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Tuesday, 27 June, 2006

**Myanmar continues to eliminate drugs,
trafficking without international support**

**Over 148.4 million US dollars
worth seized drugs destroyed**

**Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends
20th seized drug destruction ceremony**



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends the 20th seized drug destruction ceremony. — MNA

YANGON, 26 June— As a gesture hailing International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, organized by Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, a ceremony to incinerate seized drugs for the 20th times was held in the compound of Drug Elimination Museum in Kamayut Township this morning.

It was attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, CCDAC Chairman Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, the ministers, the mayor, deputy ministers, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Mme Phoebe A

G Gomez and foreign ambassadors to Myanmar, charges' d' affairs, military attaches, dean of military attaches Cambodian Military Attaches Col Ngi Vanndim, resident representatives of UN, heads of departments, members of CCDAC, senior police officers of Myanmar Police Force, members of social organizations, local and foreign journalists, prize winners from novel, poem, article, song, painting, cartoon, poster, graphic designing and painting and photo competitions, guests, band troupe and pom pom troupe and students.

First, CCDAC Secretary Director-General of

Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi reported on destruction of seized drugs.

He said: today, ceremonies to commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking are held all over the world and Myanmar has always participated in this event by holding these ceremonies yearly.

Myanmar has given the eradication of the scourge of narcotic drugs as a national priority and has been conducting drug elimination activities with utmost efforts. The destruction of seized narcotic drugs today symbolizes (See page 8)



Diplomats and officials of UN agencies destroy seized drug. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 27 June, 2006

Extend farming of fish and prawn

Sea fish and freshwater fish and prawn are abundant in Myanmar. Production and distribution of fingerlings are very important in fish farming. Moreover, release of fingerlings into water bodies and lakes is also important for increasing the production of fish.

The Ayeyawady, Sittoung, Thanlwin and Chindwin rivers and their tributaries have large areas of water. Moreover, there are favourable conditions for reproduction of freshwater fish and prawn in the environs of dams and reservoirs and in some areas that are covered by water from six to eight months in a year.

Fish farmers are required to release more fingerlings into the rivers and creeks in their respective areas in order to be able to boost the production of fishes suitable to the environment. At the same time it is also necessary to systematically supervise the catching of fish and prawn so as to prevent the extinction of fish and prawn.

In Myanmar, we get a lot of rain starting from the end of May through June and July. At this time, fishes and prawns lay their eggs in rivers, creeks and lakes all over the nation. Therefore, it is necessary to avoid catching fish and prawn with eggs. Moreover, in the restricted areas of water in Rakhine State, Ayeyawady Division, Mon State and Taninthayi Division, fishing has been prohibited from 1 June to 31 August.

We would like to call on entrepreneurs and organizations and Myanmar Fisheries Federation to strive for national economic development and sufficiency in meat and fish by systematically using aquatic resources and increased release of fingerlings in the fish farms in their respective regions.



U Win Naing and Daw Aye Aye Than of No 243, Thida Road, Waibargi-5 Ward, North Okkalapa Township, donates K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. U Chit Myaing of the Administrative Board of the home accepting the donation. — H

Oppose those Destroying

- * 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

Minister inspects Lawkananda river water pumping project



Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo hears a report on renovation of Mya Lake. — A & I

NAY PYI TAW, 25 June — Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo arrived at Lawkananda river water pumping project in NyaungU, Mandalay Division on 18 June. First, Assistant Director of Water Resources Utilization Department U Maung Maung Lwin reported to the minister on water supply tasks to grow on 5,000 acres of land in the area of river water pumping project.

After hearing the reports, the minister met with members of Township Agriculture Committee and held discussions on paddy, cotton, edible oil crops

and pulses and beans to be grown and exchange of quality strains and rendering assistance to local peasants in agriculture and production services.

Next, the minister inspected three water pumping stations and viewed the growing of monsoon paddy in time in the project area and thriving paddy plantations in No 3 and No 4 water pumping stations.

Afterwards, the minister looked into renovation tasks of Mya Lake in Bagan-NyaungU and gave instructions on timely completion of the project. — MNA

Students of National Management College visit wood-based industries

YANGON, 25 June — The principal, teachers and students of National Management College arrived at Finished Wood Products and Furniture Factory of Tawwin Family Co in Wataya Wood-based Industrial Region in Shwepyitha Township on 24 June morning.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung extended greetings to the teachers and students.

Chairman of the company U Ko Ko Htwe

explained operating of the factory. The students visited the factory.

Then, the minister and officials inspected Kan-3 Raft Jetty in Ahlon Township and Setsan Raft Jetty in Pazundaung Township. Managing Director U Win Tun of Myanma Timber Enterprise and General Manager U Htoo Aung conducted the minister on the jetties.

MNA

Advanced Course on E Commerce and Intellectual Property concludes

YANGON, 25 June — Under the arrangement of Educational Affairs Committee of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce Industry, an Advanced Course on E Commerce and Intellectual Property DL-202 E concluded at UMFCCI Training Centre this afternoon. The completion certificates were presented to the trainees.

Chairman of Educational Affairs Committee of UMFCCI U Sein Win Hlaing made a concluding speech on the occasion. Next, committee members presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Afterwards, Chairman U Sein Win Hlaing presented souvenirs to course instructors. A total of 33 trainees attended the course which lasted from 1 May to 25 June.

MNA



Chairman of Educational Affairs Committee U Sein Win Hlaing presents a gift to a course instructor. — UMFCCI

Japan says US beef sanction proposal "nonsense"

TOKYO, 25 June — Japan's Agriculture Minister said on Friday it was meaningless for US lawmakers to file a bill seeking sanctions against Japan over a ban on US beef after the two governments had already agreed to resolve the issue.

Half a dozen US senators from farm and ranch states filed a bill on Wednesday asking for sanctions of three billion US dollars a year if Japan did not end its ban.

Their action came after officials from the two governments agreed earlier that day that US beef shipments to Japan would resume after

Japanese inspection of US beef processing plants.

"It is nonsense for US senators to file at this moment a bill threatening sanctions with a deadline," Shoichi Nakagawa said at a news conference, adding that the two governments had done substantial work towards a resumption of beef trade.

However, he did not say

when imports would actually restart.

"Japan will conduct its own check-up, but I don't know what will happen after that and what we will do...and when," he said.

Japanese officials have said inspection of US beef plants, due to start later in June, will take about a month. Beef shipments will only be allowed into

Japan from US plants that Japanese inspectors confirm as meeting safety requirements.

US lawmakers, frustrated with a protracted Japanese ban on US beef, said Wednesday's US-Japan agreement was just another stalling tactic to stretch out the ban.

On Thursday, the US Senate Appropriations Committee voted that the United States should impose economic sanctions on Japan if it fails to put aside its fears of mad cow disease and opens its borders to US beef by the end of the summer.

MNA/Reuters



Renault Formula One Driver Fernando Alonso of Spain leads McLaren Mercedes Formula One driver Kimi Raikkonen of Finland during the Canadian Formula One Grand Prix in Montreal on 25 June, 2006. —INTERNET



Hu Jintao (5th Front L), chairman of China's Central Military Commission (CMC), and other military leaders pose for a group photo with 10 senior military officers, who are conferred the rank of general, in Beijing, capital of China, on 24 June, 2006. —INTERNET

Intel invests in Ireland for extension to Leixlip plant

LONDON, 25 June — Intel, the US-based international main computer chip maker, has invested two billion US dollars in Ireland for an extension to its Leixlip plant, the *Irish Times* report on Thursday.

The new 52,000 square metres site, known as Fab

24-2, will use Intel's advanced 65nm manufacturing process to produce chips of the same size in high volume for use in notebooks, personal computers and laptops around the world, the report said.

At the opening ceremony of the new

plant, Paul Otellini, Intel's chief executive and president, said the new chips would enable the machines to work faster, be more energy efficient and provide greater security for their users.

Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern welcomed the opening of the new plant, saying "this site has made a substantial contribution to the economy of the surrounding area and to the entire country".

Intel has invested 7 billion dollars in Leixlip, its European manufacturing and technology centre, which employs 5,500 people.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

US surveillance plane crashes in southeastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 June — An unmanned US spy plane has crashed in the southeastern Khost Province of Afghanistan, a spokesperson of the US military confirmed Sunday. "It happened a long time ago. It is an old equipment," Tamara Lawrence told *Xinhua*. She stopped short of giving the exact date of the crash.

However, Mohammad Haroon, the spokesman for the Khost police, said the two-metre-long plane plunged to earth just on Friday near a village in

Ismail Khail District in Khost, according to Afghan media.

Playing down Haroon's claim, Lawrence said the US-led coalition forces may have retrieved the plane's relics Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua

39 passengers still missing from capsized ferry in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 25 June — Indonesian rescue teams have found 12 more passengers from a ferry that capsized off North Sumatra, bringing the number of survivors to 94 with at least 39 others still unaccounted for, a report said Saturday.

The Surya Makmur

Indah ferry, bound for Nias Island from Sibolga Port with 133 passengers and crew, sank during a storm late Wednesday night, reported *The Jakarta Post* newspaper.

Officials confirmed that three foreigners — US citizens Trevor Righter and Thom Gilnert and

Australian David Androw — were not on the ship, despite initial reports.

Sibolga Port administrator Frits Agamsyah said Friday the three left Sibolga for Nias on the similarly named Surya Makmur Jaya ferry, which arrived safely on the island Thursday.

"Information that the three foreigners are safe was received by the ferry agent staff who took them to Gunungsitoli in Nias. The staff said the three were in Teluk Dalam District on a tour," Frits said. He said the actual number of missing was probably much higher.

MNA/Xinhua

Arrested Miami men planned war against US

MIAMI, 25 June — Seven people arrested in Miami planned attacks on the landmark Sears Tower in Chicago and other buildings as part of a pledge to al-Qaeda to wage war against the United States, US prosecutors said on Friday.

An indictment handed down against the men by a grand jury in south Florida said they sought to gain support from Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda in order to destroy FBI buildings in the United States. At least one of them also plotted to blow up the 110-storey Sears Tower in Chicago, it said.

