

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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7th Waning of Nayon 1368 ME

Saturday, 17 June, 2006

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

Prime Minister receives outgoing Russian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June — Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win received Ambassador of Russia to Myanmar Mr Oleg V Kabanov who had completed his tour of duty in Myanmar.

Also present at the call at Paunglaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister U Maung Myint, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office Col Thant Shin, and Director-General of the Protocol Department U Kyaw Kyaw. —MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win receives outgoing Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V Kabanov at Paunglaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw. — MNA

Union of Myanmar

State Peace and Development Council
(Order No 11/2006)
6th Waning of Nayon, 1368 ME
(16th June 2006)

Permission granted for retirement

The State Peace and Development Council has permitted Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Khin Maung Win to retire with effect from today.

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Union of Myanmar

State Peace and Development Council
(Order No 12/2006)
6th Waning of Nayon, 1368 ME
(16th June 2006)

Permission granted for retirement

The State Peace and Development Council has permitted the following deputy ministers to retire with effect from today.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| (1) U Thein Sein | Ministry of Information |
| (2) Brig-Gen AungThein | Ministry of Information |
| (3) U Myint Thein | Ministry of Mines |
| (4) Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung | Ministry of Culture |
| (5) Brig-Gen Than Tun | Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs |
| (6) Brig-Gen Thein Tun | Ministry of Industry-1 |
| (7) U Pe Than | Ministry of Transport |

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Union of Myanmar

State Peace and Development Council
(Order No 13/2006)
6th Waning of Nayon, 1368 ME
(16th June 2006)

Permission granted for retirement

The State Peace and Development Council has permitted Supreme Court Justice U Khin Maung Aye to retire with effect from today.

By Order,
Sd/ Thein Sein
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Weather Forecast for (17-6-2006)

Nay Pyi Taw & neighbouring areas
Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers.
Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather Forecast for (17-6-2006)

Yangon & neighbouring areas
One or two rain or thundershowers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 17 June, 2006

Transport facilities — prospects for national development

Smooth transport is the most fundamental factor for the development and swift commodity flow of a region.

Thanks to the emergence of the Twantay Bridge inaugurated on 25 May, Yangon is easily accessible from Dedaye, Pyapon and Bogale townships in Ayeyawady Division via Twantay and Kungyangon by passing the Dedaye Bridge.

In addition, it links with Maubin-Hlinethaya-Yangon No 5 Union Highway, the first gateway to Ayeyawady Division.

The transport link adds considerable comfort and convenience to the commodity flow and the transport sector between the townships in Ayeyawady Division as well as between Ayeyawady Division and Yangon Division.

The Twantay Bridge across the Twantay Canal in Twantay Township in Yangon South District is 840 feet long and is of steel suspension type. It has a 28-foot-wide motor way on it. Its clearance area is 45 feet high and 700 feet wide. It can withstand a load of 60 tons.

So far, Yangon Division has witnessed 26 large bridges including the Twantay Bridge. Thanlyin Bridge (2) over the Bago River, Ngamoyeik bridge (Kamakyi) over the Ngamoyeik Creek and Kayan Bridge over the Kayan Creek are under constructions.

To this date, the government has made a huge investment of funds, manpower, heavy machinery and technologies in the road and bridge projects to increase the number of the over-180-foot bridges throughout the nation to 215.

Roads and bridges can enhance the strength of the nation. The bridges across the nation are raising the socio-economic life of the people and bringing prospects for sustainable development of the nation.



The 8th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting (21-6-2006)



The 2nd ASEAN+3 Health Ministers Meeting (22-6-2006)

The 1st ASEAN+China Health Ministers Meeting (23-6-2006)

Oppose Those Relying on External Elements

- * 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

Special Meeting of SPSU Administration Central Committee held



Thayet Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara gives Ovadakatha at the special meeting of State Pariyatti Sasana Universities Administrative Central Committee. — MNA

YANGON, 16 June — The State Pariyatti Sasana Universities Administrative Central Committee held the Special Meeting at the office of the Rector of SPSU (Yangon) this afternoon.

It was attended by Chairman of the Central Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Agga Maha Kammathanaçariya Thayet Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara, Vice-Chairman-1 Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Dwipitakadhara Dwipitaka Kovida Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta

Jagarabhivamsa and member Sayadaws, Secretary of the Central Committee Director-General Dr Myo Myint of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana and members.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kesara delivered an Ovadakatha.

On behalf of the Minister for Religious Affairs, Director-General Dr Myo Myint supplicated on submission on resignation of the Rector Sayadaw of SPSU (Yangon), selection and appointment of the Rector at the vacant post, transfer of the Rector from SPSU (Mandalay) to SPSU (Yangon) and duties to be assigned to the Sayadaw as a members of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities Administrative Central Committee.

Later, members of the Sangha and members of the Central Committee took part in the discussions. — MNA

Cash donated for construction of extended ward



Shwe Pyi Hein Monastery Sayadaw Ashin Khemasirilankara presents certificate of honour to Goldsmith U Hton and family who donated K 500,000 for extended construction of the ward at Shwe Pyi Hein Free Hospital in Yankin Township. — MNA

YANGON, 16 June — To mark his 84th birthday, goldsmith U Hton and family of U Hton's Goldsmith of No 528, Maha Bandoola Street (between 27th and 28th Streets) in Pabedan Township donated K 500,000 for the construction of an extended ward of Shwe Pyi Hein free Hospital in Yankin Township yesterday. Shwe Pyi Hein Monastery Sayadaw Ashin Khemasirilankara presented a certificate of honour to U Hton.

U Hton also donated K 100,000 each for Jivita Dana Sangha Hospital, Mental Health Hospital, Orphanage for development of national races, Kyimyindine School for the Blind of Social Welfare Department, Little Sisters for the Poor (Theinbyu) and Mary Chapman School for Deaf. To mark his birthday, U Hton donated K 1.1 million.

MNA

17th Plenary Meeting of Fifth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 2, 3 July

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June — The 17th Plenary Meeting of Fifth 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee will be held on 2 and 3 July (8th and 9th Waxing of Waso, 1368 ME).

Invitations have been sent to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws and they are requested to arrive at Maha Nayaka Monastery on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon on 4th Waxing of Waso 1368 ME, 28 June 2006.

The Sayadaws who do not receive the invitations in time are requested to arrive on above mentioned date, it is learnt.

MNA

Notice to Mariner's announced

YANGON, 16 June — The PTTEPI Company in cooperation with Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise will carry out oil exploration tasks at Block No M-9 in offshore Mottama from 21 June 2006 to 31 March 2007.

A Notice to Mariner's has been announced that no vessels large and small are allowed to pass and lay anchor in the above-mentioned areas so that any delays may not be faced during the survey work. —MNA

Hu Jintao vows to enhance anti-terrorism work with SCO members

SHANGHAI, 15 June — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Wednesday vowed to strengthen coordination and support for the work of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure (RATS).

Hu made the remarks while meeting with his Uzbek counterpart Islam Karimov, who arrived in the Chinese economic hub Wednesday to attend the SCO summit scheduled on Thursday.

To fight the 'three evil forces' including the 'East Turkistan' force and safeguard security and stability in the region is in the common interests of China and Uzbekistan, as well as all the other countries there," he said.

He said Uzbekistan, as the host of RATS, made important contribution to the successful start of RATS and to the sound role played by it.

RATS, headquartered in Uzbek capital Tashkent, was opened in June 2004 with a mission to step up coordination between SCO member states and other international bodies in combating the "three evil forces" of terrorism, separatism and extremism.

Hu hailed China-Uzbek relationship, saying it features political support, deepening cooperation and close coordination, and it contributes to regional and global peace and stability.

Karimov said that Uzbekistan is satisfied with the booming cooperation with China in all fields, saying that Uzbek people have received support and help from China on hard occasions.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors watch a replica of a bronze carriage dated from China's Qin Dynasty (221-206 BC) at the State Museum of Russian History in Moscow on 14 June, 2006. —INTERNET

European, Arab countries see US troops more threatening than Iran

WASHINGTON, 15 June — The people of a number of European and Islamic countries see the US military presence in Iraq more threatening to the Mideast than Iran, according to a recent survey.

The survey results released here on Tuesday by Pew Research Centre for the People & the Press, show citizens of Britain, France, Germany, Spain and Russia regard the US presence in Iraq as a worse

problem than Iran.

Views on US troops in Iraq are more negative in countries of the Islamic world such as Indonesia, Egypt, Jordan, Turkey and Pakistan.

Even in Britain, the key

US ally in Iraq, 41 per cent of the poll respondents say the US military presence in Iraq poses a threat to world peace while only 34 per cent believe that Iran is a danger.

The majority of the people in the countries surveyed say the Iraq war has made the world more dangerous.

The survey also found overall support for the US-led war on terrorism has declined in these countries, even among close US allies.

The poll was conducted in April and May. —MNA/Xinhua



The cable-stayed bridge over the Aiyi River in Yinchuan, capital city of Ningxia Hui autonomous region completed safety tests recently. Being the widest single amplitude cable-stayed bridge in the world, it is 206 metres long, 60 metres wide and 8.8 metres high.—INTERNET

“Baa, Baa Black Sheep” blacklisted by Indian state

NEW DELHI, 15 June — An Indian state has removed nursery rhymes such as "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" and "Baa, Baa Black Sheep" from its primary

school syllabus because they are "too Western", newspapers said on Wednesday. The government in the central state of Madhya Pradesh, run by

the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, dropped the rhymes, immensely popular with millions of Indian children, from its Class I syllabus taught to five-year-olds.

"We want our children to have value education in local colour," the *Hindustan Times* quoted Narottam Mishra, the state's school education minister as saying. Children will now learn English-language rhymes written by Indian poets, papers said.

