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Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks in Thayet District



Lt-Gen Ye Myint meeting with departmental officials and social organizations at Mindon. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence on 11 June morning attended the collective growing of physic nut plants near Htontaung village, Thayet Township, in which departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people took part.

In Thayet Township, a total of 702 acres were put under physic nut plants against the target of 3,003 acres.

At the briefing hall of Thayet Cement Plant

under the Ministry of Industry-1, Factory Manager U Aung Thein Myint reported on production of industrial raw materials, acquisition of diesel and electricity and production of finished products to Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party. During his inspection of the factory, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on exceeding the target, minimizing loss and wastage and running the factory at full capacity.

On arrival at the District Hospital, Medical Superintendent Dr Khin Maung Htay and officials reported on the site chosen for construction of a two-

storey operation theatre to Lt-Gen Ye Myint who gave necessary instructions.

At the Town Hall in Thayet, Lt-Gen Ye Myint met with departmental officials, members of social organizations, local authorities and townselders and gave instructions on regional development.

At the meeting, Thayet District PDC Chairman Lt-Col Maung Maung San reported on work being carried out for regional development and future tasks.

(See page 8)

Measures for development of Shan State (North) coordinated

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence had a meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders in Namhsan on 11 June.

The chairman of Township PDC reported on facts about the region, use of natural resources, and agriculture, education and health sectors. Chairman of Shan State (North) PDC Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Than Htut gave a supplementary

report.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented cash assistance to the township people's hospital, uniforms to education staff, a TV to the village library, and medicines to the local national races.

In response, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that Namhsan is a hill station with beautiful natural scenery and is a tourist attraction. The town can earn a lot of income through tourism industry if it has a sufficient number of accommodations for guests.

He spoke of the need for departmental officials to disseminate methods on production of value-added goods for export and to organize local farmers to use modern agricultural methods for food security.

The government has been mobilizing the strength of the people in various sectors for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

(See page 9)



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win seen on his inspection of the tea factory of the Tatmadaw at Namhsan. — MNA

The government has been mobilizing the strength of the people in various sectors for the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 14 June, 2006

Maintain the results of peace and stability

Now is the time when measures are being taken for promotion of human rights in Myanmar. Peace and stability and the rule of law are prevailing in almost every part of the nation. And steps are being taken to bring equal development to all regions of the Union, irrespective of their population and races living there. Moreover, efforts are being made for higher social and economic status of the national people.

Due to strong unity and steadfast cooperation of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, there have been tangible results in the political, economic and social sectors. For example, the population of Kayin State is nearly 1.7 million and the national races living there are Bamar, Mon, PaO, Shan and Rakhine. Kayin State is bounded by Shan, Kayah and Mon States and Bago and Taninthayi Divisions. For the development of the transport sector in the region, tarred and gravel roads and bridges are being built and, as a result, local people can now go from one place to another in the region and travel to other regions as well.

As paddy is grown on 600,000 acres and edible oil crops, beans and pulses and industrial crops on 80,000 acres in Kayin State every year, the region not only enjoys food sufficiency but also has surpluses. And owing to the construction of dams and river water pumping stations, the use of modern agricultural technologies and increase in sown acreage, there will be further increase in crop yield.

Also in the meat and fish sector, more cows, goats, pigs, ducks, chickens and shrimps are being raised in Kayin State. More and more livestock breeding zones are being established in Hpa-an, Kya-in-Seiky, Kawkareik and Myawady. There has been a proportionate growth in the forest, industrial and communication sectors.

There has been increase in the number of schools and the population of teachers in Kayin State and more than 80,000 students are pursuing basic education. Moreover, Hpa-an University, Government Technological College, Government Computer College and Education College in the region have paved the way for youths to be able to pursue higher education.

Development of all regions, including Kayin State, is due to peace and stability and the unity of national people. Therefore, it is necessary for all national brethren to maintain the results of peace and stability by living in unity and amity.

Ceremony to present Rakhine stipend award held

YANGON, 13 June — Organized by Rakhine Fellowship Organization (Yangon), a ceremony to present stipend award honoured by Rakhine Social Organization (Japan) and Rakhine Education Foundation (Malaysia) was held at IBC on Pyay Road this morning.

First, Chairman of Rakhine Fellowship Organization (Yangon) U Aung Shwe Oo, Patron of Rakhine Fellowship Organization (Yangon) Major Kyaw Maung (Retd), Patron Prof Dr Saw Mya Yi, Rector Dr Kyaw Thein (Retd), Patron U Shwe Zan and Daw Saw Khin Tint made speeches on the occasion.

Responsible personnel presented stipend awards to 34 students. On behalf of the students, Ma Myat Myat Khine, fourth year student of Institute of Medicine (Magway) spoke words of thanks. —MNA

3 Principles to Remember

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Bhamo District's development tasks discussed

YANGON, 13 June — Member of the Panel of Patrons of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Secretariat Member of USDA Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw on 10 June met with departmental officials, social organizations and USDA members in Bhamo District and discussed matters relating to regional development tasks, cultivation of crops in the monsoon, electricity supply tasks and communication sectors in the region.

During the tour of Bhamo District, they inspected the telecommunication office in Dawphonyan, the 160-mile-long road linking Bhamo

and Myitkyina and Malichaung hydel power project in Waingmaw Township. The hydel power project will be equipped with three 3.5-MW generators and is expected to generate 10.5 MW.

On 9 June, Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw went to Dhamma Rakkhita Wuntho Monastery in Myitkyina and provided cash to the funds of the construction of a three-storey building. — MNA



U Saw Hla Min presents credentials to Swiss President

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 June — U Saw Hla Min, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Swiss Confederation, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Moritz Leuenberger, President of the Swiss Confederation, on 16 May, in Bern. —MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw formally open a digital auto-exchange office in Waingmaw Township. — MNA

Wood-based factory opens in Pakokku

YANGON, 13 June — Forestry Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung attended the opening ceremony of a private wood-based factory in Pakokku Township on 10 June. The factory will export its value-added wood products.

The signboard of the factory owned by Tin Win Tun Co Ltd was unveiled by the minister.

Taking the job opportunities with the opening of the factory, residents can play a part in the development of the region. — MNA

Students from Institute of Nursing (Yangon) collectively donate blood

YANGON, 13 June — As a gesture hailing the World Blood Donors Day which falls on 14 June of 2006, students from Institute of Nursing (Yangon) led by Rector Dr Khin May Ohn launched a collective blood donation at Yangon General Hospital this afternoon.

First, National Blood Department In-charge Dr Thida Aung gave explanations on efforts for obtaining international level quality blood. Next,

Prof Dr Daw Khin May Ohn spoke words of honour.

Afterwards, a total of 87 students collectively donated blood. — MNA



Pacific Congress on Marine Science and Technology PACON 2006 continues

YANGON, 13 June — The second day session of the 12th Pacific Congress on Marine Science and Technology PACON 2006 was held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this morning. The congress is organized by Myanmar Maritime University under the Ministry of Transport, Myanmar PACON and PACON International.

It was attended by officials, academics and resource persons of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, MMU, Myanmar PACON, PACON International, DBEDT Hawaii, National Ocean Service of University of Hawaii and School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST), students, entrepreneurs, enthusiasts and guests. At the congress, internationally-known academicians read out their papers. MWAF Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Htay and Head of Management Department of MWAF Dr Daw Khin San Nwe participated in the workshop on women's sector in marine science. The congress continues till 15 June and a total of 149 papers will be read. — MNA

Second day session of the 12th PACON 2006 in progress. — MNA



Dancers perform during a celebration marking Philippine Independence Day in Manila, on 12 June, 2006. —INTERNET

ထုတ်တုန့်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

Power blackout causes chaos in NZ's biggest city

WELLINGTON, 12 June— A power blackout brought chaos to New Zealand's Auckland City on Monday, leaving thousands of houses and businesses without electricity, roads gridlocked, phone lines down and hospitals closed.

Strong winds from a cold front that began sweeping northwards on

Sunday had snapped a power line at the Otahuhu substation, the main supplier of power to the country's largest city from the south, Transpower spokesman Chris Roberts told Reuters.

An earth-wire at the substation had fallen across a 110 kilovolt feed, one of two main feeds into Auckland, Roberts said, affecting about 230,000 customers.

About half of the region — including most of the south and central Auckland — were without power from just after 8:30 am (2030 GMT Sunday). West Auckland and the North Shore were

unaffected.

Power was restored to the central business district at about 12:40 pm (0040 GMT).

The Auckland City Council said power was being restored to the rest of the affected areas in stages, and all areas were expected to have power by 4:30 pm (0430 GMT). Roberts said the blackout had affected "everything without back-up power". It halted trains on the suburban commuter rail network while about 300 sets of traffic lights also failed. Some central city businesses were evacuated, the *New Zealand Press Association* reported.

MNA/Reuters

Suicides prompt new calls to shut Guantanamo

WASHINGTON, 12 June—The suicides of three Arab detainees at Guantanamo ignited new calls on Sunday for the United States to shut down the prison camp.

Two Saudis and a Yemeni hanged themselves with clothes and bed sheets in maximum security cells on Saturday — the first prisoners to die at Guantanamo since the United States began sending suspected al-Qaeda and Taliban captives there in 2002. Prisoner advocates blamed the Bush Administration for the deaths and said the men were held under conditions that "for all intents and purposes had already taken their lives." Several countries urged Washington to shut the camp down.

"Their blood is on the hands of the Bush regime and their deaths will fuel the anger of the global Muslim community," said Cageprisoners.com, a Web site that draws attention to the cases of detained Muslims.

Saudi Arabia, a staunch US ally, asked for the return of the bodies, and said it was stepping up efforts to repatriate more than 100 Saudis held at the prison so they could be tried "based on our laws and regulations".

A Yemeni rights group, the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, said it could not accept US accounts of the deaths without an impartial, international

probe. The prison at the US naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, holds about 460 foreigners captured during the US-led war to oust al-Qaeda from Afghanistan after the 11 September attacks.

In Kuwait, Waleed al-Tabtabaie, a former member of Parliament, called the deaths "a big question mark over America's human rights record" and said the United States should release the prisoners or give them fair

trials. "Things should not stay as is at this prison. This would be a black spot in the history of humanity, especially from a country that claims to be modern and that claims to uphold human rights and democracy," said Tabtabaie.

Britain, Germany and Denmark joined a chorus of rights groups that have long expressed outrage at the treatment of detainees at Guantanamo and urged Washington to close it.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqis walk near a burnt truck after US forces clashed with guerillas in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, on 12 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Repentant robber returns cash, with interest

TOKYO, 12 June— A Japanese man who robbed a post office returned more money than he stole and turned himself in after deciding to come clean for the sake of his girlfriend. The 33-year-old stole 340,000 yen (\$2,300) at knifepoint from a post office in western Tokyo in March. Ridden with guilt, he went back to the post office at the end of May and left 350,000 yen in an envelope on the counter before running off.

