilian right back Daniel Alves, club president Jose Maria del Nido said on Friday.

"If we receive a market-breaking offer for Alves he will go, if not he will stay," Del Nido told a news conference.

"We have turned down two offers, one for 35 million euros (47.9 million US dollars) and another for 31.5 million euros, both without other players included."

Earlier this week, Alves asked Sevilla to seriously consider any approaches for him from big clubs, saying that he felt it was time for him to move on if the right deal came up.

He admitted he knew about an offer from Chelsea and was keen for the club to view it favourably.

"I am convinced Daniel will complete his commitment with Sevilla. He's happy here," Del Nido said.

The 24-year-old international, who has a contract until 2011, has been one of the club's outstanding players and was a key figure in helping them to win the King's Cup and retain the UEFA Cup last season. — MNA/Reuters

## Sharapova survives tough test from Krajicek

LOS ANGELES, 11 Aug — Maria Sharapova overcame a stern challenge from Michaella Krajicek to reach the Los Angeles Classic quarterfinals with a 7-6, 6-7, 6-4 victory on Thursday.

The top seed needed nearly three hours to see off the 18-year-old Dutchwoman, losing her serve nine times in the match.

Krajicek also had trouble serving into the wind and sun and Sharapova broke her 10 times. Krajicek, who reached the Wimbledon quarterfinals, got up a break at 4-3 in the third set but was immediately broken back. — MNA/Reuters



Bayern Munich's player celebrates victory with supporters after their German Bundesliga soccer match against Hansa Rostock in Munich on 11 Aug, 2007. Munich won the match 3-0. —XINHUA



# Bush, Sarkozy promote ties over burgers, hot dogs

**KENNEBUNKPORT (Maine), 12 Aug—** President George W Bush and French President Nicolas Sarkozy on Saturday stressed friendship over disagreement at a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs at the Bush family estate aimed at improving relations strained by the Iraq war.

Bush called Sarkozy “a friend” while waiting with his wife, Laura, and parents to greet the French leader on the driveway of the family’s compound in this Maine resort town.

“We’ve got good relations with France, obviously there’s been disagreements,” Bush said.

“We have had disagree-

ments, on Iraq in particular. But I’ve never allowed disagreements to not find other ways to work together,” he told reporters.

The United States hopes for improved ties with France under Sarkozy after relations chilled with his predecessor, Jacques Chirac, who opposed the

2003 US-led invasion of Iraq.

Sarkozy, wearing blue jeans in keeping with the casual nature of the meeting, also stressed good relations. “Do we agree on everything? No,” he said. “Even within families there are disagreements, but we are still the same family.”

Sarkozy arrived at the Bush “Walker’s Point” estate from nearby New Hampshire, where he is on his first vacation since taking office in May.

Sarkozy’s wife, Cecilia, called First Lady Laura Bush on Saturday morning and said she and her children were not feeling well and would not attend the lunch. Sarkozy said when he returned from France he discovered they had sore throats.

“She’s a very dynamic woman, we were looking forward to seeing her as well

as the children,” Bush said. “We fully understand.”

