The Tatmadaw has been working overtime to carry out the gigantic task covering a wide array of sectors from internal peace to fulfilling the basic needs of the people. Only the ones who uphold Our Three Main National Causes can develop and defend the Union.

Prime Minister General Soe Win delivers an address at opening of Myanmar and International Studies Course No 9 of USDA. — MNA

Myanmar lost independence after the three aggressive wars launched by the colonialists. During the over 100 years of subjugation, the political, economic and social sectors, human rights, national characters and social standard were in a state of decline due to the exploitation of the occupiers. The nation lost her independence in a matter of days. But the people had to sacrifice lots of blood, sweat and lives to regain independence. All should take it as a lesson of history.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Boosting paddy production integral to national economic development

In the Union of Myanmar, the majority of national people are engaged in the agricultural sector, on which the nation relies for its sustainable economic development.

In the agricultural sector, sown acreage of paddy, the staple crop of the nation, is more than that of any other crops. The government is implementing two lofts aims “Ensure paddy surplus”, and “Boosting paddy production is a national duty” for food security of the growing population.

In this regard, it is needed to effectively apply the four agricultural methods to achieve these aims. One of these four methods is application of correct cultivation method, without which it is virtually impossible to meet the per-acre yield target.

The second method is the use of high-yield strain. To highlight the importance of this method, high-yield paddy strain Hsinthwelat was used in Yangon Division last summer, and as a result the paddy per-acre yield touched over 150 baskets.

The third method is the mixed use of natural and chemical fertilizers. The last one is increasing the acreage of paddy to be cultivated at the most appropriate time in the rainy season. The Myanmar Agriculture Service has demonstrated these four methods at the beginning of this rainy season, and so farmers are to effectively apply the methods. In compliance with the four agricultural methods initiated by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the in-row transplanting method is being put into practice as part of the correct cultivation method, and that will contribute towards boosting per-acre yield and reduction of the expenses on cultivation of paddy.

Efforts are to be made to meet the per acre yield target in applying the transplanting method suitable in some regions. In conformity with the motto “ensuring the most appropriate space between transplanted seedlings is in the hands of paddy transplanters”, farmers are to take all necessary measures to achieve the goals.

In addition, they are to place much reliance on effective use of farm implements and machinery in growing and harvesting paddy and other crops, and only then can the traditional farming be transformed into the mechanized farming in a short time. They are also to be convinced that they are a reliable force to increase the nation’s paddy production.

The national farmers’ endeavours in employing the four agricultural methods in earnest to boost paddy output are indeed integral to the drive for the improvement of national economy, and they are, in other words, implementing the national duty with strong patriotic fervour.
Koizumi’s support ratings rise after dissolution of Lower House

Tokyo, 10 Aug — Support ratings for Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi rebounded following his dissolving the Lower House, media surveys showed on Wednesday.

The leading Asahi Shimbun daily showed that the approval rate for his Cabinet rose 5 percentage points to 46 per cent, while the disapproval rate dropped 4 points to 38 per cent.

In another major newspaper Mainichi Shimbun, the support rate shot up 9 points to 46 per cent, while the disapproval rate fell 3 points to 37 per cent.

The Premier dissolved the Lower House on Monday immediately after his postal reform bills failed to get through the Upper House, which is not subject to dissolution.

The setback was mainly due to rebellion from his own Liberal Democratic Party as many members were worried about losing support from the influential postal service.

The surveys in the two newspapers and the Yomiuri Shimbun found that the people who supported the dissolution well exceeded those who were against the move.

One US soldier, 16 guerrillas killed in south Afghanistan

KABUL, 10 Aug — At least 16 Afghan guerrillas and one US soldier were killed Monday during a fight in the southern province of Zabul, the US-led coalition said.

The US soldier was killed when an Afghan and US passport utilizing operations aimed at rooting out insurgents from the Deb Chopan area of Zabul came under attack by insurgents with small-arms fire and rocket propelled grenades.

Residents look at the remains of a vehicle used by a suicide bomber following the attack in Baghdad on 10 Aug, 2005. — Internet

1,841 US soldiers killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug—As of Wednesday, 10 Aug, 2005, at least 1,841 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 1,424 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is two higher than the Defence Department’s tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Wednesday. 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, 1,702 US military members have died, according to AP’s count. That includes at least 1,315 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military’s numbers. — Internet

8.53 million Chinese people find jobs in first six months

Beijing, 10 Aug — In the first six months of this year, governments at different levels have made hard efforts to deal with the issue of employment and helped 8.53 million people find jobs, according to official sources.

Of those newly-employed, 5.95 million found their jobs for the first time and the rest 2.58 million were re-employed workers who had been laid off by state-owned companies.

Of those re-employed, 660,000 were aged between 40 and 50 years, who are called “The 4050 Army” in China.

Iraq war makes US Army unattractive

BAGHDAD, 10 Aug—The US Army, hard pressed to attract new personnel, seems doomed to miss its target for the year.

The Iraq war marks the first test of the all-volunteer US military during a protracted war, and army officials have conceded that all three components of the army will likely miss their numbers this year.

The army provides the bulk of ground troops in the Iraq war, in which about 184,000 US troops have been killed and another 14,000 wounded. It achieved its second-straight monthly goal — sending 8,085 new soldiers into boot camp in July, topping its goal by 9% — after falling short in the previous four months, according to figures released by the Pentagon on Wednesday.

As of the end of June, the number of registered jobless people stood at 8.32 million. The registered unemployment rate was 4.2 per cent, which is equivalent to last year’s.

This year, the government has stepped up efforts to assist the jobless and improve their working capabilities by providing information on employment, sponsoring training programmes and holding specific job fairs for people of different categories such as layoff’s and university graduates.

In the first six months, 3.85 million people participated in appraisals of professional skills, and of them, 3.28 million received a certificate. Meanwhile, 2.6 million layoff’s were trained on re-employment and 170,000 attended trainings for starting up their own business.

Moreover, special efforts were made to help travelling labourers from rural areas. Over 4,500 job fairs were held and over four million positions were recommended for 1.1 million job-seekers from rural areas.

Internet

One US soldier, 16 guerrillas killed in south Afghanistan

KABUL, 10 Aug — At least 16 Afghan guerrillas and one US soldier were killed Monday during a fight in the southern province of Zabul, the US-led coalition said on Tuesday.

US and coalition aircraft arrived at the scene and provided continuous close air support, the coalition said in a new release.

Afghan and US forces would continue the search and attack mission to ensure there would be no enemy safe havens in the region, Brigadier-General James G Champion, Combined Joint Task Force-76 Deputy Commanding General, was quoted as saying.

