Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
World Breastfeeding Week (1st to 7th August 2004)

Exclusive Breastfeeding: the Gold Standard
Safe, Sound, Sustainable
Ministry of Health

DON'T SMOKE

Minister inspects training school, nursery school, development centre

YANGON, 3 Aug—Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Myint Myit yesterday inspected the training school for girls in Myayang Township and Nursery School of the Social Welfare Department in Bahan Township and gave instructions to the officials concerned.

At the training school, Headmistress Daw Myint Myit Hlaing reported on organizational set up, staff and nurturing of the school.

Next, the minister and party inspected the main hostel, weaving workshop, Art and Deco sale rooms at the centre. — MNA

Miss ASEAN Myanmar Contest to be held

YANGON, 3 Aug—Measures for holding Miss ASEAN Myanmar Contest were co-ordinated at a meeting held at the meeting hall of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation here at 1 pm today.

Patron of the Contest Organizing Leading Committee MWAF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe made an address.

Those wishing to participate in the contest all over the country can do so and the winner will be sent to the Miss ASEAN Culture (2005) Contest which will be held in March next year. Thus, the candidate must be witty, bright, fluent in English and rich in general knowledge.

The entry date for submitting applications was extended to 8 October 2004. — MNA

Soccer Tourney concludes

YANGON, 3 Aug—The final match of the Soccer Tournament for Championship Shield of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) was held at the sports ground of Ground Training Airbase in Meiktila yesterday evening.

After the match, Commander of the Air Base Col Thura Khin Maung Win presented prizes to the winning teams. — MNA

People’s Desire

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State

Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Ministry of Finance

**POEM:**

Myanmar works for region’s benefit

* ASEAN-BIMSTEC
  - Inter-connected by us
  - Our great Myanmar nation
  - Stands out eminently
  - Just as Myanmar is
  - A member of ASEAN
  - So also if you look
  - At BIMSTEC we’re member
  - Put all these together
  - And look in combined manner

In dealings between the two Myanmar is vital
Take Myanmar as pivot
And look ahead.

* ASEAN-BIMSTEC
  - Shall be welded for benefit
  - Firm in Myanmar’s thoughts
  - We remain indivisible
  - The lofty minds of Myanmar
  - Going forward on common path
  - Moving forward the same direction
  - Will arrive for sure.

Meru (Trs)

Myanmar Golf Open Championship to be held

YANGON, 3 Aug—Myanmar Golf Federation will be held in Shwe Sar Yan Golf Resort Mandalay from 9 to 10 August.

Golfers are to enlist at Han Event Management Office Ph-542989 and 72322 by noon 5 August and the professional golfers for Mandalay Shwe Sar Yan Open Golf Championship are to enlist at Shwe Sar Yan Golf Resort by 4 pm 10 August. — MNA

Myanmar-India Friendship Football match was played at Youth Training Centre in Thayunna, Yangon, on Tuesday afternoon.

Zaw Htuk of MFF selection team seen attempting to get goal while Indian goal keeper of Mohan Bagan IX team of India seen defending the goal.

The Myanmar team beat the Indian team 4-0. — MNA

ANGON

The Ministry will take action against the Dihta Thakha medical house in Dweisi-su ward, Myeik, manufacturer and distributor of the false traditional medicine, that was being sold in local markets across the nation. — MNA
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 4 August, 2004

912 US service members killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq last year

BAGHDAD, 2 Aug — As of Monday, 2 Aug, 912 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 677 died as a result of hostile action and 235 died of non-hostile causes.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 774 US soldiers have died - 568 as a result of hostile action and 206 of non-hostile causes, according to the Defence Department on Monday. — Internet

Northeastern India can serve as economic bridge with S-E Asia

NEW DELHI, 3 Aug — India’s Minister for Development of North-East P R Kyndiah on Saturday said the region could become an “economic bridge” between the rest of India and South-East Asia if its manpower and natural resources were properly tapped.

“The North-East is potentially rich in terms of manpower and natural resources. It is our dream that this region will become an economic bridge with South-East Asia,” he said here after receiving a report on Revitalization of North-Eastern Council (NEC) prepared by an 11-member committee.

Kyndiah said the NEC, which had been set up as an advisory body in 1972 but was made a regional planning body in 2002, would have to be made more effective for “coordinated and accelerated development of the North-East.”

The committee, constituted by previous National Democratic Alliance Government in October last year, made recommendations regarding composition of the NEC, strengthening of the organizational set-up of its secretariat in Shillong, regional planning for sustainable growth and development of the North-East and monitoring and evaluation of development projects.

“We will go into the best aspects of the recommendations and will soon come up with a plan to revitalize the NEC,” Kyndiah said.

He said since its inception, the NEC had planned and executed projects worth 61.52 billion rupees, of which over 80 per cent had been spent on power sector and development of roads.

“If the full power potential of North-East is exploited, electricity can be supplied not only to other parts of India but also to its neighbours,” Kyndiah said. — MNA/PTI

Daihatsu to boost output in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 3 Aug — Japanese carmaker Daihatsu plans to boost its output in Indonesia to 10,000 units per month from currently between 5,000 and 6,000 units, a local newspaper reported Monday.

PT Astra Daihatsu Motor (ADM), the local unit of Daihatsu Motor Corp, will improve efficiency at the factory in a bid to achieve the targeted output, reported Bisnis Indonesia. “It takes 2.3 minutes to produce a car. Now we are struggling to improve it to 2.1 minutes a car.” ADM Vice-President Noertrijoko Darmadjati was quoted as saying.

He said greater efficiency will help the company keep the price affordable for Indonesian customers. He said the factory’s output would reach around 100,000 units this year against only 22,000 units last year. — MNA/Xinhua

China launches first national economic investigation

BEIJING, 2 Aug — China launched its first national economic investigation here Sunday hoping to get a clear picture of the nation’s economic strengths.

In Beijing, nearly 50,000 people will work on the investigation, collecting data from all areas of the economy. Spot-checks will be done to ensure the investigation is complete.

The economic units under investigation include business units and self-employed businesses in the manufacturing sector and the service industry.

The investigation will research China’s national conditions and economic power, said Lin Xianyu, deputy director of the National Bureau of Statistics. — MNA/Xinhua

Germany not to participate in NATO’s training programme in Iraq

BERLIN, 2 Aug — Germany will not participate in NATO’s training programme in Iraq to be started in early August, deputy government spokesman Thomas Steg told a regular news briefing in Berlin. Nevertheless, it is possible for Iraqi officials to receive military training at German military colleges, Steg said. On Friday, NATO members agreed to send about 40 officials to Iraq to train the country’s forces and help rebuild its military infrastructure. Under resistance from France, the United States nolonger insisted that the mission come under US-led coalition command. The idea of NATO training for Iraqi forces was agreed by leaders at a NATO summit in Istanbul in June. — Internet

US soldier dies in Iraq roadside bombing

BAGHDAD, 2 Aug — A US soldier died of wounds sustained in a roadside bomb attack north of Baghdad, a US military spokesman said Monday. The blast occurred on Sunday near the restive city of Samarra, some 110 km north of Baghdad, as a US patrol passed by, the spokesman said. The blast initially killed one soldier from the 1st Infantry Division and a second died of his wounds later, the spokesman said. A third wounded soldier was transferred to a US medical facility in Germany and is in stable condition, he added. Over 910 US servicemen have been killed in Iraq since the US-led military operations in Iraq began in March 2003. — Internet

Vietnam to intensify investment in aquaculture sector

HANOI, 3 Aug — Vietnam will invest 318.5 million US dollars in restoring and developing sea, brackish and freshwater livestock between now and 2010 to promote the country’s aquatic products and resources.