Sunday, he turned himself in to the police, Asahi TV reported. "I did the robbery because I was short of money," Asahi quoted the man, who works as a gardener, as saying. "I didn't want to get arrested when I took the money back, but I talked to my girlfriend about it and thought I should clear things up quickly for her sake." *The Mainichi* newspaper quoted the man as saying he gave an extra 10,000 yen back because he was sorry for what he had done. A Tokyo police department spokesman said they were still discussing what to do with the extra cash. —Internet

US soldier killed in bomb attack in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 June—A US soldier was killed and another wounded in a roadside bomb blast while patrolling near the Iraqi oil-rich city of Kirkuk, some 250 kilometres north of Baghdad, the US military said on Saturday.

"One 101st Sustainment Brigade soldier was killed and one was wounded by an improvised explosive device while conducting a combat logistics patrol at about 12:55 am (0855 GMT) 9 June, west of Kirkuk," the military said in a statement. The wounded soldier was evacuated to a military medical treatment facility, the statement said.

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

The latest death has brought to about 2,480 the number of US military personnel killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Hamas lawmaker caught at Gaza crossing with \$5.67m

GAZA, 12 June —The spokesman for Hamas in the Palestinian legislature was caught with about 4.5 million euros (about 5.67 million US dollars) at the Rafah crossing on the southern Gaza border with Egypt on Saturday, Palestinian security sources said.

Salah al-Bardaweel, Hamas spokesman in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), was returning to the Gaza Strip from a trip to Arab countries via the Rafah crossing when Customs officials found the large quantity of money in his luggage, said the sources.

The seized money was later given back to al-Bardaweel after contacts between the Hamas-controlled Interior Ministry and the bureau of the Rafah crossing, the sources added. Last month, Hamas spokesman in the Gaza Strip Sami Abu Zuhri was caught by European monitors at the Rafah crossing with about 639,000 euros (about 817,000 US dollars) hidden under his clothes.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has ordered an investigation into the incident. — MNA/Xinhua



Philippine police patrol the area near the presidential palace as Philippines marks Independence Day in Manila on 12 June, 2006. —INTERNET

New Cabinet of Nepal

KATHMANDU, 12 June — Nepali Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala Sunday reshuffled the existing Council of Ministers, or Cabinet, by appointing new ministers under his chairmanship.

The following is the part of list of the new Cabinet members. Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala was assigned the portfolios of Defence, Royal Palace Deputy Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli was assigned for Foreign Affairs

Deputy Prime Minister Amik Sherchan was assigned for Health and Population

Minister for Home: Krishna Sitaula

Minister for Finance: Ram Saran Mahat

Minister for Agriculture and Cooperatives: Mahanta Thakur

Minister for Physical Planning and Works: Gopal Man Shrestha.—MNA/Xinhua

Zarqawi's death reduces possibility of terror attacks in Jordan

AMMAN, 13 June — The possibility of new large-scale terrorist attacks in Jordan has been significantly reduced as a result of the death of al-Qaeda's chief in Iraq Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, local newspaper *The Jordan Times* reported on Monday, citing analysts.

"Zarqawi's death is definitely positive for Jordan as he had a long-standing grudge against the regime and was heavily involved in planning and staging attacks in the country," Joost Hiltermann, the Jordan-based Middle East project director of International Crisis Group, was quoted as saying.

Hiltermann also said that the likelihood of Zarqawi's followers in Jordan carrying out attacks in emulation or support of their slain leader was minimal.

"The chances now of large-scale al-Qaeda synchronized attacks has been greatly reduced with the end of Zarqawi. If there are attacks by his followers here seeking to emulate him, they are much more likely to be sporadic, low-key and unorganized," said Hilterman. —MNA/Xinhua

ဝက်မုတ္တမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



A Sikh (C) walks on a bamboo stick as he performs the Gatakha, a traditional martial art, during a religious procession to mark the 400th martyrdom day of their fifth Guru, Guru Arjun Dev in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh on 12 June, 2006.—INTERNET

Japanese Emperor starts visit to Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 June — Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko on Saturday kicked off a two-day visit to Malaysia.

Akihito's first stop was in the northern state of Perak.

Upon arrival in the Sultan Azlan Shah Airport on Saturday morning the royal couple were greeted by Perak Crown Prince, Raja Nazrin Shah, and his sister Raja Azureen.

Perak Sultan Azlan Shah met with Akihito in the royal town of Kuala Kangsar and held a welcome luncheon for the Japanese royal couple.

In the afternoon, Akihito toured the Sultan Azlan Shah Gallery and the Malay College Kuala Kangsar.

MNA/Xinhua

Russian police mistake rugby match for brawl

MOSCOW, 12 June—Russians playing a game of amateur rugby were arrested by police who mistook the match for a mass brawl, local media reported Monday.

"We got a call to our control room saying there

was a fight involving a lot of people on some waste ground just outside town," RIA news agency quoted a police official in the southern city of Rostov-on-Don as saying.

The players and supporters — nearly 100

people in total — were taken to the local police station. They were released without charge when officers realized they had been playing rugby, the news agency reported.

Internet

Wolves and dogs guard Bosnia marijuana plantation

SARAJEVO, 12 June—Police raided a huge marijuana plantation in northwestern Bosnia and found it guarded by a family of wolves and 150 dogs, Bosnian media said Saturday.

They seized 2,300 plants intended for the production of at least 800 kg (1,760 lb) of the drug, as well as hunting guns and rifles Friday, the Bosnian Serb News Agency SRNA quoted regional Interior Minister Stanislav Cado as saying.

The dogs, and a pair of wolves with their cubs, were kept in cages, SRNA

reported.

Police arrested the estate owner Zeljko Grbic and are still searching for

his brother Radovan, who is wanted on charges of murder and robbery.

Internet



Soccer fans of Brazil and Croatia celebrate at the 'Fan Mile', a public viewing zone in Berlin on 12 June, 2006. Brazil will play Croatia on 13 June, 2006 in the German capital. —INTERNET



A woman hugs her son shortly after he was released from prison, after a second group out of a total of more than 2,000 Iraqi prisoners was released on Sunday under a national reconciliation plan announced by new Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki last week, at a bus station in Baghdad on 11 June, 2006.—INTERNET

China unearths largest ancient stone chimes

CHENGDU, 12 June—Chinese archaeologists on Saturday unearthed two good-sized stone chimes, an ancient musical instrument, dating back to the Shang Dynasty (16th-11th centuries BC) in the southwestern province of

Sichuan. The bigger one of the two stone chimes, which is about 110-centimetre long and the largest of all Shang stone chimes ever excavated, was found in the Jinsha Ruins in the suburbs of Chengdu, capital of Sichuan and about 2,200 kilometres southwest of Beijing.

Small holes were drilled in the stone chime, which is in an elliptic shape, so that it could be suspended from a frame. The other smaller stone chime, unearthed together with the big one, has two string lines. "Stone chimes served as special musical instruments at imperial rituals in the Shang age, and it is the first time to find stone chimes in Southwest China," said Wang Yi, director of Chengdu Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology.

MNA/Xinhua

British soldier killed in southern Afghanistan

LONDON, 12 June—A British soldier was killed and another was seriously injured after an engagement with Taliban militants in southern Afghanistan on Sunday, the British Ministry of Defence said.

"It is with great regret that I can confirm that British forces have suffered a fatality as a result of an incident in the Helmand Province of

Afghanistan," a ministry spokeswoman said.

She said "a mobile patrol was engaged in a firefight against suspected Taliban forces" which resulted in the death and serious injury.

The injured soldier was taken by helicopter to a medical facility at Camp Bastion, the main military base in the province.

The fatality was believed to be the first suffered by British troops since their deployment to the restive Helmand Province in recent months.

Britain has about 3,000 troops deployed across southern Afghanistan, including Helmand Province, as part of a NATO-led peacekeeping force.

MNA/Xinhua



The Honolulu-based US Coast Guard cutter Rush arrives in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, on 11 June, 2006, kicking off a five-day visit at the invitation of China's Ministry of Public Security. Rush is the first major US Coast Guard vessel to visit China since World War II, according to Capt Dana Ware, commanding officer of Rush.—INTERNET

Volcano in central Philippines spews ash again

MANILA, 11 June — A volcano in the central Philippine province of Sorsogon, Mount Bulusan, spewed a column of ash one kilometre long into the sky before dawn Saturday because of a build-up of steam, the Philippine Institute of Seismology and Vulcanology (PHIVOLCS) said.

Ernesto Corpuz, PHIVOLCS' chief monitoring scientist, told the local television network ABS-CBN News that the explosion

happened around 12:18 am local time (06:18 GMT) emitting ash. There was no sign of lava in the 1,565-metre high volcano.

The volcano's ash explosion Saturday was sixth time since 19 March when the volcano began showing signs of renewed activity following a mild earthquake in the area. The last explosion occurred on 31 May.

The government had earlier declared the town

of Casiguran, on the slope of the mountain, a "calamity" area after ash from the volcano rained down on roofs Wednesday.

The authorities have also distributed face masks to residents to prevent them from inhaling volcanic ash.

Mount Bulusan forms part of a volcanic belt in the central Bicol region which consists of active and geologically young volcanoes.

MNA/Xinhua

Zulu rebellion century ago remembered in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 12 June — President Thabo Mbeki joined thousands of South Africans on Sunday to commemorate a rebellion against British colonial rule one century ago, calling on people nowadays to protect hard-earned freedom.

Speaking at a ceremony in Mpanza outside Greytown in the eastern KwaZulu-Natal Province, Mbeki described Bambatha Zondi, the Zulu leader of the rebellion in 1906, as a role model for the liberation struggle in South Africa.

"We gather here today as South Africans so that future generations, Black and White, can get together to remember

their forefathers and the futility of war," Mbeki was quoted as saying by the SAPA news agency.

Mbeki said Bambatha was part of a history of resistance by traditional leaders to colonial rule, and it was leaders like him who began the process towards liberation.

Bambatha led an uprising to protest the imposition of a poll tax by then British colonial rulers in the Natal Province. As a result Bambatha was deposed as king by the governor of the colony of Natal in 1906. He later died in a battle near Inkandla. The uprising was the last armed resistance by Black Africans before the

formation of the African National Congress (ANC) in 1912, which adopted armed struggle against the apartheid rule in the 1960s and eventually won the 1994 democratic elections under the leadership of former president Nelson

Mandela.

"The centenary of the Bambatha rebellion must recall, must remind us of the role that our traditional leaders played to defend our freedom...to make sure that we achieve our liberation," Mbeki said.