Japan’s Central Bank upbeat on economy

TOKYO, 10 Aug — Bank of Japan Governor Toshihiko Fukui said Tuesday the Japanese economy has “almost” pulled out of a pause as adjustments in information technology-related sectors are close to end.

The remarks came along with the central bank’s monthly report which said the economy “continues to recover.”

“We can judge that the economy has almost moved out of a pause,” Fukui said during a news conference after a two-day policy meeting.

“The economy is moving in a good direction both in terms of prices and real economic conditions,” Fukui said.

A Filipino promotion personnel displays a newly launched oil product—coconut methyl ester blended with diesel—at a petrol station in Manila, on 11 August, 2005. — Internet
Japan’s fractured LDP faces uphill battle in poll

TOKYO, 10 Aug — Japan’s long-ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) had grand plans to mark the 50th anniversary of its founding in November, but there may be little to celebrate after next month’s general election.

At the very least, the bitterly divided party seems set for a major shake-up. Almost just as possible, analysts say, the LDP could not only lose power but disintegrate.

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi called a snap election on Monday after 22 members of his own party voted in the Upper House to help defeat bills to privatize Japan Post, a behemoth with three trillion US dollars in assets including savings and insurance businesses.

Koizumi, who is also LDP president, said he hoped to secure the approval of voters for his plans to sell off the post office, which he sees as crucial to his goal of cutting wasteful public spending and reducing the role of government in business.

“This election is about accepting or rejecting postal privatization, and I believe many Japanese people will show they accept privatization,” Koizumi said on Tuesday. But winning the election, let alone securing a majority, will not be easy, analysts and some politicians say.

Three main scenarios have emerged, including one in which the opposition Democratic Party wrests power away from the LDP, which has ruled Japan almost uninterrupted for the past half century.

Analysts agree that the dissent-ridden LDP is vulnerable, and some say the election is the Democrats to lose. “The Democrats would have to run a really bad election to lose, but they are quite capable of doing it,” said Steven Reed, a political science professor at Chuo University.

But a poll conducted after the dissolution of the Lower House and released on Tuesday by Kyodo news agency showed that support for Koizumis Cabinet rose to 47.3 per cent, up 4.7 percentage points from the previous poll in July.— MNA/Reuters

Despite armour, more Iraq troops dying in Humvees

BAGHDAD, 10 Aug — A Humvee carrying Pennsylvanian National Guard soldiers had no chance against the improvised explosive hidden on the shoulder of the road, even though the vehicle was protected by extra armour.

The deaths Saturday of Army Sgt Brahim Jeffcoat, 25, and Spc Kurk Kraut, 43, added to a tragic trend in the Iraq war. A growing proportion of US troops are dying in Humvees in Iraq, even as more of the vehicles are protected by extra armour. At the start of the year, about one in five soldier deaths was associated with the utilitarian vehicle. In the spring, that death toll began to rise and reached nearly one in two this summer, according to a Scripps Howard News Service casualty database.

In June, for instance, Humvees were involved in at least 37 of the 78 deaths. In July, the Humvee toll was 27 of 51 fatalities. The count includes combat attacks on troops in the vehicles, as well as several fatal accidents. In all, from the war’s start in 2003 through the end of 2004, troops in the vehicles, as well as several fatal accidents. In all, from the war’s start in 2003 through the end of 2004, troops in the vehicles, as well as several fatal accidents.

Vietnamese garment producers face losses due to higher input cost

HANOI, 10 Aug — Many Vietnamese textile and garment makers are encountering losses, mainly due to rising input cost and loan interest rates.

In the first half of this year, some local textile and garment companies reported a combined loss of nearly 500,000 US dollars, according to the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (Vitas) on Tuesday.

Increasing prices of oil, raw materials and accessories in the world market pushed input cost of local textile and garment enterprises up 5-10 per cent in mid this year compared with late last year.

The average interest rate for medium-term loans has rose to 9.3 per cent now from some 8 per cent last year, the Vitas said, adding that local textile and garment producers had to pay a total loan interest of over 13.6 million US dollars in the first half of this year.

With the high input cost, export prices of local textile and garment products are 5-10 per cent higher than the similar products of other regional countries.

Vietnam earned more than 2.5 billion US dollars from exporting garments and textiles to over 100 countries and regions, including the European Union, the United States and Japan, in the first seven months of this year, posting a year-on-year rise of 0.2 per cent.

It has targeted total garment and textile export turnovers of 5 to 5.2 billion US dollars this year, up from nearly 4.4 billion US dollars last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Vietnam sees strong imports from China

HANOI, 10 Aug — Vietnam spent 2.7 billion US dollars importing Chinese goods in the first half of this year, posting a sharp increase over the same period last year, according to the Vietnamese Trade Ministry on Tuesday.

In the first half, most of the goods were machines, equipment, petroleum products, fertilizers, clothes, steel, and materials and accessories for production of garments and textiles. Meanwhile, Vietnam earned over 1.3 billion US dollars from exporting commodities, mainly crude oil, coal and farm products to China, experiencing a year-on-year decline of 1.3 per cent.

Under a draft plan on boosting export to China recently worked out by the ministry, Vietnam is likely to increase exports to its neighbour country from 2.7 billion dollars in 2004 to three billion dollars in 2010.

Japanese couple claim to be world’s oldest

TOKYO, 11 Aug — A Japanese man aged 104 and his 103-year-old wife plan to claim the title of world’s oldest married couple after hearing it had been awarded to two Americans.

Yochi and Kazono Gomi, married 72 years, appeared to have difficulty recalling their ages during a televised news conference in their hometown of Yokohama this week.

But family members said their combined age of 207 should entitle them to the record.

Philadelphia residents Herbert and Madge Brown, registered by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world’s oldest couple, are 105 and 100 respectively, giving them an aggregate age of 205.

The couple have three children, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

MNA/Reuters

China’s English int’l channel on air in Vanuatu

WELLINGTON, 10 Aug — The Chinese TV channel, CCTV-9, started transmitting in Vanuatu as part of the local VBTC network on Tuesday evening, according to reports from Vanuatu.

The chairman of the Vanuatu Broadcasting & Television Corporation, Patrick Crowby, presided the launching ceremony at the Le Lagon Hotel of Port-Vila. The service is financed by the Chinese State Administration of Radio, Film and Television.

CCTV-9, the English international channel of CCTV, provides English-speaking viewers in China and around the world with a wide array of news and current affairs programs 24 hours a day.

MNA/Xinhua

An Iraqi woman having trouble breathing during a massive sandstorm seeks treatment at the Yarmouk hospital, on 8 Aug, 2005, in Baghdad, Iraq.

