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

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

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

Establish forest reserves, conserve, protect public forests for better climate
Regional agriculture developing significantly thanks to emergence of water pumping stations

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt called on township level officials to coordinate and strive collectively in all spheres for all-round development of respective regions based on the five rural development tasks, while making field trips down to the rural areas.

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The Prime Minister met with departmental personnel, local elders and social organizations in Yesagyo.

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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

Gem mining permits to be issued in August

YANGON, 5 Aug — Gem mining permits will be issued in August 2004 for the plots whose terms expired during the period between April and June, whose terms will expire during the period from July to September and new plots. Permits will be issued after the proposals are being scrutinized by committees at different levels in accord with the Myanmar Gems Law in August to begin work in the open season.

Proposals for the plots whose terms will expire during the period from October to December should be sent to the Myanmar Gems Enterprise during the period from 20 July to 18 August 2004. — MNA

Sermon to be delivered

YANGON, 5 Aug — Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavisadha of 9th Mile Mahasanga Sasanaya Yeiktha of Yangon will deliver a sermon on Satipatthana Vipassana at 2 pm on 7 August, Saturday, at Gotami Vihara in Tokyo, Japan. — MNA

Mines Minister receives guest

YANGON, 5 Aug — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Chairman of Daewoo International Corporation Mr Lee Tae-Yong and party at his office on Kanbe Road here at 4 pm yesterday.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minis-

ter U Myint Thein and officials. — MNA

Talks on Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation held

YANGON, 5 Aug — Talks on Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation were held at Diamond Jubilee Hall on Paya Road here at 9 am today. MWWF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice-Presidents, Education Minister’s wife Daw Win Shwe, Deputy Ministers’ wives Daw Marlar Thein and Daw Thazin Nwe, professors, associate professors, principals , faculty members and staff. MWWF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe gave talks on MWWF. Next, Daw Win Shwe presented K 1 million donated by the Ministry of Education for MWF to Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe.

Similarly, talks on MWF were held at the Ministry of Science & Technology Research Department of the Ministry of Science & Technology in Yankin Township here at 2 pm today. Present on the occasion were MWWF General Secretary Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win, Science & Technology Minister’s wife Daw May Kyi Sein, Deputy Minister Dr Chan Nyen’s and wife Dr Sundar Aung, officials and staff numbering over 560. Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win gave talks. Next, Daw May Kyi Sein presented K 100,000 for the MWF to Prof Dr Daw Khin Aye Win. — MNA

Journalism trainees visit Myanmar Alin

YANGON, 5 Aug — Trainees of No 1/2004 Journalism Course organized by News and Periodicals Enterprise of the Ministry of Information, accompanied by course-in-charge U Nyunt Hlaing and responsible persons, made a study tour of Myanmar Alin Daily in Natmauk Street, Bahan Township this morning.

First, Assistant Man-
ger (Advertisement) of Myanmar Alin Daily U Aung Kyi extended greetings and introduced the trainees to the responsible persons.

Next, Manager U

Zaw Win explained the salient points of Myanmar Alin Daily and procedures of function. Afterwards, the trainees studied editing department, Phothontho depart-

ment and printing room in Myanmar Alin Daily. — MNA

Seminar on geotechnical instrumentation held

YANGON, 5 Aug — A Seminar on geotechnical instrumentation, dam monitoring and early warning system, photogrammetry and digital mapping, remote sensing and GIS was held at the meeting hall of the Irrigation Department here at 10 am today.

General Manager of Suntac Technologies U Tin Myint and managers explained matters on the Suntac services and technologies. Afterwards, managing Director of Suntac Technologies U Ye Phone Hlaing presented TNT maps demonstration CDs on digital mapping, remote sensing and GIS to Irrigation Department Director-General U Kyaw San Win.

MNA
Sudan warns the West of ‘another Iraq’

Khartoum, 5 Aug—More than 100,000 Sudanese marched on the United Nations headquarters in the capital Khartoum yesterday in a state-organized protest against Western intervention to end the crisis in Darfur.

Demonstrators warned that Sudan could become a battlefield comparable to Afghanistan or Iraq if foreign military forces entered the African country to try to end the 17-month war conflict.

“Targeting Sudan means you will fall into a third swamp, after Afghanistan and Iraq,” said Mohammed Ali Abdullah, a senior member of the ruling party.

“He will be like in Sudan who would like to confront the Americans.”

While no Western government has threatened to invade Sudan, such intervention has been discussed since it became clear that the Khartoum government was failing to curb the perpetrators of most of the violence in Darfur.

The UN Security Council last week passed a resolution giving Sudan 30 days to stop Arab militia violence in Darfur or face economic and diplomatic penalties.

The protesters, many chanting “No to America and its followers”, delivered a memorandum to the UN envoy’s office in Khartoum demanding that the secretary-general, Kofi Annan, retrace his “misleading” remarks about the Darfur situation, or resign.

Iraqi official quits to win sons’ freedom

Baghdad, 4 Aug—The governor of Iraq’s Anbar governorate has resigned after three of his sons were released by their captors on the condition that he quit office.

Abdel Karim Berges said on Wednesday he had put in his papers his sons, aged 15 to 30, were freed in Falluja one week following in captivity.

Berges said he had paid no ransom but met the captors’ demand that he leave office.

Ramadi’s chief administrator Mohammed Abed Awad has taken over his duties.

The three sons of Berges were taken captive by armed fighters who barged in and tortured his family home in Ramadi while he was at work.

Ramadi, 100 west of Baghdad, is the capital of the Sunni Muslim governorate of Anbar, which also includes the city of Falluja where US troops have come under repeated attack and loyalty to Saddam Hussein remains high.

Also on Wednesday, reports Aljazeera’s correspondent in Ramadi, a car bomb exploded near a US checkpoint at the eastern entrance of the city.

The blast, which targeted a US patrol, left a number of casualties among the US forces and damaged a military vehicle, the correspondent said.

Vietnam to have cyber police

Hanoi, 4 Aug—Vietnam plans to establish a cyber task force next month, in a move to prevent and deal with Internet-related criminal cases, said the Ministry of Public Security on Tuesday.

The expected task force will operate along with other cyber security forces, focusing on criminal cases and people showing signs of law violations. It is mainly supposed to prevent and combat the operation of hackers and hi-tech criminals who use computer-related frauds, destroy web sites and networks, offer child pornography, store and distribute sexual materials. “Despite being a research facility only, we are willing to coordinate with the expected task force in raising public awareness about Internet security and fighting hi-tech criminals,” Nguyen Tu Quang, director of the Back Khoa Inter-network Security Centre (BKIS), told Xinhua.

BKIS, Vietnam’s leading cyber security centre, is receiving the state support to improve its operation which involves creating anti-virus software, raising public awareness about Internet-related issues, and offering security solutions to computer networks, Quang said, adding that BKIS’s Vietnam Computer Emergency Response Team will be upgraded thanks to the support.

BKIS under the Hanoi University of Technology is the author of the most popular local anti-virus software named BKA-V in Vietnam, he noted. The number of Internet users in the country soared to over 5.1 million, or 6.3 per cent of its population, in early July 2004 from almost no users in December 1997 when it was officially linked with the global computer network, said the Vietnam Network Information Centre.

WTO draft a good “starting point” for further negotiations

New Delhi, 4 Aug—Indian trade experts on Sunday warned that the WTO deal had reduced developing nations’ flexibility but said it was a good “starting point” for further negotiations.

“Developing nations have put themselves in a bind on certain issues. Their flexibility has also reduced in some areas.” Veena Jha, programme coordinator UNCTAD India told PTI.

However, she said the deal was a trade-off between getting an agreement than not getting one but admitted it was a positive development in terms of breaking the deadlock.

Nagesh Kumar, who heads Research Information System for Non-Aligned and Other Developing countries termed the deal as a good starting point for further negotiations.

He said it is to be seen that it was only a framework for further working towards constructive in negotiations which was a very positive development after almost an year of stalemate after the trade talks collapsed at Cancun.

Kumar highlighted that the agreement had taken on board some of India’s demands like those in agricultural sector with regard to special products—MNA/PTI

E-governance exhibition begins in Beijing

BEIJING, 4 Aug—China’s largest exhibition on e-governance technologies and products began here Tuesday, showing the latest products and solutions of world-wide leading technology and the Ministry of Information Technology and the Ministry of Science and Technology, said the Ministry of Public Security on Tuesday.

Governmental officials, experts and representatives from enterprises are expected to join discussions on the strategic development of e-governance in China in the near future. Special events of the exhibition might inclucde a survey on the best government portal web sites, case studies on best solutions of e-governance and a dialogue between governmental officials and businesspeople. Shi Guangliang, vice secretary-general of the exhibition, said he hopes the exhibition would further stimulate use of e-governance in China.

In recent years, Shi said, the focus of development for e-governance in China has already shifted from infrastructure building to application and service providing.

