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

As measures being taken to ensure equal development of all regions, economic social infrastructures have emerged

Those from inside and outside being jealous of the progress of the State trying to drive wedge among the national people

All national brethren are to guard against all destructive acts

YANGON, 6 Aug — Mass meeting on “Guarding against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of people” took place in Myeik, Taninthayi Division on 2 August. Present on the occasion were members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Women’s Affairs Organization, Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society, nurses, workers, departmental personnel and local people totalling over 1,280.

First, Secretary of Taninthayi Division USDA U Kyaw Kyaw Htay presided over the meeting together with Secretary of Division WVO Supervisory Committee Maj Tin Aung (Retd), WAO Chairman Daw Tin Tin Ohn, MCWA Supervisory Committee member Dr Daw Aye Aye Thein, U Aung Nu Kyi of Red Cross Society and U Ba Kywe of township Fire Brigade and townselder U Aw. Member of Myeik Township USDA Daw Win Yu Yu Phyo acted as master of ceremonies and Daw Ni Lar Myint as co-MC.

Next, the meeting chairman, members of panel of chairmen and those present saluted the State Flag. (See page 8)

Those present chant slogans at the mass meeting on guarding against the dangers of internal and external destructionists through united strength of the people in Myeik. — MNA
Beware of danger of poisoning

Development of health sector plays a pivotal role in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. Only when the health sector is advanced and improved could complex health problems be addressed.

Developing nations have to deal with communicable and non-communicable diseases. Out of them, poisoning is a non-communicable disease.

There are two varieties of poisoning—acute poisoning and chronic poisoning. Both are harmful to health of mankind and may even cause death. According to the WHO’s data in year 2000, there had been an increasing use of chemicals and pharmaceutical drugs across the world. There were about 500,000 people who were poisoned due to the use of agricultural and industrial chemicals.

Myanmar is likely to face a growing health problems caused by poisoning due to the improper use of household medicines. Increasing use of pesticides, chemical fertilizers and chemicals used in agriculture can lead to frequent poisoning.

With the aim of controlling the danger of poisoning, the government established the National Poison Control Centre of the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar), spending a large amount of funds.

The NPCC is now taking systematic steps for prevention and control of poisoning, dissemination of knowledge on health and medical treatment in the public health care services.

With the emergence of the health facility, extended efforts are to be made for controlling the danger of poisoning to keep pace with changes and developments. In the meantime, health staff are to strive for wider dissemination of knowledge on the danger of poisoning to the public.

Moreover, possible incidence of poisoning is to be kept under constant surveillance. In the event of poisoning, urgent measures are to be taken to keep it under control.

According to tests, there are harmful chemicals, in monosodium glutamate (seasoning powder). The Ministry of Health has cautioned the public that there has occurred asthma, heart disease, hypertension and oedema owing to the consumption of the seasoning powder.

Therefore, the entire national people are to do their bit in enhancing public health care services being carried out by the government for uplift of health and fitness of the entire nation, realizing the dangers of chemicals and poisons.

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

Tasks to upgrade Yangon City inspected

YANGON, 6 Aug—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected measures for the upgrading of Yangon City this morning.

The commander and the mayor viewed the laying of concrete slabs on pavements and the unblocking of drains on Maha Bandoola Street (between 39th and 40th Streets) in Kyauktada Township.

They inspected the laying of between on Anawrahta Street between Maha Bandoola Park Street and 35th Street in Kyauktada Township, dredging of drains along Anawrahta Street in Latha Township, laying of concrete slabs, clearing the drains and weeding of wild plants along U Wisara Street in Dagon Township, dredging of drains near the embankment of Inya Lake in Bahan Township, and dredging of Eikistsan Creek in Wazayanda Street in South Okkalapa Township.

During the inspection tour, they instructed officials concerned to use the designs that do not compromise the beauty of Yangon City in constructing buildings, and to carry out tasks collectively for sprucing up the city and ensuring proper drainage.

MNA

Home Affairs Minister receives Korean Ambassador

YANGON, 6 Aug —Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo received Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lek Hjunm and party at the ministry at the corner of Industry-1 Road and Saya San Road yesterday evening.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Phone Swe, Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Y, Director-General of General Administration Department U Myat Ko, Director-General of Bureau of Special Investigation U Aung Saw Win, Deputy Director-General U Maung Win of GAD, Head of Transnational Criminal Department Police Col Sit Aye and head of office U Kyaw San.

MNA

ASEAN Foodstuff Festival held

YANGON, 6 Aug —Hailing the 38th Anniversary of ASEAN which falls on 8 August, the Myanmar ASEAN Women’s Friendship Association observed ASEAN Foodstuff Festival at Mahawtada Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning. Present on the occasion were members of the panel of patrons of Myanmar ASEAN Women’s Friendship Association of the foreign minister Daw Myint Myint Soe, wives of ministers, wives of deputy ministers, CEC members, the Philippines Ambassador to Myanmar and wives of ASEAN Ambassadors, wives of diplomats, families of agencies under the UN and members of association. Member of the panel of patrons of the association Daw Myint Myint Soe formally opened the festival. Next, those present enjoyed food stuff.—MNA

National policy and State’s seven-point Road Map lectured

YANGON, 6 Aug —USDA CEC Member Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave a lecture on national policy and the State’s seven-point Road Map yesterday evening, to 100 trainees of the basic organization course opened at South Okkalapa Town- ship USDA Office. —MNA
ASEAN members sign pact on minerals cooperation

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Aug—ASEAN ministers and representatives on Thursday signed a Ministerial Understanding (MU) on ASEAN Cooperation in Minerals.

The pact aims to build a dynamic framework of cooperation to address the challenges facing the minerals industry in the Asia-Pacific Region. It aims to enhance cooperation among ASEAN countries and intends to promote environmentally friendly and socially responsible mineral development and utilization of mineral resources.

Meanwhile, the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan (2005-2010) was adopted at the meeting. It involves concrete and strategic actions, which can help realize policy agenda under the Vientiane Action Programme and MU on ASEAN Cooperation in Minerals. To effectively implement the action plan, the meeting endorsed the formation of four working groups to collectively handle specific cooperation issues in minerals-related fields.

Delegates at the meeting also agreed to foster closer cooperation with ASEAN dialogue partner countries and relevant international organizations in mineral resource development, geoscience and technology programmes.

For this purpose, the meeting welcomed Malaysia's proposal to invite representatives of China, Japan and South Korea to attend the ASEAN+3 Consultative meeting on Mineral Cooperation next year.

China extends increasing influence on global economy

SINGAPORE, 5 August — With rapid internal economic growth, China is exerting greater influence on the global economy, a Singapore minister said here on Thursday.

Addressing the Singapore International Foundation (SIF) International Student Symposium, Minister of State for Finance and Transport Lim Hwee Hua said that China and India have become the twin engines of regional and global growth. "China's contribution to global GDP (gross domestic product) growth since 2000 has been almost twice as large as that of the next three biggest emerging economies, India, Brazil and Russia, combined," Lim noted.

She added that China's strong economic growth has also significantly increased the exports from regional economies to the country since 2000.

"Because of its scale, China's influence extends far beyond trade and GDP. Global inflation rates, interest rates, bond yields, property prices, wages, profits and commodity prices are also increasingly being driven by China," Lim said.

In addition, China is changing its role in the international economic landscape from a magnet for foreign direct investment (FDI) to the 6th largest outward investor among the developing countries, according to Lim.

Acknowledging that China can compete not only in the manufacturing industry but also in the highest-end research and design work, Lim said that other countries must adapt to the emergence of China.

1,827 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug—As of Friday, 5 Aug, 2005, at least 1,827 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,411 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Friday.

The British military has reported 93 deaths; Italy, 26; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; El Salvador, Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,688 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,302 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.
India eyes oil, gas exploration in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 5 Aug — An Indian state-owned energy company has expressed interest in carrying out oil and gas exploration in Bangladesh’s exclusive economic zone in the Bay of Bengal.

The Financial Express on Thursday quoted official sources as saying that the Indian Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), in a letter to Bangladesh’s Energy Adviser under the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR) Mahmudur Rahman, has conveyed its intention officially a couple of weeks ago.