INTERNET

The Singapore registered tanker Resolve is berthed at an oil depot in Sydney Harbour, on 9 August, 2005. — INTERNET
Thai Queen receives first world “Food Safety Award”

BANGKOK, 10 Aug— Her Majesty Queen Sirikit of Thailand has been presented the world’s first “Food Safety Award” from the World Health Organization (WHO), reported the Thai News Agency on Wednesday.

Her Majesty the Queen was conferred the honorary award by WHO Director Lee Jong-wook at a gracious ceremony held at the Ananta Samakom Throne Hall here on Tuesday evening.

The WHO’s compliment is to honour the Queen for her devotion and contribution to the promotion of food safety among the Thai people, particularly those living in remote areas, for the sake of their good health, the Public Health Minister Suchai Charoenrat Hancock was quoted by the agency as saying.

Indonesia expects Chinese investment in palm plantation

JAKARTA, 10 Aug—Chinese investors are expected to capitalize on investment worth eight billion US dollars in palm plantation on Indonesia’s Kalimantan Island, a local newspaper reported on Tuesday.

The plantation will be located near border with Malaysia and is expected to employ 500,000 workers, reported Bisnis Indonesia.

“The project is supposed to begin in 2006 or 2007 with the targeted output of 10 million tons of palm a year,” Raden Pardede, head of the financing team for the project, said.

Since the government held the infrastructure summit early this year, only Chinese investors have given positive response, he added.— MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia alerts Malacca Strait ships to haze risks

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 Aug— Ships plying the Strait of Malacca face a navigational hazard after a thick haze blanketing the Malaysian Peninsula cut visibility to less than one kilometre (1,100 yards) in parts of the vital sea lane, officials said on Tuesday.

Acre white smoke from forest fires in neighbouring Indonesia has covered parts of Malaysia for almost a week, prompting environment officials to ban open fires until the end of a dry spell they say has aggravated the situation.

National news agency Bernama quoted meteorological officials as saying that the haze had hit visibility in the Strait, which carries a quarter of global trade, and posed a hazard especially to vessels without navigational aids.

Noel Choong, head of the Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, said that if the haze persisted, pirates could use it as a screen from behind which to launch attacks on shipping.

“Generally the haze won’t affect the pirates in the southern end of the Strait, but the northern part may be more dangerous, because the haze will make it difficult for the ship to spot the pirates until they are very close,” Choong told Reuters.

Pirates operating at the northern end of the Strait used more sophisticated weapons and tended to attack during the day, he said, but the less organized gangs in the southern stretch preferred to attack under cover of night. “Not all the boats can be detected by radar,” Choong added. “Wooden boats would probably escape detection.”— MNA/Reuters

Australia, China to start negotiations on nuclear cooperation

CANBERRA, 10 Aug— The Australian Government announced on Tuesday to start negotiations with China on a bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement.

“I am pleased to announce Australia will formally commence negotiations on a nuclear cooperation agreement with China,” Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said in a statement.

The agreement will establish safeguards arrangements to ensure Australian uranium supplied to China is used exclusively for peaceful purposes, he said.

Australian and Chinese officials have already held exploratory talks on the proposed agreement, according to Downer.

Australia has an estimated 40 per cent of the world’s low-cost uranium resources, while China has great energy needs in context of rapid economic development.

MNA/Xinhua

Four US soldiers and a Marine killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 Aug— Four soldiers operating with a New York-based Army National Guard division were killed on Tuesday, and five soldiers and an American military contractor were wounded when guerrillas attacked a patrol near Baiji, in northern Iraq, the American military said on Wednesday.

The American command also disclosed that a member of the Second Marine Division was killed Tuesday by small arms fire while on patrol near Habbaniya, a predominantly Sunni town west of Falluja, in Anbar Province, a redoubt for the insurgency.

A roadside bomb struck the American patrol in Baiji, an oil refining town, while it was investigating an earlier explosion in the area, said Sgt First Class David Rhodes, a spokesman for the 42nd Infantry Division. The division has been overseeing security in four northern provinces since February.

As soldiers tended to the casualties, the patrol came under attack by small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades, the spokesman said. The contractor wounded in the attack was a dog handler, he said; dogs are often used by the military to detect explosives.— Internet

India seeks Pakistan’s support for South Asian Free Trade Area

NEW DELHI, 10 Aug— India sought Pakistan’s support in making the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) operational by 1 January, 2006 at a two-day trade talks between the two countries held here on Tuesday.

“The time has come to address some of our crucial economic and commercial issues in order to make substantive progress and boost our trade relations,” Commerce Secretary SN Menon, who led the Indian side, told Indo-Asian News Services.

India also called for measures to make shipment of goods by rail and road easier to boost economic ties between the two countries.

Pakistan has been exploring ways to increase its trade with India, said Syed Asif Shah, Pakistan’s Acting Commerce Secretary who led his side at the meeting. The Pakistani Government had made a decision few months ago to allow import of onions, potatoes, garlic, live animals and halal meat from India by roads through the Wagah border, which had been blocked for more than five decades.

It also lifted import bans on raw sugar from India through the land route last week.

But Shah said that trade growth will be sustainable only if it is mutually beneficial to the two sides.

“We have come to this meeting with an open mind as we have a desire to move forward on all components of the composite dialogue in a constructive manner,” he said. He also added that it was equally important for the two sides to resolve all political issues.

“Unresolved political issues have had a discernable impact on the building of long-term trading relations between business communities of the two sides,” he said, emphasizing on a peaceful and enabling political climate to push trade. India and Pakistan held their first bilateral talks on economic and commercial cooperation under the composite dialogue process in Islamabad last August.— MNA/Xinhua

An employee of Japan’s electronics giant Sony packs digital cameras into a container for shipment. Japan’s current account surplus fell by an unexpectedly wide margin in June as soaring oil prices boosted the costs of imports and demand dwindled abroad for Japanese electronics on 11 Aug, 2005.

INTERNET
The government has been holding the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions annually for the flourishing of the spirit to love and cherish performing arts in the minds of Myanmar people.

The Competitions are endowed with the virtues of high cultural standard and delicate art, and full with national essence, helping raise the dignity of Myanmar. The holding of the Competitions started in 1993, with the lofty aims — perpetuation of the Myanmar performing arts including music, dance and theatrical art and for their flourishing in all states and divisions of the Union; continuous emergence of new generation artists; and ever flourishing of the national character and lineage.

The government will hold the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions in Yangon in October this year. Since many years ago, the traditional cultural performing arts have taken root in Myanmar and played an important role in the society reflecting the traditions and culture of the Myanmar people.

As the performing arts have endured through the various eras and conditions, they now have higher artistic value than ever.

We are really happy to hear that all the states and divisions of the Union are making arrangements for the participants and officials concerned to successfully organize the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions in accordance with the objectives.

