

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Volume XVI, Number 112

7th Waxing of Wagaung 1370 ME

Friday, 8 August, 2008

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

Emergence of an ASEAN Community by 2015 will benefit Myanmar citizens together with other citizens of ASEAN

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug—The following is the full text of the message sent by Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 41st Anniversary of the ASEAN Day.

On the occasion of the 41st Anniversary of the founding of the Association, it is a great pleasure for me to extend my warmest congratulations to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for its success during the past 41 years. It is also a great pleasure for me that Myanmar has ratified the ASEAN Charter last July. This year is of special importance and a transition for ASEAN member countries as they are being engaged in preparations to implement the provisions of the Charter. The Charter, a crucial milestone of ASEAN, will be the

Constitution of ASEAN and the member countries shall be able to integrate among themselves for the future of the Association in accordance with the objectives of the Charter.

It has been decided that ASEAN's three pillars, namely, Political-Security Community, Economic Community and Socio-Culture Community will be implemented by the year 2015. The emergence of an ASEAN Community by 2015 will benefit Myanmar citizens together with other citizens of ASEAN in sharing the fruits of peace and stability, prosperity

and socio-cultural development. We have been witnessing that during the past forty one years, mutual goodwill, mutual trust and cooperation among the people and governments of the ASEAN Member States have been promoted and developed across the broad range of fields, such as, political-security, economic, social and culture. Based on its achievements, the ASEAN members believe that the association will be successful in building an ASEAN Community.

(See page 2)

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein on his departure for PRC

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe saw off Prime Minister General Thein Sein who left Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 10 am today to attend the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games to be held in Beijing of the People's Republic of China.

Also present at the airport together with Senior General Than Shwe were Vice-Chairman of the State

Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing,

(See page 8)

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein before departure for PRC to attend the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.— MNA



PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 8 August, 2008

Friendship between Myanmar and Kuwait deepened

At the invitation of Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, a goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah of Kuwait arrived at Nay Pyi Taw on 6 August to pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe received the visiting Kuwaiti delegation led by the Kuwaiti Prime Minister at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.

During his goodwill visit, Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sat together with his Myanmar counterpart General Thein Sein at the Government Office in Nay Pyi Taw. The cordial meeting focused on bilateral cooperation for mutual interest and deepening the friendship between the two nations.

The goodwill visit led to the ratification of “Agreement for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment between the Union of Myanmar and the State of Kuwait” and “Agreement for Economic and Technical Cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the State of Kuwait”.

In addition, the two sides signed “Memorandum of Understanding on the Conducting of Bilateral Consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait”.

Myanmar maintains the friendship ties with the international community including her neighbours and regional countries. Agreements for investment and economic and technical cooperation will yield fruitful results to the two nations.

The goodwill visit of the Kuwaiti Prime Minister will not only fortify the friendship but also enhance cooperation between Myanmar and Kuwait.

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

Emergence of an ASEAN Community...

(from page 1)

We have clearly seen that ASEAN has been responding to natural disasters and pandemic in a more effective and timely manner through well coordinated disaster management and emergency response mechanisms. It is well aware that ASEAN is assisting Myanmar to recover from the devastation resulting from Cyclone Nargis.

To be successful in building the ASEAN Community, ASEAN citizens are obliged to take part in it. Taking this opportunity, I would like to urge our people to strive together in building the ASEAN Community in accordance with this year's theme of “One ASEAN Identity, One ASEAN Community by 2015”.—MNA

Industry-2 Minister receives Member of House of Councillors of Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug — Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein received Member of House of Councillors of Japan Mr Shimba Kazuya and party at his office, here, at 10 am on 4 August.

They discussed cooperation in industrial and economic sectors between the two countries.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Swa Khaing and officials.

MNA



Minister Vice-Admiral Soe Thein receives Mr Shimba Kazuya, Member of the House of Councillors of Japan, and party.—MNA

CEC member meets USDA members in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug—CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with USDA executives of

Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon townships at the ministry here yesterday afternoon.

The CEC member gave a speech and acting secretaries and secretaries of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana district, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Lewe, Nay Pyi Taw

Tatkon townships explained works being carried out. He discussed the matters presented by participants of the meeting and gave concluding remarks.—MNA



Minister Dr Kyaw Myint consoles patients at Third Mile relief camp in Labutta Township.—HEALTH

Health Minister inspects relief camps in Labutta, Myaungmya townships

YANGON, 7 Aug—Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, accompanied by Dr Nahal Singh of WHO and officials, inspected health care services and undertaking of environmental sanitation tasks at 5th-mile relief camp, 3rd-mile relief camp and the Township People's Hospital in Labutta on 2 August.

At Labutta Township Peoples' Hospital, the minister met health staff.

On 3 August, the minister donated cash to

the school of Seventh Sabbath Society in Myaungmya Township.

At Myaungmya district Peoples' Hospital, the minister met local authorities and health staff.

At Myaungmya Lunge Ahman training school, the

minister gave instructions on immunization of orphans and preventive measures against infectious diseases. On behalf of the Ministry of Health, Dr Maung Win donated cash, clothes, stationery, food and sports year for orphans.

MNA

More relief supplies arrive

YANGON, 7 Aug — As international community has been providing relief aid to storm-hit regions, relief supplies weighing 8.2 tons donated by Thailand-based WFP arrived at Yangon International Airport today. — MNA

Poll: More US voters think it “riskier” to elect Obama than McCain

WASHINGTON, 7 Aug—A poll released on Wednesday found that more registered voters thought electing Barack Obama is riskier compared to John McCain.

According to the poll by CNN and Opinion Research Corp, 57 percent of the 914 interviewed said that the Democratic presidential candidate would be a risky choice, compared to 54 percent

having the same feeling about his Republican presidential rival.

A total 31 percent agreed that Obama could be a “very risky” choice while only 21 percent said the same of McCain, the poll showed.

But when asked which candidate would be “somewhat risky,” 33 percent chose McCain, while 26 percent named Obama, it added.

Show from the poll, Obama and McCain remain in a tight race for the White House with no more than 100 days left before the November showdown.

According to the CNN’s “poll of polls” released on Tuesday, Obama maintained a 5-percentage-point lead over McCain, at 48 percent to 43 percent, but there was still 9 percent undecided.—Internet

Afghan roadside bomb incidents hit four-year peak

WASHINGTON, 7 Aug—Roadside bomb incidents involving US and NATO troops in Afghanistan hit their highest level in at least four years between April and June, the Pentagon said on Wednesday.

There was a peak of about 200 such incidents in Afghanistan in the three-month period, data released by a Defence Department office that

oversees efforts to thwart attacks by improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, in Iraq and Afghanistan showed.

About 120 of the devices exploded, including some 40 that resulted in US and NATO casualties, the data showed. Western forces discovered and cleared another 80 before they could be detonated by insurgents.

The number of roadside

bomb incidents declined in June, the latest month for which data was available for Afghanistan, and officials said roadside bomb incidents were expected to fall further in July. The spring peak coincided with an intensifying Taliban insurgency that has pushed US military deaths in Afghanistan above those in Iraq in recent months.—Internet



A man opens up the booth for artist Steve Powers ‘Waterboarding Thrill Ride’ installation at the Coney Island arcade in New York on 6 August, 2008.

INTERNET

Average ER waiting time nears one hour, CDC says

ATLANTA, 7 Aug—The average time that hospital emergency rooms patients wait to see a doctor has grown from about 38 minutes to almost an hour over the past decade, according to new federal statistics released Wednesday.

The increase is due to supply and demand, said

Dr Stephen Pitts, the lead author of the report by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

“There are more people arriving at the ERs. And there are fewer ERs,” said Pitts, an associate professor of emergency medicine at Atlanta’s Emory University.

Overall, about 119

million visits were made to US emergency rooms in 2006, up from 90 million in 1996 — a 32 percent increase.

Meanwhile, the number of hospital emergency departments dropped to fewer than 4,600, from nearly 4,900, according to American Hospital Association statistics.—Internet



Visitors watch paintings at an art gallery at 798 Art Zone in Beijing, capital of China, on 5 Aug, 2008. The area occupied by Beijing 798 Art Zone today was once the place for Beijing North China Wireless Joint Equipment Factory. Attracted by the Bauhaus buildings and convenient transportation in this quiet area, artists began to gather to open their workshops here since 2001.—INTERNET

Japan’s core machinery orders fall in June

TOKYO, 7 Aug—A key barometer of corporate capital spending fell for the first time in three months in June, indicating Japanese businesses are feeling the pinch of a sputtering global economy. Core private sector machinery orders, which exclude often volatile orders from electric power firms and those for ships, fell 2.6 percent to 1.085 trillion yen (\$9.92 billion) in June from the previous month, the Cabinet Office said Thursday. Led by declines in the iron and steel sector, the figure marks a substantial weakening from a 10.4 percent jump in May and a 5.5 percent increase in April.—Internet

13 drown in boat accident in northern India

LUCKNOW (India), 7 Aug—A police official says a boat carrying people home from work capsized overnight in northern India killing 13 people.

Local police official Rajesh Modak says five people on board managed to swim to safety and six others were rescued.

Modak says four others are still missing Thursday. The accident took place in Barhi village, about 93 miles southeast of Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh state.—Internet

All four on board helicopter die in W Canada

OTTAWA, 7 Aug—All four people on board a helicopter died after it crashed in Canada’s western province of British Columbia on Wednesday, police confirmed.

“All four of the helicopter’s occupants have now been located and are confirmed deceased,” Const Krista Vrolyk said in a news release in the port city of Prince Rupert, approximately 770 km north of Vancouver. Earlier reports said that two people were killed and two others survived in the crash.