MNA/Reuters



Doctors are performing an operation to separate the conjoined twin girls at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles on 14 June, 2006.—INTERNET



A model presents creations of NE. Tiger at the opening ceremony of Asian Fashion Federation, on 12 June, 2006 in Beijing. More than 300 artists, designers from Asian countries will have in-depth exchange on such topics as fashion, development of urban economy and culture.—INTERNET

Ash rain falls around Mount Merapi

JAKARTA, 15 June — An ash rain fell around Mount Merapi on Wednesday afternoon, following the emission of heat clouds by the mountain for half an hour since 3:05 pm.

The clouds drifted southward over a distance of seven kilometres.

Almost all areas on the slopes of the mountain were covered by the ashes which reduced visibility to only around one metre, *Antara* news agency reported. The volcano's status was raised again on Wednesday to the highest alert level following a resurgence in its activity. The status was just lowered to middle level on Tuesday.

MNA/Xinhua

US death toll in Iraq hits 2,500

LONDON, 15 June—The number of US troops killed in Iraq has reached 2,500 with the death of a marine, the Pentagon has announced.

It did not identify the 2,500th casualty, in line with US policy not to release details until 24 hours after the family has been informed.

A Pentagon statement said 1,972 of those who died were killed in action.

The campaign group Iraq Body Count estimates that the number of civilians killed since the outset of the conflict ranges between 38,355 and 42,747.

It makes its calculation on the basis of media reports, and believes it to be a conservative estimate.

Other reports put the number of civilian casualties much higher.

Thousands of Iraqi security forces, military personnel from other countries, and Iraqi and foreign guerillas have also died. —Internet



A shop assistant shows an apple-shaped television in a shopping centre in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 14 June, 2006.

INTERNET

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China-ASEAN trade increases by 20% during past 15 years

NANNING, 15 JUNE— The bilateral trade volume between China and the ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) members increased at an annual rate of 20 per cent during the past 15 years, according to a source with the ongoing summit meeting

of the third China-ASEAN exposition.

Wu Zhengping, vice-director of the Asian department of the Ministry of Commerce, said China and ASEAN members made great achievements in economic cooperation during the past 15 years, which is proved by the rapidly growing bilateral trade volume.

In 2005, trade value between China and ASEAN member countries reached 130.3

billion US dollars, increasing 23 per cent on a year-on-year basis.

From January to April in 2006, the bilateral trade volume amounted to 47 billion US dollars, growing 22 per cent, said the official. ASEAN has become China's fourth largest trade partner after the United States, European Union and Japan last year. At the same time, China is also the fourth largest trade partner of ASEAN.

MNA/Xinhua

US Senate rebuffs Bush on war budgeting

WASHINGTON, 15 June — The US Senate voted unanimously on Wednesday to force President George W Bush to submit a budget for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars instead of financing them in emergency bills that are pushed through Congress with minimal scrutiny.

As Congress prepared to pass an emergency bill with 65.8 billion US dollars the Pentagon urgently wanted for the wars, the Senate voted 98-0 to end the practice and make the administration lay out the wars' expected costs in its annual budget submitted to Congress in February.

The vote came on an amendment to legislation spelling out defence policies for next year that is expected to trigger a broader debate on Iraq. Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts said he would push an amendment calling for the withdrawal of US troops by the end of this year, while other Democrats are considering measures calling for a phased withdrawal.

Including the latest emergency bill, the wars' cost will reach 420 billion

US dollars, said Senator John McCain, an Arizona Republican who sponsored the amendment. "We're adding hundreds of billions to conveniently named emergency

expenditures" that do not have to be accounted for in the budget, he said. The amendment would only apply to war spending and would allow additional emergency Pentagon spending with justifi-

fication. The House of Representatives passed its version of the defence authorization bill in May without a similar measure to end the war supplementals.

MNA/Reuters



Merey, a one-week-old zebra foal, stands next to her mother Kivi in Almaty Zoo on 15 June, 2006. Merey, translated from Kazakh as 'Long wished for,' is the first zebra born in Almaty's zoo in 69 years.

INTERNET

Iraqi prisoners walk past a US soldiers inside the Abu Ghraib prison compound, shortly before they are released, as another batch of 200 prisoners were freed under a national reconciliation plan announced by Iraq's Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki last week to free a total of 2,500 inmates, in Baghdad, on 15 June, 2006.—INTERNET



Brazilian model Izabel Goulart poses for photographers during a promotional event for Victoria's Secret in New York, on 15 June, 2006.—INTERNET

Elephants drive hundreds of Bangladeshis onto boats

RANGAMATI, 15 June—Hundreds of villagers have taken refuge on boats in Bangladesh after their homes were destroyed by a herd of rampaging elephants, local officials said on Wednesday.

The elephants repeatedly raided their village at Barkal on the fringe of a forest in southeastern Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts, pulling down houses and plundering crops.

Attempts to scare the beasts away by setting fires, blowing trumpets and setting off crackers failed.

"They come back almost every night and romp through human habitation, forcing many to flee," one forest official said. Terrified, some 300 villagers — including children — took refuge on boats in the sprawling Rangamati Lake, coming ashore only in daylight hours for food and other provisions.

"These people are farmers and loggers. Now they have no work or money," one Barkal official told reporters.— MNA/Reuters



Wonderful Life tops US film list

LONDON, 15 June—Frank Capra's classic film It's a Wonderful Life has topped a list of the 100 most inspirational films compiled by the American Film Institute (AFI). The 1946 movie starred James Stewart as George Bailey, a man on the brink of suicide who turns his life around after a visit from an angel. To Kill A Mockingbird was second, followed by Schindler's List, Rocky and Mr Smith Goes to Washington. ET the Extra Terrestrial and Saving Private Ryan also made the top 10.

Ballots were sent to 1,500 film-makers, actors, critics and other movie professionals in Hollywood, who had to choose from 300 nominated US films.

Stephen Spielberg had five films in the top 100 with The Color Purple (51) and Close Encounters of the Third Kind (58) joining Schindler's List, ET and Saving Private Ryan. Sidney Poitier and Gary Cooper each appeared in five films on the list.

The oldest entry was Charlie Chaplin's 1931 silent film City Lights at number 33. The newest were both from 2004 - Hotel Rwanda (90) and Ray (99).

Internet

Indian shares stage record rise

LONDON, 15 June—Indian share prices surged on Thursday to close 6.9% higher, marking their highest ever single-day rise.

Bargain-hunting traders and foreign investors bought shares after three days of heavy losses on the market, regaining some of the lost ground.

Dealers said that the strongest gains came among motor manufacturers and producers of consumer goods. The Bombay Stock Exchange's benchmark exchange, the 30-share Sensex index rose 615.62 points to 9,545.06. Overseas money had helped the market's momentum, said Vijay Tilakraj, senior dealer with brokerage Prabhudas Lilladher.

"This was completely unexpected, but a welcome relief after the carnage," he added.

Motorbike and scooter maker Bajaj Auto and cement manufacturer Grasim led the way, both gaining 14%. Indian shares have fallen sharply since 10 May, when the benchmark index reached a record high of 12,612 points. The markets have been volatile, having surged last Friday by 5.5%, only to lose ground again on Monday, Tuesday and then Wednesday, when it closed below the 9,000-point mark. —INTERNET



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez holds a new Russian Kalashnikov assault rifle AK-103 during a special ceremony at the current Expo Ejercito (Expo Army) 2006 exhibition in Caracas, on 14 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Most Chinese people satisfied with national conditions

WASHINGTON, 15 June — Eighty-one per cent of China's population is satisfied with the way things are going in their country, an increase of nine percentage points from last year, a new poll about global attitudes and views released on Tuesday showed.

The annual survey, conducted by the Pew Research Center in 15 countries in April and May this year, found most samples of citizens from different countries surveyed were dissatisfied with their national conditions.

In the United States, for example, only 29 per cent of those surveyed said they were satisfied with the way things were going in their country, down from 39 per cent last year and 50 per cent in 2003.

In Britain, the level of national satisfaction fell from last year's 44 per cent to just 35 per cent this year, while in France, only 20 per cent said they were satisfied with their national conditions, down from 28 per cent in 2005.

Public discontent was even higher in Nigeria, where only 7 per cent of Nigerians had a positive view of the state of their nation.

In the 15 countries where the survey was conducted, apart from China, the only countries to show a majority expressing satisfaction with their national conditions were in Egypt (55 per cent), Jordan (53 per cent) and Spain (50 per cent), besides China.

The poll of some 17,000 people in 15 countries, including China, Egypt, France, Germany, Britain, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, Spain, Turkey and the United States, had a margin of error ranging from two to six percentage points. —MNA/Xinhua

British crime assets body admits falling behind

LONDON, 15 June — A government agency set up by Prime Minister Tony Blair to confiscate the assets of criminals acknowledged on Wednesday it was falling behind after figures showed it was recovering less money than it costs to run.

The Assets Recovery Agency blamed longer than expected legal procedures for the slow pace of receipts — just over 8 million pounds since starting operations in 2003 — compared to running costs of just under 20 million pounds a year. Conservative MP Grant Shapps, who obtained the figures in parliamentary

questions, blamed the agency's failings on the government's incorporation of human rights laws into British legislation.

He said the laws had

opened the door for the legal delays dogging the agency's attempts to recover nearly 70 million pounds of criminal assets subject to freezing orders. "Applying a freeze is one thing — selling off the proceeds of crime for the benefit of the public is quite another," said Shapps.

In the last year the agency contributed just 2.75 million pounds to the 83 million pounds of assets confiscated by police, Customs and other law enforcement bodies.

Jane Earl, director of the agency, told BBC radio it was taking longer than originally expected to get hold of the frozen funds.

"The time taken to get a case from being referred to us by a law enforcement agency to completion ... is longer than we had hoped for," she said.

MNA/Reuters



German sand artist Johannes Weckl works on a sculpture at the 'Sandsation 2006' international sand sculpture festival in Berlin on 15 June, 2006. The sculpture festival is opened to the public until 16 July, 2006. —INTERNET

Two foreign soldiers killed in Afghan clashes

KABUL, 15 June — Two foreign soldiers have been killed in the latest clashes in the most serious spell of violence in Afghanistan since the Taliban were overthrown in 2001, military officials said on Wednesday.