Experts estimated that China has an e-governance-related market valued at 40 billion yuan (4.8 billion US dollars), including 14 billion yuan worth of software products and services. The organizers also set up an on-line exhibition at the official web site, www.egovchina.org.—MNA/Xinhua

917 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq last year

BAGHDAD, 4 Aug—As of Wednesday, 497 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 680 died as a result of hostile action and 237 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, one soldier.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

Army Sgt Tommy Gray, 34, Roswell, NM; died Tuesday in a vehicle accident in Taji, Iraq; assigned to 1st Forward Support Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Army Sgt Juan Calderon Jr, 26, Weslaco, Texas; killed Monday in Anbar province, Iraq; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

A British Army soldier, accompanying US troops, checks his papers after his sons, aged 10 and 11, were taken captive by armed fighters who barged in and tortured his family home in Ramadi while he was at work.

The blast, which targeted a US patrol, left a number of casualties among the US forces and damaged a military vehicle, the correspondent said.—MNA/PTI

A British Army soldier, accompanying US troops, checks debris following a roadside blast which killed two civilians in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul on 4 Aug. 2004.—Reuters

The UN Security Council last week passed a resolution giving Sudan 30 days to stop Arab militia violence in Darfur or face economic and diplomatic penalties.

The protesters, many chanting “No to America and its followers”, delivered a memorandum to the UN envoy’s office in Khartoum demanding that the secretary-general, Kofi Annan, retrace his “misleading” remarks about the Darfur situation, or resign.

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The expected task force will operate along with other cyber security forces, focusing on criminal cases and people showing signs of law violations. It is mainly supposed to prevent and combat the operation of hackers and hi-tech criminals who use computer-related frauds, destroy web sites and networks, offer child pornography, store and distribute sexual materials. “Despite being a research facility only, we are willing to coordinate with the expected task force in raising public awareness about Internet security and fighting hi-tech criminals,” Nguyen Tu Quang, director of the Back Khoa Inter-network Security Centre (BKIS), told Xinhua.

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Fierce clashes in Mosul leave many dead

BAGHDAD, 4 Aug—Two of the dead were victims of a roadside bomb attack. At least 14 Iraqis have been killed and 52 wounded in a roadside bomb blast and fierce clashes between Iraqi police and armed fighters in the main northern city of Mosul, according to Aljazeera’s correspondent.

The hospital received 12 bodies, including two women and 26 injured, most of them civilians,” said a doctor at Mosul’s Medical City Hospital, after violent clashes broke out between the fighters and police on Wednesday.

Two of the fatalities occurred when a roadside device exploded on Baghdad Street just as a US military convoy passed by. Aljazeera’s correspondent reported that explosions were being heard in the al-Najjar and al-Ghazali neighbourhoods of Iraq’s third largest city.

He said the death toll was later revised to 14 fatalities and 52 wounded. The Reuters correspondent in Mosul quoted witnesses as saying Iraqi police and armed fighters were fighting with rifles and hand-propelled grenades (RPGs) on the streets.

The correspondent said one firefight began at about 12.45pm (0845 GMT) in the Sinjar neighbourhood to the southwest of Mosul.

Other battles were raging to the north, in the centre and to the south of the city, he said.

He said the police had tried to seal off the Sinjar area and were battling the fighters street-to-street near the highway.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 6 August, 2004

China seizes 12 tons of drugs in past five years

BEIJING, 4 Aug—China has cracked 636 drug-related cases during the past five years, seizing 12.4 tons of drugs, 271 tons of chemicals, and arresting 832 suspects, the General Administration of Customs announced Tuesday.

“Drug traffickers mainly make use of mail or cargo delivery for smuggling activities. They also always disguise themselves as passengers in an attempt to carry drugs through Customs,” said Lu Bin, director of the administration’s Smuggling Cases Investigation Bureau.

During the past five years, China has seen a growing number of major drug smuggling cases, Lu said, citing that they have cracked 41 such big cases, seizing more than 10 kilos of drugs in each case, totaling 11,765 kilos.

In the period, China reported 306 drug smuggling cases originating from overseas and captured 1,677 kilos of heroin and marijuana, indicating a still grave situation of the smuggling of traditional types of drugs, especially from overseas.

Meanwhile, China is facing up to a severe situation of smuggling cases of new types of drugs, such as ecstasy and “ice,” or methamphetamine, which has become a main trend in drug trafficking, according to Lu.

Lu also pointed out that these smuggling cases mainly happened in Yunnan, Guangdong, Fujian, Tibet, Sichuan, Shanghai and Dalian.

Among these areas, China cracked 171 drug-related cases alone in Kunming, capital of Yunnan, in southwest China, accounting for 27 per cent of the country’s total.

In the meantime, drug trafficking in south China’s Guangdong Province is becoming increasingly serious and Guangdong has become the major channel and distributing centre for drug smuggling activities, Lu said.

In addition, Lu said, China saw drug traffickers from China’s Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan regions and foreign countries as well from time to time.

The Chinese Ministry of Public Security has just announced last week that it will launch a new large-scale campaign against narcotics by cutting channels for drug trafficking from abroad, cracking down on domestic manufacturing of “ice,” and stopping smuggling of home-made materials for making drugs.

The campaign, to be carried out between August and December, will focus on breaking up seven major channels between China and neighbouring countries and regions, said Yang Fengru, director of the Anti-Drug Bureau of the Ministry of Public Security.

Ministry sources said China uncovered 93,900 drug-related cases last year, seizing 9,535 kilos of heroin, 905 kilos of opium, and 5,827 kilos of “ice.”

Khartoum, 4 Aug—Security for refugees has improved in the camps of Darfur region in west Sudan, where the United Nations says the world’s worst humanitarian crisis is unfolding, a UN official in Khartoum said on Monday.

Jon Pronk, the UN Secretary-General’s special representative to Sudan, said rebels and Arab militia fighting them were still causing insecurity in the region where the UN says conflict has erupted.

The Darfur rebels, who launched an uprising against the Arab militia in early 2003, and rights groups accuse Khartoum of sending the Janjaweed to attack non-Arab Darfur villages.

UN says security improving in Darfur camps

Ethiopia seeks cooperation with UN mission

Addis Ababa, 4 Aug—Ethiopian Foreign Minister Seyoum Mesfin said Monday that the Ethiopian-Eritrean peace process has reached a critical stage, urging the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) to consolidate its peacekeeping mission in the border area.

Seyoum made the remark in a meeting with the new Commander of the UNMEE Major-General Rajender Singh in Addis Ababa, saying Ethiopia would continue working with the mission as it has been doing during the last four years.

He said Ethiopia would also work to complete its deployment of the UNMEE’s police and security forces in the entire border area.

There are still many militia around. That is leading to a great deal of insecurity. Also the rebel activities are adding to the insecurity,” Pronk said after meeting Sudanese Foreign Minister Mustafa Osman Ismail. “But security in the camps has improved.”

Egypt refuses to deploy Iraqi troops

CAIRO, 4 Aug—Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit Wednesday said Egypt will not deploy troops in Iraq. “Egypt’s stance on that issue is clear and it is a total rejection of deploying any troops in Iraq,” Abul Gheit said.

“They said Abul Ghait plans to visit Saudi Arabia soon to discuss the possible consequences of dispatching troops,” said the Saudi proposal last week but stressed the deployment of Arab and Muslim forces should be on a clear request from the Iraqi government and must be supported by the Iraqi people.

He also said the forces should replace the existing multi-national troops in Iraq and must be under a UN mandate.

Danish officer accused of Iraq abuse

COPENHAGEN, 5 Aug—Danish Army captain based in Iraq has been charged with abusing a prisoner there, military officials said Wednesday.

The 37-year-old intelligence officer, a woman, “used illegal interrogation methods,” according to Benny Holm Frandsen, head of the army’s auditing committee. It is in charge of investigating allegations that several Danish soldiers stationed at Camp Eden in Iraq had abused prisoners there.

The Danish, Defence Minister, Soeren Gade, on Tuesday ordered the immediate recall of the Danish battalion commander, Henrik Flash, along with three other superior officers, stating that he had lost confidence in them since they had failed to stop the violations.

According to media reports, the captain in question, Annemette Hommel, on 9 June refused to give an interrogated prisoner water and forced him to remain in uncomfortable and painful positions for long periods of time.

Hommel has insisted through her lawyer, Ebbe Mogensen, that Camp Eden manage was to blame for the abuse, maintaining that she was simply a scapegoat sacrificed by her superiors.

“Annemette feels that she is a scapegoat in this case, which in reality concerns many soldiers and incidents,” Mogensen told the Danish tabloid Ekstra Bladet on Tuesday.

“She has the feeling that she’s been dropped by the Camp Eden management and by the military brass who have consciously placed her on her center stage,” Servant with the Danish contingent’s intelligence unit, Hommel, who has worked for both the Foreign Ministry and the Danish Parliament, had a key role in making the Iraqi prisoners talk.

Danish officer accused of Iraq abuse

OPENHAGEN, 4 Aug— Danish Army captain based in Iraq has been charged with abusing a prisoner there, military officials said Wednesday.