The crash site, about 150 km northeast of Prince Rupert, is accessible by air and water only, Vrolyk said, and the Transportation Safety Board of Canada has begun an investigation into the cause of the crash.—Internet

Bomb kills two on Russian beach



SOCHI (Russia), 7 Aug—A bomb explosion has killed two people on a beach in Russia’s Black Sea resort of Sochi, police say.

Witnesses said a woman picked up a package which then blew up, killing her and a man with her. Four injured people were rushed to hospital.

The blast happened in Loo, in Sochi’s Lazarevskoye district. The exact nature of the device is not yet clear.

Sochi is one of Russia’s most popular beach resorts. It will also host the 2014 Winter Olympic Games.

The blast happened shortly after 1000 local time (0600 GMT). A police spokeswoman was quoted as saying there would have been more casualties if it had happened later, when the beach is more crowded. One victim’s leg was blown off.—Internet

Beijing Olympics to impress the world, says Kazakh President

ALMATY, 7 Aug — The Beijing Olympic Games will impress the whole world, Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev told *Xinhua* on Wednesday.

“Beijing hosting the Olympic Games for the first time is an honour for China as it is a reflection of the trust of the whole world. So, once again I would like to congratulate the Chinese people and their leaders,” Nazarbayev said before setting off for a two-day visit to Mongolia, from where he will head to the Chinese capital to attend the Games’ opening ceremony.

“China’s preparation for the Olympic Games has been excellent. Large amounts of money have been invested in the construction of stadiums and infrastructures. The whole world is expecting a marvelous event,” he said.—*Xinhua*

Olympics will contribute to “harmonious society” in China, says Dutch PM

BRUSSELS, 7 Aug — The upcoming Beijing Olympics are a culmination of three decades of profound change and a further step toward China’s goal of a “harmonious society,” Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende told *Xinhua* in a written interview Wednesday.

Balkenende, who will visit China between 8 and 11 Aug and attend the Olympics opening ceremony, expressed hope that his visit will help strengthen the “already strong” bilateral ties.

China’s progress since 1978 has been “spectacular and highly impressive,” said the Dutch PM, who will be accompanied by the Netherlands’ State Secretary for Health, Welfare and Sports, Jet Bussemaker, on his trip to Beijing.

“For the Chinese people themselves, the transformation must have been even more dramatic because of its direct impact on their own lives,” said the 52-year-old Dutch leader.—*Xinhua*

New rail adds convenience to Badaling tourists

BEIJING, 7 Aug — The long-awaited express rail linking the Badaling Great Wall with downtown Beijing went into operation on Wednesday, cutting the journey time in half.

The line S2 runs between Beijing North Railway Station near Xizhimen and Yanqing, a suburban county where the Badaling section of the Great Wall is located.

There are six stops along the 82-kilometre route, *Beijing Evening News* reported. It takes 80 minutes from Xizhimen to Badaling, the previous stop of the terminal Yanqing station.

Previously, a train journey would take over two and a half hours. —*Xinhua*



A first-class car of a train running on the new S2 express railway from downtown Beijing to the Badaling section of the Great Wall on 6 August, 2008.—XINHUA

Olympic torch relay starts 2nd day in final leg



Torchbearer Li Zhonghua (2nd R) poses with the next torchbearer Dang Qiang during the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games torch relay in Beijing, China, on 6 Aug, 2008. —XINHUA

BEIJING, 7 Aug— The Olympic torch relay started its second day in the final leg in Beijing at the landmark Badaling section of the Great Wall on Thursday morning.

After a 5-minute opening ceremony, the first torchbearer Li Zhonghua, a famous Chinese test pilot, started his stretch at 7:10 am and ran onto the Great Wall.

S Africa calls for intensified fight against HIV among children

MEXICO CITY, 7 Aug— A professor with the Human Sciences Research Council (HRSC) in South Africa made a call Wednesday to the world community to step up the fight against HIV among children.

During the 17th International AIDS Conference 2008 taking place in Mexico City, Linda Richter said most HIV positive children had been infected through mother-child transmission.

Despite recent progress, services to prevent mother-child transmission in low and medium income countries, and whose effectiveness has been demonstrated for more than 10 years, only reaches one third of those in need, Richter said.

Richter said children living with HIV have less access to treatment than adults do in the same environment, and that only around 10 percent of these children worldwide receive an anti-retroviral treatment.

Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Magnet for mega companies

BEIJING, 7 Aug— East of Tian’anmen Square is Beijing’s “Wall Street”, the thriving Beijing Central Business District (CBD).

Since its inception in 2000, CBD has played an active role in promoting China’s business development. With 3.99 sq km of floor space, the district has attracted a large number of multinational companies seeking a good location to start their businesses in China.

“The local government has made it a priority to help Beijing CBD build a better environment for investment. We hope to make the district highly responsive to the pace of modern business development,” a CBD Committee spokesman said. “A higher grade of service will help the entire city present a modern face to foreign investors.”

In recent years, top corporations, international financial institutions, international media groups and various high-end professional service organizations have opened offices in the Beijing CBD.

Xinhua

Three fires break out in Portugal

LISBON, 7 Aug — Some 300 firefighters were mobilized for three fires that erupted in central, northern and southern Portugal Wednesday afternoon, officials said.

A total of 194 firefighters with 48 vehicles, five helicopters and five airplanes were sent to Oleiros in the northern region of Castelo Branco.

The fire was endangering some 20 people and their homes. Meanwhile, over 100 firefighters went to Castanheira de Pera and Monchique in central and southern Portugal for two fires. —*Xinhua*

Hundreds of buildings collapse after strong quake in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 7 Aug— Hundreds of houses collapsed after a strong quake with the magnitude of 6.6 rocked West Nusa Tenggara province in eastern parts of Indonesia on Thursday, meteorology and disaster management agencies said here.

The quake was not potential for tsunami, an official of the meteorology agency named only Subagio told *Xinhua*.

The shakes of the quake were felt up to Bali Island in central part of the country with an intensity of 3 MMI (modified mercalli intensity), said Subagio. —*Xinhua*

World’s first “human eye” camera created in US

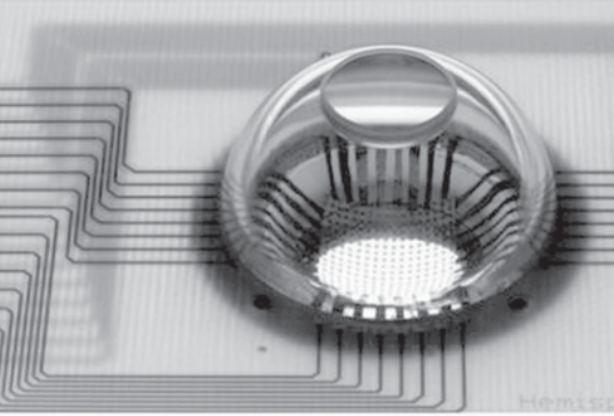
BEIJING, 7 Aug— US researchers have created the world’s first “human eye” camera that could revolutionise photography, according to media reports Thursday.

The prototype device is about the same size and shape as a real eye and has a curved “retina” that is sensitive to light.

Digital cameras work by focusing light onto a silicon chip containing light-sensitive pixels.

But expanding the field of view leads to distortion around the edges.

That’s why vertebrate eyes are round — to capture more of a scene without losing clarity. —*Xinhua*



A view shows the completed electronic eye camera, mounted on printed circuit board for connection to a computer for image acquisition in this undated handout image.—XINHUA



Yao Ming selected to hold Chinese flag at Olympic opening ceremony

BEIJING, 7 Aug. — Chinese basketball player and NBA star Yao Ming has been picked to hold the national flag at the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games on Friday night.

Cui Dalin, deputy head of the Chinese Olympic delegation, made the announcement at a Press conference on Thursday afternoon.

Only those athletes with high sport calibre, good sport ethics and good public image could be chosen to carry the nation's flag, Cui said. "We have many such athletes, and we decided to pick Yao Ming after careful consideration."

Yao carried China's national flag at the opening ceremony of the Athens Games four years ago.—Xinhua

Olympic torch reaches Great Wall

BEIJING, 7 Aug. — The Olympic flame made one of its final relays Thursday on the eve of the Olympic Games opening ceremony as torchbearers carried it along the ancient Great Wall

of China.

After a short ceremony at the landmark Badaling section of the heritage site, hundreds of fans waving yellow and red pompoms cheered on the first torchbearer, Li Zhonghua.

"If you don't go to the Great Wall, then you're not a real man," said Li, one of China's most famous test pilots, who was quoting the late Chairman Mao Zedong. Xinhua



Chinese famous basketball player Yao Ming holds Chinese national flag as the Olympic Delegation of the People's Republic of China parades into the stadium during the opening ceremony of the 28th Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium in Athens, Greece, on 13 Aug, 2004.—XINHUA



A foreign tourist with a Chinese national flag paster on her face is seen in this photo taken in Beijing, China, on 6 Aug, 2008.—XINHUA

French President: Beijing Olympics to achieve success of world renown

PARIS, 7 Aug — The upcoming Beijing Olympics is a great sports gala and will achieve a huge success of world renown, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Wednesday.

In a written interview with Chinese journalists before his visit to Beijing for the Olympic opening ceremony, Sarkozy said he was very glad to be invited to Beijing for the Games by the French Olympic Committee.—Xinhua



Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) meets with French President Nicolas Sarkozy at Toyako in Hokkaido, north Japan, on 9 July, 2008.—XINHUA

Men's soccer tournament of Beijing Olympics kicks off



Brazilian midfielder Ronaldinho (2nd L) vies for the ball during the first round Group C match of men's football between Brazil and Belgium at the Beijing Olympic Games in Shenyang, Olympic co-host city in northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 7 Aug, 2008. XINHUA

NEWS ALBUM

Man accused of spraying water on woman's shoes

A man was accused of spraying saltwater by a syringe onto a woman's shoes under a table at a University of Cincinnati library, according to media reports.