An American soldier was killed in the southern province of Helmand on Tuesday, said Major Quentin Innes, a spokesman for international forces in the Afghan south.

The US military said

another foreign soldier was killed in the eastern province of Kunar, also on Tuesday. The US military did not identify the nationality of the second soldier.

Nearly 40 foreign soldiers have been killed in combat in Afghanistan this year, nearly 30 of them Americans.

In total, more than 900 people have been killed in violence in Afghanistan this year, more than 400 in May.

MNA/Reuters

Thousands marooned, 12 killed in South Asia floods

GUWAHATI (India), 15 June — Nearly half a million people have been marooned by flooding in Bangladesh this week, while in neighbouring northeast India at least 10 people have been killed by overflowing rivers, landslides and lightning.

Officials on the Indian side said on Wednesday that thousands of people in the state of Assam had moved to higher ground as rivers, swollen by heavy monsoon rains, burst their banks and inundated more than 50 villages.

"We have asked flood control officials to strengthen embankments to prevent breaches and are constantly monitoring

the situation," said Assam Chief Secretary S Kabilan.

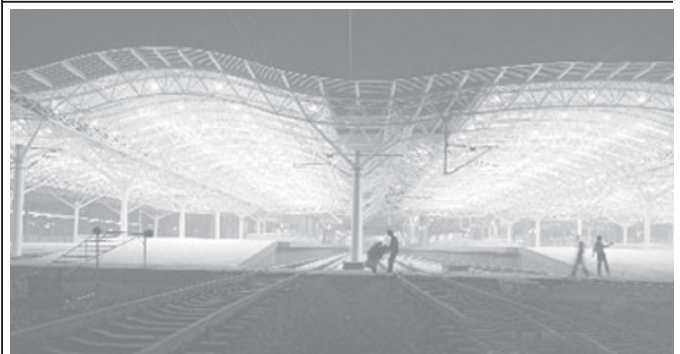
Police said deaths had been reported over the past two days from western Assam and the neighbouring state of Tripura.

In Bangladesh, officials said torrents had swept two people to death after the Matamuhuri River flooded several villages at Chokoria, 350

kilometres (220 miles) southeast of the capital, Dhaka.

Thousands of homes, miles of road and hundreds of acres of cropland were flooded in the northeastern region of Sylhet, where the banks of the Kushiara and Surma rivers were both flowing above their danger levels.

MNA/Reuters



A night view of the Shanghai South Railway Station, the first round-shaped railway station in the world. The station will be put into use on 1st July, 2006. —INTERNET

India to put UN man in race to succeed Annan

SINGAPORE, 15 June — India is set to nominate UN Under secretary-General Shashi Tharoor to succeed Kofi Annan when the UN

chief's second five-year term ends at the end of this year, Singapore's *Straits Times* newspaper reported on Thursday.

"An announcement

is imminent," the daily quoted a senior source in New Delhi as saying.

Tharoor, 50 this year, began his UN career in 1978 and

currently heads the UN's Department of Public Information.

Born in London, and educated in India and the United States, he is the author of several books.

China, which took the presidency of the UN Security Council in April, insists the next UN chief should come from Asia.

MNA/Xinhua



Stephanie Xiao might play a stripper in her next movie, which will be her first in 6 years. And she is desperate to be the Chinese Demi Moore this time around.—INTERNET

Italy starts withdrawing 1,000 troops from Iraq

ROME, 15 June — Around 1,000 Italian soldiers in Iraq started handing over their duty to comrades on Wednesday, in the first step toward a full withdrawal by the autumn, the ANSA news agency reported. The Sassari regiment is expected to return home by June 28, leaving the number of Italian troops in Iraq at around 1,600.

Italy sent 3,200 troops to the southern Iraqi city of Nassiriya in June 2003 to support the US-led invasion. The force was reduced to 2,900 in September 2005 and a further 300 troops were pulled out in January this year. Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi,

who narrowly beat Silvio Berlusconi in the April general election, has recently condemned the Iraq war as a "grave error" which created "new pretexts for terrorist actions". His centre-left government pledged to bring all troops home by autumn this year.

While affirming his commitment to close ties with Washington, the former European Commission boss has made it clear that Europe is now the anchor of Italy's foreign policy. In an open letter published on Wednesday by the *Wall Street Journal*, Italian Foreign Minister Massimo D'Alema echoed Prodi's remarks.

"The new government

in Rome is committed to building a stronger Euro-Atlantic community... The community I have in mind remains grounded in NATO but must also rely on a strong and united Europe," D'Alema said.

Addressing Italy's military pull-out from Iraq, D'Alema said that "the Prodi government will manage it in an orderly way, in consultation with the Iraqi Government and the coalition partners".

MNA/Xinhua

Survey shows Singapore's population growing older

SINGAPORE, 15 June — Singapore's population is growing older with residents aged 65 years and above accounting for 8.4 per cent of the population in 2005, up from 7.3 per cent in 2000, according to the latest results of General Household Survey.

Released by the Singapore Department of Statistics (SDS) Wednesday, the survey results showed that the ratio of residents aged 65 years and above to those aged 15 to 64 years was 12 per hundred in 2005, as compared with 10 per hundred five years ago.

The survey also found

that more Singaporeans chose to delay marriage and family formation while the average number of children born per ever-married resident female dropped slightly from 2.5 in 2000 to 2.4 in 2005. Singapore's resident labour force saw an annual expansion of 2 per cent from year 2000 to 2005, with growth rate for

females being higher than that for males, according to the survey.

The average number of working hours per week in Singapore rose from 47.9 in 2000 to 48.4 in 2005 while the proportion of resident working persons who worked 60 hours or more per week increased from 17 per cent to 19 per

cent during the same period.

The survey also offers information on the educational profile of Singapore residents, the predominant language at home in different ethnic groups and some characteristics of employment in the city state.

MNA/Xinhua



Weapons burn during a weapon destruction ceremony at a stadium in Kampong Thom, a province 168 km (104 miles) north of Phnom Penh, on 15 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Study shows taste for meat and fish inherited

LONDON, 15 June — Children inherit their taste for meat and fish but when it comes to vegetables and desserts it is more nurture than nature, according to a study on Wednesday.

Scientists who compared the food preferences of identical and fraternal twins found that some tastes are inherited while others are acquired. "This is the first study to include significant numbers of protein foods and the first to show a high heritability for these," said Professor Jane Wardle of the charity Cancer Research Britain.

Mothers of 103 pairs of four and five-year-old identical twins and 111 pairs of non-identical twins were given lists of 77 foods in different categories and told to rate how much their children liked them. Identical twins share all the same genes while fraternal twins share

only half, so comparing their food preferences highlights which tastes are inherited and which are influenced by environmental factors.

The scientists determined the heritability by looking at how similar the identical and fraternal twins' liking for foods were.

MNA/Reuters

Macedonia, Turkey to intensify economic cooperation

TIRANA, 15 June — Macedonian Prime Minister Vlado Buckovski and his Turkish counterpart Recep Taip Erdogan met in Skopje on Tuesday, promising to intensify economic cooperation between the two countries. Reports reaching here from Skopje said that both Prime Ministers agreed that there are no open issues between them and that the two countries are enjoying exceptional political relations.

But they also pointed out that economic cooperation is unsatisfactory. "Turkish investments in Macedonia amounts to about 100 million dollars, which is not much, taking into account the excellent relations," the Macedonian Prime Minister said. — MNA/Xinhua

Chinese aircraft manufacturer receives record export order

BEIJING, 15 June — Indonesia's second largest airline is to buy 15 of China's *Xinzhou 60* aircraft, the biggest export order of the short- and medium-range, 50-seater passenger aircraft to date. China Aviation Industry Corporation I (CVIC I), manufacturer of the aircraft, has agreed the deal with Merpati Nusantara Airlines of Indonesia, sources with CVIC I said on Tuesday.

Under the contract, the first aircraft should be delivered in September and the rest by the end of 2007, said Hu Wenming, deputy general manager of CVIC I.

The first overseas order for the *Xinzhou 60* came when Zimbabwe bought three of the aircraft last November, all of which were delivered by the end of last year. The company is currently processing overseas orders for 17 *Xinzhou 60s*. — MNA/Xinhua



Brides-to-be race in the annual Bridezilla competition in Times Square for a \$25,000 dream wedding in New York on 12 June, 2006. The event marked the third season for the WE television hit show "Bridezillas". —INTERNET

World Cup TV audience grows, but still lags '98

LONDON, 16 June — World Cup soccer TV audiences have reawakened from their slumber during the tournament four years ago in Korea and Japan, but with fewer games being shown on free TV, viewership is still down from 1998.

Through the first 11 matches of this year's World Cup in Germany, television audiences around the globe are up 21 per cent from 2002, according to data released on Wednesday by media buying firm Initiative, but are 10 per cent off the figures from the 1998 competition in France which provides a similar time-zone comparison.

"One of the most important reasons for the figures against the 1998 audience is that there is an increasing number of matches broadcast on cable and satellite rather than on free-to-air TV," said Kevin Alavy, the Initiative analyst compiling the global viewership figures.

This World Cup is the first to have games being shown on the Internet and on mobile phones, though the effect on TV viewership is still unknown. Britain's public broadcaster, the BBC, is broadcasting many of the matches for free over broadband, and Hutchison

Whampoa's 3 is streaming all 64 to its mobile customers in Italy, but neither would disclose audience figures.

The World Cup is typically the most-watched event in the world, with an audience of more than 5 billion expected over the month-long tournament this time.

Viewership figures suffered in 2002 because the matches were played in South Korea and Japan, meaning they were often shown live early in the morning in Europe and Latin America.

While time zones are not an important factor affecting TV audiences this year, the broadcasters that acquired the rights have been.