The 37-year-old intelligence officer, a woman, “used illegal interrogation methods,” according to Benny Holm Frandsen, head of the army’s auditing committee. It is in charge of investigating allegations that several Danish soldiers stationed at Camp Eden in Iraq had abused prisoners there.

The Danish, Defence Minister, Soeren Gade, on Tuesday ordered the immediate recall of the Danish battalion commander, Henrik Flash, along with three other superior officers, stating that he had lost confidence in them since they had failed to stop the violations.

According to media reports, the captain in question, Annemette Hommel, on 9 June refused to give an interrogated prisoner water and forced him to remain in uncomfortable and painful positions for long periods of time.

Hommel has insisted through her lawyer, Ebbe Mogensen, that Camp Eden manage was to blame for the abuse, maintaining that she was simply a scapegoat sacrificed by her superiors.

“Annemette feels that she is a scapegoat in this case, which in reality concerns many soldiers and incidents,” Mogensen told the Danish tabloid Ekstra Bladet on Tuesday.

“She has the feeling that she’s been dropped by the Camp Eden management and by the military brass who have consciously placed her on her center stage,” Servant with the Danish contingent’s intelligence unit, Hommel, who has worked for both the Foreign Ministry and the Danish Parliament, had a key role in making the Iraqi prisoners talk.
Mumbai 15th expensive city worldwide for office rentals

NEW DELHI, 4 Aug— Mumbais ranks 15th most expensive city in the world for office rentals while Delhi ranks 32nd, according to the latest global survey by real estate consulting firm CB Richard Ellis.

Mumbai moved two ranks up from the last quarter ranking of 17 while Delhi moved up six positions from 38th rank at CBRE’s Global Market Rents, as per the survey of office occupation costs in 158 cities.

London’s West End is the most expensive office location in the world followed by London (city) and Tokyo (inner central), it said.

“The real estate market in India is looking up and is on track to achieve the expected space take-up of 20 million square feet by 2004-end,” Arshamian magazine, Managing Director of CBRE in South Asia, said. The occupation cost stands at 56.83 dollars per square feet per annum in Mumbai while in Delhi it is 40.62 dollars.

Technically, occupation cost represents rent plus local taxes and service charge. The highest occupation cost was recorded at 177.39 dollars in London’s West End, followed by London (city) at 119.39 dollars and Tokyo (inner central) at 116.23 dollars.

The most expensive US location now is Midtown Manhattan, which ranks 20th at 52.04 dollars per square feet per annum.

Out of the top 50 most expensive office locations in the world, 29 have experienced a fall in the occupational cost over the last six months. — MNA/PITI

Singapore cites India’s swing role in WTO talks

SINGAPORE, 4 Aug— The constructive stance taken by Indias new government was crucial to the breakthrough in world trade talks last week, Minister George Yeo said.

Yeo said the position adopted by Indian Commerce Minister Kamal Nath during the 24-hour World Trade Organization negotiations in Geneva marked a dramatic break with the past.

"In earlier meetings, India played very defensive roles. In fact their entire strategy was positional warfare - in other words, dig deep trenches and stick to those positions," Yeo, a former army brigadier general, told reporters.

"But this time round ... they played a role which was both defensive and constructive. And that was a very interesting change," said Yeo, who represented Singapore at the meeting.

He said India was bringing its position in talks among the WTO’s 142 members closer into line with its more liberal domestic policy toward market-opening. "I believe that will be the case for future talks," Yeo said.

India was one of five big trading powers - along with the United States, the European Union, Australia and Brazil - that forged consensus among themselves during the Geneva talks before trying to bring the broader WTO membership on board.

China was not part of the group but Yeo said he expected Beijing, which joined the WTO only in 2001, to be increasingly influential.

"They took carefully articulated positions; they were constructive and speaking out more, and I believe you will see China assuming a greater role as it becomes more comfortable in its seat and as its economy grows," he said.

WTO members reached a framework agreement in Geneva on the principles that will govern the reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade in agriculture, industrial goods and services.

Yeo said the meeting had put world trade talks back on track after the failure of a ministerial conference last September in Cancun, Mexico. But he said fleshing out the details would take at least two or three years, with no guarantee of success at the end. — MNA/Reuters

An Iraqi Police officer stands by the scene after assailants detonated a roadside bomb, killing a local police chief and another officer in Baghdad on 3 Aug. 2004. — AFP/PTI

Denmark widens Iraqi prisoner abuse investigation

COPENHAGEN, 4 Aug— Several more Danish soldiers are under investigation for the suspected abuse of prisoners during interrogations at Camp Eden in southern Iraq, the Danish Army said on Tuesday.

The Danish military has already complained about the way one intelligence officer interrogated prisoners, the Army said. In that case, the soldier was sent home last week while Army staff were sent to examine the claims.

Two Danish newspapers on Tuesday identified the officer as a woman in her thirties. The Danish military declined to identify the soldier, but said several more personnel were now being investigated.

"The investigation is wider. Several more individuals are now being investigated," Armed Forces spokesman Hans-Christian Mathiesen told Reuters.

The investigation has sent shockwaves through Denmark, where most people support the centre-right government’s backing of the US-led campaign in Iraq.

Although few details of the claims have been made public, Defence Minister Soren Gade told the media the mistreatment may have included denying prisoners water.

The Danish military also told Reuters on Tuesday the investigation had been widened to cover a shooting incident — but would not elaborate further.

"The investigation is wide. Several more individuals are now being investigated," Gade told a news conference.

At least two or three years have been involved in several firefighting with guerrillas in Iraq, including one in August last year in which two Iraqis were killed by Danish soldiers.

Denmark has about 500 troops in the country. The latest development emerged on the day a hearing starts in the United States into whether a US soldier will be tried for prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib Prison near Baghdad.

The hearing will determine whether US military police officer Lynndie England will be tried on charges ranging from prisoner abuse to committing indecent acts. — MNA/Reuters

EAC to form Lake Victoria committee

DAR-ES-SALAMA, 4 Aug— The East African Community (EAC) has decided to form a special committee to manage the sustainable development of the Lake Victo-
ria basin, local Press reported Tuesday.

EAC member states of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania agreed to form the committee with senior government officials sitting on it, The Guardian newspaper said, though the formation of the committee still needs ratification of their respective parliaments. The three countries agreed that if properly used, the wide range of natural resources will be of great benefit to their people. — MNA/Xinhua

MSF says Sudanese need food, not politics

MOSCOW, 4 Aug— Thousands of Sudanese villagers who have fled militia attacks will die if the world does not double the amount of food sent to their region, the head of Medecins Sans Frontieres said on Monday.

MSF International President Rowan Gillies recently returned from a month working in Sudan’s western Darfur region and said there were more than a million displaced in a conflict with Arab militias.

The United Nations on Friday gave Sudan a 30-day deadline to disarm the militias, but Gillies said refugees were so weakened by hunger that epidemics could sweep through their camps if food aid was not sent immediately. — MNA/Reuters
Former Guantanamo detainee urges US to hand over “abuse videos”

LOndon, 4 Aug — A former British detainee held at the Guantanamo Bay detention centre on Cuba who claims to have been tortured at the centre, on Tuesday called for the US Government to submit videos allegedly showing US captors abusing Muslim prisoners.

Tarek Dergoul, a 26-year-old former care worker from London, who was released in March said in a statement that guards at the Guantanamo Bay camp mocked and cursed Iraqi prisoners, beat them and forced them to work under the scorching sun. In a separate appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies sought more than 10 million Swiss francs (7.8 million US dollars) to help South Asia’s flood victims.

China, Germany join hands to train engineering management

SHANGHAI, 4 Aug—Shanghai’s elite Tongji University has founded a sino-German school to train bilingual professionals in engineering management.

As an intergovernmental cooperation programme, the school was founded between Tongji University and the University of Applied Sciences in Germany to train high-caliber engineering and management professionals for Chinese and German enterprises.

Third subway in Guangzhou to be finished in 2005

GUANGZHOU, 4 Aug—Construction of the city’s third subway has made smooth headway in Guangzhou, capital of south China’s Guangdong Province, and is expected to be completed in 2005.

A US soldier walks past stains of blood as buses cross a checkpoint on the northern road heading to the city of Baquba, northeast Baghdad, where a suicide car bomb exploded on 3 Aug. 2004. —INTERNET

UNICEF appeals for Bangladesh flood aid

DHAKA, 4 Aug—UNICEF said on Monday that it had launched a global appeal to raise 134 million US dollars in emergency aid to save the lives of flood-hit Bangladeshis.

The emergency appeal has been made to address the immediate needs of the flood-stricken people in the next six to eight weeks, the United Nations Children’s Fund said in a statement.

It said funds were urgently needed to expand UNICEF’s interventions to help alleviate the sufferings of flood-affected children and women.

The worst floods in 15 years have killed about 660 people, made over 10 million homeless and affected another 20 million in 43 of Bangladesh’s 64 administrative districts.

The appeal was aimed at saving children suffering from waterborne diseases and acute respiratory infection, the statement said.