Dwight Pannell, 43, was charged with voyeurism, assault and criminal trespass, according to court records.

The woman told police that she heard something coming from under her table and felt the sensation on her feet, then she looked down and saw a man on his knee holding a syringe.

Pannell was set a bond at 75,000 US dollars.

Internet



A "recortador" leaps over a wild cow during an exhibition of riding and acrobatic skills at the bullring on the third day of the annual San Fermin festival in Pamplona.



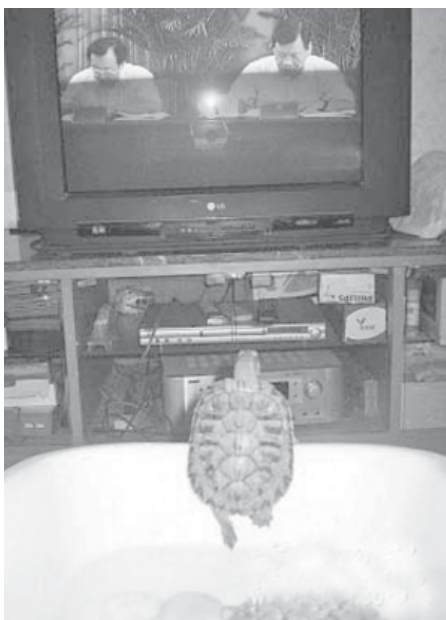
A boy shakes hands with a street performer during the San Fermin festival in Pamplona.

Tortoise keen on "watching" news broadcast in SW China

China's evening TV news programme has received an unexpected spectator recently — a tortoise who seems to be crazy about the anchorman's voice.

Whenever the pet tortoise raised by a citizen in south China's Chongqing Municipality hears CCTV's 7 pm news broadcast on the air, she comes out of her bathtub and absorbs herself in the television, *Chongqing Evening News* reported Monday.

"Every time she hears the anchorman's voice from the newscast, she would stop whatever she had been busy with and stretches her head from the shell immediately," her owner Liu Jie told the paper.—Internet



China's evening TV news programme has received an unexpected spectator recently — a tortoise who seems to be crazy about the anchorman's voice.

Imitation Neanderthals a big hit with tourists

Visitors to Lichuan, Hubei province, have been assured they need not be alarmed at the apparent presence of Neanderthals in the city.

Staff dressed in wigs and animal hides take the role of Neanderthals as they scuttle, armed with spears, through the

replicated early settlement in Lichuan's dense forestry area, in a bid to attract visitors.

Business on the settlement is said to be considerably brisker since the introduction of its imitation primitive hominoids.—Internet

It is said to be a flower, but ...

Htay Aung (Tourism)

Whenever we friends got together in my youth, we sang some old songs composed to reflect love. As far as I remember we wholeheartedly sang the songs of Ko Than Hlaing, Pianist Chit Swe, Pianist Hla Htut and Ko Tin Hlaing and so on. I like the songs sung by Ko Than Hlaing and Pianist Chit Swe, especially “Gangaw Myaing Dan” and “The Nway The Moe, The Saung” by Ko Than Hlaing and “Hmway Lun The Pan” and “Chaw Kahlar” by Pianist Chit Swe. It is because these songs are composed in rhyme and in a meaningful way. The tasteful songs have simple Myanmar tunes. So, we had a good time singing songs with thoughts and feelings. The term “flower” is embodied in these songs. I wonder if a flower is the symbol of love. As far as I am concerned, a flower is also regarded as an omen of good fortune, and a sign of forgiveness, and a thing women wear.

When we were students in Maymyo (now PyinOoLwin), we used to send dry cherry flowers to our girlfriends. Many times, our classmates laughed at us in the class when the buds of the dry padauk flower our girlfriends had sent to us dropped to the ground from inside the books. Now, we are at the old age, and we do not face any experiences related to flowers, except offering them to the Buddha.

A recent issue of the Myanmar Times weekly journal featured an interview, in which U Tun Lwin of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department said that the term “Nargis” was derived from Arabic and it meant “flower”. So, I was curious about what sort of flower it was. It is fair to say that the flower “Nargis” was an extraordinary flower that cost a large number of human lives.

Taking interest in the catastrophe, I approached an official. He said that cyclones were named; that an alternate country in the region was responsible for giving a name to the storm; that when the storm started

to form, the alternate country named it “Nargis”; and that when there was a cyclone, it was known under a name.

It is natural that the weather is bad when monsoon sets in and retreats in the rainy season. Myanmar has a coast and a great number of rivers and creeks. So, in particular, the delta and coastal regions face torrential rains and strong winds yearly. Once there forms a low pressure area in the Bay of Bengal, local people of such coastal regions as Sittway, Kyaukpyu, Ngapali, Gwa, Pathein and Chaungtha take preparedness measures.

When I was a young man, I used to be in service in Pathein, Hainggyi, Chaungtha, Magyeebin and Tawmi. Pathein faced a serve storm around 1976-77. At that time, I was in Pathein. It rained heavily with a strong wind. Many trees were uprooted. Corrugated iron sheets were blown off the roofs of the houses. However, it was not as severe, long and destructive as the storm “Nargis”.

When a storm hit Sittway, two hotels in Sittway and MraukU were destroyed. Urban areas also faced losses. However, the storm was not as destructive as “Nargis”, either. It was a weak storm, if compared with “Nargis”.

The delta came under the strike of the storm “Marla”. There was a slight damage to Ngapali. Some of the hotels in Ngwehsaung beach resort were destroyed. That time, Chaungtha was hit harder than any other region. The roads in Chaungtha were in an awful mess with debris. Trees fell down to the ground. Some buildings were destroyed. However, the loss was nothing if compared with the destruction caused by “Nargis”. No one was killed or missing in the natural disaster.

As usual, “Nargis” formed in the Bay of Bengal and it intensified from a low pressure area. It gradually intensified from a spot to a huge area. The radius of the area was about 210 miles even in the first stage. The

area was moving slowly. If so it would take hours for the tropical depression to pass through an area. While the tropical depression existed, the wind blew at the speed of about 120 mph. Instead of moving as usual, the storm changed its direction to the east. Then, “Nargis” entered interior areas gradually.

The people had not faced such a very severe storm in their life, so they suffered heavy losses in an unguarded time. So, the size of death and destruction was that high. The storm caused huge tidal waves. So, the plains were flooded, as well. The strength of the storm was evidenced by the scenes in the storm-hit areas. So, the scene of Yangon changed completely in no time. Almost of the large frees were uprooted. Lamp-posts fell down to the ground. Power lines and phone lines were in a mess. In the past, the environment was pleasant with lush and green trees when it rained. Unlike in the past, the trees that was resistant to the storm were with broken branches.

When, the storm “Nargis” abated, the people as usual tried to rise from the natural disaster. Soon after the storm, state level dignitaries made trips to the disaster-affected areas and comforted the victims. Rescue and relief tasks were carried out day in, day out to rescue the victims, clear the roads, and make the functions return to normal. The people contributed voluntary services, cash and kind generously for the relief measures.

When it came to its knowledge, the global community was deeply worried about and showed sympathy for Myanmar. It wanted to relieve the sufferings of the nation one way or another. Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ban Ki-moon arrived in the nation. He visited the storm-hit areas and consoled the victims. At the ASEAN-UN International Pledging Conference held on 25 May, he called for international assistance for the victims. Due to the help of the UN, Myanmar received relief supplies to an extent. Before the arrival of international assistance, the people showed their generosity by making a large number of donations. As a result, relief tasks were launched in a short time under the supervision of the government.

(See page 7)

While developed countries are taking measures to reduce global warming in all seriousness, developing countries need to protect the natural environment.

It is said to be a flower, but ...

Htay Aung (Tourism)

(from page 6)

In reality, tsunami is a natural disaster triggered by a strong earthquake. As Nargis was a storm, it destroyed not only coastal regions but also interior areas. Destruction was great due to power of tidal waves as well as power of wind. Nargis had both powers. It caused not only wind power but also huge tidal waves. That was why coastal regions were most venerable to Nargis.

A few days before Nargis, Asia-Pacific Tourism Organization held a conference between governments and businessmen in Bangkok, Thailand. The conference focused on addressing the issue of climate change as it is a great challenge to global tourism. The meeting was organized by the Tourism Industry Authority of host country Thailand, regional airlines and hotel agencies. Speaking on the occasion, the patron and the chairman of Asia-Pacific Tourism Organization and the Thai Tourism Minister said the ultimate aim of the conference was to adopt fundamental policies and plans on addressing the issue of climate change through cooperative efforts of the leaders of governmental and private tourism industries. The organization was responsible for giving help to tourists regarding the issue of climate change, they said. The conference also stressed the need for seeking ways and means to address the issue through cooperation and coordination.

Environmental conservation has become a main factor in tourism sector especially for the development of air transport. Exhaust fumes from airplanes, noises of engines and use of fuel oil have become a barieer to the drive. For the past 40 years, airlines have been able to conserve the environment, reduce exhaust fumes from planes and reduce noises from engines by 75 percent. Now they have been able to raise the capacity of octane by 70 percent and it will improve by further 25 percent in 2020. In comparison with smoke from factories, exhaust fumes from planes are so small in quantity. The airlines discussed that they were trying to reach the zero point of carbon emissions.

In the tourism sector also, big hotels are found to be putting emphasis on reduction of carbon emissions and turning to green hotels. However, the number is only 20 percent and the remaining 80 percent has not

In the tourism sector, big hotels are found to be putting emphasis on reduction of carbon emissions and turning to green hotels. However, the number is only 20 percent and the remaining 80 percent has not known the concept yet.

known the concept yet. The remaining 80 percent did not attend the conference. In particular, hotels in developing countries need to know the concept. If they have the lowest benchmarks to follow against the issue, there will be a progress. In addition, educative talks are necessary and funds need to be raised for education and research work.