The Indian energy giant also intended to work with state-owned Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Ltd. (BAPEX) under a joint venture to conduct gas exploration in the offshore gas blocks.

“Since ONGC has extensive experience in offshore exploration in the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal, we are also in a position to extend our hands of cooperation to BAPEX in their offshore exploration projects in the Bay of Bengal,” the daily quoted the ONGC letter as saying. The ONGC also proposed to establish a joint laboratory services with the BAPEX whereby, the company said, the dependency of BAPEX on foreign assistance will be greatly reduced.

Both the companies may jointly undertake risk or crisis management in the hydrocarbon exploration in Bangladesh. ONGC proposed in the letter.

ONGC can assist BAPEX to manage such eventuality during drilling or production operations, it said. A senior MPEMR official said that the ONGC proposal came at a time when the Bangladesh Government was taking preparations for the third round bidding for its offshore gas fields. MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam’s handicraft export surges in first seven months

HANOI, 5 Aug— Vietnam exported 316 million US dollars’ worth of handicrafts in the first seven months of this year, soaring 43.6 per cent over the same period last year.

To boost the products’ export, the country is focusing on diversifying models, surveying markets, and intensifying trade promotion abroad, especially in markets with strict quality requirements such as the European Union (EU) and the United States, according to the Vietnam Trade Ministry on Thursday.

The weakest point of Vietnamese handicrafts is poor design which makes them less competitive than Chinese or Thai products, the ministry said, noting that Vietnam has targeted to export 500 million dollars’ worth of handicrafts in 2005, rising 21.9 per cent over 2004.

The country shipped the products valued at 410 million dollars to 37 foreign markets, including the EU, the United States, Japan, South Africa and Australia, last year, up 11.9 per cent. MNA/Xinhua

Aide of Iraqi Deputy PM killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 5 Aug — An aide to Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Ahmed Chalabi was killed by gunmen on Thursday, an Interior Ministry source said.

Haidar Mohammed Ali al-Dujaili, the head of Public Affairs Department of the Iraqi National Congress, was killed by gunmen at his home in southeastern Baghdad at around 5:00 am (0100 GMT), the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi National Congress is a political party led by Chalabi. Gunmen opened fire at a convoy of Chalabi’s officials south of the capital four days ago, killing one of his bodyguards.

Chalabi, once a Pentagon ally, who fell out with Washington later, came back to Iraq in April last year. He was once considered a potential Iraqi leader after the toppling of Saddam Hussein. MNA/Xinhua

Heavy rainstorm kills two in S-W China

CHONGQING, 5 Aug— A heavy rainstorm struck Chongqing Municipal City on Wednesday, killing two and affecting some 200,000 local residents, said the county government’s disaster-relief office. By 1 pm Wednesday, the precipitation in Chongqing had reached 197.7 millimetre.

The disaster caused damage to 4,750 houses and affected 10,000 hectares of farmland. The local government has organized immediate and effective rescue and relief work, and have succeeded in rescuing 1,325 locals stranded by the flood. MNA/Xinhua

More lethal bombs pose new problems to US soldiers in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug — In recent months, roadside bombs used by Iraqi militants have become more sophisticated and deadly, posing a growing challenge to US soldiers.

The explosion that killed 14 US Marines in western Iraq Wednesday was powerful enough to flip the 25-ton amphibious assault vehicle they were riding in, US military officers told the newspaper.

In fact, the new problem facing the US military in Iraq emerged over a week earlier, on 23 July, when a huge bomb buried on a road southwest of Baghdad Air- port detonated underneath a Humvee carrying four American soldiers, killing all of them instantly.

The explosive device was constructed from a bomb weighing 500 pounds or more and the blast left a crater six feet deep and nearly 17 feet wide.

What happened was similar to the 23 July attack further frustrated the US military. A British explosives expert, part of a special squad formed to investigate major guerilla bomb attacks, stepped on a second, smaller bomb buried near the first and was badly wounded.

He later had an arm and a leg amputated. A third device, hidden a few yards away, was found and defused. To counter the growing threat from roadside bombs, the Pentagon has dispatched 24,000 armoured Humvees to Iraq since late 2003.

But the militants have responded by building bombs powerful enough to penetrate the vehicles’ steel plating. US experts said there are plenty of evidence that Iraqi militants are increasingly carrying out so-called “shaped” charges, which concentrate the blast and give it a better chance of penetrating armored vehicles, causing higher casualties.

They admitted that the roadside bomb attacks can not be stopped and what the US military can do is to reduce the number of attacks, which average around 65 a day against US and Iraqi troops at present. — MNA/Xinhua

Northern California man killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 5 Aug— A 20-year-old Northern California man has been killed in Iraq.

Lance Cpl Adam J Strain died Wednesday as result of enemy fire while conducting combat operations in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, according to Defence Department officials. Strain was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Pendleton. During the war, his unit was attached to 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Cambodian King to visit China

BEIJING, 5 Aug — Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, will pay a state visit to China from 10 to 14 August, at the invitation of Chinese President Hu Jintao, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Thursday. MNA/Xinhua

A US Army soldier searches for explosive devices on the side of a road in Baghdad on 5 August, 2005. INTERNET
**Mekong basin countries to strengthen eco cooperation**

**SIEM REAP** (Cambodia), 5 Aug — Foreign ministers from five Mekong River basin countries are meeting here in the Cambodian temple town of Siem Reap on Friday to discuss cooperation in the development of the subregion.

The one-day ACMECS (Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy) foreign ministers’ meeting will focus on cooperation on trade, tourism, energy, agriculture and infrastructure of the five countries.

Foreign ministers from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam are attending the meeting, aimed at enhancing the cooperation to promote the development of the subregion, said Hem Hong, director of Press in the Foreign Ministry.

They will renew the commitment to the goals and objectives set out in the Bagan Declaration to increase competitiveness, narrow economic disparity and promote socio-economic development in the subregion so as to transform the subregion, in the first half of the 21st Century, into the zone of economic growth, progress and prosperity.

The ministers will also have an open discussion with representatives of their development partners including the Asian Development Bank, the European Union, Japan and Singapore to seek the partners’ assistance to implement the goals and objectives of ACMECS.

**Malaysia urges ASEAN to tap local mineral resources**

**KUALA LUMPUR**, 5 Aug — ASEAN countries still have untapped mineral rich areas and these areas need to be rejuvenated Thursday.

Many areas of the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) remained unexploited for valuable minerals, as they lacked of capacity, including technical capability, Malaysia’s Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said.

The joint cooperation and capacity building among the ASEAN member countries were critical for the growth of the ASEAN mineral sector.

Najib told the first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals which opened in Kuching, capital of Malaysia’s eastern state of Sarawak, on Thursday.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

ASEAN countries must stand ready to help each other in technology transfers and other forms of capacity building and cooperation to fully re-lease the potential of the mineral industry in the region, Najib said.

He stressed that ASEAN countries need to combine their technological know-how and the commercial impetus, saying the multifaceted mineral industry in the region can be instrumental in helping bind the region known as ASEAN, he said.

However, Najib cautioned that the natural resources in the region are not unlimited and could not be extracted without restrictions. He urged ASEAN countries to take into account environmental sustainability and find ways to maximize the potential of their resources.

He said he hoped that the ongoing first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals could formulate collective policies and guidelines on the acceptable method in sourcing for minerals.

**Three US soldiers killed in car bomb attack in Baghdad**

**BAGHDAD**, 5 Aug — Three US soldiers were killed on Wednesday in a car bomb attack targeted a US military vehicle in southwestern Baghdad, the US military said on Friday.

The attack took place at about 8:00 pm (1600 GMT) on Wednesday, the military said in a statement.

The names of the killed soldiers were being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it added.

Earlier, the US military said a soldier was killed by small arms fire in the volatile city of Ramadi, some 110 kilometres west of Baghdad.

Fourteen US marines and an interpreter were killed in a roadside bomb attack in western Iraq on Wednesday, the US military said. The marines, assigned to Regimental Combat Team 2, 2nd Marine Division, Il Marine Expeditionary Force, were killed when an improvised explosive device hit their armoured vehicles near the town of Haditha, some 250 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, the military said. About 1,815 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media tally.

