Cittam yassa na kampati, be free from anxiety; this is the way to auspiciousness.

Established 1914

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Chairman of the State Peace and Development
Council Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to President of ROK

YANGON, 15 Aug — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Roh Moo Hyun, President of the Republic of Korea, on the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Korea which falls on 15 August 2003. — MNA

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynasticism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the nation

Distinct progress in nation due to Tatmadaw and people’s collective efforts

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann inspects development projects in Bago Division

YANGON, 14 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann, accompanied by Bago Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Southern Command Commander Brig-Gen Ko Ko, the ministers, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, responsible personnel of the State Peace and Development Council Office, and departmental heads, left Toungoo by car at 11.30 am on 11 August. Along the road, he cordially greeted officers and other ranks of local battalions and units and their families, who were in hand to welcome Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party in Pyu Township.

On arrival at the Kanyutkwin basic education middle school in Pyu Township, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party were welcomed by the schoolmistress, teachers and local populace.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann then inspected the classrooms and watched the (See page 8)

Sermons will be delivered

YANGON, 14 Aug — Aphyauk Sayadaw Bhaddanta Janaka will deliver a sermon at 12.30 pm and State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Member Sayadaw of Chanthagy Taung Taik Yadana Beikman Monastery in Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay Division, Bhaddanta Jotikabhivamsa at 3 pm at the Dhammayon on the platform of Botataung Kyakkleap Pagoda on 20 August, 8 Waning of Wakhaung, 1365 ME. — MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
LET'S WEATHER THE STORM WITH STRENGTH OF PEOPLE

Some western powers have always been hatching up a plot to disturb Myanmar whenever opportune, in the belief that they will have influence over a nation only when they can get it into trouble. But, however hard they try to destabilize Myanmar, their efforts would be like water off a duck’s back as she always has the people, her internal strength, to rely on and good neighbours and friendly nations to turn to.

The ceremony to hand over SARS-preventive medical equipment and antibiotics donated to the Ministry of Health and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association by the Myanmar Consultative-General and well-wishers at home and abroad was held at the Tatmadaw Guest House in Yangon on 12 August. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt, also Chairman of the National Health Committee, attended the ceremony and delivered a speech on the occasion.

General Khin Nyunt, in his address, said that at a time when certain western nations are bent on harming the interests of Myanmar and her people whereas friendly nations in the region and Myanmar nationals living abroad are rendering all the necessary assistance, positive and negative attitudes can be easily differentiated.

It was a welcome news that Myanmar nationals at home and living in Hong Kong and Macau donated the medicines and medical equipment to the Ministry of Health, MMCWA and the Directorate of Medical Services. The donation is of great value to Myanmar people as well as a shot in the arm for them and it shows the truth of a Myanmar saying “Blood counts in time of emergency”. The spirit of helping those in need is imbedded in Myanmar people, whether they live at home or away from home. The ASEAN nations, considering Myanmar as one of their family members of the Southeast Asian region, have always helped it as much as they can. This clearly reveals the close bonds of friendship among the regional countries.

We strongly believe that Myanmar, with her internal strength and the support of her close neighbours and friends in the region, will be able to weather the storm triggered by the acts of some malicious nations in the West.

MARIJUANA TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED

Yangon, 14 Aug — Members of the local intelligence unit seized 3.2658 kilos of marijuana from the house of Ma Khin Win and 3.2658 kilos of marijuana from the house of Daw Shwe Yin in Hayman Village in Lewe Township. The unit searched their houses, acting on information, on 30 July.

Action was taken against Ma Khin Win, daughter of U Tun Yi of Hayman Village, and Daw Shwe Yin, daughter of U Tun Aung of the same village, under Sections 15/19 (A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law by Thawuthti Police Station.

Yangon District Court handed down 20-year imprisonment each on them under Section 19 (A) of the law on 3 July. MNA

OPENING CEREMONY OF AIDS EDUCATIVE BILLBOARD IN PROGRESS

Yangon, 13 Aug — The billboard on prevention and elimination of AIDS was erected in front of Health Plan- ning Department at the corner of Bogyoke Aung San Road and Theinbyu Street here yesterday afternoon.

Director-General Dr Wan Maung and Resident Rep- resentative Mr Dinesh Kapoor of Ranbaxy Co formally opened the billboard. — MNA

BELGACOM CO DIRECTOR CALLS ON CPT MINISTER

Yangon, 14 Aug — Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw re- ceived Director of Belgacom Co of Belgium for Asia and Pacific region Mr Frederic Schepens and party at his office this after- noon.

Also present at the call were Managing Director of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications U Maung Maung Tin and officials. — MNA

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER SENDS FELICITATIONS TO ROK

Yangon, 15 Aug — On the occasion of the anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Korea which falls on 15 August 2003, U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Yoon Young Kwan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea. — MNA

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS EXHIBITION CONTINUES

Yangon, 14 Aug — Myanmar Traditional Musical Instruments Exhibition continued today for the sixth day at the multi-purpose hall of National Museum on Pyay Road. At leather instruments booth, various kinds of instru- ments such as royal drums, traditional drums, long drums, short drums, big drums, opened-ended drums and double- headed drums were on display with brief accounts.

Today’s entertain- ment included skills demonstra- tions of course instructors from the University of Cul- ture (Yangon) and artists from the Fine Arts Depart- ment, the Ministry of Culture.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw receives Mr Frederic Schepens, Director of Belgacom Asia Co at his office. — COMMUNICATION

MRA

COMMERCY MINISTRY HONOURS OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Yangon, 14 Aug — A ceremony to present prizes to outstanding students of the staff of the Ministry of Com- merce took place this after- noon at the ministry.

Commerce Minister Brig-Gen Pyi Sone presented honourary prizes to the students who passed the matricula- tion examination for 2002-2003 with flying colours. A total of 69 students including one six-distinction winner and five five-distinction winners were awarded by the minis- ter. — MNA
Iraq resumes pumping oil through Turkey

Ankara, 14 Aug — Iraq began pumping crude oil from its northern oil fields Wednesday for the first time since the US-led invasion in April. The reopening of the pipeline to Turkey’s Mediterranean coast is a key step in rebuilding Iraq’s oil industry.

Following a miscommunication, Iraq stopped exporting oil from the Basra region by the end of June. The country’s export levels have fallen to around 200,000 barrels per day. Iraq’s oil minister said: “We must develop strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work.”

No immediate breakthrough in Nigeria-Benin talks

Lagos, 14 Aug — Nigeria and Benin met on Tuesday to try to resolve a dispute over trans-border crime which prompted Abuja to close the frontier between the West African states last week, but no immediate breakthrough was reported.

“...the delegation expressed the willingness of (President Mathieu Kerekou) to see a quick resolution of the border dispute,” Nigerian spokeswoman Oluemeri Oyo told Reuters. Oyo said Obasanjo was ready to hold direct talks with Kerekou, but networking had been set yet. Nigeria has said it would only reopen the border when it was satisfied Benin had cracked down on the crime problem. Benin has not so far said for what measures it plans to take. At the weekend it said the problem came from both countries and that they should resolve it together. — MNA/Xinhua

British Airways given OK to resume flights to Iraq

London, 14 Aug — British Airways has been given the green light to resume flights to Iraq after a 13-year break, officials said Tuesday.

The airline said it has planned to fly twice a week via Kuwait and start with flights to Iraq’s main southern city Basra. But the date for the flights resumption remain undecided, as the British government was studying security issues.

“We will fly to Iraq only once we are confident that it is safe for us to do so,” said Geoff West, BA safety and security director. “The security of our customers, staff and operation is absolutely paramount,” he added.

The airline also said they would continue to look at the possibility of starting flights to Iraqi capital Baghdad in the future. BA suspended their airlines in March 1987 during the Iran-Iraq war. Though resumed in November 1988, BA flights were suspended again in February 1990 for the first Gulf war. — MNA/Xinhua

British heatwave claims frostbite victim

London, 14 Aug — Britain’s heatwave, which has claimed dozens of sunburn and heat exhaustion victims, has now produced its first case of frostbite.