For example, in Portugal, the games shown on free-to-air channel SIC have been drawing an average audience of 1.6 million, Alavy said, while those shown on pay channel SportTV have had only about 13,000.

MNA/Reuters

India may launch international news channel

NEW DELHI, 16 June — India may launch an international news channel, sans Doordarshan, which will be modelled on the lines of BBC and CNN, a senior government official has said.

"We have had some initial discussions on the matter after the idea was raised by the industry," Information and Broadcasting Secretary S K Arora told PTI here.

According to informed sources, the proposal for the channel — Channel Asia — can cost the

government nothing less than a whopping 350 rupees crore, which among other things would be required for placing correspondents in various countries and setting up infrastructure.

Arora said the matter was in an "infancy stage" and nothing concrete has been worked out so far regarding the launch of the channel, which aims to project India "as it stands today" in the global context.

"The idea is to have an autonomous channel on the lines of BBC and CNN. If it goes ahead, it will have correspondents in all major cities of the world, including in Asia, Europe and North America," Arora said. —MNA/PTI



A zoo official feeding Jimmy, one-month-old baby chital, who was rescued from Palwal (Haryana) by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), and being brought to Zoological Park, Delhi Zoo in New Delhi, last month. —INTERNET

Singapore to impose restrictions on smoking at food outlets

SINGAPORE, 16 June — Smoking at food outlets in Singapore will be restricted to certain designated areas from 1 July this year, Channel NewsAsia report said on Thursday.

The new rules stipulate that a food outlet can designate 10 per cent of its sheltered seating capacity and 20 per cent of its open-air seating space as smoking corners.

While non-smokers welcome the implementation of such restrictions, food outlet owners expect a drop of up to 30 per cent in their businesses at the initial stage. They fear that there may not be enough space to accommodate their customers as most of them are retirees and smokers who usually hang out for a long time.

There is also concern that the move can hardly prevent second-hand smoke from blowing around to affect non-smokers, which is one of the main reasons for the action, said the report.

There are more than 7,000 food outlets including cafes, coffee shops and hawker centres throughout Singapore. About 2,000 of them have already marked smoking areas and another 200 have chosen to be smoke-free. Smokers who violate the rules will be fined 200 Singapore dollars (about 126 US dollars) while food outlet managers will be fined 200 Singapore dollars for first-time offence and 500 Singapore dollars (about 314 US dollars) for subsequent offences.

Singapore has banned smoking at bus shelters and interchanges, public pools and toilets, community clubs and open-air stadiums since October last year, and the ban will be extended to entertainment outlets such as pubs, clubs and karaoke lounges in July next year.

MNA/Xinhua

Pumping station accident kills 6 in Xinjiang

URUMQI, 16 June — Six workers died on Tuesday afternoon in a well of a pumping station in the city of Hami, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

According to local government sources, the workers belonged to the Yamansu mining company of Xinjiang Iron and Steel Group.

They were sent to solve the leaking problem in the well when the tragedy took place.

Two workers went down to the well to check the problem and failed to return for quite a long while. Then four others went down to save their colleagues, but they also died in the well.

Preliminary probes showed the workers might have died from carbon monoxide poisoning.

MNA/Xinhua

Honda motor recalls

1,441 "Odyssey" vehicles from China

BEIJING, 16 June — Japan's Honda Motor Co said it would recall 1,441 Odyssey vehicles with faulty ignition switch from China.

The company submitted the recall request to China's State Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection

and Quarantine on Monday, saying that the defective ignition switch could cause the engine to stop.

The 1,441 units of Odyssey vehicles subjected to the recall include one model produced between 8 November, 1995 and 24

September, 1996, and another model produced between 6 November, 1996 and 6 May, 1997.

The auto producer said the vehicles engine can suddenly stop because some of its parts can be damaged by heat if used repeatedly over time.

MNA/Xinhua

Five missing as Merapi's status raising to highest level

JAKARTA, 16 June — Five villagers living on Indonesia's Mount Merapi's southern slopes were reported missing and two others trapped in a bunker a few hours after the volcano's status raising again to the highest alert level on Wednesday.

"I have communicated with the two people trapped in the bunker," rescue worker Heri was quoted by the Antara news agency as saying. A volunteer was also reportedly injured, but it was still unclear whether he was a victim of heat cloud as he was still being treated by a team of medical workers, Heri said.

On Tuesday, the Volcanological and Geological Disaster Mitigation Centre in Bandung downgraded the volcano's status to the second-highest alert as the volcano calmed down for a few days.

But the Centre for Volcanological Research and Technology Development in Yogyakarta raised it again to the highest alert level at 03:00 pm (0700 GMT) on Wednesday after a stream of huge heat clouds belched from the volcano over a distance of six to seven kilometres from the crater in southerly direction towards the Gendol River.

MNA/Xinhua



Ash and volcanic material from nearby Mt Merapi cover a tourist spot in the village of Kaliadem near the Indonesian city of Yogyakarta on 15 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Wellwishers invited for missionary services in Bodh Gaya

YANGON, 16 June— Chairman of India Paradesi Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Naninda, who resides at Bodh Gaya Myanmar monastery in the Republic of India, has received a two-acre plot, next to the monastery, and is making arrangements for the comfort and convenience of pilgrims.

Wellwishers are invited to contribute towards the missionary services being implemented in the area where the Buddha attained enlightenment at the rate of K 2,000 a square foot. Those wishing to make donation may contact Dr Ashin Sunodara of Myanmar Bodh Gaya Monastery Street in Myenigon, Sangyoung, Yangon (next to Gamonebint

Supermarket, Aung-dawmu Street) Ph: 537597; Sayadaw U Pandavamsa (Mawlamyine) of Aungzabu Monastery, Mupon Ward, Mawlamyint (057-24299); U Soe Paing (Patheingyi) of 28, Mayancho Street, Patheingyi, Ayeayawady Division (042-24472); Sayadaw U Panāsami of Taunggalay Dhamma Yeisktha, Hlinebwe Street, Hpa-an, Kayin State; U Hla Myint (Pyundaza) of Thiri Yadana Jewellery Shop, Min Street, Pyundaza (052-40234, 052-40230); Daw Mya Mya Lay (Dipa Aye Mya Taik) of corner of 24/64, Maha Zayabon Ward, Mandalay (02-34485, 02-39388); Sayadaw U Nandiya (Shwedaung) of Tilawkeyon Monastery, Shwedaung, Bago Division (053-24222); U Soe Win (Taunggyi) of J

22, Naychi Lin Cosmetics Shop, Myoma Market (near clock tower), Taunggyi, Shan State (09-5212853, 081-24201 (183); U Maung Maung Tar-Daw Aye Aye Win (Magway), Taw Betel Nut Shop, Myoma Market, Magway (053-23557, 23558); U Hla Myint-Daw Kyi Aye of Hong Kong Thu Restaurant & Guest House, in front of Khittaya Hall, Bogyoke Street, Pyay (053-26058, 22483); Sayadaw U Zotika (Mawgyun), Punnya Wuddana Monastery, Maubin Street, Myoma 11 Ward, Mawlamyinegyun; U Thein Lwin-Daw Khin May Than (Lashio) of Nya/7, Ward 10, Yan Aung Myin Wuddana Street, Lashio (082-22980).

MNA



Prime Minister General Soe Win shakes hands with outgoing Russian Ambassador Mr Oleg V Kabanov. (News on page 1) — MNA

Auditor-General's Office meets

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June — The Auditor-General's Office held its coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the office here this morning, attended by Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thin Thin, Director-General U Myo Myint, Deputy Director-General (Admin) Daw Than Than Aye and directors, deputy directors, state/division auditors and others.

Dealing with discussions, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung stressed the need for auditors to inspect measures taken at departments and enterprises in addition to auditing tasks and to expose and report whether they abide by law, rules and regulations and directions.



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung presents prize to an outstanding staff. — MNA

Next, the auditor-general presented cash awards to outstanding service personnel.

After that, the deputy auditor-general presented stipend for 2006-2007 academic year to offspring of the Auditor-General's Office.

Later, the state/

division auditors reported on their significant findings, actions already taken by the respective bodies, strength of the staff and work progress.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the Auditor-General.

MNA

Secure and Smooth Transport Supervisory Committee meets

YANGON, 16 June — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win, who is also Chairman of Yangon Division Secure and Smooth Transport Supervisory Committee, called for full operations of bus lines in the city including ferry buses for

students and enforcement of traffic rules and regulations such as driving vehicles at a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour at a work coordination meeting of Yangon Division SSTS held at Yangon Command Headquarters here this evening.

Rectors, pro-rectors and officials of universities and colleges in the division,

members of the committee, departmental officials and chairmen of bus lines reported to the commander on matters related to ferrying students, road safety measures and progress in conversion of cars with diesel and petrol engines into CNG ones. In response to the reports, the commander gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Wellwishers donate cash to MWJA

YANGON, 16 JUNE — As a gesture of hailing the 4th Conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Mandalay City Development Committee donated cash to MWJA today through CEC

Member of MWJA Dr Maung Maung (Maung Hsin Gyi).

MCDC contributed K 300,000 to the fund of MWJA and K 200,000 to the fund for publishing "Mandalay Literary Journey No 3".

Similarly, Writers U Khin Hlaing (Chit Moe Nyo), Maung Hnin Swe and Shwebo Barmahiti

Khin Aung and Latha Township WJA donated cash and books on general knowledge through Vice Chairman of MWJA U Than Maung (Than Maung) and responsible personnel.

Those wishing to donate MWJA may contact Sarpay Beikman, No 529, Merchant Street, Ph 252417, 254173. — MNA

Course opens to produce coordinators



Dr Hla Myint speaks at the opening of instructor course to produce grassroots-level coordinators. — MNA

YANGON, 16 June — Conducted by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, the instructor course No 2/2006 to produce grassroots-level coordinators from among the Maternal and Child Welfare Association members was opened at Yangon Division Health Department in Bahan Township here this morning.