The men, named as Narseal Batiste, Patrick

Abraham, Stanley Grant Phanor, Naudimar Herrera, Burson Augustin, Lyglenson Lemorin and Rotschild Augustine, were due to appear in a Miami magistrate's court later on Friday. —MNA/Reuters

Traffic accident kills 11, injures 50 in southern Cuba

HAVANA, 25 June — At least 11 people, including five children, were killed and 50 others were injured on Friday when an overloaded coach crashed after a wheel blew out near Santiago, Cuba's second largest city, the National Information Agency said.

The accident happened in Guama, a town in the southern province of Santiago de Cuba Province, 80 kilometres from Santiago, on the main highway linking the nation's main mountain range, the Sierra Maestra, and the coast, at 10:30 a.m. local time (1430 GMT).

The five children killed were between one and 15 years old. The injured were taken to the Saturnino Lora provincial hospital and the Southern Children's Hospital. —MNA/Xinhua



Polar bears rest in the shade escaping the straight sunlight on a hot summer's day in the Moscow zoo on 25 June, 2006. —INTERNET

China, Pakistan to enhance NGO's exchanges to alleviate poverty

BEIJING, 25 June — China's top political adviser Jia Qinglin on Friday called on non-governmental organizations of China and Pakistan to enhance exchanges and contribute more to eliminating poverty.

Jia, who is chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), made the remarks when meeting with Nasim Ashraf, chairman of the Pakistan Human Development Fund (PHDF).

Jia said that since the establishment of diplomatic ties, the two countries have always

supported and trusted each other.

"The two sides have formed an all-weather and an all-round cooperative partnership," he added.

In recent years, the two countries have maintained frequent high-level visits, and their political mutual trust has been strengthened, he said.

This year marks the

55th anniversary of China-Pakistan diplomatic relations. "China is ready to take this opportunity to join hands with Pakistan to deepen traditional friendship, expand cooperation, enhance economic ties and promote the bilateral strategic partnership up to a new level," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



France's President Jacques Chirac lights the flame at an ossuary in Douaumont during ceremonies to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the battle of Verdun, eastern France, on 25 June, 2006. The battle, which lasted from 21 February, 1916 until 19 December, 1916 caused over an estimated 700,000 casualties.—INTERNET

Two Africans arrested by Bangladesh police for currency forgery

DHAKA, 25 June — Two Africans were arrested by Bangladesh police from a residential district in the capital Dhaka on Friday for currency forgery.

A sub-inspector Mahbub of Pallabi police station in Mirpur

residential district told *Xinhua* Saturday the Africans were arrested early on Friday after they were informed by fast food shop owner where they ate something and paid the price with a fake note of 100 US dollars.

The arrested Africans

are William Obeg, 35, of Ghana and Tankam Christtan, 36 of Cameroon.

After the arrest police submitted them to a Dhaka court seeking a week police remand, but the court allowed police three-day remand for interrogation. Mahbub said the Africans are still in the court custody and the interrogation will start after they are handed over to the police.

MNA/Xinhua

Foreign cameraman shot dead in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 25 June — A gunman shot a foreign television cameraman at a rally in Mogadishu on Friday, and witnesses said he had died on the spot.

The witnesses said the cameraman was a Swede on assignment for Britain's Channel Four television. The broadcaster said it was checking the report and had no confirmation.

The cameraman was covering a demonstration organized by Islamists who took the city from US backed warlords on 5 June. Since then, various Western journalists have gone into the city, which

had previously been considered too dangerous to visit.— *MNA/Reuters*

Australian woman swallowed 320 condoms of drugs

SYDNEY, 25 June — A woman who police allege swallowed 320 condoms full of heroin appeared in an Australian court on drugs charges on Sunday.

The 25-year-old Australian woman was stopped by Customs officials after she got off a flight from Singapore on 18 June on suspicion that she was concealing drugs internally, an Australian Federal Police spokeswoman said.

She was handed over to police and then taken to hospital, where she was kept until all the drug-filled condoms had passed out of her system.

The woman made a bail appearance in court on Sunday and remained in custody, the spokeswoman said.

The charge of importing a commercial quantity of banned drugs could carry a maximum sentence of life in prison.

MNA/Reuters

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Actresses display costumes used in Chinese opera performance during a Chinese opera costume show in Jinan, capital city of east China's Shandong Province, on 22 June, 2006.—INTERNET

California rejects Bush's request for more troops to US-Mexico border

LOS ANGELES, 25 June — California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's office said Friday that he has rejected a White House request to send more National Guard troops to the US-Mexico border, fearing the commitment could leave the state vulnerable if an earthquake or wildfire erupts.

Schwarzenegger and the federal government earlier this month worked out a written agreement in which California would

send 1,000 troops to the Mexican border, as part of a 6,000-strong deployment aimed at cracking down on illegal

immigration.

But the governor turned down a request from Washington for 1,500 more National Guard soldiers this week.

"The governor did not feel that it was appropriate to send additional guard out of state," said Schwarzenegger's spokesman Adam Mendelsohn in Sacramento, capital of the state.

The additional troops were to be sent to two other border states—Arizona and New Mexico, according to a California National Guard official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A White House spokesman suggested Friday night that Schwarzenegger's position could disrupt the federal government's timetable for fortifying the border with National Guard troops.— *MNA/Xinhua*



Nicole Kidman (L) and Keith Urban pose during their candlelit wedding ceremony at Cardinal Cerretti Memorial Chapel in Manly, Sydney on 25 June, 2006.—INTERNET

Lille homes evacuated after WWII bomb found

LILLE, 26 June — Police evacuated 1,600 people from their homes in Lille on Sunday after an unexploded bomb from World War II was unearthed by builders in the centre of the northern French city.

Bomb disposal experts successfully defused the 250-kilo (550-pound) munition, which was dropped by US forces fighting to oust German troops from France.

MNA/Reuters

Discussions of pensioners —16

Hein Myint

Through a TV programme, we have learned that local and foreign journalists toured Htantabin Township, Thabyenyunt village and Mone region in Kyaukkyi Township on the east bank of Sittoung River, Bago Division, Southern Command area, on 13 May 2006 to witness the endeavours ensuring the rule of law and all-round development, persons who fled their native villages because of the power struggles, tortures and killings of the KNU insurgents, and the sufferings of the local people resulting from murders, arsons and destructive mines of the KNU. Chairman of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accompanied them and elaborated on the incidents.

We have also seen on TV Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivering an address at the opening ceremony of Government Computer College in Hpa-an on 10 this month.

The news footage also showed the ambassadors and local and foreign journalists observing development undertakings in Mon and Kayin States, attending meetings at which the reasons that led to the breakaway of the DKBA, the group led by Phado Aung San, and the group led by Saw Thamu He from the KNU and their cooperative efforts with the government for regional peace and progress. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan also accompanied them.

Almost every day, we read in dailies issued in May and June the collective resignations of the members from the National League for Democracy and the Shan National League for Democracy because of the wrong policy programmes and misdeeds of the two parties.

We, pensioners, discussed the matters concerning the above-mentioned news when we had a gathering one day.

"With the wish to dominate and manipulate our nation at will, the notorious power and its minions from inside and outside the nation are attacking our nation with slanderous accusations they have exaggerated into big problems according to their plots" one of us started the discussions.

"Yes, it is obvious that they are trying to destroy our nation as they do not wish to see our nation doing well on the right track to peace, stability and progress", another agreed. And so went on our discussions.

"All have witnessed the power's dominations and manipulations in the global nations' affairs for self-interest throughout the successive eras. History bears witness to the fact that it hosted and assisted the persons who fled its targeted nations for certain reasons as refugees for further use. The world is still seeing such incidents."

"Ah, it happens to be an unrivalled global superpower. Its military and economic power is at the top of the world. So, it is practising double standard policy according to its wish. It never hesitates to use military force for self-interest, without taking into account the sufferings of other nations."

"That is the point I am angry with. It always sees itself right and others wrong. It has permitted itself free to commit any sin. Acting above the law, the power will arrest, confine and torture any person or invade any country if it assumes necessary. Moreover, the power has been recklessly launching slanderous accusations and economic sanctions on the nations it blacklists."

"The point is that the power wishes to always

stand on top of the world. If its interest is harmed, the power takes action against any nation whether it may be a friend or foe. Our people need to understand that its sanctions and disturbances against our nation are not in our interest."

"At the press conference held in Hpa-an, a journalist raised a question 'How does Myanmar see the attempts of a power and its cohort NGOs to submit a report to UN the matter concerning Myanmar for further action against her? Is it heartening to see the Information Minister answering the question in an elaborated and comprehensive way?'"

"The brief account of his factual-based clarification is that the power and its cohort NGOs are trying to present the report to the UN with the accusation that what is happening in the nation jeopardizes international peace; that let alone the international peace, the nation's affairs are not even threatening regional countries or our neighbours."

"What I like most is the personal experiences explained by U Tha Htoo Kyaw of DBKA, Phado Aung San of Phado Aung San group, and U Saw Thamu He of U Saw Thamu He group, the three organizations, that broke away from KNU and returned to the legal fold after allying themselves with the insurgent group for over 30 years."

"According to them, it is clear that the Tatmadaw has never burnt down villages, committed murders and rapes, and driven out villagers. In addition, their clarification revealed in detail the KNU atrocities including extortion, imposition of taxes on contraband goods including timber, blasting of bombs, murdering of people, and driving out of villagers to refugee camps to see that they could not meet the Tatmadaw."

"Their clarification exposed racial and religious discrimination practices within the KNU, KNU leader's robust economies and easy lives in the other country and their children attending classes abroad."

"I have already told you about the insurgent leaders enjoying a prosperous life in the other country."

"That is why the KNU leaders are using peace overtures as a show only and to satisfy their subordinates. As they are receiving dollars from foreign powers, they are following the orders of those powers and speaking ill of the government with false accusations."

"The so-called refugee camps in reality are KNU camps. The KNUs are receiving aids under the guise of refugee camps. Clear as the crystal, KNU insurgents cannot exist without the so-called refugee camps."