A motorist was diagnosed with the condition after driving with his toes too close to the air conditioning vent on the 250-mile journey from London to Manchester. One of his toes started to turn black and another went blue.

“It was incredibly hot,” Mike Ball, 46, told the Guardian newspaper. “I slipped off my shoe and sock because my car is automatic and I don’t need to use my left foot.”

“I didn’t realise anything was wrong until the next day when my foot was extremely painful.”

Ball went to his doctor and was prescribed a cure for mild frostbite. He is now expected to make a full recovery. — MNA/Reuters

Annan marks Int’l Youth Day

United Nations, 14 Aug — United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan marked the fourth International Youth Day on Tuesday with a call for strategies to provide “decent and productive work” around the world.

“Rising unemployment takes a heavy toll among young people who are particularly vulnerable to shocks in the labour market,” Annan said in a message celebrating the day. “ Lay-offs, restructuring and insufficient opportunities to enter the world of work condemn many to a life of economic hardship and despair.”

“We have seen, all too often, the tragedy of young lives smashed in crime, drug abuse, civil conflict and even terrorism, he added.

Annan said in the next 10 years, more than one billion young people will enter the workforce. While this new generation is more educated than any previous one, these young people will continue to face many obstacles in their search for jobs, he noted.

“We must develop strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work that will allow them to become independent and responsible global citizens. This involves promoting employability, equal opportunities, entrepreneurship and employment creation for youth all over the world,” Annan stressed that the Youth Employment Network he had formed as part of the global partnership for development, one of the goals set by the UN Millennium Summit of 2000, aimed to mobilize financial resources for youth employment, build bridges between school and work, and invite youth organizations to play an active role in the design and implementation of national action plans.

“...Young people should never be seen as a burden on any society, but as its most precious asset,” he declared. — MNA/Xinhua

Iraq bomb attacks kill 3 US soldiers in 24 hours

Thirt, 14 Aug — A US soldier was killed and another wounded Wednesday when their armoured personnel carrier drove over a land mine, the third deadly bomb attack on US forces in Iraq in 24 hours.

The soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division were traveling in a convoy southeast of Saddam Hussein’s hometown of Tikrit when the mine was detonated, a US spokesman said. Tuesday, US convoys were attacked by improvised explosives in Ramadi, a restive Sunni Muslim town west of Baghdad, and near the town of Taji just north of the capital.

Ramadi attacks, which involved three synchronized bombs, killed one 3rd Armoured Division Soldier and wounded two. The blast near Taji killed one 4th Infantry Division soldier and wounded two. US military statements said. — Internet

A British soldier sitting on top of a Saxon armoured personnel carrier keeps watch at a petrol station in Basra, southern Iraq, on 12 August, 2003. — Reuters

British heatwave claims frostbite victim

Beijing shoppers walk past an exhibition sponsored by Germany’s Siemens AG. Although rising confidence may be prefiring tiny glimmers of hope for a turnaround in Germany’s economic fortunes early next year, the country remains firmly mired in recession. — Internet
Top cleric praises “Saddam message”, calls for Shiites to wage jihad

Don’t, 14 Aug — A handwritten message purported to be from Saddam Hussein and read out by Al-Jazeera TV called for Britain’s majority Shiites to wage jihad.

The message on the Qatar-based satellite news channel called for the Hawza, Iraq’s top Shi’ite religious authority, to “proclaim jihad so that all the Iraqi people are united against the occupation”. It also praised a top Shi’ite leader, Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani.

Sistani is viewed by US officials as a crucial force for moderation in post-war Iraq. He has voiced unease at the occupation and has opposed plans for a US-backed interim Governing Council to draw up a new constitution for Iraq. “Sayed Sistani has our respect,” the message read, using the title for a descendent of the prophet Mohammed.

“The position of Sayyed al-Sistani and the Hawza in Najaf (south of Baghdad) is important for the jihad of the Iraqis,” said the message purported to come from the Iraqi president toppled in April. The undated letter, signed in Saddam’s name, answers questions from an unnamed journalist on the Governing Council and Sistani, who met the council’s current president, Ibrahim al-Jaafari on 6 August.

“I learnt that Sayyed Sistani told Ibrahim that any constitution drafted under the shadow of the US occupation is null and void because Iraq needs a constitution based on Islamic sharia (laws),” said the message.

“We welcome this statement because, implicitly, it does not recognize the occupation and considers that all decisions taken under the occupation are null and void, including talk of a new constitution,” it said.

Saddam’s fate has been a mystery since a US-led coalition ended his 24-year grip on power.

At the start of the month, Al-Jazeera aired a message purported to be from the former strongman to the Iraqi people. It was the sixth audiotape attributed to him, broadcast by Arab satellite channels in less than a month.

Sixty US soldiers killed since combat's end bringing total to 266

Tikrit, 14 Aug — Attacks against US forces in Iraq have killed three soldiers in the past two days, bringing to 60 the death toll since President Bush declared major combat over on 1 May.

The latest attack took place Wednesday morning, about 15 miles south of Tikrit. The military reports a bomb went off near an armoured personnel carrier. One soldier died and another was wounded.

The military then reported a soldier’s death in a bomb attack that occurred Tuesday near Taji. Two others were wounded.

Another US soldier was killed Tuesday when his Humvee hit three roadside bombs in Ramadi, 60 miles west of Baghdad. The total American death toll since the war began rose to 266. Also Wednesday, Paul Bremer, the US civilian administrator of Iraq, says he simply doesn’t know how long American troops will have to stay there. He says it depends in part on how soon the Iraqis can assume responsibility for their own security.

India’s industry grows by 5.3% in first quarter

New Delhi, 14 Aug — Aided by a steady growth of the manufacturing sector, the industrial production in India grew by 5.3 per cent during the first quarter of the current financial year.

According to Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production, the sector grew by 5.7 per cent during June as against 4.5 per cent during the corresponding period of the previous year. The Index of Industrial Production for the first quarter of 2002-03 stood at 4.5 per cent.

The manufacturing sector registered a growth of 5.5 per cent during April-June, 2003, as against 4.1 per cent during the same period of the previous year.

While the electricity sector showed a growth of 3.9 per cent during the first quarter of current fiscal as against 3.7 per cent during the same period of last fiscal, the mining sector registered a decline to 5.3 per cent as against 6.8 per cent during April-June, 2002. The mining sector also showed a decline to 5.9 per cent during April-June, 2003, as against 9 per cent growth registered during June, 2002. — MNA/PTI

Indian Govt clears 26 FDI proposals worth 160.8 million rupees

New Delhi, 14 Aug — Indian Government on Tuesday cleared 26 proposals envisaging Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) worth 160.8 million rupees including a 50.3 million rupee proposal for setting up a unit in Mumbai to manufacture active pharmaceutical ingredients and bulk drugs.

The proposal, cleared by Finance Minister Jaswant Singh, had been earlier approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. — MNA/PTI

Indonesia wishes to discuss sugar smuggling with Malaysia

Jakarta, 14 Aug— Indonesian Industry and Trade Minister M. Soeswandi said here Tuesday she is expecting bilateral talks with the Malaysian Government on the alleged sugar smuggling from Malaysia’s Port Klang.

“At present Malaysia has violated no law because the sugar was from Port Klang,” Rin said by the national news agency, Antara as saying. Her remarks came after State Logistics Agency (Bulog)’s head Widjanarko Puspojo reported piles of sugar from Indonesia’s Port Klang, which allegedly are going to be smuggled to Indonesia.

Rin said the government will only take legal measures if the sugar has illegally entered Indonesian territory.

“If there is any violation, then we will need bilateral talks,” she said.

The minister said Indonesia needs stricter law to combat smuggling, adding that her ministry periodically coordinated with the police, Customs office and Indonesian Navy to discuss the matter.

Vietnam to intensify investment in agriculture

Hanoi, 14 Aug— Vietnam will invest 4.8 trillion Vietnamese dong (VND) (312 million US dollars) in agricultural development next year, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MOARD) on Tuesday.

Of the investment, 3.5 trillion VND (227 million dollars) will be poured in rice production, strength ening hydraulic networks and accelerating the con struction of on-going projects.