MNA/Xinhua



The space shuttle Discovery is prepared for transport in the Vehicle Assembly Building before rolling to launch pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral, Florida, recently.—INTERNET

Strong quake jolts southern and western Japan

TOKYO, 12 June — A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.2 jolted western and southern Japan on Monday, the Japan Meteorological Agency said, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The focus of the tremor, which occurred at 2001 GMT, was 140 kilometres (87 miles) below the surface of the earth in Oita Prefecture, about 800 kilometres southwest of Tokyo.—MNA/Reuters

Six killed in Baghdad bombing

BAGHDAD, 12 June — Six people were killed and 59 others wounded in a bombing in central Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

The explosion occurred at around 8:15 pm (1615 GMT) in Karada District in central Baghdad when many people were shopping in this commercial area, the source said. Some shops and civilian vehicles were also damaged in the blast, the source added.—MNA/Xinhua

Firework workshop blast kills five in E China province

HEFEI, 12 June — Five people were killed and 14 others injured in a blast that hit a private firework workshop in a village in east China's Anhui Province on Sunday morning. The workshop belongs to Ma Diansheng, a villager in Dama Village, Taihe County, who was among the dead. Police rushed to the site found that the 72-year-old Ma used his own house to produce fireworks illegally. The blast blew off his six-room house.—MNA/Xinhua

Bulky man barely injured as car rolls over him

BERLIN, 12 June — A 440-pound German man discovered that being overweight can be good for your health — if you get run over by a car.

German police said the extra body mass prevented the 30-year-old man from suffering potentially fatal injuries when a Volkswagen Polo drove over him after he braked suddenly on his bicycle at a crossroads and fell off in front of the car.

"It certainly helped him in this case," said Sven-Marco Claus, a spokesman for police in the western town of Gifhorn on Monday. "Someone smaller would probably not have been so lucky."

The man dislocated his hip, which local doctors

put back in place, but otherwise suffered only scratches and a bloody nose from the underside of the vehicle, police said.

Internet

Kidnapped road workers in Afghanistan found dead

KANDAHAR (Afghanistan), 12 June — Four members of a road building crew were found shot dead in southern Afghanistan on Sunday in an area where Taliban fighters have carried out similar killings in the past, a provincial official said.

The bodies of the four men, who are all believed to be Afghans, were found in a roadside ditch in Maiwand District four days after they were abducted while working for an Indian road construction company, Dawud Ahmad, spokesman for the governor of Kandahar province, told Reuters.

Employees of Indian road builders have been targeted in the past by Taliban fighters. The Afghan Government believes that many of the insurgents cross over from Pakistan, though Pakistan insists it is doing its best to stop them.—MNA/Reuters



UNICEF goodwill Ambassador actress Mia Farrow talks to a local woman at Greida camp for Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) in Darfur, southeast of Nyala, Sudan, on 12 June, 2006.—INTERNET

Venezuela to campaign for UNSC seat

CARACAS, 12 June — Venezuela will not withdraw its bid for a seat in the United Nations Security Council, despite objections from the United States, President Hugo Chavez said on Sunday.

"This election will be in October. Venezuela is a candidate and it will not withdraw," Chavez said on his weekly television and radio show "Alo Presidente".

Speaking from the state of Portuguesa in western Venezuela, Chavez said: "I wish to thank our great friend, the deputy foreign minister of Syria for the great support he has shown for the Venezuelan candidacy." Brazil had also voiced support, he

said.

"The US Government has begun a worldwide campaign against Venezuela, trying to prevent us from being elected democratically to a place on the Security Council," Chavez said.

The "powerful" campaign is a "psychological war of pressure and blackmail directed to the world's governments," aimed at preventing the choice of a government that the United States does

not like, Chavez said.

Venezuela would fight "the most brutal imperialism" to achieve its goal of a Security Council seat, he said.

"We are going to fight with all the weapons we have," he said. "Let the empire... pressure all the world's governments. We trust in their courage and dignity."

MNA/Xinhua



Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej (C) and his royal guests pose for a family photo at Ananda Samakhom Throne Hall in Bangkok on 12 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Bangladesh, Kuwait agree to expand bilateral cooperation

DHAKA, 12 June — Kuwait agreed to finance a 450-megawatt power plant in Bangladesh's southeastern city Chittagong and sell fuel oil worth 750 million US dollars to Bangladesh on deferred payment of 180 days.

Kuwait also expressed willingness to make investment in Bangladesh's gas and energy sector, set up a modern hospital and recruit more skilled and semi-skilled manpower from here.

The assurances came during official talks between visiting Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia here on Sunday. "The talks were fruitful...we've discussed bilateral, regional and international issues," Bangladeshi Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan told reporters at a Press briefing.

"The meeting was excellent and fruitful, covering all areas cooperation, including energy and power," Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Mohammad Sabah Al-

Salem told reporters.

Al-Salem remarked that the visit of the Emir to Bangladesh is "memorable and historic as a whole".

Asked about the recruitment of manpower from Bangladesh, the Kuwait FM said Bangladeshi people have been going to Kuwait regularly and Kuwait always welcomes workforce from Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khan said the two countries agreed to set up joint commission to explore ways to increase the volume of trade and investment between the two countries.

In 2004-2005, Bangladeshi exports to Kuwait were worth only 7.87 million US dollars against the country's imports amounting to 517 million US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Kidnapped South Koreans return to Seoul

SEOUL, 12 June — Five South Korean workers who had been taken hostage by militants in Nigeria returned to Seoul in good health on Sunday following their release on Thursday.

The five men, employed by Daewoo Engineering and Construction Co and Korea Gas Corp, had been kidnapped by armed militants who staged a bloody raid on a natural gas plant in the Niger Delta on Wednesday.

The militants freed them after a plea by the

jailed leader in whose name the Koreans were abducted.

The five, looking tired but in good health, waved their hands to photographers as they walked into the lobby at the Incheon International Airport near Seoul.

Some of them were

greeted by family members.

"I'm just happy to be back alive," one of the released men, Kim HD, was quoted by *Yonhap News* as saying. "I knew that the militants won't hurt us because they explained to us why they kidnapped us."

MNA/Reuters



Foreigners take part in a dragon boat race in Suzhou City, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 10 June, 2006. Hundreds of foreigners from foreign-capital enterprises in Suzhou attended the race. —INTERNET

Two Palestinians killed by Israeli airstrike in N Gaza

GAZA, 12 June —

Two Palestinian militants of Hamas armed wing were killed in Israeli airstrike in northern Gaza Strip on Sunday, witnesses and security sources reported.

They said that a group of militants from Hamas armed wing Izeldein al-Qassam Brigades were hit by an Israeli air-to-surface missile when they were preparing to launch a homemade rocket on southern Israel.

Palestinian medics said that two Palestinians were killed and one was critically wounded in the airstrike.

Hamas militants broke a 16-month ceasefire and resumed rocket attacks against Israel on Saturday to avenge the killing of seven Palestinian civilians by Israeli gunboat shelling on the beach in the northern Gaza Strip on Friday. The group claimed responsibility for firing more than 15 homemade rockets at southern Israeli towns over the weekend.

MNA/Xinhua



A school boy covers himself from the rain with a plastic sheet in Havana on 12 June, 2006. The first tropical storm of the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season, Alberto, dumped heavy rain on Cuba and was predicted to make landfall in the heavily populated Florida on Tuesday. —INTERNET

Thai imports, consumption of oil down in first five months

BANGKOK, 12 June — Crude oil imports and local consumption of oil products dropped significantly between January and May of this year, a senior Thai official said on Sunday.

Viraphol Jirapraditkul, deputy director-general of Energy Policy and Planning Office, said the consumption of diesel during the first five months of 2006 declined 8.9 per cent from the corresponding period of last year to 53.1 million litres per day, a drop of 11 consecutive months since last July, while consumption of benzene, both premium and regular, declined 2.2 per cent to 19.7 million litres daily.

Oil conservation measures launched by the government, continued increased oil prices and the government's decision to float diesel price since July 2005 were

responsible for the drop in diesel consumption during the first five months of 2006, according to Viraphol.

Because of the drop in local consumption, crude oil imports during January-May this year fell 1.9 per cent to 831,000 barrels daily, compared to the same period of 2005, he said.

But the value of imports during the period rose up 31.3 per cent to about 310 billion baht (about 8.2 billion US dollars) from the corresponding period of 2005 due chiefly to its price which rose at the average of 37.6 per cent monthly.

MNA/Xinhua

Myanmar rubber enjoying a revival

Kyi Myat (Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise)

With the development in the science and industrial fields, the use of rubber is on the increase worldwide. An automobile is made up of more than 1,600 parts, over 750 of which are made of rubber.

Natural rubber is endowed with fine qualities such as a high degree of flexibility, and being well resistant to hard objects and heat. About 75 per cent of the rubber produced around the world is used in producing automobile tyres. The tyres made of rubber are light and strong. So, it is impossible to replace natural rubber with synthetic rubber.

Rubber is essential for the shoe industry, and shoes with rubber soles are strong and more serviceable. The bounce of rubber is more than that of any other objects. Rubber does not allow liquids to pass through it and is resistant to and can maintain heat. So, it is used in producing not less than 30,000 kinds of goods. Trunks of old rubber trees that no longer produce latex can be used in making furniture.

Natural rubber is a substance made from latex of rubber trees. Synthetic rubber is a substance chemically made from other materials.

World nations use rubber in manufacturing finished goods. Such nations as Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, India, China, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Liberia, Nigeria and Vietnam are not only boosting production of rubber but also doing research on it.

Myanmar's rubber has gained a foothold in the world rubber market. Table (A) shows trade volume of exported rubber and turnover year-wise.

Table (A)

Sr.	Year	Ton	Turnover (US\$ million)
1.	1996-97	28,160	30.66
2.	1998-99	47,850	25.07
3.	2000-01	38,510	19.4
4.	2002-03	37,330	26.98
5.	2003-04	36,470	32.93
6.	2004-05	40,373	43.12

Since 1876, Myanmar has grown rubber that is native to Brazil. In 1962-63, Myanmar put 184,295 acres under rubber. After 1988, growing of rubber revived due to the permission the government granted to national entrepreneurs to grow and trade rubber freely according to the market-oriented economic system. The acreage of rubber increased to 333,449 in 1997-98 and 558,447 in 2005-2006.

Rubber is important not only for domestic industries but for production of export goods. Now, rubber is grown extensively in every suitable regions. In this regard, a five-year-wise project has been set up as in Table (B).

Table (B)

Five-year-wise project for extended growing of rubber

Sr.	Year	Acreage	Acreage (under tapping)	Ton
1.	2000	400000	260000	55700
2.	2005	500000	330000	71100
3.	2010	600000	400000	87000
4.	2015	800000	500000	110000
5.	2020	1000000	660000	146700
6.	2025	1250000	850000	190800
7.	2030	1500000	1000000	226800

Rubber grows in uneven lands, ravines and hillsides. In the past, rubber was grown only in Taninthayi Division and Mon State. Now success has been achieved in growing rubber in such border areas as Myitkyina region in Kachin State, Kokang, Hopang, Lashio and Kyaukse regions in Shan State (North), Kengtung, Mongla and Tachilek regions in Shan State (East), Rakhine State, and Sagaing Division.