**Fighting roadside bombs is full-time job in Iraq**

**ABU GHAIRAH**, 5 Aug — US soldiers slowly shovel through garbage for the deadliest weapon they face. It’s tedious work in blistering heat but they can’t rest. Searching for roadside bombs in Iraq has become a 24-hour-a-day job, percent of total deaths.

One of the devices tore into an am-phibious assault vehicle and killed 14 Marines this week, reminding American commanders the makeshift device defies the world’s most powerful military.

US troops have embarked on a new strategy for fighting the bombs in Abu Ghairah, a rebel stronghold just west of Baghdad. Instead of standard patrols, they try to pressure insurgents by maintaining a 24-hour presence in one area. It’s designed to give guerrillas less time to hide bombs and force them to leave them on roads, where they are easier to spot.

**Rainfall below average in Nepal**

**KATHMANDU**, 5 Aug — As the month of June saw a very low amount of rainfall with most parts of Nepal having precipitation well below the average for the month, farmers are worried that the yield of crops may be low this year, a meteorologist said.

The monsoon came about two weeks late this year and the rainfall has also been less, Mandira Rajbahak, senior meteorologist at the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology told reporters here Thursday.

Eastern part of Nepal, which has so far got only half the average rainfall, will have to wait for three days until it receives full-fledged torrential rains, she said.

“The southern part of the country needs to have low pressure zone so that winds from the Bay of Bengal can accumulate there and thus bring rain to Nepal. But the active low pressure zone has been formed near Indian states and in plains of Bangladesh, because of which Nepal witnessed very little rainfall in the month of July,” the meteorologist noted.

This condition has affected the agriculture sector as well as other sectors, the meteorologist said.

Asheshwor Jha, spokesman of the Ministry for Agriculture, said that the ministry was on alert because the present conditions were pushing the paddy cultivation towards abnormal production this year.

Due to insufficient rainfall, farmers have not planted rice in the normal amount, he added.

---

*Images and articles adapted from the original sources.*
Iraq. — support to reconstruct

Indian Prime Min-

er money was committed

ternational, taken in 2003, not to

tions with Indian consti-

tions of foreign journalists re-

Ahamed said in New Delhi

India offers help in
drafting new
Iraqi

New Delhi, 5 Aug — India has offered help in
drafting Iraq’s Constitu-
tion, Minister of State for
External Affairs E
Ahamed said in New Delhi
on Thursday.

“India has offered to help by arranging interac-
tions with Indian constitu-
tional experts here and
provision of literature and
expert advice, which has been appreciated by the
Iraqi Government,” Ahamed said.

Speaking to a group of
foreign journalists re-
cently, Indian Prime
Minister Manmohan Singh had stated that his gov-
ernment was committed to the Parliament’s deci-
sion, taken in 2003, not to send troops to war-rav-
aged Iraq, but was ready to extend every possible
support to reconstruct
Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua

Heavy rainstorm kills four
in E China province

Heavy rainstorms
struck 13 counties in four
cities including Suzhou,
Bengbu, Huaibei and
Fuyang in the province
since Tuesday morning,
with rainfall reaching
200mm in the worst-hit
areas.

The disaster afflicted
166,666 hectares of farm-
land and completely de-
stroyed croplands of
24,666 hectares, the
source said, adding that
the direct economic loss
caused by the accident was
estimated at 500 million
yuan (60.2 million US
dollars). Suzhou City was
worst-hit by the heavy
rainstorm, which flooded
more than 600 villages
and stranded a population
of 600,000, the source
said.

The provincial gov-
ernment has organized
immediate and forceful
rescue and relief work
and was trying its best to re-
store normal production
and life as soon as possi-
ble. MNA/Xinhua

Road side bomb kills US
soldier in Afghanistan

KABUL, 5 Aug — An American soldier was
killed by a road side bomb in Afghanistan, where
militants have increased their attacks ahead of
next month’s parliamentary polls, the US military
said on Friday.

One other member of
the military and an
Afghan national
Army soldier were
wounded after the
bomb hit their vehicle
on Thursday in south-
eastern Paktika.

At least 37 US sol-
diers have died in Af-
ghanistan this year —
the bloodiest period
for Washington since
they helped over-
throw the Taliban in
2001. Hundreds of
other people, mostly mili-
tants have also died in the Taliban-inspired
insurgency that has gripped parts of southern
and eastern Afghanistan too. MNA/Xinhua

Almost one million Sri Lankan
people evading income tax

COLOMBO, 5 August — Legislation must be introduced to force people
to pay income tax amid nearly one million Sri Lankan people who are evading
the income tax net, the Daily News reported on Thursday.

“Only less than 200,000 people are paying income tax and if this trend
continues, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) will fall far short of their
projected revenue target of 203 billion rupee (2,030 million US dollars) this
year,” said Joint Secretary of Inland Revenue Service H A L Udawatry.

Loopholes in the tax law to nab tax offenders “are widening and new legislation
must be introduced soon”, he noted.

The IRD is still governed by the income tax legislation, which was introduced
in 1974 and it is high time to introduce new laws according to the present developed
economy, he said.

In addition, he said, the lack of technology and trained staff is a major problem
the IRD is facing. — MNA/Xinhua

Irish housewife wins over
$133m lottery

LONDON, 15 Aug — A woman from Ireland’s
city of Limerick landed
Thursday the biggest prize
of 77 million pounds
/about 136.29 million US
dollars) in Europe’s most
famous lottery.

Dolores McNamara
won the money after pick-
ing the right numbers in
last Friday’s EuroMillions
draw, according to the
Sky News.

Euromillions
is played in the United
Kingdom, Ireland, Por-
tugal, Switzerland, France, Spain, Austria, Belgium and Luxem-
bourg. Europe’s previous
largest jackpot was the
72 - million - pound
“match six” top prize
won on the Italian
Superenalotto in May.

MNA/Xinhua

Heavy rainstorm kills four
in E China province

Hefei, 5 Aug — A heavy rainstorm has ravaged
the eastern part of China’s Anhui Province
claiming four lives and affecting a population
of 1.87 million, said the provincial civil affairs
department on Thursday.

MNA/Xinhua

British police charge two women
in London bomb probe

LONDON, 5 Aug — British police charged two women under anti-terrorism
laws on Thursday for failing to give police information after the botched
21 July attempts to bomb London.

Police said Yeshshenbet Girma, 28, and Mulumebet Girma, 21, of London,
will appear at the capital’s Bow Street Magistrates’ Court on Friday charged under
the Terrorism Act 2000.

They were arrested on 27 July in an armed raid on a public housing estate in
the Stockwell area of south London.

Police accused them of failing to give information to detectives which could help
convict someone “for an offence involving the commission, preparation or
instigation of an act of terrorism”.

The failed bombings on 21 July came two weeks after four suicide bombers
killed 52 people in three underground trains and a bus. Police have linked the
suicide bombers to al-Qaeda.

MNA/Reuters
The Myanmar village is the foundation of Myanmar Naing-ngan. The rural area is the base of every nation in the world. However grand, crowded and busy the major towns are, their progress is based on the rural economy. The urban areas will enjoy prosperity only if the agro-based economy of the rural areas is strong. The world has now become a global village due to advancement in the information and communication technology, the base of the modern economy. So, I have written the article “Myanmar village” to present the developments in the education and human resources of Myanmar.

Myanmar’s development and modernization drive is based on the rural areas as it is an agro-based nation. Rural areas will achieve progress only if we can effectively promote the rural agriculture. The five rural development work programmes of the third short-term five-year economic plan are:

- To upgrade rural roads to 30-foot wide smooth laterite and then to gravel facilities,
- To supply potable water to villages,
- To improve the level of rural schools and furniture and to ensure school enrollment for all school age children and to place emphasis on adult literacy campaign,
- To upgrade rural health care activities, and
- To develop the rural economy.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Information, the Education Ministry launched the electronic data broadcasting system on 1 January 2001. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe in his message sent in honour of the day on which e-Education is introduced in the Union of Myanmar on 1 January 2001 stated as follows:

“The education is a human resource development undertaking which invariably goes along with the national character and as such the Government has been implementing the Special Four-Year Plan for the Promotion of National Education. Now, all serious efforts are present, it has entered the third four-month period of the first year of implementation. I am delighted and honoured that the Electronic Data Broadcasting System is launched today for the education sector of Myanmar within such a short period.”