A US soldier cools himself with bottled water as temperatures hover around 122 degrees Fahrenheit (50 degrees Celsius) while on guard at an attack on fellow troops, on 11 August, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq. All troops in Iraq should expect to serve for at least a year, with brief rest breaks in the region and possibly a few days at home, the commander of US forces said on 12 August, 2003. That came as news to some soldiers who had been told to return home in less than a month.

Internet
NYT says Bush administration abandons widening UN role in Iraq

BLOOMBERG, 14 Aug — The Bush administration wants to work with its coalition partners in Iraq rather than trying to give the United Nations a bigger role in running the country, the New York Times said, citing unidentified administration officials.

The US will widen its effort to enlist countries to assist the occupation forces in Iraq, the newspaper said on its Web site. The US has about 145,000 soldiers in Iraq supported by 19,000 personnel from about 18 other nations. There is consensus in the administration it is better to work with the coalition partners than involve the United Nations and countries that opposed the war and are now eager to exercise influence in postwar Iraq, the newspaper cited the officials as saying in Washington.

The US has submitted a resolution for the UN Security Council to pledge its support for Iraq’s interim Governing Council that will help the US administration run the country until a government is elected. Under a compromise resolution the Security Council would “welcome” the Iraqi council rather than endorse the new body.— Internet

Dead journalist’s family calls US, Iraq report lies

MADRID, 14 Aug— The family of a Spanish television cameraman killed by a US tank shell in Baghdad four months ago dismissed as “a series of lies” on Wednesday a US report that cleared its soldiers of blame.

The US military said on Tuesday that an inquiry found the tank crew acted in self defense when they fired on the Palestine Hotel, home to many foreign journalists covering the arrival of US troops in the city center on 8 April. Josef Couso of Spain’s Telecinco and Reuters cameraman Taras Protsyuk were killed and three other Reuters staff wounded.

Couso’s brother, Javier Couso, told Reuters: “The report is more of the same. A series of lies, hiding the truth to justify the actions of their soldiers. This report does not clarify anything. This is not an investigation for us.”

He said the family would petition the Spanish Government and US Congressmen to request an independent inquiry. “They want to turn the page but we will not allow that,” he said, adding that the family would keep up monthly protests outside the US Embassy in Madrid.

Reuters said on Tuesday that the international news agency was anxious to see the full report on the incident. US Central Command, in the published summary of its findings, said its troops believed an Iraqi observer was directing fire at them from a vantage point in the hotel.

A single tank shell hit the 15th-floor balcony from which Reuters’ Protsyuk was filming, sending debris onto the floor below, which fatally injured Couso. MNA/Reuters

China, India to enhance “IT” cooperation

BEIJING, 14 Aug— India is to send representatives from large-scale IT enterprises to participate in a Sino-India IT cooperation forum in east China’s Nanjing City in September, so business people can discuss hardware and software cooperation, an Indian commerce official said here Tuesday.

Atul Dalakoti, executive director of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, spoke at a Press conference on the Nanjing Golden Autumn Economic and Trade Fair.

He said China and India were friendly neighbours with huge cooperation potential. The geographic advantage and potential trade markets had provided foundation for the bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

He noted that in the information technology field, China was not only a hardware manufacturing base, but also a country growing fast in software production. Chinese and Indian enterprises had very broad prospects for IT cooperation, he said.

In recent years, Sino-India cooperation in IT, biological technology and medical science flourished as bilateral trade volume increased from 1 billion US dollars in 1996 to 5 billion US dollars in 2002.

MNA/Xinhua

Thousands denounce US in Baghdad Shi’ite protest

BAGHDAD, 14 Aug — Thousands of Shi’ite Muslims poured into the streets of a Baghdad neighbourhood Wednesday to denounce US troops who they said had defiled a religious school by flying low in a helicopter, which struck its flag.

“No, no to America!” shouted protesters who flooded the streets of a sprawling suburb populated mainly by poor Shi’ites, who form a long-oppressed majority of Iraq’s population.

Arab television aired film showing a US helicopter flying low over a tower where a black flag was flying. Its wheel appeared to touch the religious banner.

A military spokesman said he knew of no incidents in the area.

A Shi’ite cleric in the neighbourhood said US troops had defiled a sacred place, and demanded they stay away.

“We request that no American soldier enter this city. The presence of American soldiers shakes security and causes terrorism. This is an aggression on the sacred Muslim places,” Sheikh Qays told Reuters. Internet

New computer worm detected in China

BEIJING, 14 Aug — A new worm virus that began spreading over the Internet on Monday has been detected by Chinese security authorities.

The worm, titled “WORM MSBlastA” and able to propagate itself on-line, is spreading quickly and widely, said China’s Information Security Supervision Bureau of the Ministry of Public Security on Tuesday.

Computers infected by the worm would not operate Word, Excel and PowerPoint programmes normally and may restart themselves constantly.

The National Computer Virus Emergency Response Centre confirmed the worm spreads by a recognized loophole in the Microsoft operating system called the RPC DCOM.

To prevent the worm from spreading, the bureau urged users to download the patch programme from the website of Microsoft.

Major software developers also have upgraded programmes for killing this virus.

MNA/Xinhua

China encourages private companies to invest abroad

BEIJING, 14 Aug— A Chinese trade official said here Tuesday that China encourages all kinds of enterprises, including private companies, to invest abroad.

Assistant to Minister Chen Jian of the Ministry of Commerce spoke while meeting with Gregoire Laourou, Minister of Finance and Economy of Benin.

China and Benin share great potential for cooperation in the fields of textile industry, agriculture, machinery products and infrastructure construction such as building of roads and power stations.

Laourou said that Benin hoped to see more Chinese enterprises investing in the country and the construction of hospitals, schools, roads and the textile industry could be priorities.

China Benin trade hit 250 million US dollars in the first six months of 2003 and the annual trade volume was 430 million US dollars in 2002. — MNA/Xinhua

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China Benin trade hit 250 million US dollars in the first six months of 2003 and the annual trade volume was 430 million US dollars in 2002. — MNA/Xinhua
UN official says Iraqis ready to turn on US troops

PARIS, 14 Aug — Leading Iraqis will take up arms against US forces if life under occupation does not quickly improve, a senior UN official said in outspoken criticism of Washington’s postwar policy in Iraq.

Ghassan Salameh, adviser to the special UN representative to Iraq Sergio Vieira de Mello, told the French weekly Le Nouvel Observateur in an interview published on Wednesday that the United States had bungled its victory since toppling Saddam.

“Many influential Iraqis have assured me that they will take up arms if the Coalition troops do not arrive at a result. Time is short,” the magazine quoted Salameh as saying. He did not spell out how prominent Iraqis had warned of an uprising against the US and British-led Coalition. The UN mission, he said, made a point of meeting senior figures and took credit for pushing the US administrator to give executive powers to the appointees on Iraq’s new Governing Council.

He said protests over energy shortages in the southern city of Basra showed that Washington’s British allies, who have generally been seen as more active in bringing Iraqis into administering their region, were also in difficulty. Southern Iraq, dominated by the long oppressed Shiite Muslim majority, had hitherto been fairly calm. But prominent Shiite clerics have made clear they are impatient to be left alone, at long last, to run their own affairs. Salameh warned that ordinary people, tired by the lack of basic services four months after the fall of Saddam, could rally behind ideological opponents of the occupying forces.

In reality, the population is very surprised. They don’t understand how such a level of efficiency during the war could be followed by such a lack of efficiency in peace”, he said — MNA/Reuters

China, Sri Lanka vow to step up agricultural cooperation

BEIJING, 14 Aug — Agricultural cooperation between China and Sri Lanka should be stepped up with the acceleration of the drafting of an cooperation memorandum, China’s Agriculture Minister Du Winglin said here.

Du Qinglin told visiting Sri Lanka Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe that China and Sri Lanka should be willing to share its experience in agricultural development with Sri Lanka.

“I wish to see the cooperative documents between the two sides signed as soon as possible,” Du said.

The sources also revealed that the final text would be soon circulated to the 10 elected members of the Council and the UN mission wanted a vote on it as early as Thursday.