The Myanmar traditional performing arts have existed as an independent branch of culture that is different from the cultures of other nations and free from all the influence and domination of big countries. Myanmar people cherish performing arts and conditions in the past, and now have taken root in Yangon in October this year. The Competitions held its first meeting on 29 July 2005. At the meeting, the Committee Patron Prime Minister General Soe Win said, "Thanks to the high spirit, great courage, correct thoughts, strong perseverance and high ability of our forefathers, the world nations at present are striving to preserve their culture and lineage, especially, at this age of globalization. In this regard, it is true that the duty of the present-day people is noble and enormous."

As the words of the Prime Minister reflect the essence of Myanmar performing arts, we all should accept them in all seriousness.

The government has been cautioning the people and taking preventive measures against the penetration of alien culture into the nation because of the ever changing conditions in the world.

But the western performing arts and culture are spreading like wild fire among the youths in Myanmar through foreign VCD, CD, satellite TV, and Internet, despite the government's effective preservation and protection programmes. Thus, it is the duty of all who love the country, race and the Union to ward off the alien cultural penetration, with the power of nationalism.

We need to have the ability to harmonize our efforts to preserve our culture and to apply innovative ideas in doing so. It is important for the race to uplift the national prestige and integrity and preserve and safeguard cultural heritage and national character, while introducing innovations and new means and ideas that do not harm the very existence and essence of our traditions and culture. We are really happy to know that all the states and divisions of the Union are making arrangements for the participants and officials concerned to successfully organize the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions in accordance with the objectives.

The 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will be held according to the following seven objectives:

- To preserve Myanmar national character
- To nurture spiritual development of the youths
- To prevent influence of alien culture
- To further strengthen national unity and vitalize Union Spirit
- To provide new means and ideas and the ability to harmonize our efforts to preserve our culture and to apply innovative ideas in doing so.
- To promote and propagate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
- To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage

(Translation: TMT)
Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects flow of water under Bo Myat Tun Bridge. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects water flow under Bo Myat Tun Bridge. — MNA

Maj-Gen Myint Swe presents a flower basket to Rector U Kyaw Myint Oo (Dagon University). — MNA

Maj-Gen Myint Swe attends entertainment of Culture Students (Yangon) and artistes at the opening ceremony of the higher education level 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than on inspection tour of Kangyidaunt Township

YANGON, 11 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Maj-Gen Myint Swe attended the ceremony to open the higher education level 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Yangon Division at University of Culture (Yangon) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township this morning.

Rector U Kyaw Myint Oo of Dagon University explained the purpose of holding the competitions and formally opened it.

Students of University of Culture (Yangon) and artistes presented traditional dances and songs. The commander presented a flower basket to them.

Rector of University of Culture (Yangon) U Tin Soe presented an embroidery painting in commemoration of the competitions to the commander.

Altogether 78 students of universities and colleges are taking part in the competitions to be held till 12 August.

Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented a flower basket to Rector U Kyaw Myint Oo (Dagon University). — MNA

Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than meets with departmental officials, local authorities and social organization members at Ayeya Thiri Thukha Hall in Kangyidaunt. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects flow of water under Bo Myat Tun Bridge. — MNA

Maj-Gen Myint Swe attends entertainment of Culture Students (Yangon) and artistes at the opening ceremony of the higher education level 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA

Higher education level Performing Arts Competitions held in Yangon Division

Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, the booming economy and development of human resources are essential for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is known to all that the 24 special development region plan, the border region development plan and the five-year development tasks are being implemented with momentum for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the country. He urged those present to make concerted efforts for gaining success in implementation of the plans laid down by the government.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on matters concerning the township and its progress. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, the booming economy and development of human resources are essential for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is known to all that the 24 special development region plan, the border region development plan and the five-year development tasks are being implemented with momentum for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the country. He urged those present to make concerted efforts for gaining success in implementation of the plans laid down by the government.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on matters concerning the township and its progress. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, the booming economy and development of human resources are essential for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is known to all that the 24 special development region plan, the border region development plan and the five-year development tasks are being implemented with momentum for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the country. He urged those present to make concerted efforts for gaining success in implementation of the plans laid down by the government.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on matters concerning the township and its progress. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, the booming economy and development of human resources are essential for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is known to all that the 24 special development region plan, the border region development plan and the five-year development tasks are being implemented with momentum for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the country. He urged those present to make concerted efforts for gaining success in implementation of the plans laid down by the government.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on matters concerning the township and its progress. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, the booming economy and development of human resources are essential for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is known to all that the 24 special development region plan, the border region development plan and the five-year development tasks are being implemented with momentum for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the country. He urged those present to make concerted efforts for gaining success in implementation of the plans laid down by the government.

On arrival at the briefing hall of Bo Myat Tun Bridge, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on matters concerning the township and its progress. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said that peace and stability and prevalence of law and order, the booming economy and development of human resources are essential for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. It is known to all that the 24 special development region plan, the border region development plan and the five-year development tasks are being implemented with momentum for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the country. He urged those present to make concerted efforts for gaining success in implementation of the plans laid down by the government.
Some nations and a handful of internal and external destructive elements are trying to interfere in the nation’s internal affairs and put pressure on and blackmail her with human rights and democracy as excuses. In reality, they are the persons trying to tarnish the image of the characters, culture and the stand of the nation possessing fine historical traditions.
San Aung urged those present to guard against the external destructive elements. In conclusion, U Ngun despite hindrances and danger posed by internal and national solidarity and for development of the State, their minions in the country tried to destroy the internal peace which was on track for development, some neo-colonialist nations accused Myanmar of violating human rights in order to impose sanctions on it.

The Tatmadaw Government assumed the State’s responsibility in 1988. Since then, upholding Our Three Main National Causes, the government has been making efforts to strengthen national solidarity. After realizing the genuine goodwill of the government, 17 armed groups returned to the legal fold and have been carrying out the nation-building tasks joining hands with the Tatmadaw Government.

Myanmar has a population of about 54 million and is rich in natural resources. There was a lack of internal peace, a legacy left by the British and so it lagged behind in development. If all national people exploit natural resources effectively and join hands with one another, Myanmar will develop in a decade. The government has built infrastructures which are necessary for development.

Being jealous of the achievements of Myanmar that is on track for development, some neo-colonialist countries and their minions have made false accusations against Myanmar. At a time when they put pressure upon the country and interfered in internal affairs, their minions in the country tried to destroy the interests of the people.

The government has stepped up its efforts for national solidarity and for development of the State despite hindrances and danger posed by internal and external destructive elements. In conclusion, U Ngun San Aung urged those present to guard against the
All must guard against the danger...