The conference said the increasing population of the world is one of the main factors to be considered. It is likely that the global population will reach 7.6 billion in 2020 and 9 billion in 2050. At the same time, life expectancy has increased gradually. Although the population of over-60-year-olds has increased by 10 percent now, it may increase by 20 percent in 2020. The number of tourists across the globe was 565 million in 1995 but the number is 900 million now. It may increase by 1.6 billion in 2020. Accordingly, the world will need more energy, food, water and other resources and the environmental issue needs to be considered.

Before any good results have come out yet, cyclone Nargis hit Myanmar. The tremendous impact of Nargis was a great surprise to the whole world. Nearly two weeks after Nargis, a severe earthquake struck Sichun, China, causing great loss of life and property. Again, a series of tornadoes, floods and quakes occurred in many parts of the world. Therefore, the world's people should be alert to such natural disasters and take preparedness measures.

If it is taken for granted that a severe natural disaster has never been experienced, such a disaster may come some time or another.

Nowadays, developed countries are undertaking short- and long-term projects to reduce carbon emissions. It is said that the year 2050 will see a

carbon-free world. Some experts are working very hard to produce alternative energy. But critics say this can lead to soaring prices. One expert argues that the world should go back to nuclear age. For generating electricity the reactor is most appropriate. In terms of travelling expenses, natural gas is three times higher than nuclear power; solar energy ten times higher than nuclear power, he points out. But some people protest that nuclear power is not cost-effective. Twenty percent of a nuclear plant has to be disposed of. Of the remaining 79 percent, 27 percent is lost at least one time. The successful nuclear plants have to be closed for 39 days when they refill fuel oil every 17 months. If there is technical failure, it is not easy to rerun the plant. They only encouraged the world to use solar energy and wind power. Some experts are planning to produce energy through sea waves.

While developed countries are taking measures to reduce global warming in all seriousness, developing countries need to protect the natural environment.

Anyhow, it is high time the world's people took their respective roles to keep their planet peaceful and green. If self-interest is to be sought for one individual, one group or one country, there will be more disadvantages rather than advantages. Today's natural disasters that have been experienced are due to the recklessly excessive use of natural resources. Other industrialized nations' excessive use of natural resources may have impact on us. All in all, we have to do as much as we can in order not to damage the whole world. Otherwise, I would warn that we will face disasters such as tsunami and Nargis.

Translation: MS+ST

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister...

(from page 1)
Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Maj-Gen Maung Shein and Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for

Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar Mr Guan Mu, senior military officers, directors-general of the SPDC Office and the

Government Office and departmental heads. Prime Minister General Thein Sein was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials. MNA



Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein who leaves for PRC to attend the opening of the Beijing Olympic Games. (News on page 1)—MNA

Maj-Gen Ko Ko supervises agriculture, development tasks in Bago Division

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug — Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min and senior military officers, attended the ceremony to grow physic nut plants of Toungoo Station for 2008 at Southern Command

of the oil mill with the use of bio-diesel. Next, they handed physic nut saplings to commandants of regiments and units. After growing physic nut saplings together with family members of the regiments and units, they inspected the physic nut plantations. They attended the concluding of ploughing in Bago Division in 2008,

the rural people. The plan was set to grow 17,211,820 acres of monsoon paddy in 2008-09 in the nation. Bago Division set the plan to cultivate 3,011,182 acres of monsoon paddy, accounting for 17.5 per cent of paddy sown acreage of the entire nation. As a result, Bago Division can be designated as the second granary of the nation. The

way to extend cultivation of summer paddy on 450,000 acres of land in 2008-09. In Bago Division, there are 46 dams and 56 river water pumping stations. In addition, five more river water pumping projects are being implemented in the division. In conclusion, Maj-Gen Ko

They viewed the paddy transplanting contest. Next, they released 50,000 fingerlings into the farmlands. They attended the opening ceremony of the new school building at Basic Education High School (Natsingon). Deputy Commander of Southern Command

Brig-Gen Win Myint, Director-General U Kyaw Thu of No. 1 Basic Education Department and Division Education Officer U Phone Myint Lwin formally opened the school building. The new school building has eight classrooms and it is two-storey building measuring 280 feet by 30 feet.

The deputy commander handed over documents related to the building to Director-General U Kyaw Thu of No. 3 BED.

The building was built at a cost of K 13.5 million contributed by the Ministry of Education, plus K 89.5 million by Southern Command and wellwishers.

At the site of Bago River Bridge Construction Project, Maj-Gen Ko Ko viewed progress of construction works.

MNA



Maj-Gen Ko Ko views paddy transplanting contest in Bago Division.—MNA

Headquarters on 5 August. Lt-Col Thawda of Southern Command reported on cultivation of 100 acres of physic nut plantation of the command and the site for construction of the oil mill. The commander gave instructions on cultivation of physic nut with set standards and production of bio-diesel and operating

the paddy transplanting contest and direct seeding contest at the farmland of Indine Village of Toungoo Township. Speaking on the occasion, Maj-Gen Ko Ko said that the State economy is based on the agriculture sector. Development of agriculture sector will uplift living standards of

division has so far put over 2.9 million acres of land under monsoon paddy against the target of 3.05 million acres, accounting for 97.33 per cent. He continued to say that the division could exceed the target of 400,000 acres of summer paddy in 2007-08 by growing 400,565 acres. Moreover, plan is under

Ko pointed out that while the government is undertaking all-round development of Bago Division, local people are to implement the plans based on natural resources of the region. The commander accepted the reports on concluding of ploughing from the chairmen of District PDCs.

Flood news

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug — According to the 11.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Hinthada is 1,343 cm and it has exceeded by 1 cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1,342 cm during the next 24 hrs.

According to the 11.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Shwegyin River at Shwegyin is 627 cm. It may reach its danger level 700 cm during the next 48 hrs.—MNA

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing inspects construction work of Dokhtawady Bridge (Hsipaw), regional development tasks in Shan State (North)

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Aug—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence accompanied by officials arrived at Wetwun village in Nawngkhio Township in order to inspect regional development tasks of Shan State (North) yesterday. They were welcomed at the village by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and senior military officers.

At Hsin Shweli Sugarcane Mill of Ngweyee Pale Co, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party inspected maintenance works.

At mile post 80/4 in the township, they viewed plucking of physic nut by

service personnel and social organizations members on 8-acre physic nut plantation.

At construction site of Shweli-Mansan-Shwe-sayan 230 KV power line and sub-power station, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing looked into progress in installation of power lines.

Next, they paid homage to Bawgyo Mokhtaw Pagoda at Bawgyo village in Hsipaw Township and presented cash donations to officials.

Afterwards, they inspected growing of Hsin Shweli paddy on 1.24-acre of a farmer at Ngarkhe village in the township.

At the construction site of Dokhtawady bridge (Hsipaw), Maj-Gen Min

Aung Hlaing heard a report on construction works presented by the chief engineer of Asia World Co.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing gave instructions on timely completion of the project meeting with set standards.

At the Pontoon bridge (Hsipaw) construction project, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing heard reports on progress of construction of the bridge and works to be done presented by officials and gave necessary instructions.

They looked into progress of construction of the bridge. It is designed to bear the loads of 60-ton trucks. Next, they viewed thriving Hsin Shweli plantations along Hsipaw-Lashio road.

MNA



၂၀၀၈ - ၂၀၀၉ ပညာသင်နှစ်



ကျောင်းကျန်းမာရေးသီတင်းပတ်

၂၀၀၈ ခုနှစ်၊ ဩဂုတ်လ (၁၁)ရက်မှ (၁၅)ရက်

အခြေခံပညာကျောင်းအားလုံးပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါစို့

ပညာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန



UMFCCI President U Win Myint and Leader of Kuwaiti economic delegation Mr Khaled Abdullah Hamad Al-Sagar sign an agreement in the presence of ministers. (News on page 16)— MNA



Myanmar and Kuwaiti ministers attending Myanmar-Kuwait economic and technical cooperation in investment and trade meeting at Sedona Hotel in Yangon. (News on page 16)— MNA



UMFCCI President U Win Myint and Leader of Kuwaiti economic delegation Mr Khaled Abdullah Hamad Al-Sagar hold meeting at Sedona Hotel. (News on page 16) — MNA

United Sikhs (Malaysia) donates relief supplies

YANGON, 7 Aug—United Sikhs (Malaysia) yesterday morning donated clothes, foodstuff and 150 rolls of tarpaulin sheets worth 45,000 US\$ to storm victims through officials at the Fire Services Department near the Tooth Relic Pagoda in Mayangon Township, here.

Secretary of the National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee Chairman of the Cash and Kind Accepting and Supervisory Committee Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and officials accepted the donations.

MNA

Navy says sub leaked radiation since 2006



The USS Houston arrives in Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, for routine maintenance, during which the leak was found.

WASHINGTON, 7 Aug — A US Navy submarine leaked trace amounts of radioactive water for two years as it made port calls in Japan and other Asian nations, the Navy said

Thursday.

Last week, Navy officials told Japan that the *USS Houston*, a Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine, had only made one port call — March

2008 — while leaking the contaminated fluid.

But after reviewing records of the sub, the Navy told Japanese officials Thursday that the *Houston* had been leaking much longer, since June 2006, and had made port calls to Japanese bases at Sasebo, Yokosuka and Okinawa before it was discovered.

Officials have also told the governments of Malaysia and Singapore that the sub made port calls to those countries while leaking the radioactive water, Navy officials said. The *Houston* also made stops in Guam and Hawaii.