Of the money, 1.8 trillion Vietnamese dong (114.7 million US dollars) will come from the state budget, and the remainder from other economic sectors, including foreign one, according to the Fisheries Ministry on Monday.

The money will be used to expand national and regional water livestock nurseries, especially those in poor coastal and mountainous areas.

Priorities will be given to developing high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with

A demonstrator holds a poster featuring a wounded child in Iraq as they march to the US Embassy in Manila on 2 Aug, 2004. — Internet

India to host 2006 BIMSTEC Summit

BANGKOK, 3 Aug — India agreed to host the next BIMSTEC Summit in 2006, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told a Press conference here. He said he would not set a time frame for the summit.

“The request of all the participants, India agreed to host the next BIMSTEC Summit in 2006,” Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told a Press conference here. He said he would not set a time frame for the summit. — MNA/PTI

nations, especially those in poor coastal and mountainous areas.

Priorities will be given to developing high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with high-yield strains, creating new hybrid fishes and shrimps which are suitable with

A demonstrator holds a poster featuring a wounded child in Iraq as they march to the US Embassy in Manila on 2 Aug, 2004. — Internet
Jordan to provide gasoline for Iraq

Alman, 3 Aug — Jordan and Iraq have signed an agreement to provide gasoline to Iraq, a Jordanian Energy Ministry source said Sunday.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Jordan and Iraq agreed to supply 100,000 barrels, including 450 kilometres of pipelines, which would be completed jointly by Iraq and Jordan.

Iraq was facing a severe shortage of gasoline because the oil refineries were sabotaged ensuing the Iraq war, the source said.

Meanwhile, the source denied that Jordan and Iraq would repair Kirkuk-Haifa oil pipeline to export oil to Israel.

The Kirkuk-Haifa line, linking the northeastern Iraqi city of Kirkuk with the Israeli port city of Haifa, was used to function before the establishment of Israel in 1948 and is out of service now.

Ukraine PM wants to cut soldiers in Iraq

Kiev, 2 Aug — Ukraine’s Prime Minister on Monday called for reducing the country’s troop contingent in Iraq, openly disagreeing with top defence officials who want to increase the force.

The statement by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych reflected deeper divisions over what is likely to be a key issue in Ukraine’s 31 October presidential election, in which Yanukovych is a top contender.

Ukraine opposed the US-led war in Iraq, but afterwards became one of the largest contributors of troops to the postwar security efforts. Its 1,576 troops are the fourth-largest non-US contingent.

On Sunday, Defence Minister Yevhen Marchuk said that a new brigade to be rotated into Iraq beginning in September would consist of 1,722—an increase of nearly 10 per cent.

“But I believe the contingent should be reduced,” Yanukovych said, according to the news agency Interfax.

Bangladesh approves subsidy on imported fertilizers

Dhaka, 3 Aug — The Bangladeshi Government has approved 2,710 million taka ($45.1 million US dollars) agricultural subsidy to make three types of imported fertilizers available to the flood-affected farmers at 25 per cent reduced price.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia approved the subsidy Sunday as per a recommendation of a committee headed by State Minister for Agriculture Mizra Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, according to The Daily Star.

Alamgir said the decision to provide subsidy on imported fertilizers is the first ever in Bangladesh. It will help the flood-hit farmers cultivate the next crops and increase agricultural production, he added.

Every year around 55,000 metric tons of TSP fertilizers is produced locally and around 400,000 tons is imported, while for MOP and DAP fertilizers the country entirely depends on imports.

Along with this newly announced subsidy, Alamgir said, worth around 4,000 million taka (66.6 million US dollars), on urea fertilizer.

Philippines eager to attract Chinese tourists, promote trade

Manila, 2 Aug — The Philippines is eager to attract Chinese tourists and promote trade and economic cooperation with its giant neighbour in a bid to create jobs and improve infrastructure, said Foreign Secretary Delia Albert Sunday.

The Philippine News Agency (PNA) quoted Albert as saying that the Department of Foreign Affairs has started to “realign” its programmes in order to help realize the 10-point agenda on economic and social development set by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

“It will be our challenge to give life to the 10-point agenda. We have already begun the process of identifying our place in this agenda but it will take all our collective efforts to succeed,” said Albert.

She said that the Philippine diplomatic posts in China have taken initiative in this direction by vowing to promote tourism and trade with China, attract investments to the Philippines and continue to protect and enhance the welfare of Filipinos working as overseas contract workers in China, including the Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions. The PNA said that the heads of Philippine Foreign Service posts in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Xiamen met last week in Manila for the issue.

Tourism Secretary Roberto Pagdanganan and Assistant Foreign Secretary for Asian and Pacific Affairs Alicia Ramos, as well as officials from the defence, trade, labour and agriculture departments (ministries) attended the meeting. Philippine Ambassador to China Willy Gaa said at the meeting that the country needs to “assess the current state of Philip- pine-Chinese relations, establish priorities and future areas of bilateral cooperation and align the plans and programmes of the posts to the agenda of President Arroyo.”

Foreign forces harm ancient Babylon ruins

Baghdad, 2 Aug — Foreign forces in Iraq have caused severe damage to the site of ancient Babylon, one of the world’s most renowned archaeological treasures, and need to leave the area as soon as possible, Iraq’s Culture Minister said Sunday.

Heavy equipment, helicopters and other machinery used by British-led forces based at Babylon, 60 miles south of Baghdad, are causing irreparable harm, Moqted al-Jaafari said.

“Just their presence, with their heavy equipment, is harmful in and of itself,” the minister told Reuters, saying that helicopters landing and taking off were a particular problem.

“We don’t know how much damage the military presence has done because our experts are not permitted to enter the site. But we have received information that damage has been done to several archaeological sites,” he said, mentioning the temples of Ninna and Naboo, and the famed palace of Nebuchadnezzar.

Babylon was the capital of ancient

British Army pays $700 for shooting Iraqi girl dead

London, 2 Aug — The British Army has paid out about 700 US dollars to the family of an eight-year-old Iraqi girl who was killed after being hit by a bullet fired by a British soldier, the Independent newspaper reported Sunday.

Hanan Saleh Matrud died in an alleyway near her home in northern Basra after the British soldier with the King’s Regiment opened fire nearby, the paper said.

The ricocheting bullet left a deep wound across her stomach, and she died later in the hospital.

According to the paper, the soldiers claim that they fired a warning shot into the air after being targeted by “heavy stone-throwing” by mobs, while local witnesses dispute the claim, alleging that only children were in the streets.

The British Army admitted that the shot “possibly” caused the girl’s injury and paid her parents, but refused to admit responsibility for her death.

British senior defence officials claim such unofficial payments were set after consulting Iraqi judges, the paper said.

