Establishment of MICT Park of international standard is equal to issuing challenge to unfair and unjust economic sanctions

Mandalay MICT Park and International ICT Exhibition (Mandalay) open

YANGON, 17 Aug — The opening ceremony of MICT Park (Mandalay) and International ICT Exhibition was held at Yadanabon Market, Mandalay on 16 August morning, attended by Chairman of the Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, the Ministers, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, Deputy Ministers, senior military officers, members of the MCSDC, members of the e-National Task Force, Economic In-charge Mr Huang Wen Long of Consulate General Office of the People’s Republic of China, Indian Consulate General Mr P K Bhutiani, Board of Directors of MICTDC, techni- cians of Information Technology, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, members of the Division, District and Township Peace and Development Council, officials of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Chairman and executives of the Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientists Association and Myanmar Computer Industry Association and Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Association.

First, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint and Mayor of Mandalay Brig-Gen Yan Thein formally opened the MICT Park (Mandalay) and members, Chairmen of IT companies and officials, members of social organiza-tions and guests.

First, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. He said:

- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and 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.
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order.
- National reconsolidation.
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution.
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accordance 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 heri-tage and national character.
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit.
- Uplift of health, fitness and education stand-ards of the entire nation.

After that, the opening of the MICT Park (Mandalay) was held at Conference Room on the third floor of the market.

First, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. He said:

An MICT park of international standard has now emerged in Mandalay, the capital of the upper Myanmar. It can be consid-ered as a significant achievement that has re- sulted from the efforts to build information and communication infrastructures of international standard.

It is also and acco mplishment that is to be put on the historical record not only of Mandalay but also of the upper Myanmar. The State Peace and Development Council, placing its reliance on the national strengths, is striving to ensure peace and tranquility in the Union of Myanmar and

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

Volume XI, Number 124 6th Waning of Wakhaung 1365 ME Monday, 18 August, 2003

Cittam yassa na kampati, be free from anxiety; this is the way to auspiciousness.
Nurture the students to become patriotic force

The Government, enlisting the strength of the entire national people, is trying to maintain the fruitful result of nation-building endeavours and is making efforts for emergence of a certain future that can guarantee the lasting national interests.

But, internal and external destructive elements in collusion with some Western countries are making attempts to hamper the national development drive resorting to various ways and means.

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt, in his address on the occasion of the opening of the Special Refresher Course No 19 for basic education teachers which took place at the Yadana Hall of the central institute of service (upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Division, on 15 August, said “Actually, Myanmar as an independent nation has the right to freely choose and shape the future of the nation and the people on the road of national interest in conformity with historical and cultural traditions exercising sovereign powers free from foreign influence.”

According to the international codes of conduct and the UN Charter, it is obvious that violation of the basic rights of a country by other country amounts to unlawful act committed by one country against another.

Only when there are economic development and living standard of a country will there be progress in education, health, knowledge and social sectors. Genuine democracy will flourish only if efforts are being made based on the knowledge of the people and stability of the State.

Causing economic disturbances and the people to get into trouble, especially causing instability of the State and the people to be frightened by committing destructive acts and terrorist acts are not conducive to flourishing of democracy.

In building own national forces for the future of the State, teachers are to train their students who are the resource of all the national forces in line with the national goal.

Teachers are urged to nurture their students to become a patriotic force on which the State can rely at a time when efforts are being made, facing various difficulties, for the nation to stand tall among the nations of the world and for the perpetuation of the Union.

**PERSPECTIVES**

**Monday, 18 August, 2003**

**Nurture the students to become patriotic force**

**YANGON, 17 Aug —** A ceremony to present rice, edible oil, salt, medicine, gram, and cash to monasteries and nunneries in Yangon East and West districts donated by families of the Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers was held at Paava Nikaya Sasana Beikman Monastery in Yankin Township here this afternoon.

It was attended by members of the Sangha led by Patron Sayadaw of Paava Nikaya Sasana Beikman Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Tejohtha, the nuns led by Nun Daw Wunna Wadi of Soonlunga Nunnery, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Hwa, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Vice-Mayor of Yangon City Col Maung Pa, senior military officers, members of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council, departmental officials and wellwishers.

First, the congregation received the Nine-Precepts. Next, the minister, the deputy minister, the vice-major and senior military officers presented offerings to the members of the Sangha.

Next, on behalf of the families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air), Camp Commandant Maj-Gen Hla Aung Thein, Captain Seik Staff (Navy) Col Nyan Tun and Colonel General Staff (Air) Col Zin Yin offered provisions to Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, senior military officers, also presented rice, edible edible oil and gram to a nun of Soonlunga Nunnery.

Next, rice, edible oil, salt, medicines and gram donated by wellwishers were presented to members of the Sangha by officials and wellwishers.

Families of Defence Service (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers made cash donations to monasteries and nunneries through the minister, the deputy minister and senior military officers.

Next, Col Zin Yin supplied on the purpose of the donations.

Next, the congregation shared the merits gained and the ceremony came to an end.

A total of donations were 498 bags of rice, 223 viss of iodized salt, 289 bottles of fine salt, 4,893 bottles of traditional medicines, 587 viss of gram, 11 bags of onion, 10 bags of potatoes, 10 viss of sugar, 50 viss of vermicelli and cash amounting to over K 79.5 million.

Similar a ceremony to present provisions and cash was also held at Thayettaw Monastery in Lammadaw Township at 3 pm today.

At the ceremony, Commerce Minister, the deputy minister, vice-major and senior military officers presented offerings to Sayadaw and members of the Sangha.

Next, on behalf of the families of the Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air), Maj-Gen Tin Soe of the Ministry of Defence, Col Nyan Tun and Col Zin Yin, and departmental officials and wellwishers presented rice, edible oil and gram to the members of the Sangha.

Next, the wellwishers donated a total of over K 4.1 million to the monasteries and nunneries through officials concerned.

Next, Col Than Han of the Ministry of Defence supplied on the purpose of the donation and the congregation shared the merits gained. Today donations were 193 bags of rice, 78 viss of edible oil, 684 viss of iodized salt, 145 bottles of Fine salt, 4,597 bottles of traditional medicines, 137 viss of gram and over K 4.1 million.

**Musical Instruments Exhibition continues**

**YANGON, 17 Aug —** Myanmar Traditional Musical Instruments Exhibition continued today for the ninth day at the multi purpose hall of National Museum in Pauk Road here.

Musicians of the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture today presented skill demonstrations of musical instruments.

Today, a total of over 700 enthusiasts visited the exhibition which will be kept open till 22 August.

**Bangladeshi Boxing team arrives**

**YANGON, 17 Aug —** A nine-member Bangladeshi boxing team led by Md Latifur Rahman Khan arrived here this afternoon to take part in Myanmar-Bangladesh friendly boxing tournament in Myanmar.

Officials concerned welcomed them at Yangon International Airport.

**Senior military officers after provisions Sayadaw. — MNA**

**Myanmar beat AIA, Canada, 2-1 in friendly match**

**YANGON, 17 Aug —** Myanmar women soccer team scored a 2-1 victory over AIA (Athletic In Action) of Canada in a soccer friendly which took place at Youth Training centre (Thawunna) Ground here this afternoon.

The second match will be held at the same ground at 4 pm tomorrow. — MNA

**Myanmar women soccer player fights for a ball against a player of AIA, Canada, during the soccer friendly. — MNA**

**Enthusiasts view the skill demonstration at Myanmar Traditional Musical Instruments Exhibition. — MNA**
Turkey welcomes UN Security Council resolution on Iraq

ANKARA, 17 Aug — Turkey is pleased about the latest UN Security Council resolution on Iraq since it coincided with its own approach on the issue, Turkish Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Friday.

No. 1500 resolution welcomed the establishment of Governing Council of Iraq on July 13, 2003 as an important step towards the formation of an internationally recognized representative government that would exercise the sovereignty of Iraq, the statement said.

The ministry reiterated that Turkey supports transition period to be completed in a way that Iraq’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity would be taken under guaranty.

The latest resolution of UN Security Council reconfirmed sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq, said the statement.

“Turkey has always defended that the United Nations should play a key role in transition period and re-building process of Iraq. Turkey welcomed this role’s being put on a more definite and concrete foundation by formation of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). Turkey will help this mission’s fulfilling its duty successfully,” the Foreign Ministry said in the statement.

New York restores most power after blackout

New York, 17 Aug—The New York grid operator said Friday more than half of the power had been restored to New York’s 19 million residents following the largest electrical blackout in North American history.

Early on Friday, the New York State Independent System Operator, or NYISO, and the state’s utility companies said they restored 56 percent of the state load. In New York City, which still has significant outages, power has been returned to about 1.5 million of Consolidated Edison Inc.’s 3.1 million customers.

Canada’s Ontario reports 2 blackout-linked deaths

OTTAWA, 17 Aug—Two people died of causes related to the blackout that has hit the Canadian province of Ontario since Thursday afternoon, Ontario Premier Ernie Eves said on Friday.

A resident died during a fire triggered by the blackout and the other was killed in a traffic accident, Eves told a morning Press conference.