"The clarification made by Phado Aung San included he and his 213 members' return to the motherland after passing through mountain ranges, spending the night on the last mountain before descending to the bank of Thaungyin River, from which they crossed into Myanmar territory. The fact proves that they had lived in the other country before arriving back to Myanmar via the river."

"We can also know from the fact that the KNUs are based in the other country, living in the so-called refugee camps."

"Any significant fact in the question asked by the one who was second secretary of the US embassy?"

"It seems that he forgot his position, so we realized the hidden part. He asked the question in Kayin language and English. A diplomat could speak Kayin language fluently. So, you'd better think it yourself."

"The US is preparing to accept the so-called refugees

at the border under a provision of its immigration law."

"You have made us notice it. Ironically, the country has great interest in the KNU."

"Did you listen to the interview with KNU concerning the Hpa-an press conference aired by some foreign radio stations?"

"No I didn't. It will be the same as the previous programmes that had never interviewed the real victims; and that the KNU would deny any wrongdoing, while putting all the blame on the government."

"You are right. They never put questions about the clarifications of U Tha Htoo Kyaw, Phado Aung San and Saw Thamu He made such as the KNU atrocities, public bullying, religious discrimination, KNU leaders doing well in business in the other country and their children pursuing education in foreign countries, receiving foreign assistance after believing the alien encouragement, and following the instructions of alien powers, and KNU refugee camps. These are undeniable incidents. But, they are repeatedly raising same questions to exaggerate the conditions on hardships of KNU nationals due to the operations of the Tatmadaw."

"They are in the habit of making such tricks. We people are well familiar with their acts".

"Recall the KNU acts and you will notice that NLD and KNU have never done something beneficial to the nation and the people since they came into existence. I have noticed that point. But, they are committing destructive acts one after another. And it is the fact that they fail to place trust on national people, but they place too much reliance on alien powers and are following the instructions their masters give to them".

"Throughout the history, the KNU has been committing various atrocities such as collecting extortion money, detonating bombs, robberies, looting, sexual violence and black-market trade and religious discrimination. What is worse is that the KNU receives more alien assistance, KNU leaders and their families live in luxury, and are following the directions of their alien powers".

"Have you read the article 'KNU in reality are ...' by Soe Mya Kyaw and Saw Mya Aung? There are many other atrocities of the KNU that are not included in the article".

"What is the difference between the instance of the KNU and that of the NLD. Since the NLD was formed, many communists have won membership of the party. And there emerged rival factions within the party. It is shouting democracy loudly, but there has been no democracy practised in it. As you know, it is practising the dictatorship. The policies it has laid down are all wrong. It is relying on the alien powers and implementing the schemes its masters adopt to make the people lead a precarious life".

"That is not all. It has called for alien powers to apply the policy of four cuts to hinder national progress and make the people get into troubles and adversities. But, it has not taken any lessons from the results of its acts".

"It is doing so with the instance of letting the nation enjoy development only after its coming to power, and that now the people have to withstand all the trials and tribulations. It has labelled the restriction of some persons according to law due to their undermining of stability and peace of the State as human rights violations. And the NLD is criticizing the Tatmadaw Government's taking measures with patience and great care".

"Recently, I listened to an interview with the NLD. Spokesman U Myint Thein said that it is not true that the NLD has not done anything for the welfare of the people throughout its existence. The authentic desire of the people is to be able to lead a safe and secure life and to enjoy democracy. So, the NLD is doing its best to introduce genuine democracy to the nation".

"Then, that means the NLD is calling for four cuts to enable the people to lead a safe and secure life. And the four cuts is to be lifted only after the

(See page 15)

"Throughout the history, the KNU has been committing various atrocities such as collecting extortion money, detonating bombs, robberies, looting, sexual violence and black-market trade and religious discrimination. What is worse is that the KNU receives more alien assistance, KNU leaders and their families live in luxury, and are following the directions of their alien powers".

Winners of Literature, Music, Painting, Cartoon, Poster, Graphic Painting and Poster, Photo competitions honoured



Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo delivers an address at 20th seized drug destruction ceremony. — MNA

YANGON, 26 June — Organized by Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, a ceremony to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Hanthawady Street and Kyuntaw Street in Kamayut Township this morning, with an address by CCDAC Chairman Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

Present on the occasion were Secretary of CCDAC Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi and members, Resident Representative of UNODC Mr Shariq Bin Raza, Coordinator Mr Willy De Macre of AHRN (Myanmar), heads of departments, delegates to the social organizations, committee members



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo accepts cash donation from a wellwisher at a ceremony of mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. — MNA

of organizing the ceremony, local and foreign journalists, judges of prizes committee, winners and their families and guests.

First, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo made a speech on the occasion. He said: We are commemorating the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking today. The problem of illicit drugs, as we all know, is not something that only a single country or a race is being confronted with. It is a calamity for every country of the world affecting the human race in total. This threat is overshadowing the developed as well as developing

and least developed countries. The problem of illicit drugs needs to be combated on a world-wide scale.

As such, we ourselves on this annual occasion, have been launching mass public movements highlighting the disastrous consequences of illicit drugs to raise people's awareness. They are being held not only here in Yangon but in all different parts of our States and Divisions in a most dynamic manner for the past 19 years. Likewise, I am certain that countries around the world are also commemorating this International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking.

This year's theme for International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking is "Drugs are not Child Play". The essence of this message is never to try out drugs as it can have disastrous consequences on the interconnected web of individual's education, health, economic and social well being. It is not intended only for young people but for people of all ages as drugs, once addicted to it, can drag a person along the steam of peril. In other words, it warns people to take the dire consequences of drugs seriously because once it gets treated lightly, the abuse of it can result in a situation strived with harms and misfortunes. We all are aware of the dangers of illicit drug use, particularly the use of heroin through injecting habits that can lead to horrifying HIV/AIDS disease. Not only that we have callously lost the lives of young people from this disease but we also know that many have become immobilized from the psychotic affects of ATS they are using.

As per our motto "illicit drugs are never rewarding", one of our strategies to enhance public awareness towards the dangers of drugs is through holding educational campaigns. Some of the campaigns like holding literary work, music, paintings, cartoons and posters competitions are found to have very high impact on the general public. We have thus pursued this strategy nation wide and has been encouraging people to enter these competitions for the ninth time this year.

On today's occasion commemorating the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking, we will be awarding prizes to those who won first, second and third prizes in the competitions for short stories, articles, poetries, songs, paintings, cartoons, computer generated paintings/posters and photographs.

For those who won special consolation prizes, awards will also be handed out at States and Divisional level commemorative occasions to be held simultaneously by respective States and Divisions.

We have divided the competitors for paintings, cartoons and posters competitions into four different age groups namely: under 10 years; between 10 to 15 years; between 15 to 20 years and; 20 years and above. We find that the majority belongs to the age group between 10 to 15 years and are very much encouraged that, the more these young people became informed of the hazards of drugs, the better they will be able to value their lives void of drugs and perils associated with it. Only then we can expect an assured future for our country.

Allow me to present on this favourable occasion, a summary of some of Myanmar's initiatives in combating narcotic drugs.

Even before we were able to contain the opium legacy of colonial days and the menace of heroin, which derives from opium itself, we are being faced with the threats of psychotropic substances.

It was the colonialists that allowed poppy

cultivation legally along the eastern banks of Than Lwin river, on the Shan plateau and on the mountains of Kachin State after 1885 and encouraged opium trade.

From the on set of our independence, we strived first to close down the opium dens established by the colonialists. Soon after we gained independence in early 1948, a five year plan was launched to eradicate opium addiction and to dissolve opium dens. A law promulgated in 1955 called for compulsory registration of opium addicts and helped addicts treated at opium addiction treatment centres.

The residual opium dens in parts of Shan States were closed down on 1 October 1965 and all forms of opium trade were prohibited. However, a more potent form of opiate based drug called heroin number (4) entered the scene and dominated mostly young users in major urban areas. To combat this menace, the Government promulgated "Narcotic and Dangerous Drugs Law" in 1974 followed by the promulgation of "Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law" in 1993. This is to ensure that more effective actions, including enforcement measures and sentencing procedures can be applied.

The Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control was reconstituted in 1989 and laid down two major strategies and three tactics in order to initiate illicit drug control measures in unison. As we all know, these initiatives are not entirely focused on enforcement actions but in close cooperation with relevant working groups, we are also actively involved in supply and demand reduction undertakings as well.

The appropriate strategies and tactics we have laid down coupled with the 15-year drugs eradication program and the accompanying the New Destiny Project introduced, we were able to decrease considerably, the total acreage of illicit crop cultivation, the volume of opium and heroin produced, number drug trafficking incidences and the use of drugs itself. Such decrease are being reported in the "World Drug Report" published annually by the United Nations Office for Crime and Drugs (UNODC) which specified that the decline is more prominent in the cultivated acreage that in the production.

(See page 7)



Mr Shariq Bin Raza of UNODC reads out the message sent by UN Secretary-General. MNA



Director-General of the Prisons Department U Zaw Win presents a certificate of honour to an award winner. — MNA

Press conference regarding 20th destruction of seized narcotic drugs

YANGON, 26 June — A press conference regarding the 2006 International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and the 20th destruction of seized narcotic drugs was held at the administrative office of Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Hanthawady Road and Kyundaw Road in Kamayut Township this morning.

Present were Secretary of Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi and members, officials of the Ministry of Information, Patron of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club U Hla Htway, President U Sao Kai Hpa, correspondents and officials from local media.

Joint Secretary of CCDAC Head of Department (Drug) of MPF Police Col Kham Aung made clarifications. He said in commemoration of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking which falls on 26 June, the 20th ceremony for destruction of seized narcotics and psychotropic substances has been successfully conducted. In addition, prize giving ceremonies were also conducted in Yangon for altogether 60 winners those who have been selected in the first, second and third place of the nation-wide competitions in short stories, articles, songs, poetry, cartoon, poster, computer art, computer posters and photographs.

The Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the 20th ceremony for destruction of seized drugs. Ministers, and deputy ministers, high-ranking military officials, ambassadors and embassy officials, officials from UN organizations, international non-governmental organizations and local non-governmental organizations also attended the ceremony.

Similar commemorative ceremonies, competitions and exhibitions were being conducted all over the country and they were held in line with the United Nations Offices on Drugs and Crime's theme "Drugs are not Child's Play".

Drugs were destroyed in this 20th ceremony.

Myanmar, in her efforts to combat the menace of drugs, has launched the 15-Year Drug Elimination Plan since 1999, which includes supply reduction, demand reduction, law enforcement and international cooperation and is sealing up activities in all these areas.

One of the salient components of the 15-Year Drug Elimination Plan is the New Destiny Project in



Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi replies to queries raised by journalists at the press conference. — MNA

which poppy cultivators were provided with support for alternative cash crops. In response, they willingly submitted poppy seeds to the authorities, which amounted to nearly 186 thousand kilos and they were also destroyed by burning on 13 occasions. This amount could be used to cultivate more than 113 thousand acres of poppy or to produce 49.97 tons of heroin.

Myanmar's success in the annual reduction of poppy cultivation and opium production has become evident in the annual drug reports by the Government of the United States of America and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes. Illicit Crop Monitoring Program surveys conducted by UNODC have shown that poppy cultivation has declined 95 per cent in 2002-2005 and opium production has declined 61 per cent.

Opium Yield Surveys jointly conducted with the US since 1993 has shown a dramatic decline in the yield of opium, which reduced to 81 per cent in 2004 when compared with 1993, 89 per cent decline in opium production in 2004 as compared to 1993 levels was also found. These figures attest to the success of Myanmar's efforts to eliminate poppy cultivation and production.

Myanmar is also working very closely and in a collaborative manner with neighbouring countries, taking active participation in international meetings, drug enforcement activities and also sharing of information

with counterpart agencies of neighbouring countries. To cite a recent example of efforts in this regard, 22 drug traffickers including Yang Yu Kyar from China were handed over to China on 27th June 2005 as well as Han Yu Wan (a) Khing Soe and Ah So (a) Ah Su from China who were arrested in Myanmar were handed over to the Chinese authorities on 2nd October, 2005. Altogether 61 drug traffickers who are Chinese citizens have been handed over to Chinese authorities since 2001. One Thai citizen drug trafficker, Sun Maluk was handed over to Thailand on 16th June 2005. In addition, Ah Yang (a) Taranai Vantrakul and Ah Tee (a) Sai Lon, the two major drug traffickers of Soe San Zone, 592.52 kilos of heroin case were handed over to Chinese authorities on 3rd March 2005. In this year Yang Ah Hong who involved in the case of the seizure of large amount of narcotic drugs and arms and ammunitions in Tachilek, was handed over to Myanmar on 24th February 2006.

Myanmar is totally committed to the task of eliminating the menace of drugs using a comprehensive approach to tackle it effectively.

Director-General of MPF Brig-Gen Khin Yi, Joint Secretary of CCDAC Head of Department (Drug) of MPF Police Col Kham Aung and officials replied to queries raised by local and foreign newsmen.

MNA

Winners of Literature, Music,...

(from page 6)

Similarly, the 1995 "US Government Drug Strategy Report" reported a decline in illicit drug production. Myanmar's efforts to eradicate illicit drugs as a national cause not only complements the goals and objectives of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Narcotic Drugs but also illustrates our compliance to the resolutions adopted by it.

Myanmar fully understands that measures to combat the problems of illicit drug cannot be achieved single handedly. It is important for us to cooperate with the members of the international community and have thus signed memorandum of understanding with countries within this region and sub-region as well as with other neighboring countries to combine efforts in this regard.

During our signature to the 1988 United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, we did put on record, our reservations to Article (6) regarding the extradition of offenders to other countries. However, in practice, consideration whether to render the offenders or not are being given on a case by case basis and the total number of offenders handed over to Thailand in (4) instances and to China in (17) instances stands at (65).

Cooperation and exchange of information between the members of Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Forces, Customs Department and Anti Narcotic Task Forces as well as with other anti narcotic drugs agencies of neighboring countries like Thailand and China helped us step up our enforcement measures. Drugs confiscated from traffickers through these joint efforts are being burnt and destroyed at the beginning of this commemorative occasion today in view of all our distinguished guests for the twentieth time. We have burnt and destroyed confiscated drugs on (20) occasions in Yangon alone and on (39) different occasions in other States and Divisions around the country.

We are aware that enforcing measures to reduce

drug supply alone cannot eradicate drugs and related problems. Reducing demand for drugs is also an important measure which we have to rely heavily on the support and cooperation of our citizens. Accordingly, we have formed different working groups on providing drug treatment, on establishing rehabilitation programmes, on raising public awareness and on educating youth on the dangers of drugs and have launched campaigns on a nationwide scale as part of demand reduction activities.

We also need to instigate patriotism among the general population, advocate love for its own country and people and instill eagerness to appreciate Myanmar's literature, music and culture. By the same token, we need to ensure that the menace of drugs and its disastrous consequences are being understood and realize the need to stay away from them. It is in this context that we are holding competitions for literary work, music, paintings, cartoons and posters so that the adverse affects of drugs will sink in and take root.

The advocating power of those members of the panel of judges is a motivating factor that prompted professionals as well as amateurs, student and people from all different walks of life to increasingly participate in these annual competitions most enthusiastically.

I would still like to encourage members of the panel to further expand their advocacy campaigns in order to increase the number of participants. The more people participate in such events, the more we can be assured that the population at large are ready and willing to combat the menace of drugs and its disastrous consequences.

As you all are aware, Myanmar's pursuit to eradicate illicit drugs is primarily based on its commitment to pursue as a country's national cause using its wealth and resources most rigorously. In compliance with 2006 theme "Drugs are not Child's Play", I would like to urge very solemnly to all our citizens, regardless of age and other factors, never to treat the problems of drugs lightly, to take it seriously and never to try them out as it can have disastrous consequences on the interconnected web of individual's education, health, economic and social well being.

Next, Resident Representative of UNODC Mr Shariq Bin Raza read out a message sent by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Afterwards, Resident Representative of UNODC Mr Shariq Bin Raza donated K 200,000, Chairman of Myanmar Border Area Development Association U Maung Maung Soe Tint (Retired Ambassador) presented K 200,000, Coordinator Mr Willy De Macre of AHRN (Myanmar) K 400,000, and U Than Naing of Japanese JBB Co Ltd K 200,000 to honour the prize-winners. LDSC Country Director Mr Kelvyn Cullimore also donated 215 bags of books and stationery at the ceremony. After accepting the donations, Maj-Gen Maung Oo presented certificates of honour to wellwishers.

Next, the prize presentation ceremony followed. Director-General of Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department presented first, second and third prizes to winners at novel and poem contests. Director-General of Prisons Department U Zaw Win presented first, second and third prizes to winners at article and song contests. Chairman of Myanmar Anti-Drug Association U San Thein (Retired Ambassador) handed first, second and third prizes to winners at age-wise painting contest. Chairman of Myanmar Border Areas Development Association U Maung Maung Soe Tint (Retired Ambassador) gave away first, second and third prizes to winners at age-wise cartoon contest. Director-General of Training, Research and Foreign Languages Department U Than Tun presented first, second and third prizes to winners at poster competition. Police Adjutant General Police Brig-Gen Soe Win Myint of Myanmar Police Force presented first, second and third prizes to winners at graphic poster contest. Resident Representative of UNODC Mr Shariq Bin Raza presented first, second and third prizes to winners at graphic painting contest. Coordinator Mr Willy De Macre of AHRN (Myanmar) presented first, second and third prizes to winners at photo contest.

Afterwards, Brig-Gen Khin Yi presented certificates of honour and cash prizes to officials of prizes committee.

MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets diplomats at the 20th seized narcotic drugs destruction ceremony. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets military attaches at the 20th seized narcotic drugs destruction ceremony. — MNA

Myanmar continues to eliminate ...

(from page 1)

our commitment in this endeavour.

Kindly allow me to take this occasion to present Myanmar's efforts to eliminate narcotic drugs to assure you that Myanmar is also taking

substitution and income substitution to eliminate poppy cultivation which is in line with the 15-Year Plan to Eliminate Narcotic Drugs. We have now reached the second year of the Second Five-Year Phase and assessing the

ing standards of the national races in the border areas also contributed to the successful results.

Drawing experience gained from the successful implementation of the First Five-Year Phase as mentioned above, we



Diplomats and UN resident representatives inspect seized narcotic drugs before being destroyed. — MNA

an active part in the international effort.

In order to honour this auspicious day, Myanmar has conducted similar ceremonies annually on this day and has now reached the 20th time since the first occasion which commenced in 1990. May I point out that we have conducted 39 ceremonies of this kind to destroy narcotic drugs, chemical precursors and opium seeds all over the country.

After the 19th occasion of destroying narcotic drugs, three additional similar ceremonies were conducted on 22nd October 2005 in Laizar and Lwe Je Townships in Kachin State and in Kengtung Township, Eastern Shan State on 26th April 2006.

Myanmar has not only conducted narcotic drug enforcement activities but also has launched Alternative Development Programmes through crop

progress of activities related to poppy cultivation and production, we have been able to successfully achieve the target objectives laid down for the First Five-Year Phase.

The implementation of the five rural development tasks in 24 regions to upgrade the liv-

would like to reiterate our commitment to continue the Second Five-Year Phase programmes which are, elimination of production and demand, law enforcement, community participation, collaboration with the international community and to achieve the target objectives.



Those attending the 20th seized narcotic drugs destruction ceremony. MNA

In this connection, the Opium Yield Survey which was conducted as a collaborative effort with the United States has shown that poppy cultivation has declined 81 per cent and opium production has declined 89 per cent during the period from 1993 to 2004.

