Government taking all necessary measures to improve socio-economy of the people

Emphasis being paid on supply of water by tapping water supply resources

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

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

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

Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun, Commander of No 101 LID Col Maung Maung Ohn, Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and departmental officials.

At Kyeeiya river water pumping project at the area between Shwetanttil and Maidawhla Pagoda, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported on implementation of the river water pumping project, 40 per cent completion of digging the main canal, and the plan under way to complete the tasks in 2006-07.

(See page 8)

Drinking water supply project is being implemented to provide water for 874 villages in the townships of Pakokku, Myaing, Yesagyo, Pauk and Seikphyu in Pakokku District, and it will be completed very soon.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage

In an effort to build a modern, developed and democratic nation with fully institutionalized discipline the government is making efforts in all seriousness to bring about equitable development the length and breadth of the nation.

In this regard, efforts are being made to narrow the gap among political, economic, education and health arenas, while striving for enhancement of national immunity in the field of culture.

With the aim of uplifting national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character, the State Peace and Development Council holds Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions yearly. Moreover, the government is taking systematic steps in encouraging, preserving and presenting dances and music of national races. With this end in view, it has opened the Universities of Culture in Yangon and Mandalay. Twelve Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions were successfully held on a grand scale thanks to integrated and well-coordinated efforts of maestros, artists from various spheres, officials concerned and the people under the leadership of the government.

Myanmar performing arts competitions have contributed much to nurturing a united force capable of shaping the future of the State. With a view to setting up the milestones of national culture year after year arrangements are now being made for holding the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.

The 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will be held with seven noble objectives—to vitalize patriotism and the State's all around development the length and breadth of the nation; to narrow the gap among political, economic, education and health arenas, while striving for enhancement of national immunity in the field of culture.

Performing Arts Competitions will be held with seven noble objectives—to vitalize patriotism and the State's all around development the length and breadth of the nation; to narrow the gap among political, economic, education and health arenas, while striving for enhancement of national immunity in the field of culture.

Hence, we would like to call upon those responsible to hand down the heritage of fine arts to new generation artists for perpetuation of Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts and flourishing of genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts.

Waso robes, alms donated to Kaba Aye Tipitaka Maha Gandayon Monastery

YANGON, 14 Aug — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended the Waso robes offering ceremony at Kaba Aye Tipitaka Maha Gandayon Monastery in Mayangon Township this morning.

Present on the occasion were State Ovaadyaarya Swewkyn Nikaya Upokahtah Joint Sasanabaing Abhillaha Maha Ratha Guru Thirmanta Sanyanya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Rajjnadahivamsa and members of the Sangha, departmental officials, local authorities and discipl.

The commander, the minister, officials and wellwishers donated Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha. Presiding Sayadaw of the Monastery Tipitakadharha Dhamma Bhandagarka Agga Maha Pandita Abhilaha Pali Paragu Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sumangala Lankara (PhD) delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

ITBMY Rector passes away

YANGON, 14 — The Religious Affairs Department announced that Rector of International Theravadha Buddhist Missionary University in Mayangon Township Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Sadhama Jogika Nalokadha Abhillaha Agga Maha Saddhammajotikadhaja Sayadaw Bhaddanta Dr Silananda Bhivamsa Mahathera (D Litt), aged 78 and vasa 58, passed away at Kaiser Hospital in Red Wood City, California, USA, at 9.30 am local time yesterday, 9th Wazang of Wazuing 1367 ME.—MNA

Tatmadaw, departmental vehicles checked on dry day

YANGON, 14 Aug — Chairman of the Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Othn Myint, together with committee members leaders of supervision group Deputy Minister For Construction U Tint Swe and Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Senior military officers and departmental heads supervised the dry day inspection teams that were checking Tatmadaw and departmental vehicles at the main points of the city today.

Similarly, dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver’s licence, wheel tax bill, wearing of the respective uniforms and breaking of the traffic rules, from 7 am to 5 pm today.—MNA

National policy and State’s all round developments lectured

YANGON, 14 Aug — USDA CEC Member Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein gave a lecture on national policy and the State’s all around developments to the trainees of the basic organizational course No 16/2005 organized by Taikkyi Township Union Solidarity and Development Association, at the town hall in Taikkyi this afternoon. — MNA
Vietnam concludes WTO negotiations with India

HANOI, 13 Aug — Vietnam has just finished bilateral negotiations with India on its entry to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The Indian Trade Ministry has decided to sign an agreement with Vietnam on the issue, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said on Friday. Vietnam is speeding up bilateral negotiations with 11 trade partners which have yet to end WTO talks with it. The United States, New Zea-

land and Australia have proposed Vietnam hold next rounds of bilateral negotiations in their capi-
tal cities. Talks with New Zealand are planned to take place later this month.

The country is act-

ively preparing for the 10th bilateral negotia-
tion round slated for Sep-
tember 15 in Switzerland. It plans to conduct bilat-
eral negotiations with some partners at their request on the sidelines of the multilateral talks.

Vietnam has reached substantial negotiation results with the United States and some other countries, hoping to en-
ter the WTO within this year, the ministry said recently, noting that the United States expressed support for the accession during the trip to Wash-

ington by Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai in June.

At the date, Vietnam has concluded bilateral nego-
tiations with the 17 part-

ners, namely the Euro-

pean Union, China, South Korea, Japan, Canada, Cuba, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Singapore, Urugu-

ay, Columbia, Turkey, El Salvador, Kyrgyzstan, Iceland and India. Of the partners, six have signed official agreements on the issue.

Near miss by US fighter
in Australian exercise

CANBERRA, 13 Aug — Bombing practice in a joint Australia-US military exercise were suspended after a bomb from a US Marine Corp

 oficials said on Friday.

an American fighter jet almost bombed a building on the weapons range, causing some damage but no injuries. "We certainly regard it as a serious incident. But these things do occur in military training with live ammunition," Hill told reporters in the northern city of Darwin.

Australia's defence department said all bombing operations had been suspended for the 2005 exer-

cise, but gave no details of the incident.

Hill, however, said some people were inside the building on the weapons range. "I don't know the size of the bomb," he said.— MNA/Reuters

Cypriot airliner carrying 110 crashes near Athens

ATHENS, 14 Aug — A Cypriot airliner carrying 110 people crashed north of Athens on Sunday, Greek state television reported.

State television said there was an unconfirmed report that one of the pilots of the Helios Airlines plane had collapsed with illness just before the crash. A Greek Defence Ministry official told Reuters the plane had crashed in the area of Ralamos, 30 km (19 miles) north of Athens.

The official said rescue services were rushing to the scene. The plane had been accompanied by two Greek F-16 fighter jets after losing communications with the Athens control tower on its way to the Greek capital. — MNA/Xinhua

China to build first offshore wind power plant

SHENZHEN, 13 Aug — China plans to build its first offshore wind power plant next year in its northern coastal province of Hebei, a local official has said.

The plant, with a de-

signed capacity of one million kilowatts, will be established at the Huanghai Port in the city of Cangzhou by the Bohai Sea, said Gao Xihai, vice director of the management committee of the Huanghai Port De-

velopment Zone.

Involving an esti-
mated investment of nine billion yuan (1.1 billion US dollars), the wind power plant will be

jouintly built by the

Guohua Energy Invest-

ment Co and authorities in the development zone.

After a four-month test wind in the coastal area of Cangzhou since April this year, the main investor Guohua was convinced that it is an ideal region for the estab-
lishment of a wind power plant, said Gao.