Secretary of Yangon Division MCWSC Dr Hla Myint made a speech. And Dr Nwe Ni Ohn, Joint-Secretary elaborated the course.

MNA



Family of U Khin Hlaing (Chit Moe Nyo) donates books worth K 200,000 to MWJA.

MNA

Pwintbyu Township's Mone...

(from page 16)
 along with Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe, Lt-Gen Ye Myint also inspected the construction of Kyeoohn-Kyeewa Dam project being constructed in Pwintbyu Township.

The multi-purpose dam is 164 feet high

and 3,280 feet long and has a storage capacity of 463,000 acre feet. Upon completion, the dam is expected to produce 330 million kilowatts of electricity per year using its water and to irrigate over 96,777 acres of land.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint visited the physic nut plantation of Minbu Township Peace and Development Council and Minbu District Forestry Department.



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects construction of Mone Creek Bridge in Pwintbyu Township. — MNA

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected the 30-ton oil mill

of the Magway Division's cooperative syndicate. Before he started

his tour of inspection, Lt-Gen Ye Myint visited Mann Shwesattaw Pagoda

in Minbu in the morning of 14 June and made cash donations. — MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than calls...

(from page 16)
 In his address in meeting with departmental officials, social organizations and townsenders in Maungtaw on 12 June, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than also called for land reclamation for double cropping and for a high yield cultivation using four cultivation methods in the region.

As the cultivation of rubber is cost-effective and can create job opportunities, residents should cultivate rubber on commercial scale, he said in his remarks.

He continued to say that in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, each state and division sets a target of 500,000 acres of physic nut to produce bio-diesel and Maungtaw Township's extended cultivation of the plant will contribute the region's target to meet with



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

success.

Regarding the livestock breeding sector, he urged officials to seek ways for boosting the prawn production in Rakhine State.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Maung Shein and Maj-Gen Aung Thein of the Ministry of Defence.

After the meeting,

Lt-Gen Khing Maung Than and party visited Myoma Monastery in Maungtaw and paid homage to Maha Kyan Buddha Image.

Afterwards, they participated in the collective cultivation of physic nut plants at Shwenyaye Village in the township.

During the inspection tour, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party also inspected 150 acres of rubber in upland in Nyaungchaung Village-

tract. They also met with residents in Shwe Yin Aye Model Village in Maungtaw Township and distributed warm clothes, blankets, clothes and sports gear to residents.

In meeting with government officials in Maungtaw, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than urged them to carry out regional development tasks joining hands with local people and to do farming on manageable scale to generate more income. — MNA

Yangon Command separk takraw begins

YANGON, 16 June—Yangon Command opened its separk takraw championship for 2006 at Hline Gymnasium here this morning.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win gave a speech at the opening ceremony.

Among the spectators were Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai.

Twenty-three teams are taking part in the Commander's trophy matches which continue till 22 June. — MNA

Roads repaved, renovated in Tamwe, Thingangyun, South Okkalapa, Mayangon Townships

YANGON, 16 June—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, accompanied by Joint-Secretary U Aung Than Win, this morning inspected works being carried out by the Engineering Department of YCDC for proper drainage, renovation of roads, tarring of roads and gave necessary instructions.

At 6.30 am, the mayor and party arrived at Laydauntkan road in Tamwelay Ward, Tamway Township where they looked into renovation of the roads and works being carried out for proper drainage, upgrading of Thanthuma road between Sanpya ward and Ngamoyeik ward, tarring of Thumngalar road in South Okkalapa Township, works for proper flow of Kyaikkasan Creek and paving of Mindhamma road between Parami road and Kyaikwaing Pagoda road in Mayangon Township.

Next, the mayor gave instructions on timely completion of the works, worksite safety and emphasized the need for officials at different levels to make close supervision.—MNA

SWRR Minister visits training schools

YANGON, 16 June — Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe visited the social welfare training school in Mayangon Township here this afternoon.

Accompanied by officials, he heard a report on background history of the school and academic matters, presented by Principal Daw Htwe Myint and Deputy Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Aung Tun Khaing.

During his inspection of the school for disabled adults, the minister was briefed by

officials on organizational set-up and subjects taught at the school. The minister inspected the computer,

printing, hair dressing, tailoring, photography and radio electronic courses at the two schools.

He presented four wheelchairs and cloths to the trainees.

MNA



Minister for SWRR Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe donates a wheelchair and clothes to a disabled person of Adults School for the Disabled. — SWD

Departmental personnel...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win gave instructions on renovation tasks to be carried out at the runway.

They attended the ceremony to begin the work of harrowing and cultivate paddy on 100 acres of high yield Hsinshweli plantation in Meinlon Village of Muse Township. Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win awarded

and departmental officials presented prizes to local farmers for their outstanding performance in production of paddy.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win delivered an address. He said that due to concerted efforts of local authorities, departmental personnel and local farmers, and systematic cultivation, progress could be made in the

development of the agriculture sector as a national duty. Growing of mixed cropping will contribute to uplift of living standard of the local farmers. He pointed out that departmental personnel are to organize the locals to grow physic nut plants to exceed the target acres. In conclusion, he urged those present to develop the agriculture sector, to boost crops production and to meet the target



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects the Namhsai Bridge Project. — MNA



Kutkai Township. The commander, Kachin national race group leader U Mahtu Naw and Kutkai Township Education Officer Daw Hla Hla Tint formally opened the new building. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win unveiled the signboard of the laboratory.

U Mahtu Naw reported on progress of Kaungkha region. U Zaw Yaw of Kachin national race group handed over documents related to the school buildings to TEO Daw Hla Hla Tint.

In his speech, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that he was pleased to hear progress of economic, social, education, health and transport and communication sectors in a short time. Teachers are to nurture local national youths at Kaungkha BEHS to become outstanding youths and to hand down prevailing peace to the new genera-

tion by cultivating Union Spirit. As, the school had been installed with teaching aids including computers, students are to pursue computer applications, he said.

Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party presented rice and medicines to Shan State (North) Special Region-5.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected Highland Farmland and Poppy Substitute Crops Farm of Shan State (North) Special Region-5. After looking into tea plantation, they left for Lashio through Kutkai-Lashio Road. Yesterday morning, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win viewed thriving lychee, honey orange and pineapple plantations and 5,000 physic nut plants at the 100 acres farm, and gave necessary instructions.

They left there and arrived back Nay Pyi Taw today.—MNA

prizes to winners in the paddy growing ceremony. The commander

agriculture sector. He added that the Government is carrying out de-

velopment.

The commander presented K 1 million to

staff of Myanma Agriculture Services of Shan State (North) through Shan State (North) Manager U Hla Gyi. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected construction of Namhsai reinforced concrete type bridge on Muse-Lashio Road.

They attended the ceremony to inaugurate the new building and the laboratory at Basic Education High School in Kaungkha Myoithit of

SSA-S terrorist insurgents and hardcores murdering innocent people for no reason, forcibly recruiting villagers

YANGON, 16 June — A case was opened by a 36-year old woman at Nantlam police station in Hsipaw Township, on 12 June that some villagers most of them young women and girls of Kyokonvillage, Pyawbwe Township, Mandalay Division, were missing as they went round villages in Shan State (North) and (South) to buy hair.

Daw Aye San opened the case as Ma Thin Khaing, 23, daughter of U Paing Gyi and Ma Chaw Su, 17, daughter of U Bo Win, were missing when they were buying hair at Mankyaung village in Hsipaw Township on 20 May; and Maung Htay Win, 27, son of U Kyaw Aye, and Ma Thuza Win, 27, Ma Wa Wa Shwe, 25, Ma Aye Aye Thin, 20, daughters of U San Laung, went missing while buying hair in villages in northern and southern Shan State.

Concerning the case, the Nantlam police station commander and party together with the Tatmadawmen of the

regional battalion visited Mankyaung village and looked into the case on 15 June. They arrested Aik Pan, 25, son of U Ohn Than, Sein Hla, 35, son of U San Wi, Aik Lyan, 20, son of U Saw Aung, and Aik Leik (father's name still under inquiry) who took part in murdering Ma Thin Khaing and Ma Chaw Su. According to them, three men, Sai Khaung of SSA-S of Ywet Sit terrorist insurgent group and Aik Pan and Sein Hla, seized and tied Ma Thin Khaing and Ma Chaw Su, took the two to a farm hut of Aik Lyan, and murdered them there, accusing the two of being Tatmadaw informants on 28 May. The Tatmadawmen and police found the bodies of the two women at a place on the bank of Namka Creek.

Authorities also uncovered the case in which Maung Htay Win, Ma Thuza Win, Ma Wa Wa Shwe, Ma Aye Aye Thin went missing while buying hair in southern and northern Shan State. They went missing one

month before Ma Thin Khaing and Ma Chaw Su were killed.

When deserters run away from the Tatmadaw for various reasons join Ywet Sit's SSA-S terrorist insurgent group, the insurgents are said to seize their weapons, torture them as distrustful persons and send them back.

Villagers in Namhsam Township are worried as the SSA-S group are forcing men and women under 30 to join the insurgent group.

MNA

Minister meets timber entrepreneurs

YANGON, 16 June — Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung met with responsible personnel of timber companies at Myanma Timber Enterprise here this afternoon.

The minister discussed work review and facilitation, environmental conservation, prevention of illegal logging and measures to curb bribery.

He also made arrangements for the companies to run their businesses smoothly and successfully.