The Illicit Crop Monitoring Program conducted in collaboration with UNODC has also shown that poppy cultivation declined 59 per cent and opium production declined 61 per cent during the period from 2002 to 2005. These successful outcomes were given due

recognition by the United States government and UNODC was officially declared to the international community in the Annual World Drug Report and due credit was given to Myanmar's successful efforts to eliminate poppy cultivation and production.

Assessment of the seizures of opium and heroin from 1997 to the current year has shown that there has been a marked decline in the amount of opium and heroin seized which indicates reduced production. Opium seizures reduced from 7800 kilos in 1997 to

772 kilos in 2005 while heroin seizures reduced from 1400 kilos in 1997 to 811 kilos in 2005.

With regard to Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), we would like to draw attention to the fact that since newer preparations of ATS has been seized, we are monitoring these developments closely and are taking effective action. Ecstasy tablets which are also known as "head-shaking" pills, have been seized since 2001. There have been altogether 11 Ecstasy related arrests during the period from (See page 9)



The 20th seized narcotic drugs destruction ceremony in progress. — MNA

Myanmar continues to eliminate ...

(from page 8)
2001 to 2006 and a total of 5914 tablets were seized. In addition to Ecstasy, a crystal form

Myanmar fully recognizes that drug control cannot be effectively conducted by one country alone and that cooperation

Kyin, Tachilek Township in the near future. With regards to collaboration efforts with China, Myanmar has ren-



Ambassadors and diplomats attend the 20th destruction of seized drugs. — MNA

of amphetamine known as ICE has also been seized since 2001. There have been altogether 12 ICE-related arrests and a total of 1,315.6 kilos of ICE was seized.

With regards to precursor chemicals, 39 thousand litres of precursor chemicals to produce ATS were seized in 2003, 17 thousand litres in 2004, 17.9 thousand litres in 2005. I would like to point out that these precursor chemicals are not produced in Myanmar but illegally trafficked into the country from neighbouring countries. We are also aware that our neighbouring countries are also taking measures to prevent diversions of these precursor chemicals to illicit markets. However, unscrupulous persons are still using various methods to traffick these precursor chemicals into the country. I would like to stress here at this point that Myanmar is taking this issue seriously and is taking effective steps to combat this problem.

and collaboration with neighbouring countries on a bilateral, trilateral and sub-regional arrangement are necessary to ensure success in this area. Recognizing this, Myanmar is actively and closely cooperating and collaborating drug control activities where appropriate.

Another landmark development in international collaboration is that in recent years, Myanmar has extended her efforts and is working not only with neighbouring countries but also with relevant international organizations. Myanmar-China Border area liaison offices have now been opened in Lwe Je, Kachin State and Chin Shwe Haw in Northern Shan State and Myanmar-Thai Border Area liaison offices have been opened in Myawady, Tachilek and Kawthoung. In Myanmar-Lao border area, similar offices have been opened in Wan Pon, Tachilek Township. To increase Myanmar-Lao collaboration further, another office will be opened in Wan

dered 61 drug offenders over 17 occasions since 2001. China, in return, has rendered 3 drug offenders to Myanmar over 2 occasions between 2005 and 2006.

With regards to collaboration efforts with Thailand, Myanmar has handed over 3 drug offenders over 2 occasions in 2004 and 2005. Thailand in return, has rendered back a Myanmar drug offender in January 2005.

Since details of the successes obtained through collaborative efforts with international community has been mentioned at the Press Conference 4/2006 conducted by the State Peace and Development Council which was held in Kengtung on 25 April 2006, only the salient points will be mentioned today.

I would like to bring your attention to the highly successful case where a large seizure of 992 heroin blocks weighing 496 kilos were seized

and named CASE 496. In this case, Myanmar and China had been exchanging cross border information and investigating suspicious targets for months. As the information was reliable the Regional Command and Anti-Narcotic Task Forces interdicted a convoy between Nawngkhio and Mong Pyin, 7 vehicles carrying arms, 4.1 million baths, 150 thousand kyats along with 62 million US dollars worth of heroin were seized. The drug offenders in this case were arrested and appropriate action has been taken against them.

The key drug offender and owner of the heroin blocks in this case was a Chinese national Han Yu Wan. He and his accomplice Arr Su were arrested in Vientiane, Lao on September 22, 2005. They were rendered to China NNCC by CCDAC.

I would like to mention a tactical raid conducted in Tachilek District from 26 December



Director-General of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi. — MNA

rounds of ammunition, 48 grenades, and 57 vehicles were seized and 33 drug offenders were arrested. The value of drugs seized amounted to 125.43 billion kyats which is equivalent to 1.4 billion US dollars.

In another incident, information that raw opium was being collected for heroin production in Wan Yein and Lwe Che area of Loilem District of Southern Shan State was obtained.

los of No 3 heroin, 65.32 kilos of raw opium, 40 gallons of opium oil, 100 gallons of opium solution, 325 kilos of ammonium chloride, 56 blocks of ammonium chloride, 60 gallons of Lysol, other chemicals and related materials were seized along with 29 drug offenders.

These are some examples of the success achieved from the cooperation and collaboration between the local military and police forces,



Seized narcotic drugs to be incinerated at the 20th destruction of seized drugs. — MNA

2005 to 29 May 2006. In this case, 14.93 million tablets of ATS, 50.095 kilos of heroin, more than 1,000 kilos of raw opium, precursor chemicals and 196 assorted weapons more than 28 thousand

Based on this information the Myanmar Police Force and the military staged a joint operation successfully from 3 May 2006 to 13 May 2006. From the two clandestine drug production facilities, 343 ki-

CCDAC, NNCC of China, ONCB of Thailand and LCDC of Laos.

At the same time, Myanmar has also entered into agreements with India both at the central and (See page 10)



Seized narcotic drugs to be incinerated at the 20th destruction seized drugs. — MNA

Myanmar continues to eliminate ...

(from page 9)

grassroots levels to increase collaboration and information sharing through regular meetings.

The outcome of the increased collaboration with neighbouring countries is that drug trafficking syndicates have reduced their movements considerably.

Since the drug control efforts of the neighbouring countries in the sub-region have resulted in increased success of Myanmar's drug control efforts in a



Diplomats, military attaches' inspect narcotic drugs before being destroyed. — MNA

direct manner, Myanmar is also determined to carry out her activities in an increasing manner in the future. At this juncture, may I state that although Myanmar did not receive support from the international community, Myanmar conducted drug elimination activities in accordance with the directives, strategies and tactics laid down by our national leaders and have done them energetically and with determination based on self reliance.

In conclusion, I would like to mention a few words on the narcotic drugs that we will destroy today.

The narcotic drugs that will be destroyed today consist of

- 690.611 kilos of opium
- 169.778 kilos of heroin
- 80.923 kilos of marijuana
- 2,109,625 tablets of ATS weighing 210.96 kilos
- 24.04 kilos of ephedrine
- 101.749 kilos of ICE
- 5,308 tablets of Ecstasy
- 44,868 tablets of diazepam
- 4,764 ampoules of diazepam injection.

The street value of the above narcotic drugs is estimated at 148.4 million US dollars. So, the total value of narcotic drugs that have been destroyed up to this 20th occasion amounts to nearly 15 thousand million dollars (14,809.9 million dollars). May I invite the distinguished guests to examine and conduct tests on these drugs for their authenticity before they are burned and destroyed.

Next, Foreign Ambassadors to Myanmar and charges' de affaires, military attaches' and resident representatives of UN and officials incinerated seized drugs



Those attending the 20th seized narcotic drugs destroying ceremony.— MNA

at the designated places and investigated seized drugs.

Afterwards, CCDAC Chairman Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo and Dean of Diplomatic Corps Philippine Ambassador to Myanmar Mme Phoebe A G Gomez incinerated seized drugs at the same time.

After the ceremony, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein cordially greeted foreign ambassadors to Myanmar and charges' de affaires, military attaches' and resident representatives of UN and officials.

Narcotic Drugs destroyed on the 20th occasion

Opium	690.611	kilos
Heroin	169.778	kilos
Opium oil	1.36	kilos
Opium liquid	204.516	kilos
Morphine	3.881	kilos
Speciosa	166.133	kilos
Marijuana	80.923	kilos
ICE	101.749	kilos
Ephedrine	24.045	kilos
Caffeine	0.003	kilos
Methamphetamine Powder	0.029	kilos
Methamphetamine Tablet	2,109,625	tablets
Diazepam tablet	44,868	tablets
Ephedrine tablet	595	tablets
Alprazolam tablet	20,278	tablets
Cough syrup (Codeine)	27.870	litre (510 vials)
Buprenorphine Injection	10	vials
Diazepam injection	4,764	vials
Dextropropoxyphene	8	vials
Pentazocine injection	1,198	vials
Pentazocine tablet	591	tablets
Phenoarbital tablet	1,085	tablets
Morphine injection	1,709	vials
Ecstasy	5,308	vials
Nitrazepam tablet	660	tablets
Total	1,660.575 kilos (1.6605 tons)	— MNA

Nun clothing, school uniforms, stationery donated to school of Withakha nunnery

YANGON, 26 June — As a gesture hailing Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July, leader of work group for care and cultivation for women Daw Tin Tin Nwe, deputy leader Daw Khin Myo Myint, leader of work group for prevention of violence against women Daw Htay Htay, leader of work group for prevention of human trafficking Daw Khin May Soe, leader of work group for cultivation and rehabilitation Daw Kyi Kyi Mya and members donated nun clothes, school uniforms and stationery worth K 242,000 and cash K 255,000 totalling K 497,000 towards 110 national races pursuing education at Withakha nunnery.

Next, leader Daw Tin Tin Nwe gave talks on salient points of Myanmar Women's Federation, nutrition and personal hygiene.

MNA

The One I Love

The one I love
 The good one sisters in law.
 Today, in the Myanmar nation
 The flags are aflutter valiantly
 Victory celebrations are many.
 The big bridges have multiplied
 We have our hands clasped in all directions.
 For exchange of agri-produce
 The way is cleared to be fast and smooth.
 Pay attention to buyer economy
 We buy, sell, and transact
 None of mainland and states excluded.
 The beauty of these all abloom.
 No gender discrimination, all alike
 Together in competition they emulate.
 And the nation is all prosperous.
 Women's honour is carried forth
 Hands held together for the State.
 3rd of July is full of strength.
 Boys and girls together
 If you love the people and the nation
 In Myanmar land where the foundation is firmly laid
 Good opportunities are at hand
 Come merry together with white flowers
 If you don't want to join the girls and help
 And are sulky and just gab
 Untiringly sit by and chatter untiringly

It doesn't add up to loving the nation.