The revelation of the payment has provoked another row over the conduct of British troops in Iraq.

Iran attaches importance to Iraq’s stability, security

Teheran, 3 Aug — Iran attaches special importance to peace, stability and security in Iraq and will do its utmost to help Iraq to achieve them, Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said on Sunday.

Kharrazi made the remarks during a conference on Iranian-Iraqi economic cooperation, which started in Teheran on Sunday.

“We expect Iraqi officials to act vigilantly and precisely regarding the current special situation,” Kharrazi was quoted by the official IRNA news agency as saying.

Kharrazi also underlined the necessity of economic cooperation between Iran and Iraq.

“Iran and Iraq, as two neighbouring countries, have the capacity to become two major economic partners. The Islamic Republic of (Iran) has tried to strengthen bonds between the two countries by its words and in practice,” he said.

“Iran and Iraq can create strategic cooperation in various energy fields not only to achieve big and long-term interests for themselves but also to play a leading international role in this field,” Kharrazi added.

Meanwhile, Kharrazi also urged the two sides to establish free trade relationship.

“Regarding commercial cooperation, we should take strides to free trade between the two countries and both sides should be able to sell their products in (each other’s) markets easily and speedily,” he said.

India, Thailand reach understanding on FTA agreement

Bangkok, 2 Aug — In a boost to their trade ties, India and Thailand Friday reached an understanding on the Free Trade agreement that would lead to halving of duty on 82 goods by September one this year.

The two sides will sign a formal agreement when Thai Commerce Minister Watana Muangsook visits New Delhi next month.

Under the agreement reached during the bilateral talks Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had with his Thai counterpart Thaksin Shinawatra, the duty would be reduced by 75 per cent on these items in September one 2005 and the two countries would move towards a free trade regime by September one 2006.

India’s Commerce Minister Kamal Nath told reporters here.

The second phase of the Free Trade Agreement would begin from then onwards and the two countries would have free trade regime by 2010.

Kamal Nath said the ‘Early Harvest Scheme’, the first phase of the FTA agreement, was finalised after sorting out one or two thorny issues.

Patni computer net rises 59.5% in first quarter of ’04

Mumbai, 2 Aug — Global IT services provider Patni Computer Systems Ltd has posted a 59.5-per cent rise in net profit at 681.8 million rupees in first quarter ended 30 June, 2004, compared to 390.9 million rupees in the same period last fiscal.

The company’s total revenues rose to 3.66 billion rupees during the quarter under review, as against 2.77 billion rupees posted during the same period a year ago, Patni Computer Systems said in a release here recently.

The IT major’s operating income rose 60.1 per cent to 679.6 million rupees during the reporting quarter, it said.

The figures are under review, compared to 43.4 per cent recorded during the same period of last fiscal, it said.

Patni added 25 new clients in the quarter, 201 active relationships up from 174 in second quarter of Fiscal year 2004, while revenues from financial services, insurance and manufacturing contributed to around 77 per cent, it added.

The company recruited 489 people in the quarter, increasing its workforce strength to 7,862 people and had set up a development centre in Bangalore, increasing its offshore infrastructure to the seventh city in the country, it said.

India form joint committee on oil, gas cooperation

Kuwait, 3 Aug — Visiting Iraqi Oil Minister Thamer Al-Ghadban announced on Sunday that Iraq and Kuwait have formed a joint committee to explore ways of cooperation in the field of oil and natural gas.

According to the Kuwait News Agency, Al-Ghadban said that the most important one among the future cooperation aspects is supplying Kuwait with Iraqi natural gas.

Talks with both Al-Ghadban and Kuwaiti Energy Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahd Al-Sabah focused on bilateral and strategic cooperation on the energy sphere.

Iraq wanted to cooperate with the Kuwaiti private firms in develop oil fields such as the “Seibah” field in the southern city of Basra, said Al-Ghadban.

The Minister said that a meeting is expected within the next few weeks to discuss several issues being prepared by the joint committee.

Non-state sector posts fast growth in Guangdong Province

Guangzhou, 2 Aug — The non-state sector in Guangdong Province, an economic locomotive in southern China, has kept its growth momentum in the first half of this year, thanks partly to local banks’ financial support.

According to statistics provided by the provincial economic and trade authorities, the non-state sector invested 75.499 billion yuan (9.1 billion US dollars) in capital construction between January and June, a year-on-year growth of 24 per cent. Meanwhile, it exported 7.78 billion US dollars worth of goods, up 87.5 per cent over the same period of last year.

To ease capital shortage of smaller enterprises, Guangdong has launched a variety of guaran-tee institutions for credit extension. Currently, there are 75 such institutions in the province, 57 more than at year end 2002.
Saudi Arabia says Arab troops should replace US in Iraq

JERUSALEM (Saudi Arabia), 3 Aug — Saudi Arabia said on Sunday that any Muslim and Arab deployment to Iraq must have Iraqi consensus, operate under a United Nations umbrella and replace US-led coalition forces in the war-torn country.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal told reporters his country’s proposal, revealed last week, also stipulates that the United Nations oversees the political process in Iraq including elections for a new Iraqi Government.

“These won’t be fighting or invading troops but to help serve the Iraqi people so that they return to a normal life. This would also require that coalition forces withdraw from Iraq,” Prince Saud said after talks on the plan with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa.

“This proposal responds to demands by many Muslim nations that coalition forces quit Iraq,” he said, adding it was part of the kingdom’s efforts to help Iraq regain its sovereignty.

An Islamist militant group has already rejected the idea and threatened to retaliate against contributors.

The Saudi proposal, which has met a cool response so far, was for troops from Pakistan, Malaysia, Algeria, Bangladesh and Morocco to help quell unrest in Iraq.

Algerian Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Belkhadem said his country has no intention of sending troops to Iraq, according to official media reports on Sunday.

The proposal may have limited success given that most Arab and Muslim leaders, facing public opposition over pro-US policies, have so far declined to contribute troops to the US-led coalition.

A Greek grenade goes off in the crowd.

British troops may quit Iraq in new year

LONDON, 2 Aug — British troops were likely to be withdrawn from Iraq next year, the Times newspaper reported Sunday.

Despite continuing violence in Iraq, senior British military figures believe that the elected Iraqi Government would not want large numbers of foreign troops to stay for long, the paper said.

The report quoted Lieutenant General Andrew Ridgeway, the chief of defence intelligence, as saying that with elections due in Iraq for January, it was unlikely that any political party would win power without promising to scale back foreign troops.

British commanders on the ground in southern Iraq share Ridgeway’s view, the paper added.

British commanders earlier suggested that large numbers of troops might be needed “for years” before Iraq’s new security forces were ready to take control.

Bangladesh has enough foodstock for flood-related emergency

DHAKA, 2 Aug — The Bangladesh Government has enough food stock at the moment to face any emergency despite the loss of a huge quantity of rice crops in the fields by the worst flooding since 1988, reported the Financial Express on Sunday.

The Food and Disaster Management Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibn Yousuf said on Saturday that the government has 900,000 tons of food grain in stock and plans to procure a further 200,000 tons of rice from domestic sources.

He was quoted as saying that the government food stocks are comfortable and there is no worry about any shortfall. The government is currently concentrating in relief activities for the flood victims, and it will import food grain to meet the demand if necessary, added he.