Managing Director of MTE U Win Tun, Deputy Director-General of Forest Department U Aye Myint Maung and departmental officials were also present.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung speaks at the meeting with representatives of timber companies.—FORESTRY

ပြည်ထောင်စုပြန်လှည့်ရေးအဖွဲ့

အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှုပုံသဏ္ဍာန်၊ ဥပဒေပြုမှုအသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ ဖိနပ်ကော်

- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကို ကျင်းပကာ နိုင်ငံတော်ဖွဲ့စည်းပုံ အခြေခံဥပဒေ ရေးဆွဲရေးအတွက် အခြေခံရမည့်မူများနှင့် အသေးစိတ်အခြေခံရမည့်မူများကို အမျိုးသားညီလာခံကိုယ်စားလှယ်များက ညှိနှိုင်းဆွေးနွေး အတည်ပြုချက် ချမှတ်ပေးလျက်ရှိသည်။
- အမျိုးသားညီလာခံသတင်းများကို လေ့လာကြည့်သောအခါ အနာဂတ် နိုင်ငံတော်တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရကို ပုံဖော်ဖော်ပြချက် ကြည့်ရှုရလာပြီ ဖြစ်သည်။
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စိုးမြကျော် ၏

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- အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော် တည်ဆောက်မှု ပုံသဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အခန်း (၁) ခန်းနှင့် အနာဂတ်နိုင်ငံတော်၏ ဥပဒေပြုမှု အသွင်သဏ္ဍာန်နှင့် အနှစ်သာရ အပိုင်း (၁၃) ပိုင်းပါရှိသည်။
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ထွက်ပြီ

- စာပေဗိမာန် စာအုပ်ဆိုင် ၅၂၉-၅၃၀၊ ကုန်သည်လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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- သတင်းနှင့် စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းစာအုပ်ဆိုင်၊ ၂၁၂၊ သိမ်ဖြူလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့။
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Sonia Salinas Fierros (R), 23, watches as her husband Federico, 36, both from Mexico, touches the face of their 10-month-old daughter Renata, moments after successful surgery to separate her from her former conjoined twin Regina at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles in this handout photo released on 15 June, 2006. At left is Dr Ramin Zolfagari.—INTERNET

Nepal plans to ban smoking in public places

KATHMANDU, 16 June — Nepal plans to ban smoking in public places and tobacco advertisements in newspapers, a government official said on Wednesday, a day after the Supreme Court ordered authorities to outlaw the two.

Officials said the ban would apply to government offices, hospitals, schools and public transport, among others.

“We will prepare a tobacco control act that will ban smoking in public places,” Rishi Raj Bhandari, a Health Ministry official, told Reuters.

He did not say when the government planned to make the new law.

The Supreme Court, in response to a petition to ban smoking in public places on health grounds, also ordered the government to ban advertisements of tobacco products in newspapers and magazines.

Tobacco advertisements are already banned on radio and television in Nepal, where about 15,000 people die annually from tobacco related diseases.

The cigarette industry contributes 55 million US dollars in annual revenue to the government and employs about 50,000 people. *MNA/Reuters*

India-US nuclear talks end

NEW DELHI, 16 June — India and the US on Wednesday reported “good progress” on reaching a common position on the proposed bilateral nuclear agreement as they wound up first round of official-level talks here.

Keen to conclude the agreement at the earliest, the two sides decided to hold “fairly soon” the second round of discussions on the Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation Agreement, also called 123 Agreement.

The two sides had “very productive discussions”, sources told PTI after three-day talks which saw the two countries holding tough negotiations on various aspects of the agreement, particularly issues like future nuclear testing by India and assurances on atomic fuel supplies by the US.

The two countries made “good progress to reach an agreed text” on the pact, the sources said.

At the talks, Indian side was led by S Jai Shankar, Joint Secretary (America) in the External Affairs Ministry, while the US delegation was headed by Richard Stratford, Director of the Department of Energy.—*MNA/PTI*

Lebanon unveils new website to boost tourism

BEIRUT, 16 June — Lebanon’s Tourism Ministry has unveiled its new official website, as part of its campaign to attract more foreign visitors and boost the national economy’s promising growth sector, local Press reported on Wednesday.

The new website, www.destinationlebanon.gov.lb, is the culmination of a five-year joint project between the US Stanford Research Institute and the Lebanese Cultural and Social Development Association.

Lebanese Tourism Minister Joseph Sarkis was quoted as saying that the website “falls within the ministry’s strategy to promote tourism in Lebanon”.

According to the report, the new website represents about 80 per cent of the tourism businesses in Lebanon and includes over 300 hundred listings that will continually be updated.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Excess pounds may raise ovarian cancer risk

NEW YORK, 16 June — Being overweight in young adulthood or later in life may raise a woman’s risk of ovarian cancer, particularly if she has never had children, researchers have found.

In a study of 2,110 women with and without ovarian cancer, researchers found that those who were relatively heavy, either in recent years or at the age of 18, were more likely than thinner women to develop the disease.

But the relationship between weight and ovarian cancer was strongest among women who had never given birth. For them, cancer risk climbed in tandem with recent body mass index (BMI), a measure of weight in relation to height. Among childless women, those who

were obese in recent years had 2.5 times the risk of ovarian cancer compared with the thinnest women. The same pattern emerged when the researchers looked at the women’s weight gain since age 18.

Dr Julia Greer and her colleagues at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre report the findings in the journal *Cancer*.

A number of studies have looked at the relationship between body weight and ovarian cancer risk, with conflicting results. — *MNA/Reuters*

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6033)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6033) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.6.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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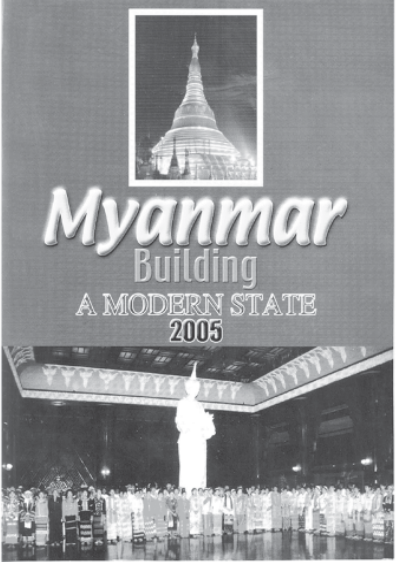
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC EXPRESS VOY NO (265) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.6.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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ROAD TRANSPORT YANGON DIVISION
INVITATION TO TENDER
TENDER NO. 002/TRT/2006-2007**

- Sealed Tenders from eligible suppliers are invited for the Supply of following Tyres with Tubes And Flaps. Prices to be quoted in Myanmar Kyats-
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(b) 7.50 x 16 - 200 Sets
(c) 10.00 x 20 - 200 Sets
(d) 6.00 x 14 - 20 Sets
- (a) Tender Documents are available at the Office of Procurement & Stores Department, Road Transport, No.375/ Bogyoke Aung San Street, Yangon Myanmar. Commencing on the, 16th June 2006.
(b) Tender will be closed on 7th July 2006 at (16:00) Hours
(The Road Transport Reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders)
- Detailed Information will be available at the Office of the Procurement & Stores Department, Phone Nos - 01 - 252574 (or) 01- 376549

ROAD TRANSPORT

**Brazil's Congress
to investigate
ambulance
fraud case**

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 June— Brazilian Senate President Renan Calheiros announced on Wednesday the creation of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry to probe a fraudulent ambulance purchase scheme that involved officials from the mayor, state and federal offices.

The commission will be made up of 17 deputies and 17 senators. Party leaders will not name participants until June 20. Brazil's Federal Police discovered the scheme in May during its so-called Operation Bloodsucker. According to the police, congressmen received money to approve overpriced ambulance purchases for public hospitals in 76 towns in Brazil.

They said the scheme began operating in 2001 and handled around 110 million reais (about 47.8 million US dollars).

Some 65 congressmen were involved directly or indirectly in the scheme, but police have only charged 15 representatives so far.

Congressmen will have 30 days to perform the investigation and reach a conclusion.

Calheiros said he hoped the investigation will not be delayed by the World Cup football games, which usually empties Brazil's Congress.

MNA/Xinhua

Venezuela says to buy 24 Russian fighter jets

CARACAS (Venezuela), 15 June— Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said on Wednesday his government planned to buy 24 Russian-made Sukhoi fighter jets as part of increased military spending to beef up his Armed Forces.

Chavez, a Cuban ally caught in a tense confrontation with Washington, has already purchased Russian attack and transport helicopters and 100,000 Kalashnikov rifles to modernize the military of the world's No 5 oil exporter.

"First of all we are going to buy 24 Sukhoi aircraft," Chavez said during an late-night event without giving more details about the purchase.

Chavez had already announced his intention to seek Russian fighters to replace his government's US-made F-16 fighters after accusing the United States of blocking sales of replacement parts for the jets.

Wearing his old Army uniform and red paratroop beret, Chavez earlier on Wednesday

handed new Russian-made rifles to troops and vowed that Washington would not defeat his self-styled socialist revolution for the poor.

Venezuela received a shipment of 30,000 Kalashnikov assault rifles in June, weeks after Washington banned US arms sales over concerns about Chavez's ties to longtime US foes Cuba and Iran and what it called his inaction against Marxist FARC guerillas in neighbouring Colombia.

MNA/Reuters

**A*STAR, HP to set up joint
lab in Singapore**

SINGAPORE, 15 June— The Singapore Government's Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) said Wednesday that it will work with American technology company Hewlett Packard (HP) to set up an HP Shared Services Platform Laboratory (HP SSP Lab) in Singapore.

"This collaboration is aimed at developing management software for 'next-generation data centres' (NGDC) that run continuously, reliably and securely with minimal staffing," said an A*STAR statement.

The two parties have signed a three-year research agreement on establishing this joint research and development (R&D) lab, which involves a combined investment of

over 30 million Singapore dollars (about 19 million US dollars).

More than 30 researchers from A*STAR's Institute of High Performance Computing (IHPC) and HP's research arm HP Labs will work at the HP SSP Lab to develop virtualization and automation tools aimed at enabling the NGDC.

A diverse and multi-disciplinary community in physical sciences, engineering, infocomms, digital media and enterprise is expected to benefit from the collaboration.

A*STAR added that the establishment of the lab is also "a major step in advancing grid utility technologies in Singapore".