Internet

Israel bolsters its ability to strike Iran

TEL AVIV, 7 Aug— Israel is building up its strike capabilities amid growing anxiety over Iran’s nuclear ambitions and appears confident that a military attack would cripple Tehran’s atomic programme, even if it can’t destroy it.

The Jewish state has purchased 90 *F-16I* fighter planes that can carry enough fuel to reach Iran, and will receive 11 more by the end of next year. It has bought two new *Dolphin* submarines from Germany reportedly capable of firing nuclear-armed warheads — in addition to the three it already has.

And this summer it carried out air manoeuvres in the Mediterranean that



An Israeli Air Force fighter plane lands during an acrobatics display at a graduation ceremony at the Hatzirim Air Force Base near the southern Israeli city of Beersheba.

touched off an international debate over whether they were a “dress rehearsal” for an imminent attack, a stern warning to Iran or a just a way to get allies to step up

the pressure on Teheran to stop building nukes. According to foreign media reports, Israeli intelligence is active inside Iranian territory.

Internet

Oil prices rise, halt four-week fall

SINGAPORE, 7 Aug — Oil prices are up in Asia to near \$120 a barrel, halting a four-week slide on concerns that tension over Iran’s nuclear programme could lead to conflict.

Light, sweet crude for September delivery is up \$1.18 cents Thursday to \$119.76 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange by late afternoon in Singapore.

The contract had dropped 59 cents overnight to settle at \$118.58 a barrel.

In London, September Brent crude is up \$1.20 at \$118.20 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

Internet

Deadly clash in tribal Pakistan



BAJAUR (Pakistan), 7 Aug—Pakistani troops have killed about 25 pro-Taliban militants in fierce clashes in a tribal area along the Afghan border,

officials say.

At least two soldiers were killed. The militants say many more troops died. There is no independent verification.

Internet

The clashes took place in the Loi Sum area in Bajaur, part of the Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA).

Bajaur has seen missile attacks in the past, but this is the first time troops have fought militants on the ground.

In other violence in the north-west, suspected militants burnt down a girls’ college and a school in Swat district, police said.

Jewish settlers attack British diplomats in Hebron

HEBRON (West Bank), 7 Aug — A small group of Jewish settlers attacked a delegation of British diplomats during a visit to the West Bank city of Hebron on Thursday, the British Consulate said.

The consulate in Jerusalem said the diplomats were attacked while touring the area in an armoured car. None were injured. A Palestinian security official in the city said one of the settlers kicked the car after trying to open one of its doors.

Tension often runs high in Hebron, home to 180,000 Palestinians and around 650 Jewish settlers who live in fortified enclaves guarded by Israeli troops.

Tours by the group, led by former Israeli soldiers, are often attacked by some settlers who see them as siding with the Palestinians.—*Internet*

Lizard love: 110-year dinosaur descendent to become daddy

SOUTHLAND, (New Zealand), 7 Aug —At well over 100 years old and showing no interest in sex for over four decades, Henry is on his way to becoming a dad.

Henry is a tuatara, a rare lizard-like creature that descended from dinosaurs. The tuatara has been endangered since

the 1890s, and it’s only found on a handful of New Zealand’s offshore islands.

At about 110 years old, Henry is the oldest tuatara ever to mate at Southland Museum on the country’s South Island.

“I had given up on old Henry,” said curator Lindsay Hazley.

He kept Henry in “solitary confinement” because the animal not only showed no interest in females but attacked them when they were looking to mate.

The beginning of Henry’s libido rebound came in 2002, when veterinarians realized that a lump in the animal’s nether regions was a cancerous tumour. They removed it and, over the next few years, his attitude began to change.

In March, Henry mated with Mildred, whose age is estimated between 70 and 80. Last month, she laid 12 fertile eggs, 11 of which remain healthy.

Internet



Henry, the oldest tuatara to mate at Southland Museum, enjoys a cold shower in his home in New Zealand.



The latest blasts coincide with political tensions in Turkey.—INTERNET

news agency quoted a local mayor as saying there had been three blasts. Reports of hand grenades being thrown remain unconfirmed.

The attack took place in Uskudar, on the Asian side of the city.

Police are searching for two suspects who are thought to have fled the scene of Thursday’s explosions on a motorbike.

Uskudar mayor Mehmet Cakir told *Anatolia* that one blast had occurred in a rubbish truck in the car park of the municipal building and two more in a neighbouring cemetery.—*Internet*

Russia says no deadline for Iran reply in atomic dispute

UNITED NATIONS, 7 Aug — Russia has set no deadline for Iran to respond to an offer from six world powers aimed at resolving Teheran's nuclear standoff with the West, Russia's UN ambassador said on Wednesday.

"We haven't set any deadlines ourselves for their response and there is ongoing dialogue," Russian Ambassador

Vitaly Churkin told reporters. "Certainly there is a matter which is going to be discussed ... by the ministers in September."

Churkin did not comment on a telephone conversation held on Wednesday with senior Foreign Ministry officials from the six countries leading the efforts to persuade Teheran to freeze its nuclear enrichment programme -- Russia,

China, the United States, Britain, France and Germany.

The United States and Britain said the six agreed to consider a fourth sanctions resolution at the UN Security Council. Churkin said the issue had not been raised in New York and made it clear that Russia was in no hurry to raise it.

"I haven't seen any pushes here," he said.

MNA/Reuters



A young couple have their wedding photos taken at 798 Art Zone in Beijing, capital of China, on 5 Aug, 2008. —XINHUA

Avoiding Alzheimer's: Live with someone

PHILADELPHIA, 7 Aug — Living with a partner may significantly decrease a person's risk of developing Alzheimer's or other dementia diseases.

Swedish psychology researcher Krister Hakansson has found that people living with a spouse or partner in midlife were 50 percent less likely to develop dementia than those living alone.

The reason people lived alone matters. Those who had lived alone their entire adult life ran twice the risk of developing dementia; those who were divorced in midlife and remained single had three times the risk. Widowers and widows ran the greatest risk — six times, if they lost their partners before middle age.

Hakansson, who is based at Vaxjo University and Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, recently presented his findings at the Alzheimer's Association's international conference in Chicago.

The findings stemmed from an analysis of data from a Finnish study, which examined 2,000 people at age 50 and again 21 years later.

Hakansson says the results suggest that social stimulation, intellectual stimulation and trauma may be influencing factors.

Still to be determined: Does it matter whether a single person always intended to live alone? Or, in the case of a relationship, whether it was happy?

Internet

Darfur camel ambush 'kills six'

DARFUR, 7 Aug — Six people have been killed and 28 wounded after men on camels attacked a civilian convoy in the Sudanese region of Darfur, the UN has said.

The convoy was travelling between Nyala and Fasher in northern Darfur, according to Unamid, a joint UN-African Union peacekeeping mission.

It said the attackers were suspected members of the Janjaweed militia.

The UN estimates that the Darfur conflict has left 300,000 dead and more than two million homeless.

The violence there began in 2003 when rebel groups complaining of discrimination against black Africans began attacking government targets.—Internet

Chrysler, Nissan in talks to make midsize cars: report

NEW YORK, 7 Aug — Chrysler LLC is in talks with Japan's Nissan Motor Co (7201.T) (NSANY.O) about jointly producing midsize cars, a partnership that would move the US auto maker toward a radical new business model, the *Wall Street Journal* said Thursday.

In April, Chrysler and Nissan entered a deal under which Nissan would build a small car for

Chrysler using the North American automaker's design and Chrysler would build a new full-sized pickup truck for the Japanese automaker using Nissan's plans.

Since then, the two companies have been discussing an agreement under which Nissan would produce midsize sedans that Chrysler would sell in the US under its own

name, the *Journal* said, citing people familiar with the matter.

Chrysler has been in touch with Nissan and is evaluating whether it makes financial sense to partner with the company, the paper said. "We continue to seek opportunities to work with Chrysler," said Nissan spokeswoman Pauline Kee.—Internet

UN official urges more actions in fight against AIDS

MEXICO CITY, 7 Aug — Head of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) urged Wednesday more actions in the fight against HIV/AIDS, saying "words alone do not work to fight the AIDS pandemic."

Peter Piot, the executive director of UNAIDS, made the remarks at the ongoing 17th International AIDS Conference here, which runs from 3 Aug to 8 Aug.

At least 64 billion US dollars are invested worldwide each year in fighting AIDS, said Piot, adding that there are now drugs of high effectiveness for HIV infected people.

But the director pointed out that none of the member countries of the Group of Eight (G8) has granted enough financial resources in the fight against HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

While urging strict prevention plans, Piot said "We should not forget that even if we have good health systems in our countries, this does not guarantee the success in the prevention field."

According to Piot, AIDS is the main cause of death in Africa and Africans died of AIDS account for one fifth of deaths from the disease worldwide.

Internet

Insurer AIG posts large loss on bad mortgage bets

NEW YORK, 7 Aug — American International Group Inc (AIG.N) posted its third consecutive quarterly net loss of more than \$5 billion on Wednesday as it wrote down bad mortgage-related investments, sending its shares down almost 8 percent. The world's largest insurer and one of the hardest hit in the credit crisis also reported a general deterioration in its

mainstream insurance businesses, which were hurt in particular by a decline in investment income and losses from its mortgage insurer, United Guaranty Corp.

"Our second quarter results were adversely affected by the severe conditions in the housing and credit markets and a very difficult investment environment," AIG's chairman and chief

executive Robert Willumstad said in a statement.

Willumstad took the CEO job in June after Martin Sullivan resigned.