Russia ready to join UN assistant mission in Iraq

MOSCOW, 17 Aug— Russia is prepared to send specialists to participate in the United Nations Assistant Mission to Iraq, which will be formed shortly, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Fedotov said Friday.

Fedotov made the remarks a day after the UN Security Council overwhelmingly adopted a US-drafted resolution to welcome the establishment of the Iraqi Governing Council (IGC). The resolution also authorized the creation of a 300-member UN Assistance Mission to coordinate the UN’s activities in Iraq. Under the resolution, a mission with a one-year mandate will work with the US occupation authorities and the IGC, Fedotov said.

The mission will purely deal with Iraq’s civilian rebuilding rather than security or defence issues, he said. Fedotov reiterated Russia’s welcome to the establishment of the US-sponsored IGC, stressing that there is no question of recognizing the council. “Its establishment is welcomed as a step that will lead to an internationally recognized government that will assure Iraq’s sovereignty,” he said.

Russia, one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, opposed the US-led war against Iraq. It has also been repeatedly calling for greater UN role in the post-war Iraqi reconstruction.

Massive blackout triggers 60 serious fires in NYC

WASHINGTON, 17 Aug— As the lights flickered on in New York and half a dozen other major North American cities on Friday, the fingers started pointing over who or what was to blame for the most serious blackout in the continent’s history.

Some 20 hours after the power went out, officials were still scrambling to pinpoint what caused the cascading failure of the electricity grid from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic seaboard.

A growing chorus of experts suggested the massive power failure was a disaster waiting to happen because the cracking energy infrastructure that serves the United States and Canada — built on 1950s technology — has been all but overwhelmed by huge increases in the power volume flowing through the grid.

Former Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, now governor of New Mexico, summarized it succinctly: “We’re a superpower with a third world grid,” he said. “We need a new grid.”

As Toronto and Ottawa were plunged into darkness, the office of Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien issued several early explanations for the power loss that turned out to be wrong, and later asserted that a Pennsylvania nuclear power plant outage may have caused it.

“How did this happen, why did it happen and why did we have a systemic failure across the power grid in the northeast when we were told after the blackout in the 1960s that this would not happen again?” demanded New York Governor George Pataki.

Finger pointing as lights flicker on in US, Canada

Some 20 hours after the power went out, officials were still scrambling to pinpoint what caused the cascading failure of the electricity grid from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic seaboard.

A growing chorus of experts suggested the massive power failure was a disaster waiting to happen because the cracking energy infrastructure that serves the United States and Canada — built on 1950s technology — has been all but overwhelmed by huge increases in the power volume flowing through the grid.

Former Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, now governor of New Mexico, summarized it succinctly: “We’re a superpower with a third world grid,” he said. “We need a new grid.”

As Toronto and Ottawa were plunged into darkness, the office of Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien issued several early explanations for the power loss that turned out to be wrong, and later asserted that a Pennsylvania nuclear power plant outage may have caused it.

“How did this happen, why did it happen and why did we have a systemic failure across the power grid in the northeast when we were told after the blackout in the 1960s that this would not happen again?” demanded New York Governor George Pataki.

The experts are expected to discuss technical aspects of a range of experiences and ideas involved in national implementation of the BWC, and will prepare the ground for the annual meeting of States Parties, scheduled for November 10 to 14. The Meeting of Experts will be chaired by Ambas- sador Tibor Toth of Hungary, who also chaired the Fifth Review Conference.
Two stranded passengers to New York wait at the Charles-de-Gaulle Airport in Paris, capital of France, on 15 August, 2003. Air France cancelled three flights to New York Friday due to a power blackout that swept across northeastern US and part of Canada. — Slovenia

Iraqi doctors blame cancer rise on depleted uranium shells

Tokyo, 17 Aug — An increasing number of Iraqis are suffering from cancer and leukemia allegedly caused by depleted uranium shells the United States military used in the area, two visiting doctors from Iraq said in presentations in Japan over the past two weeks.

Jawad Al Ali, 59, a doctor from Basra, said an increasing number of families have members who are suffering from cancer, and the death toll from cancer has risen 19-fold during the same period.

Several Japanese civic groups jointly invited Ali and Janan Ghalib Hassan to Japan as part of their activities to make known the harmful effects of depleted uranium shells. The two delivered presentations in cities including Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which were devastated by atomic bombs the US dropped in 1945 in World War II.

Hassan, 47, said that in 2001, 611 babies were born with no limbs, no eyes or other birth defects, compared with 37 such cases in 1990.

Ali expressed concern that a high number of cancer patients will emerge in Baghdad and other parts of the country due to the recent US-led war on Iraq.

Depleted uranium, a metal remainder left when natural uranium is refined, is used in artillery shells and bombs designed to penetrate tanks and other armoured vehicles.

The metal is believed to turn into small particles when a shell hits its target, and can be toxic in humans if breathed or eaten.

The US has been denying, including via embassy web sites, such adverse effects, asserting there is no basis to claims that depleted uranium causes cancer in newborns.

But Yuko Fujita, an assistant professor at Ketsu University who examined the effects of radioactivity in Iraq from May to June, said that damage from depleted uranium will be more serious in the future due to the recent war. “I doubt that Iraq is fabricating data because in fact there are many children suffering from leukemia in hospitals,” Fujita said. “As a result of the Iraq war, the situation will be desperate in some five to 10 years.”

Regarding efforts by Japan in helping to rebuild Iraq, he said, “Japan should build up-to-date hospitals for children with cancer instead of sending Self-Defence Forces personnel.”

World’s largest stratosphere to kindle HK

Hong Kong, 17 Aug — A seven-storey high and 25,000-kilogramme heavy stratosphere, the largest of its kind in the world, is designed to stage multi-dimensional music and laser show against the backdrop of Hong Kong’s Victoria Harbour on August 17.

At Friday’s Press briefing, the show’s producer Martin Speight noted that the pearl-shaped stratosphere will symbolize the rekindling of “The Pearl of the Orient” as Hong Kong is hailed on August 17.

When the “Welcome Day” of the two-month Hong Kong Welcome You Promotion sponsored by the Hong Kong Tourism Board falls. The city, hardly hit by the outbreak of SARS, is spreading the message worldwide that Hong Kong is safe and spectacular place to visit.

The show, part of the efforts, will attract over 4,000 guests and visitors from all over the world on the premiere day and last for a month.

According to Speight, the show, featuring vibrant video images with glinting laser lighting, is synchronized with water screen, pyrotechnics and music.

In addition, the premiere show will present an enhanced version with an onboard performance, during which, Willy Romsey, who trained the hero in the film “Tomb Raider”, will perform a Bungee jump from a height of 70 metres. Another 100 artists will also join in the onboard performance.

Altogether, 17 computers and 600 people will work for the show. Some visitors at Hong Kong’s Golden Bauhinia Square, on viewing the giant stratosphere, expressed the desire to watch the show on Sunday night.

Conference on mental health to be held in Sri Lanka

Colombo, 17 Aug — A four-day international conference on mental health and psychiatry is scheduled to be held in Colombo, capital of Sri Lanka, on Sunday, the official Daily News said on Saturday.

Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Tyronne Fernando and Minister of Economic Reforms, Science and Technology Milinda Moragoda will inaugurate the international conference on psychiatry.

Over 300 foreign delegates will attend the conference which is the second conference of the series organized by the British Chapter of the South Asian Forum on Mental Health and Psychiatry in association with the recently formed Sri Lanka College of Psychiatry and co-sponsored by the World Psychiatric Association, the World Association for Psychological Rehabilitation and the Royal College of Psychiatrists Britain.

President of the Sri Lanka Psychiatrists’ Association B. Somasunderam said that Sri Lanka has a population of about 20 million and there are only about 20 psychiatrists practising in the health services, which is not sufficient for effective and adequate mental health services.

Conference on mental health to be held in Sri Lanka

Colombo, 17 Aug — A four-day international conference on mental health and psychiatry is scheduled to be held in Colombo, capital of Sri Lanka, on Sunday, the official Daily News said on Saturday.

Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Tyronne Fernando and Minister of Economic Reforms, Science and Technology Milinda Moragoda will inaugurate the international conference on psychiatry.

Over 300 foreign delegates will attend the conference which is the second conference of the series organized by the British Chapter of the South Asian Forum on Mental Health and Psychiatry in association with the recently formed Sri Lanka College of Psychiatry and co-sponsored by the World Psychiatric Association, the World Association for Psychological Rehabilitation and the Royal College of Psychiatrists Britain.

President of the Sri Lanka Psychiatrists’ Association B. Somasunderam said that Sri Lanka has a population of about 20 million and there are only about 20 psychiatrists practising in the health services, which is not sufficient for effective and adequate mental health services.

Regarding efforts by Japan in helping to rebuild Iraq, he said, “Japan should build up-to-date hospitals for children with cancer instead of sending Self-Defence Forces personnel.”

World’s largest stratosphere to kindle HK

Hong Kong, 17 Aug — A seven-storey high and 25,000-kilogramme heavy stratosphere, the largest of its kind in the world, is designed to stage multi-dimensional music and laser show against the backdrop of Hong Kong’s Victoria Harbour on August 17.