“Bangladesh children living on the edge urgently need attention to save them from the worst ravages of flood. It is important to provide them with safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, nutritious food and life-saving medicine,” the statement quoted A.P.B. Sanagama, UNICEF’s representative in Bangladesh, as saying.

As flood waters continued to recede across the country, Bangladeshi health officials said on Monday that diseases were spreading because of a shortage of water purification tablets.

Victims in nearly 5,000 shelters were facing shortages of food and clean water while the floods totally or partially damaged some 27,000 primary schools.

In a separate appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies sought more than 10 million Swiss francs (7.8 million US dollars) to help South Asia’s flood victims.

Slovak military engineers return from Iraq

BRATISLAVA, 4 Aug—A group of 96 Slovak military engineers returned home Tuesday from southern Iraq as part of a regular rotation. “We are very tired but happy to be back at home,” unit commander Karel Novolt said.

In addition to the unbearable hot weather, the security situation in Iraq has not improved since the US Government took over power on 28 June, some engineers said.

They said that they would never forget the mortar attack in southern Iraq, which claimed the lives of three Slovak military engineers.

After the rotation, Slovak engineer unit, which is deployed in southern Iraq under Polish command, will now have 104 members.

Iraqi jail chief says prisoner abuse covered up

LONDON, 4 Aug—The US general formerly in charge of Baghdad’s notorious Abu Ghraib Prison said on Tuesday that abuse of Iraqi captives has been hidden from him in a cover-up that may reach all the way to the Pentagon or White House.

Speaking on the same day a US soldier at the centre of the prisoner abuse scandal is due to face a military court, Brigadier-General Janis Karpinski said she was deliber-ately kept in the dark about abuse and hu-miliation of Iraqi prisoners.

“A very reliable witness has made a statement indicating that, not only was I not included in any of the meetings discussing interrogation operations, but specific meas-ures were taken to ensure I would not have access to those facilities, that information or any of the details of interrogation at Abu Ghraib or anywhere else,” Karpinski told Britain’s BBC radio.

Karpinski, responsible for the military police who ran prisons in Iraq when pictures were taken showing prisoners being abused, has been suspended from his post but not charged with any crime.

She said that those with “full know-edge” of what was going on in Abu Ghraib worked to keep her from discovering the truth.

Asked if a cover-up meant involvement at the top of the Government, she said, “I have not seen the statement but the indication is it may have”.

Photographs of US military police abus-ing hooded prisoners in Abu Ghraib and accusations of abuse by British and other troops have fuelled Arab and international anger, shaking US President George W. Bush’s efforts to stabilize Iraq.

In Britain, an Iraqi witness alleged at a court hearing last week that British soldiers had tortured detainees by beating and kick-ing them and pouring freezing water over them. US Private First Class Lynndie Eng-land, the 21-year-old military police officer who became the public face of inimate abuse at Abu Ghraib, faces a hearing on Tuesday to determine whether she will be tried on charges of abuse and committing indecent acts.

Karpinski told the BBC she never per-sonally witnessed abuse at Abu Ghraib or at any of the prisons she commanded.

She has also said she was told by a military intelligence commander that de-tainees should be “treated like dogs”.

Iraqis view the wreckage of destroyed vehicles in Baghdad on 2 Aug, 2004. —INTERNET

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Endeavours to uplift the living standard of rural people

A rural house built by Development Affairs Department in Mogaung Village in Aunglan Township, Magway Division. — PBANRDA

Rural houses built in Kanthit village in Wundwin Township, Mandalay Division. — TOWNSHIP DAD

Rural houses built in Mongli model village in Hsenwi Township, Shan State (North). — MNA

A rural house built by Development Affairs Department in Nyaungwaing village in Kyauktan Township, Yangon Division. — PBANRDA

Rural housing projects implemented in Thityakauk Village of Magway Township. — PBANRDA

A rural house built by Development Affairs Committee in Daka village, Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Division. — PBANRDA

Rural house in Shwepyigon Village, Yedashe Township, Bago Division. — PBANRDA
Establish reserved forests ... 

of ten main crops, local rice, oil and beans and pulses sufficiency, efforts to achieve the targeted yield of crops, economy, livestock breeding, health, education and regional development, presented by local authorities.

Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min and officials briefed the Prime Minister on health and education undertakings and requirements. The Prime Minister presented a TV, a video player and a computer each to No 1 and No 2 basic education high schools in the township. After looking into the requirements, he gave a speech, saying that he has been visiting the town and providing assistance to it time and again since the start of the Pakhangyi-Pakhangne region development project. Thanks to a number of water pumping stations, regional agriculture is developing significantly. But agriculture should be extended till ensuring food sufficiency for the region. The Myanmar Agriculture Service is urged to develop a high-yield paddy strain that suits to the dry region and to lead farmers for agricultural progress. Edible oil crops and beans and pulses grow well in the region, and efforts should be made to cultivate the crops with might and main.

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries should provide assistance including setting up of model farms for the region to conduct breeding business that suits to its climate and geographical conditions. As the region is included in the dry zone, regional greening task covering the projects to set up tree plantations, regeneration of hills including the Shimmataung. The region has become green and lush again, and restoration of a balanced climate depends on the establishment of forest reserves and conservation of protected public forests. As rural areas are gaining progress with greater momentum, rural development task should be carried out with integrated efforts of volunteer organizations and departments. Township level officials will have to tour down to the grassroots and provide assistance for the development of villages lying in the far corners of the region. By doing so, the whole township will achieve progress. All the departments will have to make a collective leadership and take a collective responsibility. Next, the Prime Minister cordially met with departmental personnel, social organization members and townsmen.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party attended the ceremony to open Daw Oo Home for the Aged in extended ward (Tamadan) of Yezagyo. First, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Zaw Min and wellwishers U Aung Than and Daw Khin Than Oo (Kan Pwint Joss Stick) formally opened the home. The General unveiled the stone inscription and sprinkled scented water on it. They visited the home for the aged. Next, wellwisher U Aung Than explained the purpose of building the home. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint accepted K 70 million for building the Home for the Aged and K 10 million for mess fund to Lt-Gen Ye Myint. — MNA Tun Khang. Next, U Aung Thang and Daw Khin Than Oo handed over documents related to the home to Head of Magway Division Social Welfare Department U Than Tun. The home was formed with two 18-person-capacity hostels for the aged, one mess hall, one Dhammayon, one office for the administrator, dispensary, an office, bathroom and toilets.

On arrival at Sithushin Pagoda in Pakhangyi Village of Yezagyo Township, the Prime Minister paid homage to Sithushin Buddha Image and Tharekkhan Buddha Image. Next, he signed in the visitors’ book and made donations. The General also paid homage to Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Pathinda and offered provisions. Afterwards, the Prime Minister inspected renovation of religious edifices.

At Pakhangyi Archaeological Museum, Curator U Huy Win Maung reported to the Prime Minister on matters related to a silver ornament dating back to the Konbaung era, the lead coin bearing a Buddha image on one side and a pagoda another and a bronze coin bearing two fish with the year 1162 ME and Director (Upper Myanmar) U Hla Gyi Maung on matters related to one stone plaque bearing Hanlin Palace (Hantha Nagar) found at Nwatin Village of Singaung Village-tract and keeping the stone plaque at Bagan Archaeological Museum. Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung gave a supplementary report. The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions and inspected ancient Myanmar handicraft. Next, they helicoptered to Pauk. At Pauk Township Hospital, they were welcomed by Magway Division Health Department Head Dr Kyaw Hla Maung, Medical Superintendent Dr Aye Maung and officials. The Prime Minister looked into wards and operation theatre and attended to the needs.

Chairman of the Myanmar Education Committee Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party headed for Pauk BEHS, where they were welcomed by members of the school board of trustees, the schoolmaster, teachers and students. The opening of the multimedia classrooms of the school followed. The Prime Minister and party, departmental heads, members of the school board of trustees, the schoolmaster, teachers, students and guests attended the ceremony. The headmaster and the chairman of the school board of trustees formally opened the educational facility. The Prime Minister pressed the button to unveil the signboard of the multimedia classrooms. The Prime Minister and party and guests inspected computer skill room, audio visual room, language lab, drawing room, domestic science room, printed media room, altar room and music room. The Prime Minister met township level departmental officials, local senior citizens, social organizations and officials at the assembly hall of the facility. The chairman of the township PDC gave an account of location, area and natural resources of Pauk Township, agriculture and livestock breeding sector, efforts being made for meeting the target of per acre yield of crops in 2004-2005, regional sufficiency of rice, edible oil and beans and pulses, education and health sectors and needs.

Wellwishers U Aung Than and Daw Khin Than Oo of Kan Pwint joss stick industry hand over cash donations of K 70 million for building the Home for the Aged and K 10 million for mess fund to Lt-Gen Ye Myint. — MNA

As rural areas are gaining progress with greater momentum, rural development task should be carried out with integrated efforts of volunteer organizations and departments. Township level officials will have to tour down to the grassroots and provide assistance for the development of villages lying in the far corners of the region.
Established reserves forests ...

