

Biography of His Highness Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah



**Prime
Minister
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Nasser
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Sabah.**
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug— His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah was born in 1940. He gained a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Economics from the University of Geneva in Switzer-

land, and speaks fluent Arabic, French, English, and some Persian.

In 1964, he began his career in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a Third Secretary. In 1965 he gained the rank of Ambassador in the Ministry. In December 1965 he served as the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations Office in Geneva. In 1968 he became the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Iran and Non-Resident Ambassador to Afghanistan in 1971. From 1975 to 1979 he became the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in both Iran and Afghanistan.

From 1985 to 1988 he served as the Minister for Information and President of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters. From 1988 to 1990 he carried out the responsibilities of Minister for Social Affairs and Labour, and from 1990 June to 1991 April, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. From 7 February 2006 to date His Highness is carrying out the responsibilities of the Prime Minister of the Government of Kuwait.

His Highness is married with two sons.

MNA

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

Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament continues

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug — The Second Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Football Tournament 2008 continued with first round matches of group-G this evening.

The Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs gained 8-0 win over the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Nay Pyi Taw football grounds.

The Ministry of Home Affairs won by six goals to one against the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism at the Paunglaung football grounds.

On 6 August, the Ministry of Commerce will play against the Ministry of Forestry at Nay Pyi Taw football grounds and the Ministry of Industry-2 against the Ministry of Energy at Paunglaung football grounds.—MNA

INSIDE

Dokhtawady Bridge in Hsipaw Township to contribute to flow of commodities and regional development

ARTICLE & PHOTOS:
HSIPAW KO LATT

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Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspects development tasks in Sagaing, Myinmu

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug — Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by officials inspected the construction project of Myitnge Bridge on Yangon-Mandalay Highway yesterday.

On arrival at the construction site, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and party were welcomed by Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Commander of North West Command Brig-Gen Myint Soe and departmental officials.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and the commander inspected the maintenance of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon).

At the town hall of Sagaing, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and the commander met with officials of Division, District and Township and social organiza-

tion members and townselders. Chairmen of Sagaing Township PDC U Aung Moe and District PDC U Nyunt Myint Than (See page 9)



Maj-Gen Ohn Myint of Ministry of Defence hands over sports gear donated by the Ministry of Sports through an official in Sagaing.— MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 6 August, 2008

High education standard, key to national development

At the core of the plan to enable the nation to catch up with other global family members lies development of human resources. With this concept, the government is working hard to create good educational spheres to produce more and more human resources.

Achievement of the education plans and goals under way for charting a prosperous future of the nation rest on those engaging in the education field. Among the aspects of schoolteachers' jobs is to improve the students' technological skills and reasoning power.

Now, the government is paving the way to a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline. The State Constitution, which serves as the foundation of the future nation, has been adopted with the approval of the majority of the people.

Development projects are now in progress to build economic, education, health and social infrastructures, and considerable success has been achieved in various sectors, as a result. A large number of new roads, bridges and dams are a testament to the efforts the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have made in harness for national development.

It is required to make sustained endeavours to maintain the already-built political, economic and social infrastructures, and sharpen the abilities of younger generations into a national force capable of taking over duties to develop the nation in future.

National economic growth relies on the education standard and innovative power of the people. It is, thus, believed that national development tasks can be expedited with a growing number of human resources.

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin looks into the water work of Yangon city water supply project (Ngamoeyeik).—YCDC



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

Sports Minister views State/Division Table Tennis and Volleyball matches

YANGON, 5 Aug—Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint viewed the final matches of the 21st State/Division Table Tennis Tournament-2008 and presented awards to winners at Aung San Gymnasium, here, yesterday.

President of Myanmar Table Tennis Federation U Kyaw Kyaw presented the best athlete award to Ma Swe Swe Han (Yangon Division) and Kyaw Myint Khaing (Yangon Division), General Secretary of MOC Director-General U Thaung Htike of Sports and Physical Education Department, first prize to Kyaw Myint Khaing (Ministry of Finance and Revenue), second prize to Aung Htut (Ministry of Defence) and third prize to Ko Ko Min Aye (Ministry of Transport) in men's singles.

Chairperson of Central



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presents championship shield to Yangon Division men's table tennis team.—SPORTS

Working Committee of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation Daw Aye Aye awarded Swe Swe Han (Ministry of Defence), Hla Hla Win (Ministry of Construction) and Su Su Khin (Ministry of Finance and Revenue) who stood first, second and third in women's single event.

Next, Minister Brig-

Gen Thura Aye Myint presented Championship Shields and duplicated shields to Yangon Division which stood first in the men's and women's events of the 21st State/Division Table Tennis Tournament-2008.

Afterwards, the minister attended the opening of the 38th State/

Division Men and Women Volleyball Tournament-2008 at Aung San Gymnasium, here, on the same day and delivered an address.

The tournament will be held until 11 August. Altogether 14 men team and nine women team take part in the tournament.

MNA

Mayor inspects supply of drinking water and smooth transport

YANGON, 5 Aug—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, together with officials concerned inspected tasks being

carried out by YCDC for further supply of purified drinking water and smooth transport yesterday.

First, the mayor went to Yangon city water supply project

(Ngamoeyeik) water treatment plant of YCDC engineering department (water and sanitation) near Nyaungnapin camp in Hmawby Township and looked into construction

of two water purifying tanks.

The plant is supplying 45 million gallons of water to Yangon daily and now works are under way for supply of more 45 million gallons everyday. The 52 percent of the whole project has been completed.

Next, the mayor inspected road works of No. 3 Highway from junction of Bago Highway to Khayebin junction in Mingalardon Township and maintenance of lower Mingaladon street from Danyingon junction to Insein railway overpass in Insein Township by YCDC engineering department (road and bridge).

MNA



Iran says it won't halt nuclear work, talks to EU

TEHERAN, 5 Aug—Iran and the representative of six world powers talked by telephone on Monday without resolving a row over Tehran's sensitive nuclear work, which the Islamic Republic said would not be stopped.

A European Union official said the telephone call was "not conclusive" and Washington said it expected a written response from Tehran on Tuesday, warning of more sanctions unless it was "positive."

Western officials had set an informal deadline of last Saturday for Teheran to respond to the offer by the powers to refrain from steps to impose more UN sanctions, if Iran froze expansion of its nuclear work.

Iran dismissed the deadline set by Western capitals. Before the call between Iran's chief atomic negotiator Saeed Jalili and European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana, an Iranian official said Iran would not discuss

a freeze.

The West fears Iran aims to build nuclear warheads under cover of a civilian programme, a charge Teheran denies.

In comments likely to stoke tension, Iran's Revolutionary Guards chief said the Islamic Republic had the ability to close the Strait of Hormuz, a vital oil shipping route, if attacked. The Guards also said they had tested a new naval weapon.

Internet

Israel's Barak predicts more strikes on Gaza



Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak.

JERUSALEM, 5 Aug—Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said Israel will go back to carrying out military strikes on the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip despite a month-old truce, Army radio reported on Tuesday.

"Those who miss the operations in the Gaza Strip, don't worry, they will come," Barak told a Labour party event in Jerusalem, without elaborating.

In June, Israel agreed to an Egyptian-

brokered truce with Palestinian militants in Gaza that has mostly halted the near daily rocket and mortar attacks launched from the impoverished territory on southern Israel.

But Israeli officials remain wary of the deal and suspect Gaza's Hamas rulers and other armed groups are using the calm to train and rearm with weapons smuggled through a vast network of tunnels under the border with Egypt.

Israel had also said the truce depended on progress in releasing Gilad Shalit, an Israeli corporal seized by Gaza militants in a deadly cross-border raid on 25 June, 2006. Israel's Army chief said on Monday that the military knows Shalit's location and the identity of those holding him, raising the possibility that Israel could seek to extract him through military means.

Israeli officials have in the past ruled out such an option, saying that his exact location was unclear and that such an operation would be extremely risky.

Internet

6.1-magnitude quake hits SW China, causing one death

BEIJING, 5 Aug — One person was killed and 23 others were injured in a 6.1-magnitude earthquake in Qingchuan County in southwest China's Sichuan Province, at 5:49 pm on Tuesday.

The casualties were in Yaodu Township, which was also severely affected by the 8.0 quake on 12 May, said an official in the publicity department of the Qingchuan County Committee of the Communist Party of China.