Electronic education is the main artery of the nation’s education system. Electronic education system ensures every student the opportunity to apply the ICT and overcome geographical and time limits.

The education is a human resource development undertaking which invariably goes along with the national character. Thus, the government has paid a serious attention to the four-year national education promotion project, and success has been achieved to a certain degree in implementing the project.

Now, all the states and divisions have good opportunities to pursue education. Nurturing of human resources region-wise has accelerated the nation-wide human resources development undertaking.

In border areas where peace and stability is prevailing, education programmes are being launched for every person. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on paving the way for widening the scope of formal education and three Rs courses for illiterate persons. The Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races is implementing the tasks.

Thanks to the three-R movement, the adult literacy rate of the nation reached 93.3 per cent in 2004, up from 92.2 per cent in 2003, 91.8 per cent in 2002, 91.4 per cent in 2001, and 91 per cent in 2000. The three Rs movement will be attended region-wise in border areas to realize the literacy target of 95.5 per cent.

Since 1999-2000, the week before the start of a new academic year, has been designated as the school enrollment week. During the week, school enrollment activities have been carried out township-wise in all states and divisions of the nation. The all-township enrollment programme for all school age children covered 55 townships in 2002-2003 academic year, 144 townships in 2003-2004 academic year, and 233 townships in 2004-2005 academic year. The enrollment rate of children who reached the age of five in 2004-2005 academic year was 96.56 per cent, up from 91 per cent in 1999-2000 academic year.

The opportunity to pursue basic education for youths has opened up together with the prevalence of peace in border areas. Youths of those regions now have the opportunity to pursue higher education.

Myanmar’s development and modernization drive is based on the rural areas as it is an agro-based nation. Rural areas will achieve progress only if we can effectively promote the rural agriculture.
People are to guard against the danger posed by internal and external destructive elements through united strength of the entire national people

As measures are being taken to ensure equal development of all regions in the nation, economic and social infrastructures have emerged one after another. Now 17 national race armed groups, after returning to the legal fold, are actively participating in the nation-building tasks.

Road Map of the State. He said social organizations such as USDA, MWVO, MWAF and MCMWA have been formed for their participation in the nation-building tasks. While the government and all national people are marching towards their goal, some destructionist groups are being incited by big nations of the west bloc are attempting to form a parallel government and committing destructive acts in the country. How can they rule the nation with only a handful of persons? He said it is an inhuman act that saboteurs blasted three bombs in public places on 7 May this year. Their acts are due to the instigation of some western big nations that are meddling in the affairs of the nation. All the people made their unanimous decisions how to respond to the internal and external destructive elements who are disturbing the nation in various ways at the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference and the ceremonies at Myanmar Women's Day. Western nations are inciting to cause political unrest in the country by funding such unlawful associations as ABSDF, FTUB, NCGUB and renegade Sao Hkam Hpa-led group. Due to the instigation, those groups are committing destructive acts to destroy the buildings, roads and bridges in the nation. Even the ILO that was formed to serve the interests of workers was used as political forum.

U Kyaw Kyaw Htay said people are urged to guard against the danger posed by internal and external destructive elements through the united strength of the entire national people in order not to cause the disintegration of the Union and national solidarity.

Next, U Kyaw Htay Win, executive of Myeik District USDA made a discussion. He said the most important thing is that all national people are to be equipped with Union Spirit. They are to strive for the development of the State while safeguarding their own nation. The present government is paying emphasis on the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. As measures are being taken to ensure the equal development of all regions in the nation, economic and social infrastructures have emerged one after another. Now the 17 national race armed groups, after returning to the legal fold, are actively participating in the nation-building tasks.

However, those from inside and outside are trying to drive a wedge among the national people. Particularly, Pyitht Nyunt Wai (a) Maung Maug-led group is acting in all seriousness to cause instability of the State, economic recession and destruction of lives and property of the nation. He went on to say that Patron of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that those who are armed with noble and high political sense can only build a developed nation. Those who are narrow-minded and want to live under alien subjugation can never create the development of the State.

Meeting Chairman U Kyaw Kyaw Htay delivering a speech at the mass meeting. — MNA

Executive of Myeik District USDA U Kyaw Htay Win holds discussions at the mass meeting. — MNA

As measures are being taken to ensure equal development of all regions in the nation, economic and social infrastructures have emerged one after another. Now 17 national race armed groups, after returning to the legal fold, are actively participating in the nation-building tasks.

Road Map of the State. He said social organizations such as USDA, MWVO, MWAF and MCMWA have been formed for their participation in the nation-building tasks. While the government and all national people are marching towards their goal, some destructionist groups are being incited by big nations of the west bloc are attempting to form a parallel government and committing destructive acts in the country. How can they rule the nation with only a handful of persons? He said it is an inhuman act that saboteurs blasted three bombs in public places on 7 May this year. Their acts are due to the instigation of some western big nations that are meddling in the affairs of the nation. All the people made their unanimous decisions how to respond to the internal and external destructive elements who are disturbing the nation in various ways at the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference and the ceremonies at Myanmar Women's Day. Western nations are inciting to cause political unrest in the country by funding such unlawful associations as ABSDF, FTUB, NCGUB and renegade Sao Hkam Hpa-led group. Due to the instigation, those groups are committing destructive acts to destroy the buildings, roads and bridges in the nation. Even the ILO that was formed to serve the interests of workers was used as political forum.

U Kyaw Kyaw Htay said people are urged to guard against the danger posed by internal and external destructive elements through the united strength of the entire national people in order not to cause the disintegration of the Union and national solidarity.

Next, U Kyaw Htay Win, executive of Myeik District USDA made a discussion. He said the most important thing is that all national people are to be equipped with Union Spirit. They are to strive for the development of the State while safeguarding their own nation. The present government is paying emphasis on the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. As measures are being taken to ensure the equal development of all regions in the nation, economic and social infrastructures have emerged one after another. Now the 17 national race armed groups, after returning to the legal fold, are actively participating in the nation-building tasks.

However, those from inside and outside are trying to drive a wedge among the national people. Particularly, Pyitht Nyunt Wai (a) Maung Maug-led group is acting in all seriousness to cause instability of the State, economic recession and destruction of lives and property of the nation. He went on to say that Patron of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that those who are armed with noble and high political sense can only build a developed nation. Those who are narrow-minded and want to live under alien subjugation can never create the development of the State.

Meeting Chairman U Kyaw Kyaw Htay delivering a speech at the mass meeting. — MNA

Executive of Myeik District USDA U Kyaw Htay Win holds discussions at the mass meeting. — MNA

As measures are being taken to ensure equal development of all regions in the nation, economic and social infrastructures have emerged one after another. Now 17 national race armed groups, after returning to the legal fold, are actively participating in the nation-building tasks.

Road Map of the State. He said social organizations such as USDA, MWVO, MWAF and MCMWA have been formed for their participation in the nation-building tasks. While the government and all national people are marching towards their goal, some destructionist groups are being incited by big nations of the west bloc are attempting to form a parallel government and committing destructive acts in the country. How can they rule the nation with only a handful of persons? He said it is an inhuman act that saboteurs blasted three bombs in public places on 7 May this year. Their acts are due to the instigation of some western big nations that are meddling in the affairs of the nation. All the people made their unanimous decisions how to respond to the internal and external destructive elements who are disturbing the nation in various ways at the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference and the ceremonies at Myanmar Women's Day. Western nations are inciting to cause political unrest in the country by funding such unlawful associations as ABSDF, FTUB, NCGUB and renegade Sao Hkam Hpa-led group. Due to the instigation, those groups are committing destructive acts to destroy the buildings, roads and bridges in the nation. Even the ILO that was formed to serve the interests of workers was used as political forum.