(from page 8)

The Prime Minister presented a television, VCD, computer and related accessories to the school. He fulfilled the requirements of education and health fields and rural development. The Prime Minister in his speech said that he had attended to the needs of education and health sectors of Pauk Township particularly rural development through coordination with regional officials. In this regard, departmental officials are to make attempts in taking innovative measures for regional development through effective application of the assistance rendered by the government.

Pauk Township is a region where water is scarce, thus it can grasp only limited opportunity to extend its cultivable land. Hence, officials at the central level are to place emphasis on research to substitute present paddy strains for suitable high-yield strains, providing new strains of paddy seeds and establishment of model paddy plots, and officials at division and district levels are to supervise the agricultural tasks.

The Prime Minister called on the relevant officials to pay particular attention to the tasks for national development, to coordinate and strive collectively in all spheres for all-round development of respective regions based on the five rural development tasks, while making field trips down to the rural areas. After the meeting, the Prime Minister and party proceed for documentary photography with members of the school board of trustees, the principal, teachers and students. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maun Thang inspects ...

(from page 16)

The commander and the minister presented cash awards to them. The gymnasium is 120 feet long, 90 feet wide and 39 feet high in which sports athletes of the four townships of Maubin District can undergo training.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party went to Maubin Paper Factory of Myama Jute Enterprise in Pantaput Village in Maubin Township. At the briefing hall, officials reported on facts about the project, requirements and stockpile of raw materials, conditions of test-running of the factory, production of finished products for exports, cultivation and yield of jute in Ayeayawady Division and Maubin District and arrangements for purchase of raw materials. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing also gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than gave instructions on safety measures for the factory and completion of the factory project meeting the set standard. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected the factory. The paper factory is installed with machinery manufactured by China Yunnan Corporation for International Techno Economic Corporation (CYC) and it will produce export quality paper. The factory will produce 17 metric tons of writing paper and off-set paper per day. And a total of 5000 MT can be produced in one year. The factory will be opened soon. Together with the commander and officials, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met officers and other ranks and their families at the local battalion in Maubin Township and discussed matters on township’s education, health and social welfare. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than donated cash for the Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the local battalion and inspected the vegetables plantations.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party looked into thriving paddy plantations on both sides of Maubin-Kyakalit Road by car. Next, they arrived at Ayar Aung Hall in Kyakalit Township, where they met with local authorities, departmental officials, social organizations, townswinders and local farmers. On the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on data relevant to the township. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing then gave a supplementary report. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than delivered an address. In his speech, he said the Government is striving for regional stability and rule of law, to strengthen national economy and to develop human resources. As a result, not only tranquillity but also rule of law reign in the country. Moreover, steps are being taken to establish agricultural and livestock breeding infrastructures that are crucial for strong economy of the country by laying down plans. As for the development of human resources, efforts are under way to enhance the education sector, alongside the 24 development projects nationwide. Later, he urged regional bodies at different levels and departmental staff to make field trips down to gross-root level for supervision of the tasks and to provide necessary assistance, and to serve the public interests righteous. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than provided cash assistance for the delivery room of Maubin Township MCWA. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing donated 50 dozen each of exercise books and pencils for students. Later at the hall, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected farm implements on display and gave necessary instructions.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived at Pyapon in the evening, where they attended a Waso robe-offering ceremony held at Yadana Theikkyi Thattana Beikman-pagoda, the commander and party met the chairperson of Mingalun Village MCWA. Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing also donated cash for the Maternal and Child Welfare Association of the local battalion and inspected the vegetables plantations.

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Commander inspects development of ...

(from page 16)

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Siwe and officials accepted K 53,505,000 for all-round renovation of the pagoda donated by 53 wellwishers including K 50 million by Agga Maha Thika Thudhamma Manjotdathu Chairman of Asia Express Co Ltd U Maung Maung; K 6.1 by Bhaddanta Indaça and disciples, K 300,000 byWinner Brothers Co Ltd K 200,000 each by Commander of Myanma Police Forces, K 100,000 by U Aung Than Oo; and breeder U Phe and other wellwishers. Next, certificates of honour were presented to the donors. The pagoda is 54 feet in height. The prayer hall for the pagoda will be built of reinforced concrete foundation. At the Dhammayon of the pagoda, the commander and party met the chairperson of Mingalun Village MCWA, Branch and members. Daw Khin Thet Huy explained functions of the association. Yangon Division MCWA SC Chairman Dr Hla Myint explained tasks for establishment of Mingalun Model Village.

Priority to be paid to cyclists

YANGON, 5 Aug — Under the close supervision of Myanmar Olympic Committee and organized by Myanmar Cycling Federation, the 160 km long Yangon-Bago-Yangon’s open race will be held at 6 am on 7 August (Saturday).

The men cyclists must start the point in front of Youth Training Centre in Thwawun and go to No 1 traffic island of Wazyaung Road. The race will be open to participants aged 16 and above and it will start from the race at Daweo Garment Factory (Pyinbin) on Pyay Road. The women cyclists are to compete the event on the same route as the men cyclists and they must turn back at Indaing 10th-mile post to finish at the race at Daweo Garment Factory (Pyinbin) on Pyay Road. Drivers of vehicles are to give priority to the competitors for safety traffic during the cycling race. MNA

SURA terrorist insurgents murder five innocent farmers in Namhsan Township

YANGON, 5 August — The SURA terrorist insurgents are committing to various forms of armed terrorism including disturbance of community peace, murdering and torturing of innocent people and looting and robbery.

A group of SURA as brutally murdered five farmers near a farm hut on a mountain range east of Metmonlong village, Namhsan Township, southern Shan State. The SURA terrorist insurgents tied them, ordered them to kneel down and shot them dead with small arms from close range. The five farmers were Maung Thiin Thein, Maung Kyaw Min, Maung Kyaw Min Latt of Konham village, Namhsan Township, and Maung Aung Lin Tun and Maung Hnitting Kale of Taungyi.

The terrorist insurgents spared the life of Ma Naing Kyiing Kham who accompanied the farmers. They tied her and took her to a place south-east of the mountain range. But later released her. The Tatmadaw columns, as soon as they received information about the incident, rushed to the place, and found the bodies of five men murdered by the SURA, and then inspected the same. The Tatmadaw columns are in hot pursuit of the terrorist insurgents, who murdered the innocent people. — MNA
Those who daren’t show their face — 56

Pauk Sa

Sadly, I would like to say that no one is more foolish than you, BBC. The BBC broadcast a news report under the title “A solo demonstration in downtown Yangon”, on 16 July 2004 at 8.15 pm. The radio station said that there occurred a solo demonstration in downtown Yangon at about 11.30 am on Wednesday, the authorities arrested the protester. Afterwards, the radio station aired its interview with the joint secretary of the AAPP, a so-called body to assist and protect protesters.

The summary of the news report was that military intelligence and police arrested Ko Lay (a) Than Zaw Htay for making three demands during his solo demonstration he stage at a place between Sule Pagoda and City Hall at about 11.30 am on 14 July 2004. The BBC continued to say that his whereabouts was unknown; that he could be sentenced to seven years’ imprisonment; and that he was an ordinary civilian, with no connection to any group.

From the journalism point of view, I can say that the news was randomly broadcast by the BBC without knowing its source. Because, the BBC was asking the time and place of the incident only at the interview. Shame on you BBC. How will you answer, if I ask “Is that your method of broadcasting a news report?”

Since I joined the profession, I have been adhering to a journalist ethics — not to issue an incomplete news report — as taught by the elder journalists. I have no idea what kind of evil is instigating some foreign media, including the BBC. They are receiving and distributing all the news that will discredit Myanmar and her Government. Why are you all so crazy about democracy? They should not make unjust slanders against Myanmar and her Government nor try to make political gains with evil intention, if they really have the sincere goodwill to see the flourishing of democracy and human rights in Myanmar.

In the interview, the AAPP interpreted the random shouts made by Than Zaw Htay (a) Ko Lay (a) Khwe Lay, a person suffering from mental disorder, as three demands. I pity the AAPP for it is also working as an interpreter for insane persons, especially when he was drunk. Did both the BBC and the AAPP make a plot to slander Myanmar and her Government, without properly analyzing the source of the information? The truth is that Than Zaw Htay (a) Ko Lay (a) Khwe Lay became uncontrollable out of drinking, and was shouting on the road. Seeing him, authorities saved him from any accident that might befal him and temporarily kept him in a safe place. There is no reason for him to face any punishment, as said by Bo Kyi, the joint secretary of the AAPP. He was sent to mental hospital for treatment.

The BBC and the AAPP made a stupid lie. So, I would like to tell them that lies will not become news. You cannot make a crocodile out of a lizard, nor a frog roars like a lion. Besides, the people of Myanmar do not believe their lies. Both of them should behave themselves.

The VOA cannot save its face till now, as it had aired a false news report under the influence of the AAPP on 4 July. In the report, the VOA wrongly stated a problem of a drug addict, who was on drugs, as a political problem. And again, the AAPP joint secretary stated the shouts of a drunken person as political demands that could cause him to stay in a prison for seven years. The worst is that the BBC aired the news report together with an interview.