The first phase of the project, involving some 500 million yuan (61.7 million US dollars) in investment, is set to start in the third quarter of next year. In this phase, a plant with an initial installed generating ca-
pacity of 50,000 kilowatts would be built.

Upon the completion of the whole project by 2020, the offshore wind power plant will help ease the power shortage haunting many parts of north China, local gov-

ernment sources said.

China is striving for balancing its electricity supply and demand, and is expecting certain power surplus by 2007, said Wang Yonggan, sec-

retary-general of the Chi-

nese Electricity Council on Monday.

China installed 50 million kilowatts of new power generating capac-

ity in 2004 and will add 70 million kilowatts an-

nually to the country's power grid over the next three years, according to Wang.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to grant remission to 53,000 convicts

JAKARTA, 13 Aug — A total of 53,000 convicts throughout Indonesia will be granted a general remission on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of Indonesian Independence on 17 August, official news agency Antara reported on Saturday.

The government will also grant a decennary remission to around 30,000 convicts, Justice and Human Rights Min-

ister Hamid Awaluddin was quoted by Antara as saying at the Vice Presidential Office on Friday.

"The total number of convicts at the jails across the country has reached 105,000. Hope-

fully, the remission will really be issued on 17 August," Hamid said.

While a general re-

mission is granted to the convicts on 17 August, an additional remission will be given to convicts involved in humanitarian activities such as in blood donation. A decennary remission will only be given to convicts who are entering the 10th year of their sentence.

MNA/Xinhua

A US Army armoured vehicle burns after hitting a roadside bomb in Baghdad's Sadr City District on 13 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Half-price Colombian fighters offered for Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Aug—A US company operating out of Ecuador says it has signed up about 1,000 Colombian police and military staff to work as hired guns in Iraq, for less than half of their US counterparts' salaries.

Colombians "have been fighting ter-

rorists for the past 41 years and are experts in their respective areas" such as explosives and guerilla warfare, Epi Security and Investigation says on its website, iraqijobcenter.com.

The company based in the Ecuadoran capital of Quito is run by American Jeffrey Shippy, who is in Baghdad, according to his Ecuadoran wife.

He works out of his home not far from the Manta air base Washington rented from the Ecuadoran Air Force to relo-

cate some of the troops and planes it used to have in Panama.

The Colombian daily El Tiempo re-

ported Friday that the Colombians would be paid $US2,500 to $US5,000 a month, roughly half what their US and British counterparts earn. —INTERNET

Three Chinese workers carry a barrel of waste oil at the Liaohu oilfield in Panjin, northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 12 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Chinese Electricity Council
Hu calls on Army to follow example of dedicated general

BEIJING, 13 Aug—Chinese President Hu Jintao on Friday called on all the officers and soldiers of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army to learn from a dedicated general and make ceaseless contributions to strengthening national defence and Army-building.

“Comrade Yang Yegong was an outstanding member of China’s new-type military commanders. On every post, he worked diligently with unvarying dedication and a pioneering spirit and exercised strict self-discipline,” said Hu, who is also Chairman of the Central Military Commission and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, at a meeting commending Yang’s outstanding deeds.

Yang was a commander of a base of the Second Artillery Force of China’s Armed Forces. He died last year at 59 of illness caused by hard work.

Hu said the deeds of Yang are vivid examples of the fine traditions of the Party and Army. The lofty spirit and outstanding character of Yang are immensely moving and inspiring.

Yang was a commander of a base of the Second Artillery Force of China’s Armed Forces. He died last year at 59 of illness caused by hard work.

Chinese top legislator meets Cambodian King

BEIJING, 13 Aug—Wu Bangguo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, met here on Friday with King of Cambodia Norodom Sihamoni.

Wu said China and Cambodia are neighbours, and the friendship between the two countries has been cherished by the leaders of the two countries, and has been further developed in the new century.

The two countries have maintained frequent high-level exchange of visit, as well as consultations on major international and regional issues, and their trade and economic cooperation have been fruitful.

Sihamoni expressed gratitude for the support by the Chinese Government and people, saying Cambodia adheres to one-China policy and opposes “Taiwan Independence”.

Grenade blast kills one in N-E India

NEW DELHI, 13 Aug — At least one person was killed and six were seriously wounded in a powerful grenade blast in northeast India’s Assam on Thursday morning.

A police officer said militants lobbed a grenade at a crowded market in a village Dokmoka Thursday morning.

“Seven people were injured in the attack and were shifted to hospitals with multiple wounds,” the officer said.

One of the injured died in hospital early Friday.

There were two more separate grenade attacks in the same area though there were no casualties, police said.

There have been at least 30 explosions and attacks since Saturday with militants blowing up rail tracks, oil and gas pipelines, power facilities, besides a blast at a market on Sunday that killed four people and wounded nine others.

Local police blamed the explosions and attacks on a militant group named United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) fighting for an independent Assamese homeland since 1979.

The ULFA had claimed responsibility for blowing up gas and oil pipelines and other installations, but denied its role in the market blast Sunday that killed four.

Rafsanjani slams IAEA resolution as “tyrannical”

TEHERAN, 13 Aug — Chairman of Iran’s Expediency Council Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani on Friday slammed a resolution approved by the UN nuclear watchdog on the Iranian nuclear issue as “tyrannical”, the official IRNA news agency reported.

“The agency has adopted such a tyrannical decision against Iran. The big powers are falsely thinking that through such atrocity Iran will go backward,” Rafsanjani was quoted as saying during the Friday prayers in Teheran at which he served as the substitute leader.

The resolution, approved by Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Thursday, “seriously concern” over Iran’s recent resumption of uranium conversion activities and urges Iran to “re-establish full suspension of all enrichment-related activities”.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid-Reza Aslavi rejected the resolution as politically motivated soon after its adoption.

Rafsanjani criticized the IAEA Board of Governors for letting Iran down.

“It’s highly surprising and amazing that some countries initially supported us, but then nobody opposed the agreement which embodies what the three European states (of Britain, France and Germany) and the United States wanted,” Rafsanjani said.

Meanwhile, a group of Teheran on Friday Prayers worshippers issued a statement condemning the IAEA resolution and voiced their support to the government’s decision of rejecting it.

“We strongly condemn the IAEA for its discriminatory behaviour with regards to Article Four of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which calls for supporting peaceful nuclear activities of countries, while stopping and destroying nuclear weapons,” the statement said.

Iran resumed some activities of the uranium conversion in the central city of Isfahan on Monday and further unsealed and fully started the facilities on Wednesday regardless of the warnings of the European Union and the United States.

Rafsanjani has also rejected a comprehensive nuclear proposal presented by the European trio on 5 August, which demanded Iran to permanently halt the uranium enrichment activities it suspended in November 2003.

Report says Italy begins Iraq withdrawal early

ROME, 14 Aug—More than 100 Italian troops whose tours in southern Iraq have ended are not being replaced, apparently marking the beginning of the country’s withdrawal from Iraq ahead of schedule, a newspaper reported on Saturday.

Premier Silvio Berlusconi, a US ally, said last month that Italy would begin bringing home about 300 troops in September as Iraq’s security forces become capable of securing the territory.

But the Italian daily La Stampa said about 130 sailors, a squadron of CH-47 Chinook transport helicopters and some 100 army pilots, mechanics and machine-gunners had left Iraq and only half of those posts would be replaced. The newspaper did not cite sources.

A spokesman for Italy’s military contingent in Nasiriyah, Iraq, reached Saturday by The Associated Press, acknowledged the troops had returned to Italy but said he could not confirm whether they were not being replaced.