U Kyaw Kyaw Htay said people are urged to guard against the danger posed by internal and external destructive elements through the united strength of the entire national people in order not to cause the disintegration of the Union and national solidarity.

Next, U Kyaw Htay Win, executive of Myeik District USDA made a discussion. He said the most important thing is that all national people are to be equipped with Union Spirit. They are to strive for the development of the State while safeguarding their own nation. The present government is paying emphasis on the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. As measures are being taken to ensure the equal development of all regions in the nation, economic and social infrastructures have emerged one after another. Now the 17 national race armed groups, after returning to the legal fold, are actively participating in the nation-building tasks.

However, those from inside and outside are trying to drive a wedge among the national people. Particularly, Pyitht Nyunt Wai (a) Maung Maug-led group is acting in all seriousness to cause instability of the State, economic recession and destruction of lives and property of the nation. He went on to say that Patron of the USDA Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance, saying that those who are armed with noble and high political sense can only build a developed nation. Those who are narrow-minded and want to live under alien subjugation can never create the development of the State.
The aims of those narrow-minded are contrary to the interests of the State and its people. There is evidence in Myanmar history that all national people have never believed the colonialists. It is necessary for the people to prevent the acts of sectarians who are harming the interests of the State. So, the people are guard against all destructive acts by risking their lives in times of emergency and to go towards the goal of development. All in all, he said all national brethren are urged to guard against all destructive acts.

In her discussion, member of Myik District WAO Daw Thin Thin Aye said since the duty assumption of the State, the Tatmadaw government has been taking all necessary measures to ensure the rule of law, peace and stability and socio-economic progress of the nation. That is why basic infrastructures have emerged in the nation. For the equitable development of the nation, border region development projects and 24 special development projects are being implemented. While the State is striving its utmost to develop the nation, some big nations are putting pressure on the country by inciting internal and external destructive elements.

She said ABSDF, NCGUB, FTUB and NLD (LA) are committing destructive acts with the assistance of some western nations. People were killed in the bomb explosion last May. It was conspired by external and internal destructive elements who want to undermine stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order.

(See page 11)
谈一谈母乳喂养的好处

母乳喂养的好处

母乳喂养对婴儿和母亲都有诸多好处。母乳喂养不仅可以满足婴儿的营养需求，还对婴儿的健康和发育有着深远的影响。以下是一些母乳喂养的好处：

1. 增强免疫力：母乳中含有天然的抗体和免疫因子，可以帮助婴儿对抗疾病。
2. 促进婴儿智力发育：母乳中的营养成分有助于婴儿的大脑发育和智力增长。
3. 降低疾病风险：母乳喂养可以降低婴儿患某些疾病的风险，如呼吸道感染、腹泻和婴儿糖尿病等。
4. 有利于母婴情感交流：母乳喂养时，母亲和婴儿之间会有亲密的接触，有助于建立亲密的亲子关系。
5. 有利于母亲健康：母乳喂养可以促进母亲的产后恢复，减少产后出血的风险。

母乳喂养不仅对婴儿有益，对母亲也有诸多好处，因此鼓励和支持母乳喂养是十分必要的。让我们一起为母乳喂养加油，让母乳喂养成为每个母亲的选择！
Minister U Soe Tha arrives back

YANGON, 6 Aug — Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha arrived back here by air this evening after attending the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Millennium Development Goals held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The minister was welcomed back at the airport by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and departmental officials.

Myanmar delegation members Director-General of Foreign Economic Relations Department Daw Myo Nwe and Deputy Director-General of Health Planning Department U Aung Kyaw also arrived back. — MNA

Foreign Minister arrives back

YANGON, 6 Aug — Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back here by air this evening after attending the Myanmar delegation members. Secretary of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-U Bein Bridge Construction Project and other officials. At the meeting, the ministers reviewed the progress made since the inception of ACMECS in November 2003. They took note progress of the cooperation activities in the fields of trade and investment, agriculture and industrial cooperation, transport linkages, tourism cooperation and human resource development.

The ACMECS ministers held discussions with the development partners to find ways and means for cooperation to realize the ACMECS Action Plan, particularly common programmes that require large sum and fund and knowledge.

In addition to the five areas of cooperation, the ministers agreed to cooperate in energy security and public health. — MNA

Secretariat Member oversees sanitation tasks of Hlinethaya Township USDA

YANGON, 6 Aug — Secretariat member of USDA Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan inspected sanitation tasks of social organization members and workers of Township Development Affairs Committee, totalling over 1,000 along Nyaungdon Road in Hlinethaya Township under the leadership of Hlinethaya Township USDA this morning. Next, the Secretariat Member met USDA members at the hall of the township association. Secretary of the Township USDA U Nyan Win reported on strength of the township association, and their participation in rural development tasks. Wardorganizers also briefed him on progress of their tasks.

Speaking on the occasion, Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that USDA members are to carry out public welfare tasks, and to strive with utmost efforts for achieving success in implementation of the objectives of the association. He spoke of the need to fulfil basic requirements of the local people. In cooperation with other social organizations and local people, the USDA members are to undertake sanitation tasks and proper flow of water at drains in the township for preventive measures, dengue hemorrhagic fever and other diseases during the rainy season. He urged the members to perform regional development with goodwill.

Afterwards, the Secretariat Member donated cash and exercise books to Township USDA Secretaries U Nyan Win and Shwe Lin Ban Village Organizer U Aye Tint. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Kawa Township People’s Hospital

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects Kawa Township People’s Hospital. — MNA

It is necessary for the people...

(from page 9) renovation Sao Hkam Hpa, FTUB led by Pyithit Nyunt Wai (a) Maung Maung, ABSDF led by Than Ge and other related terrorist groups are making attempts to disintegrate the nation and disturb the interests of the people. Therefore, preventive measures against the danger posed by internal and external destructionists are to be taken for carrying out development tasks of the nation.

In the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference (2005) held recently, Head of State Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance that the members are to adhere to Our Three Main National Causes with patriotic fervor under the clear leadership of the Tatmadaw whatever period it is. The conference adopted five future tasks. They were:

— to keep patriotism alive and dynamic and strengthen Union Spirit by upholding Our Three Main National Causes;
— to join hands with the people to implement the seven-point Road Map of the State for emergence of a disciplined and flourishing democratic nation until it meets with success;
— MWVO to participate in State defence and security duties under the leadership of the Tatmadaw;
— to give priority to welfare services of war veterans and reserve members; and
to cooperate with congenial organizations in undertaking five rural development tasks.

Therefore, WVO members upholding Our Three Main National Causes are to actively take part in guarding against the danger posed by internal and external destructionists through the united strength of the people, carry out peace and stability and development tasks of the State and realize the seven-point Road Map with Union Spirit.

Next, Executive of Taninthayi Division USDA Daw Hla Yi seconded the motions tabled by Taninthayi Division MCWSC Joint-Secretary Dr San San Thi and Myeik Township WVO Secretary Captain Myo Thant (Red).

Forwards, the meeting chairman sought approval from the mass meeting that passed the two resolutions. Afterwards, all the participants chanted the slogans at the completion of the meeting. — MNA
Coal pit fire kills 13 in north China Province

SHIHAIZHUANG, 5 Aug—Thirteen miners were killed when an illegal coal mine in north China’s Hebei Province caught fire Wednesday night, mine safety officials said on Friday.

The fire broke out at Taodingshan coal mine in Kangzhuang Village in the city of Handan at 10:30 pm Wednesday, said officials with Hebei provincial workplace safety administration. They said 12 of the victims were from the northeastern Shannxi Province and one was native of Handan. Rescuers have found all the dead bodies.

A preliminary investigation shows a wood stake in the shaft caught fire first and the blaze soon spread across the mine, suffocating all the 13 underground. The mine, built in 1984, was suspended operation in June 2004 out of safety considerations. The two owners of the mine, Zhang Weibing and Yang Hongfang, both locals, are under control by police and the account of their mining firm has been frozen.

Philippine former presidential candidate passes away

MANILA, 5 Aug—Philippine former senator, former education secretary and former presidential candidate Raul Roco passed away on Friday morning at the age of 63.

In the 2004 presidential elections, he ran for Alliance of Hope, a campaign coalition of the parties of Democratic Action, Reform and Provincial First Development Initiative.

