**Tapo ca, ascetic practices; this is the way to auspiciousness**

Established 1914

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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# USDA Secretariat Member supervises rural development tasks in Taungtha, Myingyan

*Minister U Aung Thaung sprinkles scented water on stone inscription of bridge of Kyauktalon Dam.*—INDUSTRY-1

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July— A ceremony to inaugurate the bridge of Kyauktalon Dam was held in Yondaw Village of Taungtha Township on 13 July morning, attended by Secretariat Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung.

A local resident spoke words of thanks.

Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Soe Soe Shwe, Secretary of Taungtha Township USDA U Than Htay Aung and Township Engineer U Ye Win formally opened the bridge.

Secretariat Member U Aung Thaung and officials sprinkled scented water on the stone inscription.

The bridge was built with the contributions of K 7 million by the local people and construction materials worth K 11 million by the Secretariat Member.

The bridge was constructed with a view to promoting health, education and economic standards of the local people.

At 10 am, the Secretariat Member met local authorities and members of USDA and social organizations at the office of the Township USDA.

He urged all to speed up undertaking of the five rural development tasks and to participate in the realization of the seven-step Road Map of the State and join hands with the social organizations in the interest of the local people. In the afternoon, the minister met officials at Vest Factory (Taungtha) and gave necessary instructions.

Next, the Secretariat Member met with District and Township PDC Chairmen, departmental officials, secretaries of District/Township and Ward/Village USDAs, executives, members of social organizations and townselders at Mani Kinsana Hall in Myingyan.

At the meeting, the Secretariat Member gave instructions on participation in the tasks for realization of the seven-step Road Map of the State, carrying out five rural development tasks and following the policies and directives laid down by the government.—*MNA*

***Members of Myanmar Red Cross Society taking part in the task to ensure smooth transport in Kyaukhmaw Village of Labutta Township recently.* — MRCS**

## 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**

# Fishing gear for fishermen in Dedaye

YANGON, 16 July — Fishing gear were presented to fishermen in Dedaye Township, Ayeyawady Division at the Fishery Department in the township yesterday.

Chairman of Dedaye Township Peace and Development Council U Myo Aung, Head of Hinthada District Fishery Department U Sein Thaung, Head of Ingapu Township Fishery Department U Hla Tun, Head of Zalun Township Fishery Department U Thein Han and Head of Dedaye Township Fishery Department U Thein Htaik handed over 144 boats, 150 sets of 6.5 HP engines, 200 paddles, various kinds of fishing nets and gear to the fishermen of the township.

*MNA*

# 2.2m acres under monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July— A total of 2.2 million acres of land has been put under monsoon paddy in Ayeyawady Division up to 15 July.

*MNA*

# PERSPECTIVES

**Thursday, 17 July, 2008**

## Perform meritorious deeds daily

**It was the Fullmoon Day of Waso, 103 ME and the entire forest of Migadawon (deer park) in Isipatanar lush and pleasant. The Lord Buddha delivered the first sermon called Dhammacakka Discourse to the Five Disciples in the evening when the sun was about to set in the west and the moon was coming out in the east.**

**The Lord Buddha said the practices to the extreme could not lead to the emancipation from Samsara: the circle of births and deaths.**

**He said that it is only Majjima Patipada or the Middle Way that can widen the scope of knowledge and it is the correct way towards Nibbana. He also explained the Four Noble Truths and preached the Noble Eight-fold Path that all creatures had to follow. The Noble Eight-fold Path provides benefits for both present and the future of mankind. That was why He mainly delivered the Noble Eight-fold Path in the Dhammacakka Discourse.**

**The Noble Eight-fold Path are the right view, the right thought, the right speech, the right action, the right livelihood, the right endeavour, the right mindfulness and the right concentration. They are noble practices.**

**Dhammacakka Discourse is the main factor of knowledge on religion and points out the way to Nibbana — the end of suffering. All Buddhist devotees must remember the blessings of the Lord Buddha and do meritorious deeds daily including donation, keeping the precepts and meditation in accord with the practices of the Noble Eight-fold Path.**

## Ayeyawady, Chindwin below danger level

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July — The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today issued a flood bulletin that the water level of Chindwin river at Monywa has fallen below its danger level starting this morning. The water levels of Chindwin river are forecast to fall below their respective danger levels of Mawlaik during the next (36) hrs and Kalewa during the next (12) hrs.

The water level of Ayeyawady river at NyaungU has fallen below its danger level starting this morning. The water level of Ayeyawady river at Hinthada is rising by (10.5) cm/hr at present and forecast to fall starting from 18 July, 2008.

*MNA*

## 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**

## Electric Power No. 1 Ministry offers Waso robes

*Minister Col Zaw Min and wife offer Waso robes to a Sayadaw.*—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July —Under the patronage of Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min and wife, families of Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 held the 3rd Waso robes offering ceremony at the ministry here this morning.

Present were Sayadaws of Sulamani Yanaungmyin monastery, Yesat monastery, Pantthagu monastery, Yawkthwa-in monastery, Shwe Obo monastery, Minister Col Zaw Min and wife Daw Khin Mi Mi, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, Directors-General and Managing Directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, personnel and guests.

Those present received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Adiccavamsa of Sulamani Yanaungmyin monastery and they offered robes and provisions to members of the Sangha. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Adiccavamsa delivered a sermon and those present shared merits gained and offered day meal to members of the Sangha.

*MNA*

## Work Proficiency Course No. 29 for auditors opened

*Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung delivers a speech at work proficiency course No. 29 for auditors.*—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July— A ceremony to open the work proficiency course No. 29 for auditors was held at training school of Auditor-General's office here this morning. Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung gave a speech.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General, Deputy Directors-General, directors, officials, lecturers and trainees. A total of 74 trainees are attending the two-month course.

Level 1, 2 and 3 for the personnel of the government departments and organizations and work proficiency course for auditors will be continuously opened at the training school in Nay Pyi Taw.—*MNA*

## Cash donations made to storm victims

YANGON, 16 July—Well-wishers made cash donations to storm survivors through the donation centre at Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon Branch) of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue in Yankin Township today. Finance and Revenue Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe accepted today's donations of K 111,050,000 including K 36 million by U Ne Lin Aung of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Mayangon Township; K 10 million by U Maung Maung Wein-Daw Mi Mi Khin of junction of 26th and 83rd Streets, Mandalay; and K 64.8 million by U Soe Myint (Silver Elephant Co Ltd).—*MNA*

# Obama, McCain sharpen their dispute over Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 16 July—The two major Presidential rivals sharpened their long-standing dispute over the Iraq War on Tuesday, Democratic Sen. Barack Obama calling it a costly distraction that must end while Republican Sen John McCain insisted it is a conflict the United States has to win.

"Iraq is not going to be a perfect place, and we don't have unlimited resources to try and make it one," Obama said in a speech in which he also said the United States must shift its focus to defeating the Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan.

Rebutting swiftly, McCain said Obama "will tell you we can't win in Afghanistan without losing in Iraq. In fact, he has it exactly backwards."

While the two men agreed on the importance of prevailing in Afghanistan, the dispute veered in a new direction when it came to the tribal areas of next-door Pakistan, where terrorist Osama bin Laden and his men are thought to be hiding.

McCain accused Obama of "trying to sound tough" by speaking publicly of taking unilateral action against those blamed for the terror attacks of 11 Sept, 2001.

Undeterred, Obama said, "If Pakistan cannot or will not act, we will take out high-level terrorist targets like bin Laden if we have them in our sights."

Despite his rhetoric, Obama refrained from saying the administration's so-called surge in troop strength in Iraq had failed. Aides said his campaign Web site had been altered in recent days to remove references to that effect.

*Internet*

## US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,120

WASHINGTON, 16 July—As of Tuesday, 15 July, 2008, at least 4,120 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,357 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

It is one fewer than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Tuesday at 10 am EDT. The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, South Korea, one death each.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 30,409 US service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defence Department's weekly tally.

*Internet*

# Bertha becomes longest lived July storm

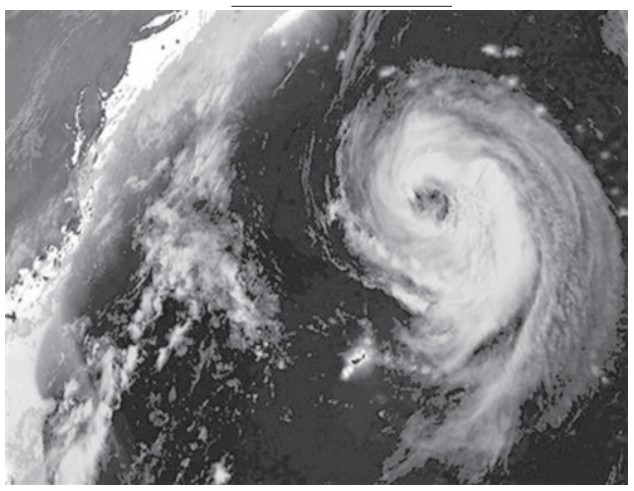
HAMILTON (Bermuda), 16 July—Tropical Storm Bertha headed back out over open ocean and away from the US mainland Tuesday after it battered Bermuda, knocking out electricity to thousands on the Atlantic tourist island.

It is the longest-lived July tropical storm in history, according to the US National Hurricane Center. Bertha became the Atlantic season's first hurricane, before weakening into a tropical storm. It is expected to strengthen over the next 24 hours, forecasters said.

The previous longest-lived storm, known as Storm No 2, occurred in 1960 and lasted just over 12 days, according to forecaster Daniel Brown. Bertha is entering its 13th day. The storm was centreed 360 miles (580 kilometres) northeast of Bermuda Tuesday night, with sustained winds near 65 mph (100 kph), the center said. It was moving northeast at 6 mph (9 kph).

In Bermuda, the government dispatched cleanup crews and expected to restore power to 200 remaining customers by the end of the day. Bertha's heavy rains flooded roads and its winds felled utility poles, leaving up to 7,500 without electricity on Monday. There were no reports of injuries.

*Internet*



***This satellite image provided by NOAA shows Hurricane Bertha northeast of the island of Bermuda at about 12:04 pm EDT on 15 July, 2008. The hurricane was located about 260 miles northeast of Bermuda at 11:00 am EDT with maximum sustained winds of around 70 miles per hour, according to NOAA.—INTERNET***

***Modern buildings are seen on the skyline behind a pagoda in Beijing, on 15 July, 2008. The city has spent about US $40 billion on a modernization program in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Games, which open on 8 Aug.—INTERNET***

# Study shows when kids become teens, they get sluggish

CHICAGO, 16 July—One of the largest studies of its kind shows just how sluggish American children become once they hit the teen years: While 90 percent of 9-year-olds get a couple of hours of exercise most days, fewer than 3 percent of 15-year-olds do.

