Senior General Than Shwe sees off Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win on their departure for Sri Lanka

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Aug — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe saw off Acting Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, who left here by air for Sri Lanka at the invitation of Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mr Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 9.30 am today.

Also present at the airport were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Members (See page 8)

Senior General Than Shwe receives Thai Army Chief

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Aug — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe received Chairman of Council of National Security of Thailand and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Sonthi Boonyanaratglin and party at Bayintnaung Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence, here, at 2 pm today. (See page 8)

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Dagon Myothit (South) Township MCWA organizes membership applications presentation ceremony

YANGON, 26 Aug — A ceremony to designate the tobacco, rubbish and mosquito free schools for the children organized by Yangon East District Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at No 30 Basic Education Primary School in Dagon Myothit (South) Township this morning.

First, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Hay Win delivered an address.

Next, membership applications presentation ceremony followed. Chairperson of Yangon Division MCW Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai accepted 5000 membership applications presented by Chairperson Daw Tin Pa Pa Win of town­ship MCWA.

Later, Daw Mar Mar Wai presented sanitation equipment for schools in the township and posters on dengue fever through the chairpersons of ward/village MCWAs.

Yangon Division Peace and Development Council has carried out health care activities at the townships in and around Yangon in cooperation with Yangon Division Health Department, Division/District MCWSCs and township MCWAs.

Textbooks donated to monastic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Aug — A cash donation ceremony to set up the funds for tubewell and supply of electric power to two monasteries was held at Maha Ledisan monastery in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana on 25 August.

Wellwishers and employees of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation also donated textbooks to eight monastic education schools there.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-General of Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htin Oo, CEC member U Thein Swe, directors-general and managing directors under the ministry, Secretary of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District USDA U Khin Maung Htay and members.

First, the congregation took the Nine Precepts from the winning team from the second semifinal match through two goals from Yan Paing at the 33rd in the first half and 11th minutes in the second half.

Second, the Secretary-General presented documents of tube­well to the Sayadaw of Maha Ledisan monastery and cash to the funds for power supply to the Sayadaw of Pali Tekkatho Monastery. CEC member U Thein Swe also presented cash to the funds for power supply to the Sayadaw of Maha Ledisan monastery.

Afterwards, departmental officials and the secretary of District USDA donated textbooks for the schools through teachers of the monastic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana.

After the donation ceremony, the Secretary-General and the CEC member met with members of district/township USDAs.

Myanmar ease through 3-1 victory over Zimbabwe


Defending Champion Myanmar Team moved up to the final by beating Zimbabwe 3-1 in the first semifinal match.

The goals for Myanmar National Team came through two goals from Yan Paing at the 33rd in the first half and 11th minutes in the second half and a third from Yazar Win Thein at the 44th minute in the second half.

On 29 August, Myanmar will play against the winning team from the second semifinal match between Singapore and Malaysia.
General says new US armoured trucks are symbolic targets

ABERDEEN (Maryland), 26 Aug—New armoured vehicles that give extra protection to US troops in Iraq are becoming symbolic targets for insurgents, the top military officer in charge of acquiring the vehicles said on Friday.

The Pentagon says the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles, which have V-shaped hulls to disperse the impact of bomb blasts, will save the lives of many US troops and is rushing them to Iraq.

But Marine Corps Brigadier-General Michael Brogan suggested the hype surrounding the vehicles was putting them at greater risk, pushing insurgents to see them as a challenge to be defeated.

“As we field these things, because of what all you are doing and how much you are touting the fact that they protect our troops ... these are becoming symbolic targets,” he told reporters at an MRAP demonstration organized by the US military.

“That in and of itself is not a good thing,” he said.

The boxy, truck-like MRAPs, which come in various sizes and were originally developed in South Africa, give much greater protection than the Humvee vehicles used by many US troops in Iraq against bombs planted on or beside roads.

The Pentagon says 6,415 MRAPs have been ordered and more than 225 have been fielded.

MNA/Reuters

Lightning kills two, injures three in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 27 Aug—Two people were killed and three injured in a lightning strike in Bangladesh’s Brahmanbaria District, 80 kilometres east of capital Dhaka, Saturday morning.

Witnesses were quoted by private news agency UNI as saying Ripon, 25, and Alal, 19, died instantly as thunderbolts struck them while they were working on a cropland.

Three people were also injured in the lightning. One of them was admitted to local hospital.

Bangladesh is experiencing monsoon season which starts mid of June and ends mid of October. Heavy rain and thunderstorms are common in this season which usually cause loss of life and property in the South Asian country every year.

MNA/Xinhua

Bird-flu find results in Germany’s biggest bird cull ever

BAVARIA, 26 Aug—A team of eight vets and poultry workers at the farm in Wachenroth, southern Germany on 26 Aug, 2007. The H5N1 bird flu virus has been found in several ducks at a poultry farm in the southern German state of Bavaria, local authorities said on Saturday. All 160,000 birds in the farm would be culled, a ministry spokeswoman said. The farm has been sealed off.

MNA/Xinhua

Single winner in $314 million Powerball lottery

INDIANA, 26 Aug—Powerball lottery officials say one winning ticket was sold for Saturday night’s $314 million jackpot.

It was purchased in Indiana.

The pot had grown so huge because there had not been a big winner in any of the drawings since late June. Saturday night’s six Powerball numbers are: 2, 8, 23, 29 and 35, with a Powerball of 19.

The jackpot for the multi-state lottery starts at $20 million.

For Wednesday night’s drawing. And for people out of luck on Powerball, there is another giant lottery jackpot out there. The Mega Millions prize will be worth about $250 million for Tuesday’s drawing.

—INTERNET

40-year-old killed by artillery explosion in Vietnam

HANOI, 27 Aug—A 40-year-old man was killed and another injured when an artillery shell exploded in Vietnam’s central Quang Ngai Province, according to local newspaper Young People on Monday.

The explosion occurred in Duc Pho District on Sunday morning when the man named Do Tien Tuan was sawing the shell for explosive and metal.

According to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund of the United States, during the Vietnam War from 1965-1975, the US Armed Forces deployed more than 15 million tons of bombs, mines, artillery shells and other ordnance in the country, in which 10 per cent did not detonate as designed.

—MNA/Xinhua

Afghan soldiers keep watch next to a burning truck after it was set on fire by the Taleban on the Kabul-Ghazi highway on 25 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET

Participants take part in the Katinting boat race, held in August every year, at the Losari beach in Makassar, South Sulawesi on 26 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET

Indian soldiers carry the coffin of a colleague killed during a clash with the Taleban at the weekend in the Myanat district of Helmand province in southern Afghanistan on 26 Aug, 2007.—INTERNET
Constitution to the Plenary Session of the National Fundamental Principles and Detailed Basic Principles

(6) In connection with legislature, it is laid down that-
(a) the three branches of State power, namely legislative power, executive power and judicial power are separated as much as possible and exert reciprocal control, check and balance among themselves;
(b) the State shall enact necessary law to protect the rights of workers.
(7) In connection with executive branch, it is laid down that-
(a) the State shall help develop language, literature, fine arts and culture of the national races;
(b) the State shall help promote solidarity, mutual respect and mutual help among the national races.
(8) In connection with judiciary It is laid down that-
(a) the head of executive of the State is the President of the State;
(b) the executive power of the State is distributed among the administrative organs of Pyidaungsu, regions and states, self-administered areas and the Tatmadaw and in each of the seven regions and a State Hluttaw is constituted in each of the seven regions; 
(c) there will be a Region Hluttaw in each of the seven regions and a State Hluttaw in each of the seven states;
(d) Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Region Hluttaws and State Hluttaws include Tatmadaw servicemen; Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief in numbers stipulated by the State Constitution;
(e) for national races with appropriate sizes of population, national race representatives are to be permitted to participate in legislatures of regions, states or self-administered areas concerned.