“I only know that they have left. You also need to consider that their tour was over,”Lt Col Fabio Mattia said.——Internet
Indonesia, Malaysia vow to cooperate in solving haze problem

Jakarta, 13 Aug — Indonesia and Malaysia vowed to cooperate in overcoming the haze problem that has reached an alarming level in Malaysia, Indonesian Foreign Ministry said here on Friday.

Spokesman for the ministry Marty Natalegawa said that Malaysian Prime Minister Ahmad Badawi has called on Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono Thursday to discuss the problem resulted from forest fires in Indonesia.

Malaysian Minister of Environment Adenan Satem offered assistance during a meeting with Indonesian Forestry Minister Malam Sambat Kaban in Medan, the capital city of North Sumatra Province, on Thursday.

"There has been an intention of the two governments to solve this problem through cooperation. So there is no intention to find who is guilty," said Natalegawa.

The spokesman said preventive measures through law enforcement would be more effective and efficient in handling this case, which always occurs regularly.

"We need to ensure better law enforcement capacity. Once such fire occurs, we are able to deal with it," he said.

Forest fires and blazes have cleared land on the Indonesian island of Sumatra since last month, disrupting airports, angering residents and arousing fears over public health.

Malaysia declared a state of emergency in some areas as the air pollution index soared. In 1997 and 1998, choking haze caused mainly by Indonesian forest fires blanketed parts of Southeast Asia including Malaysia. Forest fires have frequently broken out in Indonesia's dry season because of the spread of illegal land-clearing fires, or carelessly discarded cigarettes.

MNA/Xinhua

Floods claim four lives in Vietnam

Hanoi, 13 Aug — Floods caused by torrential rain killed four people and left one missing in Vietnam's northern province of Yen Bai and central highland province of Kon Tum, Vietnam News Agency reported on Friday.

The flooding on Friday morning killed two men aged 23 and 30 in Tram Tau District in Yen Bai. From 9-11 August, flash floods claimed two lives and left one person missing in Ngoc Hoai and Da Ha districts in Kon Tum.

By late afternoon, a total of four bodies were found. Local authorities have offered financial assistance to the victims' families.

Natural disasters, mainly storms and floods, killed 232 people, left 38 others missing, injured 187 others, destroyed 4,200 houses and 3,000 hectares of rice, and killed over 2,000 cattle and 170,000 poultry in Vietnam last year, causing a total property loss of over some 57 million US dollars. — MNA/Xinhua

Fujian Province high alert to tropical storm “Sanvu”

Fuzhou, 13 Aug — South China's coastal province of Fujian has launched emergency countermeasures against the coming tropical storm of Sanvu, coastal areas of southern Fujian and Guangdong provinces from Saturday afternoon to Sunday.

According to the Fujian Provincial Meteorological Station, Sanvu is hanging on the Bashi Strait, southeastward to Shantou, a city in south China's Guangdong Province.

Influenced by the typhoon, beginning Friday, winds and strong winds will hit the whole province of Fujian, and some areas in the province will see heavy to torrential rains.

Typhoon Matsa, which just left China's Mainland, swept through eastern coastal areas since 6 August, dumping torrential rains and causing massive economic losses in affected areas. — MNA/Xinhua

Rescue operation stagnates at S China flooded coal mine

Xiongning (Guangdong), 13 Aug — Rescue operation has made little progress at the flooded coal mine in southern Guangdong Province, which trapped 123 miners, the rescue headquarters said on Friday.

Rescuers have not found more clues about the rest 122 missing miners while water continues gushing into the tunnels, according to the headquarters.

The water level in the tunnel would not drop obviously until more water pumps put into use, said Wang Hasheng, an engineer at the site, adding the narrow tunnels caused great troubles to install the pumps. — MNA/Xinhua

France to set up “immigration police” by 2006

Paris, 13 Aug — France is to set up a 300-strong “immigration police” by the end of the year to fight illegal immigration, French daily Le Figaro announced on Thursday.

The structure of the new police is expected to be established from now to the end of 2005 and it will be reinforced during some months by 2006.

The enrollment of the new police is expected to be established from now to the end of the year to fight illegal immigration, French daily Le Figaro announced on Thursday.

The cities of Xiamen, Zhangzhou, Quanzhou, Putian and Fuzhou, which might directly confronted with Sanvu, are the key places for flood control, said Liu Dezhang, vice-governor of the province, at the meeting organized by the provincial flood and drought control headquarters.

While, the mountainous areas should make full preparations for any geographical disasters, such as mud-rock flow and landslides, said Liu.

In addition, governments along the coast should ask all the vessels back to ports by Friday night, said Liu.

The tropical storm is moving with a speed of 15 kilometres per hour toward the Chinese Mainland and is forecast to slam into the coasts of southern Fujian and Guangdong provinces.

MNA/Xinhua

Floods kill 3,11 missing in northern Thailand

Bangkok, 14 Aug — Flash floods killed three people and 11 others were missing in northern Thailand but flood waters were receding in some areas hit by heavy weekend rains, officials said on Sunday.

The raging water damaged bridges and homes, inundated farmland and ruined crops in the northern provinces of Mae Hong Son, Phayao, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Nan and Lampang, said Somnuk Muttrakss with the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation.

"There is no heavy rain in the area now, so the situation should get better," he said, although high water levels could still threaten low-lying areas in neighbouring provinces.

In worst-hit Mae Hong Son province which borders Myanmar, a villager died in hospital on Saturday after she was badly injured and nearly swept away by the water. Authorities were also trying to identify two bodies found in the province's Pang Ma Pha district, Somnuk said. At least 29 people were injured in Mae Hong Son and rescue teams were searching for 11 others missing in the province. — MNA/Reuters

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A US soldier stands watch next to an Iraqi woman as members of his squad search her farm in the northern Iraqi town of Samarra in this military handout photo released on 12 August, 2005. — INTERNET
Let’s strive for better health of student youths

Dr Aung Tun

Students of today are children who are to discharge the duties of a future State. Only when they are fit and strong and qualified enough will they become forces on whom the State can rely and contribute to national development.

With the aim of turning out new generation student youths on whom the State can rely, priority is being given to nurturing them with the national outlooks.

In the process, the government has laid down and is implementing the objective for uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation, which is one of the four social objectives. Accord- ingly, the Ministry of Health has laid down and is implementing the national health projects with two objectives and three procedures for uplift of health standard of the entire national people including stu- dents.

Relentless efforts are being made for ensuring health and fitness of the students under the school health project, which is one of the public health care projects of the national health programme.

In doing so, the Ministry of Health in collabora- tion with the Ministry of Education is taking system- atic steps after forming the school health committees at different levels with added momentum. The Township Health Departments in cooperation with the maternal and child health committees and other related organizations is activating taking part in the project.

The Ministry of Health in hand with the Ministry of Education designs the school health week in August every year, and the state/division/ townships health departments and the school health committees carry out the school-wise health activi- ties that period.

This year also, the school health week has been designated from 15 to 20 August 2005 and school health activities are to be carried out at basic education schools with added momentum.

The school health activities being carried out for the student youths, who are a primary force of the State, is indispensable.

Besides, arrangements are being made in cooperation with the Nutrition Department with the sponsorship of WHO and UNICEF to give anti-worm medicine for the first time to some 3 million students of primary schools of townships in 13 states and divisions — Kayah, Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon and Shan States, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi and Yangon Divisions, three townships in Magway Division and seven townships in Sagaing Division in the 2005 School Health Care Activities Week. A target has been set to give anti-worm medicine to children aged two to five, and pregnant women. The project also covers Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway, and Bago Divisions and Rakhine State where the elephantiasis control project is being implemented.

