Sippañ ca, to acquire skills in sciences; this is the way to auspiciousness.

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

Yangon, 10 Aug — At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam His Excellency Mr Phan Van Khai, the Prime Minister of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic His Excellency Mr Boumany Vorachith and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia His Excellency Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Myanmar goodwill delegation led by the Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt visited the three countries and arrived back here by special flight this evening.

General Khin Nyunt and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military officers, Ambassadors of Foreign Missions led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Myanmar HE Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, resident representatives of UN agencies and their wives, Charge d’Affaires of the embassies of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Cambodia and staff of embassies, heads of departments.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and departmental heads also arrived back together with the Prime Minister on the same flight.

Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military officers, Ambassadors of Foreign Missions led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Myanmar HE Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, resident representatives of UN agencies and their wives, Charge d’Affaires of the embassies of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Cambodia and staff of embassies, heads of departments.

Senior General Than Shwe and party welcome back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt on his return from Vietnam, Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Cambodia, at the airport. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt

Yangon, 10 Aug — At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam His Excellency Mr Phan Van Khai, the Prime Minister of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic His Excellency Mr Boumany Vorachith and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia His Excellency Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Myanmar goodwill delegation led by the Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt visited the three countries and arrived back here by special flight this evening.

General Khin Nyunt and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice Senior General Maung Aye, member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military officers, Ambassadors of Foreign Missions led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Myanmar HE Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, resident representatives of UN agencies and their wives, Charge d’Affaires of the embassies of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Cambodia and staff of embassies, heads of departments.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win and departmental heads also arrived back together with the Prime Minister on the same flight.

Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military officers, Ambassadors of Foreign Missions led by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Myanmar HE Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, resident representatives of UN agencies and their wives, Charge d’Affaires of the embassies of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Cambodia and staff of embassies, heads of departments.

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

MWVO Central Organizing Committee meets

YANGON, 10 Aug — The regular meeting (3/2004) of the Central Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans’ Organization was held at the meeting hall of MWVO Headquarters on Pyay Road here this afternoon, attended by Chairman of the committee Lieutenant-Gen Li-Gen Thein Sein.

The meeting was also attended by Vice-Chairman of the committee retired Vice-Admiral Kyi Min, the committee members ministers, senior military officers, the deputy ministers and departmental officials.

Lt-Gen Li-Gen Thein Sein explained the objectives and work schedules of the organization, implementation of the five sectors, cooperation between group leaders for accomplishment of the tasks and ongoing projects. Secretary of the central organizing committee Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe read out resolutions of previous meeting, which were then approved. He also reported on work progresses, and matters to be presented to the (3/2004) meeting. Leaders of respective groups reported on progress of work and their ongoing tasks. The chairman of the committee Lt-Gen Li-Gen Sein gave necessary instructions. The meeting ended with his concluding remarks. — MNA

NCCMC Chairman Maj-Gen Lun Maung visits NC delegates undergoing medical treatment

YANGON, 10 Aug — Chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, together with Vice-Chairman Director of Supply and Transport of the Ministry of Defence this afternoon visited Defence Services General Hospital (1000-bed) in Mingaladon where they asked after delegates to the National Convention undergoing medical treatment and provided them with provisions.

At the hall of the hospital, Commandant of the hospital Brig-Gen Than Sein and officials reported to Maj-Gen Lun Maung on the health condition of five delegates to the National Convention undergoing medical treatment, and treatment given to them.

Maj-Gen Lun Maung and party asked after the health of delegate of the Union Kayin League U Maung Tin Aung Than and provided him with provisions, and left the hospital at 4 pm. — MNA

State’s seven-point policy programme clarified

YANGON, 10 Aug — CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave talks on the national policy and the State’s seven-point policy programme at the opening ceremony of the basic organizing course No 1/2004 of Ahlon Township USDA at Yangon West District USDA this morning. — MNA

MWVO Central Organizing Committee Chairman Li-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the meeting. — MNA

NCCMC Chairman Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung provides food to an NC delegate at Defence Services General Hospital in Mingaladon. — MNA

Strive for development, increased production of agriculture sector

The Government of the Union of Myanmar has been striving day and night for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation through the implementation of political, economic and social objectives. During the period of transition to a genuine and discipline-flourishing democracy, strong national economy and higher standard of living of the people are requirements that have to be fulfilled. This being the case, it hardly need be emphasized that the development of the agriculture sector is central to our endeavours for strengthening the national economy.

Regarding the development of the agriculture sector, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance that, as the economy of the nation mainly depends on agriculture, it is necessary to boost the agricultural production and, for this, respective ministers are required to take a leading role. A coordination meeting on development of oil palm industry and reclamation of farmland was held at the meeting hall of Zeyathiri Beikman on Konnyaitha, in Yangon, on 9 August and it was attended by Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence. In his address on the occasion, General Thura Shwe Mann said that the Government has always fulfilled all the requirements, never losing sight of what should be done in public interests, that it is encouraging national entrepreneurs for the development of the private sector and that the national entrepreneurs, on their part, are required to render full and energetic cooperation to the Government in its efforts for the development of the agriculture sector in the interests of the State and the public as well as in their own.

With the purpose of extending the cultivation of major crops for domestic consumption and increasing internal and external trade in marketable crops, the Government has deregulated its policy on agricultural produce trading. The Government has now lifted restrictions on the trading of almost all commodities, once controlled by the State, so that private entrepreneurs can trade them freely. As a result, there are only a few economic enterprises under the control of the State. Therefore, we would like to call on all the national entrepreneurs to try as hard as they can to boost the production of the agriculture sector in the interests of the State, the public and their own.

U Tun Aung being seen off by UMFCCI President U Win Myint and party at the airport. — UMFCCI

UMFCCI official leaves for Vietnam

YANGON, 10 Aug — Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Central Executive Committee member U Tun Aung left here by air today for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to attend the 10th Meeting of AMEICC Working group on Human Resource Development in Ho Chi Minh City.

He was seen off at Yangon International Airport by UMFCCI President U Win Myint, General Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing and CEC members. — MNA

TV retransmission station launched

YANGON, 10 Aug — Under the programme to extend the area where TV programmes can be received, a TV retransmission station project started in Khampat in Sagaing Division and was completed on 5 August 2004.

Beginning from 7 August, the station is retransmitting clear programmes of the Myanmar Television. — MNA

TV retransmission station project started in Khampat in Sagaing Division and was completed on 5 August 2004.
928 US troops killed since beginning of military operations in Iraq

Baghdad, 9 Aug—As of Monday, 9 August, 928 US service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defence Department. Of those, 691 died as a result of hostile action and 237 died of non-hostile causes.

The British military has reported 62 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 790 US soldiers have died — 582 as a result of hostile action and 208 of non-hostile causes, according to the Defence Department.

The latest deaths reported by US Central Command or the British Ministry of Defence:

- A British soldier was killed Monday in an attack on British vehicles in Basra, Iraq. — Internet

An Iraqi National Guard soldier wears a mask at a checkpoint in eastern Baghdad on 10 Aug, 2004. — Internet

Poland faces pressure to pull Iraq forces

Washington, 9 Aug—Facing pressure to withdraw his troops, Poland’s Prime Minister told President Bush on Monday that “no one wants to stay in Iraq forever.”

Polish-led forces turned over control of two provinces to Marines because of the worsening violence in Najaf.

President Bush said Poles “have been great allies” in Iraq and their troops have performed “brilliantly.”

Bush met in the Oval Office with Prime Minister Marek Belka, who came to Washington to talk with the President and Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld about the(Http://www.iato.org) alignments with militiamen understood to be loyal to radical Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

Shia militias were reported to be patrolling the streets of Basra on Monday and controlling major intersections, witnesses said. Most shops were shut and most employees, including those of the South Oil Company, did not go to work.