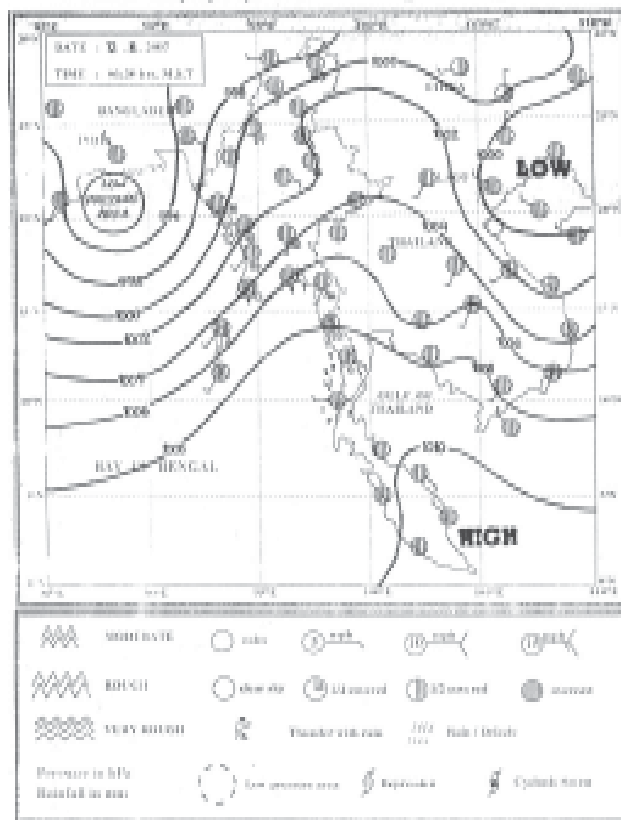
The setting for the lunch — which also featured corn-on-the-cob, baked beans and fresh blueberry pie — was a cluster of dark brown buildings with tennis courts and a swimming pool on a point jutting over rocks, with boats and ducks bobbing nearby in the waves.

The French flag flew over the compound.

Bush, Sarkozy, and Bush’s father, former president George Bush, held a private meeting for about 50 minutes before lunch. Bush said they were to have a “heart-to-heart talk” about key issues, including Iran.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



## WEATHER

Sunday, 12 August, 2007

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain have been isolated in Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kachin and Rakhine States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Putao (6.41) inches, Thandwe (3.74) inches, Maungtaw (2.95) inches, Mawlamyine (1.89) inches and Thaton (1.81) inches.

Maximum temperature on 11-8-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 12-8-2007 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hour MST on 12-8-2007 was 89%. Total sunshine hours on 11-8-2007 was (1.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 11-8-2007 was (1.14) inches at Mingaladon, (1.02) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.98) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (89.25) inches at Mingaladon, (90.90) inches at Kaba-Aye and (92.16) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (15) mph from Southwest at (11:10) hours MST on 10-8-2007.

**Bay inference:** According to the observations at (06:30) hr MST today, yesterday’s low pressure area over Northwest Bay still persists. Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 13-8-2007:** Rain will be isolated in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayah States and upper Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Chin and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**State of the sea:** Squalls with rough sea will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** Strong monsoon.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 13-8-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 13-8-2007:** One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 13-8-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).


### Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 12-8-2007)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk (1074) cm is exceeded (4) cm above its danger level. The water level may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.



Forest Whitaker, left, speaks as Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony look on during the Hollywood Foreign Press Association’s annual luncheon at The Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif, on 9 Aug, 2007. —INTERNET



**Monday, 13 August**  
View on today

**7:00 am**

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တပိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

**7:25 am**

2. To be healthy exercise

**7:30 am**

3. Morning news

**7:40 am**

4. Nice and sweet song

**7:55 am**

5. Song of national races

**8:05 am**

6. Cute little dancers

**8:15 am**

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

**8:20 am**

8. ခရမ်းချောင်းတံတား

**8:30 am**

9. International news

**8:40 am**

10. Islands of Dhamma

**8:45 am**

11. ဘဒ္ဒန္တကုဏ္ဍဇောတိ (အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကဓဇ) ဒုတိယဥက္ကဋ္ဌဆရာတော် နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊ ဇောတိကာရုံပါဠိတက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းတိုက်၊ ပြည်မြို့၊ ပဲခူးတိုင်းထံမှ နဂင်္ဂဥပေါသထသီလခံယူတည်ဆောက်ခြင်း

**4:00 pm**

1. Martial song

**4:15 pm**

2. Songs for uphold National Spirit

**4:30 pm**

3. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအမှတ် (၃) အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ဆဋ္ဌမအကြိမ် ဓမ္မစကြာဝတ်ရွတ် ပူဇော်ပွဲ (တတိယဆု) (အထက-၁၊ ကျောက်တန်း) (အမျိုးသမီးဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)