O, my loved ones

The fair-skinned who love your land

Like-minded, just step forward

Think of Myanmar interest in Myanmar vein

Fawn not for aunt over mother's shoulder

Knowing mother to be mother

Strive for the people's interest

Mass of Myanmar women, let's firmly

Keep our hands held.

Ma Thiri (Yankin) (Trs)

(Hailing the Myanmar Women's Day — 3rd July 2006)



မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီးများနေ့

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MYANMAR WOMEN'S DAY

3rd July 2006

Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy

(from page 16)

Also present at the dinner were Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence and wife, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife, senior military officers and their wives, the Thai ambassador and the military attaché.

Before and during dinner Tatmadaw (Navy) modern music troupe and the drama troupe of Fine Arts Department entertained the guests with songs and dances. — MNA

Vice-Admiral Soe Thein hosts dinner in honour of Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and wife at Ayeyawady Naval Regional Command Headquarters. — MNA



Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and party visit Naval Training Command Headquarters. — MNA



Admiral Satirapan Keyanon grows a gangaw tree. — MNA

Wife of C-in-C of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Satirapan Keyanon visits Myanma Gem Museum

YANGON, 26 June — Mrs Pornpen Keyanon, wife of Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Satirapan Keyanon, and party visited Myanma Gem Museum on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning. Mrs Pornpen Keyanon and party observed the display of gems at the museum. They were conducted round by officials of Myanma Gem Enterprise. — MNA

Minister visits jade, gems, pearl special sales



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint converses with gem merchants. — MNA

1,247 jade lots sold

YANGON, 26 June — Myanmar Convention Centre saw the sale of 1,247 lots of jade within three days from 24 June to today which sold 465 lots. Jade sales continue up to 4 July. Today, 1,453 merchants from 391 foreign companies of nine countries and 897 merchants of 381 local companies attended the jade, gems and pearl special sales being held at the centre in Yangon. — MNA



Gem merchants buy jade lots through tender system. — MNA

YANGON, 26 June — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint visited Myanmar Convention Centre, the venue of jade special sales, here today.

At the meeting held at the centre, the minister gave an address.

Present were Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise U Thein Swe, officials and entrepreneurs.

The respective sub-committees presented accomplishments sectorwise.

The meeting discussed the display and the sale of jade, gems and pearl. — MNA



**မြန်မာနိုင်ငံစာပေနှင့်တနယ်လင်းအဖွဲ့
စတုတ္ထအကြိမ်ညီလာခံ ၂၀၀၆ ခုနှစ်
ဇူလိုင်လ (၁) ရက်မှ (၂) ရက်
ပြည်ထောင်စုခန်းမ၊ ကျိုက္ကဆံကွင်း
ရန်ကုန်မြို့**

ADVERTISEMENTS

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SRI MONG KOL VOY NO (465)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SRI MONG KOL VOY NO (465) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 26.6.2006 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/SA DVANCE CONTAINER
LINES (PTE) LTD**

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(For Ella Cheong Spruson & Ferguson (Singapore) Pte Ltd, Singapore)
Dated. 27 June 2006

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ပျားမွေးပျိုးရေး
နွယ်ခြံအကျိုး
ဆောင်ရွက်ပေးပါ။

Beijing's foreign trade grows 30% in 1st months

BEIJING, 25 June — Foreign trade in China's capital amounted to 61.41 billion US dollars in the first five months of this year, representing a year-on-year growth of 30.1 per cent.

According to latest data from the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics, the total included 13.37 billion US dollars in export volume, up 16.6 per cent; and 48.04 billion US dollars in import volume, up 34.5 per cent.— *MNA/Xinhua*

Oil prices mixed amid concern over supply

NEW YORK, 25 June — World crude oil prices ended mixed Friday amid concern over supply.

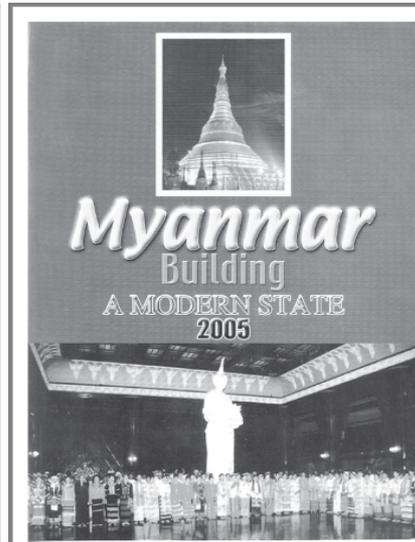
New York's main contract, light sweet crude for delivery in August, gained three cents to close at 70.87 dollars per barrel.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for August delivery fell three cents to 69.93 dollars per barrel.

Iranian Oil Minister Kazem Vaziri-Hamaneh said on Friday that Iran will stop importing gasoline from September 23 and impose rationing considering the budget constraints.

Iran, OPEC's second biggest crude oil exporter, relies heavily on gasoline imports because refineries capacity falls far behind demand.

The US Department of Energy reported Wednesday that gasoline reserves went up 300,000 barrels to 213.4 million



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UNSG appeals for Int's support for new Peacebuilding Commission

UNITED NATIONS, 25 June— UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Friday called on the international community to support the work of the newly-established UN Peacebuilding Commission.

Addressing the first session of the commission, Annan said the new organ will aim to provide more sustained, more coordinated and more focused support to countries emerging from conflict.

"However, we have seen an unacceptable

number of peace agreements disintegrate within five years after the end of a civil war, with countries lapsing back into deadly conflict," he observed.

The Secretary-General noted that there are some of the weaknesses in current international responses to post-conflict situations.

"One is a shortage of funds. Another is the lack of international co-ordination. A third is the tendency for international actors to leave too hurriedly," he said.

"All of these challenges directly informed the design and mandate of the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as the creation

of the Peacebuilding Support Office and Standing Fund," the Secretary-General concluded.

He expected the commission will support the development of peacebuilding strategies, and build consensus among international actors for their implementation.

Meanwhile, Annan pointed out that the members of the commission are not only key stakeholders such as troop contributors and donors, but also countries which themselves have gone through the transition from war to peace.

"You will be called upon to act as like-minded supporters, and as allies who will remain engaged

in a country beyond the lifespan of a peacekeeping mission," he told the member states.

However, Annan emphasized that peacebuilding requires national ownership, and must be homegrown, adding "increased re-sources and improved coordination will not, in themselves, be enough to bring about lasting peace".

The UN General Assembly and Security Council adopted a resolution in December to establish the new Peacebuilding Commission to help countries emerging from conflict manage the difficult transition to stability and development.

MNA/Xinhua

Scientists unearth key to dodo's past

MARE-AUX-SONGES (Mauritius), 25 June—

Scientists in Mauritius have said they have unearthed a wealth of dodo bones and other remains which could contain clues about how the giant bird became extinct.

Most theories blame early settlers who found the plump flightless bird on the Indian Ocean island in the 16th century and hunted it relentlessly.

A group of researchers this month

excavated a site on a Mauritian sugar estate, where a layer of dodo bones were found last October.

"It's a wonderful collection," Dr Julian Hume, a scientist on the Dodo Research Programme, told journalists at an excavation site in southern Mauritius late on Friday.

"The chances of a single (intact) bone being preserved is remarkable event. And here we have a whole collection of them."

Hume said there were also bones of the giant Mauritius tortoise, which became extinct around the same time as the dodo, and hundreds of seeds of trees that no longer grow there.

MNA/Reuters

Madagascar declaration urges Africa environment safeguards

ANTANANARIVO, 25 June— Conservationists called for urgent action to protect Africa's fragile environment on Saturday, saying it was crucial to many people's survival.

Endorsed by 350 scientists, policy makers and environmentalists, the "Madagascar Declaration" said Africa's natural wealth had so far failed to improve the lives of most people on the

world's poorest continent. "Ecosystem services that function as the foundation for human welfare — clear air, fresh water, food and fibre, and natural medicines — are being jeopardized," the statement said.

"Reversing this trend is imperative for human well-being, and for many people, for their very survival," it said.

The five-day

conference heard a host of frightening environmental scenarios from top experts.

Deforestation rates in Africa are probably occurring faster than previously thought, exacerbating ills including loss of fertile soil through erosion and loss of habitat for rare creatures which could attract ecotourists to poor countries.

MNA/Reuters

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Russian cargo spaceship lifts off

Moscow, 25 June — A Russian cargo spaceship was launched on Saturday to convey supplies for the International Space Station (ISS) from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, according to the Mission Control outside Moscow.

The Progress M-57 cargo spacecraft blasted off from the Central Asian steppe at 19:08 Moscow Time (1508 GMT) with more than 2.5 tons of cargoes on board, including new equipment, oxygen, food products, water, fuel and necessary equipment for the station.

The ship reached the designated orbit at 19:17 Moscow Time (1517

GMT). At an altitude of about 200 kilometres, the ship separated from the Soyuz-U carrier and continued its flight to the ISS along the preset trajectory.

The three-stage liquid-fuel Soyuz-U carrier has a lift-off mass of more than 300 tons. It is built to put piloted Soyuz ships, Progress transport ships, and space craft of up to 7.2 tons into an orbit of about 200 kilometres.