The al-Sadr “threat” coincided with a mortar attack by his fighters in Baghdad against the oil ministry and threats against the State Oil Marketing Organization, both situated near the Mehdi Army stronghold of Sadr City.

Iraq’s southern fields have been supplying the Gulf Basra terminal with about 1.9 million barrels a day. Exports from Iraq’s northern oilfields have operated only sporadically since the US-led occupation last year and remain closed after a series of attacks on the main northern export pipeline from the Kirkuk fields.

The unnamed Iraqi oil official said storage at the Gulf Basra terminal was sufficient to keep exports running for about two days. Iraq has been exporting about 1.9 million barrels a day, all from its southern fields. — Internet

IATO asks govt to include tourism in CMP

Agara, 9 Aug—The Indian Association of Tour Operators has urged the government to include tourism industry in the Common Minimum Programme, accord it the status of Infrastructure Sector and implement the Naresh Chandra Committee report on civil aviation at the earliest to provide a much-needed boost to the industry.

The three-day annual convention of IATO here has asked the government at “to include and give priority to the tourism industry in the CMP as an engine of growth,” which through its multiplier effect can generate employment and eradicate poverty.

The CMP is a document arrived at by the constituents of the ruling coalition outfit, the United Progressive Alliance as programme of action to the exclusion of individual party ideologies.

The convention also asked the union to accord tourism industry the status of Infrastructure Sector and extend the same benefits being given to the software and IT sectors.

The annual meet of the apex body, which concluded here yesterday, stressed the need for infrastructure development across the country and rationalization of taxes to bring about uniformity, which would be possible by including tourism in the concurrent list.

The convention, which deliberated for two-and-a-half days, has made clear that the boom India is now witnessing, has suggested the centre to strengthen tourism infrastructure construction with more international airports, at least one in each state capital, greater air capacity” and augmentation of the fleet capacity of Air India and Indian Airlines.

A shot up truck on the road to Baquba as a man points at the bullet holes on the vehicle, 60 km north of Baghdad, on 27 July 2004. — Internet

Iraq halts crude output from the south

Baghara, 9 Aug—Oil production from Iraq’s southern oil fields was stopped on Monday after alleged threats by Shia leader Moqtada al-Sadr’s Mehdi Army to disrupt operations, an Iraqi official has said.

“Pumping from the southern oil fields is being stopped to storage tanks at Basra was stopped to-day after threats made by Sadr,” the official told Reuters. “It will remain stopped until the threat is over.”

The State Oil Marketing Organization, both situated near the Mehdi Army stronghold of Sadr City.

Iraq’s southern fields have been supplying the Gulf Basra terminal with about 1.9 million barrels a day. Exports from Iraq’s northern oilfields have operated only sporadically since the US-led occupation last year and remain closed after a series of attacks on the main northern export pipeline from the Kirkuk fields.

The unnamed Iraqi oil official said storage at the Gulf Basra terminal was sufficient to keep exports running for about two days. Iraq has been exporting about 1.9 million barrels a day, all from its southern fields. — Internet

British soldier killed in Iraq

Baghara, 9 Aug—A British soldier has been killed and several other UK troops injured after clashes with gunmen in southern Iraq.

The Ministry of Defence has declined to give any further details until next of kin had been informed.

The death came in an afternoon marked by confrontations with militia members understood to be loyal to radical Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr.

Shia militias were reported to be patrolling the streets of Basra setting up checkpoints and demanding that shops close.

Exchanges of fire took place at a number of locations in and around Basra, and in one incident two British Army LandRovers were destroyed after being fired upon under attack.

The clashes came as fighting continued between US troops and al-Sadr’s so-called Mehdi Army in the Shia holy city of Najaf.

Al-Sadr has vowed to defend the city “until the last drop of my blood” and in a series of increasingly inflammatory public pronouncements has made clear that his supporters were ready to attack British, as well as American, troops.

UAE real estate to sustain growth by 2010

Abu Dhabi, 9 Aug—The United Arab Emirates booming real estate sector would bring over 50 billion US dollars by 2010, the local daily Gulf News reported Saturday.

The UAE’s Contractors Association estimated that the total project value would exceed 50.27 billion dollars by 2010 as new programmes were announced almost every day.

Experts attributed the fast growth to massive local and foreign investment.

Growing foreign investment in freehold property led to growth in mortgage and home finance firms.

The Ministry of Finance has made clear that the total project value would exceed 50.27 billion dollars by 2010 as new programmes were announced almost every day.

Experts attributed the fast growth to massive local and foreign investment.

Growing foreign investment in freehold property led to growth in mortgage and home finance firms.

MNA/PTI
PM says Poles will not stay in Iraq forever

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — Polish Prime Minister Marek Belka told President George W Bush on Monday that Polish troops will not “stay in Iraq forever” and they discussed circumstances that would allow Poland to reduce its presence.

As Bush and Belka met, however, Pentagon officials said Poland had turned over command of Najaf and Qadisiya provinces to US Marines on Monday due to a deteriorated security situation in the holy city of Najaf.

The multinational force, led by Poland, said in a statement it would continue to be in charge in the provinces of Babil, Karbala and Wasit.

The statement quoted Polish Major-General Andrzej Ekiert as saying he agreed and Wasit.

He vowed to strike inside El Salvador if the tiny nation does not cancel its plans to send a new contingent of soldiers to Iraq this month.

The group, which calls itself the Divine Wrath Brigades, said its “military rebellion and the shedding” would start Tuesday against state buildings.

“We warn all civilian government employees and others against going to the offices and institutions where they work because they could be subjected to shell-

ing,” the group said in a statement. It said humanitarian groups and Health Ministry employees working in hospitals would not be targeted.

Meanwhile, guerrillas in southern Iraq attacked and set fire to an office of the political party of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

The attack Sunday night on the Iraqi National Accord party’s office in Nasiriyah was claimed by a group calling itself the Islamic Jihad Organization.

In a video obtained by Associated Press Television News, four masked gunmen were shown knocking on the doors of the office and forcing the workers out, before pouring what looked to be gasoline on the floors and setting the building on fire.

One of the masked men in the video said Allawi was “subservient to the occupation,” and warned his party members to get out of Nasiriyah.

El Salvador tightens security after Iraq threats

SAN SALVADOR, 9 Aug— El Salvador Monday after a group claiming ties to al Qaeda threatened to attack the Central American country unless it pulls its troops out of Iraq.

The group, which calls itself Moham-
med Atta Brigades - al Qaeda of Jihad, has vowed to strike inside El Salvador if the tiny nation does not cancel its plans to send a new contingent of soldiers to Iraq this month.

The group, calling itself the Divine Wrath Brigades, said its “military rebellion and the shedding” would start Tuesday against state buildings.

“We warn all civilian government employees and others against going to the offices and institutions where they work because they could be subjected to shell-

ing,” the group said in a statement. It said humanitarian groups and Health Ministry employees working in hospitals would not be targeted.

Meanwhile, guerrillas in southern Iraq attacked and set fire to an office of the political party of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

The attack Sunday night on the Iraqi National Accord party’s office in Nasiriyah was claimed by a group calling itself the Islamic Jihad Organization.

In a video obtained by Associated Press Television News, four masked gunmen were shown knocking on the doors of the office and forcing the workers out, before pouring what looked to be gasoline on the floors and setting the building on fire.

One of the masked men in the video said Allawi was “subservient to the occupation,” and warned his party members to get out of Nasiriyah.