What's more, the study suggests that fewer than a third of teens that age get even the minimum recom-mended by the govern-ment—an hour of mod-erate-to-vigorous exercise, like cycling, brisk walking, swimming or jogging.

The sharp drop raises concerns about inactivity continuing into adulthood, which could endanger kids' health throughout their lives, the study authors said.

"People don't recognize this as the crisis that it is," said lead author Dr Philip Nader, a pediatrician and professor emeritus at the University of California at San Diego.

Inactivity is linked with greater risks for many health problems, including heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes.

The new findings come just a week after an influential pediatricians group recommended that more children have their cholesterol checked and that some as young as 8 should be given cholesterol-lowering drugs. That advice was partly out of concern over future levels of heart disease and other ailments linked to rising rates of childhood obesity.

*Internet*

# Israel identifies dead soldiers

BEIRUT, 16 July—Lebanese militant group Hezbollah hands over the coffins they say contain the bodies of two Israeli soldiers

The Israeli army has confirmed that human remains handed over by Lebanon's Hezbollah as part of a prisoner swap are those of two of its soldiers.

The two men, Eldad Regev and Ehud Goldwasser, were captured in 2006, but it was not certain they had died.

In return, Israel is handing over five Lebanese prisoners and the bodies of 200 Lebanese and Palestinian fighters.

The capture of the two Israeli soldiers sparked a month-long war between Israel and the Shia Islamist militant group.—*Internet*

***Trucks decorated with flowers near Beirut's Rafic Hariri airport. Lebanon's Hezbollah and Israel are to carry out a prisoner exchange, two years after a devastating war sparked by the capture of two Israeli soldiers.—INTERNET***

# Russia resumes warship patrols in Arctic

Moscow, 16 July— The Russian Navy has resumed warship patrols in the waters around the Arctic Ocean archipelago of Svalbard, the first time since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

"The Russian Navy has resumed the presence of Northern Fleet warships in Arctic regions, including in the area of Spitzbergen," the Navy said in a statement Monday.

"We have been talking for a long time about widening our activity in the Arctic," said navy spokesman Igor Dygalo. "There is nothing aggressive in the interests of security."

According to the statement, the anti-submarine ship *Severomorsk* has arrived in the Arctic area and begun carrying out tasks. The cruiser *Marshal Ustinov* will also arrive after 17 July.

Under a 1920 treaty, Svalbard was placed under Norwegian sovereignty, which Russia does not recognize.

Last year, Russia resumed long range bomber flights and regular patrols of the Mediterranean Sea.

*MNA/Xinhua*

***Smoke covers a burnt forest near the village of Oinoi, in Viotia region, central Greece. Greek firefighters struggled Tuesday to contain a major forest fire that broke out northwest of Athens and was being fanned by strong winds, the fire service said.—Intenet***

# Iran rejects preconditions for nuclear talks

Teheran, 16 July — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Teheran will not accept any preconditions for nuclear talks with EU foreign policy Chief Javier Solana, the English-language satellite channel Press TV reported Tuesday.

"Teheran welcomes negotiations but will not accept the precondition set by the West - the suspension of uranium enrichment," Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying on Monday evening.

Iran is ready to remove all international concerns regarding its nuclear programme, he said, adding that Iran is prepared to hold talks with any country over its nuclear standoff, except for the Israeli regime.

Iran's top nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili and Solana were due to meet in the Swiss city of Geneva on Saturday in an attempt to break the deadlock in the nuclear issue. Solana and Jalili will share points in two packages of incentives, said Ahmadinejad.

Solana handed over an updated package of incentives proposed by world powers and a letter from foreign ministers of the six countries and himself to Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki last month. Iran responded to the package in a letter to Solana early this month and also presented its own package of proposals to the world powers.

*MNA/Xinhua*

***Military jets perform a flyover while displaying the French national colours during Bastille Day ceremonies in Paris, Monday on 14 July, 2008. —Internet***

# Gunmen kidnap two Turkish nationals in Afghanistan

Herat (Afghanistan), 16 July — Unknown gunmen kidnapped two Turkish nationals working on a construction project in western Afghanistan on Monday, a senior police official said.

Kidnapping has become a lucrative business in Afghanistan, where dozens of locals and foreigners have been abducted by criminals or Taleban-linked militants.

"The Turkish engineers were working on a project in the town of Islam Qala, bordering Iran, where they were kidnapped from the vehicle yesterday afternoon," regional Police Chief Abdul Rahoof Ahmadi said.

"We found the vehicle and their passports inside the car ... The kidnappers might have taken them on foot somewhere," he said.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry official in Ankara said the two abducted engineers were Gokhan Gul and Erhan Gunduz who were both working for the Turkish construction company Gulsen Insaat.

*MNA/Reuters*

# Lula criticizes EU's harsh treatment on Brazilians

Rio de Janeiro, 16 July— European nations must give Brazilians the same treatment as their citizens received in Brazil, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Monday.

On his weekly radio programme, Breakfast with the President, Lula said that during a meeting of the Group of Eight (G-8) in Japan last week, he had discussed with European leaders the European Union's current policies against immigrants.

"We want Brazilians and all the world's people to be treated with respect, in a manner that takes human rights into consideration, and not as if they were delinquents," he said. Cases of mistreatment against Brazilian immigrants and tourists have increased in Europe, especially in Spain, even before the EU approved a new immigration law last month. Under the tough new immigration rules, illegal immigrants will face up to 18 months' detention before deportation and will be banned from re-entry to EU countries for up to five years.—*MNA/Xinhua*

***Children study ancient prose at a private school in Suzhou City, east China's Jiangsu province, on 14 July, 2008. Many children in Suzhou attend private schools in summer holiday to study classical Chinese literature. —Xinhua***

# Singapore sees "reasonable chance" of WTO success

Geneva, 16 July — Singapore, a bridge-builder in global trade talks, sees a "reasonable chance" that next week's high-stakes push for consensus in the Doha Round will yield success, a senior government official said on Monday.

Ravi Menon of the Singaporean Trade and Industry Ministry said ministers gathering from 21 July in Geneva would not be able to settle every issue in the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations on cuts to export-impairing tariffs and subsidies.

But the second permanent secretary, in Geneva to lead Singapore's delegation for a routine WTO policy review, said the meeting could result in the broad outlines of a deal in agriculture and manufactured goods, clearing the way for a comprehensive accord that would also span cross-border services. —*MNA/Reuters*

***Paramilitary police officers demonstrate their fighting skills in an exercise in Wuhan in China's central Hubei province on 13 July, 2008. With the Olympic Games drawing near, China is stepping up security measures across the country.—XINHUA***

# Iran, Russia sign energy cooperation agreement

TEHERAN, 16 July — The National Iranian Oil Company ( NIOC) and Russian gas monopoly Gazprom signed an agreement to cooperate on development of Iran's oil and gas fields, the official *IRNA* news agency reported on Monday.

NIOC Managing Director Seifollah Jashnsaz and head of Board of Directors of Gazprom Alexei Miller signed the agreement on Sunday during an official ceremony attended by Iranian Oil Minister Gholam-Hossein Nozari, the *IRNA* said.

Based on the agreement, a joint company would be set up by the two countries for cooperation in the oil and gas fields, including in the development of Iran's North Azadegan oil field, part of the large Azadegan field in southwestern Iran.

Construction of oil and gas processing and transport facilities inside Iran are among the subjects included in the agreement, according to the *IRNA*.

The agreement also included possible participation of Gazprom in a planned peace pipeline that would deliver Iranian gas to India and Pakistan.

Miller also met Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in Teheran on Sunday.

*Xinhua*

## Asian-African conference on Palestine opens in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 16 July — Asian-African conference on Palestine was opened by Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at the State Palace here on Monday.

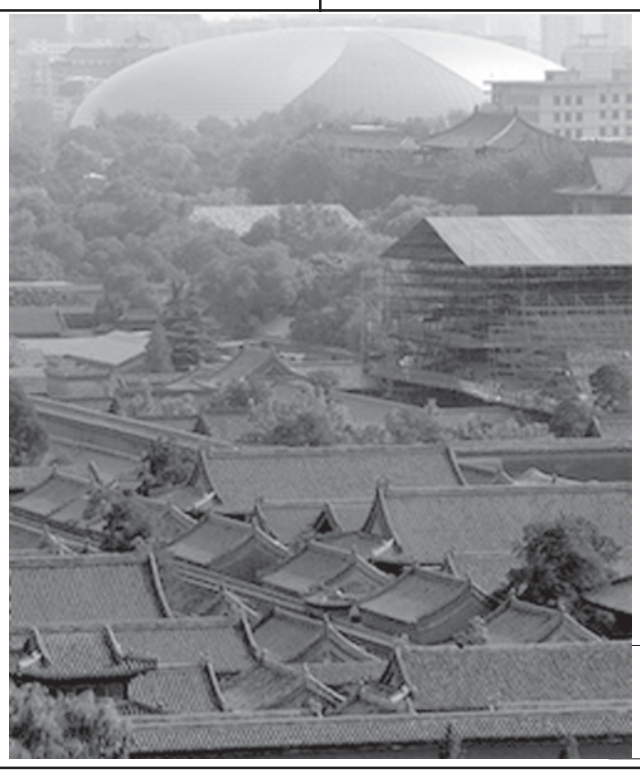
Over 220 delegates from 55 Asian and African countries took part in the two-day conference, Indonesian Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda said.

Also present at the foreign ministerial level conference the representatives from the Latin American region such as Brazil, Venezuela and Chili, he said.

The United Nations Relief and Work Agency, Islamic Development Bank, and the United Nations and Social Commission forward Asia participated in the conference, said Wirajuda.

The aimed of the conference was to boost the capacity building of Palestine, Indonesian state spokesman Dino Patti Djalal has said.

*Xinhua*



***China's new National Theater is seen behind buildings in the Forbidden City in Beijing on 15 July, 2008. —XINHUA***

## Brazilian industry revises down growth forecast for 2008

RIO DE JANEIRO, 16 July — Brazil's National Federation of Industry has lowered its forecast for the country's economic growth this year from 5.0 per cent to 4.7 per cent, local media reported Sunday.