The China Earthquake Networks Centre said Tuesday's aftershock struck Qingchuan, adjacent to Gansu and Shaanxi provinces, with the epicentre about 10 km underground.

It was felt in the cities of Hanzhong and Xi'an, both



Sichuan Province is still recovering from the devastating 12 May earthquake and its aftershocks.—INTERNET

in Shaanxi, as well as Chongqing. Many people rushed out of buildings in those cities.—*Xinhua*

Pakistan floods displace 82,000, kill dozens

LAHORE (Pakistan), 5 Aug — Officials in Pakistan say floods triggered by heavy monsoon rains have destroyed thousands of homes and caused at least 27 deaths.

Punjab relief commissioner Mohammed Sajjad said Tuesday that 82,000 people had been displaced in the eastern province.

The worst affected districts were Rajanpur and Dera Ghazi Khan. He said over 3,200 homes were destroyed and vast areas of agricultural land were inundated.



Residents walk through a street flooded by monsoon rain near Peshawar, Pakistan.—INTERNET

Officials are reporting that five people died in Punjab and 22 more in Pakistan's northwest since Monday.

Pakistan's annual monsoon rains are heavier than usual. Each year floods claims scores of lives.—*Internet*

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,131

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug—As of Monday, 4 Aug, 2008, at least 4,131 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,362 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The *AP* count is two more than the Defence Department's tally, last updated Monday 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.—*Internet*

South American leaders mull transportation plan

BUENOS AIRES (Argentina), 5 Aug—The presidents of Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela on Monday discussed creating a regional airline and train network as a way to better integrate their nations.

Argentina's ambassador to Venezuela, Alicia Castro, said that besides an alliance of airlines, the leaders were also considering "a dream that today appears utopian" of

a railway stretching from Caracas to Buenos Aires.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez joined Brazil's Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Argentine President Cristina Fernandez on Monday at a business seminar in Buenos Aires.

Chavez told reporters at the airport that the three

countries have emerged as an "axis of the South" capable of countering Europe and the US, and able to help meet the world's rising demand for food. Castro says the idea of a transportation network emerged at the meeting as a possible way to build stronger regional ties.—*Internet*

Helicopters ready for new rescue attempt on K2

ISLAMABAD (Pakistan), 5 Aug—Helicopter pilots were waiting for thick clouds to clear Tuesday before attempting to rescue an Italian mountaineer stranded on K2 after he survived an avalanche and exposure that left 11 other climbers presumed dead.

Mountaineer Marco Confortola, who reached the summit of the world's second-highest mountain on Friday before the avalanche struck, has climbed down with feet blackened by frostbite to the relative safety of Camp 1 at 19,000 feet.

Confortola reached the camp with the assistance of two Nepalese sherpas and an American climber, Roberto Manni, an alpine guide at base camp, told Italy's SKY TG 24 TV late Monday.

"He's rehydrating, he's eating a little and getting some oxygen," said Agostino Da Polenza of Everest-K2-CNR, an Italy-based high-altitude scientific research group that is helping with the rescue effort.

Internet



A Chinese security guard loads products from China’s largest soft drink maker, Wahaha in Beijing. A Chinese court has ruled that Wahahar is the owner of the Wahaha trademark, ruling against France’s Danone, the Chinese company’s former partner, the companies said on 5 Aug, 2008.—INTERNET

China’s Wahaha wins court victory in trademark dispute

SHANGHAI, 5 Aug—A Chinese court has ruled that China’s largest soft drink maker is the owner of the Wahaha trademark, ruling against France’s Danone, the Chinese company’s former partner, the companies said Tuesday.

The Wahaha Group was the rightful owner of the brand name, the Hangzhou Intermediate People’s Court said in a ruling dated 30 July, that endorsed an arbitration

decision from December, Wahaha said in a statement.

“The dispute over the ownership of the Wahaha brand, which lasted more than one year, was finally settled and it was affirmed that Wahaha brand belongs to Wahaha,” the Chinese drink maker said in a statement.

However, Danone plans to pursue the case at a higher court, Danone spokesman Michael Chu said in a statement.

“Danone will continue to pursue all legal options to protect its contractual rights and financial interests,” the company said.

The firms have been locked in a protracted and bitter feud over the ownership of the Wahaha brand name.

The dispute involved a series of joint venture firms once lauded as a model of Sino-foreign cooperation.

Internet

Italy deploys 3,000 soldiers in city centres

ROME, 5 Aug— Italy deployed 3,000 troops to patrol major cities and sensitive areas Monday in a controversial move by Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi’s right wing government to boost security.

Dressed in shirt-sleeve order and equipped with handguns, some 1,000 soldiers joined local police in Rome, Naples, Milan and other urban centres.

Another 1,000 were deployed around potential targets ranging from embassies to railway stations and churches, while a similar number were guarding holding centres for illegal migrants.

But mayor of Rome Gianni Alemanno said no soldier would patrol in the historic city centre where most tourists are concentrated.—Internet

French bank SocGen Q2 net profit falls 63 pct

PARIS, 5 Aug—Societe Generale (SOGN.PA) reported a 63 percent fall in second quarter net profit on Tuesday, with the shadow of the world’s worst rogue trader scandal still hanging over France’s second-biggest listed bank.

Net profit fell to 644 million euros (\$1 billion), with earnings hit by a loss at SocGen’s corporate and investment banking division. Last year it was 1.74 billion.—Internet

Australian ports firm reports \$2.7 bln takeover bid



Shipping containers at Port Botany in Sydney. Australia’s biggest ports and rail operator Asciano Group has rejected a 2.9 billion Australian dollar (2.7 billion US) takeover bid, saying it undervalued the company.—INTERNET

SYDNEY, 5 Aug— Australia’s biggest ports and rail operator Asciano Group on Monday rejected a 2.9 billion Australian (2.7 billion US) dollar takeover bid, saying it undervalued the company.

The joint bid by TPG

Capital and Global Infrastructure Partners offered 4.40 dollars cash per security or a scrip alternative of unlisted securities in a bidding company, Asciano said in a statement.

The company’s

directors believed the proposal “undervalues the business and have decided not to agree to due diligence,” Asciano said in a statement after the close of trading.

Satisfactory completion of due diligence was a precondition to the consortium making a final binding proposal, the company said.

Asciano shares rose some 19 percent to 4.92 dollars at one stage Monday before closing 68 cents higher at 4.82.

US-based TPG is one of the world’s largest private equity investment firms while Global Infrastructure Partners was formed by Credit Suisse Group and General Electric Co.—Internet

Internet

Missouri sees second tiger attack in as many days

ST LOUIS, 5 Aug— Three tigers attacked a worker at an exotic animal park in southwestern Missouri on Monday — the state’s second tiger attack in as many days.

Stone County Sheriff Richard Hill said the tigers attacked a 16-year-old worker at Predator World in Branson West after he entered their cage to photograph the tigers for customers.

Employees managed to pull the teen from the cage before emergency responders arrived.

Internet

Nissan cars to push back when drivers floor it

TOKYO, 5 Aug—Nissan Motor Co will soon sell cars that push back when drivers try to put the pedal to the metal. It has also developed a test model packed with additional sensor technology to make vehicles crash-free.

The features unveiled this week by Nissan Motor Co are the latest among recent efforts by the world’s automakers to vamp up their images.

Nissan’s collision-free prototype has sensors at its back and side that turn

on alarms and brakes to help avoid collisions.

The system also helps the vehicle maintain a safe distance with the car in front, as well as preventing it from veering off its lane, Nissan said Tuesday.

Nissan has said it hopes to halve the number of traffic accidents or serious injuries involving Nissan vehicles in Japan by 2015 compared to 1995 levels.

Nissan’s “ECO Pedal” system — promoted as being both green and safe — makes the gas pedal

press upward when it senses motorists are speeding up too quickly.

Nissan said in a news release Monday the system, which will be available next year, can help drivers improve fuel efficiency 5 to 10 percent.

The system calculates the most efficient rate of acceleration in a vehicle based on how fast fuel is being burned and other factors and causes the gas pedal to push back to alert overzealous drivers.

Internet



Women stand in a queue a polling centre in Sripur on 4 Aug, 2008. Bangladeshis go to the polls on Monday to vote in the first phase of local elections amid enthusiasm stoked up by a court ruling allowing political parties, but overshadowed by a continuing state of emergency.—INTERNET

Trade between Dominican Republic, China grows fast

SANTO DOMINGO, 5 Aug—The Dominican Republic has become the second largest trading partner of China in the Caribbean following Cuba, said Wang Weihua, representative of China’s Trade Development Office in the Dominican Republic Monday.