Zimbabwe sets up fund to develop innovative technologies

HARARE, 9 Aug— The Science and Technology De-
velopment Ministry of Zim-

babwe has established the Innovation and Commercialization Fund to finance the development of inventions and innovations, the Sunday Mail newspaper reported.

The fund will be fully operational in January next year, Vincent Hungwe, per-
manent secretary for the Minis-
try of Science and Tech-

nology Development, was quoted as saying that the fund would help the last stage of any research with potential to yield patentable products or technologies.

The fund would also be used for the transfer of tech-

nologies or innovations from outside the country and the commercialization of inven-

tions or innovations.

Uganda secures $3m to boost fishing industry

KAMPALA, 9 Aug— The Ugandan Government has secured 3 million US dollars from the African Develop-
ment Bank to boost fishing industry in the country. Ra-

dio Uganda reported on Sat-

day night.

Ugandan Commissioner for Fisheries Dick Niyekwe, quoted as saying that the money should be lent to fish-

ermen whose nets were de-

stroyed during “Operation Clean Water” which bans il-

legal fishing of under-ma-

rined fish.

Nigeria, Russia resume talks on sale of aluminium factory

LAGOS, 9 Aug— Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo said at the weekend that the government had resumed discussions with a Russian firm for the sale of the state-

run Aluminium Smelting Company (ALSCON) in Akwa Ibom State, south Nigeria.

At an interactive session with the people of Akwa Ibom State on the need to fully utilize the benefits of the country, Obasanjo said the delay in privatizing the company is a result of the inability of the first bidders to pay the man-

datory 10 per cent of the bid.

Obasanjo gave the assur-

ance that the ongoing nego-

tiation and subsequent priva-

tization of the company would be concluded by the end of this month.

He said the ALSCON project had been a source of embarrassment to the coun-

try. Massive corruption in the process has attracted at-

Iran says working around the clock to free diplomat abducted in Iraq

TEHERAN, 9 Aug— The Iranian government said it was working around the clock to prepare the release of one of its diplomats kidnapped in Iraq , but said it believed he was “alive and well”.

“We have to find out more about the group that is holding him. We are just trying to go out of ways to negotiate and to get him out,” Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said.

“We do what know that he is alive and well,” said Kharrazi, speaking at a press conference having visited Pakistani coun-

terpart Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri. “We are working on this matter hour by hour.”

A statement Sunday by a group calling itself the Islamic Army in Iraq said it had “detained” Fereydun Jahani “for stirring secitarian strife and for activities outside his diplomatic duties”.

Jahani disappeared on Wednesday as he was travelling to the central Iraqi city of Karbala to open an Iranian consulate, em-

bassy charge d’aﬁaires Hassan Kazemi Ghomi told AFP.

In Baghdad, Ghomi told AFP Monday that the embassy was still in the dark.

“We have had no demand and we have no news” of Jahani, he said.

Group threatens attacks on Iraqi ofﬁces

BAQU’BA, 9 Aug— A militant group on Monday threatened to launch a campaign of attacks against ministers and government ofﬁces and warned Iraqi state employees to stay away from work.

The group, calling itself the Divine Wrath Brigades, said its “military rebellion and the shedding” would start Tuesday against state buildings.

“We warn all civilian government em-

ployees and others against going to the ofﬁces and institutions where they work because they could be subjected to shell-

ing,” the group said in a statement. It said humanitarian groups and Health Ministry employees working in hospitals would not be targeted.

Meanwhile, guerrillas in southern Iraq attacked and set fire to an ofﬁce of the political party of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

The attack Sunday night on the Iraqi National Accord party’s ofﬁce in Nasiriyah was claimed by a group calling itself the Islamic Jihad Organization.

In a video obtained by Associated Press Television News, four masked gunmen were shown knocking on the doors of the ofﬁce and forcing the workers out, before pouring what looked to be gasoline on the ﬂoors and setting the building on ﬁre.

One of the masked men in the video said Allawi was “subservient to the occupation,” and warned his party members to get out of Nasiriyah.
US cannot guarantee safety of Indian workers in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 9 Aug — The US has said it cannot guarantee the safety of Indian and other South Asian workers against terrorists attack in Iraq.

“We can’t promise protection to every worker that goes there. We all know that. That is the nature of the circumstances. It is a dangerous place. There are dangers and there are attacks on a variety of different targets in addition to coalition forces,” US State Department Commissioner Richard Boucher, said here recently.

His reply comes following a question about the workers from countries like India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and others who are in Iraq though their countries are not part of the US-led coalition.

“There is a lot we can do generally to create a more secure environment working with the Iraqi Government. But, no, we can’t promise protection for every worker,” he said.

“Increasingly, (there are) attacks on Iraqis who are trying to reconstruct their country, and we cannot offer protection for every single Iraqi,” he said.

At the same time, Boucher said, “we can do a lot to try to create a more secure environment, working with Iraqis, training them up, helping them provide security for their country the way they wish to, as well as the activities that we have against the groups that might be trying out attacks or the sources of the weapons or the infiltration or things like that.” — MNA/PTI

British military probe open into 48 Iraqi deaths

LONDON, 9 Aug — British military police have opened investigations into 48 cases of Iraqis who died in incidents involving British troops in Iraq since last May, the Independent on Sunday newspaper reported.

The latest figures, a jump of nearly a third in the previously disclosed official statistics, were set to climb even higher, the paper said.

The paper said the British Ministry of Defence (MoD) still has no clear figure of how many Iraqis who died in incidents involving British troops since the US-led occupation began on May 1 last year.

The MoD admitted on Friday that Armed Forces police have investigated, or are still looking into a total of 94 cases of alleged deaths in custody, illegal shootings, injuries and suspected ill-treatment involving British troops in Iraq.

In face of mounting allegations from lawyers and human rights groups that abuses of Iraqis by British troops were being ignored, the Armed Forces Minister, Adam Ingram, ordered all military units that have served in Iraq to check their records and produce a full list of every incident where an Iraqi was killed.

According to the paper, the MoD’s search for unreported Iraqi deaths, expected to take several months, was the latest in a series of concessions being made by the British Government over the Armed Forces’ rules and policies in Iraq.

Indian Premier briefs President about BIMSTEC Summit

NEW DELHI, 9 Aug — Indian Prime Minister Mmamohan Singh called on President APJ Abdul Kalam and briefed him on the progress made at the recent BIMSTEC Summit in Thailand.

Singh had led the Indian delegation to the two-day summit of the seven-nation grouping in Bangkok and made a number of proposals for further consolidating cooperation among member countries which were readily accepted by them.

The proposals include hosting a BIMSTEC ministerial meeting on energy cooperation in India next year, a workshop on Tourism Ministers in 2005 as also setting up a BIMSTEC Centre on weather and climate research and information in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister had also advocated sharing of remote sensing data on agriculture and offered 150 ITEC scholarships for the member countries next year in addition to the existing 150 scholarships besides 30 scholarships in traditional systems of medicine.

At the request of all the participants, India agreed to host the next BIMSTEC Summit in 2006.

The Singh-Kalam meeting, which lasted for an hour, was part of regular interactions between the two leaders.

The Prime Minister also apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok.

Singh’s recent visit to flood-affected areas also figured in the discussions, Khan said.

The Prime Minister apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok, and apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok, and

UN inspectors complete Iraq nuclear inventory

VIENNA, 9 Aug — Inspectors from the UN nuclear watchdog have completed an inventory of Iraq’s declared nuclear material and the agency’s chief said UN arms experts should return to the country to finish their job.

The routine survey of Iraq’s stocks of natural and low-enriched uranium accounted for all the material remaining in the country, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said.