Due to surging food prices around the world, Brazil's inflation rate will stand at 6.4 per cent in 2008, 1.7 percentage points above the previously-predicted figure, the federation said in a recent report.

The Brazilian Government has set a target to bring the annual inflation rate under 6.5 per cent.

The report added that Brazil's economic growth may become slower as the country has taken measures, including a tightened monetary policy, to cope with inflation. —*Xinhua*

## Farnborough International Airshow opens in Britain

FARNBOROUGH (Britain), 16 July— The 2008 Farnborough International Airshow (FIA) opened on Monday where aerospace organizations from around the world gathered in the southern English town of Farnborough to demonstrate their latest aerospace capabilities and products.

More than 1,500 exhibitors from 39 countries will be present at the world's premier aerospace business event organized by Farnborough International Ltd, a subsidiary company of the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC), the trade association for the UK aerospace industry.

The number of exhibitors increased by 5 per cent compared with the FIA 2006.

As many as 140,000 business visitors are expected to the exhibition from Monday to Friday, who are sure to be captivated by the sales campaign.

The world's leading aerospace companies such as Airbus, the Boeing Company, BAE Systems, EADS, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and Rolls-Royce will all be present at the one-week global business event that showcases new and innovative products and the latest technological developments in the fast moving world of aerospace.

The aircraft and equipment exhibited encom-pass avionics, ground equipment, materials and private aviation.

*Xinhua*

## UAE introduces new cheque clearing system

ABU DHABI, 16 July— The central bank of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has introduced a new electronic image-based cheque clearing system that can reduce the time needed for settlement from the several days to four hours, local newspaper *Gulf News* reported on Monday.

The new cheque clearing system, or known as the Image Cheque Clearing System (ICCS), was implemented from Saturday, the UAE central bank was quoted as saying. "During the initial operation of the system, cheque will clear within a maximum of 36 houre.

This time will be progressively reduced over the coming months...The system is capable of clearing cheque in four hours," the bank said in a statement.

Under the previous cheque clearing system, the central bank's representatives delivered the cheque physically to the settlement department, where representatives from all banks settle the cheque manually. The process of settlement could take two to five days.

*Xinhua*

**All items from Xinhua News Agency**

***An elementary school student holds her shoes while walking on a flooded street in Malabon City, Manila July 16, 2008. Tropical storm Kalmaegi has dumped rains in parts of the northern Philippines since Monday and classes were suspended in many areas of the capital.—INTERNET***

# Obama tells blacks they must take responsibility

CINCINNATI, 16 July — Democratic White House hopeful Barack Obama on Monday urged Blacks to take more responsibility for improving their own lives, standing firm on a tough message that has been criticized by some African Americans.

Obama, who would be the first Black US president, was accused by civil rights leader Jesse Jackson last week of "talking down to Blacks".

"Now, I know there's some who've been saying I've been too tough, talking about responsibility," Obama told the NAACP, the nation's oldest civil rights organization. "I'm here to report, I'm not going to stop talking about it."

Jackson and others have criticized Obama for discussing the problem of absent fathers in many Black families and urging Black men to become more involved in their children's lives.

In urging more engagement by Black fathers, Obama often talks about his own experience being raised by a White Kansas-born single mother and his grandparents after his Black Kenyan father left the family when he was two years old. He often tells Black audiences they must spend more time doing homework with their children and avoid letting them watch too much television. —*MNA/Reuters*

***India's Air Force helicopters flie over during a flight display at the Farnborough aerospace show, in Farnborough, England, on 15 July, 2008. Airlines from oil-rich Middle Eastern countries have saved the world's biggest air show, from an otherwise lackluster start, signing orders for around 150 planes worth more than US$25 billion on Monday.—INTERNET***

# Ukrainian protesters denounce NATO exercises

ODESSA(Ukraine), 16 July—About 150 leftist demonstrators staged a noisy protest on Monday denouncing Ukrainian Black Sea naval manoeuvres with NATO servicemen, but did not disrupt the proceedings.

The protest, two months after Ukraine was given an assurance that it would one day join NATO, was smaller than in previous years and leaders of leftist parties stayed away.

Two years ago, thousands of protesters in the Crimea Peninsula, further south, halted the exercises and prompted US officials overseeing them to leave.

Public opinion remains opposed to joining NATO after decades of Soviet propaganda depicting NATO as a warlike enemy. Surveys show no more than 30 per cent of respondents back membership and Russia objects to any notion of Ukrainian NATO membership on grounds that it would undermine its security interests.

*MNA/Reuters*

# Kuwait speaker says US provocative toward Iran

KUWAIT, 16 July—The United States and other Western countries are dealing in a provocative way with Iran over its nuclear programme and should respect its sovereignty, Kuwait's Parliament Speaker said.

The United States has refused to rule out military action if Iran continues with attempts to enrich uranium, which Washington suspects is aimed at making an atomic bomb but the Islamic Republic says is peaceful.

Jassem al-Kharafi said the West was using double standards in the dispute by trying to stop Iran's nuclear programme while saying nothing about Israel, which is widely believed to posses the Middle East's only nuclear arsenal. The Jewish state neither confirms nor denies possessing nuclear weapons.

"I think what is happening with regard to the Iranian nuclear file involves a lot of exaggeration... and the method was provocative," state news agency *KUNA* quoted Kharafi as saying late on Sunday. "The country has its status and strategy in the region and should not be threatened in the way which we saw," he added.—*MNA/Reuters*

***A visitor has his picture taken in front of a life-size model of the General Electric GE90-115B jet engine, the world's largest and most powerful jet engine according to its maker, at the Farnborough aerospace show, in Farnborough, England, on 15 July, 2008.—INTERNET***

# South Korea recalls envoy from Japan in island row

SEOUL, 16 July — South Korea said on Monday it would recall its ambassador from Tokyo in protest after Japan said it would write about a longstanding island dispute in school textbooks.

South Korea and Japan both lay claim to a group of desolate, rocky islets which Seoul calls Dokdo and Tokyo calls Takeshima. The area surrounding the islets has fertile fishing grounds.

The Japanese Government said it had informed Seoul that Tokyo would refer in a middle school teaching guide to the islands as Japanese territory.

"President Lee Myung-bak said he cannot help being deeply disappointed and feeling regret, considering the agreement between the two leaders to face past history and build a forward-looking Korea-Japan relationship," South Korea's presidential office said in a statement. "Japan should not repeat its behaviour of promising a forward-looking relationship with Korea but then stirring up a dispute such as the Dokdo issue once in a while when the government changes."

*MNA/Reuters*

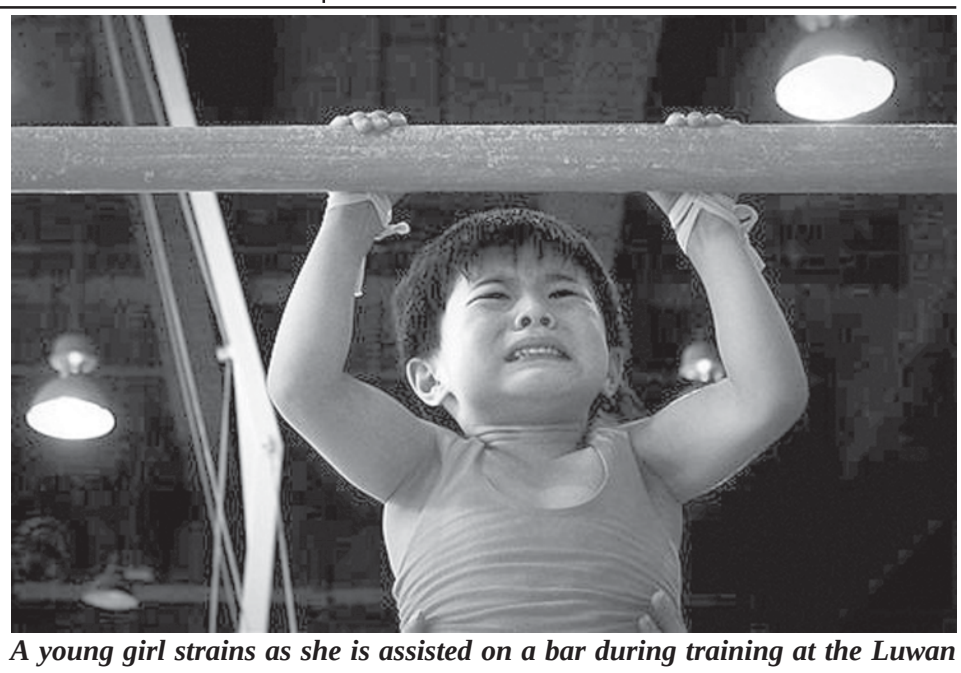
# Jewish settler suspected of firing rocket

JERUSALEM, 16 July — Israeli police have arrested a Jewish settler on suspicion he fired a makeshift rocket at a Palestinian Village in the West Bank, an Israeli newspaper reported on Sunday.

Micky Rosenfeld, a police spokesman, confirmed a suspect from the Yitzhar settlement was taken into custody on Saturday in connection with an investigation into illegal weaponry and said he would likely be held at least until Monday.

Rosenfeld said he had no comment on a report in the *Yedioth Ahronoth* daily that police suspected the settler, 20, was involved in firing a homemade explosive at the neighbouring village of Burin, in the occupied West Bank.

*MNA/Reuters*



***A young girl strains as she is assisted on a bar during training at the Luwan Juvenile Gymnastics School in Shanghai, China, on 14 July, 2008.—INTERNET***

# Full Moon of Waso, Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta Day

***Ba Sein ( Religious Affairs)***

The Full Moon of Waso, the Dhammacakkapavattana Day falls on 17th July 2008. The full Moon Day of Waso associates with the four great noble and significant evants related to the precious life of the Omniscient Gotama Buddha. On that holy day, the Buddha–to-be (the Gotama Buddha) took pregnancy in the womb of Queen Maya, wife of His Majesty King Suddhodana of Kapilavatthu Kingdom, and also on that holiday at the age of 29, the Buddha–to–be renounced the world, and after having full attainment of the Buddhahood, the Gotama Buddha preached His first great sermon, Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta to His five disciples, in which He explained the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path, on the Full Moon Day of Waso. All five disciples received ordination and formed the first nucleus of the holy brotherhood of disciples known as the Sangha.

And also, on the Full Moon Day of Waso, the Omniscient Buddha performed the great miracle called the Twin Miracle. The reason for this was to dispel the wrong views of heretics, and to prove that He possessed the attributes of a Buddha. It is the miracle of water and fire.