The WHO launched the Global School Health Initiative in 1995, calling for all the members to contribute their shares in the tasks for uplift of the global school health as it has been convinced of the fact that making investment in the school health activity is a task that costs less but produces better results.

Student youths of today are to be inculcated with healthy behaviours through the school health activities. Only then, will the objective for uplift of health standards be made progress.

With a view to enhancing health standard of the entire mass of students, the Ministry of Health is striving together with the Ministry of Health and other related ministries in implementing the follow- ing health objectives with added momentum:

(a) uplift of health and fitness standards of students
(b) making students to acquire proper health educa- tion and habits after realizing them and enjoy a healthy living style
(c) providing medical treatment to students with health problems as soon as possible
(d) emergence of the school environments that are pleasing to the students and that helps them to have balanced growth in physical, mental, and moral development
(e) emergence of new generation student youths who are imbued with strong physical, cognitive and moral abilities
(f) uplift of health standard of the entire nation through the effective and successful school health activities

Along with 80 school health committees, basic health staff members under the supervision of the Township Health Departments are taking part in the health care programmes for growing number of students. Moreover, tasks for uplift of school health standard in rural areas under the rural health develop- ment project (2002-2006) launched by the Ministry of Health are being carried out region-wise.

Now, project for establishment of schools with better health condition launched since 1996 covers 314 townships. And work is well under way to cover all the townships in 2006.

The establishment of such schools is a task being carried out for uplift of health standard of students and education staff. The task is a plan that has been drawn and is being implemented based on school health care programmes carried out under the project for establishment of these schools, measures are being taken for student youths to be inculcated with proper health education since their younger days.

To carry out the task effectively, the respective school heads in townships have been conducting courses on school health, and school health projects to be carried out by respective schools have been drawn and are being implemented for each academic year.

Medical staff in the township school health care centres or township Health Departments carry out health care services at the schools through the follow- ing nine programmes:

(1) Giving health education talks
(2) Carrying out sanitation tasks in school compounds and environs
(3) Preventive measures against infectious diseases
(4) Supply of nourishing and wholesome foods

(5) School health care services
(6) Flourishing of correct school lifestyle among the students
(7) Consolation and providing social assistance
(8) Conducting courses and research
(9) School sports and physical development

Now, teachers, students, and relevant departments and organizations are making collaborative efforts to ensure tobacco free schools, Aedes aegypti mosquito free schools, garbage free schools, and model schools in health care. The objective to be achieved for 2005-2006 is aimed at upgrading the health standard of schools.

Heads and medical staff of township Health De- partments have achieved success in discharging health care concerns under the supervision of heads and deputy heads of respective Division Health Depart- ments. School health care tasks are carried out yearly in harmony with meetings of Township, Division and Central levels on assessment of health care services.

At the school level, teachers are nurturing and inculcating their students with hygienic practices through the parental skills gained from the courses on establishment of schools with better health condition. Projects are being implemented in cooperation with the Education Planning and Training Department in prescribing school health care syllabus on facts for life at primary level, and in making arrangements for prescription of the syllabus on facts for life at middle and high school levels.

And medical staff are playing an active role in the tasks in harness with respective branches of the Development Affairs Department for keeping school shops and school compounds clean.

NGOs such as the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Union Solidarity and Develop- ment Association, parent-teacher associations, school boards of trustees, World Vision, WFWP, and AMI, and UN agencies such as WHO and UNICEF are contributing towards the school health care cam- paigns.

Previously, dengue hemorrhagic fever prevention campaign was implemented annually for control of Aedes aegypti mosquito larvae at the schools. Now, the campaign for establishment of Aedes aegypti mosquito free schools is being carried out.

Dengue hemorrhagic fever is a known epidemic in the states and divisions except Chin State. It is espe- cially common in the early rainy season. It can break out if there is proliferation of Aedes aegypti mos- quito larvae in school compounds and homes and their surrounding areas. Teachers and students are to take part in the drive all-year round for ensuring all the schools to be Aedes aegypti mosquito free ones for effective control of dengue hemorrhagic fever.

School health care teams of State/Division/Town- ship Health Departments under the Ministry of Health are going to implement the following five school health care programmes at basic education schools in the School Health Care Activities Week (from 15 to 20 August 2005) in coordination with respective State/Division/Township education officers.

(1) Keeping schools and environs clean
(2) Giving medical check-ups and treatments
(3) Taking preventive measures against infectious diseases
(4) Holding educative talks on school health care
(5) Providing nourishing foods

In this process, special programmes are to be implemented for ensuring hygienic practices, and giving treatments and nutritious and wholesome foods to the students who do not meet the standards regarding average height and body weight.

Besides, arrangements are being made in coop- eration with the Nutrition Department with the spon- sorship of WHO and UNICEF to give anti-worm medicine to children aged two to five, and pregnant women. The project also covers Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway, and Bago Divisions and Rakhine State where the elephantiasis control project is being implemented.

The Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and related ministries, social organizations and peo- ple are therefore urged to make collective efforts as a national duty for enabling the nation’s school health care services to catch up with the international level.

Translation: TS + MS (Myanma Alin, Kyemon: 14-8-2005)
Nayaka Committee Chairman Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and local authorities and members of social organizations.
The Secretary-1 and congregation received the Five Precepts from Dagon Township Sangha wellwishers. The donations included 875 bags of rice, 40 viss of edible oil, 71 viss of gram, 399 viss of iodized salt, 80 tubes of toothpaste, 7,878 boxes of various kinds of traditional medicine, 249 viss of dried fish, 798 bars of soap, 100 pictures of Kyaukhto Pagoda and K 6,157,050.

Similarly, families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated provisions to nine monasteries and nunneries to Yangon Division.

At the ceremony, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister Maj-Gen Min Htwa and senior military officers received cash donation for the monasteries and nunneries in the township.

Present on the occasion were Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and Patron of Yangon Division MCWSC wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, local authorities, members of Yangon Division and District MCWSCS, officials and guests.

First, the commander gave a speech. Next, Secretary of Yangon Division MCWSC Head of Yangon Division Health Department Dr Hla Myint and Joint Secretary Dr Daw Nwe Ni Ohn handed over the prizes to the commander.

Later, the commander and wife hosted a dinner to those present.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 15 August, 2005

Yangon, 14 Aug
— A dinner hosted by the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and wife to Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, which won the first movement prize and best paper award presented by MMCWA, was held at Yangon Command Headquarters.

MNA
Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe briefed them on cultivation of paddy in Pakokku District, progress in implementing Minywa, Kyeeywa and Nonpot river water pumping projects in Pakokku Town- ship, Shwechaung and Wayathazi river water pumping projects in Yezagyo Township and Sanphe project in Pauk Township and Aukseik and Yawwa project in Seikpyu Township are being implemented. The completed project can irrigate about 20,000 acres of farmland. Kyeeywa river water pumping project will irrigate 5,000 acres of farmland.

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo reports to Prime Minister General Soe Win on facts about Kyeeywa river water-pumping project in Pakokku. — MNA

(See page 9)
Entrepreneurs are to take innovative measures to manufacture automobiles without relying only on assistance of the Government.

The completed project can irrigate about 20,000 acres of farmland.

Kyeewa river water pumping project will irrigate 5,000 acres of farmland.

At Textile Factory (Pakokku), the Prime Minister and party inspected machines of the factory, test-running works and production of sample textile. Deputy Minister for Industry-1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun submitted reports on construction of the factory and progress of works, test-running tasks, arrangements for availability of raw materials, and production of the factory.