(from page 9)

The aims of MWAF are to promote the role of women in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation; to safeguard women’s rights; to develop economic, health and education sectors of women and to safeguard their social security; to nurture women to cherish and value the traditional culture and customs of the national races; to systematically carry out tasks for prevention of violence against women and rehabilitation; to carry out eradication of trafficking in women and children as a national duty, and to cooperate with international, regional, internal and external organizations in carrying out matters on women’s rights in accord with traditional culture & customs of national races.

Western bloc allowed national traitor terrorist Maung Maung (a) Pyithu Nyant Wai to attend the conference of International Labour Organization as representative of ICFTU. Due to his conspiracy, western bloc put pressure on the nation. Therefore, about 160 garment factories in Yangon Division were closed down and considerable number of workers from other 40 factories were laid off. Over 80,000 employees including over 70,000 women workers became jobless.

Dr Lu Mon Paginiea of France and Dr Robert Gello of the US found HIV disease in 1983. The disease broke out in Myanmar after that period. UNIDO, UNDP, UNODC and UNAIDS declared that the accuses, state, the Tatmadaw Government had laid down our three main national causes, four political objectives, four economic objectives and four social objectives and is marching to realize them. Furthermore, the Government upholding the four-point people’s desire, and six resolutions laid down at the mass meeting held in Bagan and has laid down and is implement-

States, the Tatmadaw Government had laid down our three main national causes, four political objectives, four economic objectives and four social objectives and is marching to realize them. Furthermore, the Government upholding the four-point people’s desire, and six resolutions laid down at the mass meeting held in Bagan and has laid down and is implement-

Members of the panel of chairmen chanting slogans at the mass meeting held in Haku, Chin State. — MNA

Members of WVO upholding Our Three Main National Causes will actively participate in realizing the national objectives under the leadership of the Tatmadaw and in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. In conclusion, he urged all to guard against the dangers of internal and external destructive elements through the united strength of the people.

USDA representative U Kham Swam Mon seconded the motions tabled by Chin State MCWA representative Daw Van Ei Yan Kywe and Chin State WVO representative Captain Soe Win (Reid). The meeting chairman sought the approvals from the mass meeting which passed the

Those present chanting slogans at the mass meeting on guarding against the danger of internal and external destructionists through united strength of the people in Haku, Chin State. — MNA

U Kham Swam Mon. — MNA

Daw Van Ei Yan Kywe. — MNA

Capt Soe Win (Reid). — MNA

Daw Tar Ling Pay and Daw Si Si Lyar emcee the mass meeting. — MNA

The national reconsolidation is essential in building a peaceful, modern, developed and democratic nation, joining hands with the people. Due to genuine goodwill of the Tatmadaw Government and its nation-building endeavors, 17 national races armed groups had returned to the legal fold by guarding against hindrances and instigation of some western countries through the Union Spirit of the people. At present, the seven-point Road Map is being implemented for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

The National Convention, the first stage of the Road Map, was convened on 17 May 2004. Some neo-colonialists and national traitors are making accusations that were designed to destroy Myanmar also include the accusations that say that Myanmar is using minors as soldiers. Myanmar Tatmadaw has never accepted those who do not meet the set standard of age. Therefore, these were baseless accusations.
Tailoring course of MMCWA concludes

YANGON, 11 Aug — The concluding ceremony of tailoring course 37/2005 organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the corner of Parami Road and Thanthuma Road in South Okkalapa Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were MMCWA President Daw Khin Khin Win, Vice-President Daw Tin Lin Myint, CEC members, course instructors and trainees.

First, MMCWA CEC member Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt made a concluding speech.

Next, the MMCWA president awarded the prizes to the outstanding trainees.

Afterwards, the vice-president and CEC members presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Later, on behalf of trainees, a trainee expressed thanks. Altogether 40 trainees attended the course. The course keeps on opening once in two months with reasonable fee and enthusiasts may enlist to attend the course. — MNA

MMCWA CEC member Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt addresses the concluding ceremony of tailoring course 37/2005. — MNA

320 drug-related cases exposed in July

YANGON, 11 Aug — Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force and Customs Department managed to expose 310 drugs-related cases in July 2005.

The drug-related cases exposed were 69,9286 kilos of opium in 36 cases, 10,7714 kilos of heroin in 142 cases, 4,1927 kilos of opium oil in nine cases, 6,6267 kilos of low-grade opium in 16 cases, 10,3389 kilos of marijuana in 20 cases, 62844 tablets of stimulant tablets in 77 cases, 9,459 kilos of sepsciosa in four cases, 0,015 kilo of stimulant iced in one case, 3683 tablets of ecstasy in two cases, seven cases for failure to register and six others.

In connection with the cases, action was taken against 468 persons — 385 men and 85 women.

MFA

Dams and cultivation of irrigated crops in Sagaing Division inspected

YANGON, 11 Aug — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo arrived at Myothit Dam built by the Irrigation Department, in Bidalin Township, Sagaing Division on 8 August and heard reports on water storage and dam maintenance. Myothit Dam is 2,600 feet long and 60 feet high.

Afterwards, the minister and party proceeded to Asha Dam Project in Ayadaw Township and inspected the construction works. At the briefing hall, the minister gave necessary instructions after hearing reports on the aim of implementing the project, the measures being taken, the regional development and the irrigated areas to benefit.

Later, the minister inspected the progress of constructing the main dam measuring 2,900 feet in length and 28 feet in height.

On arrival at Ayadaw Dam Project, the minister and party also inspected the construction of the spillway of R.C type measuring 1,385 feet long and 40 feet wide. On completion, it will benefit 1,000 acres of irrigated land.

Afterwards, the minister inspected the artisan wells in Myaynet village tract in Ayadaw Township. Next, the minister inspected the reaping of summer and cultivation of monsoon paddy on both sides of Ayadaw-Ywathagyi mortar roads in Wetlet Township. — MFA

Outstanding students in Natogyi Tsp honoured

YANGON, 11 Aug — Central Executive Committee members of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung on 7 August honoured outstanding students in Natogyi Township who passed matriculation exam with flying colours and donated exercise books to the basic education schools in the township.

During his tour of Natogyi Township, the deputy minister went to Kanna Village Basic Education High School, Pyinsi Village BEHS and Bontha Village BEHS and attended the prize presentation ceremonies held at the schools.

At the ceremonies, he presented certificates and cash awards to teachers and outstanding students. He also donated dozens of exercise books to the schools. He also went to BEPSs in the township and donated 100 dozens of exercise books each to the schools.

When he arrived at the villages, the CEC member also met with USDA members and townselders and urged them to participate in implementing the five rural development tasks.

