Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to President of Egypt

YANGON, 23 July — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt which falls on 23 July 2003.— MNA

A city lying in a large and pleasant garden

In an area not far from Yangon Division, there lies the Zwebat Sluice Gate, an irrigation facility included in a large array of infrastructures helping green the 30-mile perimeter of the Yangon City.

And thanks to the Zwebat Sluice Gate in Waw Township, Bago Division, farmlands in its vicinity are now safe from floods and sea water. The sluice gate is also providing greater assistance to reclaiming wetlands and enough water for cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy and other crops and plants.

In addition, the Moeyungyi Lake with a storage capacity of 140,000 acre-feet will also supply water through canals in Bago, Thanatpin and Thongwa for greening the 30-mile perimeter of the Yangon City and develop crops cultivation in the area.

As the area of Yangon is growing, along with the number of new settlement towns, world-class buildings, infrastructures, industrial zones, business centres, transport networks and parks to add modern characteristics to the city, the extent of the task to clean and green the whole area of the metropolis has become greater.

In this regard, the State has laid down the plan for year-round greening of the 30-mile perimeter of Yangon City, covering a large array of dams, sluice gates and lakes for irrigation and prevention of floods and the inflow of sea water, a network of feeder and drainage canals, a mammoth land reclamation project, and a massive agricultural development task.

The greening plan also includes Wingadat, Manypo and Kokko sluice gate projects, reclamation of 10,000 acres of virgin and fallow lands with water from Moeyungyi Lake and cultivation of various types of crops on 55,000 acres in Kayan, Thongwa, Kyauktan and Thanlyin townships in Yangon Division all the year.

Thanks to the Zwebat Sluice Gate in Waw Township, Bago Division, farmlands in its vicinity are now safe from floods and sea water. —mna.

Tin Maung Than

On 19 July this year, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt visited a number of irrigation facilities, agricultural works and other development undertakings of the 30-mile perimeter greening plan.

During the inspection, the Secretary-1 told officials that as more virgin, fallow and wetlands would be reclaimed in the future, a greater number of irrigation facilities would be needed to supply enough water for the newly establish farmlands to help green the areas included in 30-mile perimeter of Yangon.

Therefore, the staff of the 30-mile perimeter greening plan are striving hard to extend the storage capacity of Moeyungyi Lake and other dams and lakes, facilitate the operations of the irrigation works, reclaim more land as targeted and cultivate crops and plant trees as scheduled for Yangon to be like the city lying in a large and pleasant garden.

Union of Myanmar

State Peace and Development Council

Order No 3/2003

9th Waning of Waso, 1365 ME

(22 July 2003)

Appointment of Attorney-General

The State Peace and Development Council has appointed U Aye Maung, who is jointly serving the duties of the attorney-general, as the attorney-general with effect from today.

By order,

Sd/ Khin Nyunt

General

Secretary-1

State Peace and Development Council

Daw Suu Kyi, the NLD party and Our Ray of Hope — 12

A political party may tour various regions to make speeches about its policy but it cannot expect everyone to agree with it. There may be others with different views. Moreover, we made a public nuisance of ourselves with our rowdy behaviour so there was bound to be some kind of unrestrained response in certain places.

But heedless of this we insisted on travelling at night and this put us in a position where we were unable to definitely tell who the culprits were when such encounters occurred. Although we tried to identify this person or that group we had no real proof because we could not see properly in the dark. So, the question is “Isn’t that our own failing?”

(On page 8 and 9)

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

Wednesday, 23 July, 2003

Actively participate in health care services

The State Peace and Development Council, in its drive for the Union of Myanmar to become a peaceful and developed nation, is trying to enlist the active participation of the entire people. Prevailing upon the people to actively lend themselves to the task of modernizing the nation calls for the raising of their health standard. Therefore, uplift of health and fitness of the entire nation has been embodied in the Four Social Objectives and health care services are being systematically provided in both urban and rural areas to improve the health standard of all citizens in accordance with that particular objective.

To provide extensive health care services, the Government has been building the required infrastructure such as clinics and hospitals even in the remote areas. In addition, more and more doctors and nurses are being appointed. The Ministry of Health, on its part, has also been taking all the necessary steps to prevent and cure diseases. Prevention is better than cure and so first priority is given to preventive measures in carrying out health care services. Accordingly, projects have been laid down to prevent malaria, dengue haemorrhagic fever, elephantiasis, tuberculosis, leprosy and season diseases.

Sound health is important not only for an individual person but also for the whole nation. To improve the health standard of the nation, people are required to cooperate with the Health Department and actively participate in health care services. The people should take care of their own personal hygiene and cleanliness of their houses and of the wards and streets they live in. They should conscientiously take part in community sanitation work. Moreover, they should abide by the reminders and notices against the seasonal diseases announced by the Ministry of Health if and when necessary.

Finally, we would like to urge all the entire people to have health awareness. If they have health awareness, they will take care of their own health and actively participate in health care services being carried out by the Ministry of Health, the health standard of the nation will improve. Only then will our goal of a peaceful, modern and developed nation materialize.

Monday, 22 July — Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Chair-Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Maung Oo on 17 July met with local people and staff at Yathe-daung Township Peace and Development Council Office in Sitway District and urged them to extend agriculture for rice sufficiency in the region and cultivation of crops exceeding the target.

On 18 July, the commander went to agriculture farm of township General Administration Department and inspected pepper plants and paddy plantations. Afterwards, the commander proceeded to pepper plantation farm of township Peace and Development Council where 40,000 pepper saplings were grown. Next, the commander went to the township People’s Hospital and attended to the needs. He saw over Basic Education High School of Yathe-daung Township, and Information and Public Relations Department. On 19 July, Maj-Gen Maung Oo presented Waso robes and offerings to members of the Sangha at Aungmyay Bodhi Abadaw-ppya Monastery in Yathe-daung Township. Similarly, he also donated Waso robes to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Arcana and members of the Sangha of Mayyu Monastery in Zedippin Village in the township. Moreover, he also donated 50 bags of cement and 25 tons of timber to the monastery for renovation of the monastery.

Member of Rakhine State Peace Committee for Women’s Affairs wife of the commander Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo met with commit-tee members, members of maternal and child welfare association, villagers at the monastery and discussed social, health, education matters of the local people. Next, she presented salted and gifts to those present. Later, the commander inspected station hospital in Zedippin Village and presented K 1 million towards the fund of the hospital donated by Rakhine State Peace and Development Council through offi-cials. He then met with offi-cials, staff and locals at BEHS at the village and gave instructions on regional development tasks and at-tended to the needs.

Do not be bolstered whenever flattered

Knowledge Bank paper reading session to be held

YANGON, 22 July — Myanmar Writers and Journal-ists Association has been holding Knowledge Bank reading session. Dr Tin Tun Oo will read paper on SARS at 12 noon on 26 July at the Sarpay Beikman building, of No 529, Merchant Street.

Members of MWJA and enthusiasts are invited to attend it.

Educative handouts will be distributed to those present. Books on SARS recently written by Dr Tin Tun Oo will be sold at special price to observers and resource persons.

Joint Myanmar UNICEF Advisory Group (JMUAG) meets

YANGON, 22 July — The Meeting on JMUAG from 2001 to 2005, under the Myanmar and UNICEF cooperation programme, was held at International Business Centre at 9 am today, attended by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises, officials of East Asia and Pacific Regional Office and UNICEF Office, representatives of UN agencies and guests.

Regional Director Ms Mehr Khan of East Asia and Pacific Regional Office and Resident Coordinator of the UN System’s Operational Activities for Develop-ment Mr Charles James Petrie extended greetings.

UNICEF representative Mr J Bertrand Mendis reported on implementation of the project. Next, officials discussed health and nutrition, basic education and children in need of special protec-tion, water and environmen-tal sanitation, information and communication and capacity building for planning and monitoring.

