

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

Senior General Than Shwe felicitates Hungarian President

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug— 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 Laszlo Solyom, President of the Republic of Hungary on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Hungary which falls on 20 August 2007. — MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on inspection tour of Kyaukme District

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by officials of the SPDC office and officials concerned, inspected 25-acre Hsinshweli special high-yield sugarcane plantation of U Nyi Khin in

Shwenyaungbin Village of Nawngkhio Township of Shan State (North) on 17 August.

During the inspection of Hsinshweli special high-yield sugarcane plantation, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win heard reports on measures undertaken for thriving the 25-acre sugarcane plantation presented by farm

In-charge U Win Shein, and Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut gave a supplementary report.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on utilization of quality strains in growing the

sugarcane and cultivation methods and use of fertilizer and attended to the needs.

Nawngkhio Township has set the target to grow 9,976 acres of sugarcane in 2007.

Now one-acre of sugarcane can produce over 50 tons. (See page 8)

Kyaukme Township will extend cultivation of oil crops in 2007-2008 and has already cultivated 3,977 acres of monsoon groundnut against the target of 4,102 acres, 252 acres of monsoon sesame against the target of 440 acres and 122 acres of monsoon sunflower against the target of 120 acres.



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects special high-yield sugarcane plantation in Shwenyaungbin Village of Nawngkhio Township. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 August, 2007

Extend cultivation of marketable beans and pulses

Beans and pulses are marketable crops and they are grown in various parts of Myanmar.

The major beans and pulses are gram, butter bean, pedisein, matpe, soybean, pigeon pea, myehtaukpe, pelun and sultani and sultapya. They can be grown easily at a low cost and are profitable.

Now, Myanmar is a leading nation of ASEAN in production of beans and pulses and it is also a top beans and pulses exporting country.

Export of beans and pulses increased in 2006-2007 cultivation season as over 9.8 million acres were put under the crops.

The government extended cultivation acreage in 2007-2008 and distributed quality strains to growers and made endeavours for applying of correct cultivation methods for the increase of per acre yield.

Quality beans and pulses are to be produced to meet growing demand. Therefore, strenuous efforts are to be made for boosting production of marketable and profitable beans and pulses in cooperation with agriculturalists and growers.



PRIZES AWARDED: Graduates of Yangon Institute of Technology (1982-87) organized the prize presentation ceremony for their outstanding children who passed the matriculation examination 2007 at International Business Centre on Pyay Road in Yangon on 19 August. Official present prizes to 68 outstanding students. — 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

Commander, minister meet rice dealers and rice millers in Ayeyawady Div

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug — Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo together with departmental officials met with township rice dealers' and rice millers' associations in Maubin, Hinthada, Pathein, Myaungmya and Pyapon districts at the office of Ayeyawady Division PDC in Pathein on 8 August.

In his address, the commander called for boosting agricultural produce meeting the set standard. The minister stressed the need to extend cultivation of marketable crops.

After hearing reports on rice and paddy mar-

Foreign Minister felicitates Hungarian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Kinga Gonez, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Hungary which falls on 20 August 2007.

MNA

ket and production of quality produce presented by the chairmen of Ayeyawady Division Rice Dealers' Association and Rice Millers' Association and representatives of Pathein, Myaungmya, Maubin and Pyapon Districts, the commander and the minister gave instructions on boosting production of paddy and rice and fulfilled the requirements.

MNA



Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo meets rice and paddy dealers and rice millers from five districts of Ayeyawady Division. — A&I

Middle Management Development Programme course concludes

YANGON, 19 Aug — Organized by the Myanmar Hoteliers Association, the Middle Management Development Programme course concluded at Central Hotel here this morning, with addresses by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen

Aye Myint Kyu and Chairman of MHA Dr Khin Shwe.

The Deputy Minister and the chairman of MHA presented prizes to outstanding trainees.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu speaking at concluding ceremony of Middle Management Development Programme. — NLM

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Poll shows most Americans do not trust Iraq Sept report

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug — A majority of Americans do not trust the upcoming report by top US commander in Iraq on the progress of the war, according to a new poll released on Friday.

US President George W Bush has frequently asked Congress and the American people to withhold judgment on his so-called “troop surge” in Iraq until David Petraeus, the top commander in

Iraq, and Ryan Crocker, US Ambassador to Iraq, issue their progress report in September.

But according to a CNN/Opinion Research Corp poll released on Friday, 53 per cent of people polled said they suspect that the military assessment of the situation will try to make it sound better than it actually is.

The poll also indicates that most of America’s mind is made up about the

war—72 per cent said the report will have no effect on their view of the war.

The survey was based on interviews of 1,029 Americans by telephone between 6 and 8 August.

Commenting on the poll, White House spokesman Tony Snow said on Friday that he hoped that “people do not try to engage in personal attacks on General Petraeus or Ambassador Crocker”.

MNA/Xinhua



Residents buy supplies in preparation for the arrival of hurricane Dean at a supermarket in Kingston, Jamaica, on 18 Aug, 2007. Hurricane Dean was on the verge of becoming a rare Category 5 storm on Saturday as it roared toward Jamaica and the energy-rich Gulf of Mexico after hammering the eastern Caribbean, where it was blamed for at least three deaths. — INTERNET

Nine-year-old prodigy applies for university in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 18 Aug — A nine-year-old child prodigy recently applying to study mathematics at universities in Hong Kong has obviously been a challenge.

The Baptist University of Hong Kong said Thursday it had received part of March Boedihardjo’s British A-level exam results and that it would make an elaborate decision upon receiving all the required documents.

March Boedihardjo, an Indonesian-Chinese born and raised in Hong Kong, applied to several universities and was awaiting the results of his A-Level exam and Advanced Extension Awards results.

March had studied for

two years at a special school in England while his brother was taking a course at Oxford, *The Standard* newspaper reported.

Baptist University vice-president Fan Yiu-kwan said Wednesday he was confident that the university had the

resources to cope with a child prodigy, but declined to give a clear-cut answer on whether the university would accept the boy.

If admitted, March would become the youngest university student in Hong Kong.

MNA/Xinhua

Three US soldiers die in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 18 Aug — Three US soldiers died in the Iraqi capital, including two died of non-battle related causes, the US military said on Friday.

A soldier died of wounds sustained from “enemy gunfire” in Baghdad province on Thursday, a military statement said.

Another soldier was slightly wounded in the attack and had return to duty, it added.

A second soldier died in the day of non-battle related incident in Baghdad and an investigation was launched into his death, another statement said.

Earlier, the military said that a third soldier died due to another non-battle related incident in the capital on Thursday. The names of the soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statements added.

MNA/Xinhua

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Indonesian young men climb slippery poles to get prizes during a popular game known as “Panjang Pinang” in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, on 17 Aug, 2007. The whole country celebrates its 62nd Independence Day by holding traditional activities on Friday. — INTERNET

Indonesia celebrates Independence Day

JAKARTA, 18 Aug — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Friday led a national flag-hoisting ceremony to mark the 62nd anniversary of Indonesia’s Independence Day at the Merdeka (Freedom) Palace here.

The ceremony began at 10 am local time sharp and culminated in the recitation of the text of the Proclamation of Independence uttered for the first time on 17 August, 1945 by the nation’s first president, Soekarno.

The hoisting of the national Red-and-White flag was carried out then by 66 selected high-school students from various provinces. Similar functions were held in all parts of the country. — MNA/Xinhua

Bolivia imposes visa regime on US citizens

LIMA, 18 Aug — US citizens will be required to obtain a visa to enter Bolivia starting from Wednesday, the Bolivian Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

According to news reaching here from La Paz, Bolivian Foreign Minister David Choquehuanca said the regulation would become effective automatically on Wednesday because it was ready and does not need Cabinet or presidential approval. He also said Bolivian President Evo

Morales knows the content of the measure. Bolivia took the measure as part of its reciprocity arrangement,

because Washington demands visas for all Bolivians who visit the United States.

MNA/Xinhua



An aerial view of vehicles stuck in traffic at a bridge damaged from the earthquake in Pisco, Peru on 16 Aug, 2007. — INTERNET



Firefighters die in blaze by ground zero

NEW YORK, 19 Aug — A seven-alarm fire ripped through an abandoned skyscraper next to ground zero in Lower Manhattan Saturday, killing two firefighters who were responding to the blaze.

Officers at the scene were preventing nearby residents from returning to their homes, telling them that authorities were concerned the former Deutsche Bank office building, vacant since the 2001 terrorist attacks turned it into a toxic nightmare, could fall. Mayor Michael Bloomberg said that fear turned out to be unfounded.

The plume of gray smoke that trailed above the site of the World Trade Centre raised concerns

that toxic substances in the building could be spreading.

Bloomberg sought to reassure residents that the chemicals in the building likely did not present a significant health risk, saying air-quality tests so far showed no danger.

“Having said that, we are extremely careful. We don’t want to prejudge anything,” the mayor added. Tests were to continue overnight, he said.

One of the firefighters killed was identified as Joseph Graffagnino, 34, of Brooklyn. He was a member of Ladder 5, which lost 11 members on 11 September, 2001.