**The Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta Day**

Over 2550 years ago, the unrivalled Omniscient Buddha preached His first great Sermon, the Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta to His five disciples (Kondañña and other four) in the Deer park, now known as Saranath, India, on the Full Moon Day of Waso. In commemoration of this significant and holy event associated with the precious life of the Buddha, the Buddhist peoples across the Buddhist world celebrate the Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta Day on this Full Moon Day of Waso by observing precepts delivered by members of the Sangha and respectfully listening to the Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta recited by members of the Sangha.

And also, the generous Buddhist peoples perform meritorious deeds such as offering Waso robes, alms and other offertories to the members of Sangha on the Full Moon Day of Waso, the Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta Day.

**RAINS RETREAT PREIOD, Vassavasa**

Observing the rains retreat period; confining oneself to a specific monastic dwelling for the three-month rainy period.

During the three months of monsoon rains, Bhikkhus go into retreat at a monastery designated beforehand at the start of the rainy season. This practice was introduced during the life-time of the Buddha. Before the Buddha decreed the rains retreat period, Bhikkhus walked across fields under cultivation. People started to criticize them as some people believed that plants and even drops of water were living beings. Why is it that the disciples of the Buddha go on travels all the year round and trample young plants and insects into oblivion while even members of other sects do not go on journeys during the rains? Even birds and animals have the good sense to stay in their nests or dens during the rains, people complained. To put an end to this controversy the Buddha decreed that the rains-retreat period be observed. Rains-retreat period may be observed by taking up the designated residence during one of the two periods:-

(1) Earlier rains-retreat period (purima-vassavasa), commencing from the day after the fullmoon of Waso (roughly corresponding to July) and ending on the fullmoon day of Thadingyut (roughly corresponding to October);

(2) Later rains-retreat period (pacchi-mavassavasa), commencing from the day after the fullmoon of Wagaung (roughly corresponding to August) and ending on the fullmoon day of Tazaungmon (roughly corresponding to November).

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**On the Full Moon Day of Waso, the Omniscient Buddha performed the great miracle called the Twin Miracle. The reason for this was to dispel the wrong views of heretics, and to prove that He possessed the attributes of a Buddha. It is the miracle of water and fire.**

# Yangon Command Commander's Shield Football Tournament opens

YANGON, 16 July — A ceremony to open Yangon Command Commander's Shield Football Tournament 2008 was held at the sports ground of Yangon Command in Mingaladon Township today.

The opening ceremony was attended by Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint and wife Daw Kyin Myaing. The commander delivered an address.

After that, the commander and party enjoyed the match of the football teams of Yangon and Mingaladon stations. Twenty teams from stations, regiments and units participate in the football tournament.—*MNA*

# Deputy Minister inspects functions of National Health Laboratory, Yangon General Hospital

YANGON, 16 July— Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo yesterday morning met officials at the National Health Laboratory and gave necessary instructions. Officials reported on the organizational set-up of the division and tests. Deputy Director-General Dr Win Myint (Treatment) presented a supplementary report.

The deputy minister and party viewed virology unit, the laboratory of national flu unit and modern machinery. At Yangon General Hospital, the deputy minister and party inspected treatment for the patients and use of machinery.

At the National Blood Unit, the deputy minister and party viewed functions of the unit. In-charge Dr Thida Aung conducted them round the unit.

After inspecting registration of the lists of blood donors and use of modern machinery, the deputy minister left necessary instructions.— *MNA*

# Vice-Mayor looks into prevention against DHF

YANGON, 16 July— Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa viewed public activities for prevention against dengue hemorrhagic fever in Tamway Township this morning.

At the office of Tamway Township Development Affairs Committee, the vice-mayor heard reports on preventive measures presented by officials and left necessary instructions. He looked into preventive measures and a demonstration of use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets on 157th Street in Tamway Township.

Similar activities were undertaken in Dawbon, Mingala Taungnyunt, Bahan and Kamayut townships.

*MNA*

# More international relief supplies arrive at Ygn Int'l Airport

YANGON, 16 July—Relief supplies for storm-affected regions continued to arrive here from abroad. A total of 63.734 tons of relief supplies donated by Thailand-based United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) arrived at Yangon International Airport today.—*MNA*

## Objectives of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

1. Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
2. Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
3. Keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic
4. Turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character

## Old students of Pyay GTI to offer Waso robes

YANGON, 16 July—The first Waso robe offering ceremony of the old Pyay GTI students will be held at Sasana Linkaya Maha Dhammabeikman (Shwegyin Dhammayon) on Komin Kochin Road, Bahan Township, here at 2 pm on 20 July.

Those wishing to make donation robes may contact U Khin Maung Win (Phone 095004525), U Wai Lwin (Phone 095132774) and Cartoonist Ko Shwe Tun (Pyay) (Phone 095016876).—*MNA*

## BEHSs in Mandalay inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein inspected Yadanapon University, University of Distance Education and University of Foreign Languages in Mandalay on 14 July.

During his tour, the minister also inspected No. 21 Basic Education High School, No. 10 BEHS, No. 20 BEHS and No. 14 BEHS and met with township education officers, the principals and teachers. At the meeting, he urged them to make efforts for meeting the target of the coming academic year and to assess the achievement of the previous academic year.—*MNA*

## Minister looks into rehabilitation works in Bogale

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—CEC Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected reconstruction and rehabilitation works in storm-hit villages in Bogale Township on 13 and 14 July.

The minister arrived at Satsan Village in Bogale Township on 13 July and inspected completion of school buildings, 103 houses and latrines and cultivation. He also inspected cultivation of mangrove trees and ploughing with the use of power tillers. He also visited Dhamma Thukha village, YwaU monastery and Latha Chaung in Kyunnyogyi Village-tract and distributed relief aids and cash to the residents.

During the tour of Paychaung and Kaitaw ashei villages, the miniter also met with local people and discussed matters related to growing rice in this cultivation season.

On 12 July, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended a ceremony to offer robes to Members of the Sangha held in Ingapu and offered robes to 207 monks and 24 nuns.—*MNA*

***Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay plants Gantgaw sapling at Myanaung BEHS to mark the monsoon tree planting season.* —MNA**

***Member of NDPCC Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint inspects the students learning at Htanmanaing village BEHS (branch) in Kawhmu Township.*—SPED**

## Sports Minister supervises reconstruction of Kawhmu Township

YANGON, 16 July—Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, accompanied by officials of Kawhmu Township Peace and Development Council and personnel of Thawdarwin Construction Company, arrived at Kaikmonhtow pagoda in Latkhaik village, Kawhmu Township, Yangon South District yesterday morning. The Minister fulfilled the need for repairing of the prayer hall damaged by the storm. He paid obeisance to Nyan monastery Sayadaw of Latkhaik village and offered provisions to the Sayadaw.

At the Warbalaukthauk village, the minister and party inspected the students learning at village BEHS and presented desks, foodstuffs and sport equipments.

The minister gave instruction on station hospital and religious buildings. At the high school (branch) of Htanmanaing village, the minister inspected learning of students and presented foodstuff and sports equipments to the students.—*MNA*

## Waso robes offered to monasteries in Bago Division (West)

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Bago Division (West) Union Solidarity and Development Association on 12 July donated Waso robes and stationery to 27 monasteries in Bago Division (West) at the ceremony held at Dhammawdaya monastery in Hmokshei Village-tract, Pyay.

CEC Member of USDA Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay presented the donations to Sayadaws.

In the afternoon, the CEC member visited Myaukchawgon altruistic school in Kyangin and presented Waso robes and alms to the abbot; stationery to the monastic education school; and cash assistance for regional development tasks to Township USDA and War Veterans Association.

He also attended the ceremony to donate stationery to monastic education schools at Myo Shwekyaung monastery in Myanaung and the ceremony to honour outstanding students, donate stationery and planted trees at Myanaung BEHS on 13 July.—*MNA*

## Alms food to be offered in Kyauktada during retreat period

YANGON, 16 July—Alms food will be offered to more than 500 monks including 447 from 10 monasteries at four prayer halls in Ward 9, Kyauktada Township, here, in the morning on Tuesdays for 13 weeks from 22 July to 14 October.

Waso robes and alms food will be offered to five monks from Panna Ramika Maha (A) monastery at Sasana Yaungchi prayer hall on 40th Street (lower) in Botahtaung Township on Dhamma Cakka Day (17 July). The abbot of the monastery will invest the congregation with the Five Precepts at the prayer hall on every Sabbath Day during the retreat period.

*MNA*

## The Pairs

All states have mind as their fore-runner; to them mind is supreme and of mind are they made. Therefore, if one, with defiled mind, speaks or acts, on account of the suffering follow one as the wheel follows the fact of that does wagon-bearer.

**Dhammapada 1**

## Winners in essay and poster contests to mark World Population Day honoured

***Commander Brig-Gen Win Myint presents prize to a winner.* —MNA**

YANGON, 16 July — A ceremony to honour the winners in essay and poster contests to mark World Population Day 2008 and outstanding offspring who passed the matriculation examination for 2008 with flying colours of service personnel of Immigration and National Registration Department was held at the meeting hall of Population Department in Kyauktada Township, here, this afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint delivered an address and Head U Hla Daung of Yangon Division Immigration and National Registration Department explained the purpose of holding the ceremony.

Next, the commander and officials presented cash awards to winners who stood first, second, third and consolation prize in essay and poster competitions in commemoration of World Population Day 2008 and outstanding students.

*MNA*

## Electric Power No. 2 Minister inspects power stations in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint together with Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Myint and departmental personnel looked into Shwemyo sub-power station which is under construction in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township on 12 July.

At the briefing hall of the sub-power station, project manager (1) of Power Supply Project U Tin Aung reported on construction of pylons, potential power supply capacity and supply of raw materials.

The minister and party also inspected Nay Pyi Taw sub-power station No 8 near Uttarathiri, Nay Pyi Taw sub power station No. 2, main power station in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana power station, Nay Pyi Taw sub-power station No 6 and Nay Pyi Taw sub-power station No 3.—*MNA*

## Thai Government presents medicines for storm-hit regions

YANGON, 16 July—The Thai Government donated medicines to be used in health care services at storm-stricken areas in Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions to Ministry of Health in a ceremony held at Yangon General Hospital yesterday.