YANGON, 22 July — Talks to mark the Interna-tional Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking were held at the Basic Educa-tion High School in Kyun-su on 26 June morning. Present were local authorities, departmental personnel, teachers and students.

The message sent by Chairman of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing was read. Later, officials gave talks on narcotic drugs.

Minister U Soe Tha addressed the meeting on reviewing Myanmar and UNICEF cooperation programme.

Health Minister, Mayor inspect prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever

YANGON, 22 July — Member of National Health Com-mittee Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Yangon Mayor U Ko Lay inspected collective measures for prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever in Th inganyung Town-ship this morning. Head of Health Department of YCDC Dr Tin Maung Win and Head of Township Health Depart-ment Dr Than Than Huy reported on outbreak of dengue fever, preventive measures and weekly organizational and educative measures. The minister and the mayor gave necessary instructions. The minister and the mayor inspected sanitation of drains, chlorination in lakes and wells.

The mayor and officials also inspected tasks to be under-taken by YCDC for greening of Kandawgyi and its environs and gave instructions.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and Mayor U Ko Lay cordially greet and encourage ward dwellers.

Minister U Soe Tha addressed the meeting on reviewing Myanmar and UNICEF cooperation programme.

SANITATION TASKS INSPECTED: Yangon City Develop-ment Committee Joint-Secretary U Kyi Win and officials inspected sanitation tasks in Yangon on 22 July evening. Photo shows officials inspecting garbage collecting system in Pubahdaw Township.
Annan warns US over Iraq: “Democracy can’t be imposed from outside”

UNITED NATIONS, 22 July — Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged the United States Monday to quickly restore control of Iraq to its people, warning that “democracy can’t be imposed from the outside.”

In the 23-page report to the Security Council, Annan also noted concerns about the US treatment of Iraqi detainees and the failure to improve security in Baghdad. While Annan welcomed the creation of a US-picked Iraqi Governing Council, he wrote that Iraqis had expressed “an overwhelming demand for self-rule.”

“It is important that Iraqis are able to see a clear timetabe leading to the full restoration of sovereignty,” Annan wrote.

The critical tone of the report was unlikely to help US efforts to win support for an international peacekeeping force that could relieve overburdened American troops in Iraq.

US diplomats offered a cautious initial assessment.

“We certainly agree that Iraqis should be in charge of their own country and we are working hard to do that and that’s why the governing council is a good first step,” said Richard Grenell, spokesman for the US mission to the United Nations. —Internet

New death of soldier in Iraq piles pressure on US

BAGHDAD, 22 July — A US soldier and an Iraqi interpreter were killed in an attack in Baghdad Monday, adding to an almost daily toll of casualties that is putting pressure on Washington to scale back its role in Iraq.

They died as Iraq’s week-old self-rule body again failed to resolve the basic issue of who will lead the US-appointed Governing Council. With many Iraqis also keen to be rid of the occupying forces and rule themselves now that Saddam Hussein is gone, the Council seems to many to be making slow progress.

An Arab television channel aired comments by masked gunmen who claimed attacks on Americans were an Islamic holy war and not, as US officials say, the work of Saddam loyalists.

The US military said the soldier from the 1st Armored Division and the interpreter were killed when their vehicle hit an improvised mine on a Baghdad highway and then came under fire. Three other soldiers were wounded.

A local journalist watched as one US military vehicle blew up in broad daylight. A Reuters photographer later saw two burned-out Humvees. A US military spokesman credited an Iraqi vendor with saving one of the injured soldiers.

“One man who worked at a nearby stand helped the soldiers out of the vehicles. That probably saved one soldier’s life,” Lt Col John Kern said.

In the past week, three roadside bombs have exploded, each killing an American soldier, and troops discovered and defused at least one other.

Four soldiers have died in attacks from rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire, the weapons used in nearly all attacks before last week. The bomb that was defused was hidden in a mold used to make blocks of ice and designed to be detonated by a radio-controlled doorbell button — meaning it did not require a wire connection. Witnesses have reported other roadside bombs were set off by men sitting in cars some distance from the convoys, ensuring a quick getaway.

Gen. John Abizaid, on his first visit to Iraq since taking over at US Central Command, said Monday that he would create an Iraqi civil defense force of nearly 7,000 men to patrol with the US military. It would consist of eight battalions, each with about 850 armed Iraqi militiamen.

Commanders said the militia was an effort to lower the profile of American forces. An Iraqi militia would be a localized effort to assist local governors in running their areas. —Internet

New WHO boss pledges to work for poor

GENEVA, 22 July — A little-known South Korean doctor takes over as head of the World Health Organization (WHO) on Monday determined the UN agency can do more for the poor.

Lee Jong-wook, previously head of WHO’s tuberculosis programme, succeeds Gro Harlem Brundtland after the ex-Norwegian prime minister said she would not seek a further five-year term.

In a world marked by unacceptable health inequalities, we will emphasize those programmes that benefit the poorest and most vulnerable communities,” Lee said recently.

HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, which together kill some six million people a year, had to be priorities for the one-billion-dollar-a-year agency because the burden fell heaviest on the poorest countries, particularly in Africa, he said. To reinforce the message, he has promised to increase the number of those in Third World countries being treated for AIDS to three million by 2005, 10 times the current figure.

The 58-year-old official, the first South Korean to head a UN agency, is so committed to the target that it is simply referred to as the “3-by-5” goal by his colleagues.

The ever-smiling Lee was elected in January in the closest ballot ever at the Geneva-based body, beating high-profile UNAIDS chief Peter Piot by 17 votes to 15 after several rounds. He inherited an organization basking in the success of the recent fight against SARS, the potentially deadly respiratory disease that once threatened a global pandemic.

Brundtland, who said that at 64 she was too old for another full term, had already done much to restore the prestige of the WHO after the controversies of the early 1990s. She took over in 1998 from Japanese pharmacologist Hiroshi Nakajima. —MNA/Reuters

China begins relocating airport in western China

UNIAN, 22 July — China has launched a project to relocate an airport in southern Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, northwest China, local aviation officials said on Monday.

Located in Sinc Township, 17 kilometres south of Korla City, the new Korla Airport project is estimated to cost 457.4 million yuan (55.7 million US dollars) with funding from central and local governments.

The new airport was designed to meet the projected demand of the aviation sector in the Year 2010, and it will serve as a standby airport for international flights according to its long-term development programme. —MNA/Xinhua

US troops face more Iraq road bombings

BAGHDAD, 22 July — Insurgents are increasingly using roadside bombs detonated by remote control to attack American forces in Iraq with an American soldier and his Iraqi translator dying in northern Baghdad in the latest explosion.

As part of an effort to lower the US profile in Iraq, the new US commander in the region announced plans to establish an Iraqi militia to help patrol the country.

Monday’s attack wounded three other members of the US Army’s 1st Armored Division squad and destroyed two Humvees. A UN military spokesman credited an Iraqi vendor with saving one of the injured soldiers.

“One man who worked at a nearby stand helped the soldiers out of the vehicles. That probably saved one soldier’s life,” Col John Kern said.

In the past week, three roadside bombs have exploded, each killing an American soldier, and troops discovered and defused at least one other.

Four soldiers have died in attacks from rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire, the weapons used in nearly all attacks before last week. The bomb that was defused was hidden in a mold used to make blocks of ice and designed to be detonated by a radio-controlled doorbell button — meaning it did not require a wire connection. Witnesses have reported other roadside bombs were set off by men sitting in cars some distance from the convoys, ensuring a quick getaway.