Internet

US to have over 170,000 troops in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug — The number of US troops in Iraq will reach a new high of more than 170,000 later this year as departing and incoming units overlap for a period, a senior US officer said on Thursday.

Army Lieutenant-General Carter Ham said the overlap would occur under plans to maintain the current level of around 160,000 troops into next spring but those plans could be changed if a political decision was made to draw down forces in Iraq.

“This fall ... there will be a period where there

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Castro attacks US in Guantanamo Navy base article

HAVANA, 18 Aug — Cuban leader Fidel Castro hit out at the US Thursday in the second of his series of articles titled “The Empire And The Independent Island”.

In the article, Castro, who turned 81 Monday, wrote about Guantanamo, the infamous US Navy base in Cuba, and its connection to the 1901 Platt Amendment to Cuba’s Constitution, which during the early 20th Century essentially made Cuba a US protectorate by giving the United States the right to intervene in the island’s affairs.

In 1902, the US Government, which had occupied Cuba in the 1898 Spanish-American War, told the government of the newly-independent island

that it wanted to establish four bases at Cienfuegos, Bahia Honda, Guantanamo and Nipe.

In response, the Cuban authorities asked for a final Permanent Treaty of Relations and the United States reduced its demand to two bases: Guantanamo

and Bahia Honda.

The two countries signed a treaty in 1903, recognizing Cuba’s sovereignty over these areas and agreeing to the equivalent of 2,000 pesos in gold, paid in dollars as rent.

MNA/Xinhua

Five Afghan civilians killed, three injured in conflict

KABUL, 17 Aug — Five Afghan civilians were killed and three others injured during a clash between Taliban militants and the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) on Thursday, an ISAF statement said.

An ISAF unit was hit by a roadside bombing and came under fire from

Taliban militants, the statement said, adding ISAF soldiers fought back.

“In the ensuing fire fight, five locals were killed and three others injured,” the statement said.

It did not clearly say who caused the civilian casualties in the conflict.

ISAF personnel are on scene with Afghan authorities investigating the incident and the events that led up to it, according to the statement. About 37,000 ISAF soldiers are being deployed in Afghanistan to hunt down militants and keep security.

MNA/Xinhua



Residents wade through a flooded street in Malabon city, north of Manila, as Typhoon Sepat soaked Manila and surrounding provinces, on 17 Aug, 2007.

INTERNET



Protestors dress as clowns at a Camp for Climate Action near to Heathrow Airport in west London, on 18 Aug, 2007. Security remains high as a week-long environmental protest camp near the airport plans a day of ‘mass action’ on Sunday.— INTERNET

ECONOMIC NEWS

Passengers of Chinese airlines jump 16.7% in 1st half

BEIJING, 18 Aug — Passengers carried by Chinese airlines rose 16.7 percent over the same period last year to 86.7 million in the first half of 2007, the civil aviation regulator said here Saturday. Among the total, domestic passengers increased by 16.2 percent to 78.8 million while international passengers reached 7.9 million, up 21.8 percent, according to the General Administration of Civil Aviation of China (CAAC).

Cargo traffic carried by Chinese airlines rose 15.3 percent to 1.83 million tons with domestic cargo growing by 11.3 percent to 1.32 million tons and that for international routes of 508,000 tons, up 27.2 percent.

During the period, revenues generated by China's civil aviation sector rose 18.3 percent to 121.8 billion yuan while the sector also turned profitable in the first half with net profit reaching 4.62 billion yuan, up 4.97

billion yuan from the same period last year.

Combined revenue generated by the country's airlines hit 85.96 billion yuan, up 19 percent, while the net profit of the airlines reached 1.54 billion yuan, up 3.93 billion yuan from the corresponding period last year, the CAAC said.

Registered airplanes in the civil aviation sector in China totalled 1,054 at the end of June, an increase of 56 over six months ago, the CAAC said.

Internet



Passengers carried by Chinese airlines rose 16.7 percent over the same period last year to 86.7 million in the first half of 2007, the civil aviation regulator said on Saturday. —INTERNET



The partly demolished Penhallow Hotel in Newquay, Cornwall, England following a fire which broke out shortly after midnight on 18 Aug, 2007. Fire gutted a hotel on England's south coast on Saturday, and a man died after falling from an upper floor window, while at least four other people were missing, authorities said. Two hotel guests were being treated for critical injuries at a hospital, and at least four people were missing, police said. — INTERNET

Indian lender gets nod to sell stake to foreign players

NEW DELHI, 18 Aug — Indian lender ICICI bank has won government approval to sell 24 percent of its stake in its subsidiary ICICI Financial Service to foreign players, the *Economic Times* said Saturday.

The bank's proposal, cleared by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board, will now go to Indian Finance Minister P Chidambaram for final approval, the report said, citing official sources.

The ICICI will also be required to take clearance from the country's central Reserve Bank of India.

Goldman Sachs, Nomura and Sorus are main foreign investors

that had been interested in buying stake in ICICI Financial Services, which has controlling stakes in insurance and asset management ventures.

Internet

Malaysia's first deepwater oil field starts production

KUALA LUMPUR, 18 Aug — Malaysia's first deepwater oil field started to produce oil on Friday, the country's national oil company Petronas announced.

The Kikeh oil field, about 210 kilometres from Kota Kinabalu, capital of Malaysia's eastern state of Sabah, is expected to turn out an average of 20,000 barrels per day (bpd) at the initial stage, Petronas said in a Press release.

The production of the field, which extracts oil through a water depth about 1,300 metres, will reach its peak of averaged 120,000 bpd by end of 2008, it added.

"The field's complex deepwater development project marks a major milestone for Petronas and its production sharing contractors, Murphy Oil Corporation and Petronas Carigali Sdn Bad," Petronas said.

MNA/Xinhua

Texan oilman pleads guilty in oil-for-food case

NEW YORK, 18 Aug — Texas oilman David Chalmers and two companies he owns pleaded guilty on Friday to paying millions of dollars in secret kickbacks to Iraq in connection with the United Nations oil-for-food programme.

Chalmers, 53, pleaded guilty in Manhattan federal court to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, just weeks before he was due to go on trial with Texas oil tycoon Oscar Wyatt.

Earlier on Friday, Ludmil Dionissiev, a Bulgarian oil trader based in Houston, pleaded guilty to smuggling. Prosecutors said Dionissiev, 61, worked with Chalmers to buy Iraqi oil for Chalmers' companies — Bayoil USA Inc and Bayoil Supply and Trading Ltd.

The 67-billion-US-dollar oil-for-food programme began in 1996 and ended in 2003 to ease the impact of sanctions imposed on Saddam Hussein's government after it invaded Kuwait in 1990. The charges against Chalmers and his co-defendants stemmed from Iraq's requirement from

2000 to 2003 that recipients of oil should pay a secret surcharge, in violation of UN sanctions and US law, to front companies and bank accounts controlled by the Iraqi Government.

The secret payments were not made to the United Nations' monitored bank account from

which humanitarian goods could be purchased for the Iraqi people, but in a secret deal with Baghdad outside of the programme.

Chalmers, who was the sole shareholder of Bayoil, decided to pay illegal kickbacks, prosecutors said, while Dionissiev helped facilitate the export of Iraqi oil. — MNA/Reuters



A woman looks at a polymer preserved fetus at the "Bodies" exhibition in Buenos Aires on 15 Aug, 2007. XINHUA

Ecuador, Uruguay sign trade, energy agreements

QUITO, 18 Aug — The presidents of Ecuador and Uruguay signed on Thursday a wide range of bilateral agreements covering energy, trade, agriculture, tourism and other fields.

Uruguayan President Tabare Vazquez, whose country now holds the six-month rotating presidency of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), began a two-day official visit to Quito on

Wednesday night.

He is expected to restate an invitation for Ecuador to join the trade bloc, that also includes Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay.

Vazquez and his Ecuadorean counterpart Rafael Correa held a closed-door meeting in the President's Office before signing the agreements aimed to boost political and trade ties between the two countries.

MNA/Xinhua



A boat is hit by a wave as Hurricane Dean hit Fort-de-France in the French Caribbean island of Martinique on 17 Aug, 2007. Caribbean islands and resorts in the path of Hurricane Dean began to batten down on Saturday as the massive storm plowed toward Haiti, Jamaica, the Caymans and the tourist-laden coast of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula.— INTERNET

Hurricane “Dean” strengthens to deadly category 4

MIAMI, 18 Aug — Hurricane Dean grew into a ferocious storm with winds over 135 miles per hour (216 kilometres per hour) on Friday after it smashed into the Caribbean islands, leveling banana plantations and setting off landslides before heading toward the oil and gas rigs of the Gulf of Mexico.

The US National Hurricane Centre said Dean was a Category 4 storm, the second-highest level on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale and capable of widespread destruction.

It was expected to strengthen further before plowing directly over Jamaica toward the Gulf, home to a third of US domestic crude oil and 15 per cent of natural gas production.

Dean roared through the narrow channel between the Lesser Antilles islands of St. Lucia and Martinique early Friday, crossing from the Atlantic Ocean to the warm Caribbean Sea.