(9) In connection with the Tatmadaw, it is laid down that-
(a) the Tatmadaw is strong, modern and must be the sole existing Tatmadaw;
(b) the Tatmadaw has the right to independently administer all affairs concerning the forces;
(c) the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief is the Supreme Commander of all armed forces;
(d) the Tatmadaw has the right to administer for the participation of the entire people in State security and defense;
(e) the Tatmadaw is mainly responsible for safeguarding non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty;
(f) the Tatmadaw is mainly responsible for safeguarding the State Constitution.
(10) In connection with citizens and citizens’ fundamental rights and responsibilities, it is laid down that-
(a) every citizen shall enjoy rights of equality, rights of liberty and rights of justice etc. as prescribed in the State Constitution;
(b) there shall be no right to hold a citizen in detention for more than 24 hours without the permission of a law court;
(c) public peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order is the responsibility of every citizen;
(d) necessary law shall be enacted to make citizens’ freedoms, rights, benefits, responsibilities and restrictions effective, firm and complete.
(11) In connection with the national races, it is laid down that-
(a) the State shall help develop language, literature, fine arts and culture of the national races;
(b) the State shall help promote solidarity, mutual respect and mutual help among the national races.
(c) the State shall help promote socio-economic development including education, health, economy, transport and communications of less developed national races.
(12) In connection with the peasantry, it is laid down that-
(a) the State shall enact necessary law to protect the rights of the peasantry;
(b) the State shall help the peasantry get equitable value for their agricultural produce.
(13) In connection with workers, it is laid down that-
the State shall enact necessary laws to protect the rights of workers.
(14) In connection with Intellectuals and intelligensia, it is laid down that-
the state shall help promote the interests of the intellectuals and intelligensia.
(15) In connection with the State service personnel, it is laid down that-
(a) State service personnel shall be free from party politics;
(b) the State shall enact necessary laws for State service personnel to have due security in service and sufficiency of food, clothing and shelter, to married women in service to get maternity benefits, and for welfare to ease livelihood of persons who have retired from service.
(16) In connection with national culture, it is laid down that-
- the State shall help for development, consolidation and preservation of national culture. (See page 5)
In connection with education and health, it is laid down that-
(a) The State shall earnestly strive to improve education and health of the people;
(b) the State shall enact necessary law to enable the national people to participate in matters of education and health of the people;
(c) the State shall implement free compulsory primary education system,
(d) the State shall implement a modern education system that will promote all-around correct thinking and good morals and contribute towards building of the nation.

In connection with agriculture, it is laid down that-
(a) the State is the ultimate owner of all the land,
(b) the State is empowered to exercise legislative powers within the borders of the Union.

In connection with industry, it is laid down that-
(a) the State economic system shall be market economy;
(b) voters concerned shall have the right, in accord with the Constitution, to recall elected people’s representatives.

In connection with political parties, it is laid down that-
(a) the State permits all economic forces such as the private concerns etc. to take part in economic activities for the development of national economy;
(b) the State shall prevent acts that harm public interests through monopolization or manipulation of prices by an individual or group with intent to jeopardize fair competition in economic activities;
(c) when there arises a state of emergency that could cause disintegration of the Union, disintegration of national solidarity and loss of national sovereignty, due to take over of sovereign State power or attempts thereof by wrongful forcible means such as insurgency or violence, the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief has the right to take over and exercise State power in accord With provisions of the State Constitution.

In connection with state of emergency, it is laid down that-
(a) every citizen shall have the right to vote and to stand for election according to law;
(b) voters concerned shall have the right, in accord with provisions of the State Constitution, to recall elected people’s representatives.

In connection with political parties, it is laid down that-
(a) when there arises or there is sufficient reason to arise a state of emergency endangering life and property of the people in a region, a state or a self- administered area, the Tatmadaw has the right, in accord with provisions of the State Constitution, to prompt that danger and provide protection;
(b) when there arises a state of emergency that could cause disintegration of the Union, disintegration of national solidarity and loss of national sovereignty, due to take over of sovereign State power or attempts thereof by wrongful forcible means such as insurgency or violence, the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief has the right to take over and exercise State power in accord

In connection with general provisions, it is laid down that-
(a) when there arises or there is sufficient reason to arise a state of emergency endangering life and property of the people in a region, a state or a self- administered area, the Tatmadaw has the right, in accord with provisions of the State Constitution, to prompt that danger and provide protection;
(b) when there arises a state of emergency that could cause disintegration of the Union, disintegration of national solidarity and loss of national sovereignty, due to take over of sovereign State power or attempts thereof by wrongful forcible means such as insurgency or violence, the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief has the right to take over and exercise State power in accord

In connection with elections, it is laid down that-
(a) the State is the ultimate owner of all the land, and natural resources above and below the ground, above and beneath the water and in the atmosphere within its territorial boundary,
(b) the State shall enact necessary law to supervise economic forces’ extraction and utilization of State owned natural resources;
(c) the State shall provide inputs such as technology for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing discipline-fouishing genuine multiparty democracy.

In connection with state of emergency, it is laid down that-
(a) when there arises or there is sufficient reason to arise a state of emergency endangering life and property of the people in a region, a state or a self- administered area, the Tatmadaw has the right, in accord with provisions of the State Constitution, to prompt that danger and provide protection;
(b) when there arises a state of emergency that could cause disintegration of the Union, disintegration of national solidarity and loss of national sovereignty, due to take over of sovereign State power or attempts thereof by wrongful forcible means such as insurgency or violence, the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief has the right to take over and exercise State power in accord

In connection with foreign affairs, it is laid down that-
(a) the State practises independent, active and non- aligned foreign policy, aims at world peace and friendly relations with nations, and upholds the principles of peaceful co- existence among nations;
(b) the State never starts aggression against any nation;
(c) no forcing troops are permitted to be deployed within the borders of the Union.

In connection with punishments, it is laid down that-
(a) there is no right for any penal law to provide for retrospective effect;
(b) there is no right to prescribe punishments that violate human dignity.

In connection with the natural environment, It is laid down that- the state shall protect the natural environment.

In connection with general provisions, it is laid down that-
(a) the State shall implement free compulsory primary education system that will promote all-around correct thinking and good morals and contribute towards building of the nation.