“Now we hope to be in a position to complete all full inspections ordered by the UN Security Council, aiming at ruling out the possibility that Iraq under Saddam had a clandestine nuclear arms programme,” IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei said last month.

Iran dismisses Iraqi official’s request of returning planes

TEHRAN, 9 Aug — Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Asefi on Sunday dismissed a top Iraqi official’s request that Teheran immediately return the Iraqi planes sent to Iran for shelter from the 1991 Gulf War.

“We have more important issues to discuss, and we will negotiate these with their counterparts, these inspectors were not searching for signs of a nuclear weapons programme in Iraq.

They were performing a routine stock-taking task that even Iraq’s former president Saddam Hussein allowed the UN agency to carry out after barring UN weapons inspectors from the country in the wake of US and British bombing raids in 1998.

The material — natural or low-enriched uranium — is not sensitive from a proliferation perspective and is consolidated at a storage facility near the Menawat complex, south of Baghdad,” the IAEA said in a statement.

Unlike their prewar counterparts, these inspectors were not searching for signs of a nuclear weapons programme in Iraq.

They were performing a routine stock-taking task that even Iraq’s former president Saddam Hussein allowed the UN agency to carry out after barring UN weapons inspectors from the country in the wake of US and British bombing raids in 1998.

The material — natural or low-enriched uranium — is not sensitive from a proliferation perspective and is consolidated at a storage facility near the Menawat complex, south of Baghdad,” the IAEA said in a statement.

Iranian Premi er briefs President about BIMSTEC Summit

NEW DELHI, 9 Aug — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh called on President APJ Abdul Kalam and briefed him on the progress made at the recent BIMSTEC Summit in Thailand.

Singh had led the Indian delegation to the two-day summit of the seven-nation grouping in Bangkok and made a number of proposals for further consolidating cooperation among member countries which were readily accepted by them.

The proposals include hosting a BIMSTEC ministerial meeting on energy cooperation in India next year, a workshop on Tourism Ministers in 2005 as also setting up a BIMSTEC Centre on weather and climate research and information in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister had also advocated sharing of remote sensing data on agriculture and offered 150 ITEC scholarships for the member countries next year in addition to the existing 150 scholarships besides 30 scholarships in traditional systems of medicine.

At the request of all the participants, India agreed to host the next BIMSTEC Summit in 2006.

The Singh-Kalam meeting, which lasted for an hour, was part of regular interactions between the two leaders.

The Prime Minister also apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok.

Singh’s recent visit to flood-affected areas also figured in the discussions, Khan said.

The Prime Minister apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok, and apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok, and

UN inspectors complete Iraq nuclear inventory

VIENNA, 9 Aug — Inspectors from the UN nuclear watchdog have completed an inventory of Iraq’s declared nuclear material and the agency’s chief said UN arms experts should return to the country to finish their job.

The routine survey of Iraq’s stocks of natural and low-enriched uranium accounted for all the material remaining in the country, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said.

“Now we hope to be in a position to complete all full inspections ordered by the UN Security Council, aiming at ruling out the possibility that Iraq under Saddam had a clandestine nuclear arms programme,” IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei said last month.

Iran should “now” return the planes in question.

“The 130 planes should be given back to Iraq now,” Shaalan said in an interview with the Kuwaiti daily.

The figure is less than what Iraqi officials had previously asked Iran to return, namely 113 military and 33 civilian planes entrusted to Teheran by the former regime of Saddam Hussein on the eve of the 1991 Gulf War.

Saddam Hussein allowed the UN agency to carry out after barring UN weapons inspectors from the country in the wake of US and British bombing raids in 1998.

The material — natural or low-enriched uranium — is not sensitive from a proliferation perspective and is consolidated at a storage facility near the Menawat complex, south of Baghdad,” the IAEA said in a statement.

Unlike their prewar counterparts, these inspectors were not searching for signs of a nuclear weapons programme in Iraq.

They were performing a routine stock-taking task that even Iraq’s former president Saddam Hussein allowed the UN agency to carry out after barring UN weapons inspectors from the country in the wake of US and British bombing raids in 1998.

The material — natural or low-enriched uranium — is not sensitive from a proliferation perspective and is consolidated at a storage facility near the Menawat complex, south of Baghdad,” the IAEA said in a statement.

Iranian Premi er briefs President about BIMSTEC Summit

NEW DELHI, 9 Aug — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh called on President APJ Abdul Kalam and briefed him on the progress made at the recent BIMSTEC Summit in Thailand.

Singh had led the Indian delegation to the two-day summit of the seven-nation grouping in Bangkok and made a number of proposals for further consolidating cooperation among member countries which were readily accepted by them.

The proposals include hosting a BIMSTEC ministerial meeting on energy cooperation in India next year, a workshop on Tourism Ministers in 2005 as also setting up a BIMSTEC Centre on weather and climate research and information in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister had also advocated sharing of remote sensing data on agriculture and offered 150 ITEC scholarships for the member countries next year in addition to the existing 150 scholarships besides 30 scholarships in traditional systems of medicine.

At the request of all the participants, India agreed to host the next BIMSTEC Summit in 2006.

The Singh-Kalam meeting, which lasted for an hour, was part of regular interactions between the two leaders.

The Prime Minister also apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok.

Singh’s recent visit to flood-affected areas also figured in the discussions, Khan said.

The Prime Minister apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok, and apprised the President about his discussions with Thai and other leaders in Bangkok, and

UN inspectors complete Iraq nuclear inventory

VIENNA, 9 Aug — Inspectors from the UN nuclear watchdog have completed an inventory of Iraq’s declared nuclear material and the agency’s chief said UN arms experts should return to the country to finish their job.

The routine survey of Iraq’s stocks of natural and low-enriched uranium accounted for all the material remaining in the country, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said.

“Now we hope to be in a position to complete all full inspections ordered by the UN Security Council, aiming at ruling out the possibility that Iraq under Saddam had a clandestine nuclear arms programme,” IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei said last month.

ElBaradei said last month that Iraq’s interim government had requested the return of IAEA inspectors to verify the status of Iraq’s nuclear material.

ElBaradei repeated that he hoped it would be a step towards the resumption of full inspections ordered by the UN Security Council, aiming at ruling out the possibility that Iraq under Saddam had a clandestine nuclear arms programme.

This week’s mission was a good first step,” ElBaradei said. “Now we hope to be in a position to complete the mandate entrusted to us by the Security Council, to enable the Council over time to remove all sanctions and restrictions imposed on Iraq.”

In four months of inspections before the war started in March 2003, the IAEA never found any signs that Saddam had revived his nuclear weapons programme — despite US and British assertions that he was pursuing nuclear arms.

But in its prewar reports to the Security Council, the IAEA never ruled out the possibility that US and British charges were true. — MNA/Reuters
PM thanks all ASEAN nations...

Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Next, the Prime Ministers inspected the guard of honour.

Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai presented the welcoming party comprising Deputy Prime Minister Mr Vu Khoan, ministers, deputy ministers and high-ranking officials to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt greeted the Ambassadors of ASEAN countries to Vietnam. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt presented Myanmar goodwill delegation members Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Soe Win, Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, the ministers, the deputy minister for foreign affairs and the heads of department to Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai.

Then the ceremony concluded.

Afterwards, together with the Vietnamese Prime Minister and party, the Myanmar Prime Minister and his entourage proceeded to the Government Office in Hanoi. First, the two Prime Ministers had a documentary photo taken in front of the meeting hall where the two countries would meet.

Next, the meeting between the two countries commenced at the meeting hall of the Government Office at 11.10 am.