Dominican exports to China, ranging from scrap iron, rice, tobacco, cacao, coffee to banana, increased some 100 million US dollars in 2007.

Wang said trade between the two nations grew from 150 million dollars in 2003 to 614 million dollars in 2007, thanks to the joint efforts of the customs from both countries.

From January to May in 2008, the commercial exchanges between the two countries reached 281 million dollars, up over 30 percent compared with the same period in 2007, Wang said.

Xinhua



People visit the Shanghai Port International Passenger Terminal yesterday as it prepared for its trial run today. The building, a glass hemisphere in the shape of an irregular ellipse, is expected to become one of the architectural landmarks of the city. — XINHUA

Powerful quake hits eastern Indonesia

JAKARTA, 5 Aug—A strong earthquake with magnitude of 6.9 rocked eastern parts of Indonesia on Tuesday morning, but there were no reports of tsunami and casualties, the local meteorology agency said.

The quake struck at 03:45 am(2045 GMT, Monday) with epicentre at 234 kilometres north-west of Saumlaki town of Maluku province and 171 kilometres under the sea bed, an official of the agency, named only Octivar, said.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 3 MMI (modified mercally intensity) at the town and Tual of the province, he said. “The quake had potential for tsunami but it did not occur, and we did not issue the warning,” Octivar told Xinhua.

Xinhua

Sinopec in “takeover” bid for Imperial Energy

BEIJING, 5 Aug—Sinopec, China’s largest oil refiner, has launched a bid for the London-listed Imperial Energy as part of its overseas development.

Imperial Energy’s board has allowed Sinopec to start due diligence, the *Sunday Telegraph* re-

ported, without revealing the source. Sinopec is understood to have approached the Russian authorities and been given the approval to carry out a potential takeover, said the British newspaper.

If Sinopec succeeds in buying the \$2.5 billion

firm, it would be the biggest takeover by a Chinese company of a rival listed on the London market, said the report.

A Sinopec spokesman declined to comment on the report yesterday.

Analysts said the move signified that China, the world’s second biggest energy consumer, is marching at a fast pace to enter the Russian energy market. The country will enable China to have better access to oil worldwide.

Imperial Energy has oil blocks in Russia and Kazakhstan. It produced about 10,000 barrels of oil per day in December 2007 and is aiming to raise the production to 80,000 barrels per day by the end of 2011. —Xinhua



A worker changes the price signs at a Sinopec station in Yichang, Hubei Province.— XINHUA

S Koreans fire water cannons at Bush protesters

SEOUL, 5 Aug — Police fired water cannons at thousands of protesters Tuesday as President Bush got a volatile reception in South Korea at the start of his three-nation Asian trip.

Some 18,300 police were on high alert with riot gear and bomb-sniffing dogs to maintain order during Bush’s brief visit, the National Police Agency said.

An estimated 20,000 anti-Bush protesters gathered. Police turned water cannons on them as they tried to move onto the main central downtown boulevard, telling the crowd that the liquid contained markers to tag them so they could be identified later.

“I’m anti-Bush and anti-Lee Myung-bak,” said Uhm Ki-wong, 36, a businessman who was wearing a mask and hat like other demonstrators in an apparent attempt to conceal his identity.

Twelve demonstrators were arrested, along with another 12 at an earlier attempted demonstration near the military airport where Bush landed, police said.—Xinhua

AIDS conference calls for more prevention, better access to medicine

MEXICO CITY, 5 Aug—HIV/AIDS experts, gathering here from

Sunday for the 17th International AIDS Conference, called for more prevention and better access to anti-AIDS medicine on Monday.

Jaime Sepulveda, who works for the Foundation “Bill and Melinda Gates”, said it is necessary to make massive changes and take into account the success in specific region in order to apply them in a global way to fight against the epidemic.

Sepulveda, who directs the foundation’s Integrated Health Solutions Development programme, said over 2 million people infected with the HIV die of having no access to the medicine.

Xinhua

New wave of openness a sign of self-confidence

BEIJING, 5 Aug—As the Beijing Olympic Games approaches, the preparations for the world sports gala have intensified and with all these there is an atmosphere of openness.

Things which were previously regarded as taboos are now put in the spotlight for public discussion. On 17 July, the anti-terror bureau of the Ministry of Public Security made public a pamphlet on the prevention of terrorist

attacks, guiding people how to detect terror traces, and how to take measures to fend off dangers in case of a terrorist attack.

It also tells people how to carry out simple but necessary self-rescue in an emergency situation.

Behind the popularization of such common knowledge is a remarkable breakthrough the Chinese government has made in its traditional mindset.

The government now

realizes that common people should be taught how to prevent terror attacks in case of an emergency, even if the knowledge may never be used in one’s lifetime.

Another thing that testifies the country’s openness is its permission of the sales of some foreign publications to domestic and foreign readers in the Games venues and dozens of hotels.

Xinhua



Stone collector Hao shows his unique agate-jade stone in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 4 Aug, 2008.

XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Fires destroy 5,000 hectares of forests in Portugal

LISBON, 5 Aug—Fires have destroyed 5,000 hectares of forests in Portugal from January to July, state secretary of Fishing and Rural Development Ascenso Simoes said Monday.

Simoes said the situation is positive compared with previous years, “but there is still a lot to do.”

A Forest Regional Office is about to be set up Algarve in Southern Portugal, one of the most affected areas by the fires, Simoes said, adding that five such offices will be set up nationwide to more effectively fight fires.

On Monday, some 60 firefighters with 17 vehicles and three helicopters fought with a fire that broke out in a vegetation zone of Chaves, in the north of the country.

Xinhua



Racing sculpture : A sand sculpture by Alexandre Marchand on the beach of Deauville, northwestern France, marking the beginning of horse racing French summer season.—INTERNET

China considers giving migrant workers election rights

BEIJING, 5 Aug— China’s State Council, or Cabinet, is considering two law amendments that would allow migrant workers to run for election on to their community committees if they lived in the area long enough.

The action will require amendments to both the Village Committee Organization Law and the Urban Resident Committee Organization Law, and would strengthen the protection of migrant worker rights.

The second revision of the Village Committee Organization Law since 1998 also included clauses on judicial remedy and election bribery, said Wang Jinhua, a senior official with the Ministry of Civil Affairs on Sunday, without giving details.

Now some local regulations allow rural migrant workers the right to run in local committee elections if they had lived in an urban community for more than six months. Wang said China had a floating population of 150 million, and it was increasing by five million every year. “It’s the largest of its kind in the world, almost equal to the entire US electorate.”

The government is seeking to bolster their legal rights by requiring their native villages to inform them of upcoming elections and urban committees to consult them before making decisions that could significantly affect their interests. In addition, migrant workers would have the right to set up their own associations and labour unions and enjoy the same rights as urban residents.— MNA/Xinhua

Rajiv Gandhi’s killer regrets the assassination

NEW DELHI, 5 Aug—A killer involved in the assassination of Indian former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said she regretted the assassination and the real conspirators had not been booked yet, according to the *Indian Express* Monday.

Calling Rajiv Gandhi a “great leader” and a “loss” to the country, Nalini Sriharan, the lone surviving member of the five- member squad behind the assassination said, “I regret the assas-

sination of Rajiv Gandhi.” She has served a life sentence in a prison for more than 15 years.

When asked whether the real conspirators have been brought to book, Nalini, whose interview was mailed by her lawyer in reply to a questionnaire sent by the *Press Trust of India* said, “No, as the real killers Sivarasan, Suba and Dhanu were already dead.” Dhanu, the suicide bomber served for the militant group the Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Eelam (LTTE), had carried out the attack in Indian southern state Tamil Nadu on night of 21 May, 1991, killing Rajiv Gandhi and 15 others on the spot.

MNA/Xinhua

A freak tornado ripped through northern France overnight, killing three people and injuring nine as it gutted houses and hurled cars through the air, officials have said on 4 Aug, 2008.

INTERNET

Pakistani PM says Indian accusations hurt peace process

COLOMBO, 5 Aug— Pakistan’s Prime Minister said there was no evidence linking his country to attacks on India, adding such accusations had hurt the peace process, a report said on Sunday.