In connection with armed forces, it is laid down that-
(a) the State permits all economic forces such as the private concerns etc. to take part in economic activities for the development of national economy;
(b) the State shall prevent acts that harm public interests through monopolization or manipulation of prices by an individual or group with intent to jeopardize fair competition in economic activities;
(c) the State shall strive towards uplift of living standard of the people and development of general investments;
(d) the State will not nationalize economic enterprises;
(e) the State shall provide inputs such as technology for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing discipline-fouishing genuine multiparty democracy.

In connection with police powers, it is laid down that-
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(a) The State shall earnestly strive to improve education and health of the people;
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In connection with agriculture, it is laid down that-
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(a) the State economic system shall be market economy;
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Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union ...

(From page 5)

(5) Designation of Union territories

(a) Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, is designated as Union territory placed under direct administration of the President of the Union,

(b) if the need arises to designate areas that have special situation in connection with national defence’ security, administration and economy etc. as Union territories they may be redesignated as Union territories after enacting laws.

(6) Constituting the Union

Villages are organized into village -tract, wards are organized into town or township, village-tracts and wards or towns are organized into township,
townships are organized into district,
districts are organized into region or state,
in a self-administered zone territories therein are organized into the self-administered zone,
in a self-administered division territories therein are organized into district and districts are organized into self-administered zone,
if there be self- administered division or self-administered zone in a region or a state, the self administered division, self-administered zone are organized into region or state, regions, state and Union territories are organized as the Union.

(7) No part of the territory of the Union, namely regions, states and self- administered areas etc. shall ever secede from the Union.

(8) Re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union

(a) If the need arises to re-deline the territorial boundary of the Union, the President of the Union shall first inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and ask him to seek the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(b) The leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after receiving the intimation of the President of the Union on re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, shall seek the opinions of the Hluttaw representatives as follows:

(1) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population,

(2) assenting votes of more than half the total number of representatives included in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population,

(3) assenting votes of more than half the number of representatives from the region or state involved in the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaw,

(c) the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, after obtaining the assenting votes as mentioned above, shall inform the President of the Union for re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union,

(d) If any Hluttaw or representatives from the region state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaw, following the methods mentioned above, dissent in connection with the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, action shall be taken after obtaining the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. If three-fourths and upwards of the total number of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall inform the President of the Union for the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union as necessary,

(e) the President of the Union shall take necessary measures for the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union after obtaining the opinions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(9) Re-delineation of the territorial boundaries of a region or a state

(a) If there arises cause to re-deline the boundary of a region or a state, first of all the wishes of persons with vote residing in the township involved in the re-delineation of the boundary shall be sought,

(b) re-delineation of the territorial boundary shall not be effected at all without supporting vote of the representative involved in the re-delineation of the boundary.

(c) It more than half the total number of eligible voters in the township concerned vote in support at the re-delineation of the boundary, the wishes of the involved region or state Hluttaw representatives shall be sought.

(d) the President of the Union, with or the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall re-delineate the territorial boundary of a region or a state. abst getting the supporting vote of three-fourths and upwards of the total number involved region or state Hluttaw representatives,

(e) the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall be sought in an involved region or state. Hluttaw passes a decision against re-delineation of the boundary.

(f) the President of the Union shall re-delineate the boundary of the region to state as necessary if it supported by three-fourths and upwards of the total number of representatives in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(10) Re-delineation of the boundary, organization and change of name of a village, village-tract, ward, town, township and district in a region, state, all-administered division or self-administered zone

(a) If occasion arises to make changes in the boundary, organisation or name of a village, village-tract, ward, town, township or district in a region, state, self-administered division or self-administered zone, the region or state executive authority concerned shall submit recommendations to the President of the Union and the President of the Union shall then act accordingly.

(11) Change of name of a self-administered division or self-administered zone

(a) If it is desired to change the name of a self-administered division or self-administered zone, the same method shall be applied with the case of a change of the name of the region or state.

(b) In connection with re-delineation of self-administered division or self-administered zone in accord with these basic principles, the following detailed basic principles are laid down:

(a) when total number of representatives in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population,

(b) when total number of representatives from the region or state involved in the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaw,

(c) the leader of thePyidaungsu Hluttaw, after obtaining the assenting votes as mentioned above, shall inform the President of the Union for re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union,

(d) if any Hluttaw or representatives from the region state involving the boundary concerned in the two Hluttaw, following the methods mentioned above, dissent in connection with the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union, action shall be taken after obtaining the opinion of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. If three-fourths and upwards of the total number of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall inform the President of the Union for the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union as necessary,

(e) the President of the Union shall take necessary measures for the re-delineation of the territorial boundary of the Union after obtaining the opinions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(Chapter III)

The Head of State

(1) The Head of State is the President of the Union,

(2) The President of the Union represents the nation,

(3) The President of the Union occupies a position of the highest honour in the whole of the Union of Myanmar,

(4) Qualifications of the President and Vice-Presidents

(a) The President of the Union shall be loyal to the Union and the citizenry,

(b) The President of the Union shall be a citizen of Myanmar who was, and both of whose parents were, born in the territory under the jurisdiction of the State, belonging to the nationality of Myanmar,

(c) the elected President of the Union shall be a person who has fully attained the age of 45.

(d) The President of the Union shall be well acquainted with affairs of State such as political, administrative, economic and military affairs,

(e) The President of the Union shall be a person who has residing continuously in the country for at least 20 years up to the time of the election.

(f) The President of the Union himself, parents, spouse, children and their spouses shall not owe allegiance to foreign power, shall not be subject of a foreign power or citizen of a foreign country.

(g) They shall not be persons entitled to the rights and privileges of a subject or citizen of a foreign country.

(h) The President of the Union shall possess specific qualifications required of the President in addition to qualifications required to stand for presidential election.

(i) The Vice-Presidents shall possess qualifications required of the President.

(5) Election of the President and Vice-Presidents-

(a) the president of the Union shall be elected by the presidential electoral college.

(b) The presidential electoral college shall be organized with three groups of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives as follows:

1. Group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives live in the Hluttaw with equal numbers of representatives elected from regions and states.

2. Group formed with elected Hluttaw representatives live in the Hluttaw elected on the basis of population and township.

3. Group formed with Tatmadaw member Hluttaw representatives nominated as such by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services for the said two Hluttaw.

(c) Each group shall elect a Vice-President from among Hluttaw representatives or from among persons who are not Hluttaw representatives,

(d) A body comprising trio leaders and deputy leaders of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the two Hluttaw of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall scrutinize whether Or not the Vice-Presidents possess the qualification prescribed for the President,

(e) the presidential electoral college made up of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall elect by vote one of the three Vice-Presidents who are presidential candidates, as the President of the Union;

(f) Law shall be enacted as required for presidential election.

(6) Term of office of the President or the Vice-Presidents -

(a) The term of office of the president or the Vice - Presidents is five years.

(b) After expiry of incumbent term, the President and the Vice-Presidents shall carry on in office till the time the new President and Vice-Presidents are duly elected,

(c) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall not serve more than two terms.

(d) An interim period to serve as the President or the Vice-President shall not be counted as one term of office.

(e) If a vacancy is filled for the presidency or Vice-Presidency for any reason, the term of office of the President or the Vice-President shall be up to the end of the term of office.