Thai Ambassador to the Union of Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag explained the purposes of the donation and Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo expressed gratitude. The Thai Ambassador handed over medicines to the Deputy Minister of Health who presented certificate of honour to the Ambassador.—*MNA*

***Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo accepts medicines presented by Thai Ambassador Mr Bansarn Bunnag.*—HEALTH**

## Minister meets service personnel in Lashio and Muse

***Minister Maj-Gen Saw Lwin inspects office works at Immigration and National Registration Department in Muse.* — MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July —Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Saw Lwin met service personnel of Shan State (North), Lashio District and Township Immigration and National Registration Departments at the district INRD office on 13 July. Head of Shan State INRD U Tun Tun Soe reported on issuing of citizenship scrutiny cards and work to be done.

The minister spoke of the need to follow the instructions of superior departments after realizing the rule and procedures of the ministry.

On 14 July, the minister went to Myanmar-China check point (Nandaw gate) in Muse and inspected issuing of border pass and functions of the work. The minister then fulfilled the requirements.

*MNA*

# Exercise may prevent brain shrinkage

WASHINGTON, 16 July— Mild Alzheimer's disease patients with higher physical fitness had larger brains compared to mild Alzheimer's patients with lower physical fitness, according to a study published in the July 15 issue of journal Neurology.

For the study, 121 people age 60 and older underwent fitness tests using a treadmill as well as brain scans to measure the white matter, gray matter and total volume of their brains. Of the group, 57 were in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease while the rest of the group did not have dementia.

"People with early Alzheimer's disease who were less physically fit had four times more brain shrinkage when compared to normal older adults than those who were more physically fit, suggesting less brain shrinkage related to the Alzheimer's disease process in those with higher fitness levels," said study author Jeffrey Burns of the University of Kansas.—*MNA/Xinhua*

# Dozens die in Egypt train crash

CAIRO, 16 July—At least 37 people have been killed in a collision between a train and several vehicles at a level crossing in northern Egypt, police have said.

Some 40 more people were injured in the crash near Marsa Matruh, 430km (270 miles) north-west of the capital Cairo.

A truck failed to stop at the crossing and pushed several waiting vehicles into the path of the oncoming train, security officials said.

Road accidents are frequent in Egypt, killing about 6,000 people every year.

Many of the crashes are due to reckless driving, poor road and vehicle maintenance and lack of enforcement of traffic regulations, correspondents say.

In Wednesday's accident, two train carriages overturned and another two were derailed by the force of the impact, state media reported.

It is not known yet whether there were any foreign tourists among the victims.

*Internet*

# Vietnam detains Australian woman over heroin packs

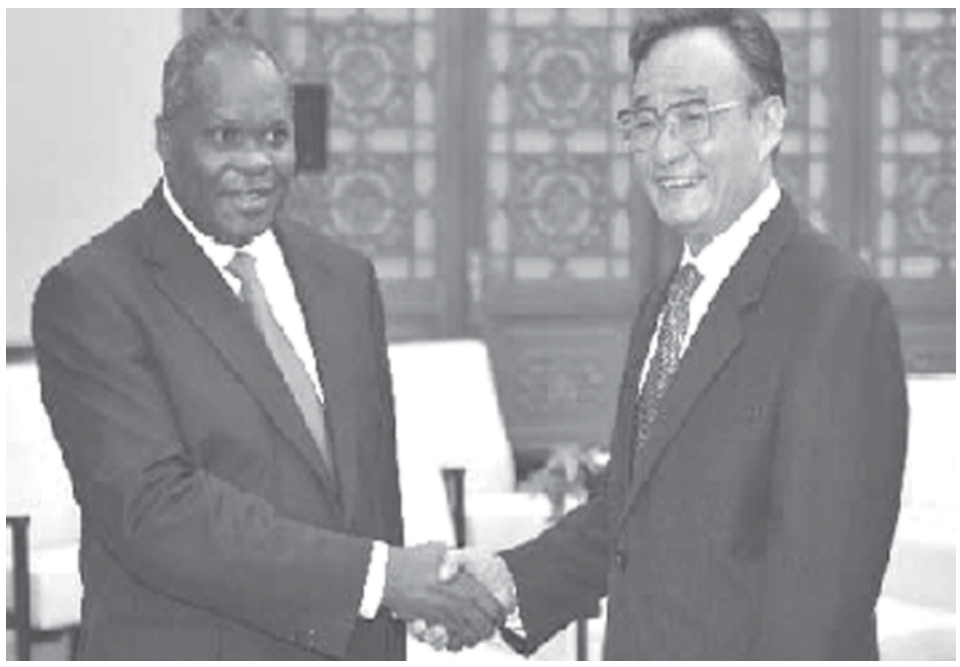
HANOI, 16 July — Vietnam has detained an Australian woman of Vietnamese origin for allegedly trafficking heroin hidden in her underwear while boarding a plane in Ho Chi Minh City to Sydney at the weekend, airport Customs said in a report.

Nguyen Thanh Huyen, 22, was detained at Tan Son Nhat Airport on Sunday night after Customs searched her belongings and found two packs of white powder, said the report seen by *Reuters* on Tuesday.

Tests confirmed the packs contained 73.88 grammes (2.6 ounces) of heroin and Huyen, who was travelling from Hanoi on a Vietnam Airlines flight, was handed over to the anti-drugs police in Ho Chi Minh City.

*MNA/Reuters*

***A Fiat employee works on the assembly line of the Nuova Punto cars in Turin in 2006. The ACEA European automakers association has said that new car sales in Europe slumped 7.9 percent in June over one year as mounting inflation and soaring fuel prices spooked buyers.—INTERNET***



***Top Chinese legislator Wu Bangguo(R) meets with President of the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique Eduardo Mulembwe in Beijing, on 16 July, 2008.—XINHUA***

# One ton of cocaine seized in joint Colombia-US operation

BOGOTA, 16 July— Colombian and US troops raided a boat Monday off Colombian Pacific coast, seizing 1,146 kilos of cocaine and arresting six suspected drug smugglers, Colombian National Army said.

The Army said the drugs, supposedly being sent to the United States, and the suspects, all Colombians, would be handed over to the National Unit of Anti-Drug and Maritime Interdiction.

The joint operation was launched under an agreement of maritime interdiction between Colombia and the United States aimed at combating drug trafficking.

Since the beginning of this year, the Colombian Army has seized more than 37.5 tons of cocaine with a street value of 937.5 million US dollars.

Colombian President Alvaro Uribe has campaigned to eliminate drug trafficking, a campaign that has been funded by the United States.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Car bomb kills 12 in north Iraq

TAL AFAR (Iraq), 16 July—At least 12 people have been killed and 30 others wounded in a car bombing at a market in the northern Iraqi town of Tal Afar Wednesday, Iraqi officials have said.

The attack targeted afternoon shoppers in the town, about 420km (260 miles) north-west of the capital, Baghdad.

It came a day after a series of attacks north of Baghdad killed some 40 people.—*Internet*

# US terrorist list hits one million names

WASHINGTON, 16 July— The US terrorist watch list now has one million names on it, partly due to the loose criteria for adding names to the list, a rights group said Monday.

"America's new million record watch list is a perfect symbol for what's wrong with this administration's approach to security," Barry Steinhardt, a spokesman for American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), said in a statement.

"It's unfair, out-of-control, a waste of resources, treats the rights of the innocent as an afterthought, and is a very real impediment in the lives of million of travellers in this country," he added.

The Inspector General of the Justice Department reported last year that the Terrorist Screening Center had over 700,000 names as of April 2007 and that the list was growing by an average of 20,000 names per month.

The watch list has become long and "bloated" naming several individuals who are probably not terrorists, Steinhardt said.

*MNA/Xinhua*

*Volkswagen's Managing Director for Passenger Cars, India, Joerg Muller (R) and models pose with Volkswagen's new "Jetta" sedan during its launch in Mumbai on 16 July, 2008. —*INTERNET

# Bomb leaves six USPI security guards dead in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 16 July— Six Afghan security guards with the US private security company USPI were killed on Sunday evening when their vehicle hit a roadside mine in southern Afghan province of Helmand, while a number of Taleban insurgents were killed in the clashed with police in the other district of Helmand, an official said on Monday.

Mohammad Hussein Andiwal, the provincial police chief, told Xinhua that the USPI convoy was hit by roadside bombing on the way to Gereshk District, six guards were killed and two others were wounded.

"All victims are Afghans," he said.

In another incident happened in Marja District, around 30 Taleban militants ambushed four to five police posts at the same time. Andiwal said the heavy clashes lasting from late Sunday evening to Monday morning inflicted great casualties on the insurgents.

However, he failed to give the exact number of Taleban casualties but adding only two policemen were injured.

Afghanistan has witnessed a surge of violence and riot throughout the south to the east over the past weeks.—*MNA/Xinhua*

# Morales accuses USAID for conditioned assistance

LIMA, 16 July— Bolivian President Evo Morales said Monday that a US Government aid agency had "created problems" by providing conditioned assistance for his country.

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) aims to promote the economic model of the capitalist and neo-liberalism systems by privatizing Bolivia's state companies, said Morales, according to reports from La Paz.

On Sunday, Morales confirmed that he would discuss with Thomas Shannon, a top US State Department official in charge of Latin America, an "unconditional cooperation" between the two countries.

Farmers loyal to the president drove USAID workers from a coca-growing region in central Bolivia last month, accusing them of aiding government opponents. — *MNA/Xinhua*

# 99 affected by mass hysteria in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 16 July— A total of 99 people were attacked with mass hysteria, a kind of mass psychogenic illness, in Bangladesh's southwestern Jessore District, about 164 kilometres southwest of capital Dhaka, the leading English newspaper *The Independent* reported Tuesday.

Among the victims are 95 students of five schools, four housewives of three villages and one school teacher, the newspaper said.

They were attacked with the disease from 2 July to 7 July. A total of 70 students were admitted to local hospital.

Mass hysteria became rampant in the country last year with several hundreds people suffering from it. Most of them were students.

Mass hysteria, a sort of temporary psychiatric problem, usually affects specific groups, mostly students aged between 13 and 25, who will suffer the symptoms of headache, convulsion and falling unconscious. The disease spreads quickly from one person to another.Experts said an outbreak of the mass psychogenic illness is at a time of anxiety and worry. It is aggravated by malnutrition, tension and lack of tolerance.—*MNA/Xinhua*

# Apple sells one million phones in first three days

LOS ANGELES, 16 July— Apple sold one million 3G iPhones in just three days after its launch in the United States, Hong Kong and 20 other countries, the company said on Monday.

Meanwhile, more than 10 million applications were downloaded from its newly opened App Store for the iPhone and iPod touch, according to the company.

Independent developers have created mobile applications that range from games to location-based social networking. More than 800 applications are available through the App Store. More than 200 are free and those for sale cost less than 10 dollars.