Relations between the two sides thawed after a 2004 peace move, but a deep mistrust remains and a series of recent attacks in India and one in Afghanistan have infuriated New Delhi.

Both India and Afghanistan blamed Pakistan’s spy agency for a 7 July attack on India’s Embassy in Kabul in which two Indian diplomats were among 58 people killed, prompting India to say the peace process was “under stress”.

Pakistan Premier Yousaf Raza Gilani’s comments came a day after he promised his Indian counterpart to hold an inquiry into the alleged

role of his spy agency in the Kabul attack.

“The Indian statement is not only surprising but shocking too,” Gilani told Sri Lanka’s *Sunday Leader* newspaper in an interview.

“There were also bombing incidents in Pakistan subsequently, but we have not pointed fingers at anyone as we believe in carrying out investigations before laying responsibility.”

He was referring to a 2006 anti-terrorism mechanism they established to provide a platform for information exchange and assistance in investigations.

MNA/Reuters

Study: Kids’ popular fast foods dangerous

BEIJING, 5 Aug — Letting kids eat at popular fast-food and chain restaurants can be downright dangerous because the servings are far too high in calories, said a report by the Centre for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) on Monday.

The centre, a US consumer group, examined the menus at 13 popular restaurants that promote children’s meals.

It found in most chain restaurants more than 90 percent of the kid’s menu meals packed way more than the recommended 430 calories per meal.

Internet



An Army helicopter flies to rescue people during a flood on the outskirts of Peshawar on 4 Aug, 2008. Up to 15 people were killed when heavy rains triggered a flash flood in northwest Pakistan on Monday, with hundreds more forced to abandon their homes, officials said.—INTERNET

Vitamin C injections slow tumour growth in mice

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug— High-dose injections of vitamin C, also known as ascorbate or ascorbic acid, reduced tumour weight and growth rate by about 50 percent in mouse models of brain, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers, researchers from the US National Institutes of

Health (NIH) report on Monday.

The researchers traced ascorbate’s anti-cancer effect to the formation of hydrogen peroxide in the extracellular fluid surrounding the tumours. Normal cells were unaffected.

These results will appear in the 5 Aug issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Natural physiologic controls precisely regulate the amount of ascorbate absorbed by the body when it is taken orally.

To bypass these normal controls, NIH scientists injected ascorbate into the veins or abdominal cavities of rodents with aggressive brain, ovarian, and pancreatic tumours.

Internet



Iran to fingerprint Westerners in tit-for-tat move

TEHERAN, 5 Aug—Iran will start fingerprinting visitors from the United States, Britain and France, police said on Monday, listing three Western powers that are pressuring Teheran over its disputed nuclear programme.

The move is a tit-for-tat measure for the United States and Britain, as Iranians travelling to those two countries face having their fingerprints taken, the official IRNA news agency quoted a senior police official as saying.

“This measure for American and British nationals is to serve as a reciprocation,” said Gholamreza Rezaeiyan, head of the police immigration office.

“As for French nationals, it is done for the purpose of issuing them airport visas,” he said, without giving details.

The United States has been collecting digital fingerprints and photographs of nearly all non-citizens from age 14 entering the country since 2004, part of a heightened security drive to identify terrorism suspects and combat fraud.

Applicants for British visas in Iran and other countries have their fingerprints recorded electronically. — MNA/Reuters

MDs urged to quit prostate screens in elderly men

NEW YORK, 5 Aug—Doctors should stop routine prostate cancer screening of men over 75 because there is more evidence of harm than benefit, a federal task force advised Monday in a new blow to a much scrutinized medical test.

The US Preventive Services Task Force, which made the recommendation, reported finding evidence that the benefits of treatment based on routine screening of this age group “are small to none.” However, treatment often causes “moderate-to-substantial harms,” including erectile dysfunction and bladder control and bowel problems, the task force said.

The new guidance is the first update by the task force on prostate cancer screening since 2002. The last report on the subject from this panel of experts, which sets the nation’s primary care standards, concluded there was insufficient evidence to recommend prostate screening for men of all

ages.

In recent years, there has been a growing debate about the value of the somewhat imprecise PSA test to detect cancer, as well as the value of treating most prostate cancers. A number of experts contend patients are being overtreated.

Internet



College students with the Olympic rings and torch painted on their faces cheer on India’s team for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, in the southern Indian city of Chennai August 5, 2008.—INTERNET

More than 500 fire hot spots in Sumatra

JAKARTA, 5 Aug — More than 500 hot spots have been spotted across Indonesia’s Sumatra Island, signalling the annual dry-season forest fires and the haze it sometimes carries, a Forestry Ministry official said on Monday.

Forestry Ministry official fear the number of hot spots could exceed last year’s record as the current dry season will be marked by less rain than usual, Sonny Partono, the director of forest fire control, told Reuters.

“According to the

meteorology agency, this year’s dry season is very dry, not wet like last year. That’s the problem,” Partono said. “Looking at the fluctuation of hot spots, this year could be worse than last.”

Partono said he had recorded 8,000 hot spots since January. Last year’s dry season was wetter than usual, resulting in 35,000 hot spots, down from 144,000 in 2006. In the past, Indonesia’s neighbours have grown increasingly frustrated by the annual fires, most of which are deliberately lit by farmers or timber and palm oil plantation companies to clear land for cultivation.—MNA/Reuters



Young seal ‘Volker’ climbs out of the water in his enclosure at the Berlin Zoo on 4 Aug, 2008. Volker was born on 7 June. —INTERNET



Young musicians from the Beijing 2008 Olympic Orchestra take part in a special concert at Tiananmen Square opposite the Forbidden City, prior to the Olympic Games in Beijing on 3 Aug 2008—INTERNET

Britain’s “great rail robber” jailed

LONDON, 5 Aug — A thief who used a crane to steal five lorry-loads of track from one of Britain’s busiest railway lines has been jailed for nearly three years.

Anthony Porretta, 53, masterminded the theft of 171 tons of steel track, worth 83,000 pounds, to sell for scrap. He used a crane to load five trucks with the metal, left by the side of the line during engineering work in the village of Acton Turville, Gloucestershire.

Porretta, from Newport, south Wales, sold it to a scrap dealer in his home town, capitalizing on recent rises in metal prices.

He was sentenced to two years and nine months in jail after pleading guilty to theft at Bristol Crown Court. Charges against four others were dropped.

Police said he could have caused a crash as the track was removed in the early hours of 1 December, 2006.

MNA/Reuters

S Korea aims to be Northeast Asian “oil hub”

SEOUL, 5 Aug — South Korean Vice Economy Minister Lee Jae-joon said Monday that his country aims to become a Northeast Asian “oil hub” to create new business opportunities.

The official said his country will benchmark Singapore and develop extensive petroleum refining, shipment, storage and trading capabilities to become an “oil hub” in the region.

“South Korea is situated astride the main North Pacific shipping route, with Yeosu and Ulsan possessing deep water ports and proximity to Chinese and Japanese industrial centres that make them ideal choices for the oil hub endeavour,” Lee said. He said the government plans to expand the existing bunker facilities in Yeosu and Ulsan, increasing the oil storage there to 28 million barrels.— MNA/Xinhua

Three kids among five killed when plane hits home

GEARHART (Ore), 5 Aug — A single-engine plane crashed into a fogbound coastal home where a family was vacationing Monday, killing the two people in the plane and three children on the ground, authorities said.

A woman and two additional children were

injured.

City officials in the resort town of Gearhart said pilot Jason Ketchson and passenger Frank Toohey, 58, both from Clatsop County, were aboard the plane that went down before 7 am, apparently hitting a tree during conditions des-

cribed as foggy with low clouds.

When the plane crashed, six people were in the four-bedroom rental home at Gearhart for a family reunion and vacation, City Administrator Dennis McNally said. A vacant house next door was also damaged.

The owner of the house, Greg Marshall of Portland, told *The Oregonian* newspaper that the victims arrived Sunday for a planned two-week stay.

The plane, a four-seat Cessna, was owned by a business in nearby Seaside, Aviation Adventures, which had rented it to Ketchson, McNally said.

Internet



A small plane crashed into the occupied vacation rental house on 4 Aug, 2008.—INTERNET

Correct policies;
practical, effective
processes...

(from page 16)
Deputy Chief Justice (Upper Myanmar) U Khin Maung Latt, senior military officers, departmental heads, members of Division, District and Township Peace and Development Councils, the rector of CICS (Upper Myanmar) and pro-rectors, heads of department, lecturers and assistant lecturers, demonstrators and teacher trainees.