At Friday’s Press briefing, the show’s producer Martin Speight noted that the pearl-shaped stratosphere will symbolize the rekindling of “The Pearl of the Orient” as Hong Kong is hailed on August 17.

When the “Welcome Day” of the two-month Hong Kong Welcome You Promotion sponsored by the Hong Kong Tourism Board falls. The city, hardly hit by the outbreak of SARS, is spreading the message worldwide that Hong Kong is safe and spectacular place to visit.

The show, part of the efforts, will attract over 4,000 guests and visitors from all over the world on the premiere day and last for a month.

According to Speight, the show, featuring vibrant video images with glinting laser lighting, is synchronized with water screen, pyrotechnics and music.

In addition, the premiere show will present an enhanced version with an onboard performance, during which, Willy Romsey, who trained the hero in the film “Tomb Raider”, will perform a Bungee jump from a height of 70 metres. Another 100 artists will also join in the onboard performance.

Altogether, 17 computers and 600 people will work for the show. Some visitors at Hong Kong’s Golden Bauhinia Square, on viewing the giant stratosphere, expressed the desire to watch the show on Sunday night.

Turkey suggests establishing buffer zone on Iraqi border

Ankara, 17 Aug — Ready to send troops to help install stability in Iraq, Turkey has proposed to the United States to establish a buffer zone on the Iraqi border.

Turkish private TV channel NTV reported on Friday, Ankara is planning to set up a disarmed zone along Iraqi-Turkish border inside Iraq due to existence of armed terrorist cells in northern Iraq and concerns that terrorists would infiltrate into Turkey.

Washington has not given a formal response to Turkey’s suggestion.

Ankara pointed out that border security could be provided by announcement of the disarmed region and careful implementation of this rule... MNA/Inthua

Iraqi firemen stand near a damaged oil pipeline near the northern town of Baiji on 16 August, 2003. A raging oil fire and pipeline trouble stopped all oil flow from Iraq to Turkey, just three days after the pipeline between the two countries was reopened, the military said. — Internet

Blackout leaves New Yorkers sleeping in streets

New York, 17 Aug — In New York’s Times Square on Friday, hundreds of tired, haggard-looking commuters left stranded by the blackout awoke from their make-shift beds, lumbering into the dim light of the rising sun.

Like the scene of a post-apocalyptic movie, some people wandered into the streets with blank stares on their faces, searching for any indication as to when full power would be restored.

More than 12 hours after the biggest North American power outage in history left huge swaths of the Northeast in swirling darkness, much of New York and its suburbs were still without electricity. The subways were not running and many residents had no water because their electric pumps were not working.

In midtown Manhattan, normally abuzz with early morning activity, streets remained eerily quiet. Many who were stranded without lodging overnight were still asleep on beds of newspaper, cardboard, clothing or briefcases, while others shuffled over to a handful of delis that were open.

Thousands more had no luck finding shelter indoors. At the Marriott Marquis on Times Square, hundreds of people were sprawled on its driveway outside locked doors, and on sidewalks with their briefcases. A man walking by said: “Everyone is homeless tonight. Now you get a taste of what homelessness is like.”

The city was mostly calm overnight, but sporadic incidents of looting were reported in Brooklyn, with 20 people arrested after breaking into a shoe store, five arrested for breaking into a phone store, police said.

Temperatures, which barely left the 80s Fahrenheit (high 20s Centigrade) overnight, were expected to soar back into the 90s Fahrenheit (30s Centigrade).

MNA/Reuters
Iraq oil exports through Turkey halted by pipeline sabotage

Baghdad, 17 Aug — Iraqi crude exports through Turkey have been halted by sabotage of the key pipeline to the Mediterranean terminal of Ceyhan, Iraq's top oil official said. "The oil exports ... have stopped because of the sabotage," acting oil minister Thamer Ghadhban told reporters.

Ghadhban said a fire that broke out Friday after an explosion hit the pipeline had been "isolated." Friday's halt came just two days after the Turkish energy ministry announced the resumption of exports through the pipeline linking Iraq's northern oilfields around Kirkuk to Ceyhan.

"The fire ... on the Turkey pipeline was sabotage," Ghadhban said, adding that the blaze was isolated by closing nearby valves.

"The fire is under control and will be put down," but it will take at least a week to repair the pipeline, he said. Ghadhban said the fire was started by an explosion which occurred at around 3:00 am Friday (2300 GMT Thursday) 20 kilometres (13 miles) north of the pumping station at Baiji.

Baiji is about 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of Baghdad and is a vital hub in the network of oil pipelines that criss-cross Iraq. It also falls within the northern tip of the so-called Sunni triangle, a wedge of north-central Iraq known for its breakdowns in the dilapidated infrastructure and attacks blamed on Saddam loyalists and anti-American Muslims.

Report says Hoon accepts blame for scientist's death

London, 17 Aug — Britain's Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon has told colleagues he accepts he must "carry the can" for the death of a government scientist at the centre of claims that London exaggerated the case for war on Baghdad, it was reported today.

According to the Sunday Telegraph, Hoon telephoned colleagues to tell them he expected to have to "fall on his sword" over the affair, which has triggered a major political crisis for Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Last week, a judicial inquiry into the suspected suicide of weapons expert David Kelly heard that Hoon had overruled his most senior civil servant's request that the scientist be spared a public grilling by a parliamentary committee.

Hoon has informed friends that he believes the disclosure, and allegations that he was prepared to put political expediency ahead of Kelly's welfare, spell doom for his career as a member of Blair's cabinet of senior ministers, the Sunday Telegraph reported.

"He's told us he's going to carry the can," one close colleague told the right-wing paper.

Some of the most senior officials of Blair's office, including media chief Alastair Campbell and Jonathan Powell, the prime minister's chief of staff, are preparing to give evidence to the judicial probe in London this week.

Blair is due to be summoned to testify at some stage, along with Hoon himself. The body of Kelly, a former UN weapons inspector in Iraq, was found on July 18 at a beauty spot near his home at Southmoor, west of London, days after he was grilled by two parliamentary committees — an ordeal he apparently found hard to endure. — Internet

Shanghai lures overseas talent with high salaries

Shanghai, 17 Aug — The Pudong New Development Area in China's largest city of Shanghai is planning to lure more talented Chinese students studying abroad to return and serve in local government and private enterprises.

In a major overseas talent recruitment campaign to be launched this October, the third of its kind since 2001, the Pudong New Area government will offer a number of senior official posts for overseas students who would like to join the city's civil service, official sources said. Meanwhile, more than 20 leading domestic enterprises based in Pudong will also provide some 180 senior managerial posts for overseas staff, with a maximum annual salary of 100,000 US dollars.

A delegation of representatives will soon leave for Europe to look for staff, and the delegation will meet applicants in Frankfurt, Paris and London between October 12-19.

Relevant information regarding the recruitment will also be released via the official websites, "www.pudong.gov.cn" and "www.pudongos.com". — MNA/Xinhua

Pacific Islands Forum to adopt regional strategy on “AIDS”

Auckland (New Zealand), 17 Aug — The Pacific Islands Forum has expressed serious concern over the continued rate of HIV/AIDS transmission in Forum Island countries.

In a final joint communiqué issued Saturday, the 16-member organization acknowledged that HIV/AIDS as a developmental issue could have a devastating impact on the economies, societies and the security of the region. The leaders said that the Forum would adopt a Regional Strategy which would be presented to the 2004 Forum.

They affirmed that strong government leadership generated the most effective responses to HIV/AIDS and committed to implementing their national HIV/AIDS strategies. Australia has announced that it would contribute 12.5 million Australian dollars over five years to the Pacific Region HIV/AIDS project. — MNA/Xinhua

Singapore’s retail sales up 9.6% in June

Singapore, 17 Aug — Singapore’s overall retail sales value in June 2003 was estimated at 1.9 billion Singapore dollars (about 1.1 billion US dollars), registering an increase of 9.6% as compared with the same period last year, according to government statistics department here on Friday.

The launch of the six-week shopping festival — the Great Singapore Sale, which commenced on 30 May, 2003, helped boost retail business in June, said the Department of Statistics (DOS).

Sales of watches and jewellery, wearing apparel and footwear, optical goods and books, food and beverages and recreational goods registered increases of more than 20 per cent month-on-month, which is probably due to the up to 80 per cent discounts offered by retailers during the Sale, said a DOS release.

Retailers of medical goods and toiletries as well as department stores also reported higher sales, it said.

The Singaporean economy contracted by 4.2 per cent in the second quarter of 2003, largely due to the Iraq war and the outbreak of the SARS epidemic. — MNA/Xinhua
Big cleaning campaign launched in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 17 Aug— The biggest cleaning campaign since the US-led war to topple Saddam Hussein’s regime in March started in the Iraqi capital on Saturday. The campaign is one of the measures approved by the Iraqi Governing Council (IGC) to fight unemployment, which has affected more than 60 percent of the total labour force.

Baghdad has been neglected since the toppling of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in April 9. Wastes and war debris piled in the streets and the sewers flooded in some areas, which caused the spread of dangerous diseases like cholera.

Iraqi young men were dispatched into the main streets of Al-Mansur to clean the drainage to prevent jam and to be ready for the rain season, which is coming in months.