On Friday, iPhone consumers, including some who waited outside Apple stores overnight, were frustrated when the company's iTunes server was overwhelmed by a global crush of simultaneous requests from new iPhone users and those updating the software for the older version of the iPhone and the iPod touch. The over-burdened system prevented some phones from immediately being fully activated.

The glitch, though, did not appear to dampen iPhone fervour.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Fishing boat off Panama catches fire, six injured

PANAMA CITY, 16 July— A Panama-registered fishing boat caught fire near the waters of Panama's South Punta Chame, leaving six Vietnamese crew members injured, said Panama's maritime authorities on Monday.

None of the 11 Chinese crew aboard was injured, Bao E'sheng, representative at the Chinese Office of Commercial Development in Panama, told *Xinhua*.

Among the six injured, three were in serious condition.

The boat, *Chung Kuo No 96*, which belongs to a company from Taiwan, had 19 crew members aboard, with eight of them from Vietnam.

The boat is routinely operating in Panamanian waters, unloading, processing and transshipping its catches at Panama's Vaca Monte Bay.

The cause of the fire was still under investigation.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Saudi Arabia employs 1.7 mln Bangladeshi workers

DHAKA, 16 July— Oil rich gulf-state Saudi Arabia has so far employed some 1.7 million Bangladesh workers, Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr Abdullah Bin Nasir Albasir said here on Monday.

"We will continue to recruit more workers from Bangladesh as there is no complaint against them excepting some minor cases of violation of rules," the ambassador said at a Press conference here.

"Some 1.7 million Bangladesh workers are employed in Saudi Arabia, who are contributing largely to the development of Saudi Arabia," he said.

According to the statistics of Bangladesh's Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, Saudi Arabia in the first six months of this year employed over 100,000 Bangladeshis to support its various sectors including infrastructure development.

Over 5.6 million Bangladeshis live and work in more than 100 countries. The Middle East and Southeast countries are their main destination.

*MNA/Xinhua*

*A paramilitary policeman prepares cannons that will fire salutes during the rehearsal for the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in front of the National Stadium, also know as the Bird's Nest, in Beijing, on 16 July, 2008.—*INTERNET

**United Nations Development Programme**

Vacancy Announcement

UNDP Myanmar

**The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** seeks applications from qualified Myanma nationals for the following post with UNDP Office in Yangon, Myanmar:

**Position No.** : **Thirteen (13)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Health**
**Post Level** : **SC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Rsponsibilities**: Under the overall guidance of the Project Manager, and under the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Technical Specialist (Health) will be responsible to provide technical support to the township project coordinator and the township project team in the area of primary health care and basic health education; participate in community needs assessment exercises in order to identify community needs in the area of basic health care and health education; organise the implementation of primary health care and health education related activities under the project in target communities in the township; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by the Project Manager

**Qualifications and experience:** Bachelor's degree in medicine, or health related sciences; 5 years experience or more in design and/or implementation of primary health care and health education activities in rural context. Experience in planning and implementing organization of health volunteers training and facilitation of voluntary health services for community will be an asset. Experience in designing health activities in disaster affected area and Watsan – Hygiene Education will also be an asset. Good level of English, both written and spoken. Ability to work under pressure and in a physically challenging environment.

**Position No.** : **Fourteen (14)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Education**
**Post Level** : **SC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Responsibilities**: Under the overall guidance of the Project Manager, and under the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Technical Specialist (Education) will be responsible to provide technical support to the township project coordinator and the township project team in the area of primary and non-formal education; participate in community needs assessment exercises in order to identify community needs in the area of primary and non-formal education; monitor the progress of education-related activities supported by the project in the township; identify local service providers for implementing education sector related activities supported by the project, including in non-formal and vocational education; coordinate with Education Specialists in other townships of Delta and in Yangon to ensure quality and effectiveness of implementation across the area; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by the Project Manager

**Qualifications and experience :** A Bachelor's degree in Education (or allied sciences); 5 years experience or more in design and/or implementation of primary level education or vocational education activities; experience in planning and implementing non-formal education programmes of activities will be an asset; experience in early childhood development or pre-school programmes also an asset; good level of English, both written and spoken; ability to work under pressure and in a physically challenging environment is desirable;

**Position No.** : **Fifteen (15)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Engineer (Social Infrastructure)**
**Post Level** : **SC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Responsibilities:** Under the overall supervision of the Project Manager, and the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Engineer will review the existing social infrastructure practice and activities in the township in order to assist the township project team to prepare appropriate workplans and strategies for social infrastructure activities; ensure adequate quality control over construction of facilities, and monitor performance of social infrastructure interventions supported by the project in target villages; monitor the distribution of inputs, materials and equipment required for the establishment of livestock based activities; provide any required information to the Township Project Coordinator in order to ensure timely provision of funds or technical training in support of social infrastructure activities; coordinate with Social Infrastructure Specialists in other townships of Delta to ensure quality and effectiveness of implementation across the area; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by the Project Manager

**Qualifications and experience:** Tertiary qualification in an engineering or related discipline; proven successful experience in participatory rural poverty alleviation activities would be a considerable advantage; Good level of English, both written and spoken; ability to work under pressure and in a physically challenging environment.

**Position No.** : **Sixteen (16)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Agriculture**
**Post Level** : **ISC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Responsibilities**: Under the overall supervision of the Project Manager, and the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Agriculture Specialist will review the existing agriculture practice and activities in the township in order to assist the township project team to prepare appropriate workplans and strategies for agricultural activities; assist the township project team to develop suitable participatory plans for intensification and diversification of agriculture and appropriate training for farmers; provide technical guidance to farmers in subjects relating to agricultural activities development; conduct on-farm trails and demonstrations and conduct farmer level training and transfer of technologies to project beneficiaries; coordinate with Agriculture Specialists in other townships of Delta to ensure quality and effectiveness of implementation across the area; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by Project Manager

**Qualifications and Experience :** B. Ag. / B.Sc in agriculture or related subjects with at least 5 years field experience essential; proficiency in English required; experience in training and extension, participatory planning methods and technology development desirable; ability to work under pressure and in a physically challenging environment.

**Position No.** : **Seventeen (17)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Livestock**
**Post Level** : **SC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Responsibilities**: Under the overall supervision of the Project Manager, and the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Livestock Specialist will review the existing livestock development situation in the township, and the potential for developing value-added livestock activities for poor communities; participate in integrated village level planning using participatory appraisal techniques; assist the township project team and beneficiary groups to develop suitable livestock raising activities for income generation purposes; provide technical guidance to the farmer in subjects relating to livestock development including: cattle husbandry, pig, poultry, etc; conduct on-farm trails and demonstrations and design technical packages for implementation; conduct farmer level training and transfer of technologies to project beneficiaries; coordinate with Livestock Specialists in other townships of Delta to ensure quality and effectiveness of implementation across the area; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by Project Manager

**Qualifications and eperience:** B.V.Sc with at least 5 years experience of working in livestock breeding farm and in the field; experience in training and extension, participatory planning methods and technology development desirable; good level of English, both written and spoken; ability to work under pressure and in a physically challenging environment;

**Position No.** : **Eighteen (18)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Fishery / Aquaculture**
**Post Level** : **SC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Responsibilities**: Under the overall supervision of the Project Manager, and the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Fishery Specialist wilReview the existing aquaculture practice in the township in order to assist the township project team to develop appropriate workplans and strategies for fishery/aquaculture activities; prepare suitable action plans for fishery/aquaculture activities to be carried out by local communities; provide guidance to farmers and the township project team on suitable fishery/aquaculture activities in the township; organizing training for village groups in aquaculture/fishery activities, including cage culture, artisanal fisheries, post harvest handling of fish; coordinate with Fishery Specialists in other townships of Delta to ensure quality and effectiveness of implementation across the area; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by the Project Manager in the area of fishery/ aquaculture.

**Qualifications and Experience:** B.Sc (Zoology) with certificate in aquaculture training with at least 5 years of erience in the field of aquaculture in Delta area and two years working experience in poverty alleviation activities essential; experience in extension, training, participatory planning and participatory technology development desirable; Good level of English, both written and spoken; ability to work under pressure and in a physically challenging environment;

**Position No.** : **Twenty (20)**
**Name of Position** : **Technical Specialist – Disaster Risk Management**
**Post Level** : **SC Level 6**
**Duration of Assignment** : **Until December 2008, with possibility of extension**
**Duty Station** : **HDI project areas**

**Responsibilities**: Under the overall supervision of the Project Manager, and the direct supervision of the Township Project Coordinator, the Disaster Risk Management Specialist will be responsible for coordinating and facilitating the project's disaster risk management activities at the township level. In particular, s/he will mainstream risk reduction into the project initiatives at the township; facilitate and coordinate the preparation of multi-hazard Disaster Management Plans of the Villages communities; assist the local Communities in Community Based Disaster Preparedness activities, and assist developing an awareness campaign strategy at township/village levels; network with NGOs/CBOs and other agencies working in the field of Disaster Management for consistency of strategy and process; coordinate with DRM Specialists in other townships of Delta to ensure quality and effectiveness of implementation across the area; undertake such assignments as may be instructed by Project Manager

**Qualifications and experience:** An advanced university degree (Masters or equivalent) in disciplines such as Masters in Social work(MSW), Psychology, Sociology, Rural Management, Disaster management, MBA geography, environmental management, economics, urban and regional planning with work experience in disaster management, development or a similar field, OR, Bachelor's degree in any of the disciplines mentioned above and a minimum of five years of work experience in a disaster management and development programming; Desirable: excellent ability to quickly grasp and synthesize inputs from a range of disciplines related to natural disaster management; knowledge and experience with community development/livelihoods/HIV projects an advantage; excellent Networking skills; knowledge of computer applications; knowledge of local language with fluency in written and spoken English.

Detailed Terms of Reference of the above posts are posted on UNDP Bulletin Board at No. 6, Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.

UNDP practice relating to recruitment prohibits hiring of persons currently engaged by Government services or who left Government service during the past 6 months.

Applications, clearly indicating the position number and the post title on the envelope, should be addressed to: The Deputy Resident Representative (Operations), Attention: Human Resources Unit No. 6, Natmauk Road, Yangon.

Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Organization has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interviews.

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer.
UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the advertised posts.

Closing Date for submission of application: Thursday 31 July 2008 (COB).