Present together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, SPDC member Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsun, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Tin Latt, Director-General of the Prime Minister’s Office U Soe Tint and departmental heads. Present together with Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai were Deputy Prime Minister Mr Vu Khoan, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Nguyen Dy Nien, Minister of Public Security Mr Le Hong Anh, Minister of Trade Mr Le Hong Anh, the Head of Government Office, deputy ministers and Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Pham Quang Khanh.

(See page 7)

PM General Khin Nyunt

Traditionally, the two countries already have established bilateral friendly ties. Both countries have valued and observed the policy of respecting each other’s sovereignty, non-interference and the policy of the right to decide one’s own future. Vietnam understands and supports Myanmar’s endeavours for success of the policy programmes for restoring national consolidation and transition to democracy.

Vietnamese PM Mr Phan Van Khai

The goodwill visit is meant to maintain and promote the long-lasting bilateral friendly relations, mutual understanding and good neighbourliness of the two nations, to continue to promote the matters that are mutually beneficial for both countries. Myanmar is also making utmost efforts together with other ASEAN nations for unity of the Association and regional development and peace and stability.

PM General Khin Nyunt
PM thanks all ASEAN nations…

(from page 6)

During the discussions, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that his goodwill visit is meant to maintain and promote the long-lasting bilateral friendly relations, mutual understanding and good neighbourliness of the two nations, to continue to promote the matters that are mutually beneficial for both countries. He thanked with pleasure all ASEAN nations including Vietnam for understanding and supporting Myanmar’s developments. Myanmar is also making utmost efforts together with other ASEAN nations for unity of the Association and regional development and peace and stability, he said, explaining the process of work to implement seven-point future policy programme of the State.

Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai said that traditionally, the two countries already have established bilateral friendly ties. Both countries have valued and observed the policy of respecting each other’s sovereignty, non-interference and the policy of the right to decide one’s own future, he said. Vietnam understands and supports Myanmar’s endeavours for success of the policy programmes for restoring national conso-lidation and transition to democracy, he said. Vietnam on its part always remembers Myanmar’s assistance and sympathy for her during her national liberation struggle, he said.

As Myanmar will chair ASEAN in 2006, Vietnam believes that Myanmar will successfully carry out the duties. He expressed satisfaction for bilateral cooperation between the two countries. Vietnam has wished to promote cooperation to increase the trade volume between the two countries, health, beneficial use of the Mekong river and tourism industry. The two countries will continue to enhance cooperation in international and regional issues, while trying to further cement the ASEAN unity, he said. Vietnam supports Myanmar’s participation in the Asia-Europe Meeting.

After the talks, the agreement signing ceremony between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held. Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing and Minister of Public Security of the SRV Mr Le Hong Anh signed the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Prevention and Fighting Against Crime and they exchanged the documents. (See page 8)
PM General Khin Nyunt calls on General Secretary of Vietnamese Communist Party

YANGON, 10 Aug—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt called on General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Mr Nong Duc Manh at the meeting hall of the Headquarters of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam at 2.45 pm yesterday.

Also present on the occasion together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Soe, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin Maung Win, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Tin Latt, Director-General at the Prime Minister’s Office U Soe Tint and heads of department. General Secretary Mr Nong Duc Manh was accompanied by Assistant to the General Secretary Mr Ho Tian Nghi, Head of External Relation Board of CCCP Mr Nguyen Van Son, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and high-ranking officials.

At the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the aim of his visit to Vietnam is to further cement the long-lasting friendly ties between the two nations; that there has been mutual understanding as the two nations have a lot in common as regards the history of independence struggle and co-existence of the national races; and that the Myanmar government and the people are grateful to ASEAN nations including Vietnam for their understanding and support of Myanmar. General Secretary Mr Nong Duc Manh expressed his belief that the process of transition to democracy of Myanmar will meet with success; that Myanmar has the right to decide her future; and that the two countries will continue cooperating in the field of international relations while further strengthening their existing close friendship. After the meeting, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party had a documentary photo taken together with General Secretary Mr Nong Duc Manh and party.

Myanmar has the right to decide her future; and the two countries will continue cooperating in the field of international relations while further strengthening their existing close friendship.

— MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt

PM General Khin Nyunt meets General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam Mr Nong Duc Manh on 9-8-2004. — MNA

PM thanks all ASEAN ...

(from page 7)

Next, Prime Minister of SRV Mr Phan Van Khai hosted a luncheon in honour of Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at the government guest house in the afternoon.

Present on the occasion together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, the ministers, the deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and Myanmar Ambassador to the SRV. Also present on the Vietnamese side were Deputy Prime Minister Mr Vu Khoan, the ministers, the deputy ministers, SRV Ambassador to Myanmar, senior officials and ambassadors of ASEAN nations. The two Prime Ministers joined in a toast at the luncheon.

Next, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party went to Noibai International Airport to leave for Vientiane, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the SRV Mr Le Cong Phung and Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and officials, Myanmar Ambassador U Tin Latt and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Mya, Military Attaché Col Tin Soe and staff of Myanmar Embassy saw off the Prime Minister and party. The Prime Minister and party then left for LPDR.—MNA
Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt pays working visit to Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party being welcomed at Noibai International Airport by the Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam, embassy staff and families. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being greeted by Chairman Mr Nguyen Van An of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Ba Dinh Hall in Hanoi on 9-8-2004. — MNA

Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai presents the welcoming party to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt. — MNA

Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai cordially greets Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt being welcomed back at the airport by Dean of Diplomatic Corps Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Simon Tensing de Cruz, ambassadors of foreign embassies in Yangon and resident representatives of UN agencies. — MNA

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the SRV Mr Le Cong Phung and officials bid farewell to Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party at Noibai International Airport in Hanoi. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party being welcomed at Noibai International Airport by the Myanmar Ambassador and staff and families. — MNA

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party being welcomed at Noibai International Airport by the Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam, embassy staff and families. — MNA
Bago Division concludes ploughing season for 2004-2005

YANGON, 10 Aug—Bago Division concluded its ploughing season for the year 2004-2005 and direct paddy seeding contest at Mayin Village-tract, Bago Township, Bago Division, yesterday morning.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, Bago Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko and General Manager of Myanmar Agriculture Service Dr Min Aung attended the ceremony.

Also present on the occasion were CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Min Min Aung, departmental heads, officials, local authorities, local people and others.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than in his speech said that restoration of peace and stability, raising the State’s economy and human resources development play the most important role in rapid development of the nation.

In this regard, the government is implementing the border areas and national races development project, the 24 regions development project and the five rural development tasks so as to narrow the development gap.

With the aim of exceeding the targeted output of monsoon and summer paddy, the government has built so far 162 dams and reservoirs, 28 under construction and 30 to be built across the nation. In Bago Division, a total of 40 irrigation facilities have been built.

And it has built 185 bridges that are 180 feet or above long and 39 under construction the length and breadth of the nation so as to uplift the living standard of the entire people and to ensure fast flow of commodities.

In conclusion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than called on those responsible and farmers to participate in the tasks for transforming conventional farming into mechanized farming.

Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko also delivered an address.

Afterwards, the direct seeding contest followed. After the contest, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and the minister presented first, second and third prizes to Bago District (A) team, Pyi District (B) team and Bago District (B) team.

Then, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than, the commander and the minister and party and guests viewed farm implements displayed at exhibition booths of Bago Division Agricultural Mechanization Department under the Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.

Upgrading of Kandawgyi and Zoo coordinated

YANGON, 10 Aug—The coordination meeting of work committee on upgrading the environs of Kandawgyi and Yangon zoological gardens was held at the agricultural museum of Myanmar Agriculture Service in Education Zone of Kandawgyi garden here this morning and Chairman of work committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended it together with members of the committee as well as departmental heads and guests.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe first gave a speech.