“This campaign is going to last for a month or longer, and we work here because we can’t find another job,” said Abdul Rahman Khalifa.

“I’m a textile worker, but the factories are closed for lack of electricity,” the 29-year-old man added. Jassam Al-Mashhadany, a 35-year-old Iraqi who used to be a lieutenant in the security forces before the war, now also works as a cleaner in the streets of Al-Mansur.

“I’m supporting my family, which lacked the daily bread when the coalition forces dissolved the Iraqi Army and the security institutions of the former regime,” he told MNA.

He said he tried to join the Iraqi Army formed by the American forces, but his application was rejected.

Mahroos Mohamad, a 50-year-old Egyptian, who was paid five US dollars a day for supervising the cleaning workers, said “Al-Mansur district has hired 750 workers and it needs more, who are paid three dollars a day.”

Medical expert urges anti-SARS vigilance

BEIJING, 17 Aug— A Chinese medical expert has warned people to keep alert against severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) virus.

Han Demin, deputy director of Beijing health bureau, made the remark at a ceremony marking the discharge of the last two SARS patients on the Chinese Mainland on Saturday. An expert in ear-nose-throat surgery, Han said that although all SARS patients had been discharged from hospitals, the whole country must be vigilant against SARS virus because up to now, the sources of SARS virus and how people get infected have not been pinpointed.

“Currently, we’re not quite sure about where and how SARS virus exist and whether the SARS disease will recur,” Han said. Han, also president of the Beijing Tongren Hospital, disclosed that Beijing has made full preparations to fight possible recurrence of SARS.

The preventive measures include the fact that Beijing has retained all fever departments in major hospitals and a contingent of medical workers specially engaged in prevention and treatment of SARS. MNA/Xinhua

Boy suffers from bone-melting disease

Urumqi, 17 Aug — An eight-year-old Chinese boy named Kang Kang is suffering from a rare and tragic disease — his bones are gradually disappearing, dissolving into his blood.

The boy, who lives in northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygar Autonomous Region, has lost his entire right scapula (shoulder blade) which had “melted” into his blood, said Che Yong, a doctor in the regional hospital.

Kang Kang’s chest had been full of fluid before a recent operation and his thoracic wall had been softening, keeping him from breathing normally, the doctor said. The hospital examined his chest during the operation and cleared out most of the fluid, but the cause still remained unknown.

It was very difficult to collect information about the disease because it was too unusual, according to the hospital. Doctors were worried that the boy might die if his left shoulder blade and thoracic wall melted too. MNA/Xinhua

A ship is seen on the river Rhine near Dusseldorf, western Germany, where the water level is continuing to drop. In the longlasting hot wave, the river is only 75 centimetres deep. Big ships, which normally transport petrol, coal and steel, cannot operate on Germany’s biggest river anymore. — Internet

Danish soldier killed in Iraq

BASRA, 17 Aug — A Danish soldier serving with the international stabilization force in Iraq has been killed in a clash near the southern city of Basra.

Corporal Preben Pedersen, 34, is the first Danish soldier to be killed since Denmark sent a contingent of about 400 troops to Iraq in July.

Details are still sketchy but shooting erupted when a Danish unit stopped a truck carrying several Iraqis during a routine patrol overnight, a spokesman from Denmark’s army command said.

A preliminary investigation indicated Pedersen may have been killed by friendly fire, the spokesman told the Associated Press. Two Iraqis also died in the incident.

The Danish forces are based in the Basra region, which is controlled mainly by British troops.

They include a light infantry unit, medical staff and military police. — Internet

Police seize 822 kilos of opium in central Iran

TEHERAN, 17 Aug — Anti-drug police have seized 822 kilos of opium from traffickers in Iran’s central Yazd Province, the official IRNA news agency reported on Saturday.

Police sources said the bulk of the drug confiscated during the operation on Thursday was hidden in a car, and an investigation has been launched to apprehend and punish those behind the illegal activity.

Iran sits on the crossroads of major drug trafficking routes and has been a major force in the global battle against illicit drugs. Official estimates said anti-drug campaign costs the country about 800 million US dollars annually.

The International Narcotics Control Board said Iran is credited with 80 percent of opium and 90 percent of morphine intercepted worldwide. — MNA/Xinhua

China to build biggest nuclear power plant in Guangdong

GUANGZHOU, 17 Aug— China has decided to build its largest nuclear power plant in Yangjiang, a city in the southern province of Guangdong. The decision was a result of a recently-concluded project evaluation panel attended by nuclear experts from both home and abroad.

The project went into the planning stages in the mid-1990s and a feasibility review was launched as early as in 1996 by the China Guangdong Nuclear Power Group (CGNPG).

The government of Yangjiang City has agreed with CGNPG to set apart 472,485 square metres of land for the project, which will begin construction next year.

The gross investment in the project will amount to eight billion US dollars, and the plant is expected to begin production within 15 to 20 years. It will have six generators with an installed capacity of six million kilowatts.

Yangjiang is considered an ideal construction site, according to Ouyang Yu and Qin Dahong, academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Xu Damao, academicians of the Academy of Engineering of China.

Embraced by mountains on three sides and facing the South China Sea, Yangjiang City boasts a favourable geographical condition. The academicians said that sea serves as an inexhaustible source of freezing water.

The experts also said the thriving tertiary industries in the city can provide the plant area with good logistical services.

According to Hu Wen-juan, general manager of CGNPG, the electricity consumption of Guangdong Province is steadily increasing. In the first seven months this year, it grew by 18.1 percent more than the same period last year.

However, Hu said, the power supply in the province cannot meet the surging demand, so it is hoped the Yangjiang nuclear power plant project will solve the problem to some extent. MNA/Xinhua

US troops patrol in Iraq. A US soldier was slightly wounded when his patrol came under attack in a village near the town of Buqaiba, northeast of Baghdad, the US army said. Internet

China to build biggest nuclear power plant in Guangdong

GUANGZHOU, 17 Aug— China has decided to build its largest nuclear power plant in Yangjiang, a city in the southern province of Guangdong. The decision was a result of a recently-concluded project evaluation panel attended by nuclear experts from both home and abroad.

The project went into the planning stages in the mid-1990s and a feasibility review was launched as early as in 1996 by the China Guangdong Nuclear Power Group (CGNPG).

The government of Yangjiang City has agreed with CGNPG to set apart 472,485 square metres of land for the project, which will begin construction next year.

The gross investment in the project will amount to eight billion US dollars, and the plant is expected to begin production within 15 to 20 years. It will have six generators with an installed capacity of six million kilowatts.

Yangjiang is considered an ideal construction site, according to Ouyang Yu and Qin Dahong, academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Xu Damao, academicians of the Academy of Engineering of China.

Embraced by mountains on three sides and facing the South China Sea, Yangjiang City boasts a favourable geographical condition. The academicians said that sea serves as an inexhaustible source of freezing water.

The experts also said the thriving tertiary industries in the city can provide the plant area with good logistical services.

According to Hu Wen-juan, general manager of CGNPG, the electricity consumption of Guangdong Province is steadily increasing. In the first seven months this year, it grew by 18.1 percent more than the same period last year.

However, Hu said, the power supply in the province cannot meet the surging demand, so it is hoped the Yangjiang nuclear power plant project will solve the problem to some extent. MNA/Xinhua
YANGON, 17 Aug - State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party, accompanied by Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, arrived at Dhamma Kyaunmonastery, Masoeitbin Taikthit in Maha Aungmye Township, Mandalay Division, yesterday morning. The Secretary-1 and party paid homage to Nayaka Sayadaws led by Chief Nayaka Sayadaw of Masoeitbin Taikthit. Chief Nayaka Agga Maha Pandita Bhadantara Raja Dhamma Bhurivamsa and handed over the Waso robes donated by the State Peace and Development Council for the Chief Nayaka Sayadaw, the Nayaka Sayadaws and members of the Sangha. The General and party then proceeded to Shwe Nokyin Min monastery in Dathatta Kyaungtaik in Mandalay.

Mandalay Division — mna

Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt inspects newly opened school building of Basic Education High School, Singaing. (See page 8)

Secretary-1 attends opening of new school building in Singaing, inspects regional development tasks

The following is a reproduction from New York Times website. —Ed

Based on my experience with the George W Bush administration in the months leading up to the war in Iraq, I have little choice but to conclude that some of the intelligence related to Iraq's weapons programme was twisted to exaggerate the Iraq threat.

For 23 years, from 1976 to 1998, I was career foreign service officer and ambassador. In 1990, as charge d'affaires in Baghdad, I was the last American diplomat to meet Saddam. After Iraq, I was President George W Bush's ambassador to Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe, under President Bill Clinton. I helped direct Africa policy for the National Security Council.

It was my experience in Africa that led me to play a small role in the effort to verify information about Africa's suspected link to Iraq's non-conventional weapons programmes. Those news stories about that unnamed former envoy who went to Niger? That's me.

In February 2002, I was informed by officials at the CIA that Vice President Dick Cheney's office had questions about a particular intelligence report. While I never saw the report, I was told that it referred to a memorandum of a document that documented the sale of uranium yellowcake - a form of lightly processed ore - by Niger to Iraq in the late 1990s. The agency officials asked if I would travel to Niger to check out the story so that they could provide a response to the vice president's office.