Its progress was being nervously watched by energy markets, which have been skittish about

hurricanes since powerful storms in 2004 and 2005, including Ivan, Katrina and Rita, disrupted oil and gas production. Transocean, Royal Dutch Shell, Murphy Oil and other companies pulled dozens of workers from offshore rigs.

Dean, the first hurricane of what is expected to be an above-average Atlantic season, lifted the roof off the pediatric wing at Victoria Hospital in St Lucia's capital, Castries, but patients had already been moved, officials said.

MNA/Reuters

WHO chief warns of worldwide public health crisis

BUENOS AIRES, 18 Aug — The World Health Organization (WHO) warned Thursday that only a deep change in public policy can reverse a crisis in the world's health systems. “Problems like poverty, ignorance, unhealthy environments and a lack of human resources are fundamental factors in this crisis. It is all nations' responsibility to avoid it,” WHO Director-General Margaret Chan told a conference in the Argentine capital of Buenos Aires.

Speaking at the International Health Conference, Chan said “We cannot allow millions of people worldwide to die

and keep on dying from treatable diseases.”

Chan, who is visiting the region for the first time, said one of the first steps needed to tackle this acute crisis is for decision makers to keep the promises they have made in this field.

While there are some reasons for optimism, the Millennium Development Goals signed in 2000 will clearly not be met by 2015, the official said. It is important to tackle the current changes caused by globalization and urbanization and new diseases coming into being each year, she added.

Another major

problem is that a global labour market allows health professionals from poorer regions to leave their origin countries where they were trained.

Organizations both in the public and private sectors are part of the change process and need to work together, she added.

MNA/Xinhua



A new Singapore citizen holds a folder containing her citizenship certificate and identity card during a national citizenship ceremony in Singapore on 18 Aug, 2007.— INTERNET

US citizen found guilty on terrorism charges

WASHINGTON, 18 Aug — US citizen Jose Padilla was found guilty of conspiracy to support terrorism overseas Thursday after being detained for several years as an “enemy combatant” without charges.

The verdict came after less than two days of deliberations by a federal jury in Miami, Florida. Sentencing is set for 5 December. Padilla's two codefendants, Adham Hassoun and Kifan

Jayyousi, were also convicted on the three counts as charged: conspiracy to murder, kidnap, and maim people in a foreign country; conspiracy to provide material support for terrorists, and providing material support for terrorists. All three defendants face life in prison.

Padilla, born in New York and converted to Islam, pleaded not guilty and plans to appeal the verdict. He was originally

arrested on accusations that he planned to set off radioactive “dirty bombs” in the United States.

However, Thursday's convictions are not related to those accusations, and prosecutors did not present the “dirty bomb” plot to the jury.

US legal experts said the verdict is a “critical vindication” for the US Department of Justice and its post-9/11 strategy for prosecuting terrorism cases.— MNA/Xinhua



A helicopter carrying aid for earthquake victims is seen after it crashed on a building in Ica on 17 Aug, 2007. A rescue helicopter fully loaded with food and medicine fell down in quake-hit southern Peru, slightly injuring seven people on board.— XINHUA

Peru receives \$40m in int'l aid for quake relief

LIMA, 18 Aug — Peru has received international humanitarian aid worth some 40 million US dollars after Wednesday's tragic earthquake hit the country, an official from the Peruvian International Cooperation Agency (APCI) said on Friday.

The aid package includes five million dollars in cash and humanitarian assistance such as food and tents, plus 30 million dollars offered by the United Nations, to be used to create a fund to help the reconstruction of the most-affected regions, according to APCI's

director Agustin Haya de la Torre.

A powerful earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter Scale struck Peru's southern coast Wednesday evening, leaving at least 510 people dead, 1,600 injured and 16,600 families homeless. Peru has received emergency aid from the European Union (EU), China, Chile, Spain, Argentina and Ecuador.

According to reports reaching here, the EU on Friday agreed to send a European aid mission to support local officials evaluate the losses and coordinate the aid.

China's Red Cross donated 50,000 dollars to help quake victims in the southern Peruvian cities of Ica, Pisco and Chincha. And Chile sent 20 tons of humanitarian aid to Peru on Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkish plane hijacking ends as hostages freed

ANTALYA (Turkey), 19 Aug—Two men hijacked an airliner heading for Istanbul from northern Cyprus on Saturday, but gave themselves up and released their hostages after forcing the plane to land in southern Turkey.

Soon after landing most of the 136 passengers were released or broke out through emergency exits, running along the wings and jumping down onto the tarmac.

The pilots also escaped but four passengers and two crew members were held hostage as negotiations

took place.

Turkish Interior Minister Osman Gunes said one hijacker was Turkish and the other had a Syrian passport but could be Palestinian. Their motives were being investigated.

“One of them apparently apologized to the Turkish people,” Gunes told reporters after the five-hour drama came to an end.

Fifteen minutes after take-off one of the hijackers tried to force the cockpit door open and told passengers he was a member of al-

Qaeda, Governor Alaaddin Yuksel said. Police also arrested a passenger suspected of being linked to the hijackers, he said.

Turkish Cypriot passenger Ercan Tekkan told *Reuters* the hijackers said they had a bomb, but did not want to hurt anyone.

“The plane made some manoeuvres and we thought the plane was going to crash ... Then the plane landed and the pilots escaped from the cockpit while the hijackers kept kicking the cockpit door,” he said.

Some passengers fainted from a lack of oxygen, as the air system was switched off after landing, he said.

Civil Aviation chief Ali Ariduru told reporters there was no clear information on claims the hijackers had a bomb, but it appeared they had a knife.

MNA/Reuters



Two hijackers surrendered to Turkish security forces at Antalya Airport in southern Turkey on Saturday and no problem occurred in this incident.

XINHUA

Abu Ghraib interrogation chief faces court-martial

WASHINGTON, 19 Aug — A court-martial will start Monday for a US Army intelligence officer charged with abuses at Iraq’s Abu Ghraib Prison, where he headed the interrogation centre, the Army said on Saturday.

The trial of Lieutenant-Colonel Steven Jordan will be convened at Fort Meade, Maryland, outside Washington, the

Army said.

Jordan is charged with cruelty and maltreatment of detainees as well as making false statements and obstruction of justice, disobeying a superior officer and failure to obey orders.

The charges stem from violations of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice alleged to have taken place at the Joint Interrogation Debriefing Centre at Abu Ghraib on or about 17 September, 2003 to 19 August, 2004.

A lawyer for Jordan could not immediately be reached for comment.

The court-martial is being convened by the commander, Joint Force Headquarters for the national capital region and US Army Military District of Washington.

An investigation of prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib carried out by Army Major-General Antonio Taguba in 2004 described Jordan as one of several directly or indirectly responsible.

MNA/Reuters

A Bangladeshi girl runs to receive food at a relief camp in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 17 Aug, 2007. Devastating monsoon floods have laid waste to much of South Asia in recent weeks, killing more than 2,000 people and displacing millions.

INTERNET



Celebratory gunfire turns Iran wedding into tragedy

TEHERAN, 19 Aug — An Iranian wedding guest accidentally killed an elderly man and wounded a young girl when, following a local custom, he fired his gun in the air in celebration, *IRNA* news agency said on Saturday.

“Carelessness turns wedding into mourning,” *IRNA* said about the incident, which happened on Friday in the province of Lorestan. Celebratory gunfire is common at weddings and other occasions in rural Iran.

The man fired into the air to show joy during the ceremony in the village of Miankuh, but accidentally hit a 70-year-old man and a 9-year-old girl, *IRNA* said. It did not identify the gunman or the victims. — *MNA/Reuters*



Afghan policemen keep watch near a truck after Taliban insurgents set it on fire on the Kabul-Ghazni highway, on 17 Aug, 2007. — INTERNET

Images show Iraq prisoners kept in wire cages

BAGHDAD, 19 Aug — Iraq’s Sunni Arab vice-president promised better treatment for detainees on Saturday and released pictures from inside a Baghdad prison camp that showed hundreds of inmates packed into tented wire-mesh cages.

The rare video pictures from inside an Iraqi prison were released by the office of Sunni Arab Vice-President Tareq al-

Hashemi, who visited the Rusafa Prison compound in eastern Baghdad with his Shiite counterpart.

The footage showed row upon row of outdoor tents made of wire mesh and covered with white plastic sheeting, each about the size of a basketball court and housing dozens of inmates.

Prisoners, some stripped to their waists,

pressed up against the mesh walls and shouted their innocence. Some chanted Saddam-era Iraqi nationalist slogans.

“I have been jailed for two years and have never been put before a judge or court!” shouted one prisoner.

“We are not asking for food or water. Just free us. We have committed no crimes!” said another.

Hashemi told the

prisoners that the authorities were working to speed up their cases.

“We will not accept this injustice. It is a shame on all of us. Be patient,” he said. “All of your cases will be heard.”

At one point he added: “You are lucky to be here. At least you have security. Those outside do not even have security.”

MNA/Reuters

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win on inspection ...