(f) The President or the Vice-Presidents shall not be representatives of any Hluttaw.

(See page 7)
Nay Pyi Taw, that is the Capital of the Union, ...

(8) If a Hluttaw representative be elected President or Vice-President, this person shall be deemed to have resigned from his seat in the Hluttaw, and if a service personnel be elected President or Vice-President, the person shall be deemed to have resigned or retired from the date of such election.

(9) If a person elected President or Vice-President happens to be a member of a political party, this person shall not participate in party activities of that party organization, from the date of such election, during the term of office.

(10) In taking oath of office by the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following points are to be included:
- to be loyal to the Union of Myanmar and the citizenry,
- to hold always in esteem non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity aril perpetuation at sovereignty,
- to uphold and abide by the State Constitution and to abide by laws of the State,
- to carry out the responsibilities uprightly to the best of one’s ability.
- to strive for further flourishing of worldly values such as justice, liberty and equality,
- to solemnly declare and pledge dedication of life and property to the service of the Union of Myanmar.

(11) The President or the Vice-Presidents shall exercise responsibilities and rights assigned and vested by the Constitution and other laws.

(12) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall not accept any other office or position of emolument.

(13) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall furnish lists of assets namely family owned land, houses, buildings, businesses savings and other valuables slating then values belonging to the respective families led by theft and send them to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

(14) The President and the Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to enjoy the emolument and facilities of office in accord with law. Each shall also be entitled to have a suitable residence.

(15) Except in the case of removal from office following impeachment, the President and the Vice-Presidents shall enjoy pension and appropriate allowances on retirement after expiry of the term of office.

(16) Impeachment of the President or the Vice-President

(a) The President or any Vice-President shall be impeached for one of the following reasons:
  (1) treason,
  (2) violation of laws provisions in the Constitution,
  (3) misconduct,  
  (4) being disqualified for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency under the Constitution, 
  (5) inefficient discharge of duties assigned to him in accord with the law.

(b) If it is desired to impeach the President or any Vice-President, not less than one fourth of the total membership of any of the two Hluttaw included in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is to sign a charge and submit it to the leader of the Hluttaw concerned.

(c) Further action shall be taken if not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw concerned support the charge.

(d) If one Hluttaw supports to take action in connection with the charge, the other Hluttaw shall investigate the charge or form a body to investigate the charge.

(e) The President or the Vice-President shall have the right to refute the charge personally or through a representative when it is investigated.

(f) If not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Hluttaw by which the charge was investigated or caused to be investigated declares after the investigation that the charge has been sustained and than decides that the offence, the subject of the charge, is such as to render the President or the Vice-President unfit to continue in office, that Hluttaw shall submit it to the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to remove the President or Vice-President from office.

(g) The leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall proclaim removal of the President or Vice-President immediately after the receipt of the intimation.

(h) The President or Vice-President shall be allowed to resign from office of his own volition before the expiry of the term of office.

(17) In connection with the methods to be applied if the post of the President or Vice-President falls vacant:

(a) one of the Vice-Presidents who has won the second highest votes in the presidential election shall serve as Acting President if the post of the President falls vacant due to his resignation, death, permanent disability or any other cause.

(b) a vacancy of the President comes about while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the Acting President shall promptly inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for filling it within seven days.

(c) on receipt of the intimation, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall move for electing of a Vice-President by the representatives group which had elected the Vice-President who later got elected President but now vacated the presidency.

(d) after the representatives group concerned has elected a Vice-President, the electoral college made up of all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives shall elect the President of the Union out of three Vice-Presidents.

(e) if the vacancy comes about when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session, the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon a Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 21 days from the date of receipt of the intimation from the Acting President and carry on for filling the vacant presidency in the way stated above.

(f) if the post of a Vice-President falls vacant due to resignation, death, permanent disability or any other cause while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is in session, the President shall promptly inform the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to enable the Hluttaw representatives group which has elected the just vacated Vice-President to elect a new Vice-President within seven days.

(g) if the vacancy comes about when the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is not in session the leader of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall summon the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session within 21 days, and carry on for filling the Vice-Presidency by the Hluttaw representatives group in the prescribed method.— MNA

Indian artistes perform songs, dances to mark 60th Anniversary Independence Day

The audience enjoy a performance of cultural music troupe of India to mark the 60th Anniversary Independence Day of India.— MNA

YANGON, 27 Aug — Under Myanmar-India cultural exchange programme, Indian cultural music troupe staged a performance at National Theatre on Myoma Kyauk Street here this evening to mark the 60th Anniversary of Independence Day of India.

Rector of University of Culture (Yangon) U Tin Soe and Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra lit lamps to open the performance.

U Tin Soe and Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra lit lamps to open the performance. Afterwards, the India performance troupe led by Ms Penaz Masani of India entertained the audience with famous classical songs and dances of India.

Diplomats, officials of Indian Embassy and guests were also present at the performance. — MNA

Directors-General of MRTV, IPRD receive Thai delegation

YANGON, 27 Aug — A Thai delegation led by Director-General Mr Pramoj Rathavinij of Public Relation Department (PRD) of Thailand called on U Khin Maung Htay, Director-General of Myanma Radio and Television, and Director-General U Chit Naing of Information and Public Relation Department at MRTV here today.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to the information sector between the two countries. Also present were officials concerned of MRTV.

After the meeting, the delegation members visited the studios of MRTV. — MNA

Director-General Mr Pramoj Rathavinij and delegation members visit the studio of MRTV. — MNA
Senior General Than Shwe sees off...
(from page 1)

Senior General Than Shwe receives...
(from page 1)
Also present at the call were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence and officials.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye welcomes...
(from page 16)
of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Brig-Gen Hlaing Myint of the Ministry of Defence and officials.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party welcomed Council of National Security of Thailand and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Sonthi Boonyaratglin and party who arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by special aircraft at 10.30 am.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and General Sonthi Boonyaratglin of Thailand took the salute of the Guard of Honour from the dais at the airport, and they inspected the Guard of Honour.

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greeted members of the Thai goodwill delegation.

Next, the Thai General and party left for Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone in a motorcade. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and General Sonthi Boonyaratglin, Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army, inspect the Guard of Honour at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.— MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and General Sonthi Boonyaratglin, Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army, take the salute of the Guard of Honour.— MNA

General Sonthi Boonyaratglin also cordially greeted Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Sonthi Boonyaratglin at Bayintnaung Yeiktha. — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and General Sonthi Boonyaratglin also cordially greeted Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and party. — MNA
National Convention...
(from page 16)
and Wa National Development Party, representatives-elect of National Unity Party and Mro (or) Kham National Solidarity Organization, independent representatives, delegates of national races from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of peasants from Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan (South), Shan (North) and Shan (East) States, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of Service Personnel from the State Peace and Development Council Office, the President Office, the Government Office, the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Auditor-General’s Office, the Multi-party Democracy General Election Commission Office, the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the Yangon City Development Committee, the Mandalay City Development Committee and the State service personnel of the respective ministries, other invited delegates, delegates from Shan State (North) Special Region-1, Shan State (North) Special Region-2, Shan State (North) Special Region-3, Shan State (East) Special Region-4, Shan State (South) Special Region-5, Shan State (South) Special Region-6, Kachin State Special Region-1, Kayah State Special Region-2, Kayah State Special Region-3, Kayin National Democratic Party (KNDP) (Dragon) Group, Kayin National Progressive Party (KNPP) Breakaway (Hoya), Kayin National Unity and Solidarity Organization (Ka Ma Sa Nya), Democratic Kayin Buddhist Organization (DKBA) and Haungthawyaw Special Region Group who have returned to the legal fold, Nyeinchanyay Myothit Group and Haungthayaw Special Region Group (Chaungchi Region) and Mon Breakaway Nai Saik Chan Group that had exchanged arms for peace.