In late February 2002, I arrived in Niger's capital, Niamey, where I had been a diplomat in the mid-Seventies and visited as a National Security Council official in the late Nineties. The city was much as I remembered it.

The next day, I met Ambassador Owens-Kirkpatrick at the embassy. For reasons that are understandable, the embassy staffs has always kept a close eye on Niger's uranium business. I was not surprised, then, when the ambassador told me that she knew about the allegations of uranium sales to Iraq - and that she felt she had already debunked them in her reports to Washington. Nevertheless, she and I agreed that my time would be best spent interviewing people who had been in government when the deal supposedly took place, which was before her arrival.

I spent the next eight days drinking sweet mint tea and meeting dozens of people: current government officials, former government officials, people associated with the country's uranium business. It did not take long to conclude that it was highly doubtful that any such transactions had ever taken place.

Before I left Niger, I briefed the ambassador on my findings, which were consistent with her own. I also shared my conclusions with members of her staff. In early March, I arrived in Washington and promptly provided a detailed briefing to the CIA. I later shared my conclusions with the State Department African Affairs Bureau. There was nothing secret or earth-shattering in my report, just as there was nothing secret about my trip. I thought the Niger matter was settled and went back to my life. In September 2002, however, Niger re-emerged. The British government published a white paper asserting that Saddam and his unconventional arms posed an immediate danger. As evidence, the report cited Iraq's attempts to purchase uranium from an African country. Then, in January, President Bush, citing the British dossier, repeated the charge about Iraq efforts to buy uranium from Africa.

The next day, I reminded a friend at the State Department of my trip and suggested that if the president had been referring to Niger, then his conclusion was not borne out by the facts as I understood them. He replied that perhaps the president was speaking about one of the other three African countries that produce uranium - Gabon, South Africa or Namibia. At the time, I accepted the explanation. Those are the facts surrounding my efforts. The vice president's office asked a serious question. I was asked to help formulate the answer. I did so, and I have every confidence that the answer I provided was circulated to the appropriate officials within our government. The question now is how that answer was or was not used by our political leadership. If my information was deemed inaccurate, I understand (though I would be very interested to know why). If, however, the information was ignored because it did not fit some preconceptions about Iraq, then a legitimate argument can be made that we went to war under false pretenses.

At a minimum, Congress, which authorised the use of military force at the president's behest, should want to know if the assertions about Niger were accurate in the first place.

I was convinced before the war that the threat of weapons of mass destruction in the hands of Saddam required a vigorous and sustained international response to deal with him. Iraq possessed both chemical weapons; it had an active biological weapons programme and quite possibly a nuclear research programme - all of which were in violation of UN resolutions. Having encountered Saddam and his thugs in the run-up to the Gulf war of 1991, I was only too aware of the dangers he posed.

America's foreign policy depends on the sanctity of its information. For this reason, questioning the selective use of intelligence to justify the war in Iraq is neither idle sniping nor "revisionist history", as President Bush has suggested. More than 200 US military officers have lost their lives in Iraq already. We have a duty to ensure that their sacrifice came for the right reasons.

Joseph C Wilson was US ambassador to Gabon from 1992 to 1995.

Why I believe intelligence was twisted to justify war

Joseph C Wilson

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 18 August, 2003
For advancement and development of economic productive forces

Aung Moe San

During the post-World War II period (the cold war period), the capitalist countries and the then socialist countries were co-exist peacefully. And throughout the cold war period, the successive US governments while practising anti-communist policies were exporting millions of tons of grain annually to the then socialist countries. The US also sold non-military technology to the countries. Beginning from the 1970s, a lot of reforms occurred in the European and Asian socialist countries. They were doing so because of their own bitter experiences as their political and economic situations were facing set-backs, and the gap between the countries was further widening. It was obvious that the reforms were totally free from the economic sanctions or pressures of the US and the West bloc nations. The reforms were occurring due to the requirements of the economic productivity and also in accord with the laws of the social science which says “The strength of the nation lies within”.

We can observe from the events that the global trend towards the setting up of the market-oriented economic systems and democracy marked the turning point in history, but they have nothing to do with the economic blockages and sanctions of the successive US governments.

A lesson from the incident is that the act to destroy a government-built bridge to cause bad effects on the Government only destroyed the public interest.

A similar lesson should be taken that if the present day sanctions imposed by the US government on the countries of the West have adverse effects on the Government bodies striving night and day for the benefit of the people, only the public interest will be harmed. If all the good foundations for setting up democracy are built, only the cause of democracy will suffer. All should take it as a lesson.

At a time when the former socialist countries are trying to transform the old socialist system to the market-oriented economy and democracy, the most suitable foreign policy for the US government is to lay down a programme like the Marshall Plan that helped the nations which were reduced to ashes by the World War II. As soon as their economies were recovered, the war-torn countries of the West Europe were able to contribute to developing the capitalist (market economic) system. However, afterwards, the successive US governments have given priority to the foreign policy of human rights and democratic reforms that is more cost effective than the Marshall Plan. But such an act of ensuring the ultra democratic reforms is totally against the Marshall Plan. As the US is using military means, economic sanctions and pressures, it has been viewed as the global neo-colonialist practising hegemonism, instead of becoming the world’s leading democracy nation.

The US-led capitalist countries of the West launched limited wars in Korea, Vietnam and some countries of Indochina; and not long ago, the US troops invaded some African countries under the so-called UN. All their ill ventures were defeated and recorded in history.

The latest efforts to bring democracy to Afghanistan and Iraq through military means have reached nowhere, because of the ultra democratic reforms the US government is applying to change the superstructures only without developing and transforming the economic and social lives of the countries concerned.

Thus, we say that the entire nation will have to be aware of the danger of the one-sided blackmails, actions and sanctions of the US government, while making collective efforts for advancement and development of the economic productive forces which are the basic requirements in building a democracy nation.

(Translation: TMT)

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

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 enterprises
* 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 455822 cars in 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

Secretary-1 attends…

(from page 7) noon, the computer skills room and the computer aided instruction room.

The ceremony to hand over the school buildings was held at the hall of the school. SBT Secretary U Nyi Nyi handed over the documents related to the school buildings to Director-General of BED Lt-Col Win Hein. After U Nyi Nyi had briefed on purposes of the donations, Schoolhead Daw Nu Nu spoke words of thanks.

The Secretary-1 accepted donations made for the school—K 12.5 million donated by U Tin Maung and U Aung Than (Honda Myamar Co Ltd); K 5 million by San Thiri family; K 2 million by U Tun Myint Naing and family (Asia World Co Ltd); K 2 million by U Soe Myint and Daw Khaing Khai Kyaw (Aung Moe Hein Co Ltd). He also accepted K 500,000 donated by Khaing Aye Co Ltd towards the funds of Singaing People’s Hospital.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 and SBT met with the wellwishers, teachers and students posed for documentary photos and the ceremony came to a close.

The Secretary-1 and party then visited new Kyunko Hospital (200-bed) where they were welcomed by Head of Division Health Planning Department Dr Than Tin Oo, Medical Superintendent Dr Min Ko and specialists and doctors.

The Secretary-1 and party inspected newly-built hospital (200-bed) and the X-ray room, the ward, the operation theatre and scale model of the hospital—MNA
Establishment of MICT …

(from page 1)

to enable the nation to stand shoulder to shoulder with other nations of international community in terms of modernity and development. At the same time, the development and, flourishing of modern sciences and technology in the nation and the emergence of technological infrastructures of international standard as the most fundamental national requirement, the State Peace and Development Council is making all-out efforts to fulfill it.

In the world today, science and technologies, especially information and communication technology are advancing with phenomenal acceleration. Moreover, the information and communication technology is having snowball impact on all other sectors and helping the globalization process pick up the pace.

While, under these circumstances, efforts are being made to handle and grasp the pace. Moreover, the advancing with phenomenal communication technology are an essential requirement, the State Peace and Development Council chairman has proposed the need to build IT-related infrastructures, disseminate and develop information technologies in the nation.

Furthermore, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe attended the fourth ASEAN Informal Summit held in Singapore in 2000, and Myanmar became a party to e-ASEAN Framework Agreement. Then, the government formed Myanmar e-National Task Force to implement the e-ASEAN Framework Agreement, to promote IT technology and to build IT-related infrastructures in the nation.

The Myanmar e-National Task Force, comprised of governmental officials, national IT technicians and entrepreneurs, has formulated an IT Master Plan and taken systematic measures for the development of information and communication technologies and IT-related infrastructures in the nation.

The Myanmar e-National Task Force is making arrangements and giving necessary assistance for the establishment of IT-based management systems and networks as well as an e-Government system among the government departments, private entrepreneurs and the public.

The government is also taking proactive measures to turn the city of Mandalay into the capital of the upper Myanmar and to ensure that it has all the features of big cities of the world. There-fore, the government is making arrangements and giving necessary assistance for the establishment of IT-based teaching and learning centres such as New Century Resource Centre in the education sector.

Today, the MICT Park of international standard has emerged, which should be the record in the development record of Mandalay.