(from page 1)

At the meeting with departmental officials at Nawngkhio Township, Assistant Director U Nay Win Thein of Hydropower Implementation Department of the Ministry of Electric Power No 1 briefed Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party on matters relating to Myaungsho hydropower project to be undertaken in Nawngkhio Township. Regarding the

reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on speedy implementation of Wetwun-Taungkhan road section and supervision on construction tasks and fulfilled the requirements.

After inspecting thriving physic nut plantations on both sides of Nawngkhio-Kyaukme motorway and condition of road sections, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party attended

a ceremony to grow groundnut in Sakhantha village of Kyaukme Township. At the briefing hall, Manager U Mya Kyaw of Myanma Agriculture Service briefed Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party on cultivation of edible oil crops and edible oil sufficiency and procedures to be followed in growing of groundnut.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave necessary



instructions.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut viewed the thriving groundnut plantation of peasant U Tun Kyaw and cordially greeted local peasants and presented cash rewards to members of cultural troupe who performed Shan traditional dances.

Kyaukme Township will extend cultivation of edible oil crops in 2007-2008 and has already cultivated 3,977 acres of monsoon groundnut against the target of 4,102 acres, 252 acres of monsoon sesame against the target of 440 acres and 122 acres of monsoon sunflower against the target of 120 acres. U Tun Kyaw's plantation produces 65 or 70 baskets per acre.

MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of Ministry of Defence inspects thriving groundnut plantation in Kyaukme Township.

MNA

Training Course of Border Area National Youth Technical Training School concludes



Commander Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing inspects hostel of Border Area National Youth Technical Training School in Mongla. — MNA

YANGON, 19 Aug — A concluding ceremony of Training Course No 2 of the Border Area National Youth Technical Training School was held at its hall in Mongla on 17 August morning.

Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing delivered an address.

Director-General U Than Win of Education and Training Department presented prizes to outstanding trainees and completion certificates to the leaders of the trainees.

The commander and party inspected the workshop and hostels and construction of the mess hall.

A total of 10 trainees attended the basic construction course, seven

at the mechanical course and 10 at the welding course.

All the training courses lasted 24 weeks.

MNA

CEC member attends AGM 2007 of Thongwa Township USDA

YANGON, 19 Aug — The Annual General Meeting 2007 of Thongwa Township Union Solidarity and Development Association was held at the Township Gymnasium in Thongwa this morning, with an address by CEC member of USDA Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung.

The CEC member, Acting Secretary U Tint Khaing of District USDA and officials presented awards to the outstanding students with flying colours in matriculation exam 2007.

The CEC member accepted K 650,000 from the wellwishers and presented certificates to the donators. Next, the AGM of the township USDA followed. —MNA

NC delegates visit Botahtaung, Shwedagon Pagodas, attend church

YANGON, 19 Aug — The delegates to the National Convention together with officials of invitation and reception subcommittee visited Botahtaung Pagoda yesterday.

They paid homage to NanU Buddha Image in Mya Nan San Kyaw Shwe Nandaw NanU Hall and presented cash donations to the members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The NC delegates visited Shwedagon Pagoda this morning. They paid homage to Padamya Myet Shin Buddha Image at the upper terrace of the pagoda. They offered flowers,

water, lights, joss-sticks to the pagoda and donated cash.

The Christian NC delegates together with officials attended the

service at Yangon Church in ward 10 of Mayangon Township today. — MNA



Christian NC delegates attend service at Yangon Church in Mayangon Township. — MNA

Forestry Minister inspects training school and workshop

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung together with officials inspected production process and sawn timber of No 34 Saw Mill (Pyudwin), here, yesterday.

At No 2 Training School in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, the minister and party heard reports on academic matters of the school presented by Deputy General Manager U Khin Zaw of Myanmar Timber Enterprise and gave necessary instructions. Next, they

encouraged the trainees of refresher course for mechanic-4 and the driving course.

At the main workshop in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, the minister heard reports on functions of the workshop presented by General Manager U Aung San of Myanmar Timber Enterprise and Deputy General Manager U Myint Swe of the workshop and left the necessary instructions.

MNA



Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspects No 2 training school of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.

FORESTRY

News and media delegation arrives back from China

YANGON, 19 Aug — An 8-member news and media delegation arrived back here by air this afternoon after a visit to the People's Republic of China at the invitation of Xinhua News Agency. It left here on 12 August.

The delegation comprised Chief Editor U Maung Maung Aye of the New Light of Myanmar Daily, Deputy Director U Zaw Myo of the

Ministry of Information, Deputy Chief Editor U Htein Lin Aung of Myanmar News Agency (Internal), Editor Daw Tin Hmwe of Sarpay Beikman, U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Sethmu Tekkatho) of the Yangon Times journal, U Maung Maung Oo (Hein Latt) of Popular journal, U Myat Khaing of Snapshot journal and U Kyaw Hsan Myint (Kyaw Yin Myint) of Kumudra journal. —MNA



Members of Myanmar news and media delegation being welcomed back at Yangon International Airport on their return from China.

MNA



Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepts donations from a wellwisher at cash and kind donation ceremony for monasteries in Dagon Township.

(News on page 16)— MNA

iPSTAR Repair Service Center opened

YANGON, 19 Aug —The opening ceremony of iPSTAR Repair Service Center of Shin Satellite Public Co Ltd was held at the Traders Hotel on 14 August, attended by departmental officials, entrepreneurs, iPSTAR users, mediamen and Regional Manager Mr Chalermkiet Limrattanakul of Shin Satellite Public Co Ltd.

CEO U Khine Win of IT Connector Group which is granted to open the service center by Shin

Satellite Public Co Ltd extended greetings and gave accounts on facts of the service center.

Next, responsible persons answered the queries raised by those present.

For further information, contact No 261, IT Connector Group, at the corner of Anawratha Street and 8th Street in Lanmadaw Township (Ph: 01-222608, 09-9220747, 09-5027981).

MNA



CEO U Khine Win of IT Connector Group extends greetings at opening of iPSTAR Repair Service Center. — MNA

Macao expands Asian tourism market to boost diversification

MACAO, 19 Aug — Macao has spared no effort in promoting tourism industry among Asian nations to diversify the city's source markets, an official Press release said Saturday.

The release issued by the Macao Government Tourist Office (MGTO) disclosed that the Southeast Asian market saw a year-on-year growth of 68.92 per cent in the first half of the year.

The majority of the tourists coming to Macao are from the Chinese Mainland and Hong Kong.

Macao has recently opened direct air flights to Asian nations and regions including Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Taiwan Province, said the Press release.

The city has been diversifying its tourism products covering sections of culture, convention and exhibition, leisure, entertainment, characteristic cuisine and retail, Manuel Costa Antunes, director of the MGTO, was cited as saying by the release.

MNA/Xinhua

“Dead” Indian wife returns, husband held for trafficking

NFEW DELHI, 19 Aug — A man in an eastern Indian state was arrested for human trafficking after his wife, who he had said died in childbirth, returned home and accused him of selling her off, the *Indo-Asian News Service* (IANS) reported Friday.

Prada Kumari of the Jharkhand State had married Dilip Mahto in 2004 and was pregnant when she went to Punjab in the country’s north in January this year, the news report said.

In April, her husband returned to his native village and told Kumari’s parents that she had died in Punjab in childbirth, it

added.

She returned home Tuesday and alleged that her husband had sold her off.

“My husband had sold me to an affluent family in Punjab. When I wanted to return home, the master of the house told me that my husband had sold me for 100,000 rupees (around 2,470 US

dollars). I tried to overcome my shock and planned to escape. One night, I fled from the house,” IANS quoted her as saying.

On the basis of the complaint filed by her parents, police arrested her husband Thursday on counts of forgery and trafficking, it said.

MNA/Xinhua



A police officer and a fireman examine a Cessna 172 plane that crashed west of the village Gagnef on 12 Aug, 2007. The two men on board the Cessna survived the crash with light injuries, according to the local rescue services.

INTERNET



Iraqi policemen patrol in a street at central Baghdad. Security in Iraq is improving despite a wave of car bombings that include the worst single attack since the US-led invasion in 2003, said on 17 Aug, 2007, General Raymond Odierno, the number two leader of US forces in Iraq.

INTERNET

Suicide bombing kills 15 Afghans, injures 26

KABUL, 19 Aug — A suicide car bombing killed four Afghan security employees as well as 11 civilians and injured 26 others in the southern Kandahar Province on Saturday, a local police officer Ahmad Jan told *Xinhua*.

The bombing, which occurred some 15 kilometres west of Kandahar city, the provincial capital, was targeting a convoy transferring logistics for NATO troops, the police officer said.

The convoy was being escorted by the US Protection and Investigations (USPI), a well-established private security company, he added.

Four Afghan employees of the USPI were killed and seven others were injured in the

explosion, Jan said, adding that the blast also killed 11 civilians passing by and injured 19 others.

A *Xinhua* reporter at the site saw two USPI vehicles and one police vehicle were damaged. There was no immediate information about the police casualties.

No one has claimed responsibility, but Taliban militants have frequently carried out similar attacks.

The USPI has been attacked by bombings from time to time in this volatile country.

Kandahar, a hotbed of Taliban militants, has often suffered from suicide bombings over the past years.