"We have a lot of work to do to restore AIG's profitability to where it should be," Willumstad warned, adding that AIG was considering all options as it looked to improve results and its risk profile and protect its capital base.—Internet



Soldiers check a truck at a temporary check point, set up following Monday's deadly attack in Kashgar, Xinjiang Province, on 5 August, 2008.—INTERNET

INVITATION FOR TENDER
(TENDER NO. 5 (T) / LBO (3) /2008-2009)

1.Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of 782±10% Metric Tons Lube Base Oils & Additives.

2.Tender Closing Date : 19-8-2008 at (12:00) noon.

3.Tender Opening Date : 19-8-2008 at (13:00)hrs.

4.Delivery Time : Before end of September 2008.

5.Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 7-8-2008 on payment of the One Hundred (100) FEC per set.

6.Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

Over 40% of Americans are “problem sleepers”

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug—According to a new survey released by the journal *Consumer Reports* on Tuesday, 44 per cent of Americans are “problem sleepers”.

In a nationwide survey of 1,466 adults, conducted by the Consumer Reports National Research Centre in April 2008, people were asked how well they slept the night, week, and month before participating in the survey. They found many people turn to drugs to solve sleep problems; almost one in five Americans took prescription or over-the-counter medicines at least once a week to help them sleep.

Although sleep medications are usually recommended for no more than two weeks, 14 per cent of those surveyed took some type of pill on at least eight of the past 30 nights; 5 per cent turn to pills every night of the month.

Sixty-three per cent of those who took sleep medications experienced side effects; 24 per cent said they became dependent on the medication they used; and 21 per cent said that repeated use reduced the drug’s effectiveness. —MNA/Xinhua

All US adults could be overweight in 40 years

NEW YORK, 7 Aug—If the trends of the past three decades continue, it’s possible that every American adult could be overweight 40 years from now, a government-funded study projects. The figure might sound alarming, or impossible, but researchers say that even if the actual rate never reaches the 100-percent mark, any upward movement is worrying; two-thirds of the population is already overweight.

“Genetically and physiologically, it should be impossible” for all US adults to become overweight, said Dr Lan Liang of the federal government’s Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, one of the researchers on the study.

Internet

Palestinian farmers hold a protest against Israel, on a field in Beit Hanoun near the Palestine-Israel border in the northern Gaza Strip on 6 Aug, 2008. Israel has prevented Palestinian farmers from cultivating the field.—XINHUA

TRADEMARK CAUTION

MITSUI & CO., LTD. a Corporation organized under the laws of Japan of 2-1, Ohtemachi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan, Manufacturers and Merchants are the Owners and Sole Proprietors of the following Trademark:-

The said trademark is used in respect of the description of goods following, that is to say-

“Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; preserved, dried and cooked fruits and vegetables; jellies; jams; eggs; milk and milk products; edible oils and fats; salad dressings; preserves”

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

Thein Aung B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L Advocate

MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM

E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm

Tel:254037 G.P.O Box:666

Yangon. 8 August 2008

Eighteen year-old Joanna Lichtin works on her aerial skills at Circus Smirkus camp in Craftsbury Common, Vermont on 5 Aug, 2008. —XINHUA

China’s new energy rule in the works

BEIJING, 7 Aug—The government is drafting an energy regulation to stop new fixed-asset projects that do not meet national energy standards.

Aiming to curb the investment frenzy and help realize China’s energy-saving targets, the regulation means investors cannot be given a go-ahead if they don’t design detailed energy-efficient schemes.

Currently 10 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions such as Beijing, Tianjin, Jiangsu and Inner Mongolia have started to put the rule into pilot operation.

“We are going to announce the draft regulation as soon as possible based on the experiences gained by the pilot regions,” said Xie Zhenhua, vice-minister of the National Development and Reform Commission, which is coordinating energy-efficient projects and climate change issues.—Internet

Police seize weapons near green protest camp in London

LONDON, 7 Aug—Police said on Tuesday they had seized a stash of knives and makeshift weapons in searches close to a camp in Kent where climate change protesters have gathered.

Officers said they had found an adapted knife, a replica throwing star, a knife block with knives and a large chain with a padlock in a wooded area near the Camp for Climate Action in hunts carried out on Monday night.

About 600 activists have assembled at the camp to protest about a proposed new coal-fired power station in Kingsnorth, the first in Britain for nearly 30 years.

They have dismissed the police find as being part of a “smear campaign”.

Tension between protesters and the police has been growing since the protesters began to gather near Kingsnorth last week under the watchful eye of large numbers of officers.

Police said since last Thursday they had also seized flares, grappling hooks, climbing rope and metal pipes.

“There is no justification whatsoever for having these weapons,” said Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beautridge.

“I would suggest that a minority of people had hidden them with the intention of causing harm to police officers, and possibly to the horses and dogs that we are using on patrol.”

The claims were rejected by the environmental protesters who said the find was nothing to do with the camp. They accuse the authorities of “political policing”.

MNA/Reuters



Vietnam encounters power shortage

HANOI, 7 Aug—Vietnam is facing an electricity shortage of 1,000-1,500 megawatts a day, local newspaper *Young People* on Wednesday quoted the country’s biggest electricity producer and sole distributor as reporting.

The shortage is mainly caused by breakdowns and maintenance at some power plants, and higher demand for electricity, said the biggest producer, state-owned Electricity Vietnam. Therefore, there have been recent blackouts in some areas. The state-owned group is expected to increase its output by around 15 per cent this year, while local demand is estimated to rise by 17-18 per cent. In some provinces, the electricity demand increased 40 per cent in the first quarter of the year.

MNA/Xinhua

Hamassays it released Fatah prisoners in Gaza

GAZA, 7 Aug—Hamass security forces released 80 Fatah prisoners in the Gaza Strip on Tuesday, after having arrested them during the latest round of violence between the rival Palestinian factions, a Hamas official said. Scores of Palestinians were held in tit-for-tat sweeps by Fatah in the occupied West Bank and Hamas in Gaza after a 25 July bombing in Gaza killed five Hamas members and a girl. Hamas accused Fatah of carrying out the blast, a charge Fatah denied.

MNA/Reuters

China's astro hero ready to soar again after torch launch

BEIJING, 7 Aug—China's first man in space Yang Liwei carried the Olympic torch on the first leg of its relay in Beijing on Wednesday, and told Games organizers he was ready to jet into the stratosphere again.

Yang was the first to carry the flame as the torch began its final journey through the capital two days before the Games starts. He said afterwards he would be happy to be part of China's third manned space mission, which is due to launch in October.

"I am ready to go at any



China's first man in space Yang Liwei, pictured in 2003, carried the Olympic torch on the first leg of its relay in Beijing on 6 Aug, and told Games organizers he was ready to jet into the stratosphere again.

INTERNET

time," Yang said, according to a report on the website of the Beijing Olympic organizing committee. China successfully launched Yang into orbit in 2003, making it the third country after the former Soviet Union and the

United States to put a man in space.

China's third manned flight, the Shenzhou VII, with a crew of three "taikonauts" or astronauts, has been set for October, previous reports have said.—*Internet*

Three dead in feared bird flu outbreak in Indonesia: officials

MEDAN, 7 Aug—Three people have died and 13 have been admitted to hospital with symptoms of bird flu in Indonesia, a nurse treating the patients said Wednesday.

Officials and residents in Asahan district of North Sumatra province said villagers began showing symptoms of avian flu after a large number of chickens died suddenly last week.

The nurse at Asahan district's Kisaran hospital said three people had died after suffering bird flu-like symptoms in Air Batu village. "According to residents there, a number of chickens died suddenly last week followed by several pigeons. Days later,



A couple tend to their child who is suspected to be infected with bird flu at a hospital in Medan.

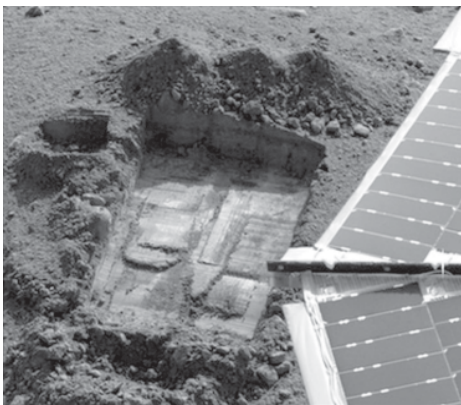
Three people have died and 13 have been admitted to hospital with symptoms of bird flu in Indonesia, a nurse treating the patients said Wednesday.—INTERNET

three people died with the same ailments," the nurse, Mariana, told AFP. Two of these — a baby boy and a seven-year-old girl — were transferred early

Wednesday to a bird flu isolation unit at Adam Malik hospital in the provincial capital of Medan, officials said.

Internet

Scientists: Salt in Mars soil not bad for life



This image provided by NASA shows a scraped area known as 'Snow White,' on 8 July, 2008 on Mars.

Scientists operating the Phoenix spacecraft say the Martian soil near the north pole landing site is similar to what can be found in Chile's Atacama Desert on Earth.—INTERNET

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug—Traces of a rocket fuel ingredient found in the Martian soil would not necessarily hinder potential life, mission scientists said Tuesday.

NASA's Phoenix spacecraft earlier this summer detected the chemical perchlorate, a highly oxidizing salt, in soil samples dug up from near the Martian surface. On Earth, it can be found naturally in the arid Atacama Desert in Chile where some extreme organisms use it as a source of energy.

"We know that microbes can exist quite happily in oxidizing conditions," said Phoenix scientist Richard Quinn of the NASA Ames Research Centre. "The story possibly could turn out to be the same for Mars. We don't know yet."

Internet

Possible Shakespearean theatre found in London



In this undated photo made available in by the Museum of London, in London, on 6 Aug, 2008, an archeologist works on uncovering the remains of one of London's earliest theatres where a young William Shakespeare is thought to have trod the boards.—INTERNET

LONDON, 7 Aug—The theatre where "The Merchant of Venice" and "Romeo and Juliet" likely debuted and where William Shakespeare himself may have trodden the boards has likely been discovered in east London, archaeologists at the Museum of London said

Wednesday.