The Prime Minister presented a fruit basket to Site Manager Mr Zhou and officials of Tianjin Machinery Import & Export Corporation of China.

Textile Factory (Pakokku) is located on 660 acres of land near the road to Shwetantit Jetty, three miles from Pakokku.

Now, the factory is on the test running. In the future, the factory will manufacture products on a commercial scale.

At 11 am, the Prime Minister and party met with members of Pakokku Industrial Zone Supervisory Committee and industrial entrepreneurs at the hall of the industrial zone. Chairman of Magway Division PDC Lt-Col Phone Maw Shwe brief the Prime Minister on the location of the industrial zone, allotment of 714 plots to entrepreneurs, construction of the road in the zone, supply of water and power, creation of new jobs, functions of oil mill, weaving, textile, wood-based and foodstuff industries, and assembling of Pakokku Jeep and 10-wheel trucks. Chairman of Pakokku District PDC Lt-Col Huy Oo and industrialists reported on automobile production and requirements.

Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha gave a supplementary report.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of Industrial Development Committee Prime Minister General Soe Win said they arrived there to fulfill requirements of Pakokku Industrial Zone.

Private industrial zones are being set up in the industrial-based regions for ensuring enhancement of the private industries in the respective regions.

He urged those present from Pakokku Industrial Zone to manufacture only jeeps and trucks applying own technologies and experiences.

This being so, the entrepreneurs are to take innovative measures to manufacture automobiles without relying only on assistance of the Government. He heard reports on tasks of the industrial entrepreneurs and requirements and attended to their needs.

Next, the Prime Minister and party viewed round power-tillers manufactured at Pakokku Industrial Zone. Pakokku Jeep and automobiles, Myanmar traditional medicines, textile products, machinery for automobiles and agricultural equipment, and 10-wheel heavy trucks displayed near the briefing hall.

The Prime Minister and party arrived at Myegetaung small Dam project site in Kaingmagyi Village in Yesagyo Township by helicopter.

Minister Maj-Gen Huy Oo reported on implementation of the project and progress of work. Head of Magway Division Irrigation Department also reported on machinery used in the project and progress of work. Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council said altogether 71 dams and small lakes are being built for availability of water and greening of Pakokku District. Among them, 42 have been completed.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on early completion of the project in cooperation with regional authorities.

Prime Minister General Soe Win said the government has built major dam projects spending a large sum of money and it also is building water supply projects in Pakokku District in the arid zone. He said the government is implementing small-scale projects like Myegetaung project making use of available water resources for development of Pakokku plain, greening the region, availability of water and raising of the living standard of rural people.

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As development projects are being implemented to ensure equitable development of all regions of the country, Myaing Township has now enjoyed more progress than it was in the past. The most required in the region is water, and so emphasis is being paid on the supply of water by tapping water supply resources in the region. For Myaing township to get enough drinking water, the government will cooperate with local people.
Schroeder rejects military option on Iran

BERLIN, 14 Aug — German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder rejected the threat of military force against Iran on Saturday, hours after US President George Bush said he would consider it as a last resort to press Teheran to give up its nuclear programme.

Schroeder, one of the most prominent European opponents of the US-led war in Iraq, told an election rally in his home city of Hanover that the threat of force was not acceptable.

“I am worried about developments there because no one can want the Iranian leadership to gain possession of atomic weapons,” Schroeder said. “The Europeans and the Americans are united in this goal. Up to now we were also united in the way to pursue this.”

“This morning I read that military options are now on the table. My answer to that is: ‘Dear friends in Europe and America, let us work out a strong negotiating position. But let’s take the military option off the table. We have seen it doesn’t work,’” he said.

The comments came after Bush told Israeli television that “all options are on the table”, including the use of force.

Schroeder’s opposition to the Iraq war was seen as a decisive factor in his unexpected victory in the 2002 general election, which he won narrowly after coming from behind.

But his critical stance caused serious ruptures in Germany’s traditionally strong relations with the United States.

He faces another election this September. Schroeder’s Social Democrats are currently lagging the opposition conservatives, but the latter’s lead has shrunk in recent weeks.

Iran angered the European Union and the United States by resuming uranium conversion at its Isfahan plant last Monday after rejecting an EU offer of political and economic incentives in return for giving up its nuclear programme.

Teheran says it aims only to produce electricity and denies Western accusations it is seeking a nuclear bomb. Schroeder said he was against the spread of atomic weapons to more countries. But he included a rebuke to the current group of countries which already have the nuclear bomb. — MNA/Reuters

Prime Minister Soe Win gives instructions to officials on Kyeywa river water pumping project in Pakokku. — MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win meets departmental personnel, social organization members and townswelders in Myaing. — MNA

Afterwards, he cordially greeted those present. The Prime Minister and party then visited Myaing Township Hospital. Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo, Medical Superintendent Dr Moe Zaw and officials conducted the Prime Minister and party round the ophthalmic unit, operation theatre, vaccination unit, medical store and X-ray room. On arrival in Ngapawdaw in Ward-2 of Myaing Township where the Development Affairs Department is sinking a 6-inch tube-well, the Prime Minister greeted local people and viewed the sinking of the tube-well. The DAD is drawing a plan for the supply of 200,000 gallons of safe drinking water to more than 10,000 people of three wards in Myaing Township.

Drinking water supply project is being implemented to provide water for 874 villages in the townships of Pakokku, Myaing, Yezagyo, Paik and Seikphyu in Pakokku District, and it will be completed very soon.

The Prime Minister and party arrived back in Pakokku via Myaing at 5:30 pm.

USDA Secretary General Maj-Gen Myat Min who accompanied the Prime Minister met with USDA members of the district and townships in Pakokku District.

The secretary of the District USDA reported on functions of the township associations. Maj-Gen Myat Min explained organizational tasks and public welfare tasks.

Later, Brig-Gen Thein Aung made a speech and the ceremony concluded. — MNA

Researchers claim unravelling mystery behind gene silencing

NEW DELHI, 13 Aug — Researchers at India’s Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad in southern state of Andhra Pradesh claimed to have unravelled the mystery behind gene silencing, paving the way for detecting the mechanisms that prevent cancer in human beings.

Gene silencing is the process of inactivating a gene that may cause disease or be defective in another way.

Utpal Bhadra, group leader and senior scientist, and Dr Manika Pal Bhadra, senior scientist at the CCMB, said Hyderabad first demonstrated that gene silencing is involved in heterochromatin which is required for rapid cell division.

These results were published in the prestigious journal Science in 2004.

In continuation to their work, they recently found that several micro RNAs are involved in heterochromatin formation. Diseases coupled with cell division and cell proliferation, such as various types of cancers, appear to be controlled by heterochromatin formation and its functioning.

Understanding the role of gene silencing through micro RNAs thus might pave a way to use it as a possible therapy for cancers and other related diseases, which involve cell cycle controls.

Talking to Xinhua phone from Hyderabad, Dr Utpal Bhadra on Thursday said that this number was one technology at present that beat all previous technologies regarding gene silencing.

Idaho confirms case of rare Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease

SAN FRANCISCO, 13 Aug — Idaho officials on Friday confirmed one of naturally occurring Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease and are investigating five other suspected cases, but said none are believed to be caused by eating infected animals. Tom Shanahan, a spokesman for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, said five of the cases were in one geographic area and that all the people were over the age of 60.

CJD is a very rare brain-wasting disease in humans that usually affects older people in their 60s or 70s. It is not the same as the human form of mad cow disease, which is known as variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease and is linked to eating beef from infected cattle.