Bangladesh importers noted there could be shortfall of food due to the loss of summer harvest by the floods and any short-ages may have to be met by imports.

Traders said the government tendered for import of 50,000 tons of wheat in July, and the bidding for the wheat will take place at the end of August.

Although the government confirmed the sufficient supply, sources revealed some unsuspicious traders in Dhaka city have begun to hoard essential commodities, trying to create an artificial scarcity in the market.

Malaysia introduces new educational programme

KUALA LUMPUR, 3 Aug — Malaysian Education Minister Hishammuddin Tun Hussein on Monday launched the National Tuition Voucher Scheme to help primary pupils to master basic subjects.

A total of 446,381 pupils from 6,416 primary schools and 61,880 teachers would benefit from the scheme which has been given an allocation of 44.4 million US dollars, the minister said at the launching ceremony here.

The objective of the scheme is to provide tuition classes to pupils who are poor in Malay, English language, Science and Mathematics, he said.

Meanwhile, Hishammuddin said the government would review the assistance programmes given to poor students in the country to ensure that they were still relevant to the present situation.

Hishammuddin said the step was needed as there were still students left out of the assistance programmes even though the government had allocated a substantial allocation for education.

Among the government assistance programmes to the needy students are the Tuition Voucher Scheme, text book assistance, scholarships, Supplementary Food Programme, School Milk Programme and one-off assistance as well as the Poor Students Trust Fund.
With the length of 3280 feet, the Ayeyawady Bridge (Dedaye) lies in Dedaye Township of Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

The 8549 feet long Bo Myat Tun Bridge spanning the Ayeyawady River is linking Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions. — MNA

Kyweku-Kyaunkphyua Bridge on Dawei-Myeik motor road in Taninthayi Division. — MNA

Bridges built across the country
Prevention against recruitment ...
(from page 1)
State Peace and Development Council Office and departmental officials
Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the resolutions on prevention against recruitment of minors for military service in the country, safeguarding their interests and observing the prescribed laws, rules and regulations, orders and directives precisely were passed at the first coordination meeting of the committee held in January 2004.

He said the second meeting was to discuss the implementation of the previous resolutions and the future programmes. He said in the country there are laws, rules, orders and directives that protect freedom of the children and there are laws and orders that prevent all the minors from joining military service. If there were cases of forced recruitment of minors for military service, severe actions would be taken against those who violated them. However, he said, groups with negative views towards the country are exaggerating such cases and they continue to make accusation of forced recruitment of minors for military service.

In accord with the objectives, the committee is to prevent against recruitment of minors for military service in the State, to safeguard their interests and to ensure observance the prescribed orders and directives precisely in cooperation with the respective organizations, he said.

Next, members of the committee Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htae, Minister for Labour U Tin Winn, and Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin reported on matters relating to preventing against recruitment of minors for military service in the State and cooperation with related organizations.

Director-General of International Organizations and Economic Department U Win Mra and Secretary of the committee Col Aung San Tin reported on future arrangements and implementation of the resolutions at the previous meeting. Next, members of the committee and guests took part in the discussions. The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by Lt-Gen Thein Sein. — MNA

Development projects in Ayeyawady...
(from page 1)
Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy gave an account of daily output of condensate of Naungdon oil and gas field, drilling of oil well No 23 and future plans. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions to officials concerned. He also looked into conditions of the bridge and flow of water. They also inspected progress of paddy cultivation, thriving paddy fields and regional development along the route through Pantanaw, Kyaukgyi, Kangyidaunt and Pathein townships.

Next, they arrived at Ngawun River crossing Pathein Bridge Project in Pathein later in the afternoon. Officials reported on work being done, building of the Pathein-Chaungtha approach road and progress in building the bridge spanning Kyakkyi. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions and inspected construction tasks around the site. On completion of the project, the 2,140 feet long steel suspension facility will contribute towards smooth transport, swift flow of commodities and greater regional development.

New concrete lanes in Bayintnaung Brokerage Area put into service
YANGON, 3 Aug—The opening of Yogyichaungpat lane and Naungyo lane in Bayintnaung Brokerage Area in Mayangon Township, Yangon West District, took place at the archway at the junction of Bayintnaung Road and Yogyichaungpat lane this morning.

Present on the occasion were Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, YCDC Secretary Col Myint Aung, No 1 Military Regional Commander Col Tun Kyi, local authorities, officials, NGOs, and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Managing Director U Shwe Win of Erit Lan Co Ltd and Managing Director of Shwe Mannay Co Ltd U Zaw Lay formally opened the concrete facilities, and inspected them.

The managing directors reported on implementation of the housing estate projects under the supervision of the City Housing Eastes Project Committee.

The commander, the minister and the mayor gave instructions on measures for ensuring cleanliness and proper flow of drains in the housing estate projects, and attended to the needs. They also looked into box culverts, sluice gates and condition of Yogyi Creek. They proceeded to site for construction of a building of Myanmar Fisheries Federation on Bayintnaung Road in Mayangon Township. Director-General U Than Tin of the Fisheries Department and members welcomed them. The commander, the minister and the mayor inspected the construction site. The director-general conducted them round the project site. The commander, the minister and the mayor gave necessary instructions. They also inspected progress in constructing a guest house for foreign guests and left necessary instructions. — MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Aung tours Kayah State
YANGON, 3 August—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 1 August presented prizes and certificates to the outstanding students at the city hall of Loikaw.

At the ceremony to honour the students who passed the Matriculation Examination for 2004 with flying colours, the minister delivered an address. He also presented cash assistance for the Kayah State Home for the Aged and exercise books for the basic education high schools in Loikaw through officials.

In the afternoon, the minister attended the opening ceremony of the new building of Dawngankha Village Basic Education Primary School in Dimawhs Township built by the Ministry of Education and Kayah State Union Solidarity and Development Association. The minister presented cash assistance and exercise books. Next, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung went to the village Basic Education Primary School and fulfilled the requirements. — MNA
Ayeyawady Division to cultivate...

(from page 10)

New crop species including pepper, thutsai, coffee will be cultivated in the division at suitable places. The staff of the respective departments are presenting agricultural demonstrations and distribution techniques, quality strains and other assistance for progress of the agricultural sector.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing delivered a speech at the ceremony, saying that in the past the total sown acreage of monsoon and summer paddy of Ayeyawady Division was over 3.3 million acres. Now, the figure has grown to more than 4.7 million acres.

With respect to the output, its per acre yield of paddy has increased to 74.65 baskets in 2003-2004, up from around 65 baskets in 1997-98.

Ayeyawady Division, the nation’s granary, has been taking all necessary measures to meet the target of over 3.5 million acres of monsoon paddy and 1.6 million acres of summer paddy in 2004-2005. The region’s output of crops is in surplus, but that of edible oil crops meets over 62 per cent of its requirement. So, ways and means are to be sought for extended cultivation of these crops.

In conclusion, the commander urged local residents including farmers to make concerted efforts for boosting agricultural production so as to polish the role of the division.

Next, U Hla Myo, Manager of Myanmar Agricultural Service at Ayeyawady Division, reported on rules and regulations set for the skill competition for cultivation of monsoon paddy in lines. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also heard reports on progress of monsoon paddy cultivation.