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Commanders said the militia was an effort to lower the profile of American forces. An Iraqi militia would be a localized effort to assist local governors in running their areas. —Internet

Pakistanis exports rise by 21%

ISLAMABAD, 22 July — Pakistani exports in the 2002-03 fiscal year ending on 30 June increased by 21 per cent, crossing the 10-billion-US-dollar mark and reaching 11 billion US dollars.

Meanwhile the country’s imports rose by 17.8 per cent, reaching the level of 12.2 billion US dollars, according to a report on Trade Policy 2002-2004 released Sunday by the Pakistani Commerce Ministry. The trade deficit in the last fiscal year further reduced by 4 per cent to 1.15 billion US dollars, said the report.

The report The main exports last year were textile products, rice and leather footwear and the main destinations were the United States, European Union and the Middle East. Pakistan’s traditional textile sector fetched 7.17 billion US dollars or 67 per cent of the country’s total exports and posted the largest increase of 24 per cent over the previous year. —MNA/Xinhua

Jong-Wook Lee, new Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), stands in front of the headquarters of the organization in Geneva, Switzerland, on 21 July, 2003. Jong-Wook Lee replaced former WHO Director-General, Norwegian Gro Harlem Brundtland on Monday for a five-year term. —Xinhua/Proto
**Four American soldiers die in Iraq over weekend**

**Plane with US tourists hits Mount Kenya, 14 dead**

Mount Kenya National Park (Kenya), 22 July — At least 14 people, including 12 US tourists, were killed when a light aircraft crashed into Africa’s second-highest mountain, the snow-capped Mount Kenya, officials said on Sunday.

The plane was flying over the 17,000-foot mountain, 70 miles north of the Kenyan capital Nairobi when it crashed into one of its peaks on Saturday.

“All people are dead. It’s a real mess. The plane exploded and it is scattered all over the area,” Bongo Waweru, senior warden in the Mount Kenya region for the Kenya Wildlife Services, told Reuters.

He said the South African-registered aircraft had hit the third highest point on the mountain.

Peter Waakhaia, chief inspector of accidents with the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority, told Reuters: “There were two South African pilots and 12 American passengers.” Police said efforts to retrieve the bodies were underway.

“Police climbers are scaling the mountain and will probably arrive there early on Monday. A helicopter sent to survey the scene has been hindered by thick cloud cover,” said Albert Waawer, a senior police officer in Nyeri Town.

Waweru said the plane, which had taken off from the Wilson Airport in Nairobi on Saturday afternoon, had headed for Samburu national park in northern Kenya. Officials at Wilson Airport were not available to confirm details of the flight or the nationality of the tourists. — Reuters

**Earthquake jolts southwest China**

KUNMING, 22 July — An earthquake measuring 6.2 on the Richter Scale rocked Yunnan Province in southwest China late Monday night, according to the China Seismological Bureau.

The tremor occurred in Dayao County, some 180 kilometres away from the provincial capital city of Kunming, at 23:16 Monday. It was felt in Kunming, according to local sources.

A number of buildings and residential houses in Dayao County collapsed, while no report of casualties had been received by 00:30 Tuesday, Zhu Jinchuan, secretary of the Dayao County Committee of the Communist Party of China, told Xinhua on phone.

Disaster relief work were immediately launched and the local authorities have dispatched rescue teams to all of Dayao’s 14 townships, Zhu said. — Xinhua

**US has to fall back on UN for solution to Iraq issue**

BEIJING, 22 July — The United States seems to have no way but to return to the United Nations framework for a solution to the Iraq issue, a leading Chinese newspaper said on Monday.

Washington should sincerely invite the United Nations to play a leading role instead of making it merely a “super red-cross” for the local residents at a promotion for community services held in the Jin’an residental area in Shanghai on 20 July. Some medical officers and electronic technicians from the armed police stationed in Shanghai joined the event to offer free services to the local residents. — Xinhua

**Electronic technicians from the armed police stationed in Shanghai repair home appliances free of charge for the local residents in community services held in the Jin’an residental area in Shanghai on 20 July. Some medical officers and electronic technicians from the armed police stationed in Shanghai joined the event to offer free services to the local residents. — Xinhua**

**Family mourns local soldier killed in Iraq**

BAGHDAD, 22 July — A local family received the news that all families of active military personnel dead — their loved one will not be coming home, killed in the line of duty in Iraq.

Newscaster’s Jorge Quiroga reported that the Pentagon confirmed that Townsend’s Sgt Justin Garvey was killed on July 19 in a rocket attack in the Iraqi city of Tal Afar. 240 miles northwest of Baghdad.

Angie Walsh Garvey said that the second she received a message to call the police, she knew her 23-year-old son was not coming home from Iraq. She last spoke to him on the phone eight days ago. On Monday afternoon, she and Garvey’s sister, Kristen, tried to console each other and called Garvey a hero.

Garvey was a 17-year-old junior in high school when he decided to join the National Guard, and in memory of his late stepfather, he enlisted in the Army right after graduation.

**Iraq mothers wait with their children to get them vaccinated against measles, diphtheria, tuberculosis, hepatitis-B and polo, at a local clinic in Baghdad, Iraq, on 22 July, 2003. The Iraqi Ministry of Health in cooperation with US Agency for international Development, UNICEF and Healthcare provided vaccinations against Iraq on the occasion of 2nd Iraq National Vaccination Day. According to UNICEF and WHO, thousands of Iraqis children die each month due to lack of clean water, food and medicines. — Internet**

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President’s approval rating drops in poll

WASHINGTON, 22 July — The sluggish economy and the continuing daily threat to US forces in Iraq has taken a toll on President Bush’s public standing, according to a USA TODAY/CNN/Gallup Poll.

President Bush’s approval rating is at its lowest point since March.

The President’s approval rating fell to 59%, its lowest level since March, in the poll of 1,003 adults over the weekend.

Bush’s lowest marks came on his handling of the economy: 45% approved, 51% disapproved. That weakness extended to the Republican Party, which controls Congress.

Democrats had a 17-point advantage, 53%-36%, when poll respondents were asked which party would do a better job handling the economy. In January, the GOP had a 43%-42% edge.

Bush’s party held its edge on handling the threat of terrorism: Americans preferred Republican policies by 55% to 29%. The divide was narrower on the overall handling of the economy: 45% approved, 51% disapproved.

Democratic presidential candidates have hammered at Bush on his handling of Iraq. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., said Monday that US troops are paying the price for Bush’s failure to build an international coalition for postwar Iraq. “It is clear now that he didn’t do that sufficiently. In that regard, the American people can let them down,”

Another Democratic presidential contender, Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri, said he hears frequently during the campaign about people’s economic worries.

College students can’t find jobs, and older workers with high-paying manufacturing jobs are concerned their companies will move overseas, Gephardt told USA TODAY and Gannett News Service. “The economic issues are really beginning to take hold,” he said.

But Republican pollster Whitt Ayres said the drop in Bush’s ratings was a routine “settling” of numbers that were artificially high after the war in Iraq. Ayres said 91% of Republicans approved of Bush’s handling of the war, which was a number many presidents would die for.

The weakness of Bush and the GOP on the economy is merely an expression of frustration at the pace of economic recovery, he said. “All of that can change in a heartbeat.”

Majority of Japanese oppose sending troops to Iraq

Tokyo, 22 July — A majority of Japanese oppose sending troops to Iraq to help with reconstruction efforts, as public support for Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi slid, according to a survey released.

Fifty-five percent of those responding said they were against dispatching the Self-Defence Forces (SDF) to the war-torn country, compared with 43 percent in a similar poll in June, the Asahi Shimbun said.

The latest survey showed 33 percent of the respondents voiced support, down from 46 percent in the previous poll.

The daily conducted the latest survey by phone on Sunday and Monday. Valid responses came to 1,946 or 53 percent. When asked why they oppose sending SDF personnel, 25 percent of the respondents said Iraq is still dangerous.