On behalf of the Secretary-1, Minister U Thaung said that world nations are making their utmost efforts for prosperity of the nation and the people concerned while safeguarding national interest in political, economic and social aspects.

He said knowledge and technology of the people are needed to be applied for national development and the functions of the education sector have become more

important. The government has laid down lofty objectives and is systematically implementing the national education promotion programmes in conformity with the time and circumstance of the situation, he added.

Correct education policies and practical, effective processes are necessary for realization of these objectives. Moreover, the strenuous efforts of the teachers play a vital role in implementation of the tasks at the basic level, he said.

Prime tasks of the teachers can create the environment of realizing the national educational visions. Therefore, he urged them to make

concerted efforts for effective implementation of the educational objectives of the State.

He said early preparations are made to get tangible results as the educational measures are large and wide. It is necessary to draw up plans in conformity with the national development and future prospects, he said.

National economic enterprises have emerged as the government gives

encouragement to the progress of the State economy and economic, trade, finance and other relations with international communities have also improved. That is why more and more modern technological skills are needed, he added.

Meanwhile, business based on knowledge and information and communication technology and services on education have emerged.

It is incumbent upon teachers to do their utmost for successful realization of multipurpose education system.



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe meets Mr Shimba Kazuya of Member of House of Councillors of Japan.— SOCIAL WELFARE

SWRR Minister receives Member of
House of Councillors of Japan

YANGON, 5 Aug — Secretary of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Chairman of Cash and Kind Accepting and Supervisory Committee for storm survivors Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and

Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe received Mr Shimba Kazuya of Member of the House of Councillors of Japan and party at the Head Office of the Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township today.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, SWRR Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and directors-general of the departments under the ministry.

MNA

ကမ္ဘာ့မိခင်နို့တိုက်ကျွေးရေး ရက်သတ္တပတ်

(၁-၈-၂၀၀၈ မှ ၇-၈-၂၀၀၈ ထိ)

World Breastfeeding Week

(1-8-2008 to 7-8-2008)

Mother Support: Going for the Gold!

“မိခင်နို့စနစ်တကျတိုက်ကျွေးဖို့၊ ဝိုင်းဝန်းကူညီပံ့ပိုးဖို့”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

POEM:

Knot the Closest Tie through
Breastfeeding

- * All expectant and new mothers-
Be proud to breastfeed your babies and toddlers
Because it's believed to be the way-best
To ensure their life-long health.
- * Some scientists said breast-fed kids
Get more insulin from their mothers' milk
With a lesser chance to get 'diabetes'
Or any other related disease.
- * A new born baby is an addition to the family
For mothers to bring it up properly
Childhood molding is utterly necessary
Through a lasting relationship gained from breastfeeding.
- * Holding the baby in both arms
Cuddled and being fed in her bosom
With its secured and warm feelings running high
A mother creates the closest tie with her beloved child.
- * For the babies growing on breastfeeding
Those precious moments have a special meaning
Forever to cherish and treasure
Full of tender love, fondling and pleasures.
- * A period of nine months, a little less or more
Many favourite things a pregnant mother has to forgo
For the tiny one inside, looking after herself with great care
Daily praying for the arrival of a baby proper and well.
- * To the pregnancy-care and sacrifice willingly made
Add a new extension she can take;
To breastfeed and get the advantage
Of a mother-child relationship so great.

Aye Phyu

qualification and skills so that they are efficient enough to grasp such unique opportunities for prosperity not only the youth but also the nation would suffer a great loss. (See page 9)

**Prime tasks of the teachers
can create the environment of
realizing the national
educational visions.**

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint inspects...

(from page 1)
reported on the implementation of development tasks in the district and township.

Next, departmental officials and members of social organization reported on their respective tasks and the commander gave a supplementary report. Maj-Gen Ohn Myint fulfilled the needs.

Afterward, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and the commander presented stationery, medicines, and sports gear donated by the Ministry of Sports, and cash for uniforms to social organization members through officials.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint stressed the need to make more efforts for regional development as

the government is providing the needs for education, health, communications and economic sectors.

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and the commander visited Yazamanisula Khaunghmutaw Pagoda and made cash donation for all-round renovation of the Pagoda.

At Myinmu Township PDC office, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and the commander met with heads of the department, members of social organization and townsenders.

At the office, Chairman of Myinmu Township PDC U Kyaw Thaung reported on the regional development tasks and the commander gave a supplementary

report.

Next, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint presented medical equipment to Myinmu Township People's Hospital. Next, the commander provided K 1 million each for township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women's Affairs Organization, and K 500,000 for township War Veteran's Organization, cash for township Red Cross Society and Fire Brigade through officials.

After the cash donation, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint called for making more efforts for regional development in cooperation with local people and then greeted them.

MNA



၂၀၀၈ - ၂၀၀၉ ပညာသင်နှစ်



ကျောင်းကျန်းမာရေးသီတင်းပတ်

၂၀၀၈ ခုနှစ်၊ ဩဂုတ်လ (၁၁)ရက်မှ (၁၅)ရက်

အခြေခံပညာကျောင်းအားလုံးပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါစို့

ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Correct policies; practical, effective...

(from page 8)

The emergence of a large number of mills, factories and workshops along with different projects calls for the urgent need of qualified human resources in every sector.

As the government has already introduced multipurpose education system that is able to

produce intellectuals, intelligentsia and technocrats in every sector teachers are required to do their utmost for successful realization of the education system.

In conclusion, he called on teachers to try their utmost for development of technology, prosperity of the nation and forging national consolidation through the education sector and to train and nurture students to be the ones capable of bringing about national development, of ensuring perpetual existence of the nation and the race and of safeguarding

the Union and to inculcate them with a sense of responsibility, nationalist spirit and Union Spirit.

Next, the ceremony came to an end.

After the ceremony, the minister and party cordially greeted trainee teachers.

The five-week course is being attended by 1328 basic education teachers from Kachin State, Kayah State, Chin State, Sagaing Division, Magway Division, Mandalay Division, Shan State (South), Shan State (North) and Shan State (East).—MNA

Coordination meeting on CMP held



Minister U Aung Thaung addresses coord meeting on CMP industry.—MNA

YANGON, 5 Aug—The coordination meeting on Cutting, Making and Packing (CMP) was held at Kanaung Hall of Hlinethaya industrial zone of Hlinethaya Township yesterday morning, attended by Chairman of CMP supervisory committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, CMP export import supervisory committee Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun, chairman of CMP inspection sub-committee Director-General of Directorate of Industries of Ministry of Industry-1 U Thein Aung and members of other three committees, chairman of Myanmar garment entrepreneurs association, members of Hlaingtharyar industrial zone management committee and CMP

industrialists of other industrial zones.

In his speech, chairman of CMP industry supervisory committee Minister U Aung Thaung said that today's meeting is to focus on further development of CMP industry, measures are being taken for handling the matters in line with the rules and regulations adopted by the State. Company owners are to make a correct list of tax, wages and labour as well as work inspection and arrangements will be made for development of CMP

industry, technology and creating more job opportunities.

Next, chairman of CMP industry export import supervisory committee Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun discussed on supervision of export and import of garment and chairman of CMP industry inspection sub-committee U Thein Aung on matters relating to inspection of garment.

Next, chairman of Myanmar garment entrepreneurs association

U Myint Soe, vice-chairman U Aung Min and secretary U Aung Win reported on condition of CMP industry in local and international market and matters relating to systematic and rapid emergence of CMP industry. Chairman of CMP industry supervisory committee Minister U Aung Thaung attended to the needs and the meeting came to close.—MNA

Earthquake report

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.3) Richter Scale, with its epicenter outside of Myanmar (Andaman Islands, India) about (280) miles Southwest of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory was recorded at (16) hrs (38) min (12) sec M.S.T on 6th August, said Metrology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Coord meeting on health care services held

YANGON, 5 Aug—The coordination meeting on health care services for storm survivors was held at the meeting hall of Yangon General Hospital, here, yesterday with an address by Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint.

Director (Disease Control) Dr Saw Lwin reported on assignment of duties on public health care, Project Manager Dr Than Htein Win, on progress of giving vaccines in storm-hit regions, Deputy Director Dr Phone Yaung, on progress of sanitation works in storm-stricken regions and Deputy Director (Medicine and Medical Equipment) Dr Myo Win, on storing and distribution of medicines to the minister.