MFA
Study shows “bad guys”, and the “poor” smoke more in movies

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — If someone is trying to make smoking look glamorous, it is not at the movies, US researchers said on Monday. Their analysis of nearly 400 blockbuster films shows that villains smoke more than heroes, and the poor light up more often than the rich.

“Most investigators have concluded that smoking is portrayed as glamorous and positive, but our study shows that the exact opposite is true,” said Dr. Karan Omidvari of St. Michael’s Medical Centre in Newark, New Jersey, who led the study.

And nearly half of the on-screen smokers were in the lower socioeconomic class compared to 22.9 per cent in the middle class and 10.5 per cent in the upper class, they reported in the August issue of the Journal Chest.

Overall, the percentage of characters who smoked was about the same as in real life, about 23 per cent, the study said. Men were more likely to smoke than women, and Whites were more likely to smoke than minorities. We still hope that they will change their behavior.—MNA/Reuters

INVITATION TO TENDER

(colombian police seize 100 kilos of cocaine)

BOGOTA, 10 Aug — The Colombian police seized 100 kilos of cocaine on the road connecting the city of Bocosoma with the capital of Cesar department, the authorities said Tuesday.

In the operation, two persons were captured. Also confiscated were the truck carrying the drugs worth $280,000 US dollars, two cell phones and $400,000 dollars in cash.

Floods in northern Iran kill about 10, 20 missing

THEHRAN, 10 Aug — Overnight floods caused by heavy rains have killed about 10 people and left 20 missing in the northeastern Iranian Province of Golestan, an official said on Wednesday.

Red Crescent emergency workers in the area also told Reuters the floods had caused extensive damage and said it had dispatched helicopters to look for survivors.

“About 10 people died and 20 are missing. We still hope that they fled to the mountains,” state radio quoted the head of disaster management in the province as saying.

Parmalat suit against Bank of America can proceed

NEW YORK, 10 Aug — A US federal judge has allowed Parmalat Finance SpA to proceed with its 10-billion-US-dollar lawsuit against Bank of America Corp, but threw out most of the Italian dairy company’s claims.

A US federal judge has allowed Parmalat creditors, say- ing Bondi lacked standing to assert them. The owner and managing director Enrico Bondi, asserted by Parmalat administrators, fraud, and parts of the two others.

Judge Lewis Kaplan of the US District Court in Manhattan granted Bank of America’s motion to dismiss 10 of the 12 claims asserted by Parmalat administrator Enrico Bondi, including fraud, and parts of the two others.

Kaplan also dismissed claims belonging only to Parmalat creditors, saying Bondi lacked standing to assert them. The owner and managing director Enrico Bondi, asserted by Parmalat administrators, fraud, and parts of the two others.

In the operation, two persons were captured. Also confiscated were the truck carrying the drugs worth $280,000 US dollars, two cell phones and $400,000 dollars in cash.

Floods in northern Iran kill about 10, 20 missing

THEHRAN, 10 Aug — Overnight floods caused by heavy rains have killed about 10 people and left 20 missing in the northeastern Iranian Province of Golestan, an official said on Wednesday.

Red Crescent emergency workers in the area also told Reuters the floods had caused extensive damage and said it had dispatched helicopters to look for survivors.

“About 10 people died and 20 are missing. We still hope that they fled to the mountains,” state radio quoted the head of disaster management in the province as saying.

Parmalat suit against Bank of America can proceed

NEW YORK, 10 Aug — A US federal judge has allowed Parmalat Finance SpA to proceed with its 10-billion-US-dollar lawsuit against Bank of America Corp, but threw out most of the Italian dairy company’s claims.

A US federal judge has allowed Parmalat creditors, saying Bondi lacked standing to assert them. The owner and managing director Enrico Bondi, asserted by Parmalat administrators, fraud, and parts of the two others.

Judge Lewis Kaplan of the US District Court in Manhattan granted Bank of America’s motion to dismiss 10 of the 12 claims asserted by Parmalat administrator Enrico Bondi, including fraud, and parts of the two others.

Kaplan also dismissed claims belonging only to Parmalat creditors, saying Bondi lacked standing to assert them. The owner and managing director Enrico Bondi, asserted by Parmalat administrators, fraud, and parts of the two others.

In the operation, two persons were captured. Also confiscated were the truck carrying the drugs worth $280,000 US dollars, two cell phones and $400,000 dollars in cash.

Floods in northern Iran kill about 10, 20 missing

THEHRAN, 10 Aug — Overnight floods caused by heavy rains have killed about 10 people and left 20 missing in the northeastern Iranian Province of Golestan, an official said on Wednesday.

Red Crescent emergency workers in the area also told Reuters the floods had caused extensive damage and said it had dispatched helicopters to look for survivors.

“About 10 people died and 20 are missing. We still hope that they fled to the mountains,” state radio quoted the head of disaster management in the province as saying.
**Giant pandas give birth to twins in Shaanxi, one in Sichuan**

Xi’an, 11 Aug—Giant panda Xue Xue gave birth to twins on Saturday at the rare wild animal rescue and research centre of northwest China’s Shaanxi Province while a giant panda gave birth to a cub at the China Wolong Giant Panda Protection and Research Centre in Sichuan, on Monday night.

According to Shaanxi’s wild animal rescue and research centre, the twins were the first of the kind born in Shaanxi. The centre authorities said the younger of the twins, a male cub, is weak and is under intensive treatment.

The 18-year-old Xue Xue gave birth to a female baby, weighing 151 grammes, at 17.53 Saturday and the male cub, weighing 122 grammes, came into the world at 18:40, said Ren Jianshe, deputy director of the centre, adding they named the “girl” Da Xin (or joy) and the “boy” Xiao Xing (or prosperity).

On Monday night at the China Wolong Giant Panda Protection and Research Centre, southwestern Sichuan Province, a giant panda gave birth to a cub.

This is the sixth panda born this year at the centre, where another baby panda was born last Saturday, said Zhang Hemin, director of the centre.

The baby was born at 11:16 p.m. Monday. This is the first time nine-year-old panda Hai Zi (or Lake) gives birth, said Zhang.

“During the first several minutes after the baby was born, Hai Zi tried to pick it up by mouth, but it failed due to inexperience and she even hurt the baby after overturning it for several times by claws,” said Zhang, adding the centre has decided to have experienced keepers to breed the cub.

Panda gestation lasts 83 to 181 days. As pandas mate only in three or four days between March and May each year, they have a relatively low fertility rate.

---

**Russia to buy submarine rescue vehicles from Britain**

Moscow, 10 Aug—Russia will buy from Britain two Scorpio underwater rescue vehicles of the type used to rescue a stranded Russian mini-submarine from the Pacific last Sunday. ITAR-TASS news agency reported on Tuesday.