The survey also showed that support for Koizumi’s cabinet declined to 42 percent from 47 percent in June, while the disapproval rate inched up to 36 percent from 34 percent.

Koizumi’s ruling coalition reportedly agreed last week to go ahead with enactment of a controversial bill on Wednesday that would allow the government to send the SDF to Iraq.

Conjoined Korean twins set for Singapore surgery

Singapore, 22 July — Two weeks after a failed attempt to separate Iranian twins, four-month-old conjoined South Korean sisters will undergo surgery to separate them at the Singapore General hospital, the hospital said on Monday.

The operation to separate the babies joined at the lower spine could start as early as Tuesday if tests go well, Chai Chee Khoon, Asia reported.

A team of 10 surgeons had been assembled for the surgery which was expected to take up to 10 hours, it said.

Raffles Hospital spokes- woman Leng Hoe Hee said the surgery was expected to start on Monday that results tests carried out on the babies over the weekend were still pending. The parents of the twin said they had sought the advice of experts at Raffles Hospital before it began a high-profile operation.

The operation to separate Laleh and Ladan Bijani, Iranian twins joined at the head, ended tragically on 8 July. The 29-year-old law graduates lost 75% of their blood as the 52-hour operation to separate them was coming to an end. Their deaths sparked debates in law and ethics of such a life-threatening operation, with some medical experts concerned about what happened was lost in the haste and motive behind the surgery. But the parents of the Korean twins are determined to go ahead with the surgery, the station said.

Min Seung-joon, father of the twins, said the Singapore medical team had given the twins a better than 85% chance of survival.

Economic cooperation symposium set for Beijing

Beijing, 22 July — The seventh sympo-sium on economic cooperation between Beijing and Hong Kong will be held in Beijing in late October this year.

The symposium will feature the theme of complementing each other’s advantages and achieving prosperity together, according to the organizers.

Officials from Hong Kong and Beijing will be invited to give keynote speeches. Workshops on the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games facilities, policies for investing in Hong Kong, financial development in Beijing, and development in both places, co-operation in law firms, and commercial promotion activities will also be held.

A total of 285 cooperative agreements were signed in the previous six symposiums, which included 12,982 billion US dollars in the agreement contracts.
Iraqi delegation squabbles ahead of UN appearance

UNITED NATIONS, July 21 — A delegation from Iraq's new Governing Council squabbled on Monday over who would lead it. Since then the Shiite and Sunni Muslims, who control a majority of the council's 25 members, have wrangled over proposals for the leadership of the new body, which reflects Iraq's diverse religious and ethnic groups.

Iraq Governing Council fails to pick leader

BAGHDAD, July 21 — Iraq's week-old Governing Council failed to pick a leader in five hours of talks on Monday that left unclear whether it was any nearer to taking back some responsibilities from US-led occupying forces.

Iraqi delegation squabbles ahead of UN appearance

UNITED NATIONS, July 22 — A delegation from Iraq's new Governing Council squabbled on Monday over who could address the UN Security Council during Tuesday's progress report on Iraqi reconstruction, council diplomats said.

Rice exports surge through China's Dalian Port

DALIAN, July 21 — Rice exports through the port of Dalian, in northeastern Liaoning Province, surged to 203,000 tons in the first half of the year, a 580-per-cent rise over the same period last year, according to the latest Customs figures.

Indonesia's aircraft manufacturer recalls 150 employees

JAKARTA, July 22 — The state-owned aircraft manufacturer PT Dirgantara Indonesia (Indonesia Aerospace) recalled Monday 150 employees one week after it announced a mass layoff affecting more than 9,000 employees.

The employees were recalled to complete aircraft orders from Malaysia and Pakistan, local media reports said.

"We are not capable of fulfilling the delivery commitment for those orders," Dirgantara chief executive director Hamzah Haz said.

Militants deny Iraq attacks linked to Saddam

A new US military vehicle was blown up on Monday in Baghdad, apparently by a rocket-propelled grenade, and at least two soldiers riding in it may have been killed, a journalist who witnessed the event said.

Pachachi will talk in the Security Council, diplomats said. Chalabi changed his mind after it was tentatively agreed that both he and former Foreign Minister Adnan Pachachi could speak, the diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

But a spokesman for Spanish Ambassador Ioncio Arias, the Security Council president for July, said only Pachachi would be able to speak, following UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and Annan's special envoy for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello.

"Pachachi will talk in the name of the delegation — only one person," the spokesman said. The third member of the delegation is Aklal Hashemi, a former diplomat who is one of three women on the Governing Council.

Since the appointment of its 25 members a little over a week ago by Paul Bremer, Iraq's US governor, the Governing Council has been unable to agree on who would lead in a resolution passed by the cabinet, adding that a cabinet meeting will soon be called to address the security situation.

Militants deny Iraq attacks linked to Saddam

"We need to internationalize this and we need to do it now, we need to do it openly and we need to do it in order to define the sense of occupation and protect the troops," Kerry, who supported the authority to wage war in Iraq, has been critical of the Administration's failure to gain wider international backing for the war effort. — MNA/Reuters

WASHINGTON, July 22 — Democratic presidential contender John Kerry urged the Bush Administration on Monday to seek UN support in stabilizing Iraq and questioned if "false pride" was delaying the move.

He said "my blood boiled over" when he read in the New York Times on Saturday that some in the Bush Administration might consider it humiliating to go to the United Nations for help after bypassing the world body before going to war in Iraq.

"You don't make a decision about protecting your own troops and winning your objectives based on false pride," he said in a conference call with reporters. Kerry, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, said half of the names of the dead enshrined on the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington stem "from the time that that kind of pride began to cloud the decisions in Vietnam." The Bush Administration has reacted coolly to suggestions that a new UN resolution could make it easier for nations to help Bush stabilize Iraq through troops or other means, saying existing resolutions give the UN cover to any country that wants to join the effort in Iraq. Russia and other countries have suggested a new UN resolution might make countries more disposed to help. Kerry said international help was crucial with American deaths continuing and the costs of policing the country mounting.

"Lives are at stake," he said. "We need to internationalize this and we need to do it now, we need to do it openly and we need to do it in order to define the sense of occupation and protect the troops." Kerry, who supported the authority to wage war in Iraq, has been critical of the Administration's failure to gain wider international backing for the war effort. — MNA/Reuters

"They are all waged in the name of God, none of them have been sent home," he told Abu Dhabi television in an interview from Iraq.

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"There is no other way to wage war in Iraq," he said in a conference call with reporters. Kerry, a decorated Vietnam War veteran, said half of the names of the dead enshrined on the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington stem "from the time that that kind of pride began to cloud the decisions in Vietnam." The Bush Administration has reacted coolly to suggestions that a new UN resolution could make it easier for nations to help Bush stabilize Iraq through troops or other means, saying existing resolutions give the UN cover to any country that wants to join the effort in Iraq. Russia and other countries have suggested a new UN resolution might make countries more disposed to help. Kerry said international help was crucial with American deaths continuing and the costs of policing the country mounting.

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The employees were recalled to complete aircraft orders from Malaysia and Pakistan, local media reports said.

"We are not capable of fulfilling the delivery commitment for those orders," Dirgantara chief executive director Hamzah Haz said.

"The government is deeply concerned with the problem facing Dirgantara, adding that a Cabinet meeting will soon be called to address the security situation. The government remains to pay attention (to Dirgantara) by recalling employees who have been sent home," he told reporters here. MNA/Reu...
Seminar on Medical Ethics on 26 July

YANGON, 22 July — Seminar on Medical Ethics for Medical Profession conducted by Myanmar Medical Council will be held at Myanmar Medical Association at No. 249, Theinbyu Street, Mingala Taungnyunt Township at 8:30 am on 26 July. Enthusiasts may attend the seminar. — MNA

Regional development work coordinated in Thabeikkyin Township

YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, together with officials, met with departmental officials and authorities at Shwe Wah Win Hall in Thabeikkyin Township on 18 July morning. Officials reported on arrangements being made for the regional development.