**4:50 pm**

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

**5:05 pm**

5. Dance variety

**5:15 pm**

6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

**5:25 pm**

7. Song and dance of national races

**5:30 pm**

8. Musical programme

(The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

**5:45 pm**

9. ဦးရိုက်ဖူးဖြော်ရွှေမော်မော်ဇောတော်

**6:00 pm**

10. Evening news

**6:30 pm**

11. Weather report

**6:35 pm**

12. အလှရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

**7:00 pm**

13. “ကြို့ဆိုလျက်ပါ” “ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ မင်းထက်ကျော်ဇော်၊ နေထူးနိုင်၊ နေယံ၊ ဇင်ဇင်ဇော်မြင့်၊ နန်းဆုရတိုစိုး၊ သင်ဇာဝင့်ကျော်) ဒါရိုက်တာ-အောင်မိုး(ပဲရစ်)

**7:10 pm**

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်သောရွှေနေခြည်” (အပိုင်း-၂)

**8:00 pm**

15. News


16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ရေသူမလေး ဒုတိယချစ်ပုံပြင်”(အပိုင်း-၃၅)

19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးပိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာမေတ္တာဘဝနာပွားများခြင်းတရားတော်

20. The next day’s programme



**Monday, 13 August**  
Tune in today

**8:30 am** Brief news

**8:35 am** Music:  
-Take your chance

**8:40 am** Perspectives

**8:45 am** Music:  
-Love is all around

**8:50 am** National news/Slogan

**9:00 am** Music:  
-Base of love

**9:05 am** International news

**9:10 am** Music:  
-I swear

**1:30 pm** News / Slogan

**1:40 pm** Lunch time music:  
-Can you hear me  
-Where you are ?

**9:00 pm** Spotlight on the star (Celine Dion)

**9:10 pm** Article

**9:20 pm** Drug/Women Affairs

**9:35 pm** Golden Land Melody/Vocal Gems  
-Paradise  
-To sir with love

**9:45 pm** News /Slogan

**10:00 pm** PEL



# Cash and kind donated to monasteries, nunneries



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence and congregation receive the Five Precepts from a Sayadaw at donation ceremony of rice and provisions.— MNA

YANGON, 12 Aug — Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air ) and public wellwishers donated rice, edible oil, salt, grams and medicine as well as cash to 18 monasteries and three nunneries in North Okkalapa Township in Yangon East District this afternoon. The donation ceremony took place at Dhamma Maydini Sarthintaik in Ward-9, North Okkalapa Township, attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence. Presiding Sayadaws and

nuns of the monasteries and nunneries also graced the ceremony.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe offered robes and provisions to Chairman of North Okkalapa Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Ganthayon Sarthintaik of Zabuaye Monastery Bhandda Khemeinda. Senior officials also donated alms to the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha. Three senior officers offered rice, edible oil and grams donated by

the Tatmadaw to members of the Sangha and nuns. Next, Yangon Division PDC, YCDC, departments and enterprises of various ministries, social organizations and private companies donated rice, edible oil, salt, grams and medicine.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and officials accepted K 10,033,660 donated by wellwishers including K 210,000 by (See page 9)

## Weather forecast for (13-8-2007)

### Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

### Yangon and neighbouring areas

One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

### Mandalay and neighbouring areas

Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

## Commander attends distribution of traditional medicine kits to 44 villages of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — A ceremony to distribute first-aid traditional medicine kits, organized by Traditional Medicine Department, was held at the Ministry of Health, here, this morning, with an address by

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that the government is giving special priority to development of Myanmar traditional

medicine. In that regard, it has been able to open the University of Traditional Medicine , traditional medicine hospital and clinics and promulgate the Traditional Medicine Law and produce potent traditional medi-

cines. Furthermore, the government since 2000 has organized the Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference, and now is the seventh of its kind.

Under the leadership of National Health Committee, the Ministry of Health is striving for providing health care services to the people with the use of traditional medicines.

Today's ceremony was aimed at distributing first-aid traditional medicine kit to the rural areas. The first-aid traditional medicine kit includes medicines for common diseases, spirit, cotton and bandage and a book on basic use of traditional medicine. As a pilot project, the kits will be (See page 9)



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin delivers a speech at distribution of traditional medicine kits in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.— MNA