Along with standard cargoes and personal parcels, gifts will be sent to the commander of the 13th resident crew, Pavel Vinogradov, who will celebrate his 53rd birthday aboard the ISS on August

31. Clothes for the new resident crew will be sent as well.

Psychologists will provide new books, magazines, videos, and music CDs for the ISS crew. Progress M-57 will dock with the ISS at 20:30 Moscow Time (1630 GMT) on Monday. It will use the Pirs module, vacated for it by the transport ship Progress M-55, which, loaded with waste, undocked from the ISS and de-orbited on Monday.—MNA/Xinhua



A general view shows the nearly finished Lhasa Railway Station in Lhasa, Tibet, on 24 June, 2006. The Qinghai-Tibet Railway, which will begin trial operations on 1 July, 2006.—INTERNET

Africa falling behind in mathematical sciences

JOHANNESBURG, 25 June—Africa is in danger of behind in its ability to

provide high quality graduates in the mathematical sciences, South African Science and Technology Minister Mosibudi Mangena said on Friday.

In South Africa itself, the number of students graduating as secondary school maths, science teachers was approaching zero, and "this is cause for grave concern," said the minister. Mangena was speaking at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) graduation ceremony in Muizenburg, Cape Town, reported the SAPA news agency.

He said his department was tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the development of science and technology in the country. "Without mathematics teachers — the foot soldiers in our

classrooms in the villages and townships — the results of the work done by my department will not reach the desired mark," he said. The minister warned that most African countries were in the same situation as South Africa. "Mathematics is the

bedrock of all sciences, and without mathematicians, Africa's hope of reclaiming its unique position in the community of nations will remain an illusion," he said. He said the formation of AIMS in 2003 was a major accomplishment for Africa.—MNA/Xinhua



A horse is caught by two men during the "Rapa Das Bestas" event in Cedeira, northwestern Spain, on 25 June, 2006. Throughout the summer, hundreds of wild horses are rounded up, trimmed and groomed in different villages in Galicia.—INTERNET

Technician warns police over London bombers

LONDON, 25 June — A British computer expert say she warned police in 2003 about the activities of two men who carried out last year's suicide bombings in London, mediareported on Saturday.

Martin Gilbertson, 45, told The Guardian and the BBC he had gone to police in October 2003 about the men after becoming alarmed about anti-Western material being produced by an Islamic bookshop in West Yorkshire where he helped maintain computers.

He says he sent West Yorkshire Police a package including DVD material he had compiled for circulation by the bookshop, and a list of names including those of two of the bombers, Mohammad Sidique Khan and Shehzad Tanweer, who lived locally.

MNA/Reuters

Inspection pressure may prompt teachers to quit

LONDON, 25 June—Plans to inspect certain schools more often will increase pressure on teachers and may prompt some to consider quitting, union leaders warned on Friday.

They were reacting to an announcement by schools inspectorate Ofsted that it will step up surveillance of schools from September if it deems them only "satisfactory".

Ofsted is planning to move to a system which it called "more proportionate to risk", which would also involve cutting the frequency of inspections of schools doing well. Steve Sinnott, General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers said: "The only effect of Ofsted's proposals to increase monitoring for schools judged satisfactory will be to increase stress and pressure on school staff.

"Increasing punitive inspections rather than support for schools will simply lead to many teachers and head teachers asking whether it is worth staying in teaching," he added. The National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) has accused Ofsted of "raising the bar", causing more schools to do poorly in inspections.— MNA/Reuters

Singapore recalls Cadbury chocolates imported from Britain

SINGAPORE, 25 June—The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) has recalled seven Cadbury chocolate products made in Britain, according to Channel NewsAsia report Saturday. The move came after Cadbury, a British chocolate producer, found traces of salmonella in chocolates made in a factory in Britain and recalled them in Britain and Ireland.

The products being recalled here include Dairy Milk Turkish, Dairy Milk Caramel, Dairy Milk Mint, Dairy Milk 8 chunk, Dairy Milk 1 kilogramme, Dairy Milk Button Easter Egg and Freddo bars, the report said.— MNA/Xinhua



California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger poses with Mickey Mouse at the world premiere of his new adventure film 'Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest' at Disneyland in Anaheim, California on 24 June, 2006. The film opens in the US on 7 July, 2006.—INTERNET

SPORTS

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

Tuesday, 27 June 2006
Brazil v Ghana, 21:30 MST
 Wednesday, 28 June 2006
Spain v France, 01:30 MST

British newspapers celebrate England victory

LONDON, 26 June— British newspapers celebrated England's 1-0 win over Ecuador in the second round of the World Cup with front-page pictures of jubilant captain David Beckham.

Beckham, who scored the winning goal with a free kick midway through the second half, vomited on the pitch after his goal and was replaced late in the second half.

"Queasy does it", said *The Sun* in a front-page spread with a picture of Beckham celebrating his stunning goal. *The Daily Express* opted for "Nice and Queasy" on the back page.

The Daily Telegraph chose a more restrained: "Beckham special sees England through."

The Sun's Neil Curtis said if England were to have any hope of winning the World Cup, they would need "the skipper's trusty right boot".

"You have to hand it old Goldenballs, he still has the eye for the big occasion — and the dramatic," Curtis said.

Henry Winter in the *Daily Telegraph* said Beckham's winner was "one of those redemption moments he specializes in.—MNA/Reuters

Beckham puts England into quarter

STUTTGART, 26 June— Captain David Beckham fired England into the World Cup quarterfinals with a trademark free kick that earned them a scrappy 1-0 victory over Ecuador on Sunday.

Beckham crashed his shot home from 35 metres on the hour mark of what had been a moribund second round game played in sticky conditions at the Gottlieb-Daimler-Stadion.

Victory means Sven-Goran Eriksson's men now play either the Netherlands or Portugal, who meet later on Sunday, in a quarterfinal on Saturday at Gelsenkirchen.

Beckham, whose free kick against Paraguay in their Group B opener was turned into his own net by captain Carlos Gamarra for a 1-0 win, became England's first player to score in three World Cups.

England were playing in a 4-5-1 formation with

Wayne Rooney as a lone striker and Michael Carrick making his competitive England debut as a holding midfielder.

With Michael Owen out of the finals with a knee injury, the theory was to

allow Steven Gerrard and Frank Lampard to get forward in support of Rooney.

The practice was that England failed to create a single goalscoring opportunity in a scrappy first half and were lucky not to go in

at the break a goal down.

John Terry's poor headed interception after 11 minutes fell to Carlos Tenorio and the Ecuador striker had only keeper Paul Robinson to beat.

But Tenorio took a second too long and his deflected shot, under a challenge by Ashley Cole, hit the bar and flew over. Ecuador, who reverted to the side which beat Costa Rica 3-0 to reach the last 16, looked sharper with strike pair Agustin Delgado and Tenorio back in the side.

Edison Mendez was the next to give Robinson a fright with a fizzing free kick that ricocheted just wide of the post off Delgado.—MNA/Reuters



Another chance falls to Beckham on the hour and this time he makes no mistake, squeezing the ball inside Mora's post.—INTERNET

Curtis stays on course at rain-drenched Booz Allen

POTOMAC (Maryland), 26 June — American Ben Curtis held an eight-stroke lead with seven holes to play when the Booz Allen Classic was suspended because of lightning on Sunday.

Play is set to resume at the TPC Avenel course at 8 am on Monday with 46 players yet to complete their rounds. Curtis, the 2003 British Open cham-

panion, was at 23 under par after 11 holes with Ireland's Pdraig Harrington his closest challenger at 15 under par through 13.

"Hopefully, for me, it

would obviously be a step in the right direction, where I could build on it and get a few more wins," the 29-year-old Curtis told reporters. Although Curtis extended his lead by three strokes in the final round, he had just hit his second shot on the par-four 12th hole into a creek when officials halted play. He said he would be happy to bogey the hole. "I've still got to play my game, and just fo-

cus on hitting the fairways, hitting the greens and giving myself a few chances. I don't want to go to sleep tonight (thinking) 'Oh, you've got it won,' he added. Curtis, seeking only his second PGA Tour victory, is on course to break the tournament record score of 21 under par set in 1991 by Jeff Sluman and Billy Andrade and matched in 2004 by Adam Scott.—MNA/Reuters

Portugal survive battle with Dutch

NUREMBERG, 26 June— Portugal booked their place in the World Cup quarterfinals with a bruising and bad-tempered 1-0 win over Netherlands at the Frankenstadion on Sunday.

In a dramatic and explosive game marked by a flurry of yellow cards and four reds, a record for a match at any World Cup finals, Portugal clung onto the advantage they earned when Maniche fired them ahead after only 23 minutes.

Despite the dismissals of Portuguese midfielders Costinha and Deco plus Dutch defender Khalid Boulahrouz and midfielder Giovanni van Bronckhorst by Russian referee Valentin Ivanov, it was a contest of high-quality and much attacking play.

Portugal will meet England in the last eight in Gelsenkirchen on Saturday.

Netherlands, who replaced striker Ruud van Nistelrooy with Dirk Kuyt, enjoyed most of the early possession but in a tight and technical contest they

also picked up two quick cautions in a game that was littered with cards.

The first went to Mark van Bommel for a foul on Cristiano Ronaldo after only two minutes and the second, after seven, to Boulahrouz for a vicious high challenge that left a cut high up across Cristiano Ronaldo's right thigh.

The Dutch right back was lucky not to be sent off but the damage he did resulted in Ronaldo, after being treated twice, limping out of the game after 34 minutes.

By then, Maniche had been cautioned for a challenge on van Bommel and struck the opening goal, a sweetly-taken right-foot finish from 12 metres. The goal was made by Pauleta.

Receiving a low cross from Deco, on the right, the striker delicately held up the ball before laying it off to Maniche who side-stepped a challenge from Andre Ooijer and then planted a right-foot shot inside Edwin van der Saar's left post.

Within nine minutes Costinha picked up his first yellow card for a foul on Phillip Cocu.

MNA/Reuters



This combination photograph shows referee Valentin Ivanov of Russia showing red cards to (clockwise from top left) Portugal's Costinha (6), Netherlands' Khalid Boulahrouz (3), Portugal's Deco (20), and Netherlands' Giovanni van Bronckhorst (5) during the second round World Cup 2006 soccer match between Portugal and the Netherlands in Nuremberg on 25 June, 2006. In a dramatic and explosive game marked by a flurry of yellow cards and four reds, a record for a match at any World Cup finals, Portugal clung on to Maniche Ribeiro's goal to win 1-0.—INTERNET

Russia's Maria Sharapova plays during a practice session a day before the start of the Wimbledon tennis championships in London on 25 June, 2006. INTERNET



Over 300 arrested before England vs Ecuador World Cup match

STUTTGART, 26 June— More than 300 people were arrested in two incidents involving English soccer fans on Saturday, the day before England meet Ecuador in their World Cup second-round match here on Sunday.