**Drive with care**

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

TRADEMARK CAUTION

**THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY**, a company incorporated in Ohio and having its executive office at One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202, U.S.A is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks–

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Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of these trademarks will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung *B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L* Advocate
**MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM**
Tel:254037 E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 17 July 2008


# CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

## MV BUNGA MAS-12 VOY NO (303)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BUNGA MAS-12 VOY NO (303 ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S MAXICON CONTAINER LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

# CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

## MV MCP ROTTERDAM VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP ROTTERDAM VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.7.2008 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**
**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**
**AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

# Singapore not ruling out organ trading yet

SINGAPORE, 16 July — Singapore's Health Minister Khaw Boon Wan on Sunday said Singapore is not ruling out legalizing organ trading.

Monday's English daily *The Straits Times* quoted Khaw as saying organ shortages and a black market in the region made legalizing trading an option. "I think we should not write off or reject the idea of selling organs. But I think we need to study it carefully," he said. Singapore laws currently prohibit organ trade, and five people were taken to court this month in a kidneys-for-sale case. He said that legalizing organ trading may shrink the current donor pool. "By legalizing trading, you could actually lose the family members who currently donate.

Instead, you could get organs from outside the family, through payment, and the result would not be as good," he explain.

Siblings have a one in four chance of a successful organ transplant. However, the figure reduces to one in 2,000 when organs are obtained from outside the family.—*MNA/Xinhua*

# France to crack down on under - age binge drinking

PARIS, 16 July — France will ban the sale of alcohol to minors and drinking in public near schools as part of a broad crackdown on binge drinking among youths, the Health Minister said in an interview published on Sunday.

Roselyne Bachelot said that a recent study showed an over all decline in alcohol consumption among youths but the frequency of drunkenness was increasing.

"Almost half of youths said they had had five glasses of alcohol on a single night on at least one occasion in the previous 30 days, which is the definition of binge drinking," she said in an interview with *Journal du Dimanche* newspaper.—*MNA/Reuters*

# Measles kills 18 children in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 16 July — At least 18 children under the age of five have died in southern Somalia from a measles outbreak that threatens hundreds of infants in the war-ravaged Horn of African country, residents said on Monday.

The children died in villages close to the town of Jowhar, 90 kilometres (50 miles) north of the capital Mogadishu, where an interim government is facing a near-daily Islamist insurgency. Local elders accused health officials of laxity, saying there were no health facilities close by and the disease was fast spreading to other areas.

"Six children have died this week from measles in Dumal village and 10 others are seriously ill," local elder Hasan Mohamud told *Reuters* from Jowhar.

*MNA/Reuters*

# Thirteen trapped in north China coal mine flood

TAIYUAN, 16 July — Thirteen people were still trapped after a coal mine flooding in north China's Shanxi Province on Saturday night, the local work safety authority said Sunday. The accident happened at 11:40 pm Saturday at the Wangzhuang Coal Mining Co, Ltd in Changzhi City, said an official with the provincial work safety bureau.

There were 82 miners working at the major air-return way at that time and 69 managed to escape as of 2:30 am Sunday.

The rescue headquarters estimated that the water, taking up 10,000 cubic metres, came from a nearby mined-out area. More than 200 people took part in the rescue operation with eight pumps.

The mine, under Shanxi Coal Transportation and Sales Group Co,Ltd, is state-owned and fully registered with an annual capacity of 1.2 million tons.

*MNA/Xinhua*

# Bombardier launches "CSeries" jet

FARNBOROUGH (England), 16 July—Bombardier launched a new 110-130 seat passenger jet, the *CSeries*, on Sunday in a Canadian bid to challenge industry giants Airbus and Boeing. Announcing the long-awaited launch on the eve of the Farnborough Air Show, the Canadian company said it had selected Mirabel near Montreal as the site to assemble the planes, which will enter service in 2013.

Mirabel had been competing with Kansas City, Missouri. German airline Lufthansa has provisionally ordered 30 planes with an option for 30 more, Bombardier said. It has not so far signed a firm contract.

The *CSeries* will sell for 46.7 million dollars each.Bombardier had previously indicated it was waiting for at least 50-100 orders before launching the aircraft, but orders were scarcer this year as high oil prices weigh on demand. "We are engaged in active and very promising discussions with a number of airlines worldwide," Chief Executive Pierre Baudouin told a news conference.

*MNA/Reuters*

***A Balinese man attends a cremation fire as the last bit of a mythical dragon known as a Naga burns during a ceremony for a deceased member of the Ubud royal family on 15 July, 2008, in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia. Balinese royalty and dozens of other prominent Balinese from Ubud were cremated Tuesday in a rare and elaborate ceremony for deceased royals.***

**INTERNET**

# SPORTS

*Yoshinobu Tsukada of Japan hits a shot during the second day of practice ahead of the 2008 British Open Golf Championship at Royal Birkdale, England on 15 July, 2008.*—INTERNET

## Men's tennis world rankings

LONDON, 16 July— Men's tennis world rankings on Monday. (previous week's rankings in brackets):

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | (1) Roger Federer (Switzerland) | 6600 points |
| 2. | (2) Rafael Nadal (Spain) | 6055 |
| 3. | (3) Novak Djokovic (Serbia) | 4945 |
| 4. | (5) Nikolay Davydenko (Russia) | 2970 |
| 5. | (4) David Ferrer (Spain) | 2945 |
| 6. | (6) Andy Roddick (U.S.) | 2065 |
| 7. | (7) David Nalbandian (Argentina) | 2030 |
| 8. | (8) James Blake (U.S.) | 1975 |
| 9. | (9) Andy Murray (Britain) | 1805 |
| 10. | (10) Stanislas Wawrinka (Switzerland) | 1785 |
| 11. | (15) Richard Gasquet (France) | 1445 |
| 12. | (11) Nicolas Almagro (Spain) | 1435 |
| 13. | (12) Radek Stepanek (Czech Republic) | 1410 |
| 14. | (17) Tommy Robredo (Spain) | 1400 |
| 15. | (13) Fernando Verdasco (Spain) | 1375 |
| 16. | (14) Fernando Gonzalez (Chile) | 1365 |
| 17. | (16) Mikhail Youzhny (Russia) | 1320 |
| 18. | (19) Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (France) | 1265 |
| 19. | (20) Juan Monaco (Argentina) | 1240 |
| 20. | (21) Ivo Karlovic (Croatia) | 1220 |

*MNA/Reuters*

## Charlton deny calling off Iran match over politics

LONDON, 16 July— English club Charlton Athletic have denied claims that a pre-season friendly against Iran was called off for political reasons.

Iranian media said on Monday that a complaint would be lodged to world governing body FIFA after Charlton pulled out of the match due to be played in Spain this week.

"We are going to lodge an official complaint to FIFA over Charlton's behaviour," *Teheran Times* daily quoted Iranian Football Federation vice-president Mehdi Taj as saying.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Ronaldinho's future set to be decided

MADRID, 16 July — Manchester City are leading the race to sign Brazil forward Ronaldinho from Barcelona, the Primera Liga club's president Joan Laporta said on Monday.

However, Italian media later reported that AC Milan were back in the driving seat after a day of talks.

Reports said Milan chief executive Adriano Galliani had been celebrating in a Barcelona hotel swimming pool with Ronaldinho and his brother/agent Roberto de Assis having come to an agreement.

Barcelona and Milan have yet to confirm a deal but Italian media said the Spanish club would take a couple of days to finalize the issue, with Ronaldinho's wish to go to Milan rather than Manchester likely to be the deciding factor.

Spanish media have reported an offer of 32 million euros ($50.27 million), plus variables, is on the table from the English Premier League club City, more than Milan have offered. —*MNA/Reuters*

*Soccer player Ronaldinho, from Brazil, center, Sport Director of AC Milan Adriano Galliani, left, and President of FC Barcelona Joan Laporta are seen after a meeting in Barcelona, Spain, on 16 July, 2008. Ronaldinho transferred from FC Barcelona to AC Milan, the Italian club announced late Tuesday, ending several days of furious negotiations in which the Brazil play maker appeared eager to avoid a move to Manchester City.*—INTERNET

## Polish, Ukrainian PMs discuss Euro 2012

WARSAW, 16 July — "Two countries, one team," should be the slogan of preparations for Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine, Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said here on Monday.

Polisn Prime Minister Donald Tusk said that Poland and Ukraine have jointly received a chance for hosting Euro 2012 and will jointly make the project come true.

Preparations for the Europe's soccer championship was the main topic of the talks between Tusk and Tymoshenko during her one-day visit to Poland on Monday, according to Polish news agency *PAP*.

*MNA/Xinhua*

## Iran says to play tournament in US

TEHERAN, 16 July— Iran's basketball team have departed for a tournament in the United States, an official said on Monday, for a rare sporting encounter between the arch-foes.

Mohammad Mashoun, head of Iran's basketball federation, said the Asian champions had been invited to a tournament in the state of Utah by the US National Basketball Association (NBA), ahead of next month's Olympic Games in Beijing.

"After many requests made to Iran by the US basketball federation and after a review of the request by Iranian officials we accepted this invitation," Mashoun told *Reuters*, without giving details on which US teams they would play. —*MNA/Reuters*

## Zheng Zhi to lead Chinese team in Beijing

BEIJING, 16 July — Charlton Athletic midfielder Zheng Zhi will lead China's under-23 squad at next month's Beijing Olympic soccer tournament, local media reported on Monday.

Zheng, who turns 28 next month, together with defender Li Weifeng, 29, and striker Han Peng, 24, have been selected as the three over-age players by China's Serbian coach Ratomir Dujkovic, the *Beijing Daily* said.

"It is my dream to march into the Olympic final in the Bird's Nest, as the coach has said," Zheng told the paper after scoring a penalty in a 4-0 warm-up victory over Malaysia in Jilin Province at the weekend.

Regular captain and playmaker of the senior team, Zheng suffered back and toe injuries during China's failed bid to progress past the third round of Asian qualification for the 2010 World Cup.

Shanghai Shenhua's Li, nicknamed "Big Head", was Zheng's predecessor as China skipper but was stripped of the post because of disciplinary problems.

*MNA/Reuters*

## Arsenal chief says players cannot ignore credit crunch

LONDON, 16 July— Soccer players and clubs in Europe need to wake up to the realities of the global credit crunch by reining in their wage and transfer fee expectations, the head of one of England's leading teams said on Tuesday.

As Premier League wages burst the one billion pounds (2 billion US dollars) mark for the first time, Peter Hill-Wood, chairman of Arsenal, said the days of easy money had come "to a pretty sudden end."

The warning came despite rising revenues from television coverage of English and European soccer games and an influx of overseas billionaires.