Later, the competition commenced. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and party watched the competition and inspected farm equipment booth and fertilizer booth of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

After the competition, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and officials presented awards to winning teams. — MNA

Prevention against dengue haemorrhagic fever inspected

Yangon, 3 Aug—With the sponsorship of the Ministry of Health and Yangon City Development Committee, a mass campaign on prevention of Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever was launched in Hline Township, Yangon West District, this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn inspected the tasks.

At the Hline Township Development Committee’s Office on Yangon-Insein Road, Head of the Health Department under YCDC Dr Tin Maung Win reported on work being carried out by the Health Department for prevention against the DHF. Head of Hline Township Health Department Dr Daw Mo Ma Aye on outbreak of the DHF in the township and measures being taken for prevention against the disease. Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint on outbreak of the DHF in Yangon Division and measures being taken for prevention against the endemic.

Next, the commander, the minister and the mayor gave instructions on holding educative talks on prevention against the DHF in wards, townships and districts, taking measures for ensuring free of mosquitoes and larvae at schools, proper flow of drains and spraying of pesticides in lakes and drains for control of larvae, practising the habit of using mosquito nets at day nurseries and other preventive measures. Afterwards, they inspected preventive measures against the DHF being undertaken on Than Street and Mezali Street in Ward 7 and gave necessary instructions to officials. Next, the commander, the mayor and party arrived at the construction site of a walkway being built as part of the Yangon Kandawgyi Gardens and Zoological Gardens Upgrading Project where officials reported on work being carried out and future tasks.

The commander gave instructions on timely completion of the project and meeting the set standard. Next, the commander, the mayor and party inspecting laying of concrete marble slabs at the platforms of Ring Road and gave instructions to officials.—MNA

Myanmar delegation arrives back from India

Agreement signed to extend US$ 56.358m loan to Myanmar

Yangon, 3 Aug—The Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lin Tha and Korean officials led by President and Chief Executive Officer Mr Tae-Yong Lee of Daewoo International Cooperation of the Republic of Korea held discussions to implement the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project at Block A-1 off Rakhine coast and utilization of the LNG at the Ministry of Energy today.

Officials including Senior Vice-President Mr Kwang-Jin Kim of Korean Gas Corporation (KOGAS) of ROK, President and Managing Director Mr RS Butola of ONGC Videsh Company of India and President and Managing Director Mr P Banerjee of GAIL Company were also present at the meeting to discuss their participation in the project. — MNA

Myanmar’s Energy Ministry, Daewoo International Cooperation, KOGAS, ONGC and GAIL of India held discussions to implement the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project at Block A-1 off Rakhine coast.

The co-ordination meeting between Myanmar officials and the Korean officials in progress. — MNA
High-yield Shweyinaye paddy strain — 1  

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

(Continued from yesterday)

Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Brig-Gen Khin Maung attended a ceremony to provide financial assistance and rations for former opium growers, who quit cultivation of poppy, at the Town Hall in Pekhon on 24 June 2004 evening. It was the third ceremony of its kind, during which, the commander and the deputy minister presented a total of K 1,960,000, 1,570 bags of rice and 77 bags of salt to the farmers who quit their old practice. I hope that readers will remember the article I wrote in the dailies, issued on 22 and 23 July 2002, about the matter of opium that is against the God’s will.

I felt pleasure when I heard the ardent efforts of the local authorities to wipe out opium in the region; and the distribution of seeds free of charge to farmers to grow alternative crops — paddy, wheat, buckwheat, maize and sunflower.

On the 25th of June 2004, a ceremony was held at Moebye village in Pekhon Township to harvest 50 acres of Shweyinaye paddy at a model plot and to present paddy seeds for monsoon cultivation. It was held under the sponsorship of the commander and the deputy minister. Senior military officers, local authorities, departmental personnel and the local people were also present.

According to the programme, Director Daw Khin Nwe of Agricultural Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation explained the situation of the model plot. The deputy minister also explained the advantages in growing the Shweyinaye strain, the quality of Shweyinaye rice. Shweyinaye rice is a sticky one. It is also tasty.

In his address, delivered at the ceremony, the commander spoke of the need to cultivate the crop in accord with the correct method, to grow 170,000 paddy plants per acre, and to always nurse the plants. Chairman of Padaung Naga Company U Nay Win Tun also explained the purchase and distribution of the rice strain in southern Shan State. The commander and the deputy minister presented Shweyinaye seeds to Kayah State and Taunggyi and Loilem districts in southern Shan State for 2004-2005 monsoon cultivation season.

When the Shweyinaye was harvested at the ceremony, it was found that an acre plot yielded 147.53 baskets of paddy. We have also heard that a Shweyinaye paddy plot in Dimboho in Kayah State, that was harvested on 2 July 2004, yielded 162.5 baskets per acre. The locals have witnessed the excellent yield of the Shweyinaye. Besides, it is tasty and nutritious. Thus, the Shweyinaye ensures an abundant food supply for Shan State, and satisfaction for the locals.

The monastery we were staying then was once a lone house in a compound. Thanks to the efforts of the owner of the house, U Maung Kee, a Kayan and another Kayan, U Hla Sein, who were ordained into monkhood, it has become Thadamma Theiki Buddhist Pirayittyi School on the outskirts of State Vinyayadha Sayadaw Bhaddanta Lekkhanasaami of Aye Zeti Pirayittyi School in Taunggyi and the Sangha Nayaka Committee of Pekhon Township. The school is helping to promote and propagate the Sasana as 86 monks of the school have already passed the Pirayittyi examinations.

(Continued)

(Myanmar Alin+Kyemon: 27-7-2004)

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 everyday by each household amounts to saving power that is equal to the capacity a 20-megawatt power station can supply.

Cycling race to be held

YANGON, 3 August — A press meet on long-distance cycling races jointly sponsored by Myanmar Cycling Federation and Shwe Thanbin Co was held at the Olympic Hotel (Thwunna) this afternoon.

Altogether 120 men will take part in the 160-kilometre cycling race and 20 women in the 80-kilometre cycling race. The cycling races will commence at 6 am on 7 August in front of Thwunna Youth Training Cetre.

Kyaw Saw Han (Trs.)

All this needs to be known

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

Sakya Muni Image on Lantau Island

* On excursion out of Hong Kong Quick journey in speedy cars Through one tunnel And you see the bridge New sight with stay cables Twinfold thoughts From the edge of the island Undiminishing view of pleasant park Huge Fish, Lantau Island Capped by layers of mountains. * Enter a forest, descend a hill Narrow roadway’s a luxury Go round the bends of beaches Sheltered by forests Among the mountains Image resplendent Pay homage repeatedly, no longer distant Even from side of newly dug lake Managed to pay respects again.

* Offer homage from a distance To the Image Sakya Muni The rainclouds seemed intermeshed The scene is hazy Flimsy rainclouds make way in homage As if paying obeisance Closer to the side of the Lord In measured movement. * Freedom From Harm and Good Luck Distinct gesture of His hand All towns and villages around island Free from storms All peoples of the area Pay respect in strong belief In Lanten and throughout Hong Kong They supplicate humbly. * Look at foothills left and right Picture of lush green park All clear with no heavy mist Lightly blurry is the scene Food, lights, flowers included Offerings with genuine feelings With other images by the side It’s huge and stately. * From the front of Polan Hall Another occasion for paying respects The Image in its serenity Pay obeisance again. With respect brimming the heart Not content with repeated homage That lusty contentment Fills the heart.