China and Sri Lanka agreed on Wednesday to establish a joint committee on agricultural cooperation.

Wickremesinghe said China’s agricultural system was being reformed and the country was willing to share its experience in agricultural development with Sri Lanka.

“The People’s Republic of China is committed to building a constructive cooperative partnership with the Republic of India... and views developing relations with India as an important component of China’s foreign policy of good neighbourliness and friendship,” the just-released 2002 annual report of China’s Foreign Ministry said.

While reviewing Sino-Indian relations in 2002, the annual report noted that over the years, the two countries have reached consensus on how to develop their bilateral relations, including not to view each other as a “threat”.

Du also pledged that China would boost agricultural technological and personnel exchanges and cooperation with Sri Lanka and encourage more Chinese agri-businesses to invest there.

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Wickremesinghe said China’s agricultural system was being reformed and the country was committed to building a constructive cooperative partnership with the Republic of India...

“Difficulties are not scary, and overcoming any difficulty will let us learn and make new progress.”

He hoped Sri Lanka would have success in its development efforts.

Ranil Wickremesinghe said he hoped Sri Lanka and China would continue to develop the relationship, which was a common ground for all parties in Sri Lanka.

He congratulated China on progress in economic construction.

He said Sri Lanka was committed to domestic peace and economic development, and hoped to strengthen cooperation with China to achieve common prosperity.

China to build world’s largest shipyard in Shanghai

BEIJING, 14 Aug — The China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) announced here Tuesday that it will build a new shipyard with an eight-kilometre waterfront in Shanghai, which will be the largest shipyard in the world.

CSSC General Manager Chen Xu said the new shipyard would be built on Changxing Island, off Shanghai. The waterfront area will be larger than the total length of all major shipyards in Shanghai and is expected to be the world’s longest.

Sri Lanka’s Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, left, listens to Chinese President Hu Jintao, during a meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 12 Aug, 2003.

Wickremesinghe is on a five-day visit to China since Saturday to seal agreements aimed at strengthening economic ties between the two nations. — INTERNET

UN’s major powers agree to welcome Iraqi Governing Council

UNITED NATIONS, 14 Aug — The UN Security Council’s five permanent members reached consensus Wednesday on a US-drafted resolution to welcome the establishment of the US-appointed Iraqi Governing Council, informed diplomatic sources here said.

The agreement was reached after the United States agreed to replace the word “endorse” with “welcome” to describe the Council’s support for the Iraqi body, the sources disclosed.

The final draft “welcomes” the establishment of the Iraqi Governing Council as an “important” step toward the formation of an internationally recognized Iraqi Government, they said.

The agreement was reached at a closed-door meeting of experts from China, Russia, Britain, France and the United

Historical legacies should not impede Sino-Indian ties

BEIJING, 14 Aug — While expressing its commitment towards building a “constructive cooperative partnership” with India, China has said bilateral ties should not be impeded by historical legacies like the boundary dispute, which should be gradually resolved through dialogues.

The Chinese side maintains that issues left over from “history”, like the boundary dispute, should not become an obstruction in the development of relations between the two countries, and should be gradually resolved through dialogue and consultations in the process of development of bilateral relations, the report said.

MNA/PTI

Don’t smoke
Cent per cent completion of Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam Construction Project

Articles by Kyaw Sein & photos by Aung Moe (Kyemon)

With the concept that the development of agricultural sector helps improve not only the economy of the Union of Myanmar, the agro-based nation, but also the socio-economic life of the rural people, the majority of the nation’s population, the government lays emphasis on construction of irrigation facilities, basic need of the agricultural sector.

Without giving priority to benefits, the government has been building irrigation facilities, which directly contributes much towards the rural people, in suitable regions. So, during the period from 1988 to date, there have emerged 149 dams and reservoirs the length and breadth of the nation.

With a view to enhancing regional development and cultivating sugarcane for providing the produce to Taung Zin Aye and Myohla sugar mills, the Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam Construction Project was launched in 2002-2003. On completion, the dam will be able to irrigate some 3,000 acres of farmland in suitable regions. So, during the period from 1988 to date, there have emerged 149 dams and reservoirs the length and breadth of the nation.

The outlet of the Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam in Yedashe Township.

Yedashe Township, Bago Division yearly.

The 70 feet high dam, which lies on the Chaungmagyi Creek, receives 7,200 acre feet of water a year. Its main embankment is 3,600 feet long and its water storage capacity is 9,500 acre feet, with the water surface of 425 acres.

The dam has been constructed at an estimated cost of K 548 million. The project covers construction of the main embankment, an outlet, a control tower, a spillway and a canal. The project has been completed cent per cent. The dam will be inaugurated as the 150th one in a matter of days.

Spending over K 2,003,000 million, the government has constructed a total of 38 irrigation facilities including the Chaungmagyi (Myohla) Dam in Bago Division, thereby benefiting over 589,000 acres of farmland.

On completion of Ye Now, Pyu Creek, Khabaung and Khawa dams, each of which will irrigate over 100,000 acres of farmland, and Zwebat and Shwehlwe sluice gates, they will prevent floods in the division.

With the emergence of irrigation facilities one after another, Bago Division has become a reliable one of the State in the agricultural sector.

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(Translation: MS)

(Kyemon: 13-8-2003)
To have the correct vision 

Tun Han Swe

Geographically, Myanmar is located on a land mass contiguous to the People’s Republic of China and India, the world’s two most populous nations, and lying between Southeast Asia and South Asia; rich in natural resources; but with a total area of 676,580 square kilometers, or 0.033 per cent of the total area of the world. The shape of the country is like a parallelogram and occupies 10° 56’ to 26° 43’ north of the equator, and 91° 4’ to 104° 20’ east longitude. It is seen from the world map that the most part of Myanmar is located between 20° and 25° north latitude. Since Myanmar is a land-locked country, it is not a landlocked country, but with a wide geographical area. It lies between Southeast Asia and South Asia; rich in natural resources and many more are under construction. A large number of universities state/division-wise. The Government is opening the railways leading to all the four directions, and airports to the five rural tasks, without or with little outside assist- ance and divisions including the border areas; and carrying out advancement of the whole nation; for progress of the states and the nation, we should try to see the truth, without hegemonism and destructive elements from inside and out- side. Every government takes over the State power because they dislike the government or because of their ill feelings. Every government takes over the State power, for progression the nation and they are trying hard for the installing a government under their control and influence.

The acts of the countries practising hegemonism include the method of presenting awards and a lot of dollars as prize money to the persons they can use as stooges, nurturing favourable policies towards them, the persons they like, different ideologies and the persons bearing personal grudge, those who fed their nation after breaking laws, as expa- triates using them for self-interest; openly or secretly pro- viding multiple assistance including arms and money for insurgents and opposition members under various excuses; floating fabrications, using their superior media power, and presenting the set-up interviews with the persons holding negative views to express their extreme views, interfering in the internal affairs of others under the pre- text of democracy and human rights; imposing economic sanctions; and launching armed intervention. Application of the methods can be seen obviously in Myanmar as well during the 1988 unrest and current interferences.

Because of the methods, the 1988 unrest broke out, during which, the nation faced near disintegration, paradoxal fear and untold suffering. The nation, resulting from the anarchy that reigned over the nation then, and even some innocent persons were beheaded. How can anyone forget the bitter experiences of the un- rest?

At present, all will have to be aware of the cons- piracies of the internal and external destructive elements for recurrence of the unrest. With the intellectual ability, we will also see the acts of the extremists holding nega- tive views.

Taking the lessons of the bitter experiences result- ing from the anarchy, we should see the truth behind the hegemonism and destructive elements from inside and out- side the nation, we should try to see the truth, without being deceived and manipulated another time. All the political parties and the people are required to clearly see the national development endeavours of the present Government from the objective point of view. Despite the alien obstructions, the Government has been able to achieve success to a certain degree in launching the development undertakings in all sectors for equitable advancement of the whole nation; for progress of the states and divisions including the border areas; and carrying out the four rural tasks, without or with little outside assistance. And it is an undeniable achievement. Everyone can witness the Government’s construction of irrigation fa- cilities, bridges large and small, a network of roads and railways leading to all the four directions, and airports to extend domestic flights, industries, hospitals and univer- sities state/division-wise. The Government is opening the dams and bridges at the rate of one structure per month, and many more are under construction. A large number of modern high-rise buildings have appeared under the pro- gramme to build apartments for the people living in huts. The unprecedented success achieved by the present Gov- ernment in the nation-building task within a period of ten years is incomparable with the achievement of previous governments. The Government is striving night and day for national development. Every intellectual person un- derstands that the development undertakings are for the nation and the people, and not for any individual person or group.