“It is the naturally occurring type of CJD,” Shanahan said. “It’s not variant.” — MNA/Reuters

Iran nuclear standoff temporarily eased, differences remain

VIENNA, 13 Aug — The International Atomic Energy Agency’s board of governors expressed “serious concern” on Thursday over Iran’s decision to resume uranium conversion but stopped short of referring the issue to the UN Security Council.

The agency’s restrained response made it clear that the West wants to give diplomacy more time to defuse the new round of tension triggered by Iran’s unilateral move earlier this week.

However, a Vienna-based diplomat said Iran and the European Union (EU) need more sincerity and patience in the future to bridge their differences.

The IAEA started meeting at its headquarters on Tuesday but adjourned to allow member states time to hold backstage meetings on the text of a resolution.

The 35-nation board was divided. The EU believed that Iran had violated the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) while non-aligned states questioned the opinion, arguing that Iran’s suspension of uranium enrichment last November was voluntary. At the same time, several countries insisted that the UN Security Council be involved.

The EU’s UN Ambassador in Vienna Wu Hai long called on the concerned parties to continue negotiations with patience, pragmatism and flexibility until reaching a solution acceptable to all sides.

He warned against actions that would further complicate the situation.

Switzerland extends import ban to shun bird flu

GENEVA, 13 Aug — The Swiss Government on Friday announced the extension of a ban on birds and poultry from Asian countries as well as Russia and Kazakhstan in a bid to prevent the spread of bird flu.

In a statement, the Federal Veterinary Office also reminded travellers not to illegally bring back into Switzerland products including eggs, meat, non-treated feathers or birds from the 14 countries now on a list affected by the import ban.

At the same time, the Federal Health Office said it wants to build a reserve of vaccine to protect up to 100,000 people should the flu begin spreading to humans.

Berm is following European Union policy in extending the import ban, even if the measure is purely formal.

A panel of Swiss Government experts said Tuesday that the risk of the bird flu being brought into Switzerland was low. The Federal Health Office added on Friday that there was at present no risk to the Swiss population.

The 13 countries affected by the import ban are Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam, North Korea, Pakistan, Malaysia, China, Russia and Kazakhstan. — MNA/Xinhua

Heat wave kills six in Spain

MADRID, 13 Aug — Death toll from the heat wave in Spain rose to six on Thursday as one construction worker died in San Javier in the province of Murcia, southeast of the capital Madrid. The Spanish Government said the construction worker died at the San Javier Hospital after suffering a heat stroke while working in El Pilar de la Horadada in Alicante, north of Murcia.

Meanwhile, another man sank into a coma in the midst of baking heat and was taken to the Queen Sofia University Hospital at Cordoba, said the authorities.

Bodies from Baltic Sea helicopter crash recovered

TALLINN, 13 Aug — All but one of the 14 bodies in a crashed Finnish helicopter have been recovered from wreckage in the Baltic Sea, emergency service officials said on Friday.

The twin-engine Sikorsky S-76, on a regular commercial flight by the Copterline company from Tallinn to Helsinki, slammed into the sea minutes after takeoff on Wednesday. Officials have called it Estonia’s worst aviation accident.

The only body yet to be recovered is that of a Finnish crew member, the officials told a news conference.

“We are expanding the area where we are searching for the last casualty and we will continue this search as we are preparing for recovery of the wreckage,” said Harry Hein, Estonia’s border guards chief, who is in charge of the operation.

Depending on weather conditions, he hoped that the remains of the helicopter, lying upside down on the seabed under 40 metres (130 feet) of water, could be covered by Friday night. Finnish and Estonian emergency crews, battling high waves and fierce winds, had several times been deterred by the rough waters of the bodies of the two Finnish crew and the six Finnish, four Estonian and two US passengers.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters
Russia urges Iran to engage in dialogue with IAEA

MOSCOW, 13 Aug— Russia called on Iran Friday to engage in dialogue with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to resolve its nuclear issue. Russia supports the latest IAEA resolution on Iran's nuclear issue and hopes parties involved will return to negotiations to avoid a worsening of the situation, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

President Vladimir Putin said that the US and Europe should engage Iran in dialogue through the IAEA framework. Putin said Russia will be sending a special envoy to Iran to work on a dialogue.

Human colonies on Mars a distinct reality

KOCHI, 13 Aug— Human colonies on Mars could become a distinct reality with space scientists already thinking in terms of melting the Martian ice and introducing life forms to the red planet, eminent Indian space scientist Professor U R Rao said here on Friday.

"At a meeting of space scientists from across the world recently, we were asked to reflect upon what we thought could be the next big thing of the future. I said it would be the colonization of Mars," Rao, also Secretary Department of science said delivering the Bengal Science Lecture, 2005 organized by the Science and Technology Council of the West Bengal government.

"We are in really exciting times. We can think of such exciting things in the future," he said. Elaborating on the futuristic vision, Rao told a 10,000 strong audience, mostly young students, that scientists had started thinking of ways to propagate life on Mars.— MNA/PTI

Live missiles found from canal in India

NEW DELHI, 13 Aug— Thirty five bags with 42 live missiles and other explosives were found near an irrigation canal in Ghaziabad District, some 30 kilometres from capital city New Delhi, Press Trust of India (PTI) reported on Friday.

A senior police official was quoted as saying that the bags were found during routine police patrol near a canal in a village in Ghaziabad District of western Uttar Pradesh and they contained a large quantity of war scrap including missiles, rockets, mortars, anti-tank and anti-aircraft bombs.

Among these, 42 were live missiles and a bomb disposal squad was called in from Ghaziabad to defuse the heavy artillery, Ghaziabad District Superintendent of Police Devender Choudhary said. — MNA/Xinhua

Zimbabwe to push for universal visa implementation

HARARE, 13 Aug— The Zimbabwean Government would push for the implementation of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) protocol for free movement of persons in the region this month to help integrate economies, boost tourism and ensure equitable utilization of resources, local newspapers reported on Friday.

The battle to facilitate free movement in the southern African region using a universal visa has been on for the past 15 years as there was resistance from some countries in the 14-member regional trade bloc, the report said.

"We thought all countries in the region had seen the need to closely cooperate and would take the opportunity at hand to have the protocol recommended by the ministers from the region who were present for the protocol's immediate approval by various heads of state in South Africa, he said. He said it would not be true for the region to say there is free trade when people have no freedom of movement.

There were so many genuine businessmen who would want to do business in the countries in the region, but because of stringent visa requirements they would rather take their business to other regions. "We can also not preach cooperation when there is no equitable distribution of resources. For instance, it would be odd to see the countries in the SADC region importing coal from Brazil when there is plenty in Zimbabwe or to see professionals flocking to as far as United Kingdom when they can work in either Zambia or Tanzania," he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Oil extends record streak on US economy

SINGAPORE, 13 Aug — Oil prices hit a fifth consecutive record high on Friday, topping 66 US dollars a barrel as robust US economic growth keeps refiners shuffling to meet demand and friction over Iran's nuclear programme jangles nerves.

US light sweet crude for September delivery charged to an all-time high of 66.13 US dollars a barrel, up 33 cents in early European trade.

London Brent crude also set another record at 65.88 US dollars.

"Demand is outstripping supply and this is the bullet point of the problem. The US refinery snags are adding fuel to the flames. Certainly, in the long term, prices will head higher," said John Brady, energy broker at ABN AMRO in New York.

US gasoline supplies have been threatened by a series of refinery troubles, the latest being the shutdown of several units for inspections at BP's giant 460,000 barrel-per-day (bpd) refinery in Texas City, the third largest in the United States.