Next, the commander gave instructions on implementation of the projects by respective departments, greening of the region, extended cultivation of fuel wood plantations, cooperation for regional development, and fulfilled the needs.

The commander inspected progress in construction of extended building of Thabeikkyin Township BEHS, the lake with a water storage capacity of 15,000 gallons to supply water for Seikkan Ward and the People’s Hospital.

The commander went to Kyuweikpauk Village Basic Education Post-Primary School and inspected the construction of the school building. At Singa Township General Administration Department, the commander met with departmental staff and local people. Officials reported on the work being carried out sector-wise.

On 20 July, the commander watched the final match of the Commander of Central Command’s Cup Football Tournament. The commander presented the championship shield to the winning team. — MNA

Low-cost rural housing projects being implemented

YANGON, 22 July — With the aim of enabling rural people to raise their living standard, under the supervision of Development Affairs Department, various Township Development Affairs Committees have been implementing low-cost rural housing projects in Chaung U Township in Sagaing Division, Natatun Township in Bago Division (West), and Kayin Township in Magway Division, Kyauktan Township, Yagon Division, Kangyidaung and Nyaungdon Townships in Ayeyawady Division.

Opium refinery exposed in Hsihseng Township

YANGON, 22 July — A combined team comprising local Tatmadawmen, members of the intelligence unit and Myanmar Police Force, acting on information, searched a Dynab bus, which left Phaungshai, on the road in Ward 5, Monkoe, Shan State (North) on 12 July and arrested passengers Ma Mar Lu, daughter of U Mar Tu of Banmway Village in Ayeyawady Division, U Mar Thaw, and Za Thwal Lal with seized narcotic drugs.

On 13 July, the combined team, acting on information, searched the house of Daw Shant Shi Chan at Ward 5, Monkoe, and seized Daw Shant Shi Chan and Rongchun Hwa of Kholong Village, Lujian Township, Paikshan District, Yunnan Province, with 650 stimulant tablets, 201 grams of opium and 156 grams of heroin. In addition, another combined team stopped the bus with number plates K-536 which left Falam, at 8th Mile Check-point, Kale, on 13 July and seized Za Thwal Lal of Letpanchaung Village, Lujian Township, with 31,203 grams of heroin. Action is being taken against them under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

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Narcotic drugs seized in Monkoe, Kale

YANGON, 22 July — A combined team comprising local Tatmadawmen, members of the intelligence unit and Myanmar Police Force, acting on information, searched a Dyna bus, which left Phaungshai, on the road in Ward 5, Monkoe, Shan State (North) on 12 July and arrested passengers Ma Mar Lu, daughter of U Mar Tu of Banmway Village in Ayeyawady Division, U Mar Thaw, and Za Thwal Lal with seized narcotic drugs.

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(Continued from yesterday)

What are we yearning for, and what is our destiny?

Instead of criticizing and analyzing the events of the trip which true to expecta-
tions ended up in a brawl in order to say who was right and who was wrong, it would be more fitting to find the root cause of the incident.

If I have to give my frank and honest opinion concerning all that happened on the way, it cannot be denied that our group of NLD members led by Auntie Suu, from the very outset had embarked on this campaign with the sole pur-
pose of inciting unrest in every place we visited, to destabilize the situation and destroy peace with the ulti-
mate plan of blaming the government.

A review of all the ac-
tivities of our group headed by Auntie Suu during the trip will show that our group, in all the places we visited, used all means to exhort and incite people to gather into large crowds and then exploiting the personal popularity of an individual person use it as an effective weapon to criticize and slander the government, dis-
credit other organizations and vilify departmental per-
sonnel to belittle them in the eyes of the public, aggra-
state minor problems and thus lower morale and in-
stigate defiance, indiscretion and irresponsibility in gen-
eral. A scrutiny of Auntie Suu’s speeches will obvi-
ously show that they are all of this nature, full of un-
endless and sly allegations. Moreover if we study the public demonstrations staged against our group led by Auntie Suu, we can see that they were staged in reaction to Auntie Suu’s provocative and insulting speeches. For example, she had made such disparaging

remarks in her speeches in Wunhoo during the trip to Sagaing Division so, by the time we arrived in Indaw and Katha a series of dem-

onstrations to denounce the NLD, took place one after another. It was likewise on our visit to the Kachin State.

She had made outright ac-
cusations and openly slan-
derous attacks on others by name in Lonkhnin and as a result mass demonstrations against us had broken out in force at Tanay, Myitkyina and Bhamo. It was the same during the Mandalay Divi-
sion tour. Auntie Suu’s speeches had been so vitu-
perative and inflammatory in Mogok that demonstra-
tions mushroomed all along the route from Mogok to Mandalay.

There is another point I would like to make - in all the demonstrations against us by the local populace, not a single per-
son held any weapons such as rods, swords or spears to threaten us or attack us physically.

It was our people who showed their true col-
ours by physically attacking the demonstrators, shooting at our opponents with cata-
pults, punching and kicking them, and beating them with rods. Then in hoarse voices, we were the first to shout, "They are resorting to vio-

lence to obstruct us." And “we are being stopped for-
cibly.” These accusations and pronouncements against responsible officials and local authorities at different levels filled the air. Yet there were those from our group who viewed this as a political profit.

Actually, if a question should be asked, “Who is the person most responsible in the group of NLD party mem-
bers led by Auntie Suu, for maintaining peace and sta-

bility throughout the trip?” I would have to point a fin-

er at Auntie Suu and no other. Although it was not the period for canvassing of votes, the fact our party had been given the opportunity to tour towns countrywide, with our party emblems and symbols and to give political speeches was indeed a rare opportuni-
ty for our party. If we had used this opportuni-

ty positively for our party organization and not stepped beyond the bounds, there may not have been demonstrations and opposi-
tion against us. So, if we carefully examine the fun-
damental issues and basic causes, there is one thing, which stands out clearly and cannot be denied. And that is, that among the people there is a large majority to whom the NLD party is totally unacceptable.

Although the govern-
ment had acceded to Auntie Suu’s wish for the NLD to initiate some organizational activities within certain lim-
its in spite of the many wrongdoings and transgres-
sions of the NLD, Auntie Suu’s actions as well as those of some party mem-
bers were not those of recipro-
cal cooperation. It was more of a test and challenge of strength.

If only Auntie Suu had given her cooperation with tact and flexibility within the defined limits...

If only she had shown some restraint in her speeches and curbed some of her actions at every place and not exceeded the limit... And, if only she had not travelled haphazardly in the night, resting and eat-
ing at odd hours, and giv-
ing unscheduled speeches on the spur of the moment...

How much more sig-

nificant our trip might have been?

A political party may have various reasons to make speeches about its policy but it cannot expect every-

tone to agree with it. There

may be others with differ-

ent views. Moreover, we made a public nuisance of ourselves with our rowdy behaviour so there was bound to be some kind of unrestrained response in certain places.

But heedless of this we insisted on travelling at night and this put us in a position where we unable to defi-
nitely tell who the culprits were when such encounters occurred. Although we tried to identify this person or that group we had no real proof because we could not see properly in the dark. So, the question is “Isn’t that our own failing?”

If we recount our trip the length and breadth of the nation, Auntie Suu showed a hint of a constructive and positive attitude only in the beginning. But starting from the journey to Mon State and Shan State, she reverted to her past habitual attitudes and practice of calling atten-
tion to the government’s weaknesses and emphasizing the root causes together with

facial expressions to match the slander and scotched at al-
most everything. Her remarks became worse trip after trip fol-

owed by outright attacks and calculated provocation. With regard to her regular meetings with top govern-
ment officials, she claimed that it was only a confi-
dence building measure that could not be termed politi-
cal dialogue and that there was still the need for such political dialogue.