Due to rising Taliban violence, over 3,900 persons have been killed in Afghanistan this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Seven killed as mortar bombs rain down on Iraqi town

BAGHDAD, 19 Aug — Seven people were killed when a mortar barrage hit the town of Khalis north of Baghdad on Saturday, police said.

An estimated 17 mortar rounds hit the local market, residential areas and a hospital.

Ali Hamid, a sewerage engineer in the religiously mixed town, was in the market when the attack took place.

“It began raining bombs above our head.

People in the market began running. I saw the body of an old woman lying in the street,” he said.

Tens of thousands of Iraqis have been killed in a wave of sectarian violence since the bombing of a revered Shiite shrine in the town of Samarra in February 2006. The US military launched a major offensive against Sunni Islamist al-Qaeda and Shi’ite militias this week.

MNA/Reuters

Moderate quake jolts Indonesia’s Aceh

JAKARTA, 19 Aug — An undersea earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter Scale jolted Indonesia’s Aceh Province Saturday, but there was no immediate report of damages.

The tremor occurred at 11:38 am local time (0438 GMT) and was centred 51 kilometres northeast of the nearest Sinabang Coast, according to a report from the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency.

In December 2004, an 8.9 magnitude quake unleashed a tsunami that swept through the Aceh capital of Banda Aceh and nearby towns, killing more than 131,000 people in the province. — MNA/Xinhua



A shadow is cast on the moon over Athens on early 4 March, 2007. A lunar eclipse occurs when the moon in orbit around the Earth passes through the Earth’s shadow, which can be seen cast on to the moon. — XINHUA

Six die in Iranian Army helicopter crash

TEHERAN, 19 Aug — An Iranian Army helicopter crashed in bad weather in a mountainous region near northern Iraq, killing six military personnel, Iranian media reported on Saturday.

Five people were injured in the crash, which happened during manoeuvres involving Iran’s elite Revolutionary Guards on Friday, the *ISNA* news agency reported.

Mohammad Hadisar, governor of the northeastern city of Piranshahr, said the helicopter came down while transporting troops and equipment and blamed it on the weather and a

“technical problem”, *ISNA* said.

Another Iranian news agency, *Mehr*, said it crashed during a military operation against the Party of Free Life of Kurdistan (PJAK), an Iranian offshoot of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) which is fighting for Kurdish autonomy in southeastern Turkey.

Mehr also said the helicopter crashed because of bad weather and strong winds but added the Armed Forces had inflicted damage against the rebel PJAK during operations in the past few days.

MNA/Reuters

German woman abducted in Kabul

KABUL, 19 Aug — Gunmen kidnapped a German woman aid worker on Saturday in the Afghan capital, an Interior Ministry spokesman said, and armed men seized four Afghan engineers in the south of the country.

The woman was seized as she was walking on a street in the southwestern part of Kabul, where some aid groups have offices, spokesman Zemarai Bashary said.

He refused to identify the abductors, saying it would jeopardize police efforts, but added police were targeting locations where the woman was

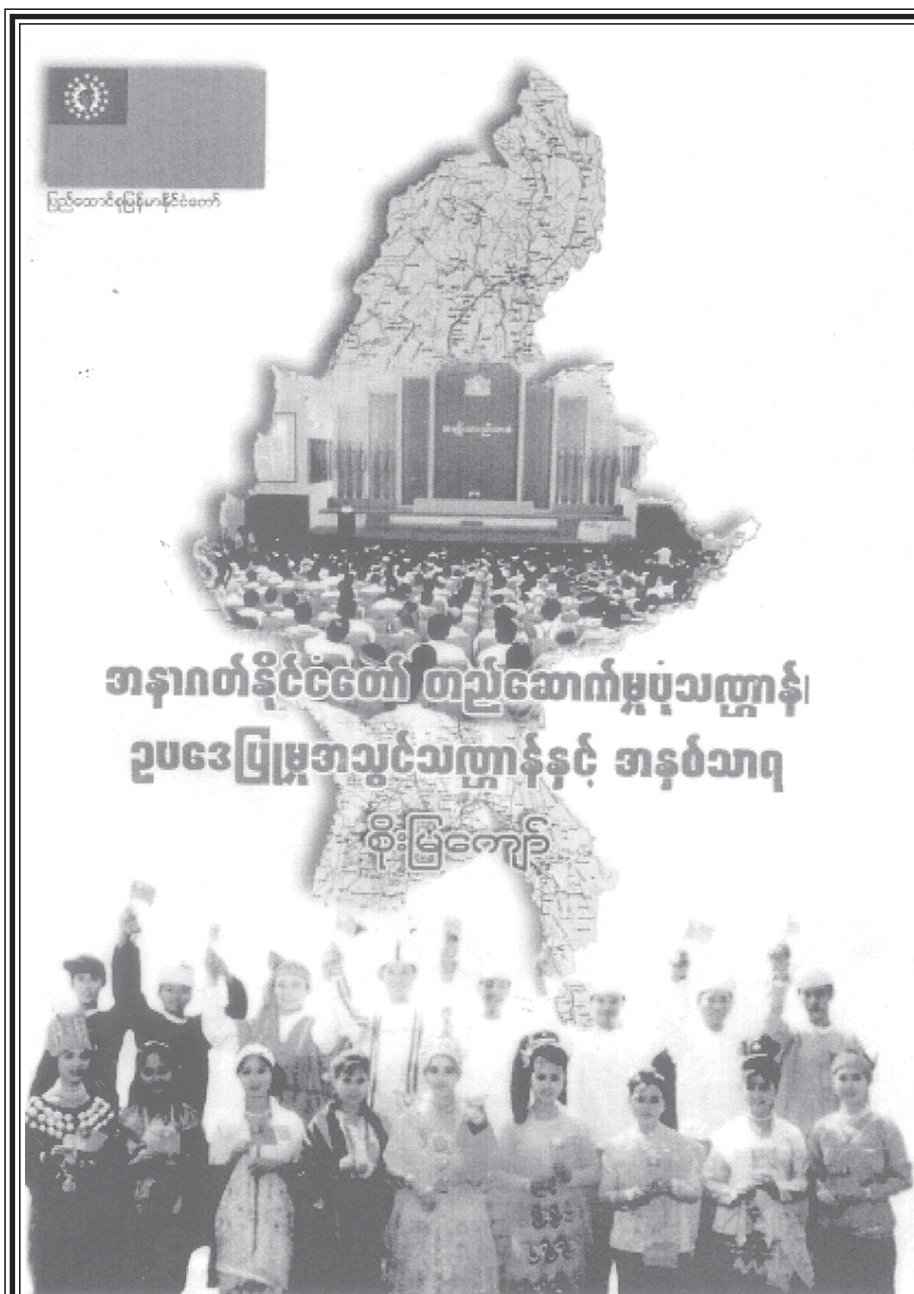
suspected of being held.

Earlier in the day, armed men seized four engineers in the southern province of Kandahar, provincial police said. Tribal elders of the area have promised to secure the release of the engineers, they said.

The motive behind the abduction of the German woman was not clear, the Interior Ministry spokesman said.

Several foreigners have been kidnapped in recent years in Kabul, mostly by criminal gangs, but have been released unharmed apparently after ransom payments.

MNA/Reuters



- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
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ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၁၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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US professor found guilty of staging own shooting

CAMBRIDGE (Massachusetts), 19 Aug — A judge on Friday found a former professor at the elite Massachusetts Institute of Technology guilty of shooting himself and trying to shift blame to his son as part of a long-running family feud.

The case revolved around a night in December 2005 when John J Donovan, who taught business for three decades at the famed US Science and Technology University, called police to allege that two men with Russian accents had shot him as he sat in his minivan.

As police investigated the case, they found some evidence that seemed to contradict that claim.

Donovan, who had a bullet wound in his side when police found him, said he survived the attack because a large metal belt buckle had deflected some of the shots. The belt bore bullet marks but a doctor who examined him did not find injuries that would have been expected if Donovan been wearing it while it was hit, prose-

cutors said.

"We take these allegations and go where the facts lead us," state Attorney General Martha Coakley said.

Donovan, now 65, was found guilty of filing a false police report.

He had pleaded innocent and denied shooting himself.

Prosecutors said he shot himself and planned to pin the attack on his oldest son, James Donovan. The Donovan family has been entangled in a dispute over real estate for years.

Middlesex Superior Court Judge Kenneth Fishman ordered the elder Donovan to serve two years' probation, stay away from his children and pay a 500-US-dollar fine. Through a spokesman, Donovan said he

was "disappointed and surprised" and he planned to appeal.

MNA/Reuters



High-price insurgents arrested in southern Thailand

BANGKOK, 19 Aug — About 200 security forces raided a village in Thai southern Songkhla Province and arrested six insurgents, including an insurgent leader, local police said Saturday.

Niloh Arsae, one of the leaders of Thai southern insurgents and whose head is wanted by the government for a 500,000-baht price, was arrested together with five other main militants in a village in Saba Yoi District of Songkhla on Friday night, local police source was quoted by the

Bangkok Post's webnews as saying.