After Germany's 2-0 win over Sweden, English and German fans clashed in a plaza near outdoor viewing screens in the city.

German fans were singing in celebration when England fans began throwing plastic chairs and bottles at them, police spokeswoman Christiane Honer said.

Five Germans were injured before officers in riot gear separated the two sides. 200 people were arrested, most of them English, police spokesman Stefan Keilbach said.

Early Saturday in the same downtown area, police arrested 122 English fans throwing bottles and glasses at passers-by from a pub terrace.—MNA/Xinhua

Discussions of pensioners...

(from page 5)

purported democratic nation has come into being. After that, the nation and the people are let enjoy progress".

"For more than 18 years the NLD has brought misery to the nation and the people. In consequence, the nation and the people have experienced sufferings to a certain degree. Nevertheless, it brazenly claimed that the NLD is translating the desire of the people into reality".

"It is the anxiety to grab power that spoils the NLD. It is troubling the people through demands, demonstrations and cuts to seize the power through short-cut. Its misconception is that it will come to power only with the mass protests. Such wrong policies and misconceptions have adverse effects on the people. So, its members across the nation are resigning from the party of their own accord".

"Instead of mending its ways to restore party unity, it said that the members' resignation is due to the coercion and threats by the government and governmental organizations. It also said that the members who resigned are keeping in touch with the NLD".

"The party is very desirous of power, places too much reliance on alien powers, and very pleased with the encouragement of alien powers and expatriates. So, it is oblivious to prevailing situations, and cannot bear to see the progress of the nation and the people".

"For me, relying on a political party for the brighter future of our nation does not produce even a thought. Just after our nation regained independence, there were rival factions and internecine struggles within the political parties.

The ruling Pha-Sa-Pa-La party split into Pha-Sa-Pa-La (Clean) and Pha-Sa-Pa-La (Stable). After the Pha-Sa-Pa-La (Clean) party had won the elections, it

again split into Oo faction, Bo faction and Thakin faction. Similarly, insurgent groups cannot escape from the circle of breaking away".

"Now, certain elements are attempting to put forward the Myanmar affairs to the UN Security Council under the pretext that Myanmar's situations are posing grave threats to international security and peace. It is known to all that if compared with the situations of the nation before the Tatmadaw took up State responsibilities, our nation has seen considerable development in various sectors. In the past, there were many strongholds of insurgent groups and major combats plus smuggling of arms. And there were a lot of poppy cultivation, production of narcotic drugs and opium trade. But, at that time, no one claimed that Myanmar's situations posed dangers to international security and peace. Now, 17 major armed groups have returned to the legal fold. Some remnant armed groups are no longer strong and they stay in border lines and survive with the foreign assistance. Peace and stability has been restored throughout the nation including border areas. The Tatmadaw Government and peace groups are joining hands in the development projects. So, the entire nation including border areas have enjoyed fruitful results of development from such harmonious efforts. Poppy growing, production of narcotic drugs and opium trade have dropped drastically. And the government is implementing projects for drug elimination in the nation. But, it is disappointing that Myanmar affair is to be brought forward to the UN Security Council".

"It also said that after taking satellite photos of Myanmar, they will prove torching of villages, torturing the villagers and forced relocation by the Tatmadaw. People can guess how they will resort wicked schemes. I can visualize that they are going to invent many stories in collusion with the KNU".

"You and I and the people have understood their ways of plotting schemes. But, they will create their beautiful works so that the evidence they will present seems to be logical. So, I think as the Information Minister said, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw need to exert diplomatic and media means harmoniously in order that the world and international community understand their plots".

"Of course! They will apply technological superiority to make tricks. So, we people are to be vigilant against and to expose such political tricks".

"Looking forward to the long-term interests of the State, the Secretary-1 and the Information Minister said that door is kept open for the KNU for peace talks. Here, I would like to urge the KNU members to serve the interests of the nation and the people with correct outlook and to have sympathy for local people who have been experiencing evil consequences of armed insurgency and who have to live in precarious conditions".

At that time it was getting dark and we pensioners had to say goodbye to each other. I wanted the NLD, the KNU as well as all the politicians and organizations who claim that they are doing at risk to their interests for the sake of the nation and the people to do their work without having adverse effects on the interests of the nation and the people, and to give the first priority to the interests of the State when they have to weigh their interests with that of the State. And I wish them all realize the true situation and emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation soon as desired by the entire people.

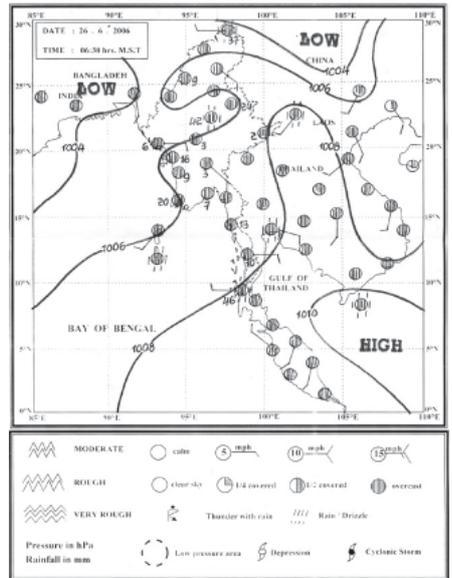
Translation: TMT + MS

Myanma Alin: 24-6-2006

Thailand on high alert for dengue outbreak

BANGKOK, 26 June — Thailand's Public Health Ministry is on high alert to prevent a dengue fever epidemic during this rainy season as the number of infections and deaths continue to rise, according to Prats Boonyawongwrote, the permanent secretary of the ministry. From this month until August, all provincial health offices have been put on full alert to monitor the vector-borne disease which usually hits Thailand hardest when the rains come, Prats was quoted by newspaper *The Nation's* website as saying Sunday. *MNA/Xinhua*

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Monday, 26 June, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin and Mon States, scattered in Ayeyawady Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, Mandalay, Magway and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions, with isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (2.09) inches, Putao (2.05) inches, Pinlaung (1.69) inches, Mandalay (1.65) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (1.45) inches, Pynmana (1.26) inches, Pakokku (1.10) inches, Taungdwingyi (0.67) inch and Aunglan (0.59) inch.

Maximum temperature on 25-6-2006 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 26-6-2006 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 26-6-2006 was (85%). Total sunshine hours on 25-6-2006 was (2.1) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 26-6-2006 were (0.16) inch at Mingaladon, (0.28) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.08) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (24.29) inches at Mingaladon, (32.64) inches at Kaba-Aye and (36.22) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (16:00) hours MST on 25-6-2006.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea. Southeast and East central Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 27-6-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, Ayeyawady Division, fairly widespread in Kachin, Chin States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar Waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in Rakhine State.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 27-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 27-6-2006: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 27-6-2006: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Radio Myanmar

Tuesday, 27 June
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music:
-Turn my head... live
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music:
-A life less ordinary...Ash & beautiful... Artificial
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
-New pallution... Beck
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
-Sugar cane... Spare Monkeys -Marbles...Black grape
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Lunch time music
-She's the one... Robbina Williams -I knew I loved you... Sauvage Garden
-You're got away... Shania Twain
-Swear it again... Westlife
-I believe I can fly live...911
- 9:00pm English speaking course level (I) unit (13)
-Article
-What will baby be
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20pm Weekly sport reel
- 9:35 pm Music for your listening pleasure
-Girl I'm gonna get you...Moffatts
-Just a little bit of love...CelineDion
-Tell him...Ally Mc Beal
-I forget... Lionel Richie
-Before the next tear drop falls... Lynn Anderson
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

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

Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy and wife arrive on goodwill visit

YANGON, 26 June — A goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and wife arrived here by air on a goodwill visit this morning. The delegation was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and wife, senior officers (Navy) and their wives, Thai Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal, Military Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatat and their wives and officials.

Next, Vice Admiral Soe Thein and Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Satirapan Keyanon went to the dais at the airport to take the salute of the Guard of Honour. Then they inspected the Guard of Honour. The visiting Thai delegation went to Tatmadaw Guest House by car.

At 10.45 am, Vice-Admiral Soe Thein received Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and party at the National Defence College. Also present at the call were senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Thai Ambassador Mr Suphot Dhirakaosal and Military Attaché Col Prissapa Suvanatat. Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and Admiral Satirapan Keyanon exchanged gifts and posed for a documentary photo. Afterwards, the guests visited and paid tribute to the Memorial to

Vice-Admiral Soe Thein greets Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy Admiral Satirapan Keyanon at the airport.
MNA



Fallen Heroes.

Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and the delegation members, accompanied by officials left Nanthida Jetty by Tatmadaw watercraft and arrived at Naval Training Command Headquarters.

They were welcomed there by Rear Admiral

Nyan Tun and senior officers of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy)'s office. At Thiri Maha Zeya Kyaw Htin Hall, Rear Admiral Nyan Tun extended greetings and briefed on the background history of the headquarters and teaching matters.

Next, Admiral Satirapan Keyanon grew a Gangaw tree at the headquarters in commemoration of goodwill visit. Next, he exchanged souvenirs with Captain Tin Oo.

In the evening, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and wife hosted a dinner in honour of Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and wife and delegation members on the lawns of Ayeyawady Naval Region Command Headquarters.

(See page 11)



Vice-Admiral Soe Thein and Admiral Satirapan Keyanon and party pose for a documentary photo at the National Defence College. — MNA

WORLD CUP 2006

Italy	1
Australia	0



Home Affairs Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo and Philippine Ambassador Mme Phoebe A Gomez press the button to incinerate seized narcotic drugs. (News on page 1) — MNA