At 7.30 am, before the plenary session of the National Convention, members of the National Convention Convening Commission, members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, members of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, chairmen of the respective subcommittees and members, delegates of political parties, representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of workers, delegates of service personnel and other invited delegates signed in the attendance books at Pyidaungsu Hall and the recreation hall for National Convention delegates.

At the plenary session, U Kan Nyunt of Delegate Group of Peasants presided over the meeting together with U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of NCC Work Committee, U Saw Philip (a) of the Delegate Group of Political Parties, U Maung Gyi of Delegate Group of Representatives-elect, U Maung Hla (a) of U Hla Myint of Delegate Group of National Races, U Kyaw Win Tun of Delegate Group of Workers, Dr Maung Maung Wint of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentia, U Tin Kha of Delegate Group of State Service Personnel and Dr Manan Tu Ja of Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons as members of the panel of chairmen.

Director U Than Aung of the NCC Work Committee Office acted as MC and Deputy Director U Aung Kyi as co-MC. The MC declared the start of the meeting with the permission of the chairman as 1054 out of 1071 delegates were in attendance, accounting for 98.41 per cent. First, Chairman of the Plenary Session of the National Convention U Kan Nyunt of Delegate Group of Peasants made a speech.

Next, the Panel of Chairmen presented the Fundamental Principles and Detailed Basic Principles adopted by National Convention. First, Member of the Panel of Chairmen of the Plenary Session of the National Convention U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin) of the National Convention Convening Work Committee read out the ‘State Fundamental Principles’. (The presentation is reported separately.)

Next, Member of the Panel of Chairmen of the Plenary Session of the National Convention U Saw Philip (a) of the Delegate Group of Political Parties read out ‘The State Structure’ and ‘The Head of State’. The Plenary Session of the National Convention took a break at 9.55 am. (The presentation is reported separately.)

When the Plenary Session of the National Convention resumed at 10.10 am, Members of the Panel of Chairmen U Maung Gyi of Delegate Group of Representative-elect read out Formation of Legislature of the Chapter ‘Legislature’ and U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint read out Formation of Legislature of the Chapter ‘Legislature’ and Sharing of Legislative Power and the Plenary Session of the National Convention was adjourned at 11.10 am. (The presentation will be reported.)

The Plenary Session of the National Convention continues at 9 am tomorrow at the Pyidaungsu Hall.

F & R Minister receives Deputy Division Chief of IMF and WB delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Aug — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun received Deputy Division Chief Mr Leslie Teo of International Monetary Fund and World Bank delegation and party at his office this afternoon.

They discussed financial and monetary matters. Also present at the call were Governor U Than Nyein of Central Bank of Myanmar and officials. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun receives Deputy Division Chief Mr Leslie Teo of IMF and WB. — MNA
Today’s world and the problem of fuel prices

Kyaw Swar Myo Htet

These days, commodity prices in our country have increased more than ever because of some unscrupulous businessmen taking advantage of fuel price hike. Again, by making a political profit from the situation, some anti-government groups are resorting to various ways to tarnish the image of the government.

Authorities in the nation had to inevitably increase prices of petrol, diesel and natural gas starting 15-8-2007. Actually, the government already knows that prices of general commodities including basic food would rise if fuel prices necessary for goods transportation, road transportation and industrial production were to be increased. Unbearable to sell fuel at a loss in the long run, the State had to unavoidably increase the prices.

Knowing the fact, the government sold its fuel at a loss for many years for the convenience of the public consumers. Not only that, the government had to be increased. Unbearable to sell fuel at a loss in the long run, the State had to unavoidably increase the prices.

If one knows in detail the economic system our country is practising and the situation of global oil market, one can assess the issue in a fair and just way.

It is common knowledge that our country has transformed the socialist economic system into the open market economic system as desired by the people. Naturally, it is not easy to control commodity prices in market economic system. It is businesslike and in anticipation of making profits. But here, prices cannot be raised as much as one likes in order to make great profit. Any person or organization cannot control the prices so as to make profit. It is because commodity prices are associated with supply and demand.

Generally speaking, prices usually go up if demand outstrips supply. And prices go down if supply outstrips demand. World nations’ oil markets are interrelated as a product like fuel is internationally traded. Likewise, fuel prices of a nation are related with those of the global market.

That means if fuel trading is put into the hands of the private sector, fuel prices will go up more sharply than now according to the global market, for private entrepreneurs cannot bear selling their products at a loss. Knowing the fact, the government sold its fuel at a loss for many years for the convenience of the public consumers. Not only that, the government had to spend a huge amount of money derived from the State budgets on social, health, education, transport and agricultural sectors for many years.

In the world today the problem of oil prices has come to a head. Almost all the nations have to try their best to ensure oil prices are not to increase more.

If we thoroughly assess the world’s economic recession in the late 20th Century, the issue is found to be associated with global oil crisis. We have seen five global oil crises — the first in 1973, the second in 1979, the third in 1990, the fourth in April 2003 before and after American invasion of Iraq and the fifth from April 2003 to date. As demand outstrips supply very much, global oil prices are skyrocketing.

In 1972 in the world market a barrel of crude oil was less than 20 US dollars. It rose to 20.83 dollars in 1973 and 31 dollars in 2003. It gradually rose to 40, 50 and 60 dollars in May 2004. At the end of August 2005 it reached 70 dollars. Now the present price of a barrel of crude oil is over 71 dollars.

The first reason of oil price hike was that demand increased sharply in late 2003. The second reason was that supply was unable to fulfill the increasing demand completely. Now oil production in the world has reached its peak. Experts have estimated that oil production will gradually fall in the coming five or ten years.

The volume of world oil was 1,189 billion barrels at the end of 2004. If we continue to use oil reserve at the present rate, it can be produced only for another 40 years. If we use average 44 billion barrels of crude oil a year, the oil will be sufficient for next 25 years only.

This is why the nations of the world are exploring petroleum plus natural gas and coal. Petroleum, natural gas and coal are not energy resources that can be used in an unlimited way. All fossil fuels are finite. The present energy has existed in the world from the fossils of animals and trees for millions of years. If such resources are used up, new resources will not emerge soon.

This is why the nations of the world are exploring and using hydro-electric, wind-powered electricity, solar energy, tidal energy, hydrogen energy and bio-energy obtained from physic nut, sugarcane, maize, soya bean.

(See page 11)
Today’s world and the problem of fuel prices

Kyaw Swar Myo Htet

Most of the countries increased local fuel prices as oil prices are high in various parts of the world. It is said that the fuel prices have been increased twelve times in four years since 2003 in China, our neighbouring country.