Next, Deputy Director-General Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein explained requirements of storm survivors. The minister attended to the needs and gave concluding remarks.—MNA

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint delivers an address at coord meeting on health care services for storm survivors.—MNA



Energy Minister inspects No. 1 fertilizer plant (Sale)



Minister Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspects No. 1 fertilizer plant in Sale.

ENERGY

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected No. 1 fertilizer plant in Sale Magway Division on 3 August and heard reports on arrangements for running of the plant at full capacity by plant manager U Tin Maung Swe.

The minister made a speech, saying that fertilizer plays a pivotal role in striving for higher output of rice and staff are therefore to make efforts

for exceeding the targeted production of the respective plants.

The minister called for boosting production of fertilizer as requirements for annual general maintenance of the plant had been fulfilled, and set arrangements for future tasks.

The minister presented fruit basket to technicians of Hitachi Co Ltd of Japan who are working together with No. 1 fertilizer plant

(Sale). Next, the minister looked into installation of machinery parts in the plant and attended to the needs. The minister then inspected production of fertilizer for Ayeyawady Division.

The minister also inspected physc nuts plantations of Chauk oil field near Shwepongtaung pagoda in Chauk and called for high yielding rate.

MNA

Minister inspects construction of Kyangin-Thayet railroad section

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, accompanied by Deputy Minister U Pe Than on 2 August inspected the Kyangin-Pakkoku railway construction project and gave necessary instructions.

At the briefing hall of Okshippin Station on Kyangin-Thayet section, the minister heard a report presented by Project Engineer U Myo Win on opening of the 40 mile-long Kyangin-Okshippin railroad section, one of the 110 mile-long Kyangin-Thayet railroad project, on 1 March 2008, earth work of the 35 mile-long Okshippin-Kanmarailroad

section, construction of large and small bridges on the railroad project, laying of rail tracks, progress in construction of Thekaw Station and Pandaung (Natmauk) Station which are out of the six stations on the road project, progress in construction of 58 bridges and 15 bridges under construction.

Next, Deputy Minister U Pe Than gave other salient points.

The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the task meeting the set standard.

Next, the minister and party looked into the railroad project, the 510 feet long Buyo Bridge and physc nut plantations

along the railroad.

At the Pandaung (Natmauk) Station, the minister met with departmental personnel and fulfilled their requirements. On completion of the railroad section, one will be able to travel from Pathein of Ayeyawady Division to Bago Division (West) and Thayet of Magway Division.—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

Ceremony to consecrate Tilawka Marajein Pagoda held in Bogale Tsp



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung and U Teza of Htoo Trading Co sharing merits for donations.—NLM

YANGON, 5 Aug—Htoo Trading Co Ltd and the people held a ceremony to consecrate Tilawka Marajein Pagoda in Bogale Township at the pagoda yesterday morning.

First, the ceremony was opened with the three time-recitation of Namo Tassa. Next, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Mahawithutaya Yadana-pon Sarthintaik Presiding Sayadaw Joint-Secretary

of Township Sanha Nayaka Committee Sasanadhaja Siripavara Dhammacariya Sayadaw Dighabhanaka Dighanikaya Kovida.

Next, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung, Chairman of Htoo Trading Company U Teza and company staff donated offertories to members of the Sangha. Afterwards, U Teza presented K 38.8 million for rehabilitation of Kyeinchaunggyi model village through chairman of village tract Peace and Development Council.

Members of the Sangha recited Metta Sutta and shared merits gained. Next, the minister and the chairman and company staff offered Soon to

members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, they inspected new houses built by Htoo Trading Co Ltd and Air Bagan Co Ltd. The companies have taken rehabilitation and rescue measures in Bogale since the beginning of May. Basic education schools, departmental buildings, religious structures, hospitals and bridges have been repaired and temporary schools, rural dispensaries and houses have been constructed. Moreover, the water purifying plant is being built and medical treatment provided and farm implements and paddy strains are donated. Now the Cyclone Shelter is under construction.—MNA

Flood News

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—According to the observation at 11.30 hr MST today, the water level of Ayeyawady river at Hinthada is 1137 cm and it is possible to reach its danger level 1342 cm during the next 48 hrs. However, the water level may fall again after just reaching the danger level.

MNA

Dokhtawady Bridge in Hsipaw Township to contribute to flow of commodities and regional development

*Article & Photos:
Hsipaw Ko Latt*

Hsipaw is located on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Union Highway. Dokhtawady River is flowing in the northeastern and southern parts of Hsipaw. Those wishing to travel to Lashio, Muse and Shan State (South) have to cross the river. Therefore, Dokhtawady Bailey Suspension Bridge was built in 1946. Forty years later on 11 October 1986, the bridge was swept away by raging torrents of the Dokhtawady River. The flood left behind only two brick piers. On 29 October 1986, the bridge was rebuilt by Public Works. With the length of 470 feet and width of 12 feet the bridge can withstand 30-ton loads.

After 1988, the nation has been witnessing swift flow of commodities thanks to the market-oriented economic system. The transport sector plays a pivotal role in the smooth flow of commodities. Various kinds of vehicles carrying commodities from the People's Republic of China and a variety products from Myanmar pass through the bridge up and down daily. However, the bridge was not designed to bear such a large amount of commodities. Trucks carrying heavy loads often caused damage to the bridge. As a result, minor repairs had to be made frequently.

Beginning February this year, trucks with loads of above 30 tons have to unload their goods at



Photo shows existing Hsipaw Dokhtawady Bridge.

Asia World toll gate at the entrance to Hsipaw on their way to the border and trucks travelling down the road have to unload their goods at the eastern entrance to

Sint-in Bridge in Lashio Township.

From those transit the goods are carried through the bridge bit by bit.

Then, trucks travelling up the road reload their cargo at the place in the eastern end of Sint-in Bridge and the down trucks reload their cargo at the western end of Dokhtawady Bridge.

To have better transportation facilities, the construction of new Hsipaw Dokhtawady Bridge started on 2 May 2008. It is being conducted by Asia World Co Ltd Reinforced Concrete Bridge Construction Project (Mandalay-Lashio). The new bridge will be 569 feet long and 38 feet wide flanked by pedestrian ways. The bridge will have a capacity to withstand 60 tons of loads. The lower structure of the bridge will be reinforced concrete type and the upper structure, steel frame type. The construction site of the new bridge is located in the east of the existing bailey bridge.

In an interview, Engineer-in-charge U Myint Win of the Bridge Construction Project said that arrangements are being made for completion of the new bridge in 2010. The construction tasks are being carried out with the use of manpower and heavy machinery. On completion, the bridge will help facilitate smooth transport to northern Shan State and trade between Myanmar and China. In addition, the new bridge will contribute much to regional development.

While new Hsipaw Dokhtawady Bridge is under construction, arrangements have been made to build a pontoon bridge linking Myohaung, on the east bank of the river and the lower part of Zay Ward, on the west bank of the river, to enable the trucks and lorries to pass through the river without transit.

Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 3-8-2008

The new Hsipaw Dokhtawady bridge will be 569 feet long and 38 feet wide flanked by pedestrian ways. The bridge will have a capacity to withstand 60 tons of loads. The lower structure of the bridge will be reinforced concrete type and the upper structure, steel frame type.



Construction site for building new Hsipaw Dokhtawady Bridge seen in the first week of June.



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- Have you got any skilled engineer team who can perfectly install the equipment at site according to the design?
- Who is going to run, maintain and service your equipment after installation?
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 - **Operators of machines** are closely trained by expert engineers.
 - **For those relief centres in Nargis hit towns and villages**, service and maintenance have been performed by routine and on call engineers of the Engineering Department.
- We have **abundant stocks of spare parts and consumable parts**.

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HIV-positive migrants accuse US of neglect

MEXICO CITY, 5 Aug — Olga Arellano sobs as she recalls how her HIV-positive daughters spent two months succumbing to infections in a US migrant detention centre, complaining that she didn't see a doctor or get the right medicine.

Fellow inmates also begged for help after Victoria Arellano started vomiting blood in their holding cell, where her lawyer said 105 detainees were crammed onto bunks and mattresses in a space designed for 40.

She died three days later, chained to a hospital bed. The death of the 23-year-old transgender Mexican

immigrant is at the forefront of discussions at this week's international AIDS conference in Mexico City. Rights activists say it shows the failure of immigration officials to deal humanely with HIV-positive inmates among the 30,000 migrants held in detention centres across the United States.