(See page 9)
Daw Suu Kyi...

The government had been releasing persons detained for their subversive activities in violation of the laws of the country. Nevertheless, she stepped up her demands by insisting that all detainees be unconditionally released. And despite the fact that political parties had been granted permission to commence activities and start organizational campaigns, here she was, demanding freedom in their activities and organizational campaigns. Concerning the economic sanctions imposed on Myanmar, she also told the members of the diplomatic circle and news agencies that the NLD would never change its attitude till dialogues were set in motion. It can be assumed from all that it was clearly Auntie Suu’s scheme for political gain without changing her stance towards the government’s concessions.

Many in our party who can realistically and objectively appraise Auntie Suu’s actions understand very well that what she is doing is to try to take advantage of the government, in collusion with some foreign powers. Whatever we have all reached the present state of affairs without hopefully hoping that there would be a change for the better at some and under some circumstances. It is true that based on the speeches and acts of Auntie Suu, terrorist insurgent groups taking refuge at the border, and expatriate gangs opposing the government. To perpetrate terrorist bombs attacks inside the country with the intention of causing internal unrest and discrediting the nation. The bomb explosions in front of the US Embassy and inside the dustbin on Bo Sun Pet Street in Yangon, the blowing up of an electrical cable tower near Taw-kvyee-in in Kyauktaga Township, the detonation of a time bomb in a cinema in Phyoe, and the bomb blasts in Tachileik serve as proof that these terrorist acts are part of a well planned and synchronized conspiracy. It would be wrong not to assume that the policy Auntie Suu has been pursuing since the end of the 1988 unrest is just to topple the process? and “Has the NLD attempted to disabuse orthodox and ideological prejudices and to discard their personal, factional and ideological prejudices and bigotry, relinquish their personal grudges and excessive pride and join hands in opening up a new path towards the realization of a new vision. But just when we had begun to see a ray of hope, it has been dashed to the ground with a tragic incident, caused by the lack of insight and good judgment of our party.

We are now faced with a situation where we can only but cry as in the sad old song, “What are we yearning for and what is our destiny?” Sometimes a thought comes wandering into my mind – Is it because some 707,000 or persons who do not want reconciliation between the government and the NLD, are intention-mindedly making attempts to disrupt the process? and “Has Auntie Suu been unwittingly deceived into following them?”

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Concluded.

(Translation: TMT)
Kyaukse Cement Plant to help develop and modernize the nation

Aung (Setrma)

At the meeting of Special Projects Implementation Committee for 2002-2003 fiscal year, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe said that the special projects are being implemented with added momentum, and they will contribute much to national development and development of the State’s economy. Other ministries are to provide necessary assistance to the ministry engaging in implementing the special projects to accomplish the tasks in time and for ensuring cost-effective, minimizing loss and wastage. The special projects have now been implemented one after another. The future projects need to be implemented speedily and systematically through better ways and means, he stressed.

At the second day’s session of the meeting, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung reported on progress of Yamethin Dyeing and Printing Factory Project, Kyaukse Vest Factory Project and No 3 Paper Mill (Paleik) Project, work is under way to implement the 200 ton Pulp Factory Project in Thabaung Township, Ayeyawady Division, the advanced 50-ton Paper Mill and the 60 ton CTMP Paper Mill and other factories and mills under construction. Cement is an important item among construction materials. It plays a key role in construction as well as in building the nation into a modern and developed one. The Ministry of Industry-1, Myanmar Economic Co-operation, the Ministry of Military Affairs, Union of Myanmar Economic Holding and Development Council Committee for 2002-2003 fiscal year, Chairman of Union of Myanmar Hoteliers’ Association Mr. Win Aung (Sethmu) and other officials, the UMTA chairman and executives, officials of Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Border Trade, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Mines and other departments and organizations, representatives of the People’s Republic of China, the Kyaukse Cement Factories, Kyaukse Cement Factory is a project factory of the State. The factory is situated one mile west of Thandaungmyat limestone hill which is 6 miles east of Kyaukse. Mandalay Division was built in 2000 in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State. The aims of the factory is to develop and modernize Kyaukse region, to meet the cement demand in the nation and to sufficiently produce import-substitute cement. Trial-run of the factory was conducted in December 2002. The factory was commissioned into service on 27 January 2003. The machinery parts of the factory are imported from the People’s Republic of China. Under the terms of the agreement, they cost K 106 million, equivalent to US$ 16.5 million. The factory with dry process includes five-stage heating system. The factory’s product meets English standard BS 12/1989 and it produces 0.12 million tons of clinker cement a year. Major raw materials for the factory are limestone, earth, laterite. The limestone for the factory is mined from Thandaung-myat limestone hill near the factory. According to the experts, the hill’s limestone deposit is about 70 million tons. The limestone demand of the factory is about 650 tons per day, and so the deposit can be tapped and exploited for about 300 years. The raw materials are constantly tested before mixing the raw materials. The factory produces quality cement since quality control test is made in every stage of production process. The production system of Kyaukse Cement Factory is dry process. This being the case, altogether 24 staff have been sent to China for further studies. Together with Chinese technicians, Myanmar engineers and veteran cement experts jointly constructed the factory. Now, a cement factory has emerged in Kyaukse Region grandly.

Minister attends training courses of MAPT

YANGON, 22 July — Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Soe delivered an address at the closing ceremony of training courses conducted by Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading at its meeting hall at the corner of Bogyoke Aung San Street and Pansodan Street this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General of Directorate of Trade U Nyunt Aye, Director-General of Border Trade Department U Nay Win, Managing Director of MAPT U Min Hla Aung, general managers, directors, guests and trainees.

At first, the minister made an address on the occasion and presented first, second and third prizes to the outstanding trainees. On behalf of the trainees, a trainee expressed thanks. — MNA

Paper reading session on “What is Tourism” held

YANGON, 22 July — With the assistance of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Union of Myanmar Travel Association (UMTA) held a paper reading session on “What is Tourism” at Hotel Nikko Royal Lake this morning.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Deputy Minister for Education U Myo Nyunt, departmental officials, the UMTA chairman and executives, officials of Union of Myanmar Hotels’ Association and guests.

Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu made an opening speech and Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt delivered an address.

Next, resource persons submitted their papers, and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu gave a concluding remark. — MNA
The development of a nation must be judged on progress made in public interest. Hence, for national development, serious attention is paid to completion of the special projects in time.

The special projects cover a wide range of projects including dams, sluice gates, river water pumping stations, industries, bridges, institutions of higher learning and general hospitals, that are needed for the nation. Implementation of the special projects lead to development of all sectors of the State including economic, education, health and transport sectors and raising the living standard of the people.

Development of economic, social, education and health sectors of a region depends on easy access to it. Hence, it is accepted by all that better transportation leads to development.

Nowadays, the Government has been giving priority to ensuring better transportation of all the regions in the Union including far-flung areas. New railroads and motor roads are built all over the country. At the same time, existing ones are upgraded and renovated with the prodigal use of funds and machine power.

The photo (right) shows progress of the approach railroad to Ponnya Hill Mountain seen at Phyetmyaung Valley.

Implementation of projects for equitable development of regions in the country

The main aim of border area development programme is development of national races in border areas, and is to enable them to earn a proper living after eradicating poppy cultivation. The above photos left and right show Laukkai Drug Eliminational Museum, a symbol of efforts to fight against narcotic drugs, and the view of developing Laukkai respectively.

Transport infrastructures—roads, bridges, ports and airports—are being constructed with added momentum to bridge the gap between one region and another in all parts of the nation.