The security forces have surrounded the Thung Por Village since early Thursday, the report said.

Police and soldiers also confiscated several guns, maps identifying bomb locations, documents rousing local villagers, equipments to make road spikes and mobile phones from the scene.

In nearby Yala Province, police and soldiers exchanged gunfire with insurgents for 15 minutes when they raided Ta Loh Sumae Village in Krong Pinang District. Authorities killed one militant and arrested four others from the scene.

MNA/Xinhua

This aerial view shows flood waters receding in Khagaria district of northern Indian state of Bihar, on 17 Aug, 2007. Devastating monsoon floods have laid waste to much of South Asia in recent weeks, killing more than 2,000 people and displacing millions.

INTERNET

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MV GATI ZIPP VOYNO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI ZIPP VOYNO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.8.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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

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

Tropical storm kills eight in Texas

WASHINGTON, 8 Aug — At least eight deaths in southern US state of Texas were blamed on tropical storm Erin which has brought at least 6 inches (15 centimetres) of rain to the state since Thursday,

One person was killed and another was hurt when a waterlogged roof collapsed at a Houston grocery store when Erin hit Texas Thursday, the Texas-based KPRC-TV reported on Friday.

In San Antonio, at least four deaths

were blamed on Erin on the same day.

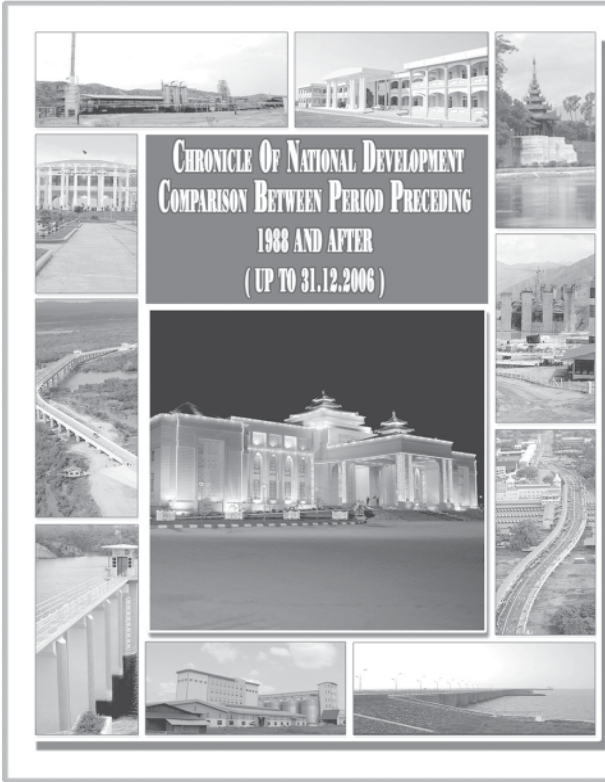
The storm was also blamed on a multi-vehicle crash in Comal County that left three people dead and one person critically injured on Thursday.

Even as they fetched dozens of drivers stranded by high water, authorities in Houston and San Antonio looked over their shoulders at Hurricane Dean, which is building up in the Atlantic as it neared islands in the eastern Caribbean.

MNA/Xinhua



Traffic moves slowly along Interstate 45 in Houston early on Thursday afternoon, on 16 Aug, 2007. Tropical Storm Erin came ashore along the Texas coast, bringing heavy rain and street flooding to Houston. — INTERNET



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Villagers fight off animals in flood-hit S Asia

PATNA (India), 18 Aug — Flood victims fought off hungry animals and battled waterborne diseases in South Asia on Thursday as unrelenting monsoon rains caused fresh flooding in the region, already battered by weeks of bad weather.

The death toll in eastern India alone rose by over 100 in the past week with thousands more marooned or made homeless as bloated rivers burst mud

embankments.

Authorities across South Asia—where around 850 people have drowned, been crushed by landslides or died from snakebite and waterborne infections since mid-July — said they were struggling to help millions of victims.

For some in the impoverished Indian state of Bihar, it is a struggle for survival as jackals and monkeys have attacked dozens of villagers over the past few days.

“Wild animals like jackals and monkeys are biting our wives and children and snatching bread from their hands,” said Lalan Raut from the flood-hit Madhubani District.

“They are on a looting

spree and are killing our goats and small rabbits.”

Residents said the wild animals faced a shortage of prey since huge areas of the state were under water.

Doctors said they had reports of at least 60 cases of animals attacking villagers.

“We are rushing anti-rabies vaccines to every district,” said Biltu Paswan, a senior government doctor.

All schools and colleges were shut in the capital Patna as flood waters swamped low-lying areas and entered buildings.

Many in the densely populated state of 90 million have complained of poor aid efforts. On Thursday, villagers demanding more food

clashed with police in some places, officials said.

In the neighbouring state of West Bengal, heavy rains flooded villages in three districts this week, forcing more than 25,000 people out of their homes.

A bridge collapsed in the state's Birbhum District, and many trains were cancelled or diverted across the region.

A weather official said more rains were forecast for eastern India because of a storm over West Bengal.

Further north, in the Himalayan State of Himachal Pradesh, around 60 people are believed to have died after a cloudburst caused a landslide that buried an entire village on Tuesday. — MNA/Reuters

Two die in Zimbabwe sugar stampede

HARARE, 18 Aug — A 15-year-old boy and a security guard died in a stampede by shoppers desperate to buy sugar in Zimbabwe's second largest city Bulawayo, a police spokesman said on Thursday.

The security guard was manning the entrance to a shopping complex when a pillar collapsed under pressure from the shoppers and fell on him.

Both the boy's legs and one arm were fractured, and he died in hospital, police spokesman David Nyathi said.

Sugar and other basic goods such as bread, meat, and milk have been in short supply since President Robert Mugabe ordered shops to halve prices in June following rampant inflation.

The price move, accompanied by a police crackdown on businesses which failed to cut prices, triggered frenzied buying and long queues for goods when they become available.

A state-owned newspaper reported that several people were injured in Bulawayo

before police were called to allow the orderly sale of the sugar.

Zimbabwe, once a regional breadbasket, is in the grips of an economic crisis. Its official inflation rate of 4,500 per cent in May is the highest in the world.

Critics blame the economic crisis on Mugabe's controversial policies, such as his drive to forcibly take land from White commercial farmers to give to landless Blacks in a bid to redress colonial land imbalances.

MNA/Reuters

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီမှုဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်သွား

WHO releases new guidance on insecticide-treated mosquito nets

GENEVA, 18 Aug — The World Health Organization (WHO) on Thursday issued new global guidance for the use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets to protect people from malaria.

According to the new guidance, long-lasting insecticidal mosquito nets should be distributed either free or highly subsidized and used by all community members in poor

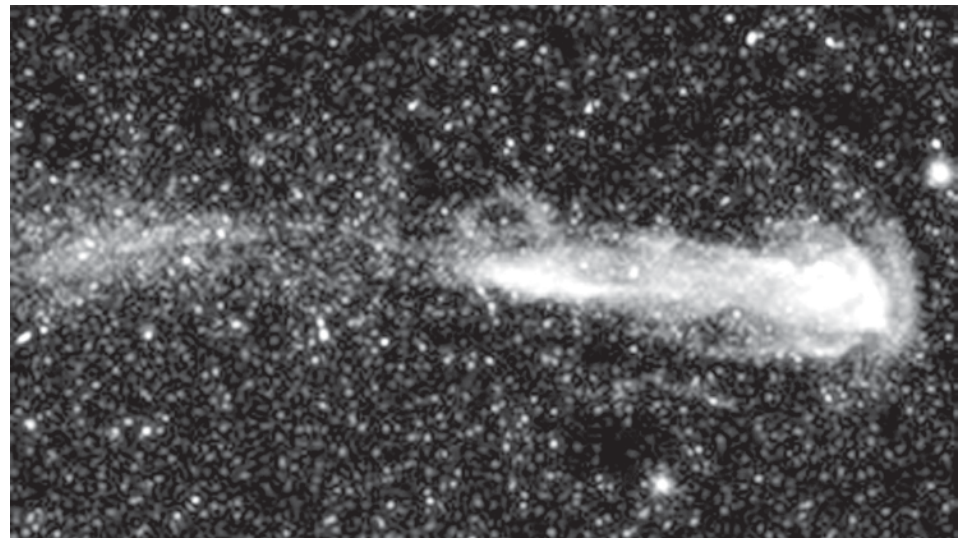
countries as a way to deal with malaria which still kills ONE million people each year.

Previously, WHO's guidelines focused primarily on providing insecticide-treated mosquito nets for use by children under five years old and pregnant women.

However, recent studies have shown that by expanding the use of these nets to all people in

targeted areas, increased coverage and enhanced protection of vulnerable groups can be achieved, while protecting all community members, said the United Nations agency in a statement.