After being listed as the final by the unofficial popularity polling upon elections, Roco surprisingly announced to give up the campaign at the excuse of his need to have medical treatment in the United States.

Roco was the second presidential candidates in the last elections who has passed away following Fernando Poe Jr the major opponent of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Roco was born on 26 October, 1941, in the province of Camarines Sur by former Sulpicio Azuela Roco and public school teacher Rosario Orlando Sagarrbarria. MNA/Xinhua

Typhoon Matsa likely to hit Shanghai hardest

SHANGHAI, 6 Aug—Typhoon Matsa is likely to batter east China’s Shanghai between 5-7 August with high winds and torrents, said local meteorological and flood control departments.

Judging from its trajectory, Matsa is expected to move toward Shanghai after it lands in east China’s Zhejiang Province and passes through Hangzhou Bay. It will be the most severe typhoon in Shanghai in the last eight years, the municipal meteorological station said, adding that it will bring heavy rains, storms and strong winds to the city between the upcoming Friday night and Sunday.

The municipal flood control headquarters have issued an urgent notice Thursday, urging all departments and units to make full preparation for the imminent disaster.

Typhoon batters China, 1.24 million evacuated

BEIJING, 6 Aug—Typhoon Masta battered China’s eastern coast with strong winds and heavy rain on Saturday morning, killing one and forcing more than a million people from their homes, state media reported.

The domestic airport in the country’s financial hub, Shanghai, was shut and most international departures were cancelled. Debris and small floods clogged streets after downpours in the night.

A shed on one of the city’s many construction sites collapsed in the rain, killing one person and injuring two, the official Xinhua agency reported.

Mata made landfall before dawn in coastal Zhejiang Province, where officials had evacuated over 1.24 million people. It was heading northwest, threatening the scenic provincial capital of Hangzhou.

Study says “prehypertension” triples heart attack risk

WASHINGTON, 5 Aug—People whose blood pressure is slightly elevated — a condition called prehypertension — have triple the risk of a heart attack compared to those with healthy blood pressure, researchers said on Thursday.

“People with prehypertension did not have a significantly increased risk of stroke. “This is somewhat surprising, but it may be related to the small number of stroke events in the study,” Qureshi said.

If people have prehypertension they are now advised to lower their blood pressure by exercising, avoiding salt and eating a diet rich in whole grains, fruits and vegetables.

It may be that medication is also needed to lower blood pressure to below 120/80, Qureshi said.

Typhoon runs dry as Portugal’s drought deepens

LISBON, 5 Aug—Forest fires raged in Portugal on Thursday amid the country’s worst drought in decades, temperatures soared and a famous thermal spring dried up.

More than 1,500 firefighters fought at least 20 fires across the nation, the civil protection office said. In at least one village fire reached several homes.

In the town of Torres Vedras, 37 miles of Lisbon, the thermal baths of Vimeiro were shut. “There isn’t enough water to feed the baths,” Antonio Macedo, who is in charge of the baths, told Reuters. “It is the first time in our 60 years that we have had to shut.”

Other thermal baths across Portugal have also complained about low water levels in recent weeks.

Fires worsened in the last two days as hot winds from Spain sent temperatures as high as 45 degrees Celsius (113 Fahrenheit) in the interior, the weather service said.

Rescue services asked rural homeowners to clear areas of 50 metres around their houses to keep fires from reaching them. All of Portugal is in severe or extreme drought this year in the worst dry spell since at least 1945.

About 53,000 people are getting water from tank trucks, while in many areas there are water conservation measures in force, the national water agency said.

According to the Agriculture Ministry, there have been 6,353 forest fires this year, almost two-thirds more than the average for the previous five years. MNA/Reuters

Advertisement

Hot spring runs dry as Portugal’s drought deepens

LISBON, 5 Aug—Forest fires raged in Portugal on Thursday amid the country’s worst drought in decades, temperatures soared and a famous thermal spring dried up.

More than 1,500 firefighters fought at least 20 fires across the nation, the civil protection office said. In at least one village fire reached several homes.

In the town of Torres Vedras, 37 miles of Lisbon, the thermal baths of Vimeiro were shut. “There isn’t enough water to feed the baths,” Antonio Macedo, who is in charge of the baths, told Reuters. “It is the first time in our 60 years that we have had to shut.”

Other thermal baths across Portugal have also complained about low water levels in recent weeks.

Fires worsened in the last two days as hot winds from Spain sent temperatures as high as 45 degrees Celsius (113 Fahrenheit) in the interior, the weather service said.

Rescue services asked rural homeowners to clear areas of 50 metres around their houses to keep fires from reaching them. All of Portugal is in severe or extreme drought this year in the worst dry spell since at least 1945.

About 53,000 people are getting water from tank trucks, while in many areas there are water conservation measures in force, the national water agency said.

According to the Agriculture Ministry, there have been 6,353 forest fires this year, almost two-thirds more than the average for the previous five years. MNA/Reuters
Material folic acid level linked to birth weight

London, 5 Aug—Pregnant women who lack the vitamin folate in their blood are more likely to have a baby with a low birth weight, British scientists said on Friday.

Folate is a B Vitamin found in green leafy vegetables, cereals and liver. It is essential for foetal growth and gene expression, helping produce and maintain new cells.

Women are already advised to take folic acid supplements, a synthetic compound of folate, before conceiving and during the early months of pregnancy, to reduce the risk of defects such as spina bifida, a defect of the spinal column.

Researchers from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne examined folate levels in red blood cells from nearly 1,100 pregnant women and looked at lifestyle data. They found higher folate levels in women who were associated with increased birth weight for their babies — a marker for good health in infancy and later in life.

"Low folate status in early pregnancy has been linked with low infant birthweight. Mothers with low levels of folate have lighter babies," said Dr Caroline Relton, who headed the research team.

"We believe their findings strengthen the argument for fortifying foods such as bread and cereals with folic acid."

The United States started fortifying flour with folic acid several years ago after its role was established in reducing neural tube birth disorders. Other countries included Canada, Australia, Mexico and Chile have followed their example.

These birth defects occur during the early development of the foetus, when the spine does not close properly. Spina bifida is the most common of these.

AIDS makes 87,000 orphans in Mozambique

Maputo, 5 Aug — About 87,000 Mozambican children have become orphans because of AIDS that killed their parents, the country’s National Statistics Institute (INE) has said in a report.

The report, available here on Thursday, was presented to a recent meeting, that took place in the central province of Manica. Representatives of Mozambican public and private institutions, NGOs, and other users of statistics data attended the meeting.

According to INE delegate Amelia Nakhare, about 58,000, compared with 21,000 in the southern region, and 8,000 in the north.

She said that the central region is also leading in terms of deaths by AIDS, with 44,000, followed by the south, with 17,900 and 6,600 in the northern region.

Nakhare said that there are 7,000 orphans aged five figures introduced by the respective HIV/AIDS prevalence rates — 16.7 per cent in the central region of Mozambique, 14.8 per cent in the south, and 8.4 in the north.

Scientists say flu pandemic preventable

Los Angeles, 5 Aug — Using computer models to simulate an influenza outbreak, two research groups found that it may be possible to contain an outbreak of avian flu in humans with proper strategies.

The scientists said on Wednesday that targeted administration of antivirals, quarantine and pre-vaccination, could potentially contain an outbreak under many circumstances. Their findings are published in Nature and Science, respectively.

The H5N1 strain of the avian flu virus, found in birds throughout South-East Asia, has infected a number of species including domestic poultry, pigs and people. Scientists fear that a pandemic exchange between bird and human flu viruses or the accumulation of H5N1 mutations could soon make efficient person-to-person transmission possible.

In the Nature paper, scientists simulated 85 million people living in Thailand and bordering regions of neighbouring countries. It tested the effectiveness of giving courses of antiviral treatment to everyone, socially or geographically targeting who they gave the medication and in combination with other interventions, such as closing schools and workplace.

They found that an international stockpile of three million courses of flu antiviral drugs, combined with other interventions, could contain a pandemic.