MNA/Xinhua



A special squadron of People's Liberation Army Navy's South China Sea Fleet conducted a maneuver recently, in an attempt to enhance its combat capability.—INTERNET

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Study shows heavy wrinkles could be sign of lung disease

LONDON, 15 June — Smokers' heavily wrinkled faces could be an early warning sign of a serious lung disease, researchers said on Wednesday.

They found that smokers with pronounced wrinkles are five times more likely than those without marked facial lines to suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which includes bronchitis and emphysema.

COPD, a leading cause of death worldwide, is caused by smoking, which also prematurely ages the skin. So researchers at the Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation in southwest England

studied whether there was a link between the two.

"This data suggests that if you are a smoker and you are wrinkled you are more likely to have lung disease," said Dr Bipen Patel who conducted the study published in the journal *Thorax*.

"We found that cigarette smokers who had a large amount of facial wrinkling were five times more likely to have COPD than smokers who were less wrinkled."

COPD begins with a persistent cough and

increased mucous. It eventually leads to fatigue, shortness of breath and difficulty breathing as the lungs are destroyed.

Because the disease develops gradually, Patel and his team believe facial wrinkling could be an a sign of the illness before it is diagnosed.

MNA/Reuters



Writer Josh Kilmer-Purcell sits in his office with his myspace.com site in New York, on 14 June, 2006. Kilmer-Purcell and four other writers promoted their books with the networking website.—INTERNET

Acupuncture reduces symptoms of severe musculoskeletal disease

LOS ANGELES, 15 June — The traditional Chinese acupuncture could reduce the symptoms of a musculoskeletal disease that disables many people, a study released on Tuesday said.

The disease, called fibromyalgia, is characterized by chronic, widespread musculoskeletal pain and symptoms such as fatigue, joint stiffness and sleep disturbance. No cure is known and available treatments are only partially effective.

But according to a research team led by Dr David Martin, an anesthesiologist at the Mayo Clinic, fibromyalgia patients who received acupuncture reported improvement in fatigue and anxiety, among other symptoms.

Acupuncture was also well tolerated with minimal side effects, the researchers said in the June issue of the *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*. This work

improved their symptoms. Twenty-five in the acupuncture group and 25 in the control group.

The study involved 50 fibromyalgia patients enrolled in a randomized, controlled trial to determine if acupuncture

group during the study period, the researchers found. Fatigue and anxiety were the most significantly improved symptoms during the follow-up period.

"We found that acupuncture significantly improved symptoms of fibromyalgia. Symptomatic improvement was not restricted to pain relief and was most significant for fatigue and anxiety," the researchers concluded.

According to Martin, the study demonstrated that acupuncture is helpful, and also proves physicians can conduct a rigorous, controlled acupuncture study. Future research could help physicians understand which medical conditions respond best to acupuncture, how to apply it to best relieve symptoms, and how long patients can expect to their symptoms to decrease after each treatment.—MNA/Xinhua



A Colombian Wayuu Indian holds up a turtle as part of a campaign to release 74 turtles at Colombia's Camarones beach on World Environment Day on 5 June, 2006.—INTERNET

SIA purchases 20

"Boeing 787-9" airplanes

SINGAPORE, 15 June — Singapore Airlines (SIA) has signed a Letter of Intent to order 20 Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners, with purchase rights for another 20 aircraft of the same model, SIA said in a statement Wednesday.

The value of the firm order for 20 Boeing 787-9s, the newest version on offer, is 4.52 billion US dollars at the current manufacturer catalogue price, according to the statement. Having a range of 15,900 to 16,300 kilometres, the Boeing 787-9 aircraft has a passenger capacity of between 250 and 290 in its standard three-class configuration, as well as space for some 20 tons of cargo.

The composites and advanced technology used in the plane will also enhance the fuel efficiency, performance capabilities and passenger comfort.

"The decision to purchase the 787-9 is the culmination of an extensive evaluation of the performance characteristics and operating economics promised for the different versions of Boeing's new 787 aircraft," the statement said, adding that the purchase is for fleet renewal and to cater for growth.

MNA/Xinhua



STS-121 crew of the Shuttle Discovery walk to board the astronaut van for their drive to launch pad 39B at Cape Canaveral, Florida on 15 June, 2006. (Left Front to Back) pilot; Mark Kelly, mission specialists Lisa Nowak, Stephanie Wilson, European Space Agency mission specialist Thomas Reiter of Germany, (Back Right To Front) mission specialist; British born Piers Sellers, mission specialist Michael Fossum, and commander; Steven Lindsey.—INTERNET

Samsung group aims for sales of \$31b in China

BEIJING, 15 June— Samsung Group, South Korea's largest industrial conglomerate, announced here Tuesday that it aims to achieve sales of 31 billion US dollars this year in China, a rise of 18.4 per cent over last year.

China Samsung, the China subsidiary which is mainly engaged in electronics production, forecast an increase in investment in China by 8

per cent over last year with the company's accumulated investment reaching 5.1 billion US dollars. China Samsung reported sales of 25.3 billion US dollars last year.

The China market accounted for 22 per cent of Samsung Group's global sales by the end of 2004, said sources with the company. As China's share increases, Samsung Group is expanding its

China operations. Earlier this year, China Samsung announced it would increase its procurement in China to 18.5 billion US dollars within the year, a 20-per-cent rise over 15.3 billion US dollars last year.

Local procurement could help Samsung reduce costs and win a market advantage, said Keun-hee Park, president of China Samsung.

MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

Saturday, 17 June 2006
 Portugal v Iran, 19:30 MST
 Czech Republic v Ghana, 22:30 MST
 Sunday, 18 June 2006
 Italy v USA, 01:30 MST

Beckham says we never gave up hope

NUREMBERG, 16 June — Captain David Beckham said England's two late goals in the 2-0 win over Trinidad & Tobago on Thursday sounded a warning to their World Cup rivals about the strong character of his team.

"We never give up hope. That is the message we send," Beckham told ITV Sport after his side sealed qualification for the second round with a maximum of six points from two games in Group B.

"We knew it wasn't going to be easy today, people expected it to be easy but we knew if we kept at our game plan we would break them down.

"The good thing about the game is that we finished strongly."

England were frustrated by World Cup debutants Trinidad until Peter Crouch and Steven Gerrard scored in the last seven minutes. — MNA/Reuters

Late charge earns England 2-0 victory

NUREMBERG, 16 June — England had to endure 83 minutes of frustration against Trinidad & Tobago before Peter Crouch and then Steven Gerrard powered them into the World Cup second round with a hard-earned 2-0 Group B win on Thursday.

Captain David Beckham floated a perfect ball from the right to the far post where 6ft 7in (2.04 metre) Crouch headed the first powerfully into the net.

With a minute remaining Gerrard made sure with a left-foot drive from the edge of the box.

The three points followed a scrappy 1-0 win over Paraguay on Saturday and ensures England will finish first or second, depending on their final match with Sweden on Tuesday.

Until their late charge in the last seven minutes, England had looked likely to follow in the path of the Swedes who had proved unable to break down the Caribbean outsiders.

England were boosted by the long-awaited return of Wayne Rooney from a broken foot.

His 58th minute arrival, met with loud cheers by England's fans, came hours after two medical experts had pronounced him to fit to play after a faster than expected recovery from a broken foot.

England looked sharper with Rooney and fellow substitute Aaron Lennon on the pitch, but their finishing remained poor and the well organized Soca Warriors defended in numbers attempting to get a draw.

Striker Michael Owen, who lasted only 55 minutes against Paraguay and is far from his best after long-term injury, ballooned an early chance when Frank Lampard's shot was only parried by Shaka Hislop.

MNA/Reuters



England's Peter Crouch (R) scores his team's first goal as Trinidad and Tobago's Brent Sancho (C) collides with him and goalkeeper Shaka Hislop looks at the ball during their Group B World Cup 2006 soccer match in Nuremberg on 15 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Ecuador cruise into second round

HAMBURG, 16 June — Ecuador strolled past Costa Rica 3-0 and into the second round of the World Cup on Thursday for the first time in their history.

Goals in either half from Carlos Tenorio (8) and Agustin Delgado (54) and then a late strike from Ivan Kaviedes kept the South Americans' 100-per-cent record in Group A intact following a 2-0 win over Poland in their opening match.



Ecuador's goalie Cristian Mora (12) punches away a high ball from Costa Rica's Alvaro Saborio, top, left, during a 2006 World Cup Group A soccer game at the World Cup stadium, on 15 June, 2006, in Hamburg, Germany. Ecuador won 3-0. Poland and Germany also play in Group A. —INTERNET

Germany are also through, having beaten Poland 1-0 in Dortmund on Wednesday.

Delgado and Tenorio were also goalscorers against the Poles.

The group winners will be decided when Ecuador meet the hosts Germany next Tuesday. The Ticos, meanwhile, head home after the first phase for a second successive finals.

Ecuador coach Luis Fernando Suarez was already looking forward to that match after the convincing victory.

"It will be very difficult against Germany because the players are going to be tired. They played two games. They want to play a very good match against Germany. It will be a historic match," he told reporters.

Despite early pressure from Costa Rica, Ecuador opened the scoring after eight minutes when Tenorio headed home from a nicely floated cross by Luis Valencia.

Costa Rica came out fighting once again in the second half, but their enthusiasm was short-lived as Ecuador doubled their tally in the 54th minute with a superbly taken goal. — MNA/Reuters

Ecuador dreams of second soccer World Cup victory

MEXICO CITY, 16 June — Convinced that a second win in the World Cup will give them their first second round place, Ecuador hope to beat Costa Rica in Hamburg in their second Group A game, Mexican television channel Televisa reported on Wednesday.

But while Ecuador is already dreaming about the second round, Costa Rica has to win or wave goodbye to its World Cup chances, giving Ecuador a narrow advantage.

Manager Luis Suarez is also lucky to have a team without a single injury or yellow card, and whose 2-0 victory over Poland cost them little. While Carlos Tenorio and Ivan Hurtado were both involved in some incidents on the pitch in the first game, they will both be back in action for the second.