Here are facts stated from some countries, and one can see different fuel prices of the global nations on the Internet. The fuel price of our country is still cheaper than that of those nations when compared with them. Moreover, one can realize that the government is still selling petrol and diesel at a loss up to date when compared with the world’s fuel price.

Not only that, it is obvious that the government is making all-out efforts day in, day out for the emergence of political, social and economic infrastructures that are indispensable for a democratic nation aspiring by the people.

The government built a network of roads and bridges for better transport and a large number of dams and reservoirs for development of the agricultural sector. In the industrial sector, it has established industrial zones in different regions while it has opened universities and degree colleges to bring about harmonious development the length and breadth of the nation. In the health sector also, it has opened major hospitals in the states and divisions including border areas to keep pace with Yangon and Mandalay in terms of medical treatment.

The national people should understand how the government had to unavoidably raise the fuel prices as there was a great impact of the international fuel prices on the nation. As the government had to do so the amount of funds spent on fuel prices could be reduced, and more funds could be utilized in other development sectors. One can realize if one ponders in a constructive way.

As there can be good and bad in whatever phenomenon one is required to view and assess the actual development and the goodwill of the State in a pragmatic way rather than holding negative views. In the meantime, the people themselves are not to exploit one another over the rising fuel prices in the nation.

To put it in a nutshell, if each and everyone is rational, fair and kind towards one another in a wiser sense it is sure that they will be able to create a peaceful and tranquil world that could bring them mutual benefits.

Translation: ST+TS

(Myanmar Alin+Kyemon: 27-8-2007)
Police seize $2.6m worth counterfeits in S China

GUANGZHOU, 26 Aug—Police in Shenzhen, a booming southern city that abuts Hong Kong, have seized more than 20,000 items of fake brand-name products, a spokesman with the city administration for industry and commerce said.

The Shenzhen industry and commerce bureau received tips that fakes were being sold in the Jueshi Building, an office building in Luohuo District of Shenzhen, the spokesman said.

The bureau later joined bands with local police and raided the building on Wednesday. They found more than 20,000 items of fake suitcases, haute couture, shoes, wristwatches and golf gears in several shops and two warehouses on the 23rd floor of the building.

The products, pirated big-name brands like LV, Nike, Gucci and Montblanc, are estimated to be worth 20 million yuan (about 2.6 million US dollars), the spokesman said.

MNA/Xinhua

Number of Iraqi detainees soars with US military buildup

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug—The number of detainees held by the American-led military forces in Iraq has swelled by 50 per cent under the troop increase ordered by President George W Bush, with the inmate population growing to 24,500 today from 16,000 in February, US media reported Saturday.

The number of detainees increases because American forces are operating in areas where they had not been present for some time, and because more units are able to maintain a round-the-clock presence in some areas, The New York Times quoted US military officials as saying. In addition, more Iraqis were cooperating with military forces, the officials said. Nearly 85 per cent of the detainees in custody are Sunni Arabs, the minority faction in Iraq that ruled the country under the government of Saddam Hussein, and the other detainees are Shiites, the Times said.

Military officers said that of the Sunni detainees, about 1,800 claim allegiance to al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia, a homegrown extremist group that American intelligence agencies have concluded is foreign-led. About 6,000 more identify themselves as takfiris, or Muslims who believe some other Muslims are not true believers.

Those statistics would seem to indicate that the main inspiration of the hard-core Sunni insurgency is no longer a desire to restore the old order and has become religious and ideological, the report said.

The officers told the newspaper that an equally large number of Iraqi detainees say money is a significant reason they planted roadside bombs or shot at Iraqi and American-led forces. The detention system itself often serves as a breeding ground for the insurgency and a training opportunity for those who, after they are released, may attack Iraqi or American-led forces, military officers said.

Of the detainees, 280 are from countries other than Iraq, and about 800 are juveniles, the report said, citing statistics supplied by the headquarters of Task Force 134, the American military unit in charge of detention operations in Iraq.—MNA/Xinhua

Oil jumps as US refinery woes spur supply concerns

NEW YORK, 26 Aug—Oil prices jumped more than one US dollar to over 71 US dollars a barrel on Friday as US refinery problems spurred concerns about fuel supplies in the world’s top consumer.

US crude for October delivery settled up 1.26 US dollars to 71.09 US dollars a barrel, after a 57-cent gain on Thursday. London Brent crude rose 76 cents to 70.62 US dollars a barrel.

Traders said Chevron had declared force major on some crude purchases after a fire hit a crude unit at its 325,000 barrel per day (bpd) Pascagoula, Mississippi refinery earlier this month.

The refinery could be running at 50-per cent for three to four months, traders said. The news pushed up crude and helped send US gasoline futures over 3 per cent higher.

“Gasoline is pushing up crude here,” said Phil Flynn, analyst at Alaron Trading. “I also think gasoline had been oversold lately.”

A shutdown of a 22,500-bpd gasoline-making unit at an oil refinery in Big Spring, Texas due to an equipment malfunction also helped boost gasoline. A string of refinery outages during the US summer gasoline season have helped support prices in recent months.

MNA/Reuters

Nigeria nabs man trying to smuggle cocaine in Bible

LAGOS, 26 Aug—Nigerian police have arrested a man who tried to smuggle cocaine concealed in a copy of the Bible to Germany through a courier firm, Nigeria’s narcotics agency said on Friday.

“The drug weighing 90 grammes was carefully packed and concealed in the Bible,” the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

Camilla pulls out of Diana service

LONDON, 27 Aug—The wife of Britain’s Prince Charles said on Sunday she had decided not to attend a memorial service to mark the 10th anniversary of the death of Princess Diana.

Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, said she did not want to distract attention from the commemoration of Diana’s life. Charles’s former mistress is blamed by many for breaking up his marriage to Diana. One of Diana’s former closest friends, Rosa Monckton, told a Sunday newspaper that Camilla’s presence would have been “deeply inappropriate”.

In a statement, Camilla said she had been “touched” to be invited to the event by Charles and Diana’s sons, but had decided to stay away. “I accepted and wanted to support them,” she said. “However, on reflection, I believe my attendance could divert attention from the purpose of the occasion which is to focus on the life and service of Diana.”

MNA/Reuters
Macho Bollywood actor Khan jailed in wildlife case

JODHPUR (India), 26 Aug — Bollywood star Salman Khan was arrested by Indian police on Saturday and sent to jail after a court rejected his appeal against a five-year conviction for shooting an endangered species of gazelle.

The actor, arrived at the airport, hunting trips to the western state of Rajasthan in 1998.

The animals are protected under Indian wildlife law. Khan was alleged to have slit the throat of the chinkara — a type of gazelle that he shot before giving it to chefs at his deluxe hotel to cook.

On Friday, a Jodhpur court rejected his appeal against the conviction, leaving him with the option of surrendering or being arrested. The court had also issued an arrest warrant against him.

Chinese scientists to use robots in Antarctic expedition

SHANGHAI, 27 Aug — China will for the first time use robots, one that can move on ice and snow surface and another capable of low-altitude flying like a mini-helicopter in an Antarctic expedition scheduled for October.