The photo (left) shows the Mandalay International Airport in TadaU Township in Mandalay Division equipped with modern facilities.
Trade Mark will be dealt with adapted for medical use, food rations; dietetic substances for veterinary and sanitary preparations.

Class 5: Pharmaceutical, veterinary, essential oils, cosmetics, hair tonics; soaps; perfumery, scouring and abrasive preparations.

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INFORMATION FOR TENDER No (23), Min Ye Kyaw Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hour commencing 22-7-2003 on payment of one hundred (100) FIEC (or) USS 5.00 each.

4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV “BAGO” VOY NO BG745/N
Consignees of cargo carried on MV “BAGO” Voy No BG745/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon port on 22-7-2003 and will be berthing on about 23-7-2003 and cargoes will be discharged on the premises of Myanma Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily between 8 am to 11:30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm on 7 Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from vessel.

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

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE
MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GILIAN VOY NO (310)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV GILIAN Voy No (310) which arrived on 22-7-03 are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged on the premises of A.W.P.T (2) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the by-laws 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 vessel.

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: P.D.Z

Phone: 256914/256908/256924

Flood-hit Assam State on epidemic alert

GUAHATI (India), 22 July — Health officials sounded an epidemic alert in India’s northeastern Assam State on Monday after five people died of diarrhoea following the worst floods in 50 years.

Assam’s Health Minister Bhumidhra Burman said thousands of people were suffering from water-borne diseases in the state, where many areas were still water-logged even though flood waters had receded, creating a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Fears of disease have also grown as many of the nearly one million people driven out of their homes are living in makeshift shelters or government camps with no access to safe drinking water.

“Five people have died of diarrhoea and around 10,000 others, including many children, are suffering from the disease in western Assam’s Nalbari District alone,” the minister told Reuters by phone from the state capital, Dispur.

MNA/Reuters
**“One country, two systems” proven successful in Hong Kong**

**BEIJING, 22 July** — Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said here Monday that facts have proven that the practice of “one country, two systems” has been successful in Hong Kong, and has won international acclaim.

Wen made the remarks during talks with visiting British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who arrived in Beijing Sunday evening on an official visit to China.

He said he hoped that concerned countries will do more to support Hong Kong’s stability and development.

He recalled that in the past more than six years, the Chinese Government has, strictly in accordance with the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, completely implemented the principles of “one country, two systems”, “Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong”, and high degree of autonomy.

In these years, Wen said, Hong Kong was hit by the Asian financial crisis, the global economic slowdown and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). However, Hong Kong scored economic stability and development, and Hong Kong people’s legal rights and freedom were fully guaranteed. He stressed that a stable and prosperous Hong Kong is not only in the interest of all Chinese people including Hong Kong compatriots, but also conducive to foreign interests in Hong Kong.

Blair said the implementation of the principle of “one country, two systems” in Hong Kong in the past six years has yielded very good results, which he called “gratifying”.

He said that during the implementation of the principle, which was a new concept, it was highly possible for serious problems to emerge, however, such problems did not occur.

Blair pointed out that the British side appreciates the Chinese side’s treatment of Hong Kong’s recent issues and hopes to find a way to maintain Hong Kong’s stability.

Britain will make its own efforts to this end, added Blair.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Lake monsters sighted in N-E China**

**CHANGCHUN, 22 July** — Unidentified animals as mysterious as Scotland’s Loch Ness Monster were reportedly sighted in Tianshan Lake earlier this month in northeast China’s Jilin Province.

During a period of about 50 minutes, witnesses saw the animals five times. Sometimes 20 appeared at one time and sometimes there was only one or two of them.

Zhang Lufeng, deputy director of the provincial forestry department, was visiting the lake on July 11 with seven other people when they spotted something unusual moving on the surface of the water.

But because they were too far away, they could only see white or black spots, according to Zhang. They took some photos but the spots were blurred because of the distance.

More than 10 other people have also alleged that they saw the animals this month.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Cambodia kicks out foreign share scam suspects**

**PHNOM PENH, 22 July** — A gang of 20 foreigners accused of running a hit-tech international telecoms and investment “boiler room” group out of Cambodia were expelled from the country over the weekend, police said on Monday.

The group of 14 Britons, two Americans, an Australian, a Thai and a Filipino, were rounded up last week in a military police sweep on an office block in the heart of Phnom Penh, capital of the southeast Asian nation.

Investigators said they had found stacks of computers and hi-tech hardware, including a 100,000 US dollars broadband Internet server they said had been used to build an illegal international telephone gateway.

Using this, the alleged conmen were cold-calling unsuspecting people across the globe virtually for free to try to get them to put their money in risky or non-existent investments, police said.

Legal experts said Cambodia probably lacked the relevant financial or telecoms laws to launch a full prosecution of the gang.

The Telecoms Ministry, however, said it had been cheated of 27,278 US dollars in international call charges and insisted on repayment. “They have paid the bill and all of them left last Saturday,” said Chinh Sinarith, deputy chief of police in Phnom Penh.

MNA/Reuters

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**China develops degradable food box, plastic sheet**

**NANNING, 22 July** — Chinese scientists have developed a food box and plastic sheet that could turn into water and carbon dioxide in a short period of time after being buried underground.

A scientist with the Nanjing-based Huanlu Co., who gave his surname as Zhang, said the products are produced using corn, starch and six varieties of plant fibres.

Zhang said the buried food box and plastic sheet will be “consumed” by microbes in the soil, and thus converted into water and carbon dioxide.

A government department in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province, has allocated 300,000 yuan (nearly 40,000 US dollars) for commercialization of the products. It normally takes hundreds of years for a traditional plastic food box and plastic sheet to degrade completely.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Italian scientists say eating pizza cuts cancer risk**

**ROME, 22 July** — Gorging pizza could help reduce the risk of certain forms of cancer — Italian scientists say.

In a twist to the accepted medical wisdom that food you really enjoy tend to be bad for you, researchers at a Milan pharmacology centre found that eating one or more pizzas a week dramatically reduced the incidence of some types of cancer.

A study of 8,000 Italians found that regular pizza-eaters were 59 per cent less likely to contract cancer of the oesophagus, while the risk of developing cancer of the colon fell by 26 per cent.

“We knew that tomato sauce was protective against certain tumours, but we certainly didn’t expect that pizza as a whole would provide such strong protection,” researcher Silvano Gulluis told Sunday’s La Repubblica newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Eight arrested in Philippines for possession of banned chemicals**

**MANILA, 22 July** — Police said Sunday that they arrested eight men for illegal possession of ammonium nitrate which can be used to make bombs.

About 220 sacks of ammonium nitrate, primarily used as a fertilizer, were found in a room at the San Juan Town in Batangas Province south of Manila, the ABS-CBN television quoted police as saying. The eight men were arrested after they failed to produce documents authenticating them to transport the chemicals, the police said.

After last October’s bomb attacks that killed more than 200 people on Indone- sia’s resort island of Bali, the Philippine Government banned the importation of ammonium nitrate, which was said to be used in the Bali bombings.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Taxation on high-income earners urged in China**

**BEIJING, 22 July** — The State Administration of Taxation (SAT) issued a notice over the weekend calling on taxation authorities of all levels in China to intensify the collection and management of personal income taxes, especially those of high-income earners.

The SAT urged major efforts to be made this year in levying taxes on high-income employees in the fields of finance, insurance, securities, electric power, telecommunication, petroleum, petrochemicals, shipbuilding, aviation, railway, real estate, urban water and gas supply and publishing houses, as well as enterprises of foreign invested enterprises, high-tech enterprises, intermediate agencies, private and coop- erative enterprises, and ath-letic clubs.