Suarez has told his players they have taken a big step in the right direction, but said that the battle is not over yet, a phrase that will be ringing in their ears.

Costa Rica's manager, Alexandre Guimaraes appeared calm before Press cameras, and told Press: "Our rival will reach the pitch knowing that even a draw is good for them. That is why we have to play clever."

MNA/Xinhua

Germany's Lahm named Man of the Match

DORTMUND, 16 June — German defender Philipp Lahm has been named Man of the Match after helping the hosts edge Poland 1-0 with a late goal from substitute Oliver Neuville here on Wednesday.

The second World Cup victory from Group A also sent Germany to the brink of qualification to the last 16 with their 4-2 win at the tournament opener against Costa Rica on Friday.

In Wednesday's dramatic win of Germany, Lahm produced an impressive all-round performance against Poland, and his steady defending and dangerous runs up the wing earned him the Man of the Match honours.

The left-back barely put a foot wrong during his 90 minutes on the pitch, never getting caught out of position defensively despite his repeated forays up the wing to support the attack.

MNA/Xinhua

Ljungberg's late goal sends Paraguay home

BERLIN, 16 June — Freddie Ljungberg's header in the 89th minute helped Sweden edge Paraguay 1-0 in their World Cup Group B duel here on Thursday, sending the South American home as they lost twice without a goal.

Ljungberg, who plays for English Premier League side Arsenal, popped up at the far post to head home after teammate Marcus Allback put a centre back across goal.

Paraguay coach Anibal Ruiz described his team's World Cup exit as "deeply painful".

Ruiz said, "Sweden had more chances to score, they had more possession. It hurts but we have to congratulate the other team. Let me say that it is really deeply painful."

In the first half, Sweden's world-class striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic shot tamely at the Paraguay goalkeeper Aldo Bobadilla and Allback had an effort cleared off the line as it looked like Sweden would fail to get a goal.

Sweden were surprisingly tied 0-0 with World Cup debutants Trinidad and Tobago in their first Group B match while Paraguay lost to England 1-0.

MNA/Xinhua



Sweden's Marcus Allback (L) reaches for the ball as Paraguay's Denis Caniza clears it away from the goal during their Group B World Cup 2006 soccer match in Berlin, on 15 June, 2006. —INTERNET

German pensioner survives lift ordeal with cookies

BERLIN, 16 June — A German pensioner and former elevator repair man had to survive on just a packet of biscuits while he was stuck in a broken hospital lift for three days.

Karlheinz Schmidt, 68, who had turned up for a routine appointment at a Berlin hospital, slipped out of his wheelchair during the 80-hour ordeal in which he repeatedly pushed the lift's alarm button without anyone hearing his call for help. "I was lying on the floor and the elevator

went up and down for a bit. I pushed the alarm button several times, but nothing happened," the daily Bild quoted Schmidt as saying. "I thought to myself... 'Karlheinz, that's it. You're on your own now'."

Schmidt, who appeared on German television looking pale and

weak, was finally discovered on Monday after a nurse reported the broken lift. Schmidt's son had launched a hunt for his father but rescue workers after scouring the hospital grounds had concentrated efforts on dredging a nearby canal.

MNA/Reuters



Cheryl Tweedie (L), girlfriend of England's Ashley Cole, sits in the stands with Victoria Beckham (R), wife of England's David Beckham, and Coleen McLoughlin (C top), girlfriend of England's Wayne Rooney, before Trinidad and Tobago's Group B World Cup 2006 soccer match against England in Nuremberg on 15 June, 2006.—INTERNET

100 dead in suspected Congo plague outbreak

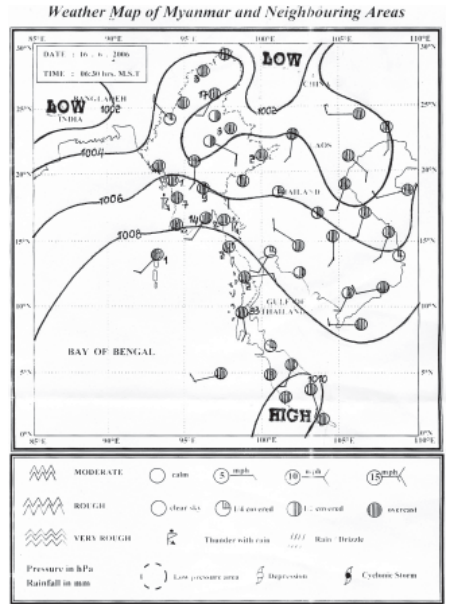
GENEVA, 16 June — One hundred people are reported dead in a suspected outbreak of pneumonic plague in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday.

It said 19 of the deaths were around the northeast Ituri District, which is known to be the most active area of human plague in the world with 1,000 cases each year.

Some cases of bubonic plague had also been reported, the United Nations' health agency added, but there were no figures.

A team of specialists from the WHO, the Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) relief agency and the Congolese Ministry of Health were in the area to assess the situation, it added.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Friday, 16 June, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in lower Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin and Mon States, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and Bago Division, scattered in Rakhine State and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Bago (2.17) inches, Yangon (Central) (1.46) inches, Kawthong (1.30) inches, Namsam (0.94) inch and Katha (0.82) inch.

Maximum temperature on 15-6-2006 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 16-6-2006 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 16-6-2006 was (89%). Total sunshine hours on 15-6-2006 was (6.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 16-6-2006 were (0.08) inch at Mingaladon, (0.55) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.46) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (21.46) inches at Mingaladon, (29.29) inches at Kaba-Aye and (33.31) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southwest at (21:30) hours MST on 15-6-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-6-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon State, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin and Kayin States, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Weak monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 17-6-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 17-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers with sunny period. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 17-6-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Weather outlook for third weekend of June 2006: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon Division and scattered in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

Radio Myanmar

Saturday, 17 June

Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -When I wish upon a star... Etunal
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -What the heart wants... Collin Raye
- 8:50 am National news / Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -Saturday night Davis-Spice Girls
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Never again... Agnetha Flats Kog
- 1:30 pm News / Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music -Wonderful world... Tracy Huang
- 9:00 pm ASEAN news review Exchange news from ASEAN member countries
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Myanmar culture by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt -Nayone the month of festival of religious examinations Part II
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs -If not for you... Bob Dylan
- 9:45 pm News / Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Saturday, 17 June
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ရွက်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရာဇဝင် ဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မာမဟာသဒ္ဒမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ မွေ့ဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာတိပိဋကဓရ၊ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am

5. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:05 am

6. ဂမုနိအရောင်တစ်

8:20 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Grammar made easy

11:00 am

1. Martial songs

11:15 am

2. Musical programme

11:30 am

3. News

11:45 am

4. Games for children

12:05 pm

5. Round up of the week's TV local news

12:20 pm

6. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "Doraemon"

12:35 pm

7. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဆညီးဆာ" (အပိုင်း-၃)

1:10 pm

8. ကြားမြင်သတိပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ

1:20 pm

9. "ကျေးဇူးတင်ပါလယ် ဒီအိုတီအက်စ်" (လွင်မိုး၊ ထွန်းထွန်းဝင်း၊ အိန္ဒြာကျော်စင်၊ ခင်သန်းနွယ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-နိုးကျော်ဆန်း)

1:40 pm

10. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:50 pm

11. Dance of national races

2:05 pm

12. ဆင်ဖြူရှင်တံတား

2:10 pm

13. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:20 pm

14. "အနွှေ့ ရာယံ ဆိုတာ လက် တစ်ကမ်းမှာ" "မိုးသူ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်" (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစောလှိုင်)

2:30 pm

15. ပေါင်းလောင်း ရေလောင်းတစ် နှင့် လှုပ်စစ်တော်အားပေးစက်ရုံ

2:45 pm

16. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial songs

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for everyday use

4:40 pm

4. Musical programme

4:50 pm

5. အပေးသင်တန်းသို့လှည့်လာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒ အထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)

5:05 pm

6. Musical programme

5:20 pm

7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:35 pm

8. Games for children

6:00 pm

9. Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. Discovery

6:50 pm

12. စိုက်ကြံများများ ဇန့်စပါး ဝမ်းစာဖြိုးစေ သိန်းနီမြေ (အပိုင်း-၂)

7:00 pm

13. ပုံဖြိုးတိုးတက်စေော ပဲခူးတိုင်း အရှေ့မှာ

7:10 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဖြူစင်မေတ္တာ" (အပိုင်း-၅)

8:00 pm

15. News

16. International news

17. Weather report

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရစ်ပီရီဆိုရိုင်" (အပိုင်း-၅၃)

19. The next day's programme

Pwintbyu Township's Mone Creek Bridge, Kyeoehn-kyeewa Dam under construction



Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects land preparations at Kyeoehn-Kyeewa Multi-purpose Dam Project in Pwintbyu Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence on 14 June inspected the construction of Mone Creek suspension bridge being

built across Mone Creek in Pwintbyu Township and gave instructions. Construction on the bridge is designed to bear loads of up to 60 tons and the bridge is to be installed with steel frames.

The main bridge is 400 feet long and 14.5 feet wide. Its approach bridge is 540 feet long.

On his inspection tour of Pwintbyu Township (See page 9)

Departmental personnel to organize locals to grow physic nut plants for exceeding target acres



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects paddy transplanting ceremony in Meinlon Village, Muse Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Brig-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials, inspected the old runway of the airport in Muse on 14 June morning.

(See page 10)

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than calls for meeting target cultivation of Maungtaw Township

YANGON, 16 June — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence on 12 June urged residents in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine Sate, to strive for the exceeding the region's target of monsoon and summer paddy cultivation so that the region can enjoy the sufficient supply of food.

(See page 9)

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than presents gifts to local people in Shwe Yin Aye Model Village, Maungtaw Township.

MNA



WORLD CUP 2006

Argentina	6
Serbia & Montenegro	0
The Netherlands	2
Ivory Coast	1