Treaching infected individuals and everyone in their vicinity, along with closing schools and workplaces, could have more than a 90-per-cent chance of stopping the spread of a pandemic virus, according to the model.

"To be effective," said Neil Ferguson, leader of the Nature paper, "you really must use a combination of strategies. Without one of these, you would not successfully prevent an epidemic."

He noted that successful containment would depend on the early detection of the first case and the rapid implementation of public health measures.

The model described in Science simulated 500,000 people living in rural Southeast Asia and relied on information about how those individuals move within their communities.

Containment strategies included giving antiviral medication to people in the same social networks, quarantining the homes or workplaces of the infected people and combinations of these approaches.

The researchers reported that a combination of targeted antiviral treatment and quarantine introduced two weeks after the first case had the potential to successfully control an outbreak of the disease, resulting in less than one case per 1,000 people.

Boat capsizes in Nigeria, more than 30 drowned

 Lagos, 5 Aug — More than 30 people were drowned when a wooden boat capsized on the River Niger in southeastern Nigeria, police said on Thursday.

State-run Radio Nigeria said the death toll could rise as high as 135 after the boat, which was carrying 150 people and large quantities of farm produce, hit a submerged object.

"It happened last night. It is feared that more than 30 people must have died in the accident," a police spokesman said by telephone from the Anambra state capital, Awka.

"Our primary concern now is to see how many people can be rescued alive." The boat was traveling from the Ogidi District to Onitsha.

Most orphans are found in the central region of Mozambique, 14.8 per cent in the central region of Mozambique, 14.8 per cent in the north.

AIDS makes 87,000 orphans in Mozambique

Maputo, 5 Aug — About 87,000 Mozambican children have become orphans because of AIDS that killed their parents, the country’s National Statistics Institute (INE) has said in a report.

The report, available here on Thursday, was presented to a recent meeting, that took place in the central province of Manica. Representatives of Mozambican public and private institutions, NGOs, and other users of statistics data attended the meeting.

According to INE delegate Amelia Nakhare, about 58,000, compared with 21,000 in the southern region, and 8,000 in the north.

She said that the central region is also leading in terms of deaths by AIDS, with 44,000, followed by the south, with 17,900 and 6,600 in the northern region.

Nakhare said that there are 7,000 orphans aged five figures introduced by the respective HIV/AIDS prevalence rates — 16.7 per cent in the central region of Mozambique, 14.8 per cent in the south, and 8.4 in the north.

Scientists say flu pandemic preventable

Los Angeles, 5 Aug — Using computer models to simulate an influenza outbreak, two research groups found that it may be possible to contain an outbreak of avian flu in humans with proper strategies.

The scientists said on Wednesday that targeted administration of antivirals, quarantine and pre-vaccination, could potentially contain an outbreak under many circumstances. Their findings are published in Nature and Science, respectively.

The H5N1 strain of the avian flu virus, found in birds throughout South-East Asia, has infected a number of species including domestic poultry, pigs and people. Scientists fear that a pandemic exchange between bird and human flu viruses or the accumulation of H5N1 mutations could soon make efficient person-to-person transmission possible.

In the Nature paper, scientists simulated 85 million people living in Thailand and bordering regions of neighbouring countries.

It tested the effectiveness of giving courses of antiviral treatment to everyone, socially or geographically targeting who they gave the medication and in combination with other interventions, such as closing schools and workplace.

They found that an international stockpile of three million courses of flu antiviral drugs, combined with other interventions, could contain a pandemic.

"To be effective," said Neil Ferguson, leader of the Nature paper, "you really must use a combination of strategies. Without one of these, you would not successfully prevent an epidemic."

He noted that successful containment would depend on the early detection of the first case and the rapid implementation of public health measures.

The model described in Science simulated 500,000 people living in rural Southeast Asia and relied on information about how those individuals move within their communities.

Containment strategies included giving antiviral medication to people in the same social networks, quarantining the homes or workplaces of the infected people and combinations of these approaches.

The researchers reported that a combination of targeted antiviral treatment and quarantine introduced two weeks after the first case had the potential to successfully control an outbreak of the disease, resulting in less than one case per 1,000 people.

Canadians last surviving Victoria Cross winner dies

Ottawa, 5 Aug — Sergeant Ernest Alvia “Smokey” Smith, Canada’s last surviving winner of the Victoria Cross for conspicuous battlefield bravery, died on Wednesday at the age of 91, military officials said.

Smith was a private when he won the Victoria Cross — the British Commonwealth’s top military honour — during the battle for the Savio River in Italy on 21 and 22 October, 1944.

When Smith’s unit was attacked by three German tanks, he destroyed one of the vehicles with an anti-tank weapon and then used his submachine gun to drive off enemy infantry.

“His conspicuous bravery, initiative and leadership in the face of enemy fire during World War II inspired fellow Canadians everywhere — in action and on the homefront,” Prime Minister Paul Martin said in a statement.

Smith died in the western Canadian city of Vancouver. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

Masked robbers steal three worthless copies of pictures by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch from an Oslo hotel on Wednesdays in a bungled raid, almost a year after Munich’s 1893 masterpiece “The Scream” was stolen.

Thieves wrenched the copies off the walls of Oslo’s Hotel Continental with crowbars, a Reuters reporter at the scene said.

The thieves struck almost a year after armed robbers stole “The Scream” and another work by the pioneer of modern expressionism from an Oslo museum in front of stunned tourists.

Police were searching for three robbers, two of whom entered the hotel and one who waited in a getaway car that was found abandoned nearby.
Boukhari inspires Ajax to Super Cup win over PSV

AMSTERDAM, 6 Aug— Ajax Amsterdam midfielder Nourdin Boukhari claimed the lion’s share with a goal and an assist in his side’s 2-1 Super Cup win over PSV Eindhoven on Friday.

Wilfred Bouma opened the scoring for Dutch champions PSV six minutes after the break but in the final 20 minutes Boukhari equalized with a superb free kick and later set up Ryan Babel for the winner. Double winners PSV began the match with eight starters from last season’s successful team, having transferred the midfield trio of Mark van Bommel, Johann Vogel and Park Ji-sung.

PSV replaced them with new signing Timmy Simons, who came over from Club Bruges, Dutch Under-20 international Ibrahim Afellay, filling in on the left flank, and the versatile Theo Lucius, who operated as the most offensive midfielder.

Guus Hiddink’s side created their first chance after six minutes when Lucius and van Bommel had given the team the win and their fourth Super Cup. After 72 minutes Boukhari curled a free kick into the left corner of the goal to level the score and six minutes later he set up Babel for the victory.

Saha out after knee operation

LONDON, 6 Aug—Because of a knee operation, Louis Saha will miss the start of the season. “Louis Saha on Thursday had arthroscopic surgery for damage to the medial meniscus in his right knee. Louis will be out for a number of weeks,” a club spokeswoman told ManUtd.com.

The French striker, who has made just four league appearances for new signing Valerien Ismael two of the women’s volleyball world championship Asian qualifying tournament.

China, Taibei win in women’s volleyball world championship

BEIJING (Zhejiang Province), 6 Aug—Olympic and World Cup champion China withstood a stiff test to defeat Australia in straight sets on Friday.

A of the women’s volleyball world championship Asian qualifying tournament.

The Chinese looked anything but the Olympic champions in the opening stage of the first set, succumbing to Australia’s fluid attack and efficient defense. After struggling to grab an 11-8 lead, China suddenly found its form that inspired it to last year’s Olympic victory in Athens and took the set 25-15.

In front of thousands of boisterous home fans, China took charge from the start of the second set with Chu Jinling and Ma Yunwen providing a standout performance.

The Australians, coached by former Chinese national player Liang Ying, came back strongly in the third set by opening it with a 4-1 lead and extending to 10-4. After head coach Chen Zhonghe brought on Feng Kun and Yang Hao, China clawed back to 10-7, but Australia pulled away again to 16-9.

Trailing at 20-19, China levelled the score for the first time in the set through a Chu Jinling spike from the left side. The tenacious Australians then stave off match point four times before losing.

Yang Hao was the top scorer with 14 points. Chinese head coach Chen Zhonghe gave thumbs-up to the Australian team, saying they have a promising future.