Till the future generations, people of our nation will record the plots of the AAPP to make political gains, and the BBC’s methods and techniques of airing lies and slanders.

Now, I will conclude my article. If the AAPP and the BBC shamelessly continue to make lies and slanders to tarnish the image of Myanmar and the Myanmar Government, I would like to announce that they both will be like the persons who daren’t show their face in public.

(Translation: TMT) (Myanmar Alin+Kyemon: 5-7-2004)

Quake jolts Turkey’s coastal resort

ANKARA, 5 Aug.— An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter Scale struck Turkey’s coastal resort of Bodrum on Wednesday, but no deaths or major damage were reported.

CNN Turk television said as many as 15 people sustained light injuries, mainly from trying to escape from windows or balcony onto the street.

It showed holiday-makers, some wrapped in blankets, sitting on pavements after the quake.

The earthquake at 6.01 a.m. (0301 GMT) was the fifth and largest in a series of tremors in the area in the past few days.

Bodrum, located by the southern Aegean Sea, is a major summer holiday destination for foreign and Turkish tourists.

The Anatolian state news agency said the quake was felt in other nearby resorts including Marmaris, Fethiye and Didim.

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ASEAN Food Festival

(10 am to 2 pm) 7th August 2004
Kandawgyi Palace Hotel (Lake View)

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.

All this needs to be known

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

Efficient use of fuel

- Saving one gallon of fuel per car per month will save the nation one US dollar
- Thus, a total of 455,822 cars in Myanmar can save US$ 5.5 million in a year
- The amount, US $ 5.5 million, can build a major bridge across Ayeyawaddy River

2004-2005 Academic Year

School Health Week (9th to 15th August 2004)

At All Basic Education Schools

Ministry of Education

Russia close to WTO deals with China, Japan

MOSCOW, 5 Aug.— Russia is close to agreeing terms for its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) with several trading partners including China and Japan, ITAR-TASS news agency reported on Wednesday.

Russia wants to sign bilateral deals with all its trading partners this year, paving the way for WTO membership in early 2006.

It cleared a major hurdle in May by reaching agreement with its biggest trading partner, the European Union. TASS quoted Andrei Kushirenko, Russia’s deputy head of trade negotiations, as saying Russia expected to strike a deal with China — as well as Norway, Switzerland and Iceland — at talks scheduled for September 15-20.

Russia was also close to deal with Japan and South Korea, which had raised objections over import duty on cars, he told TASS. Those talks could conclude in September or early October.

In talks with the United States, outstanding issues included intellectual property protection, access to Russia’s banking and insurance sectors, meat quotas and import duties on civil aircraft, Kushirenko said.

ITAR-TASS

MNA/Reuters

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* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
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Players of MFF selected youth team and Mohun Bagan XI team of India seen in action on Thursday. The Indian team beat the Myanmar team 1-0. — MNA
**ABD, Philippines sign grant for renewable energy**

Manila, 5 Aug — The Philippine Government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a 1.5-million-US-dollar grant to bring renewable energy and livelihood opportunities to low income villages of Negros Occidental in Central Philippines.

The community-based project will provide power to more than 100 households and 2,480 people in eight off-grid villages who depend

Harley Davidson reports good sale in Indonesia

Jakarta, 5 Aug — Harley-Davidson, the US motorcycle-maker Harley Davidson managed to sell 122 motorcycles in Indonesia during the first half of 2004, more than half of the full year target of 240 units.

Of the sale volume, Touring model accounted for 60 per cent, Softail 20 per cent and Sporter, Dyna Glide and V-Road for the rest.

Bisnis Indonesia newspaper reported Wednesday.

Last year’s sale was recorded at 220 units.

Harley motorcycles are sold here by the authorized dealer PT Mabua Harley-Davidson (MHD) at a price between around 17,777 US dollars and 38,888 US dollars. — MNA/Xinhua

Microsoft launches Web log service in Japan

Tokyo, 5 Aug — Microsoft Corp. said on Wednesday it was launching its first-ever web log service in Japan next week and aimed to have one million users in the first year, intensifying competition with Google Inc.

Web logs, or blogs, have been around for several years, serving as online journals for web-savvy disseminators of information, ranging from personal ramblings and product reviews to social commentary.

But blogging drew renewed attention after Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates said in May that Web logs and the way they were distributed could be used as business communication tools, signalling Microsoft’s growing awareness of blogging as both a potential threat and a new business opportunity.

Microsoft plans to start a trial service on August 10 in cooperation with unlisted Japanese contents provider T.O.S. Co. Ltd., followed by an official launch later this year.

It has yet to be decided when Microsoft will launch a blog service in the United States, Europe and elsewhere.

— MNA/Reuters

President says HIV/AIDS vaccine should be a priority for India

New Delhi, 5 Aug — Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam on Tuesday exhorted the country’s medical community to focus research efforts in the area of producing vaccine for the killer HIV/AIDS in view of the danger it poses to the world.

“India has an advanced programme in this area and I learnt that tests are possible in one-two years,” he said after presenting the B.C Roy National Awards at the Rashtrapati Bhawan (President’s House).

Producing vaccine for this disease should be a priority for the scientists, Kalam, himself an accomplished physicist, said.

Noting that HIV-tuber-culosis combination had emerged as the new killer, Kalam said prevention was possible only through a vaccinc.

Kalam said scientists should work earnestly in the area of stem cell research which had great potential in treating diseases like heart dysfunction and blindness.

Scientists at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences were already engaged in exploring use of stem cells for treating conditions in which heart muscle loses its activivity, he said, adding stem cells were also being used for treaing blindness in the L V Prasad Eye Institute.

In view of Indians’ susceptibility to heart diseases, efforts should be made to know the reasons and solutions to this situation, he said. Another area that needs attention of the country’s scientists was cure for crippling diseases like Parkinson’s, Kalam said.

Forty-five eminent Indian personalities from the area of medical sciences were presented awards by the President — MNA/PTI

Study finds flu in pregnancy linked to schizophrenia

Chicago, 4 Aug — A bout of the flu during the first half of pregnancy may damage the foetal brain and raises the risk of children developing schizophrenia later in life, researchers said on Monday.

In a small 64-family sample, researchers found the risk of developing the major mental disorder in adult offspring rose seven-fold if the expectant mother had the flu during the first trimester.

If the virus struck between the midpoint of the pregnancy’s first trimester and the midpoint of the second, the risk rose three-fold. There was no increased risk if the flu occurred in the second half of the pregnancy.

“These findings repre-sent the strongest evidence thus far that prenatal expo-sure to influenza plays a role in schizophrenia,” said the study’s lead author, Eira Susser of the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

In previous studies estab-lishing a connection be-tween flu in pregnant moth-ers and schizophrenia in their children, the link was seen in the second and third trimes-ters, the study said. — MNA/Reuters

**Microsoft launches Web log service in Japan**

*Image courtesy of Microsoft Corporation.*

**President says HIV/AIDS vaccine should be a priority for India**

*Image courtesy of Microsoft Corporation.*

**Study finds flu in pregnancy linked to schizophrenia**

*Image courtesy of Microsoft Corporation.*

**8th GMS Transport Forum opens in Cambodia**

Police and Administration Sub-Region (GMS) Transport Com-mission and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)’s proposed re-gional cooperation strate-gic programme, North-South Economic Corridor, East-West Economic Corri-dor, study on Southern Econo-mic Corridor, and update-ing the GMS development matrix. In addition, the six countries will also report on their progress on the imple-mentation of the GMS pro-gress and recent progress on the negotiation and implementa-tion of annexes and protocols of the GMS cross-border transport agreement.

A key agenda of the meet-ing is Asian Development Bank (ADB)’s proposed re-gional technical assistance for the conduct of an up-dated GMS Transport Sector Strategy Study.

Since 1992, when the GMS programme started, the Mekong Subregion has wit-nessed dramatic economic transformation, said Uros Malik, ADB’s director of In-frastructure Division of Mekong Department.

She said that average GDP, in real per capita terms, has increased by almost 3 per cent annually during this period. Moreover, GMS economies have become more open both among them-selves and to the outside world, and have been able to attract higher foreign direct investment over the years.

The GMS has also be-come the fastest growing tourist destination in the world. — MNA/Xinhua

**Between the midpoint of the pregnancy.**

**About a third of the beneficia ries live below the re gional poverty threshold of 27% per day.**

**The community-based project will provide power to more than 100 households and 2,480 people in eight off-grid villages who depend**

**Ginne Saunders look at the skeleton of the A-bomb dome, destroyed by the world’s first atomic bomb blast against a civilian population in Hiroshima, Japan, on 5 August, 2004. Hiroshima observes the 59th anniversary of the bombing of the city on 6 August.**

*Image courtesy of Microsoft Corporation.*

**“We are offering a serv ice that can be used from both personal computers and mobile terminals in a seam less manner. That differenti ates our service from o thers,” MSN Japan general manager Yosie Tsukamoto told reporters.**

**Microsoft, said its new service, which enables blog writers to update their en tries and visitors to have ac cess to blog sites from mo bile phones, not just PCs, was well suited for Japan, where nearly 90 per cent of cellphones have Internet ca pability.**

**Google, the number one web search company, has already upgraded its Blogger.com service, which it bought in 2003, by adding features that allow users to publish content from any e-mail-enabled device, such as cellphones and handheld de vices.**

**Nearly nine out of 10 households in Japan have wired or wireless Internet access, making it one of the most web-enabled nations in the world, according to the Telecommunications Ministry.**

— MNA/Reuters

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**8th GMS Transport Forum opens in Cambodia**
**New US spy plane based on Brazilian model**

**WASHINGTON, 5 Aug—**The Pentagon will for the first time have a spy plane based on a model built by a developing economy.