"There is an awful lot of talk about big transfers and major demands of players but you will find throughout the UK and Europe that money is not quite as easy to obtain as it used to be," Hill-Wood said in an interview published on the Arsenal website (www.arsenal.com).

He also warned against reading too much into reports about player transfers that were sourced to players' agents.

*MNA/Reuters*

*Germany's Andreas Beck returns the ball to compatriot Rainer Schuettler during their first round match at the ATP Austrian Open tennis tournament in Kitzbuehel, on 15 July, 2008.*—INTERNET

# Tamil Tiger sea base 'captured'

COLOMBO, 16 July—The Sri Lankan military says it has captured a key coastal town in the north-west from Tamil Tiger rebels.

The military says Vidattaltivu, about 20km (12 miles) from the town of Mannar, was used by the rebels' naval wing to smuggle in supplies.

The Tigers, who retain control of other bases further up the north-west coast, have not commented on the claims.

The defence ministry said Vidattaltivu had been captured by advancing soldiers on Wednesday morning.It is the first time since Indian peace keeping forces left Sri Lanka in 1990 that troops have been in control of the town, a statement said. Military spokesman Brigadier Udaya Nana-yakkara said some fighting was continuing and troops were carefully searching the town for remaining rebels.Fighting has intensified in Sri Lanka as soldiers continue a slow advance, aiming to crush the Tigers' de facto mini state in the north.—*Internet*

## NZ teenage hacker charges dropped

HAMILTON (New Zealand), 16 July—A New Zealand teenager who admitted to taking part in an international cyber-crime network has been discharged without a conviction.

Police said the group hijacked more than one million computers and used them to take at least $20.4m (£10.3m) from private bank accounts.

Owen Thor Walker, 18, was ordered to pay $10,000 (£5,000) in damages and hand over his computer-related assets.

Police said they were interested in using his skills to fight cyber-crime.

Investigators called Mr Walker's programme one of the "most advanced" they had seen, prosecutors said.

He did not take money from people's accounts, but he was paid nearly $31,000 (£15,500) for software he designed that gave the cyber-ring access usernames, passwords and credit card details.—*Internet*

## Great white shark carcass found on Nantucket island beach

NANTUCKET, (Mass) 16 July—Scientists have determined that a carcass found on a beach on Massachusetts' Nantucket island is a great white shark.

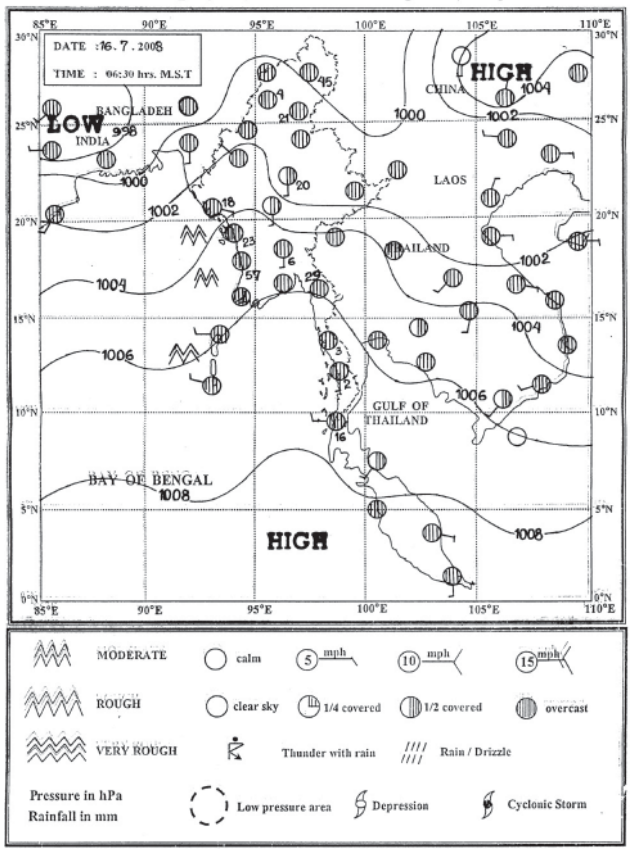
State Energy and Environmental Affairs spokeswoman Lisa Capone says shark experts hadn't seen another great white wash up on a Massachusetts beach in at least two decades.The 6 1/2-foot-long young female shark was discovered Monday.

An expert from the state's Division of Marine Fisheries examined the shark Tuesday.—*Internet*

## Media says Toyota to cut 2008 global sales goal 3.6 pct

Tokyo, 16 July—Toyota Motor Corp (7203.T) will cut its global sales target for calendar 2008 by 3.6 percent to around 9.5 million vehicles to reflect a sharp slowdown in the United States, Japanese public broadcaster NHK said on Wednesday. The world's biggest automaker had said it would announce revised sales figures for the tough US market some time this month. A source with knowledge of the situation said Toyota would lower its worldwide sales target along with that.Shares of Toyota, Japan's biggest issue with a market value of about $150 billion, closed the morning session in Tokyo down 1.3 percent at 4,620 yen, the lowest in nearly three years. That underperformed a 0.9 percent decline in Japan's transport equipment subindex (ITEQPT). By early afternoon Toyota was down 0.4 percent while the subindex was down 0.1 percent.—*Internet*

*Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas*




## WEATHER

**Wednesday, 16 July, 2008**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:** During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin and Kayah States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing , Magway and Yangon Divisions, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin, Kayin States and Ayeyawady Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfalls recorded were Thandwe (2.40) inches, Putao (1.89) inches, Ye (1.38) inches, Mawlamyine (1.14) inches, Maungtaw and Gwa (1.06) inches each, Myitkyina (0.98) inch, Mandalay and Sagaing (0.39)inch.

Maximum temperature on 15-7-2008 was 90˚F. Minimum temperature on 16-7-2008 was 74ºF. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16-7-2008 was 89%. Total sunshine hours on 15-7-2008 was (2.9) hours (approx).

Rainfall on 16-7-2008 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (0.11) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (51.46) inches at Mingaladon, (60.79) inches at Kaba-Aye and (74.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southwest at (09:30) hours MST on 16-7-2008.

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

**Forecast valid until evening of 17-7-2008:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah,Mon and Kayin States, scattered in Mandalay, Magway, lower Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

**Outlook for subsequent two days:** General decrease of rain in the whole country.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-7-2008:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-7-2008:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-7-2008:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%)

TV Myanmar

**Thursday, 17 July**
**View on today**

**7:00 am**
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

**7:15 am**
2. ယောဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

**7:30 am**
3. Morning news

**7:40 am**
4. နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊ ဒုတိယဥက္ကဋ္ဌ၊ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့နယ်မဟာဓမ္မိကာရုံ ပရိယတ္တိစာသင်တိုက်၊ ကျိုက်ပိကျောင်း၊ ပဓာနနာယကဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဂုဏောသန (အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိကဓဇ) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော "ဓမ္မစက္ကာအခါတော်နေ့ တရားတော်"

**8:30 am**
5. International news

**8:45 am**
6. Islands of Dhamma

**8:50 am**
7. ဘဒ္ဒန္တကုမာရ (အဘိဓေမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓေအဂ္ဂ မဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက) မဟာဝိသုတာရာမတိုက်သစ်၊ မကွေးမြို့၊မကွေးတိုင်းထံမှ နဝဂ်ဥပေါသထသီလခံယူ ဆောက်တည်ခြင်း

**4:00 pm**
1. Martial song

**4:10 pm**
2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

**4:25 pm**
3. Dance of National Races

**4:40 pm**
4. ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း၊အမှတ်(၃) အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ဆဋ္ဌမအကြိမ် ဓမ္မစကြာဝတ်ရွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ (ပထမဆု) (အထက(၁)သန်လျင်) (အမျိုးသားဝတ်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)

**5:05 pm**
5. Songs to uphold National Spirit

**5:15 pm**
6. ဝါဆိုလဘွဲ့တေးများ

**5:40 pm**
7. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

**6:00 pm**
8. Evening news

**6:30 pm**
9. Weather report

**6:35 pm**
10. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

**6:50 pm**
11. ရှုဖွယ်စုံညီမြန်မာပြည်

**7:00 pm**
12. စစ်တောင်းတံတား(မုပွလင်)

**7:15 pm**
13. နိုင်ငံခြားဧာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ကော်ဖီချစ်သူ" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)

**8:00 pm**
14. News
15. International news
16. Weather report
17. နိုင်ငံခြားဧာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပင်လယ်ပျော်မင်းသား" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)
18. သီတဂူဆရာတော် အရှင်ဥဏ္ဍိသရ၏ ဓမ္မစကြာတရားတော်
19. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ အရပ်ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာပွား များခြင်းတရားတော်

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The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR



**Make donations to the storm victims**

- ❑ Everybody may make donations freely.
- ❑ Everybody may make donations to any person or any area.

However, wellwishers are urged to avoid unsystematic donations and acts that may tarnish the image of the nation and its people.

- ■ Certain internal and external anti-government elements, self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements are now seeking their self-interests by sending to the foreign news agencies stories about relief and rehabilitation work they have made up and shot on video.
- ■ Storm victims are hereby warned to remain vigilant with nationalistic spirit against the deceptions of the self-centred persons and unscrupulous elements.

- ☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
- ☆ BBC lying
  VOA deceiving
  RFA setting up hostilities
- ☆ Beware! Don't be bought by those ill-wishers

## Witness may inform about misappropriation of internal and international relief funds and supplies

Anyone may dial the following phone numbers of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement if he witnesses or knows that the cash assistance and relief supplies donated from abroad and at home to the storm victims are kept for self-interest, traded, used for particular persons and organizations, or misappropriated for other purposes.

**Head of Office** **Ph: 067 404021 and 067 404022**

**Deputy Head of Office** **Ph: 09 860 1002**

*Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint accepts three Kubota power-tillers and machine parts donated by U Hlaing Hein (ZBT Co Ltd) to storm-hit regions.*— (SOCIAL WELFARE)

## Power-tillers donated to storm-hit areas

YANGON, 16 July—Well-wishers donated power-tillers to storm-affected areas. Donor U Hlaing Hein of ZBT Co Ltd donated 3 Kubota power- tillers and machine parts worth K 8.1 million through the Headquarters of Union Solidarity and Development Association to Emergency Aid Supervisory Committee at Fire Services Department near the Tooth Relic Pagoda in Mayangon Township, today.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials accepted the donations and gave certificates of honours to the donors.—*MNA*

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