10-Man Bayern start title defence with 3-0 win

MUNCHEN (Germany), 6 Aug—Down to 10 men for the entire second half, champions Bayern Munich began their German title defence with a 3-0 victory over Borussia Moenchengladbach on Friday.

Dutchman Roy Makaay settled the tie with two goals in the 86th and 89th minutes of a match which Bayern had dominated in their new stadium.

A turbulent first half had produced a well-taken Owen Hargreaves goal from a Roque Santa Cruz lay-back in the 28th minute and a second yellow card for new signing Valerien Ismael two minutes from halftime.

Ismael, a new arrival from Werder Bremen, was deservedly booked for his first challenge, but the French central defender was unlucky to get his marching orders later after a flat push on Moenchengladbach striker Oliver Neuville’s shirt.

Outnumbered Bayern pressed in the second half and Hargreaves found Santa Cruz free, but the Paraguayan struck the post from the impressive Marcell Jansen 20 minutes later.

The two were among Bayern’s best performers on the night against a Moenchengladbach side that had two clear chances to equalize — a goalmouth scramble in the 59th minute and a run-through on the left and shot against the post from the impressive Marcell Jansen 20 minutes later.

“Until 2-0 the game was open. We needed to defend well. The 10 did very well. If we’d been 11 I think the fans would have had less cause to worry,” said Bayern coach Felix Magath.

Horst Koeppel, Moenchengladbach’s coach, said he felt his side could have come away with a draw. “It was on a knife-edge. We had the chance to equalize... the 0-0 rather flattened them.”

Makaay made the difference with...
US to announce charges in Pentagon probe

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug — US prosecutors plan to announce additional charges on Thursday against a US Defence Department analyst accused of illegally disclosing classified defence information, and to charge two former officials of a pro-Israel lobbying group, government sources said.

The additional charges involve Lawrence Franklin, a Pentagon analyst already accused of giving the information to two former employees of the influential American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the two sources said.

They said prosecutors planned to announce charges against Steve Rosen, formerly AIPAC’s policy director, and Keith Weissman, formerly its junior analyst. In Alexandria, Virginia, where the case has been pending, US Attorney Paul McNulty scheduled a news conference at 2 pm (1800 GMT) for an announcement “related to a major national security prosecution”.

Franklin, who worked on the Iraq desk within the Office of the Secretary of Defence at the time the government says he disclosed the information, previously was charged with disclosing top-secret information about potential attacks on US forces in Iraq to the two AIPAC employees. He also has been charged with disclosing to a foreign diplomat classified information about a Middle Eastern country’s activities in Iraq. Sources familiar with the investigation have said the diplomat was an Israeli.

Franklin previously has pleaded not guilty. His attorney, Plato Cacheris, said he did not know for sure what prosecutors planned to announce, but added that they had long threatened to bring charges against the two former AIPAC employees. AIPAC fired the two men in April. A spokesman for lawyer Abbe Lowell, who represents Rosen, declined to comment.

Justice Department officials declined to comment on McNulty’s announcement.

The Israeli diplomat in Washington who met several times with Franklin has been identified as Naor Gilon, head of the Israeli embassy in the United States. He was a diplomat in London.

AFP/Reuters

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hrs MST on 6-8-2005)

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Shweygin River at Shweygin is (710) cm. The water level may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hrs MST observation today, the water level of Tharlin River at Hpa-an is (760) cm. The water level may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

Earthquake report

(Issued at 18:30 hrs MST on 6-8-2005)

An earthquake of slight intensity (4.9) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about (270) miles Northeast of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (17) hrs (18) min (32) sec MST on 5th August 2005.

Sunday, 7 August

View on today:

7:00 am
1. Myanmar News
7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise
7:30 am
3. Morning news
7:40 am
4. Nice and sweet song
7:55 am
5. Myanmar News
8:10 am
6. Myanmar News
8:20 am
7. Myanmar News
8:30 am
8. International News
8:45 am
9. Say it in English
9:00 am
10. Use
11:00 am
11. Martial song
11:15 am
12. Musical Programme
11:30 am
13. Round-up of the week’s international news
11:40 am
14. News
12:20 pm
15. World News
12:40 pm
16. Myanmar Video Feature:
1:20 pm
7. Musical programme
1:35 pm
8. International news
2:00 pm
9. Martial song
2:15 pm
10. Songs to uphold National Spirit
3:00 pm
11. English for Everyday Use
3:45 pm
12. News
4:30 pm
13. International news
5:00 pm
14. News
5:15 pm
15. News
5:30 pm
16. News
6:00 pm
17. News
6:45 pm
18. News
7:30 pm
19. News
8:30 pm
20. News
9:00 pm
21. News
9:15 pm
22. News
10:00 pm
23. News
10:30 pm
24. News
11:00 pm
25. News
12:00 am
26. News

Sunday, 7 August

Tune in today:

8:30 am
1. Brief news
8:35 am
2. Music: - Make it good
8:40 am
3. Music: Perspectives
8:45 am
4. Music: Girls & boys
5:50 am
5. National news
9:05 am
6. Music: - Fame
9:10 am
7. International news
9:15 am
8. Cultural Images of Myanmar & Myanmar & Ivory sculpture
1:30 pm
9. News
1:40 pm
10. Story for Children
1:50 pm
11. Songs for Children
9:00 pm
12. Weekly news review
9:10 pm
13. Article
9:25 pm
14. Music: Dream of you
9:45 pm
15. News
10:00 pm
16. News

WEATHER

Saturday, 6 August, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division and rain has been isolated in Kayah State, Magway and Ayeawady Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Rakhine State and isolated heavyfall in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (6.14) inches, An (5.59) inches, Sitway (3.94) inches, Kyauktaw (3.74) inches and Shweygin (3.27) inches.

Maximum temperature on 5-8-2005 was 83°F. Minimum temperature on 6-8-2005 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 6-8-2005 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 5-8-2005 was nil. Rainfalls on 6-8-2005 were nil at Mongladon, 0.04 inch at Kabu-Aye, 0.04 inch at central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were 58.15 inches at Mongladon, 57.64 inches at Kaba-Aye and 58.39 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 6 mph from Southwest at (17) hrs (15) min MST on 5-8-2005.

Bay inference: Monsoon is generally strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 7-8-2005: Rain will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan, Chin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Ayeawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Occasional squalls with rough seas are likely off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 7-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-8-2005: Possibility of isolated rain. Degree of certainty is 40%.
The government also established the National Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges (Yangon) and (Mandalay) three years ago with a view to producing human resources for the development of border areas, reflecting the State’s goodwill, loving-kindness and compassion.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets departmental officials, social organization members and local people in Kawa. — MNA

YANGON, 6 Aug — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Brig-Gen Win Myint of local station, senior military officers and departmental officials, attended the ceremony to mark completion of ploughing for early monsoon paddy cultivation.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on inspection tour of Bago Division

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Ministers Maj-Gen Saw Tun and U Than Aung formally open the building of South Okkalapa BEPS No 26. — YANGON COMMAND

School buildings of BEPSs in South Okkalapa, Dagon Myothit (North) handed over

The opening ceremony of South Okkalapa BEPS No 26 in progress. — YANGON COMMAND

The government also established the National Youth Resource Development Degree Colleges (Yangon) and (Mandalay) three years ago with a view to producing human resources for the development of border areas, reflecting the State’s goodwill, loving-kindness and compassion.

THE OPENING CEREMONY OF SOUTH OKKALAPA BEPS NO 26 IN PROGRESS. — YANGON COMMAND

The cash donation ceremony followed. The commander, the ministers and deputy ministers accepted K 3,650,000 for the school buildings donated by wellwishers.

The building of South Okkalapa BEPS No 31 measuring 120 feet by 30 feet is built at a cost of K 77,645 million by Sakura Company. The 195 feet long and 30 feet wide two-storey building of South Okkalapa BEPS No 26 was built at a cost of K 104,919 million by AM and Myanmar Myint Construction companies. At Dagon Myothit (North) BEPS No 24, AM Construction Company spent K 165.509 million on construction of the three-storey school building measuring 264 feet by 30 feet.