The US Army recently awarded Lockheed Martin Corp. a contract that could be worth as much as six bil-

lion US dollars eventually to develop spy planes—based on the Brazilian Embraer, whose jets are widely used by business executives in the US. The spy plane, Lockheed will build, can detect enemy signals and track troop move-

ments.

The web sites recom-

mended 118 cancer curing.

59 treatments to prevent the illness and 88 for palliative care. Some sites provided information which discour-

aged patients from using con-

ventional treatments for can-

cer. "A significant proportion of the web sites are a risk to cancer patients," he said. "There is no good evidence that any complementary treatment can prevent cancer."— MNA/Reuters

**Locusts ravage northern China grasslands**

Brunei, 4 Aug—Swarms of locusts are ravaging grasslands in northern China, with underdiagnosis efforts are fall-

ing far short due to a severe lack of money, the China Daily said on Tuesday.

Since the end of July, loc-

usts have swept across 10 million hectares (24.7 million acres) of grasslands in Inner Mongolia, about 10 per cent of the region's plains, the newspaper said.

The voracious insects were advancing 20,000 hectares (50,000 acres) a day and were expected to cause direct losses of $800 million (110 million US dollars), the news-

paper said.

The region is a major pro-

ducer of meat and mutton. A lack of funds had hin-

dered efforts to fight the swarms, it quoted Zhang Zhunian, an official in charge of grassland preservation, as saying. "We only have money to treat 2% per cent of the fields and only 1% has been damaged. We just don’t have the money now," said Zhang.

MNA/Xinhua

**Japan funds polio eradication in Ethiopia**


"This generous donation by the Japanese Government will support our efforts to rid Ethiopia of the scourge of polio and protect children from its devastating effects of paralysis," said UNICEF Representative Bjorn Lofthus. "We are happy to be part of the Lockheed team and to be providing our products now for the US Govern-

ment," said Dong Oliver, Embraer’s spokesman.

The unarmed spy plane, to be named Aerial Common Sensor, will fly 37,000 feet over the battlefield at 400 miles per hour searching for enemy rado and radar signals. The new aircraft will replace two Army planes, Guardial Common Sensor and Airborne Re-

connaissance Low, and the Navy’s EP-3 E.

The initial contract to design and develop the plane is worth about 8/9 million US dollars but the programme is expected to generate bil-

lions more once production begins. The Army is expected to order 38 planes and the Navy 19. Army spokesman Timothy Rider said. It is un-

clear when the first plane will be commissioned.

The programme signifies a "whole generation leap forward," said Stanton D. Shouse, Lockheed's executive vice-prident for integrated systems and solutions.

**Kenyan President appeals for food aid**

**Nairobi, 3 Aug—**Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki on Monday appealed for food aid to combat a looming famine caused by severe drought in the East African country.

Kibaki said that due to failure of the long rains in most parts of the country, it has not been possible to real-

ize the expected crop yields and hence the food shortage, according to a Press release by the Presidential Press Serv-

ice. "We are appealing to all Kenyans of goodwill as well as our friends to assist those affected by these natural ca-

lamities in anyway possible. We shall appreciate any as-

sistance given despite the quantity involved," Kibaki said when receiving donations from local firms towards the famine relief efforts. The President encour-

aged Kenyans to continue working hard in all their en-

deavours, saying that the country could only prosper through commitment to pro-

duction. "We want as a country to be people committed to hard work to provide for both our families and the country, for it is only through such com-

mitment that we shall achieve the desired goals," he said.

Reports said that cur-

rently out of the 32 million Kenyan people, about 3 mil-

lion are facing the food short-

age because of the severe drought in the country.

MNA/Xinhua

**Longyearbyen, one of the world’s most northerly tourist destinations, is a coal-dust covered village situated among valleys and icy landscapes between the Arctic Ocean and the Barents Sea, and has only 1,700 inhabitants. While the polar bears are a major draw to the Norwegian archipelago — along with husky-drawn sleigh rides under the midnight sun and expeditions to the North Pole — nature lover’s are advised not to go unarmed outside the capital, Longyearbyen. — [image]"
Owen gives Liverpool winning edge over Roma

New York, 4 Aug — A late Michael Owen goal gave Liverpool a 2-1 victory over AS Roma in the final game of the Champions World Series at the Giants Stadium in New York on Tuesday.

The England striker grabbed the winning goal five minutes from time to seal victory for the Premier League side after Djibril Cisse had earlier netted his third goal for the club on the half hour to cancel out Marco Delvecchio’s opener.

New Liverpool signing Josemi came on for his debut at halftime and slotted in at right back against last season’s Italian Serie A runners up.

The Champions World Series featured 11 friendly matches at eight venues across the United States and Canada, involving club sides from England, Italy, Scotland, Portugal, Germany and Turkey.

MNA/Reuters

Ireland’s Shelbourne claim Champions League scalp

LONDON, 5 Aug — Irish side Shelbourne upset Croatia’s Hajduk Split on Wednesday to move into the third and final qualifying round of the Champions League.

Trailing 3-2 from the first leg in Split, Shelbourne secured a 2-0 win in the return leg of their second qualifying round tie with goals by Dave Rogers after 78 minutes and Alan Moore in the 90th minute, going through 4-3 overall.

The Dublin team, trying to reach the group stages of European club soccer’s elite competition for the first time, face Spain’s Deportivo Coruna in the third qualifying round.

Manchester United, one of several big names waiting to discover their third qualifying round opponents, will tackle Romania’s Dinamo Bucharest. Ten-man Dinamo beat Slovakia’s Zilina 1-0 in Romania on Wednesday to seal a 2-0 aggregate win.

Free-scoring Polish side Wisla Krakow will face nine-times European champions Real Madrid after completing an 11-2 success over Montenegro’s Zeta at Georgia’s Tbilisi with a 3-0 home victory on Wednesday.

Sweden’s Djurgardens booked a tie against juventus, winners in 1996 and 1998, with a 2-0 win at Kaunas in Lithuania. The first leg was goalless.

Last season’s losing finalists, AS Monaco, will meet Slovenia’s Nova Gorica who stormed to a 5-0 win at FC Copenhagen to seal a 6-2 aggregate victory.

Russia’s CSKA Moscow secured a tie against Scottish club Rangers with a 2-0 victory over Azerbaijan’s Neftchi Baku after a goal-less first leg.

The third qualifying round first leg ties will be played on August 10 and 11 with the returns two weeks later.

Camacho calls for new Real signings

MAJORCA, 4 Aug — Real Madrid will have to bring in new players before the start of the season to balance the side, coach Antonio Camacho warned on Tuesday.

“This team doesn’t need touching in terms of attack but the defence is another matter,” Camacho said in an interview with the club’s web site. “We’re short of a player or two and we have to balance the squad.”

He added. “We know that this team will attack with five players. We have to make sure we defend with the same number.”

Camacho’s comments came as Marca newspaper claimed Real had increased their offer for Arsenal’s defensive midfielder Patrick Vieira to 30 million euros.

MNA/Reuters

Zidane delays decision on France future

PARIS, 5 Aug — Zinedine Zidane says he will decide whether to carry on playing for France before their opening World Cup qualifier against Israel in Paris on September 4.

The Real Madrid playmaker met new France coach Raymond Domenech over lunch in the Spanish capital on Wednesday and said he still needed “one week or two” to make up his mind.

“I talked with Domenech today and I gave him my point of view. I told what I had to say. He explained me what his plans were,” Zidane said in an interview on his website.

“We are going to have another meeting soon to sort out what my future will be exactly. But I need some time to think about it. I have not made up my mind yet. It may take one week or two.”

The 32-year-old had hinted that he might end his international career after France suffered a shock elimination by Greece in the quarterfinals of Euro 2004.

Zidane, whose Real Madrid contract runs until 2007, added: “I will have to let him know what my decision is before the match against Israel in Paris.”

—MNA/Reuters

Ballooning Olympic costs derail Greek deficit

ATHENS, 5 Aug — Cost overruns in Olympic projects have exceeded even revised estimates and are pushing the country’s already high budget deficit way over European Union limits, a deputy finance minister said on Wednesday.

“The budget for various Olympics projects was 1.4 billion euros (for 2004), the first tally we did set the sum at 2.4 billion, and now we are way beyond that at three billion euros for 2004,” Deputy Finance Minister Petros Doukas told Flash Radio.