With the cost of five US dollars each, insecticide-treated nets are mosquito nets treated with insecticides which repel, disable or kill the vector mosquitoes which transmit malaria.— MNA/Xinhua



An ultraviolet mosaic image from NASA's Galaxy Evolution Explorer spacecraft released on 15 Aug, 2007 shows a large star in its death throes leaving a huge, turbulent tail of oxygen, carbon and nitrogen in its wake that makes it look like an immense comet hurtling through space, astronomers said on Wednesday. — INTERNET

UCLA becomes home to southern California's first Confucius Institute

LOS ANGELES, 18 Aug — The University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) on Thursday became home to southern California's first and only Confucius Institute, one of dozens of similar institutes in the United States and across the world that are designed to foster an understanding of Chinese culture and language.

"Given the strategic location of Los Angeles and the breadth of China-related programmes at UCLA, we see the creation of a Confucius Institute here as an irresistible opportunity to offer ways to fill a real need to promote learning and understanding between the two countries," UCLA's assistant provost Unruh said at the institute's opening ceremony.

Unruh, who aided the development of the institute on UCLA's Westwood campus, said the institute will build upon and enhance the strengths of existing activities in and around the southern California region, where Chinese culture and community are abundant and commercial ties to China are increasing.

Scott Waugh, UCLA's acting executive vice-

chancellor who oversaw the creation of the institute on the campus, said that UCLA is an ideal place for the institute.

"We have a real stake at UCLA in this kind of work," he said. "The Confucius Institute will help bring people together around the issue of language training."

The UCLA-based institute will work with its regional partners to support Chinese-language education in K-12 public schools, including teacher certification, and to promote cultural and arts programming in the region, officials said.

MNA/Xinhua



A pedestrian covers her face to avoid the strong sun rays as she waits at a Tokyo crossing on 16 Aug, 2007. Japan sizzled through its hottest day on record on Thursday, as a heat wave claimed at least six lives across the country and spurred fears of an electricity shortage. — INTERNET

Astronomers find bizarre comet-like tail behind star

LONDON, 18 Aug — Astronomers have discovered a glowing, comet-like tail trailing behind a double star called Mira, a phenomenon never seen before.

US astronomers have discovered the long tail, which is visible only in far ultraviolet light, according to a report on the science magazine *Nature* on Thursday. The astronomers led by Christopher Martin of Caltech in Pasadena, California, US happened upon it using NASA's *Galaxy Evolution Explorer* satellite, which was surveying the sky at ultraviolet wavelengths, the report said.

The tail extends 13 light years from Mira, which

meaning "wonderful" in Latin is one of the best-studied star systems in the sky and lies 350 light years from Earth. It appears to trace the path of Mira's motion across the sky over the past 30,000 years, based on its size and Mira's speed, which has been previously measured.

One star in the pair, called Mira A, is a bloated, aging red giant that sheds large amounts of gas and dust into space, while the other, Mira B, is a dense stellar corpse called a white dwarf. The team believes the tail is created as a result of Mira A's stellar wind, an outflow of gas and dust from the star, which hits ambient gas as it moves through space.— MNA/Xinhua



Competitors wearing stiletto high-heel shoes run in Berlin, Germany, on 18 Aug, 2007. The winner was rewarded with a 10,000 euro (US\$ 13,450) prize— INTERNET

White-tailed eagle takes flight in Ireland

DUBLIN, 18 Aug — An eagle that disappeared from Ireland more than 100 years ago took flight again on Thursday as part of a scheme to reintroduce native birds of prey to the country.

Ireland's Environment Minister released six young White-tailed eagles, one of the world's largest birds of prey, into a national park in the southwestern county of Kerry. "These eagles had pride of place in the

cultural and natural heritage of Ireland for hundreds of years but due to trapping and shooting in the 19th and early 20th centuries they became extinct," Minister John Gormley said.

The eagle chicks came from Norway and were flown into Kerry in June. Some 15 chicks will be brought into the region annually over the next five years as part of the reintroduction.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Ribery, Toni help Bayern crush Werder

BERLIN, 19 Aug — Newcomers Franck Ribery and Luca Toni were on target to help Bayern Munich to a brilliant 4-0 win at Werder Bremen in the Bundesliga on Saturday. Bayern took the lead in the 31st minute when French international Ribery chipped in a penalty following a foul on Toni.

The Italian striker added the second six minutes into the second half, Hamit Altintop swept in the third and Andreas Ottl struck from long range to wrap up another comprehensive victory and make it six points from two games for Bayern.

Schalke 04 got their first win of the season with a 4-1 triumph at home to Borussia Dortmund in the big Ruhr Valley derby.

Champions VfB Stuttgart, who drew with Schalke last weekend, are still waiting for their first victory after going down 3-1 at Hertha Berlin.

Bayern lead the table as the only team with maximum points, although Hamburg SV could join them if they win at home to Bayer Leverkusen on Sunday. Schalke are second with four points, while Werder and Stuttgart have just a point apiece.

Ribery and Toni were part of a 70-million-euro (94.14-million-US-dollar) rebuilding programme at Bayern after they finished only fourth last season.

After a 3-0 win at home to Hansa Rostock on the opening weekend, the trip to face Werder was their first serious test.—MNA/Reuters



Seattle Storm's Iziane Castro Marques, left, smiles with Betty Lennox after the team's 97-77 victory over the Los Angeles Sparks, on 17 Aug, 2007, in a WNBA basketball game in Seattle. Castro Marques scored 24 points.— INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	E		2	D		3	S		4	S		5	T		6	A
7	S	T	R	I	K	E		8	A	C	C	O	R	D		
	Q		A		I		9	V		A		U		D		
10	U	K	U	L	E	L	E		11	R	O	G	U	E		
	I		G		R		S		L		H		R			
12	R	U	H	R		13	S	T	E	E	P					
	E		T		14	F		I		T		15	D		16	B
			17	D	O	U	B	T		18	K	I	W	I		
19	C		20	H		R		U		21	A		S		C	
22	A	L	O	O	F		23	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y		
	R		U		E		E		Y		O		C			
24	G	O	S	S	I	P		25	I	S	A	B	E	L		
	O		E		T			S		E		E				

Quaresma brace secures opening win for champions Porto

LISBON, 19 Aug — Winger Ricardo Quaresma scored twice when Porto began their defence of their Portuguese Premier League title with a 2-1 win at Braga on Saturday.

Quaresma opened the scoring with a superb 25-metre free kick after 33 minutes.

Veteran midfielder Joao Pinto, who celebrates his 36th birthday on Sunday, equalized for Braga just minutes after the break, firing home a cross from the left hand side.

Four minutes from time, the versatile Quaresma curled a free kick into the left corner to clinch victory for the champions.

Benfica opened their campaign with an embarrassing 1-1 draw at newly-promoted Leixoes.

The Lisbon side took the lead in the 90th minute through captain Petit who headed home a corner from the right.

Nigerian midfielder Nyoko scored the equalizer for Leixoes in stoppage time after a goalmouth scramble.

MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Steven Gerrard, right, tackles Chelsea's Didier Drogba during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, England, on 19 Aug, 2007. Liverpool 1-1 Chelsea. — INTERNET

Barclays Premier League Table

19 Aug, 2007				
		P	GD	PTS
1	Man City	3	4	9
2	Chelsea	3	2	7
3	Wigan	3	3	6
4	Everton	3	2	6
5	Portsmouth	3	2	5
6	Newcastle	2	2	4
7	Arsenal	2	1	4
8	Blackburn	2	1	4
9	Liverpool	2	1	4
10	Reading	3	0	4
11	Sunderland	3	-2	4
12	Tottenham	3	1	3
13	Fulham	3	-1	3
14	Middlesbrough	3	-1	3
15	West Ham	2	-1	3
16	Man Utd	3	-1	2
17	Aston Villa	2	-1	1
18	Birmingham	3	-2	1
19	Derby	3	-5	1
20	Bolton	3	-5	0

Internet

Federer into Cincinnati final after Hewitt test

CINCINNATI, 19 Aug — World number one Roger Federer battled back from a break down in the final set to fend off a rejuvenated Lleyton Hewitt 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 on Saturday to reach the final of the Cincinnati Masters.

Australian Hewitt saved three match points, including one in the second-set tiebreak, but Federer roared back from 3-2 down in the third set to set up a clash with fifth seed Nikolay Davydenko or American ninth seed James Blake.

Federer had won the last 10 meetings between the two and despite a misfiring forehand in the early stages, the Swiss looked on course for a straightforward win when he eased through the first set.

MNA/Reuters

Vahirua double sends Lorient top of Ligue 1

PARIS, 19 Aug — A Marama Vahirua double handed Lorient a 2-1 win over six-times champions Olympique Lyon on Saturday and elevated them to the top of the Ligue 1 standings.

Striker Vahirua, who had netted twice in his side's 3-1 victory at Paris St. Germain earlier in the week, opened the scoring after 14 minutes with a perfect volley.

Lyon, who have now lost their last two league games following last weekend's 1-0 defeat at Toulouse, hit back through France striker Karim Benzema, who lobbed Fabien Audard on 32 minutes.

However, Vahirua struck the winner 20 minutes into the second half from a Nicolas Marin cross.