Border areas and hilly regions get less annual rainfall than plain regions that grow rubber. But, they enjoy a little rainfall monthly. Surveys have shown that rubber thrives in hilly regions like plain regions. The plain regions in Lower Myanmar get a lot of rain in the rainy season, so the tapping of rubber latex has to be paused during the period. And rubber trees in the plain regions are more vulnerable to the disease that makes the leaves of rubber trees rotten. In hilly regions, the tapping of latex has to be paused just in the very cold month, and rubber trees have a good growth rate.

Rubber thrives in the lands at an altitude of 1,000 to 3,000 feet. Now, a five-acre plot each has been put under rubber as a test run in 2005-2006 in Tiddim, Falam and Haka in Chin State that are at an altitude of above 4,000 to 5,000 feet. The Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise conducted the course on growing rubber in these regions, two times.

Myanmar has many vacant lands in states and divisions to grow rubber. During the inspection tour of states and divisions, the Head of State gave guidance on extended growing of rubber to raise per capita income and the socio-economic life of local people and to earn foreign exchange. To translate the words into deeds, special projects were launched in Bago and Ayeyawady divisions and Rakhine State in 2005-2006.

Due to the use of high-yield strains, high rubber prices and systematic use of tapping latex, per acre yield of rubber latex is on the increase in the nation.

Table (C)

Rubber grown in Myanmar up to 2005-2006

Sr.	State/ Division	Acreage	Acreage (under tapping)	Per acre yield (lb)	Output (lb)
1.	Kachin State	7063	450	564.44	254000
2.	Kayah State	111	-	-	-
3.	Kayin State	48437	13601	421.85	5737542
4.	Chin State	15	-	-	-
5.	Sagaing Division	494	4	525.00	2100
6.	Taninthayi Division	119353	80000	470.00	37600000
7.	Bago Division	52319	4047	338.33	1369230
8.	Mon State	267831	152562	574.60	87662843
9.	Yangon Division	31591	2767	350.00	968450
10.	Rakhine State	8265	753	230.00	173190
11.	Shan State (North)	12997	553	501.43	277290
12.	Shan State (South)	225	20	800.00	16000
13.	Shan State (East)	7216	300	600.00	180000
14.	Ayeyawady Division	2530	30	270.00	8100
Total		558447	255087	526.28	134248745

Now, a target is being pursued to put 192,965 more acres under rubber in 2006-2007. Then, the acreage will reach 745,811, the acreage of rubber under tapping, 284,800, and per acre yield, 531.78 pounds. So, gross rubber output will be 151,452,743 pounds or 61,717.22 metric tons.

The Perennial Crops Research Department under the Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise is doing research on rubber to choose suitable strains for respective regions. Now, high-yield strains 2000 series clones such as 2001, 2004, 2008 and 2014 strains are being propagated by the department in cooperation with companies.

Seasonal crops such as paddy, beans and pulses, pineapple, sesamum, corn, sweet potato and watermelon can be grown as mixed crops among the rubber trees. That reduces the costs for weeding wild plants among the rubber trees.

Now, measures are being taken for improvement of rubber industry such as production of suitable rubber strains, doing research on production of hybrid strains and the amount of fertilizers to be applied, and establishment of rubber farms for production of seeds. Rubber is a perennial that can bring great benefits to the nation in addition to the growers.

So, rubber has been designated as an important crop in the agricultural sector in Myanmar. The growers can start to reap benefits when the rubber trees are at the age of eight years with the rate of more than 102,000 kyats per acre. During the commercial period of 30 years, the growers can enjoy a benefit rate of 2.361 million kyats per acre. So, rubber should be grown extensively in the country.

Translation: MS
(Myanma Alin: 13-6-2006)

* * *

Rubber thrives in the lands at an altitude of 1,000 to 3,000 feet. Now, a five-acre plot each has been put under rubber as a test run in 2005-2006 in Tiddim, Falam and Haka in Chin State that are at an altitude of above 4,000 to 5,000 feet. The Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise conducted the course on growing rubber in these regions, two times.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects regional development tasks in Thayet District...

(from page 1)

After fulfilling the needs, Lt-Gen Ye Myint called for concerted efforts for regional development, exceeding the target of paddy cultivation and growing of physic nut plants.

In meeting with officers and other ranks of the local battalion at Maha Bandoolla Hall, Lt-Gen Ye Myint stressed the need for them to take part in regional development tasks, to engage in farming and to grow physic nut plants.

Next, they attended the physic nut plant growing ceremony held at Mezali village in Mindon Township and inspected the growing of physic nut plants by departmental



Lt-Gen Ye Myint (C) of the Ministry of Defence inspects Thayet District's hospital. — MNA



officials and social organizations.

After that, they also took part in the physic nut plant growing ceremony held at Kyobin village in Kama Township.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to Madechaung Dam construction project in Kyobin village where they inspected building of embankments and the spill-

way.

In his inspection of TadaDaminMindon Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions to officials concerned. The dam is now benefiting 254 acres of monsoon

paddy and 100 acres of summer paddy.

In meeting with departmental officials and members of social organizations at the Town Hall in Mindon, Lt-Gen Ye Myint gave instructions on implementation of the five rural development tasks, extended cultivation of monsoon paddy and meeting the target of growing of physic nut plants.

At Mindon People's Hospital, they inspected operation theatre,

X-ray unit, medical ward and medical store and gave instructions.

On arrival at Pahtan junction in Ngaphe Township, Lt-Gen Ye Myint heard a report presented by the Superintending Engineer U Tint Lwin on condition of roads along Minbu-Padan-An-Sittway section and gave instructions.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party stopped over for the night in Magway.

MNA

Minister for PBANRDA meets graduates of Nationalities Youth Resource Degree College (Mandalay)



Col Thein Nyunt delivers a speech at the graduation ceremony of Nationalities Youth Resource Degree College (Mandalay). — MNA

YANGON, 13 June — Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt yesterday met 90 graduates who obtained B.A. and B.Sc. degrees and AGTI diploma from Nationalities Youth

the college in Natyaykan Village, Amarapura Township.

The minister said development of human resources in border areas and producing highly-qualified scholars was undertaken in accord with the guidance of the Chairman of Central Committee for Development of Border

have been implemented since 1989 and significant progress has been made.

In the course of the history national people unitedly lived based on the Union Spirit and mutual understanding. Wherever they are, it is very important to be equipped with Union Spirit which is the basis of Our Three Main National Causes.

The minister urged the graduates to apply the theory in practical fields. Up to 2000, Nationalities

Youth Resource Degree College in Yangon and Mandalay have produced 574 graduates and they were appointed in various ministries. Arrangements are being made for master courses, he added.

He spoke of the need to try to possess good qualities, to lead the people after realizing their life and to make endeavours for regional development.

The minister presented prizes to Danu national Maung Nyi Nyi Aung who got outstanding award in art field, Rakhine national Maung Myo Nyein Tun in science field and Manaw national Maung Htay Hlaing in engineering field.

The minister and guests had photos taken together with the graduates.

MNA



Maung Htay Hlaing



Maung Myo Nyein Tun



Maung Nyi Nyi Aung

Resource Degree College (Mandalay) of Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs at

Areas and National Races. The Development of Border Areas and National Races projects

Post-Primary School opens, school uniforms and stationery presented in Yanbye

YANGON, 13 June — A ceremony to open Post-Primary School in Tainbyin village and present school uniforms and stationery in Tainbyin village, Yanbye Township, Rakhine State was held at the school on 6 June.

First, member-1 of Township Peace and Development Council U San Tun made a speech on the occasion. Wellwisher Thamada Thingantaik owner Siha Sudhamma Manijotadhara Siri Sudhamma Manijotadhara Agga Maha Siri Sudhamma Manijotadhara U Than Naing spoke on the purpose of the donation. Wellwisher U Than Naing presented school uniforms and stationery for 126 students.

The wellwisher donated a computer to be used at Township Police Station and two air-conditioners to be used at Yanbye People's Hospital. The donation amounted to over K 1 million. The member-1, township education officer U Nyo Tun and schoolhead U Kyi Maung spoke words of thanks. — MNA

Mya Ayeya Market Boat leaves for Yangon

YANGON, 13 June — Yangon/Mandalay Mya Ayeya Market Ship which belongs to Inland Water Transport of the Ministry of Transport left Gawwun jetty, Mandalay for Yangon at 6 am today.

The ship carries 1,085 tons of general cargoes and it will berth Sagaing, Myinmu, Hsimekhon, Pakokku, Nyaung U, Chauk, Sinbyugyun, Yenangoang, Minbu, Minhla, Mechaungye, Aunglan, Thayet, Kama, Pyay, Kytie, Kyangin, Myanaung, Hinthada, Zalun, Danubyu and Maubin along Ayeyawady river. — MNA

Cooperation and coordination...

(from page 16)

Local people should run fish, prawn and chicken farms on manageable scale. The state should make efforts to grow 500,000 acres of physic nut plants within a period of three years. Officials' cooperation and coordination reaching down to the grassroots will lead to successful implementation of projects. All should serve the state's interest dutifully.

Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and

Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein explained education, health, economic and social progress of the state.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than held a meeting with Tatmadaw members and families at Sittway Station. He cordially greeted them after the meeting.

Accompanied by officials, he visited the No 1 jetty project at Sittway harbour. Officials explained progress of

work. Standardization is important as the jetty will handle up to 4,000-ton ships, noted Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than. The project covers a 240-foot long and 48-foot wide jetty and a 444-foot by 24-foot approach structure. The whole project is expected to be completed in December next year.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also paid obeisance to Lawkananda Pagoda and Atula Marazein Pylonchantha Pagoda.

MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects construction tasks of No 1 concrete jetty in Sittway. —MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presents refreshments to local people undergoing treatment at People's Hospital in Namhsan. —MNA

Measures for development...

(from page 1)

Now, the entire nation has seen stability and peace along with development owing to the harmonious implementa-

tion of the border areas and national races development projects and the five rural development tasks. He urged the departmental officials to make collaborative efforts to accomplish the State's projects and to mobilize the cooperation of the students' parents to raise the education standard of local youths to enable them to have access to computers and Internet. Local authorities are to equip small-scale hydel power plants to supply electric power to the rural areas.

He called for cooperation with local people to be increasingly im-

bued with Union Spirit and to contribute towards accomplishment of the State's seven-step Road Map, and to make concerted efforts for regional development.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected Tatmadaw tea factory (Namhsan) in Namhsan, and instructed the officials to regularly maintain the machines, exert efforts to exceed the targets and take fire preventive measures.