The possible foundations of what is known as simply, The Theatre, were unearthed by builders excavating the site — a vacant garage — for another structure. Museum archaeologists were called to the location to make sure nothing was

destroyed, and had a eureka moment.

"We were there, scratching our heads, looking into the trenches, thinking, 'this could be it,'" said Jo Lyon, a senior archaeologist at the museum.

"So we did some more research, and then we found the angled walls. And we all went, 'Oh my gosh, this should be it.'"

Other theatres of similar vintage also have angled walls, so the discovery was significant. Archaeologists had known for a long time there was a high probability for The Theatre to be on this particular site.

But there are no maps that show its location, no images to show what it might have looked like, and only a vague description of it.

Internet

Egypt to test fetuses for Tutankhamun family tree

CAIRO, 7 Aug—Egyptian scientists are doing DNA tests on stillborn children found in the tomb of the Pharaoh Tutankhamun in the hope of identifying their mother and grandmother, who may be the powerful queen Nefertiti, Egypt's chief archaeologist said on Wednesday.

British archaeologist Howard Carter found the mummified fetuses when he discovered Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922. Archaeologists assume they are the children of the teenage pharaoh but their mother has not been identified.

Many scholars believe their mother to be

Ankhesenamun, the boy king's only known wife. Ankhesenamun is the daughter of Nefertiti, renowned for her beauty.

"For the first time we will be able to identify the family of King Tut," Zahi Hawass, the head of Egypt's Supreme Council

for Antiquities, told Reuters. "This should allow us for the first time to discover the mummy of Nefertiti."

Tutankhamun, born in 1341 BC, died less than a decade after taking the throne at the age of eight or nine.—*Internet*



In this undated photo released by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities on 6 Aug, 2008, one of the two mummified fetuses found in the tomb of King Tutankhamun in 1922 is seen during preparations for a DNA test in Cairo, Egypt.—INTERNET

SpaceX finds cause of failed private rocket launch

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug—A privately held rocket company on Wednesday blamed a design error for its latest failure to reach orbit, which caused the loss of three government satellites and human ashes, including the remains of

astronaut Gordon Cooper and "Star Trek" actor James Doohan.

The two-stage Falcon 1 rocket, which blasted off from a Central Pacific atoll Saturday night, separated as planned on its way to space, but leftover thrust

after engine cutoff caused the first stage to fall back and hit the second stage, according to Hawthorne-based SpaceX. The rocket, containing the remains of 208 people, dropped in the Pacific and was not recovered.—*Internet*

SPORTS

ATP Tour relieved at winning antitrust case

LONDON, 7 Aug—The ATP Tour on Wednesday expressed relief as a US court threw out a multimillion dollar antitrust case brought by the German Tennis Federation (DTB) against the dropping of Hamburg's Masters Series status.

The downgrading from 2009 of the event, which had previously served as a big-ticket claycourt preparation for the French Open, is part of the Association of Tennis Professionals' (ATP) attempts to reform a packed calendar and reduce injuries while ensuring top stars compete in prestigious events.

Claiming some 77 million dollars in damages the DTB brought an antitrust lawsuit in protest but the jury at a US district court in Delaware unanimously rejected their plea following a two-week trial in finding the move did not violate monopoly laws.

In a statement, Etienne de Villiers, ATP Executive Chairman, said:

"We are delighted by today's unanimous jury decision in favour of the ATP."

He added the court recognised the Tour's "fundamental right to set and make changes to the ATP Tour calendar, changes that are necessary if we are to unlock the full potential of our sport."—*Internet*

Spanish seeds make early exit from ATP Los Angeles event

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug—Two Spanish seeds had their Los Angeles Classic tournament debuts cut short as they were sent crashing out of the ATP event in the second round on Wednesday.



Denis Gremelmayer of Germany celebrates a point while taking on Feliciano Lopez of Spain during the Countrywide Classic, on 6 August, in Los Angeles, California. Gremelmayer won 7-5, 7-5.

INTERNET

German Denis Gremelmayer, who was excluded from his Olympic team after Rainer Schuettler won a place through a court decision, earned some small satisfaction as he put out number four ranked Feliciano Lopez 7-5, 7-5 in the second round. Due to the Beijing Games starting at the weekend, the 28-

man draw awarded byes to the top four seeds at the UCLA facility.

It was a similar losing scenario for number two Fernando Verdasco, who contributed heavily to his own fate with ten double-faults in a 6-2, 7-6 (7/4) loss to Frenchman Florent Serra.—*Internet*

Norway downs US 2-0 in women's Olympic soccer match

QINHUANGDAO, 7 Aug— Norway downed the United States 2-0 in their Group G match of the women's soccer tournament at the Olympic Games here on Wednesday.

"We are very satisfied to beat the former champion and one of the favourites US 2-0. We are grateful for the tremendous start of the game," Norway's head coach Bjarne Berntsen told a Press conference after the match.

Internet

France's Ribery voted German footballer of the year

BERLIN, 7 Aug—Bayern Munich's French midfielder Franck Ribery has been voted German footballer of the year, according to a poll to be published in sports magazine *Kicker* on Thursday.

Ribery, who joined the German first division giants from Marseille last year, garnered 224 votes from Bundesliga players and managers, beating second-placed German international captain Michael Ballack by 109 votes.—*Internet*



Bayern Munich's French midfielder Franck Ribery, pictured in May 2008, has been voted German footballer of the year, according to a poll to be published in sports magazine Kicker on Thursday.—INTERNET

Ronaldo faces fight to restore tarnished reputation at United

MANCHESTER(England), 7 Aug— Cristiano Ronaldo had the world at his feet in Moscow on 21 May. The Manchester United winger had just helped the Premier League champions win the Champions League and, having scored 42 goals in an incredible season, it appeared that nothing could stop him being crowned as the 2008 World Footballer of the Year.

Fast forward just eleven weeks, though, and the 23-year-old Portugal international is faced with the task of rebuilding his reputation after a close season that has seen him openly defy United by declaring his ambition to move to Real Madrid and foolishly compare himself to a footballing 'slave.'—*Internet*

Struggling United held by Juventus

MANCHESTER, 7 Aug— Manchester United were held to a 0-0 draw by Juventus here on Wednesday night as Sir Alex Ferguson's injury-hit squad struggled to overcome the Italians.

United's lengthy casualty list, in the build-up to the new Premier League campaign, left manager Sir Alex Ferguson without a host of star names against the Italian giants. Cristiano Ronaldo's ankle injury, Wayne Rooney's mystery virus and the injuries that have left Gary Neville, Owen Hargreaves, Michael Carrick and Ji-Sung Park on the sidelines have left Ferguson with a selection headache ahead of Sunday's Community Shield clash with Portsmouth at Wembley on Sunday.—*Internet*



Manchester United's Argentinian forward Carlos Tevez (R) pulls away from Juventus' Mauro Camoranesi during their pre-season friendly football match against Juventus at Old Trafford in Manchester. The match ended in a 0-0 draw.—INTERNET

All Chinese boxers in good shape, ready to end Olympic gold drought

BEIJING, 7 Aug — All the 10 men of the Chinese boxing team are in good shape and are ready to fight for a medal, maybe gold, at the Beijing Olympics, head Coach Zhang Chuanliang told *Xinhua* on Wednesday.

"We hope for the best and prepare for the worst!" Zhang noted.

The national boxing team wrapped up its six-day pre-match training at the Olympic Sports Centre on Wednesday and is to move into the Olympic Village on Thursday morning.

Coach Zhang said the training went on "extremely well", with normal intension. "The ten boxers are all in good shape, with no one with injuries."—*Internet*

Ronaldo commits to Manchester United

LISBON, 7 Aug — Portugal winger Cristiano Ronaldo has said he will stay at Manchester United next season, Portuguese media reported on Wednesday, and is not about to join Real Madrid.

"(United manager Alex) Ferguson heard my arguments and I heard his and between the two of us we decided that the best thing for both parties was that I should stay at Manchester United next season," Ronaldo was quoted as saying by Portugal's *LUSA* news agency.

LUSA said the quotes were from an interview with the player due to be published in Portuguese daily *Publico* on Thursday. Ronaldo, who is currently recovering from ankle surgery, added that he wanted to quash any speculation that he would be staying at United against his will. — *MNA/Reuters*

FIFA fails Olympic player release case

BEIJING, 7 Aug — Soccer's world governing body FIFA failed the fight over whether clubs must release players for the Beijing Olympic Games as sport's highest court announced here Wednesday to uphold the clubs' appeals.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has ruled the case in favour of Germany's Schalke 04 and Werder Bremen as well as the Spanish soccer giants Barcelona, which filed a joint appeal against FIFA's decision to oblige clubs to allow Under-23 players to play for their countries in Beijing.

Barcelona wanted to keep Argentine forward Lionel Messi available for their Champions League third round qualifying matches in mid-August, while Schalke and Werder were trying to keep Brazilian Rafinha and Diego.— *MNA/Xinhua*

DPRK edges Nigeria 1-0 in Olympic women's soccer match

SHENYANG (Northeast China), 7 Aug — Asian champion DPRK edged their African counterparts Nigeria 1-0 in the women's football match of the Beijing Olympic Games here on Wednesday.

The Koreans dominated the entire match and the African champions rarely caused any threat in front of the Asian's goal.

Forward Ri Kum Suk, who is captain of the team, chested down a cross from midfielder Ri Un Suk from the left in the 27th minute.

The ball bounced into a Nigerian defender but midfielder Kim Kyong Hwa grasped the chance and fired home a brilliant goal.