It took less than four hours for the unmanned British Scorpio-45, airlifted to the Kamchatka Peninsula off Russia's Pacific coast, to free the AS-28 mini-sub, stranded for three days with its seven-man crew 190 metres (625 feet) down.

“The Defence Minister has also decided to buy all technical equipment needed for these vehicles to operate because they are incompatible with Russian hardware,” TASS quoted Pacific Fleet commander Admiral Viktor Fyodorov as saying.

The Defence Ministry bought new rescue equipment for the Russian Navy after nuclear submarine Kursk sank in the Arctic Barents Sea five years ago with the loss of all its 118 crew.

MNA/Reuters

---

**Royal Navy team recall moment of Russia sub rescue**

London, 10 Aug—The British team which helped rescue seven Russian submariners from under the Pacific returned to home soil on Tuesday, recalling the emotional moment when the trapped vessel emerged from the sea.

“At that minute when the Russian vehicle arrived on the surface I cannot ever explain to you properly the feelings of emotion amongst us all,” mission leader Commander Ian Riches told reporters at Prestwick Airport in Scotland. “It would be wrong of me to say that grown men do not cry. I can assure you a lot of grown men cried that day.”

Riches and his team of eight Royal Navy contractors were greeted after a 10-hour flight by Defence Minister Adam Ingram, who said they had achieved something “truly remarkable”.

“What they did was truly magnificent,” Ingram said. “I want to pay a very big tribute to all the people involved in this mission.” In all Britain sent 29 personnel to aid the rescue off Russia’s Pacific coast, including logistics staff and a translator.

Riches admitted he had been scared ahead of the operation despite publicly saying he was optimistic. “I was scared, but I shouldn’t have been, because I have team of professional men who worked damned hard to ensure that the guys on board that Russian submarine got off alive.” On Sunday the British team were able to use their unmanned rescue sub underwater robot to cut the Russian submarine free from a snarl of fishing nets and cables after 76 hours underwater.

MNA/Reuters

---

**Trawler sinks off Britain after collision with tanker**

London, 10 Aug—A Greek oil tanker carrying 15,000 tons of fuel oil and a Dutch fishing trawler have collided off the eastern British coast sinking a Dutch fishing trawler, the Shinoussa, Greek tanker, the Vasilis Jacoba, and the Dutch fishing trawler, the Jacobsa Aljida, struck each other in the early hours of Tuesday, 48 miles off Bancot in the North Sea.

MNA/Reuters

---

**Lions, elephants disturb marathon race in S Africa**

Johannesburg, 10 Aug—Three lions showed up as unexpected guests while a marathon race was underway in South Africa’s famed Kruger National Park, forcing runners to stop until the animals left the road, local media reported on Tuesday.

Three participants of the annual Skukuza Sterling Light half-marathon had a big fright on Saturday when they ran into three lions taking a nap in the middle of the road, said daily newspaper The Citizen.

A motorcyclist in front of the athletes noticed them just before the 14-kilometres mark and stopped the runners in their tracks.

The nearest field ranger on duty was called and the lions were chased away before the marathon could continue.

But the incident resulted in a large group finishing together, said the newspaper.

On Friday evening, elephants caused havoc in the nearest field ranger on duty was called and the elephants left the village before the race started, according to the newspaper.

MNA/Reuters

---

**NASA delays Mars orbiter launch at least 24 hours**

Maimi, 10 Aug—NASA has delayed Wednesday’s launch of an unmanned spacecraft to Mars because of a technical problem that might affect its launch vehicle, the agency said on Tuesday.

The centre authorities said the younger of the twins, a male cub, is weak and is under intensive treatment.

---

**There is no link between sugar and obesity because health problems linked to weight gain are caused by increased consumption of calories and a lack of exercise, a US sugar industry group said on 10 August, 2005.**

---

**An Ariane 5 super-rocket is launched in Kourou, French Guiana. A rocket launched from South America was due to deploy a satellite that its Thai operator says will bring broadband Internet access to the remotest corners of Asia.**

Internet
Martins, Adriano give Inter 2-0 win in Ukraine

Donetsk (Ukraine), 11 Aug — Strikers Obafemi Martins and Adriano notched second-half goals to give Inter Milan a 2-0 victory at Shakhtar Donetsk in the first leg of their Champions League qualifier on Wednesday. Inter demonstrated almost total control over their hapless Ukrainian hosts and after a quiet first half the Italian team made their class tell.

Nigerian Martins opened the scoring in the 76th minute, collecting an inch-perfect pass from Brazilian striker partner Adriano and putting the ball past Shakhtar goalkeeper Jan Lastuvka.

Martins almost scored again three minutes later before the visitors opened up a two-goal lead in the third qualifying round tie with a cross by Ze Maria. Shakhtar came closest in stoppage time when Razvan Rat struck a free kick over the crossbar. But the home side was largely powerless and spent most of the match absorbing wave after wave of Inter attacks.

"Inter were much better organized, with better tactics and more experience at European level," Shakhtar coach Mircea Lucescu said.

"We now have to prepare for the second leg," Martino added.

Guinea Bissau suffer back from win with 2-1 defeat

BASSEL (Switzerland), 11 Aug — Werder Bremen's hopes of reaching its year's Champions League were dented on Wednesday when they lost 2-1 to Switzerland's FC Basel in the first leg of their third qualifying round tie.

Struggling to justify their status as favourites in a first half dominated by the home side, Bremen fell behind to a David Degen strike in the 28th minute.

After being left on the bench for the first 45 minutes, Argentine striker Julio Hernan Rossi put the Swiss champions two up — firing through goalkeeper Andreas Reinke's legs seven minutes after the restart.

However, the 2004 Bundesliga champions pulled themselves back into contention in the 73rd minute when German international Miroslav Klose turned themselves back into contention in the 73rd minute when German international Miroslav Klose turned

China draws Finland 1-1 in 23rd Universiade women's soccer

ESMELE (Turkey), 11 Aug — China tied with Finland 1-1 in the women's soccer tournament here Wednesday, which kicked off one day before the official opening of the 23rd World Universiade.

Neither of the two teams posted a serious offensive for the opponents for the first 60 minutes until Chinese forward Jiang Shixiao scored a right pass off a free kick.

Ten minutes later, Finland attacker Tjeder Daniela fired a powerful long shoot over the left side right into the net to equalize the scoreboard.

China failed in the ball possession, making few attempts for the goal, which is due to the players' lack of experience and confidence in their debut in the international matches.

Same problems also bothered the Chinese men's football team in the Universiade. On Wednesday, the team was crushed 4-1 by Uruguay, the biggest rival

Late goal secures Rosenborg 1-1 draw against Steaua

Bucharest, 11 Aug — A late goal by striker Thorstein Helstad earned Rosenborg Trondheim a 1-1 draw against Steaua Bucharest in the first leg of their Champions League third qualifying round tie on Wednesday.