He also visited Ne Myo Nagar Nwe Family Tea Enterprise in Namhsan. He also inspected the township people's hospital and presented foods to the patients. —MNA

FM meets Japanese guests



Foreign Minister U Nyan Win receives Mr Fumeo Tuma and party of Liberal Democratic Party Executive Committee MP of the House of Representatives. —MNA

YANGON, 12 June—Chairman of Japanese Liberal Democratic Party Executive Committee MP of the House of Representatives Mr Fumeo Tuma and party called on

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win at the ministry on Pyay Road here this afternoon.

Mr Fumeo Tuma is also a senior adviser to the Associations of Japan-

Myanmar Mutual Cooperation based in Tokyo.

The meeting focused on cooperation between the two nations for bilateral interests. Also present at the call were officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nobutake Odano and embassy staff.

MNA

National Convention panel of alternate chairmen meets

YANGON, 13 June—The members of the panel of alternate chairmen of the National Convention held a meeting in the Kyaikkasan ground here this morning.

Alternate chairman U Tun Yin Law presided over the meeting. Also present on the occasion were members of the panel of chairmen U Mya Sein, U Kyaw Myo Win, U Hla Myint and U Hla Tin, and Work Committee

Joint Secretary-2 Dr Thauung Myint, member U Ba Han, Director of the office of the Work Committee U Than Aung and deputy directors.

They discussed matters on submission of proposals to the National Convention on the findings of members of the panel of alternate chairmen of the NC regarding the papers submitted by the eight groups on the detailed principles that should be

adopted for legislative tasks of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the People's Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Region or State Hluttaw and the detailed basic principles for the Chapter Citizenship, Fundamental Rights and Duties of Citizens and the Chapter the Role of the Tatmadaw that were discussed at the NC from 5 December 2005 to 31 January 2006.

MNA



Members of panel of alternative chairmen of National Convention hold a meeting in the Kyaikkasan ground. —MNA

Donate Blood

1,617 university students apply for USDA membership

YANGON, 13 June — Secretariat Member of USDA Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang on 10 June accepted the membership applications of USDA from three universities in Mandalay.

The ceremonies to present membership applications were held separately at Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar), Mandalay University of Distance Education and Yadanabon University and Minister U Aung Thuang accepted 1,617

applications in total. On the three occasions, USDA Secretariat Member U Aung Thuang also briefed on objectives of the association and its participation in development tasks including the five rural development tasks.

Also present on the occasions were Patron of Mandalay Division USDA Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of the Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman

of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, senior officials of the Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar), rectors, pro-rectors and lecturers and executives of Mandalay Division USDA.

A total of 1,617 membership applications — 194 from the Higher Education Department, 423 from Mandalay University and 1,000 from Yadanabon University — were presented to the minister.

MNA

MMCWA conducts educative talks on prevention against seasonal diseases in Tatkon, Yamethin

NAY PYI TAW, 13 June — Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association conducted an educative talk on prevention against seasonal diseases at Sasana Beikman, Tatkon yesterday.

First, Vice-President of MMCWA Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint made a speech on the occasion. Next, Dr Daw Tin Tin Aye of the Ministry of Health talked on salient points of cholera while Assistant Director Dr Daw Khin Mon Mon dealt with diseases caused by mosquitoes.

Afterwards, responsible personnel replied to the queries raised by those present followed by cash and kind donation. Next, Joint-Secretary of Township MCWA Daw Tint Tint Kyi spoke words of thanks.

Upon arrival at the delivery room of the township MCWA, the vice-president and party met with pregnant women and talked on health care services for them. Afterwards, the vice-president and party attended an educative talk on prevention and fight against seasonal infectious diseases held at Thilawa hall, Yamethin Township.

First, wife of Commander of Central Command Daw Khin Pyone Win extended greetings while Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint made an opening speech on the occasion. Next, Doctor Dr Tin Tin Aye of the Ministry of Health gave talks on salient points of cholera

while Assistant Director Dr Daw Khin Mon Mon explained diseases caused by mosquitoes.

Afterwards, responsible personnel replied to the queries raised by those present. CEC member of MMCWA (Central) Daw Aye Aye presented K 500,000 and supplies to build fly proof latrine. Secretary of MMCWA Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha presented medicines and medical equipment and Assistant Director Dr Daw Khin Mon Mon mosquito repellent. Daw Khin Pyone Win, wife of the Commander accepted cash and kind.

Next, wife of the Chairman of District PDC Daw Than Nu spoke words of thanks. After the ceremony, the vice-president and party viewed office of Township MCWA, its delivery room and pre-primary school in Yamethin Township.

MNA



Minister U Aung Thuang delivers an address at a ceremony to present USDA membership applications from Mandalay University of Distance Education. — INDUSTRY-1

Minister inspects transformer factory

YANGON, 13 June — Minister for Electric Power No (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint, accompanied by Col Khin Maung Soe and officials of Yangon City Electric Power Supply Committee, visited the transformer factory run by Soe Electronics and Machine

Parts Co in Dagon Myothit (South) on 11 June. Managing Director U Soe Tint in his report to the minister said the factory started assembling transformers in 1989. Measures were being taken for making transformers more modern and standardized, he said.

The minister inspected transformers and other machine parts such as 47 MVA generators and corrugated radiator fins and physic nut plantations in the factory compound.

Next, U Soe Tint reported that the factory was established in 1983-84 and now it is being run

by 250 staff members. The factory is taking a leading role in the country's private industrial sector. Arrangements are being made for distribution of its products to ministries at a reasonable price and for assembling of transformers and other machines with domestically produced parts.

Later, the minister stressed the need for more production of transformers.—MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspects transformer factory in Dagon Myothit (South) Township. — MNA



Secretary of MMCWA (Central) Dr Daw Wai Wai Tha presents medicines and medical equipment to President of Mandalay Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Khin Pyone Win. — RAILWAYS

Seeking its self-interest, NLD walked...

(from page 16)

modern and democratic nation with discipline flourishing. However, seeking its self-interest, NLD walked out of the National Convention and committed destructive acts that harm the interests of the State and the people in league with some foreign countries and underground and aboveground elements. That was why they got fed up with the NLD which had been on a collision course with the government, ignoring the interest of the people. Meanwhile, thanks to the strenuous efforts of local authorities concerned under the leadership of the government, national armed groups have returned to the legal fold. They have exchanged arms for peace and started participating in regional development

endeavours. As a result, not only Kachin State but also other regions are enjoying now peace and stability and fruits of development. They quit the party because they no longer had trust in the NLD and now they wanted to serve the interest of the people and play their active part in the successful implementation of the road map, he added.

Next, executive of Mansi Township NLD U Makha Gan presented resignation letters to the chairman of Mansi Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission. Mansi Township NLD was established with nine members of the executive, among them, one is dead, seven has now quit the party and the other one has moved to the other region, it is learnt.

MNA

Corrigendum

YANGON, 13 June — Please read the total amount of cash donated at the 2nd cash donation ceremony in commemoration of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association's fourth conference was K 7,813,000. The story of the cash donation ceremony was released on 13 June issue of this paper. — MNA



Ambassador of the Philippines to Myanmar Mme Phoebe A Gomez welcomes Foreign Affairs Minister U Nyan Win at a reception to mark 108th Independence Day of the Philippines on 13 June. — MNA

EU lawmakers back report on CIA terror kidnappings

STRASBOURG (France), 13 June — EU lawmakers backed accusations on Monday that the US Central Intelligence Agency had kidnapped and illegally held terrorism suspects on EU territory and flown them to countries that used torture.

Their report draws largely the same conclusions as that issued by the Council of Europe last week, adding to the embarrassment faced by European governments over their possible cooperation with US policies unpopular with domestic opinion. " ... In a number of cases, the CIA or other US services have been directly responsible for the illegal seizure, removal, abduction and detention of ter-

rorist suspects on the territory of member states," read the text of the report approved late on Monday by a special committee of the European Parliament.

The committee has heard testimony from several alleged victims and rights groups. While it has no legal powers, it can recommend political actions against any countries found to have been involved, including the United States.

Its report, compiled by Italian lawmaker Claudio Fava, faced nearly 200 last-minute amendments that had to be debated before the committee approved the final text with 25 votes in favour, 14 against and seven abstentions.

Most of the amendments were technical, although one called for further investigations into the alleged existence of a secret detention facility in Kosovo and the possible involvement of KFOR forces in the illegal detention of terrorist suspects.

The report, as amended, will now be submitted to a full session of the European Parliament in early July. —MNA/Reuters

Two escape death when plane crashlands in Zambia

LUSAKA, 13 June—Two people escaped death on Sunday when a light plane crashlanded in Livingstone, capital of Zambia Southern Province, *Zambia Daily Mail* reported on Monday.

A tourist and pilot escaped the death after the plane was forced to land on the Victoria Falls Road in the city after it experienced an engine failure.

Southern Province police chief Chewe Bowa

said it happened at about 13:00 hours.

"We suspect the pilot experienced an engine failure and was clever enough to have decided to land on the road. The passenger and the pilot have come out clean," he said.

The passenger, who is on holiday from England, said he was in a state of shock and could not believe that he survived without a scratch.

MNA/Xinhua



Cambodia generates 10,000 new jobs in first part of 2006

PHNOM PENH, 13 June—The Cambodian Government has cooperated with the private sector to generate more than 10,000 jobs for the first part of 2006, local media reported on Monday.

From January to now, another 11,845 Cambodians have gained employ-

ment abroad and in 26 new factories at home, *Business Press* quoted officials of the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy as saying, bringing the total number of employed citizens to about 3.55 million.

Cambodians are working in foreign countries such as South Korea, Malaysia and Thailand.

Of the new factories, 21 produce garments and shoes. Two others process animal feed and the three remaining make plastic, paint products and cement, the officials said.

About 3.31 million Cambodians had jobs in 2005, 27,500 more than in 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

Spain's Rafael Nadal celebrates winning against Switzerland's Roger Federer in the final of the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros in Paris, on 11 June, 2006. — INTERNET

Badawi urges more cooperation between energy producers, consumers

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 June — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Monday urged energy producers and consumers to broaden their cooperation in jointly exploring new energy resources and developing future production capacity.

Energy producers and consumer nation should pursue "strategic alliances to explore new resources and develop future capacities to enhance the security of the world's energy supply", Badawi said at the opening ceremony of the 11th Asia Oil and Gas Conference here.

Noting the bottlenecks in the supply chain and possible speculative trading activities, the Prime Minister warned

"the growing demand for depleting oil and gas resources is likely to trigger more intense competition to gain access and control over these resources".

To cope with the situation, energy producers and consumers should have more collaborations based "not only on commercial terms but also trust," said Badawi.