Here, I would like to remind the extremists and persons, who are trying to get the leadership role at any expense, see clearly the difference between the State and the citizen and the Government. The State of Myanmar and the citizens of Myanmar will continue to exist till the end of the world, while any government, whether it may be the present Government, which has taken the State power for some unavoidable circumstances, or an elected government under the new Constitution, will last for only a certain span of time. They should not carry out or think about any scheme to put pressures on a government to make political gains, while harming the interest of the State and the people and destabilizing the nation. Just like the persons who are thinking of trying to destroy the interest of the nation and the people, to grab power should know the fact that even the different parties of the so-called grandfather of democracy, on which they are relying, are usually united for the national cause. In fact this is worthy of emulation. Thus, the destructive acts to bar tourists from visiting Myanmar, discourage foreigners from providing assistance for and making in- vestment in the country, ask them to withdraw invest- ments and call for imposition of economic sanctions, will mainly cause harm to the nation and the people. It is not sure for the persons trying to deceive the people to cause unrest, with the government or the party they favour will win power, to be able to grab power by doing so; but one thing which is sure is the breaking up of the nation will be followed by the bloodbath and the enslavement. The disintegrated nations in the world his- tory are the proof to the fact.

So, if the narrow-minded extremist political par- ties and the destructive elements from inside and outside the nation have the real love for the nation and the people, they should stop all their disruptive acts and schemes and should mend their ways; and if they do so, it is certain that our country will be able to catch up with other coun- tries in terms of development soon.

With goodwill, I would like to remind the people to take the lessons of the history of the groups holding positive views and those holding negative views and of the destructive forces and the constructive forces; so that they may be able to save themselves from being deceived for another time.

(Translation: TMT)

Myanmar Alin: 14-8-2003

Efficient use of electricity

* Use daylight as the main source of light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity only if there is not enough natural light
* Use the least possible amount of electricity required in production and service enter- prises
* Preventing waste of electricity benefits the user and others

There are about 500,000 households using electricity in Yangon. Thus, saving a four-foot fluorescent lamp every day by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Efficient use of fuel

* Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
* Thus, a total of 455,852,000 Myanmar can save US$ 5.5 million in a year
* The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawady River

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever appeased

The Objectives of the 11th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

— to vitalize patriotism and nationalism in all citizens
— to preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage to perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
— to preserve Myanmar national character
— to nurture spiritual development of the youths
— to prevent influence of alien cultures

BBC under pressure over dead British weapons expert

LONDON, 14 Aug— The BBC was in the dock on Wednesday after surprise testimony revealed rifts within Britain’s public broadcaster over an Iraq weapons expert whose suicide has sparked a crisis for Prime Minister Tony Blair.

An unexpectedly strong and outspoken testimony from a BBC reporter will put pressure on the world-respected public broadcaster to make the case for a war widely opposed across Britain.

The unexpected and outspoken testimony from a BBC reporter will put pressure on the world-respected public broadcaster to make the case for a war widely opposed across Britain.

Reporter Susan Watts told an inquiry into David Kelly’s death that the sci- entist did not tell her in a telephone conversation that Blair’s closest adviser Alastair Campbell trans- formed a dossier on Iraq’s banned weapons to help make the case for a war most Britons opposed.

She also accused BBC bosses of pressuring her to make her report tally with that of her colleague, de- fence correspondent Andrew Gilligan, in damag- ing remarks for the British Broadcasting Corporation. Kelly slashed his wrist last month after being named as the source for Gilligan’s report that a government dossier on Iraq’s lethal weapons was “sexed up” by Campbell. Blair’s communica- tions chief — playing up a dubious claim that Saddam Hussein’s weapons program could unleash banned weapons at 45 min- utes’ notice.

The apparent clash of BBC journalists’ stories could take some heat off Blair whose public trust ratings have plunged, as nearly five months after US and British forces invaded Iraq to topple Saddam Hussein, no weapons of mass destruction have been found.

A poll this week showed 41 per cent of the public blamed the govern- ment for Iraq expert Kelly’s death and 68 per cent think the government was dishonest over the Iraq war.

MNA/Reuters
Distinct progress in nation ...

(from page 1) students learning their lessons at the school.

Next, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min donated cash assistance to the trust funds of the school through the schoolmistress. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party posed for a group photo together with the teachers and townsmen.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party arrived at the local battalion in Kyaukdaga Township in the afternoon. At the guest house of the battalion, local authorities and departmental officials from Kyaukkyi Township reported on matters related to general conditions of the township, agriculture, livestock breeding, work, education, and health. The commander, ministers and deputy ministers then gave supplementary reports regarding the township. After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gave necessary instructions.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan provided cash assistance to social organizations of the township through local authorities.

Later, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party had a group photo taken together with township departmental officials, members of social organizations and townsmen.

Homelands Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung also provided cash assistance to social organizations of the township.

Later, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party went to Shwekyin by car. On arrival at the Sittoung river-crossing bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk), Tactical Operations Commander Col Zaw Win Myint, local authorities and officials welcomed them. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected the bridge and its nearby areas.

On 12 August, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party looked into the Shwekyin hydel power project being implemented by the Hydroelectric Power Department under the Ministry of Electric Power near Kyauknaga village, six miles north-east of Shwekyin. They also inspected the tasks being carried out at the project site with the use of heavy machinery. At the briefing hall of the project, officials reported on initial tasks of the project, work being carried out, the possible amount of electricity to be generated on completion of the project, and arrangements for the distribution of electricity nation-wide.

After hearing the reports, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gave instructions on making efforts to accomplish the project in time, worksite safety, and priority to be given to health condition of workers.

The Shwekyin hydel power project is one of the hydel power projects being implemented at the Sittoung basin. The project will have two hydroelectric power stations. The No 1 station will be installed with four 18.75 MW generators, and the No 2 station with one 8 MW generator. They will generate 83 MW electricity.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected Shwekyin Township 100-bed hospital construction project and left necessary instructions. They met with local authorities, departmental officials, service personnel, members of social organizations and townsmen at the hall of the Development Affairs Department in Kyaukdaga Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gives instructions to local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations, and townsmen at the hall of the Development Affairs Department in Kyaukdaga Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspect the learning of students at the Sittoung Township BEMS. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann inspects the Sittoung river-crossing Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk). — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gives instructions to local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations, and townsmen at the hall of the Development Affairs Department in Kyaukdaga Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspect the learning of students at the Kanyutkwin Township BEMS. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gives instructions to local authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations, and townsmen at the hall of the Development Affairs Department in Kyaukdaga Township. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspect the learning of students at the Kanyutkwin Township BEMS. — MNA

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann inspects the Sittoung river-crossing Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk). — MNA
Distinct progress in nation ...

(from page 9)

 Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann said that Shwekyin is making gradual progress. For the development of the region, the government has been implementing projects including Shwekyin Hydropower Station Project, the 100-bed hospital construction project and Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk) Project, some of which have been completed.

Through concerted efforts and united cooperation, the government, service personnel and the people have overcome difficulties, obstacles and hindrances to the development of the regions including Shwekyin region in the nation, he said. Continued endeavours are thus to be made for ensuring regional and national development on self-reliance, he added.

The ministers and deputy ministers presented cash assistance to the trust of Nyaunglebin region in the township.

Afterwards, they visited the Hsandanwelu Maha Buddha Image and the Yangdawphwint Pagoda in the town. There, they donated cash to the Sayadaws who administered precepts on sabbath days and to the images.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann met with officers and other ranks and their families of Shwekyin Station at the local battalion. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan in- 
spected Township Information and Public Relations Education Department and gave necessary instructions.

Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung inspected the multimedia classrooms of Township BEHS. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo also inspected Township People’s Hospital and comforted the patients.

In the afternoon, they inspected progress of Shwekyin and the Sittoung Bridge (Shwekyin-Madauk) again.

After arriving at Nyaunglebin Township, they held talks with local authorities, departmental officials, social organizations and townsmen in the afternoon. Officials reported on cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, beans and pulses, oil crops, maize and perennial crops, paddy plus-fish project, livestock breeding tasks, education and health sectors, and efforts for regional and township development.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann delivered a speech on the occasion. In his speech, Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann spoke of the need for local people and departmental officials to join hands in carrying out regional development tasks. Nyaunglebin is a region where reliable new generation youths emerge. So, the fine tradition is to be preserved, and responsible persons are to nurture and train the youths, he noted.

The government has been striving for all-round development of the nation and at the same time for building up a strong and modern Tatmadaw capable of defending and safeguarding the nation and the people, he said. He added that the distinct progress has been made in the entire nation, resulting from the collective efforts of the Tatmadaw and the people.

All are to be fully aware of some big powers resorting to various ways and means to dominate the nation and to break up the already-gained unity among the people in order to keep the nation under their umbrella, he pointed out.

At such a time when they have been putting pressure on the nation and driving a wedge among the people, it is important for the State, the people and the Tatmadaw to have profound mutual understanding to harmoniously carry out ongoing tasks. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also dealt with the development tasks being undertaken by the government.

Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and the deputy ministers presented cash donations to the trust funds of social organizations in the township.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party inspected the DukU feedstock factory and the pig breeding farm under the Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Products Enterprise of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein reported on matters related to the factory and the farm. Officials also reported on production and distribution of pig breeds and production of feedstuff. Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann gave instructions.

The farm breeds over 15,000 pigs and plans are under way to extend the breeding of pigs reaching up to 18,000, it is learnt.

Lt-Gen Thura Shwe Mann and party met with Tatmadaw members and their family members of the local regiment in Pyinpungyi, Bago Town- 
ship, and attended to their needs.

They arrived back here in the evening.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects the Information and Public Relations Department in Shwekyin Township. — MNA

Art Exhibition inspected

YANGON, 14 Aug — Members of the supervisory committee for library, museum and exhibition this morning inspected the Artistic Journey Art Exhibition, organized by the members of Yangon State School of Fine Arts, to be displayed at the hall of Myanmar Artists and Artisans Asayon at Bogyoke Market in Pabedan Township and granted permission to hold the exhibition to the person in-charge of the exhibition.

The delegation has arrived here to implement the bilateral health matters. They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Sri Lankan Ambassador to Myanmar Mr D M M Ranaraja. Dr Stephan P Jose of WHO and the directors-general and officials of the departments under the ministry.

Stipend presented in Tachilek

YANGON, 14 Aug — The stipend for the offspring of the members of Tachilek Township War Veterans Association was presented at a ceremony held at Aung Myat Hall of the association on 31 July.

On behalf of the members of the association, two representatives accepted the stipend.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspects the Information and Public Relations Department in Shwekyin Township. — MNA

MNA

Correction

Please read the passage in the para three in the column four of the article “The Fourth World Buddhist Summit to be held in the Union of Myanmar” by Ba Sein (Religious Affairs) featured on the page 7 of 12 August 2003 issue of The New Light of Myanmar Daily as follows: He taught the Dhamma for forty-five years of Buddhistahood, and at the age of eighty. He attained Mahaparamibbana (passed away) in 148 Maha Era (544 BC).—Ed
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

It is said that health is the most desirable thing a man can wish for in his life. Health is important not only to a person or a family but also to a nation. A man in poor health can hardly lead a happy and successful life. This is also true of a nation. The poor health standard of a nation is a stumbling block to its development. Therefore, for the development of a nation, it is necessary that all her citizens are strong and healthy. Development tasks are being carried out in the entire nation for ensuring equitable development of education, health and economic sectors in 14 States and Divisions. Nowadays, efforts are being made to promote the health care services of rural people that is included in the five rural area development tasks. The TB Hospital (100-bed) of the Social Security Board of the Ministry of Labour was opened on 20 April 2003 on Yangon-Nyaungdon Road in Htantabin Township. —MNA

Agriculture is the main economy for the rural people and farmers, the majority of the nation’s population, to earn their living. Thus, developing the agricultural sector means raising the living standard of the rural people and farmers and advancement of the rural areas, the basic regions of the nation. Priority has been given to the advancement of the agricultural sector, reclaiming more land, tapping additional water resources, and using advanced equipment and methods and quality strains in accord with the schedule. Dams provide water, the most basic requirement for agriculture, and ensure effective use of land for cultivation. Thus, the government has been building dams the length and breadth of the nation. Gamone dam, with a 4,400-foot long and 116-foot high earthen dyke, which was opened on 1 May 2003, is situated on Gamone Creek near Waing Village in Okpo Township, Bago Division, and its benefited area is 15,000 acres. —MNA

Industrial development plays a vital role in the drive for the development of the nation. Therefore, Myanmar Industrial Development Committee has been formed to fulfill the needs of the industrial sector. Moreover, industrial zones have been established by organizing industries scattered all over the country. The advanced Diamond Star Flour Mill, which was opened on 11 May 2003, not only benefited the owner but also the State. The flour mill is an import-substrate industry. The mill can contribute much towards production of flour-based snacks and feedstuff. The flour mill is located on seven acres of land. It is installed with machines of Buhler Co of Switzerland. The mill can produce 240 tons of flour a day and expected to produce 540 tons of flour a day in the future. —MNA
### Brazil condemns US for breaking trade regulations

**RIO-DE-JANEIRO, 14 Aug** — Brazil cannot accept the act of breaking international trade rules by the United States, said Jose de Figueredo, president of the Brazilian Steel Institute (IBS), on Wednesday. Figueredo condemned the measures taken by the United States against decisions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on avoidance of world trade duties.

The US action last year was to impose high tariffs on steel imports to protect its domestic steel producers. Figueredo said that if it was accepted that a country with an active market and a strong economy went against international trade regulations and imposed protectionist measures, then it was an attitude that was negative to everyone else.

The Brazilian steel sector will not accept this situation. Brazil was one of the countries that complained to the WTO over the US measures, he said. — MNA/Xinhua

### FDA approves new cholesterol-lowering drug

**LOS ANGELES, 14 Aug** — Cholesterol-lowering drug Crestor developed by biotech company Astrazeneca has been approved by US Food and Drug Administration, a challenge to the world’s top-selling medicine, Pfizer Inc.’s Lipitor, the Bloomberg News reported Tuesday.

It is based on AstraZeneca is planning a marketing campaign for Crestor that some estimate will cost about one billion US dollars. Crestor worked better than other cholesterol drugs in some tests, and AstraZeneca will stress this as Crestor competes with drugs that doctors already know well, according to the report. With US approval, Crestor’s annual sales may reach one billion dollars by 2007, analysts said.

The FDA approval had been widely expected after an advisory committee last month recommended the drug. But there had been concerns about the drug’s label as the company voiced concern about possible kidney side effects with the 40-milligramme dose.— MNA/Xinhua

### German bouncy castle collapses, 38 children hurt

**MUNICH (Germany), 14 Aug** — A forty-eight year old bouncy castle in the southern town of Landshut in Bavaria collapsed and 38 children were hurt on Wednesday, five seriously, when an inflatable castle filled with foam collapsed in Germany.

Police said the bouncy castle in the southern town of Landshut gave way under the weight of the children, spewing out its foam contents which caused burns to airways and in inflammation. — MNA/Reuters

### Aviation key to Africa’s development

**Johannesburg, 14 Aug** — The movement of goods and people “intra-Africa” is key to the continent’s economic development, and aviation can do more to assist such movement than any other means of transport, said a senior African minister on Tuesday.

South African Transport Minister Dullah Omar made the remarks while addressing the Ninth Aviation and Allied Business Conference in Johannesburg, the South African Press Association reported.