Steaua forward Victorias Iacob put the Romanian team ahead with a solo effort in the 30th minute before Helstad, against the run of play, equalized five minutes from time.

"We were very lucky to score at the end of a match dominated by a good Steaua team," Rosenborg coach Per Mathias Hoegmo told reporters. "But I couldn't be more satisfied with his draw."

Former European Cup winners Steaua Bucharest, who were without banned strikers Nicolae Dica and Laurențiu Dinița, missed several scoring opportunities.

Banel Nicolita and Gabriel Bostina, twice, failed to convert gilt-edged chances in the first half before Iacob and Mirel Radoi wasted two more after the break.

But Morientes' second goal in the 58th minute from six metres out made it safe for the champions.

"(Morieotes) has got ability, there's no doubt about it. I think this season's going to be his season. The two goals will give him a lot of confidence," Gerrard said.

"We're confident we can go through after tonight's result. It gives the manager a chance to rest a few players (in the second leg). But we've still got to be professional and get the job done," he told Sky Sports News.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Hyypia extends Liverpool deal

LONDON, 11 Aug — Finnish defender Sami Hyypia has agreed a new deal to stay at European champions Liverpool until 2008, the English Premier League club said on Wednesday.

"We have been talking for a few weeks and I had no hesitation in committing my future to Rafael Benitez, the 31-year-old told Liverpool's website.

"Everybody wants to play for Liverpool Football Club at the moment and it's an honour to say that I will be here for at least another three years.

"I have won every single medal at the club apart from the Premiership and it would be very nice if I could win that within the next three years."
Chinese scientists leave for Baikal expedition

TAIJIN, 11 Aug—A group of Chinese scientists left here Tuesday for Russia’s Irtusk to kick off a scientific expedition on Lake Baikal, the world’s deepest and largest freshwater lake.

It is believed to be the largest ever joint scientific expedition between China and Russia. A total of 43 scientists and journalists from both sides will take part.

The scope of study for the current expedition includes zoology and environment, water lives, take environment, regional economy, remote sensing and geographic information of the lake.

According to Tao Baoxiang, head of the Chinese team, scientists from the two countries will start a two-day lake-surface expedition on 12 August and all the activities are expected to be finished later this month.

Located in southern Siberia, the lake, with a depth of 1,620 metres, lies between the Irtusk Oblast on the northwest and Buryatia on the southeast. It was put on the world natural heritage list by the United Nations in 1996.

In order to protect the lake from increasing contamination by paper makers and other pollutants, Russia adopted a special law in 1998 to protect it from further pollution and two natural reserves have so far been set up to that effect.

MNA/Xinhua

Friday, 12 August

Tune in today:

8:30 am
Brief news

8:35 am
Music: I will always be in your heart

8:40 am
Perspectives

8:45 am
Music: Breath again

8:50 am
National news/Slogan

9:00 am
Music: Best friend

9:05 am
International news

9:10 am
Music: Sodapop

1:30 pm
Lunch time music

1:40 pm
Making love out of nothing at all

9:00 pm
world music

9:15 pm
Article/Music

9:25 pm
Music at your request

10:00 pm
PEL

WEATHER

Thursday, 11 August, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagon Division, rain have been isolated in Chin and Kayah States, scattered in Mandalay, Magway and Tanintharyi Divisions, and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Kayin and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hpa-an (3.15) inches, Mawlamyine (2.99) inches, Taunggo (2.52) inches and Gwa (2.28) inches.

Maximum temperature on 10-8-2005 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 11-8-2005 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 11-8-2005 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 10-8-2005 was (0.3) hour approx. Rainfalls on 11-8-2005 were 0.24 inch at Mingaladon, 0.51 inch at Kaba-Aye, 0.99 inch at central Yangon, Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 61.22 inches at Mingaladon, 61.81 inches at Kaba-Aye and 62.95 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 14 mph from Southwest at (13:00) hours MST on 10-8-2005.

Bay influence: Monsoon is strong in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 12-8-2005: Rain will be isolated in Chin and Kayah States, Magway Division, scattered in lower Sagon and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Mon and Kayin States. 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: Increase of rain in eastern and central Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-8-2005: Possibility of isolated rainfall. Degree of certainty is 40%.

Flood Bulletin

Issued at (12:30 hrs MST on 11-8-2005)

According to the (06:30 hrs MST observation today, the water level of Sitthaung River at Madauk (1142) cm. It is falling slightly and may remain above the danger level (1070) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.
by the colonialists. During the over 100 years of subjugation, the political, economic and social sectors, human rights, national characters and social standard were in a state of decline due to the exploitation of the occupiers. The nation lost her independence in a matter of days. But the people had to sacrifice lots of blood, sweat and lives to regain independence. All should take it as a lesson of history.

The nation regained independence thanks to the struggles launched with the united strength of the nationalities, unyielding spirit, Union Spirit and patriotism. Independence and sovereignty are the most important heritage of the nation. The task to safeguard independence and sovereignty for their perpetuation is a national duty that must be discharged by successive generations. After regaining independence, peace, stability and security sectors were weak because of insurgency, unrest, disunity and disagreements resulting from evil legacy and dissension of the colonialists.

At present, the Tatmadaw has been implementing work programmes and policies that are in conformity with the interests and aspirations of the people. The nation has stepped up efforts for national solidarity and for development of the State despite hindrances and danger posed by internal and external destructive elements. The government has been implementing work programmes and policies that are in conformity with the interests and aspirations of the people. The nation has stepped up efforts for national solidarity and for development of the State despite hindrances and danger posed by internal and external destructive elements.

YANGON, 11 Aug — The mass meeting focusing “Guard against the danger posed by destructionists through united strength of the people” took place at the City Hall in Haka, Chin State, on 1 August.

It was attended by members of Chin State Union Solidarity and Development Association, Chin State, District and Township Women’s Affairs Organizations, Maternal and Child Welfare Association, War Veterans Organization, Auxiliary Fire Brigade, Red Cross Society and local people.

Executive of Chin State Union Solidarity and Development Association U Ngan Hsan Aung presided over the meeting with Chairperson of Chin State Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Rwe Ja, Joint Secretary of Chin State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw May Yi, Member of Chin State WVO Major Aung Hsan Oo (Retd), Company Commander U Thein Maung of Haka Township Red Cross Society, Commanding Officer of Auxiliary Fire Brigade U Maung Maung and townelder U Haram Kye O as members of the panel of chairmen.

Member of USDA Daw Tirl Ling Par acted as master of ceremonies with Daw Si Si Lyar.

(See page 9)