He encouraged those countries facing technical problems in oil extraction projects to introduce attractive investment policies and fiscal terms so that more energy consuming countries will engage in joint research and development efforts, which will help tap those potentially rich but difficult reserves in the longer term.

To go forward, what is required is to further enhance the level of cooperation to allow more resources sharing based on commercial terms, Badawi said, adding that when it comes to the energy supply in Asia, the Greater Asia Continent, which accounted for 60 per cent of oil and 51 per cent of gas reserves in the world, is largely unexplored.

He welcomed major oil and gas consuming countries to eye opportunities in Southeast Asia and seriously consider investing or becoming a partner in upstream exploration and development there so as to reduce the dependence on West Asian oil.

MNA/Xinhua



An Indian soldier questions a man walking on the route that leads to the Amarnath cave of Lord Shiva in Pahalgam, 100 km (61 miles) southeast of Srinagar, on 11 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Earthquakes rattle Indonesia's Sumatra Island

JAKARTA, 13 June—A powerful earthquake struck off the western coast of Indonesia's Sumatra Island on Monday, there were no immediate report of injuries or damage.

The 5.9-magnitude quake was centred 530 kilometres southwest of Lampung Provincial capital of Bandar Lampung, reported The Jakarta Post online news, quoting report from the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency.

Lampung is located on the southern tip of Sumatra Island, about 250 kilometres northwest of Jakarta.

Earlier on Sunday, two mild quakes rattled Padang Sidempuan mayoralty and Gunung Sitoli — the capital of Nias regency — in North Sumatra Province.

MNA/Xinhua

Brazilian police seize 3.6 tons of marijuana

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 June—Police seized 3.6 tons of marijuana hidden in a truck coming from neighbouring Uruguay during a search in Sao Miguel de Iguazu, Brazil's federal police said on Monday.

The police said in a statement that they had arrested the driver, Joao Mario Nascimento, 27, who claimed he was hired to carry 27 tons of wheat flour to Sao Paulo and did not know he was carrying marijuana. He was sent to a prison in Foz do Iguazu, a Brazilian city on the border with Uruguay. — MNA/Xinhua

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(TENDER NO. 3(T) MPE/ LBO (1)/ 2006-2007)

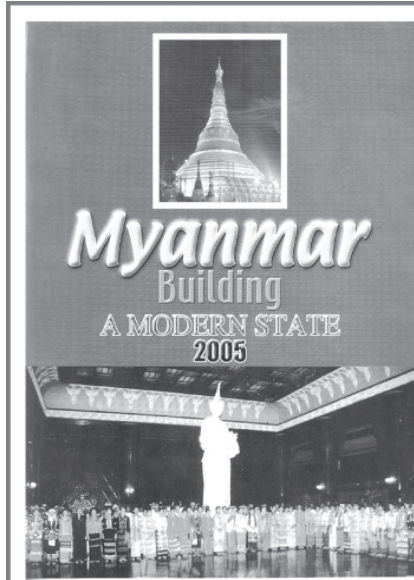
1. Sealed Tenders are invited by the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of (400 ± 10%) Metric Tons Lube Base Oil & Additives.
2. Tender closing Date: (20-6-2006) at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Documents and detail information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, No. (23) Min-Ye-Kyaw-Zwa Road, Yangon, during office hours commencing (14-6-2006) on payment of one hundred (100) FEC per set.
4. The tender will be opened in Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director,
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Pakistan destroys heroin-refining labs in big raid

QUETTA (Pakistan), 12 June—Pakistan's anti-narcotics force has launched a huge raid near the Afghan border, destroying heroin-manufacturing facilities and seizing drugs and weapons, an official said on Sunday. Backed by helicopters and small planes, Saturday's raid followed a tip that gangs had set up a heroin-manufacturing centre in Chaghi area in Baluchistan Province after they were chased out by authorities in neighbouring Afghanistan.

"It was the biggest operation recently," Brigadier Anwarul Haq, a regional director of the anti-drugs agency, told reporters in Baluchistan's capital Quetta. "Eight mobile heroin-refining laboratories have been destroyed." He said 2025 kg (4,464 lb) of morphine, 10 kg (22 lb) of heroin and rifles, rockets and hand grenades were seized.—MNA/Reuters



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Hungary's bird flu vaccine faces question marks

BUDAPEST, 12 June—Question marks have arisen over Hungary's bird flu vaccine since the government late last year announced that it would be the first to develop a vaccine against the deadly virus.

Many health experts, including the European Commission's director of public health, Fernand Sauer, pointed out that the vaccine was only useful as a "trial run" and would have no practical use in the event of a real pandemic. Klaus Stohr, the World Health Organization's adviser on influenza

pandemic vaccines, said last Friday: "Hungary's results initially showed that the vaccine would contain 30mg of antigen, but it turned out that there may have only been 6mg, which would have made it ineffective."

Stohr also revealed that Hungary had failed to respond to calls for independent verification. The vaccine against the deadly H5N1 strain of the bird flu, produced by Omninvest and backed by the government, received the green light for domestic production in March.

Since then, however,

the firm has refused to release any details for independent reviews and has not submitted it to the London-based European Medicines Agency (EMA) for licensing.

So far, no countries have actually purchased Omninvest's vaccine or technology, but Omninvest CEO Ferenc Zimonyi said negotiations were underway.

Zimonyi also defended both the efficiency of the vaccine and the decision not to submit it to the EMA or the WHO.

"For the time being we have considered it

untimely to submit the vaccine and its documentation to EMA," he said.

"We are not averse to the submission at an appropriate time, but we have to take into consideration that our clinical trials are not yet finished." And Mihaly Kokeny, the Hungarian Government commissioner, calls the Hungarian bird flu vaccine "the best".

Even the human tests carried out so far demonstrated that the vaccine contained a sufficient amount of antigen, Kokeny said last weekend.—MNA/Xinhua

China dedicated to raising women's economic status

CAIRO, 12 June — China is committed to raising women's economic status, Vice-Chairwoman of China's National Working Committee on Children and Women Hong Tianhui said here on Sunday.

China has been dedicated to protection of women's rights and raising their economic status by cooperation with enterprises, Hong told Xinhua on the sidelines of the 2006 Global Women Summit, which was opened Saturday in the Egyptian capital of Cairo.

Hong attributed China's significant achievements in this field to its constant efforts to realize gender equality.

China has done its utmost to ensure women's rights to job opportunities and fair sharing economic resources and social progress since China hosted the fourth UN women's conference in

1995 in Beijing, she said.

During a pre-summit ministerial roundtable meeting on Saturday, Hong told 43 other participants that China has taken three measures to raise women's economic status, including implementation of favourable policies to support women entrepreneurship, providing financial and techno-

logical support for women who wanted to set up their own business, and developing women's potential to get jobs.

According to Hong, more and more Chinese women have begun to set up their own enterprises and women entrepreneurs now account for some 20 per cent of total Chinese entrepreneurs.

MNA/Xinhua

Nepali HoR session to be adjourned

KATHMANDU, 12 June—Nepali ruling Seven-Party Alliance (SPA) on Sunday decided to adjourn the ongoing session of the reinstated House of Representatives (HoR) for a few weeks with effect from Monday.

A meeting of the SPA leaders at Prime Minister Girija Rana Koirala's residence in Kathmandu took the decision "to facilitate the government-guerilla peace talks".

The SPA move to send the HoR into recess has followed mounting pressure from the guerilla to dissolve it immediately.

The next session of the House will be called to present the annual national budget for fiscal year 2063/64 BS (2006/2007).—MNA/Xinhua



Jack, a 15-pound orange-and-white cat, sits under a treed black bear in a backyard in West Milford, NJ, on 4 June, 2006. —INTERNET

WWF honours Fijian leaders

WELLINGTON, 12 June —The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) presented Friday Golden Globe Conservation Awards to Fijian Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase and Fijian Chief Ratu Aisea Katonivere for their works in protecting the country's unique marine biodiversity.

Conservation International (CI) said Ratu

Aisea and Qarase were honoured for their partnership and commitment to ensure at least 30 per cent of Fiji's inshore and offshore marine areas that would be effectively managed in an ecologically stable way.

"This award recognizes Fiji's leadership in marine conservation," said Simon Cripps, director of

WWF's Global Marine Programme.

"The international donor community must now join with Pacific governments and people to protect their globally significant marine areas that are essential to the health and well-being of Pacific people, their cultures and their economies," said Cripps.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Four new cubs were born to "Li Kang," a white tiger mother of more than nine, in Shenyang Glacier Animal Paradise, recently. Now the cubs enjoy a very good health. —INTERNET

Chinese villages to bid farewell to unsafe water supply by 2020

BEIJING, 12 June — One hundred million Chinese in rural areas will get safe potable drinking water in the next five years and every rural resident will be provided with basic water services by 2020, Minister of Water Resources Wang Shucheng said here on Friday.

Wang told a meeting on safe drinking water, organized by Global Water Partnership China, that the country developed the plan after a comprehensive survey of drinking water in 650,000 villages last year.

The country will invest eight billion yuan (one billion US dollars) this year

to provide 20 million rural residents with safe potable drinking water, the minister said. China has spent 22.3 billion yuan (2.79 billion dollars) from 2001 to 2005 to give 67 million people easy access to safe water supplies, reducing the population with unsafe water from

379 million in 2000 to 312 million at the end of 2005.

The minister also said that China is likely to be ahead of schedule in reaching its UN Millennium Development Goal of reducing by a half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015.—MNA/Xinhua

Italy Economic Minister raps G-8 over vaccine setback

ST PETERSBURG (Russia), 12 June — The G-8 missed an opportunity on Saturday to fight disease in the world's poorest countries, Italian Economy Minister Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa said after they failed to reach agreement on a vaccine programme.

However Padoa-Schioppa said the issue was "still open" and he hoped

heads of state of the eight economic powers would still agree on a pilot project supported by Italy to fund research into vaccine for diseases afflicting the world's poor.

The G-8 heads of state will meet in St Petersburg in July. "Good ideas are never dropped abruptly, they are gradually suffocated," he quipped, but added that there

was no reason to assume that would happen with the vaccine programme which had the potential to save 7 million lives a year. "It has a strong humanitarian component, limited costs, a good balance between the public and private sector and it offers huge benefits compared with cost involved," he said.

MNA/Reuters



Men mark a horse during the "Rapa Das Bestas" event in Mougas, northwestern Spain, on 11 June, 2006. Throughout the summer, hundreds of wild horses are rounded up, trimmed and groomed in different villages in Galicia.—INTERNET

Tropical storm "Alberto" edges toward Florida

MIAMI, 12 June — The first tropical storm of the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season, Alberto, formed off Cuba on Sunday and appeared headed toward Florida, the US National Hurricane Centre said.