Those present at the meeting reported on the implemented tasks for timely completion of upgrading Kandawgyi environs and Yangon Zoological garden as well as the tasks for environmental conservation. Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the needs for timely completion of the projects and the meeting ended.

After the meeting, the commander and party inspected the project site and instructed to complete the project with quality. — MNA

YANGON City Upgrading Project under way

YANGON, 10 Aug—Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected tasks for upgrading of Yangon City this morning.

The commander and the mayor inspected laying of concrete tiles on platforms on both sides of the roads, building of traffic islands, unblocking and dredging of drains, expansion of the roads and growing of landscaping plants in Pabedan, Mingala Taungnyunt, Bahan, Kamayut and Insein townships. Officials conducted them round the sites.

During the inspection tour, the commander and the mayor gave instructions to the officials on tasks for cleanliness and beautifying of Yangon City and fulfilled the requirements.

PRC presents Audi saloons

YANGON, 10 Aug—A ceremony to sign the note concerning 30 Audi saloons presented by the Government of the People’s Republic of China to the Government of the Union of Myanmar was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of National Planning & Economic Development at 11 am today.

In the presence of Minister for National Planning & Economic Development U Soe Tha and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jun Jun, Acting Director-General of Central Equipment Statistics and Inspection Department U Win Aung and Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the PRC Embassy Mr Tang Hai signed the documents.

The note is an integral part of the Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between Myanmar and China signed on 24 March 2004 during the goodwill visit of PRC Vice Premier Madame Wu Yi to Myanmar. — MNA

Minister receives Japanese Ambassador

YANGON, 10 Aug—Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwe received Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yuji Miyamoto at his office this morning.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Immigration U Maung Aung, heads of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Ministry of Immigration, Head of Office and officials. — MNA

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwe receives Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yuji Miyamoto. — MNA

PLC presents Audi saloons
Thailand unveils plan to generate more scientists

BANGKOK, 10 Aug.— The Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology (IPST) of Thailand has unveiled a three-pronged strategic plan for the creation of more scientists, noting that the greater global acceptance of Thai scientists would lead to a huge boost in national revenue from research.

Referring to the three-pronged plan for the creation of more scientists, Director of IPST board, Porchirat Matangsomphit said that at the initial level, the target would be to ensure that children undergoing compur-sony education would learn to think like scientists by using reasoning and analy-tical skills, the Thai News Agency reported on Monday.

Porchirat said that children would need the potential to study science within higher education, reserving the current situation in which around 70 per cent of higher education students spurned science subjects.

Young people with high potential should be encouraged to research and invent, going on to achieve masters and doctoral degrees, he added.

We aim that by the Year 2020, the annual intake university of students for science-related subjects will be 200,000-280,000, compared to only 40,000 at present,” Porchirat said.

Children’s books on Deng Xiaoping published in Jiangsu Province

NANNING, 10 Aug.— A line of children’s books about Deng Xiaoping, called “Hello Xiaoping”, went on sale Monday in east China’s Jiangsu Province to mark the 100th birth anniversary of the Chinese leader.

Deng, known as the chief architect of China’s reform, opening to the outside world and modernization, was born in 1904 and died in 1997. Deng’s 100th birth anniversary is Aug 22.

To help acquaint the youth with the great man’s outstanding deeds during his life time, the Jiangsu Provincial Education Bureau and the Jangsu Fine Art Publishing House de-signed and published the book series.

The series consists of three versions, one with Chinese phonetic alphabets for pre-schoolers, one for elementary school-age children and one for middle school students. The series illustrates the thinking, stories and great deeds of the late Chinese leader.

Blue-eyed, stripeless white tiger born in Spain

MADRID, 10 Aug.— A blue-eyed, stripeless white Bengal tiger, one of about 20 in the world, has been born in Spain, a wildlife refuge said on Monday.

The three-month-old cub has been named Artico, Spanish for Arctic.

“His parents are normal Bengal tigers, orange with black stripes, but because of a genetic mutation he is completely white with no stripes,” said Serafin Domenech, director of El Arca (The Ark) refuge in the southeastern province of Alicante.

Artico’s carers delayed announcing his birth until now because he was so weak when he was born they were not sure he would survive. The cub still has trouble digesting food and requires special care.

Domenech said such tigers are sometimes born in the wild but it is almost impossible for them to survive for long as their strange colouring causes them to be rejected or even attacked by other tigers.

El Arca will look for a permanent home for Artico once he is strong enough.

“Everybody wants a white tiger. It’s not going to be hard for him to find a nice place to live,” Domenech said.

Contaminated food sickens one million Thais yearly

BANGKOK, 10 Aug.— More than one million Thais suffer disease borne from tainted food a year, local press quoted official sources as saying Monday.

The Thai Government last year announced to set the year as “Year of Food Safety in a bid to campaign for food safety in the kingdom with a population of more than 60 million.

Related government agencies and officials were required to keep a close watch over safety of fresh food.

As a result, the food safety of fresh food had increased from 67 per cent in March 2003 to 98 per cent in March this year, Deputy Public Health Minister Amuthin Chaanvertrakul was quoted by newspaper The Nation as saying.

Six dangerous substances — salbutamol, salicylic acid, borax, formalin, sodium hydro-sulfite and pesticide — had been less used in food industry, he said. However, salbutamol and pesticide were still found at 6 per cent of samples.

Meanwhile, about 74 per cent of food-processing factories in the country passed the Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) standard for food production.

The Public Health Ministry in June declined reports of a survey of 10,000 food samples, which showed that 92 per cent were uncontaminated but the rest 8 per cent could pose a danger to consumers.

Food and water-borne diseases kill more than three people a minute or about two million a year around the world, according to a report of the World Health Organization.

Cambodian King, Chinese top legislator reiterate friendship

PHNOM PENH, 10 Aug.— China is ready to expand the traditional friendship with Cambodia to greater depth and stronger position in the new century, Chinese National People’s Congress (NPC) Standing Committee Chairman Wu Banggao said here Monday.

He met with the King of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Norodom Sihanouk, and Queen Norodom Monineath Sihanouk in the Great Hall of the People Monday afternoon.

Wu said that the attention and cultivation of the King and three generations of Chinese leaders, Sino-Cambodian friendship had withstood great changes in the international situation and continued to grow stronger.

Wu said the new leadership of China treasures the friendship between the two countries and is ready to deepen and consolidate the friendly, cooperative and good-neighbours relationship in an all-round way.

Wu appreciated the King and government of Cambodia for their consistent adherence to the “one-China” policy and firm support of the Chinese Government’s stance on such issues as Taiwan and Tibet.

Sihanouk reiterated that Cambodia will continue to adhere to the “one-China” policy and firmly oppose to separatist activities of the separatist force seeking “Taiwan independence”.

Sihanouk reviewed his friendship with the three generations of Chinese leaders and praised China as a trustworthy friend of Cambodia. He thanked the Chinese people and government for their support and assistance to Cambodia over the years and for their remarkable contribution to the peace and development of Cambodia.

Children’s books on Deng Xiaoping published in Jiangsu Province

New Delhi, 10 Aug.— Indian Government has lifted the ban on import of processed meat and to facilitate import of breeding stock for poultry industry. It also allowed import of eggs and chicks from countries which have not reported the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza or bird flu.

However, as a precautionary measure, the ban on import of a series of live-poultry, livestock products and products from avian species including wild birds is also-banned but an exception has been made in case of processed meat.

To ensure adequate grand parent stock for poultry breeding, import of day-old chicks, ducks, turkey and other newly hatched avian species will be banned into India from only those countries reporting the outbreak of bird flu.