Mandalay ICT Development Corporation Ltd was formed in February 2003 with IT technicians, IT entrepreneurs and executives and members of the computer associations in Mandalay.

Establishment of MICT Park in Mandalay

The MICT Park in Mandalay, the upper Myanmar and the entire Myanmar as a whole will be able to make extensive use of information technology.

E-Commerce, e-Learning and e-Government systems, the use of which were previously considered to be found in dreams, are widely in use now. Each and every ministry can also apply information technology in the effective and beneficial way. Therefore, ICT Park is now playing a pivotal role.

It is believed that MICTDC (Mandalay) will be able to put e-Commerce, e-Learning and e-Government systems to practical use, thereby developing IT technology, making the activities more dynamic.

At a time when some big powers, in cahoots with some elements that are against the interests of the people of Myanmar, have imposed economic sanctions on Myanmar with every intention of triggering economic stringencies in the country, the establishment of MICT Park of international standard is equal to issuing a challenge to the unfair and unjust economic sanctions.

Therefore, I would like to exhort all the local authorities, government departments, social organizations, the public, IT technicians and IT entrepreneurs in Mandalay to unite and strive for the further development of IT infrastructure and to keep abreast of the developments of the State, to disseminate and provide IT-based administrative networks.

In conclusion, I would like to call on all to make concerted efforts for the further development with might and main of the MICT Park in Mandalay, to strive to hone the capacity of the human resources of the entire Myanmar through this MICT Park in accord with the noble goodwill and aspirations preserved by the Head of State and to endeavor to produce outstanding IT technicians to be able to face all challenges posed unilaterally through this MICT Park.

In his speech, Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Central Command Commander Maj-Gen Ye Myint, on behalf of people in Mandalay, thanked the Head of State for giving assistance for opening of an MICT Park in Mandalay with a view to keeping abreast of Yangon in IT field and receiving international information technologies at the same time as Yangon. Opening an MICT Park for the advancement of information and technology which is essential for development of the State and the country in fact, an effective pace in building a new, modern and developed nation. It is also a milestone in development of ICT in Myanmar. IT technicians and entrepreneurs implemented the guidance of the Head of State General Than Shwe on development of ICT.

(See page 14)
The population of Myanmar has reached over 52 million. It is targeted to produce 156,000 sewing machines annually to satisfy the demand for every forty households comprising an average of five persons.

Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, gave guidance on building a domestic sewing machine factory to meet the local demand. According to the Senior General, the Kyaukse sewing machine factory project was implemented on 26.89 acres of land, five miles on the east of Kyaukse, in Mandalay Division in August 2001, with the aim of creating job opportunities and increased incomes and accelerating the regional economic growth. The factory was completed on 27 January 2003.

Parts of machinery needed for the factory were bought from India. Among them were one 0.6-ton medium frequency induction furnace and one sand moulding machine. All of the machinery purchased from India arrived during the period from April to June 2002, and the installation of them was completed on 13 July. A sewing machine consists of 57 components. As for the first phase, 27 particular components are being manufactured with the use of local and foreign raw materials. As for the second phase, arrangements are being made to produce the remaining 30 components at home.

The Kyaukse sewing machine factory has a production capacity of 100,000 sewing machines per annum. The State invested US$ 1.709 million and K 932.232 million on the factory. The sewing machines produced by the factory are on sale at a reasonable price and can be bought at Winthuza shops opened in various places.

(Translation: KTY)

Myanma Alin: 17-8-2003

Blackouts disrupt 7 US, Canada oil refineries

NEW YORK, 17 Aug—The largest blackout in North American history forced seven oil refineries to shut down in the United States and Canada on Thursday night, threatening already thin fuel stockpiles.

The loss of more than 750,000 barrels per day (BPD) of fuel production capacity comes at a time when the United States, the world’s largest energy consumer, faces the lowest gasoline supplies in nearly eight months.

At least one of the refineries, Petro-Canada’s 90,000 BPD Oakville, Ontario, refinery, was back up and running after power was restored, while other plants were either restarting or preparing to restart once the blackout ends.

Gasoline stations in parts of the United States hit by a massive blackout were also unable to open Friday morning, leaving millions of drivers without fuel, the American Automobile Association said.

“The pumps run on electricity, so people can’t fill up their tanks,” said Geoff Sundstrom, AAA spokesman. “The good part about this is that even though you lose a day of gasoline production, you also lose a day of demand,” he said.

In the United States, Marathon Oil Corp. shut its 76,000 BPD Detroit, Michigan refinery; BP shut its 160,000 BPD Toledo, Ohio, plant; and Sunoco shut its 140,000 BPD Toledo plant. —MNA/Reuters
Implementation of projects for socio-economic development of all regions in the country

Thanks to the active cooperation of wellwishers and support of the State, implementation of the rural water supply project is in full swing. The drilling vehicles invented by the Development Affairs Department of the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs seen on 25 June 2003. 

Promotion of agriculture means uplift of national economic life and it also contributes towards the development of economic and social foundations practically. Although Yan Aung Myin Dam which was opened on 24 June 2003 in Lewe Township, Mandalay Division is not a big one, it can irrigate 2500 acres of monsoon paddy as well as 500 acres of summer paddy. 

In line with one of the five rural development tasks—to raise the education standard of rural people—a new building worth K 32 million of the post-primary school in Peikswe Village, Twantay Township, was opened on 17 June 2003. The new building was constructed by Doh Pyitha Enterprise Ltd. 

Photo: MNA
Pacific to bolster police for regional security

AUCKLAND, 17 Aug — Australia, New Zealand and Fiji will establish a South Pacific police training centre in a bid to help stabilize a region rocked in recent years by coup, mutinies and ethnic fighting.

The Pacific Regional Policing Initiative will be a critical contribution to the region’s ongoing efforts to fight crime and corruption as well as transnational crimes such as drug trafficking,” the leaders of the three countries said on Friday.

Located in the Fiji capital Suva, the centre will provide a mark 17/2003 should be as follows:

SUPER “DRY”

TRADE MARK CAUTION

British Cod Liver Oils Ltd., of Hedon Road, Hull, East Yorkshire, HU9 9Nj, England, is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

SEVEN SEAS

Reg. No. 729/1947 in respect of “Oils and by-products thereof for pharmaceutical and veterinary purposes, and for use as food or as ingredients in food”

Notice is hereby given that JAPAN TOBACCO INC of 2-2-1 Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following trademark:-

MILE STONE

(Reg. No. IV/3388/2002) in respect of:- Cigarettes; raw and manufactured tobacco; smokers’ articles; matches”

TRADE MARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that JAPAN TOBACCO INC of 2-2-1 Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, is the Owner of the following trademark:-

MILE STONE

(Reg. No. IV/3388/2002) in respect of:- Cigarettes; raw and manufactured tobacco; smokers’ articles; matches”

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin, M.A, H.G.P., B.I. for British Cod Liver Oils Ltd., P.O. Box 60, Yangon. Dated: 18th August 2003

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Mile Stone

Reg. No. IV/3388/2002 in respect of:- Cigarettes; raw and manufactured tobacco; smokers’ articles; matches”

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win, B.Com., B.L. for JAPAN TOBACCO INC P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon Phone: 372416 Dated: 18th August 2003

Chinese official expresses support for Russia’s accession to WTO

GENEA, 17 Aug — The World Trade Organization (WTO) working party handling Nepal’s membership negotiation completed its work on Friday, leaving a final deadline approaching membership for the Cancun Ministerial Conference in September.

The working party approved a referendums, its containing Nepal’s commitments under various WTO agreements, along with its promises on market access for goods and services.

According to WTO secretariat, Nepal is now on target for its membership to be approved by the next Mid-Intermediate Conference, although it can only become a member 30 days after it has ratified the agreement and informed the WTO.

This will make Nepal and Cambodia the first least-developed countries to join the WTO.

During his visit, the minister held talks with Russian Economy Development and Trade Minister German Gref. The two sides decided to set the third round of negotiations under the multilateral access as soon as possible.

Russia is having bilateral and regional trade talks with WTO members in order to join WTO. On Wednesday, Gref said that these negotiations could be finished by 2004, and Russia could finally enter the trade body between 2005 and 2006.

Plastic surgeons from South Korea begin practice in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, 17 Aug — Three plastic surgeons from South Korea began their monthly business week at a local hospital in Shanghai on Thursday with permits from the Chinese health authority.

The surgeons, Professor Kim Dong Il, deputy director of the Korean Association of Plasticists, Dr. Kyeong Hsing Sung and Dr. Hye Mi Lee, passed a test required of foreign medical doctors by the Chinese Ministry of Health to practise short-term medical practice on Chinese territory, said an official from the Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Health.

According to the official, the three will offer surgical services to Chinese patients at Ren’ai Hospital of Shanghai for one week each month, including check-up, plastic surgery, and cancer treatment.

— MNA/Xinhua

Volkswagen best sold in Germany

BERLIN, 17 Aug — More than 288,000 new cars were registered in Germany last month, 2 per cent more than at the same time last year, the Federal Bureau for Motor Vehicles announced Friday.