MNA/Reuters



James Kingston of South Africa follows the path of his ball during the Scandinavian Masters golf tournament at ArlandaStad golf court outside Stockholm, Sweden, on 18 Aug , 2007. Martin Kaymer of Germany and James Kingston of South Africa will take a three-shot lead into the final round of the Scandinavian Masters at the Arlandastad Golf Club in Stockholm—INTERNET

Uganda's oldest chimpanzee celebrates 43rd birthday

KAMPALA, 19 Aug—Uganda's oldest captive chimpanzee has a big birthday party to celebrate his 43 years with a banana cake surrounded by hundreds of visitors.

The party, which had been delayed for two weeks to teach him table manners and how to cut the cake, held on Wednesday in Ugandan Wildlife Education Centre, state-owned *New Vision* reported on Thursday.

Zakayo, who was taken into captivity after being attacked by poachers, lifted his heavy body and

walked slowly towards the fence where his cake was being held out for him, only to squat down and ignore all calls from his minders to perform his act and grab it with his hands.

The 67-kilometre alpha male was brought into captivity in 1972 after his group was attacked by poachers in Uganda's southwest. When he first

arrived at the centre, which at the time was the Entebbe Zoo, he was housed in a small cage along with four other chimps and visitors were able to offer him cigarettes and alcohol.

This changed when Entebbe Zoo became the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre, a voluntary organization that rescues animals orphaned or

confiscated by poachers.

A new home was built for the chimpanzee group on Budongo Island and they now live together happily in a semi-wild setting.

According to Emma Masaba, the marketing manager at the centre, Zakayo is very protective and has adopted several younger chimps.

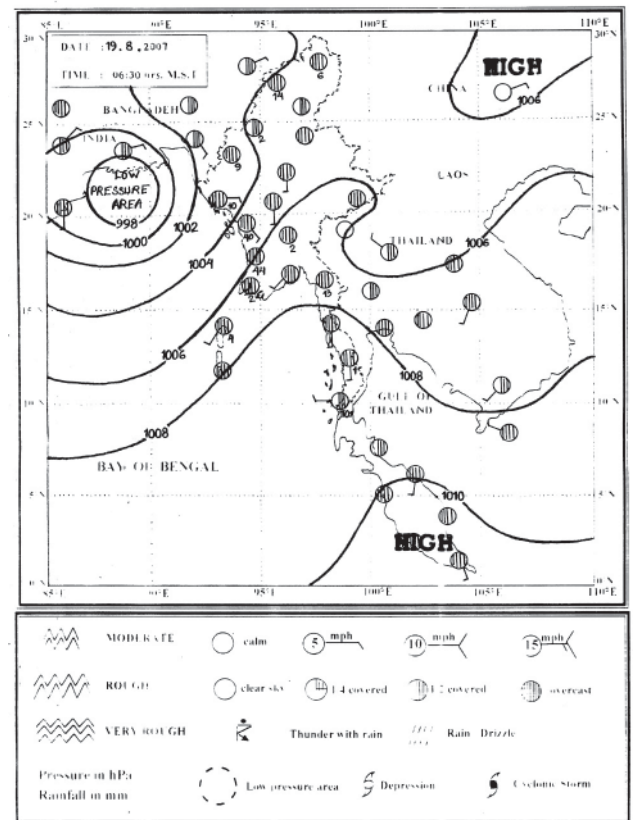
Zakayo spends most of his time resting, grooming or being groomed by his two wives, Amina and Ruth.

His favourite food is eggplants, tangerines and jackfruit.

The chimpanzee family eats four times a day. They are served a variety of fruits, nuts, eggs, vegetables, millet porridge and posho.

MNA/Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 19 August, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in Kachin, Kayah and Kayin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State, fairly widespread in Mon State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (2.99) inches, Maungtau (2.48) inches, Thandwe (1.74) inches, Kyaukpadaung (1.57) inches, Falam (0.98) inch, Pyawb (0.90) inch and Magway (0.55) inch.

Maximum temperature on 18-8-2007 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 19-8-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 19-8-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 18-8-2007 was (1.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 19-8-2007 was (0.04) inch at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (92.09) inches at Mingaladon, (94.13) inches at Kaba-Aye and (93.78) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southwest at (14:30) hours MST on 18-8-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area over the North Bay still persists. Monsoon is generally strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 20-8-2007: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, fairly widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon. **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 20-8-2007:** Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 20-8-2007: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 20-8-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 19-8-2007)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an (768) cm is exceeded (18) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.



Wild cows speed down a hill during the running of "El Pilon" in Falces, northern Spain, on 17 Aug, 2007. "El Pilon" is a traditional race to honour Falces' patron saint Virgen de la Nieves (Virgin of the Snow) and involves 10 cows running down a mountainous track and led by runners into a corral on the edge of the town. — INTERNET



Monday, 20 August
View on today

7:00 am

1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. စစ်ကိုင်းတိုင်းရင်း
ဆွမ်းဦးပူဇော်

7:55 am

5. Nice of sweet song

8:10 am

6. Song of national races

8:20 am

7. Cute little dancers

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar Made Easy

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအမှတ် (၃) အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ပဉ္စမအကြိမ် ဓမ္မစကြာဝတ်ရွတ် ပူဇော်ပွဲ (တတိယဆု) (အထက-၄၊ မင်္ဂလာတောင်ညွန့်၊) (အမျိုးသားဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)

4:50 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (အထူးပြုအားလုံး) (အင်္ဂလိပ်စာ)

5:05 pm

5. Dance variety

5:15 pm

6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

5:25 pm

7. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)

5:35 pm

8. Song and dance of national races

5:45 pm

9. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်၊ (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး၊ ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (မဟာဂီတ)(ဝါသနာရှင် (ပထမတန်း အဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား၊ အမျိုးသမီး) -မှိုင်းပြာမှုန်ဝေ (စောင်း မူမူသိန်း)

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. အလှူရှာမယ်လှူကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:00 pm

13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သောရွှေနေပြည်" (အပိုင်း-၄)

8:00 pm

14. News

15. International news

16. Weather report

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"ရေသူမလေး"

ဒုတိယချစ်ပုံပြင် (အပိုင်း-၃၇)

18. The next day's programme

Cash and kind donated to monasteries, nunneries in Dagon, Yankin Townships



Lt-Gen Myint Swe and the congregation share merits gained at cash and kind donation ceremony of families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers in Yankin Township. — MNA

YANGON, 19 Aug — A ceremony to donate cash and kind to Dagon Pariyatti, Dekkhinayon and Kyargu monasteries was held at Kyargu Dhamma Beikman of Kyargu Monastery on Shwedagon Pagoda Road in Dagon Township this afternoon.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence offered robes and provisions to Chairman of Dagon Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Kaba Aye Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Revata. Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and senior military officers donated robes and alms to members of the Sangha.

Three senior

military officers presented rice, edible oil and gram donated by families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) to the Sayadaw. The commander offered rice donated by Yangon Division PDC to the Sayadaw.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the commander, the vice-mayor and senior military officers accepted donations from the wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Today's donation to the monasteries totalled 61 bags of rice, 118 viss of edible oil, 39 viss of gram, 197 viss of iodized salt, 40 tubes of toothpaste, 2,812 bottles of traditional medicines and K 5,773,000.

A similar ceremony was held at Maha Bawdi Pariyatti Monastery on Mogaung Road in

Yankin Township this afternoon to donate cash and kind to nine monasteries and two nunneries in Yankin Township.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe donated robes and alms to Vice-Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Kyaikpi Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Gunesana.

The vice-mayor, senior military officers and officials presented robes and alms to members of the Sangha. Three senior military officers offered provisions donated by families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) to the Sayadaw.

Wellwishers also donated offertories to the Sayadaw.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the vice-mayor,

senior military officers and officials accepted donations from wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Today's donations to monasteries and nunneries in Yankin Township totalled 305 bags of rice, 912 viss of edible oil, 304 viss of

gram, 1,520 viss of iodized salt, 304 tubes of toothpaste, 1,048 bottles of traditional medicine and K 4,327,000.

MNA

112 members quit Labutta Township NLD

Party leaders committing destructive acts with grudges

YANGON, 19 Aug — A total of 112 members including U Ohn Shwe, U Aung Shein, U Hla Tint, Daw Chaw Sein, Daw Khin Pyone, U Than Htay, U Myint Thein, U Thein Shwe, Daw Ohn Shwe and U Khin Win of Labutta Township National League for Democracy of Ayeyawady Division resigned from the party of their own volition on 10 August, sending letters of resignation to the NLD (Headquarters) and local authorities.

In their letters sent to Labutta Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommittee, they said that they joined the party with the belief that the NLD will be a reliable one for the nation and the people. However, the party leaders are committing destructive acts only with grudges, but not serving the interests of the nation and the people. That is why they resigned from the party of their own accord, they said.

MNA

Four more townships receive MRTV-4 programmes

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Aug — The public of Yangon, Sagaing, Bago, Taunggyi, Mawlamyine, Pyay, Kyaunggon and Minhla have received the programmes of MRTV-4 and other related channels. The people of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Toungoo, Minbu and PyinOoLwin can enjoy similar service of MRTV-4 programme through digital receiver as from August.

MNA

Weather forecast for (20-8-2007)

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas

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

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas

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

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas

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