Omar mentioned the grim statistics of poverty, literacy and life expectancy in Africa, and said the New Partnership for Africa’s Development was an acknowledgment of decisive action — including improved transport and communications — was needed to cure these ills.

The shortcomings of road and rail transport in Africa were highlighted, Omar said, and aviation could fill the gap. He recognized the poor financial performance of many airlines in Africa, the lack of economies of scale, high insurance costs, and “high airfares, which are not serviced by service provided”.

Omar also noted the increased need of air traffic control over parts of the continent. Despite these problems, he was optimistic about progress in aviation.

The liberalization of the air transport market was the key to improved aviation services, Omar said. The liberalization of that market — including privatization of some airlines and airports — as contemplated in the Yamoussoukro Declaration of 1988 and the Cape Town Protocol of November 2001 was taking effect.

Each of the five regions of Africa was drawing up its own regulations in this regard, and the Southern African Development Community had approved those that were now awaiting approval, the minister said. — MNA/Xinhua

### ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV “BAGO” VOY NO BG747/N**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV “BAGO” Voy No BG747/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon Port on 14-8-2003 and will be berthing on about 15-8-2003 and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of Myanmar Port Authority where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.30 am and 12 noon to 4 pm into Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE**

**MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV GEE HONG VOY NO (310)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG Voy No (310) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15-8-03 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MI.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11.20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: MIS EAGLE CORPORATION**

**TRADE MARK CAUTION**

**YOKOGAWA ELECTRIC CORPORATION**, a company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America, and having its principal office at 300 Park Avenue, New York, New York, United States of America is the Owner of the following Trademarks:

- Bamboo Pulp Refiner with Motor 2 Sets
- Machine Clothings 1 Lot

Any infringement of the above marks will be dealt with according to law.
Air Force aircraft crashes in north Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 14 Aug — A Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) woman trainee was killed after the Pilatus PC7 aircraft she was piloting crashed into a rubber estate near Kedah State on Tuesday. A Defence Ministry ‘brief statement said the aircraft, took off from the RMAF College in Alor Setar at 11.19 am, crashed at 12:20 pm.

RMAF Public Relations Officer Major Roslan Salam said the pilot’s identity was being withheld until her next-of-kin were notified. “The RMAF is trying to inform the pilot’s next-of-kin of the crash,” he said. Roslan said the RMAF had set up an inquiry board to investigate the crash.

The aircraft hit two rubber trees and the sound of an explosion followed, he said.

Hassan said he then ran to the scene to check but did not see any fire. “I saw smoke billowing from the wreckage,” he added.

Major in US army custody in S Korea over death

SEOUL, 14 Aug — A US Army officer apprehended by South Korean police who saw him disposing of a body along a highway has been turned over to American military authorities, police and the US military said on Wednesday.

Major Richard Hart, 45, was arrested on Tuesday after highway police, patrol- ing the expressway between the capital Seoul and Incheon International Airport, saw him attempting to throw a large plastic bag off a bridge into the sea, Incheon police said.

The bag contained the nude body of his 52-year-old wife, who was a US citi- zen, said Oh Hee-suk, an of- ficer at Incheon’s Subpo police station. US military authori- ties confirmed that Hart was in American military custody and under investigation.

South Korea has the right under a bilateral treaty to prosecute crimes commit- ted by US soldiers unrelated to official duty, but the US Army exercises jurisdiction when the victim is also af- filiated with the US military in Korea.

Incidents involving the 37,000 US troops based in South Korea have sparked protests over the American military presence, which dates back to the 1950-53 Korean War.

UNICEF offers assistance to combat malaria in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA, 14 Aug — Anti-malaria drugs worth of 740,000 US dollars are expected to arrive here this week from the United Nation Children’s Fund (UNICEF), said a Press release here Tuesday from UNICEF.

Malaria is the third leading cause of death in Ethiopia, with 75 per cent of the population at risk and five million clinical cases reported annually.

As the last major epidemic was in 1998 and normally they occur cyclically every five to eight years, the mosquitoes are low, and with rainfall in some areas high, it is feared this year that the impact of the epidemic could be even more devastating than the last one. — MNA/Xinhua

“Reader’s Digest” buys book copyright in China for first time

SHANGHAI, 14 Aug — Renowned United States publication group Reader’s Digest on Tuesday bought its first Chinese book copyright in Shanghai.

With 80 years history, Reader’s Digest is an interna- tional multi-national publication group. Its magazine of the same title is published in 19 languages and sold 27 million copies monthly to nearly 100 million readers around the world. The publication group also runs book and advertise- ment businesses in more than 60 countries and regions of the world.

The company bought the copyright for a historical encyclopedia on China from Shanghai Literature & Art Publishing House.

Rosemarie Wallace, Chief Executive Officer of the publication group in Asia said Reader’s Digest bought the book because it may fit the taste of readers in north America as well as Taiwan and Hong Kong. — MNA/Xinhua

Multinational air drill to be held in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 14 Aug — The Air Forces of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay and the United States will hold a major drill in Argentina in October. Argentine Air Force sources said on Tuesday.

The exercise will be held as part of an exercise of the 4th Air Brigade, based in the western Argentine province of Mendoza, 1,200 kilometres from there.

Internet virus spreads rapidly around world

LOS ANGELES, 14 Aug — A computer virus that exploits a recently discovered security hole in Microsoft’s Windows software spread rapidly around the world Tuesday and forced the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration to shut its offices for the day.

The worm, dubbed LoveSan, Blaster or MSBLaster, was first detected Monday and has spread to at least 127,000 computers worldwide in the past 24 hours, according to a Los Angeles Times online report.

The computers that are vulnerable to attack are those that use Microsoft’s Win- dows 2000 and Windows XP operating pro- grammes, according to Internet security experts.

The worm forced Maryland’s motor vehicle agency to close for the day and blocked Internet users of one of its functions as it spread, the Associated Press said.

The US Government issued a warning about the security flaw, and released an advisory warning after thousands of ma- chines began scanning the Internet for vul- nerable computers.

Experts said the worm is designed to cripple the Microsoft web site where Win- dows customers can get a software patch to repair the very same flaw that Blaster is using to spread itself.

Beginning August 16, the worm will direct all infected computers to send a stream of information as the attack attempt to over- whelm the site. The attack, which is referred to as a denial of service campaign, will con- tinue for the remainder of the year.

The worm also includes a message to Microsoft’s chairman and co-founder, Bill Gates: “Billy Gates why do you make this possible? Stop making money and fix your software!” — MNA/Xinhua
Beckham sweats it out while Makelele in open rebellion

MUNOZ, 14 Aug—David Beckham’s first training session on Spanish soil since signing for Real Madrid was overshadowed by teammate Claude Makelele’s refusal to train with the rest of the squad on Wednesday.

While Beckham completed a light work out in the sweltering heat at the team’s city-centre training ground, Makelele was in open rebellion over his contract.

The French international’s agent Marc Roger said on Wednesday that the player felt undervalued in the wake of the arrival of the string of highly-paid recruits.

Rogers then met with Real sporting director Jorge Valdano to pray and persuade the club to give his client a pay rise or to sell him on to Premier League side Chelsea.

But Valdano said after training that the player’s subsequent refusal to train would now result in disciplinary action by the club.

Earlier, England captain Beckham had joined the remainder of his teammates for an open session in front of around 1,000 fans.

It was a relatively muted reception, though, for a team that had drawn crowds of up to 45,000 during their three-week tour of the Far East.

Beckham acknowledged the cheers of fans as he jogged round the pitch at the soon-to-be demolished Ciudad Deportiva.

It was the sale of the training facility that provided Real with the windfall that allowed them to clear crippling debts of some $250 million US dollars and still have sufficient funds left over to embark on a spending spree to buy the pick of world’s best— and most glamorous—players.

Spending close to $200 million euros in the last three years, Real have brought Luis Figo, Zinedine Zidane, Ronaldo and Beckham to join existing players such as Roberto Carlos and Raul at the Bernabeu.

The club will continue using the ground for at least another month before moving out of the city to the Spanish Football Federation’s headquarters while their new training ground is built close to the city’s Barajas Airport.