* Brownish bronze dignified Commands respect unsatiated That magnificent statue Is incomparable. Say adieu to Hong Kong The plane lifts off skyward Hands again in supplication Obeisance unending.

MNA
Heavy rains disrupt services in Ukraine, killing at least one

MOSCOW, 3 Aug — At least one person was killed as heavy rains swept across 10 regions of Ukraine over the last 24 hours disrupting services and causing massive structural damage, the Ukrainian Emergency Ministry’s Press service said Monday.

The victim, a tractor driver, was killed in mudflow caused by the rainstorm, the ministry was quoted by Interfax news agency as saying.

Accompanied by thunderstorms and strong wind, the rains left 361 residential areas in the country without electricity and flooded farm lands in the country’s western regions.

Electricity-transmission and telephone communication lines and a number of bridges were destroyed in the rainstorm.

.ModelExplorer, 3 Aug — Survivors of a supermarket blaze in Paraguay that killed at least 364 people found exit doors locked and in one case welded shut as they desperately tried to flee the inferno, police and witnesses said on Monday.

“There are several witnesses who saw they shut the doors to the supermarket and we also confirmed that the emergency exit was welded,” Paraguayan Police Chief Humberto Nunez told Reuters. Firefighters had found the main doors shut, he added. Prosecutors probing allegations guards locked exit doors to keep shoppers from fleeing without paying for their groceries asked the courts to keep the supermarket’s owner, his son and four guards in custody pending further investigation.

Survivors of Paraguay’s worst disaster in decades recounted how the blaze swept through the packed supermarket, in a working-class neighbour-hood on the outskirts of the capital, at midday on Sunday.

“Treached the door, but it was locked shut and I could not leave through it,” survivor Blanca Alcaraz told local television from her hospital bed. “Then everyone rushed on top of us and we were thrown to the floor.”

Newspaper photographs showed people outside the market trying to break windows to free those asphyxiating inside.

Officials said the fire was caused by a gas explosion near the food court. A large number of children, who had accompanied their parents on regular Sunday shopping trips, were among the dead. Many entire families perished together. “All of us that suffered this tragedy want the same thing — to know why it happened and make the guilty pay,” said Mitta, 60, who lost her 19-year-old daughter.

Three owners of the Ycuas Bolanos supermarket and three security guards were in police custody. Main shareholder Juan Pio Paiva said no orders were given to lock the doors. It does not make sense in a fire of this magnitude for security guards to close the doors and stay inside,” he told a news conference.

President Nicanor Duarte Frutos called for a rapid investigation “so those responsible are punished with the full force of the law.”

The study shows babies born slightly early are at risk

CHICAGO, 3 Aug — Babies born a few weeks prematurely are at increased risk of health problems, such as jaundice and low blood sugar, so expectant mothers should not hasten delivery, researchers said on Monday.

“Conventional wisdom has been babies who were near-term, but still premature, would do as well as full-term babies. ... But those of us who take care of these children know from experience that they may have more jaundice or hypoglycemia than full-term infants,” said study author Dr. Martin Wang of Mass General Hospital for Children. Researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health compared 995 full-term babies born at 37 weeks gestation or later with 90 babies born at 35 or 36 weeks gestation.

Premature babies were significantly more likely to have health problems and 18 had multiple ailments, while none of the full-term babies had more than one problem. Among the conditions were jaundice, hypoglycemia (low blood sugar), respiratory distress, the need for intravenous feeding and difficulty maintaining body temperature. Premature babies often require different treatments while the second phase of providing the drugs to AIDS patients. He explained that the first phase involved having all the 11 regional referral hospitals getting to provide ARV treatments while the second phase involved getting district and non-governmental organisations’ hospitals be prepared to distribute the drugs.

He said the Ministry of Health expected the second phase to end by December 2004. He warned that there would be no special committees to select people to access drugs, adding that the ministry prefers that the matter be left to doctors and nurses. Although ARVs do not cure AIDS, they can significantly improve the health of the AIDS patients. The Ugandan Government began distributing free ARVs to about 3,000 HIV/AIDS patients in June. It targets to reach 60,000 people with ARVs by the end of 2005.

Study shows babies born slightly early are at risk

Study shows babies born slightly early are at risk

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 4 August, 2004

Uganda to distribute AIDS drugs through health centres

KAMPALA, 3 Aug — Uganda has planned to distribute the anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) to AIDS patients through all health centres in the eastern African countries by the end of 2005, the New Vision reported Monday.

“The money to buy drugs is there but the challenge is to organise it,” Francis Omwawwa, director general of health services told the Parliamentary National Forum on HIV/AIDS focusing on ARV treatments at the weekend. Omwawwa said this would be the third phase of providing the drugs to AIDS patients. He explained that the first phase involved having all the 11 regional referral hospitals getting to provide ARV treatments while the second phase involved getting district and non-governmental organisations’ hospitals be prepared to distribute the drugs.

He said the Ministry of Health expected the second phase to end by December 2004. He warned that there would be no special committees to select people to access drugs, adding that the ministry prefers that the matter be left to doctors and nurses. Although ARVs do not cure AIDS, they can significantly improve the health of the AIDS patients. The Ugandan Government began distributing free ARVs to about 3,000 HIV/AIDS patients in June. It targets to reach 60,000 people with ARVs by the end of 2005.
Uganda suspends sale of ARVs in pharmacies

KAMPALA, 2 Aug — The Ugandan Government has suspended the sale of anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) in all pharmacies countrywide, reported Sunday Vision newspaper.

Professor Francis Omaswa, director general of health services was quoted as saying that he has directed the National Drug Authority not to license the sale of the drugs on the open market.

His statement followed reports that some doctors were involved in the sale of fake ARVs to their unsuspecting patients.

Omaswa said two pharmacies which had been licensed to sell the drugs would be ordered not to sell the drug, until strict guidelines on handling the drugs were issued.

“Selling ARVs on the open market is tricky. Possibilities of the drug abuse have to be taken into account,” he said.

He said the government has accredited 54 centres countrywide, where ARVs could be accessed.

Although ARVs do not cure AIDS, they can significantly improve the health of the AIDS patients. People on ARVs are needed to undergo regular tests on response to the medication.

The Ugandan Government has been distributing free ARVs to about 3,000 HIV/AIDS patients in June. It targets to get 60,000 people with ARVs by the end of 2005.— MNA/Xinhua

World community pledges assistance to flood hit Bangladesh

DHAKA, 2 Aug — International community has pledged Bangladesh help in materials and funds to overcome the devastating floods and to fight widely feared post-flood epidemic.

Two-thirds of the country’s 51 out of 64 districts have been flooded killing close to 500 people in floods since the beginning of the current month, according to official report.

Diabetological and other waterborne diseases have already afflicted nearly 100,000 people, mostly children and old, and so far claimed over 50 lives. Around 7,000 people were hospitalized across the country Thursday and five died.