The German auto-manufacturer Volkswagen (with Audi, Seat and Skoda among its subsidiaries) was the greatest beneficiary of the increased German demand for new cars, the bureau said in the western city of Flensburg where it is based.

Of the new cars registered, 91,000, or 31.6 per cent, were Volkswagens, up 9.4 per cent from last year, it said.

DaimlerChrysler was less popular in the domestic market, down 9.1 per cent, it said. And the six largest Japanese manufacturers also experienced a loss, with the number of those down 8.4 per cent.

Across the board, diesel cars continued their rise in popularity, now accounting for more than 39 per cent of new car registrations, said the bureau.

— MNA/Xinhua

Chinese official expresses support for Russia’s accession to WTO

Moscow, 17 Aug — Chinese Minister of Commerce Lu Fuyuan, who wound up his five-day visit to Russia on Friday, reiterated that his country firmly supports Russia’s accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

— MNA/Xinhua

Also agreed to improve the mechanisms of advance warning and consultation on bilateral trade businesses and properly handle problems in cooperation on the basis of friendship, peace and mutual benefits, in an effort to sustain a sound and stable trade development.

Russia is having bilateral and regional trade talks with WTO members in order to join WTO. On Wednesday, Gref said that these negotiations could be finished by 2004, and Russia could finally enter the trade body between 2005 and 2006.

— MNA/Xinhua

Plastic surgeons from South Korea begin practice in Shanghai

Shanghai, 17 Aug — Three plastic surgeons from South Korea began their monthly business week at a local hospital in Shanghai on Thursday with permits from the Chinese health authority.

The surgeons, Professor Kim Dong Il, deputy director of the Korean Association of Plasticists, Dr. Kyeong Hsing Sung and Dr. Hye Mi Lee, passed a test required of foreign medical doctors by the Chinese Ministry of Health to practise short-term medical practice on Chinese territory, said an official from the Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Health.

According to the official, the three will offer surgical services to Chinese patients at Ren’ai Hospital of Shanghai for one week each month, including check-up, plastic surgery, and cancer treatment.

— MNA/Xinhua
**SPORTS**

**Houllier says Babbel can go to Blackburn**

Leverkusen to a 4-0 demolition of Hanover 96 on Saturday that kept them at the top of the Bundesliga standings.

Leverkusen manager Gerard Houllier said German defender Markus Babbel is free to join Blackburn Rovers if he can agree terms with the Premier League club.

The 30-year-old former international, who fought his way back from debilitating illness, has been targeted by the Lancashire club, who had been talking to Babbel’s agent.

“Markus has come back to his best now and I must admit I was surprised,” Frenchman Houllier told the Leverkusen website.

“He has been outstanding in pre-season but there is greater competition in defence now and I cannot guarantee him first team football. Steve Finnan’s arrival from Fulham has increased our options. ‘Blackburn have been in touch and are talking to his agent. If they can come to an agreement then Markus will have permission to leave.’

Babbel joined Leverkusen from Bayern Munich in 2000 and the next season helped the English club to a treble of UEL, League and FA cups.

But he was then laid low by illness and spent some time restricted to a wheelchair before fighting his way back to fitness late last year.

After Babbel was sent off for head-butting an Everton player in a reserve match in May, Houllier fined him and said he had no future at the club. — MNA/Reuters

**Leverkusen stay top with crushing win**

BEKERS, 17 Aug—Two goals from Germany striker Oliver Neuville helped Bayer Leverkusen to a 4-0 demolition of Hanover 96 on Saturday that kept them at the top of the Bundesliga standings.

Brazilian forward Franca and midfielder Daniel Bierofka also struck for the 2002 Champions League finalists, who narrowly escaped relegation last season but have started the new campaign in style.

The only side with maximum points from three games, Leverkusen are two points ahead of a group of four teams featuring champions Bayern Munich, who beat VfL Bochum 2-0. Franca showed Leverkusen the way after just 90 seconds before setting up Neuville, who doubled the advantage in the ninth minute. Leverkusen kept the pressure on a limited Hanover side and Neuville was on target again in the 51st minute before Bierofka wrapped it up in the 72nd.

I would have been happy with a 1-0 win but this is great,” Leverkusen coach Klaus Augusttaler said after a fine display of attacking football from his men. An effort from close range by Peruvian international Claudio Pizarro and a superb free kick from German midfielder Sebastian Deisler in the space of five minutes midway through the first half gave Bayern a straightforward victory over Bochum. Dutch striker Roy Makaay, making his Leverkusen debut for the first time, scored his second-half penalty.

**Kewell given licence to roam for Liverpool**

LIVERPOOL, 17 Aug—Two-goal hero Craig Kewell’s team was beaten 2-0 by Everton in the Community Shield match last Sunday. And on an opening day full of goals and drama, promoted Portsmouth enjoyed their first match in the top flight for 15 years with a 2-1 home win over Aston Villa, who had skipper Gareth Barry sent off three minutes from time.

Teddy Sheringham, the 37-year-old veteran who joined Pompey on a free transfer from Tottenham Hotspur scoring after 42 minutes with an instinctive volley over Villa’s new keeper Thomas Sorensen who kept out a shot by Ayegbeni Yakubu.

Czech Patrik Berger, who joined from Liverpool, made it 2-0 in the 63rd minute after a clever jinking run.

Barry put Villa back in the game with an 84th minute penalty but was sent off three minutes later for dissent to complete a miserable afternoon for new Villa boss David O’Leary.

There was no joy either for promoted Wolverhampton Wanderers, back among the elite clubs for the first time in 19 years. Wolves crashed 5-1 at Blackburn Rovers where Australian international Brett Emerton was the man of the match on his debut and scored Leverkusen’s third after 32 minutes. Leicester City, who also came up, went 2-0 up against Southampton in only 10 minutes through Paul Dickov (penalty) and veteran signing Les Ferdinand (10), but the Saints saved a point with a superb 30-metre strike from debutant Kevin Phillips and an 80th minute equalizer from James Beattie.

David Dunn, Birmingham’s record-signing from Blackburn, scored the first goal of the new season with a 36th minute penalty in a match that kicked off at noon at St. Anrews — and that was good enough for a 1-0 win over injury-ravaged Tottenham Hotspur at St. Andrews.

In the other match played, Fulham won a 3-2 thriller over Middlesbrough at Loftus Road where Boro’s Malcolm Christie missed a second-half penalty.

Goals from Steve Marlet, Junichi Inamoto and Louis Saha, who scored on the opening day for the fourth successive season, were enough to give Fulham’s young manager Chris Coleman a winning start in his first official match in charge. — MNA/Reuters

**Germany’s Markus Beyer, right, and Australian Danny Green fight each other during a WBC super middleweight world championship fight in Nuerburg, southwestern Germany, on 16 August 2003. Beyer won the fight due to a technical foul by Green in the fifth round.**

LONDON, 18 August—Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier said German defender Markus Babbel is free to join Blackburn Rovers if he can agree terms with the Premier League club.

But Arsenal’s day was marred by the first-half dismissal of England defender Sol Campbell for tripping Everton’s Thomas Gravesen after 26 minutes. Everton had Chinese international Li Tie sent off in the 87th minute.

There was nothing but smiles at Old Trafford, however, where United begin their first league campaign without David Beckham in their ranks following the England skipper’s move to Real Madrid in the off-season.

Ruedi van Nostelooy broke his own record when he scored for the champions for the ninth successive premier league match, cracking home an unstoppable 87th minute drive after earlier having a penalty saved by Bolton keeper Jussi Jaakkainen.

Ryan Giggs scored twice — the first with a blistering 20-metre free kick which was straight out of the Beckham training manual — while Paul Scholes grabbed the other as United outplayed Bolton who had won at Old Trafford in the last two seasons.

United boss Alex Ferguson gave league debuts to substitutes Cristiano Ronaldo and Eric Djemba-Djemba late in the second half and Cristiano, the 18-year-old Portuguese winger wearing Beckham’s old No 7 shirt, delighted the crowd with some excellent ball while he was on.

Arsenal also played some superb football at Highbury where a 35th minute penalty by Thierry Henry and a 58th minute strike from fellow international Robert Pires put them in control.

But they were badly let down by the closing stages after Tomas Radzinski pulled a goal back six minutes from the end.

Arsenal’s day was marred by Campbell’s dismissal. It was Campbell’s second red card in successive games he has played at Highbury — and both times he was sent off by referee Mark Halsey who also dismissed him against Manchester United in April which led to Campbell being suspended at the end of last season.

Campbell also became the 51st Arsenal player dismissed since manager Arsene Wenger took charge in October 1996 and the second sent off this week following Francis Jeffers’ red card against Manchester United.

But Arsenal needed a player, like Eric Cantona, to become the most expensive signing in Premier League history.

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

MONDAY, 18 AUGUST, 2003
in the same time, they are to strive to become intellectuals and intelligentsia and engineers capable of serving the interests of the State and the people and of own villages and regions.

Nowadays, some western powers, in collusion with some elements who are opposed to the public interests, are imposing economic sanctions on Myanmar with the intention of plunging the people into miserable conditions. The constant opening of the universities and colleges amounts to challenges to the economic sanctions. Likewise, opening of dams and reservoirs on a monthly basis and constant development of production forces are amount to automatic prevention of the economic sanctions.