New York-based Human Rights Watch surveyed detention centre officials and inmates after Arellano's death and found 14 cases in which it said HIV-infected immigrants were not given proper care while in custody of US Immigration and Customs Enforcement.—*Internet*

Eating fish may thwart "silent" brain damage

NEW YORK, (Reuters Health) 5 Aug — Older adults who regularly eat fish may have a lower risk of subtle brain damage that contributes to stroke and dementia — as long as the fish isn't fried — researchers reported Monday.

In a study that followed 3,660 adults age 65 and older, Finnish researchers found that those who ate more fish were less likely to show certain "silent" brain infarcts — tiny areas of tissue that have died because of an insufficient blood supply — on an MRI scan. The tissue damage is considered silent, or "subclinical," because it



A salmon dish

causes no obvious symptoms and can only be detected through brain scans. It can, however, raise a person's longer-term risk of having a stroke or developing dementia.

Among older adults in the current study, those

who said they ate tuna and "other" baked or broiled fish at least three times per week were one-quarter less likely than those who rarely ate fish to have subclinical brain infarcts at the study's start.

—*Internet*

Scientists warn forest clearing more harmful than thought



A forest fire in Victoria. Clearing natural forests in Australia would pose a greater danger to the global climate than previously thought because they hold three times as much carbon as estimated, a report says.—*INTERNET*

SYDNEY, 5 Aug—Clearing natural forests in Australia would pose a greater danger to the global climate than previously thought because they hold three times as much carbon as estimated, a report released Tuesday said.

The Australian National University report warns that all nations, not just those in the developing world, should prevent the clearing of their forests because this could release huge amounts of harmful carbon into the atmosphere.

"From a scientific perspective, green carbon accounting and protection of the natural forests in all nations should become part of a comprehensive approach to solving the climate change problem," the report said.—*Internet*

Road accident kills 38 in south Bolivia

BOGOTA, 5 Aug — At least 38 people were killed and six injured in a traffic accident in south Bolivia, said police Monday.

An inter-provincial bus rushed out road and

dropped from a 50-metre high cliff Sunday night on the Tarija-Entre Rios highway near the locality of Piedra Larga in south Bolivia's department of Tarija,

according to the police.

The rescue of the victims has been slow and complicated since the vehicle is totally destroyed and twisted, said rescuers.

—*MNA/Xinhua*

Fatty fish may help prevent memory loss: study

LONDON, 5 Aug — Eating tuna and other fatty fish may help prevent memory loss in addition to reducing the risk of stroke, Finnish researchers said on Monday.

People who ate baked or boiled — but not fried — fish high in omega-3 fatty acids have been found to be less likely to have "silent" brain

lesions that can cause memory loss and dementia and are linked to a higher risk of stroke, said Jyrki Virtanen of the University of Kuopio in Finland.

"Previous findings have shown that fish and fish oil can help prevent stroke, but this is one of the only studies that looks at fish's effect on silent brain (lesions) in healthy,

older people," Virtanen, who led the study, said in a statement. Omega-3 fatty acids are also found in salmon, mackerel, herring, sardines, and in other foods such as walnuts. They have been shown to provide an anti-inflammatory effect and have been linked to a lower risk of heart disease.

The Finnish team studied 3,660 people aged 65 and older who underwent brain scans five years apart to detect the silent brain lesions, or infarcts, found in about 20 percent of otherwise healthy elderly people.

The researchers found that men and women who ate omega-3-rich fish three times or more per week had a nearly 26 percent lower risk of having silent brain lesions.

—*Internet*



A fisherman carries a tuna fish from his catch at a harbour in Lampuuk on the outskirts of Banda Aceh on 31 July, 2008.—*INTERNET*

SPORTS



Japan's women's volleyball team players attend a practice session to prepare for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, at a Japanese school in Beijing on 4 Aug, 2008.—INTERNET

Singh finds range on short putts, wins Bridgestone

AKRON, 5 Aug — After hitting his golf ball more than 17 miles over four days at Firestone Country Club, Vijay Singh agonized over the final 42 inches.

Singh had a shaky grasp on a one-shot lead at the Bridgestone Invitational as he bent over the 3-foot, 6-inch par putt on the 18th green, circled by thousands of fans and with Stuart Appleby and Lee Westwood watching to see if they'd sneak into a playoff with a miss.

But the 45-year-old Singh — who according to tour statistics had hit just eight of his 18 putts in the tournament between 4 and 8 feet—cast aside his troubling case of flat-stick nerves and gingerly nudged the ball in the side of the cup for a one-shot victory.

"I don't know why I left myself a 4-footer," the usually dour Singh cracked.

He missed three putts shorter than Yao Ming on the back nine, providing an open door for Phil Mickelson among others to walk up and grab the \$1.35 million first-place check. But either they were fighting their own self-induced problems or waited too long to try to catch Singh, who ended a streak of 34 PGA Tour events without a win.—*Internet*



Vijay Singh, from Fiji, holds up the trophy after winning the World Golf Championships at Firestone Country Club, on 3 Aug, 2008, in Akron, Ohio. Singh finished the tournament at 10-under par.—INTERNET

Man Utd defender Simpson joins Blackburn on loan

BLACKBURN, 5 Aug — Blackburn boss Paul Ince returned to his former club to sign Manchester United defender Danny Simpson on a season-long loan on Monday.

Ince, who spent six years at United, has now made three signings since taking charge, with Simpson following Paul Robinson and Carlos Villanueva into Ewood Park.

Simpson, a 21-year-old right back, has struggled to break into the first team at Old Trafford, making just eight appearances last season before being loaned to Ipswich. Ince doesn't expect Simpson to be his last pre-season signing and he hopes to bring in at least two new faces.

"There's another couple of targets we are looking at and we hope to bring them through the door in the next couple of weeks," he said.—*Internet*



Blackburn boss Paul Ince returned to his former club to sign Manchester United defender Danny Simpson, seen here in 2007, on a season-long loan on Monday.—INTERNET

Liu Xiang's form being built up for Olympic Games



Chinese athlete Liu Xiang (L) attends the opening ceremony of the Olympic Village in Beijing, China, on 27 July, 2008. Liu is building up his form towards the men's 110 metres hurdles finals on 21 Aug in the Beijing Olympic Games.—INTERNET

BEIJING, 5 Aug — China's biggest hope for the Olympic athletics gold Liu Xiang is building up his form towards the men's 110 metres hurdles finals on 21 Aug in the Beijing Olympic Games.

Sun Haiping, Liu's coach, was quoted by the Chinese Athletics Association website as saying, "Liu had intensive training these days to compensate for what he had lost due to shortage of competitions before the Olympics."

The Olympic gold medalist, whose world record was taken over by Cuban Dayron Robles by one hundredth of a

second to 12.87 seconds in June, is now cherishing every minute to prepare himself for the coming Olympic competition.

He will begin his title defense in the National Stadium, better known as Bird's Nest, on 18 August.

The 25-year-old Liu usually took international meets as he geared up for big events, like what he did before the Athens Olympics in 2004 and the Osaka IAAF World Championships in 2007. His last show this year was an Olympic test event in May in the Bird's Nest, finishing an unimpressive 13.18 seconds.—*Internet*



Fish advances at Los Angeles tennis

LOS ANGELES, 5 Aug — American Mardy Fish posted his first victory in nearly two months by beating Alejandro Falla 6-2, 6-2 at the Los Angeles Classic.

The sixth seed broke a

run of four opening defeats to advance at an event populated by non-participants in the Beijing Olympics.

Fish last tasted success on 11 June, when he beat Australian Chris

Guccione at Queen's club on grass before losing in the third round to compatriot Andy Roddick.

Since then the American has exited in openers at Wimbledon, Newport and the summer Masters tournaments at Toronto and Cincinnati.

Fish won the 30-minute first set with two breaks of serve and began the second with more of the same in his first meeting with the Colombian ranked 116 which ended after just over an hour.

Number 40 Fish will await an opponent from a Tuesday match between Floridian Vince Spadea and Frenchman Sebastien Grosjean.

Internet



David Beckham poses backstage after winning Choice Male Athlete at the 2008 Teen Choice Awards at Universal Studios in Los Angeles, on 3 Aug, 2008. INTERNET

Real confirm Van der Vaart transfer from Hamburg

MADRID, 5 Aug — Real Madrid confirmed Monday they have signed Dutch international midfielder Rafael van der Vaart from Hamburg.