At least 256 killed in Paraguayan supermarket fire

BUIENTOS AIRES, 2 Aug — At least 256 people were killed and hundreds of others injured on Sunday in a fire that swept through a super market on the outskirts of Paraguay’s capital Asuncion, the Paraguayan Government confirmed Monday.

The government said the death toll was expected to rise, according to reports reaching here from Asuncion, capital of Paraguay.

The fire broke out at a time when the supermarket was crowded with Sunday shoppers. There reports said nearly 1,000 people had been inside the shopping centre, which is part of the complex that also houses offices and an underground parking lot.

Police said firefighters and police were recovering bodies and rescuing the injured from the complex.

Police said two explosions were heard moments before the fire broke out. The blasts were likely to be caused by gas leak of the gas canisters in the supermarket and subsequently ignited the devastating blaze that consumed a significant part of the supermarket within the shopping complex.

Officials said there are concerns that the 30-metre high complex might collapse. The shopping centre belongs to the Ycu Bolanos chain and includes several fast-food outlets in addition to the store.

Witnesses said that doors within the complex had been deliberately closed so that people could not leave without paying, and that this had hampered people seeking to escape.

The owner of the complex has surrendered himself to the police in the wake of the blaze, but denied categorically that there had been an order to close the complex’s doors. — MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabweans urged to report illegal selling of HIV/AIDS drugs

HARARE, 2 Aug — The Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe (MCAZ) has called on the public to report to the police those selling anti-retroviral drugs illegally. Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation reported on Sunday.

MCAZ Director General Moffos Dauramani was quoted as saying that selling unregistered drugs was a violation of the Medicine and Allied Substance Control and Regulation Act.

The said his authority had intensified awareness campaigns to educate people on the dangers of taking the drugs without prescription from the medical doctor.

Cross-border traders have long cited as the main culprit is illegally importing the drugs, and some of the drugs being sold to desperate AIDS sufferers are reportedly sub-standard, fake or expired.— MNA/Xinhua

Nigeria resumes polio campaign

TAKAI (Nigeria), 2 Aug — Nigeria’s mainly Muslim state of Kano resumed polio immunizations on Saturday after a 10-month ban.

Kano state governor Ibrahim Shekarau kicked off the restart on Saturday by vaccinating his infants in public in the village of Takai, 50 miles east of the state capital city of Kano.

The New Age daily reported.

Major donors like UN, USA, Britain, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Japan have all shown great eagerness to extend assistance and some pledged funds to help Bangladesh overcome the crisis.

USAD has committed 210 million US dollars for short and long term post flood rehabilitation, which it has promised 10 million pound stable assistance and World Food Programme offered a substantial quantity of food aid for the country.

Official sources said though there is a perceptible let-up in the flood situation, the condition in capital Dhaka and some of the adjoining districts remained unchanged if not deteriorated and was likely to remain so for another week or two because of the high tide in the Bay of Bengal.

A two-member UN delegation from Geneva were scheduled to arrive here Friday to assess the damage and loss caused by the on-going flood.

The ministry for Food and Disaster Management Chowdhury Kamal Ibn Yusuf told newsmen Thursday the damage in the current flood to crops, property, infrastructure and other valuables could go up as high as taka 40,000 crore (about 7 billion US dollars).— MNA/PTI
Cloning experiment shows cancer reversible

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — A cloning experiment may show that the body itself has the ability to reverse cancer, US-based researchers said on Saturday.

They cloned mouse embryos from a melanoma skin cancer cell, and created healthy adult mice using some of the cloned cancer cells, showing that malignancy is not the inevitable fate of a cancer cell.

“This settles a principal biological question,” said Dr. Rudolf Jaenisch of the Whitehead Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, one of the country’s leading experts in cloning. He said while the genetic elements of cancer cannot be reversed, the epigenetics — how the genes are actually turned on and off — can be.

The finding, published in the journal Genes and Development, points to a new way to treat cancer, said Lynda Chin of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, who worked on the study.

“Drugs that target the cancer epigenome may prove to be a key therapeutic opportunity for diverse cancers,” she said in a statement. In other words, it might be possible to silence a cancer gene. Cancer begins when certain genes mutate, or when a certain, inherited version of a gene somehow gets turned on.

This can happen through various so-called epigenetic processes — when other molecules in a cell affect genes without actually altering the sequence of DNA.

US raises terror alert level in New York, Washington

WASHINGTON, 2 Aug — The United States on Sunday raised the terror alert level for the financial centres in New York, northern New Jersey and Washington DC, US Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said at a Press conference.

The terror threat level was being raised from “elevated” (yellow) to “high” (orange), Ridge said.

There were specific intelligence reports of a threat to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank buildings in Washington, the New York Stock Exchange and Citigroup buildings in New York as well as Prudential Financial buildings in northern New Jersey as potential targets, Ridge said.

The IMF and World Bank Headquarters are located in central Washington near the White House. The New York Stock Exchange is located in the Wall Street, the heart of New York’s financial street and there are many large financial institutions in New Jersey.

Ridge said that although there was no specific information indicating an imminent attack, intelligence showed that the al-Qaeda network blamed for the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, was aiming again for the world’s leading financial districts. “The quality of this intelligence based on multiple reporting streams in multiple locations is rarely seen, and it is alarming in both the amount and specificity of the information,” Ridge said.

“The preferred means of attack would be car or truck bombs. That would be a primary means of attack,” Ridge said, adding that the threat potential remains through November 2 presidential elections. “Car and truck bombs are one of the most difficult tasks we have in the war on terror,” Ridge said.

Nonetheless, Ridge said the US resolve was “indivisible and unyielding” despite that the al-Qaeda threat.

“I ask our citizens for their watchful eyes as we continue to monitor this situation,” Ridge said.

The move came as the New York Police Department, responding to new information that terrorists may be planning to attack corporations or large public institutions in the city, advised security managers and corporate security personnel to step up their procedures to guard against vehicles rigged with explosives and against chemical agents placed in ventilation systems.

British historians attack Hollywood “distortions”

London, 2 Aug — Hollywood film studios are guilty of a “grotesque distortion of history” which is destroying Britain’s national identity, a newspaper on Sunday quoted British historians as saying.

The chief executive of English Heritage, the government body responsible for the historic environment, told the Independent on Sunday film-makers “sloppy” and “formulacal” to history had left a generation of children confused.

“Most of my principal concerns is that the majority of children now leave school with the sketchiest of chronology about English history,” Simon Thurley said, adding that they turned to films for knowledge.

Antony Beevor, Britain’s best-selling author of popular history, told the newspaper the Americanization of British history was a particular problem.

“You can’t turn every hero in the world into an American,” he said.

The historians singled out “Saving Private Ryan”, based on the Normandy World War II Bandings, “U-571” about submariners, and “Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves” as prime offenders. In “Saving Private Ryan” all mention of British or Allied troops was omitted, while the British submariners at the heart of the real action were replaced by Americans in the film “U-571”.

“Robin Hood” was accused of distorting Britain’s medieval past. Beevor described the trend as “shameless and totally irresponsible — a grotesque distortion of history” — MNA/Reuters

First China Philosophers’ Congress to convene in August

BEIJING, 3 Aug — The China Philosophers’ Congress, the first of its kind in the country, is to be held in Beijing between 9-12 August, aiming to display achievements in the field of philosophical studies made by Chinese philosophers in recent years.