The tank-like robot, which can move on ice, weighs 200 kilos and can carry 40 kilos of burden and pull 100 kilos of objects with a maximum working radius of 25 kilometres, according to Qin Weijia, deputy director of the Polar Research Institute of China.

The robot can automatically stride across ice crevasses and snowy slopes, Qin said.

The robot will be equipped with a differential global positioning system (DGPS) and a meteorological observation device. Another robot, weighing 20 kilos, can carry five kilos of burden and fly at a speed of 50 to 100 kilometres per hour. It can continually fly for one hour.

US Midwest still suffers from floods

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug — The US Midwest was still suffering from floods Saturday, CNN reported.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been left without power as heavy rains and high winds continue, knocking down power lines and tree limbs, according to the report.

Authorities evacuated St Margaret Mercy Hospital, about 50 kilometres outside of Chicago, Illinois, over fears the building would be flooded from rising creek water.

Residents of the town of Dyer, Indiana, southeast of Chicago, were evacuated.

Governor of Illinois, Rod Blagojevich, has declared Cook, Lake, Kane and McHenry counties state disaster areas.

Meanwhile, residents in parts of Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota are continuing to clean up after flooding triggered by storms and heavy rains.

Thousands of homes have been damaged and at least 17 people have died in these states.

In lower Michigan, heavy storms have spawned tornadoes. About half of the town of Rushford’s homes, about 760 homes, have been damaged.

Nearly 1,500 homes in the state have been damaged.

Flooding has destroyed 44 homes and damaged more than 1,400 in Wisconsin.

In Missouri, flood warnings continue along the Mississippi River.

A general view of Tokyo Electric Power Co’s Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in Kariwa village, in July. An earthquake last month that forced the closure of the world’s largest nuclear plant in Japan was about 2.7 times stronger than the maximum considered in the plant’s design guidelines, a report said on Sunday.

NASA reports 2 Mars rovers resume driving

WASHINGTON, 26 Aug — After six weeks of hunkering down during raging dust storms that limited solar power, both of NASA’s Mars exploration rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, have resumed driving, NASA reported Friday.

Opportunity advanced 13.38 metres toward the edge of Victoria Crater on 21 August. Spirit drove 42 centimetres backwards on August 23 to get in position for taking images of a rock that it had examined with its spectrometer.

The rover team is planning additional drives for Spirit to climb onto a platform informally named “Home Plate”.

No new storms have been lifting dust into the air near either solar-powered rover in the past two weeks, and skies are gradually brightening above both vehicles.

With the improved energy supplies, both rovers are back on schedule to communicate daily.

“A stylist trims the hair of a Standard Poodle during the Asia Kennel Union (AKU) championship dog show in Singapore on 26 Aug, 2007. — INTERNET

A confectioner offers a special anniversary cake to tourists in Berlin on 25 Aug, 2007. The Adlon, one of the German capital’s top hotels, was founded in the years 1905-1907 and celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, ten years after it was re-opened at its original location.— INTERNET

A general view of Tokyo Electric Power Co’s Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in Kariwa village, in July. An earthquake last month that forced the closure of the world’s largest nuclear plant in Japan was about 2.7 times stronger than the maximum considered in the plant’s design guidelines, a report said on Sunday.—INTERNET

A general view of Tokyo Electric Power Co’s Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant in Kariwa village, in July. An earthquake last month that forced the closure of the world’s largest nuclear power plant in Japan was about 2.7 times stronger than the maximum considered in the plant’s design guidelines, a report said on Sunday.—INTERNET
Lethargic Barcelona held by 10-man Racing

MADRID, 27 Aug — A lethargic-looking Barcelona were held to a 0-0 draw by 10-man Racing Santander in their opening match of the season on Sunday.

The Catalans, who spent over 65 million euros (88 million US dollars) on new players including France striker Thierry Henry during the close season, were outplayed by their modest opponents who are one of the lowest spenders in the Primera Liga. Barca dominated possession but their sluggish passing and lack of spark up front meant that Racing had little problem holding them even after Polish debutant Ebi Smolarek was sent off midway through the second half.

Villarreal, who ended last season on an eight match winning run, picked up where they left off with an emphatic 3-0 victory over regional rivals Valencia, who were reduced to nine men after red cards for striker David Villa and winger Joaquin. Danish international Jon Dahl Tomasson opened with a cool finish on 16 minutes, striker Giuseppe Rossi added a second from the penalty spot and Santi Cazorla wrapped up with a class third. All three promoted sides got off to winning starts, Almeria striker Massimo Ambrosini's powerful header and goalkeeper Julio Cesar was sent off midway through the second half.

Inter concede own goal to draw, Milan win

MILAN, 27 Aug — Inter Milan began their Serie A title defence with a 1-1 home draw with Udinese on Sunday after an Ivan Cordoba own goal in injury time, while AC Milan won 3-0 at promoted Genoa helped by Kaka's brace.

Inter took an early lead through midfielder Dejan Stankovic after Zlatan Ibrahimovic's clever pass but goalkeeper Julio Cesar was sent off for handball outside the box on 57 minutes and the champions were unable to hold on.

Inter conceding a goal todraw, Milan win

Serie A: Milan 3-0 Genoa

Inter (72). Inter took the lead through midfielder Dejan Stankovic after Zlatan Ibrahimovic’s clever pass but goalkeeper Julio Cesar was sent off for handball outside the box on 57 minutes and the champions were unable to hold on.

Milan taught Genoa a lesson on their return to the top flight after a 12-year absence with Massimo Ambrosini’s powerful header and Kaka's cool finish and penalty giving the European champions an easy victory.

Fiorentina had an equally comfortable 3-1 home win over Tuscan rivals Empoli to show they could still be a force this term despite striker Luca Toni leaving for Bayern Munich.

Adrian Mutu sliced through the defence to score the pick of the goals for Fiorentina, who like Milan were ruled out of last season’s title race because of points deductions following Italy’s match-fixing probe.

Juventus, demoted in the scandal, returned to Serie A with a thumping 5-1 home win over Livorno on Saturday.

Last season’s runners-up AS Roma won 2-0 at Palermo in Sunday’s entertaining late game with Philippe Mexes prodding home Rodrigo Taddei’s cross early on and Alberto Aquilam scoring with a superb effort from distance.

AC Milan’s Kaka (L) of Brazil celebrates after scoring as Genoa’s Gleison Santos looks down during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the Ferraris Stadium in Genova on 26 Aug, 2007.

Adekambi and McAnallen, including John Finnie, joined the club for a two-under-par 68 and a total of 16-under-par 66.

Choi, who sank two 45-foot birdie putts on the back nine, parred out from the 16th to complete a one-under 70 for 270.

South African Rory Sabbatini posted a final-round 68 to finish third at 13-under-par 271.

The victory was Stricker's first since the 2001 WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship. He collected 1.26 million dollars for the win.

Tied for fourth place on 12 under par were Ernie Els of South Africa (68), Australian Geoff Ogilvy (69) and Mark Calcavecchia (65).