In the 42nd minute, Ri Kum Suk was hauled down inside the box and the Koreans had chance to consolidate their lead. But her penalty mishit the net and slip to the left of the goal. —*Internet*

British hospitals “plagued by vermin and pests”

LONDON, 7 Aug — Hospitals are frequently plagued by pests including rats, fleas and cockroaches on wards and even in operating theatres, a report said on Wednesday.

NHS Trusts in England were forced to call out pest controllers to nearly 20,000 infestations during the past two years, figures obtained by the Conservatives under the

Freedom of Information Act show.

Rats were found in maternity units while one patient woke to find maggots in her slippers, the report revealed. About 80 per cent of NHS Trusts reported problems with ants, 66 per cent with rats and 77 per cent with mice. There were also incidents of cockroaches, biting insects or fleas and bed bugs and maggots.

Virtually all of the 127 NHS Trusts which responded had reported some problem with pests between January 2006 and March this year, with some reporting more than 800 incidents. The worst was the fourth-largest trust in England, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, which passed the 1,000 mark.

The majority of infestations were in non-clinical areas, but about 20 trusts had to deal with problems including a small number of wasps in neonatal units and operating theatres, flying ants on the main wards and mice on wards and in stores containing sterile materials.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Petrol up to 20% dearer in Britain

LONDON, 7 Aug — Britons pay up to 20 per cent more for a litre of petrol than some of their major European counterparts, according to a survey.

Soaring prices this summer, when a litre of petrol rose to 119 pence, sparked protests and forced the government to postpone a rise in fuel duty planned for October.

But Britons have consistently paid more for their petrol during the past eight years, though the difference is narrowing, uSwitch.com said.

Petrol, based on July prices, is cheapest in Spain, where a litre is just 96 pence.

Germany and Italy charge 3 pence (2 per cent) less than the UK, though eight years ago the difference was 19 pence (23 per cent) and 14 pence (18 per cent). France

charges 114 pence.

British motorists spend the most money at the pumps, 1,753 pounds a year each, the price comparison website calculated.

MNA/Reuters

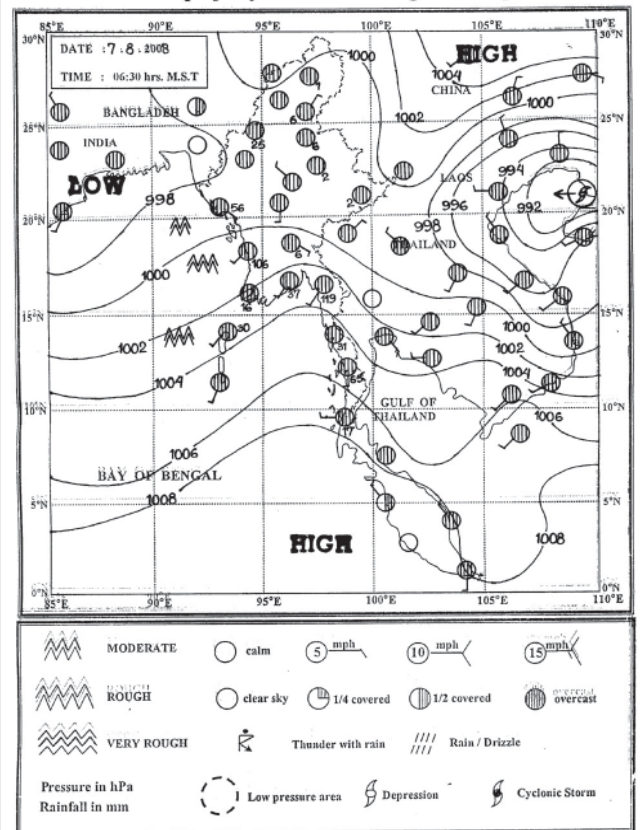
Indonesia finds huge haul of endangered pangolins

JAKARTA, 7 Aug — Police have found 14 tons of frozen pangolins, the largest-ever seizure of the endangered animals in Indonesia, after a raid on the island of Sumatra, conservation groups said here.

Police had arrested 14 people after the animals were found stored in containers in a warehouse, the Wildlife Conservation Society and TRAFFIC said in a statement.

“The pangolins were packed and ready for export to China via seaports in Sumatra and Java,” the conservation groups quoted Indonesian Police Commissioner Didid Widjanardi as saying after the raid in Palembang in South Sumatra. —MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 7 August, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan, Chin States, upper Sagaing, Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavy falls in Rakhine and Mon States and isolated heavy fall in Kayin State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Gwa (11.30) inches, Hpa-an (6.29) inches, Bilin (6.18) inches, Thaton (5.75) inches, Mawlamyine (4.85) inches, Kawkaik (4.72) inches, Thandwe (4.48) inches, Kyaikkami (4.06) inches, Mudon (3.27) inches, Ye (3.19) inches, and Hinthada (2.87) inches.

Maximum temperature on 6-8-2008 was 83°F. Minimum temperature on 7-8-2008 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 7-8-2008 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 6-8-2008 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 7-8-2008 was (1.77) inches at Mingaladon, (1.49) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.77) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (67.12) inches at Mingaladon, (75.90) inches at Kaba-Aye and (91.77) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from West at (16:00) hours MST on 6-8-2008.

Bay inference: Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, the tropical storm “KAMMURI” over Gulf of Tonkin, South China Sea is Centred at about (250) miles East of Hanoi and is moving West wards.

Forecast valid until evening of 8-8-2008: Rain will be isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Kayah State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Shan, Chin States and upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 8-8-2008: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 8-8-2008: Isolated rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Nine feared dead in helicopter crash in California

LOS ANGELES, 7 Aug — Nine firefighters were believed dead after a helicopter crashed in northern California Tuesday night, according to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The helicopter, carrying 13 people, crashed in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest after taking off from a remote site about 56 km northwest of Redding, in northern California, the FAA said.

Nine of those on board were missing and feared dead, while four on board were critically burned,

according to Ian Gregor, an FAA spokesman. The pilot and two others were taken to a nearby hospital in Sacramento, capital of California where two of them were listed in critical

condition and the third was listed in serious condition in the intensive care unit, said Carole Gan, a hospital spokeswoman.

Internet



A helicopter prepares to drop water on a brushfire in California in 2007. —INTERNET



Friday, 8 August
View on today

7:00 am

- မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- စန္ဒကုန်းသား ကျောင်းတော်ရာစေတီ

7:55 am

- အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

- Song of yester years

8:10 am

- Cute little dancers

8:20 am

- Musical programme

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- Song of national races

4:20 pm

- အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

4:30 pm

- ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းအမှတ်(၃) အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန ပဉ္စမအကြိမ်ခေတ္တကြာ ဝတ်စွတ်ပူဇော်ပွဲ (တတိယဆု)(အ-ဝ-က(၄) မင်္ဂလာတောင်ညွန့်) (အမျိုးသားဝတ်စွတ်အဖွဲ့)

4:50 pm

- Dance variety

5:00 pm

- The mirror images of the musical oldies

5:15 pm

- “သတင်းကောင်း” (သျှားညိုဆုပန်ထွာဖွင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ညိုမင်းလွင်)

5:30 pm

- အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:40 pm

- Song to uphold National Spirit

5:50 pm

- အားမာန်ပြည့်ဖို့ဖြိုးရှင်သန်နေသောတရုတ်ပြည်

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညောင်ရှင်

7:00 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကာမိချစ်သူ” (အပိုင်း-၂၀)

8:00 pm

- News
- International news
- Weather report
- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ပင်လယ်ပျော်မင်းသား” (အပိုင်း-၁၈)

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.

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

Myanmar-Kuwait economic and technical cooperation in investment and trade meeting held

YANGON, 7 Aug— Myanmar-Kuwait economic and technical cooperation in investment and trade meeting was held at Sedona Hotel here today.

It was attended by Minister for National

members.

At the meeting, Ministers U Soe Tha and Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered addresses. Next, Head of the Business Delegation Mr Khaled Abdullah Hamad Al-Sagar and UMFCCI President U Win Myint

stock and Fisheries and Ministry of Transport met with the Kuwaiti delegation led by Kuwaiti Financial Minister Mr Mustafa Jassim Al-Shamali at the hotel, to discuss cooperation in economic and investment between the two

Kuwaiti Prime Minister and party go sightseeing in Yangon

YANGON, 7 Aug —Accompanied by Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials, the delegation led by Prime Minister of Kuwait Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who was here at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, went sightseeing in Yangon in a motorcade this afternoon.

In the evening, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin hosted a dinner in honour of the Kuwaiti Prime Minister and party at the Sedona Hotel. — MNA



Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, the departments concerned, President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint, Minister of Finance of Kuwait Mr Mustafa Jassim Al-Shamali, 2nd Deputy Chairman of Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Head of the Business Delegation Mr Khaled Abdullah Hamad Al-Sagar and the delegation

also made speeches.

President of UMFCCI U Win Myint and Mr Khaled Abdullah Hamad Al-Sagar signed an agreement on economic cooperation between the two countries.

Next, Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, NPED Minister U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi, Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun, officials of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Live-

countries.

Similarly, UMFCCI Vice-President U Sein Win Hlaing met Mr Khaled Abdullah Hamad Al-Sagar at the hotel separately.

After the meeting, the UMFCCI President hosted a luncheon in honour of the Kuwaiti business delegation at the hotel and they exchanged gifts. At noon, Ministers Maj-Gen Hla Tun and Mr Mustafa Jassim Al-Shamali discussed financial matters between the two countries.—MNA

Economic and technical cooperation in investment and trade meeting in progress— MNA

INSIDE

It is said to be a flower, but ...

It is high time the world's people took their respective roles to keep their planet peaceful and green.

PAGES 6+7

HTAY AUNG (TOURISM)