MNA/Xinhua

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**China’s rural education achieves great development**

**CHANGCHUN, 22 July** — Schooling for people aged 15 and older in rural China has climbed from 4.7 years to 6.85 years, marking a noticeable leap in the country’s efforts to reduce rural illiteracy.

By the end of 2001, over 91 per cent of Chinese had received official required Nine-Year Compulsory Education which includes six years of primary education and three years of junior high schooling, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Education.

In rural areas, over 13 million students have graduated from technical secondary schools during the past five years, some 12.7 million illiterates have learned to read and 460 million rural workers have been trained in short-term projects.

State Councillor Chen Zhili attributed the progress to the country’s ongoing rural tax reform, which required county gov-ernments to increase their financial input on the education cause.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Cambodia’s new light of Myanm**

Wednesday, 23 July, 2003

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
Bergkamp signs new Arsenal deal

LONDON, 22 July—Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp has signed a new one-year contract with Arsenal, the Premier League club said on Sunday.

“It’s a relief and a great feeling,” the 34-year-old told Arsenal’s web site. “I’ve always loved Arsenal and it has always been my ambition to end my career here.”

Bergkamp, whose contract expired at the end of June, joined Arsenal in 1995 from Inter Milan for 7.5 million pounds (11.93 million dollars) and was instrumental in the club’s league and FA Cup double successes of 1998 and 2002.

Manager Arsene Wenger said: “We’re delighted that Dennis has committed himself to the club for another year.”

Curtis completes shock win in British Open C’ship

SANDWICH (England), 22 July —American rookie Ben Curtis produced one of the biggest surprises in major championship history on Sunday, winning the 132nd British Open by a stroke from Dane Thomas Bjorn and Fiji’s Vijay Singh.

Curtis, a 300-1 outsider at the start of the tournament and a 40-1 chance going into the final round, fired a closing two-under-par 69 to finish at one-under 283.

British Open champion Ben Curtis, facing camera, hugs Herb Page, his college golf coach at Kent State, after arriving at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport Monday, on 21 July, 2003, in Cleveland. — INTERNET

Ferguson shrugs off Ronaldinho snub

PORTLAND (Oregon), 22 July —Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson shrugged off on Sunday Brazilian Ronaldinho’s decision to join Spanish giants Barcelona.

“We’re disappointed but not overly so,” Ferguson told reporters. “It got to the point where we had to ask ‘do you want to play for us or not?’

“We have missed out on players before but that’s never stopped us.”

Ferguson went on the record earlier this month to say he felt Ronaldinho was close to a move to Old Trafford.

The World Cup winner’s ability to run past people would have given United an extra dimension as they look to build on last season’s English Premier League triumph, their eighth title in 11 seasons.

But Ronaldinho completed his move from Paris St Germain to the Nou Camp on Saturday as Ferguson and his United squad was touch-and-go ahead of their first pre-season tour to the USA. United play four games during the 16-day trip, against Celtic in Seattle on Sunday, Club America of Mexico in Los Angeles on July 27, Juventus in New Jersey on July 31 and Barcelona in Philadelphia on August 3.

“Time wise we do not have much time between now and the start of the (Premier League) season on August 16, but this tour will help prepare us,” he said.

“It has been organized superbly and the players are delighted so far. We have some big games but we should be sharper and have an edge to our game by the end. In the bigger picture, it will give the game in North America an extra lift. People want to see exciting games, and it should help inspire the young footballer in this country.” — MNA/Reuters

Leaders Ichihara rue 2-2 draw with Jubilo

TOKYO, 22 July —Leaders JEF United Ichihara paid dearly for a momentary lapse as they drew 2-2 away to champions Jubilo Iwata in an absorbing J-League clash on Sunday.

Brazilian striker Sando had given JEF United a deserved 2-1 lead with a close-range header in the 76th minute, but Ryoichi Maeda equalized for Jubilo seconds after the restart, nodding in a left-wing cross from substitute Aleksandar Zirkovic.

The result left Ichihara on 27 points from 13 games, one point clear of Yokohama F-Marinos and two ahead of Jubilo with just two matches left in the J-League first stage. Six teams still have a mathematical chance of winning the first-stage title with unbeaten Nagoya Grampus Eight, Kashima Antlers and FC Tokyo also in the hunt.

Jubilo took the lead in the 28th minute at Yamaha Stadium, Brazilian forward Rodrigo Gral heading home from point-blank range to register his 12th goal of the season.

However, South Korean striker Choi Yong-Soo restored parity from the penalty spot six minutes into the second half, matching Gral at the top of the J-League goalscoring charts in the process. Choi turned provider for Sandro but Ichihara, who are chasing their first J-League title, could pay an even bigger price for the defensive lapse that allowed an unmarked Maeda to equalize in the 76th minute. — MNA/Reuters

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Manager Arsene Wenger said: “I have always said it is important to retain the players we already have, so it’s great news that Dennis has committed himself to the club for another year. “Dennis is a special talent with vast experience and that will certainly help us in our pursuit of honours,” he said. — MNA/Reuters

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Commander attends collective tree planting ceremony for greening of Myitkyina Airport

YANGON, 22 July— The final match of the Northern Command Commander’s Championship Trophy Football Tournament was held at People’s Sports ground in Myitkyina on 14 July.

Present were Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myint Thein, departmental officials, officers of regiments and battalions and families of Tarma-dawmen and sports fans.

The commander and the deputy commander presented prizes to the winning teams.

Minister inspects factories in Yangon Division

YANGON, 22 July — Computer application course No (3/2003) conducted by the Ministry of Industry-1 opened this morning.

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung made an opening address. A total of 100 trainees are attending the 8-week course.

Next, the minister went to Thread Factory No 28 of Myanma Textile Industries in Yankin Township and inspected production process.

He next proceeded to garment factory No 4 in Mayangon Township and gave instructions on the needs.

Similarly, he also inspected installation of machines and production of materials at the packaging factory of Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries in Yankin Township.

He gave instructions on completion of extension of the factory and installation of new machines and urged officials concerned to produce more quality tissue paper.

Minister for Foreign Affairs sends felicitations to his counterpart of Egypt

YANGON, 23 July — On the occasion of the National Day of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which falls on 23 July 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ahmed Maher El Sayed, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.— MNA

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Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspects completion of new school building in U Tun Oh Ward, Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township.— YANGON COMMAND

Commander inspects development tasks in Seikkyi-Khanaungto

YANGON, 22 July — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, accompanied by Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and members, departmental officials, this afternoon went to Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township, Yangon South District, and inspected regional development tasks.

At 1.30 pm, the commander and party arrived at Seikkyi-Khanaungto Township where they were welcomed by Chairman of Yangon South District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Sein Hlaing and officials.

At the meeting hall, the commander met township level departmental officials, social organizations and townelders.

Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Tin Naing reported on regional development tasks laid down by the Yangon City: plans are under way to implement education, health and transport sectors and availability of drinking water; it is necessary to implement development tasks laid down by the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt in his inspection tour there; departments concerned, social organizations and local people are to effectively use the outcome of the development tasks and to harmoniously join hands with local people in their respective regions. Next, the commander and party proceeded to Basic Education Primary School No 11 in Seikkyi-Khanaungto and inspected learning of schoolchildren, the site chosen for construction of the four-apartment building for the BEIDS and heard reports of officials.

The commander saw over progress of 7,920 feet long and 12 feet wide laterite circular road being built by Yangon City Development Committee and gave necessary instructions to officials. The commander also inspected Bahlo Road in Seikkyi-Khanaungto.

(see page 9)

Maubin Technological College that will produce highly-qualified human resources

Now is a technological age in which science and technology dominate all development sectors. Therefore, establishment of national forces capable of bringing about the development of the people and the nation is a very important national requirement. Opening of Maubin Technological College will contribute much towards producing highly-qualified human resources in the nation. The college was opened on 28 June 2003 in Maubin.

(see page 9)