The conference, with the theme of “Philosophy and China in the New Century”, will provide a forum for exchanges between philosophers from all over the country, said Li Deshun, deputy director of the Philosophy Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the sponsor of the congress.

There are three sub-topics for the congress: “Tradition and Modern Age”, “East and West” and “Science and Humanities”. In 2001, the organizers began collecting academic papers nationwide. So far they have received 850 papers, of which 500 will be presented at the meeting. Most of the papers — 90 per cent — were written by professional researchers. The remaining 10 per cent came from amateurs.

The congress is the highest level academic gathering for China’s philosophers, but in the future it could be turned into an international event, Li said. The congress is to convene once every three years. — MNA/Xinhua

5th China air show to open in late October

ZHUHAI, 2 Aug — The Fifth China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition is scheduled to open in Zhuhai City, in south China’s Guangdong Province on October 31.

The show will be limited to specialists from November 1-4 and open to the general public from November 5-7, said the organizers.

Some 50 aircrafts from 30 countries and regions, including the United States, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Britain, the Netherlands, Canada, Greece and Spain, will attend the show, which has prepared a combined floor space of 16,700 square metres for indoor exhibition. During the air show, five teams from Britain, France, Russia and China will demonstrate stunt flights. An aerospace summit forum and an aerospace equipment manufacturing and scientific research achievements in aerospace by universities of higher learning, will also be held, organizers said.

— MNA/Xinhua

A squirrel allows his legs to dangle freely as it lounges on a section of fence in Alexandria, Va on 1 Aug, 2004. — INTERNET
**EU probes state aid for soccer stadiums**

**Brussels, 3 Aug** — The European Commission is investigating Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Britain for possible illegal state aid to soccer clubs by subsidizing stadiums, a Commission spokesman said on Monday.

The inquiry is the latest part of a drive to ensure soccer abides by EU competition rules, following action against Italy over accounting laws for writing off players’ salaries and a probe into a property deal involving Spain’s Real Madrid.

The Commission has decided to have a more systematic approach,” competition spokesman Tilman Lueder told reporters.

“We have decided to launch an inquiry into these five major football-playing countries.”

Lueder said the probe centred on possible state aid in funding stadiums and training grounds but had not produced any evidence of illicit state aid so far.

“(The) investigation hasn’t led to much new, because all these countries say they are playing by the rules,” he said.

Lueder rejected accusations that the Commission was wasting taxpayers’ money by probing state aid for stadiums, saying soccer was not just a sport but a big industry in Europe.—MNA/Reuters

**Bayern win League Cup with Deisler double**

**Munich (Germany), 3 Aug** — Two goals from Sebastian Deisler helped Bayern Munich to a 3-2 victory over Bundesliga champions Werder Bremen in an entertain-
ing German League Cup final on Monday.

Deisler, who missed most of last sea-
son while being treated for depression, opened the scoring with a free kick after 27 minutes in the final of the pre-season tournament.

The Germany midfielder doubled the advantage from 20 metres just before halftime and playmaker Michael Ballack seemed likely to win the tie with their third in the 65th minute.

But Werder, who won their first league and Cup double last season, went down fighting.

They reduced the arrears through Croatian striker Ivan Klaasen in the 68th minute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The Germany midfielder doubled the advantage from 20 metres just before halftime and playmaker Michael Ballack seemed likely to win the tie with their third in the 65th minute.

But Werder, who won their first league and Cup double last season, went down fighting.

They reduced the arrears through Croatian striker Ivan Klaasen in the 68th minute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considered only after Ottmar Hitzfeld and Otto Rehhagel turned down the job, was officially appointed on Thursday.

Deisler was hit by injury, had to be substituted in the 27th min-
ute before scoring again six minutes later with a penalty from French defender Valerien Ismael.

The former Czech under-21 captain, who was a member of the commission responsible for looking for the new coach-
ing team, said he was considere
Rainfall on 3-8-2004
- 1.14 inches at the Yangon Airport.
- 1.42 inches at Kaba-Aye and
- 1.81 inches at the central Yangon.
Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1713 mm (67.44 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1699 mm (66.89 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1703 mm (67.05 inches) at central Yangon.

WEATHER
Tuesday, 3 August 2004
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State, Mandaly and lower Sagain divisions, scattered in Rakhine State, Magway and Taninthayi divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Mon State and Ayeawady division. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Yaw (4.45 inches), Pharpun (3.50 inches), Thayaw (2.72 inches) and Darwi (1.87 inches).

Maximum temperature on 2-8-2004 was 31.0°C (88°F). Minimum temperature on 3-8-2004 was 22.0°C (72°F).

Forecast valid until evening of 4-8-2004: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway and Mandalay divisions, scattered in lower Sagain Division, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Yangon Division, Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain and squalls. Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-8-2004: Intermittent rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-8-2004: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Flood Bulletin
Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 3-8-2004
The water level of Ayeyawady river at Sagaing is about 1 ft above the danger level. The water level may fall below the danger level during the next 24 hrs commencing today.

The water level of Dabawady river at Myitng is about 2.5 ft above the danger level. The water level may fall below the danger level during the next (4) days commencing soon today.
YANGON, 3 Aug—Ayeyawady Division held a ceremony to mark the conclusion of the ploughing season for the year 2004-2005 at Kwinya Gyi Ashedan Village in Kangyidaunt Township today attended by member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing, local authorities, departmental personnel, members of Division Agricultural Supervisory Committee and social organizations and local people totalling 2,300.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that the nation’s main economy is agriculture, progress in agriculture contributes to national economic development and helps improve the social standard of the people. In the year 2003-2004, the Government set a target to put 13.69 million acres under monsoon paddy, and 3.38 million acres under summer paddy to produce 1,200 million baskets of paddy. But actually, the nation could cultivate 13.43 million acres of monsoon paddy and 3.1 million acres of summer paddy and produced 1,156 million baskets. This year’s target for Ayeyawady Division is monsoon paddy 3.5 million acres and summer paddy 1.6 million acres. The Government has been giving priority to implementing the five rural development tasks covering the development of transport, clean water supply, education and health of the villages.

Aims has been set up to significantly increase the per acre yield of the ten main crops to develop the rural areas. Of all the states and divisions, Ayeyawady Division is the most reliable region for the nation. It is achieving success in farming and energy sectors. As it is the rice bowl, it is contributing one fourth of the nation’s total paddy production.

The nation’s main economy is agriculture. Progress in agriculture contributes to national economic development and helps improve the social standard of the people.

Commander inspects jetties of Yangon Port

YANGON, 3 Aug—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe inspected Wadan, Sint Ohdan and Botahtaung jetties of Yangon Port this afternoon and gave necessary instructions.

The commander, together with Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than, No 4 Military Region Commander Col Yan Naing Oo and officials, inspected revetments, high mast lamps, reinforced concrete benches, tarred roads, pavements, growing of coconut trees and sanitation tasks.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than views the seeding contest for paddy cultivation at Kwinya Gyi Ashedan Village of Kangyidaunt Township. — MNA