ConocoPhillips was also forced to shut some units at a 306,000-bpd refinery in Illinois due to a power loss.

The string of shutdowns have compounded worries raised by a steady decline in gasoline stocks, which are now nearly 4 per cent lower than a year ago with several weeks of peak summer demand still to go, according to US Government data.

Record-high pump prices appear to have had little impact on demand, which is up an average 1.4 per cent over the last four weeks, the data showed, helping send US September gasoline contract to a record high 1.9630 US dollars a gallon on Friday.

The world's largest economy continues to hold up against soaring oil prices. Latest economic data showed US retail sales jumped 1.8 per cent last month, with the biggest gain in auto sales due to buying incentives. — MNA/Reuters

Bomb blast in Germany kills one, terror ruled out

MUNICH, 13 Aug — A suspected pipe bomb killed one man in Barbing, southern Germany, on Thursday night and sparked a hunt for further explosives, police in Munich said on Friday.

The police said they were searching a building in Schwabing, a suburb of Munich, in connection with the incident and had evacuated six neighbouring buildings as a precaution.

The background to the blast, which happened outdoors between two vehicles, was unclear, a spokesman said. "A terrorist background can however be excluded," he added. — MNA/Reuters

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Bayern win 5-2 away, hat-trick for Makaay

BERLIN, 14 Aug—Dutch striker Roy Makaay scored a hat-trick to fire champions Bayern Munich to a 5-2 win at Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday.

Bayern's victory sent them top of the table with six points and eight goals in their first two matches.

Any hopes Bayer may have had of repeating their 4-1 humiliation of Bayern last season were soon extinguished.

Michael Ballack opened the scoring against his former side, powering home a perfectly-placed shot into the corner of the net in the third minute. Makaay put Bayern 2-0 up eight minutes later but Bulgarian striker Dimitar Berbatov netted a penalty in the 32nd minute, briefly bringing Bayer into the game.

Four minutes later Ali Karimi extended Bayern's lead to 3-1 and Makaay turned the screw, scoring twice within seven minutes in the second half. Bayer's Marko Babic got a late consolation eight minutes from time. Bayer coach Felix Magath said goals would not always come so quickly and Bayer had not put their team through their paces. "Our next Bundesliga home game against Hertha will be much harder," he said.

Borussia Dortmund took the lead in the 17th minute against Schalke 04 through Ebi Smolarek, but Germany striker Kevin Kuranyi headed an equalizer and clinched a winner 13 minutes into the second half after a sell-out crowd of over 81,000 at Veltins-Arena. Schalke have the same number of points as Bayern and Hamburg SV, 2-0 winners at Arminia Bielefeld.

Promoted MSV Duisburg troubled Kaiserslautern in an action-packed game before losing 5-3. On Sunday, Munz Vieter Bremen and VfB Stuttgart play Cologne. —MNA/Reuters

Celtic come from behind to beat Falkirk 3-1

GLASGOW, 14 Aug—Celtic manager Gordon Strachan was ready to substitute Alan Thompson before he fired two goals to seal the points in a 3-1 home win over Falkirk on Saturday.

The Glasgow side moved top of the Scottish Premier League after bouncing back from a goal down at the interval to beat Falkirk with a fabulous double by midfielder Thompson following John Hartson's headed equalizer.

Striker Darryl Duffy gave Falkirk the lead on 39 minutes with a penalty after he had been brought down by defender Mo Camara.

Zambia, Zimbabwe through to COSAFA Castle Cup final

MABARATHO (South Africa), 14 Aug—Zambia will meet neighbours Zimbabwe in the final of the regional COSAFA Castle Cup on Sunday after surprise results on Saturday.

Zimbabwe upset defending champions Angola 2-1 in the first of Saturday's semifinals in Mabahatho before Zambia won a dramatic penalty shootout against hosts South Africa.

South Africa's young experimental team fought their way back after conceding two early goals to Zambia to draw 2-2 after 90 minutes but then lost the five minutes of extra time after 20 spot kicks. Zambia shocked the small home crowd with goals in the opening 25 minutes from James Chamanga and Christopher Katongo. South Africa pulled themselves back into contention with two goals in five minutes midway through the second half, the first a powerful drive from Lungisani Ntledla and the second scored in a scramble by Abram Raselemane.

Zimbabwe came from behind to surprise Angola, who are on the brink of World Cup qualification. Love put Angola in the lead with a superb individual effort seven minutes after halftime but Zimbabwe replied with two opportunistic efforts from Francis Chandida and Sageby Sandaka. —MNA/Reuters

Barca sparkle with 3-0 Super Cup win over Betis

MADRID, 14 Aug—League champions Barcelona made a sparkling start to the new season with a classy 3-0 win away to King's Cup winners Real Betis in the first leg of the Spanish Super Cup on Saturday.

The Catalans dominated from the first whistle but did not take the lead until early in the second half when French winger Ludovic Giuly provided a cool finish to a perfectly disguised through-ball from Ronaldinho.

Five minutes later leading striker Samuel Eto'o made it 2-0 when he raced on to a slide-rule pass from Ronaldinho and slotted the ball into the empty net. Ronaldinho provided the icing on the cake just after the hour when he curled a dipping free kick over the wall and into the net past a bemused Doblas. —MNA/Reuters

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MABARATHO (South Africa), 14 Aug—Zambia will meet neighbours Zimbabwe in the final of the regional COSAFA Castle Cup on Sunday after surprise results on Saturday.

Zimbabwe upset defending champions Angola 2-1 in the first of Saturday's semifinals in Mabahatho before Zambia won a dramatic penalty shootout against hosts South Africa.

South Africa's young experimental team fought their way back after conceding two early goals to Zambia to draw 2-2 after 90 minutes but then lost the five minutes of extra time after 20 spot kicks. Zambia shocked the small home crowd with goals in the opening 25 minutes from James Chamanga and Christopher Katongo. South Africa pulled themselves back into contention with two goals in five minutes midway through the second half, the first a powerful drive from Lungisani Ntledla and the second scored in a scramble by Abram Raselemane.

Zimbabwe came from behind to surprise Angola, who are on the brink of World Cup qualification. Love put Angola in the lead with a superb individual effort seven minutes after halftime but Zimbabwe replied with two opportunistic efforts from Francis Chandida and Sageby Sandaka. —MNA/Reuters

Barca sparkle with 3-0 Super Cup win over Betis

MADRID, 14 Aug—League champions Barcelona made a sparkling start to the new season with a classy 3-0 win away to King's Cup winners Real Betis in the first leg of the Spanish Super Cup on Saturday.

The Catalans dominated from the first whistle but did not take the lead until early in the second half when French winger Ludovic Giuly provided a cool finish to a perfectly disguised through-ball from Ronaldinho.

Five minutes later leading striker Samuel Eto'o made it 2-0 when he raced on to a slide-rule pass from Xavi, rounded keeper Toni Doblas and slotted the ball into the empty net. Ronaldinho provided the icing on the cake just after the hour when he curled a dipping free kick over the wall and into the net past a bemused Doblas. —MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

MONTH SLEEF OEU CALT CARAMELE SKEATH KVUPDIA EDEN BULLION DLANGOIRO DIND MMT SADST TEN NSR ORT TOSCARAPTURE IEC MESN SEDATE NOTED

Liverpool's Momo Sissoko, left, beats Middlesbrough's Ugo Ehiogu, right, during their English Premier League soccer match at Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium, on 13 August, 2005. —INTERNET

Winning starts for Man Utd, West Ham and Spurs

LONDON, 14 Aug—Manchester United got the Premier League season underway in impressive style on Saturday when they won 2-0 at Everton with goals from Ruud van Nistelrooy and Wayne Rooney.