The Spanish champions did not reveal the amount they paid for the player, but Spanish and German media put the figure at 13 million euros (20 million dollars).

"Real Madrid and Hamburg have reached an

agreement for the transfer for five seasons of Dutch player Rafael Ferdinand van der Vaart," Real announced on their website.

"The agreement is subject to the player's medical examination and his signing of a contract."

Van der Vaart, whose mother is Spanish, will be presented at the Santiago-Bernabeu stadium on Tuesday.

His transfer comes as Real Madrid announced that another Dutch international midfielder, Wesley Sneijder, would be out of action for three months after injuring his knee during a weekend match in London.

Earlier Monday, van

der Vaart himself announced that he had sealed a move to the Spanish champions.—*Internet*



Real Madrid confirmed Monday they have signed Dutch international midfielder Rafael van der Vaart, seen here in June 2008, from Hamburg.—INTERNET

Vietnam, Switzerland agree to foster relations

HANOI, 5 Aug— Vietnam and Switzerland have agreed to strengthen bilateral ties in various fields, including economy, trade, investment, education and training, *Vietnam News Agency* reported Monday.

Vietnamese State President Nguyen Minh Triet and visiting Swiss President Pascal Couchepin were pleased with “the fine, diversified and sustainable relations between the two countries which are developing extensively and intensively in all fields.”

The two presidents stressed the importance of official development assistance of Switzerland and other countries in Vietnam’s fast poverty reduction process. Couchepin confirmed that his country would continue to assist Vietnam during the progress.

The two leaders agreed to step up bilateral cooperation on education and training in the coming time. Couchepin said he supported Swiss universities in granting more scholarships to Vietnamese post-graduates. Vietnam’s two leading universities will ink cooperative deals with two Swiss universities on 5 August.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunman shoots radio journalist in Philippines

MANILA, 5 Aug—A gunman shot and critically wounded a Philippine radio commentator as he walked to a shopping mall in a southern city, police said on Tuesday, adding the attack could be work-related.

The Philippines is one of the most dangerous places in the world to work as a journalist. Fifty-seven reporters have been killed since 2001.

Dennis Cuesta was walking with a friend in General Santos late on Monday when a man emerged from behind and shot him five times at close range, the city’s police chief Robert Po said.

“Cuesta remains comatose at a local hospital after he was shot in the head, shoulder and hip,” Po told reporters, adding the radio commentator had been getting death threats because of his on-air attacks on gambling and drugs.

MNA/Reuters



Xiang Zhaolun (2nd R, front), deputy secretary-general of the State Council of China, and Cai Fuchao, vice mayor of Beijing, hold the flame upon its arrival during a simple reception at the Beijing Capital International Airport in Beijing, China, on 5 Aug, 2008.—XINHUA

Turkey picks Army boss, public tension seen easing

ANKARA, 5 Aug — Land forces commander Ilker Basbug has been appointed head of Turkey’s powerful Armed Forces, a hawkish general who is expected to avoid open confrontation with the Islamist-rooted governing AK Party.

The General Staff said in a statement on Monday Basbug would take charge of NATO’s second biggest Army on 30 August from retiring general Yasar Buyukanit, who has often clashed openly with the government.

The move comes as Turkey, a key US ally, hopes to put behind it a long power struggle between the powerful secularist establishment, including generals and judges, and the AK Party.

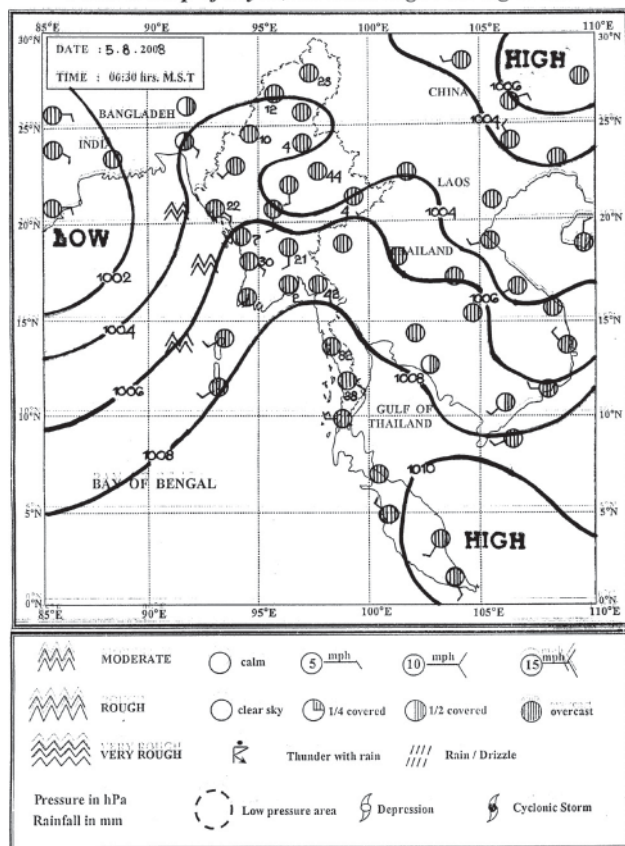
“Unlike the often impulsive incumbent... Buyukanit, Basbug is known for his cool and calculating nature,” said Wolfango Piccoli, an analyst at political risk think-tank Eurasia Group.

“The result will be less likelihood of abrupt escalations in civil-military tension, but at the same time more effective political pressure from the military,” he said.

Turkey’s highest court on Wednesday rejected an attempt by a chief prosecutor — seen as backed by the secularists — to shut down the AK Party but imposed financial penalties on it for anti-secular activities. The government has long been at odds with the secularist establishment over the role of religion in Turkey.

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Tuesday, 5 August, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan, Chin States, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mogok (3.78) inches, Dawei (3.43) inches, Bilin (2.28) inches, Mudon (1.95) inches, Lashio (1.77) inches, Mawlamyine (1.69) inches, Myeik (1.53) inches, Ye (1.46) inches, Bago and Hmawbi (1.38) inches each, Thandwe (1.18) inches and Thayawadaya and Hpa-an (1.06) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 4-8-2008 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 5-8-2008 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-8-2008 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 4-8-2008 was (5.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 5-8-2008 was (0.20) inch at Mingaladon, (0.08) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.04) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (64.17) inches at Mingaladon, (73.31) inches at Kaba-Aye and (89.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 4-8-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-8-2008: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Chin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Ayeyawadaya, Yangon and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-8-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-8-2008: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-8-2008: Likelihood of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Wednesday, 6 August
View on today

7:00 am

1. မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am

5. နိုင်ငံ့စီးပွားအလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

8:05 am

6. Musical programme

8:15 am

7. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

8:30 am

8. International news

8:40 am

9. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:10 pm

2. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

3. Dance of national races

4:30 pm

4. သီချင်းကြီးပဒေသာ

4:40 pm

5. Song to uphold National Spirit

4:50 pm

6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:00 pm

7. Musical programme

5:15 pm

8. ရွှေယံဝိုင်း အာဆီယံအစဉ်

5:25 pm

9. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. မြန်မာ့ဓလေ့ရိုးရာလက်ရာ

6:50 pm

13. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင် အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

7:15 pm

14. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:25 pm

15. Musical programme

8:00 pm

16. News

17. International news

18. Weather report

19. မြန်မာ့ရုပ်ရှင်

“ပန်းဒဏ္ဍာရီ” ရန်အောင်၊ မင်းမောင်ကွန်း၊ မေသန်းနု၊ ဖိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ

(ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဟိန်းစိုး)

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.

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

Correct policies; practical, effective processes necessary for realization of educational goals

Special refresher course No. 31 for basic education teachers opens



NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—The opening of special refresher course No. 31 for basic education teachers was held at Yadana hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division yesterday morning.

On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung delivered a speech on the occasion.

Also present were

Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, the deputy ministers, members of CSSTB, (See page 8)

Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung addresses the opening of Special Refresher Course No. 31 for basic education teachers at CICS (Upper Myanmar).—MNA

More donations for storm victims

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Aug—Well-wishers and Tatmadaw families from Bago Division donated K 10,415,700 to the storm victims recently.

So far, cash and kind donated to the victims amounted to K 15,156,900,815. The amount included K 117,610,970 donated to Financial Sub-Committee.

MNA