Similarly partial ban will be imposed on the import of hatching eggs, eggs and eggs products, feathers, pig meat products, pathomaterial and biological products from birds. A total ban, irrespec- tive of the country of origin has been imposed on the semen of domestic and wild birds and products of animal origin (from birds) intended for use in animal feeding or industrial use.

India modifies import ban on meat, poultry, livestock products

LAW JOURNAL COMES OUT: The Office of the Attorney-General at No 101, Pansodan, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, has published the Law Journal (volume 6, number 1). It is available at K 600 per copy at the Office of the Attorney-General, Surpye Beikman Law Bookshop, Aaa bookshop, News & Periodicals Enterprise bookshop. The journal carries English and Myanmar articles by veteran lawyers and scholars namely Dr Ten Shin, U Ba Kyin, U Aung Than Tun, U Han Nyunt, U San Lwin, U Than Saw, Dr Marlar Aung, Daw Thida Oo, U Nyum Shwin. — (n)

Zoo keeper Lucy Truelson (L) cleans the teeth of Silva the Seal (R), a 16-year-old Australiasian fur seal, rescued after being caught in a drift net as a seagull, at the Melbourne Zoo. — (EPA)
Over 130 cockle hunters rescued from Morecambe Bay

LONDON, 9 Aug — More than 130 cockle pickers were rescued from Morecambe Bay in northwestern England after they became stranded in treacherous sands when two tractors collided on Saturday.

A group of 60 Scottish cocklers and another team of 70 cocklers were guided to safety, only a few miles from where 21 Chinese cockle hunters drowned in February.

A spokesperson for the Liverpool Coast Guard said it was the 16th mission launched this year to rescue stranded cocklers in the area.

British rowers rescued after Atlantic storms wreck boat

LONDON, 9 Aug — Four Britons trying to break a world Atlantic rowing record were rescued on Sunday after storms split their boat in two off the coast of Britain.

A Scandinavian vessel picked up the Poor Lad crew who had been clinging to a life raft about 300 miles west of the Scilly Islands, Britain’s Coast Guard said.

The rowers had set off from Newfoundland, Canada, at the end of June, aiming to make the 2,100-mile Atlantic crossing to Britain in 35 to 40 days and beat the current 55-day record.

The crew alerted Coast Guards just after 0130 GMT and remained in regular contact with Falmouth Coast Guard by hand-held satellite phone.

A Coast Guard spokesperson said a Royal Air Force helicopter was on its way to winch skipper Mark Stubbs, Pete Bray, Jonathan Gormall and John Wills aboard and take them back to Britain.

The migrants said about 60 people had been in the boat when it left the coast of Libya nine days ago but a quarter of those died on the way and the survivors threw their bodies overboard, police said.

The migrants said they were from Sudan, Liberia, the Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone and had paid 800 US dollars-1,800 US dollars for their passage, police said.

ARRIVAL/CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MY "MANDALAY" VOY NO 132/N

Consignees of cargo carried on MV "MANDALAY" Voy No 132/N are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived at Yangon Port on 11-8-2004 and will berth tomorrow (12-8-2004) and cargoes will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

CONTAINER FEEDER SERVICE

MYANMA FIVE STAR LINE

Phone: 293147, 296507, 295754

Some 26 migrants die off Italian coast

PALERMO, 9 Aug — At least 26 African immigrants died trying to reach Italy in a rickety wooden boat, police said on Sunday, citing accounts of some of the survivors rescued by a merchant ship off the Sicilian coast.

A Gibraltar merchant ship plucked 75 African immigrants to safety on Sunday who had been drifting in a 14-metre boat 75 miles off the Italian coast with little food and water.

The survivors said about 100 people had been in the boat when it left the coast of Libya nine days ago but a quarter of those died on the way and the survivors threw their bodies overboard, police said.

The migrants said they were from Sudan, Liberia, the Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone and had paid 800 US dollars for their passage, police said.
Named “Philosophy and China in the New Century”, the China Congress of Philosophy includes three topics “Tradition vs Modernity”, “East vs West” and “Science and Technology vs Humanism”. The participants are scheduled to discuss philosophy, literature, science, ethics, politics, aesthetics and culture.

Wang Laxiong, vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), delivered a welcoming speech at the inaugural, which was presided over by Li Deshun, vice-director of the CASS Institute of Philosophy and a well-known philosopher.

After the inaugural, Li Tieying, vice-chairman of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee and former CASS president, Yang Chungui, former vice-president of the Party School of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Li Jingyuan, director of the CASS In- stitute of Philosophy, each delivered speeches.

The participants will exchange views from different academic perspectives to prevent isolation in the study of philosophy at the four-day meeting.

MNA/Xinhua

Memorial book on late Chinese Marshal published

SHENZHEN, 10 Aug — The Eternal Memory, a memorial book on Marshal Zhu De, one of the founders of China’s Armed Forces, has been published by the Contemporary China Publishing House to mark the 70th anniversary of the Long March by the Red Army.

Zhu Heping, author of the book and a grandson of the late marshal of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA), on Sunday promoted the selling of the books with signatures at Xibaipo in Hebei Province, north China. Zhu chose the location because the Communist Party of China was headquartered in Xibaipo in the late 1940s before moving to Beijing.

The author, now an officer with the PLA Air Force, lived with his grandfather for 24 years. His book reviews the daily life of the former leader of the Red Army, the Eighth Route Army, and the PLA, in different periods. — MNA/Xinhua

US study says premature boys have worse brain damage

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — Babies born prematurely show the effects years later, with parts of their brains significantly smaller when they are 8 years old, US researchers said on Monday.

And boys are more affected than girls, the team at the Stanford, Yale and Brown University medical schools found.

They compared the brain volumes of 8-year-olds born prematurely to those born full-term. They found significantly smaller areas in the cerebral cortex, especially in parts respon- sible for reading, language, emotion and behaviour. The study supports other find- ings that show premature boys struggle more than preterm girls with reading and language and do worse in school and socially.

The research team at the Stanford, Yale and Brown Universities, said the brain damage is not simply related to the years before or after birth. Their findings support evidence of brain damage from methamphetamine tablets, the largest haul busted in 12 months, local Press reported on Sunday.

The researchers used magnetic resonance imaging or MRI to look at the brains of 65 preterm children — born at around 28 weeks gestation — and 31 healthy, full-term children.

MNA/Reuters

Japan to stop orders for plane developed with US

TOKYO, 10 Aug — Japan plans to halt procurement of a fighter plane jointly de- veloped with the United States after a defence review concluded that it was not cost-effective, the daily Yomiuri Shimbun said on Sunday.

Tokyo agreed in 1987 to base its F-2 on the American F-16 fighter as a com- promise after Washington urged it to order US-made planes to help cut Japan’s trade surplus with its big- gest ally, the paper said.

Development delays caused the F-2’s unit price to leap from a projected $7.24 billion (72.4 mil- lion US dollars) to 12 bil- lion yen, the same price as larger fighter aircraft, the Yomiuri quoted the official as saying.

Quoting a source at the Defence Agency, the paper said that only 76 of the F-2 aircraft were either de- ployed or under construc- tion, compared with a 1995 plan to order 130 of them.

Don’t smoke

25.6 billion dollars in crude

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 11 August, 2004 13

Prepared by: The New Light of Myanmar
World champion Young tested positive for EPO in Paris

PARIS, 9 Aug—World 400 metres champion Young tested positive for the banned endurance booster erythropoietin (EPO) at last month's Paris Golden League meeting, French sports daily L’Equipe reported on Sunday.