Chelsea begin the defence of their title at promoted Wigan Athletic on Sunday, when runners-up Arsenal are also in action at home to Newcastle United.

West Ham United enjoyed a winning return to the top flight after a two-year absence when they came from behind to beat Blackburn Rovers 3-1, helped by a goal from 39-year-old former England striker Teddy Sheringham.

Tottenham Hotspur won 2-0 at Portsmouth while 10-man Charlton Athletic won 3-1 at promoted Sunderland and Aston Villa drew 2-2 at home with Bolton Wanderers.

European champions Liverpool visit Middlesbrough later on Saturday.

The biggest game of the day was the early kick off at Goodison Park between an Everton team delighted to finish fourth last season and a United side hugely disappointed with third.

Everton's unexpectedly high finish was helped by an April victory over United that ended a 10-year barren spell against United that ended a 10-year barren spell against United and Spurs.

MNA/Reuters

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Liverpool's Momo Sissoko, left, beats Middlesbrough's Ugo Ehiogu, right, during their English Premier League soccer match at Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium, on 13 August, 2005. —INTERNET
Bangladesh blasts kill one, wound about 50

DHAKA, 14 Aug — Several home-made bombs thrown at a Muslim shrine in Bangladesh during a religious festival killed one person and wounded about 50, some of them critically, police said.

They said nobody had claimed responsibility for the blasts late on Friday at Akhaura, 80 miles east of the capital Dhaka, the latest in a series of attacks that have killed more than 100 people across the country since early last year.

“We will have the details only after we can hunt down the culprits,” said a local police officer, adding police was investigating.

The blasts came a little over a year after British High Commissioner Anwar Chowdhury was hurt in an explosion at a Muslim shrine at the north-eastern town of Sylhet. Three people were killed and more than 50 wounded in that attack.

MNA/Reuters

Locusts plague hits S China province

HAIKOU, 14 Aug — A long-awaited rainfall on Friday has not bring too much joy to the farmers of the drought-hit Lingao County in south China’s island province of Hainan, because a large area of their cropland was ruined by a locust plague.

More than 53.3 hectares of seedlings in the county were eaten up by the locusts and the sugarcane fields were also stricken by the plague. Lingao is not the only place that has been stricken by locusts.

According to statistics from the provincial Department of Agriculture, 16 counties and cities in the province, covering an area of 146,700 hectares, have been affected by the plague. The disastrous locust plague this year is the most severe one in the past two decades, said an official with the provincial plant protection station. The situation is most serious in the three counties of Wanning, Lingao and Ding’an, with a total of 22,000 hectares of farmland submerged by the huge locust swarms. The locust density reached 500 in every square metre of land, the official said. “The provincial government is working out effective ways to curb the locust infestation so that the plague will be halted and the crops saved,” the official said. The provincial government has already sent chemistry and biology experts to the areas to control the infestation.

About half of the affected areas are plagued by a kind of locust identified as the “East Asian migratory locust”.

MNA/Xinhua

Sunday, 14 August, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder showers have been scattered in Kachin State and Bago Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Kayin States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Ann (4.37) inches, Kalaywa (3.31) inches, Hpa-an (3.15) inches, Myeik (3.07) inches, Mudon (3.06) inches, Monywa (2.44) inches and Mandalay (2.20) inches.

Maximum temperature on 13-8-2005 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 14-8-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 14-8-2005 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 13-8-2005 was 1.4 hours approx.

Rainfalls on 14-8-2005 were 0.31 inch at Mingladon, 0.75 inch at Kaba-Aye, 1.50 inches at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 62.44 inches at Mingladon, 63.70 inches at Kaba-Aye and 66.38 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 10 mph from Southwest at (15:10) hours MST on 13-8-2005.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 15-8-2005: Rain or thunder showers will be scattered in Kachin and Kayah States, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Temporary 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: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 15-8-2005: Some rain. Degree of certainty is 100%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 15-8-2005: One or two rain. Degree of certainty is 80%.
INSIDE

The Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and related ministries, social organizations and people are therefore urged to make collaborative endeavors as a national duty for enabling the nation’s school health care services to catch up with the international level.

Po Yan Naing (Kyaukkyi) (Trs) (Hailing the donation of dry rations and medicines by the families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers.)

**Tatmadaw and People — Noble Charity**

- From birth to demise, cycle of Dhamma
- Predestined, according to astrology
- Karakat season, noble month
- The Ponnyet blooms, lustrous and lush
- Myatlay afresh, Migyaung blooms white
- In the rainy season, as tradition goes
- Charity of Myanmars, in tumult
- It’s the noble month of Wazo.
- In time of Patipat and Pariyat
- The noble scriptures being pursued
- Robes are offered to the Sangha
- As yearly tradition by those of goodwill
- Alms set up aplenty, plus offering of rice
- In tumultuous ceremony, by Tatmadawmen
- And families and citizens
- Take acquiring merit after offering alms
- Tis for the flourishing of Buddha Sanana.
- *With four objectives laid down*
- Exhortation of elders, good aims
- In humble materialization, for success
- Four objectives, laid down
- On Tatmadawmen’s behalf, charity is made
- While doing so, partaking in unity
- Wish the people to gain credit
- And in addition, action twofold
- For sake of Sasana, the noble who strive
- In pursuing Pariyatti, in peace
- To enable that, we wish that Sasana
- Will be prolonged Five Millennia
- Buddha’s teaching, the Ovada
- As basis, and cultural heritage
- With patriotism and nationalism high
- Work for benefit of national weal
- Share the merits among brethren
- The Tatmadawmen and the people
- Sharing goodwill, saying “Well-done”
- To gain good without fail
- Toward new nation modern and prosperous
- Two objectives to be followed
- Tatmadaw and people do joint deeds
- May the noble beings and people
- Say “Well-done!”

**Minister Inspects Paunglaung, Khabaung dam projects in Mandalay Division**

YANGON, 14 Aug — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspected storage of water and functions of spillway at Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project in Mandalay Division on 8 August.

At Khabaung Multi-purpose Dam Project in Oktwin Township, the minister inspected the diversion tunnel and concrete work.

Officials briefed him on matters related to the dam project, facts about Chaungma and Madan dam projects being implemented in Lewe Township.

At the briefing hall, Director U Victor of Irrigation Department reported on progress of construction tasks. The minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, he inspected the preparations for construction of the power plant of Hydro-electric Power Department at the Paunglaung Multi-purpose Dam Project.

In Oktwin Township, the minister looked into Shwelaung sugarcane plantations. The minister stressed the need for officials to strive for acquisition of techniques, quality strain sugarcane and raw materials for the Sugar Mill. — MNA

**Cash and provisions donated to monasteries in Dagon, Yankin townships**

YANGON, 14 Aug — Families of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) and public wellwishers donated cash and kind such as rice, edible oil, salt, medicine and grains to monasteries in Dagon Township, Yangon West District, and Yankin Township, Yangon East District, this afternoon. Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the donation ceremonies.

The donation ceremony for the monasteries in Dagon Township took place at Kyaku Dhamma Beikman on Shwedagon Pagoda Road here at 1 pm. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Chief of Staff-1 (See page 7)

**New Light of Myanmar**

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo inspects outlet of diversion tunnel at Khabaung Dam. — A&E

Secretary-1 Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party taking Five Precepts from a Sayadaw at the ceremony to donate rice and alms to monasteries in Dagon Township. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers alms to a Sayadaw. — MNA