Since the government is implementing regional and national development projects, the people are to strive together with the government for further development of agricultural sector and for boosting of production.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 urged teachers and students to make concerted and collective efforts for the emergence of outstanding intellectuals and intelligentsia capable of developing own villages and regions through Kyaukse Government Technological College which has splendidly emerged today.

Next, second year student Ma My Thet Tun Aung, on behalf of the students of the college, spoke words of thanks. Next, the Chairman of Shwe Than Lwin Co presented K 30 million for Myanmar Education Committee to Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt.

Afterwards, the Secretary-1 handed over the cash donation to Principal of the college U Tin Aye. Officials of Shwe Than Lwin Co presented a 45-KVA generator worth K 5 million, 12 machines for purified drinking water worth K 2.5 million, K 1.155 million for uniforms of teachers and staff, K 1 million for office equipment to the principal.

Next, the Secretary-1 and party inspected the facilities of the college and the opening ceremony ended.

Establishment of MICT ...

He then thanked those who gave assistance to opening of the MICT Park.

Next, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party viewed round functions of Software and Hardware of 35 IT companies, conducting courses and measures of companies.

Afterwards, Chairman of MICT Park (Mandalay) Major Than Aung formally opened the International ICT Exhibition.

After that, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt and party viewed services of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications by using computers at the booth of Myanma Posts and Telecommunications to be displayed at International ICT Exhibition, Internet Technology and “mail-4-U” e-mail services at reasonable price at the booth of Bagan CyberTech, computer and its accessories and computer programs displayed by IT companies, programs created by IT companies of Yangon and Mandalay, communications equipment with the use of computer, computerized services, personal electronic gadgets.

Coord meeting on measures for construction of new airports and upgrading of airports held

YANGON, 17 Aug — A coordination meeting on measures for construction of new airports and upgrading projects of the airports was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Transport on Merchant Road this morning, with an address by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Officer on Special Duty Brig-Gen Myo Tin, Director-General of Transport Department Col Nyan Tun Aung, Director-General of Civil Aviation Department U Win Maung Maung Myint of Hon Peng Co on construction of Pakokku new airport and completion of upgrading of NaungU runway and the Managing Director of Shwe Than Lwin Highway Company on construction of Myonwa new airport and arrangement made for extension of Bhamo runway.

Next, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint and Director-General of Transport Department Col Nyan Tun Aung gave presentations on the completion of upgrading of Yangon International Airport, Managing Director U Khin Maung Myint of Hon Peng Co on construction of Pakokku new airport and the Managing Director of Shwe Than Lwin Highway Company on construction of Myonwa new airport and arrangement made for extension of Bhamo runway.

Then, MICT Park (Mandalay) Chairman Maj Than Aung said in line with the guidance of the Head of State, MICTCNC was formed with executives of Computer Scientist Association and Computer Industry Association in Mandalay to be able to construct MICT Park in Mandalay. In a period of the MICTCNC, the MICT Park successfully came into existence on the third floor of Yadanabon Market in Mandalay.

(MNA)
7. Song of national races

3. Demonstration exercises
4.45 pm
for correct Pronunciation
4:45 pm
12. Strong and healthy
Myanmar
6:15 pm
13. Discovery
6:30 pm
14. Evening news
7:00 pm
15. Weather report
7:05 pm
16. Milo success in soccer
7:10 pm
17. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
7:20 pm
18. Musical programme
7:35 pm
16. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
7:35 pm
19. Weather report
8:00 pm
7. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. [情報の提供]
[情報の提供]
21. The next day’s
programme
5:40 pm
5:55 pm
5:10 pm
5:25 pm
5:55 pm
8:45 am
9. Lyr’s Go
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Song to uphold
national spirit
4:30 pm
3. Demonstration exercises
4:45 pm
4. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
4:55 pm
5. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
5:10 pm
6. Musical programme
5:25 pm
7. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
5:30 pm
8. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
5:40 pm
9. Dance Variety
5:55 pm
10. Musical programme
(The radio Myanmar
Modern Music Troupe)
6:05 pm
11. Song and dance of
national races
6:10 pm
12. Strong and healthy
Myanmar
6:15 pm
13. Discovery
6:30 pm
14. Evening news
7:00 pm
15. Weather report
7:05 pm
16. Milo success in soccer
7:10 pm
17. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
7:20 pm
18. Musical programme
7:35 pm
16. "猿猿猿猿猿..."
7:35 pm
19. Weather report
8:00 pm
7. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. [情報の提供]
[情報の提供]
21. The next day’s
programme
5:40 pm
5:55 pm

WEATHER

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18

Monday, August 18
Emergence of industrial zone and intellectuals and intelligentsia will create job opportunities in region, bring about economic development

Secretary-1 attends opening of Government Technological College (Kyaukse)

Yangon, 17 Aug — A ceremony to open the Government Technological College (Kyaukse) of the Ministry of Science and Technology was held at the college yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint and Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, ministers, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, deputy ministers, the Mandalay Mayor, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, local authorities, social organizations, the Principal of the college and faculty members and others. First, the national race students formally opened the archway of the college.

Next, students Ma Saw Yu Mon and Ma Pyo Pyo Khine formally opened the main building of the college. Next, the Secretary-1 and party planted Gangaw (Musa ferrata) tree to mark the opening ceremony of the college. Afterward, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt unsealed the stone inscription of the college.

Next, the second session of the opening ceremony followed at the main building. First, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Chan Nyein reported on the background history of the college, subjects taught, courses conducted, strength of teachers, number of students and measures being taken by the Ministry of Science and Technology for human resources development. Next, Chairman of Shwe Than Lwin Co U Kyaw Win reported on matters related to construction of the college.

Afterward, Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt made a speech. He said that the government has been building the basic infrastructures in Kyaukse region for nurturing human resources and enabling the students of Kyaukse region to pursue education with peace of mind.

In the process, a government technical institute in Kyaukse was opened in 1998. The institute was upgraded into the government technological college in 2001. To equip the college with the characteristics of a government technological college, the government built necessary buildings. That is why the students are now pursuing the education at the college comfortably.

To upgrade the college into the modern one, a main building was constructed, and there now emerges a new splendid building for the college.

With the emergence of the new splendid government technological college, the students are to try their best to become intellectuals and intelligentsia engineers, realizing the goodwill of the State.

The State Peace and Development Council has been striving for enabling the nation to keep abreast with the nations of the world. In this connection, it is making efforts for mobilizing own national forces, natural resources and human resources to ensure strengthening of economy of the State.

The government has been relying on the strength of own national forces for national development and the national people, on their part, are to throw themselves into the nation-building drive for national development. Accordingly, the government has been building education, health and social infrastructures, the length and breadth of the nation to enable the people to be the ones capable of building the nation effectively. To enable the nation to stand tall among the nations of the world, the government has been making strenuous efforts for bringing about harmonious development across the nation and for equitable development in education, health and social sectors.

In accordance with the requirement of each region, the government is implementing the regional development projects in states and divisions. Meanwhile, the local people, on their part, are to make concerted efforts with the effective use of development infrastructures created by the government, and all parts of the nation will thus develop equally.

With equitable development in all parts of the nation, the socio-economic life of the people will develop in harmony. In addition, development gap among the national races will narrow and then disappear, resulting in flourishing of the spirit of national unity and Union Spirit.

Therefore, the government has been taking systematic measures for building regional development infrastructures, infrastructures for nurturing and developing of human resources, and infrastructures for healthcare services. In building a modern and developed nation, intellectuals and intelligentsia engineers will have to play a principal role and only when the nation can be built with their might, can the nation stand tall among the nations of the world.

In other words, the emergence of a modern and developed nation depends solely on the strength of intellectuals and intelligentsia engineers and those present enjoyed the entertainment programmes.

Secretary-1 General Khin Nyunt addresses the opening ceremony of Government Technological College (Kyaukse). — MNA

Lt-Gen Maung Bo attends opening of multimedia classrooms in Thaton, Mon State

Yangon, 17 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, No 44 LID Commander Brig-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Brig-Gen Myint Soe of Thaton Station and officials concerned went to Kyapaw Village Basic Education High School in Thaton Township, Mon State, on 13 August and attended the opening ceremony of multimedia classrooms there.

Headmistress Daw Nwe Nwe Yee and Chairman of school board of trustees U Kyi Maung formally opened the ceremony and Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung formally unsealed the signboard of the multimedia classrooms.

Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and those present enjoyed the entertainment programmes of the students.

Afterward, the headmistress reported on efforts for opening of the multimedia classrooms and U Kyi Maung on cooperation for emergence of the multimedia classrooms. Then, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented teaching/learning tapes to Schoolhead Daw Nwe Nwe Yee, Assistant Director U Myint Swe of No 1 Basic Education Department and those present enjoyed the lecture and entertainment programmes.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo then made a speech. He said the government has laid down the twelve objectives and is implementing them for all-round development of the State. One of the four social objectives is “uplift of health, fitness and education standard of the entire nation”. The state has laid down plans and is carrying out the tasks for promoting the education standard of the citizens. Education is the foundation for all development undertakings and at a time when...