The newspaper said the American's A sample tested in a Paris laboratory showed traces of the blood-boosting substance. The B sample was not sent to another lab in Lausanne.

The tests were performed during the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) Paris meeting at the Stade de France on July 23, where Young came a hat-trick inspires Stuttgart to victory

BERLIN, 9 Aug—A hat-trick by Brazilian striker Cacau helped VfB Stuttgart to a 4-2 win over Bundesliga newcomers FSV Mainz on Sunday.

Mainz, promoted to the Bundesliga last season for the first time in their 99-year history, played aggressive, attacking football but their defence proved vulnerable.

Stuttgart dominated and their players were disappointed that they could not take full advantage of their superiority.

In the 27th minute, Cacau scored the opening goal after a well-timed tackle by centre back Alje Schut.

The victory was also the 10th seeded Agassi's first title win in nine months at the Cincinnati Masters Series on Sunday.

The 27-year-old, who has nine England league titles with a stylish 2-0 home victory over Motherwell on Sunday.

Agassi, who has nine England league titles, has the opportunity to increase his lead further if the 'B' sample confirms the results of the tests in Paris.

The victory was also the 10th seeded Agassi's first title win in nine months at the Cincinnati Masters Series on Sunday.

The 27-year-old, who has nine England league titles, has the opportunity to increase his lead further if the 'B' sample confirms the results of the tests in Paris.
- 7:55 am  
  4. Nice and sweet song

- 8:20 am  
  9:00 am  
  9:05 am  
  9:10 am  
  9:15 am  
  9:20 am  
  9:25 am  
  9:30 am  
  9:40 am  
  9:50 am  
  10:00 am  
  10:15 am  
  10:30 am  
  10:45 am  
  11:00 am  
  11:15 am  
  11:30 am  
  11:45 am  
  12:00 pm  
  12:15 pm  
  12:30 pm  
  12:45 pm  
  1:00 pm  
  1:15 pm  
  1:30 pm  
  1:45 pm  
  2:00 pm  
  2:15 pm  
  2:30 pm  
  2:45 pm  
  3:00 pm  
  3:15 pm  
  3:30 pm  
  3:45 pm  
  4:00 pm  
  4:15 pm  
  4:30 pm  
  4:45 pm  
  5:00 pm  
  5:15 pm  
  5:30 pm  
  5:45 pm  
  6:00 pm  
  6:15 pm  
  6:30 pm  
  6:45 pm  
  7:00 pm  
  7:15 pm  
  7:30 pm  
  7:45 pm  
  8:00 pm  
  8:15 pm  
  8:30 pm  
  8:45 pm  
  9:00 pm  
  9:15 pm  
  9:30 pm  
  9:45 pm  
  10:00 pm  

**Wednesday, August 11**

Tune in today:

8:30 pm  
  Brief news
9:35 pm  
  Music: I feel so line
8:40 pm  
  Perspectives
4:45 pm  
  Music: Bring it all back
5:10 am  
  MYANMAR news/ Slogan
9:00 am  
  Music: Hey you
9:05 am  
  International news
9:10 am  
  Music: Take your chance
1:30 pm  
  News/Slideshow
1:40 pm  
  Lunch time music
1:45 pm  
  Music: Still love me tomorrow
2:15 pm  
  Article/Music
2:25 pm  
  Music: At your request
4:45 pm  
  News/Slideshow
10:00 pm/PEL

**WEATHER**

Tuesday, August 10

Summary of observation for 09:00 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, and Tanintharyi Divisions, and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Ayeyawady Division, isolated heavyfalls in Kayin, Mon States and lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rain-fall were recorded as Pyapon (5.87) inches, Hpa-an (5.24) inches, Ye (4.92) inches, Myaw Mya (4.76) inches, Puthin (3.82) inches, Mawlaik and Tinthada (3.15) inches each, Maubin (3.03) inches.

Maximum temperature on 9-8-2004 was 28.6˚C (84°F). Minimum temperature on 10-8-2004 was 19.2˚C (66.7°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 MST on 10-8-2004 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 9-8-2004 was nil. Rainfall on 10-8-2004 was 26 mm (1.03 inches) at Yangon Airport, 22 mm (0.87 inch) at Kaba-Aye, 16 mm (0.63 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 1896 mm (74.65 inches) at Yangon Airport, 1352 mm (74.10 inches) at Kaba-Aye and 1870 mm (73.62 inches) at central Yangon.

**Flood Bulletin**

Issued at (13:00 hours MST on 10-8-2004)

The water level of Sittoung River at Tumgau may rise 40 cm (about 1.5-ft) and reach the danger level (600 cm) during the next (48) hours commencing noon today. The water level of Dokthawgyi River at Myaung may rise 30 cm (about 1-ft) and reach the danger level (870 cm) during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today.

Issued at (13:00 hours MST on 10-8-2004)

The water level of Bago River at Elag is (13 cm (about 0.5-ft), above the danger level. The water level may remain above the danger level during the next (2) days commencing noon today.

**Myanmar Port Authority Warning of High tide**

Public are here by informed that extraordinarily High Spring of from 20:11 to 20:31 ft above the datum are expected to occur in Yangon River during the period, 16th August to 22nd August, 2004.

R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 2230 on Road 43 at 43rd Street, Yangon-1. Table Newlight, PO Box No. 43. Telephones: Editors 296115, Manager 296664, Circulation 297093, Advertisement 296843, Accounts 296545, Administration 29661, Production 297032 (Office) 297028 (Press).
11th Waning of Second Waso 1366 ME

Wednesday, 11 August, 2004

PM meets National Assembly Chairman of Vietnam

YANGON, 10 Aug — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Khin Nyunt called on Mr Nguyen Van An, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in Ba Dinh Hall in Hanoi at 2 pm yesterday.

Together with Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt at the call were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Aung Htwe, the ministers and officials. Together with Mr Nguyen Van An were Vice-Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Department of Vietnam Mrs Ton Nu Thi Ninh, Vice-Chairman of Committee on Economics, Mrs Duong Thu Huong, Vice-Chairman of NA Office, Mr Tran Quoc Than, Vietnam Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and high-ranking officers.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt said that the purpose of his visit was to further cement the amicable relations and boost cooperation between the two countries. Myanmar and Vietnam are cooperating with the ASEAN in the tasks for greater prosperity and development of the region through the ASEAN.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt

The visit is to further cement amicable relations and boost cooperation between the two countries. Myanmar and Vietnam are cooperating with the ASEAN in the tasks for greater prosperity and development of the region through the ASEAN.

PM thanks all ASEAN nations including Vietnam for understanding Myanmar’s developments

PM General Khin Nyunt meets Vietnamese counterpart Mr Phan Van Khai

YANGON, 10 Aug — At the invitation of Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister of Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Bunhnhang Vorachith and Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt, accompanied by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, SPDC member Lt-Gen Aung Htwe and the ministers left here for Myanmar by special flight of Myanmar Airways International yesterday morning as first part of the three-country goodwill visit and arrived at Noibai International Airport in Hanoi at 9.50 am local time.

Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party were welcomed there by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam Mr Le Cong Phung, Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pham Quang Khon and welcoming party, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Tin Latt and wife Daw Htwe Htwe Mya, Military Attaché Col Tin Soe, staff of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office and their families. Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and his entourage went to the Presidential Palace from the air port in a motorcade to attend the ceremony to welcome the Myanmar’s Prime Minister. On arrival at the palace, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and party were welcomed by Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai. At the welcoming ceremony, Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt and Prime Minister Mr Phan Van Khai went to the dais and took the salute of the Guard of Honour. In the meantime, the State band played the national Anthems of the Union of (See page 6)