The storm, centred near Latitude 25.3 north and Longitude 87.7 west in the Gulf of Mexico, was about 385 miles (620 kilometres) southwest of Cedar Key on the west coast of Florida at 11 p.m. EDT (0300 GMT on Monday), according to the centre's Web site (<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>).

Although it was a weak tropical storm, Alberto was an unmistakable reminder that the hurricane season had begun to US coastal residents battered by eight hurricanes in the last two years. Last year's Hurricane Katrina was the most costly and one of the deadliest natural disasters in US history.

Alberto's maximum sustained winds were nearly 45 miles per hour (75 kilometres per hour), but the winds, which reached as far as 230 miles (370 kilometres) east of its centre, were expected to change little during the next day, the forecasters in Miami said.

Forecasters described Alberto as "disorganized" and said the storm, moving north-northeast near 8 miles per hour (13 kilometres per hour), would turn slowly toward the northeast in the next 12 to 24 hours.

The storm looked likely to miss oil platforms along the US Gulf coast. "I don't think it's really that much of a concern right now," said

John Brady a broker at ABN Amro in New York. "All it does is tell us we really are in a hurricane season." Alberto dumped heavy rain on Cuba and was predicted to make landfall in heavily populated Florida on Tuesday, cross the northern part of the state, and then enter the Atlantic. Tide levels were already above normal along the state's west coast.

The US hurricane forecasters had issued a tropical storm watch for Florida's west coast from north of Bonita Beach to Steinhatchee, cautioning residents that tropical storm conditions were possible during the next 36 hours.—MNA/Reuters



Boys, carrying vessels to collect drinking water, walk through a parched riverbank on the outskirts of the northern Indian city of Chandigarh, on 12 June, 2006.—INTERNET

Three explosions hit Manila, nearby province, wound eight

MANILA, 12 June — Three explosions rocked Metro Manila, capital of the Philippines, and a nearby province early Sunday, wounding eight people, as the Philippine police and military were on heightened alert before the upcoming Independence Day celebration, police said.

The first blast took place in the southern Lipa City in Batangas Province where two men lobbed a grenade in front of Lipa City public market at 5:00 a.m. local time, wounding eight people who were rushed to nearby hospitals for treatment, according to a police report.

Local police said the explosive used in this blast was placed inside a bayong (native woven bag used in wet markets) and sparked by the said homemade grenade.

The second explosion ripped through a bus which served as a police satellite station at 5:30 am local time in the Metro Manila suburb of Quezon City,

shattering its window glasses and piercing holes through its body, the police added. The third blast meanwhile occurred at Lawton, Metro Manila, shattering tiles outside of a police sub-station, the police said, adding that no injuries were reported.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police raised their alert levels on Thursday ahead of the country's 108th Independence Day celebrations to be held on June 12, by implementing a tight security cordon around President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and other government officials.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

Wednesday, 14 June 2006
 Spain v Ukraine, 19:30 MST
 Tunisia v Saudi Arabia, 22:30 MST
Thursday, 15 June 2006
 Germany v Poland, 01:30 MST



Australia's Tim Cahill celebrates his goal against Japan with team mates during their Group F World Cup 2006 soccer match in Kaiserslautern on 12 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Cahill's late double delights Australia

KAISERSLAUTERN, 13 June— Tim Cahill made history in dramatic style, scoring Australia's first goals in a World Cup finals with two goals in the last six minutes to lead his team to a 3-1 win over Japan in their Group F opener on Monday.

A disputed goal from Shunsuke Nakamura had given Japan a 26th-minute advantage, his cross floating over keeper Mark Schwarzer who seemed to have been impeded by Atsushi Yanagisawa as he came to punch clear.

Egyptian referee Esam Abd El Fatah waved away furious protests from Australia.

But Cahill levelled in the 84th minute when a long throw was missed by goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi and he drilled the ball in from eight metres.

Substitute Cahill made it 2-1 five minutes later with a long-range drive going in off the post.

To complete Japan's misery, substitute John Aloisi added a third goal in injury time.

The Socceroos, playing in the finals for the first time since 1974, had hustled and hustled against a side content to pack the midfield.

Kawaguchi made fine saves from Mark Viduka and Marco Bresciano but with Harry Kewell clearly not fully re-

covered from a groin injury they lacked a killer instinct until Cahill's equalizer.

Japan Football Association president Saburo Kawabuchi had stirred up controversy before the game, suggesting the Socceroos may play rough, a theory midfielder Bresciano did little to disprove when he felled Hidetoshi Nakata on the edge of his own box after 28 seconds.

Luke Wilkshire also gave Alex an early close-up of the pitch but the Aussies soon settled, captain Viduka forcing a fine double-save from Kawaguchi at his near post.

Viduka, who belies his burly frame with neat footwork, proved a handful in the early exchanges, feeding well off Vince Grella as Japan were pinned back.

Japan, who reached the last 16 as co-hosts in 2002, were forced to rely on the counter-attack. From one such break Takashi Fukunishi fired over, then a nice turn from Naohiro Takahara was let down with an inaccurate finish.

MNA/Reuters

Pirlo, Iaquinata help Italy floor Ghana

HANOVER, 13 June— Goals from Andrea Pirlo and Vincenzo Iaquinata gave Italy a 2-0 victory over Ghana in an entertaining World Cup Group E match on Monday.

Midfielder Pirlo's 40th-minute goal came after Ghana, looking sharp in their approach play, had wasted two good chances.

Italy rarely looked in danger after the break and substitute Iaquinata, who had been off the field receiving attention on an injury a few minutes earlier, secured victory in the 83rd.

The striker raced clean through after picking up a poor back pass from Samuel Kuffour and rounded goalkeeper Richard Kingston before slotting the ball into an empty net.

"Our opponents showed themselves to be as strong as we thought they would be," Italy

coach Marcello Lippi told reporters. "In certain aspects they were better than us.

"But I think overall we deserved to win. From a psychological point of view the first match is always difficult to win and I thought the lads did really well to close it out."

Ghana, playing in their first World Cup finals match, looked nervous in the opening stages and almost fell behind in the 27th minute when Luca Toni wriggled free of marker Kuffour and blasted a shot against the underside of the bar.

That served as a wake-up call to the Africans who then produced their best spell of the game, twice

giving the Italians a scare. Asamoah Gyan should have done better when he drove wide after being set up by Matthew Amoah.

Emmanuel Pappoe then blasted high and wide from a promising position in the 32nd minute.

Italy responded with a thundering drive from 30 metres by Francesco Totti which Kingston tipped over.

Five minutes before the break Totti played a quick, short-corner to an unmarked Pirlo who had the space to line up a shot which whistled through a

crowded penalty area to give Lippi's side the lead.

Albertino Gilardino forced Kingston into action again in the 51st minute with a low drive after racing on to a delightful Totti pass but again Ghana replied, Michael Essien's 20-metre drive forcing Gianluigi Buffon to full stretch.

Totti limped off in the 56th minute to be replaced by Mauro Camoranesi and Italy continued to look the more dangerous, Simone Perrotta bringing a good save out of Kingston.

MNA/Reuters



Brides-to-be take a practice run around a course before taking part in a contest to win a \$25,000 wedding in New York on 12 June, 2006. INTERNET

Czechs win 3-0 but suffer Koller blow

GEISENKIRCHEN, 13 June— Two goals for Tomas Rosicky and a Jan Koller header gave the Czech Republic a 3-0 victory over the United States on Monday but Koller later suffered an injury that threatens to end his World Cup early.

Rosicky struck a superb 25-metre goal in the 36th minute and then capped the win with his second and the team's third in the 76th minute.

However, the Czech Republic, already struggling to get Euro 2004 top scorer Milan Baros fit, could now be without Koller after the big front man, out for much of the season with a knee injury, appeared to tear a ham-

string late in the first half and was carried off on a stretcher.

His country's all-time top-scorer had shown his importance as early as the fifth minute when he powered home an unstoppable header from a sweet cross by overlapping right back Zdenek Grygera.

With Pavel Nedved pulling the strings in midfield the Czechs looked the better side in the first half hour but the

US did carve an opening in the 28th minute when captain Claudio Reyna struck the base of a post from outside the box.

However, that effort was eclipsed eight minutes later by Rosicky. Seizing on a poor clearance by Oguchi Onyewu, the midfielder let fly from more than 25 metres to leave Kasey Keller helpless as the ball swerved away from him into the top left corner.

MNA/Reuters

Eriksson optimistic for Rooney return on Thursday

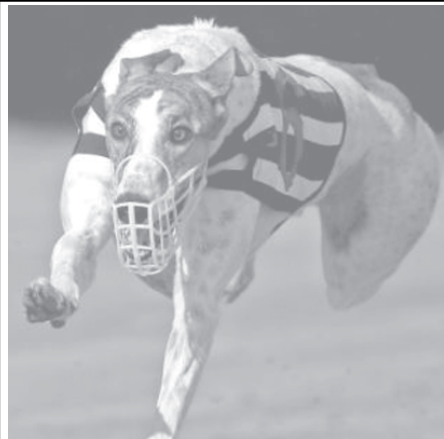
BADEN BADEN (Germany), 12 June— England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson said striker Wayne Rooney could be fit to return ahead of schedule against Trinidad & Tobago in World Cup Group B on Thursday.

Rooney, who teammate Rio Ferdinand said was desperate to come on as a substitute in Saturday's 1-0 win over Paraguay, has been recovering from a broken foot sustained on 29 April.

Asked whether the 20-year-old striker had a chance of playing some part on Thursday, Eriksson told reporters: "I'm very optimistic, always. I'm born like that."

It would be Rooney's World Cup debut.

Such a move would not be popular with Manchester United, who have made it clear they do not want a player who cost them nearly 30 million pounds (55.30 million US dollars) appearing before the second round on 24 or 25 June.—MNA/Reuters



A greyhound competes during the Greyhound World Championship in Rabapaton, 140 km (87 miles) west from Budapest, on 11 June, 2006. INTERNET

Aussies says referee apologized over disputed goal

KAISERSLAUTERN, 13 June— Australia's players said Egyptian referee Esam Abd El Fatah had apologized for allowing a disputed goal against them in their 3-1 over Japan in World Cup Group F on Monday.

Socceroos goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer said El Fatah had apologized for allowing Shunsuke Nakamura's goal to stand after Atsushi Yanagisawa collided with the Australian keeper and knocked him off balance as the ball sailed into the empty net.

The goal, which led to a furious protest from the Australians, gave Japan the early lead and the controversy threatened to overshadow the match until the Australians scored three times in a devastating late flurry. "At the end of the day the referee made a mistake but everybody makes mistakes and I think it was big of him to admit it and overall I think he refereed the game okay," Schwarzer told reporters.—MNA/Reuters

All vehicles to use bioethanol fuel in Japan by 2030

TOKYO, 13 June — All gasoline-powered vehicles in Japan will run on blend fuel that contains 10 per cent of environment-friendly bioethanol by 2030, *Asahi Shimbun* reported Tuesday, quoting Environment Ministry officials.