“The way things are going, the deficit budget is heading towards 4 per cent, maybe...”

—MNA/Reuters

Iran coach Ivanovic slams referee after Asian Cup exit

BEIJING, 5 Aug — Iran coach Branko Ivanovic slammed a withering attack on the referee after his side were beaten by hosts China in the Asian Cup semifinals.

“I usually, I don’t say anything. It’s the public who have to come and speak to the referees, not to us,” said Ivanovic.

China won 4-3 on penalties on Tuesday to set up a showdown with Japan after extra time had failed to unseat a 1-1 stalemate in a controversial match in Beijing.

Iran defender Sattar Zare was sent off in the 48th minute for shoving Chinese goalscorer Shao Jiayi, who fell theatrically to the turf.

“That was not just a red card — it was worth three or four red cards,” Ivanovic said. “It was ridiculous that he stayed on the pitch. He should be suspended for four games.”

Three-times champions Iran had three players suspended for violent conduct after their explosive 2-2 victory over Azerbaijan.

It was an open secret that Ivanovic had seen that incident.

“I said before the match we have been doing our job...”

The statement also said a decision on Ivanovic’s future might not be made on Thursday.

“The board may determine it appropriate to seek more disciplinary action in an EU finance ministers’ meeting in July.”

—MNA/Reuters

Eriksson not to attend FA board meeting

LONDON, 5 Aug — England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson will not attend the board meeting which will decide whether he keeps his job, the Football Association (FA) confirmed on Wednesday.

The FA’s 12-man board will meet at an undisclosed venue on Wednesday to decide whether Eriksson, whose four-year contract expires in May, should be suspended for four days by the board.

“The board may determine it appropriate to seek more evidence or refer the matter for further consideration.”

The issue is not Eriksson having an affair but whether he misled his employers about it.

—MNA/Reuters

A security blimp flies over the Olympic Stadium complex, which also includes the tennis and aquatic centres, the velodrome and indoor hall, in Athens, on Wednesday, 4 Aug, 2004, as preparations continue for the 2004 Olympic Games which are scheduled to begin on 13 August. —INTERNET

A torch bearer carries the Olympic flame inside the Delfi archaeological site, northwest of Athens, as he participates in the torch relay in Greece on 4 Aug, 2004. The flame is due to be lit at the Athens Olympic Stadium on 13 August. —INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

Thomas Johansson of Sweden, left, congratulates Andre Agassi following their match at the Tennis Masters Cincinnati in Mason, Ohio, on Wednesday, 4 Aug, 2004. Agassi won 6-1, 3-6, 6-1. —INTERNET

MNA/Reuters

With the Commission breathing down its neck for the current year as well, Greece, the smallest country to host the Olympics since Finland in 1952, is in line for some serious belt-tightening.

“Expenses like salaries, pensions, subsidies of pension funds are more or less infeasible. One cannot say they can apply any measures in salaries or pensions,” Doukas told Flash.

“What we can try and do as much as possible is cut the defence spending, bring the private sector in as much as possible into public works projects so they are self-financed, do away with unnecessary spending, and of course speed up privatizations,” he added.

—MNA/Reuters

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—MNA/Reuters
Friday, August 6
View on today:
7:00 am
1. Recitation of Paritas by Missionary Saya Daw U Ottamahta
7:15 am
2. ଫଳପାଳନ (ମୋହନପୂର୍ବକୁ) ବୈକ୍ତନ୍ତ୍ୟ
7:25 am
3. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
4. Morning news
7:40 am
5. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am
6. କୁର୍ମାଣ୍ଡରୀ (ଉରାଣୁରି)
8:05 am
7. ହୁର୍ତଗ୍ରହ
8:15 am
8. The mirror images of the musical oldies
8:25 am
9. ପ୍ରରମ୍ଭରେ (ମୋହନପୂର୍ବକୁ)
8:30 am
10. International news
8:45 am
11. English for Everyday Use
4:00 pm
1. Martial song
4:15 pm
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
4:30 pm
3. Practice in Reading
4:45 pm
4. Musical programme
5:00 pm
5. କୁଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ (ଆଲାଦା)
5:15 pm
6. Song of national races
5:30 pm
7. ଶ୍ରୀଚ୍ଛାନ୍ତୀ (ମୋହନପୂର୍ବକୁ)
5:40 pm
8. କୁଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ (ଖୋର୍ତ୍ତି)
5:50 pm
9. Musical programme
6:00 pm
10. ହୁର୍ତଗ୍ରହ
6:15 pm
11. Discovery
6:30 pm
12. Evening news
7:00 pm
13. Weather report
7:05 pm
14. ନାହିରାଏନ୍ତା (ବେପ୍ରକତି)
7:30 pm
15. Song of yesteryears
7:45 pm
16. ଚର୍ଚା (କ୍ଷୋବା)
8:15 pm
17. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. Myanmar movie:
5:00 pm
17. ଚର୍ଚା (ରୋଙ୍କ୍ତି)
18. ଅବେଲ୍ଯନ୍ତୀ (ଅଧିକାରୀ)
19. ମହାକ୍ଷା (ଭେତମାଣୀ)
20. The next day’s programme

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
Friday, 6 August, 2004

Friday, August 6
Tune in today:
8:00 am
1. Brief news
8:35 am
2. Music: Together again
8:40 am
3. Perspectives
8:45 am
4. Music: My love is real
8:50 am
5. National news/ Slogan
9:00 am
6. Music: love soul
9:05 am
7. International news
9:10 am
8. Music: Nothing but the truth
1:30 pm
9. News/Slogan
1:40 pm
10. Lunch time music: Sometody

WEATHER
Thursday, 5 August 2004

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST. During the past 24 hours, rain or thunderyShowers have been scattered in Kayah, Kayin States, lower Sagaing, Magway and Tanintharyi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Kachin, Rakhine States and isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were: Hkamti (7.60) inches, Machankha (5.04) inches, Maungdaw (44.41) inches, Thandwe (4.09) inches, Putao (3.42) inches and Zaungsu (3.11) inches.

Maximum temperature on 4-8-2004 was 28.8°C (84°F). Minimum temperature on 5-8-2004 was 19.0°C (66°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 5-8-2004 was 96%.

Rainfall on 5-8-2004:
- 0.79 inch at Yangon Airport,
- 0.86 inch at Kaba-Aye and
- 1.18 inches at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1/2 months was 1777 mm (69.17 inches) at Yangon Airport and 1757 mm (69.17 inches) at central Yangon.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-8-2004: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan States and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with like-\nlike isolated heavyfalls in Kayin, Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-8-2004: Isolated rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Buoyant Flood
Issued at 13:00 hrs MST on 5-8-2004
The water levels of Ayeyawady River are above the danger levels about (4/8 ft at Minbu and 3/8 ft) at Magway. The water levels will continue to fall below the danger levels during the next (4) days commencing soon day.

The water level of Thanlawin River at Hpa-an is 1/2 inch above the danger level. The water level will continue to fall below the danger level during the next (3) days commencing soon day.
Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects regional development in Ayeyawady Division
Steps being taken to establish agri, livestock infrastructures

YANGON, 5 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Ayeyawady Division PDC Chairman South West Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing and officials attended the opening of the district gymnasium in Maubin yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Myanmar Olympic Committee Chairman Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and officials, members of division, district and township PDCs and departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people.

First, the commander and the minister formally opened the gymnasium by cutting a ribbon. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than formally unveiled the stone inscription of the gymnasium. They next inspected the gymnasium.

Maubin District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Sein Maung reported on matters related to the gymnasium and handed over the documents related to the gymnasium building to Head of Division Sports and Physical Education Department U Tin Maung Yi.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint delivered a speech and presented sports gear for the townships of Danubyu, Nyaungdon and Maubin to officials. Afterwards, to hail the opening of the gymnasium, sports athletes presented their skill demonstration such as Myanmar martial arts, aerobics, karatedo and wushu.

As for the development of human resources, efforts are being made to enhance the education sector, alongside the 24 development zones project, the border area development project and the five rural development projects nationwide.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects installation of new machines at Paper Mill of Myanma Jute Enterprise in Maubin on 4-8-2004. — MNA

Danubyu, Nyaungdon and Maubin to officials.

(See page 9)

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Commander inspects development of Kyauktan Township


In Pandaw Village, they viewed agricultural tasks and thriving paddy fields. At Ywathitgalay Bridge construction site on Pandaw-Mingalun Road, the commander heard reports on building of Ywathitgalay and Mingalun bridges, maintenance of 29 miles and two furlongs long Bago-Thanatpin-Kayank-Thongwa-Thanlyin Road, preparations for repaving Thongwa-Kadatpana Road and other construction matters. Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that as development of Kyauktan Township in education, health, social and economic sectors is based on better transportation, it is necessary to carry out work for timely completion of building bridges and repaving roads meeting the set standard.

On arrival at Mingalun Village, they paid homage to Maha Atula Okshaung Koedatgyi Pagoda and attended the cash donation ceremony.

(See page 9)

The newly opened Gymnasium of Maubin. — MNA