Meanwhile Real’s latest new signing appears to be settling in well.

Beckham produced inspired performances on the Asian tour both in his usual berth on the right wing as well as in the more central role many would like to see him occupy for England.

He also appears to have struck up a good rapport both with his teammates and with fans, waiting behind to sign autographs for the dozens of young supporters crowding round the fences in the club car park.

But the club’s high-profile recruitment policy is already appearing to be taking its toll on team morale and former United assistant Carlos Queiroz will find that his diplomatic skills tested to the limit as he settles into his more high-profile role as Real coach.

China’s Li Tie signs three-year deal with Everton

LONDON (Reuters), 14 Aug—Chinese midfielder Li Tie has signed a three-year contract with Everton, the Premier League club announced on Tuesday.

The 25-year-old arrived at Goodison Park on loan from Liaoning Bodao in July 2002 and became a key part of the Everton team, making 29 Premier League appearances.

His loan contract ran out on June 30 and he will now be able to play against Arsenal on Saturday in Everton’s opening match of the 2003-04 season.

Everton, who finished seventh last season, did not release financial details of Li Tie’s contract, which ended months of uncertainty over whether he would stay on.

But the Shenyang-based Liaoning club told Reuters on Tuesday that Everton had agreed to pay 1.2 million pounds (1.93 million US dollars) for a permanent transfer, general manager Zhang Shuguang said.

“It’s a permanent transfer,” general manager Zhang Shuguang said.

“We welcome the decision made by Everton. We attribute the success of the deal to Li Tie’s persistence, his agents’ efforts and support from Chinese enterprises,” he added.

Some domestic clubs were willing to offer 20 million yuan (2.42 million US dollars) to sign Li Tie. We didn’t accept their offers because Li Tie is willing to develop his career in Britain,” Zhang said.

The two sides had not been able to reach an agreement since May. State media said a real estate company based in the southern province of Guangdong, Dynatown, had joined the deal and loaned money to Everton to sign Li Tie.

A company official said on Tuesday also featuring the first legs of the three finals of the UEFA Cup.

Celtic have Champions League group stage place

BUDAPEST, 14 Aug—Last season’s UEFA Cup finalists Celtic have a Champions League group stage place within their grasp after an easy 4-0 win over MTK Budapest in their third qualifying round, first leg match on Wednesday.

Celtic, who also chalked up a 4-0 first-leg win against Lithuania’s Kaunas in the last round, were 3-0 up after 50 minutes when prolific Swedish striker Henrik Larsson lobbed the goalkeeper from outside the penalty area.

Finnish defender Didier Agathe doubled the lead in the 74th minute, as the only real threat to the hosts. The French international his agent Marc Roger said on Wednesday that the player felt undervalued in the wake of the arrival of the string of highly-paid recruits.

Rogers then met with Real sporting director Jorge Valdano to pray and persuade the club to give his client a pay rise or to sell him on to Premier League side Chelsea.

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**WEATHER**

**Thursday, 14th August, 2003**

Summary of observations recorded at 09:00 hours MST:

- During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division and rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in Kayah State, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Tanintharyi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Tanintharyi Division. Kachin and Rakhine States.

- The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawkhong 6.4 inches, Myitkyina 3.98 inches, Sittway 3.42 inches and Thandwe 2.62 inches.

- Maximum temperature on 13-8-2003 was 27.8°C (77°F). Relative humidity at 09:00 hrs MST on 14-8-2003 was 96%.

- Total sunshine hours on 13-8-2003 was nil. Rainfall on 14-8-2003 was 21 mm at Yangon Airport, 5 mm at Kaba-Aye and 42 mm at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2003 was 1692 mm (66.73 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1673 mm (65.87 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1715 mm (67.52 inches) at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12.4 m/s from Southwest at (00:00) hours on 14-8-2003.

- Bay influence: Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 15-8-2003:
  - Over southwards, wind will be ENE-ENE direction.
  - Over Rakhine, wind will be S-SW direction.
  - Over Tanintharyi, wind will be SE-SSE direction.
  - Over Kachin, wind will be WNW-WNW direction.
Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends opening of multimedia classrooms of BEHS-7 in Mawlamyine

YANGON, 14 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Brig-Gen Myint Soe of Thatan Station, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Myo Hla and officials, attended the opening ceremony of the multimedia classrooms of Basic Education High School No 7 in Mawlamyine on 10 August morning.

Principal Daw Khin Myo and Chairman of School Board of Trustees U Soe, Nyunt formally opened the ceremony. The commander formally unveiled the signboard of the multimedia classrooms. Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party looked around the multimedia classrooms and gave instructions. Then, the ceremony continued at Nawarat Hall there. The guests were entertained to music and dancing by the students.

School-head Daw Khin Myo and Chairman of School Board of Trustees U Soe, Nyunt reported on endeavours for opening of multimedia classrooms. Lt-Gen Maung Bo then presented video tapes to the school-head Assistant Directors, U Myint Soe of Basic Education Department spoke words of thanks and the commander made a speech. In his speech, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has already given guidance on development of education sector. To achieve success in implementing the international standard educational objectives, new universities, colleges and schools have been opened in states and divisions. In addition, multimedia classrooms have also been opened all over the country. Necessary assistance has been provided for effective use of modern devices and teaching/learning aids in multimedia classrooms, he said.

In this knowledge age, it is needed to make efforts for turning out new generation youths, who are well-rounded in modern education systems, to be able to keep abreast of others. The information technology and communication is developing in the world. So, priority is to be given to development of human resources in Myanmar to be able to use these technologies. It is needed to cooperate hand in hand in line with the objective — Build Modern Development Nation Through Education. The government has been striving for equitable development in the country and local people are to cooperate unitedly.

He then thanked the officials, wellwishers, members of SBT and old students who contributed towards the opening of the multimedia classrooms. He spoke of the need to maintain the computers in the multimedia classrooms for long-term use and propose assistance to e-Libraries. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party, officials concerned and those present posed for documentary photos. Lt-Gen Maung Bo cordially greeted students and band-troupe members.

In the afternoon, Lt-Gen Maung Bo met with officers of Thanbyuzayat Station and their families at the hall of Waged Village in Thanbyuzayat Township. He gave instructions on regional development and agriculture and livestock breeding tasks.

MNA

Development works inspected in Yangon East and South Districts

YANGON, 14 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, together with Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Kyaw Tint and departmental officials, arrived at the project site for construction of Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No (2) in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon East District, this afternoon.

At the briefing hall, an official reported on facts about the project, completion of construction of piles and tasks being carried out. The commander gave necessary instructions.

Next, the commander met with owners of the factories of industrial zones in the township. The commander explained matters relating to the assistance being rendered by the State for boosting production of the factories.

Yangon-Thanlyin Bridge No (2) is 4,540 feet long and the reinforced concrete one with a 72-foot-wide motorway and two 6-foot-wide walkways on it. The bridge is also a 6-lane one and can withstand 75 tons of load. Its clearance is 130 feet wide and 18 feet high. Arrangements are being made to supply water from Ngamoeyeik Dam to the fields in Thanlyin and Thongwa Townships with the use of concrete pipes through the bridge.

Next, the commander and party arrived at the construction site of Kayan Creek Sluice Gate being undertaken by Irrigation Department near old Chaungwa Village in Thanlyin Township, Yangon South District. At the briefing hall, the commander gave instructions to the officials on tasks to be carried out with added momentum.

The commander also gave instructions to the local farmers on measures to be taken to grow crops up to triple cropping and attended to their requirements.

The 6-foot-wide and 16-foot-high concrete type Kayan Creek Sluice Gate has 36 gates. It also has a 4,000-foot-long leading channel and a 2,500-foot-long outfall channel. On completion, it can benefit over 30,000 acres of farmland.

Next, the commander and party arrived at Winner Brother feedstuff factory in the industrial zone in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. An official reported on production process of the factory and distribution of the products. The commander attended to the requirements.

Afterwards, the commander and party went to the wood processing factory of Myanmar Technologies Industry Co Ltd. The managing director of the factory reported on works being carried out. The commander left instructions on boosting production of the factory and work site safety.

MNA