Bioethanol is a type of alcohol extracted from plants such as sugarcane and sweet corn. The carbon dioxide (CO2) emitted from burning bioethanol is regarded as a re-emission of CO2 that plants had absorbed while they were alive.

The ministry plans to introduce laws and regulations between 2008 to 2012 requiring all new vehicles to be compatible with a blend of 90-per-cent petrol and 10-per-cent bioethanol

(E10), it said.

Meanwhile, the ministry aims to have half of all fuel consumed by vehicles contain 3-per-cent bioethanol (E3). Under the Kyoto Protocol, Japan promises to cut CO2 emission by 6 per cent from the 1990 level between 2008 and 2012.

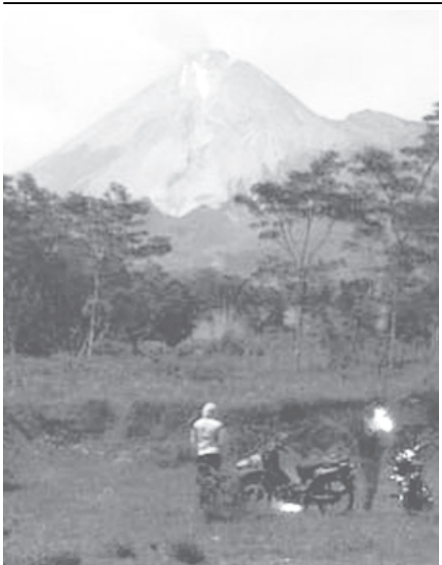
E10 fuel will be available on the Japanese market starting from 2020. By 2030, all vehicles in Japan should be using E10 fuel,

according to the plan.

By estimation, the overall shift to E10 gasoline will reduce Japan's carbon dioxide emission by about 10 million tons. The amount of bioethanol used by 2030 is equivalent to 2.2 million kilolitres of crude oil, it said.

New cars currently on sale in Japan can use E3 gasoline, though the fuel is not generally available on market.

MNA/Xinhua



Villagers watch hot lava flows from the Mount Merapi volcano as seen from Deles village in the Indonesian district of Klaten in central Java, on 12 June, 2006. Indonesia's Mount Merapi could be downgraded from its top alert status soon as the volcano has spewed less hot gas and molten lava in recent days, an expert said on Monday.—INTERNET

Malaysia's first kidney recipient dies after cat bite

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 June—Malaysia's first transplanted kidney recipient has died of a kidney-related problem after being bitten by a stray cat, a local newspaper reported on Monday.

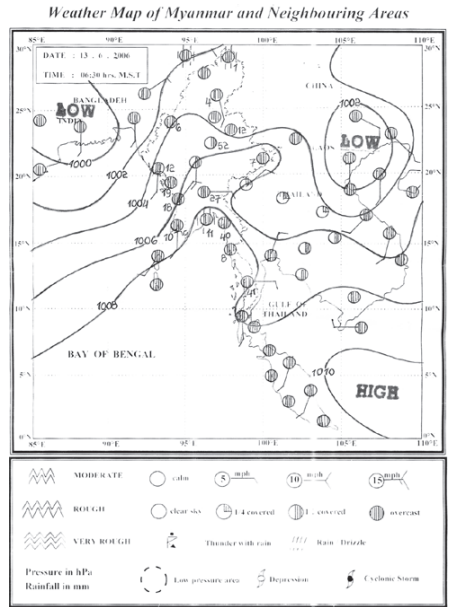
Martin Rinyeb, who was also the country's longest-surviving kidney transplant patient, died on 25 March of complications from a bite by a stray cat after living 31 years with a kidney from his younger brother, the *New Straits Times* said.

Martin Rinyeb, a native in Malaysia's eastern

state of Sarawak, received a donor kidney from his younger brother in Hospital Kuala Lumpur on 15 December, 1975, when urologist Hussein Awang made Malaysian medical history with the transplant operation.

The newspaper said that more than 1,000 kidney transplants have been carried out since then in Malaysia.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 13 June, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Magway Division, fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan, Chin States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, isolated heavyfall in Yangon Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were TadaU (3.86) inches, Kayan (3.82) inches, Sagaing (3.34) inches, Kyaukse (3.15) inches, Shwebo (2.87) inches, Monywa (2.32) inches, Mandalay (2.04) inches and Taungdwingyi (1.10) inches. Maximum temperature on 12-6-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 13-6-2006 was 69°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 13-6-2006 was (100%). Total sunshine hours on 12-6-2006 was nil.

Rainfalls on 13-6-2006 were (1.14) inches at Mingaladon, (0.67) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.63) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (20.67) inches at Mingaladon, (28.23) inches at Kaba-Aye and (31.14) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (16) mph from Southwest at (13:40) hours MST on 12-6-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 14-6-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Shan State, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin, Chin States and upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Chin State and upper Sagaing Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar Water.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate to strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 14-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 14-6-2006: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 14-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Wednesday, 14 June
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Nice boy...Gun & Roses
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Starship...Sara Slogan
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Shake rattle & roll...Bertie Higgins
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Oh girl...Paul Young
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music -Reach...Gloria Estegen
- 9:00pm Variations on a tune -Up Town Girl
- 9:15pm Article
- 9:25pm Music at your request -Everything my heart desires... Mandy Moore
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 14 June
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော် သီသမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်၊ တိပိဋကဓရဗျူဟာအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်၊ သာသနာ့ရေးရာဇဝန်၊ ဝိဇ္ဇာသင်တန်းတော်၊ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:15 am
- 2. တိပိဋကဓရ ဗျူဟာအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ တက္ကသိုလ်တော်၊ သီ ဝိ သ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော် မူအပီသော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိ ပါဠိတော်
- 7:25 am
- 3. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 4. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 5. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
- 6. အတိုးမြှင့်ပွဲ

- 8:00 am
- 7. မြို့မြို့ကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:10 am
- 8. အရေးမြှင့်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
- 9. သံလွင်တံတား (တေးဂီတ)
- 8:30 am
- 10. International news
- 8:45 am
- 11. Let's Go
- 4:00 pm
- 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
- 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
- 3. Musical programme
- 4:45 pm
- 4. အခင်းတင်တင်သို့လို့ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)
- 5:00 pm
- 5. Song of national races
- 5:15 pm
- 6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:30 pm
- 7. "သုဇယျရင်းမရှိတဲ့ဥပဒေ" (မင်းဝေ၊ ခင်စာမြည်ကျော်၊ ဧကရီကျော်ကျော်)
- 8:00 pm
- 8. အတိုးမြှင့်ပွဲ
- 8:15 pm
- 9. ရွှေယံရောင်အာဆီယံအစီအစဉ်
- 6:00 pm
- 10. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
- 11. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
- 12. သုတစုံစင် ရွှေညွှန်ရှင်
- 7:05 pm
- 13. ကြားမြင်သံပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပေဒေသာ
- 7:15 pm
- 14. "စက်မှုပစ္စည်း တိုင်းပြည်အကျိုး" (မြို့ရေးဦး၊ မိုးဒီး၊ စောနိုင် (ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား)၊ သခင်၊ နှင်းမီး၊ ခင်မိုးမိုးအေး) ဒါ ရိုက်တာ (တင်အောင်ရွှေ-သုတေသီ)
- 7:35 pm
- 15. ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုအလင်းရောင်ဝပြာ မန္တလေးတိုင်း ရွာသစ်ကျေးရွာ
- 8:00 pm
- 16. News
- 17. International news
- 18. Weather report
- 19. "ကြီးတစ်တူရိယာတို့၏ တေးအဖွဲ့အဖွဲ့များ" (ရိုက်ကလေးတင်အောင် မီစဉ် တင်အောင်ညွှန်)
- 20. The next day's programme

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Cooperation and coordination reaching down to grassroots will lead to successful implementation of projects



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meeting with departmental officials at Sittway. — MNA

YANGON, 13 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence met with Rakhine State level officials in Sittway on 11 June and discussed regional development.

He said that the government has been laying down and implementing plans to develop and modern-

ize the whole nation, leaving no stone unturned. In accord with the Head of State's guidance, it has built a network of roads and bridges in Rakhine State whose transport in the past was poor. Only Ayeyawady Division has witnessed the emergence of a greater number of bridges than Rakhine State where 34 over 180-foot long bridges have been commissioned into

service. The state is making arrangements to put 1.2 million acres of land under monsoon paddy this year, which is 100,000 acres more than the previous year's sown acreage of 1.1 million acres. Land reclamation and sown acreage expansion is required to realize the goal.

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**Seeking its self-interest, NLD walked out of National Convention, committed destructive acts that harm interests of the State and the people in league with some foreign countries, underground and aboveground elements
Wish to serve interest of the people and play active part in successful implementation of Road Map**

Members of Mansi Township NLD resign

YANGON, 13 June — Seven executives of Mansi Township National League for Democracy in Bhamo District, Kachin State, resigned from the party of own volition after sending signed letters of resignation to the NLD headquarters and the respective authorities.

They collectively presented the letters of resignation to Mansi Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-Commission on 13 May. Chairman of Mansi Township NLD U Laban La chaired the ceremony to present the letters, and secretary U La Wom acted as master of ceremonies. Members of Township MPGES, departmental personnel and local authorities were also present.

Joint secretary of Mansi Township NLD U Phaw Gantlaren, on behalf of the seven, said that they lost interest in the party and abhorred the NLD leaders who are concentrating their efforts on nation destruction for the party's interest and grabbing power with-

out taking into account anyone's interest. On the other hand they have witnessed the harmonious efforts the government and the entire national people are making overtime for national development. They quit the NLD as they have become interested only in the national politics while losing confidence in the party politics. They joined the NLD with the sole aim of serving clean politics. First the NLD took part in the National Convention together with all the national races for emergence of a constitution, the lifeblood of the nation, for the national cause. The NLD put aside the national cause just for self-interest while ignoring the national interest when its demands for its own benefit were not met.

The government invited NLD to take part in the National Convention after it had globally publicized the seven-point Road Map to build a peaceful,

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INSIDE

Rubber grows in uneven lands, ravines and hillsides. In the past, rubber was grown only in Taninthayi Division and Mon State. Now success has been achieved in growing rubber in such border areas as Myitkyina region in Kachin State, Kokang, Hopang, Lashio and Kyaukse regions in Shan State (North), Kengtung, Mongla and Tachilek regions in Shan State (East), Rakhine State, and Sagaing Division.

KYI MYAT (MYANMA PERENNIAL CROPS ENTERPRISE)
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South Korea	2
Togo	1
France	0
Switzerland	0