Another stroke back at 11-under, four behind winner Stricker, were world number three Phil Mickelson (67) and fellow American Rich Beem (72).

Indonesia to host Asia Pacific Rally

JAKARTA, 27 Aug — Indonesia will host the Asia Pacific Rally Championship in the sugarcane plantation in South Sulawesi Province from 7 to 9 September, local media reported here Saturday.

Some foreign racers have confirmed their participation on the rally.

“A among them are racers from Australia, Japan, India, New Zealand and Finland,” the event’s spokesman Chandra Djaania quoted by the Jakarta Post as saying here.

He said among them were the pairs of Cody Crocker and Ben Atkinson of Australia, Naren Kumar and Jeff Jed of India, Hiroshi Yanagisawa and Tadashi Misaizu of Japan, Brian Green and Fieur Pedersen of New Zealand, and Jussi Valimaki and Jarko Kalliolepo of Finland.

South Sulawesi has again been appointed as host for the rally after it succeeded to host similar events for two times, Chandra said.

At the same time, he added, the capital city of South Sulawesi would also host the national rally championship which would be participated by 18 local top racers.

The Catalans, who spent over 65 million euros (88 million US dollars) on new players including France striker Thierry Henry during the close season, were outplayed by their modest opponents who are one of the lowest spenders in the Primera Liga. Barca dominated possession but their sluggish passing and lack of spark up front meant that Racing had little problem holding them even after Polish debutant Ebi Smolarek was sent off midway through the second half.

Villarreal, who ended last season on an eight match winning run, picked up where they left off with an emphatic 3-0 victory over regional rivals Valencia, who were reduced to nine men after red cards for striker David Villa and winger Joaquin. Danish international Jon Dahl Tomasson opened with a cool finish on 16 minutes, striker Giuseppe Rossi added a second from the penalty spot and Santi Cazorla wrapped up with a class third. All three promoted sides got off to winning starts, Almeria trouncing Deportivo Coruna 3-0 in their first top flight game in 26 years, Valladolid edging a 1-0 win away to Espanyol and Real Murcia beating a much-fancied Real Zaragoza 2-1 on Saturday.

Steve Stricker, 40, stood two strokes back of leader Ernie Els of South Africa (68), Australian Geoff Ogilvy (69) and Mark Calcavecchia (65).

Another stroke back at 11-under, four behind winner Stricker, were world number three Phil Mickelson (67) and fellow American Rich Beem (72).
Bolivian Vice-President says US uses aid to meddle

LA PAZ, 27 Aug — Bolivian Vice-President Alvaro Garcia Linera said on Sunday US aid is being used to finance a think tank where opposition leaders are orchestrating a campaign against Evo Morales’ leftist government.

Since taking office in January 2006, Morales, an Aymara Indian from a poor background, has aligned himself with fellow leftists Hugo Chavez of Venezuela and Cuba’s Fidel Castro.

Garcia Linera said Washington was donating millions of dollars to create an “ideological bunker” for conservative politicians who oppose Morales’ government.

Bolivian officials have accused the rightist opposition of trying to block some of Morales’ key reforms, including a constitutional rewrite to empower the Andean country’s Indian majority.

“I wish those 140 million US dollars they are talking about was productive aid. There is some (US) aid that has a political aim… financing the place where former ministers and deputy ministers meet, and from where they build an ideological and political resistance movement,” Garcia Linera said in a radio interview.

A US Embassy spokesman refused to comment on Sunday, saying he had not heard Garcia Linera’s statements.

Last week, US Ambassador Philip Goldberg said US aid in the 12 months to October would amount to 120 million US dollars, not 140 million dollars, adding that a fourth of the money would go to fighting the drug trade in the world’s No 3 cocaine-producing country.

“Aid that fosters political resistance is no good and is not welcome.” Garcia Linera, a former leftist guerrilla fighter, told the state-run Red Patria Nueva radio network.

Currently, foreign governments can give aid directly to local and regional governments in Bolivia. The Vice-President said a new law is needed to monitor foreign aid more closely.

PARACHUTISTS unfurl the Russian national flag during the MAKs-2007 International air show in Zhukovsky, outside Moscow, on 26 Aug, 2007.

INTERNET

WEATHER

Tuesday, 28 August
Tune in today
8:30 am: Brief news
8:35 am: Music - Pamlama
8:40 am: Perspectives
8:45 am: Music - True to your heart
8:50 am: National news / Slogan
9:00 am: Music - Taking back my heart
9:05 am: International news
9:10 am: Music - Peace, love and understanding
1:30 pm: News / Slogan
1:40 pm: Lunch time music: "Because of you - Searching my soul"
9:00 pm: English Speaking Course
9:10 pm: Article
9:20 pm: Weekly Sports recap
9:30 pm: Listening pleasure - "That's my story - Love to love"
9:45 pm: News / Slogan
10:00 pm: PEL

WEATHER

Monday, 27 August, 2007
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah and Kayin States, rain or thunderers have been isolated in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Mon State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Kayin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Yangon Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Yangon (Mingaladon) (3.23) inches, Sitwayi (2.56) inches, Mawlai (2.09) inches, Haka (1.89) inches, Namhsam (1.65) inches, Pyayon (1.61) inches, and Magway (0.95) inch.

Maximum temperature on 26-8-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 27-8-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 27-8-2007 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 26-8-2007 was (1.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 27-8-2007 was (3.23) inches at Mingaladon, (0.48) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.51) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (97.32) inches at Mingaladon, (98.94) inches at Kaba-Aye and (97.95) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southwest at (15:30) hours MST on 26-8-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is generally weak in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 28-8-2007: Rain or thunderers will be isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Shan State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Mon and Kayin States, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain are likely in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 28-8-2007: Isolated rain or thunderers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 28-8-2007: One or two rain or thunderers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 28-8-2007: Isolated rain or thunderers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin (Issued at 12:30 hours MST on 27-8-2007)
According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittwe River at Madans (1075 cm) is exceeded (5) cm above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (1070 cm) during the next (24) hrs commencing noon today.

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

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

**Four political objectives**
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye welcomes Chairman of Council of National Security of Thailand and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army and party**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 27 Aug** — A goodwill delegation led by Chairman of Council of National Security of Thailand and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Sonthi Boonyaratglin arrived here by special aircraft this morning to pay a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar at the invitation of Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye.

The Thai goodwill delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union

(See page 8)

**National Convention continues**

**Fundamental Principles and Detailed Basic Principles adopted by NC read out**

**Yangon, 27 Aug** — The Plenary Session of the National Convention continued at Pyidaungsu Hall in Nyaunghnapin Camp, Hmawby Township, Yangon Division, at 9 am today.

The Panel of Chairmen presented the Fundamental Principles and Detailed Basic Principles adopted by National Convention.

Present on the occasion were members of the National Convention Convening Commission, members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, members of the National Convention Convening Management Committee, chairmen and officials of sub-committees, delegates of political parties such as National Unity Party, Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization, Lahu National Development Party, Union Kayin League, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party

(See page 9)

**To be published**

**Yangon, 27 Aug** — The Fundamental Principles and Detailed Basic Principles adopted by National Convention will be published in the dailies. — MNA